



V — RING 92 — VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

the Charles Howard Ring

Summer 2012

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THE MAGICAL MINUTES NEWSLETTER

Since 1942

Summer Picnic



RECIPE FOR FUN

Join us for Food, Fun,
Magic and More!

DATE: Sunday, 19 August, 2012

WHERE: Queen's Park in New Westminister

TIME: 11:AM

Magic Wand Performances!

If you would like to register for our ever-popular Magic Wand Performances, please contact our Competition Chair Henry Tom at henrytom@shaw.ca

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

Hello Vancouver Magic Circle!

Welcome to the Summer Issue of the Magical Minutes! It has certainly been an exciting summer so far and there's still more to go. For those of you who went down to Seattle last week for the PCAM convention, you had the chance to see hours upon hours of shows, lectures and competitions. The Vancouver Magic Circle was extremely well-represented at the convention with dozens of members in attendance. I'd like to congratulate all the winners of the PCAM contests with a special congratulations to VMC members Tony Chris who took the silver medal in Children's Magic and the gold medal in Mentalism, Bruce Meyers for the gold medal in Stage Magic, Henry Tom for the silver in Comedy, James Hanson for silver in Stage Magic and past member Jonathan Hamilton for silver in Close Up. Also, the annual Bag-O-Tricks was won by duo Mike Norden and Jonathan Hamilton!



With everyone firing up their barbecues in this gorgeous summer weather, the Vancouver Magic Circle is gearing up for our annual Summer Picnic on August 19th. This will be held at Queen's Park in New Westminster at 11:00am near the bandshell. We will also be inviting the Victoria Magic Circle and the Fraser Valley Magic Circle to our picnic, the more the merrier! Dennis Chan has graciously volunteered as BBQ Master Chef and Billy Hsueh will be racing around to gather all the food but we still need some help from you our membership. The picnic is also the one and only opportunity to go for your Magic Wand Degree, a distinction granted to members who successfully perform a 15 minute performance for all in attendance. Please contact Competition Chair Henry Tom at henrytom@shaw.ca if you would like to enter in the Magic Wand performance lineup. If you are able to help run some games for the picnic, or are looking for any other way to help out at this family fun event, please contact Activity Chair Billy Hsueh at mindxplosionmagic@hotmail.com.

Make sure to mark down September 27th for our Annual Magic Auction! This is easily one of our most entertaining meetings of the year when we all get together in a magic-packed meeting hall to share in a great deal for all. Bring your unused magic to sell and make some extra money and walk away with boxes of new magic to revitalize your act! Stay tuned for more details from our Annual Auction as we get closer to the date.

As I'm sure you know, November 2nd-4th will be the Victoria Magic Circle's turn at the 3 of Clubs convention. As the 2013 hosting circle, we are responsible for one of the evening shows and are looking for performers to showcase the incredible level of talent our circle has to share. If you are interested in performing onstage at the convention and represent the VMC, please let us know as soon as possible!

I would like to take this chance to send a sincere thank you to Ken Bellemare and Errol Lipschitz who have both graciously donated a significant amount of books from their magic collections to be entered into the VMC Library for all our members to use.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Summer Picnic on August 19th!

- *Alex Seaman*

President, Vancouver Magic Circle

June Ring Report

By: Munro MacKenzie

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

Usually the meetings start with a jam session followed by the business meeting, snacks and then by a competition or some other magical event. At the best of times the competition did not get started until about 9:00 p.m. and by the time the competition was over, the time would be around 10:00 or 10:30, which is a bit late for those who have to work the next day, by then a lot of members had gone home and they missed the magic. The new "trial" format was changed to jam session, starting at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (it used to start at 7:00 p.m. to 8:p.m.) competition, snacks, and then the business meeting would start around 9:30 p.m. depending upon the length of the competition.

After the jam session, the competition for the Ray Gamble trophy took place. This trophy is awarded in recognition of excellence in impromptu card magic. The competitor is supplied with a new deck with the cellophane removed but will the seal still intact. No other items may be used. Further rules may be found in the roster book. Lon Mandrake read the rules and he was also the MC for this event. There were thirteen competitors, in order were of appearance: Henry Tom, Peter Cheung, Phil Razon, David Hamil, Matthew Jones, Billy Hsueh, Ed Goldberg, Alex Seaman, Joji Yamashita, John Stenning, Bryn Williams, James Hanson and Tony Chris.

