



Vol 21 No. 10

December 2023

— RING 92 —

# VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

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

The Magical Minutes

the Charles Howard Ring



## The Dennis Chan Report

For the past several years the **Vancouver Magic Circle** has been holding their annual Christmas get-together and potluck dinner at the meeting hall.

Because of the amount of work and time in organizing this festive event such as decorating the hall, setting up the tables and chairs, kitchen duties, staging, sound system, and the cleaning up after the event. It was decided to have the Christmas party at a different venue. The club thanks **Graham Kita**, our "all-purpose guy", **Terri Kita** and others for dedicating their time and effort in organizing the past potluck dinners such as picking up supplies, organizing the menu, and the prize programmes.

This year's Christmas dinner took place on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, at **Stefano's** restaurant in New Westminster, the same venue as the one we had for the installation banquet in February. The restaurant was decorated with Christmas lights and ornaments.

Arriving early at the restaurant to set up the stage was **Shawn Farquhar** who also provided and set up the backdrops. He also took them down after the event. **Shawn** was also the stage manager. **Alex Zander** provided the lights and microphone. **Shawn** also organized the reservation with Stefano's restaurant.

The doors opened at 6:30 p.m. as members and guests started to arrive.

After everyone was seated, the MC for the evening **Rod Boss** welcomed the members and guests and wished them a Merry Christmas and to enjoy the evening.

While the wait staff were taking orders, walk-around magic was performed by **James Nguyen, Rod Boss, Rod Chow, Ken Cowie, Graham Kita, Jordan Vo** and **Charles Gauthier**.

After dinner, it was showtime. There were two competitions this evening. The first one was for the **Percy Poole** trophy, which is a competition for junior members. This trophy is awarded in recognition of excellence in stage magic by a junior member. No effect or routine designed to be performed close-up will be permitted. The second competition was for the **William Shelly** trophy, which is an adult competition. This trophy is awarded in recognition of excellence in stage magic. Close-up effects are not permitted. Last year's winner, **Mike Vetterli** was the host and MC for the two competitions, and he also read the rules for both of the competitions.

The competitors for the **Percy Poole** trophy were **Blake Aleong** and **Jack Schwartz**. **Jack Schwartz** was the winner of the **Percy Poole** trophy for 2023. The competitors for the **William Shelly** trophy were **Scott Barker, Yoosik Oum, Graham Kita, Billy Hsueh, and Jordan Vo**. **Billy Hsueh** was the winner of the **William Shelly** trophy for 2023. Congratulations to the winners and the competitors. In between the acts, **Mike** told bad dad jokes relating to magic and magicians. He also told everyone about **William Shelly** who donated the trophy.

To end the competition, he did a Temple screen production. Well done, **Mike**.

After the competition's, there was a draw for the door prizes. **Rod Boss** drew the tickets. Prize donors were **Rod Boss, Ken Cowie, Graham Kita, Dennis Chan, Lon Mandrake, Shawn Farquhar, and Henry Tom**. Many thanks to all the others who also donated door prizes. The bring-a-gift-get-a-gift exchange is always a fun and popular event. **Graham Kita** drew the names for this event. The photographers for the evening were **Henry Tom, Kim Fabbro, Graham Kita** and **Rod Boss**.

**Kim Fabbro** sold 50/50 tickets. **Henry Tom** sold door prize tickets. To end the

evening's activities, **Rod Boss** hosted a trivia game by asking some of the members what their first magic trick was and who influenced them in magic. Everyone enjoyed taking part in this fun game. The **Vancouver Magic Circle** thanked **Stefano's** staff for their excellent food and service.

The **Vancouver Magic Circle**, their executive and directors thank each and everyone for attending this year's Christmas gathering and fun-filled event. Without you, this event would not have been such a success. The **Vancouver Magic Circle** is hoping to see you all again in 2024. There were 30 members and 25 guests in attendance.

## The Presidents Report

Hello VMC.

I hope you're having a relaxing and fun holiday season. I passed the time doing some gigs, and relaxing at home watching holiday classics like *Scrooged*, *Christmas Vacation* and *Die Hard*, of course! (Yes, it's a Christmas movie!)

For many of you, December is generally the busiest time of the year so I hope you're getting plenty of business and having fun doing it!

A reminder that in the new year, we will start it off strong with what I'm sure will be a very informative virtual lecture by **Jeffrey Wang** on January 10, so get your tickets asap at our website. Later you will be reminded via email of our next monthly meeting on the 4th Thursday, January.

Thank you and have a great magical holiday.

