



V — RING 92 — VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

September 2012 the Charles Howard Ring

www.ibmring92.com

THE MAGICAL MINUTES NEWSLETTER

Since 1942

Annual VMC Auction September 27th

IMPORTANT UPDATE: For those who would like to sell their magic item at the VMC Auction, you must contact Auction Chair Billy Hsueh immediately at MindXplosionMagic@hotmail.com

On September 27th, the Sunrise Community Hall will be transformed into the VMC Auction Hall!

This auction allows magicians like you to bring your old, used, new, or unwanted magic effects and sell it to other magicians! You know what they say, one magician's trash is another magician's FISM act!

Download Auction Rules, Buyer Registration and Seller Forms from our website.

Please send all Buyer/Seller registration forms to Auction Chair, [Billy Hsueh](#).

Here is the schedule for the evening:

- 6:00pm- Sellers arrive and set up
- 6:30pm- Auction preview
- 7:30pm- Auction begins
- ??:??- Auction ends



NEW THIS YEAR:

Emotional support counsellors will be on hand to help sellers break their irrational fear of parting with 'stuff' that has been sitting untouched for years and in spite of the fact that they understand *intellectually* that they are better off selling it and using the money to buy new magic props that will sit untouched for years...they still cannot bring themselves to let go. *Due to lack of interest*
Addiction counsellors will also be available to consult with buyers who just can't seem to say "NO" to a bargain.

Those who are selling, please arrive before 6:30 in order to set up your stuff! It is important that the Auction starts ON TIME. Why you ask? Because we don't want to stay until Midnight... and I doubt you would either!

SEE YOU THERE!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Vancouver Magic Circle!

It looks like summer has come to a close (though the weather doesn't seem to notice), which means we are back to the good fortune of seeing each other for our monthly meetings. I trust everyone enjoyed their summer. Despite the summer break from our General Meetings, the Executive Board has been in constant communication over all the events we have planned for the coming months.

Make sure to set aside a day (or three) to dig through your magic drawer and uncover some of your unused material for the Annual VMC Auction on September 27th. One magician's unused trick is another magician's closer (that's how that saying goes...right?). More details about the Auction can be found in this issue of the Magical Minutes.

With November just around the corner, the excitement is building over the Victoria Magic Circle's turn at hosting the 3 of Clubs Convention running November 2nd-4th. Make sure to get your registrations in quickly through their website (<http://www.victoriamagiccircle.com/convention>) and join us for a magical weekend. As you may know, as the hosting circle for the 2013 convention, we are responsible for presenting the opening night show to highlight the excellent talent our circle has to offer. If you would like to volunteer to perform a 20 minute set in the show, please send your information to Bryn Williams at brynmagician@gmail.com by September 20th. The performers will be selected by ballot by the general membership at the September 27th meeting.

A few weeks after the 3 of Clubs Convention, we will be holding our Christmas Dinner on November 22nd at the Sunrise Community Centre as we did last year. The event will be a potluck dinner and will feature the Junior and Adult Stage Magic Competitions. More details on this event will be released as the date nears.

As we are just past the half way point in our year, I would like to take a brief moment to reflect upon all the work that has been done by the phenomenal members of our circle. I do apologize in advance if I forget to mention someone, please know that I sincerely appreciate and value everyone who has committed so much of their time to the circle. Everything we have accomplished as a group would simply be impossible without these individuals.

1st Vice President Graham Kita: Graham expertly organizes every one of our lectures and is always willing to go the extra mile to help out and get a job done.

2nd Vice President Gord McIntosh: Gord orchestrated the Children's Magician of the Year show in June and has taken on the job of going through all 71 new DVDs the board has acquired for the members.

Treasurer Phil Razon: for working for hours to bring the Treasury into the digital age and is always be ready to help when needed

Secretary Andrew Yeo who, though he has now resigned from his position due to work commitments, was quick with the keyboard to document anything and everything happening at our functions.

