



the charles howard ring

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

—Affiliated with the—
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

October General Meeting—Thurs Oct 23rd Halloween Themed Magic

The next meeting of IBM RING #92, The VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE, takes place on Thursday October 23rd, 2008 at the Sunrise Community Hall in Vancouver (1950 Windermere Street). Doors open at 6:30 for socializing and the workshop will start at 7:00pm. The business meeting is scheduled for 8pm, followed by a light snack and the annual competition for the Tip Top & Tootsie Trophy. If you would like to enter this competition, please contact our Competition Chairman Bruce Hunt.

The Tip Top & Tootsie trophy is awarded in recognition of excellence in Halloween themed magic by an adult or junior member. At least one magical effect (Close-up, Parlor, or Stage) with a Halloween theme must be performed. The spirit of this competition is to encourage growth in the field of themed magic for any and all holidays or events.

Remember, there will be prizes for best Halloween costume!!



The Magical Minutes

Newsletter Date:
October 2008

You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself in any direction you choose.
You're on your own.
And you know what you know.
You are the guy who'll decide where to go.
~Dr. Seuss

October Workshop

Steve Dickson invites you to join him at our October 23, 2008 meeting where he will be doing a workshop entitled "Do you know who Steve Dickson thinks he is?" Make sure you bring your coins and a sense of humour.

Topics will include coin magic and various thoughts and ramblings. Steve once owned a magic shop in New Westminster but he thinks he is okay now! Steve is currently teaching a night school course in Vancouver and performs on a regular basis. Although involved in magic for most of his life, Steve is a new member with the Vancouver Magic Circle and looks forward to meeting all the members at his workshop.

2008 Christmas Dinner

The 2008 Christmas Dinner will be held at The Sands Hotel (1755 Davie St) on Sunday Nov 23rd.

The general membership will be asked to vote at the next General Meeting on two options:

- 1.) Potluck—\$10.50 per person (plus bring a dish)
- 2.) Full Meal supplied by The Sands—\$21.50

If we choose Pot Luck, the turkey will be supplied by the hotel. **If you would like to vote but will not be at the General Meeting, please contact President Gord Boyes by email or phone.**

The Stage competitions will take place this night for the Percy Poole Trophy for Juniors and the W.C. Shelly Trophy for adults. If you would like to enter the competition, please contact our competition Chairman Bruce Hunt.

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A great deal of talent is lost to the world for want of a little courage. Every day sends to their graves obscure men whose timidity prevented them from making a first effort.

- Sydney Smith

September in Review

Submitted by Munro Mackenzie

Thursday Sept 25th was our General Meeting and annual auction presided over by auctioneer Gary Savard.



Gary Savard



Rod Chow

est and a most promising junior member. As soon as she bid on an item, the hammer fell, in many cases even as I had my hand up for a higher bid. Thus Brianna was able to get a REAL bargain on many items. I think this was nice as it gave a junior real incentive to do well with new items to her at genuine bargain prices.



Mike Norden

Marcia Garcia, wife of Juan, was overheard to say "It is the meeting of the year. I LOVE the auction".

Our usual format is to have the first person to arrive to be the first seller of 10 items then they rotate until their turn comes up again. Gary did not leave much time for second thoughts for buyers as he kept the proceeding moving along quickly. It was interesting how Gary treated Brianna Carlson, our new-

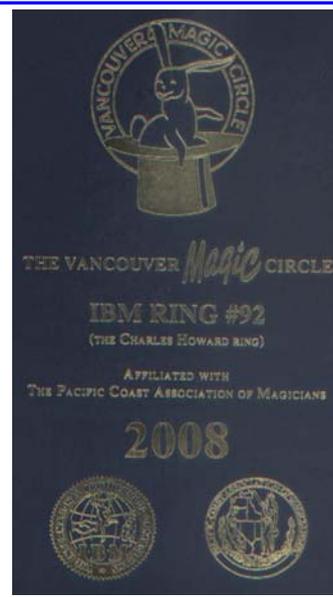
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Roster Books

All members should have received a 2008 Roster Book in the mail by now. If you haven't received one, please contact our Membership Chairman David Wilson.

