



Vol 20 No. 2

November 2022

— RING 92 —

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

[ibmring92.com](http://ibmring92.com)

the Charles Howard Ring



## The Editors Desk

Well, we got through the October issue with only one scar, and that was an error of dates by the Editor.

Thank you for the messages of approval, the support from the shows around town, the submission of photos and also participation in the 'trivia quiz'. I have listed the names of the October issues top 5 quizzers.

I must give a shout out to **Dennis Chan** for his monthly reports, always a great read and informative and factual. The only issue is, that at the moment, his reports and 'The Magical Minutes' are of sync. Be patient while we get them in sync, it may take a little while, but we will get there.

This newsletter will keep the name of 'The Magical Minutes' however, we may change the actual masthead to one of the original ones.

Although I have material for several issues into the future, without contributions, I would eventually run out of stories, also it would become a tad boring. So get your thinking caps on, and consider writing a column, or just submit a story you may have, maybe write a review of a show; book; video; a trick. What about some magic jokes (but keep them 'clean') the same goes for magic cartoons.

Photos of functions are always welcome, even if we have to hold some over, due to space, although in this format it is not a big issue, we can just tack a new page on.

Continue to send me your comments; critique and questions and together we will have a newsletter that the editors / members past and the editors / members of the future, would be proud of. At the same time we will be preserving the history of the VMC, and that is imperative that we do.

Oh yes, do have a go at my Quiz, and send me your answers.

Roy J Hopwood

## Correction

**In the last issue the date of the October meeting was incorrectly listed as Thursday October 20, 2022.**

**The date should have read Thursday October 27, 2022.**

**The editor apologizes for any confusion or inconvenience.**

## The Dennis Chan Report

The Vancouver Magic Circle's meeting took place on Thursday, September 22 at the meeting hall. It has been a busy magical summer for a lot of Vancouver Magic Circle members. Some went to the I.B.M. Atlanta Convention, some went to the FISM Convention and some went to both conventions. Congratulations to Billy Hsueh on becoming the International President of the I.B.M. for the 2022-2023 magic year. Also congratulations to Rod Chow on becoming the President of the S.A.M. for the 2022-2023 magic year.

September is normally auction time for the club. Instead of having the auction at the hall, it was decided to hold the auction on line. Many thanks to Rod Boss for arranging the on line auction. The auction had plenty of items to suit every magician's taste. At the meeting, Rod Boss recapped the results of the auction. Everyone there exchanged items that were both bought and sold. He mentioned that it was a huge success. He also thanked those who donated items for the auction and he also thanked those who purchased items to support the club. Yoosik Oum officially opened the meeting by greeting the members and guests. He also mentioned that it was great to see everyone again in person after two years of not being able to meet in person.

Yoosik told the members that there will be some magic performances by him, Rod Boss, and Simon Cassegrain, followed by anyone who wanted to perform. He also reminded the members about the October meeting. Magic time! Rod Boss performed a card trick using flash paper by using Christine Penn as his assistant. She just joined the club. He also performed another card trick by using Blake Aleong as his assistant. Simon Cassegrain did card effects with Cameron Minty. Simon had everyone fooled with his great misdirection. Yoosik Oum performed some card effects. Other magical performers were Jens Henriksen, Scott Barker, Blake Aleong, Roy Hopwood and two other junior members. Blake is one of the club's newest junior members.

The highlight of the evening was when Graham Kita brought a giant chocolate birthday cake to celebrate my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and the Vancouver Magic Circle's Birthday. This was unexpected and I was certainly surprised. OOPS! there goes my blood sugar. He also gave me a package of chocolate chip cookies for diabetics. The members sang Happy Birthday and wished me a Happy Birthday. Thank you everyone. Although there was nothing planned for this meeting, it was an "ad lib" meeting. Where members had a chat session and showing each other their card sleights and effects. Three members signed up as well as two juniors and a second time visitor also expressed an interest in membership. Besides the usual coffee, Dennis Chan brought cookies, Cameron Minty brought a blueberry coconut cream pie. Graham Kita supplied bottled the water. Thanks to Yoosik Oum for sending out reminders for the September meeting. Thanks to Rod Boss for giving me a ride to and from the meeting as I now have some mobility issues. It was a fun and enjoyable evening of magic. There were 23 members and 5 guests in attendance.

*"In the museum of Havana there are two skulls of Christopher Columbus; one when he was a baby and one when he was an old man."*

- Mark Twain



# A picture tells a thousand words



Photos courtesy of Simon Cassegrain; Henry Tom; Roy Hopwood and others



# *I Recall...*

By Roy Hopwood

**The Times They are A Changin'**

First published in Magic Makers — November 2020)

I lived in 5 different places; attended 7 different schools as well as working for more than 2 years by the time I was 17.

Even so, in those days' life was a lot simpler, and, although I didn't like or feel comfortable with change, I would later recognise that change is always occurring ... in fact it is the only constant in life.

In November 1963 everything changed for my family when we moved halfway around the world, from urban life in **Manchester, UK** to the slow-paced country life on **King Island in Tasmania, Australia**. It was a complete culture shock.

