

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

VICTOR AGREDA, JR., President

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

Talk about “March Madness” – the Ring hosted a glorious Winter Carnival of Magic for the 48<sup>th</sup> year in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee on March 9-11, then had their normal meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday ready to show off some magic of their own. We had seventeen members on hand including five participating via Zoom with the Stratmans checking in just before showtime at Esther’s Follies in Austin, Texas. Our Ring pride after the WCM is running high!

We kicked off the performances with Jim Stott’s initiation performance. Jim has moved to Maryville from Kentucky, and graciously gifted the Ring over \$1000 worth of magic kits for the “swag bag” at the convention, then proved his talent as a magician and storyteller as he did a little “brain de-molecularization” first with a clear balloon and a long needle-like probe, then with our President Victor’s head and a long sword that passed through. The Ring unanimously and quickly welcomed Jim to the Ring!

Our theme for the night was “Shadows” and our Vice President, Michael Messing, did a little demonstration of the Gambler versus the Magician and just “the shadow” of his hand. Michael went on to teach the trick which he first learned from the Garcia/Schindler *Magic with Cards*. Victor Agreda talked about Teller’s beautiful shadow effect with a rose, then showed a very bright USB light and recommended trying the “Six Guests in Five Rooms” that Roberto Giobbi put on page 2 of *Secret Agenda*. Tom Vorjohan shared [PlayingCardDecks.com](http://PlayingCardDecks.com), offered some black silk top hats, and talked about the Ginn book and a Ricki Dunn book called *Zapped!* about the electric chair effect.

Steve Jerden used Cayden Goodman’s assistance with a glass, silk, ball and coin instantaneous penetration (using a 1962 penny!). Bill Osburn let us see the light about almost losing his home to George Lucas back in the early 90s and shared a bit about the dark shadows of his legal fight. After he sold the surplus of Pat’s Mats with the WCM logo to members attending the meeting, Jack Wilson “a shadow of his former self” performed Magical Dozen from Harry Lorayne’s latest last book: *Essential Harry Lorayne*. Tom Raidy, also on Zoom, had a great shadowy presentation of the Ghost Key explaining that his granddaughter “has the key to my heart.” With a wonderful set up of several effects, Bill Sturgis shared the story of a Princess and a Wizard, with an appearing and vanishing necklace, doves (silks) that vanished and reappeared, and the king’s crown jewel that also vanished and reappeared back in the crown. It was a great evening – and month – of magic!

Tom Vorjohan