



# Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community  
March 2012  
Volume 7, Issue 7

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## February's meeting

There was no flag with rings on it. There wasn't a procession of athletes. There wasn't even an Olympic flame. But London, England isn't the only London holding an Olympics this year – London, Ontario was the site of the first ever Magic Olympics!

But first – it was time for Brandon Kidd to perform to become a club member! And Brandon's performance was impressive: an excellent Linking Ring routine; an Ambitious Card routine that ended with a matching card inside a locked envelope – and the Ambitious Card's back turned into the colour of the matching card! He ended with a Triumph variation with a cool final display. It was a slam-dunk – congratulations, Brandon, and welcome to the club!

It was time for the first Olympic event – "Carry rice in the thumb tip". Participants filled a thumb tip with rice, put it on their thumb, and ran across the room to fill a test tube. The most rice in the test tube after a minute is the winner. (And yes – it was messy. Many thanks to the cleaning staff! Next time – don't do this on a carpet!!)

The next event was the ever-popular "Toss the card through the hole". Each person receive 5 cards. If you got a card through the hole, you made it to the next round. Last man standing was the winner. This one was also a bit messy – but easier to clean up!

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 21 7:30PM

Topic: LECTURE by DOUG HUNT!

Beal Secondary School  
525 Dundas Street, London  
T-253

It was time for the fan favorite event, "Speed performance using stuff in the box". Mike Fisher put together a box filled with a host of well-known magic effects. Participants must perform 5 effects using only items from the box – and ring a bell between each effect - the fastest time was the winner! And we're talking fast – the winning time was 30 seconds!

The final event was the well-known "Speed Card Cutting". Mark Hogan had to exit this competition because, well, his attempts weren't pretty! Others were able to get those cards humming – even new member Brandon who beat some of the regulars! (It's harder doing this under pressure!) But in the end, the gold medal (actually a trophy engraved with Mike's label maker!) went to Rodrigo Rubio – now an international award-winning magician!

Many thanks to Mike Fisher for coming up with the idea and bring in the props – this won't be the last time we see the Magic Olympics!

Mark Hogan

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## March's Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, March 21  
TIME: 7:30 PM  
PLACE: Beal Secondary School  
T-253

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## TOPIC: Lecture by Doug Hunt!

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World record holder Doug Hunt is paying us a visit prior to his appearance at this year's CAM Convention to give us a lecture on his approach and effects he uses for table hopping when doing restaurant magic.

Doug is a multi-talented stilt walker, juggler, magician, mime, balloon artist, and all round versatile entertainment specialist. His stilt-walking abilities feature a multitude of costumed stilt characters.

In the Best Entertainer/Performer Category Doug the Great, Brantford's own Doug Hunt, Guinness World Record Holder won as the premier performer for Ontario in 2002! Doug was nominated by Tourism Brantford for his performance at the Grand Opening Celebration of the new Visitor & Tourism Centre on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2002 Doug entertained thousands of people who attended the opening on 50 feet 9 inches stilts by taking 29 independent steps breaking his previous world record.



# CAMARADERIE: HAMILTON

Where Friends meet & New Friendships Begin

**MAY 3 - 5, 2012**

Registration form

PayPal: <http://cammagic.org/camaraderie/registration/>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CAM # \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT: GIVEN NAME FAMILY NAME

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ PROVINCE/STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE:(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CONFIRMATION BY E-MAIL ONLY

