

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

**Report of Meeting
June 10, 2015**

Ring President Watt Hyer convened the June 2015 meeting with announcements and introduced the night's performance theme, "Mentalism," by performing a three-part prediction, "Fair Play" by Steve Haynes and Uday Jadugar, published by Paul Harris. Three borrowed objects, a coin, a bill, and a card, were placed in different locations, and the fob on a key ring held a prediction of the location of each object.

Tom Olshefski presented "Superworld," his variation of Paul Curry's "Out of This World." Mike Kinnaird shuffled a deck of playing cards and returned it to Tom. Tom placed two mystic stones, one red, the other black, on the table. Tom dealt cards beneath the stones according to Mike's psychic impression of the color of each card. Midway through the process Tom put the remaining cards into Mike's hands and asked him to continue the psychic sorting process. Unlike the usual Curry version, the markers were not switched. Of course, when the two columns of face down cards were turned over, all had been placed into the correct pile.

Lou Dean asked visitor, Chris Clarelli, to assist him. Lou explained that he had stored a large number of pictures of local sites on the Internet. He borrowed Steve Fuller's telephone and asked Chris to access the file of pictures, to flip through them, and to stop on one that he liked. Lou identified the chosen site without looking at the borrowed phone. Lou identified several other sites chosen by Chris, even when Chris didn't know its name. The effect was "Telefoto" by Greg Rostami.

Davis West asked Chris Clarelli to shuffle a deck of cards and to select any one of them freely. Chris wrote the name of the card within the outline of a human brain on a slip of paper. He folded it, obscuring its contents; and Davis tore it up, completely destroying the record. Nevertheless, Davis named the card as Chris transmitted its mental image.

Daniel (Dan) Dalton asked Chris Clarelli to hold a box of predictions. Dan launched into a series of comedy predictions. He then asked Watt Hyer to think of a color, Mike Kinnaird to think of a number, and Davis West to think of a shape. Each one then received a prediction slip to read, confirming that Dan had predicted each one's choice.

Mike Kinnaird asked Larry Rohr to think of two spices, Davis West to think of two sports, and Landon Davis to think of two shapes. Mike wrote impressions and sealed them in envelopes before asking the spectators to name their thoughts. Each spectator received the appropriate sealed impression, opened the envelope, and read its contents, confirming that Mike's impressions matched their choices. Mike then showed five large cards, each with a different Zenner symbol. Tom Olshefski chose one, and Mike divined it. The first effect was developed from Chris Philpott's "One Monkey Ahead" on his "Babel" DVD. The second was "Mixed Symbols" by Jim Sisti.

Barry Mills performed his improvement on the classic "Wizard" effect. In this effect Mike Kinnaird chose a card. The wizard was called on a cell phone. And the distant wizard announced the chosen card over the phone's speaker to the entire audience. Barry's timing suggested that the usual method did not apply here.

Larry Lessner gave an envelope to Mike Kinnaird. Larry then borrowed a dollar bill from Chris Clarelli. Landon Davis wrote down the serial number from the bill. When Mike opened the envelope and read its contents, he established that Larry had correctly predicted the serial number on the borrowed dollar bill.

Chris Clarelli demonstrated Danny Archer's "Animental," an ideal mental effect for children. Four spectators, Davis West, Mike Kinnaird, Dan Dalton, and Tom Olshefski, playing the part of children, viewed strips showing several animals. Each spectator chose an animal from a strip. The spectators were asked to view the strips again and identify any strip that contained a chosen animal. When a spectator identified a strip, Chris immediately named the chosen animal.

Bill Baber performed Stuart Robson's "Horrors!" from Annemann's *Practical Mental Effects* (republished by Dover as *Practical Mental Magic*). [The effect first appeared in a 1935 issue of Annemann's *Jinx*.] John D'Amore chose a word from a card bearing 14 horrible words. He then removed each card that contained that word from a set of five cards. Bill was able to identify the chosen word. Next, Bill asked Austin Doustout to think of any playing card. Bill dealt out rows of cards and asked Austin if the rows held the rank or suit of the mentally selected card. The answers led Bill to identify the

card. Though this effect, "Just Thinking," appears in Jim Steinmeyer's recently published *Devilish Impuzzibilities*, it goes back to 1948. Both effects were based on binary coding, and Bill explained why he chose them.

With all "Mentalism" performances completed, Davis West returned for two off-topic presentations. First, was a torn and restored card routine, "RE4M," by Blake Vogt from Theory11. Second, he performed a multipart four aces routine, "Easy Aces," from a Lennart Green DVD.

The floor was opened to discussion of the effects performed until the mandatory closing time was reached.