

Well, it's now August and it's hot! Our theme for the evening was Team Challenge. All those in attendance, including a few non-magician guests, were divided into five teams of 5-6 people. Each team was given a brown paper bag containing: directions, 2 copies; a rubber band; a 20 inch piece of rope; five washers; 2 playing cards; 2 tissues; a small paper cup and a pencil. We were given 15 minutes to put together an act using all the props and all the team members. The act also had to be 5 to 5 and a half minutes long. Bill White, Nick Paul and Chris Ward were the judges. We were judged on ten different various criteria and the winner of the competition won..... Absolutely nothing!

Team number 1 consisted of Bill Davola, Don Burger, Ziggy, Billy Gray and Bill Krupskas. We (because I was a team member) came in fourth place although I thought we won and I can editorialize because I'm writing this. Team number 2 came in third place and consisted of Steve Heller, Steve Morisi, Bob Weinowitz, Harry Mandel, Nick Lange and T.J. Tana.

Team number 3, the winners, was made up of Kevin Rhodehouse, Mike Maione, Terry Oberman Mike Davola and Steve Claiborne. They really did have a nice creative routine and probably deserved to win. Our runner-up was team number 4 consisting of Ray Belz, Brenda Heller, Jeff Miller, Todd Schwartz and Zach Mandel. Finally, bringing up the rear was team number 5 made up of Roy Miller, Jeff Stewart, Tom Fini, Bob Lusthaus and Don Engstrand. Well, unfortunately, someone had to be last. But, you know what; we all had a good time. There were a lot of laughs and we really did see some good and creative magic. The non-magician guests did a really fine job of learning simple effects from the members and in a short amount of time and then performing in front of a bunch of magicians. That can really be a daunting task. Well, off to the diner and we'll see you in September.

Bill Krupskas, O.M.

