

**International Brotherhood of Magicians  
Ring 180, The Horace Bennett Ring, Richmond, VA**

**Report of Meeting  
March 11, 2015**

Ring President Watt Hyer opened the March 2015 meeting with announcements of upcoming performances by the Ring and scheduled regional conventions.

Dan Dalton was the first to perform according to the evening's combined themes, "Packet Tricks and Self-Working Card Magic." He reported that his uncle taught the effect to him when he was a boy and called it "Counting on the Count." Piles of cards were formed based on the values of first cards dealt from the deck. Several counts from the piles left the magician holding a number of cards. That number matched the rank of a hidden card that had been set aside during the process.

Watt showed his kid-friendly version of Jim Pace's "The Web." Watt's effect was inspired by Geoff Williams' "Bear Hands." In Watt's effect the image of Elsa from the movie, "Frozen," appeared on and vanished from a set of blank cards. In the end, the Elsa sticker was found on the back of the spectator's hand.

Mike Kinnaird performed Chris Philpott's "Babel," which used the 100<sup>th</sup> monkey principle. In the effect Joe Duck with a cell phone accessing Google Translate monitored the experiment in which a "hypnotized" Amy Duck received the power of xenoglossia. She was able to read words from unfamiliar foreign languages that were printed on cards that Mike held.

Tom Olshefski presented his adaptation of David Stone's Card-to-Card-Box routine. Tom based his patter on a "Lord of the Rings" theme and used a replica of the "Ring of Power." When a spectator put on the ring, the card of which he merely thought vanished from the deck. When the spectator held his hand over the empty card box and removed the ring, the imagined card appeared in the box.

Joe Duck offered two card effects. The first was a modification of John Cornelius' "My First Card Trick" which Joe had developed after observing a modification by Harry Gallant. In the effect a spectator merely thought of one of several cards that appeared in a photograph. Joe was able to reveal the card of which the spectator thought. Joe next performed a lie detector test. A spectator chose a card and answered questions about it, either telling the truth or lying. Joe eliminated cards by spelling the answer. When one card was left, it was the selected card.

Harry Gallant also offered two card effects. The first, "Jack's Back," came from an issue of *The Linking Ring*. Harry showed six cards, a spectator thought of one, after some byplay the identified card did not match the prediction that a Jack would be chosen, but upon turning the card over "Jack" was found to be written on its back. Second, "Jack Be Nimble" had three spectators each choosing one of the four Jacks to win a jackpot. In the end only one Jack in the packet was reversed, but it was the one not named by any of the three spectators thus saving the magician from making a payout.

Larry Rohr showed "Casino Royale," a poker demonstration. Several spectators cut the deck. Amy Duck dealt seven poker hands. Each spectator had a full house, but Larry held a royal flush.

Bill Baber performed "The Mentalist's Card Staggerer," Ted Annemann's variant on the classic "Princess Card" trick, and "Kopy Kat" by Nick Trost. In the latter the performer and a spectator reversed cards in packets held behind their backs. The reversed cards matched. An explanation was offered that the effect was accomplished by using duplicate cards. Indeed, ten cards were shown to be duplicates, but they differed from the two matching cards.

In response to a question, Watt Hyer demonstrated "Dr. Daley's Last Trick," in which the red and black aces changed places.

Mike Kinnaird returned with an off-topic presentation, "Moroccan Restraint." The effect used a leather strap, but its operation was similar to the "Siberian Chain Escape." Mike went through the usual array of gags associated with such escapes.

Watt returned to show a work in progress based on a David Ben routine. A collection of postage stamps was tossed on the table. Some landed face up. Others landed face down. Watt removed the face down stamps. Larry Rohr continued to shake and toss the remaining stamps with Watt removing those landing face down. In the end only one face up stamp remained, and it matched the prediction that Watt had made.

With all performances completed, the group discussed methods of accomplishing the effects observed and how presentations might be fine tuned.