



the charles howard ring

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

Affiliated with the—
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

June General Meeting—Thurs June 25th

The next meeting of IBM RING #92, The VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE, takes place on Thursday June 25th, 2009 at Sunrise Community Hall in Vancouver (1950 Windermere St.). This evening will be our annual "Impromptu Card Magic Night" with the competition for the Ray Gamble Trophy.



This competition is open to all adult members. The trophy is awarded in recognition of excellence in impromptu card magic. The competitor must present a single effect using absolutely nothing except what is supplied. The Trophy and Competition committee will supply each competitor with a deck of cards, cellophane removed but the seal intact. Competitors are responsible for opening the deck of cards in front of the judges. In order to keep this competition separate from other Vancouver Magic Circle competitions, any additional item introduced will result in

disqualification. The spirit of this competition is to encourage growth in the fields of impromptu style card magic.

To enter please contact our Competition Chairman Neil Kremer at least 24 hours in advance.

6:30—Doors open

7:00—Workshop begins

8:00—Business Meeting

8:20—Snacks and socializing

9:00—Competition for the Ray Gamble Trophy

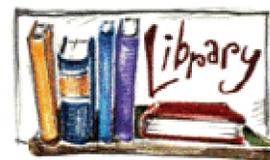
The Workshop

The workshop this evening will be Magic Improv games with Mike Norden! Come have some fun with some team sports, trivia improv and charades! Everyone wins a prize...well, not really....but come anyway!



The Magical Minutes

Newsletter Date:
June 2009



On Thursday May 28, 2009, Past President Dale Brown donated 47 magic books and 1 audio cassette tape of Blackstones radio program to the club library .

Thank you very much Dale.

He says that he has more books to donate. These books are now catalogued and documented with the donor's name and date.

You can find a complete list of library resources on the club website.

www.ibmring92.com

Contact Dennis Chan for more library information.

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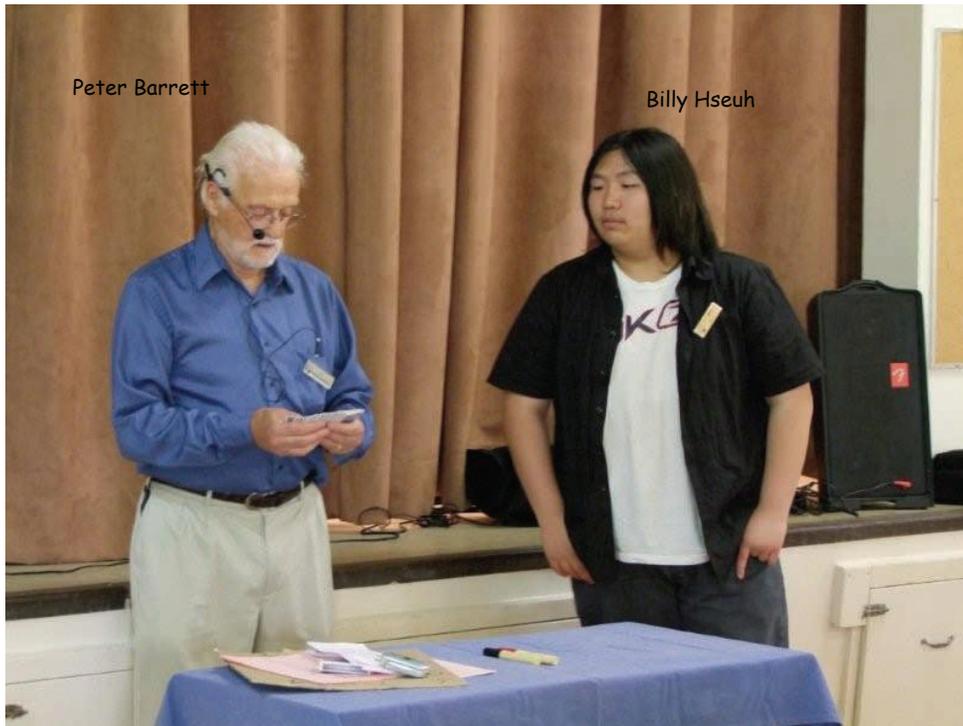
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May in Review

Submitted by Munro Mackenzie

Our magic month of May started off with a bang on the first day of the month with a fantastic lecture by Levant. His lecture was written up elsewhere in the club literature so all I can add is DON'T MISS HIM.



