

No. 58, KNOXVILLE, TN – Smoky Mountain Mystics
Meets 4th Thursday at 7:15 PM each month
Knoxville First Seventh Day Adventist Church Annex
3625 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee

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We had nineteen people at the June meeting – fifteen of them were members, and two are about to become members we hope. The Board had a quick meeting to increase our budget for the upcoming 40th Winter Carnival of Magic, and Vorjohan reported that he has already talked to Pop Haydn, Brian Gillis, and Paul Gertner about coming.

Since June is the most popular month for weddings, our theme tonight was “Something Old, New, Borrowed and/or Blue” and the creativity abounded. Roger Reeves started with a blue rope that made a blue silk appear and followed with some more beautiful parts of his silk routine. Mike Stratman managed to get all four parts of the theme by calling himself old! He took a new piece of rope and tied a knot in it so when he blew (homophone...no bonus points!), and blue silk appeared. Then he used the rope to do the old shoestrung trick with a knot that blew away. To finish, he borrowed a dollar...and kept it.

Michael Priestap (who was now a dollar poorer) came out to an old 1939 song, and was able to use a new piece of gum, borrow an eyeball (literally – don’t ask), and finish to Blue Danube; and along the way did some fun magic and humor. Tom Vorjohan did his old routine with the airline mask. Bill Sturgis revealed a selected card by producing a rope with three knots and a heart from a bag for the Three of Hearts. Kyle Copeland did the oldest trick he does with a borrowed blue deck, and presented a great version of Out of this World.

Michael Messing borrowed a blue deck which was now in his newly purchased card clip and did his old standby routine of the card sharp vs. the magician with four aces and a royal flush finish. Bev Coffey claimed he was the old part of this as he did a card effect with blue cards. The overly “blessed” Ed Ripley did a poker demonstration where he could not be beat multiple times. And to end the evening our young first-time guest, Preston Gull did a couple card effects showing that he is another teenager who is learning some classics of magic for their beginnings in the art.

So three of our performers were able to wrap in all four facets of our theme: Michael Messing, Mike Stratman, and Michael Priestap. Good work and congratulations to all of our Mikes & Michaels!

Tom Vorjohan