Yoosik Ethan Oum  
Vancouver Magic Circle, IBM Ring #92 - President  
<https://www.koreancanuckmentalist.com>

## The Editors Desk

This is the 14th issue of the VMC Newsletter '*The Magical Minutes*' (TMM) since it was revived in October 2022. We have, with this issue, completed our first, almost, complete year of TMM. It was a struggle in the middle of the year, due to my ongoing health issues, we had to produce a 'multi' month issue (June, July, August)

TMM wouldn't be possible without contributions from fellow members of the VMC, in particular:

**John Stenning** for his playing card and video reviews and also for his proofreading of my work and suggesting edits.

**Dennis Chan** for his always interesting and informative '*The Dennis Chan Report*'.

**Yoosik Oum** for his regular '*Presidents Report*'

**Henry Tom** for the many of the photographs in TMM

**Simon Cassegrain, Graham Kita** and others who have contributed photographs to TMM.

Thank you all and lets do it again in 2024.

I wish all VMC Members a Happy Holidays and a Safe and Prosperous 2024.



**The Executive Committee  
of the Vancouver Magic  
Circle wish all members a  
very merry holiday season  
and a happy, safe and  
prosperous 2024**



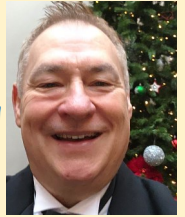
# in the spotlight

This month is

## Rod Boss

**MM:** Tell us a little about yourself and your family

**RB:** In 1968, a seven-year-old boy watched his older brother of 5 years perform a few tricks using a deck of cards and a thumb tip. That little boy was me. Growing up in Kamloops BC., my 12-year-old brother actually taught me, "The World's Greatest Card Trick". This was unbelievable magic, especially for such a young kid. However, the way I was able to mystify people with a simple thumb tip and a few other props really changed my life.



**MM:** How did you become interested in magic?

**RB:** Growing up watching Lance Burton perform as a guest star on the weekly Paul Daniels Show was awesome, but I would say without reservation, Tony Ing had more of a magical influence on my early life than anyone else

**MM:** Who are your biggest influences in the magic world?

**RB:** In 1989, I met Tony at Tony's Joke and Trick shop. Tony performed a beautiful routine with a coin and an empty Perrier bottle. After I picked my jaw up off the table, Tony took the time to personally teach me his routine. Thank you, Tony.

**MM:** What is your favorite trick to perform and why?

**RB:** To this very day, the Coin in the Bottle is my favorite routine. It's quick, punchy, and when done right, becomes nothing less than *Magic*.

**MM:** Can you share an interesting story from one of your performances?



**RB:** As One of the craziest things I remember seeing while performing on stage, was in Mumbai India. I was working for a Canadian company at the largest trade show you could ever imagine. Right beside my stage, was the snake charmer with his king cobra. Now, I have heard the phrase, "When on stage, try not to compete with children or animals." But this was ridiculous! I couldn't take my eyes off the snake. Partially because I was so intrigued and partly because I was terrified. Thankfully, those in attendance weren't so thrilled with the snake charmer and responded quite well to the magic.

**MM:** What advice would you give to someone who wants to learn magic?

**RB:** I am often approached by parents telling me how their children really want to learn magic. First, I tell them about 'Clownin' Around', our local magic shop. Then I encourage them to go to any bookstore where they will certainly find books like "World's Greatest Card Tricks" or "World's Greatest Coin Tricks" or "Klutz book of Magic."

**MM:** How do you come up with new tricks or routines?

**RB:** For me, one of the best ways to come up with or develop new material is to listen to your audience. You'll learn what works and what doesn't. They'll give you great jokes and even better ways of doing what you're doing. Listen to your audience

**MM:** What's the most challenging part of being a magician for you?

**RB:** Throughout my career there have been a lot of challenges, however the biggest has been scheduling time with my wife and kids since we all seem to work opposite schedules.

**MM:** What's the most rewarding part of being a magician for you?

**RB:** It has been a great life of travel, excitement, parties and pretty good money; however, nothing has been more rewarding than the bright, wide-eyed smile of a child after experiencing magic for the first time.

**MM:** Can you share with our readers a fun, non magic, fact that we didn't know about you?

**RB:** In 1986 I had the privilege of attending The University of the Philippines for a year as part of my Education Degree. It was an awesome year. I immersed myself into the culture, living my daily life as any other student would. I gained a true understanding, appreciation, and love for the people of the Philippines... plus... their Peso was the same size as a silver dollar so I was palming nonstop.





