

Quad Cities Magic Club, Ring 11 – Dec, 2017

Since our last meeting we enjoyed a great lecture from **Fielding West**. We also had fun with **Bob Higa** at the annual Christmas party, the attendance of which broke 70.

Three new opportunities have arisen for the club for next year: 1. Ken Wilson announced that Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Island is willing to host the club on March 17, 5:30 – 7:30pm. More details will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date; 2. Todd Herbst mentioned another opportunity for our club on April 26 for the Plus Sixties Club – it will be an hour show plus a half-hour teach-in; 3. The library in Independence, IA is celebrating its 10th anniversary on Sun., Oct. 7, 1-4pm in the afternoon, and has asked our club to bring 10-12 magicians to be spaced around the library and 2-3 balloon guys.

Since Joe Dobson was the proud (?) recipient of the novel *Mrs. Houdini* by Victoria Kelly, he has passed it on to Ken Cooper, because he came closest to stating the secret password shared between Harry and Bess. We will all be looking forward to a book report sometime this year!!!

The month of December is always the month of final nominations and the election of officers. Since there was no contest for any position, it was moved and seconded that the roster of nominees be accepted by acclamation. Motion carried. The new officers will be:

President: Ken Wilson

Vice-President: Kim Meacham, Richard Abel

Secretary: Michael Dyer

Treasurer: Todd Herbst

Sergeant-at-arms: Tyler Cronin, Carol Yodts

Person-at-large: Joe Dobson, Chuck Hanson

Media report: Michael Dyer reported on the final book written by John Booth, *Extending Magic Beyond Credibility*, a book filled with Booth's reviews, biographical info and insights on Malini, Robert-Houdin, Thurston, and others, and investigations into the history of the Indian Rope Trick, puppetry, ventriloquism, bird magic, etc.

Easy teach-a-trick: Richard Abel placed four cards face up, and had a volunteer turn one around. One-by-one Richard eliminated cards down the chosen one.

Hard teach-a-trick: Eric Dany presented a self-working card trick by Harry Lorayne, "Lazy Man's Card Trick." A card is selected, returned, and the deck cut several times. Eric then states where in the deck the card can be found.

Performances:

A young guest, Brady, was able to find and spell the name of a card after it had been lost in several piles of cards. He's off to a nice start.

Joe Dobson performed "Gemini Twins" the way he presents it in his business courses as an illustration of management and the control of people, especially their minds.

Ian Munk had four out of ten cards added up, plus another card from his iPhone. That final number was used to count down into a deck to a card that matched the iPhone card.

Craig Cox placed a stem with no blossom in his hand, and when pulled out it had a rose. Then he brought out a bag of plastic letters, and a little wooden house with a mirror as one of the walls. Letters were then placed down the chimney which showed up on the inner wall of the house saying, 'the not so famous magic act' and his name on the back side.

Ken Wilson, after various rolls of the dice and shuffled and cut cards, ended up with a 16-card magic square in which all the rows, columns, and other combos added up to a previously divined number.

Todd Herbst presented his Flag-o-Matic machine that can produce any flag imaginable. After a flag was selected from a deck of flag-pictured cards, various colored dyes, a silk, and much comedy were placed into the machine. Of course, there were a few hilarious failures, but in the end a large American flag was produced. Truly, a 'ta-da' moment!

Kim Meacham made a ring disappear, only to reappear on a finger – of the other hand. Nice sleight.

Chuck Hanson performed one of his first tricks from the 1940's, 'The Traveling Block.' Three wooden blocks (red, white, blue), each with a hole through it, were produced from a sack, stacked onto a spindle, and the whole stack covered with a tube. When the tube was lifted, there was only a red and a blue tube. The white block was found back in the sack. The equipment showed its age, but not the magic.

T.J. Regul performed one of his recent tricks for kids and families. Three pet cards (dog, cat, rabbit) hide under a silk in his hand. First, the dog and then the cat are 'found,' and the cards removed. That leaves the rabbit, but that card reads, 'Not Here,' and the back side reads, 'Not Here Either.' The rabbit has truly vanished.

Finally, another guest, Omar Gutierrez, did a nice card-lost-in-the-deck trick, followed by some magical card manipulations and productions, not seen by the club in a great while. Welcome aboard, Omar!

Ken Wilson ended the evening with a nice card routine by Eugene Burger.

Next Month in January, 2018:

Snacks: Craig Cox

Beverage: Ken Cooper

MC: Grace Abel

Media report: T.J. Regul

Easy teach-a-trick: Ian Munk

Hard teach-a-trick: Jerry Phillips