

No. 58, KNOXVILLE, TN – Smoky Mountain Mystics
Meets 4th Thursday at 7:00 PM each month
Knoxville First Seventh Day Adventist Church Annex
3625 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee

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The June meeting was very well attended with 25 members and four guests attending. After some brief business and some announcements, the meeting started with an “Impromptu Challenge.” Some common household items were on the table, and six members/guests performed some form of routine. Performers included Tom Vorjohan doing something with a napkin, Caleb Bailey doing some paper folding and tearing, Kyle Copeland performing a card effect, Zac Johnson doing some sleights with a pen and its cap, Stephen Knowles doing an impromptu card rise, and guest Neal Nakandakare with a revelation of two chosen cards. Our judges decided that Vorjohan and Johnson tied for second, and Knowles came in first.

We then had a mini-lecture by Ken Muller on the Change Bag. Ken wanted us to develop some alternative thinking about using a change bag, and he did that. He had over a dozen examples of bags and gloves and caps and more that could change one item for another. Some great discussion followed.

Then we had another mini-lecture by Zac Johnson (who will be leaving us in August to go to Morgantown, WV) on Card Effects and some important moves like the pinky count, Classic Force, and the Pass. He did three of his favorite routines and explained them. A lot of time was spent talking and discussing the Pass.

Our theme for the night was to perform something from the Linking Ring. Nine members performed. Chris Berney had a chosen card appear in a picture of him plummeting downhill on a rollercoaster! John Bloor did a couple of effects with cards where names were predicted and then cards did a three-way transposition. Pan Walker talked about his ongoing research on Dai Vernon and his goals for the coming year. Ed Denny recollected about his start in magic at the age of 4 ½ (back in 1932) and about the first tricks he later bought at St. Louis’ Magic Den and some lessons he took from Will Lindhorst...and this led to the coin effect that was just in the Linking Ring that he recalled from those lessons.

Jason Rieger did an effect from our upcoming lecturer’s Parade (Paul Hallas in April 2007) where the Jack’s found the mated Queens in the deck. Kyle Copeland did some comedy for us as he worked through poor lighting and some bad spelling. Don Cox did a great lay-person “your card” effect. Tom Vorjohan did a card effect he just learned from Dan Harlan at the Chattanooga Ring’s lecture a week prior. And to end things, Ken Muller showed some ideas he is working on with a board held by spectators and some coffee creamers. A great full evening to say the least!

Tom Vorjohan