



# THE SPIRIT TRUMPET

IBM Ring 96' Newsletter



April 2021

## March Meeting Round-up

On Saturday March 20th, Chris Randall came to lecture at Ring 96. Chris is a very unique magician as he has performed magic at every scale imaginable. He has been on big stages, he has done parlor sized shows, he is an excellent close-up performer and his specialty for the last few years has been busking as a street performer. In Las Vegas on Freemont Street. Freemont street is known for having lots of tourist foot traffic and lots of competition for the tourist dollar.

Chris explained his credentials to us, and went over all the connections he has to so many

well-known magicians. He opened for Murray Sawchuck and worked at Houdini's Magic Shop in Las Vegas.

At Houdini's he learned and honed his use of the "Hummer Card" or what they call the "UFO" card. Indeed, he opened with this effect. Chris gave us the history of the effect going back to Bob Hummer and surprisingly including Robert Baxt as a pioneer of the young effect. Chris showed us how to make attachments to different things, and the moves for the different stunts and effects you can do with this card. Then he showed us how do use a drivers license and a coin for the same style of effects. He spoke about different materials to use when making connections and

demonstrated how to use his favorite.

Chris explained how to use a trick like this to attract a crowd and that brought us to his mantra... "Get 'em to stop... Get 'em to stay... Get 'em to pay!" This is what every busker must do to earn a living. He also stopped to explain why he feels the "Cups and Balls" are not a good effect to do while busking. It has a reputation as a classic of street magic, but it is just not angle proof enough to work when you might be surrounded.

Chris showed us a vanishing ball trick. It included a "magic wand" which also seemed to come and go at his will. This trick started with no ball, then it appeared, then it disappeared. Then it arrived in his mouth. He took the ball out of his mouth several times,



## Next meeting

April 21th

"Member Favorite  
Effect Night"

Via "Zoom"

## Coming Soon to Ring 96



April 21st

**Wayne  
Dobson  
Dealer  
Demo**

May 15th



June 19th

but it always returned there no matter what he did. Chris taught this fast-paced routine that included the flip stick move and how to use environment and resources to cover moves when you may be surrounded.

One of Chris' favorite effects is the Malini Egg Bag. He spent a great deal of time showing and teaching the basic moves of the brilliant time-honored effect. He did advise against using wooden eggs or plastic eggs. He prefers blown out eggs. He also advises that the egg be produced early on so the volunteer can get a good look at the empty bag.

Chris' last bit was a nice vanishing bill routine. The routine starts with vanishing two signed bills. He asks for larger bills and then later mentions that those bills might be his tip for the show. The bills are vanished and goes into a rope routine with starts with a nice handling of the professor's nightmare and continues through various common rope effects. The routine ends with the bill in the lemon trick, and both signed bills are indeed inside the lemon.

Chris shared various life experiences, and parts of his philosophy on life and magic.

Another great evening at Ring 96



Next month will be member's favorite effect month. This is a great event that

we have run for many years and done very well with, but two things have to happen to make this work. First, people have to perform. That means you. Second, people have to be there to watch. That also means you. Because this will be over zoom, we do not expect miracles or perfection. Just make a start at something and we can all work to clean it up later. This is not even "Show and Tell." Just calmly do a trick you like and get some applause. E-mail Kim to sign up.

[magicalkimba@gmail.com](mailto:magicalkimba@gmail.com)

**When the quarantine is over, what events to you want to see at Ring 96?**

A little magic can take you a long way.

*- Roald Dahl*

## The Victor Cohn Magic Estate Sale

it's time to take another look  
[www.ring96.com/newsletters](http://www.ring96.com/newsletters).

