

Quad Cities Magic Club – March, 2015

The evening began at 6:00 with our third teaching session for the public with more names being added to our roster. Our fourth session will be held on Thursday, April 2, at the same time. Please, keep spreading the word about our magic teach-ins.

Rick Brammer reported that a school/library show has been planned for the club on July 10 at 6:30 in Baxter, IA. Close-up performers are still needed. Another club date has been set for Sunday, Sep. 13 in Coralville, IA from noon till 4:00. It will consist of four hours of walk-around magic.

Sir Richard has volunteered to contact those members whose names are listed on our website, but haven't paid this year's dues, and will encourage them to catch up with their dues. Otherwise, their name will be removed from the website's roster, but will continue to receive the club's newsletter. We hope they will respond favorably.

The Backpack Weekend Program will again be held in Davenport on Sat., April 18, from 9am till noon. This is a great program that ensures that certain kids receive two meals for each day of every weekend of the school year. Walk-around magic will be needed. Final details will be given at the next meeting.

Craig Beytein moved, seconded by Toto Johnson, that funds be provided for up to \$200 each year to increase our club's library with more essential books on magic. Suggestions for such books will be submitted at our next meeting in April. Take a few moments to consider what books on the art of magic in general you think would be appropriate for kids, teens, and adults, and in what categories or types of magic.

Upcoming lectures:

March 22 at 3:00 pm – **Francis Menotti** from Philadelphia

April 23 at 7 pm – **Gregory Wilson** (not Mark Wilson's son)

June 7 at 3 pm – **Bill Trotter's** collection of old magic, one of the top five in the nation.

The **Central Illinois Magic Convention** will be held in **Peoria, IL** this year on April 25.

Media report: Craig Cox reported on *Spellbound – The Wonderful Life of Doug Henning* by John Harrison, and shared various anecdotes from the biography.

Easy teach-a-trick: T.J. Regul first taught us the scissors change, and then in combination with the use of a key card, took us through the steps of a trick in which a card is chosen and returned to the deck. When the magician finds a card, it is incorrect. After he tries again and fails, it is discovered that the first card has somehow changed into the correct card after all.

Hard teach-a-trick: Craig Beytein taught a poker trick. The aces were magically produced in a flash. Then Craig did a supposed demonstration of bottom dealing for five poker hands. The resultant magician's hand was expected to be the four aces, but the surprise came when it turned out to be a royal flush. A second demonstration involved middle dealing in which a chosen position around the table ended up with the four aces. All the wonder and seeming impossibility turned out to be quite simple and manageable. Great trick.

Performances:

Eric Dany began the evening with an interesting effect in which a hotel room key is placed in an envelope. A volunteer is given a list of hotels, and then a packet of nine cards to shuffle. Three cards are then handed to each of three guys, who then return one card at a time at their choice. The order of the returned cards was used to form three 2-digit numbers which, when summed up, totaled 165. The first guy's cards were also added together to become 15. The 15th hotel was identified on the list. When the envelope was opened, the key was found to be from that same specific hotel with room number 165. Nice.

Stew Yeager performed his favorite trick which began with a complete deck of cards. At the end of the trick, there remained only the magician's card, a locator card, the volunteer's chosen card, and the rest of the deck were all blank. The cards could be examined! Baffling!

Joe Dobson hid a \$2 bill in one of 3 pouches, and predicted that a volunteer would inevitably pick the correct pouch with the \$2 bill and but nevertheless end up being a loser. And, sure enough, she did pick the correct pouch, but she lost in not choosing either of the other pouches that contained a \$50 or a \$100 bill. Hilarious.

Ken Cooper presented a house on Fun St., a circus tent, and two clowns: Stripty and Spotty. One goes to the circus tent and the other stays home. Then they keep magically switching places until a tiger show up at the house and says to go "look in the circus." Sure enough, both clowns were found in the tent.

Sir Richard shuffled a deck, and then shuffled it with cards right side up and down. When he finally fanned them, they were all face down except the four aces. Next, he made a large penny disappear in a black handkerchief, but it kept reappearing from behind his knee, his ear, and so on. Finally, it appeared back in his hands, but this time was even larger.

Scott Miller performed Joshua Jay's 'Hitchcock card trick.' A card is torn into fourths and the pieces paper-clipped and held by a volunteer. Then four cards are freely chosen by others and returned. The deck is fanned and the four cards are seen to have reversed. When removed from the deck, they are further seen to have a corner torn away. When the pieces are removed from the paper clip, the pieces perfectly fit the respective cards. Having seen it performed by Jay at Abbott's last summer, it was nice for some of us to see it again. This trick was followed with an excellent demonstration of dice stacking, ending with the four dice becoming two larger dice. Well done.

Craig Cox performed two mirror tricks, but with no smoke. After having a volunteer check to see that a mirror was solid, he passed a silk through the center of it, even though there was no hole in the mirror. Then, in tribute to Doug Henning, whom he had reported on earlier, Craig placed a solid mirror in a bag, passed a knitting needle through the bag in several places, folded the bag in half, and finally produced the mirror from the bag intact. Great!

T. J. Regul had a \$1 and \$5 bill folded into fourths and placed in the hand of a volunteer. The bills kept switching places, much to the puzzlement of the volunteer.

Next month:

Theme: silk magic

Media report: Joe Dobson

Easy teach-a-trick: Stew Yeager

Hard teach-a-trick: Kim Meacham

MC: Joe Dobson

Snacks: Chuck Hanson

Beverages: Eric Dany