

The report of the July 2014 regular meeting of International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 180, the Horace Bennett Ring, Richmond, VA, appears below.

President Watt Hyer opened the July meeting with announcements. An issue before the Ring was the scheduling of the Nathan Kranzo lecture. Also noted was the television program, "The Carbonaro Effect," on TRU TV. One member described it as a mix of magic and "Candid Camera." Watt asked Bill Baber to report on his attendance at the IBM/SAM Combined Convention, Monday, June 30 – Saturday, July 5.

Watt then introduced the performance topics for the night, 1) Effects with Gaffed Cards and Packet Tricks and 2) Magic with Wallets, Purses, Pouches, and Bags. Watt asked for a card to be selected. He showed a fan of a few cards in which one was reversed. The fan became a single giant card which matched the selection. Watt said that the local magic shop had just received a shipment of this effect, "Big Surprise." Watt next showed an empty drawer box which became filled with a red velvet bag containing two brass rings and a square card. A coin placed on the bag alternately vanished and appeared as it was covered and uncovered with combinations of rings and the card, ending with the coin being in, rather than on, the bag. Watt said that this effect, similar to "Baby Jade Rings," was "Magical Mystery Rings" by Marvin's Magic. Watt next produced and vanished a coin using a pocket square. He had planned to show some coin magic, but the rubber band on his flipper coin had just broken. This discovery led to a discussion of how to prevent and recover from such breakages. Watt then moved on to an effect he called, "Acrobatic Chips," which he adapted from Porper's "Poker Chip Surprise." In this routine three chips were shown, one was taken into one hand while the others remained in the other hand. The chips changed places. This effect was repeated. Watt finished with the chips exchanging places when placed into a purse.

Zachary Gartrell showed his variant of "Three Card Monte," which had been inspired by "This, That, and the Other." Zack had learned the effect from the Internet and had modified it. This version used two Jokers and a King of Diamonds. Zack pointed out that in his presentation he was careful not to tell the assisting spectator that he was wrong, had made a mistake, or wasn't observant.

Barry Mills had three fifty-cent pieces in a purse. When he put one into his pocket, it managed to join the others in the purse. He also passed one of the coins through his hand, dropping it onto the table. The routine ended with the three coins jumping together from his pocket to the purse.

Joe Duck invited visitor, Sunni Cahoon, to mentally select a card from a packet. Joe then went through several "magician in trouble" gags, including divining that the selection was a "black spot, versus picture, card," showing a card with a large black spot on it; wondering "What the L is going on," showing a card with a large "L"; announcing that the card placed on the table was it, showing a card with "IT" printed on it. In the end the selection was in an envelope in Joe's wallet, and all the other cards were now blank. The routine was "Oops" by Bob Mason and Bill Pryor. Joe also performed Peter Kane's "Gypsy Curse," a "Monte" routine using six black spot cards and a King of Diamonds. Due to the Gypsy's curse, all seven cards became Kings.

Harry Gallant had Mike Kinnaird, Zack Gartrell, and Steve Moore, each select a card suit. He then referred to the "Jack Be Nimble" nursery rhyme, showing that the Jack of the unselected suit had not successfully jumped and was reversed among the other three.

Mike Kinnaird also used Sunni Cahoon as participant spectator as he presented his adaptation of Garrett Thomas' "Stand Up Monte."

Steve Moore then used Sunni Cahoon and Zachary Gartrell in his "Meeting the Daughter's Boyfriend" routine based on Greg Wilson's "Coffee Break." A wood coffee stirring stick was folded into a Starbuck's bag and repeatedly broken. When Steve unfolded and opened the bag, the stick was whole.

With performances ended, Larry Lessner showed a nest of boxes that Owen Magic Supreme had made for him. Mike Kinnaird asked for suggestions on presenting the "Gozinta" boxes. Zack Gartrell asked for feedback on the ball routine he was developing. And the meeting broke into small groups as members pursued additional information on what they had seen.

By Wm. C. Baber
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