



V — RING 92 —

November 2014

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

the Charles Howard Ring

The Magical Minutes

JOIN US

*For the annual VMC Pot-Luck Christmas Dinner
Thursday, November 27, 2014 @ The Sunrise Community Centre*



This is a dramatization...the food will not likely look this good!

As always, we will be holding our Vancouver Magic Circle Stage Competitions for the [W.C.Shelly Trophy](#) and [Percy Poole](#) that night. Anyone wishing to participate please contact [Henry Tom](#).

We are asking members to bring a non-perishable food item for the food bank. We are also doing a secret Santa gift exchange (the gift should be between \$15-\$20).

Please remember, all family and guest are welcome but please bring enough food to proportionality feed that number of people!

Who's your Secret Santa???



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello fellow Vancouver Magic Circle Members!

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Come all Ye Faithful, Joyful and Triumphant...Come and join us at our Annual Christmas Dinner. It is a great time to join your brothers for a night of Christmas magic and fun. The fun starts at 6:00 PM with dinner at approximately 7:00 PM. There will be raffle prizes, good food, more raffle prizes, a secret Santa gift exchange, more raffle prizes, our junior and adult stage competition and of course, more raffle prizes.

We have some exciting times on the horizon. Circle Sunday, January 4, 2015 as a day of magic. Our fellow member and IBM International President, Shawn Farquhar, has offered the VMC to be the first JAM of the series. It will be called "IBM JAM 2015". JAM stands for Just About Magic. It will be a one-day magic convention with two or three well known magicians who will lecture and present a parlour style show. This is an IBM sponsored event so admission is free. Membership does have its privileges! So save the date and come JAM with us!

Thank you to everyone for another successful Halloween meeting. Special thanks to all of those who dressed up and got in to the spirit. Thanks to Karen Eskilson and Marcia Garcia for doing the spooky refreshments. I still don't know how they got the spaghetti threaded into the wieners! Thanks to Tony Chris for the technical workshop on show production. I heard so many positive remarks about this workshop. Lastly, thank you Billy Hseuh for running the competition.

Graham Kita

President, Vancouver Magic Circle, IBM Ring #92



Just About Magic

The International Brotherhood of Magicians invites you to JAM on Sunday, January 4th in Vancouver, BC Canada.

A FREE DAY OF MAGIC FOR ALL IBM MEMBERS

If you are a member in good standing of the I.B.M. you are welcome to attend a FREE one day magic event unlike anything before. It's a day where you get to share your magic, watch lectures and see a show, all for FREE.



FEATURING BRAND NEW LECTURES BY

Ice McDonald
SAM National President & IBM Member

Shawn Farquhar
IBM International President & SAM Member

LOCATION:

Vancouver Hebrew Academy
1545 West 62nd Avenue
Vancouver, BC

Doors open at Noon and close at 6PM.
No early birds please!



WWW.IBMJAM.COM



Thank you to John Smithman, official VMC photographer, as well as the many 'facebook photographers' for posting your pics on the VMC page!



Halloween fun at the VMC



Thanks for a great workshop Tony!



Ouch! That's got to hurt!



VMC Members in the News

Flights of fancy

You know how it is: you're sitting down with friends over a glass of wine and a cheese plate, and the subject of avian accidents arises.

I'm not talking flocks of geese sucked into jet turbines, or even unwelcome sky presents on your best suit. The conversation in question began on the finer points of parrot maintenance.

Eventually — as all good parrot discussions do — we took a detour down the well-worn path to Monty Python's "Norwegian blue" sketch.

My contribution related to the image above, made 29 years-ago in my Vancouver studio. It was a small space—around 500 sq. ft. — but big enough to produce tabletop catalogue images (for clients like Mountain Equipment Co-op) and portraits for models, actors and entertainers.



When doves fly

The magician in the promo shot above is [Ray Roch](#), a friend of my late father, who was also an adept prestidigitator (when am I ever going to get to use that word again?).

Anyway, the dapper entertainer turned up with the usual magician's menagerie, including a cage full of beautifully-groomed white doves.

