



Vol 20 No. 4

December 2022 holiday Special

— RING 92 —
VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

lbmring92.com

The Magical Minutes



the Charles Howard Ring

The Editors Desk

Thank you all for your kind words and messages of support for **TMM**. I have posted 2 which came via email, elsewhere in this issues of TMM.

Continue to tell / send me your thoughts about TMM, I would love to get your feed back negative as well as the positive.

I want to echo **Dennis Chan**'s comments in thanking all those involved in making the Potluck Christmas Dinner such a great success.

Congratulations to **VMC** members **Henry Tom** and **Rob Teszka** on there wonderful achievements at **PCAM**. Congratulations also to **Gabriella Lester** on her appearance on P&T Fool Us.

Congratulations to **Shawn Farquhar** for his nomination for the **Canada's Magic** seventh annual "Readers' Choice Inspirational Canadian Magician of the Year" award!

Shawn is also a worthy recipient of a **SAM Presidential Citation** presented to him at **PCAM** from **Rod Chow** International President of **SAM**

As always thank you to **Dennis Chan**, for your reports; **John Stenning** for proofreading **TMM** and for writing reviews.

A huge thank you to **Henry Tom** for submitting his great photos for inclusion into **TMM**

I am somewhat disappointed in not receiving answers to my 9 question Quiz in Issue 3. Are the Questions too hard? Giving you a break this issue with a simple and fun holiday quiz as well as a short **VMC** Holiday Crossword (was limited to 25 Questions)

If you have something you would like to contribute to **TMM**, maybe news: article; photos; review; cartoon; joke; opinion; anecdote or even a regular column, please let me know.

I look forward to meeting you at the January 2023 meeting, and seeing many of you undergo your Initiation into Membership.

Meanwhile, have a great Holiday / Christmas and I wish you all a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2023.

Roy J Hopwood

The Dennis Chan Report

The **Vancouver Magic Circle**'s annual Christmas potluck took place on Thursday, November 17. Arriving at the hall early to set up the decorations and tables were **Graham Kita**, **Terri Kita** and **Tyler Mayfield**. **Rod Boss** supplied the sound system, set it all up and ran the equipment. Members and guests started to arrive around five thirty p.m.

There was a chat session amongst the magicians showing their favourite tricks. At seven p.m., interim president **Yoosik Oum** officially opened the meeting by greeting and welcoming the members and guests. He also mentioned that **I.B.M.** president **Billy Hsueh** and **SAM** president **Rod Chow** were also in attendance. **Yoosik** mentioned that it was good to be back live at our holiday pot luck, the first pot luck in two years, and he also mentioned that more people came than anticipated, and when they line up don't take too much food so we don't run out. We want everybody to have enough. Then it was time to eat.

Once again the buffet table was a gourmet's delight. There was the usual ham, turkey with stuffing and gravy, buns, salads, hot vegetables, mashed potatoes, lasagna, meatballs, chow mein, spring rolls, dessert and much more. **Rod Boss** cooked and carved the turkey, made the stuffing and gravy.

After dinner, there was a free prize draw. **Yoosik Oum**, **Graham Kita**, and **Alex Zander** drew the tickets. There were plenty of prizes on the prize table. The prize donors were **Graham Kita**, **Rod Boss**, **Suzanne Gustafson**, **Dennis Chan** and **Shawn Farquhar**. Thank you everyone. The bring a gift/ get a gift exchange was MC'd by **Graham Kita**. This is always a fun event.

Show time! The competition for tonight was for the **William Shelly** trophy. This trophy is awarded in recognition in stage magic. The effect must be visible for a large audience. The spirit of this competition is to encourage growth in the field of assembly, banquet, club, revue, and cruise ship style magic. The MC for this competition was past president **Alex Zander** and he read the rules.

