

No. 58, KNOXVILLE, TN – Smoky Mountain Mystics

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 6:45 PM each month

Messiah Lutheran Church

6900 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919

TIM PRESSLEY, President

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July was not your typical magic month for the Ring. It's been 25 years, and we had planned to celebrate and appreciate this silver anniversary of the grand talents of Terry Evanswood at the Winter Carnival of Magic this past March, but that couldn't happen. So, on Saturday, July 17, twelve Ring members and eight family members went to Pigeon Forge to enjoy Terry's show at the Grand Majestic Theater! We had all seen his shows over the years, but his energy and ability to immediately relate with the audience makes the show fresh and fun every time. Our President, Tim Pressley, had put together a framed and matted certificate that said in part, "[We] proudly support and congratulate Terry Evanswood for an incredible magic show and 25 years of performing in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. We thank you for enhancing the Art of Magic in East Tennessee." It was a great show, and we got to visit with Terry and the cast afterwards. Although the recent year has enabled Terry to let his grey grow out, he is still dynamic and youthful on stage and we hope he will be performing for many years to come.

Then, as July was winding to a close, Franz Harary reached out to the Ring and wanted to stop in Knoxville on his after-Abbott's journey. Heck yeh! With just a week to plan, we rented the Bearden Banquet Hall, arranged a barbecue dinner, and promoted the event to the club and neighboring Rings as well. Franz wasn't doing a "lecture" per se, but more of a multi-media (thanks to our techno-brilliant geek, Jack Wilson) interactive talk and Q&A. There were 21 members and guests attending on Sunday, August 8, and it was awesome to have Franz walk us through some of his projects, shows, and productions. Having worked most of his career overseas, many of the members had no idea of the diversity and talents of Mr. Harary. He had many memorable thoughts, like, "Magic inspires technology which in turn inspires magic." He spent several hours with the Ring, and he even made a video with us to help promote the fun and fellowship – and magic! – of Ring 58. (You can see it on our Ring 58 Facebook page.) It was great to have magic's compilation of Doc Brown, Willy Wonka and Iron Man all rolled into one share the tip of the iceberg of his life's adventures and projects with us. Thank you, Franz!

Tom Vorjohan