

Quad Cities Magic Club, Ring 11 – December, 2015

December, as always, brought us two exciting events: our annual Christmas party and the monthly meeting. The party featured Trent James from Brookfield, IL, as our evening's magical entertainer. He is only 18, but has already won numerous awards, including the 2015 Milbourne Christopher Most Promising Young Magician Award. His act included a disappearing flute, an excellent rope routine, a silk routine, signed bill in the lemon, endless salt pour, comedy giraffe neck stretch from a drawing, and swallowing razor blades. All was done well and with his own spin and humor. It is always good to see such talent emerge and be off to a great career start. Watch for his act in 10-20 years.

Our monthly meeting featured Part 2 of the silent auction of Sir Richard's equipment – magic tables, electronic equipment, table mats.

Upcoming shows:

Sat., Jan. 23 – benefit magic show in honor of Sir Richard in Macomb – walk-around magicians and stage hands are still needed

March – magic show in Waukee, IA – exact date not yet determined

Oct. – annual Spooktacular

Lectures: David Stone sometime in March

The four-month course, Magic 101, will begin Thurs., Jan. 7 at 6:00. A committee, headed by Joe Dobson, will prepare for it. For those who can post advertisements about it in your community, posters are available at the Fun Co.

It was moved by Eric Dany and Joe Dobson to accept the entire slate of nominees as our new officers. Motion carried. So, our new officers are:

President – Joe Dobson

Vice President – Ken Wilson, TJ Regul, Jerry Phillips

Secretary – Michael Dyer

Treasurer – Rick Brammer, Eric Dany

Sergeant-at-arms – Todd Herbst, Brian Lees, TJ Regul

It was also moved by Joe Dobson and Brian Lees that \$100 from our \$200 library allotment be spent on some of the special DVD lectures of a monthly series.

Media report: Jerry Phillips reported on the history and structure (cover story and feature articles, articles by contributing writers and columnists, and advertisements) of *Magic* magazine. Enlightening!

Easy teach-a-trick: Ken Wilson presented an interesting card trick. A spectator chooses 15 or 17 or 19 cards, reverses them and shuffles them back into the deck. He then counts out the same number again, this time of mixed cards, face-down and face-up. The magician then challenges that both packets now have the same number of face-up cards, and when they are counted out, it is so. Nice and easy.

Performances:

Steve Dulaney performed “Jumbo Coincidence” by Aldo Columbini. A set of split cards is presented in which the halves do not match. After shuffling each half separately, one of the deck halves is freely chosen and a half-card selected from it. The paired halves are then turned over but there is no match. The volunteer’s half-card and other respective pair half are removed, and they are seen to be the only match. But then the deck halves are turned over again and this time all the pairs match.

TJ Regul performed three quick cards tricks: a four-ace trick, Doc Daley’s Last Trick, and a new trick “Scratch” by Chad Long, which is a Chicago Opener effect that uses a scratch-off seal on the back of a card. Nice.

Craig Cox also performed three tricks. 1. Two jumbo animal cards are mentally chosen by two volunteers from nine such cards. Then two jumbo blank cards are used to draw pictures of animals by Craig from the psychic impressions of the volunteers. All four cards are placed on a wooden holder with only the picture cards facing the audience. When turned around, the drawn animals match the selected animals. 2. A picture of a traffic light is shown with the three colors and three words giving their meaning, but in the wrong order. A silk is used to cover and remove from the picture six times, each time revealing a more ridiculous order of colors and words, even involving spots and stripes, before a correct one occurs. Hilarious routine. 3. A chosen card disappears from a deck, only to appear in a picture on the body of a bikini-clad girl on the beach at Cancun. Craig folds the picture, reaches in and removes an actual piece of bikini, and shows the picture again, revealing that the card has moved elsewhere on the girl. This continues until all clothing has been removed, the final picture showing a guy blocking the view of the naked girl but holding the chosen card in his hand. Deliciously risqué.

Todd Herbst did his Jack and the Beanstalk trick. Accompanied by a story, a set of small colored containers is presented, each with a bean in it. One is chosen and its bean placed in a bag along with some milk from a pitcher. The “bean bag” is shaken to stimulate growth, and from it emerges a six-foot wand. Another bean is chosen and placed in his mouth. He then “spilled the beans” by producing a lengthy ribbon.

Joe Dobson placed nine poker chips on a mat, turned his back, and had a volunteer touch one of the chips. Immediately, without examining the chips or going through mental gyrations, Joe picked up the touched chip. This was repeated several times and with different volunteers and even with Joe exiting the room, yet always with the same immediate result. Baffling, but all will be revealed in a future teach-a-trick, so Joe promises.

Another fun evening. Bring your new magic trick from under the Christmas tree to our meeting in Jan.

Next month:

Media report: T J Regul

Easy teach-a-trick: Ken Wilson

Hard teach-a-trick: Eric Dany

MC – T J Regul

Snacks – Ken Wilson

Drinks – Ken Cooper