

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

VICTOR AGREDA, JR., President

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We had to move our meeting up a week due to the repositioning of Easter this year, and the fifteen of us had a great meeting. We were excited about the conclusion of the 49<sup>th</sup> Winter Carnival of Magic loaded with some of the best talent in magic: Bob Sheets, Stephen Bargatze, Nick Diffatte, Derek Hughes, Andi Gladwin, Doug Conn, David Ginn, Antony Gerard, the Evasons, Ray Adams, Jason Hudy, and Steve Valentine! Thank you all! By the way, the work on our “Golden Winter Carnival of Magic” has already begun!

After we had nominations for officers, we started sharing the magic we learned or bought at the Winter Carnival just two weeks ago. Ed Ripley did the Cobra Lite Switch (a new version of the Lite Board) that he got from Wolfgang’s booth. Already a great routine of moving lights and switches freely. Tim Pressley purchased some used books from Don Bursell’s book booth, but he shared his new “Pro Sponge Cake” that is about to be released – it looks great! Tom Vorjohan interrupted from his Zoom perch to show his favorite purchase which came from Tim Pressley: a foam roll of toilet paper!

Our President, Victor Agreda, talked about the value of being a personal assistant (PA) for our visiting performers. Victor’s fantastic experience with Steve Valentine came from respect, and Victor even got a gift from Steve that he found in the dealer room. Bill Sturgis added quite a bit to his magic library at the Winter Carnival of Magic, and he showed off a trick he purchased from Antony Gerard. Tom Vorjohan showed a huge pile of red sponge monkeys he got from Nick Diffatte, and discussed two books he got from Bursell’s Books. Roy Schubert wove another wonderful tale about the powers of an amulet to find a buried card amongst five piles. Roy also shared a Magic Hands original Vanishing Silk Gun, and also a mentalist billet knife – both of which he sold to Sherman Wires before the night was over.

With a chuckle, Bill Osburn showed a Godzilla bank with a hand that grabbed a coin, and also an origami bill that then blows up like a mini beach ball and can move with invisible thread. He also shared a gorgeous wood ball vase that can be used to produce a silk. Stacey Roach, who will be doing his initiation performance next month, shared his purchase from SWC Magic: the TCC version of grandma’s necklace. Having been in Costa Rica during the WCM, John Gyllenhaal showed a beautiful Tenyo routine called Zone Infinity that his daughter also loves performing. Bill Osburn also shared his shake-it-down version that he carries with him.

Sharing the perks of Doug Conn’s monthly teaching sessions, Andrew Hyder did a beautiful four ace routine with backs changing colors, cards turning over, and a great finish. Andrew has also signed up for Steve Valentine’s incredible online teaching as well as enjoying the Vanishing Inc. Master Classes. As we ended the evening, Jack Wilson shared his enjoyment of Ben It Like Gellar that he picked up from Don Bursell at the convention. Now on to #50!

Tom Vorjohan