



V — RING 92 — VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

March 2012

the Charles Howard Ring

www.ibmring92.com

THE MAGICAL MINUTES NEWSLETTER

Since 1942



Front Row
 Philip Razon (Treasurer) Gordon McInosh (2nd VP) Alex Seaman (President) Graham Kita (1st VP) Andrew Yoo (Secretary) Dennis Chan (Sgt at Arms)

Second Row
 James Hanson Henry Tom Brianna Carlson Billy Hsieh Jess Chan Jui Yamashita Sharon Farquhar Jack Chow Nicholas Chow Red Chow John Smithman Mauro MacKenzie

Third Row
 David Wilson Karen Edilison John Stening Dustin Anderson Lon Mandelke Dennis Hewson Errel Lipschitz Jennifer Meyers Bruce Meyers Eric Wolstenholme Ray Roch

Fourth Row
 Trevor Watters Dave Watters Steve Dickson Bryn Williams Zoran Kracic David Hamil Matthew Jones Michael Borghank Gord Boyes Gary Savard Mike Collings Adam Korzelev

Photo credit: John Smithman

The Vancouver Magic Circle is poised for another fantastic year!

Read more about the Installation Dinner and Awards Show in the monthly Ring Report on page 4.

Editor's Note: To facilitate email distribution of this Newsletter the file size must be compressed, resulting in lower photo resolution. To see these pictures in all their splendor, just log on to our website (www.ibmring92.com), and visit John Smithman's fantastic Photo Gallery.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome Vancouver Magic Circle members of 2012! This is my first President's Column and I can't adequately express how excited I am for the upcoming year. I would like to welcome our brand new 2012 Executive Officers: Graham Kita, Gord McIntosh, Phil Razon, Andrew Yeo, Dennis Chan, and Members of the Board: Shawn Farquhar, Steve Dickson, Dennis Hewson and Billy Hsueh. We are excited to collectively begin our work for the coming months.

I was elated to see such a great turnout at our Installation Banquet last month and to experience the sense of unity and brotherhood the Vancouver Magic Circle is renowned for. I'd like to take this time to sincerely thank everyone who donated his or her time and effort to the Circle through this past year. As we know, the circle simply doesn't run without the individuals whose love of magic is so strong that they volunteer countless hours solely for the benefit of the Circle. These include our webmaster Clinton W. Gray, who works tirelessly to keep the website up to date and looking great, our Librarian Dennis Chan who periodically records and archives thousands of magic books, DVDs, lecture notes and more, and our Circle Photographer John Smithman who not only volunteers his time at Circle events, but who spends hours upon hours editing the photos he takes so everyone can reflect on the great times we've all had together. These are all individuals without whom the Circle simply would not be the same and for this, I offer my sincere gratitude.

This year, I would like to see the Circle in the best shape it's ever been and this cannot happen without the help of our members. I believe that with a little hard work and a little magic, we can make this year, the Year of Prestige!

- Alex Seaman, President

Please email me directly with comments



Peter Wardell Lecture - The Streets Are My Stage

7:30pm - Friday, April 6th, 2012

Peter Wardell is an experienced, award winning magician and speaker, and the only magician to have won both the Stage Magician and Close-up magician of the Year titles at the Magic Circle. His ability to entertain a modern audience relies on a combination of quick hands, a quick wit, and an understanding of what makes people tick. These are skills that Peter developed while working as a street magician in London's Covent Garden, and at festivals around the world.

Since focusing his talents towards a more commercial marketplace, his unique performing style has earned him bookings from many major corporate and private clients.

For more information about the Peter Wardell lecture, please visit:

www.xelentlectureseries.com/peter_wardell_magic.html

This event is presented by IBM Ring 92 in association with the X-celent Lecture Series.



Douglas College – 700 Royal Avenue, New Westminster
(Please enter on 7th street)

VMC Members:

\$20 advanced purchase \$25 at the door

Junior members:

\$10 advanced purchase \$15 at the door

Non-members:

\$50 (includes Associate member application fee)

For information contact Shawn Farquhar
(604) 936-1234.

DUES ARE DUE

Dear VMC Members,

Have you paid your 2012 dues? No!
Then you must immediately put down this
newsletter and pay your dues!

This newsletter is a members only benefit
and can only be enjoyed by members in
good standing whose dues have been paid.

