



— RING 92 —

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

June 2015

the Charles Howard Ring

# Summer Picnic



## RECIPE FOR FUN

Join us for Food, Fun,  
Magic and More!

**DATE:** SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2015

**WHERE:** Hume Park in New Westminister

**TIME:** 12:00-4:00 PM

Magic Wand Performances and Water Fight!

If you would like to register for our ever-popular Magic Wand Performances, please contact our Competition Chair Billy Hsueh at [mindxplosionmagic@hotmail.com](mailto:mindxplosionmagic@hotmail.com)

# Trevor Duffy Lecture is a Smashing Success!



Congratulations to VMC Member Ray Roch who was invited as the Canadian representative to Obie O'brien's 4F convention in Upstate New York!



Obie's 4F 2015  
**French Gala**  
 Friday 1:30 pm  
 MC: Boris Wild

1.  **Ray Roch**  
PhD; 4<sup>th</sup> time at 4F
2.  **Rémy Robert**  
4<sup>th</sup> time at 4F; Italian Magic Symposium winner
3.  **William Watt**  
PhD; FFAP Convention winner
4.  **Bébel**  
11<sup>th</sup> time at 4F; FFAP & Colombe d'Or winner
5.  **Yuri Kaine**  
PhD; Italian Symposium & Colombe d'Or winner
6.  **Edouard Boulanger**  
Bachelors (E. Jones/Kaine); FFAP & Colombe d'Or winner
7.  **Lawrens Godon**  
Bachelors (Casar/Obie); Colombe d'Or winner
8.  **Boris Wild**  
19<sup>th</sup> time at 4F; 2008 Goh/MVP; FSM winner

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Check out this video on YouTube: <http://youtu.be/jJYaFnWMJcY>



# Dr. Stanley, I presume?

*An amazing story of how an interest in magic, and an early friendship traversed a continent and brought two people back together.*

*By: John Smithman*

*Part I of a 3 part feature.*

In the late 19th century, Henry Morton Stanley may have greeted missionary David Livingstone with the phrase, Dr. Livingstone I presume? My search was not as worldly, but it was just as momentous to me.

In 1962, in the barracks at RCAF Portage La Prairie jet training base, after a training mission, fellow student Guy Stanley said

he was ceasing his pilot training and returning to British Columbia where he joined.

It was sad that he was leaving the air force because if anyone deserved to be a pilot it was Guy, an avid student of all things aviation. He knew aircraft engines. One day while we walked across the base Guy confidently told me the type of engine used in the airplane flying above us. It was like magic that he could identify the engine just by the sound it made.

Guy had other magical qualities. He could do amazing magic tricks with cards. He'd have someone pick a card and remember it so that they would be amazed later after he had wrapped it in a newspaper and had them plunge a knife into the deck through the paper. He would carefully unwrap the package and show that the knife had penetrated the deck at the chosen card. The spectator had found his own card in a magical way! Guy entertained us often with his card magic.

I first performed magic on a school stage at the tender age of 11 in my home town of Chateaugay, Quebec. My trick failed and I lost interest in magic for several years until my magic nerve was revived by Guy's amazing demonstrations.

Guy went back to British Columbia and I went on to become an air force pilot, a civilian commercial pilot and began a small scheduled airline in Pembroke, Ontario. I forgot about Guy for a lifetime until I moved to Vancouver and joined a local magic club, the Vancouver Magic Circle. I started thinking again of Guy, wondering what had happened to him. I asked the club's oldest members if they knew him and his whereabouts. He was so good at card magic that I assumed he would still be performing magical miracles. Someone should know him, I thought.

But no one remembered him. I was more determined to find Guy. I searched his name on the Web. But nothing showed up with a *magic* component. I wondered, had he died? Maybe he was a member of The International Brotherhood of Magicians, a worldwide organization? I contacted its president Shawn Farquhar asking if he could check their records of living or dead magicians for Guy's name. My request was refused for privacy reasons.

Then, I discovered The Conjuring Arts organization, paid the membership fee to allow me to search their digitized magic magazines going back over a hundred years. I searched for Guy's name and found a famous magician named Guy Stanley who died in 1948 and a 1987 reference to a magician named Guy Stanley joining a magic club in New York. So I kept searching.

