

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

VICTOR AGREDA, JR., President

(865) 223-1401 / e-mail: vagredajr@gmail.com

As we excitedly flip the calendar to 2023, we know that the Winter Carnival of Magic is just 48 days away as we meet a week earlier than normal for January so we can talk about the convention, prepare the postcards for mailing and share a little magic. There were 22 members and one potential member, Sherman Wires, attending with thirteen of us ready to perform on our “Coins” night.

President Victor Agreda showed a quick trick with two coins that in a blink turned into two Chinese coins. We were thrilled to have our “westerners” join us, and Roger Reeves did a very polished three-coin effect; first making the coins appear one-by-one and then each vanished in the same manner. Making the trek with Roger, Carroll Vinson did a fun version of the Nesting \$1.35 that he gets great reaction from kids. Our main competitor, Ed Ripley, worked with Jessica Hyder to do a dollar-bill and five-dollar-bill transposition. Michael Messing shared a bit of info with us to tell us Johnson Coins are no longer available, and that he is having great success with a Copper/Silver/Brass that he recently purchased from Tom Ladshaw. Michael then did the routine.

With “Money” playing in the background, Michael Priestap folded a dollar bill into a dollar coin, and then performed his wonderful two-coin trick. Tom Raidy did a smooth version of Card Warp followed by a command performance of Tenyo’s Crystal Cleaver. Attending the meeting while visiting Knoxville for a few days (crashing at the Priestaps’ and then the Stratmans’), Tom Vorjohan was excited to share his work on Harlan’s Awakening, plus the money sight gags and version of Hundy 500 that he carries in his wallet, then taught one card trick that Jack informed us was in Tarbell 1, and finally he fooled several of us with a card at any number by Carlos Vinuesa from *Numbers, Cards...and Time!* John Gyllenhaal did an amazing version of Supersized KFS coin effect and asked for input to help with the tricks shortcomings.

The energetic Ray Adams did an almost “stage sized” ancient thief technique to remove large washers from a ribbon very convincingly. He also shared a funny stunt he does with a Post-it note in crowded parking lots. Bill Osburn carefully caused a quarter to penetrate through a playing card into a spectator’s hands. Danny Justice did an original full-deck story that involved Three Card Monte, a Matrix, and some incredible poker hands. To end the evening, Bill Sturgis – who is amassing a genuinely amazing collection of magic in his home – performed a key penetrating a coin in a plastic sleeve that he made for pennies on his 3D printer. It was a great meeting, and all of this on the 80th birthday of our great friend in Knoxville: Steve Gronowski.

Tom Vorjohan In Person!