

the charles howard ring



# VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

affiliated with the  
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

## June Meeting Features Magic Olympics

The next meeting of IBM Ring 92 will take place on Thursday June 22nd, 2006 at the

Sunrise

Community hall at 1950 Windermere Street in

Vancouver. Doors

will open at 6:30 pm with the workshop starting at 7 pm.



This month's workshop is going to be 'Magic Olympics!' – yes, in honour of 2010 we are going to compete in our own little magic contest. Do you have the chops and skills to outlast, outsmart, and outwit your fellow members? How many balloon dogs can you make in 2 minutes? How many false knots can you tie in a minute? How many coin rolls can you do? Charlier cuts? Better get practicing because the Magic Olympics is only days away!

The feature entertainment for the evening will be the Ray Gamble Trophy Competition. Best card effect done with a previously unopened deck of cards. If you are interested in entering the evenings competition, please contact competition chairman Walter Ruteck at 604-591-1930.

**"WE'RE GOING TO THE FREE JUSTIN MILLER LECTURE, ARE YOU?"**

SEE PAGE 4

## May Meeting Miracles

Our May meeting was held on the 25th and started promptly at 7:00pm. There were 54 Members and 7 guests in attendance. The workshop / lecture was presented by Ray Roch -and what a blast! We are very lucky to have Ray as a member of our club because he is filled with talent.

He started the evening off with his famous coin routine and then went into a Misers' dream, the pea shell game, a unique postcard effect using the *Out to Lunch* principal, showed us a "little sleight of hand" (a dolls hand), and ended the night demonstrating how to make a box from playing cards and a load production from it as well. Ray was very hands on and explained everything to the members with great results. He had lectures notes for sale for only \$15 sold by funnyman Jens Henriksen, as he was hocking them

all evening long! Thank you Ray for a great workshop!

The business meeting started at 8:10 pm with President Mike Norden presiding. Mike welcomed six guests and then went right into the reports of officers. The upcoming lectures were first up, specifically Sal Piacente lecture and the free Justin Miller lecture.

Also touched on were Kramiens Jamboree, the upcoming Open House, the 2006 PCAM in Victoria, and the Children's Show. A vote was taken on whether to have this years Christmas Dinner catered or to continue the Potluck style - it was an overwhelming response to have it catered this year, so just come and enjoy the night and leave the cooking to Craig Prystay and Company!

New Business was next and we had correspondence from the Lynwood Ring welcoming us to their *Day O' Magic* on Saturday October 7th - mark it on your calendar! We also welcomed a new appointee to our phone committee - Denzil Bee!

Neale Bacon reported that he had seen footage of Dick Gardner doing some



Jack & Nicholas Chow try to put on happy faces as they sit through the business meeting

magic. Dick used to be a tour guide and would ride along on a *mobile observation vehicle* that looked like a set of bleachers on wheels! When the vehicle stopped, Dick would do some magic to entertain the people. We will look into getting this footage for our archives - thanks Neale!

Refreshments were provided by Dennis Chan this month and next month will be provided by Claire-Ly Lee.

Then it was time for the evenings competition - Close Up Magic!

Competition Chair, Walter Ruteck, read the rules, and President Mike Norden acted as MC. The Junior competition for the Dick Gardner Trophy was first and Jesse Boyes took to the stage.



Ray Roch teaches "The Card Box"; attendees try to keep up!



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# May Meeting from page 1

Jesse did a great rope routine that involved the cut and restored rope and Professors Nightmare all wrapped into a nice package that ended with a joke about not being able to tie his own shoes - as he showed off his untied laces! The crowd roared!

Jack Chow came out next and promptly turned a \$20 to \$100, taking after his Dad! He then did a very funny parody with a card force using a chicken that did the chicken dance - just like Dave Watters award winning routine! The next club member to have some fun poked at him was Jeff McLeod, as Jack had a streamer come from the stuffed animals mouth as it did the "Mmmm naaaa naaa naaa" song - again, just like Jeff's act! All who have seen Dave's and Jeff's act howled with extra laughter - Jack was onto something here!