*To be continued...*



Mac & Bill King

# COIN COUNTDOWN



HERE'S A TRICK THAT COMBINES THE POWER OF SUGGESTION WITH A LITTLE SLEIGHT OF HAND. ALL YOU NEED IS SIX IDENTICAL COINS AND A GREEDY FRIEND!



SHOW THE SIX COINS TO A FRIEND AND TELL HIM THAT THEY CAN BE HIS IF HE PASSES A SIMPLE TEST.

5/17



EXPLAIN THAT YOU WILL PLACE EACH OF THE SIX COINS IN HIS HAND ONE AT A TIME. AFTER HE HAS THE SIXTH COIN, HE HAS TO QUICKLY MAKE A FIST.



STACK THE COINS IN YOUR FRIEND'S HAND, COUNTING EACH ONE OUT LOUD

ONE...  
TWO...  
THREE...



WITH THE COINS SEALED IN YOUR FRIEND'S FIST, IT'S TIME FOR THE TEST: ASK HIM TO TELL YOU HOW MANY COINS HE IS HOLDING WITHOUT LOOKING.

SIX.



ASK YOUR FRIEND TO COUNT THE COINS.

OH, I'M SORRY. YOU FAILED THE TEST. PLEASE RETURN MY FIVE COINS!

FIVE COINS?!?

## HOWDY DO IT?

YOU SHOWED SIX COINS. YOUR FRIEND SAW SIX COINS. HE EVEN HEARD YOU COUNT OUT SIX COINS. HOW COULD THERE BE ONLY FIVE? AS YOU COUNT THE COINS INTO YOUR FRIEND'S OPEN HAND AND YOU GET TO THE FIFTH COIN, SAY "FIVE," BUT JUST TAP THIS COIN AGAINST THE OTHERS WITHOUT LEAVING IT. YOUR HAND WILL HIDE THIS ACTION AND IT WILL FEEL LIKE YOU PLACED THE COIN IN YOUR FRIEND'S HAND THEN PLACE THAT SAME COIN ON THE COUNT OF "SIX." YOU'LL STILL HAVE THE SIXTH COIN HIDDEN IN YOUR HAND, SO IF YOUR FRIEND DEMANDS TO KNOW WHERE IT WENT, REACH BEHIND HIS EAR AND PRETEND TO EXTRACT IT.

# May Report

By: Dennis Chan



The May meeting started off with a jam session.

May was close-up competition night. There were two contests. The first contest was for the Dick Gardner trophy. This is a junior competition. This trophy is awarded in recognition of close-up magic by a junior member. Playing cards may be used, but no stage effects will be permitted.

The second contest was for the H.B. MacLean trophy. This trophy is awarded in recognition of excellence in close-up magic. No playing cards or stage effects will be permitted. This is an adult competition. Last year's winner, Chris Yuill was the host and M C for the two competitions. Chris read the rules. The rules are different for the two competitions.

The only competitor for the Dick Gardner trophy was Cameron Minty. Unfortunately he did not score enough points to win.

The competitors for the H.B. MacLean trophy were James Hanson, Matthew Jones, Yoosik Oum, Rosalind Chan and Ed Stehr. Rosalind Chan was the winner of the H.B. MacLean trophy. Ed Stehr came in second place and

Matthew Jones came in third place. Chris did some magic in between the act to keep the competition flowing. Billy Bales Hsueh tallied the scores. Congratulations to Rosalind and to the rest of the competitors.

A broken wand ceremony was held for Stan Kramien who passed away in March. Graham Kita read the broken wand ceremony and Shawn Farquhar broke the wand. The business portion of the meeting included the Children's Magician of the Year contest and the Christmas pot luck dinner. Karen Eskilson provided the refreshments. Thanks Karen.

John Smithman, the club's official photographer (and the VMC's biggest fan!), took photos of the evening's events. Billy Bales Hsueh sold raffle tickets. Raffle prizes were donated by Graham Kita, the late Munro MacKenzie and the VMC library.

35 members and 6 guests were in attendance.

-I'm Dennis Chan



# How I got started in Magic...

Getting to know Michael Dinero, one of the VMC's newest members!