This book is a great resource. While you're ensuring that your personal information is correct, be sure to look through the rest at all the information it holds. A great deal of credit goes to David Wilson for all the effort he puts into creating and updating this every year.

Next year we will be enforcing the deadline for payment of dues so we can get the Roster Book out sooner. To be quite honest, this year we were simply too lenient on people paying their dues late because we hated to remove anyone from the Roster Book when we knew they wanted to remain a member, but we do have to eliminate anyone from the book who is not a member in good standing at the time of print.



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 www.champions.ca/vmc.html)

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Interestingly enough, the first lot was donated by Michael Stratman, a past president of the I.B.M. His items sold quickly and the proceeds were kindly donated to the club. Thank you Michael. Altogether 144 items sold for a total value of \$2,825. Several members only spent \$5.00 but one member with deeper pockets spent \$446.00 I was supremely happy with my \$55.00 worth of purchases.

Gary's efficient control meant we were over and done by 10:30p.m. and able to get home at a reasonable hour.

The auction is a good way to get rid of surplus items (the club gets 10% of the selling price) and someone else benefits.

There were 47 members and 8 guests plus one dog - a chihuahua



belonging to Lorena who helped Trevor Watters bag the purchases as they were sold.

Also credit to the accounting members-David Wilson, Karen Eskilson and Craig Prystay. The usual 50/50 draw - \$80.50- was won by Mike Norden.

*Note: At the end of the evening, one member was missing two books they should have received. If you ended up with them please contact President Gord Boyes.



Lorena Paradon

Trevor Watters



David Wilson

Karen Eskilson

Craig Prystay

VMC Library

Did you know The Vancouver Magic Club has a library with a great collection of books and DVD's?

The library has been updated again! We have just purchased 18 brand new DVD's from the World's Greatest Magic series! And we have 8 packet trick prize packs to give away - but you must be a Library member to win these! How do you become a card carrying library member? Talk to Librarian Dennis Chan at the next meeting. The new DVD's will debut at the January

meeting, and a serious effort will be made to bring all the DVD's to each meeting going forward. We expect the new DVD's to be very popular so sign up today!

The new DVD's haven't been catalogued yet, but you can find a listing of the rest of the library contents on the website, <http://www.ibmring92.com/resource/library/index.html> and they can be sorted in several ways to help find just what you're interested in.

Las Vegas Review

Submitted by Gord Boyes

Well, most of you know that we (Gord & Jesse Boyes) had a vacation in Las Vegas in September (because we couldn't stop telling everyone we were going).

It was a father and son trip to remember.

We lived in Vegas for a couple of years before coming to the lower mainland, so it was a trip to see old friends and old sites.

We arrived on Friday night (Sept 19th), got our rental car and headed to our friends house, Roger and Marlene. After some quick hellos and a chance to freshen up, we all headed down to Fremont Street, the "old strip". We've always enjoyed Fremont Street more than the strip, there's lots of outdoor entertainment and the venues are all so much closer together.

Saturday we went to Denny & Lee's magic shop, which is off the strip and caters to the local magicians rather than the tourists. We had a few things in mind that we were looking for, and of course we loaded up on some things we hadn't been looking for. Luckily we were smart enough to leave our suitcase only about half full when we went down so we'd have room to put all the new stuff we would end up buying while there.

Saturday afternoon we took in Mac Kings show, one of the best values in town. We went to the concierge desk and got a complimentary pass for 2, with the stipulation of a 1 drink minimum each (I hope Jesse enjoyed his \$13 pepsi). We sat in the front row for the show and of course Jesse was invited up on stage. After the show Mac mingles with the crowd in the lobby and signs autographs. Besides being one of the funniest comedy magicians in the business, Mac King is a true gentleman. The Mac King show is highly recommended.



Mac King

Jesse Boyes



Jesse Boyes

Before we left Vancouver, we purchased tickets for the Criss Angel show "Believe" at the Luxor for Saturday night. Unfortunately the shows opening was postponed and we were refunded our money. In its place, we went to the Nascar race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway with our friend Roger, which was a lot of fun. As I write this, the Criss Angel show has opened and the early reviews are in. It seems that it might not have been that unfortunate for us, we might just be the lucky ones.