While the scores got tallied, the adults took the stage. We had a few competitors unable to make the competition, so there were only three acts in teh adult category. Starting out was Cameron Fisk with a fantastic *Ring to Locked Box* routine. He had Craig Prystay come up and hand over his ring. Cameron then looped in onto a string and kept getting it off no matter the impossibilities! The ring then ended up inside the locked box sitting on the table the entire time!

Glen LaBarre came out for his turn and set down a *mini close-up table* onto the table. Very funny Glen! He took out his wallet and showed us the

contents, a Gold Visa card, cash, some coins etc... Kevin Kotorinski came up to assist and Glen made a prediction. Kevin choose a number of coins and the exact amount was what Glen had predicted - and had stashed under the Gold Visa card sitting on the table the whole time!

Next up was Dennis Hewson who brought out a *mini suitcase* (is everything mini tonight?) and pulled out a length of rope. In true Dennis Hewson style he proceeded to wow us with rope effects including the cut and resorted rope, Professor's Nightmare, and some great knot tricks that had us dazzled! Our MC, Mike Norden then announced he had been disqualified because what Dennis had done was **KNOT** magic....he was kidding of course!

Alym Amlani was supposed to be the final act but was running late! We did the 50/50 draw to kill some time, and David Wilson took home \$66 - just his second time winning in all his years! We then awarded Anthony Young with his 20 year Pin recognition. After all of that, Alym was still not present, so we had to announce a winner. And the winners were...



Competition winners, Cameron Fisk (l) and Jesse Boyes display their trophies

The 2006 Dick Gardner Trophy for Junior Close Up magic went to Jesse Boyes!

The 2006 HB MacLean Trophy for Adult Close Up magic went to Cameron Fisk!

A great night had by all!

THE MAGICAL MINUTES

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## President's Perspective



What a month we have had! I want to thank all the people who volunteered their time and energy to help make all the projects a success! My hats off to you!

Now, for something a little different this month. My better half and I went down to the Sands Hotel in May and went to a little brain washing seminar - you know, listen for 90 minutes and you get a free trip...blah, blah, blah. I thought maybe Craig would buy us dinner if it was a scam. Well, it turned out to be a sales pitch for pots and pans! Not just any pots and pans, but surgical stainless steel with Titanium and copper running through them! And unbreakable china and glass, oh my!

Actually, it was pretty cool. Aside from the whole obvious sales pitch there was some serious information being delivered. If you happen to watch or read the news lately you might have noticed many articles on the product 'Teflon'. This is the stuff that your non-stick frying pan is coated

with. It is used in hundreds of applications and is made by DuPont - the mega company that makes chemicals. What is a chemical company doing making cook ware? Good question. Why am I bringing it up? Better question.

Teflon is some serious poison - just read the warning label the next time you purchase a frying pan. It says right on it that if you heat a Teflon pan for more than 3 minutes with nothing in it, it produces toxic gases and fumes that will make humans sick with flu like symptoms - oh, and it will kill any birds that are in close proximity.

So that is my point - get your doves, chickens, pigeons etc out of the kitchen if you cook with this stuff! Their respiratory system is very delicate - like why they used the canary in the old coal mines - so it can be fatal! Just wanted to pass that along.

Oh, I have some old pots and pans for sale now...and some old china....and cutlery...and glasses....got some new stuff.....sigh....

Mike Norden - President

# SAL PIACENTE LECTURE

Reviewed by David Parker

On June 2, 37 members and 2 guests attended a lecture by Sal "the Hitman" Piacente at Douglas College.

Sal is quite a character with his Brooklyn accent, stocky build, (almost) shaved head and goatee. He has an extensive background in casinos, having worked as a Blackjack dealer, pit boss, box man. He has also worked on the other side of the table. He does not consider himself a magician - he considers himself a "buff."



Sal Piacente demonstrates the intricacies of the three shell game

Sal's lecture consisted of three phases - Cheating, Poker, and Memorizing. The cheating and poker tricks were all card magic, mostly involving stacking the deck ahead of time.

Sal started off with a poker tricks involving stacked decks, and then continued to show us how to stack a deck while the spectator is watching. He showed a number of false shuffles, all of

which were incredible, and reminded us to shuffle the deck in the same manner whether or not you are doing a false shuffle. He also demonstrated other cheating techniques such as peeking at the top card, the bottom deal, how a poker dealer working with one or more poker players at the table can cheat, and many, many more.