# Jeffrey Wang

We are fortunate to have an IBM SAM and PCAM award winning expert in coin magic **Jeffrey Wang** sharing his knowledge with us in an upcoming virtual lecture.



THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE - IBM RING #92 PRESENTS

# JEFFREY WANG

ONLINE LECTURE

**JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>**  
7PM - PST

AWARD WINNER  
2023 CONVENTIONS

SEEN ON  
PENN & TELLER:  
**FOOL US**

GET YOUR TICKETS AT [IBMRING92.COM](http://IBMRING92.COM)

Get your tickets at [www.ibmring92.com](http://www.ibmring92.com).

For VMC members, it is only \$15, so it's certainly a great deal and it'll be an interesting evening.

*"Jeffrey's thinking on coin magic is great! Love his work."*  
- Shin Lim

**Jeffrey Wang** (王元捷) is a magician from Beijing, China who specializes in coin magic. He began learning magic at the age of six and has been performing for over 16 years.

**Jeffrey** is the director of the International Association of Chinese Magicians (IACM), a member, performer, and lecturer of the Hollywood Magic Castle, a member of The Society of American Magicians and the International Brotherhood of Magicians, as well as a lecturer of Penguin magic.

He has published several tutorials, including '*Jeffrey's Coin Magic*' with International Magic Shop London, and '*Now You Sleeve Me*' with world champion **Shin Lim** and Ellusionist, which became one of the most popular downloads.

**Jeffrey** has been a guest performer and lecturer at several magic conventions, including the M.E.E.T. International Magic Convention, MMMM Japan, and World Magic Convention Australia.

This year alone he won prizes at the IBM, SAM, and PCAM.

<https://www.ojmagic.com/>

[Jeffrey Wang Magic Studio](http://JeffreyWangMagicStudio.com) | coin magic Sleight of hand magician Jeffrey Wang official website. Jeffrey Wang Magic Studio [www.ojmagic.com](http://www.ojmagic.com)



# A PICTURE TELLS A THOUSAND WORDS



## November 2023 Christmas Dinner Meeting



Photos courtesy of Henry Tom



## November 2023 Stage Competition Competitors



Jack Schwartz



Yoosik Oum



Scott Barker



Graham Kline



Blake Aleong



Jordan Vo



Billy Hsueh

## November 2023 Stage Competition Winners

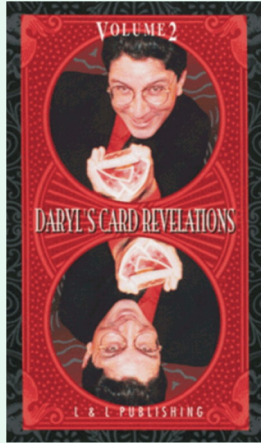


Jack Schwartz



Billy Hsueh

### DARYL'S CARD REVELATIONS Vol #2



Volume two of this excellent series (of 5) from L&L publishing, includes many more practical impromptu methods for revealing previously selected cards and some are even self-working.

As I said before, Daryl is easy to understand and gives clear instructions, on how to do these effects, many of them modern card classics.

They include:

- Sandwich #3 (Larry Jennings)
- Two card stab
- Fan see card (Mary Kinson)
- Open sesame (Derek Dingle)

You will also learn Daryl's no palm card through hankerchief, as well as over 20 more great effects that you can add to your repertoire if you so choose.

Till next time, take care, stay magical and keep practicing.....oh, and Merry Christmas, happy holidays and have a great new year!

J.Stenning

[jrsbbf@icloud.com](mailto:jrsbbf@icloud.com)

Dec 16/2023

**Roy's 5 question quiz  
Will return in 2024**

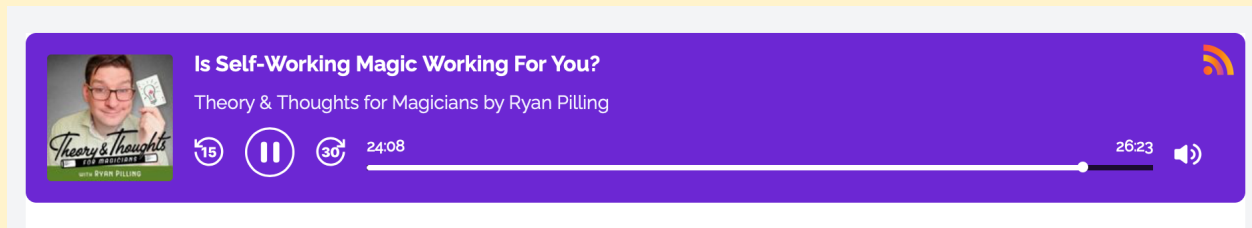
**Watch this space.**



## HIGHLY RECOMENDED!

Just a quick recommendation for Ryan Pilling's newsletter: Tips & Tricks for magicians; if you don't already get this, you might want to as it always has some very interesting topic discussed, however, the thing I really wanted to recommend is the podcast Ryan did about self-working magic. At just under a half-hour, this is definitely worth listening to and you may even relate to some of the things he has to say on the topic.

