

Man, it's now Fall and the cooler weather is really refreshing! Well, the topic for October is Close-Up and we saw some outstanding magic!

Zach Mandel started off the festivities with his own version of ACAAN. Then he performed another creation he called Kissing the Queens where a selected card is discovered reversed between two queens. Jeff Miller then pierced a borrowed one dollar bill with a wooden toothpick, but when the toothpick was removed, there was no hole. Go figure.

Bob Weinowitz followed with a nice effect using, I'm guessing here, a Phil Deck the he made that predicted what food would be selected by a spectator which actually proved to be incorrect until he opened the can to reveal that the contents did indeed match the prediction.

Wayne Haarhaus was next with a nice effect using business cards and followed that with a nice routine using magnets. He effectively de-magnetized the magnets by magically sucking the power out of them and then re-magnetizing them at the end. A really cool and unique routine. Bill Krupskas continued the action and performed Wayne Dobson's Second Chance and followed that up with a nice mentalism bit called Mullica Mind Reading by Mark Zacharia from over the river in Jersey.

Joe Merced then followed with the Juan Tamairiz version of Malini's Sympathetic Cards. Then Kevin Rhodehouse put a nice routine together opening with a bill switch followed by an ace/joker change, NFW and the performed David Real's Sudden Deck from which he produced a blank deck and proceeded to perform Bill Malone's Mental Photography Deck routine. Very nice!

Steve Goldstein then demonstrated two items. The first, Against All Odds, where a randomly selected group of cards equal the numbers on a lottery ticket and the second, Symbol, predicts which one of six ESP symbols will be selected by the spectator.

Joe Merced was back to close this down with a performance of Spreadwave by Mathieu Bich.

On behalf of Ring 244, I would like to wish everybody a happy and joyous holiday season followed by a happy and healthy New Year!

Bill Krupskas