(If you promise not to enjoy reading
it...we can let it slide for this month)

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February Ring Report

By: Munro MacKenzie

Over half a century ago world famous magician Lon Mandrake played on the stage of the Columbia Theatre and drove down Columbia St. blindfolded in a fine drizzle in New Westminster, BC. This month our Circle held the prestigious Installation Banquet in the very same theatre newly revamped. Dennis Hewson guided me down the sweeping low steps to the softest and best seat in the house and even got my delicious dinner prepared buffet style by Fiesta Creative Catering. Dennis Chan picked up my dessert. Talk about service.

After the sumptuous dinner, president Bryn Williams performed his final duties, awarding year pins to deserving members, amongst which was a 45 year pin for David Murdoch who unfortunately was absent. A moment of silence was held for Francis Martineau, a member for 65 years, who passed away late last year. The next award was the Helping Hands awarded to Margaret & Scot Jones, Marina and Karl Kircher, Cheryl Wilson, Dave Carlson, Brian Carlson, Lori Farquhar, Melody Hewson, Cathie Watters, Colleen Hamil, Georgina Hunt, Mike Akazuki and Cleo Kobes. These people all helped behind the scenes to make our gathering successful; they are non members!

Henry Tom won the Stan Kramien Award for showmanship. The Wand Holders degree went to Mathew Jones and Billy Hsueh. Trevor Watters and Lorena were the winners of the Murray Award for the most creative performance during the year.

The winner of the Best Website Award went to Shawn Farquhar. The winner of the Dave Culos Memorial Trophy for the Golden Rabbit award was Bryn Williams. On hand to present the award were Ray and Judy Culos who have been on hand to present the award since the tragic death of their son in a traffic accident. The President's Award went to Alex Seaman who gave a very happy and emotional acceptance speech.

Congratulations to the award winners and many nominees for your active work during the past year.

The last official act of president Bryn Williams was the swearing in of the new executive for 2012-Alex Seaman-President (our youngest ever); Graham Kita-First VP; Gord McIntosh-Second VP; Andrew Yeo-Secretary; Phil Razon-Treasurer and Dennis "Bulldog" Chan-Sgt. at Arms. After the swearing in ceremony, John Smithman- our resident photographer-took the official club photo.

Rod Chow was Master of Ceremonies and he first read the rules for the 2 competitions. First was the Rich Honey Comedy Trophy for junior members, led off by Nicholas Chow as the Boy Who Knows, followed by Brianna Carlson with a funny mute offering, then Billy Hsueh with a funny card rendition. Billy won.

Next was the adult Cecil Akery Comedy Trophy. The competitors were Gary Savard, Matthew Jones, Bruce Mayers and John Stenning. The winner was Bruce "Take No Prisoners" Meyers. In between acts Rod told a lot of iphone jokes.

After the competition Trevor Watters and Lorena did a vibrant act. Alex Seaman and Henry Tom presented the trophies to the winners.

The winner of the grand raffle was Mike Collins who won \$200 worth of magic donated by Shawn Farquhar. Ray Roch donated a DVD as second prize. Trevor Watters was stage manager and provided the sound system. Dustin Anderson worked back stage. Dennis Hewson, Steve Dickson and Shawn Farquhar did some walk around magic. Many thanks to Shawn Farquhar for putting the whole evening together.

There were 42 members and 31 guests in attendance.

Munro MacKenzie and Dennis Chan.

OOPS! WE MISSED ONE...

It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Directors that we failed to recognize a member who gives much of his time both at the many events of the Circle and especially afterwards. The executive would like to sincerely apologize to John Smithman for failing to recognize his continued and gracious role as the Circle Photographer. It is because of John we are all able to look back at events and keep some of the wonderful memories he has created for us. We would like to, as I am sure the entire membership would like to, thank John Smithman for his continued role as the Circle Photographer.

Thanks again John!

- The Board of Directors



He kind of looks like Jimmy Olson

OK...WE MISSED TWO!

The Board of Directors would also like to extend a sincere thank you to our long standing Circle Reporter Munro Mackenzie. When we get our Linking Ring issues, the first page we flip to is the Ring #92 Report to reflect on all the great times we had while we were last together. Munro's monthly submissions to the IBM reporting on the Circle's events, act as one of our Circles most intact archival record, providing us with years of reflection on the workings of our Circle.