**Buying multiple items? Lets talk about discounts.**

**Come to Long Beach, or let's meet somewhere else.**

**Please come ready to pay by check.**

# Dues!

**Did you pay your  
Ring 96 Dues?  
It is time...**



**Good News!  
No increase  
this year!**

**\$35 Single  
\$45 Family**

**You can pay by Zelle:  
plml2k@verizon.net**

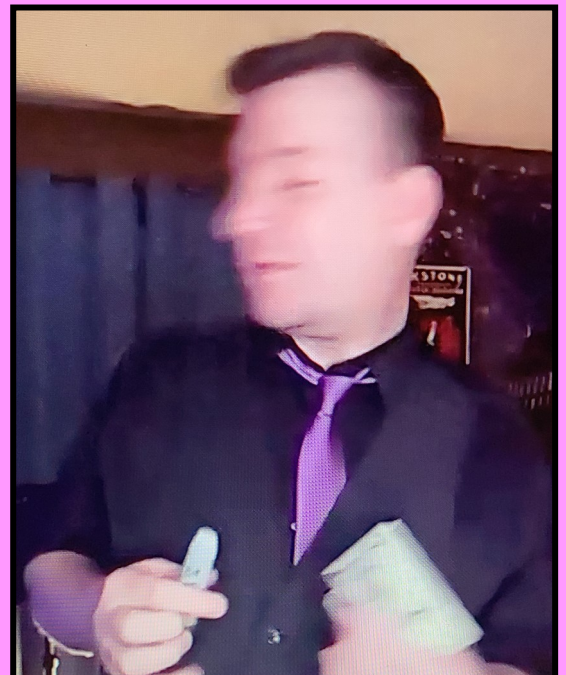
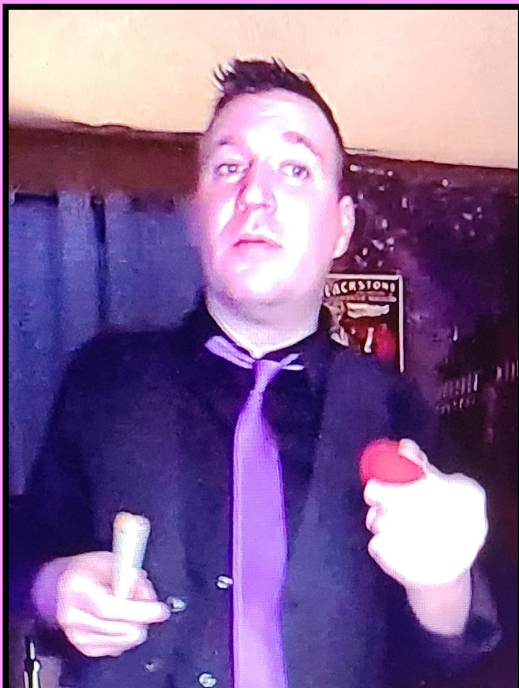
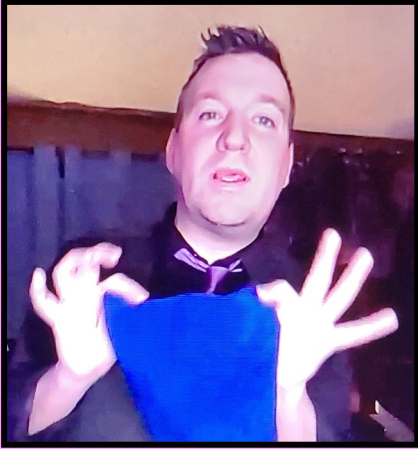
**Or send a check  
made out to Ring 96 to...  
Paul LaGreek  
5521 Kern Drive  
Huntington Beach 92649**

**Remember:  
your dues  
pay for  
our lectures**





# Chris Randall's Lecture



# But I Can't Perform on Zoom!

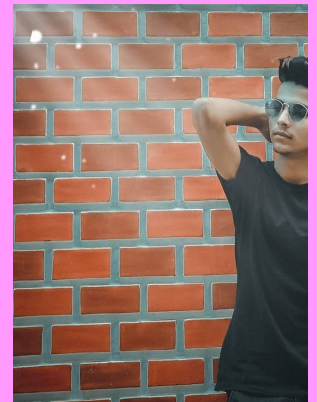
Actually, you can, and I am going to explain two ways that might just do the trick for you. All you really need is either a Laptop computer or a desktop computer and a smart phone. You could probably pull this off with just a smart phone if you really want to. Now, if you don't really want to, that is another story, but remember the Ring needs people power to pull off events like this. Without our members we stop existing. Now, if you want to perform, but are afraid of the technology, I can help you.

Take an empty shoe box. Put the lid on it, but sideways. Place it on the table, or where ever you want to work and you should be looking into an empty box... Think diorama. The photo shows you what I am thinking of, but you don't need decorations.

Basically replace all the decorations with a close up mat, and do your magic in front of the box. What you do is log into zoom twice, once on your laptop/desktop where we can all see your handsome/lovely face, and the other login is on your smart phone. Set your smart phone down on the top of the box with the camera pointing down to the action on the mat. Once you turn on the smart phone camera, we will see what the phone sees. What could be easier? This is what I will do.



If you would rather perform a stage size effect, you can still do this, but in reverse. Still login in to Zoom from both your devices, but use the smart phone to watch the meeting and other performances. Set up your laptop or desk to aim at your stage. A bed sheet against the wall is a nice simple backdrop. If you have that, or solid color curtains, you can use a zoom background and have your self performing anywhere you can think of. Even without a fancy background, a curtain or bedsheet will work fine. Just make sure you are lined up properly so that you know where to stand and what the zoom audience will see. You wouldn't want to be half in frame and half not.



Either one of these idea will work fine. One other thing you should probably do is turn of your microphone on one of the devices. If you are doing the close up idea, leave the sound on the smart phone. If you are doing the stage idea, keep the sound on the laptop or desktop. Have fun with it, practice with it and it should work well.

Finally, if you have someone else living in the same house/apartment, you can always ask them to hold the smart phone. Don't do this unless you are willing to practice with them though, and this idea will make both of you unable to see what the audience sees, and if you are off center it could look terrible.

Basically if you are will to put in a little time to rehearse, this system will work for you. The is not need for fancy devices, just two simple ones. I look forward to watching you perform.