Sunday we visited our old neighborhood and in the evening went to the new Jeff McBride show at the Palace Station. The theater for Jeff's show is very intimate. Before the start of the show he came out and mingled with the audience and talked to people. His show was very theatrical, which isn't surprising if you have seen much of his material. This time it was my

turn to get up on stage (sorry Jesse). After the show Jeff again mingles with the crowd and is available for photos and autographs. After the show we headed back to Fremont Street since Jesse's mom wasn't with us to enforce bedtime (for either of us). The Jeff McBride show is recommended.



Jesse Boyes

Jeff McBride

Monday we visited some old friends and then went to a couple of the Houdini Magic Shops which are located in various Casinos along the strip. They cater to the tourists, with nice looking packaging and sales people who demo the latest gadget type stuff. Of course we found a few things that we wanted that Denny & Lee's didn't have, and we bought a few things

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that simply caught our eye (that suitcase was getting fuller). Monday evening we went to the Steve Wyrick show. We had heard some comments about this show in the past that weren't terribly complimentary, but we went with an open mind. Of course Jesse was invited up on stage again and had some fun with Steve. After the show we both left thinking that it was an excellent show that surpassed our expectations. We were hoping to meet Steve after the show but his staff passed on his apologies, evidently he was not feeling well. The Steve Wyrick show is Recommended.

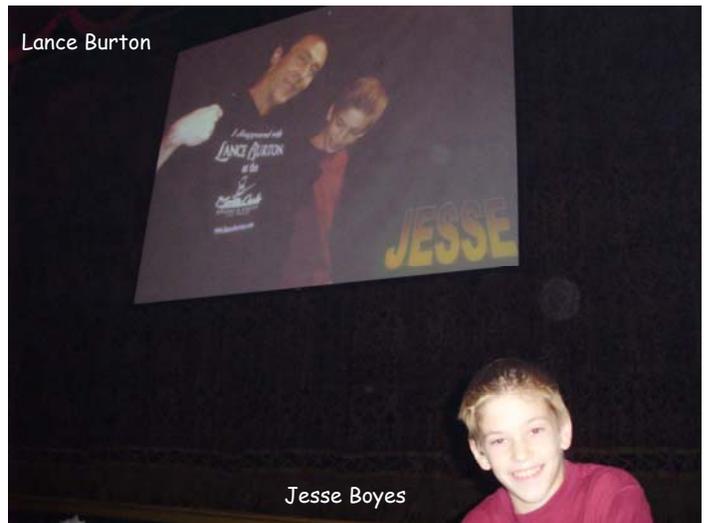
Tuesday we went to another matinee show, it was Scarlett, The Princess of Magic at Planet Hollywoods V Theater. Scarlett put on a very energetic show with a small ensemble. She must have been exhausted by the end of the show, but she mingled with the crowd afterwards and was available for photos and autographs.

With some time to kill before the much anticipated Lance Burton show that evening, it was time to go to the Stratosphere Casino. We stopped in at the Las Vegas magic store, which was more well stocked than the Houdini shops, but we had already been to a few of the Houdini shops and bought items each time and did not find anything compelling enough here to spend more money. We did however spend our money on tickets to go to the top of the Stratosphere and for Jesse to go on a couple of INSANE rides at the top. Jesse might have thought that I was too cheap to pay to go on the rides with him, but the truth is that I wouldn't have gone on them even if they were free!

Tuesday night was time to go to the Lance Burton show at the Monte Carlo. A few minutes into the show we were approached by an usher and asked if we would like to be upgraded to front row seats, which we graciously accepted. We were enjoying the show a great deal and soon the inevitable time came that Jesse was invited up on stage. Lance did a very entertaining Misers Dream routine with Jesse and then invited Jesse to jump into a car which he had made appear on stage earlier in the show. With Jesse in the passenger seat waving to the audience, Lance positioned the car on a ramp in the middle of the stage, then jumped out. With a flash and a puff of smoke the car and Jesse disappeared. Soon after, Lance also disappeared and then re-appeared in a chandelier high above our heads. The chandelier was lowered to the floor and when he stepped out, lo and behold, Jesse appeared from nowhere to return to the stage with Lance. Once back on stage, Lance presented Jesse with a t-shirt that he explained cannot be purchased, you can only get it by going on stage during the show, and they took a Polaroid picture of the two of them together and presented it to Jesse. One of the characters in the Lance Burton ensemble was Michael Goudeau, who entertained us with some hilarious antics which included juggling various items and riding a tall unicycle. As the show ended and the audience made their exit, a picture of Lance Burton and Jesse was projected on a large screen above the stage. It was

an exceptional show and a wonderful evening. The Lance Burton show is highly recommended.

