

Ah, October. The frost is on the pumpkin. Our topic for the month was Ropes and Coins. A unique combination to say the least. Bill White took over the hosting duties due to the unexpected passing of long time member Vinnie Moccia. A tribute to Vinnie will be appearing in The Linking Ring at some point. Don Engstrand started things off with five pigs and 2 wolves, a coins across routine. It somehow reminded me of an item called Thieves and Sheep. He then performed Professor's Nightmare backwards. Wayne Haarhaus was next and he started with Acer's Rope and Coin Production and followed up with Daryl's version of Three Fly. He then performed Docc Hilford's Bartender's Nightmare wherein he draws a picture of a secretly selected coin – date and all. He closed with Aldo Colombini's Nightmare for Professor.

Dave Levitan, who was not on the original bill, was next. He strolled up to the performing area, proceeded to produce three coins, make them disappear and then, empty handed, he left the performing area. Nick Paul was next. He threaded a quarter and a half dollar onto a string and asked a spectator to hold both ends. He then yanked the selected coin off the string without the spectator letting go. Then, in tribute to Vinnie Moccia, Nick performed one of Vinnie's favorites, The Cross of India. Bob Dorian demonstrated John Carney's Silver and Glass routine. Boy, you can tell that he's been practicing! Bill Krupskas followed up with an item called Fading Coin where a selected coin materializes in the magician's hand. Next he demonstrated O-Rope-O whereby a circle of rope is produced after untying a complicated knot. This item was a sell-out at Tannen's 1980 Jubilee. He closed with a trick called The Twenty-Six Cent Trick which is a creation of Larry Seman and, I think, Sam Schwartz.

Ed Hass followed Bill with two rope penetrations. The first one went through a spectator's pinky and the second one went through Ed's body. Bill White then performed Professor's Nightmare the exact same way he learned it when he was seven years old. I don't think it was the same patten though. Mike Maione was next and with the song Pennies from Heaven playing in the background, he performed a knotted silk through rope bit, a cut and restored rope routine and closed with a very nice Miser's Dream ending with the production of three jumbo coins. Bill White was back with a coin through silk penetration. Our final performer of the evening was Kevin Rhodehouse who demonstrated Mark Leveridge's Okito Box routine. We were pretty lucky to see a lot of great magic!

Our annual dinner and show is scheduled for Saturday night January 28, 2012. The show will be headlined by Jay Mattioli, he of America's Got Talent fame.