

2009/2010 Club Membership Dues are now due!!

Please bring your \$30 membership renewal dues to the September meeting, or mail them to: Mark Hogan, 133 Fairlane Ave, London ON N6K 3E5



Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community
October 2009 Volume 5, Issue 2

September's meeting

It's a good thing there are lots of garbage cans in the Beal staff room. Because there were a lot of bent and torn cards to fill them up as we all learned and practiced the classic "Card Warp".

Steve Seguin lead us in the version of the effect that he uses (where a playing card is folded and placed inside a "time machine" business card, and ends up reversing itself when pushed through it). Peter Mennie then took things a step further by showing his impromptu setup, and several ending positions – including one where the card is handed to the spectator in mid-fold!

Mark Hogan then performed "Dr. Strangetrick", a Michael Close effect where the playing card is reversed inside a dollar bill. Mike Fisher also showed his version of "Bill Warp" that he used many years ago. There was also some discussion on using a torn and restored effect to follow "Card Warp" to end cleanly.

And to finish the night, Lorne Overholt had a spectator place a card into a card box (sight unseen) and was still able to correctly determine its value.

With everyone trying the various techniques, the pile of bent, torn and ripped cards grew and grew – I think the folks at Bicycle might want consider a second shift!

Thanks to Steve for leading the way with a fun night of Card Warp!

Mark Hogan

Next Meeting(s):

Wednesday, October 14 7:30PM
Topic: MENTALISM by ANDY PARR!

Beal Secondary School
255 Dundas Street, London
T-253

October's Meeting

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

Topic: MENTALISM by ANDY PARR!

Telepathy ... clairvoyance ... predicting the future ... all things that a good mentalist should be able to do. And you will too, after this lecture by our very own mentalist extraordinaire Andy Parr.

Andy has offered to present many of his favourite mentalism routines. I know that Andy knows and performs some terrific mental effects, so it should be a very entertaining night!

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

IMPORTANT NOTE: Our web site has moved!!

The London Magicians Guild web site has moved to another address. Set your browser to this new address to get information on future meetings, recent newsletters, and other information about the club:

<http://magiclondon.brinkster.net>

Be sure to see the October C.A.M. Newsletter for an 8-page article
on ... our own **MAX SCOTT!**

News Of Interest

Penn and Teller - Crime Fighters?

(by: Richard Abowitz)



In separate tweets, Penn and Teller (Teller's tweet doesn't quite have Tinyurl.com down) have confirmed a report in Variety that they will be doing a series pilot for ABC. The one-hour show will feature them as "Penn Jillette and Teller -- Las Vegas magicians by night. But here's how the show takes a slight twist from real life: By day, the duo become reluctant detectives."

Well, there is a grain of truth; I actually think "CrimeFighter" is part of the name of Penn's daughter. In addition to their show at the Rio, which I have long considered the single best show in Vegas, the duo have done seven seasons of a series on Showtime, the one with naughty word as a title, that features the debunking and skeptical side of their interests.

I seriously nominate these guys as the hardest working performers in Vegas. And, the quality of their output is also amazingly consistent. A decade watching them in Vegas, I have never been as impressed by everything about a creative enterprise. Penn & Teller are Vegas at its finest.

To give you a tiny peek into how diverse their output is, by total coincidence (I heard no rumor or leak about this television foray), I have a story in Las Vegas Weekly, where I am on staff, about Teller's "Macbeth," which was just released on DVD.

Whenever I get down about the ability of Las Vegas to really support intelligent entertainment at the highest level, long term, Penn & Teller is always the show I hope doesn't wind up as the exception that proves the rule.