After the show Jesse had a couple of new fans who approached him and asked if they could get their picture taken



with them.

Wednesday we took a break from the magic and took Rogers quads out into the desert to ride around and have fun. Then it was a visit to the "Flyaway Indoor Skydiving" facility to have a go at indoor skydiving. Perhaps a little pricey at \$75 each for 3 minutes of simulated skydiving, but it was on Jesse's bucket list and how often are going to have the chance to cross something off that list?

Wednesday evening we went to the local bowling alley to watch Roger and Marlene in their league play and visit with another old friend who came out to see us. We even got a game in ourselves.

Thursday was our last day. We found a magic store we hadn't known about before (recommended by someone we met on this trip) off the strip, called "Amazing Clowns Party Park and Magic Shop". They had a nice selection of merchandise and a friendly gentleman running the shop, so we purchased a few more things we thought we could squeeze into the suitcase.

Then we went to Red Rock Canyon, one of my favorite places when we lived there. A short drive from the strip, but feels worlds away, a great place to see some unique landscape and have fun hiking. Be careful though, if you don't leave a trail of breadcrumbs you can get hopelessly lost in a dangerous maze of cliffs and crevices. At one point I was thinking we might miss our flight home, but with my heart pounding and dripping with sweat (it was in the high 90's out there) we found our way back to the car and raced back to Rogers house to cram our stuff in the suitcase and head to the airport.

The Lord has blessed me with a wonderful son and it was a fantastic vacation that I will never forget.

September Lecture—Michael Vincent

Submitted by John Smithman

Michael Vincent's thoughtful lecture was seasoned with short verbal snapshots of his meetings with Slydini and Alan Alan. Michael shared his insights into how to create astonishing magic. This is magic that suspends the audience in a state of awe between the completion of the effect and the inevitable question, "How'd he do that?" He claims that our ultimate goal should be to extend this time interval forever.

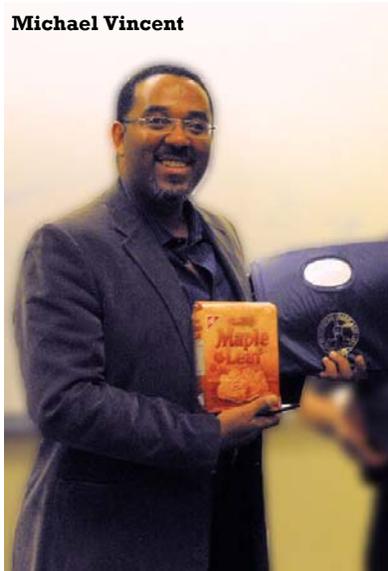
He discussed the act of Misdirection next.

My own experience relates his subsequent discussion to the difference between tactic and strategy. A tactic is a short-lived practice that has an immediate impact. Whereas a strategy is a larger scheme that contains tactics. Tactics win battles; but strategies win wars. After listening to Michael Vincent's lecture, I believe that 'misdirection' is a tactic. And what he proposed next is a strategy.

Instead of misdirection, Michael suggested a significant change in our think-

ing. He called his new form of misdirection Audience Attention Control. Then, he proceeded to explain and elaborate on

Michael Vincent



the practice, asking us to internalize the process until we don't even think of it anymore. It becomes more than a habit, as we autonomically apply it to everything we do.

Misdirection is meant to cover the se-

cret move in a magic effect. While Audience Attention Control leads an audience toward complete astonishment and this strategy begins at first contact with an audience. Everything about you - your expression, your voice, your posture, the way you walk and lean into the focus of your audience's attention builds rapport and trust. These are the elements of Audience Attention Control.

Using a Powerpoint presentation to reveal his theories and magic tricks to demonstrate how he practices his Three Pillars, Michael entranced us all for over two hours. My own sense of time was suspended by this Magician's concepts and demonstrations.

