

Quad Cities Magic Club – August, 2013 Newsletter

The meeting was opened at 7:00 by our Vice Pres. Todd Herbst. Our first order of business was to call Chuck Hanson at the hospital to give him a very warm 'get well' wish and some laughs from the club that were well appreciated. It was then moved that the club purchase a magic book, *The Five Points in Magic* by Juan Tamariz, to help pass the time of Chuck's recuperation, although we won't expect him to jump around like Juan does. Next, it was reported that several members had participated on July 28 at the cancer benefit in Fairfield, IA, sponsored by Jesus Rios and which went well.

Upcoming events:

August 24 – Cedar Rapids, IA public library show

Fall – Steve Beam, lecture – date to be determined

Sept. 8 – Independence, IA public library show

Oct. 19 – Spooktacular in Moline, Il

Dec. 2 – QCMC Christmas party with "Skilldini"

Next meet: September 5 meeting – annual magic auction

Teach-a-trick: Michael Dyer gave a lesson in creativity by demonstrating six different ways to end the kid's version of the '21' card trick. Then he taught a new version of that trick, called '21 Again,' a speeded up version for adults, again with the encouragement to choose among various possible endings.

Performances:

Luke Van Cleve borrowed a deck of cards from one of the magicians, opened the case, immediately riffled the cards, and had a card selected. Then through great concentration he divined the name of the chosen card. Straight forward and well done.

Sir Richard displayed five hilarious animal caricatures using a rubber glove. Then with a deck of cards he had a card freely chosen and then put the remaining cards in his coat pocket. After some concentration on the chosen card, he reached into his pocket and pulled out the matching card. This was followed by a ring on rope routine with both ends of a rope held by volunteers with a ring in the middle.

After placing his hand on the ring and then releasing it, the ring was found to have disappeared and found back on the finger of the other hand.

Craig Cox, a guest magician and potential new member, performed three tricks. First, a 45 record and three differently colored silks were shown. After passing each silk through the hole in the record, the record would turn into that silk's color. Then all three were passed through, and the record became tri-color, and finally back to black. Next, a pack of cards was placed on a disk and a tube was stabbed through them. Then, as the disk was spun on the tube, the cards slowly disappeared from above the tube and appeared below the disk but still on the tube. Quite the visual illusion! Finally, four silks were passed through one end of a tube and out of the other end came one large silk made up of the four smaller ones – tube unrolled and shown empty. The process was then reversed. Craig revealed that a 'little lady' was inside who did the switching, at which point he reached inside and pulled out the lady doll. Nice introduction to Craig.

Joe Dobson did a card trick in which each of four 6's is produced in a different way, which Joe promises to teach us in October. Then he did a Frank Taylor card trick that is quite baffling. Small packets of cards are taken from a deck by a volunteer. One card is chosen and buried between shuffled packets. Another volunteer looks at the top card and cuts it to the inside of his packet. Without ever touching the first volunteer's cards, Joe rearranged the second packet so that when the volunteers count off their cards together, their chosen cards showed up on the same card turn, and he named the second volunteer's card.

Finally, though out of character for our 'Joker,' Todd Herbst killed us with an experiment in 'soul sucking.' Following an ancient 'voodoo' custom, 'blood' from a bottle was poured into a glass. Then a volunteer was asked to write the initials of a departed loved one in the circle of life drawn on a piece of paper, the paper was torn up, and the pieces placed into the glass of 'blood.' A figure was then drawn on another piece of paper, placed on a mirror above the glass, and lit with a match. The final ash suddenly shot up to the ceiling, he caught a few of the descending ashes, smoke came pouring out of his mouth, and he revealed the initials. Which was more weird – the very effective routine itself, or the fact that Todd did it?

Which goes to show – magic is strange, and so is our club. Don't forget the AUCTION NEXT MONTH.