



# THE SPIRIT TRUMPET

IBM Ring 96' Newsletter



December 2020

## November Meeting Round-up

In a rather unusual turn of events, Ring 96 presented a Zoom lecture on November 21st featuring the amazing Jeff McBride. Jeff has largely retired from doing club shows so that he can focus more on his many other successful projects. His lecture did not disappoint. Jeff used his incredible charisma, along with his incredible magic skills to bring an exciting lecture that left us all wanting more.

Jeff began his lecture by discussing the need for a good opener. He described the difference between a drinking audience and a thinking audience, and described the need to engage with both from the moment the show starts. Then he pointed out that once you have that engaging moment, you should improve on it.

Jeff's opener was an appearing handkerchief. He taught us the effect, and then built on it to be a color change handkerchief, which then led into a vanishing handkerchief. A wand was

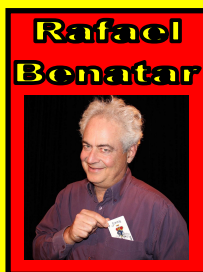
added to light up the handkerchief, then the appearing handkerchief became three which morphed into a blendo American flag. Finally, an appearing bouquet of flowers. All that started out as a simple appearing handkerchief, and built to a short opening routine that will get the audience thoroughly engaged.

Jeff paid tribute to the memory of Eugen Burger, the master of story telling magic. Jeff credited Eugene on teaching his philosophy of magic.



**Next meeting**  
**Dec 19st**  
**"Rafael Benatar"**  
**Online:**  
**Via "Zoom"**

**Coming Soon to Ring 96**



**Dec 19th**



**Jan 16th**



Jeff taught us an amazingly simple, yet highly workable version of the miser's dream coin production. He used a simple glass and a set of very visible gold colored coins.

Next Jeff addressed a problem with modern magic audiences. Many people today seem to believe that their job at a magic show is to figure out how the magic was done and expose the secret. The opposite of that would be to sit back, relax and enjoy the mystery and the show. Jeff performed his "Bekos" routine and used patter to teach the audience to relax and enjoy the magic. This routine involves tying two separate knots in a large silk. The knots can be slid right off and that leaves holes in silk where the knots were. It is a powerful routine that shows why enjoying the show is more important than knowing how.

Jeff followed up by showing how simple his "Bekos" routine is to do, even just using simple rope.

A thimble demonstration was next. We were quite shocked at how simple it is to do complicated thimble magic. It looks hard and it looks amazing, but it was really very simple to do.

Jeff showed us his version of the coin matrix. His version, again uses only very simple moves, 6

coins and is done empty handed. He calls it the "Cross of India." In the end two rows of three coins each ended with all the coins on one side.

Next came a very clever and very easy to do ball production. A series of white balls are produced and placed into a small tube. The balls are about the size of golf balls. Later the tube is over turned to pour the white balls out, and only one ball comes out. Also, it is red not white. This is a very clever system and a very puzzling one. It is also easily made at home by anyone who cares to.

For the closer of the lecture, Jeff took a single sheet of newspaper, crumpled it up, and pulled the end of a ribbon out of it. The ribbon took on a life of its own and began cascading out of the newspaper. Jeff took a stick and began to wrap the ribbon around it making huge stage sized whirls of ribbon to quite a beautiful effect. Again, the effect is very simple to do.

We had a five-minute break and Jeff returned to answer questions.

One question involved how to carry off an effective magic

show on Zoom. Jeff touted a product by Paul Draper available on Penguin Magic for a very reasonable price. "Create a Professional LIVE Broadcasting Studio for Under \$200" Jeff said that Paul has captured the needs of such a magician and translated it well into how to pull off a stage show. To demonstrate, Jeff showed a very effective version of "The zig-zag Card." It worked well in his hands.

After a few more questions, Jeff bid us a fond farewell. He included links to some of his products and some of his upcoming live material.

A few people stayed for general discussion and a great time was had by all.

Another exciting night at Ring 96.



**"What the eyes see and the ears hear, the mind believes." – Harry Houdini**

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# Lecture by Jeff McBride!





**Coming in December**



**Rafael Benatar**