



— RING 92 —
V

June 2016

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

the Charles Howard Ring

Join us in **June** for the Impromptu Card **Magic** Competition

**NO
GIMMICKS!**

**The
ultimate
test of skill
and creativity!**

**NO
STOOGES!**

**52
CARDS**



**10
FINGERS**

Thursday, June 23, 2016

Contestants must register with the
competition chair 24 hours prior to the event!
Visit www.ibmring92.com for more information.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Members!

It has been a whirlwind of a June! Can you believe it is already HALF WAY through 2016?

This month was a mixed bag month, we laughed, we cried and we worked together to support each other.

Congratulations to Jeff Christensen for putting on another amazing charity show! We look forward to hearing the results!

We have an upcoming lecture on July 22nd, we are getting Wes Barker to come lecture for us! Wes is a very creative magician, he has been on multiple tv shows, and best of all fooled Penn & Teller! Tickets are available on our website!

Alex and I will be heading to the IBM Convention in San Antonio, Texas on June 30th. We will be representing Canada and the Vancouver Magic Circle, Ring #92, the largest and only honour ring in Canada! For a play by play of our shenanigans, check out our Facebook, Instagram or Twitter June 30th - July 6th!

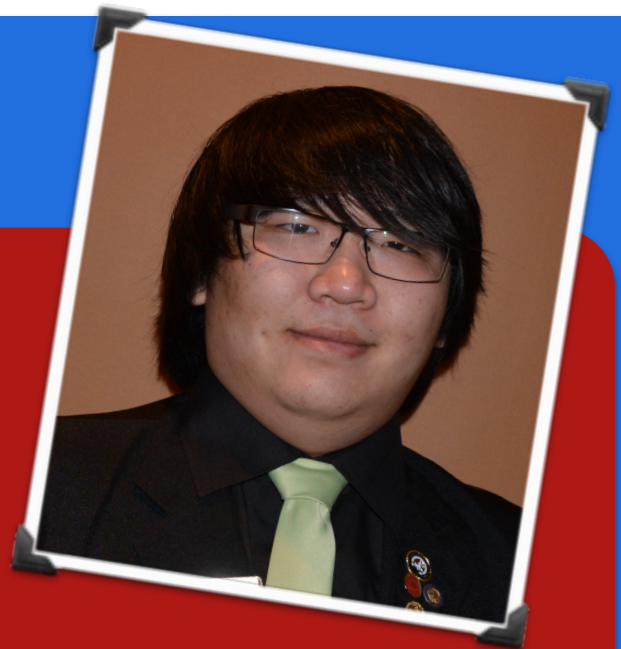
Our Annual Summer Picnic is coming up soon! Check you roster book calendar of events for the date! We will be emailing out details of the event soon!

The 3 of Clubs Convention is going well! The talent list is slowly being released, so make sure you sign-up for the low low price of \$100 CDN at 3ofclubsconvention.com, before prices go up on July 1st!

It is with a heavy heart that I have to announce fellow member and my friend, and I am sure many of yours Gordon McIntosh has passed away on June 17th. The magic community has lost so much this year already, and now we have lost a beloved member who does all he can to make everyone happy. Rest in peace Gord.

Our next meeting will be held at the Sunrise Community Hall where Steve Dickson will be doing a workshop on his coin and bottle, one of his signature pieces. Don't miss out on this chance! It is also your chance to compete for the Ray Gamble Trophy (its big and heavy...), for impromptu card magic! Juan Garcia will be providing refreshments! So come on out on June 23rd at 7pm and have some fun!

See you all soon!

