

Now it's August – the dog days. Our topic this month was Silent Magic and the evening was ably hosted by Nick Paul. Nick used one of those flip charts that had all the introductions written out so even he did not speak.

The show started with performances by three of our junior members. First was Josh Kurzban who found a dollar bill on the floor and he put into a cookie jar that contained the last 'magic cookie'. As he ate the cookie, the dollar bill began to float and dance around. Quite a presentation. T.J. Tana was next and he started with canes and silks, switched into a nice billiard ball routine and closed with some really nice card manipulations. Twelve year old Nicole Homburger followed with a very nice linking ring routine. All three worked with some really nice music.

Not everybody could keep their mouth shut and Eric DeCamps was the primary culprit and he performed his take on Vernon's Slow-Motion Aces – a masterpiece. Bill White, who was assisted by Magic Al Garber, demonstrated Professor's Nightmare. Wayne Haarhaus showed us Mental Microwave where he poured popping corn into an empty opaque cup and then proceeded to concentrate very hard. Suddenly, we heard two loud pops. When he emptied out the cup into a glass bowl, two kernels were popped! Magic Al Gerber followed with repeating blooming rose bit and then performed the napkin rose. Steve Rodman was next with some additional card manipulations and you could tell that he's been doing them for a real long time! Steve and Brenda closed the show with an entertaining sponge ball routine.

Everybody was in agreement that this was one of our better shows in a while. Not that the other shows are of a lesser quality, but we seem to be a more close-up oriented group and it was nice to see a lot of parlor and stage stuff.

Tickets went on sale for our annual dinner, dance and show that takes place on January 9, 2010. We always have a turnout of about 225 which is a sellout, except for last year when about eight or nine people were no-shows but, hey, we had about four inches of snow that night! Entertainment has yet to be announced, but I'm sure it will be great! Also, at their September meeting, the Parent Assembly of the SAM will officially install one of our members, Eric DeCamps, as their Dean. That's quite an honor! Congratulations Eric!

Bill Krupskas O.M.