Sergeant-at-Arms Dennis Chan: This man is a machine. There's simply no other adjective to be used. In addition to helping out with refreshments at every meeting, selling Raffle tickets, running the Library table and cataloguing the entire 2000+ items in the library, Dennis also stores and maintains the Circle's trophies and awards and is consistently willing to invest hours of time into any task that needs doing.

Past President Bryn Williams: Bryn has always been open with his advice and counsel during this year. He is quick to volunteer for anything he can, which exemplifies an exceptional Past President. In my term of Past President, I hope I can offer as much help as he has to us.



Continued on page 3...

Steve Dickson: Regardless of what the task may be, Steve is a dedicated member through and through. His work with the VMC Facebook Group has revitalized the entire forum as a place of community, sharing and brotherhood and his experience in magic makes him a leading member in magical knowledge and a rare resource to all.

Dennis Hewson: Dennis has attended virtually every meeting and always has the best interests of the circle in his heart. He is always looking for ways to better the circle, exemplifying true dedication.

Munro Mackenzie: With years of Ring Reporter experience under his belt, hidden in pockets of his VMC vest, and stashed inside his walker, Munro is impeccable with his notes and represents our circle in the international magazine The Linking Ring.

Billy Hsueh: As Activity Chair, he has taken the wheel at events like the Children's Magician of the Year show, the Summer Picnic, the Annual Auction and so much more. He organizes refreshments for every meeting and has taken over the interim role of Secretary. Billy has quickly become a part of my go-to team when something needs to be done, and it needs to be done right.

John Smithman: John has been an unbelievable help throughout the year. His training and expertise in team management and his knowledge of business practices has been invaluable. He clicks away at his camera throughout our events and happily shares his photography with all to see. John has offered support that has resulted in the flourishing of our circle and for that, he is simply an incredible man.

Shawn Farquhar: Despite his frequent trips overseas, borders, secret tunnels in mountains, and magical wardrobes to Narnia, Shawn still manages to keep the VMC in his primary focus. Single-handedly rebuilding the 2012 Roster Book and creating all our Membership Cards from scratch is no small feat. A life-member of the circle and a constant offer of support and morale for the group, Shawn goes above and beyond every day.

Henry Tom: As Competition Chairman, Henry keeps our magical feature events running smooth and above board. From taking contestant information to arranging the transport of competition materials, he is always on point.

Rabbi Don Pacht: The newsletter speaks for itself. Rabbi Don manages to produce what I consider to be a work of art, every month! He is responsible, punctual, and caring and puts hours of his time into highlighting our magical memories of our time together in the Magical Minutes newsletter.

Clinton W. Gray: Have you seen our website?! Lightning fast and as sharp as a steak knife, Clinton manages to keep our primary information database running and updated throughout the year. As soon as new information comes our way, a new event is finalized or anything else, Clinton is quick to have everything ready for you the members, keeping everyone on the same page.

Mike Norden: In the span of 2 months, Mike has taken on the job of convention chairman for our 3 of Clubs convention 2013 and has his hands open for more! He has volunteered to mail out the remaining membership cards and roster books to those of you who we don't get to see as often, and continues to offer his guidance to the Executive, thanks to his years of experience in office.

I would also like to thank some members who go above and beyond to make our circle a better place: Brianna Carlson for her delicious baked slices of heaven at every meeting, Bruce and Jennifer Meyers for their constant willingness to help out in any way they can, Matthew Jones for his exemplary attitude at all meetings making sure to perform at every chance he gets and always ready to lend a hand showing everyone exactly what it means to be a VMC member.

Thank you so much to everyone who has helped out in the past year. I'm sure I have missed some folks and for that, I do apologize. Everyone is such an integral part of our group and I'm so happy to have been able to accomplish everything we have up to date.

But don't mistake this for a break, we've still got tons of magic up our sleeves for everyone to enjoy!

See you at the Auction!

