



# Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community  
March 2007  
Volume 2, Issue 7

## February's meeting

The February meeting saw a new theme for the club that proved to be a winner – Work in Progress Night! Using the premise that we're all working on some trick, members were encouraged to present their latest endeavor for critiquing by the other members.

But first, there were three guests performing their audition for club membership.

Johnny Bryson turned a blank deck into a full deck; caused the signature to jump from a selected card to the magician's card; performed his take on Paul Harris's "Bizarre Twist"; and caused the names of 2 selected cards to appear on the card box! Nico Moretti caused a spectator's signed card and magician's card to change places. And Keith Brown blew a outjogged card further down in the deck until it stopped on top of another selected card! He also caused a selected card to fly out of the deck!

What a great series of performances: Welcome to the club: Johnny, Nico and Keith!

Peter Mennie (who gave us the Work In Progress idea- thanks, Peter!) started by showing us an excellent close-up routine using

coloured cut cards. Using these cut cards, he found the four aces; then he gave the cut cards to the spectators and they found the aces; and finally the spectators used the cut cards to sandwich the aces individually between them!

Mark Hogan asked Austin McDonald to chain up and lock Andy Parr to a chair. Austin had only one chance to choose the key that opened the lock from a group of seven – but Austin came through!

Andy Parr presented "The Invisible Bag", which is a not-so-invisible bag that appears empty but produced several colourful silks and boxes.

Mike Fisher performed a routine to music by vanishing a green silk and trying to get it to appear inside a covered glass – only the silk seemed to have a mind of it's own!

After each performance, members were given the opportunity to critique the performance, and give

Next Meeting:  
Wed. March 7, 7:00 pm  
Beal Secondary School,  
Room 253  
525 Dundas St., London

Topic: WORK IN PROGRESS  
NIGHT!

suggestions for improvements in the presentation.

There was a great deal of discussion after each routine, with many different tips and opinions being expressed. All the performers said that they got many ideas on how to improve their routine.

Everyone agreed - Work In Progress night was a hit!

Mark Hogan

## March's Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 7

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Room 253

Topic: TRICKS WITH A SHUFFLED DECK

Let's put away the pocket tricks and the gimmicked decks – It's time to play by the rules! Only tricks using a shuffled deck are allowed. In fact, we'll all use the same deck! (Just be sure to wash your hands first!)



## News Of Interest

Dance Extreme charity event

The Dance Extreme dance studio in London is holding their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on August 25, 2007 at Huron College. Several thousand people are expected for the outdoor event, with processes going to the Children's Hospital Foundation.

They are looking for walkaround magicians for the event, as well as a stage show for anyone interested.

Although this is a strictly charity event, Dance Extreme has offered to provide a tax receipt to all performers for the amount of your regular fee.

Please contact Mark Hogan at (519) 657-2496 if you are interested in this very worthwhile cause.

"Houdini" wannabe sentenced to death

A Long Beach man who committed two murders, one of them while behind bars, was sentenced to death by a judge who called him "a Houdini in jail."

Authorities said he managed to leave his cell and roam the downtown Men's Central Jail for hours before entering another cell and strangling a fellow inmate. Pineda also was able to get out of the county jail in 2003, apparently by stealing another inmate's wristband.

"You're a Houdini in the jail -- you seem to be able to get around all of the obstacles placed before you," Superior Court Judge William R. Ponders said in court.

CAM CONVENTION  
JUNE 14 –16, 2007  
KITCHENER, ONTARIO



CAM Convention  
Lecturer

Aldo Colombini

Aldo Colombini moved to the United States from Italy in 1993 and has taken the country by storm! He has performed in 52 countries including every European country, the United States, Canada, Japan, Australia, South Africa, China and South America for both children and adults.

He is a F.I.S.M. prizewinner, one of the most prestigious awards in the world of magic. He performed often on Italian television (RAI 1) and has also appeared on television shows in Portugal, Spain, Japan, Colombia and Sweden.

Aldo dazzles audiences of all sizes... from as small as 2 or 3 people with his amazing close-up magic to groups of 1000+ with his entertaining comedy and charismatic and magical stage presence. Aldo has performed often at Caesar's Magical Empire in Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas and continues to appear several times a year at the famous Magic Castle in Hollywood, California where he is one of few magicians who are able to perform in all four showrooms. When he is onstage, audiences from all over the world are mesmerized by his wonderful mix of magic, comedy and Italian charm.

Aldo was voted by the Academy of Magical Arts, Hollywood, California: TWICE Parlor magician of the year, nominated for best Close-up magician of the year, Best stage performer of the year, Best Bar magician of the year and for Best COMEDY act of the year.

He appeared on "Masters of Illusion" a series of weekly magic specials airing on PAX-TV. And, if all that wasn't enough, he speaks Italian, English, Spanish and French and can perform in all four languages allowing him to dazzle audiences from diverse backgrounds. Because of this he is in demand by major companies who entertain clients from around the world.

Besides bewildering audiences large and small, Aldo has written and published several books on magic and created many magical effects used by magicians all over the world. He also lectures on magic worldwide and was nominated by the Academy of Magical Arts TWICE Lecturer of the Year. He also entertains children all over USA every year with his highly praised magic school show assemblies.

He also produces, publishes, manufactures and distributes wonderful quality magic products through his former company, Mamma Mia Magic, and at present with the new one Wild-Colombini Magic. In the history of the Magic Castle is the ONLY magician to be nominated in all six categories: Comedy, Stage, Close-up, Parlor, Bar magician and Lecturer.

To register for this year's convention, visit the CAM web site:  
<http://www.canadianassociationofmagicians.com/>

We Want Your Reviews and Tricks! Please send any original reviews, magic tricks or routines to:  
[magic\\_london@yahoo.ca](mailto: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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