I recall the 1964 song by **Bob Dylan** – '***The Times They Are A Changin'***'. That song had a deep impact on me.

In 1964 it was grainy black and white TV with only the occasional magician or magic show.

The main way to learn magic was to buy books from a magic shop or borrow (very limited selection) from a library.

The earliest TV magic show that I recall is **The David Nixon Magic Show** (1972 – 1977). The early episodes in B&W and later in Colour ... that was a major change.

Later came **Doug Henning** with his TV Specials. With a refreshingly different approach to his magic, he changed the perception of what a magician is. He made magic cool for young people to say they like magic.

1979 saw another change when I moved to **Adelaide in South Australia**, to get married.

The next major magic show that I recall is **The Paul Daniels Magic Show** (1979 – 1994). Again, he had his own quirky style and his famous catch phrase '***You'll like this, not a lot, but you'll like it'***'.

By now computers are beginning to be used by the general public, and the earliest magician computer user groups came into existence, this is way before **Facebook** and other '**social media**' sites. This was the world of very early internet and was DOS based [electronic bulletin board system \(BBS\)](#)

**Facebook** didn't come along until 2004 – I joined in 2007, it has changed considerably since those early days.

The first 'smartphone' was created by **IBM** (the 'other' IBM) in 1992 and released in 1994 and was called '**Simon Personal Communicator**' (SPC). It wasn't until the year 2000 that a [smartphone was connected with an actual 3G network](#). 2007 was the year **Steve Jobs** and the team at **Macworld** revealed the very first **iPhone**. **Android** phones soon followed.

Continued on page 4

# 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.

### Did You Know?

#### Who Owns a Joke?

Part One—you *cannot copyright jokes*. That's right. Ask the Library of Congress. Jokes are too short for copyright. And Trademarks are a little on the expensive side!

Part Two—*people in different places can think up the same joke or gag line*. It honestly can happen and really **DOES** happen.

Source: Ginn, D. (1998). *Laughter Legacy* (First Edition: February 1, 1998 ed.), A Scarlett Green Publication. Page 22.

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The Angel Group developed and deployed the world's first pre-shuffled playing cards in 1999. Subsequently, they have enhanced to the "No One Knows" pre-shuffled cards, in which no one knows the order of cards. This product became a ground-breaking innovation for casino security.

Source: <https://www.angelplayingcards.com/en/products/#gaming>

### Continued from page 3

It wasn't long before the first smartphone magic '**App**' appeared,

**Facebook** groups came into being and with the advent of **YouTube** and other social media sites such as: **Instagram**; **Tumblr**; **MeWe**; **Gab**; **WeChat**; **Vimeo** et al, magic clips; tutorials; exposés now flood our screens. Some say this is a boon for magic and magicians and others feel it lessens the art. Whatever your thoughts these changes are here to stay, and there will be more, as yet unknown changes.

After 30 years in **Adelaide**, with only living in 5 different places and about 6 jobs, in 2009 it was time to move again, this time to **Hobart** in **Tasmania**, this time only 2 living places and several casual jobs (I was supposed to be retired).

In April 2019 my life underwent another major change when my wife and I moved to **Vancouver** in **Canada** to live. So far only lived in 2 places and had a couple of casual jobs.

Magic in the world was going along at its own rate of continual imperceptible change, and then along comes 2020 and **WHAM!!!!** ... **COVID-19**. Magic and all strands of life are stopped in their track. '**Social Isolation**' and '**Social Distancing**' are the new buzz words.

However, it is not long before magicians are having '**virtual meetings**' via '**Zoom**' a program unheard of by most people just 6 months ago. Ever creative magicians are now presenting '**Virtual Shows**' via **Zoom** and have adapted and or created effects especially for this new medium.

**Bob Dylan** sang '**The Times They Are A Changin**' in 1964, and the song is still as relevant today as it was then, as the times are still a changin' and will continue to change no matter what we do or think or ... just accept it and stay calm and perform magic.



# Photos From the Shows





## Jest 4 Fun

Harry and Gene were 2 old magicians that made a pact that whoever died first would try to come back to tell the other if they do magic in Heaven. One evening Harry passes on. A few nights later Gene hears Harry's voice in his room. "Harry is that you?" he asked. "Of course it's me" Harry replies. "So tell me, do they do magic in Heaven?" Harry says, "Well, I have some good news and some bad news. The good news is that they perform magic in Heaven. The bad news is you're on the bill for tomorrow nights show."

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Instead of paying out large amounts of money on press, radio and television advertisements, why don't clairvoyants just send direct mail to the people that are going to call them?

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I went to a magic book store the other day and asked the Manager where the self help section was. She said "If I told you that, it would defeat the whole purpose".



...Help needed... **call for Contributions** ...Please help ...

This is the second issue of the revived 'The Magical Minutes', I hope it has met 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](mailto:hopwood.vmc@gmail.com) or 1 604 219 0897.

## Last Issues quiz—Answers

Who is this Magician?

