

APRIL 2009



# THE VICTORIA MAGIC CIRCLE RING 183

The Ernie Crockford Ring

Affiliated members of the Pacific Coast Association of Magicians

**Annual General Meeting Tuesday April 7th 2009**

**Hi Everyone.**

**Don't forget to attend the next VMC meeting on  
Tuesday April 7th. 7:30pm At the Langford Fire Hall #1  
This will be our AGM which will include the vote  
for the 2009/2010 Executive.  
So please attend this one if you can !**

**After the AGM Ron Bell will present a lecture entitled,**

## **"The Best of Ron Bell"**

**He will cover tricks he has had published in,  
"The Linking Ring *One Man Parade*" over the past 37 years.  
There will be four routines using a mix of unusual items and four  
card tricks, which are either classics or off the beaten path.**

**None are difficult to do, however they do  
require an attention to detail.**

**Ron will also spin a few tales of Magic and  
Magicians past, based on his 65 years in magic.**

**You don't want to miss this !**

**President Ring 183**

**Rob Brown**



**WE ARE NO LONGER AT THE MALAHAT LOUNGE**



We had ten people who made it up to the last Reilly Round Table at the Malahat Lounge.

The March RRT focused on Mentalism and it was a great session, as everyone gave their input to various routines such as, Number Forces, Simple Book Tests the One Ahead Principle, MOP (Multiple Out Predictions) the Triple Fold, the Centre Tear and a variety of Swami Gimmicks.

We spoke about Hypnotism and we even spent some time working on a few

different Bill Switch Routines.

It was a great night with a full house and the 3 hours just flew by!

The next Round Table will be on April 20th 7:00pm at 688 Broughton St. at Murray's Trick & Joke Shop and our guest speaker will be -David Attwood - focusing on

- "ROUTINING YOUR CLOSE UP PRESENTATION" -

The Victoria Magic Circle had a few, very interesting offers for a home, for our Reilly Round Table however, the decision has been made to accept the very generous offer from Murray and Teresa and have the Reilly Round Table at Murray's Trick and Joke Shop located at 688 Broughton Street, Downtown Victoria.

This is a very central location and we all think this is best for the future and everyone that already enjoys these meetings.

I would like to thank everyone that gave me their input and suggestions and offers.

David Attwood

**The next Round**

**Table will be at**

**"Murray's Trick**

**& Joke shop on**

**Monday**

**April 20th at**

**7:00pm focus is**

**on ROUTINING**

**YOUR CLOSE UP**

**PRESENTATION**



## *Special Private Lecture Night !* APRIL 2009

### **“The Best of Ron Bell”**

Ron will give an hour and a half lecture comprising of selected tricks from three “One-Man Parades” (Oct 72 -Dec 95 -Feb 08) and one “Mini-Parade” (Dec 73) all published in The Linking Ring.

Recently the IBM awarded Ron the prestigious Howard Bamman Trophy for his Parade in the Feb 2008 issue of the Linking Ring.

He also won a trophy for the best trick “IMPOSSIBLE DREAM” published in The Linking Ring in 1972 and has received several awards of merit for his published effects.

He will perform and teach a number of award winning routines well within the capability of any serious magician. Ron has given lectures in Canada and the USA and his originations are used by many magicians including our own Murray Hatfield.

*President Ring 183*

*Rob Brown*

Ron will have available for \$5 a very nicely produced booklet covering all eight routines.



## MIRTH & MAGIC.

Hi Everyone.

Saturday, May 23rd will be the date for this years Mirth & Magic.

We are fortunate to have Murray looking after the performance schedule this year.

Right now, Murray wants to hear from you if you are interested in competing in the comedy magic contest.

Contact Murray directly.

[MurHat@aol.com](mailto:MurHat@aol.com)



## *Library Corner* with Ed Silva-White APRIL 2009

This month I am writing about what crossed my desk for the month of March and about my personal experiences, plus Books, DVD's, Periodicals, Media, Newspapers and the Internet.

### LONDON STAGE:

In 1953, 39 members of the Vancouver Kitsilano Boys Band aged 15 to 23 toured Canada and England for 5 months. At 15 I had the opportunity to travel, and entertain practically every night in the world of show business. We were under contract as a top billed act and played in a different historic vaudevillian theatre each week for 4 months. This meant that the band followed 8 other entertainers and closed with a 40 minute show... twice nightly, each week!! One week in August we played in the northern section of London at the Wood Green Empire Theatre.

We appeared before a capacity crowd for every show.

Years before, a magician born as *William Ellsworth Robinson* performed to equally full houses at the Wood Green Empire Theater under the names of Achmed Ben Ali, Nana Sahib, and Abdul Kahn.

