

February 2007
Volume 19, Issue 2

VMC Newsletter

UPCOMING DATES:

- **Annual Auction**
February 6th 7:00 Sharp.
Closed Event – VMC
and IBM members only.
- **Next Regular Monthly
Magic Meeting,**
Tuesday, March 6th
2007, 7:30 at The
Langford Fire Hall.
Features The **Tony
Trophy Competition**
and **Member Photo
Night.**
- **Magic Youth
International Meeting**
Friday, **February 16th** ~
7:00 Auction Night
- **Round Table** Monday,
February 19th 7:00
Featuring **Mentalism**

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Victoria Magic Circle – Ernie Crockford Ring #183

FEBRUARY 6th 2006

MAGIC AUCTION 7:00 p.m. sharp

AUCTIONEER Mike Edwards

REFRESHMENTS: DEREK PEACH



VMC AUCTION NIGHT ~ FEBRUARY 6TH
7:00 p.m. ~ **SELLERS PLEASE ARRIVE BY 6:30**

Auction night is here! Make sure you arrive by 6:30 if you are a seller (with completed duplicate sheets), and by 6:50 (or as early as you like to peruse items if you are a buyer (with your cheque book). Auctioneer Mike Edwards will get the evening started at 7:00 sharp! Be prepared for a long night, some great deals and some laughs too! Remember, this event is **ONLY** open to VMC, MYI and IBM members. See you there!

March 6th is
'Photo Night'!
See page 'the
Prez Report' for
more info.

Close-up Magicians Alert!
The TONY TROPHY COMPETITION
is coming on MARCH 6th! SEE
PAGE 5 FOR FULL DETAILS.

CALLING ALL COMEDY STAGE MAGICIANS!
PLEASE CONTACT JOY KRUGER AT
JOYKRUGER@SHAW.CA IF YOU WISH TO
COMPETE AT OUR MAY 12TH
MIRTH & MAGIC!

MINUTES? You can find minutes from our last meeting (Jan 2007)
on-line at www.victoriamagiccircle.com/minutes.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Joy Kruger

Happy February everyone and our Club New Year is off to a good start with another successful Annual Dinner Show! Clinton W. Gray was hilarious and the **VMC close-up magicians were stellar** (I heard people talking!). Thank you everyone who helped to make the evening run smoothly, and who brought more people to make for a healthy audience of 129. Special thanks **Ben L'Heureux** for accomplishing the task of keeping all the money and ticket requests straight, and thanks as well to **Ray Parker** for organizing the raffle which brought in \$449 dollars to help offset our entertainment costs.

Congratulations to **Ben L'Heureux** for receiving the Farquhar Magician of the year Award for all the things you do! Also, congratulations to **John Gilliland** for formally being acknowledged as a Life Member of the Club. The contributions of our long-time members such as John, and our new members like Ben and everyone in between truly makes the experience of belonging to this club RICH! We enjoyed the presence of our new T.V.P., **Mr. David Wilson**, who graced our stage with an inaugural (and becomingly humourous) speech. The new T.V.P. awarded **I.B.M. Presidential Citations** to all of the **PCAM team members** who were present – official thanks in certificate form for our hard work in putting PCAM Convention 2006 together. It was a treat to have our MC **Eric Bedard** present (time away from the Cruise Ships) and also the Farquhar family. The whole evening was dedicated to member **Bill Farquhar** who passed away last fall and member **Bill Brace** who passed away this January, and a round of applause was given to celebrate both of these fine magicians.

Before we get on to the New Business of February, I must say what an interesting Mini-Lecture we had at our January Monthly Meeting. **Blair Morris's lecture**, entitled '*Some Real Work*', revealed card techniques/treatments used by hustlers such as 'punch work', d 'N-strippers' and 'juice' (There just might be a need for a Full Lecture or possibly a future Round Table Convening lead by Blair on this topic!) -- also congratulations to Blair on becoming an IBM Member and thus an Active Member of our Club.

And now for February and beyond... We have a full slate of activities and opportunities for everyone to be involved in performing, learning and coordinating to make club events come to fruition, *you can find involvement opportunities throughout the newsletter:* Upcoming is the **Annual Auction** February 6th, the **Tony Trophy** on March 6th, our AGM on April 3rd, the **MYI Lon Dingwell Trophy Competition** on April 20th, the **Wansborough Comedy Magic Competition** at the **Mirth and Magic Show** on May 12th and the **Summer Picnic** TBA.

