

No. 58, KNOXVILLE, TN – Smoky Mountain Mystics  
Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 6:45 PM each month  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
6900 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919

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It was a fun February with 15 members attending on the last day of the month. Just a week away from our Winter Carnival of Magic...the programs are at the printer, badges are done, personal assistants are in line with airport pickups, and everything looks ready for a great 45<sup>th</sup> annual convention.

The magic got started with the theme of “Transformational Magic” and Michael Messing did his time-tested version of Wild Card Outdone. Tom Vorjohan showed the \$1 tricks that are now available at Target, then transformed blank cards into a full deck with his Mental Photography routine. Michael Priestap showed the effects of “deflation” as he shrunk a nickel to a tenth of its real size. Kyle Copeland showed a gorgeous “doctor’s knife” that Case puts out that is an actual color-changing knife.

Continuing with the theme, Ed Ripley changed a selected card under a shoe to a different selected card. Bill Sturgis performed a “Wow” effect visibly changing a card to the selected card. Bill Osburn pushed a straw through a bottlecap, and Tim Pressley transformed himself with a surprise fake clown nose after changing Rocky Raccoon into an actual coonskin cap. John Hopper had the best transformation of the night as he did a blendo effect with our Winter Carnival logo appearing on a large 36” silk...then he changed it again into our color logo. (He explained that this was a gift custom made by Jimmy Trimble in 1993.)

Jack Wilson changed four aces and moved the reds and blacks...and that moved us to our “Move of the Month” – the glide. Christine Maentz did her version which produced her business card, and Tom Vorjohan showed an effect from Giobbi’s first Card College with acrobatic aces. Ed Ripley showed the Hyper Balance Point of a pencil (which caused Osburn to rise to his feet!), and he taught a great version of an OLRAM subtlety that is for standup. Andrew Hyder showed how he mastered the glide with a point, and then performed a Aldo Columbini effect called “Shenanigans” with leprechauns as well as told us of a great new coin book: “The Long Goodbye.”

As we started with Show & Tell, Tom also showed the newly released caricature deck (with Bargatze as the seven of clubs between Mac King and Jay Marshal!). Tim Pressley showed some old Linking Rings with a write-up of the Winter Carnival from the ‘80s and mention of the first Winter Carnival planned for February 21 & 22, 1975. Bill Sturgis shared a balloon and tack on a paddle that actually popped. And Harold Whipps sat down and enchanted us with a couple stories of Bev Bergeron and more.

Tom Vorjohan