No. 244 Long Island, New York - Frank Garcia Ring Meets 1st Thursday, Syosset Public Library, Syosset, New York BRUCE SCHNEIDER, Secretary 160 King Street Elmont, NY 111003 www.Ring244.org

It's now May and time for the Kentucky Derby. My pick is Creative Cause. How did I do? Well anyway, a few months ago, our topic was "Closers". This month, it was, well, "Openers". Bob Weinowitz hosted the festivities and things got started with, who else, but Don Engstrand. Don opened with a jumbo card effect where, after much mixing, the cards were still grouped into fours of a kind. He opened again with Compressed Deck by Luke Dancy. Bob Weinowitz was back and demonstrated the trick that he opened his magic career with, the Color Changing Shoelace. Dan Miller then showed us his strolling magic opener which he calls "Immediately Finding a Selected Card from Inside a Deck in a Spectator's Pocket". It looked to me that it was an item called Pickpocket by Mike Maxwell. Ed Hass then performed an item an effect called Lord of the Kings which is a four king trick that turns into a four ace trick. I don't know if it was an opener but it was still a great trick. Mike Goldman then borrowed an I-phone and had the owner scroll through the contacts while the phone was face down. After he stopped scrolling, he was able to divine the contact on the top of the screen. Pretty impressive. MC Bob was back again, this time with a three card monte routine. The first part was done with regular cards and the odd card turned blank. He then tried it with jumbo cards and the same thing happened. He then tried it with even bigger cards and all the cards turned into the odd card. Nice job.

After a thirty second intermission, the show resumed with Zack Mandel. He performed a card stab without a knife, but using a joker instead and ending in a transposition of the selected card with another card. I don't know what's more impressive; thinking up the trick or thinking up the name. Next up was Zack's Dad, Harry Mandel. Harry performed a silk through mirror with a wonderful Dave Brubeck accompaniment. Bob Weinowitz was back again with an Aldo Colombini item called Zodiac Code where he was able to predict which goodie bag had the correct prize. Mike Maione, who was just back from his first performance at Fechter's 4 F convention, where he was able to stump some of the best minds in magic with his new book test, demonstrated a very nice Five Card Repeat using jumbo cards. The final performer of the evening was The Amazing Mr. Weinowitz who opened the show with a trick called Will the

Socks Match. Too long to describe, but you can guess what happened. Now, it was off to the diner.