



Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community
November 2012

Volume 8, Issue 3

October's meeting

We were pleased to welcome back to our club - after eight years – Canada's Magician of the Year, **Bill Abbott**. Bill was beginning a new lecture tour called "Pack Smart ... Play Anywhere".

First, Bill showed a couple tricks not part of the "Pack Smart ... Play Anywhere" set. The first – "Stabbed and Shot" – was a card stab effect through a paper bag, followed by finding inside the bag a full shot glass! And "Blockbuster" was just that: 3 cards were selected by 3 spectators; the first was the only red card; the second has a hole through it; and the third was found to be the only non-blank card in the deck! (And then that card turned blank!)

Bill then got out the "Pack Smart ... Play Anywhere" effects – all in one small bag! He showed us the setup process for the show – which took less than 2 minutes!

And the show itself was amazing. Out of the gate was "Five Card Opener" – a variation on the classic 5/6 card repeat that Bill has used as an opener for 20 years. Next up was a geek effect where he places 4 Tic Tacs in various places in his body as a "Cure for the Common Cold" – and then retrieved them all from his mouth!

The story of "The Princess & the Pea" was used as a way to show a woman's intuition. Melissa Kidd dropped packets of cards out of her hands until finally left with one card – which matched a jumbo card she was sitting on! Then came "A Woman's Mind" – where Bill had Melissa jot down the name of any person she knew, and Bill was able to reveal who she was thinking of!

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, November 14 7:30PM

Topic: LECTURE by JON AKREY!

**Beal Secondary School
525 Dundas Street, London
T-253**

The final effect of the night was "Pokerface", where 5 spectators peeked at different cards and were told to maintain a pokerface, yet that was no match for Bill, as he was able to determine all 5 cards!

The entire show was performed in its entirety – and lasted 40 minutes! The entire show fit into a bag smaller than a laptop travel bag! Bill has certainly proven that great magic doesn't need to have big props!

Many thanks to Bill for performing his lecture for us!

Mark Hogan

October's Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, November 14
TIME: 7:30 PM
PLACE: Beal Secondary School
T-253

TOPIC: LECTURE by JON AKREY!!

Last year's "President's Trophy" winner is back to defend his title! Our very own **Jon Akrey** has volunteered to perform a lecture for us.

And what will he be presenting? I asked him ... and here it is in his very own words ... "I have a good array of stuff". How can you beat that?

And what kind of stuff, you ask?? Again, from the man himself ... "Call it a magic hodge podge."

Need I say more?? Actually, I don't know what else to say. Except this ... you don't want to miss this good array of stuff from the master of magic hodge podge ... **Jon Akrey!**

We Want Your Reviews and Tricks!

Please send any original reviews, magic tricks or routines to:

magic_london@yahoo.ca

News Of Interest



Shrine Fantasy Show coming to London

The Annual Shrine Fantasy Show 2012 will amaze, surprise, & entertain the entire family when it comes to London, 7:30pm, November 19, 2012 at the Sir Fredrick Banting Secondary School. This magical extravaganza which includes magic,

illusions, juggling acts, comedy, and more, is filled with imagination and showmanship.

Our Host, **Dick Joiner**

DICK JOINER is proud to again be hosting the Shrine Fantasy Variety Show as it travels across Canada. Dick has opened and toured with such stars as **Bobby Vinton**, **Blue Rodeo**, **Bobby Curtola** and comedians **Ron James** and **Charlie Farquason**. He has also been the featured performer on several cruise lines in all parts of the world and earlier this year was a month at sea in the Pacific on the Holland America line.

The Infinite Fantasy Circus Family

Featured on "Canada's Got Talent", Fantasy Circus is led by **Leonid**, who became accomplished in martial arts training during his youth in Minsk, followed his family into the life of the circus and developed a world-class act performing on the "Rolla Bolla". Coupled with great expertise in juggling, acrobatics and unicycling, he and his wife, **Tatyana** (professionally trained in circus acrobatics) make up the team of Fantasy Circus. First seen in 2011 and back by public demand... Fantasy Circus.

Neil Croswell

Neil Croswell's magic has been featured throughout Canada and North America. He has performed on such stages as the Riviera Hotel and Casino and the Orleans Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. In 2010, he placed 1st in the Canadian Championship of Magic. Most recently he was featured by Canadian Television Station YTV to appear in a series of magic trick-based commercials promoting their several television shows and movies. **Neil Croswell** has also been featured on "Canada's Got Talent".

Johnny Toronto

Comic juggler and unicyclist, Johnny has been one of the leading Canadian entertainers on the new "vaudeville" circuit for the past 20 years. His hilarious variety act has taken him around the world, from Moscow to Rio de Janeiro, Santiago de Chile to the North Pole. An international act on a mission to make the world laugh.



