

No. 244 Long Island, New York - Frank Garcia Ring

Meets 1st Thursday, Syosset Public Library, Syosset, New York

CHRIS WARD, Secretary

15 Moran Place, New Rochelle, NY 10801

Our February meeting coincided with the day the music died. The topic for the evening was Gimmicks and/or Gaffs. First off, a discussion ensued as to what is the difference and is there a difference. We decided, after a feisty debate that a gimmick is an object that is never seen by the audience and aids in the presentation of a magical effect while a gaff is an apparently normal object that has been altered in some manner in order to perform an effect.

Our emcee for the evening was Ed Hass who performed the first trick by passing a scarf through a cane with the assistance of a reel. Gimmick or Gaff? Next was Dan Mille who gave us Simon Aronson's Side Swiped. Gimmick or Gaff? Bill White twisted and untwisted a spoon using a vice-like device hidden in his hand. Gimmick or Gaff? Ed Hass then demonstrated Jack Avis' Christmas Cracker Coin Clip made from one of those party poppers. Gimmick or Gaff? Roy Miller knew who picked the only black ball out of a bag of white balls because the black ball had a steel core and his ring, on which the bag rested contained a magnet. Gimmick or Gaff? Ed Hass then floated a coffee mug using a thump tip with a suction cup attached. Gimmick or Gaff? Nick Paul used a Spider Pen to help a spectator experience his fear of being stung by a bee and bent coins with the Invisi-Bend, the Omni-Bend and the Python Pen. Gimmicks or Gaffs? Steve Heller, aka Prof. Sparkle, performed a fountain of silks routine and a dye tube routine using a hank ball and a palmo. Gimmicks or Gaffs? Bill Krupskas demonstrated David Regal's Fill in the Blank Transpo, which uses double-sided tape and a Bob King prediction trick that uses rough/smooth. Is the tape a gimmick? Is roughing fluid a gimmick or is the deck gaffed? Al Garber demonstrated Rich Marrota's color-changing tie and a moving pip card trick. Gimmick or Gaff? Kevin Rhodehouse floated a dollar bill using the Spider Pen and Performed Tommy Wonder's Wild Card. Gimmick or Gaff? David Levitan made a signed coin disappear and later found it inside a beautiful nest of brass boxes produced by Viking. Gimmick or Gaff? And last, but certainly not least, Wayne Haarhaus performed a sponge ball routine using a Sanada gimmick. He had such a wonderful vanish that it prompted at least three guys to say they were going home to look for their Sanada gimmick and learn the vanish.

With all the discussion and various effects that were performed, this was one of better meetings in a while. Club members really seemed to get into this topic.

Bill Krupskas, O.M.