

**NO.244, Long Island, New York – Frank Garcia Ring**  
**Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thu. 8:00 PM Syosset Public Library, Syosset, NY**  
**CHRIS WARD, Secretary**  
**15 Moran Place, New Rochelle, NY 10801**

For our August 2, 2007 meeting we tried something different. Our President, Bill White, called Ring 26 NYC and asked if we could use their “-est” theme. They graciously said yes. Our MC’s, Nick Paul and Chris Ward, decided to make this night different by using video to show many of the “est” tricks they would not be able to perform at a normal meeting. The meeting was designed to look like an infomercial.

Nick and Chris started with, “Hi there, we’ll be returning you to your regularly scheduled program, When Card Tricks Go Bad, but first have we got an exciting offer for you. You might remember The Best of EST, the 4 CD compilation of the greatest, funniest, hottest, scariest, spookiest, nuttiest, and all the other ESTs of magic...” We then looked at short video clips from the Best of EST Vol 1. We saw the fastest change part 1 and part 2, the greatest of Jerome Murat, The greatest voyage (of a handkerchief), and Flydini’s greatest clips. (The Best of EST Volume 2 would be the performances of tonight.)

The MC’s continued, “Don’t change the channel, because now there’s The Best of EST Volume 2, with more ESTs than ever. This 4 CD set can only be purchased through this special offer, and includes even more of your favorites.” The MC’s had a bit of play before each of the acts. The Coldest trick was done by Kevin Rhodehouse where a card was destroyed and found in a block of ice – chilling. The balooniest was done by Bob Weinowitz where the air in the balloons was eaten causing Bob to increase in size – this trick really rounded out the night. The fastest card trick was done by Zach Mandel and it was almost over before it started. The Largest trick was done by Eric Greenberg in which a thought of card became very large – this trick was bigger than life. The classic-est trick was performed by Eric DeCamps who did a beautiful 4 across coin routine with a dice cup and a lifesaver – classiest and beautifulest.

Nick and Chris continued their jokes and banter between acts. The “I don’t know if this will work-est trick” was done by Ziggy in which, after mixing cards and people, METS was spelled out several times. Ziggy said it was the dyslexia-est trick since the if you rearrange METS you get M EST – a great Mets-est trick. Mike Maione did the crappiest trick. In full costume he did a multiplying turd routine with music – unusual-est trick that didn’t smell rotten – it smelled

funny. The wordiest trick was performed by Don Engstrand. This was a mental reading using thought of words from a book, and it included a prediction. – a magnificent melodious mouthful.

Since Nick and Chris wanted to take a break they decided to hold up a sign to introduce the next act – the laziest trick by Bob Lusthaus. Bob did a trick where the spectator did all the moves, shuffling, and cutting and still found his card. As Nick Paul said, “I never saw someone work so hard at doing nothing.” This was a beautiful display showing the conservation of energy. The Sharpest trick was done by Don Burger. This is a dangerous, musical comedy routine using a spike and three cups. At the end the spike disappears. Sharp magic, that was to the point. Bill White did the Fastest/Slowest trick. This comedy routine caused a handkerchief to disappear but when he changed it into slow motion you could see the assistant run across the stage and grab the handkerchief. Great special effects. His sloooooooooo motion waaaas greaaaaaaat. Our final act was Steve Heller “Est-est Trick.” Steve did a bunch of mini EST routines showing his thought process to develop a unique trick. He produced a cane, dove, silks and rabbits. He ended with the Rabbitest Trick since he is known as Magic Rabbits.

Nick Paul and Chris Ward continued, “Just imagine, over 100 hit ESTS, all in a four CD set. And it can be yours today for only \$39.95. Pay all at once, or in 4 easy payments of \$9.95. And if you act within the next 30 minutes, we’ll include a special bonus CD of some of the hottest ESTs from 2007. Take a look”...A DVD was shown with the sexiest, coldest, Bill Whitest, uncomfortable-est, cutest, and darkest tricks all on a video. All done in good taste - the darkest trick showed nothing but you could hear a guy asking his girlfriend to pick a card and her remark – “Is this why you wanted me to go into the closet?” The sight gags and lines by the performers and the MC’s were great. This was one of the Best nights we had since all the performers and MC’s became the creatives, silliest, greatest, funniest, willing to take a chance-est people I know. This truly was the BEST of EST, Volume 2. Order your today.

Christopher Ward