



...the Charles Howard ring

# Vancouver Magic Circle

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS - RING 92

Affiliated with the Pacific Coast Association of Magicians

The next function of I.B.M. Ring # 92 the Vancouver Magic Circle takes place on Thursday, January 27th, 2011 at the Sunrise Community Hall, 1950 Windermere Street,

Vancouver, BC. Doors will open at 6:30 pm. A workshop by Gary Savard and Karen Eskilson will start 7:00 pm. The business meeting will begin promptly at 8:00 pm. It is our Annual General Meeting & Elections Night, so come prepared to vote for the new executive that will guide our club through 2011. After two meetings of nominations in September and October, nominations were closed off and the nominees are:

President: Bruce Hunt  
 1st Vice President: Gord Boyes  
 2nd Vice President: Bryn Williams  
 Treasurer: Mike Norden  
 Secretary: Mike Norden  
 Sergeant At Arms: Alex Seaman

We will also be taking a vote on the following Resolutions for the 2011 year. These must be passed at our AGM with a vote of 66.33% from the General Membership. They were passed unanimously by your Executive to be brought forward:

1. Whereas the Vancouver Magic Circle roster book is expensive;  
 Therefore be it resolved that the roster book be printed every 2 years, starting with 2010 edition.

2. Whereas the Vancouver Magic Circle roster book will now be printed every two years;

Therefore be it resolved that dues be collected for 2 year membership terms, starting with 2012.

3. Whereas the Vancouver Magic Circle will be saving money with printing the roster book every two years;

Therefore be it resolved that the dues be set at \$60 for two years for regular membership and \$40 for two years for senior/junior/out of town membership;

And be it further resolved that members must be in good standing at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and dues paid by Jan 31 of that year for your name to be included in the current roster.

4. Whereas the Vancouver Magic Circle roster book will now be printed every two years and the Executive is listed in the roster book for their terms of office;

Therefore be it resolved that all terms of office be held for a duration of 2 years;

And be it further resolved that elections will be held in the even numbered years, starting with the 2012 election;

And be it further resolved that the President not be able to serve consecutive terms.

After the business meeting we will then have our food – provided by President Bruce Hunt. We will follow this up with the initiation ceremony for the NEW members and members who have not gone through the ceremony. If you are one of these members please contact Bruce Hunt ASAP to be put on the list.

## The Magical Minutes

Newsletter Date:  
January 1011



### DUES ARE DUE!

Please take a few moments to read the important notice on page 7 and pay your dues.

Thanks to Rod Chow for supplying all the beautiful photos in this edition of the Magical Minutes!



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## General Meeting - Thursday January 27th, 2011

## ALL HARNESSED UP

## It's a doggy dog world



## PRESIDENT

Bruce Hunt

604-591-9353

bruce.hunt@ibmring92.com

## 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

Neil Kremer

604-288-2596

neil.kremer@ibmring92.com

## 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT

Mike Norden

604-916-9879

mike.norden@ibmring92.com

## SECRETARY

Karen Eskilson

karen.eskilson@ibmring92.com

604-255-9946

## TREASURER

David Wilson

david.wilson@ibmring92.com

604-467-7887

## SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Bryn Williams

bryn.williams@ibmring92.com

604-862-6609

## PAST PRESIDENT

Gord Boyes

604-852-7361

gord.boyes@ibmring92.com

## MAGICAL MINUTES EDITOR

Neil Kremer

604-288-2596

neil.kremer@ibmring92.com

January's meeting will be hosted by Gary Savard and Karen Eskilson the topic will be birds and dogs in your show

Gary will be showing different kinds of bird harnesses, dove pockets, loading and dove jackets. Also where to get some fantastic DVDs

on this topic . A special feathered guest will be attending as well.

Karen has been training her dogs the last 2 years for canine musical freestyle and to incorporate into her clowning. Teaching tricks is the easy part, combining it with music and choreography is a little harder but the challenge is getting them to perform when you want them to!

## Roster Book

The Roster Book is being updated and coordinated by Gord Boyes this year. If you were in the last Roster Book please check the information in it and send any updates or changes to Gord Boyes ASAP. If you're a new member who hasn't been in the Roster Book in the past, please send your information to Gord Boyes. It should include:

Address

Phone number

Email Address

Website Address if you have one

Remember, if your 2011 dues aren't paid by the end of February, you won't be in the Roster Book.