However, on that very same stage on March 23, 1918,

William Ellsworth Robinson (1861–1918) became a part of magic history under his most successful stage name “Chung Ling Soo”

He is famous for dying when his bullet catch trick went wrong.

See: Merlin's Catalogue of Magic, Charles Barry Townsend, 1981.

Walter Gibson's Encyclopedia of Magic and Conjuring, 1976

Riddle in Red and Yellow, A Story About Chung Ling Soo by Fulton Oursler

Amongst the Great “Tikki and Takki Mountains”, beyond the “Great Pongobi Desert” and beside the “Pongo Pongo River” in a small country of “Pongolia”, is the city of “Bagarag” Every Friday evening under the Great Banyan Tree, the latest magical tricks and books were discussed by the “President of The Grand Order of Pongolian Prestidigitators,” William Oliver Wallace. (AKA Ali Bongo)

Sadly the writings and teachings of this Arabian Nights persona “the Shriek of Araby” from Bongo’s Bazaar Emporium of Magic and Mystery will be missed by all of us. However his achievements and creativity will continue to be appreciated by each generation of magician.

<http://briansibleysblog.blogspot.com/2009/03/ali-bongo-1929-2009.html>

See: Ali Bongo's Book of Magic, 1987

The Bongo Book by Ali Bongo, 1972

The Independent, Ali Bongo: The Magicians Elder Statesman, Obituary



**CLOSE-UP MAGIC: The 2007 PCAM - Monterey, California**  
Tony Clark a student of Quintino Marucci, (aka Slydini) was one of the Featured Performers who Lectured on the Fine Points of Misdirection in Close-Up and Parlour Magic. Quintino Marucci's name arose again. I was reading the SAM e-mail discussion blog this week and a fellow magician Bernie Cosell in Pearisburg, VA triggered me to this link in the New York Times, March 27, 2009.

**“I made more money in high school than I ever have since... Or so it seems.”**

Quintino Marucci

Years later in 1977 Dick Cavett, featured Quintino Marucci (Tony Slydini) on his show in an half hour video clip (link below).

**“Conjuring Slydini”**

<http://cavett.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/03/27/conjuring-slydini/?scp=3&sq=cavett&st=cse>

See: The Best of Slydini and More, Karl Fulves Text and Photographs books 1976.

Tony Clark, PCAM Monterey, Paper Balls & Rings.

The Magic of Slydini by Lewis Ganson (1960).

DVD World's Greatest Magic The Secrets of Slydini's Knotted Silks with three different presentations by Steve Draun, Bill Malone and Jim Cellini.

**THE BRAIN: an article in Scientific American**  
February 2009. Mind & Brain

**“What Can Magicians Teach Us About The Brain?”**

**“Neuroscience can learn a lot by tapping the intuitive knowledge of magicians as new sources for inspiration and study.”**

By Robyn Kim and Ladan Shams

<http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=magic-neuroscience-cognition-illusions>



**THANKS**

Ed

*The library will now be operated by request.*

*Contact Ed Silva-White if you would like to borrow a DVD for the April meeting and Ed will bring your selection in if available.*





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## Jay Sankey's Trick of the Month "ONION"

The Human being with Supernatural Abilities asks the folks;



*"Wanna see something strange?"*

They say they would like that very much.

*"Well, it's gonna cost ya five...no, TEN bucks. Plus tax. That would normally work out to over 11 dollars, but let's just keep it simple, and show you something you're going to remember for the rest of your lives I'm going to need 10 bucks and 10 cents. Whose got a 10 dollar bill and a dime?"*

The spectators cough up the cash and –Without ever touching the Coin-

*Mr. Magic* asks someone to place the dime on the ten dollar bill and crunch the bill into a tight ball. The magician hands someone a pen and asks them to get ready to write something down on whatever is handy (paper napkin, business card, etc.) With his eyes closed and head turned away, the magician holds the balled up bill in his hand and focuses his considerable psychic energy on the coin nestled in the bill.

*"I'm getting a sense that the coin is...silver, right?"*

The audience is non-astonished.

*"Wait, the first two numbers of the date of the coin are a...1....and a 9."*

The audience is still officially un-blown away.

*"I see a 1 and a 9 and...an 8 and a 7!"*

Now the audience is more than a little curious.

*"Hold on, I'm sensing something else...a B, and a 9 3 7 9 6 9 0 4 and an E."*

It is the correct serial number on the bill.

**Method:** I was so HAPPY when I came up with this! I mean, why just switch one item when you can switch TWO with the same simple sleight, right? Also, I LOVE how the unexpected addition of the serial number kicks the effect to a whole other level!