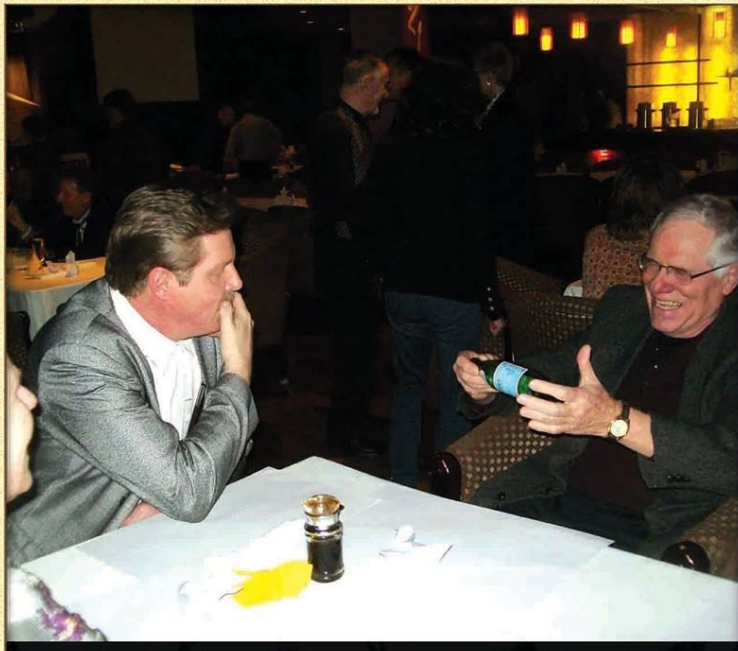


A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, located at the bottom right of the page. The signature appears to be 'B. H.' or similar, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE
PRESENTS

Steve Dickson

WORKSHOP



Coin in Bottle

SUNRISE HALL
1950 WINDERMERE ST. VANCOUVER B.C.

DOORS OPEN 6:30P.M.



Thursday, June 23rd, 2016

CHILDREN'S MAGICIAN OF THE YEAR CONTEST



Congratulations to Shawn Farquhar our 2016 winner!

Murray Lecture is a Hit!

Many thanks to Jeff Christensen, the club's lecture chair who was able to bring Murray SawChuck (The guy with the hair) from Las Vegas to do a lecture. Murray is originally from Burnaby, BC. He started his magical career while still in high school. His mentors at that time were Shawn Farquhar and David Wilson. Another mentor was Marvyn Roy, also known as "Mr. Electric." He eventually joined the Vancouver Magic Circle and to this day he is still a member! Many of us can still remember when his dad used to drive him to magic meetings and lectures.



Murray's lecture started off with some video clips of his Las Vegas shows. He demonstrated some of his favourite magical effects. He is also known for his CD routine.

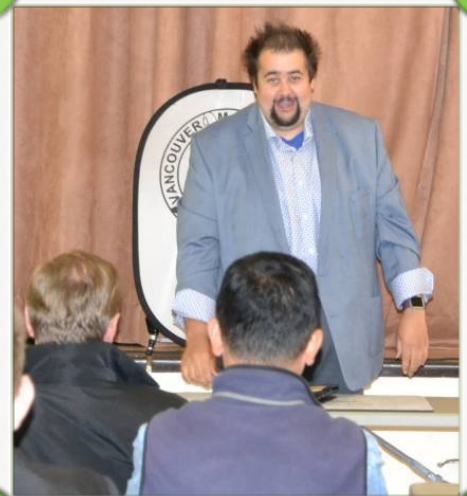
Murray has been working in Las Vegas for fourteen years. During the lecture he stressed the importance of proper attire. Many questions were asked about his magical career and he took the time to answer them all. The "store" was busy with many of Murray's products.

Thanks Murray for a great and informative lecture!



May Madness!

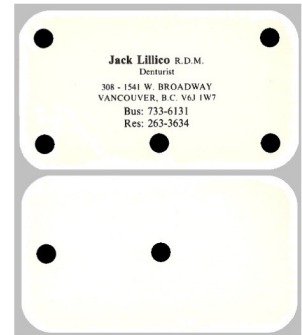
Jam Session and Close-Up Show.



SPECIAL SECTION



Vancouver Magic Circle IBM Ring 92 Magical Minutes SPECIAL INTERVIEW of VMC Charter Member...



Jack Lillico

by VMC Membership Chair John Smithman April 14, 2016

I interviewed 70-year club member Jack Lillico at the home of legendary magician and author Ray Roch and his wife Pat on April 14th 2016. These are my notes of the Interview.

"Thanks for being here Jack. Please tell me how you found the Vancouver Magic Circle in its early days?"



THE YOUNG MAGICIAN - Jack Lillico



Born in 1927, Jack started magic at 8 years old. Pretty soon he had *a burning desire to learn more about it*. "I did garden parties and church events. Then, I met Rolf Blackstaad. We called ourselves The Black Jack Magic Club and we had a blackjack as our insignia in 1937. I was 10 years old."