Magic & Miracles tour

Murray Hatfield & Teresa have entertained more people, at more shows across the country, than any other magicians in Canadian history. Over 3 million people have seen their show live – just in this country alone. Murray and Teresa are recognized as one of the top teams in magic and regularly appear in performing arts centres, theatres, corporate functions and casinos across Canada and around the globe.

This past year has been a busy one for Murray and Teresa – with performances throughout Canada and the US, including a return to the famed Magic Castle in Hollywood. They were invited to appear in one of America's most prestigious magical revue shows – "It's Magic" – at the historic Lobero Theatre in Santa Barbara, CA. Murray and Teresa were also thrilled to headline the "Vegas Magic Theatre" at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. This was followed by numerous corporate events, theatre shows, festivals and fairs from Washington State to Ontario. Murray was also invited to lecture to a number of magical organizations in Eastern Canada and New York State.

This year Murray & Teresa are excited to return for their 25th year in Magic 'n Miracles with a spectacular show featuring some of their most exciting and incredible illusions and two very special guests. When not on the road, Murray & Teresa live in Victoria, BC where they are also the owners of Murray's Trick & Joke Shop (online at www.MagicTrick.com).

Christopher Hart

While you may not immediately recognize **Christopher Hart**, chances are that you've seen him perform. Or at least part of him... That's because Chris' hand has starred in a number of notable movies – as "Thing" in all three of the Addams Family movies as well as in the horror spoof "Idle Hands". Chris has also appeared on television in **Angel**, **Quicksilver Highway** and **Columbo**.

When not acting on film or television, Chris is one of the most "in demand" magicians in the world. He has performed and headlined in numerous countries from South America to North America to Europe and the Far East and he is recognized by his peers as one of the world's finest magicians.

Chris has won numerous awards for his work including twice being named "Stage Magician of the Year" by Hollywood's Magic Castle. **Princess Stephanie of Monaco** personally awarded him one of magic's highest honors – the "Grand Prix of Magic" – in Monte Carlo.

Michael Goudeau

Michael Goudeau is quite possibly the most successful comedy juggler in the world. As special guest and sidekick in the **Lance Burton** show in Las Vegas, he performed in 5508 shows at the Monte Carlo Hotel – a record unmatched by any juggler in the world.

When not performing in Lance's show, Michael has headlined in theatres, television shows and on luxury cruise ships around the globe. He performed with the Ringling Brother's Barnum and Baily Circus and has toured and performed in places like Japan, Mexico, Taiwan, Chile, Hungary and France.

In addition to live performances Michael is also an Emmy nominated comedy writer – with twelve prime time Emmy nominations for his work. He has written for people like **Penn and Teller**, the **Smothers Brothers**, **Terri Garr** and many more.

16th Annual Motor City Close-up Convention - Nov 16-18

(from John Luka)

The Motor City Convention will feature **Darwin Ortiz**, **Garrett Thomas**, **Mark Zacharia**, and **Kainoa Harbottle**.

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Darwin Ortiz makes his living with a deck of cards. He has performed all over the world. Darwin has been a featured performer at magician's conventions in the U.S., England, Portugal, Argentina, and Japan and has lectured on sleight-of-hand before countless magician groups in the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Belgium, England, and Scotland. Darwin is a sleight-of-hand artist, Magician, Entertainer, Media Personality, Casino Consultant, Author, and Gambler. Darwin Ortiz is truly unique: an artist, and expert, and an unforgettable entertainment experience.

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Garrett Thomas is known for being an innovator as well as one of the top card, coin, and ring manipulators. His original effects, extreme technical skills, and keen understanding of human psychology culminate in highly visual, entertaining, and often enlightening routines. Garrett's commitment to the art of magic manifests not only in his performances, but also in his strong commitment to teaching the science and psychology of magic to other magicians. Garrett has produced several

instructional books and videos on the subjects of coin, card, and ring manipulation, creating magical moments, and on the secret to becoming a "real" magician.

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Mark Zacharia is a featured performer at many New York / New Jersey area restaurants. Mark is also known as being a magician's magician. Mark has earned a coveted invitation to Fechter's Finger Flicking Frolic, the original close-up convention. Mark presents strong, audience tested material that he has worked well in the real world. The focus is on effects that play well in the restaurant and the material is geared toward the average guy. Marks lecture is sprinkled with tips and insights on performing magic which many say are as important as the material Mark delivers.

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Kainoa Harbottle has become an expert in the publication and performance history of Victorian magic. Kainoa performs in and around his adopted state of Delaware. Kainowa is an expert in coin manipulation and has contributed much to the subject in his published literature.

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For more information, visit: <http://www.johnlukamagic.com/>

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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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