Please send information to

[gord.boyes@magiccanada.ca](mailto:gord.boyes@magiccanada.ca)

Name and significant others name

IBM Membership Number

Occupation

## Competition Corner

November's competition took place at our annual Christmas Banquet at the Sands Hotel. The competitions were for William Shelly Trophy for adult stage magic and the Percy Poole Trophy for junior stage magic. The juniors took to the stage first and set the bar very high with excellent performances by Nicholas Chow (assisted by Melody Choi) and Jesse Boyes. Nicholas Chow was eventually declared the winner for 2010. Congratulations Nicholas.

escape that left him in his boxer shorts, and the audience in stitches. Congratulations Alex.

There is no competition in January, but be warned, the Cecil Ackery Comedy Competition is held every year at our February Installation Banquet. Please contact me A.S.A.P if you would like to compete this year (Sunday, February 27th at Laughlines).

Have you nominated anyone this year for the Murray Award? (Most Creative Magical Performance) or the Stan Kramien Award? (Best Showmanship). These awards will be voted on at our Annual General Meeting, so get your nominations in now! (go to the "awards" section of the VMC website to nominate your favourite VMC performances of 2010)

The adult competition spanned a myriad of magical styles and genres and included truly inspired performances by: Gary Savard, Denis Hewson, David Mohr, Bruce Myers, James Hanson and Alex Seaman. Rod Chow (last years winner) was an amazing host and MC, and eventually crowned Alex Seaman as the 2010 winner. Alex performed a hilarious suit jacket

"We're all mad here,"  
said the Cheshire  
Cat to Alice.



## October 2010 Meeting Review

The October meeting was scary! And not because it was Halloween! This year we were to hold our annual Halloween competition for the Tip Top and Tootsie award, but alas we did not have the minimum requirement of three people entered. We did have some last minute people who would have filled in, but the two original people who wanted to compete did not attend the meeting! This is unfortunate – now we have a year where the trophy is 'not contested' when it would have been nice to showcase some talent by members who were interested. Please do not wait till the last minute – show some interest and participate in the club functions and activities. Competing will help build character and improve your skills – it also fulfils the club requirement of performing at least once a year! So what are you waiting for? Contact the competition chair for the next event!

We started out the evening with a workshop on Egg Magic taught by President Bruce Hunt. A full 60 minutes of EGGscellent magic was EGGsplained with EGGstraordinary detail and was EGGppreciated by all! Henry Tom also added his 2 bits on his routine using an egg shell. Thank you Bruce!

Then it was off to the business meeting. When it was time for the opening of nominations for the 2011 Executive the floor was handed over to Nomination Chair, Mike Norden. Nominations were opened at the September meeting, where each position had one accepted nomination. Nominations were opened again for one last time at the October meeting. This new process was voted on and passed in early 2010, and was announced in the newsletter and meetings. This bylaw change was made in order to allow the executive to have proper ballots printed ahead of elections and to streamline our balloting process.

Although the bylaw change had been communicated, it had not made its way to some members in attendance. During the nomination procedure, after the President, 1st VP and 2nd VP were all nominated into the Elect positions for 2011 by acclamation, incumbent and nominee for Treasurer, David Wilson announced he was withdrawing his name for the position. Unfortunately this was DURING the nominations. Only one other person had expressed interest in the Treasurer position and he had just

accepted another position mere seconds before. A small Parliamentary Procedure nightmare occurred, but was handled excellently by President Bruce Hunt, Chair Mike Norden, and member David Watters. Elections continued and 6 other members were nominated to fill the position of Treasurer. Only Mike Norden chose to let his name stand. Additional accepted nominations at the October meeting include Mike Norden for Secretary.

The Executive wishes to apologize to all members in attendance for any miscommunication that occurred on the new procedure of elections and we will endeavour to make it abundantly clear for the following years.

Next up was FOOD! And this is where the Halloween party got started! Cathie Watters is our reigning Halloween food Queen. What a spread! Thank you Cathie! After the food, since the competition was cancelled, a few members got up to perform some impromptu Halloween magic. Thank you David Watters and Matthew Jones and everyone else who participated and helped end the evening on a great note!