The bunny was well-behaved and (as you can see by his non-plussed expression) resigned to loll in the top-hat while I fiddled with f-stops, sync speeds and strobe settings. As an admirer of our feathered friends (a fascination I share with '60s iconographer David Bailey), I was eager to give the birds their 15-minutes of fame.

The magician lovingly extracted his prize dove from its cage, cradling it gently in his palm. I asked if he could get the bird to flap its wings. No problem. He balanced her on his finger, while I adjusted the shutter speed, slow enough to record movement, and ambient light.

Ready, set ... POP! goes the strobe-light.

The startled bird took flight, heading toward me at Mach 1. Instinctively, I reached up and grabbed at the air. Not a good idea.

I succeeded in stopping only its fan of tail feathers, while the rest of the poor thing continued across the studio, albeit on a somewhat less controlled trajectory.

Luckily the bird was otherwise unharmed (feathers grow back) and Roch had a stand-in, preserved forever in the portrait above. Meanwhile, he was very indulgent about my ham-fisted attempt at bird control.

Technical details

The image was made with a medium format Mamiyaflex C Twin lens reflex camera, with 135mm lens, using Fujicolor HR 100 negative film. The uncropped scan above first required careful removal of the taped-on reversal film bearing the magician's name and logo, used to make promo prints. (How we easily we add text to photos in the digital age!) Otherwise, the negative is still in good condition.

Raymond Parker

Courtesy of Raymond Parker Photography

Purchase tickets and for more information visit:
<http://www.bluefrogstudios.ca/newshows.html#mcm>

An Intimate Evening with Murray

Friday, Nov. 28th, 2014 | Doors: 6pm | Show: 7pm



Direct from Las Vegas, MURRAY 'Celebrity Magician' Show is the headliner at the Tropicana Hotel & Casino as well as the History Channel's Pawn Stars live host on tour! You have seen Murray on over a dozen reality shows as well as a finalist on America's Got Talent. He performed the largest illusion ever on the show...he vanished a 1930 Steam Train Locomotive LIVE in front of 22 million viewers!!!

MURRAY'S show is a combination of fun-filled audience participation and comedy magic that will blow your mind! His personality and style is in a class of it's own. Anyone from the age of 2 - 102 can enjoy his show! Murray takes you out of your 'normal' world and into a cool fun world of imagination for 75 minutes full of laughs, mystery and magic! Murray does a "meet and greet" after the show where you can take photos and get Murray's autograph!

This would be a great show to book for your company Christmas party. A show not to miss and one you will talk about for years to come!!! You've seen him on TV now see MURRAY LIVE in person and experience a little bit of Vegas.

THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

PRESENTS

Christmas Party

POTLUCK DINNER AND STAGE COMPETITION



SUNRISE HALL
1950 WINDERMERE ST. VANCOUVER B.C.

DOORS OPEN - 6:00P.M.



November 27th. 2014



Back by popular demand!

How I got started in Magic...

Getting to know Graham Kita

Whether you know him as 'Graham', 'Mr. President', 'El Presidente' or just 'The Grand Puba', we can all agree the VMC President Graham Kita

is a great guy with a winning smile.

This month (OK, maybe it was last month), intrepid reporter Rabbi Don Pacht took the opportunity to 'shmooze' a bit and get to know Graham (or 'Big G' to his friends), a little better:

RABBI DON: HOW DID YOU FIRST BECOME INTERESTED IN MAGIC?

El Presidente: My magical journey began with a visit from a family friend, Dr. Iwahashi from Japan. He was an accomplished hobbyist magician that could do close-up and stage magic. He showed me some close-up magic that made my jaw drop. It filled me with wonder. He then gave me four small individual magic tricks. I promptly forgot how to do them properly but I played with them over and over believing that the props held magical powers.

In 2004 I bought Chu's Magic in Richmond. I needed three mini vans to get the magic home. Since then I have been giving children magic sets and magic tricks with the hope that it may spark the same kind of wonder that got me started.

HOW OLD WERE YOU?

GRAHAM: I was six years old.