The competitors were **Yoosik Oum**, **Roy Hopwood**, **John Stenning**, **Greg Ladret**, **Mike Vetterli** and **Bob Wilson**. The timekeeper was **Gabriella Lester**. The winner of the **William Shelly** trophy for 2022 was **Mike Vetterli** and **John Stenning** took 2nd place. Congratulations to **Mike** and to the rest of the competitors. One competitor, **Roy Hopwood**, was disqualified for going over the ten minute time limit. **Rod Boss** was the stage hand. In between the acts, **Alex Zander** made some **I.B.M.** and **SAM** announcements.

The Helping Hands for the evening were **Terri Kita**, **Suzanne Gustafson** and **Lori Farquhar**, kitchen duties, **Tyler Mayfield** prize draw Christmas wrapping and **Chelsea Kita**, clean up. They are non members who help behind the scenes to make the evening successful. Thank you everyone.

Photography was done by **Graham Kita**, **Terri Kita** and **Henry Tom**. Many thanks to **Graham Kita** and **Terri Kita** for spending a lot of their time picking up the supplies such as soft drinks, bottled water, buns, butter, coffee, sugar, cream, plates, napkins and much more.

Many thanks to **Rod Boss**, **Yoosik Oum**, **Graham** and **Terri Kita** for co-ordinating this happy and fun filled event. The **Vancouver Magic Circle** and its executive thank each and everyone for attending this year's pot luck and fun filled event. Without you, this event would not have been such a success. Many thanks to all who contributed to the pot luck, and many thanks to all who helped with the clean up. The **Vancouver Magic Circle** is hoping to see you all again in 2023.

There were 32 members and 13 guests in attendance.



Shawn Farquhar being presented with a Presidential Citation from Rod Chow
International President of SAM.

A PICTURE TELLS A THOUSAND WORDS

Pot Luck Christmas Dinner



PCAM



Photos courtesy of Henry Tom

I Recall...

By Roy Hopwood

To Research or Not

(First published in Magic Makers — April 2021)

How many Magicians does it take to change a light globe?

Four, one to change the light globe and three to validate the moves.

Do you research your magic?

Generally, I will try and research my work, however, If I am feeling lazy, I won't bother too much, unless I am asked, then I will do the research.

When I first started in Magic, research meant going to the local library, and borrowing every book (several Times) on magic they had on the shelves. Later as I started building up my own library, it became an added source of research. Nowadays besides your own library or State Libraries which are a great research tools, we also have the internet and Mr. Google that provide other means of research. We must be cautious though as **Abraham Lincoln** said not to believe everything we see and read on the internet.

I do not consider YouTube a serious or valid research tool. It seems to me that even though YouTube is a good resource many YouTubers have no Idea of the history or even correct name of the 'tricks' in their videos.

In a recent Zoom lecture, **Max Maven** spoke about the value of 'proper' research, and that one search can raise more questions and require more research that can...

I have even cross-referenced tricks in books that I own. The results of research can be both rewarding and frustrating at the same time, particularly if you come to an apparent 'brick wall'. Being blessed with a fairly good memory I can recall and remember many facts including 'useless trivia'.

I recall a very well-known person in the magic world, when questioned (by me) about a couple of items in his lecture, he claimed to be his own work, tried to brush it off as though it didn't matter about the genesis of the routines. When I was able to quote at least one source, including book title and page number he didn't want to know.

It annoys me when, particularly during a lecture, credit is not given, when known, or if unknown that this fact is not acknowledged.

Too me giving due credit and giving a brief history of the genesis of the routine; trick; move; idea etc. and if the information is unknown, this fact is also acknowledged then, this kind of action, in my eyes, enhances the status of the performer and their credibility.

I don't expect the lecturer to know absolutely everything about the routine; trick; move; idea etc. or to give a detailed explanation of every step in its development. I do expect, however, for them to be honest and NOT give the impression that this is completely their own work.

It seems though that in these days of 'instant gratification' when we don't even have to leave our couch to go shopping, and proper research that can be validated is so much easier than 10, 15 or 20 years ago, that reading the venders blurb on our latest blockbuster is as far as many people go in the name of research.

