

RING 180, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA – Horace Bennett Ring

Meets 2nd. Wed. each month, 7:00 pm, Children's Museum, 2626 West

Broad St., Richmond, VA 23220

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The March meeting began with a show-and-tell in which Lou Dean presented the Legends playing cards by Lawrence Sullivan with David Blaine and Bill Kalush and artwork by Mark Stutzman. The deck, printed in Taiwan, is purported to be an improvement over those produced by the US Playing Card Company and has several features of interest to magicians. President Watt Hyer spoke of members' recent performance at the Medical College of Virginia Hospital. He also demonstrated his "shirt change" in which his shirt changed from black to green in honor of the approaching St. Patrick's Day. He constructed the color-changing shirt with help from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) engineering student and Ring member, Zachary Gartrell.

Watt then announced the theme of the meeting, "Self-Working Card Magic," and started the topic by showing two effects: "The 15-15-10 Card Trick," also known as the "Final 3 Amazing Math Card Trick," in which 49 cards were eliminated in stages leaving the 3 cards chosen by spectators; and "Cidentaquin" by Howard Adams in which a spectator chose an ESP card, pairs of cards were shown with only two matching pairs found. Those pairs matched the chosen card.

Larry Rohr, assisted by Randy Earley, presented "Dangerous Dan," or "Casino Royale," in which he told a story of prospectors in Alaska playing poker and how six hands, each a full house, were beaten by the dealer's royal flush. Larry Lessner provided a break from the theme by performing a number prediction. Spectators called out entire four-digit numbers or individual digits. Larry recorded five fourdigit numbers and Chip Baggett computed their sum. The sum matched two predictions. One had been written when the routine began. The other had been given to Barry Mills in a sealed envelope much earlier in the evening. Larry told how he accomplished the effect without an "add-apid" or switches – just bold showmanship.

Zachary Gartrell returned to the theme by performing "Predicting a Phone Number" from Joshua Jay's *Magic: The Complete Course*.

Landon Davis assisted by forming seven stacks of cards. Turning over the top card of each stack revealed Landon's telephone number.

Chip Baggett presented Max Maven's "Res Cue" from the Essential Magic Conference (EMC) 2010 DVD set. Mike Kinnaird and Bill Leedom sat opposite one another and chose cards from their respective packets. They exchanged cards. Chip assisted Mike to determine Bill's

card and then revealed Mike's card to Bill.

Bill Leedom chose Lou Dean to play the part of the "gentleman" and Mike Kinnaird to play the part of "the (bearded) lady." They chose cards 134 www.magician.org *The Linking Ring* which were revealed by Charlie Ross operating the "Mind Ball," a "Magic 8-Ball" like prop by David Regal.

Mike Kinnaird showed five jumbo ESP cards, each with a different symbol. Harry Gallant mentally selected one. He then moved the cards following Mike's instructions. Mike, of course, revealed the selected symbol. The effect, "Mixed Signals," by Jim Sisti used a principle often attributed to Eddie Joseph.

Charlie Ross asked Watt Hyer to repeatedly cut a deck of cards and to note one. Charlie revealed the noted card by cheating! He had used a Svengali deck.

Dave MacMillan had two offerings. "The Power of Poker" from John Bannon's book, *Shufflin'*, had the spectator make all the choices in forming two poker hands, yet the performer held the winning hand. Next, Dave reached back to the September 2011 issue of *The Linking Ring* to present Paul Lelekis's working of Dai Vernon's "The Trick That Can't Be Explained." In this math-based version the number of cards left in the performer's hands indicated the value of the face-down card on top of a packet of cards. Bill Baber and Mike Kinnaird mixed cards face up and face down. Bill then showed a sheet of predictions foretelling the number of facedown cards, the number of them that were red, and the division between clubs and spades. The effect was "Jeopardy" from Paul Green's *In the Trenches* DVD. Bill mentioned other similar effects with shared roots in Simon Aronson's "Shufflebored" and Bob Hummer's CATTO principle.

Harry Gallant's assistant set a card aside, dealt two piles, used the top card of one pile to indicate the position of the chosen card in the other pile, and then showed that the choice matched the card that had been set aside. *Wm. C. Baber*