

On Wednesday, June 1st, our Ring gathered to perform “works in progress” led by host Gary Levenson. This was our chance to test out new effects in front of a live audience for the first time. It also presented us with a chance to pull a few items from that drawer we all have filled with ideas and props we just never seem to get around to. Everyone was there to give constructive criticism and tips to the performers.

Bob Lusthaus led off the night with, a poker dealing effect by Harry Lorayne. Steve Palamore was up next with Sean Bogunia’s dancing hank routine set to music. Kevin Rhodehouse performed two effects – Gregory Wilson’s Illegal Tender followed by Mark Mason’s Double Deception. A lengthy discussion ensued with suggestions on bill switches by Mike Goldman and Mike Maione. Mike Maione then gave a demonstration of his method which does not use a thumb tip. Mike then appeared before the crowd with a piece of duct tape across his mouth. Mike, aka The Silly Magician, performed a funny routine where a signed card selection was ultimately revealed from his mouth when the duct tape was pulled off!

Warren Bausert opened up a brand new deck of cards in front of us and proceeded to perform Ed Marlo’s Miracle routine. This included six phases of dealing perfect faros, Bridge hands, Gin Rummy hands and Poker hands. Bob Weinowitz then demonstrated Cinch by Sean Robinson. Bob had one of the funniest presentations of the night, not by changing a blank piece of paper into a \$100 bill, but by strutting off the stage in mike-dropping style. Dr. S, a guest attending the meeting, performed a nice \$1 to box of cards routine that caught many of us by surprise. He followed up with some nice coin work, including the imagination coins by Eric Jones. Magic Al finished up the night performing an original routine that utilizes the card printed on the card box.

Next month is our annual magic challenge night. Teams of magicians are handed bags of miscellaneous props and have only minutes to come up with a routine.

Kevin Rhodehouse