<https://rss.com/podcasts/theoryandthoughts/1252671/>



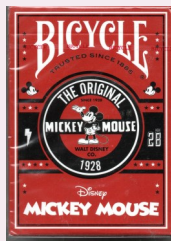
J.Stenning

[jrsbbf@icloud.com](mailto:jrsbbf@icloud.com)

Dec 2023

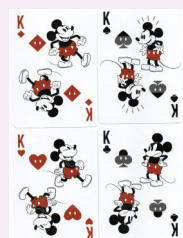
### Roy's Deck Review

I recently added 'The Original Mickey Mouse 1928' Disney Mickey Mouse by Bicycle © 2023 to my collection. <https://player.rss.com/theoryandthoughts/1252671>



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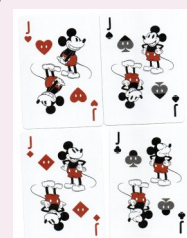
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# Roy's 5 question quiz

## The Answers to 'Roy's 5 question Quiz from the November 2023 issue of The Magical Minutes

- 1 What role did **Ricky Jay** play in the movie 'The Prestige'?

**Ricky Jay** played the role of Milton the Magician in "The Prestige". He is an older magician who employs **Angier** and **Borden** at the beginning of their careers. **Ricky Jay**, along with **Michael Weber**, also trained **Hugh Jackman** and **Christian Bale** for their roles with brief instruction in various stage illusions.

- 2 Why was **Harry Houdini** in court in **Germany**?

**Harry Houdini** was taken to court in Germany after being accused of fraud. In 1902, King Wilhelm II's government was cracking down on fraud in entertainment, and **Houdini** was accused of two crimes: attempting to bribe Cologne policeman Werner Graff into rigging an escape from that city's jail and paying a civilian police employee to help him with a phony public performance.

Rather than ignoring the accusations, **Houdini** responded by suing his accusers for slander. The trial that followed was a sensation, and Houdini was ultimately victorious. Police Officer Werner Graff was found guilty of slandering Houdini, heavily fined, and required to publicly apologize to **Houdini**.

- 3 How many magicians have died doing the bullet catch?

It's said that at least 12 magicians have died while performing the bullet catch. This trick is considered one of the most dangerous illusions that a magician can attempt. The most famous magician to die on stage during the bullet catch is probably **Chung Ling Soo**. He was shot dead by a malfunctioning firearm in London in 1918.

- 4 Which magician was employed during World War II as a camouflage expert?

The magician **Jasper Maskelyne** was employed as a camouflage expert during World War II. He was a British stage magician in the 1930s and 1940s and is most remembered for his work for the British military during the Second World War. He claimed to have created large-scale ruses, deception, and camouflage to defeat the Nazis.

**Maskelyne** joined the Royal Engineers when the Second World War broke out, thinking that his skills could be used in camouflage. According to one story, he convinced skeptical officers by camouflaging a machine gun position in plain sight and creating the illusion of the German warship Graf Spee on the Thames using mirrors and a model.

He was also recruited to work for MI9 in Cairo, where he created small devices intended to assist soldiers to escape if captured and lectured on escape techniques. These included tools hidden in cricket bats, saw blades inside combs, and small maps on objects such as playing cards.

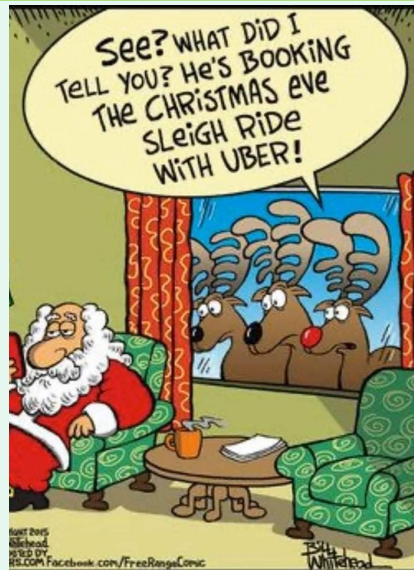
His group, known as the "**Jasper Maskelyne Magic Gang**," used their skills in illusion and deception to create convincing decoys and camouflage to mislead and confuse the enemy. His contributions to the war effort have left a lasting impact on the history of military deception.

