



ORGAN OF THE SRI LANKA MAGIC CIRCLE

www.srilankamagic.org

The Official Guardian of Magic

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## Three more Members join the Circle - Shelton Jayasekara



The monthly get together of the SLMC for the month of August 2014 and the special general meeting was held at the Vishmithapaya on 31/8/14 commencing around 10.00 am. The special general meeting was held first especially to present and approve SLMC accounts for the years 2013 and 2014 as this had been postponed several times. The accounts were presented and approved by the membership unanimously.



Pics courtesy Iranga / Asanka

After the special general meeting the usual monthly get together was held.

As usual GS after welcoming the members spoke about the history of the SLMC and requested the members to submit any past Wands available with them as the library does not have all the past Wands in order to write down the history of the SLMC which VP H.D.N. Gunasekara has already started. He also spoke about the digital banner opposite Lake house and that he will try his best to advertise the SLMC on it free of charge. He also spoke about the 'Book a magician' under the SLMC on the internet and asked the members to submit their advertisements to be included in it.

Three new members namely **R.M.D.S. Ranasingha, Chenul Perera, & Vihan Malitha** administered their oath as conducted by VP Rohan.



PP Ronald explains his views



VP Contest Suranjith giving his comments on the contest held

Cont. on page 2

Next MEMBERS DAY  
Sunday Sept. 28th

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## WANTED - WANDS

Our VP Secretarial HDN Gunasekera is gathering all past records as he has embarked on the task of recording the history of the Magic Circle. Whatever materials you have, please contact him and hand over. Tel: 077-1545178.

He needs the Wands as detailed below.

**1991 January to 1996 December**

All the issues are needed.

1997 to 1999 some are available.

Still he needs the following 'Wand' issues from 2000 to 2013

**2000 January, April, May**

**2003 September**

**2007 December**

**2009 December**

**2010 January**

**2013 December.**

Probably in some of these months 'The Wand' may not have issued.

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VP Rohan then spoke to the members about the statement in the oath regarding the teaching of magic to non magicians. GS Devsiri, C.Gamage, Dharmapala & past president Ronald also contributed in giving their views.

VP contests Suranjith spoke to the members about the last contest, the amateur magician contest. He said that he was not satisfied with the contestants and the audience. He said that some members had not practiced and rehearsed with the assistants. GS and C. Gamage also contributed.

For the days performances Avishka performed a card trick and displayed some of his talents in displaying a few slights including the interlock production of cards. He thanked VP Shelton for helping him to learn these effects. Next was Jayamal burnt a piece of paper and produced a Rs 50/= note from the ashes. Asanga did a trick with four aces where he showed four Aces and ultimately they became Kings.

VP Rohan spoke to the members on practice and presentation. A new member R.M.D.S. Ranasingha came up next, showed a piece of paper made it into a ball and made it vanish. Last performer was C. Gamage who showed a trick with balls and a paper tube.

That brought another Members Day to a close.

## 8 Tips To Becoming a Master Magician from 8 Masters

TIP #1: "People want to talk to someone with 'secret knowledge.' A good magician must be a good listener, and be able to downplay the trick and focus on other people. Very few performers do this well."

**-Edwin Castillo**

TIP #2: "A video camera and mirror practice can be great learning tools when used together. But make sure to set-up your tripod about 5 feet high, so the camera's perspective is roughly the same as your spectators point of view."-**John Byng**

TIP #3: "You can over practice and cause fine muscle confusion. I practice until I get clumsy and then stop for a few hours or a few days if need be."-**Sean Fox**

TIP #4: "Having some sort of constraints are crucial for creativity. One way that's worked well for me is to customize the magic to the venue. Not only does it force you to learn more about your client (& ideally build a long-term relationship) but it also provides a focus to narrow your creative focus, instead of having ideas spring out all over the place like a can of snakes."-**Steven Bagienki**

TIP #5: "I have two types of friends. Those who enjoy magic, and those who try to figure it out. I've learned who they are and don't perform for those who don't enjoy it. They think it's a riddle I'm asking them to solve. Any attempt on my part to get them to just enjoy it, ends up with patronizing 'amazement.'"-**Jeff Stone**

TIP #6: "Magic engages the rational mind, stories engage the emotional; put the two together and you get something bigger than the sum of the parts. Story magic has a bad rep because most stories are long and boring, but if they're concise and to the point, they can make a huge difference."-**Ariel Frailich**

TIP #7: "For school shows, I've found sending random e-mails or letters does not work. Picking up the phone and arranging a meeting works much better. And if you approach schools with fund-raising ideas, then you can negotiate a higher performance fee because the audience is paying."-**Leon Andersen**

TIP #8: "My philosophy with things like YouTube and Instagram, is to allow people to see the world thru my eyes. My videos have landed me a lot of shows, and just as importantly, helped weed out gigs I'm not suitable for. My promo videos and testimonials are the least viewed, but they get me the most work."-**Joe Diamond**

# Professor J'Ward aka Nelson.....an unsung veteran

Nelson Jayawardane responded immediately for my appeal in August 'Wand'. My main intention was to find the missing issues of the 'Wand' to fill the gap in the library. I visited him at his residence near Delpo Junction, Ragama and was able to find many issues I needed.



