

We started our September meeting with a performance by Steve Goldstein who was auditioning for membership in the Ring. The evening's theme was Mentalism which fit right in with Steve's material. He started off with a box of numbered chopsticks. Spectators took turns shaking individual chopsticks out of a small hole in the top of the box. When the numbers on the three chopsticks that were shaken out of the box were added together, it matched a prediction lying on the table since the start. He had an envelope with a lot of slips of paper that had small amounts of money written on them. He had one random slip selected by a spectator and the amount on the slip matched the loose change that was in a small purse lying on the table. Lastly, he had a spectator think of a poker hand and Steve predicted which card was needed to fill in the hand. Great job Steve and congratulations on becoming Ring 244's newest member.

Our emcee for the evening was Bruce Schneider and he started things off with that bit where you ask the spectator if he knew what he had written on a card and the spectator replied "No" and the spectator was correct. He repeated with his son's name and the reply was "Noah" and it was correct again. Zach Mandel was next and he did a prediction effect using the diary principle followed by a card effect of his own creation. Gary Levenson followed with an effect called Trilogy which is an item where two spectators name a card and the number written on the back of the card matches the performer's prediction. A third spectator then names a number and the card on the flip side also matches his prediction.

Next up was Bill Krupskas who performed an item called Wager on the Month Club which is a less cumbersome approach to The Trick That Fooled Einstein. He followed that with Bob King's New Wave Prediction where, after the magician announces that there is a prediction on the lower half of the deck, the spectator cuts off a portion of the deck and thinks of one of the group of cards that he cut. After re-assembling the deck, the performer reveals an odd backed card in the lower half of the deck, his prediction. The spectator then announces the name of his thought of card and the odd card is turned over and is seen to match the spectator's card. Bill then closed with a presentation of Joshua Jay's Inferno.

Magic Al Garber was next and he demonstrated Blind Aces by Darwin Ortiz which is an effect where the performer cuts to the four aces while blindfolded. Bill White then demonstrated a triple prediction effect that was developed by former member, Brother Shadow. He closed with the Spirit Clock where the spectator names a number and the magician then spins the hands of the clock and when they stop, the hands are pointing to the previously named number.

Ziggy was next and he demonstrated a Max Maven item where a card and a number that were freely selected from two different decks matched a single numbered card that was predicted earlier. Emcee Bruce Schneider then closed things out with a nice add-a-number routine.

Happy Halloween to everyone out there!

*Bill*