

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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For July, we had a room-full of guests at the meeting. Nine-year-old Luke and his mom, Terri, came to this meeting after seeing Michael Messing at one of his library shows. Former member Pet Geoffrion and his friend John Paul saw Mark Young perform at the Oak Ridge museum, and that rekindled his interest in magic. And newly transplanted Harold Whipps who just moved to the area from Florida was back again and plans to join. We had some brief business including congratulating our own Ed Ripley who captured 2nd place at the Jacksonville I.B.M. convention in the close-up contest.

The theme for the evening was “Magic with Food” since we are in the middle of the picnic season. While we were still introducing the theme, Tom Vorjohan brought out a pizza box with a foam “domino” pizza and then answered a giant foam banana with some corny banana humor. After we had a moment to show that several members brought some snacks and desserts, Jack Wilson did an effect from Penn & Teller’s “Playing with Food” where he made a randomly chosen push-pin float up from the bottom of a glass of water. Tom then did Mrs. Brown’s Cookie and had a PSA (public service announcement) about too many snacks and sweets using Chompers. To finish the performances, Don Cox performed a card effect using red and yellow squares representing ketchup and mustard then he did another three-card monte type of effect where the two jokers and a queen changed to two queens and one joker.

We all sat around afterward and enjoyed a casual evening with snacks and lots of magical stories of the recent I.B.M. convention, plans for our Winter Carnival of Magic in March, and a variety of stories and laughs from our group. Always a great time when we gather, and food made it even better!

Tom Vorjohan