



...the Charles Howard ring

# Happy Halloween!

## Vancouver Magic Circle

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS - RING 92

Affiliated with the Pacific Coast Association of Magicians

### General Meeting and Halloween Night - October 28, 2010

Our next meeting takes place at the Sunrise Community Hall in Vancouver as usual. It will be HALLOWEEN NIGHT and the competition will be for the TIP TOP & TOOTSIE trophy. Please contact Competition Chair, Bryn Williams if you would like to enter. Remember to wear a Halloween costume to be eligible to win great prizes!!! Dressing as a magician does not count so be scary or different! Mwwwwhhhaaaa!!! Please note that natural scariness

does not qualify for prizes. (sorry guys). :) Let's get creative!

6:30 - Doors open  
7:00 - Workshop begins  
8:00 - Business meeting  
8:20 - Snacks and socializing  
9:00 - Competition begins



### NOMINATIONS

Here are the 2011 nominations put forward at the business part of the September meeting. Nominations will be opened again in October for any other nominations:

President - Bruce Hunt  
1st V-P - Gord Boyes  
2nd V-P - Bryn Williams  
Secretary - Mike Norden  
Treasurer - David Wilson  
Sergeant at Arms - Alex Seaman

The year is creeping nearer it's

close so please think about magical performances you have seen in the past months and submit your nominations for the Stan Kramien Showmanship trophy and Murray award. Nominations for these awards can be made the old fashioned way (paper and pen) by getting a form from Bryn Williams. Please consider the planet and save a tree by submitting your nomination electronically on our website under the "awards" section.



### The Magical Minutes

Newsletter Date:  
October 2010



It's not too late to get your tickets for the Tri-City Magical Weekend! Details are on our website: [www.ibmring92.com](http://www.ibmring92.com)

All participants  
**NEED a ticket!**

Tri-City Magical  
Weekend.

November 5th  
to 7th, 2010.

Tickets are only  
\$95.

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## RICHARD SANDERS LECTURE - November 12, 2010

In 15 years as a full time, professional magician, Richard Sanders has found 16,000 freely selected cards; vanished \$24,000 worth of hundred dollar bills; caused 916 borrowed objects to float in midair; and entertained tens of thousands of people at corporate events, conventions, trade shows, comedy clubs and cruise ships, and more!

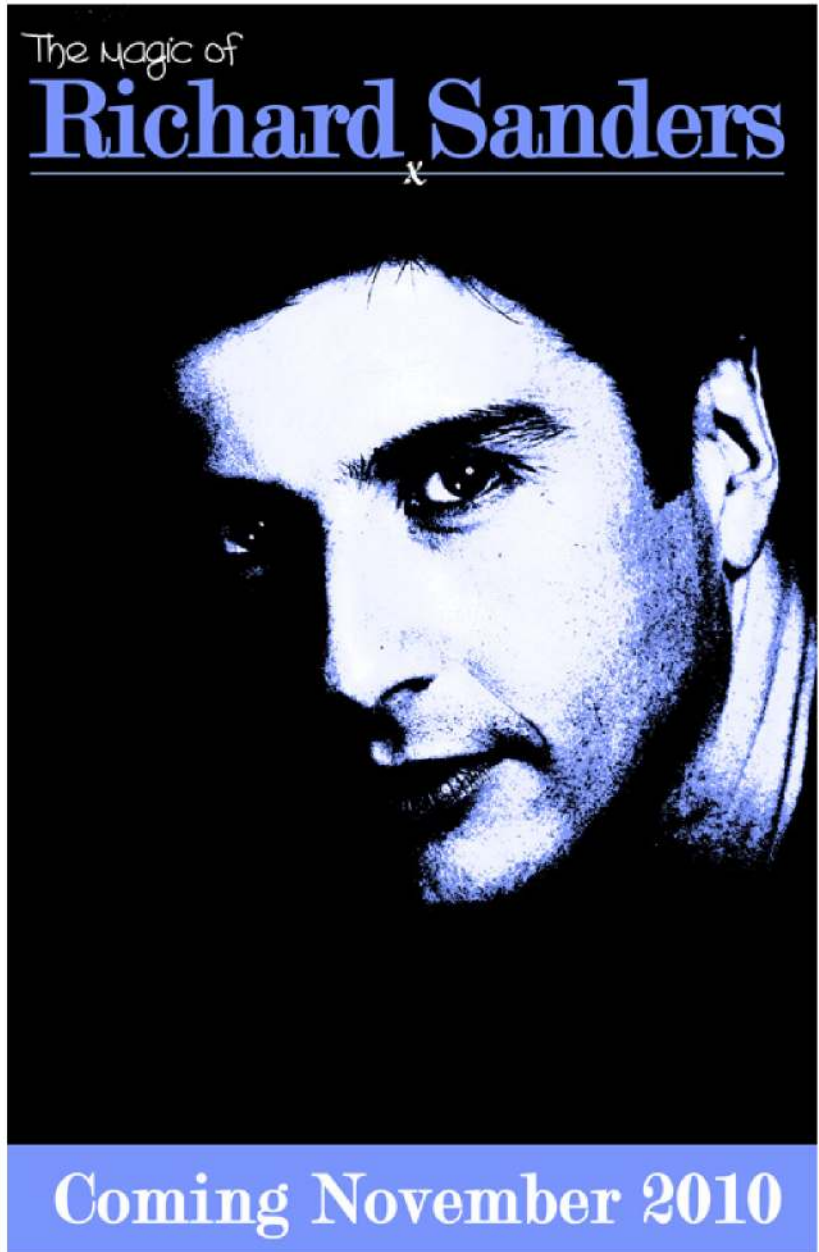
Richard performances have taken him all over the world where he has performed personally for hockey superstar, Wayne Gretzky and former Prime Minister of Canada, Brian Mulroney. He's appeared at the "International Just for Laughs Festival" in Montreal, at the Magic Castle in Hollywood and at the Prestigious Magic Circle in London.

