

Quad Cities Magic Club – February, 2014 Newsletter

The meeting was opened by president Ken Cooper. Most members have paid their yearly dues, which for the rest of the year will now be \$20. Various topics were brought up and discussed – whether the club wants to invest time and money in live lectures online; the possibility of putting our magic library in a locked cabinet and operating it like a library; the possible purchase of plans for building the Blade Box Illusion for future shows of the club; and how to attract new members. Various members volunteered to look into these matters and report back next month.

Upcoming events:

1. Next opportunity for club performance: Friday evening, Mar. 7 in Waukee, IA. This will involve stage performance and walk-around magic including some mini-sessions of magic teaching. Two more magic teachers/walk-around performers are needed. Call Rick Brammer if you can help out.
2. Abracorndabra Magic Convention in Des Moines, May 16-18, featuring Stan Allan, Steve Bargatze, and David Parr. The cost is \$125 before Feb. 15, \$150 from Feb. 16 – Mar. 15, \$175 from Mar. 16 – April 15, and \$200 from April 16 – May 16.
3. Oct. 25 – Fund raiser for the Museum of Art in Dubuque held at the Mississippi Moon Bar featuring Ben Ulen, Sean Farquhar, Craig Beytien, and a local performer.

Finally, look for Paul Osborne's latest book, *The Illusion Paradigm*, to which several magicians contributed. Our own Craig Beytien contributed two chapters.

Upcoming lectures: No determined dates yet, but the possibilities are:

Bruce Bernstein in late April, Sean Farquhar in October, and hopefully Richard Osterlind sometime this year.

New or newly featured at **The Fun Co.:**

books on mentalism:

Prism – Max Maven

13 Steps to Mentalism – Corinda

Psychic Subtleties 1 – Banachek

Encyclopedia of Mentalism and Mentalists

Thabbatical – Phil Goldstein

Redivided – Phil Goldstein
Hold'Em Magic – Tom Frame

Media report: After mentioning the four main magic magazines, *Magic*, *Genii*, *MUM*, and *The Linking Ring*, which comes as part of the membership in the IBM, Chuck Hanson zeroed in on the last one, emphasizing the ring reports (including our own, #11), the review of new products, and the ads, in addition to the regular articles and magic tricks.

Easy teach-a-trick: Eric Dany taught Ten Boys Poker Trick from Jim Steinmeyer's book, *Impuzzabilities 1*, in which three poker hands are dealt between the magician and a volunteer. The volunteer is asked whether he will win or lose, and whatever he predicts is exactly what happens.

Hard teach-a-trick: Ken Wilson taught a trick known as Blood and Tar, based on the Galbraith Principle, in which reds and blacks were mixed and shuffled several times, and yet the colors continued to separate in visually interesting and baffling ways.

Performances:

Craig Beytien did a comedy mentalism routine. He guessed three times what a volunteer was sarcastically thinking – “Why did he pick me?”, “I can't believe he's going to do a number trick,” and “I'm not buying any of this.” Each of these statements was printed on a card. The volunteer was then asked to think of and then reveal a 3-digit number. When the cards were turned around, each had one of the named numbers.

Jerry Phillips performed some historical magic that is no longer available and was made by U. F. Grant. After a pair of nested tubes were shown to be empty, he produced a 50' silk. This is the first of three tricks that he will present over the next two months. It's always great to see good magic out of the past.

TJ Regul showed how to make your dreams come true by folding a dollar bill. When he unfolded it, it became a \$5 bill. He did the same again, and this time it became a \$10 bill. For a second trick, he handed a volunteer an envelope containing several pictures of animals. The volunteer randomly took out one of

the papers, and TJ then mentally drew the picture on a pad of paper. The animals were the same.

Chuck Hanson also performed an oldie but goodie, The Fetsch Sketch, from 1956. A deck of symbols is displayed and a volunteer cuts to a symbol. The volunteer and Chuck then drew the symbol on separate pads of paper, but they failed to match. A second try also failed to match. Chuck now gave his pad to a second volunteer and asked him to guess and draw the symbol. This time the volunteers' drawings matched.

Eric Dany presented another Steinmeyer trick, Five Card Mix. Five people are each given five cards and asked to think of a number between 1 and 4. That number was then used to count and transfer cards from the top to the bottom of their packets several times. When they had done so, each had arrived at a card with an X on the back, whether they had chosen 1, 2, 3, or 4 cards. And, it was the only card in their packets with an X.

Remember, the March 6 meeting will be held at the First Congregational Church, 2201 7th Ave., Moline.