"...and I quote"

- "Think inside the box, because everyone else is trying to think outside of it" - De'vo Vom Shattenreich
- "I don't want realism. I want magic!" - Tennessee Williams
- "There is magic, but you have to be the magician. You have to make the magic happen." - Sidney Sheldon
- "No performer should attempt to bite off red-hot iron unless he has a good set of teeth." - Harry Houdini
- "Magicians guard an empty safe." - Jim Steinmeyer

Devin to escape from Jail

(from the Paper of Crawfordville, Indiana)



"A lot of people have told me I'm crazy," magician Devin Stewart told The Paper of Crawfordville, Indiana. "They tell me it's impossible, but they say that you aren't a real escape artist until you escape from jail. My career is on the line."

The young man will put his career on the line this Friday, September 18 at the Montgomery County (Indiana) Old Jail Museum.

The Paper reports Houdini did the same feat in four hours, and Criss Angel allegedly pulled it off in half that time. Mr. Stewart hopes to escape from a straight-jacket and his jail cell, in front of a live audience, in under 30 minutes.

The magician/escape artist/fire eater/illusionist/hypnotist learned of the jail from his girlfriend. During their tour of the museum, Mr. Stewart told the guide he could escape from the unique rotating cells.

This is no ordinary jail cell. He will don a straight jacket before being placed in the steel-barred cell. The jail was the very first of seven "rotary jails" built in the United States and the only one still in operation.

According to The Paper, "[t]he rotary cellblock, consisting of a two-tiered turntable divided into pie-shaped wedges, will be rotated to move Stewart's cell 180 degrees away from the only opening available." The cell is not locked in a conventional sense. There is no lock to pick or door to jimmy. The entire cell rotates shut.

The tour guide was apparently the first to question Mr. Stewart's sanity. Not long after the visit, Tamara Hemmerlein, executive director of the Montgomery County Cultural Foundation, challenged Mr. Stewart to make good on his claim.

She thought it would make a great fund raising event for the museum. Mr. Stewart thought it could help "catapult his career as a performer." He will make the attempt at 7:30 p.m. after spending the day at the museum teaching magic and performing for guests.

Mr. Stewart has been working on a solution to the challenge over the past few months but admits he is a bit anxious. We wish Mr. Stewart the best of luck and commend him on donating all proceeds to the museum.

Check out his web site for more information: <http://www.stewartmagic.com>.

Did You Know?

- Chung Ling Soo was also the owner of a toy airplane factory.
- Blackstone was characterized as a popular comic book hero of the 1940s. He appeared each month in Super Magician Comics solving mysteries as a magician detective.
- The oldest Magic Club is the Society of American Magicians (founded in 1902).
- The largest Magic Club is the International Magicians Society (1968); it has over 23,000 members
- David Copperfield is the first living magician to have a star on the famous Hollywood Walk of Fame. The only other magician so honored is Harry Houdini, who received a star after his death.

Magical Words

- Criss Angel: "Are you ready??"
- David Blaine: "Look! Look! Look!"
- Dante: "Sim Sala Bim!"
- Al Flosso: "Happis Crappis!" "Watch this, kiddo!"
- Doug Henning: "Now!"
- Ali Bongo: "Uju Buju Suck Another Juju" "Aldy Bority Phostico Formio" "Hocus Pocus Fishbones Chokus"
- Sooty: "Izzy Wizzy- let's get busy!"
- Prof. Henry Bessette: "Abracadabra Cadabra Cadeen!"

Motor City Convention in November

This year the 13th Annual Motor City Convention will take place the weekend of November 13-15, 2009 at the Ramada Inn located in Taylor, Michigan (Metro Detroit Area).

This year's featured performers are: Joshua Jay, David Neighbors, Oscar Munoz, and Helder Guimarães. There will also be some other surprises.

As usual, you will have an opportunity to meet and mingle with these performers, ask questions, and share some of your ideas with them. You can find more convention information, including the schedule of events, by going to the convention website. <http://www.johnlukamagic.com/>

You can also register quickly and easily on line via PayPal.

Some of the dealers signed up already include: Hank Moorehouse, Gordon Miller, The Wunderground, The Wunderground West, PMS Magic, and Shawn & Ed's Magic. There will be more dealers to follow.

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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.

London Magicians Guild web site:
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