Yours in Magic...*Alex Seaman*

President, Vancouver Magic Circle

Convention Report

By: Dennis Chan

The Vancouver Magic Circle

I.B.M. Ring #92

Meets 4th Thursday of each month except August & December at Sunrise Community Hall, 1950

Windermere St. Vancouver, B.C. at 7p.m.

President-Alex Seaman

Hello fellow magicians. This is a nutshell write-up on the 2012 PCAM convention held in Seattle Washington .

There were 39 Canadians in attendance which also included family and friends. The line-up of lecturers were Farrell Dillon, Eric Jones, Kainoa Harbottle, Rick Merrill, Fielding West, Curtis Kam, and Harry Allen. A special draw was held to have a free workshop with Rick Merrill. The winners were Brianna Carlson, Ken Aitken, Dennis Hewson, Eric Bedard and Stephen Minch (US). Canadian contestants; adult close-up category were: Billy Hsueh, Shayne King, Ray Roch, Jonathan Hamilton, Leif David and James Hanson.

Canadian contestants in the stage competition were Brianna Carlson and James Sun (both juniors). The adult competitors were: Henry Tom, Alex Seaman, James Hanson, Heather and Sandra McNeill, Tony Chris, and Jonathan Hamilton.

Results from the contests, Canadians.

Adult close-up: 2nd place Jonathan Hamilton, Platform: 2nd place Heather and Sandra McNeill

Mentalism: 1st place Tony Chris. (This is a new category).

Children's Entertainer: 2nd place David Leif

Comedy: 2nd place Henry Tom

Adult stage : 2nd place James Hanson

The winners of the Bag o' tricks contest were Jonathan Hamilton and Mike Norden.

With so many things happening throughout the convention, I may have missed some names, If I missed any Canadian contestants , I apologize, please let me know.

The audience was treated to a special performance by Renee Bibeau, five-time world champion in rope skipping. Her rope skipping, combined with her dance routine was very energetic, fast paced and well choreographed to an old jazz tune called " Sing Sing Sing."

After her routine, she had Henry Tom come up on stage to do a " do as I do " routine. Henry did great!

Many thanks to Brian Cook and to his " behind the scenes " crew for all

their hard work to make this event happen.

PCAM 2013 will be held in Burbank, California, August

1-4...**save the date!**

SPACE FOR RENT

This space is available for advertising, special greetings or parking a small boat. Please contact the Magical Minutes Editor to be placed on hold and eventually told that no operators are available.

Summer Mystery Mug

Last issue we featured "Canada's Cutest Conjurer" known to us as Alex Seaman (or El Presidente, as I like to call him)

We had one correct submission! Unfortunately, I can't remember who it was, so please email me if it was you.

This month's Mystery Mug feature is on page 8.



MURRAY'S
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The Victoria Magic Circle is proud to host the

2012 Tri-City 3 of Clubs Convention

5 AMAZING LECTURES
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The convention is being held at the Harbour Towers Hotel – right in the heart of Beautiful Downtown Victoria. Join us for a weekend of unbelievable magic in the company of good friends.

featuring

Jon Armstrong, Nick Lewin, Andrew Goldenhersh, Murray Hatfield & Teresa, Eric Bedard, Tony Chris, Vitally Beckman, Lance Pierce and more...



Early Bird Registration - \$85.00 (til Sept. 15th)

Late Registration - \$100.00 (after Sept. 15th)

Online Registration at www.victoriamagiccircle.com/convention

Harbour Towers Hotel

Special Convention Rate - \$84.00

Book Early!

345 Quebec Street
Victoria, BC V8V 1W4
Phone 250 385-2405

November 2-4, 2012

PICNIC PORTRAITS...



A HUGE thank you to John Smithman for the photos!

SOMA WOWS VANCOUVER MAGICIANS

By: Andrew Yeo

On Friday, September 14th, SOMA lectured to a crowd of 43 magicians at Douglas College in Burnaby. It was a fantastic presentation filled with entertainment, magic and real practical advice. The main theme was on the appropriate use of music within a Magic Act.