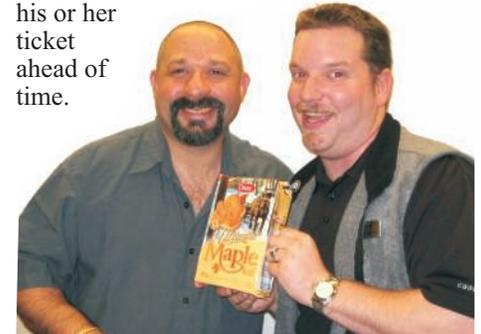
We also got to see many clips from surveillance tapes from casinos where we could see actual cheats employing the techniques that Sal was explaining to us.

During the final part of the lecture, Sal demonstrated his ability to memorize a deck of cards, which we later found out was more of a trick than actual memory. Then he amazed us by actually memorizing 20 different items that members of the audience shouted out to him. He then taught us how to use his SAL (Simple Associated Learning) technique, to memorize cards or anything else using a simple rhyme that we learned as kids. I had planned on describing it in this column, but I forgot how to do it.

My favourite line of the night was one Sal made while a spectator put on his glasses to see how Sal glimpses the top card. Sal said, "You don't need glasses, you need a dog!"

All in all, it was a great lecture, enjoyed by everyone who attended, and well worth waiting 13 extra minutes for the latecomers to arrive. Lon Mandrake was the lucky winner of the \$20 "Lecture

attendee's prize draw" which is awarded at each lecture to one lucky VMC member who reserves his or her ticket ahead of time.



Sal (l) gets his customary Maple Leaf cookies from President Mike Norden

## WEB CORNER

Mike Norden

WWW.IBMRING92.COM

The site is always getting updated! If you want news about our latest event just click on [www.ibmring92.com](http://www.ibmring92.com) to find out the details. If you have any pictures from our past events please send them to the webmaster. We will be updating the site with over 100 more photos in the next month.

May 31st marked the deadline for the IBM website contest and that means I am switching to 'Judge' mode and will be taking a look at the best Ring sites out there. Do you have a favorite? Let me know which one you think should win!

Some really good news from the IBM - you can now have your own website, for FREE! Yes for free! Just go visit [www.magician.org](http://www.magician.org) and click on the 'members website' section and it will take you through a step by step process on making and designing your own webpage. It is easy and I encourage everyone to go and do it. If you do not have a website for your clients to view you are missing out on potential customers! Do it now!

Glen Alan sent me an email and it is just for fun, but I thought I would pass along the link for everyone to view and have a good laugh - <http://eepybird.com/dcm1.html> Glen thought he might try this for the Children's Magician of the Year show next year...

Got a good one for me? Send it along and I will post if next month. See you in cyber space!

Mike Norden is Ring 92's webmaster. Contact him at [mike.norden@ibmring92.com](mailto:mike.norden@ibmring92.com)

## SPONSORSPOTLIGHT

### ANTINOMY - WWW.ANTINOMYMAGIC.COM

Are you a finger flicker? Interested in getting the newest, most talked about magazine?

Antinomy is a Quarterly Publication devoted to Magic. There are four issues per year, with 48 or 52 pages per issue, each measuring 11" X 11" in an oversized format designed to enhance your learning experience by more easily lying flat when open. Antinomy has set a new standard in quality for this



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Antinomy wants to promote obscure thought, advanced thinking, and meaningful dialog. In combination with our readership, we hope to advance the art of magic. With Antinomy, you can count on the pot being stirred. Along the way, you'll find thoughts that are made to move, and minds freed to wonder.

# TIDBITS FROM THE TOP HAT

The Annual Summer Picnic has been set - Sunday July 30th at the Band shell in Queens Park, New Westminster. Come with the whole family. There will be food, games, food, prizes, food, contests, magic wand degrees. Contact Dave Watters if you would like to volunteer!