## November 2010 Meeting Review

On November 28th, 2010 almost 80 Ring 92 members and guests filled the Sands Hotel banquet room for an evening of Christmas fun and magic! This is our 'stage competition' night and unfortunately we did not have a 'stage' that was appropriate. However, all the performers made do and put on an awesome show. The details can be seen in the new 'Competition Corner' by Bryn Williams. Congrats to all the participants and winners!

The food was fantastic, and we wish to extend thanks to member and hotel manager Craig Prystay for hosting us, once again for the event. Some walk around magic was performed before and after the dinner by various members including Dennis Hewson and Jens Henriksen. After the dinner, the competition began and was emceed by last year's winner Rod Chow. Rod can now add emcee to his wonderful list of talents, as he had the room rocking with laughter the whole night.

This year the 50/50 draw was in honour of someone special. Member Munro MacKenzie had put forth a motion at a past meeting for the club to donate \$1000 to the Rachel Columbini fund. While this motion was tabled to a future meeting, we wanted to do a grassroots movement with our members. Those who do not know the story – Rachel is the wife of Aldo Columbini and has a serious heart condition. The surgery in the United States is very expensive and they were in need of help. The story was in The Linking Ring and it moved a lot of our members.

We encourage our members to buy items from Aldo's website and an eBook that a young magician created to help their fund. In all, over \$300 in merchandise was purchased by more than half a dozen members. Member Gordon Macintosh donated \$100 directly to their fund. Munro MacKenzie also wrote a check for \$100. The 50/50 draw netted \$280 - \$140 was donated to the Rachel Columbini fund and \$140 for the holder of the winning ticket. Winner of the 50/50 draw Mike Norden announced he was matching the \$100 that Munro donated and cheers went up from the crowd! Over \$600 was raised for the fund! It's amazing what a good group of magicians can do in such a short time! Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!





## A note from the President!

Dear VMC Members,

Well, it's been a very long and busy December for me doing all sorts of magic shows as well as impersonating that jolly fat fellow (of course I had to use huge amounts of padding!). I miss not having a meeting in December, but a lot of us are so busy that I am sure only two or three people would ever turn up! I can't believe the year is over and we get to do this all over again in 2011! Two thousand and ten was a whirlwind year with some great times - starting out with the banquet at Laff Lines last February. We had some members show some great talent when competing during the year for trophies for card magic, stage magic, mentalism, comedy, kids magic, and every other type of magic under the sun. The lectures at Douglas College were amazing, the annual picnic during the summer was great fun, the auction thrilling, and the Christmas party...well... Christmassy!

I think the highlight for most of us was the Weekend of Magic in October with all of those incredible performers showing us mind blowing magic and teaching us how to improve our own acts. Well, in 2011 we get to ramp things up even more by having even better lectures (if that is possible!) as well as hosting the PCAM/CAM combined convention in July! I have heard rumblings (no - not my stomach!) that there will be something for everyone with many huge stars of magic! You will be kicking yourself around the block if you don't register very soon for it. At the time of writing this, there is a very good chance that I will continue being your president for 2011, and if so I only hope I can live up to everyone's expectations. We will be having our AGM (Annual General Meeting) at the hall on Thursday, January 27th, and then the annual installation banquet at Laff Lines on Sunday, February 27th, and I hope to see everyone at both get-togethers. This is your club and I would appreciate any ideas you may have to make things run smoother and any help you can give us to make this a better club. All members are also invited to attend our monthly executive meeting the second Thursday of every month at the ABC Restaurant in Coquitlam (although we may soon be changing our location) to see how this rag-tag group of magicians elected to represent you, run what is reported to be Canada's largest magic club. Thank-you all for your support in 2010, and I look forward to your participation in 2011!