Richard has over 15 Canadian television appearances. Most recently as the magic co-host on Global Television's "Urban Magic," as well as a feature entertainer on the CBC Special, "The Magic of Canada."

Richard boasts such corporate mega clients as IBM, Molson, Air Canada, and Coca Cola! In addition, Richard has been a featured headline act on dozens of cruise ships all over the world, including: Princess, NCL and Disney Cruise Lines.

Richard's original magic has appeared in just about every magic magazine. Richard's growing list of original magic creations have infiltrated the repertoires of magicians all over the world; with lectures and appearances in Canada, United States, France, Spain, U.K. Australia, Germany, Japan and as a featured lecturer and performer at FISM (THE WORLD CONGRESS OF MAGIC) where Richard lectured to over 5000 magicians from all over the world.

Be a part of the Sanders Experience on November 12th!



"Disbelief in magic can force a poor soul into believing in government and business."

-Tom Robbins

**A MUST ATTEND!**  
**WOW!**



## Keith Fields Lecture - submitted by David Parker

I had never heard of Keith Fields, so wasn't sure what to expect when I got to Douglas College on June 11th. I saw a very serious looking person at the front of the room, and wondered what the evening would be like. But as soon as the 7:30 lecture started right on time at 7:48, Keith got his street performer personality on and started off by saying what a pleasure it was to work for those who cannot afford to go the Penn & Teller concert. Once I heard that, I knew that my first impression was incorrect as was further shown throughout the evening by this very lively, very entertaining and very funny magician – everything that you would expect from someone who started out making his living as a street performer in Covent Garden in London, England.

As he was from England, he started off with a demonstration of what they call pants and suspenders on the other side of the pond, and what we call pants and suspenders. Then he got into hat juggling, with what was to be the first of many audience participation pieces. These two opening bits were not magic by any means, but very entertaining nonetheless.

His first magic set was his first street act - a cup and ball routine utilizing a chop cup, the vanish of \$20 bill only to have it show up in a salt shaker that was in Gord Boyes' pocket (you'll have to ask Gord about that), and putting a balloon up his nose to clear his sinuses. This was used to explain how to structure an act, as opposed to just doing a series of tricks.

The first half of the lecture was concluded with his Chinese menu prediction, where after a couple of gags, the Chinese food item that was named by a spectator was indeed item 42 on the Chinese menu as Keith had predicted.

Then it was time for the break, but unlike other lecturers, he did not sell anything as he had not shown us all of his stuff, so he would only sell stuff at the end of the lecture – so much for

leaving early.

