

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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Our September meeting was great...and we had 23 members present to enjoy it. The business went a little long, but we decided on some important stuff pertaining to the Winter Carnival as well as other things like dues payments. Jim Dykes won our first raffle item that was donated by Syd Beckman - a hand-turned cherry wood Chop Cup!

The magic theme for the night was “Alternate Realities” which was ideas for tricks that deviated from the instructions or normal use. Ed Ripley kicked things off with an idea from Henry Evans that had four predictions come true using an Invisible Deck. Tom Vorjohan showed a way to end the Confusing Crayons. Debbie Debuty made an adorable bird appear from a can of Chicken Noodle Soup which was really Barry Mitchell’s Switch Can.

Danny Justice used a Tapered Deck in an unconventional way and then did a series of flourishes using D’Lite and sponge balls. Caleb Bailey used his phone to show a picture of a card and then revealed it. Don Cox did the Crazy Man’s Handcuffs, but used just one rubber band and a finger ring. Ken Muller did a Copper/Silver transposition using different color and value poker chips.

Zac Johnson just walked through the door, and came straight up to perform a color changing routine with four kings from a deck. Michael Priestap carried in a gargantuan Invisible Deck, dropped them on the floor, and then one card was seen to rise from his iPhone! Kyle Copeland found a card using an alternative version to Emotional Reaction. And to finish, Pan Walker did a totally mental version of a 18 card trick.

As if that wasn’t enough for the month, the Ring got back together with 32 members and one guest for the first stop of Michael Ammar’s lecture on October 5. Thirteen members enjoyed a more personal workshop before the lecture that included some great wisdom as well as thoughts on business cards, false shuffles, a great Triumph, coins through scarf, unlinking rubber bands and a cut and restored scarf.

The lecture started with a 20-minute performance and then he explained all of it including Topit tips, a torn and restored card, an ambitious card routine, Cups and Balls, Bill in Lemon, and much more. It was a powerhouse lecture that lasted nearly three hours. Michael is one of the best teachers of our time.

Tom Vorjohan