

Quad Cities Magic Club – Oct. 2014

Norm Barnhart came to Ring #11 with his lecture chock full of goodies, surprises, laughter and great magical entertainment. He had so many bits of business, tips and new slants on known tricks that we were kept busy making notes while still keeping an eye on what was happening. It was obvious he was a talented, seasoned performer who had studied theater, blocking, use of mime...all the things a good magician needs. Norm gave us a truly excellent lecture this special evening.

Our regular meeting occurred two days later. During the business session Craig Beytien reported on a major magic show happening in Dubuque, IA on October 25, 2014. He and another Ring member, Luke Van Cleve, will be performing along with IBM president Shawn Farquhar and Ben Ulin, master magician from Des Moines. It should be an outstanding program.

Better use of the club library was discussed. T. J. Regul was asked to take over the management of the library.

There was a lengthy discussion of two topics. How to increase awareness of the QCMC and how to increase its membership. Many ideas were offered including some local publicity and greater use of the internet, Facebook, Twitter, etc. Darrell Peplow volunteered to write an article for the local publicity phase. Joe Dobson will set up a gmail account and visitor Matt _____ offered to put Facebook/Twitter pages together.

Other business: Christmas Party: Monday, December 1 at The Windmill. Entertainer: Ben Ulin. Ben will also lecture either on Sunday or Tuesday.

Teach-a-trick and media report:

The first teach-a-trick was handled by Todd Herbst who showed us a novel penetration of one bill through another. Nice. Then Joe Dobson demonstrated why his "gambling uncle" was shot because he continually had five kings in his poker hand even after throwing some away. The big surprise came at the end when the kings all changed into aces. Sweet.

The media report was given by T. J. Regul and it was most interesting. He told us about Podcasts and how to use them, his favorite being "magicianbusiness.com" which is free. Good stuff.

Performances:

President Ken Cooper was MC for the show. First up was Craig Beytien with his Spook Box in which the spirits eerily caused a tennis ball to rise up from the bottom and drop into the mouth of a glass behind closed doors...as always, well done.

Chuck Hanson talked about the ability of some people to become so emotionally attached to an object that they can pick it out among a group of similar items. He demonstrated this by having Todd Herbst remove a card from a red deck, handle it, rub it, and place it into a blue deck, not looking at its face. The blue deck was shuffled and spread face up. Todd correctly found the red backed card.

The ring off string trick was done by Sir Richard. He also placed a penny into a black napkin. First it vanished, then reappeared and finally changed into a giant penny.

Craig Cox was up next with a crazy, humorous, punny story about a card flying to a different location, which he demonstrated with a deck, a box and a bag representing the Bermuda Triangle. It was funny.

Did you ever see a washer with two holes? Kim Meacham showed one to us, then by rubbing it made it stretch into an elongated washer. Kim likes sleight-of-hand. This was well done.

Joe Dobson returned with his version of the [W]Hole Card using large black cards with white spots. Joe is an excellent presenter, a pleasure to watch.

MC Ken Cooper's presentation was his unusual variation of an audience participation trick sometimes seen on television. He had a small nine-drawer cabinet with nine different cards attached to the drawers. While his back was turned a helper moved his finger around this matrix based on Ken's direction, eliminating the cards until only one remained. It matched a prediction Ken had made earlier. The drawer holding the last card was opened and its contents, a candy bar, given to the helper.

The last performer, Ken Wilson, did an amazing two deck trick. Decks were mixed. Two cards were selected and the decks were placed side by side face down on the table. The top card from each deck was turned face up to see if they matched. This was repeated until all the cards had been exposed. There were no matches except for the two selections.

Thus endeth another enjoyable evening.

November 6 Meeting

Nominations for officers for 2015

Drinks....Angel Rangel

Snacks...Darrell Peplow

Theme: Teach-a-Thon....teachers: Dobson, Wilson, Sir Richard, Hanson