February's meeting night is our Auction, so **our next regular meeting will be March 6th, featuring 'The Tony Trophy Competition' in lieu of Show Time. ALSO, Special Note: MARCH 6TH IS MEMBER PHOTO NIGHT!** Please come dressed for a picture shoot and bring favorite magic props, and show up at 6:45 so we may take your picture prior to the 7:30 meeting start. These digital pictures will be used for newsletters and can be emailed to you for your personal use.



Magic Youth International *Victoria Chapter* January Meeting Report by Lucas Kavanagh

The MYI met for the first meeting of the year on January 19, at Tony's Trick and Joke Shop. Our special guest this month was David Gifford who gave a very detailed description of a great multiplying pebble routine with an awesome ending.

VMC president Joy Kruger then gave out the details for the upcoming Lon Dingwell competition which will be held on April 20th, 7:00 p.m at The Langford Fire hall. Friends, family and VMC members are invited to this great event which in addition to the competition will feature performances by some VMC members. Remember if you are under 16 and want to compete then you should contact Shayne, Joy or Paul as soon as possible. Our meeting on Friday February 16 will be our annual auction so come early if you have things to sell, bring money to bid with and don't forget a loonie to cover snacks!

Until then visit the newly updated MYI website at www.victoriamagiccircle.com/html/myi/.

MIRTH AND MAGIC – Isabelle Reader Theatre, Saturday, May 12th

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It's time for some Mirth and Magic! ... and of course, time to put your name forward BY APRIL 15TH please, to enter the Wansborough Comedy Trophy Competition! Entrants must offer a family-friendly act that features COMEDY MAGIC, and all acts MUST take 8 minutes OR LESS. We need at least 3 competitors (a max of 6) for a valid competition, so don't be shy, contact Joy at 381-1997 or email joykruger@shaw.ca if you would like to enter. Further contest criteria is on our website on the Awards page.



Mirth & Magic is our BIGGEST yearly show, involving the most VOLUNTEERS - so WE NEED YOUR HELP! We need an MC, Stage Manager and at least 3 crew, a Sound Technician, a Follow Spot Operator, and two ushers/admissions clerks who must also serve as ballot counters. I also need someone to oversee ticket sales. **Please email or call Joy to take one of these volunteer positions to help us produce another top-notch event.** Most of these jobs will require you attend afternoon tech rehearsal on the day of the show. Want to know more about the Wansborough trophy? Read up on the criteria on the Contests page of www.victoriamagiccircle.com. Want to know more of what is expected of a certain volunteer position?... **Contact Joy Kruger at joykruger@shaw.ca.**

MAGIC THERAPY

This program is based on the very successful Project Magic and Healing of Magic Programs which continue to help patients in rehabilitation in more than 35 countries throughout the world. Magicians from the Victoria Magic Circle have been generous in their time helping support this program which teaches magic tricks to patients who can benefit from manipulative and cognitive help. Over the past 16 years Club members have assisted more than 200 patients at the Gorge Road Hospital and the Eric Martin Pavilion. The Occupational Therapists and Psychologists who were involved with these programs have been delighted with the response from their patients and have always asked for the Club to continue its good work.

Starting 7 Feb we will be running an eight session program over four weeks, Wed and Fri 2-3pm, at the Eric Martin Pavilion. Ron Bell and Derek Peach will be conducting the sessions which comprise about eight patients suffering from bipolar or schizophrenic disorders. To assist them there are usually two Occupational Therapists.

Anyone interested in learning more about this truly wonderful program should give either **Ron(595-5661) or Derek(544-1485)** a call. We can likely arrange for you to sit in on a therapy.

VOLUNTEER

SENIOR'S VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Over the past 15 years the Club has given well over 100 shows for Seniors who are institutionalized and seldom get live entertainment. A small group of magicians, usually three, do a 40 minute program at Senior's Homes throughout the Victoria area. These are usually done once a month for about eight months each year. A schedule of shows is arranged with the Homes by the Club coordinator (Ron Bell) up to a year ahead so all know exactly what is expected, where and when. Over the last 15 years we have had over 30 different magicians from the Club contribute their time to bring some fun to shut-ins who really love magic and always welcome us. Ron will be looking into setting up a schedule with about eight local Homes over the next year. Shows are usually in the afternoon sometime between 1-4pm and last for about 40 minutes with each magician doing about 10-12 minutes.