PRINT NAMES AND CAM NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE) OF ALL REGISTRANTS:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	REG. ARRIVING BY JAN. 15, 2012	ARRIVING AFTER JAN. 15, 2012	TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> CAM MEMBER & SPOUSE EACH	\$175.00	\$195.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-MEMBER & SPOUSE EACH	\$205.00	\$225.00 (INCLUDES 1 YR. MEMBERSHIP)	
<input type="checkbox"/> YOUTH 12 AND UNDER	\$ 50.00	\$ 70.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> AWARDS BANQUET	\$42.00	\$45.0 (ONLY AVAILABLE BEFORE APRIL 20)	
<input type="checkbox"/> CHECK BOX FOR VEGETARIAN MEAL.			
<input type="checkbox"/> BUS TO GALA SHOW	\$10.00 (ONLY AVAILABLE BEFORE CONVENTION)	\$10.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> DANIEL GARCIA WORKSHOP HELD WEDNESDAY, MAY 2 AT 5:30PM		\$100.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> PAUL GERTNER WORKSHOP HELD WEDNESDAY, MAY 2 AT 8:30 PM		\$65.00	

**WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE FOR FULL REGISTRANTS ONLY!**

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

PAYABLE BY MASTERCARD, VISA, OR CHEQUE. NO PERSONAL CHEQUES ACCEPTED AFTER APRIL 1, 2012

MASTERCARD \_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_ # \_\_\_ \* \_\_\_ \* \_\_\_ \* \_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Due to the increase in bank charges, the Board of Directors has decided that a \$6.00 convenience fee will be applied to all credit card settlements. CHEQUES WOULD BE APPRECIATED!**

**FULLY REFUNDABLE UNTIL MARCH 15, 2012.**

**AFTER THAT DATE A \$25.00 PROCESSING FEE WILL BE DEDUCTED.**

**CHECK BELOW IF YOU WISH TO BE SENT:**

\_\_\_ PARLOUR \_\_\_ CLOSE-UP CONTEST - MUST BE REGISTERED FOR FULL CONVENTION & ATTEND AWARDS BANQUET

SEND VIDEO OF STAGE PERFORMANCE TO ARRIVE BEFORE MARCH 15.

MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM AND FULL PAYMENT TO: CAMARADERIE REGISTRATION

**92 WATER ST., ELORA, ON N0B 1S0**

CONVENTION HOTEL: CROWNE PLAZA, 150 MAIN ST. E. HAMILTON, ON

PHONE: 905-528-9546 or 888-528-3451

Ask for CAM convention rate (\$109.00/night) **BEFORE MARCH 30, 2012**

# News Of Interest

## Youngest magician to headline his own show

(Las Vegas Review Journal)

Tommy Wind, the youngest magician to headline a Las Vegas show, is appearing, and disappearing in "Impact: An Explosion of Magic and Music."

Wind, 21, is slated to perform at 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays at the Wolf Theater inside the Clarion Hotel & Casino, 305 Convention Center Drive.

"It is still hitting me," Wind said. "It is a phenomenal feeling."

Wind, a Henderson resident, started at the Clarion Feb. 14.

Being the youngest headlining magician wasn't Wind's first accomplishment. When he was 19, the World Magic Awards named him Best Teen Magician of the Year.

Wind has come a long way from his first magic trick to an illusionist who saws audience members in half or makes instruments disappear.

Since he was 7, Wind has been in love with magic.

"My grandfather showed me my first trick -- how to make a handkerchief disappear," Wind said.

His grandfather was an amateur magician who performed the occasional trick for friends and family.

"He never made any money from it but had a lot of fun doing it on the side," Wind said. "He started on the boat from Italy (to the United States) doing a vanishing quarter trick."

But his grandfather didn't just introduce him to magic. Wind was bitten by the magic bug and needed to learn and perform. He digested trick after trick and learned every conceivable amateur trick he could.

"My first gig was at a restaurant where I did it for five bucks and a slice of pizza," Wind said.

Wind continued to do shows around his hometown, Staten Island, N.Y., just because he loved the art.

"I knew I had a knack for it," Wind said. "It was always a strong hobby."

The moment Wind knew the hobby would become his profession was when he performed during the farewell show on a cruise liner.

While on the ship, he caught the eye of many passengers and crewmembers with his magic shoelace trick, in which the laces tie themselves. The trick earned Wind, who was 16 at the time, an invitation to the 2,500-seat showroom.

