

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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President Watt Hyer began the October meeting by showing the new "banner" the Ring had purchased. It identifies the Ring as part of the I.B.M., is made of a heavy vinyl, unrolls from and rolls back into its base. A collapsible rod unfolds from the base to support the unrolled banner. Watt introduced guests and new members Freddie Kirchner and David Mahler. He

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then led a discussion of new procedures for entering the meeting site.

Having completed the initial business, Watt introduced the month's theme, "Rope Magic," by producing ropes from a Temple Screen. He performed "Professor's Nightmare," using some moves from the Guy Hollingworth routine in the September 1999 *Genii*, and two and three loop linking ropes routines from Aldo Colombini. He acknowledged Barry Mills for showing him the Colombini three-loop routine. Watt also demonstrated Pat Page's "Snap-A-Knot."

Harry Gallant showed "DoughKnot" using an imitation doughnut in a ring and rope routine that he had learned from a "Hocus Pocus Parade" in a past issue of *The Linking Ring*. Harry included jokes and gags suitable to the situation.

Zachary Gartrell also offered jokes and gags to introduce his finger ring on string routine in which a ring went on and off a cord several times, including a toss of the ring onto the string. His routine was based on Greg Wilson's *Ring Leader* DVD (Penguin Magic).

Jokes and gags introduced and ran throughout Barry Mills's routine adapted from Aldo Colombini's DVDs and lecture. One rope became two and melded back to one. Barry invited a spectator to cut the rope, but the scissors failed to work. Different lengths of rope became equal and then unequal again. The rope became a single loop without ends and then became two linked loops. A length of rope had knots tied into its ends. Barry placed the ends with their knots into his pocket and the knots jumped to the center of the rope.

David Mahler performed his version of "Professor's Nightmare" with the jokes he uses to accompany it. Michael Douglas showed his finger ring and string and ring on wand routines based on what he had learned from DVDs by Daryl. He also mentioned Diamond Jim Tyler as an inspiration. Watt Hyer expounded on Michael's routines by citing Ray Grismer's routines. David MacMillan showed his adaptation of "Hunter's Bow Knot" and the "School Boy Knot" (see, e.g., Rice's "Naughty Silks") and his ring on string routine.

Bill Baber performed Aldo Colombini's "Not-Gone" in which a chosen length of rope differs from the other two lengths. He also showed the basic version of Daryl's "Acrobatic Knot" routine. He tied a knot in a white rope, twirled the white rope with a red rope, and caused the knot, which remained white, to jump onto the red rope. When a spectator untied the knot, he saw that the red rope now contained a white section. With all performances completed, some members left while others remained to discuss what they had seen and to learn rope moves and handlings from one another. *Wm. C. Baber*