During the break was the usual presentation of the VMC pen, garment bag, and Maple Leaf cookies, and of course the draw for a member who pre-registered to get their admission back. Interestingly enough, it was the man in charge of the draw, our illustrious President, Bruce Hunt, who won.

The second half started off with two book tests that Keith designed and published himself. The first test was to have 4 spectators each look at a page number as he shuffled the pages in front of him, and he was able to name all four numbers, well he missed one, but had predicted that as well. The second book-test was called Psychic Hangman, where Keith played hangman to determine the word that a spectator had glanced at from a freely selected page in the book.

Then a not magical, but entertaining interlude where he gave 8 or 9 audience members pipes of various lengths for form a human xylophone, and they played tunes for us by hitting the pipes with wooden spoons.

Next up was an ambitious card routine using cards that were blank on both sides, so it was real easy to do – until the spectator signed one of the cards, then we were really impressed, especially with the addition of a paper clip to indicate the signed card.

The lecture ended with a great paddle trick where the spots moved all over the place. Then it was time for the 25 or so of us to buy his lecture notes and other items as a memory of a truly enjoyable evening.



Thanks for the great review!

If you would like to help contribute to operations of the club and our activities, please consider submitting content for this newsletter. A review, an interesting story, even a tip about something magical - While space is very limited, everything is appreciated!!!

Comment and suggestions regarding this newsletter are also always welcome. Since I produce this from my home in the

Netherlands I very much appreciate hearing from my "extended magic family" in Vancouver.

Much thanks and magical best,

Neil Kremer  
1st Vice-President 2010  
Publications Editor

## RING OF FIRE BBQ - submitted by Bruce Hunt

At the the end on August I forwarded an invitation to VMC members to attend the annual "Ring of Fire" BBQ graciously offered by our US member Bruce Myers and his lovely wife Jennifer, who also hosted the event. It was held on Labour Day (September 6th) at Bruce's house, nestled on the shore of beautiful Crabapple lake in Stanwood Washington, just outside Marysville – about 35 miles from Seattle. We (Georgina and I) arrived in the driving rain right at the 3pm start time, and were joined by fellow VMC members Ray Roch, Dennis and Melody Hewson, and George Zuk.

After a tour of the house and property (and looking at the mysterious magical "Myers Island"), picking through some of the items set up outside under cover at the magic swap-meet, and schmoozing with the 60 or more guests, the BBQ began – but since the weather was not cooperating, it was held inside the Myers mansion. No hamburgers here! On the menu were ribs, chicken, and a huge assortment of salads and fruit, with a sumptuous desert table set up afterwards that featured a "dip anything in chocolate" theme. After everyone made short work of the buffet, it was show time in the Myers cavernous living room.

I had entered the magic competition and received an email outlining some of the "rules" of the contest. Since this was not a serious competition (have you known either Bruce Myers or myself to be serious?), I did my best to make my show as "interesting" as possible.

The rules were:

1. There will be no points for dress or costume. We figure since it's your picnic you should wear what you like.
2. Time limits will be from 15 seconds to 8 minutes.

3. An award will be given on how much fun you have performing it.
  4. An award will be given on how much fun my neighbour, Lulu, has watching it. ----> There's a catch to Rule #4 which will not be revealed until Labour Day.
  5. Your act will be judged on mystery, entertainment and originality.
  6. An award will be given for The Most Red Act.
  7. An award will be given for The Best Use of A Right Foot.
- > Notice that "whose" right foot is not specified.



One other "award" announced later was The Performer With The Most Holes In His Socks.

By the way – the "catch" to rule #4 was that his neighbour Lulu was a dog. Unfortunately due to the weather Lulu couldn't make it, so it was switched to Bruce's dog, Abby.

The first two acts on the bill were adults, Aaron and Dan. They performed to round out the programme and were not entered in the competition. I knew I was in trouble when I found out my fellow competitors were members of the "Ring of Smoke" - three Junior members, and I was the only adult actually entered. None of them were over 12 years old! The first contestant was Matt, followed by Logan, then myself, and finally Diego. As a treat to finish things off, Ray Roch performed. What can I say?

