

## Quad Cities Magic Club – December, 2014

This December the club enjoyed a lecture and a performance by Ben Ulin. On Dec. 1, Ben's lecture dealt chiefly with how to take standard tricks and update them, questions to ask yourself in order to create your own routine and make it your own. His handling of Professor's Nightmare well illustrated his points. Then on Dec. 2 at the annual Christmas party, Ben presented his own version of the multiplying bottles, an excellent linking ring routine with just two rings, a "tell" reading routine with cards, and a great psychic routine involving five keys and padlock. All of his act was punctuated with Ben's great sense of humor.

At the business meeting on Thursday, Rick Brammer reported that the next lecture will be on April 23 with Greg Wilson. It was moved (Joe Dobson, Chuck Hanson) that we hire Bill Trotter for a lecture and his show of props of older magic. It was also moved (Chuck Hanson, Eric Dany) that the value of any currently existing \$5 magic bucks be understood to be now worth \$10, and that the next new magic bucks be printed with a value of \$10.

The committee of Magic 101 (Joe Dobson, Eric Dany, Rick Brammer) reported that the development of the course on magic for kids is still in the planning process, but will be ready by January. Eric Dany reported that he recently upgraded the club's website.

It was moved (Todd Herbst, Sir Richard) that names of members who have not paid up by the end of the February meeting be removed from the club's roster, and that this notice be put into the minutes. So, members, take note of the fact that club dues of \$15 for 2015 are due by the end of the meeting on Thursday, Feb. 5. Sir Richard has volunteered to call and encourage those who are delinquent with dues before the removal of their name.

Chuck Hanson moved that a unanimous ballot be cast for the list of nominees for office for 2015. So, the new officers are:

President – Ken Cooper

Vice Presidents – Darrell Peplow, Joe Dobson, T. J. Regul

Sgt.-at-arms – Ken Wilson, Sir Richard

Secretary – Michael Dyer

Treasurer – Rick Brammer

Members-at-large – Dave Curley, Kim Meacham, Chuck Hanson

### **Next month:**

Theme: My New Magic Trick from Christmas

Easy teach-a-trick: Rick Brammer

Hard teach-a-trick: Kim Meacham

Media report: Kim Meacham

M.C.: Rick Brammer

**Media report:** **Sir Richard** reviewed the book *How to Become a Professional Magician* by Sean Mitchell. It seems that everything involved in the career of professional magician is touched upon in this book.

**Easy teach-a-trick:** **Ken Wilson** gave a demonstration of George Anderson's paper cutting. Newspaper pages were variously shaped and folded and then cut with a scissors. The result was a five- or six-pointed star, a hat, or other such item. Very different and interesting.

**Hard teach-a-trick:** **Joe Dobson** taught us how to find any card, freely selected and shuffled back into the deck, by merely smelling the cards. This was one trick that did not stink.

### **Performances**

**Todd Herbst** had two volunteers take the parts of a king and queen, complete with crowns and scepters. The "king" held a black silk and a black bag into which was placed a jumbo King of Clubs, while the "queen" held a red silk and a red bag into which was placed the Queen of Hearts. When the crowns and silks were switched between volunteers, the cards were seen to have "followed suit" by switching bags, too. Funny and colorful.

Our MC, **Joe Dobson**, performed his hilarious routine and poetically told story of Edith and Stan.

**Craig Cox** gave us another of his multiple routines. First, he displayed three silks from which he produced a bottle of champagne. Next, Craig placed three white feather rings into a bag which had a hole in it. When a red silk was placed through the hole, a ring was removed which had now turned red. This was repeated with a yellow silk, then a green silk. The rings were returned to the bag, and when all three silks were put through the hole, three multi-colored rings emerged from the bag which then became one large ring. Next, came a Billy McComb/Don Alan six card routine but now performed using twelve comic books. The comic books were all different and Craig randomly chose one, showed it, and set it aside. Then he showed the audience that another set of books were all the same and also matched the one he chose. He then had an unsuspecting volunteer choose one from this second set. He asked the volunteer to name the comic book, but instead of the expected obvious answer, he named one that was not part of the second set. But when Craig revealed his book, it had changed into the one that matched the volunteer's. Finally, Craig displayed a picture of a girl in a bikini. A wardrobe was chosen from a book of several wardrobes, which then disappeared in a bag, only to reappear on the girl in the picture. A very fun routine.

**Sir Richard** performed Devastation by Geoff Williams. A volunteer shuffles and divides the deck into 4-5 piles of cards. He chooses a pile, looks at one card in that pile and notes the position of the card in the pile. That pile is then placed among the other piles. Yet when the deck is returned to Richard, he finds the card at the prescribed position. Quite mysterious!

**Ken Wilson** placed 36 cards in a 6x6 grid. The cards are of three kinds: Rudolph, Frosty, and Santa. Two volunteers freely place a finger on any one of the cards. After each one moves his finger five times according to specific instructions, both volunteers end up on the same Santa card. Perfect for the season.

**Chuck Hanson** revealed a box and a fortune-telling scarf. After putting his hand under the scarf and asking a volunteer to hold up 1-5 fingers, Chuck would reveal that the scarf had already divined the number since Chuck was holding up the same number of fingers. To prove that it was the scarf, Chuck placed the scarf on the box and dared to perform the same feat without it and failed. Or did he? The exact number of fingers needed to complete the match were found inside the box. Foxy and funny.

See you next month on Thursday, January 5 at the Garden Room, 7pm. Bring and share some magic.