

Our November meeting started off with Harry Mandel auditioning for membership. Harry's son, Zach is already a member so Harry was assured of getting at least one vote. Not to worry, after performing It's a Match, a unique handling of Professor's Nightmare and the Kellar Rope Tie, Harry was voted in as Ring 244's newest member. Congratulations!

The theme for the evening was Cocktail Party Magic. In other words, one could not use a table. Our ring is lucky in that it has many full time and part time professionals and they were the performers and they also did not experiment; they did their "workers".

First up was Don Engstrand who is one of our senior members. Don has probably forgotten more magic than most of us probably know. He started with a card trick where the selected card in a small packet turned blank. Next he performed a birthday/diary item followed by an ESP card bit. He closed with knotted silk off cane. Bill Krupskas was next and performed Fading Coin by Tomoyuki Takahashi. This was followed by a \$5 and \$1 bill transposition, B'Wave and a signed card to wallet. Our MC Ziggy was next and demonstrated an item called Phantom Wabbit. Our Secretary, Nick Paul was next and he started off with a real nice one coin routine, followed by four coins across, a crazy man's handcuffs bit and closed with a card prediction bit where the name of the selected card appeared written on his fingers.

Ziggy returned with his version of that modern classic, Business Cardiographic. One of our guests, Ben Cohen filled in for a missing member. In fact, he more than filled in. Ben opened with a ring and string routine followed by his version of the crazy man's handcuffs. Next he did coin through the bottle twice with a spectator holding the bottle the second time. Next he did Paul Gertner's Unshuffled and closed with a nice fork bending bit. Our final performer of the evening was Dave Levitan. Dave opened with a four coins across routine with a jumbo coin production for a finale. He followed this up with Hundy 500 into an ambitious card bit followed

by Dave Williamson's Torn and Restored Card Transposition. He closed with a very nice billet routine.

It's really cool when you see guys who earn money performing magic doing the stuff that get's them the money. All those in attendance agreed we saw a lot of really good magic this night.

Well, I hope everyone out there had a wonderful holiday season. And now, I have to get on with my day.

Bill Krupskas, O.M.