The three boys performed great, but I managed to bring home to Canada three prestigious awards. I won the – Impressing The Dog award (I cheated by offering Abby a doggy treat), The Most Red award (I produced an old Russian flag while proclaiming "if this ain't red, I don't know what is!"), and the coveted Best Use of A Right Foot award (a fake right foot I claimed to find on the shore of the lake - and produced a line of flags from it which was a "real magical feat/feet"). I did not however win the award for the magician with the most holes in his socks even though I wore a black net stocking on my right leg. That award went to Logan who really did have more than six real holes in his sock! The rest of my act consisted of a story about coming through the border while producing several large illegal items from a small container, finishing with an prediction billfold effect.

Around about 8:30pm we decided to head on home (Ray Roch wanted to go first because he said if I got stopped at the border with some of the items I had brought, the border would be closed down for several hours), but when I got to Mount Vernon – about ½ and hour away from Bruce's place, I discovered that I had dropped my wallet in the mansion and we had to go back to retrieve it. All in all it was a great day (albeit a little longer than I had anticipated!) and our thanks go out to Bruce and Jennifer Myers for putting on a great shindig and being wonderful hosts, and to the members of the Ring of Fire (and Ring of Smoke), for putting up with their Canadian counterparts!





## Tom Noddy Lecture - submitted by Dennis Chan

The Tom Noddy lecture is difficult to describe as it was all visual. Tom described the scientific principles of making soap bubbles. One of his effects was a "caterpillar", whereby there was a series of bubbles joined to each other, starting with a large bubble followed by several smaller bubbles.

Tom told lots of stories between his demonstration, relating to famous magicians he had met. He bounced bubbles off of his knee and elbow, made a large clear bubble, and by using a "fog" machine, made a small bubble inside of the larger one which looked like a ping pong ball floating around.

There was the "Mount St. Helen's" bubble that looked like it was erupting – again using the fog machine creating the illusion of the eruption by slowly releasing the "smoke" as the bubble shrank. Next was an explanation of the techniques used to dip the bubble wand into his special soap mixture to make the bubbles correctly.

Alex Seaman took part in the programme by blowing onto a large bubble which caused several small bubbles to appear inside of the larger one. Billy Hseuh also had a personal lesson from Tom on how to blow bubbles. One impressive feat was the building of a carousel from various sized bubbles, with the final product spinning around like the real thing. Other

bubble stunts included the ability to puncture a bubble with a straw without bursting it (like needle through balloon), and a rectangular bubble, again using the fog machine to highlight the odd shaped bubble trapped inside a clear one. After a brief break to present Tom with the usual VMC gifts (pen, cookies and garment bag), and of course the inevitable product sales, everyone came to the front for a little hands-on bubble workshop. Mike Norden won the draw (\$20 admission refund) and in attendance were 26 members, 5 spouses, and 8 juniors. A good time was had by all at a very interesting and different type of lecture!

## Auction Night - submitted by Bruce Hunt

On our first VMC meeting night after the summer break, it was time for the annual September VMC Auction. The doors opened early with a couple of sellers drifting in to set up their wares, but closer to 7pm it looked like we were going to have a full house.

After a very brief business meeting which consisted mainly of a few announcements and nominations for next years executive, the fun began. This year, the auction was run a little differently. In years past, there were a few glitches with the old paper and carbon methods of recording buyer and seller transactions, and of course all of the adding and subtracting had to be done by hand.

Dave Carlson (Brianna's Dad) pointed us in the right direction to go fully computerized. Our

computer genius, Gord Boyes, managed to set it up to fit our needs so that all he had to do (mind you, it was a BIG job) was enter the sellers item number, and then the buyers number and sales price, and the computer program did the rest by doing all of the math (including the VMC take of 10% on items). Karen Eskilson was Gord's helper and kept a hand written copy of the numbers, just in case the computer took a hissy fit (it didn't, but you can't be too careful!).

Auctioneers Dave Carlson and Gary Savard kept the items selling at a constant rate and the time just flew by. All went very smoothly with very little stress, no lost items or mix-ups with further help by Mike Norden and Brianna Carlson as auction runners - picking up items to bring to the front for

auction, then immediately distributing them to the lucky buyers. Mike also brought the munchies laid out on two tables to keep everyone's energy up!

Another member of the Carlson family, Brian Carlson, who is Dave's Father, sold 50/50 draw tickets and did a great job. David Wilson was our man at the back of the hall taking money and giving out money at the end of the night in a very orderly fashion.