At the beginning of his talk, Michael Vincent announced his goal to help each of us increase our success by at least 1% - a modest intention. But I can assure you that, armed with Michael's profound insights into our art, I expect a much, much larger impact on MY success as I learn to practice Audience Attention Control.

Upcoming November Lecture—Richard Turner

Join us for our next lecture on Friday November 7th, when our guest lecturer will be Richard Turner.

Who is Richard Turner? An inspiration to achieve the impossible. That's who!

Richard Turner, 'The greatest Card Mechanic of all time,' is coming to share his talents with us next month. Let's find out a little about him, before he arrives.

Richard Turner is a man that has dedicated his life to mastering and demonstrating the moves used by cardsharps like James Garner's affable character 'Bret Maverick'.

Mr. Turner's unique card handling ability and incredibly sensitive fingertips so impressed the United States Playing Card Company that they employ his services as a "touch analyst" to evaluate the texture, flexibility and cut of dozens of



Friday November 7, 2008, 7:30pm
Douglas College
New Westminster
Room 2203

Advance - \$30 / \$20 for members
At Door - \$35 / \$30 for members
Call David Wilson at 604-487-7887
to get the special advance rate, or
pay online with your credit card at
www.ibmring92.com/about/payments.html

decks of cards each year. Do you know any magicians who can make the same claim?

In addition to his wanting to model his life after the Bret Maverick character, Mr. Turner had three other youthful dreams: become an actor; learn to kick like martial artist Bruce Lee; and develop a physique like Charlton Heston in the movie 'Ben Hur'.

Many of us would be satisfied with achieving three-out-of-four of our lofty, life-long goals. Remarkably, Richard Turner has had an enviable career, spanning four decades, which he has achieved with dedicated practice, self discipline, perseverance, natural ability, and creativity clearly illustrates that he also reached his primary dream by 'Livin' On Jacks and Queens.'

Johnny B. Good

Pitt Meadows resident and local magician, Jonathan B. Hamilton (aka Jonny B. Good) seems to have thrown his magic hat into the political ring. He recently set up a sign on his front lawn that appears to look very similar to a local politician who is running in the election for next week. Jonny says it is just a coincidence - but magicians are known for their tricks so we investigated further!

Jonny has been a member for the Vancouver Magic Circle for the past 3 years and is an up and coming young magician. He recently won the Comedy Magician of the Year in our junior division and that seems to be prevalent in his tongue in cheek sign.

We asked Jonny if he had any aspirations in politics. "Well, other than running for President one day of the club, probably not" he said. "When I wanted to launch my new website and children's character for performing birthday parties I needed a sign - and the colors I use are blue and white, so it seems that my sign is similar to others you might see around town, I guess."

Similar Jonny? "Ok, so it's really close - but I hope they don't mind! After all, I turned 18 this year and this is my first chance to vote - so hopefully they will take it as more of a compliment!"

We asked him if that meant he was voting for the candidate who's sign looks like his. "Well, I won't say who I am voting for but I have studied the issues from all the parties and it is going to be a tough

decision. I can honestly say I haven't decided yet on where my vote will go"

We think It's great to see young people interested in politics, especially when it has a sense of humour. Perhaps down the road we might see a real political sign with Jonny's name on it - or at least a lot more ones about magic!



Tidbits

Stan Kramien has extended the deadline for early bird registrations for the 2009 Magic Jamboree, to be held on May 15-16. Originally he didn't give us much time with a deadline of Sept 30th, and when he looked at the calendar he realized that he had intended to make it the end of October. Early bird registration for Canadians is \$150 US and just \$75 for spouses or juniors. The first 15 Canadians registered will be entered in a draw for \$100. Send registrations to stankramien@yahoo.com (paypal) or Stan Kramien, 13260 SW Farmington Rd, Beaverton OR 97005. Anyone who has attended in the past realizes why it's one of the highlights of our year. Check out www.MagicJamboree.com for more details, or just ask a past attendee for more info.

