

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

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We were happy to have first-time guest, Harold Whipps, join us at our June meeting along with twelve other members. The business portion of the meeting was a little bittersweet as we learned that Bill Osburn has taken a job up in Berea, Kentucky so he will not be at our meetings for a couple years. Also, Mark Young has sold his home in Oak Ridge and is moving to Beaufort, South Carolina permanently. So this was his last meeting with the Ring.

The performance theme for the evening was “Strike Up the Band” which could be interpreted as magic with a musical theme or something with bands...like rubber bands. It was good to have John Bloor with us, and he adapted a trick from “Street Magic” called the Brilliant Head Band Prediction. Don Cox did a mini teach-in with multiple knots appearing in a rope. He also did the birthday calendar card prediction for the group. Bev Coffey started what looked like a Bill in Lemon routine, but the bill was found inside a light bulb instead.

Mike Stratman did a multi-phase ring and rope routine with the ring effortlessly penetrating the rope. Bill Osburn had a little show-and-tell as part of his trick as he showed an ESP deck that was from a 1937 Zenith Radio promotion. Mark Young did a beautiful four-ring Linking Ring routine (one that many members learned years ago from Whit Hayden)...what a fitting finale from Mark. And to end the performances, our president, Jack Wilson, taught Michael Ammar’s Crazy Man’s Handcuffs and had some rubber bands for everyone.

Our July meeting will be after the I.B.M. convention in Jacksonville. Jack Wilson will be attending along with Ed Ripley who will be competing in close-up. Two other members will be “working” the convention: Mike Stratman is the co-chairman over the convention and Michael Messing is the official photographer for The Linking Ring. So Ring 58 is well represented.

Tom Vorjohan