

Quad Cities Magic Club, Ring 11 – June, 2016

The meeting opened with the announcement that we will have a lecturer, Steve Reynolds, on June 16. (He presented both a workshop at 5:00 in which he taught the Zarrow shuffle, and a lecture at 6:45.) On Sept. 11, we will have Garrett Thomas as a lecturer.

Annual Picnic: Set the date on your calendar – July 7 – our annual picnic at the pavilion, just 50 feet south of the Garden Center along 34th St. in Moline. Food is provided – grilled meat (hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, pork patties), potato salad, baked beans. Also paper plates and plastic ware. All you need to bring is your own beverage, and possibly a salad or dessert to share. The cost for both members and non-members of the club is the same: \$5 per person. The meal begins at 6pm, with the magic performances at 7pm. Please, bring friends and family for a night of good food and great fun. After all, how can you pass it up – dinner and show at such a great price. Reservations (or cancelation of previous reservations) need to be in by Monday, July 4. (After that date, payment for cancelation of any reservations must be honored.) Please call the Fun Co. at 309-798-0923 with your reservations.

June was the month of our annual magic contest. For **Close-up** there were six contestants.

1. Kim Meacham began by switching a silver coin for a Chinese coin. Then he did “Two in the Hand, One in the Pocket” routine using three hardware nuts. Eventually, one the nuts became a bolt, and then the three nuts all showed up on the bolt. Finally, he made four sponge balls disappear one at a time, and then reappear one at a time.
2. Mark Yeager produced a coin in a flash of fire, then three more one at a time. The four coins became two large coins, and then there were none. Then with a deck of cards he had riffled the cards and had a volunteer memorize a card. After shuffling the cards, half face up and half face down, the cards were spread. All the cards now were one way with chosen card backwards.
3. Brian Lees presented his version of the (W)Hole Card. This was followed by his version of Stratosphere, involving a story about a bus driver and three school kids.
4. Stu Yager did three card tricks. First was an interesting combination of Chicago opener and card in the wallet. The second involved a story of potholes in the roads of a neighborhood with a map of the neighborhood drawn on the card, and a hole punched into the card to represent the pothole. As the story progressed, the hole visibly moved to various areas of the card. Finally, two different cards from a deck were used, one of which was torn up. Then the pieces of the one card and the whole card switched places, so that the whole card was in pieces and the torn card restored.
5. Ken Wilson performed a trick involving two decks and a pair of dice. One of two decks is chosen with a volunteer cutting it into two piles, on top of which are found two aces. The dice are tossed and the number used to find the position of the remaining aces. A final maneuver ends in the production of a royal flush.
6. Craig Cox had a closed padlock placed in a champagne glass and the glass covered with a scarf. When the scarf was removed, the padlock was seen to be locked around the stem of the glass.

For the **Stage** contest, there were four contestants.

1. Ken Wilson handed out sheets with 4x4 grids on them, had someone roll a pair of dice, and proceeded to give instructions on quickly constructing a magic square with 65 as the mathematical constant. Then he had a card chosen and returned, and the deck cut and shuffled. Yet when spread, the cards remained in perfect new deck order with the chosen card back in its proper position but reversed.
 2. Craig Cox began with a comedy trick using a wand that kept popping out of a scarf, and then out of a bag. Next, Craig made a prediction using a jumbo card. Six cards numbered on the back were displayed, and the audience was asked to call out any five of the six numbers which were then removed. The last remaining one matched the jumbo card, and the other five were shown to be different. Finally, he brought out a tray with a shot glass and six colored balls. A person called out a color, a scarf was placed over the glass and balls, and when lifted the chosen colored ball was mysteriously found under the shot glass.
 3. Brian Lees placed a red cloth over a table and proceeded to construct a box on it – bottom, sides, then lid. From a scarf he produced a rubber dove, placed the bird in the box, and disassembled the box – the bird had disappeared. This was followed by his version of Stratosphere, involving a story about a bus driver and three school kids.
 4. Finally, Grace Able did a silent routine dressed as a Chinese girl and using a bowl and two sponge balls. The balls would disappear one at a time and appear under a bowl, followed by other ball handling. She then did fan manipulations with musical choreography, ending with “snow storm in China.” Returning to the overturned bowl, it now had four balls beneath it.
- It was another great contest year, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be announced at the picnic. See you there.