Peter Barrett

Billy Hseuh

Our regular meeting had a workshop led by Peter Barrett our retired French teacher, who taught us the fundamentals of MNEMONICS. With a little application you can remember up to 100 incidents or names with a simple memorizing of numbers plus names. Mind you, it would take work.



Brianna Carlson

Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.

~ Norman Vincent Peale

Thanks to John Smithman and Rod Chow, we have some pictures to share. If you take pictures at any meetings or events, be sure to send them to us! (and check out <http://www.champions.ca/vmc.html>)

May in Review, cont'd

The business meeting was brief with our president absent. The good news was that Stan Kramien's Jamboree would be back in 2010 after being cancelled this year due to the downturn of the economy.

Member Rod Chow and family had a wonderful write up by Lon Mandrake in Northern Peeks, the Canadian Assoc of Magicians magazine.

After the business meeting, Bryn Williams treated us to some tasty bits before our night of competitions.

First up were the juniors for the Dick Gardner Trophy for close up magic, cards permitted. Billy Hseuh led a talented parade by swallowing a thread and recovering it from his eye plus changed a \$20 bill to \$100 for a nice effect.



Billy Hseuh

Alex Seaman picked up a predicted card at the end of a rope; Brianna Carlson with Dennis Hewson did sponge balls; and finally Jack Chow



Alex Seaman



Brianna Carlson

did some great cards and money (hello DADDY!!).



Rod Chow

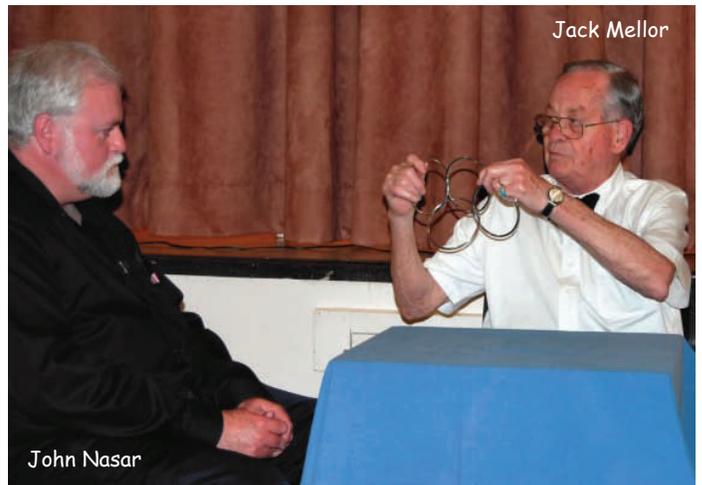
The H.B. Maclean Trophy for adults is for close up, cards NOT permitted.

Here the talent level went sky high starting off with international champion Rod Chow and his money magic; Bruce Hunt with a fine act; Steve Dickson needed 2 helpers to put a coin in a bottle;



Bruce Hunt

and veteran Jack Mellor to show us how LINKING RINGS should be done. While the scores were being tabulated, Henry Tom, last year senior winner, entertained us with some fine magic.



Jack Mellor

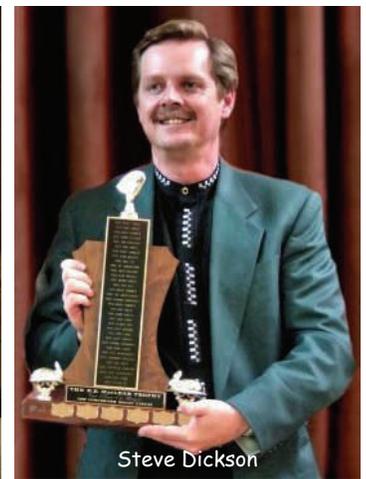
John Nasar

The junior winner was Jack Chow and the senior winner was Steve Dickson.

The winner of the 50/50 draw of \$55.40 was Bryn Williams. 35 members and 4 guests went home on a fine spring evening with a mind full of magic.



