

Pistols or Playing Cards?

In 1969 Dave Kinsell was a last minute write in for Selectman for Ward 1 in Georgetown. When the votes were cast Dick Bennett, the announced candidate and Mr. Kinsell each had received 43 votes. Six votes were to be thrown out by the election judges but the town Attorney reversed that decision and the vote went back to 43 to 43.

To settle this problem Town Clerk Liz Glenn visited a near by drugstore and purchased a deck of cards for 73 cents from their petty cash. Helen Rockwell, a member of the Board of Selectmen was selected to draw a card for each candidate. The high card would be selected the winner for Ward 1. She drew a 4 for Kinsell and a Jack for Bennett who then got the council job.

Bennett served till he moved to Missouri in 1971. The two candidates remained friends.

The Georgetown Historical Society purchased the historic cards to show how the "New West" settles problems. They paid a non-inflationary 73 cents for the deck of red Bicycle cards and put them on display at the Hamill House

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