This is a wonderful opportunity for those new to magic to develop their skills in front of a very appreciative, non critical audience. Old hands have a chance to try new routines or just continue to hone their skills.

If you consider getting involved you must be able to make a commitment for a certain date, place and time. The Program can operate successfully only if those agreeing to perform do so! Over the past 15 years the Club members have a wonderful record of meeting their commitments---almost 100%!!

Think about getting involved and let me know if you are serious about it (**Ron Bell 595-5661** or email bellron@shaw.ca). In the meantime I will start setting up shows for the months ahead knowing I will always be able to find some willing hands!

OPPORTUNITIES

Hello fellow magic enthusiasts, in March we have Martin Nash coming here for his final lecture tour.. This in itself is an opportunity to come out and meet a legacy in our world of magic.. a world renowned card worker .. also known as the "Charming Cheat"! This is going to be a great opportunity to watch and learn from a master in the arts of pasteboard prestidigitations.



Martin Nash
"The Charming Cheat"

The date is Wednesday, March the 14th at 7:00 pm... the place, the Malahat Room Penthouse, 105 Gorge Road East - Buzz # 80 and someone will let you in.

Paul
Kilshaw
Lecture
Coordinator and
Vice-Prez

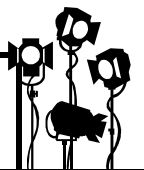


**COST?? \$15 FOR VMC MEMBERS and MYI.
ALL OTHERS pay \$30.00.**

Thanks Everyone for Supporting the Club and our Lecturers, and Thank You Bob Reilly for once again reserving us this space. See You at the Hat.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Submitted by Derek Peach



Ryan Stanley -

Chilliwack is halfway to the mountains from the sea, and one of its fine products is Ryan Stanley who shares his hometown's embodiment of connecting opposites. He does both standup and close-up magic routines, works as both waiter and salesman, and he lists his hobbies, in a rare moment of courageous disclosure or insanity, as both his Xbox 360 and his girlfriend. Well, his husky was mentioned too, but we don't want to go there.



As a 12-year-old, Ryan saw Doug Henning and Paul Daniels performing on TV and decided to try a few tricks himself. It didn't take long for the magic of magic to infect the young lad and he was soon amazing everyone he could corral as an audience. Ryan's approach today is still a broad one, although he has added some mentalist material to his repertoire. So far, only his friends and family and we at our club meetings have had the pleasure of his performances, but he has stated his intention to go public. Ryan may have many contrasting elements in his personality, but shyness and showmanship is simply not possible and his love of performing has been an open secret since he was twelve.

Brian Zutz -



There are people who smash into things in heavy metal objects and we call them accident prone. Then there is Brian Zutz who does the same thing deliberately as a knight in armour, and he gets to call himself a medievalist in the Society for Creative Anachronism. Brian makes his own armour and travels to tournaments all over North America.

Brian was born in Halifax but has lived in cities across Canada. It may have been his proximity to Magnetic Hill in NB that influenced his early interest in the illusory arts, but by the time he was five, he was a regular at Tony's Trick & Joke Shop, delighting himself and others with performances.

He continues to enjoy entertaining people and we have benefited from his considerable skill with a deck of cards, although he is now beginning to branch out into ropes and other devices.

Look for him at Beacon Hill Park in the spring clanging swords with a gusto. He always stays on dry land for his anachronistic ventures of course because he never wishes to be thought of as just a knight out with the buoys.

TONY TROPHY - MARCH 6TH

This fun competition will take place in the 2nd half of the March 6th meeting: **PLEASE contact Tony at tony@tonyeng.com** and be one of a handful of competitors for **our only contest which focuses on Close-Up Magic**. Tony needs AT LEAST THREE competitors for a valid competition, so your entrance will be much enjoyed and needed to make a great contest! Simply email Tony Eng at tony@tonyeng.com to get the (sponge) ball rolling, and then work on your favorite close-up composition, baring in mind, ORIGINALITY plays a big part in who will win the esteemed TONY TROPHY. Here is the complete criteria (also available on the Club website: This award, donated by Tony Eng, will be presented annually. to:

"The Club magician who performs the most original close-up trick or routine."