"After watching WC Shelly's magic show at our school, Rolf and I rode our bikes from Point Grey to Shelly's Shaugnessy home and rang the doorbell. Mr. Shelly ushered us in to show us his wonderful basement magic workshop and his 4th floor home theatre, complete with a stage and tiered seating. We were absolutely amazed. It was like Magic Land! Shelly eventually sold this house and moved to Wallace Crescent in Point Grey, practically across the street from our house."

"We went to lots of magic shows at Shelley's house."



A prominent Vancouver citizen and former M.L.A. is seen above working happily with his hobby, at which he excels. He is W.C. Shelly, believed to have raised more money for charity through his conjuring and other magic tricks than any other man in Canada.



William C. Shelly was the second president of the Vancouver Magic Circle (1944-1945). He was a prominent Vancouver businessman and politician. William Shelly owned Vancouver's 4X Bakery chain and was BC's minister of Finance; but he loved magic and would perform 'really good' 90-minute magic shows free for schools and hospitals in the Vancouver area. They named a park in his honour.

William Shelly and Charles Howard formed Vancouver Magic Circle club in 1942.

"When I was 15, my dad asked me, 'Do you want to join the Magic Circle?' I was very excited about that. Thornton Poole, the current club president, belonged to the same Masonic Lodge as my dad. The magic club was two years old when I joined in November 1944. Thornton invited me down to the Devonshire Hotel where they were meeting at the time. I met CKWX broadcaster Ken Hughes and we joined the club together. Ken Hughes and I produced the club bulletin for 4 or 5 years on an old Gestetner at the radio station. There will be copies of those in the archives."



Hotel Devonshire, from a postcard by Edward Goodall



Hotel Vancouver photo by Don Coltman

THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE in the 1940s

"My first meeting was the club's last meeting at the Hotel Devonshire. We moved into the Hotel Vancouver in 1945. You couldn't even get into that meeting if you didn't have a suit and tie on. It was a classy club. We met on the last Thursday of each month and the club had about 45-50 members at that time. It was a kind of exclusive club until we opened the gates. "

A Local News Item!!



Vancouver Province: 1944 marks the dramatic entry into local history of New Westminster's Ernest Alvia "Smokey" Smith. On October 21 Smokey, a Seaforth Highlander, aged 30, won the Victoria Cross for bravery in action in northern Italy. The VC is the highest and most prestigious award for gallantry in the face of the enemy that can be awarded to a soldier in the Commonwealth forces. This popular news item may have influenced Jack's borrowing the identity of a Seaforth Highlander for his trip to California in 1946.

MAGIC MENTORSHIP

"I met Wilf Hooper at the first meeting I went to. He was a short guy with tiny hands and he could really handle cards. I took a box of my tricks to that first meeting, but I didn't have the guts to open it after seeing Wilf Hooper perform. *I saw stuff there that was amazing, you know.* This guy, Hooper, took us into his home at Broadway and Main. Every Friday night, Ken Hughes and I went to his place to learn card magic. I remember him only for the first two months because he quit the club over some beef and he never came back. Most of my magic growth, though, was at WC Shelly's house. Every once in a while I would go up there and get a real education!"

THE TRIP TO LOS ANGELES



The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada are Vancouver's infantry regiment.

"I remember Francis Martineau joined in 1946. Martineau was a great magician and an excellent illustrator. I was 19 and I wanted to be a cartoonist. I dreamed of being an apprentice at Disney. I thought I could go to



the Pacific Coast Association of Magicians conference, who were meeting close to Disney Studios in Los Angeles and drop by, maybe. So, at 19, I sold my sailboat for \$250 to get some money to work with. I swapped a bottle of Rye for a Seaforth Highlanders' outfit and joined two military friends hitchhiking to Los Angeles in our kilts." Jack is on the right in both pictures above.

"We had a very good time in Los Angeles. I went to the PCAM, but only for one day because I wanted to go over to MGM where I got autographs from some of their stars, like Kathryn Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Mickey Rooney, Agnes Moorehead, Gene Kelly, Kathryn Grayson and Arthur Lake."