We are sorry to report that Peter Rolston, popular local entertainer, and former member of the Vancouver Magic Circle passed away on Tuesday, June 6th, 2006. We extend our condolences to his wife Barbara and family. Peter was born in

Vancouver January 12th, 1936 and following his schooling he continued to develop his dream of becoming an entertainer. He was the first Junior

Ward of our circle, joining in December 1949 and continued his membership for over 40 years winning the Wilf Rutherford Trophy in 1967 and the Cecil Ackery Trophy in 1968. With humour, magic, ventriloquism and his beloved dummies, Cindy & George, he won the Actra Award for Best B.C. Children's Show in 1978. His television program *Pete's Place* entertained children and adults alike from 1963 - 1979.

Many of us just saw Peter perform at Kramien's Jamboree a few weeks ago and what a performer - we have lost a very talented magician and ventriloquist. As Peter would say, "Thanks for coming out to the show, drive safely because I'm walking."



Rick Mearns and his daughter Kaitlyn took a holiday to Disneyland in early June. As a busy restaurant magician and corporate entertainer, Rick works over 40 events per month, so the vacation was well deserved. Kaitlyn loved Disneyland, but was overheard complaining about Rick's constant need to capture everything on film. "Daddy, next time we go can you leave the Camcorder and camera at home."

Linking Ring cover boy and I.B.M. Territorial Vice President Tony Eng celebrated his 60th birthday on May 28, 2006. Tony's friends and relatives came from across Canada and the US to throw him a birthday bash. Close-up magicians performed throughout the event, including Ring 92 member, Ray Roch. The highlight of the party was seeing Tony strip down to his super magician costume and then pass his body through a coat hanger!



B-Day bash: Ray Roch, Tony Eng, Ann Eng

## CONJURORS' CALENDAR

the monthly guide to magic & events in our community

**Thursday - June 22nd, 2006**

I.B.M. Ring #92 the Vancouver Magic Circle

**JUNE MEETING**

7pm: Magic Olympics Workshop

8pm: Meeting

9pm: Ray Gamble competition - magic with a previously un-opened deck of cards

**Friday - July 7th, 2006 - 7:30 pm**

the Vancouver Magic Circle presents

**SPECIAL LECTURE BY JUSTIN MILLER**

Room #2201 - Douglas College

700 Royal Avenue, New Westminster, BC

FREE to the first 100 who RSVP Mike Norden

**Saturday - July 8th, 2006**

Special Event -

**MAGIC WORKSHOP BY JUSTIN MILLER**

Only \$15 - Sands Hotel in Vancouver

2 hour workshop - space is limited!

RSVP to Mike at mike.norden@ibmring92.com

**Sunday - July 30th, 2006**

the Vancouver Magic Circle hosts the

**ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC**

Queens Park Band Shell, New Westminster

Food, games, magic, and more food!

A true family affair - and a public show! Invite all you know to come out and meet our crazy gang! RSVP to Dave Watters

**August 9-13th, 2006**

Victoria Magic Circle hosts

**2006 P.C.A.M. CONVENTION**

Harbour Towers Hotel - Victoria, BC

Contact Tony Eng for more details or visit the website at pcam.biz

**Friday, September 15th, 2006 - 7:30pm**

Ring #92 the Vancouver Magic Circle presents

**MAGIC LECTURE BY CHRIS CAPEHART**

Room #2203 - Douglas College

700 Royal Avenue, New Westminster, BC

Reserve your seat by calling 604-467-7887

**Thursday - September 28th, 2006 - 7pm**

IBM Ring #92 The Vancouver Magic Circle

**SEPTEMBER MEETING - INITIATION NIGHT**

All new members encouraged to come out!

## FREE Justin Miller Lecture!

Justin Miller is our next lecture and this one is going to be a doozy! Folks, you need to see this guy. He will dazzle you. His 2.5 hour lecture will be about table hopping, restaurant work, and close up - with the second part being about lapping.

Lapping you say? Who does that anymore! Well Justin does and after you see this lecture so will you. The lecture is

at 7:30pm at Douglas College on Friday July 7th, 2006. Come early to watch some video of Justin and get a good seat. Why get a good seat you ask?

**THIS LECTURE IS FREE!**

Yes, free. It is finally here, the one you have been waiting for - no cost to you, just show up. If you are a current member then

you are invited - BUT you must RSVP to mike.norden@ibmring92.com to save yourself a seat. The first 100 people who contact me will get in for free. We have invited all our past members and potential members to come out too, so don't wait call or email me now!

