

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

MICHAEL PRIESTAP, President
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Our April meeting had fourteen members and one family guest attending, and our first order of business was the election of our new officers: Michael Priestap – President; Mike Stratman – Vice-President; Tom Vorjohan – Secretary; Jack Wilson – Treasurer; Bill Sturgis – Sgt-at-Arms; Tim Pressley – Program Chairman; Michael Messing, Ed Ripley, John Hopper and Harold Whipps as the four-member Board of Directors. Congratulations and thank you in advance.

Our theme for the month was “Shrinking Magic” and Evan Bishop had a chosen shrink and grow and shrink again inside the deck. Bill Osburn had a deck shrink down to one card, and then performed a version of the Diminishing Cards as the fans got smaller and smaller. Michael Priestap shrunk a nickel and Jack Wilson did a science trick when he passed a quarter through a smaller hole.

Michael Messing did his version (from Joker Magic) of the Diminishing Cards. Steve Jerden and his grandson Cayden Goodman worked together to make a Rubik’s Cube shrink. Mike Stratman shrunk \$100, then a silk shrank in a box, and he also created the illusion of a shrinking and growing ring. Tom Vorjohan dug out his Multum in Parvo trick to grow a glass of milk over and over again. John Hopper put a jumbo card in a bag, and it shrank. Barry Mitchell talked about how he used a mirror with Ickle Pickle’s Nickel shrinking for a different effect.

As we moved into our “Move-of-the-Month” which was Counts, Christine Maentz did a new four card effect she had learned, Tom Vorjohan showed his version of the Ghost Count used, and then Tim Pressley did the Six Card Repeat as he learned at the Winter Carnival from Nick Lewin. John Hopper had a great count that he shared, and again Tom showed how he used this count in his Cards Across routine. Jack Wilson also added his take on a count. Great M-O-M discussions this month!

Michael Priestap shared a rope with a square knot and was looking for some input. Barry Mitchell shared some new products including \$100-bill silk with inflation (it grew!) and a new Bill in Balloon with the silk. Harold Whipps shared some fun memories about George Kirkendall and how George was a great storyteller. John Hopper also shared a story about meeting Clarence Miller at one of the early WCMs and how he had made various wooden magic like a finger chopper out of walnut and he showed the box that made a red sponge ball suddenly appear.

To end the evening, Michael Priestap showed a copy of the 1934 Berland Cigarette Tricks booklet, Bill Osburn showed the magnets that Shin Lim has put to great use plus an “Eye” book that he has made. Tom Vorjohan taught the group a way to pass a rubberband through your thumb as he recently learned at a Nashville Ring 37 meeting. A great meeting with 100% participation for the second month in a row!

Tom Vorjohan