Munro, the amount of work you continue to put into the Circle is staggering and is a prime example of the pinnacle of someone who truly cares about the welfare of the group. So again, thank you Munro for all that you do. We look forward to reading your next article in The Linking Ring!

- The Board of Directors



Intrepid reporter Munro MacKenzie
(not an actual likeness)

PHEBRUARY IN PHOTOS



Another HUGE thank you to John Smithman for the photos!

Special Notice From Your Board of Directors

One of the goals of the Vancouver Magic Circle is to organize, associate and encourage those interested in the art of magic and it's advancement. We are proud to have the members that we do and work very hard to uphold the morals and values of the circle.

On March 4th 2012, the Board of Directors received a letter from a member enacting their right to submit a motion for expulsion of another circle member on the grounds of exhibiting conduct unbecoming of a member. As outlined in our Constitution and Bylaws, during the March Executive Meeting, it was the duty of the Board of Directors to decide if the claim merited being brought forward to the General Membership.

After hours of careful deliberation and discussion, the Board of Directors voted in favour of bringing the motion for the expulsion of James Hanson to the eyes and ears of the General Membership at the April 26th 2012 General Meeting. A vote of 75% in favour is required for expulsion. A highly detailed account of the grounds for expulsion and other information pertinent to the case will be presented by President Alex Seaman in his President's Report to the membership during the April meeting. This is a very important matter that the Circle does not take lightly. We request your attendance at the April meeting to ensure your voice and vote be heard.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

- The Board of Directors

Magic Flea Market *Sunday April 15, 4pm—8pm*

Magic Flea Market at Gord Boyes house
34664 Currie Place, Abbotsford.
No charge for sellers or buyers!!
But... please bring a donation for the food bank.
Tables are limited, please contact Gord ASAP to
reserve one.

Tel: 604-852-7361 (Abbotsford)

Do you have a contribution for THE MAGICAL MINUTES?

Please send your submissions to Rabbi Don Pacht at dpacht@vhebrewacademy.com **All** submissions must be received on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except during a leap year), between 2:45 and 3:15 pm. Sorry...no exceptions or extensions!

Fascinating Facts:

Are you awkward at parties? Do you wish that you had a collection of obscure facts about topics that most people are completely unaware that they even exist?

Well...this feature is for you!

Amazing facts that you never realized you could never live without!

Most living creatures produced during a magic performance:

Penn and Teller (USA) produced more than 80 000 bees during their television special, *"Don't Try This At Home"*, filmed in 1990. In their British TV version of the routine, the bees were replaced with a safer alternative- bluebottle flies.



The largest magic convention:

The Blackpool Magicians' club convention is held annually at the Opera House and Winter Gardens, Blackpool, Lancashire, UK, on the last weekend in February. First held in 1952, it attracts over 3 000 people from around the world.

Oldest weekly magic magazine:

Abracadabra, first edited by Goodliffe (UK) was first published on February 2, 1946 in Birmingham, UK. Currently edited by Donald Bevan (UK), issue 3,029 was published on February 19, 2004.

Thank you to Dennis Chan for submitting this month's "Fascinating Facts".

Please feel free to email your tidbits to the Magical Minutes editor for inclusion in a future issue.

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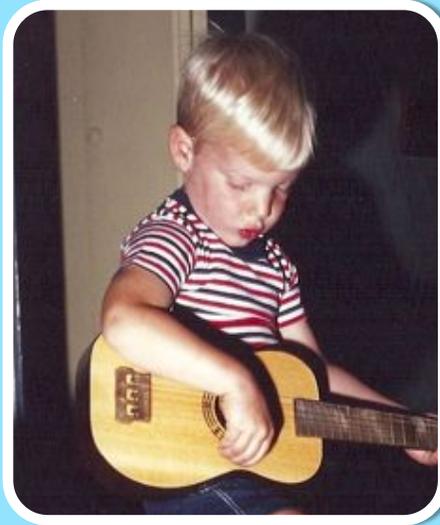
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Mystery Mug

Can you identify this mystery VMC member?

Who IS that miniature musical magician?
Email your response to the editor (see address below), all correct responses received by April 15, 2012 will be placed in a drawing to win (you guessed it), a MUG!

Email submissions to dpacht@vhebrewacademy.com.



WARNING: This Newsletter has not been clinically proven to treat or cure any disease. Please consult your doctor before changing your Newsletter.