I find that the more I learn, the more I realise that there is to learn. The more you know the more you'll understand and develop in the art of magic.

To quote many that have gone before me:

"We stand on the shoulders of giants"^[1]

If you are one of those that 'do the research' good on you, if on the other hand, you tend not to, give it a go and start by researching just one thing and go where ever it takes you. I assure you; you will be well rewarded.


Start researching.

[1] In a letter to Robert Hooke in 1675, **Isaac Newton** made his most famous statement:

"If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants".

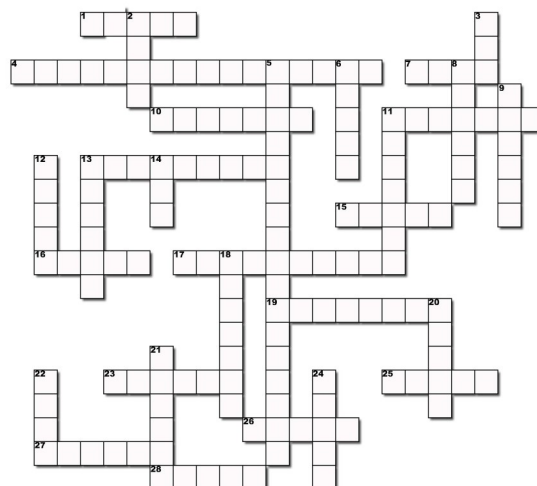
This statement is now often used to symbolize scientific progress.

Last Issues quiz—Answers

<p>Who is this Magician?</p> <p><u>John Neville Maskelyne</u></p>	
<p>Who wrote the 3 book set:</p> <p><u>Paul Harris</u></p>	<p>'The Art of Astonishment'</p>
<p>By what names are these 5 magicians better known as?</p> <p><u>Ali Bongo</u> <u>The Amazing Johnathon</u> <u>Criss Angel</u> <u>Carl Ballantine</u> <u>Banachek</u></p>	<p>William Oliver Wallace John Edward Szeles Christopher Sarantakos Meyer Kessler Steven Shaw</p>
<p>Who Said this?</p> <p><u>Teller</u></p>	<p>"Generally, magicians don't know what to say, so they say stupid and redundant crap like, 'Here I am holding a red ball.' "</p>
<p>Who is credited with inventing the trick</p> <p><u>Max Maven / Phil Goldstein</u></p>	<p>B'Wave</p>

VMC Holiday Crossword fun

VMC holiday fun crossword



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

1. Young up and coming
4. The year we were Founded
7. Kept us together during Covid
10. Best Spread 2019
11. Keeps the web up and running
13. Rising Star
15. IBM
16. He keeps it hidden in plain sight
17. He is a member but you are more likely to see
19. There is an award named after him
23. VMC Cardman
25. Card tosser
26. Shutter Bug
27. ... and Bill
28. Winner of the William Shelly Trophy

Down

2. Past international President
3. You'll find him in the parlour
5. Name of this newsletter
6. He lives in Toronto
8. Keeps tabs on everything
9. Mentalism
11. Founder Of
12. Reviewer with TMM
13. A director
14. Counts the Money
18. Secretary
20. He is Actually a Dr.
21. Lives in Hawaii
22. SAM
24. Lives in Japan

A fun Christmas / Holiday quiz

1. In which city was located the tallest Christmas tree ever displayed?
2. In Friends, who dressed as the holiday armadillo?
3. How many days does Hanukkah last?
4. What do Spanish people eat 12 of on New Year's Eve?
5. What was the first song ever played in space?
6. Which English politician banned Christmas during the 17th century?
7. On the roof of which building the time ball that drops on NYE in Times Square?
8. Which soft drink brand released the first illustration of Santa as we now know it?
9. In which Australian city is the Boxing Day Cricket Test Match held?
10. When is Christmas Jumper day?

