

No. 58, KNOXVILLE, TN – Smoky Mountain Mystics  
Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 7:00 PM each month  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
6900 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Tenn 37919

JACK WILSON, President  
(865) 588-8304 / e-mail: me@LJackWilson.net

Just a week to go before our Ring produced 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Winter Carnival of Magic; this convention is a great source of pride for us, and we have an impressive line-up of entertainers coming from coast to coast. We had 18 members, three visitors and three guests attending; for the magic tonight, Chris Huffman did his initiation performance including a Coloring Book routine, one phase of Cups and Balls, and one of his ministry pieces using a simple Ball Vase with a great message. The Ring members unanimously voted him into the Ring.

Our feature member lecture came from Kyle Copeland. While he focused on three effects, there was a lot more insight and knowledge shared by Kyle on things like the Classic Force, Juan Tamariz's thought process, and a deep look at Out of this World by Paul Curry. Kyle's use of a Si Stebbins stack provided a combination that got him through all three of his effects.

The theme for the evening was centered around money since it is almost tax time. Harold Whipps showed an old piece from one of George Kirkendal's lectures where a dollar bill floated up and another was passed under it. Much to our amusement, Jack Wilson later showed the same effect from the Fantasma Magic set he recently opened! Eric Smerdon did a variation on Arronson's Shuffleboard with a series of predictions. Michael Priestap had a hodge-podge of things including a Groucho Marx vent dummy, a great story about a fake Morgan silver dollar, and a cute effect using a steel penny and a little hand.

Roger Reeves reminisced about what money use to buy, then he changed a dollar into a large dollar and two ones into a five dollar bill. (Derek Granfield drove over with Roger, but Derek had lost his voice and couldn't speak during the meeting...that was like a trick in itself!) Tom Vorjohan performed his Tossed-Out Deck routine with a little Chris Mitchell flair (using a bucket and a pole). Our guest from Ring 37 in Nashville, Stephen Bargatze did a signed Torn and Restored Newspaper and also an ace transformation from under two people's feet to a glass on the table.

Mike Stratman showed a dollar-bill ring that he has been getting a lot of mileage from for years and years. Ben Young made a cameo appearance after a show, and even though he is responsible for the theme, he was unprepared to entertain us. So, to show him up, Dawson Parker demonstrated a couple miracle moves with an un-gimmicked Rubik's Cube. Okay, all the dues are paid from the 43 members of this Ring, and we are ready for the WCM next week!

Tom Vorjohan