1. The trick or routine must be close-up in nature and demonstrate distinct elements of originality in concept and/or presentation.
2. There must be a minimum of three performers for a valid competition.
3. The winner will be decided by ballot of all members present and selected guests at the end of the competition.
4. A list of suggested areas for consideration to help in voting will be displayed on a board at the time of the competition, as follows:

ORIGINALITY

Presentation must be close-up in nature and demonstrate distinct elements of originality in concept and/or presentation. Consideration will be given to creativity and inventiveness in the presentation and content. 20%

ROUTINE

Handling of sleights, manipulation, secret moves, magic principles, technical skill, music/sound effects. 20%

PRESENTATION

Department, use of volunteer/audience, evidence of a beginning, middle and an ending with fluidity throughout. Ability to recover if something goes wrong, use of the close-up area, visibility to and respect for audience, evidence of showmanship. Evidence of timing of moves and/or effects for impact. 10%

PATTER

Diction, story line, use of significant language, and communication with audience. 10%

AUDIENCE IMPACT

Overall impression, sustaining the interest of the audience, strength of the magic and/or effect, entertainment value, consideration as to the type of lay audience the presentation it is for. 10%

ATTIRE

Consideration to presenting in a professional manner - choice of clothing, neatness, presence and/or attire reflecting the performers character. 10%

MEMBERSHIP BALLOT

An audience ballot will be added to the final marks. 20%

MAXIMUM TIME LIMIT

Presentation should not exceed 10 minutes. Automatic 5% penalty once this time is exceeded.

AGM APRIL 3RD ELECTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR'S EXEC

In just over two months we will vote in the new 2007-2008 Executive Committee, who will officially take office September 1st 2007. The Nominations Committee will contact you in the next two months to let you know who is letting their name stand for each of the positions, and to take further nominations if you think there are members (other than those letting their names stand) who are more suited to 'the job'. Executive Positions are: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Sergeant at Arms, Ring Reporter, and TWO Members at Large. Please plan on coming to our AGM in April to take part in voting in the New Executive Committee.

Names of those who will let their names stand will be published just prior to the AGM in the April newsletter, as will be the current Executive's recommendation on Dues Structure for 2007/2008..

Hello from Tony's Trick & Joke Shop



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info@magictrick.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.magictrick.com

It's hard to believe that we've been here a year, but here it is 2007 and Victoria and the shop already feel like home. Thanks to all of you that have helped to make this happen. Here are some of the new effects that are coming in to the shop...

Lip Smacker – is the hot new close-up effect from Paul Harris. Imagine the reaction - You pour out 2 breath mints into a woman's hand. She clearly sees 2 mints and you ask her to close her hand. Without touching the mints or even her hand – she opens to discover that one of them has disappeared only to reappear in between *your lips*. A great icebreaker and a perfect start to a close-up show.

Strange Travelers - This is David Blaine's single favorite effect. You show someone a batch of twenty cards... all different. You give her ten of the cards to hold. You now have her just think of one of the remaining ten cards. These cards are counted again and strangely... there are now only nine. She counts the other ten cards she's been holding; ten cards you haven't touched since the beginning. But now she has eleven cards! The strange traveler has arrived... her thought-of card is now staring her in the face!

Tangled Web is the first major book by one of magic's most respected professionals. Eric Mead covers a wide range of magic and mentalism,

drawn completely from his professional repertoire and fine tuned by a lifetime of performance. Bar Magic, Close-up, Strolling Magic, Mentalism and Stage are all covered.

Plus – **Sal Piacente's Expert Card Magic 2DVD set, Mental Balloon, Jaw-Breakers DVD, Auto-Lit Vanishing Torch, the Whispering Joker** and more. See you at the shop...



Murray & Teresa



VMC CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS 2006

It's official, the updated Constitution and Bylaws were passed, and are available to read on-line at www.victoriamagiccircle.com on the Constitution and Bylaws page. Hard copies have also been duplicated and will be available at upcoming monthly meetings (and will be mailed to out-of-towners later this year).

ROUND TABLE - The Next Round Table is Monday, February 19th, 2007

January's Round Table was an intimate group with Ben (peppie) L'Heureux, Dave Attwood, David Mohr, Bob Reilly and Justine Louie. The night started with David Mohr showing a very impressive and impossible poker deal revelation that had this writer stumped. Ben displayed some beautiful magic apparatus that he had custom made including a gorgeous die box. Justine showed us all his string and ring routine and Bob Reilly displayed his prowess with prestidigitation by vanishing a coin from his hand that was held by the spectator.

Next month we will be discussing mentalism routines at the beautiful Malahat Lounge #105 Gorge road east buzz #80 to be let in.