Rabbi Don Pacht had the opportunity to chat with Michael about his start in Magic.

**RABBI DON:** How did you first become interested in magic?

**MICHAEL:** My first experience with magic was watching a card trick my dad showed me. My dad told my brother and I to never gamble with cards. I asked him why? He said, "Some people use "magic" to trick people out of money." I didn't know what magic was, nor did I understand what he meant. He said, "let me show you." For the next few minutes I watched in amazement how my dad changed a random card into my chosen card, then he kept making it reappear on top of the deck, he made it change places with another card I had under my hand, to top it all off he made the entire deck of cards turn all into the same card and then he made them turn back to normal. I was amazed and the first thing I said was, "how'd you do that?" His response, "Magic." That was the first time I felt the power of "magic." My dad taught my brother some magic with money. Again I watched my brother in astonishment. I asked him where he learned it, he said, "dad taught me." I wanted to learn magic too. A few years passed and I forgot about "magic." One day I ran into my best friend from my high school who invited me back to his place to have lunch. He asked me if I

wanted to see something really cool, "Sure", I said. I watched him take a red handkerchief, put it in his left hand and make it disappear right in front of my eyes. I begged him to teach me, instead he said, "I have a magic teacher who can teach you." So off we went, taking the bus to New Westminster. That was the day his teacher became my teacher, a gentleman by the name of Steve Dickson at a little magic shop called "Must B Magic".

**RABBI DON:** How old were you?

**MICHAEL:** When my dad showed me the card trick, I was 7 years old. When my brother showed me the coin trick, I was 10. Finally, when my friend showed me the disappearing handkerchief trick, I was 15.



*Continued on Page 11...*



# PCAM / 3 of Clubs 2015

## **PCAM / 3 of Clubs Combined 2015 Convention Thursday Nov 19 - Sunday Nov 22 Chilliwack, BC, Canada**

YES!! Norden and Gordon Productions are at it again..... well, this time it's Gordon and Norden Productions. Your hosts will be PCAM 2015 President Gord Boyes, and his co-producer Mike Norden.

Step right up and [register here](#).

**Registrants capped at 75, (9 spots left)  
register NOW so you don't miss out!!**

Yes, there were many people worried that there wouldn't be a PCAM convention in 2015, then the 3 of Clubs convention that was going to be held in Victoria got cancelled, then the Portland Magic Jam got cancelled, and we just couldn't let this dearth of magic conventions on the Pacific Coast hang over our heads, so Norden & Gordon Productions has stepped up and agreed to run it again this year (but this year it should be called Gordon & Norden Productions). The same people who brought you the most awesome 2014 convention, Gord Boyes and Mike Norden, will be co-producing the 2015 edition.

Talent has been spoken to and hotel has been booked, be sure to check out this website for updates regularly as we get contracts in place... [www.pcam2015.ca](http://www.pcam2015.ca) (sorry folks, someone's squatting on the .com name). One of the exciting features is that World Champion Shawn Farquhar is performing a Magic Cabaret at the nearby Chilliwack Cultural Center on Friday Nov 20th and your registration to the PCAM convention includes a ticket to this show! Your registration also includes a ticket to the Saturday evening public show, but feel free to purchase more for your friends who aren't attending the convention (they must be muggles!).

# H.B. McLean Trophy for 2015 CLOSE-UP Magic

Competitors:

James Hanson  
Edward Stehr  
Rosalind Chan

Matthew Jones  
Yoosik Oum



M.C. Chris Yuill  
2014 Champion



## “Suuuuuuuuuuuurvey says...!”

And the results are in!

Thank you to all of our members who took the time to fill out the recent survey. Your feedback is invaluable in helping the Executive deliver the value that you want from the Vancouver Magic Circle.

