

Quad Cities Magic Club, Ring 11 – May, 2017

The meeting began with the announcement that Steve Valentine will be on a lecture tour and passing through our area, probably in the fall. It was moved by Chuck Hanson, 2nd by Joe Dobson, that we look into getting him for a lecture. Passed.

Next month will be the annual magic contests. The rules for the contest will soon be emailed separately. Either Eric Dany or Richard Abel will bring a magic backdrop for the contest. And, Eric volunteered to store the club's sound system at the Fun Company.

Our meeting then took an unusual but well-deserving turn. In the past, two of our former members, C. Thomas Magrum and Del Kiefer, have been honored and "immortalized" by naming our club's Ring in their honor for all they had done in establishing the club and keeping it going. There is a third and living member who over the many years has been our guide, our teacher and advisor, a source of magical knowledge and great stories, our "go to" guy in all things magical. That guy is Chuck Hanson. With introductory words to that effect, Brian Lees moved that the magic contest be named the Charles Hanson Showcase and the trophies be called the Hanson Trophies. Seconded by Craig Beytien. It was passed unanimously. Congratulations, Chuck!!!

Upcoming events: May 19-21 - AbraCORNdabra magic convention at Des Moines; July 6 – annual picnic; Oct 21 – annual Spooktacular.

Media report: Craig Cox reported on the book *Super Sized Silly* by David Kaye. (David has previously written *Seriously Silly*, another book on children's magic that was well received.) It is a 400-page book containing 75 lessons on becoming a good children's-show magician, plus 150 routines submitted by 104 magicians. These can be used to create 10 completely different one-hour shows. Craig liked the book and highly endorsed it.

For the **easy teach-a-trick**, Chuck Hanson showed us the 'Golly Golly Trick by Golly,' a great trick of impossibly knowing which pile, which number card in the pile, and the card itself. The trick involves a Svengali deck.

For the **hard teach-a-trick**, TJ Regul used various ideas to invent his own trick in which a silk is produced from a card case and then a coin from the silk. Then the coin disappears and the invisible coin is dropped back into the case where it is found once again.

Performances: Tonight's theme was 'silk magic'.

Grace Abel had a volunteer cut to a card which is placed face down on a silk and the corners of the silk tied with a rubber band. This bundle is placed in a bag, magic passes are made, the bundle removed, and the silk is found to have the imprint of the card which matches the chosen card in the silk.

Craig Cox had two silks tied together and the knotted ends placed in his pocket. Then a third "invisible" silk is made to disappear in his hand. When the silks are removed from his pocket, the invisible silk (via invisible thread) is found tied between them.

After a crazy, funny comedy intro involving photos of 'magic tricks' shared between Gorbachev and Pres. Reagan, Richard Abel twisted a Russian coin into a silk, and then extracted the coin through the silk.

Fred Abel slipped a rope through a small box, used the box to cut rope in two, and then restored the rope.

Stu Yager showed how a silk can be pulled through a cell phone (which can also be done with a card case.) Next, Stu pushed a white silk through his hand which became red. He then demonstrated how the trick was done using two silks, one white one red. But half way through the routine, he stopped and showed that the two silks had merged into one silk, half white half red.

Ben Headlee had a deck shuffled, a card chosen and squeezed between the fingers, and returned to the deck. Then, after smelling her fingertips, Ben spread the deck, smelled the cards, and found the volunteer's card.

Craig Cox placed many silks into a bag, ripped open the bag, and produced a large foil ball. Next, Craig produced a sign with a traffic light on both sides, and a colored spot that magically kept changing places, ending with all the colored spots becoming silks.

Todd Herbst did a tribute to Del Kiefer by performing one of his tricks. First Todd introduced his assistant, a sheepdog named Sir Licksalot. Todd gives the dog a red sucker to lick, then wipes the sucker with a white silk and blows the silk through a tube, which emerges at the other end as red. This is repeated with an orange sucker/silk and a blue one. Finally, the dog licks all three, and the silk comes out the tube as a multi-colored streamer.

Kim Meacham produced a black silk and made it disappear in his hand. Then with the other hand he produced it again from the air.

Ken Wilson had the deck of cards split into two halves, a card selected from each half and buried in the opposite halves. Then one half was turned up and the halves shuffled back together and spread. Ken then magically discerned and drew the chosen cards from each side of the spread.

Chuck Hanson had a bag that he turned inside out – nothing there. When he did it again, he produced a rope but the bag's exterior pattern had changed. This process continued with continually changing and new bag patterns while producing three more silks, one at a time. Two small silks were passed through a tube that emerged as larger ones. Attempts were made at tying them together, but the knots kept falling apart. Finally, the silks were passed through the tube again, and one silk emerged that stated "That's all, Folks!"

Ian Munk laid out five cards on the table. A volunteer was led through a process of elimination regarding the five ESP symbols which ended with the choice of the circle. Only one of the cards was a blue card, which had a circle on its face.

Tyler Cronin took a silk from which he produced a plastic egg that was placed in a bag from which it disappeared. When he reached in again he brought out an egg, but this time it was a real egg.

Steve Dulaney finished the evening with a dollar bill that he folded in such a way that it balanced impossibly on his thumb.

Next month is our magic contest, so practice well. Family and friends are welcome to see the performances.