Bruce Hunt  
VMC President 2010

### **The Richard Sanders Lecture, Friday, November 12th 2010 A Review by Dennis Chan**

Richard Sanders (Hey! He's a Canadian!) started his lecture by doing his version of the "Professor's Nightmare" rope trick and explaining all of the important moves. This was a great opener and thoroughly impressed the 36 magicians who managed to make it out to Douglas College that night to see Richard do his special brand of magic. Following was his mind blowing "Extreme Burn 2.0" effect where he counted out five 5 dollar bills (American of course!), showing them front and back, and then after laying them flat on his hand without any folding or cover whatsoever, he magically changed them into five \$20 dollar bills! The crowd went wild! Not only did he count them out to prove without a doubt they were real twenties, but then he handed them out for complete examination. Next came "Interlace", his version of ring flite on a shoelace. Then, with all of us wanting

more, he demonstrated a mentalism effect utilizing a scratch & win card that had us scratching - our heads! Wait! More! An amazing card effect wherein a card was selected and placed back into the deck. Richard held the deck behind his back, and after making a quick 360 degree turn, the selected card magically appeared hanging from his mouth. His finali was a great trick utilizing the magicians friend - a sharpie, and cap. Didn't take notes? Not to worry, Richard gave us a fantastic deal with several of the effects ready to go with explanation DVD's for a phenomenal price! Unfortunately he had been on the road without much sleep for several days and had to beg off our invitation to go to Boston Pizza afterwards so he could catch up on some badly needed sleep before heading across the border early the next morning. Richard is a very personable guy and we all had a great time at the lecture. Thanks Richard! Remember, there are some more great lectures coming up - Martin Lewis will be here February 4th, so don't miss him!





# Clownin Around

Magic

Please continue to show your support and appreciation for Vancouver's ONLY (and very local) magic shop by visiting them on the web or on the 2nd floor of the Kids Market, Granville Island.

(1496 Cartwright St, Vancouver, BC 604-682-0244)

-2010 VMC Executive

Clownin Around Magic Shop located on Granville Island, minutes from downtown Vancouver has many latest and rare items in the store. Really! we have stuff tucked away that may not be visible to your eye. We don't have the space to show everything. So just ask.

Take for example decks of cards.

There once was a time when your choice was red or blue now you have more than 20 choices each having its own characteristics. We have a wall filled with specialized decks, colours, different designs as well as decks like Svengali and invisible and the like.

We have the entire collection of the Karnival decks starting with the very first one in the series to the latest which is the Karnival Dead Eyes. A very ancient looking deck in a way more eye catching than the Vintage series from the Ellusionist. It has been tested by a number of XCM guys and they love them.

With the approach of the Chinese new year we have got the Bicycle Zodiac decks and the "Gong Xi Fa Cai" decks. These are very rare and colourful decks that are air-cushion finished and handle very well.

Younger magicians like to own and enjoy these cool looking decks. A wide variety of decks in the store allows magicians to select the one that is best suited for their art in card magic. So much has changed over the years especially the advent of the XCM guys.

Magic definitely now has a new branch which the younger performers like to get into. They put in the time for the practise and it is a delight to watch.

We do carry some gaff decks which opens up a whole area of card tricks that morph before their very eyes. Some gaff decks have DVDs that can accompany them some are purchased separately.

Recently a local magician who goes under the name of "G" has released two popular DVDs. The V2F and Imagine and has lately released the a new DVD called Cornered. All the proceeds from this two DVD sets will be going to the Vancouver Children's Hospital. We will carry the latest DVD in our store and they have to be per-ordered because there will be only 500 of them made. It's a really good cause and very generous of "G" to help the children in this way. Kudos "G"

If you need something, we can order it in for you, depending on the item we could have it in as little as the next day. Some things take longer, ask Munro, it took us 3 years but we finally found it for him. Magic tricks do come in and out of stock and some are no longer made. We have had to change our store policy because we have drawers full of "will call" items, so we do need your credit card number or a non refundable deposit to bring a specific item in for you.

A reminder: we do carry both the Magic and Genie magazines and the Reel Magic DVD magazine. They seem to be slipping in popularity so if you like them and want them let us know otherwise we will stop carrying them.

Clownin Around Magic Shop does try to carry what the working magician needs, if we are missing somethings you'd like to see carried in the shop, email us and let us know.  
info@clowninaroundmagic.com.  
Thanks for the input.

Amanda and Joe

## TIDBITS

### SHAWN FARQUHAR

Have you seen our very own Shawn Farquhar in print in The Linking Ring? Yes – our very own member has his very own column in our very own organization's very own monthly magazine! That is very own...I mean very cool! Way to go Shawn!

