

Quad Cities Magic Club, Ring 11 – April, 2016

Our February meeting was preceded by our third session of this year's Magic 101, conducted by Kim Meacham and Joe Dobson for returning students and seven new ones.

Upcoming shows: Sun., June 26 – club show in Columbus Junction, IA

Upcoming Events: June 2 – close-up and stage magic contest; July 7 – QCMC picnic

And now, a new feature of the newsletter – The President's Page:

Greetings Members of QCMC. Secretary Michael Dyer has allowed me the opportunity to begin a new feature of our monthly newsletter, The President's Page. In this space I will endeavor to give you advance notice of upcoming events and issues so that you can plan your time better, and to help us improve the efficiency of the business portions of our meetings.

First, I have talked with the esteemed Chuck Hanson about Chuck's Classic Challenge (CCC), and the follow-up to his program from last month. He has some excellent material to share with us in May, and requests everyone bring a pen or pencil to the meeting. And don't forget, work on that creative routine for the CCC. Chuck is very interested in seeing what you come up with, as is everyone else.

Second, as I mentioned in the meeting, several lecture possibilities are on the horizon for us. Garrett Thomas (www.gtmagic.com) is available for us in September. I have given the booking agent a tentative Yes on Garrett, so as to reserve us a spot in his lecture tour. We missed Garrett last time he passed through this part of the country, and I'd hate to see us miss him again.

Kozmo (www.Kozmomagic.com) is available in October, and I gave a tentative No. Kozmo lectured here a few years ago.

We will vote on both of these lecturers at the May meeting, so please investigate them and come to the meeting as an informed voter (good practice for November!).

On the horizon are possible lectures by Karl Hein (www.karlhein.com), Bizzaro (www.smappdooda.com), Paul Draper (www.mentalmysteries.com), Shoot Ogawa (www.holyshoot.com), and Brian Gillis (www.gillismagic.com). Some of these names may not be familiar to you, but please check them out. For example, look at Brian Gillis' webpage under Tonight Show—WOW! We won't be voting on these until June, but again, please do your homework.

Speaking of June, let me remind you that our annual contests will be held then. There will be a Close-Up contest and a separate Stage Magic contest. You can enter either, or both. Winners will be announced at the July picnic, where trophies will also be awarded.

Finally, the food. Snacks at the May meeting were provided by yours truly, and drinks by Eric Dany. In June, snacks will be from Ken Cooper, but we still need someone to supply drinks. Please let me know at the May meeting if you would like to volunteer for this, or for future snacks or drinks.

Best,

dr. joe

Media report: T J Regul and Brian Lees presented a book, now in our library, *Safety Magic for Children* by Karl Wagner which they highly recommend.

In lieu of the teach-a-tricks, tonight was the first of Chuck Hanson's CLASSIC CHALLENGES. One of the great classics of magic, performed by Blackstone, Thurston, and others was *The Cords of Phantasia*. Two ropes are tied around a wand, then rings are strung onto the ends of the rope and tied, and finally the ends of the ropes are secured by tying them as well with two scarves. Chuck placed his hand over the knotted mass, removed the wand, and the rings fell free from the ropes. He then gave us a set of props for practice, and led us into designing ways of creating our own versions of the trick, which we will then present next month.

Performances:

T J Regul performed Axel Hecklau's "Spoonaround." Using an envelope as a cheap form of a box, and a spoon as a cheap version of a girl, he placed the spoon in the envelope. Then using a knife (cheap version of a sword), he pierced the envelope. He could now reveal how the "girl" survived, since the spoon was now actually a fork.

Kim Meacham did a number of nice ring and rope maneuvers.

Frankie showed us a picture of a quarter on the screen of his iphone, and then pulled the quarter off the screen into his hand where it became a real quarter.

Tyler Cronin presented a toy car on his hand and covered it with a cloth. When he whisked it away, the car had vanished.

Joe Dobson reprised his poker chip trick from a few months ago – this time with puff balls. Nine are laid out on a table, and a volunteer is asked to touch one ball while Joe's back is turned. Without any hesitation, Joe points immediately to the correct ball. This was repeated twice more with baffling success.

Craig Cox performed the trick that Francis Menotti used to fool Penn & Teller, Wordsmyth. A volunteer is handed a Scrabble dictionary, selects a random page, and blindly circles a word on the page. Seven people draw letter tiles from a bag, and when the letters are placed on a rack, they spell the circled word in the dictionary.

Craig Beytien showed us how he was fooled as a young man playing 3-card Monte. When he guessed the wrong location of the queen, it was found in the magician's inside coat pocket and then added to the remaining cards to become a 4-card Monte. Then again, resulting in a 5-card Monte, but this time all the cards now became four queens with only one 10. Nice surprise ending.

Grace Abel had a card chosen from a shuffled deck, and then had several cards turned up one at a time. When she guessed at the chosen card she was incorrect. When she bet that the next card she turned over would be correct, her volunteer took her up on the bet, but the surprise came when she turned over not the next card, but a previously turned up card.

Tyler Taup, a new guest, had a card chosen. Tyler guessed at and produced an incorrect card, and placed it into a volunteer's hands. Then the card changed into the chosen card while in his hands.

Finally, Chuck Hanson revealed he had taken up a new pastime – caricature drawing. Using a volunteer to pose, he drew a poor one of him, and tried again. The second picture was much better – an excellent picture of his “artist thumb.” Finally, he turned to still life, and had the volunteer hold a spoon and drew a correct picture of the spoon. Beside it he wrote a letter, chosen by the volunteer, to name the spoon. Then, after an interruptive “coughing fit,” Chuck showed us that the spoon had bent; and then, looking back at the picture, the written letter was still there, but the spoon in the picture was now bent also.

Next month:

Treats: Chuck Hanson

Drinks: Ken Cooper

Media report: T J Regul

Easy teach-a-trick: Joe Dobson

Hard teach-a-trick: Craig Beytien

MC: Jerry Phillips