It's time to order your Official 2009 Vancouver Magic Circle calendar. The price is \$20 including shipping within Canada and USA (for those out of town members!) It will feature 12 great photos and all our functions and dates will be printed right on the calendar - now you will never forget a meeting or event! No excuse now! We are selecting the photos now - so if you want to be in it and have a photo of you or a group IN A RING EVENT then please email it to Mike Norden at mike.norden@ibmring92.com John Smithman will be touching up our choice of photos and we will have the calendars for sale at the Christmas dinner. Only pre-orders will get them so email Mike now!

Canada will now have a place to honour our magicians of the past and the present. The Canadian Magicians Hall of Fame will be up and running in 2009 at www.MagiciansHallOfFame.ca We are looking for suggestions and input on running this important site. We will be looking for nominations for inductees starting in January and it will include five from the past and five living legends. So get your thinking caps on who YOU think should be included in the initial list. All magicians can participate and more information will be sent to all Rings and Assemblies in Canada. We hope to run this with the support of the Canadian Association of Magicians to help give it the official status it deserves. Contact Mike.norden@ibmring92.com for more information or if you would like to help with this project!

Web Corner

Congratulations to Henry Tom for being the winner of last months newsletter contest. He correctly named who was the Member Spotlight (it was Gord Boyes) and he gets a 2009 Vancouver Magic Circle Calendar for his efforts. Want one for yourself? Then email me to reserve your copy today! It will have all the meetings and events of Ring 92, and all the National Conventions, Kramien's, IBM, SAM, PCAM, basically all the date and info will be printed on the calendar. Not to mention the 12 wonderful photos that will accompany each month, which will be highlights from this years functions of the club. Who will be Mr. November? You will have to buy one to find out!

If you have not taken a look at the website, we now have a YouTube section - just email your links to your favourite magic video and we will post it. Have your own video? Send us the link and you too can be famous! Email mike.norden@ibmring92.com

Are you looking for an inexpensive yet effective way to advertise your business? Why not put your name and information on our website under the 'Magicians for Hire' page. Many of our members have gotten shows this way, and it's a great resource to point clients to that you might not be able to accommodate. For just \$10 a year you get a Deluxe ad which includes a photo, weblink, email, contact # and tag line. You will also be featured as a member spotlight over the course of the next year. New listings start in January. See Mike Norden for more information.



2008 VMC Christmas Dinner & Show

Sunday November 23rd

Best Western Sands Hotel

1755 Davie St, Vancouver

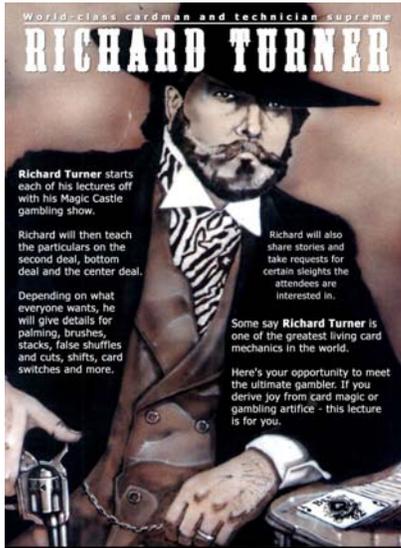
A vote will be held at our next General Meeting to decide whether this will be a potluck affair or a fully catered dinner.

Our next guest lecturer is Richard Turner on November 7th.

Our next guest lecturer from Lee Asher's X-ellent Lecture Series will be Richard Turner, joining us Friday November 7th at Douglas College in New Westminster.

Richard will teach the particulars on the second deal, bottom deal and the center deal. Depending on what everyone wants, he will give details for palming, brushes, stacks, false shuffles and cuts, shifts, card switches and more. Richard will also share stories and take requests for the particular slights the attendees are interested in.

Some say Richard Turner is one of the greatest living card mechanics in the world. Here's your opportunity to meet the ultimate gambler. If you derive joy from card magic or gambling artifice - this lecture is for you.



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PCAM 2009

PCAM 2009 will be held on a cruise ship, the Norwegian Pearl, departing the port of Vancouver on Monday September 21st, disembarking in Los Angeles on Saturday September 26th.

Don't miss it!!

Check www.magicatsea.com for info.

Parting Shot

Can you identify these members?



Wait for next months newsletter for the answers.



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.