Here are some of the things we have learned:

- ☀ Members want **Fewer Competitions** and **More Workshops and Practice** in these types of magic: **Close Up, Parlour, Presentation, Coins, and Cards.**
- ☀ They also want **Fewer Lectures and Events.**
- ☀ They want **Theme Nights** where they can get intensive training on a theme.
- ☀ And our members **Love and Use** our club's **Magic Library.**

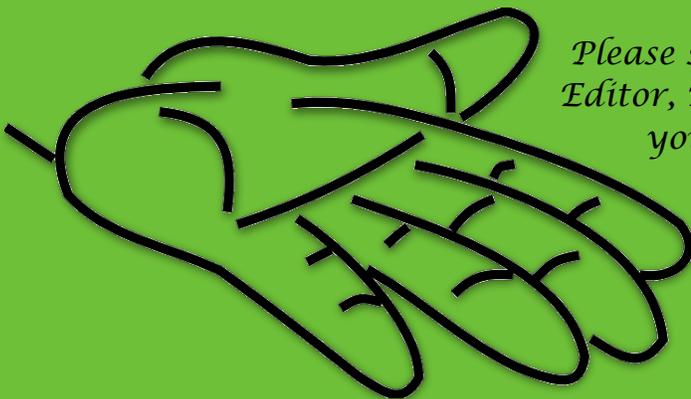
We want to hear from you! Please contact John Smithman if you wish to discuss what the VMC can do for you...and what YOU can do for the VMC!



*Introducing a new feature to the Magical Minutes Newsletter...*

## *Generous Gestures*

*Do you know of a VMC Member who uses his or her magical talents to help people? Maybe it is a free show for patients in a children's hospital. Or maybe offering free magic lessons to underprivileged youth? We want to know about it!*



*Please send submissions to the Magical Minutes Editor, Rabbi Don Pacht (yes, that guy...), to see your favourite magician featured in a future issue.*

# How I got started in Magic...from page 7

**RABBI DON:** How old were you?

**MICHAEL:** When my dad showed me the card trick, I was 7 years old. When my brother showed me the coin trick, I was 10. Finally, when my friend showed me the disappearing handkerchief trick, I was 15.

**RABBI DON:** When / how did you decide that 'magic was for you'?

**MICHAEL:** As a child I was bullied a lot for looking different. I developed into a shy teenager as a result. After learning magic from Steve, I still had problems with performing in front of people. The next part, I'm sure was meant as a lesson to be learned from, but instead I took it to heart, literally. Steve realized I had problems with confidence, so he said, "Don't think too much, just do it! You don't want to end up some kid performing on the sky train." So, after hearing those words, I armed myself with a deck of cards, coins and a handkerchief. For the next 3 months, every Saturday, I rode from Scott Road to Waterfront performing tricks for the passengers on the sky train. Steve was right, I got more confident by "just doing it." I returned to the magic shop, head held high, more confident. Steve's positive reinforcement made me gain confidence and success which helped me decide, "Magic was for me."

**RABBI DON:** What is your favourite type of audience and why?

**MICHAEL:** I don't have a favourite. I like all age groups because they help me learn my strengths and weaknesses towards becoming a better entertainer.

**RABBI DON:** What do you love most about having Magic in your life?

**MICHAEL:** Magic is my lucky charm. It helps me overcome barriers, break the ice in most situations, meet celebrities, strengthen my learning disabilities. Magic has helped me teach others about their strengths and weaknesses.

**RABBI DON:** What is your most memorable MAGIC experience?

**MICHAEL:** I had been performing for a number of years and audience members told me my comedic personality reminded them of a celebrity comedian. After watching the celebrity comedian's material, my personality was very similar. I saw the correlation. I had the fortunate opportunity to meet the celebrity and he discovered I was a magician. I gave him my best performance which pleased him and resulted in a personal invitation to the Florida magic castle as his guest. In his opinion, I possess a star quality that would be an attraction factor if I decided to perform at the magic castle. In my opinion, I'm just a magician.



# THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR VERY OWN LIFETIME MEMBER, SHAWN FARQUHAR ON HIS SUCCESSFUL TERM OF IBM PRESIDENT FROM HONOR RING 92.

[WWW.IBMRING92.COM](http://WWW.IBMRING92.COM)

"Life is not an exact science, it is an art." - Samuel Butler

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Great reasons to belong  
to the  
Vancouver Magic Circle!

Meetings



Young Magicians



Champion Magicians



Shows



Auctions



Contests



Fund-Raisers



Lectures



Fellowship



*Believe in yourself and  
in what you can do!*