"Although I had intended to go to Disney and work as a cartooning apprenticeship, I never got there because one of the guys got homesick. He was a big guy and he was crying on a streetcar one day. I said, 'What are you crying about?' He said, 'Well, I'm homesick.' So we hitchhiked back up to San Francisco."

Stars that Jack met in Hollywood (1946)



"Ed Gwynne was in a stage play that we got tickets for. When it was over, we were in the lobby when a woman came over and said, 'I would like to buy one of your Glengarry hats.' Well, we said we couldn't sell her the hat. So, we promised to send her one when we got home. Which we did. She owned the Regal Pale Brewing Company and invited us for lunch the next day. After a morning of taste testing her ales and then lunch, she asked me, 'Where are you going next?' I said we were going to hitchhike over to Oakland to catch a ride on an Army transport plane up to Seattle. So she offered to drive us over there and we had a nice, chauffeured limousine drive to the Oakland Airport. Within 15 minutes we caught a DC4 ride up to Seattle and came home."



MAGIC PROPS

"In 1946 and 47, I worked for Jon Kirby (real name Jon Whitlock), who made magic props on 41st, 2300 block. Kirby paid me in trade... you know, tables and stuff. He created a lot of my equipment. "

"Kirby also trained the first female member of our club, Celeste Evans. She paid him two bucks a lesson to teach her magic. Jon died in the late 1940s. "

As a magician I performed rope tricks, egg bag, clippo (cut-and-restored newspaper clippings), Linking Rings, Billiard Balls, card tricks and Lux Soft Soap. About performing, Jack said, "You know you have to do certain magic for kids and drunks and church crowds. You can't just do willy nilly."

A nice wand and card box was given to me by the father of a girl I was going around with to encourage me to marry his daughter in the early 40s. Jack chuckles, "I didn't. But I still have the P&L wand and card box". Jack is on the left, with a clown face. The 'girl he didn't marry' is on his left.



"Meanwhile, I practiced magic for about 5-6 years in the 1950s. As a magician, I used to have about 55 or 60 tricks that I could do on stage. I did two one-hour shows in my career. I thought it was too much so I shortened them to 20 minutes. I was doing a show up in Shaughnessy, in a home like WC Shelly's, when one of my tricks involved swallowing needles. After the act, I counted the needles and I was missing one. They took me to the hospital where I was x-rayed; but they couldn't see the needle. So, they sent me home with orders to eat rolled oats and drink castor oil. Jack chuckled, "I took the oats, but not the castor oil. They never found the needle! It may work its way through and out my toe someday!"

JACK'S CAREER ALTERNATED between MAGIC, DENTURES and ANTIQUE CARS.

About magic, Jack said, "I was really into it for many years. I subsidized my living with magic shows."

DENTURISM

"I also learned to make dentures in our basement for my dad's friends. I got \$80 for a set of teeth. This experience prepared me for my later career as a Denturist. But my dad was concerned that I could run into trouble with the law for selling teeth without a licence. So, he came to me one day and said, 'I don't

want to see your name in the paper for bootlegging false teeth.' So I had to quit that. In 1946, I worked as a dental technician for \$6 a week, gradually climbing to \$18 a week after two years. Denturism was legalized in 1957. Meanwhile, I worked as a fabric manufacturer's sales agent for nearly 30 years."

"In 1983, I got certified as a denturist and worked legitimately for 30 years before taking down my shingle in 2010 to look after my ailing wife until she passed away a couple of years ago."

DRAMATIC GROWTH and CHALLENGES in the 1950s

"The Magic Circle put on a packed show once a year at the Vancouver Hotel and we carried it out to UBC (The University of British Columbia) with a big stage production... Guys came up from Seattle and Portland to do magic acts. There was a nice dinner, partly open to the public (by invitation). We held dinners at the Vancouver Hotel and then went out to a theatre at UBC for the big production."

"When George Abray became president in the 1950s, they opened the doors and the membership swelled to about 125 members... but half of these guys couldn't even shuffle a deck of cards. It weakened the club's prestige."

