

C: For almost twenty years you had a performing situation that was almost like going to the office every day, which gave you a lot of time to be with your kids.

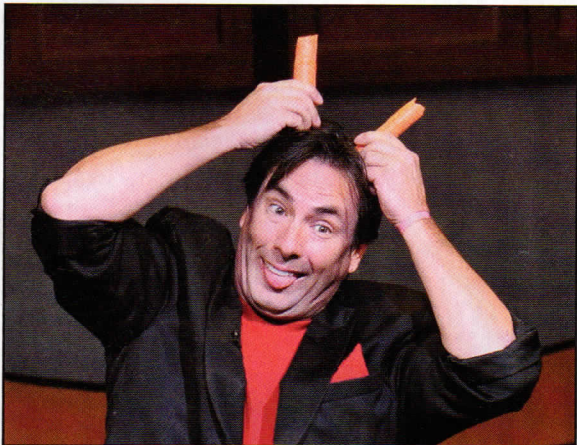
G: For the last two years of Lance's show we did five shows a week, so I would leave my house at 6:30 and I'd be home by 9:00. There's nothing better in the world than that. I stumbled head-first into the greatest gig in world. Even Lance didn't have it better than I did because he had to babysit the show and deal with the cast and the crew. Me, I just walked in, changed my clothes, did the show, and went home. And this freed me up to work on other things like the pancake book and writing for *Penn & Teller's Bullsh*t!*

C: You did eight seasons of that show?

G: Yeah, we did eight seasons and received twelve Emmy nominations for writing. But we never won because no presenter on TV is going to say, "And the winner is *Bullsh*t!*" (Laughter) There was just no way that was going to happen.

C: The closing of Lance's show a couple of years ago had to have been met with a certain amount of wistfulness.

G: People ask what the difference is and I say, "I don't work any less, I just don't get paid."



C: Lisa, Ava, and I saw you at Christmastime here in Canada when you toured with Murray Hatfield. What else is keeping you busy these days?

G: Just recently I did a TV spot that I can't talk about, but which will air soon. It involved a very familiar part of my juggling act. I've been doing festivals and magic conventions, and I've been doing a lecture on comedy writing. I did one in Finland last year and it was voted the best lecture they've had in Finland in many years. I'm going back to Finland for a month in November.

C: Because there's nothing more fun than Finland in winter?

G: Well, I survived the Canadian winter, so I guess they thought I could survive it over there.

C: The Hatfield tour was your last set of shows before you had hip replacement surgery on both hips. Was this a congenital condition, or did you beat your hips to hell with all the activities you like to do?

G: I don't think the activities did it, although the rock climbing, unicycling, kite boarding, and snowboarding may

MAC KING ON MICHAEL GOUDEAU

- Michael Goudeau likes to juggle just for fun.
- Michael Goudeau likes to play croquet.
- Michael Goudeau likes to bake cakes.
- Michael Goudeau likes to go to fancy restaurants.
- Michael Goudeau likes to go to dive restaurants.
- Michael Goudeau likes people.
- Michael Goudeau really likes to laugh.
- Michael Goudeau is a great writer.
- Michael Goudeau will try almost anything.

There is no one on earth more giving than Michael Goudeau. If I call him and say, "I'm wondering if you could help me; I need..." before I even say what it is I need help with, he answers, "Yes, of course." And he means it.

Michael Goudeau is the most good-natured fellow in the entire world, actually in the entire universe. And if there are, in fact, multiple universes, Michael is the most amicable guy in any of 'em. It's not that I've never seen him angry; I've never even seen him unhappy.

Michael Goudeau is one of the most interesting people on the planet.

Not only is Michael Goudeau one of the most interesting people on the planet, he's also one of the most interested. He is the most curious person I know. And not only is he inquisitive, he also puts the wisdom gained through his keen thirst for knowledge to good use. If I want to know something about anything in the world, I almost always start by asking Michael. As a matter of fact, they should change the name of the search engine from "Google" to "Goudeau." When I first met Michael he'd say something about an obscure topic that I was certain was fallacious. I'd think, "There's no way he knows what he's talking about now. No one has that depth of knowledge about broccoli." But then, sure enough, it'd turn out to be true.

The only thing I've ever known Michael Goudeau to be wrong about is sour cream and cilantro in guacamole. He says yes to the sour cream and no to the cilantro, but he's wrong on both accounts.

Michael Goudeau is a great father, husband, and friend. ★