The winner of the Ray Gamble trophy was Billy Hsueh, second place was Alex Seaman, and third place was Henry Tom. Congratulations to the winners and competitors. The back-drop was supplied by James Hanson. I was very pleased to see the members giving their full attention to the competition and to the competitors. I did not see anyone "practicing" with their cards or going to the back of the room demonstrating their favourite moves with another fellow magician during the competition.

During the business meeting the new meeting format was discussed. There were different points of opinions from the members. The business meeting started later than the anticipated time of 9:30 p.m. because of the amount of competitors for the Ray Gamble trophy. The date for the club's annual picnic was discussed, and it will be held on Sunday, August 19 at Queen's park in New Westminster. We had two surprised "out of town guests". Ronald Peterson from Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA and Paul Schneller from New York city, USA. Many thanks to Brianna Carlson for making a special birthday cake for Sterling Dietz's twenty-first birthday. He was surprise! All the members sang the usual birthday song. Sterling hails from Ferndale, Washington. Jennifer Meyers won the raffle. She won a DVD. Thanks to Jessica Chan for bringing guacamole and corn chips, and thanks to Jennifer Meyers for bringing soft tacos for the snacks time. There were 42 members and 10 guests in attendance.

Filling in for Munro MacKenzie, I'm Dennis Chan.

June's Mystery Mug

A number of attuned readers recognized this "clown" as VMC Member Errol Lipschitz.

All of the correct responses were placed in a hat (OK it was a Yarmulka), and the winner is...

Henry Tom!

Congratulation Henry, you will receive your prize MUG at the next meeting.

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



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A.I.M. APPLICATION & IMPACT OF MAGIC

AIM Part 4: Serving Your Audience

The Application and Impact of Magic

by John Smithman, head coach, Champions in the Workplace Training & Development Inc.

Champions *connect* with audiences; before, during and after the presentation. Have you noticed how some people respond well to our communications, while others don't? We have talked about how to present to each audience behavior style, but there is more to connecting with an audience. First, understand them.

What can you tell about an audience just by glancing around? Are they hostile? Skeptical? Apathetic? Friendly? Supportive? Enthusiastic? You can tell a lot by the way they sit. But remember this, most audience members want you to succeed.

Signs of an Unresponsive Audience: arms crossed; hand over mouth; fingering the lips; eyes closed; studied inattention, including reading; frowns; tense shoulders; sly asides to partner; leaning back in their seat; and eyes on the ceiling.

Seating position can reveal hierarchy. The most confident and dominant take their place in the front of the room (leaders in the center). Usually, difficult people, like hecklers, critics and cranks take positions at the back or near the exit.

Signs of a Responsive Audience: It's easy to tell when you've moved your audience from negative to positive. They will lean forward, arms open, head nodding, making positive sounds and smiling.

Getting the Audience on Your Side. People like people who are just like them (or just like they'd like to be). Here are some suggestions.

Dress Reassuringly - The darker your clothes, the greater your credibility. Remove distracting jewelry, watches, large belt buckles, bracelets, bangles. Wear a jacket.

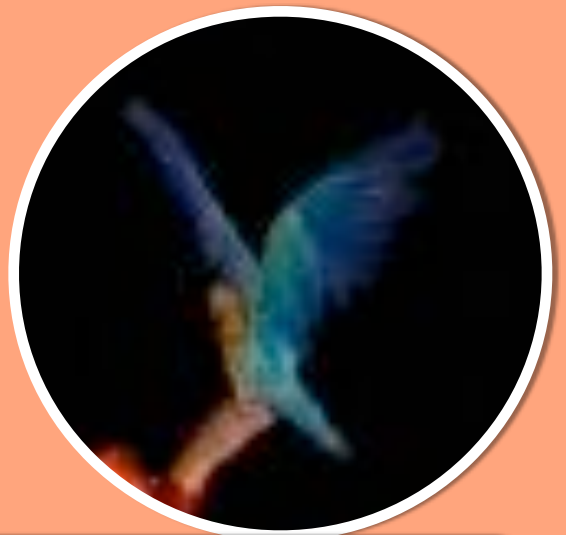
Assume a Confident Posture - As soon as you enter the room, even before you are introduced or begin to speak, people will be watching you. So smile, walk proud with shoulders back, make eye contact and 'notice' people.