Paul Rosini



Which of these Playing Cards is the odd one out?

The 9 of Spades—it is the only 'hook' card in the selection.

The hook cards are:

The 2's; 3's; 5's; 6's; 9's and jacks

By what name are these 5 magicians better known as?

Robert Harbin

Slydini

Charles Bertram

Professor Hoffmann

Jean Hugard

Ned Williams

Quintino Marucci

James Bassett

Angelo Lewis

John Gerard Rodney  
Boyce

"I Think that the theory Of handling a deck sloppily (or as a lay-man would) while doing miracles—is passe. Most people are sophisticated enough to know that you are doing sleight of hand. They expect you to handle a deck better than their friends do!

Who Said this?

Harry Lorayne

Who is credited with inventing the trick

John Bannon

'Twisted Sisters'?

## This Issues Quiz—Questions

Who is this Magician?



... 6D;AC;JC;8H;5S; 2D; ? ...

What is the next card in this Sequence?

By what name are these 5 magicians better known as?

Juan Pablo  
Albert Gustafson  
Helmut Schreiber  
William Ellsworth Robinson  
Leib Morgenstern

"To succeed as a conjuror, three things are essential—first, dexterity; second, dexterity; and third, dexterity."

Who Said this?

Who is credited with inventing the trick

The Vanishing Birdcage

### Congratulations to the last issues top 5 quizzers

- 1 Rod Boss
- 1 Simon Cassegrain
- 3 John Stenning
- 4 Yoosik Oum
- 5

### Correct / Incorrect Analysis

|    |             |                |
|----|-------------|----------------|
| Q1 | 0% Correct  | 100% Incorrect |
| Q2 | 0% correct  | 100% Incorrect |
| Q3 | 75% Correct | 25% Incorrect  |
| Q4 | 50% Correct | 50% Incorrect  |
| Q5 | 75% Correct | 25% Incorrect  |
| Q6 | 75% Correct | 25% Incorrect  |
| Q7 | 50% Correct | 50% Incorrect  |
| Q8 | 0% Correct  | 100% Incorrect |
| Q9 | 75% Correct | 25% Incorrect  |

Why not let me know how you get on via email

[hopwood.vmc@gmail.com](mailto:hopwood.vmc@gmail.com)

or phone 1 604 219 0897 and I'll list the top 5 in the next issue

Answers in the next issue.

## Diary Dates\*

### Vancouver Magic Circle

[lbmring92.com](http://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

**November 17, 2022 venue — Hall**

#### November 2022 Meeting:

- ◆ Stage Competition — Register for Competition by November 16, 2022 by using the online link — which will be posted
- ◆ Christmas Potluck party—a link will be sent a link where members can say what they are bringing.

## 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

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.

November 1 – Lon Mandrake

December 6 – Dave Watters

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

## Other gigs and events

### Your Name could be here

If you have an upcoming gig; event; function; or you know of other gigs; events or functions, you believe could be of interest to our members please let us know so it / they can be publicised here.

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



## A Blast from the Past

Below is the front page of the February 2003 issue of The Magical Minutes

**THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE**  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

**THE MAGICAL MINUTES**



**AFFILIATED WITH THE PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS - FEBURARY 2003**

### Installation Banquet & Circle Photo - Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup>

On Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup> *IBM Ring 92* - the Vancouver Magic Circle will be hosting their annual Installation Banquet. The evening will also feature the yearly circle photo and competition for the Ray Gamble Trophy for best card effect with a previously un-opened deck.

Doors open at 6:00 pm for socializing, followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30. Immediately following the dinner, recognition of service certificates and the David Culos Memorial Trophy for the Golden Rabbit award will be presented followed by the initiation ceremony for our new 2003 executive. At approximately 8:00 pm, the official 2003 circle photo will be taken in Board Room. After the photo shoot, Jose Almenares, last years winner will host this years running of the Ray Gamble Trophy competition. If your are interested in competing please contact the new trophy chairman Glen LaBarre at 604-468-6265.

This year's buffet dinner is priced at \$28.00 (includes free parking) per person. If you and any guests are planning to attend the dinner portion of the evening please confirm your attendance with David Wilson at 604-467-7887. If you would like to be part of the festivities but not the dinner you are welcome to arrive after the dinner (approximately 7:30 pm)

### *Shawn Farquhar wows the crowd at Januarys Workshop*



Members look on as **Master Magician and Lecturer Shawn Farquhar** shares his wealth of information in dealing with booking agents.



A masterful workshop lecture by VMC's own **SHAWN FARQUHAR** entitled Booking Yourself and dealing with Agents. With the assistance of an overhead power point presentation, Shawn drew from his personal experiences and provided members with a very intense and informative workshop. Shawn shared his insight from booking birthday shows to corporate events. A very proactive lecture enjoyed by all-hobby, semi professional and professional members of the club.

Thank you Shawn.

**REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE ARE HELD  
AT SUNRISE COMMUNITY HALL 1950 WINDERMERE STREET IN VANCOUVER**