RABBI DON: WHY DID YOU TO CONTINUE DOING MAGIC?

El Presidente: I did magic as a hobby during my teenage years. I was a shy, introverted teenager who visited various magic stores on occasions. Magic allowed me to come out of my shell and be someone else (with confidence). It was like putting on a mask and becoming a different personality.

RABBI DON: WHEN DID YOU DECIDE "MAGIC" WAS FOR YOU?

GRAHAM: About 26 years ago I met a profession magician named "Rod Boss". At first I was just mesmerized by his magic. As I got to know him I was amazed by his humanity. We became close friends. He taught me that people will pay you to do magic. Let me say that again, people will pay you lots of money to do something you love to do. I was once again like a little kid filled with wonder. The other magicians that taught me more than he himself probably realizes was Steve Dickson. I recall so many great times hanging out in his magic shop. It was these friendships that got me hooked on magic.



Continued on page 11

Party like it's 1914!



VMC Member Dennis Hewson performs in Port Moody in celebration of the 100th Birthday of Mary Anne Cooper. Mazal Tov Mary Anne!!

I tell you...she doesn't look a day over 97! I don't know how she stays so young!

October Report

By: Dennis Chan

The October meeting started off with a workshop on show production and sound technique and systems by Tony Chris. He emphasized the importance of buying a good quality sound system and microphones. He also mentioned if your equipment uses batteries to always carry spares. He also talked about character development. Tony is an award winning magician, lecturer and children's performer. He has done many lecture tours. He is also an accomplished musician. Well done Tony, and thanks.

The October meeting is always Halloween themed. There is always a costume contest whereby the winner is determined by the amount of applause by the members. Tony Chris was the MC for this event. The contestants were Matthew Jones, Yoosik Oum, Anthony Young, Gary Spence, Richard Piamonte, Alex Seaman, Ed Goldberg, Ana Spence and Graham Kita. The winner was Anthony Young, he was dressed as an oriental warrior! He won the Halloween certificate award. There are no prizes, just a whole lot of fun. There is also a competition called the Tip Top and Tootsie trophy. This trophy is awarded in recognition of excellence in a Halloween themed magic performed by an adult or junior member. At least one magical effect (close-up, stage, or parlour) with a Halloween theme must be performed. Tony Chris was the MC for this event too. He read the rules. The competitors were Chris Yuill, Brianna Carlson and Wiley Allen.

Out of town guests Scott and Debbie Biane, their twin daughters, Hayley and Hannah and son Matthew came to the meeting to take part in our Halloween event. They are from Sedro Woolley, Washington. Debbie, Matthew, Hayley and Hannah performed their award-winning act that they did at the 2014 PCAM convention. Everyone

enjoyed their performance. The winner of the Tip Top and Tootsie trophy was Chris Yuill! Brianna Carlson came in second

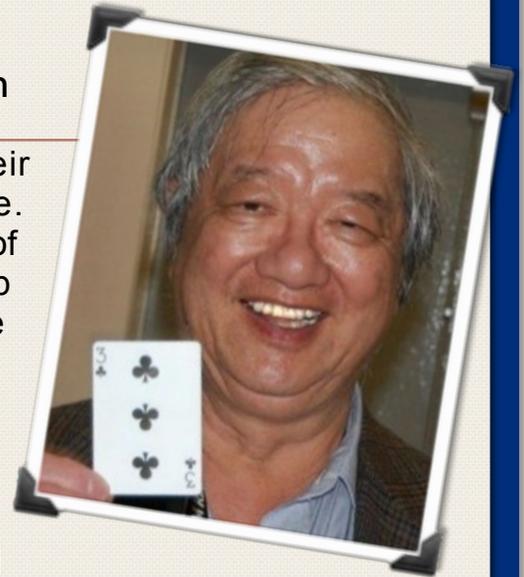
place. Congratulations to Chris and to all the competitors.

Richard Piamonte, dressed as the headless horseman, did a special performance after the competition. Billy Bales Hsueh, the club's new competition chairman tallied the scores for the competition. Well done Billy!