I have 79 people registered so far. It will be a full house!

# First Annual Ring 92 Open House

The First Annual Open House was a hit! It was held June 10th at the Sunrise Community Hall and people came from far and wide. Old friends got reunited and new friends were made. We had almost 150 come through out the day and that was just who we got to sign in! Adam from Party Empire was on hand to make balloons, Amanda from Clownin Around was demonstrating and selling tricks, Melody Hewson was busy face painting, Nicole was busy doing all the food (thanks honey!) while chef Gord Boyes fired up the BBQ! David Wilson did most everything else as usual!

We started the magic shows off with Alym Amlani doing his 15 minute Magic Wand Degree, and boy did he rock the house! We were hearing many comments from his performance and his great twist on the invisible deck. Well done Alym!



*Alym Amlani dazzles young and old alike*

After some delicious burgers (did you know they were only \$2?!) we had scheduled Cameron for 2pm but he was unable to make it – so Rod Chow just happened to have his money act with him and performed it for a stunned crowd of 100 people. What a treat for the laymen and public to see such an act – and our members too! Thanks Rod!

After Rod we had Dennis “The Bulldog” Chan perform some ventriloquism for us. I had not had the pleasure of seeing Dennis do this before and many members mentioned that they had no idea Dennis was so talented... I think that is a compliment Dennis! We had a quick break where people could get some more food and take a look around. Our new information booth was on hand, as well as a sample of our apparel. Our librarian, Greg Dietlein, brought the rare book section to the event and it was wonderful to see such a treasured and valued part of our club – we mean the books Greg, don’t get all misty on us! Seriously though, many people just enjoyed catching up with Greg too!

Back to the magic again – up next was Jesse Boyes, recently featured in the Abbotsford Times about his award winning talent! He showed a huge crowd why he won the Dick Gardner award and



*Gord Boyes (l) barbecues David Wilson’s burger  
Inset: Dennis Chan with his TWO dummies*

had them cheering for more! Learn to tie those shoelaces Jesse!

Although hard to follow, Thomas Jono proved he was up to the task and came on to do his Magic Wand degree. Unknown to me, I was part of the act providing Thomas with anything he needed at his beck and call. It was truly funny! With almost 20 minutes of close up effects that were riveting, the audience was in agreement – this was a great event! Everyone pitched in to clean up and head out at 4pm. We cannot thank everyone enough, especially David, Gord, and my hopefully still soon to be wife Nicole, for their efforts. Can’t wait until next year!

*Reported by Mike Norden*

# Stan Kramien’s JAMBOREE

Well, another year gone and another party in Oregon. If you have not been to Stan Kramien’s Northwest Jamboree, all I can say is, “Are you crazy?!”

Book the hotel for next year and pay the man now! You are missing out on the best valued convention out there – and as Stan puts it, “it’s more a gathering of friends than a convention.” I would have to agree.

We had 42 Canadians down for the trip this year – 33 Ring #92 members and friends and family. What a turnout! We were in for a treat this year with stars like Mike Caveny, David Ginn, Duane Laufflin,



*Melody Hewson, Ray Roch, Amanda O’Leary, Tony Eng. Inset: Stan Kramien with Karen Eskilson*

Michael Mode, Peter Rolston, Murray Hatfield and many more!

I felt Mike Caveny and Peter Rolston were the highlights of the show, with Murray & Teresa receiving a well-deserved standing ovation for an amazing illusion!

But enough about the magic – that is always good! What about the dealer booths, the food, the drinks, the friends? That is what this is about, getting to know one another – and if you were one of the 22 people stuffed into the Wilson van then you know about getting close to each other! Of course, the Vancouver Magic Circle ran the auction again this year and with the help of David Wilson, Karen Eskilson and her son Ken, Nicole Mitchell, Dave Watters and yours truly – we sold almost everything! We made \$92 on the auction which Stan so generously donated back to our club. Thanks Stan!

David Wilson and I had the pleasure of presenting Stan with a lifetime



*The Vancouver Magic Circle members attend Kramien’s Jamboree*

membership plaque on behalf of the club. With all that Stan has done to support us we felt it was time to show him that he is treasured in our hearts. It was a nice moment and Stan loved the plaque and has it hanging up on his wall already!

