



Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community
March 2008
Volume 3, Issue 7

February's meeting

The February meeting was aptly titled "Video Night", where members would bring in their favourite videos and we could review parts of them as a group.

Mike Fisher had the brainstorm idea of giving the night a "going to the movies" theme by rearranging the furniture so we could all sit around the TV, and bringing in popcorn and chips for munching during the show. (Way to go, Mike!!)

Many different DVD's were brought in and played, but the most enjoyable parts of the night were reserved for performances by some of the greats (e.g. Doug Henning; Dai Vernon; Slydini; even Steve Martin!). We even saw Neil Patrick Harris performing a turn of the century limb-chopping effect! And Dan Narejko showed an impressive video of himself doing "hallway" magic at his school!

It was a very relaxing and enjoyable night. It was great to see such interest in the performance videos from the past.

Thanks to everyone who brought in their DVD's for us to enjoy!

- Mark Hogan

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 19 7:00PM
(note the change in date!!)

Beal Secondary School
525 Dundas Street, London
T-253

Topic: SPONGE MAGIC
WORKSHOP!

March's Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 19 (one week later than usual!)

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Beal Secondary School, 255 Dundas Street, London
Room 253

Topic: SPONGE BALL WORKSHOP!

March's meeting will be lots of hands-on work with sponges!

Our own Jason Williams will be showing us some of his favourite sponge ball routines, and then stepping through all the moves with us.

Sponges will be provided if you need them, but bring your own sponges if you have them.

So come out on March 19 (one week later than usual due to spring break) and "soak up" some great sponge magic!

News Of Interest



Jay Sankey lecture

March 6, 2008 - Toronto

For all you Jay Sankey fans (and you know who you are!), Jay will be performing a lecture at the March meeting of the IBM Ring 17 (Toronto Hat & Rabbit Club).

The location is St. Leonard's Anglican Church, 25 Wanless Avenue, Toronto (north of Lawrence, and east of Yonge).

Here's a link to a map to St. Leonard's:

http://ibmring17.homestead.com/files/Hat_Rabbit_Club_Map_001_2.JPG



May 2-4, 2008

Family Entertainers Convention

Brantford, Ontario

Sponsored by Brant Clown Alley, the Family Entertainers Convention will run from May 2 to the 4th at the Best Western - Brant Park Inn, Brantford, Ontario.

Magicians, jugglers, clowns, and many more disciplines fall under the heading of 'family entertainers.' There are more things that make us alike than different. We share many of the same challenges and the same philosophies about entertainment. Our mode of delivery may be different but the goal is the same: To provide good quality family entertainment.

We wanted a place to share all the things that bring us together and also offer the chance to be exposed to new ideas from other performing disciplines.

The Family Entertainers Convention will give all who attend a chance to hone their current skills, learn new ones, and share their ideas with others as well as network with their peers.

A special treat for the magicians who attend: Bruce Kalver (the incoming president of the Society of American Magicians) will be our headline instructor. On Friday, Bruce is instructing a one-day pre-convention workshop for the first 12 people to register. Bruce will be on hand all weekend offering a variety of classes.

Please visit our website at <http://www.FamilyEntertainersConvention.com> to see what we have to offer that would better your world as a Family Entertainer.

Register soon to ensure you get into Bruce Kalver's workshop, AND to take advantage of our early bird rates before February 29, 2008.

Hope to see you in May 2008!

Katie Hunt
(On behalf of the Family Entertainers Convention committee.)



April 4-6, 2008

Niagara Comedy Magic Seminar "Performing with Humor"

If you're serious about being funny ... The Comedy Magic Seminar is being held in Niagara Falls at the beautiful Greg Frewin Theatre on April 4-6, 2008.

Featured lecturers and performers include: David Acer, Jay Sankey, Bill Abbott and others. There will be lectures; panel discussions; a Post Show Q & A; a David Merry creativity workshop; a Friday night Comedy show (featuring Johnny Thompson's famous bird act!), Hospitality Suite; and featuring Greg Frewin's "Beyond Belief" show on Saturday night!

Registration is limited to 100, so book early. The cost is only \$150.

For more information, call 416-606-3151 or visit their website at <http://www.comedymagicseminar.com>.

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



New Michael Close book – "That Reminds Me"

(portion of a review from Dustin Stinnet, published on the IBM web site)

I'm not sure if I have ever come across a book so aptly titled. This "joke book" is more than that. It's an endearing work that transports your mind—and soul if you so believe—to a better place; if only for the time you spend reading it. And these days, every minute helps. "That Reminds Me" reminds me of a time when being offended was something one just dealt with versus hiring an

attorney over and/or numbing ourselves with the latest pharmaceutical breakthrough. . .

Mr. Close is a multi-talented professional entertainer. He is a world class magician, jazz pianist, and is one of the funniest people I've seen on stage (although I don't believe he would ever call himself a comedian). For decades, he has been compiling jokes, including old chestnuts he's returned to relevance, jokes written by his many friends, as well as original material he has used himself or has passed on to friends to use because he knew it would work well for them. This book contains many of those jokes that he has collected over the years. But again, it's not just a collection of jokes. As he says in the book, they are jokes that he "has a personal relationship with." But even if that is all this book was—a collection of jokes—it would be prescribed reading.

See the complete review on the IBM web site:
<http://www.magician.org/portal/en/node/175>

NOTE: The IBM web site has changed substantially into an impressive, world class web portal. If you have not visited the site lately, be sure to check it out:

<http://www.magician.org/>

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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.

London Magicians Guild web site:
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