- 5 Where and when was the longest magic show in recorded history?

The longest magic show in recorded history was performed by a group of magicians from 'The Melbourne Magic Festival'. They set out to break the previous record for the world's longest magic show, which was 75 hours, by performing non-stop for 85 hours. The show took place at **Dane Certificate's** Magic Theatre on June 12, 2016. Some of the performers and their time spent on stage include **Tim Ellis** (12 hours 26 minutes), **Dom Chambers** (10 hours 31 minutes), and **Josh Staley** (7 hours 43 minutes).

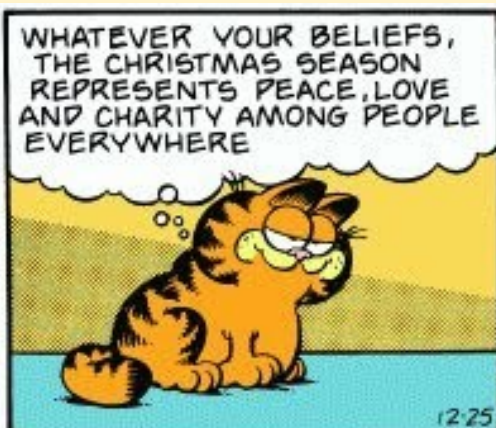
## How did you Go?

# Jest for Fun



## Groaners ... sorry

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| What do snowmen call their offspring?              | Chill-dren.                               |
| Where does Santa store his suit?                   | In his Claus-et.                          |
| What do reindeers say before they tell you a joke? | This one's gonna sleigh you!              |
| Did you hear about the angry snowman?              | It had a meltdown.                        |
| Why did the Grinch go to the liquor store?         | He was searching for some holiday spirit. |
| What do you tell an anxious snowman?               | You need to chill out.                    |
| Where do Santa's reindeer stop for coffee?         | Star-bucks.                               |
| Why do reindeer wear bells?                        | Their horns don't work.                   |
| Why did Santa's helper see a therapist?            | Because he had low elf-esteem.            |
| What did one Christmas tree say to the other?      | I'm feelin' pine.                         |
| What's every elf's favorite type of music?         | Wrap.                                     |
| Why does Santa use GPS?                            | He doesn't want to be a lost Claus.       |





## 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 - via Zoom**

#### January 2024:

Wednesday January 10, 2024  
Jeffrey Wang Zoom Lecture.

Thursday January, 25, 2024 VMC Meeting at the Hall Workshop

### Shows (as a courtesy)

#### 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

## VMC Membership Fees

VMC Membership Fees are payable on January 1, 2024 and can be paid via the VMC website <https://lbmring92.com/pay-for-stuff/> or:

**eTransfer** (no fees incurred by VMC) [treasurer@lbmring92.com](mailto:treasurer@lbmring92.com) or **PayPal** (Incurs fees by VMC) [treasurer@lbmring92.com](mailto:treasurer@lbmring92.com)

Membership type	Fees—1 Year	Fees—3 years
General member	\$40.00	\$105.00
Senior member	\$30.00	\$75.00
Junior member	\$30.00	\$75.00
Out of town member	\$25.00	\$60.00

The treasurer will be sending reminders to members whose VMC membership fees are due .

If you are unsure if your fees are due for payment or have any questions contact the Treasurer (Roy Hopwood): [treasurer@lbmring92.com](mailto:treasurer@lbmring92.com).

Thank you for your continued support of the VMC.

Roy J Hopwood

Treasurer VMC

604 219 0897

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

### 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.

#### Please Do Not Forward The Magical Minutes to Non-Members\*

This is just a friendly reminder to all our members to please not to forward our newsletter, 'The Magical Minutes' or any private newsletter links, to people who are not financial members of the VMC. The online VMC Library, and The Magical Minutes newsletter are a membership privilege. It takes a lot of time and effort to write our newsletter, and we do it exclusively for the benefit of our members. If a non-financial member asks you to forward The Magical Minutes to them, please refrain from doing so. Lastly, the Executive Committee would like to thank everyone who has contributed to and / or sent positive messages about The Magical Minutes newsletter. It is truly appreciated and makes all the hard work worth it. Thank you

The VMC Executive Committee

\* Except with express permission of the VMC Executive Committee.

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