Here are a few soundbites:

- “If you want to be original in your act, be original in your music as well.”
- “Music fills up the space.”
- “Music creates an atmosphere, people are drawn into a timeline they once knew and feelings come back. That's what makes it powerful.”
- “Don't use amateur music, previously recorded like a garage band. Use good quality music.”
- “Music with lyrics can be disturbing and distracting, and can distract the attention away of the audience” (e.g. They can be singing to the song while you're doing your act.)
- “Don't use the same piece of music everyone is using (...like Mission Impossible.)”



There are 3 categories of music in Magical acts:

● **Background music**- gives good energy and fills up the space. It is the easiest simplest piece of music, no checkpoint, don't have to pay attention, it backs you up, creates an atmosphere, people relax and applause a little more. Has a good feel to it. It adds something extra.

● **Theme specific music**- If your act has a story or theme to it, this music fits and contributes to the theme. (e.g. Christmas carols to Christmas, Black and white by Michael Jackson).

● **Sound effects and musical gags**- This is the most difficult category to do properly. Sound effects must be in sync with your act.

To sum it all up...
“**Make sure the music matches your style, or else you'll look horrible.**”



SOMA also performed a number of magical effects and then joined the gang at Boston Pizza! (Hey, why don't we ever go for falafel after a lecture?)



More fascinating, although fairly useless information that may very well make you the most informed, yet least listened to person at the party...

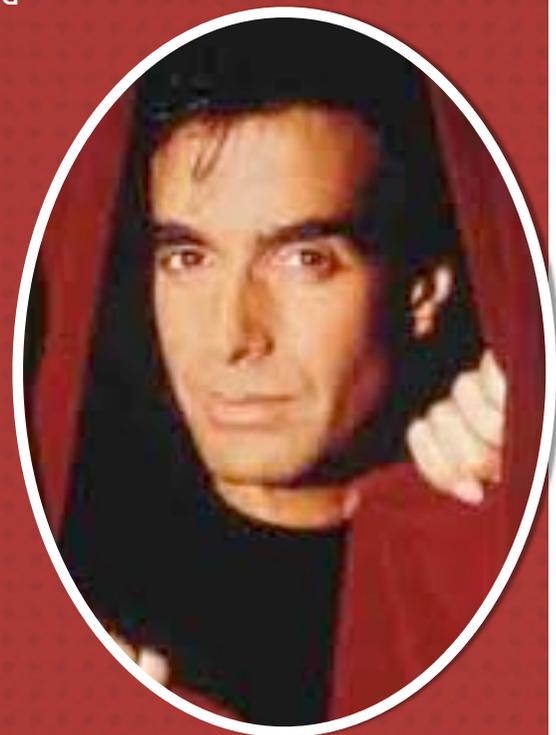
Magician David Copperfield may very well hold more Guinness World Records than any other magician alive today.

(That may also be a complete fabrication as this intrepid reporter is well known to concoct more 'facts' and 'statistics' than any other intrepid reporter alive today)

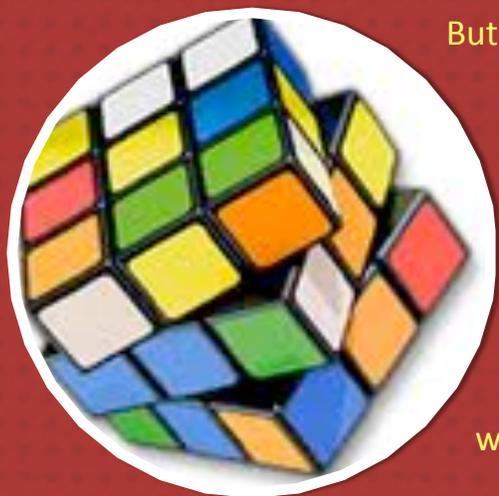
Still, the 2006 Guinness World Record Book lists the following credits to Copperfield:

- *Highest career earnings as a magician
- *Highest Broadway gross in a week
- *Largest Broadway attendance in a week
- *Largest international television audience for a magician
- *Most magic shows performed in a year
- *Largest private collection of magic artifacts
- *Most valuable poster
- *Largest work archive by a magician
- *Highest annual earnings by a magician
- *Largest illusion ever staged
- *Most Tickets Sold Worldwide By A Solo Entertainer

From the period 1984 - 2004 , the magician David Copperfield (USA) sold approximately 39,690,000 tickets to his shows.