Jack Chow



Steve Dickson

Children's Magician of the Year

Submitted by Neil Kremer

Well, the 2009 Children's Magician of the Year show has come and gone. The Wilf Rutherford trophy has been awarded to President Gord Boyes who performed a very crowd pleasing act with the assistance of his son Jesse. After making a bird appear out of a balloon, Gord very skillfully and entertainingly inserted Jesse into a GIANT balloon. A long and colourful silk streamer was passed from the outside to the inside of the balloon via an invisible hole. At one point while talking with the audience, Gord had let the giant balloon deflate with Jesse inside. In a panic to save Jesse's life, Gord says, "It's okay Jesse, it's okay, Daddy is here!" The crowd went WILD! I do believe this line will go down in VMC history forever.

bringing such great magic to the many people who came to watch.

Over the past few months of organiz-

helping hands involved in taking tickets, criteria judging and time keeping. Thank you for the magic.



Frank Pataki and Michael Nemeth, trusted vote counters who quietly worked behind closed curtains but whose services we could have not done without. Thank you for the magic.

Jens Henriksen and Steve Dickson, adult magicians who entertained the crowd in the long line waiting to enter the theatre. The look of wonder in the crowd's eyes told me that

ing and planning this year's show I realized how much REALLY goes into making it a success. The most important factor is magic... that's right, MAGIC... but not the kind you see on stage. It's the magic that you feel when you see all the efforts of so many people working so hard behind the scenes.

you were really able to suspend their disbelief. You have a special gift which you kindly shared with us. Thank you for the magic.



Jesse & Gord Boyes

Thanks and congratulations to Gord and Jesse Boyes for winning this very prestigious award and title - Children's Magician of the Year!

Our other competitors were also very entertaining and most enjoyable to watch. A very big thank you also to Henry Tom, Clinton W. Gray, Bruce Hunt and Gary Savard. We appreciate the commitment you fulfilled in

David Wilson, Co-Producer who created a super stunning programme guide, was "the voice" of the show and diplomatic and level-headed right hand man. Thank you for the magic.

Stage manager Rod Chow, technical organizer extraordinaire and overseer of all things unseen. Thank you for the magic.

Assistant Stage Manager Dennis Hewson, facilitator of absolutely everything else unseen when Rod wasn't able to be in two places at the same time. Thank you for the magic.

Karen Eskilson, Denzil Bee, Bryn Williams, the friendly faces and

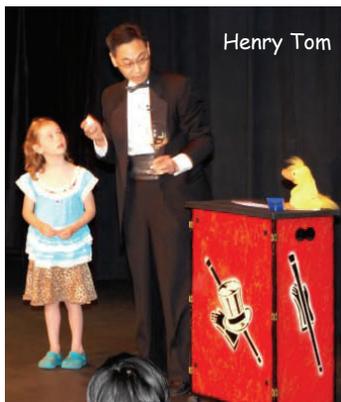


Clinton W. Gray

Alex Seamen and Billy Hseuh, junior magicians who performed walk around magic did a great job of welcoming the crowd. Brianna Carlson handed out programme guides. Thank you for the magic.

Official Photographer John Smithman and Official Videographer Shawn Farquhar, you capture our memories and help preserve our history. Thank you for the magic.

Backstage Security Dennis Chan and Safety Officer Dave Carlson, helped to keep us safe with watchful eyes.



Henry Tom

Thank you for the magic.



Bruce Hunt

Clinton Gray, Bruce Hunt and Gary Savard, the people we all came to see. Thank you for the magic.

Mike Norden, Emcee and previous (multiple time) recipient of the Wilf Rutherford trophy and title of Children's Magician of the Year, face and personality of the entire event. We could not have had such a great show without you. Thank you for the magic.



Jack & Juliana Chow

Jack Chow and Juliana Chow, stunning to say the least. Your onstage presence is spectacular and we're so lucky to have you perform as our guests this year. Thank you for the magic.

people to help bring this wonderful annual event to life.



Billy Hseuh

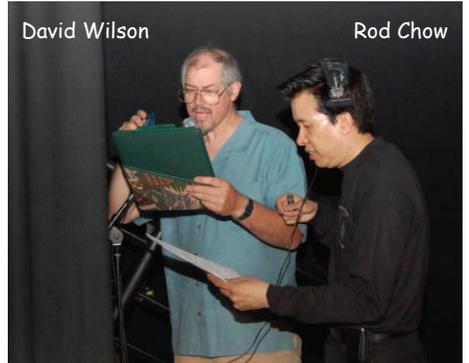


Gary Savard



Alex Seaman

Thank you all for the magic.



David Wilson

Rod Chow

Everybody who bought a ticket and attended the show. Everybody who advertised and helped support our programme guide. Everybody who helped spread the word. Thank you for the magic.