The Big Top Ranch is a venue that cannot be topped when it comes to a magic function and everyone is so hospitable and kind. It is an experience you must have at least once in your lifetime.

This year was Stan’s 81st birthday and I will be there for number 82 – and so should you!

*Reported by Mike Norden*

# Children's Magician of the Year Competition

The Magic for Youngsters show took place on Sunday May 28th at the Shadbolt Centre in Burnaby. All our volunteers were on deck to help put this amazing show on for the public. David Wilson, Dennis Chan and Mike Norden were busy setting up the stage area, with the help from Cameron and Ken. Clinton W. Gray was the producer of the event and was seen wandering in the lobby prior to the show being carried around in a hat by an 8 foot rabbit! Dennis Hewson was making sure everything was in order backstage, but could be seen doing some walk around magic for the line up.

David Murdoch and new member Denzil Bee were doing ticket duty, while Nicole Mitchell and Adina Gray were our usherettes and handing out the programs. Rod Chow was the stage manager and what a job he did - everything ran smoothly and he coached our announcer Jens Henriksen to perfection!

Once everything was ready the doors opened and the crowd poured in - just under 100 kids and 100 adults were in for a wild ride! Jens introduced last years winner, Graham Kita, and the rules were read and the show was started!



Michael Glennister      Jeff Christensen

Michael Glenister came out and did a solid routine by combining an Airborne with Healed & Sealed ending with a goldfish production that a lucky child got to take home with her. The production of his rabbit, Killer, made the audience ohh and ahhh, solidifying a number of votes!

Next up was Damo Famo (Damien Carriere) from *over the rainbow* who came out in yellow hip waders and started speaking in an Irish accent....at least we think it was an Irish accent! Being the new kid on the block, Damien wowed us with some thoughtful and intriguing magic

intertwined with some great storytelling. It was 'Icky, Icky, Icky, Wack!' This was going to be a tough competition already - unfortunately Damien went over his time limit and was executed...uh... I mean eliminated!

Mike Norden rolled onto stage next...literally! He was wearing some new thing called "Heely's" - these are those shoes all the kids are wearing these days that have the wheels in them. Well, Mike should have practiced a little more as he went flying off into stage right, and crashed into some pot and pans. Mike then proceeded to do a Circus-themed routine with the help of two audience volunteers and ended up making them each a "bayloon."



Dave Watters      Damien Carriere

Jeff Christensen, the Great Smartini, came out with energy galore - and a sack with a weasel in it! The kids loved it but the weasel wouldn't come out to play! Jeff then went onto the Vanishing Bandana routine which is always a crowd pleaser!

Dave Watters entered next full of props galore! He produced silks and streamers and 2 large silk fountains! He pulled a rope from his pants and out came his underwear! Oops! Next was a card on rope routine with some audience helpers and a final production of a dove to chicken (Henrietta)! A great routine!

Neale Bacon came out with a lovely assistant - Sally Ann. Neale delighted the audience with some ventriloquism and it was a wonderful way to show off our different genres of entertainment. He then had 3 volunteers come up to help him with a game show called "Monkey Monte" where each person was given a chance to win a prize! Neale had to match their Monkey hats to the colors in the bags they had around their necks - a great mentalism routine for kids, and although some



Neale Bacon      MC Graham Kita

technical difficulties hapened in the sound booth, Neale still persevered and correctly predicted the outcome!

Intermission was next and the audience went to the lobby to cast their ballots. The performers wished each other well and the crowd returned. While the ballots were being counted last years winner, Graham Kita, thrilled the crowd with a 40 minute show.

Now the moment of truth - President Mike Norden came out to address the crowd. He thanked all the members who had put so much work into this event, the Shadbolt staff, and of course the audience. He introduced the show's producer, Clinton W. Gray, who then had acting Competition Chair Glen Labarre come out with the envelope. He announced, "and the winner is...Mike Norden!" Our President then came back on stage, congradulated himself for winning, thanked the audience for their votes and all his fellow competitors. He encouraged everyone to come back next year as he promised an even better show!



(l to r) Glen LaBarre & Graham Kita present 2006 winner Mike Norden the Wilf Rutherford trophy