No. 58, KNOXVILLE, TN – Smoky Mountain Mystics Meets 4th Thursday at 6:45 PM each month Messiah Lutheran Church 6900 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919

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With 37 people attending – 22 members and fifteen family members/guests – we brought 2019 to a close with our annual holiday party. The event was catered by Buddy's Bar-B-Q, and we had chicken, pork, beans, potato salad, slaw, and even chocolate chip cookies. Jack Wilson, Michael Messing, Tom Vorjohan, and Michael Priestap took care of all the details and everything ran smoothly. The meal was a great time for fellowship.

Our guest entertainer for the evening was Geoff Williams who flew up from St. Petersburg, Florida that afternoon just to be with us. Geoff does some great magic which is disguised with his disarming clever wit; it was perfect for a group of magicians...beginning with the floating finger and some other fun nonsensical magic followed by his stellar rope routine with the help of "Shelly" (played by Avery Pressley). It was an enjoyable show for our group to say the least!

To end the evening, we had thirty people participate in our version of a "Dirty Santa" gift swap...where everyone had brought a wrapped present and they could either open a mystery gift, or exchange it for another gift. The stealing and fun-filled banter makes this an annual tradition, and this year saw a radio-controlled Corvette, a couple Dunkin' Donuts gift cards, two bottles of wine, several magic books and DVDs and a set of Hip Hop Rabbits that were among the most coveted of the gifts adding to the excitement. We wish all of our friends around the world a happy holiday season and a spectacular 2020!

Tom Vorjohan