### JESSE BOYES

Want to get your rankings higher in YouTube and on Google? Are you in need of some videos for your website? This is a great way to get your true name put to the top – add some quality video. Junior member Jesse Boyes has a new video company called MovieFX. Contact him from the roster book or visit his site at [www.moviefx.ca](http://www.moviefx.ca)

### WEBSITE

The website is updated with all of the year's events and lectures. A nifty new feature has been added to the Events page - when you click on an email hyperlink, the subject line will auto-fill! Also – it's a new year and it's time to pay for your ads. If you are listed in the Magician for Hire page, or would like to be, the fee is ONLY \$10 a year and can be paid online with PayPal.

We are also looking for sponsorship for the site – a side banner ad will cost \$200 and will be done as a rolling banner gif. First pay, first play on the banner ad! Please contact the webmaster, Mike Norden, if you are interested in being featured. Limited space, so call now...operators are standing by....

### The "Share Foodbank" Magic Show

#### A Review by Dennis Chan

On Wednesday night, December 22nd, Port Coquitlam resident and VMC member Alex Seaman managed to put together a wonderful magic programme to benefit the local foodbank aptly named "Share" . Of course the name of the show was called "Share the Magic" with all proceeds going to the aforementioned organization. Admission to the show held at a local school theatre was by donation of non-perishable food or money. Starring on the bill (besides Alex) were magicians Mike Norden, James Hanson, and juggler Simon Jukes, with pre-show walk-around magic by Steve Dickson. Showtime was 6pm and in attendance were quite a number of VMC members, there to help out a good cause and see some great magic. Both Shawn Farquhar and Trevor Watters video'd the show for posterity, and when it was all over, many went to the local Boston Pizza for a get-together and rehash of the show. Thanks to Alex and his crew for doing such a fine job of putting the show together and unselfishly donating their time and talents to benefit a worthwhile organization. Credit also goes to John Smithman for being the official photographer of the show.

## Remember - Dues are Due!

In order for us to pay for the rental of the hall and have all those great events every year, we rely on every one of you to pay your dues. Unfortunately non of the executive have mastered the Miser's coin pail for real, but you have to admit that our dues are Miserly low! For a very paltry sum, you will keep on being a member in good standing which also gets you into all of those fantastic lectures for only \$20 (with 24 hours advance booking), or \$25 at the door. Otherwise - DUM DE DUM DUM - it is \$50.00 for non-members, or members not-in-good-standing (those who haven't paid their dues!). So - to make a long story short, go to the VMC website and you can pay your dues before February using PayPal, or bring cash or cheque to the next meeting, .... or send your cheque via snail mail to our Treasurer. Nuff said!!





# Coming Events



AGM - January 27, 2011

Martin Lewis Lecture - February 4, 2011

CAM / PCAM Convention - July 28 to July 31, 2011

Martin Lewis  
February 4th, 2011

Martin Lewis, an engaging Englishman with long tapered fingers ideal for the performance of his art, has spent his entire life involved with prestidigitation. Martin has performed his feats of illusion and magic throughout the world with a track record of successful performances. For the past twenty-five years Martin has continued to maintain a quality of excellence, which has enabled him to establish an impressive list of accomplishments as a magician, variety entertainer and lecturer.

Arriving in the United States 1968, Martin took up residence in the San Francisco Bay Area quickly establishing himself as resident magician at Earthquake McGoons. Television work and world travel soon followed culminating in his being awarded "Visiting Magician of the year" and multiple "Parlor Magician of the year" for the year 2000 and 2001 by the Academy of Magical Arts for his performances at the prestigious Magic Castle in Los Angeles. In addition to his heavy performance schedule, Martin is constantly developing and marketing new magical tricks and lecturing worldwide.

David Copperfield, in his 1991 and 1994 Television specials, featured effects from Martin's book Martins Miracles. Martin Lewis is an extremely gifted and talented magician, comedian and lecturer who will continue to entertain audiences throughout the world for a long time to come.



June 28 - July 2, 2011

DALLAS  
**IBM**  
CONVENTION  
2011

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*Neil Kremer*  
Neil Kremer, Editor