

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

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The October meeting had eighteen members and two guests attending. In fact, one of the guests was a former member from the early '90s, Lendon Wyrick, who opened our performances with a short series of impromptu tricks including one with money, the Jumping Rubber Bands, and a card revelation. We unanimously welcomed Lendon back to the Ring.

It was going to be easy for us to perform this month because the theme was to do a signature effect. Kyle Copeland kicked things off with his Hot Rod effect. Jason Rieger did Stewart James' Further Than That with a table full of revelations to a card trick. Ed Denny did a version of Miser's Dream that he has had in his act for decades. Debbie Debuty is known as our resident clown and also for the animals she uses, and her ferret appeared and had some fun antics with a stiff rope.

Our program chairman, Steven Knowles did his sponge ball routine that he has used for many years followed by the debut of a new stacked deck that can be shuffled! He promised to have that out on the market soon. Michael Messing has used the Color Changing Silks in his act for many years, and it was fun to watch him do it at our meeting. Passing through town was our Henderson, Kentucky member, Daniel Herron, so he and Tom Vorjohan performed a scaled-down version of their award-winning "Old McDonald" balloon routine. Ken Muller did a very visual card penetration onto a pencil and then did his handmade version of the Bells of Tibet.

Mike Stratman loves doing the Sidewalk Shuffle, and we got to see it! Ed Ripley says he never leaves the house without the \$1 and \$5 bill exchange in his wallet. Caleb Bailey talked about his use of the growing wands when he performs for kids and then he did one of his favorite routines ending with a star-shaped rubber band as the symbol for Jesus. Michael Priestap did a Paul Cummings card effect called Old Faithful with the four aces from a borrowed deck. And to end the evening, Bill Osburn did the linking paperclips that leapt from a dollar bill. So, 15 of the 20 members and guests performed this evening – and that made it a lot of fun!

Tom Vorjohan