

## Quad Cities Magic Club – May, 2015

Before reporting the May meeting, please be aware that next month, June, is always contest month, both stage and close-up. Here are the current rules.

1. You must be a member of the Quad Cities Magic Club–Ring 11 to enter the contest. Last year's first place winners in each category cannot compete in the same category in which he/she won, but may enter the other category in which they did not win first place.
2. The close-up presentation can be no longer than 7 minutes.
3. The stage presentation can be no longer than 10 minutes.
4. Winners are selected by people's choice. Everyone in attendance votes, based on entertainment value.

A lot of members of varying skill have entered and placed over the years, so don't be afraid to enter. After all, it is all in good fun. So, please come, show us your stuff, and bring your friends for a most entertaining and fun evening.

Speaking of the June meeting, here are the June assignments:

Media review: Chuck Hanson

Easy teach-a-trick: Todd Herbst

Hard teach-a-trick: Eric Dany

Theme: Magic Contests

MC: Ken Cooper

Drinks: Sankari

Snacks: Ken Wilson

### Dates to Remember:

June 7 – Bill Trotter lecture, 3pm, Garden Room

Oct. 24 – Spooktacular

Dec. 7 – Christmas Party

### May meeting:

The evening began at 6:00 with our fifth teaching session for the public. Our sixth and final session will be held on Thursday, June 4, at the same time. Please, keep spreading the word about our magic teach-ins.

Members were encouraged to participate in the upcoming magic contests in June. Then the subject of lecturers drew a lot of discussion, particularly those who teach only the material they have for sale. The general feeling was encourage lecturers to include more instruction on principles, tricks, and presentation styles in addition to the usual dealer demonstrations that are so prevalent. Finally, Brian Lees announced that his new Magician's Backroom will be on Facebook.

Media report: Todd Herbst's report on Gregory Wilson's DVD "Double Take" was very favorable.

Easy teach-a-trick: As promised last month, Joe Dobson taught us Roy Walton's "Pass the Red" from *The Royal Road to Card Magic*.

Hard teach-a-trick: T.J. Regul's teaching session consisted of several nice coin tricks using a large silk for productions, vanishes, and penetrations.

### **Performances:**

And then it was show time, emceed by Chuck Hanson.

Kim Meacham, of one our top sleight of hand guys, made a small ball penetrate a mouth-down drinking glass without leaving a hole. He also did some nice moves with an olive and dice cup that had us guessing.

Stu Yeager followed with a clever prediction trick that he called Envelopes of the Mind. Then he did a very fine card trick called the One-Handed Magic Trick.

Matthew Lovecraft, using his alter-ego character, Fred Finkelstein, tore and restored a napkin, and did several stunts with cards.

Jerry Phillips showed a fan of three cards held together by a clip, and then proceeded to pull the center one free of the stack without harm to either the card or the clip.

Next in line was Craig Cox. He has been collecting magic props/tricks for a long time and always brings several to the meetings to perform. This time he had a pen that kept wanting to point down even when the obvious weight was shifted. He also used a coin bag in which a half dollar changed to a giant coin as it was dumped from the bag. Massey's Squeeze-Away Blocks was his concluding miracle.

Todd Herbst, always looking for something new, put Chuck Hanson into a trance, making a mind reader (of sorts) out of him. Helper Ken Cooper had placed five objects on a table and selected one without Chuck seeing him. Then Chuck, using all the means known to modern clairvoyants, successfully named the chosen item. Unbelievable! (Well, maybe not.)

Following in this mental theme, Eric Dany predicted certain actions taken by his helper. A very nice trick and available at The Fun Company.

Ken Cooper magically made a key on a keychain penetrate a borrowed dollar bill without leaving a hole.

Back to T.J. Regul with a well-executed coin routine, something he has been working on recently. It was extremely well done with lots of nice touches.

Joe Dobson closed the show with a knock-out four ace routine. The aces were buried in various places in the deck. Joe found them in four different ways, including spelling. Joe is a great performer.

See you all next month when some of our club's best tricksters will be presenting some their best tricks at their peak performance level – not in a brutal, wizard-warring contest, but on a contest night filled with fun, mirth, and magic. Please, join us and participate.