



# November 2014 Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 1

## Inside this issue:

TCA Programs	1
General Monthly Meetings	1
TCA Executive Committee Members	2
Prez says	3
Education News	4
Monthly Giggles	5
The Sunshine Report	6
The Last Page....	6

## TCA Programs

### November 24, 2014

**Note: The Bubba Sikes lecture originally scheduled for our November meeting has been cancelled due to health issues.**

Tonight, a two part lecture/workshop.

### Part 1 (7:30) – Christmas Magic Props



**Dan Stapleton**

Long time funny man and all around children’s entertainer **Dan Stapleton** will perform his magic show using a number of self-working props that are geared towards story-telling, interaction with the kids, and most importantly, **fun!**

This type of magic is the perfect addition to any show and lets your client know that you’re not just doing a magic show, but a Christmas Magic Show. All of the effects that Dan will be showing and explaining will be Christmas themed.

If you perform for birthday parties of any type, we suggest that you don’t miss this lecture!

### Part 2 (8:45) – Christmas Balloons



**Daffy Dill The Clown**

**Daffy Dill** will be sharing some amazing Christmas balloon ideas. Not only will she demonstrate these holiday creations, but you will have the opportunity to follow along, twist by twist with Daffy Dill leading the way. The Alley will provide any of unusual balloons needed, like hearts, 160’s etc. Remember to bring your regular balloons and pump!

## GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

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**NEXT MEETING - November 24, 2014**  
 Time: Jam starts at 6:45pm - 7:30pm  
 Meeting starts at 7:30pm - 10:00pm  
 Location: Herbert Carnegie Centennial Centre,  
 580 Finch Avenue West (West of Bathurst on North Side)  
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**Lest We Forget.**



**2014-2015**  
**TORONTO CLOWN ALLEY**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

PRESIDENT	Mark "Jungle Jack" Verge
VICE PRESIDENT	Ron "Schmendrake" Guttman
SECRETARY	Colleen "Pockets" Smith
TREASURER	Bob "Rusty" Patterson
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR	David "D Jay" Lew
PROGRAM DIRECTOR	Robert "Dinty" Power
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Pat "Patty Kakes" Davos
SNACK COORDINATOR	Teanna Vedder
SUNSHINE COORDINATOR	Shirley "Jolly" Snell
INSURANCE COORDINATOR	Robert "Dinty" Power
SOCIAL DIRECTOR	Shelley "Dotsy" Summers



**Please wear your name tag  
at every General Meeting!**

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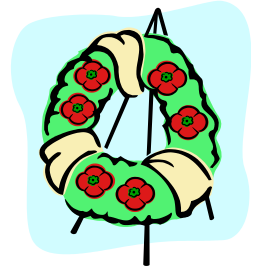


Mark Verge

## Prez Says

Hello members of the TCAFE,

Well entertainers, I hope everyone had a nice Halloween. Sadly not many children showed up at my place, but no worries, those little chocolate bars did not go to waste! Mmmmm...



I guess winter is here as I seen flurries today, but up north seen it a while ago. But play it safe and think about putting on those winter tires.

Anyone that did not show up to last meeting really missed out. Kelly Farrell gave a very informative lecture on Social Media. It seemed like a lot of people got something out of it as she answered many of our questions. Even if you don't use face book your clients may, mainly the birthday party clients. Many get on there and ask their friends who they recommend for a birthday party and I had a few clients tell me they asked that very question and people gave them my name, so facebook does work at least for the birthday party clients.

Rob came through for us and booked two lectures for us for Nov. 24th.

Here is a dilemma I have been having for a while now you get called for a birthday party and you have nothing booked so far and it is during the holiday season. So do you turn it down so it doesn't interfere with a possible corporate gig? Well that is a very hard decision, I often try and push them to a later time, say around 4:30 which is doable for a birthday and still leaves most of the day open for a corporate gig. I usually have good success with that but sometimes it fails and you miss out. Or another thought you could increase your prices during the holiday season and you may think it is a win, win situation, but you may have priced yourself out of the market. Never an easy solution and doesn't always work in your favor. If it is that first weekend in December you may want to hold out for that big job as I think that is the weekend with the highest demand for all entertainers as many corporates try to book that weekend. Do you have a minimum amount of hours when you book a corporate? The problem I have now a days is travel time in the GTA it is not like it used to be I use to leave an hour between shows now I try to allow 90 minutes to be safe. But that takes time away from the few hours of prime time. So booking longer may mean higher profits. No easy solution, never is.

Be safe and try and give extra time to drive to your gigs if at all possible. I have a feeling this is going to be a snowy winter!