NOW AVAILABLE - LIMITED EDITION

Only two thousand decks of these professional playing cards were produced for the 100th Anniversary of the I.B.M. Just a little more than half the decks remain following the convention and we are now releasing that remaining stock to you, our members around the world!

These cards are printed on the finest card stock by the 808 Magic Card Company with a special finish and traditional cut that makes faro and fanning so easy. The design of the cards was created by Shawn Farquhar and contain a few hidden wonders.

- Blank face card •Double back card •Two identical Jokers
- Queen of Clubs winking •Queen of Spades holding a Three of Spades
- One way design on the face •Prediction on the bottom of the card case

The decks court cards are uniquely coloured with shades of blue and gold while the Aces all have the I.B.M. Logo in the background. These exquisite cards are perfect for use in performance and will also be a collector's item due the limited printing and significance to our 100th Anniversary celebrations.

www.Magician.org/about/ibm-regalia



* Maximum of 12 decks per order.

In The News

Congratulations Gabriella Lester

OK, **Gabriella**, you didn't Fool P&T but hey, you sure put on a super act. Very well done you did the VMC proud.

If you haven't seen her performance yet or would like to see it again, click on the link below:

[Gabriella Lester on P&T](#)

Hidden Wonders / Shawn Farquhar award nominations

If you haven't already seen it, have a look at [Canada's Magic](#). While you are there check out their social media pages: [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

Voting is open until December 23, 2022 for the seventh annual 2022 "Readers' Choice Inspirational Canadian Magician of the Year" award!

VMC Member and stalwart **Shawn Farquhar** is one of the nominees, so why not head over to '[Vote now for the 2022 Readers' Choice Award](#)' and cast your vote.

As mentioned in the last issue we wish **Hidden Wonders** the very best of luck as one of 3 nominees for the Platinum Award for Tourism from the [New Westminster Chamber of Commerce](#) which Recognizes a tourism based business that has demonstrated a commitment to excellence in its field.

At this stage we don't know how the voting works, or when the winner will be announced.



The secrets of CUPS and BALLS Vol 1 World's Greatest Magic L&L Publishing



Many of you are familiar with this series of DVD's (and now downloads) which cover just about all aspects of and types of routines. This particular one, of course, is about the cups and balls and features performances and explanations by seven magicians, some of which left us long ago. The magicians on this DVD are:

Tommy Wonder
Frank Garcia
Dan Fleshman
Aldo Colombini
Dai Vernon
Alex Elmsley and Ross Bertram.

I myself have not seriously started on my own personal journey with the cups and balls, however, I not only learnt some great techniques, I thoroughly enjoyed watching some fantastic routines including the one by Alex Elmsley where he...well, I won't spoil it, let's just say it was very clever and I've never seen a cups and balls routine like it.

There is footage of a very young Michael Ammar sitting with Dai Vernon discussing his routine, this alone is pure gold and goes on for quite awhile.

As I said, some of these magicians are gone and we will never get a chance to meet them or have them lecture for us ever again, this DVD gives us a chance to see them at their best. Also keep in mind you can just watch the performance if you feel like watching some great magic and of course, the explanations are there when you want/need them.

Better than a movie you've seen three times or some of the shows on t.v. these days in my opinion. Why not check it out?

If you do watch this, let me know what you think.

J.Stenning A.K.A. Melrick the Magician Dec 12 2022



VMC Library

The Vancouver Magic Circle Library Catalogue is online!



Remember: if you want a new trick, look in an old book! Our hope is that whenever our members see a trick they really want, or are trying to learn a difficult piece of theory, or are interested in buying a book— they will first check the library. This is one way we can improve our magic, and this [searchable online catalogue](#) is the first step towards taking full advantage of this incredible resource.

