

Quad Cities Magic Club Minutes – May, 2014

We met for the first time since the Garden Room has been refurbished with new tables and chairs, white walls, and structural changes to the kitchen. Also, we tested out a new format for the meeting, mainly for the benefit of younger members or guests; namely, to begin with the performances and end with the business portion of the meeting.

Performances

This evening was the annual round robin in which everyone there performs a trick for small groups at tables stationed around the room.

Ken Wilson displayed Houdini's cocktail ring which was placed on a rope with a double knot and then further entangled by another double knot. Yet, in a split second the ring was off the rope.

Darrell Peplow had a volunteer write his name on the side of a deck of cards with a felt tip pen. The volunteer then dealt the cards randomly into four piles and freely selected one of the piles. There on the side could still be seen the name on this quarter of a deck, and in fact on all the sides of the other quarter decks.

Craig Beytein performed a 3-card monte in which the Queen keeps disappearing and changes into the ten of clubs. When the Queen is added to the three tens, the tens have now become queens.

Chuck Hanson performed Steve Bean's Color Blind Deck. Feigning an inability to distinguish red from black, he took a shuffled deck and had a volunteer blindly choose which of two piles, labeled red and black, to place each of the cards of the deck. Hoping that the cards were magically separated by color, it was discovered that half of the deck had failed to do so. Yet it was successful in that the red and black cards were seen to be separate from the remaining cards which turned out to be blue and green.

Michael Dyer performed Karl Hein's Heinsight. A prediction that the joker will be chosen is seen to be written on the inner flap of a card case. The cards are removed, a joker is given to a volunteer who buries it anywhere in the deck, and the deck shuffled. The volunteer then touches any card which is revealed to be the 10 of spades. However Mike claimed that it did match the predicted card. When the card case flap is re-examined, it is found that the prediction had now changed to match the chosen card. Furthermore, the card was shown to be truly unique since it was the only different card in a whole deck of jokers.

Jerry Phillips presented the color mental discs. Nine discs with a different color on each side are displayed. A disc is removed by a volunteer and the remaining discs are assembled in a stack by matching the colored sides. By knowing the ends of the stack Jerry was able to divine the sides of the missing disc.

Craig Cox kept a couple steps ahead of everyone who observed his two coins appearing and disappearing above, below, and in the folds of a handkerchief, and multiplying to three and then four coins with their red and blue sides continually switching colors.

Eric Dany presented an envelope with a prediction and a coin purse containing some change. To this was added more change from a volunteer. The volunteer then chose heads or tails and then shook all the coins in his hands and placed them on the table. All of the coins displaying the chosen side were removed. Again and again the coins were shaken and the designated sides removed until only one coin remained. The envelope was then opened which revealed the type of coin and the year of the coin.

Todd Herbst displayed two decks and an envelope. A volunteer chose a deck and from that deck a card was freely chosen and returned. The magician does not know the name of the card. In his envelope was a paper that told the story of a dream he had in which is revealed the numbered position of the chosen card in the other deck. When the second deck is taken from its case and that number is counted down, the card at that number is the same as the chosen card from the first deck.

Dave Curley had a different version of a finger chopper. After the finger is placed in the hole of the chopper and the chopper blade brought down, the sides of the chopper are removed to reveal that the chopper blade itself had a hole in it and the finger is now seen poking through that hole.

Business

- The meeting was called to order by President Ken Cooper. Regarding the purchase of the Blade Box, a contract was presented to Craig Beytein to construct the illusion with a completion date goal of Sept. 1, in time for a possible club show in Sept. Questions remain open as to where it will be kept, and who will transport it for shows.
- The club has recently acquired two illusions from Stuart Beck in memory of his father. The illusions are the crystal casket and the doll's house. Discussion as to what the club will do with them was tabled until next month.
- It was moved and seconded that the club present a free half hour show at the picnic of the First Congregational Church on Aug. 24 as a thank-you for having used its facilities eight times for meetings and lectures since last Nov. Details will be worked out by Michael Dyer.

Lectures:

Sept. 30 – **Norm Barnhardt** – balloons, comedy magic and children's shows.

Oct. 24 – **Shawn Farquhar**

JUNE ASSIGNMENTS:

Theme: close-up and stage contests

Beverages: Ken Wilson

Snacks: Todd Herbst

A great evening of magic, but that was just your warm-up practice session for next month – the contests which could prove to be even greater if many enter. Jump in, bring a friend, and let's make it another good and magical night. See you there.