To the Shadbolt Theatre staff and After Five Graphics - thank you for the magic.

I hope that you'll join me when you see any of these people to say, "Thank you for the magic." They really deserve it.

It has been my privilege and honour to have been supported by such great



Mike Norden

A Magical Evening

Submitted by Karen Eskilson

"A Magical Evening indeed!"

On Friday, June 19, 2009, VMC member Jeff Christensen and his wife Emma held a fundraiser, in memory of their son Jonah, to benefit the music and art therapy program at Canuck Place Children's Hospice. This celebration of Jonah was held on what would have been his 8th birthday and the theme was "to Celebrate the Child in All of Us".

Friends and Family were on hand selling snacks and drinks, handing out programs and directing people. Jeff and Emma's daughter Hannah was one of the young ladies at the door greeting and handing out programs.



It was a magic extravaganza with 5 feature acts and 2 walk around magicians who are all Vancouver Magic Circle members and generously donated their time to this worthy cause.

The night started with Steve Dickson and Henry Tom, both looking very dapper, entertaining the line up and continuing into the auditorium as people were waiting for the show to start. What a way to warm up the audience!

Emma Christensen welcomed everyone with an emotional and heartfelt thanks. She introduced the MC for the night, her husband Jeff, the great Smartini. Jeff did a nice job as MC with magical bits in between the acts. His running gag with 'lotta water' turned out not to be his only running gag much to Jeff's chagrin. It seemed that Jo-Jo Coconut, the talking monkey decided not to cooperate - whispering into the mic (low batteries in the mic), refusing to move his lips, etc. But Jeff managed to carry on just fine with his other bits, my favorite being the musical number from Grease between Jeff (as Danny Zuko) and his wife Emma (caricature as Sandy on the Axtell drawing board).

The first act was Gary Savard, in his vibrant red suit, who had the kids screaming with delight at his balloon antics and jumbo wands. His assistant from the audience was the perfect foil for his 'magic gone wrong'. A

great opening act to get the crowd going.

Jack & Juliana Chow followed with their charming and colorful routine. They both looked like they were having so much fun that I am sure it left the children in the audience wondering about learning some magic themselves.

Next up was Rod Chow with the new storyline to his 'Money Act' which held the audience from start to finish.

Looking around at the audience when he finished, I noticed more than one person had been touched by the ending, as I heard some throats clearing and others slightly teary eyed.

When David Wilson came on stage, he wheeled on a small covered 'table' and removed a single rope. That, and 2 assistants was all he used for his act. There was lots of comedic byplay, both verbal and physical, with the assistants and lots of laughs from the audience.

Closing the show was Matthew Johnson, in a coat of many colours. He threw one liners at the kids and occasional adult while performing, keeping everyone amused. Performing the linking rings in his own unique style was great for the audience to see a classic and his nasty card picking duck was funny. He finished with some diablo juggling which the audience had not expected and thoroughly enjoyed.

To close out the evening, Emma again thanked everyone for coming & supporting them. Jeff and 3 friends came up and sang a song with new lyrics to an old Newfoundland fishing song. One of the friends, Mike Balsler, had written the lyrics for Jeff and Emma's daughter Hannah to remember Jonah. It's a lovely song, and tribute to both children really, and of course emotions were running high by the end of the song but they got through it all.

It was a great evening for a great cause - I only wish more VMC members could have been there to support one of our own and enjoy all the magic. Well, there is always next year!!

PCAM 2009 Update

submitted by Shawn Farquhar

PCAM take to the high seas on board the ms Norwegian Pearl as she sails from Vancouver to Los Angeles, departing Vancouver Monday September 21 and arriving in Los Angeles on Saturday September 26 .

The response to the cruise has been great and NCL has allowed me to extend the booking date. Tell your friends that they will be missing the fun if they don't register before June 30th.

Each performer will do an entire show and not just the standard convention spot we have all seen before.

The first announced talent is Geoff Williams, Creator of "I Hate David Copperfield" trick! THREE TIMES voted "Magician of the Year" for the state of Minnesota by the International Brotherhood of Magicians. FIRST PLACE wins in Stage, Close-Up (twice) and Comedy (twice) categories at the annual Houdini Magic Convention. FIRST PLACE wins in Stage (3 times) and Close-Up (5 times) in regional Minnesota state magic competitions.