"I remember standing in the headlights and hearing the audience go wild," Wind recalled. "That's when I knew I wanted to do that for life."

When he was 18, his family moved to Las Vegas right after high school, and he inquired about starting a show in Las Vegas.

Between searching for venues and starting the show, Wind traveled back to the East Coast for performances.

At one show, he caught the eye of audience members who asked why he wasn't headlining in Las Vegas. When they found out he was in the process of opening his show, they decided to become backers and provide financial support.

Since coming to Las Vegas, Wind has had to step up his game by buying larger-scale illusions and making sure "Impact" is different from other magic shows on the Strip.

"That way you aren't really competing with (the other shows)," Wind said. "You don't want the audience to sit down and say, 'I saw this last week.' You want to make it completely different."

Wind wants his act to keep evolving and works to get better after each performance. During each show, Wind sets up a video camera to record himself. He then watches it to critique his performance.

"It's not about just doing magic on stage," Wind said. "It is about the performance and making sure you are presenting it the right way."

Every now and then, Wind will perform his first trick -- the disappearing handkerchief.

"I do it because people want to see my first trick," Wind said. "I sell the trick after the show. I have it there so people can learn magic and in the future keep the art of magic alive".

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)

## Win a private magic show with David Blaine

(MSNBC)

David Blaine, the celebrated magician and endurance artist, recently came to Liberty Science Center (LSC) to begin working on a new piece of magic. He is using the Science Center's facilities for the next few months as he develops an underwater act in which he does seemingly ordinary things such as smoking a cigar and eating a meal, all while holding his breath for an extraordinary amount of time.

On April 30, 2008, David set a world record on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" for holding his breath underwater, staying submerged for an astonishing 17 minutes and 4 seconds.

David recently gave a sneak preview of his new act to students visiting the Science Center, and a resulting video appeared on AOL's "You've Got...". Other guests may spot him at LSC, too in impromptu "flash performances!" Visitors should check out the large Harbor Tank in the Fourth Floor "Our Hudson Home" exhibition where David filmed parts of the interview underwater surrounded by giant fish to see if he's practicing.

Got a great idea for David Blaine to add to his underwater routine? Enter your suggestion online and if David selects yours, we'll fly you to Liberty Science Center from anywhere in the continental United States to see how he has incorporated your idea into his act! The contest closes March 27 at 5:00 pm, so hurry! Click her for [Details and registration](#).

Why develop new magic at LSC? David says it sparks his imagination. "Being here inspires me to come up with new ideas. My mother took me to museums as a child and it is exciting to come to Liberty Science Center and develop an underwater routine that has never been done before. Putting science together with magic and endurance makes everything more interesting," he continues. "When you are doing things that seem impossible but are actually real, that's a different kind of magic."

# Criss Angel denies allegations of fight with fired employee

(Las Vegas Sun)

Magician Criss Angel has angrily fired back at allegations and reports elsewhere that he was involved in a physical altercation with one of his employees, Joe Safuto, who performs magic under the name of Joe Monte. Joe says he tape recorded the incident and released a portion of it to the media.

The star of Cirque du Soleil's "Believe" at the Luxor and "Mindfreak" on A&E can be heard at the start of the tape speaking in a normal voice before an argument begins. Joe says he was subsequently physically attacked, but that report has been denied by Criss.

Ken Woloson, Criss's attorney, told Vegas DeLuxe, "Criss Angel was in the process of firing Joe on Wednesday when Safuto became abusive, and Criss asked him to leave."

His decision to fire Joe was in response to repeated complaints from co-workers and other magicians about Joe's abusive and violent behavior and general ineptitude.

"Witnesses have attested that there was no physical contact by Criss Angel and that Safuto very clearly was the antagonist.

"The audio released to the media is a snippet of a much longer conversation. We are exploring legal action against Mr. Safuto, including for his defamatory and illegal conduct."

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Concept by: Steve Seguin

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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