



Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community
June 2007
Volume 2, Issue 10

May's meeting

At least a few people were able to make some room in their home (and make their wives happy) by selling some of their prized magical wares at this year's auction.

Mike Fisher and Peter Mennie won the prize for bringing the most to sell – they each had a table of their own!

Hats off to Steve Seguin for using his excellent auctioneering skills to help raise the bids!

There was a lots of stuff for sale (we went for over 2 hours!), and lot of buyers – with most everyone walking away with some excellent deals! And with a 10% take, the club did OK, too!

Many thanks to everyone who made this year's auction a tremendous success!

Mark Hogan

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 20 7:00PM

Elephant & Castle Restaurant
Galleria Mall (King &
Wellington)
Downtown London

Topic: THE ANNUAL
DINNER/SHOW !!!

June's Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, June 20
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: Beal Secondary School
Room 253

Topic:
THE ANNUAL DINNER/SHOW !!!

Time again for a party!

We'll be having our annual June dinner and show at the Elephant & Castle restaurant, in the Galleria Mall in downtown London on Wednesday night, June 20 (one week later than normal).

Dinner will start at 7:00 PM, with the show starting after dinner (around 8:30 PM).

This is a relaxing evening of food and fun, with a show for ourselves and our guests – and club members are the stars! It's a great night to try something new or different. Or entertain with an oldie-but-goodie. It's a friendly audience, and a bar is close by – what more do you want??

If you have not already let us know if you are coming to this fun night out, please e-mail the club account (magic_london@yahoo.com) and also tell us if you're bringing a guest.

News Of Interest

 CAMaraderie

CAM is almost here!!

June 14-16, 2007

Delta Hotel
Kitchener, Ontario

Make sure you go to the biggest magic event this country has to offer – the 2007 CAM Convention, just down the road in Kitchener!

There still is time to register – just visit the CAM web site for an application.

With acts like Juan Tamariz, Steve Beam, Aldo Colombini, Hiawatha, Boris Wild, Doc Eason, David Merry, Oscar Munoz – plus competitions – and dealers - it's more than worth the price of admission!

Hope to see you there!

Club executives for 2007-2008!

Congratulations to the 2007-2008 Magic Club Executive, elected at the May meeting:

President:	Ron Keller
Vice-President:	Mike Fisher
Secretary/Treasurer:	Mark Hogan
Sgt. At Arms:	Daniel Manley

Another great is gone

(From Whaley's Who's Who in Magic)

Bruce Cervon (stage name of Andrew Bruce Cernava).

A grandson of Yugoslav immigrants. Inspired around age 7 when father taught him a one-hand cut. Soon self-taught from Gilbert Mysto Magic set & the card section reprint from Hoffmann's Modern Magic. Pro close-up & stand-up magician since 1964 when he moved to Hollywood. 1971 AMA Best Lecturer. AMA Best Close-up Magician 1973, 1976.

Expert court witness on gambling. AMA Treasurer 1978-94 & Secretary since 1994. Co-publisher (with Louis Falanga & as successor to Larry Jennings) of L&L Publishing since c1990.

Wrote The Real Work: Card Secrets

of Bruce Cervon (1976, 64pp), The Cervon File (1987), Ultra Cervon (1990, 186pp, with Stephen Minch), etc. See Mike Maxwell, Bruce Cervon's The Black & White Trick and other Assorted Mysteries (1989, 151pp), and Stephen Minch, Bruce Cervon: Hard-Boiled Mysteries (1998m 192pp).

Produced The Vernon Chronicles (4 vols, 1988-92), including as Vol. 4 co-edited (with Keith Burns, He Fooled Houdini: Dai Vernon a Magical Life (1992, 308pp).

Tricks in Genii, Pallbearers, Epilogue, Ibidem, Cardiste, Hierophant, Talisman, Linking Ring, Magic & Spells, Magick, MUM, Richard's Almanac & in books by others. TV segments. 2 audios; 2 videos ("Ultra Cervon).



Finding A Magical Mentor

Part One

(From a series of articles from Quentin Reynolds)

Finding a mentor can be the single most powerful step in your magical career. With the rarest exceptions (and usually only when dealing with pure genius) all the great performer, actors, artists, musicians had mentors.

It only stands to reason that someone who has spent a lifetime in a successful career would have something worth knowing. I know of

no quicker way of achieving success than learning from someone who has already been there.

I never learned as much from anyone as I did from my mentor Eric Sharp and equally I never knew how much I knew until I became a mentor to three magicians in Dublin.

Until 2003, I lived in Dublin, Ireland, when I moved to Manchester, England.

At the age of seventeen I wrote to Eric Sharp, who lived in Wales about an article he had published in Abracadabra magazine. I just wrote to say how useful I had found it - nothing more. However Eric replied asking a few questions about myself and a correspondence started. We later met and Eric offered to teach me his ideas on entertaining children as well as how to do Punch & Judy, the puppet show.

With Eric's help and guidance it wasn't too long before I found myself earning more money part time than I would at my intended career as a teacher. So I went full time and never looked back. Eric and I are still in constant touch and I am still amazed at his thinking and helpful suggestions.

Fast forward to 1998 and I had the opportunity to mentor three younger magicians in Dublin. Two of them have become fulltime professionals and the third used magic to pay his way through college and open his own video production company.

Now here's the really interesting thing. Teaching them had an amazing impact on my own thinking and knowledge. I had to put into

words what I had learned instinctively and through experience over the years. They would ask questions and while I could give a good answer, I wasn't really sure why. So I'd think it through to clarify my reasoning.

So how do you find a suitable magical mentor? Firstly I must ask what kind of magic you do and whether you intend performing for laymen. If magic is your hobby and you don't intend earning money with it, then a dedicated amateur magician may be able to give you all the help and guidance you need. By dedicated amateur I mean someone who loves magic, is knowledgeable and works actively to improving their craft. For whatever reason they have no particular interest in earning money from their hobby.

If you're aiming to perform professionally then you look for someone who has already been successful in that field. They may charge for lessons or guidance but many times their biggest reward will be seeing you act successfully on their advice.

And as you become successful you will in turn become a mentor to someone else. Next time I'll tell you about some of the other magicians who have had an influence on my career and what lessons they taught me.

© 2006 Quentin Reynolds. Quentin Reynolds works as both magician and speaker.

You can read about one of his programs at <http://www.speakinschools.com> and for the mentalist visit <http://www.TheShielsEffect.com>

We Want Your Reviews and Tricks! Please send any original reviews, magic tricks or routines to: magic_london@yahoo.ca

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The Shell Game is a free newsletter sent to members of the London Magicians Guild and other people in the community interested in magic.

Opinions expressed do not reflect the views of the London Magicians Guild.

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