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

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As we brought 2015 to a close, we had our largest group of the year show up for our holiday banquet and gift exchange. A total of 51 people were in attendance including members' family and a few friends. For the second year in a row we had Salsarita's cater the meal and the Ring paid for it (maybe that's why so many people showed up!).

Immediately after dinner, we were treated to an hour-long show by two members from Nashville's Ring 37. Gary Flegal (their incoming president) has such a smooth, pleasant style that is a joy to watch. He finished with his 3-Ring Chinese Rings, Miser's Dream and Floating Table – all of which are mesmerizing in his hands. Eric Tyree has a style all his own and did a variety of original effects like thimble manipulation (with toothpaste caps), rope through body, and a great card prediction. What a great show by some great talent from our neighboring Ring. To end the evening we had a huge gift swap and grab (like a "Dirty Santa") that over 40 of us took part in – what a hoot! The cash was the hot ticket item along with several magic books and some gift cards. Looked like fun was had by all.

The following week, members Roger Reeves, Derek Granfield, Jason Murphy, and Tom Vorjohan went to Nashville to entertain at their Ring banquet that took place at the Spaghetti Factory. It was fun to rekindle the concept of a talent swap between our Rings, and we hope it may continue.

Tom Vorjohan