



— RING 92 —

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

the Charles Howard Ring

October 2014

# SAVE A NEW DATE!



Oy vey!

The NEW date for  
the VMC's annual  
Christmas pot-luck  
dinner will be

Thursday, November 27, 2014.

Due to sun flares reflecting off of the surface of Venus (at least that's what I heard), the date for the Vancouver Magic Circle's annual Christmas pot-luck dinner has been changed to Thursday, November 27, 2014 at our regular meeting place (please check the website for the super-secret location). There will be a Secret Santa plus two competitions and much more. For more information, please contact Graham Kita at 604-880-2685 ([terrik@shaw.ca](mailto:terrik@shaw.ca)), or Dennis Chan at 604-942-6976 ([d.andsjw3rd@shaw.ca](mailto:d.andsjw3rd@shaw.ca)).



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Vancouver Magic Circle. The auction is over and my pockets are empty! I would personally like to thank everyone for another successful auction.

Happy Halloween! It is once again time to climb way back in to your closet and pull out your best costume. Our next meeting is Thursday, October 23rd with our Tip Top and Tootsie Competition. The schedule for this meeting is as follows:

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 6:30 PM | Doors open  |
| 7:00 PM | Workshop on Show Production and Sound Tech by Tony Chris. |
| 8:00 PM | Refreshments and best costume award.                      |
| 8:30 PM | Tip Top and Tootsie Competition.                          |

Following all of this will be a brief business meeting. Please join us for some magic and fun. Anyone wishing to compete, please contact our new competition chair, Billy Hsueh.

I am looking forward to my favourite event of the year, our Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner. We did have a glitch in the scheduling of this event. It will be held on Thursday, November 27th and doors will open at 6:00 PM. So bring a plate of food (let either Dennis Chan or myself know what you are bringing) and your Christmas Spirit to the Christmas Potluck Dinner. Family and friends are always welcome. We will be doing a secret Santa gift exchange (members only) and holding our stage competition for the coveted W.C. Shelly and Percy Poole trophies. Anyone wishing to compete, please contact our competition chair, Billy Hsueh. I do need some help decorating the hall. If anyone can come early to help transform the hall in to a magical wonderland, please let me know. I will bring the decorations, I just need the hands to help. Last reminder, one of the reasons this night is so successful is that everyone brings lots of great food!

For next year we will be looking for members to sign up for meeting refreshments. The refreshment provider gets:

- 1) reimbursed for the food
- 2) \$10.00 worth of raffle tickets
- 3) gets a shot at the best spread award given at the installation banquet.

Anyone wishing to do the meeting refreshments, please contact Billy Hsueh. Anyone wishing to donate any raffle prizes, please contact Graham Kita.

Special thanks to Ray Medway for VHS and DVD donations to our library and to Karen Eskilson for the donation of new decks of cards for the unopened deck competition.

We have two great events to end off this year. If you know of anyone interested in magic, please give them a call and let's welcome them in to the world of magic. I would like to see more guests at our meetings and would love to share the passion for magic that we all have in our hearts.

*Graham Kita*

President, Vancouver Magic Circle, IBM Ring #92

# DON'T MISS...



...October's meeting of the Vancouver Magic Circle.

It is our annual "Halloween Themed Magic" Competition, where we will be competing for the much-coveted, yet silly-sounding

**TipTop & Tootsie trophy!**

The fun begins at  
6:30 PM at the  
secret location  
(check the website for  
details).





# BROKEN WAND

ALFRED (Alf) SPENCE

May 5, 1925 to June 23, 2014



Alf died peacefully, following a courageous battle with cancer, on June 23, 2014. Beset by polio three months after his birth in 1925, and dependent on leg braces until his eighth year, Alf never complained for himself, and was a pillar of moral strength and physical determination for every one of his full and active 89 years. He always credited this fortune to his mother Annie Spence's effort and encouragement, and to the Freemasons' financial support for his 13 childhood operations.

Alf's first love and concern was his family: wife Joyce (nee Morgan), whom he cherished for 64 years, and his children Gary (Ana), Lea MacKenzie (Ross), and Vanda (Guy). Alf's grandchildren were his pride and joy: Ryan MacKenzie, Shannon Hickey, Kaytlyn MacKenzie, Samantha Brown, Benjamin Brown, Damian Spence and Jason Spence. Shannon gave Alf his only great-grandchild Isla, days before his death, bringing him great happiness.

Alf worked in the radio broadcasting industry in his home town of Vancouver from age 14 during WWII. Afterwards he went to Toronto and began his career at the CBC. Joyce was secretary to Alf's boss and the first person he met in his new studio. They married in 1950 and in 1953 came to Vancouver for Alf to open and operate the new CBC FM station. Alf became a proud Freemason in 1956 and a dedicated Shriner in the Mini Corps parade team in 1976. After retiring from the CBC in 1983, he directed his drive and energy into other clubs such as the Magic Circle, the Burnaby Miniature Railway, and the Sherlock Holmes Stormy Petrels. Alf had many passions, including repairing vehicles and electronics, recording music and voice, and he

built his little house up into the bright and lovely home it is today. He became a pilot at age 64 and a miniature steam locomotive engineer at age 81. Alf loved teaching and mentoring younger people and became an institution among his many friends.

Alf was very thankful for the physical and spiritual support he got from family and friends and especially Jim during his last weeks at home.

Goodbye, Alf Spence. You are lovingly remembered.



# September's Auction Pics



THANK YOU TO JOHN SMITHMAN, OFFICIAL VMC PHOTOGRAPHER, AS WELL AS THE MANY 'FACEBOOK PHOTOGRAPHERS' FOR POSTING YOUR PICS ON THE VMC PAGE!