(Those of you who know will know I'm not singing my own praises. I just feel so darn GRATEFUL when a clever idea lands in my head.)

To set-up, grab a \$10 bill and a dime. You have to memorize the serial # of the bill which is for me the biggest challenge of the trick!

Sometimes I just commit the first 4 or 5 numbers or letters to memory.

That's more than enough.

Memorize the date on the dime (which ain't so tough) place it on the bill over the face of the president and crumple the bill around the coin in a TIGHT ball. Have this balled bill in your left pants pocket and a pen or marker in your right pants pocket and you are ready to FRY 'EM!

[www.sankeymagic.com](http://www.sankeymagic.com)



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## **Jay Sankey's Trick of the Month "ONION"**



To perform, casually slip both hands into their respective pants pockets and relax for a few moments as you ask to borrow some money. Obviously you have to make sure you borrow a \$10 bill and a dime. How you do this is precisely the kind of thing that will come down to personality, style, the audience and the venue, but I often use a variation of *"wanna see a cool trick, it will cost ya..."* and I make a gag of it and try to make it look like I come up with the denominations off the top of my head. Once the spectators have dug up the \$10 bill and the dime, ask someone to *"Put the coin on the face of the president and crumple up the bill so there's no way I can get a peek at the coin inside."*

You DON'T have to justify these short, casual directions. Just don't worry about it. Say the directions in a casual, simple fashion and everything will flow fine. (It's when you start running, they start chasing, right?)

At some point during the spectators digging up the money and crumpling the bill around the dime, bring both hands out of your pockets with the balled bill in left finger palm. Raise your right hand and extend your arm towards the spectator. They will naturally hand you the paper ball. Hold the bill up to eye level and comment that

*"there's no way I can see even the smallest part of the coin."* Do **NOT** say *"dime."*

You want them to forget how specific you were when you originally asked for a coin. Also, do not say anything about the bill. You want them to believe that you are going to show them something incredible JUST with the coin.

Lower your right hand, apparently place the bill into your left fingers, go to your pocket with your right hand and come out holding the pen. A very casual, completely natural series of actions, but of course during these actions you only pretend to place the borrowed bill into the left hand. Instead, you retain it in right finger palm and bring the left hand's palmed bill into view. Without pausing, swing your right hand down into your pocket and get the pen.

One important detail: be sure to SAY SOMETHING about wanting someone to *"write something down with this pen"* before you begin to execute the switch and move your hand to your pocket. If you don't "lead" with a casual line of explanation, moving your hand to your pocket will raise suspicion. To finish, you can hold the balled up bill in your left hand (open or closed) and turn your head to the right with eyes closed and "divine" the details of the "borrowed objects." OR you can hand the balled bill to a spectator to hold. But if you do the latter, give the bill to someone ON YOUR LEFT so that right-to-left motion line of the switch sequence is continued rather than "bent back on itself." (Oooo, DEEP!)

**NOTES:** Here's a HOT tip! When I've really wanted to be able to divine the entire serial number, I've just written it down on the short end of my card case. Then when I want to do this effect I just make sure the case is tabled with the end of the case facing me. When it comes time to "divine the serial" I turn my head a bit and even cover my eyes, so it's dead easy for me to just READ OFF THE SERIAL # ON THE CARD CASE! You could add another level to the "nesting" by having someone drop the (just switched) balled up bill into a small envelope as well as lick and seal it. This also nicely fulfills the theatrical Rule of Three.

[www.sankeymagic.com](http://www.sankeymagic.com)





[www.magictrick.com/store/](http://www.magictrick.com/store/)

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## Hey Victoria Magicians Greetings and Salutations, Murray Here!!

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well, and enjoying what appears to be the beginnings of spring (we hope...)

Teresa and I are happy to be back after 24 shows in Revelstoke, Penticton and Vernon and looking forward to some time off at home.

I was sorry to hear about the cancellation of Kramien's Jamboree for this year. It seems that the economy is taking a toll everywhere. Hopefully the Jamboree will be back bigger and better than ever next year.

We've got a few new items in the shop this month;

**SOLO** - Think inside the box!



A deck of cards are removed from its case. The case is handed out for examination, it is empty. 2 jacks with a hole in the centre are shown both back and front. Any card is selected, signed and then sandwiched between the jacks. The signed card can be seen at all times through the holes. The cards are spread in a fan, all 3 cards can be seen. In a FLASH the signed card VISUALLY vanishes from the fan. The card case is opened and the signed card is removed from inside the case.

This has to be seen to be believed, it looks awesome. It was a complete sell out at both the Blackpool convention and a recent American convention. Easy to do, resets in seconds, Perfect for any close up situation, precision made gimmicks.