Acknowledge and Thank Them - Ask for and repeat names of audience members, their origins, roles, and so on, respectfully. Greet the room controllers, leaders, special guests and associates. Acknowledge common bonds you all share.

Write Your Own Introduction - Help your host by writing your own introduction. Flattery sounds so much better on the lips of another.

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JUNE PHOTOS



A HUGE thank you to John Smithman for the photos!

AIM APPLICATION & IMPACT OF MAGIC

Continued from page 4

Promise and Stick to a Timetable - Previewing structure helps an audience keep pace: Tell them what you're going to do (OPEN); Do it (BODY); and Tell them what you did (CLOSE). Promise to deliver what the audience came for: "*I will show you things that will amaze and delight you.*"

Effective Openers:

Ask questions	Problem solutions
Promise benefits	Puzzle or suspense
Shock statistics	Human drama
News link	Joke or anecdote

Tips To Being a Great Presenter

- Smile. Take a deep breath and start presenting slowly.
- Read your audience
- Talk about your own experience
- Praise others. Give credit honestly and sincerely
- Relate to audience; build hooks
- Enjoy yourself
- Say less and pause more

The Application and Impact of Magic (AIM) depend on your presentation making strong connections between your concepts and audience minds and hearts. A presentation has three objectives: To Inform; To Entertain and To Motivate.



John Smithman
The Vancouver Magic


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.

VMC Members, making their mark!

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THE VANCOUVER SUN

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The Turntable: Vancouver's newest public plaza

The Roundhouse Turntable plaza was officially opened Sunday during a weekend celebration. The Turntable Plaza is Vancouver's newest outdoor public and community performance space.

MAY 28, 2012 6:02 PM

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Hambone the Clown was at the Roundhouse, May 20th, for the Turntable plaza celebration. The Turntable Plaza is Vancouver's

Reporting by Staff Writer
Rabbi "Don the Mon" Pacht

Magic may very well be one of the oldest forms of performance art. It is rumored that the cups from the very first sets of Cups and Balls were, in fact, hubcaps lifted from the Pharaoh's chariot! (Many early routines used only two cups for this reason...you try stealing the hubcaps off of a moving chariot!)

But I digress...

Magic, as I was saying, is one of the oldest forms of art and we, the magi of Vancouver have been contributing culturally, artistically and socially to this wonderful city for many, many years. I always love running in to friends from the Vancouver Magic Circle at community events or the occasional Bat Mitzvah celebration. It is always enjoyable to watch the audience appreciate the performance as "outsiders" that we have always enjoyed as "insiders".

There never seems to be a major event in Vancouver without representation from members of the VMC. For example, this Vancouver Sun piece on VMC member David "Hambone the Clown" Hamil, performing at the opening of Turntable Plaza.

How many of us were out in full force during the 2010 Winter Olympics? That's right...lots! (Personally, I was in Dallas).

In addition to being artists and entertainers, we magicians are ambassadors to the wonderful world of Magic. Our positive interactions with people creates an appreciation for Magic and keeps our art flourishing (not to mention future bookings).

So, the next time you see a Magician (VMC Member, or member of one of those "other" clubs), performing at Granville Island, Lonsdale Quay (or at a Bat Mitzvah celebration), walk over and say "hello", then say "thank you."

September Meeting and Annual Auction

September's club meeting always features our much-anticipated Auction. That's right...go dust off those boxes and bring out the magic paraphernalia that you've had sitting around for years. It's time to cash in on those items that may be "trash" to you but "treasure" to another club member. You will also help to support the Vancouver Magic Circle and make a few bucks for yourself in the process. Who knows...you may even make enough money to buy back some of the stuff you sold last year!



The Auction always brings a big turnout of both buyers and sellers, so if you want to 'trade your tricks' make sure to register early. You can contact Billy Hsueh at mindxplosionmagic@hotmail.com for more details and to register.

As always, the meeting will be the 4th Thursday of the month (in this case Thursday, September 27th), at the Sunrise Community Hall in Vancouver. Doors open at 6:30 PM and the Auction will begin at 7:PM sharp.



Angels Events



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Mystery Mug

First performance? Maybe.

PUT A NAME TO THE FACE AND WIN!
Email your response to the editor (see address below), all correct responses received by August 19, 2012 will be placed in a drawing to win (you guessed it), a MUG!

Email submissions to dpacht@vhebrewacademy.com.