# September Report

By: Dennis Chan

After a very busy summer of magic which included the Festival of Magic, many lectures, the PCAM convention, and the annual picnic, magic life went back to "normal." The September meeting is the Vancouver Magic Circle's annual auction. This is a member's only event.

This is the night where members auction off some of their magic equipment that they don't want or use anymore or even some items that they bought at last year's auction which has been sitting on the shelf since that time. Some items are brand new and some items are "collector's" items. What magician doesn't "collect" stuff?

Items ranged from box magic, silks, ropes, books, DVDs and children's magic. Dave Carlson was the auctioneer. Dave has been the official auctioneer for several years.

Thanks Dave!

Karen Eskilson and Marcia Garcia were on the computer making sure that all items bought and sold were recorded properly in order to avoid any mix-ups or missing items and that the costs matched the items.

Thanks Karen and Marcia!

The auction is always a fun filled event. I am sure that many magicians spent their "months grocery money" on magic "stuff." DVDs were the most popular items on the auction block. The bidding was fast, furious and of course hilarious. There were plenty of "bargain basement deals." Refreshments were provided by Wiley and Chantel Allen.

Thank you very much Wiley and Chantel!

Tony Chris donated some DVDs as raffle prizes. Thanks Tony!



Special thanks to the family of the late Munro Mackenzie for their generous donation of Munro's magic collection to the legacy fund. Several items were auctioned with proceeds going directly to the junior members

Former VMC member, Ray Medway donated some WGM DVDs and some VHS cassette tapes to the club's library. Thanks Ray!

The business portion of the meeting included the Halloween themed party for the October meeting, the best Halloween costume and the Tip Top and Tootsie contest, the November Christmas pot-luck dinner, and the 2015 roster book.

Graham Kita provided the auction forms and the bidding cards. Thanks Graham!

Dennis Chan and Billy Bales Hsueh sold raffle tickets. John Smithman, the club's official photographer took photos of the evening's events.

There were 40 members in attendance.

Thanks to Billy Hsueh who ran this very successful auction.

-I am Dennis Chan



# HOT-N-COLD

HERE'S A TRICK THAT YOU CAN PLAY ON YOUR OWN FINGERS, OR BETTER YET, THE FINGERS OF A FRIEND. ALL YOU NEED ARE THREE GLASSES FILLED WITH WATER. THE WATER IN ONE GLASS IS HOT, ANOTHER IS AT ROOM TEMPERATURE (MEDIUM) AND THE THIRD IS ICE-COLD.



PLACE THE GLASSES ON A TABLE AND ASK A FRIEND TO DIP ONE FINGER IN THE HOT WATER AND ONE FINGER IN THE COLD WATER AND HOLD THEM THERE FOR A MINUTE OR TWO.



HOT MEDIUM COLD

THEN TELL YOUR FRIEND TO DIP BOTH FINGERS IN THE MEDIUM-TEMPERATURE GLASS. INSTANTLY THE HOT FINGER FEELS COLD AND THE COLD FINGER FEELS HOT!



HOT MEDIUM COLD

## HOWDYDOIT?

THE NERVES IN YOUR FRIEND'S FINGERS BECOME "FATIGUED" AFTER HE HOLDS HIS FINGERTIPS IN THE HOT AND COLD WATER FOR AN EXTENDED TIME. THE MEDIUM-TEMPERATURE WATER ALERTS THE NERVE ENDINGS THAT THE HOT FINGER IS BEING PLACED IN COLDER WATER THAN IT WAS IN AND THE COLD FINGER IS BEING INSERTED INTO HOTTER WATER THAN IT WAS IN. THE SIGNALS IN HIS BRAIN GET SWITCHED, AND YOUR FRIEND GETS THE FREAKY SENSATION THAT THE MEDIUM WATER ACTUALLY IS TWO VERY DIFFERENT TEMPERATURES!

10/12

Mac & Bill King





## Call For Submissions:

Do you have something that you would like to have published in the Magical Minutes (the almost-monthly publication of the Vancouver Magic Circle)? Well...what are you waiting for? Just send it our way!

Email your ideas, suggestions, critiques, criticisms, feedback, thoughts, forethoughts, afterthoughts or just about anything else (that can be included in an email), to the Magical Minutes Editor at [editor@ibmring92.com](mailto:editor@ibmring92.com).

Please remember that this is a family publication!

**FRASER VALLEY MAGIC CIRCLE PRESENT:**  
**3RD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BANQUET AND SHOW!**  
Tickets \$39 for Dinner and Show  
2 lectures for Magicians!  
Visit [www.FVMC.ca](http://www.FVMC.ca) for details and tickets!

**Starring:** **November 15th, 2014**

**DANNY ORLEANS** **NORDEN & GORDON (MC)** **ROBERT BAXT**

"Thinking is easy, acting is difficult." -Johann Wolfgang von Goeth



## LIBRARY NEWS

The Librarian (Dennis Chan), will be doing the annual DVD inventory in December. All those members who have DVDs in their possession please return them at the October meeting or at the November pot-luck.

There will be no library business in November because of the Christmas pot-luck dinner.

## ROSTER BOOK UPDATES

Hello fellow magicians. We are currently in the process of compiling the 2015 VMC Roster Book. Please check your 2014 roster just to make sure that all your information is correct and up to date. If there are any changes such as phone, e-mail, website and other bits of information please contact our Roster Book Editor, John Smithman (thanks John!!!), via email at [smithman@champions.ca](mailto:smithman@champions.ca).