Mark "Jungle Jack" Verge  
President of the TCAFE



**Continue your education to be the best entertainer  
you can be!**

**Here's a list of what is coming to a city near us!**

### **East Coast Face Paint Convention, Jan 14-19, 2015**

Jan 14 - Pre-classes (Wed) these classes are not included in registration fee

Jan 15-18 Convention (Thurs-Sun)

Jan 19 - Post Classes (Mon) these classes are not included in registration fee

\$160.00 includes all days, all classes (**NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN FOR ANY REASON\*** please see below for clarification).

Where: Hillspoint Hotel & Conferences, 383 South Center Street, Windsor Locks, CT 06096 <http://hillspointhotel.com/>. Hotel offers a free continental hot breakfast with hash browns and waffles, WIFI, Free shuttle to and from Bradley Airport and quick, easy access to many restaurants and stores.

Book on the phone NOT online to get special rates. Phone: 1-860-623-4400. Hotel rooms will be at a special face painting group price \$59 & tax - BOOK EARLY! Make sure to mention you are with the face painting seminar. For more info call 1-413-436-7979 for Kim Hatch. For those flying in, you would fly into Hartford, CT - Bradley Field. This is 6 minutes from the hotel.

**Instructors confirmed for 2015** - *Mark Reid, Jay Bautista, Kerry Ann DePetro, Christina Kerr Davison, Laura Oliver, Denise Cold, MJ Matthews, Kimberly Thomas, Dick Moberg, Nora Susko and Ezia Leach.*

All instructors that are offering Pre/Post or night pay classes will be posting them on their own and collecting money for them.

### **Kapitol Kidvention, Feb 6-8, 2015**

Washington D.C. \$250 Balloonists, magicians & face painters & Marketing! Read all about it here: <http://www.kapitalkidvention.com/>

**KEY NOTE INSTRUCTORS:** **Magicians:** *Barry Mitchell, Mike Hummer, Rosander, Tim Sonfelt, John Reid, Gene Cordova, The Great Zucchini, Oscar Munoz.* **Face Painting:** *Nick Wolfe, Wisner, Lea Selley, Marcela and Heather Green, Colleen Heller, Erica Exline.* **Balloon Artists:** *Shonna Flanigan, Ryan Lavalley, Dustin Queary, Eric Weinstein, Gary Ledbetter, John Reid.* **General/Business:** *Al Moessinger, Heather Green, Marcela, Kennedy, Alexanderia the Great, MaryAnne Ross "Simplicity the Clown".*

### **Canadian Haunted Attraction Convention, Feb 27- March 1 - Guelph Ontario.**

Read all about it here: <http://www.canadahaunts.ca/>

### **Clowns Of America International 2015 Convention, April 21-26 2015**

The Convention will be held in Erie, Pennsylvania.

The headliner is Angel Ocasio. Remember when he was at Clowns Canada a few years ago? He's a very funny man and a terrific educator.

The convention will be April 21-26 2015. If you register before Oct 31 the cost is \$170 and you will be entered in a draw for a one-on-one session with Angel Ocasio.

Read all about it here: <http://www.eriesistibleclowns.com/>

## Monthly Giggles

**Q:** How you mend a broken pumpkin?

**A:** With a pumpkin patch!

**Q:** What is a snowman's favorite breakfast?

**A:** Frosted Flakes!

**Q:** How does an Eskimo stick his house together?

**A:** With igloo!

**Q:** Why did the farmer wear one boot to town?

**A:** Because he heard there would be a 50% chance of snow!

**Q:** Where does a polar bear keep its money?

**A:** In a snow bank!

**Q:** What do you call a slow skier?

**A:** A slopepoke!

**Q:** What did the snowman say to the customer?

**A:** Have an ice day!

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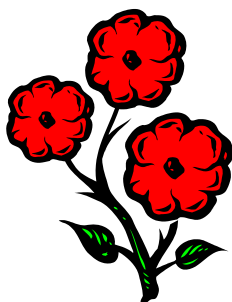
Meetings are held on the  
4th Monday each month  
(except July and August)

## Herbert Carnegie Centennial Centre

Skaters Lounge  
580 Finch Avenue West  
(West of Bathurst on North Side)

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

**Please wear your  
name tag  
at every General  
Meeting!**



## The Sunshine Report

With our deepest sympathy we send our prayers to Amram Bentolila's family for the lost his brother, Isaac Bentolila. RIP.

Shirley "Jolly" Snell, Sunshine Secretary

## THE LAST PAGE.... by Pat Davos

Every month I will be posting a picture here. TCA members can show their stuff here. Face painting picture or Balloon sculpture, a picture of you performing magic, juggling, whatever you do for entertainment. Please send your pictures to [editor@tcafamlyentertainers.com](mailto:editor@tcafamlyentertainers.com) . I will be drawing for each month's picture, so it will be a *surprise*. Please keep them coming.



Mark "Jungle Jack" Verge  
with his life size Minion.