**MIRROR BOX** - Beautiful mirror box, perfect for producing and vanishing silks, small animals, and other props!



The box is opened showing it is empty. It is given one full revolution. The top door is then opened and the performer makes an object appear!

The Mandarin Mirror Box comes in three colors, red, yellow, and green.

The box measures 5.9 x 5.7 x 5.5 inches (15 x 14.4 x 14 cm).



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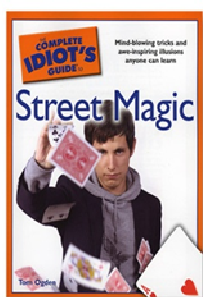
**MIRACLE LIGHTER – from the creative mind of Fantasio**



Have you ever wondered what real magic might look like? This is it! Show a Bic lighter on all sides, etc. Push it through your hand and it changes color! Both hands are then shown to be absolutely clean. Can be examined and even given away. What a great walk-around effect and it resets in 30 seconds. Use your own lighter. It comes complete with easy instructions by Fantasio.

You will do this one and even amaze yourself!

**IDIOTS GUIDE TO STREET MAGIC –**



Want to perform cutting edge street magic like David Blaine and Criss Angel. People starting out in magic today want something edgier, grittier, quick, visual, and maybe a little dangerous. This guide will teach you how to do it!

What makes The Complete Idiot's Guide® to Street Magic different from other books is the type of tricks and the thematic presentations that readers will actually learn. Out of the literally thousands of tricks that could have been included, only those that have the greatest impact, both visually and psychologically, appear in this book.

It includes: Over 75 tricks, 200 illustrations, from how-to shots, to photos of street magicians at work. Contains something for all levels, from easy-to-accomplish tricks for complete beginners, to more challenging sleight-of-hand for those who seriously want to pursue the art of *legerdemain*. Pages 400 – Paperback

See you at the shop...

Murray



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## Stuff Jack Sends Me!

With Jack Poulter

APRIL 2009

Forwarded to my e-mail "shotgun" list for VMC as requested by Ray Parker. Several UK newspapers have carried reports of Ali Bongo's death.

An interview was conducted by BBC-TV with Ali Bongo. I do not know the date of it, but some members may find it of interest and possibly value.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cult/jonathancreek/interviews/bongo/>

\*Hi,\*

\*\*As most of you know I am always promoting the importance of the performance aspect in presenting magic and advising the study of acting and speech training as an integral part of magic training. \*

\*In watching the video clips, (for which I think we should all thank Jack for making them available to us) I found Ali Bongo's comments in the fourth one, Dramatic License, Do actors make good magic students? very interesting and I think it goes to prove that very point.\*

\*Ray Parker.\*

<<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cult/jonathancreek/interviews/bongo/clip3.shtml>>\*\*

<<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cult/jonathancreek/interviews/bongo/clip3.shtml>>

**Jack Poulter**  
**On an Island in the Pacific**  
**e-mail: [jpoulter@islandnet.com](mailto:jpoulter@islandnet.com)**  
**Success depends on attention to detail!**

News Worthy

**2009 Magic Jamboree is CANCELLED**

Dear Magic Friends, Due to circumstances beyond our control, this year's Magic Jamboree will not convene. Refunds are being sent to 2009 paid registrants.

*-Stan Kramien.*

[stankramien@yahoo.com](mailto:stankramien@yahoo.com)

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Kramien's Magic Jamboree "Where you mingle with the stars" Returning in 2010!





Here is a link to my Promo Clip on Youtube.

Check it out and write a comment. (Something nice, hah!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=arcPCiGTUgg>

*Paul Kilshaw:* Make sure you tell Pavia that she is in the clip!!!

*Shayne King:* Thanks for all of your help with the rope routine!!

*Murray Hatfield:* Thanks for the Kabuki Streamer idea and the intro at *Mirth & Magic*!!

*Wayne Dupuis:* A great job editing and putting it all together!

*Ron Bell:* Thanks for the initial push and the ongoing mentoring!

Have a great week ya' all! Eric!

*"Given the choice, isn't it always better to believe in magic?"*

<http://www.coolmagicdude.com/>

## *Nominations for Executive members 2009/2010*

Here is the current nomination list as of Sunday, March 29, 2009 11:26 pm.

President: Justin Louie, Shayne King.

Vice Pres: David Attwood, Steve Hignett.

Secretary: Ryan Stanley.

Member at Large: (2 positions) Charles Morgan, David Mohr, Norm Worthy, Ray Parker, Alex Day.

Treasurer: Kerry Zado.

Sgt. at Arms: John Graham.

Ring Reporter: Ryan Stanley, David Mohr.