Over the years I have strived to discover acts most people have not seen. Acts I believe will be important to the future of magic. In the past I brought unknown performers to PCAM like Greg Frewin, Cyril Takayama and Sylvester the Jester. You won't forget Geoff either ...

Want to stay an extra day in Los Angeles? Just like we did in 2005 I am offering an extra charge event to extend your magic experience. The ms Norwegian Pearl will dock on Saturday, September 26th and I have chartered a bus to take just

40 people on a special magical adventure. We will disembark as a group and head for Santa Monica where we will have time to visit the world famous Santa Monica Pier. From there we will head to Magicopolis for a special matinee presentation of



"Escape Reality" with Steve Spill and Bozena. For those that don't wish to spend the evening in Los Angeles we will make a quick stop at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) [approximate arrival time will be 6PM] and the rest of us will head over to Hollywood to a group of hotels that are within walking distance of the Magic Castle! This is a great opportunity to see a fantastic show in the afternoon and experience the Magic Castle in the evening. Guest passes will be provided for those that are not members of the IBM or SAM. Check out www.Magicopolis.com

Have you ever wanted to perform on a cruise ship? Now is your chance! We will be hosting our annual competitions for both stage and close up performers and you're invited to participate. Kevin Cardona, our official PCAM Contest Chairman, always does a super great job and this year will be no different. Because of limited time, the PCAM Council decided that all contestants must register before the convention and no "at the door" entrants will be allowed. That means if you want to compete you need to first read the rules, then fill out the entry form and then send the form via email to PCAM REGISTRATION.

This years convention will be filled with new ideas and a few of the old that worked so well in the past. Expect to see the Bag O Tricks and Who Wants to be a Magician shows, but this year I am planning more workshops and break out sessions to allow you to learn more stuff than normal. I will also be having a question and answer session with the Cruise Director so you can learn what it takes to work on a ship! Did I mention that the Second City comedy troupe is onboard and you can partake in a comedy course with them ... for FREE! Plenty more surprises in store

Check out www.magicatsea.com for more information and to register.



2009 X-ellent Lecture Series

September 4th—Kostya Kimlat—The Many Sides of Magic

November 6th—Curtis Kam—Coin Magic Connoisseur

Our next guest lecturer will be Kostya Kimlat on Sept 4th.

The next installment of the X-ellent lecture series features guest lecturer Kostya Kimlat on September 4th at Douglas College in New Westminster (700 Royal Avenue, Room 2203). As always, cost for members in advance is \$20, or \$25 at the door. Cost for non-members is \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. Junior members are free! The Lecture starts at 7:30pm.



PCAM 2009

Pacific Coast Association of Magicians

The PCAM 2009 convention will be held on a cruise ship, the Norwegian Pearl, a magnificent vessel with everything you could possibly want from a five star hotel, departing the port of Vancouver on Monday September 21st, disembarking in Los Angeles on Saturday September 26th, with stops in Astoria (Oregon) and San Francisco. After arrival in Los Angeles, the plan is for a group of us to go to Magicopolis (www.Magicopolis.com) the afternoon or evening of Saturday Sept 26th.

Don't miss it!!

Check www.magicatsea.com for more info.

Vancouver Magic Circle Summer Picnic

Saturday August 29, 2009

Queens Park, New Westminster

Come and join the fun and games at Queens Park (by the Band Shell) in New Westminster on Saturday August 29th starting at 1pm. The VMC will provide hamburgers and hotdogs, condiments and beverages for your family (the BBQ will be cooking from 12pm—2:00pm). You can choose to provide your own extras, such as salads, snacks, and your own beverages. Remember to bring your lawn chairs and plenty of sun screen.

This year we'll be doing a public show at the park, followed by members wishing to receive their Magic Wand by doing a 15 minute routine.

12:00 pm—heat up the BBQ

2:00 pm—Public Show

3:00 pm—Magic Wand performers

1:00—5:00 pm—Fun and Frolicking

Disclaimer—These Magical Minutes have been brought to you on a tight deadline with little resources. The author(s) accept no responsibility for typos, spelling errors, grammatical errors, accuracy of fact (or lack of), omission of details, layout, graphics, political correctness, oversight of individuals or groups or groups of individuals who may or may not have contributed to the creation process or the creative inspiration of others. No animals were harmed in the creation of this newsletter.