Many thanks to John Smithman for bringing witch's fingers (short bread) made by his wife Clarena. Juan Garcia, Marcia Garcia and Karen Eskilson provided the refreshments for the evening. The refreshments were Halloween themed as well. There were swamp water with eyeballs in ice cubes and frozen false teeth, cheesy intestines, naughty children's ears, (thinly sliced), a side dish of baby worms, monkey brains, graveyard plots with bones, congealed eyeballs, mouse butts with tails and knuckles with tendons. MMMMMMM YUMMEE!

The Vancouver Magic Circle welcomes Twice The Magic Matthew Biane, the club's newest junior member. Dennis Chan was busy signing up people for the Christmas pot luck dinner. Billy Bales Hsueh sold raffle tickets. John Smithman, the club's official photographer took photos of the evening's events.

There 35 members and 16 guests in attendance.



-I am Dennis Chan

Continued from page 8...

RABBI DON: WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE TYPE OF AUDIENCE AND WHY?

El Presidente: My favourite type of audience is children. My favourite birthday is a six-year-old birthday party. The reason for this is because I can see the wonder in their eyes. Once they relate to my character and trust it (or are entertained by it), they will listen to it. They believe that the magic is real. It may just be for a brief moment before deductive reasoning kicks in but the creation of the magical moment of wonder leads to an emotional memory that can last forever.



Graham with Siegfried & Roy!

RABBI DON: WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT HAVING MAGIC IN YOUR LIFE?

GRAHAM: First and foremost I am thankful for the friends I have made through magic. I cherish their friendships. That is one of the reasons why the Vancouver Magic Circle is so important to me. It is very much like family. The other reasons magic is important to me are:

- 1) the people I get to meet (of whom I know I would not have met if I was a normal muggle). For example, the three-year-old little girl I met from Ronald McDonald House. She sat and cuddled with my rabbit "Snowball" for an hour, smiling the whole time. Sadly she passed on a few months later.
- 2) the experiences magic has provided me with. I consulted and performed in an episode of the TV hit series "Supernatural". The name of the episode was "Cris Angel is a Douche Bag". Another highlight was when Chad and his pals wrapped up their 2012 North American tour (for Here and Now). They gave me a call to perform for their friends, family, and children before the Nickelback June 26 concert. Wow! What a concert and after party that was! And just two weeks ago I was hired by a film company crew to "prank" a prankster. I came in posing as an undercover cop trying to arrest the prankster at a party in a bar. He was so scared, he was shaking (little did he know I was scared too!).

RABBI DON: WHAT ARE YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MAGIC EXPERIENCES?

El Presidente: This is a tough question. I would have to say that I have two and both involve my friend Shawn Farquhar. The first was the 1993 PCAM Convention that Shawn and David Wilson produced (and the V M C hosted). It was my first magic convention, my first magic lectures, and it

was unbelievable. I swear I walked around for a week with my mouth open. The second was in July of 2009. I flew to Hong Kong to see my friend and fellow magician Jose Almenaries get married. That night we partied until late. Jose did the wedding night thing and I got two hours of sleep. We then jumped on a plane and flew to the 2009 FISM World Championships of Magic in Beijing China. This amazing competition climaxed in Shawn becoming the Grand Prix Close-Up World Champion of Magic. To be there, knowing how hard he worked for and deserved this, and then to see him win was a truly magical (biting off your fingernails), once in a lifetime experience.



Your Dues Are Due!

Dear VMC Members,

Each winter as the DEW settles on the ground, we DO our DUE diligence and ask members to pay their DUES as they are now DUE. Please don't wait until they are overDUE and we are forced to DO something about it.

Here is the (super-easy to remember), fee structure for 2015:

Adult one year \$35.00 three years \$90.00	Junior one year \$25.00 three years \$60.00	Senior (65 or older) one year \$25.00 three years \$60.00	Associate Member one year \$35.00 Out of Town Member 1 year \$20.00
--	---	--	--

Thank you,
The Executive DUDES

If you have paid for multiple years in the past, your membership card will indicate when future DUES are DUE!

"Those who can do, those who understand, teach"-Kim Marshall

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.