BAG OF TRICKS AND MEMORABILIA

Jack showed us some of his keepsakes from a large gym bag that he brought to our interview. He showed the beautifully-made magic wand and wooden card box that were given to him by the father of a girl he was dating. "I think he wanted me to marry his daughter... I didn't, but I still have the P&L Wand and cardbox! Here's my first magic book. There's a really good trick in there about 'the Pulse'." Jack handed me a old book with yellowed pages.



Jack had 1946 and 1947 Roster books, pictures of Ken Hughes and others, an article from the Vancouver Courier. He showed us a beautiful set of Linking Rings and a homemade Die Box. He remembered doing Rope tricks, egg bag, Clippo, and Lux Soft Soap tricks. "You have to do magic for kids, drunks and for church groups. All kinds of audiences."

ANTIQUE CARS



Jack Lillico was president of the Optimists Club when he rebuilt an old Model T car. He celebrated Expo 67 in Montreal by driving there in his Model T and visiting other Optimist Clubs enroute.



He repeated his trip in 1986 with his son Greg when Vancouver hosted the World's Fair by travelling across The Rockies once again in his Model T. This trip was covered by CTV reporter Gloria Macarenko. Jack shared a video of the later tour where he ended up at a Model Ts convention in Stettler, Alberta.



Ford enthusiasts celebrate Model T's 100th.

CTVbc.ca Thursday, November 27, 2008 7:28PM PST

Several Ford enthusiasts met at a Science World parking lot on Thursday to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the brand's legendary Model T.

Greg Lillico bought his first Model T from a farmer in Bella Coola for \$150 twenty-six years ago. "Driving and maintaining the century-old cars is a labour of love."

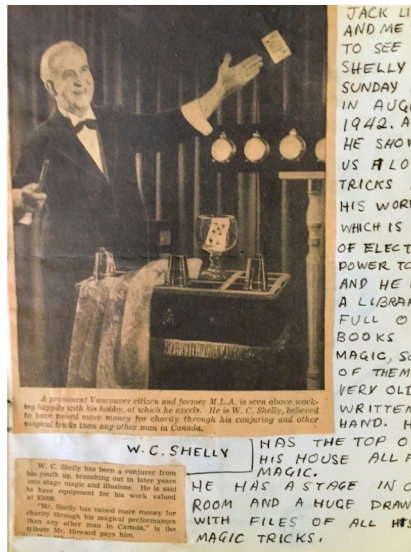
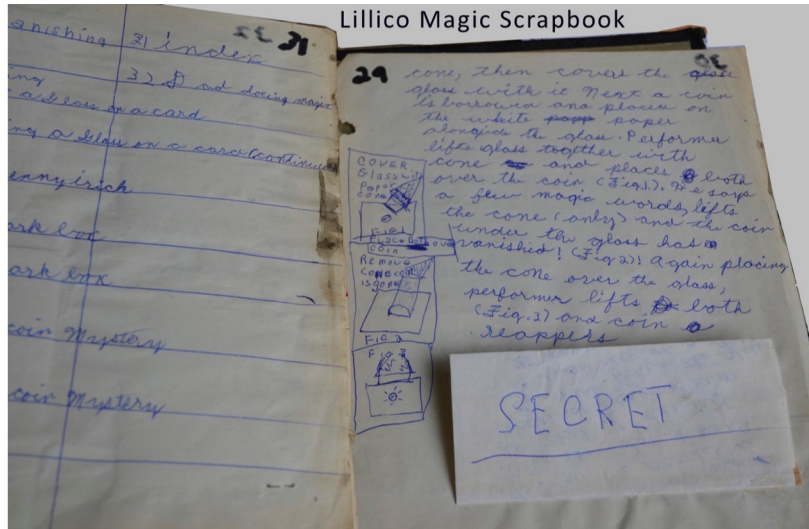
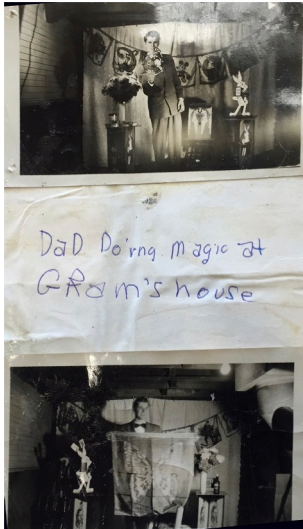
"It was quite a mess, it was all rusty, no paint on it, engine was missing and no top," he said. Over the years he has restored the car -- spending a lot of his time scouring the countryside for spare parts. Now he's been able to drive the car all the way to Stettler, Alberta, to a Model T convention.