Congratulations to all PCAM Competition competitors, and in particular:



Henry Tom

Gold Medal

Platform



Rob Teszka

Silver Medal

Platform



Henry Tom

**Tony Eng Memorial
Peoples Choice Award**



Kelvin Ng

Silver Medal

Close up

Pics from the Shows

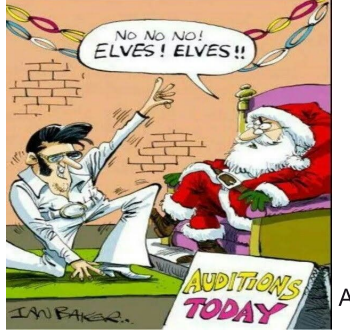
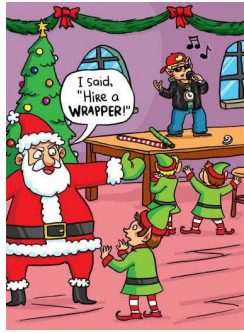
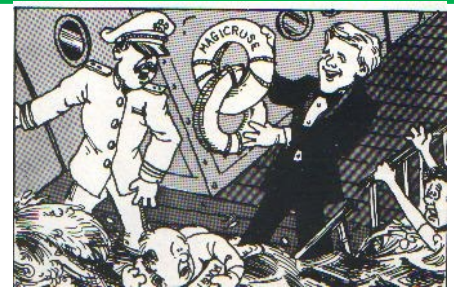
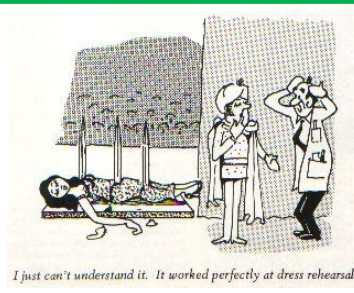
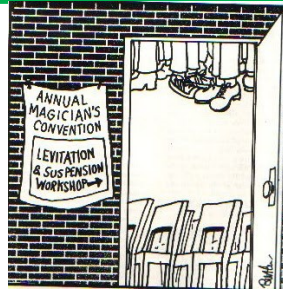


Photos courtesy of The Parlour Magic Show



Photos courtesy of Hidden Wonders

Just 4 Fun



A magician's rabbit, sick of show business, left the show at a department store and went up to the managers office where there was a sign as follows: - CLERK WANTED - must be friendly, able to type 40wpm and be bi-lingual. The rabbit takes the sign and puts it on the manager's desk. The manager says, "Look mate, you seem pretty friendly but I can't give you the job because you're a rabbit." The rabbit jumps up onto the filing cabinet and points to the anti-discrimination policy. The manager says, "Ok, but I still can't give you the job because you have to be able to type." The rabbit goes over to a desk and types a letter like a pro. The manager says, "That's quite impressive, but I still can't give you the job as you have to be bi-lingual." The rabbit looks up at him and says "Moo".

Q) How many magicians does it take to change a light bulb?

A) Change it into what?

Q) Okay, how many magicians does it take to replace a light bulb?

A) Fifteen. One to replace it, six to say, "You flashed!" and eight to say, "Let me show you my version of that."



...Help needed...

Call for Contributions

...Please help ...

This is the fourth issue of the revived 'The Magical Minutes', I hope it has and continuous to meet with your approval. I would, however, welcome contributions from the membership. So if you have any articles; ideas; anecdotes; show / book / video reviews; photographs; cartoons; jokes; or anything else that you feel would be suitable for 'The Magical Minutes' please submit them to:

Roy Hopwood via hopwood.vmc@gmail.com or 1 604 219 0897.

Diary Dates*

Vancouver Magic Circle

lbmring92.com

Generally meets on the fourth Thursday of the Month—January; February; March; April; May; June ; September; October: November; Plus August—Picnic on date tba.