When casually asked how did he become interested in 'Magic', I was amazed to realize that the same 'magic bug' bitten both of us way back in 1964. As a 10 year old lad from a rural school off Kurunegala, I had the opportunity to attend an Educational Exhibition at Maliyadeva Girls' College where I saw a magic performance by a school master and got smitten by the 'bug'. Nelson who was a young professional in his twenties, attached to the Survey General's Department, Kurunegala too had witnessed the same magician at the very festival. He was bitten more severely and attended the exhibition daily, just to see the magic show. The performing magician was one "D'Alvo Jr." none other than our own Ronald De Alwis who was a School Principal at the time and volunteered to give a series of magic shows per day, during the entire week. Nelson made contacts with Ronald and joined the circle in March 1965.



*Nelson with his wife Soma*

Thereafter he made it a point to travel all the way from K'gala to Colombo for the Circle's get-togethers and other functions. With his enthusiasm he became an able performer who kept the circle's flag flying in Kurunegala area. Nelson started with the stage name 'Prof. JayWard' and later

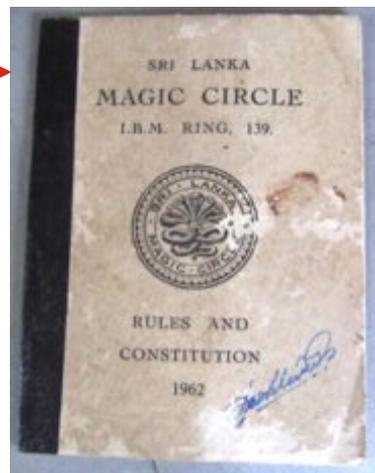
used his own name as a performer. Nelson who preferred to be away from lime light is comparatively unknown senior among us. He was not that keen to take part in contests hence not become a star of the circle, but If you go through past 'Wands' of 1970s & 80s His was a regular name in many issues and had been the Star Performer at several occasions. He was a dexterous Billiard Balls manipulator and his double hand billiard balls production was commended by Mudaliyar

Nelson served in the council and functioned as the Treasurer of the SLMC. Health reasons and travelling difficulties kept him away from the circle activities at certain periods.

Today at the ripe old age of 78, he preserves many past issues of 'the wand' bound together. He still keeps with him the very first letter received from Ronald in 1964 and the SLMC Constitution-1962.



Nelson possesses a rare group photograph taken in 1966 at the farewell to Mrs. Seetha Mirchandani, which he hopes to present to the SLMC Archives.



The writer HDN Gunasekara, VP(Sec) going through docs at Nelson's home

*A word of advice from the President*

## SEPTEMBER MONTH FOR READING

I remember that the month of September is observed world-wide as a month for reading. If you cultivate the habit of reading unlike the habit of smoking, you will gather a vast amount of knowledge which will help you immensely in your day to day life.

However, reading will make you a perfect person. Our magic circle has a well equipped library and our members have the rare opportunity to improve their knowledge of English as well as magic.

Presently, our members are offered the opportunity to read books only on magic, but if we can provide books on other topics, our members will highly appreciate such an idea. In our homes we have several books on different topics but no longer necessary as they have been read over and over again. As such they could easily donate those books to our library. Even books on magic no longer necessary can be also donated to our library. Our librarian Mr. Wilhelm Ranjith Perera will undoubtedly accept them very gladly. He has given a "new look" to our library with ideas of his own. His efforts should be greatly appreciated.

***"You should feed your brain, not only your Belly"***

**Joy De Silva**



## Special training class gathering momentum

There were twelve members attended the special training class held on 14th September. Two members telephoned me and said that they like to attend, but unable due to an avoidable circumstances.



Those present were Yogitha Anthoney, Ajith Fernando, Franklyn H., Avishka Perera, Banuka, Gayan Wickramage, Sachith Fernando, U. Abeykumara, S.K. Dharmapala, Asanka Pathirana, and R.M.S.D. Ranasingha. At their request I taught them various flourishes and magical effects with ropes using videos and my own knowledge.

Shelton Jayasekara.

**Happy Birthday  
to all our members celebrating  
their Birthdays in September**

**4th A.T.A.Karunasena**

**5th Naminda Warakagoda**

**7th Randima Perera**

**9th Vishara Jayasekera**

**22nd B.Anandarajah**

*Bring your B'day treat on Sunday*