It was 100 years ago last month that the model began rolling off the assembly lines -- a car that even the workers who built it could afford. In all, 15 million cars were made -- outselling everything but the Volkswagen Beetle. An astonishing 500,000 cars are still around -- a testament to their longevity. Well maintained, they could last another hundred years.

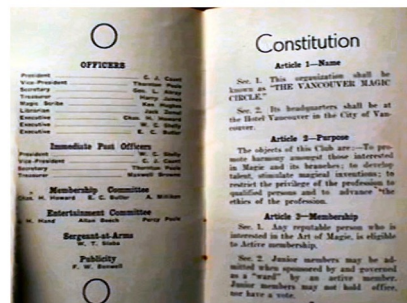
SCRAPBOOK

Jack Lillico had a scrapbook for his magic photos, clippings, and notes. His scrapbook has entries made by his son, also. For example, one page had the note, "DaD Doing Magic at GRam's house"



Jack showed us two old Club Rosters he kept all these years (1946 and 1947).

The love of magic lasts forever!





It takes team work to make the dream work. Above are the members of our interviewing team: Behind John and Jack are VMC Past President Graham Kita, VMC Sgt at Arms/Librarian/Ring 92 Reporter Dennis Chan, author magician Ray Roch and VMC Past President magician Alex Seaman.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE THEN AND NOW

I asked Jack, "Can you compare the differences between the club in 1947 and the magic club today?"

Jack paused as if to reflect carefully and then he said, "You're meeting in a community centre, we met in a hotel. In those days, the club had prestige. You couldn't just walk in and attend a meeting. Today everything seems to be different. But the World has changed. Back then, I was not computer savvy. I never did get into computers, but I saw my friend Ken Hughes drop into the computer and I lost him. Today, I go to my doctor's office and everyone in the waiting room is punching their computers. It's a double-edged sword. But then, there was more privacy in magic in those days. If somebody came down and did his own trick, it would be done by everybody the next day. Back then club members were doctors, business owners and professionals. There was more secrecy in those days. People were reluctant to share their secrets. Although there were a few good mentors like WC Shelly, Thornton Poole, and Wilf Hooper who were quick to help young people learn magic. Thank God that they did."

I thanked Jack for sharing his memories with us, "You gave us excellent stories and examples of magic life in the 40s. The information you're sharing will be enjoyed, honoured and treasured by our club members. We will make this video available to them through our library."

John Smithman

Membership Chair and Club Photographer
The Vancouver Magic Circle.





TAP A CAP

HERE'S HOW TO CONVINCE YOUR FRIENDS THAT YOU POSSESS SUPERHUMAN ABILITIES USING NOTHING MORE THAN A STRAW AND A BOTTLE CAP



5/29

HOLD OUT THE STRAW AND THE BOTTLE CAP AND TELL A FRIEND TO WATCH WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.



OKEYDOKEY

WITH YOUR FRIEND FACING YOU, HOLD THE STRAW ABOVE THE CAP



COUNT TO THREE, THEN QUICKLY BRING THE STRAW STRAIGHT DOWN ONTO THE CAP LIKE YOU ARE STABBING IT.



LIFT THE STRAW UP TO REVEAL THAT YOU HAVE INDEED DRIVEN IT STRAIGHT THROUGH THE CAP



YOU JUST PROVE A FLIMSY PLASTIC STRAW THROUGH A METAL BOTTLE CAP INDISPUTABLE PROOF OF YOUR SUPERHUMAN POWER!



HOWDYDOIT?