VMC Executive Meeting:

TBA

January 2023 Meeting:

January 26, 2023 - venue - hall

- * AGM
- * Past Presidents Night
- * Election of Officers
- * One trick Night
- * Initiation of new members

Shows

Hidden Wonders

<https://hiddenwonders.ca>

Shows are generally on Thursday/7 PM, Fri & Sat 7 & 9:30 and

Sunday 3 & 7

TBA—check web site for dates and times

The Parlour Magic Show

[The Parlour Magic Show](#)

Monthly on the third Wednesday (See advert below)

TBA—check web site for dates and times

Other Clubs (as a Courtesy)

Society of American

Magicians #95

[SAM#95](#)

Meetings of the SAM #95 are held the **first Tuesday of the month** at members homes.

TBA—check web site for dates and times

Fraser Valley Magic Circle

[FVMC](#)

Regular monthly meetings take place on the second Friday of most months, at a private home in Mission, BC.

TBA—check web site for dates and times

Answers — A fun Christmas / Holiday quiz

1. In which city was located the tallest Christmas tree ever displayed? **Seattle, USA**
2. In Friends, who dressed as the holiday armadillo? **Ross**
3. How many days does Hanukkah last? **8**
4. What do Spanish people eat 12 of on New Year's Eve? **Grapes**
5. What was the first song ever played in space? **Jingle Bells**
6. Which English politician banned Christmas during the 17th century? **Oliver Cromwell**
7. On the roof of which building the time ball that drops on NYE in Times Square? **One Times Square**
8. Which soft drink brand released the first illustration of Santa as we now know it? **Coca Cola**
9. In which Australian city is the Boxing Day Cricket Test Match held? **Melbourne**
10. When is Christmas Jumper day? **8th of December**

~~~ Testimonials ~~~

Roy!

These MMs are fantastic!

Best I have ever seen.

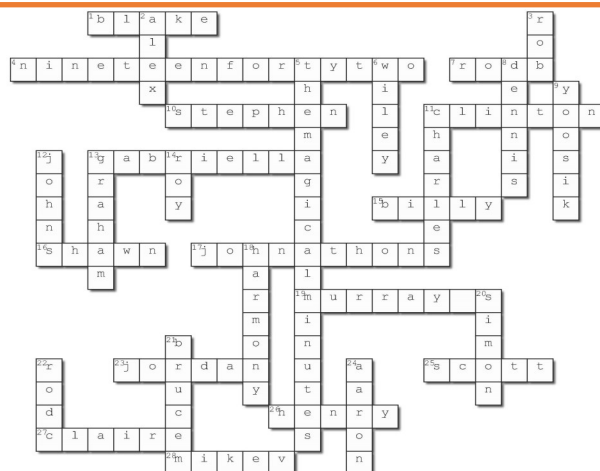
Keep up the good work.

Eagerly awaiting the next issue and hoping to see everyone in person soon.

Wiley Allen

Thanks Roy. Very enjoyable read. I appreciate all your hard work.

Amanda O'Leary



Across

1. Young up and coming (**blake**)
4. The year we were Founded (**nineteenfortytwo**)
7. Kept us together during Covid (**rodb**)
10. Best Spread 2019 (**stephen**)
11. Keeps the web up and running (**clinton**)
13. Rising Star (**gabriella**)
15. IBM (**billy**)
16. He keeps it hidden in plain sight (**shawn**)
17. He is a member but you are more likely to see (**johnathons**)
19. There is an award named after him (**murray s**)
23. VMC Cardman (**jordan**)
25. Card tosser (**scott**)
26. Shutter Bug (**henry**)
27. ... and Bill (**claire**)
28. Winner of the William Shelly Trophy (**mikev**)

Down

2. Past International President (**alex**)
3. You'll find him in the parlour (**rob**)
5. Name of this newsletter (**themagicalminutes**)
6. He lives in Toronto (**wiley**)
8. Keeps tabs on everything (**dennis**)