But wait...there's more!



Fastest Time To Solve A Rubik Cube (from Guinness World Record Book 2003):

Vietnamese refugee Minh Thai won the World Rubik Cube Championship in Budapest Hungary, on June 5 1982. His winning time was 22.95 seconds. Erno Rubik's (Hungary) cube, which has 43, 252, 003, 274, 489, 856, 856, 000 combinations, was patented in 1977.

Research and fact finding for this feature was done by Dennis Chan, fabrication of 'facts' and 'statistics' by Rabbi Don Pacht.



Jay Sankey



Eric Jones

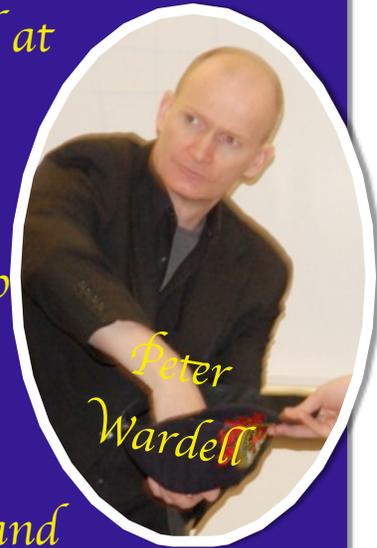
WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN!

As we all transition back to our busy lives after what was (hopefully) a relaxing, fun-filled summer, this is a great time to look back at the last 12 months of programming of the Vancouver Magic Circle and at what a ride it has been!



David
Acer

From guest lectures to public shows, monthly competitions and family friendly events. Not to mention 4 days of wall-to-wall magic at last summer's M.A.G.I.C Convention!



Peter
Wardell

Without a doubt...the VMC continues to flourish and grow as an organization committed to furthering the art of magic and supporting professionals and amateurs alike in fostering their love of Magic.



M.A.G.I.C. Convention



Billy's Chili

We're Looking for Circle News!...REALLY!

Our website www.vancouvermagiccircle.com has a full page dedicated to Circle news comprised of any magical happenings throughout our area. We are asking any members who would like to have a highlighted story about any of their events happening recently, to email our webmaster Clinton W. Gray with all the details so they can be featured on our website!

Members can contact him at webmaster@ibmring92.com.

AD SPACE AVAILABLE

Do you have a message that you would like to communicate to the more than 4 people who read this publication each and every month? Do you want your message to reach magicians with way too much time on their hands? Is your message approximately 1 inch tall and 7 inches wide? Well...this is the publication for you! Please contact the Editor (dpacht@vhebrewacademy.com), for pricing and other difficult to understand information.

Library update September 2012

Many thanks to Errol Lipschitz and to Ken Bellemare for donating some magic books for the club's library. The total library inventory now comes to 2,967 items including books, DVDS, VHS cassette tapes (what the heck are VHS cassette tapes?) and publications, Mum, Genii, Linking Ring plus a whole pile of other 'stuff'.

The VMC Library is a fantastic...AND FREE...resource for our members. Please be sure to check out our selection of DVDs at the next club meeting! You can always contact Dennis Chan arrange a visit to see the entire Library collection.

Angels Events



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www.angelsevents.ca

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Mystery Mug

One cute kid...

PUT A NAME TO THE FACE
AND WIN!

Email your response to the editor (see address below), all correct responses received by October 10, 2012 will be placed in a drawing to win (you guessed it), a MUG! Email submissions to

dpacht@vhebrewacademy.com.