BEFORE YOU PERFORM THE TRICK, YOU'LL NEED TWO BOTTLE CAPS. MAKE A HOLE IN ONE OF THE CAPS LARGE ENOUGH FOR THE STRAW TO FIT SNUGLY THROUGH IT. YOU CAN DO THIS BY GETTING A NAIL ABOUT THE SAME WIDTH AS THE STRAW AND HAMMERING IT THROUGH THE CAP WHEN PERFORMING THE TRICK, HOLD THE STRAW (WITH THE CAP ON IT) SO THAT IT'S HIDDEN FROM YOUR FRIEND'S VIEW BEHIND YOUR FINGERS. HOLD THE INTACT CAP WITH THE TIPS OF ALL FIVE

FINGERS OF YOUR OTHER HAND AS YOU BRING THE STRAW DOWN AGAINST THE INTACT CAP YOU LET THAT CAP DROP INTO YOUR PALM. YOUR FINGERS WILL HIDE THIS. WITH THAT CAP OUT OF THE WAY, QUICKLY PRESENT THE STRAW (WITH THE CAP ON IT) AND SHOW IT TO YOUR FRIEND. WHILE HE EXAMINES IT, SECRETLY DROP THE OTHER CAP INTO YOUR POCKET. THIS SHOULD ALL MOVE PRETTY QUICKLY, SO PRACTICE IT A FEW TIMES IN THE MIRROR. ONCE IT LOOKS GOOD TO YOU, IT WILL LOOK GOOD TO OTHERS.





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Call Care at: 778.846.6514

Email care.dyck@gmail.com

Visit us online: themagi.co



Limited Space Available. Register Today!

May Report

By: Dennis Chan

The May meeting started off with a jam session/workshop by Ray Wong and Steve Dickson. May is the month when the close-up competition is held; the Dick Gardner trophy for junior competitors and the H. B. MacLean trophy for adult competitors. Unfortunately both competitions did not take place. Most of the club's junior members are now adult members and only two people signed up for the adult competition. The minimum requirement is three.

To complete the fun and magical part of the evening, last year's winner of the H.B. MacLean trophy Rosalind Chan hosted and MC'd an event called Work in Progress. This event featured magicians who demonstrated some of their favourite effects that they use in their shows. People taking part were Ray Wong, Matthew Jones, Rosalind Chan, Yoosik Oum, Jordan Vo, Care Elise Dyck, and Steve Dickson. Thanks everyone!

During the business portion of meeting Billy Bales Hsueh and Alex Seaman gave an update of the Three of Clubs convention, which will take place in November. Registrations are going well. Alex mentioned that they have an all star line up of performers and lecturers.

Jeff Christensen, our lecture chair has some lecturers lined up for the balance of the Vancouver Magic Circle's 2016 magic year.

Many thanks
to
John



McFarlane for donating four magic books to the club's library. These books are from a magician friend's estate. Two of the books are very rare and they have been recorded in the reserve section of the library. Many thanks to Shawn Farquhar for donating his lecture notes titled "Bedjumpers."

First time attendees to the club's meeting were Steven Andrews and his family Gloria, William and "grandma" Lordis. They are from Kelowna. Another new guest was Andrew Wang from Malaysia. Other guests were Care Elise Dyck, Jordan Vo, Ana Spence, and Bryn Williams's two sons Kaden and Brody.

Matthew Jones provided the refreshments. He always orders a wide variety of pizzas including vegetarian pizzas. Graham Kita sold raffle tickets. John Smithman took photos of the evening's events.

There were 28 members and 10 guests in attendance.

-Dennis Chan

THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

PRESENTS

Wes Barker

LECTURE



Starring: Wes Barker

DOUGLAS COLLEGE

FOR TICKETS
WWW.IBMRING92.COM
OR CALL 604 739 0111

7:00PM.

Friday, July 22nd, 2016



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BE POLITE



**HAVE MEANINGFUL
PATTER**



DON'T CHALLENGE



**DON'T CALL YOUR
MAGIC "TRICKS"**



**DON'T PUT
ANYTHING IN
YOUR MOUTH**



**NEVER GIVE
AWAY SECRETS**



November 11-13, 2016

Register today at www.3ofclubsconvention.com.

"To solve the problems of today, we must focus on tomorrow." - Erik Nupponen

Please be sure to see this month's special 'Pull-out' Section featuring John Smithman's interview with Jack Lillico, VMC's oldest living member



Jack Lillico

NOW HIRING

The Magical Minutes Newsletter is looking to hire a new staff reporter.

The successful candidate will be a self-starter, ambitious, possess excellent oral and written communication skills and will want to work for free to help The Vancouver Magic Circle, the best Magic club in the world!

Please send Resume and Cover Letter to

newsletter@ibmring92.com.