9. Mentalism (**yooosik**)
11. Founder Of (**charles**)
12. Reviewer with TMM (**johns**)
13. A director (**graham**)
14. Counts the Money (**roy**)
18. Secretary (**harmony**)
20. He is Actually a Dr. (**simon**)
21. Lives in Hawaii (**brucem**)
22. SAM (**rodc**)
24. Lives in Japan (**aaron**)

* Do NOT rely upon this newsletter for critical dates and times of meetings; events or shows. Always check the official source of the information.

A Blast from the Past

Below is part of page 3 from the November-December 2012, Vol 10 No. 10 issue of The Magical Minutes

Mac King's Magic Minute

PREDICT-O-PILES

FOR THIS TRICK, YOU'LL NEED A PEN, A PAD OF THOSE STICKY NOTES AND 2 PILES OF CARDS.

ON THE FRONT OF A STICKY NOTE, WRITE, "YOU WILL PICK THE 6 PILE." MAKE SURE YOUR FRIEND CAN'T SEE WHAT YOU'VE WRITTEN.

IMMEDIATELY STICK THE NOTE TO YOUR FRIEND'S FOREHEAD. EXPLAIN THAT HE MUSTN'T LOOK AT IT UNTIL YOU TELL HIM TO.

TELL YOUR SILLY-LOOKING, STICKER-HEADED FRIEND TO CHOOSE ONE OF THE PILES OF CARDS IN FRONT OF HIM.

TURN THE PILE HE DIDN'T CHOOSE OVER TO REVEAL A JUMBLED MESS OF RANDOM CARDS.

INSTRUCT YOUR FRIEND TO LOOK AT THE NOTE HE IS FOOLISHLY WEARING ON HIS BROW.

THE PILE HE CHOSE CONTAINS ALL 4 SIXES! WOW! HOW INCREDIBLE IS THAT? SOMEHOW YOU KNEW WHICH PILE HE WOULD CHOOSE BEFORE HE DID YOU ARE ONE INCREDIBLY MAGICAL MAGICIAN!

GASP!

Howdy Doity?

THIS TRICK WORKS BECAUSE YOUR PREDICTION IS RIGHT, NO MATTER WHICH PILE YOUR FRIEND CHOOSES. ONE PILE HAS 4 SIXES AND ONE PILE HAS 6 CARDS. SO, IF YOUR FRIEND HAD CHOSEN THE OTHER PILE, YOU WOULDN'T REVEAL WHAT THE CARDS WERE. INSTEAD, YOU WOULD SPREAD OUT THE CARDS FACEUP TO SHOW THAT HE CHOSE THE PILE WITH 6 CARDS RATHER THAN 4. YOUR PREDICTION WOULD STILL BE CORRECT!

PILE 1

PILE 2

Mac & Bill King

Magic...the universal language: Magic may have universal appeal, but unless you have a silent act you will need some basic vocabulary. With this handy guide, you can identify yourself as the 'Life of the Party' wherever you may travel.

1. Afrikaans - Kulkunstenaar
2. Albanian - Magjistar
3. Arabic - Saher
4. Armenian - Gakhart
5. Basque - Aztia
6. Batok - Manicot
7. Bengali - Jadukar
8. Bulgarian - Fokusnik
9. Burmese - Milleseya
10. Bylorussian - Charadzey
11. Catalan - Mag
12. Croatian - MadjioniCar
13. Czech - Kouzelník
14. Danish - Tryllekunstner
15. Djula - Jinamory
16. Dutch - Goochelaar
17. English - Magician
18. Esperanto - Iluziisto
19. Estonian - Võlur
20. Farsi - Jadoogar
21. Finnish - Taikurin
22. Flemish - Tovenaar
23. French - Magicien
24. Gaelic - Draoi
25. Gallego - Bruxo
26. German - Zauberer
27. Greek - Magos
28. Gujarati - Jadoogar
29. Hawaiian - Ho'okalakupua
30. Hebrew - Kosem
31. Hindi - Jadoogar
32. 33. Hungarian - Bűvész

(source: magic.lifetips.com)



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