Of course Dennis Chan was his usual helpful self, initially opening the hall and setting it up, helping with the food, clean up afterwards, and during the auction telling those people in the back to be quiet! For the first time in years, we actually got the whole auction completed, buyer and seller check-out done, and the hall

cleaned up and ready to close by 11pm!!! Although things went great, there will still need to be a little tweaking of the system, but everyone went home happy with their purchases, or in the sellers case, cash in hand.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the auction, volunteers (running the auction etc.), and the sellers and buyers for making this event a great success. Everything and everyone pulled together to make it run smoothly and on time. Now it's time to sort through more of your stuff to get things ready for next years auction in September 2011!





# Clownin Around

**Magic**

2nd floor Kids Market, Granville Island, 1496 Cartwright St, Vancouver  
604-682-0244 / [www.clowninaroundmagic.com](http://www.clowninaroundmagic.com)

Well, what a great busy time of life! This week, the store has been repainted and reorganized. Send the flowers and ibuprofen to my hospital room! Lots of ibuprofen! It was a three day marathon of unending products. The good news is I think it's done, mostly.

I'm not saying we have a lot of different products but I bought 100 new products hooks. I had to go out the next day and purchase another 150. This is in addition to the existing ones I have. The 250 are for behind the counter only! Now the 70 plus DVDs are on shelves. We are not even talking about the 150 products in front of the counter nor the juggling supplies nor the big stage stuff that lines the shelf at the top of the store nor silks nor coins or the stuff in the display cabinets. Okay, maybe I'd better check the "I think it's done" statement.

Anyways the good news, we have a bargoen bucket for the Magic Convention! We ran out of room on the wall! Okay, I couldn't afford anymore hooks!

I'm hoping that Joe and I will get to see you at the convention. We're planning our table now.

Now for those who have been holding their breath since my last update as I headed out the door to a workshop, I survived! Talk about a lesson in doing less and getting more. Wow. One of the hardest workshops I've been involved with because it was all about "be interested, not interesting." Being simple is sooooo complex.

The ideas weren't even like looking at performance from a 180 degree reverse perspective. It was like looking at performing from the other end of the tube and finding out it had a bend in it with mirrors!

Hey, see you at the convention! We'll be the one with the table of cool magic and the bucket de bargoens.

-Amanda



## TIDBITS

### Who's Where? - submitted by Jeff Christensen

I'm excited to let you know that Hannah and I have been cast in the upcoming (Panto/Musical) Snow White and the Vertically Challenged Excavators! Hannah is in the Chorus/Dance ensemble and I'll be playing the principal role of "So-Coy" which is one of the Vertically Challenged Excavators as well as Prince Olgit. The show runs from November 24th to December 5th at the Surrey Arts Centre Main Stage. For ticket info contact [fvgssproducer@gmail.com](mailto:fvgssproducer@gmail.com)



Have you missed a meeting or event? A picture is worth a THOUSAND words so remember to check out our club photos on the web!

Official VMC photographer John Smithman produces beautiful, professionally edited photos and shares them on his website: <http://www.champions.ca/vmc.htm>

Please take some time every month to have a look at this amazing photographic documentation of our club.

**Thanks John for many hours work to make us look our very best!!!**



### Attending the 2010 Tri-City Magical Weekend?

Stay at the HEART of the action by booking your room at the Best Western Sands hotel!

The **Best Western Sands By The Sea**  
**Vancouver hotel accommodations**

are situated across the street from the beach at beautiful English Bay and world famous Stanley Park. As host hotel for the Tri-City Magical Weekend, this is

#### THE BEST PLACE TO STAY!

Call today for a reservation,  
604-682-1831 - **ask for the Vancouver  
Magic Circle special rate of only \$89!**

### MAGIC MYSTERY PHOTO



Do you know who this VMC magician is?  
(Answer at the bottom of back page.)

If you would like to be featured as our MYSTERY PHOTO MAGICIAN, please send an old photo via email to the Editor. Neil Kremer - [neil.kremer@ibmring92.com](mailto:neil.kremer@ibmring92.com)

# Coming Events



General Meeting and Halloween Night - October 28

Tri-City Convention VANCOUVER - November 5 to 7

Richard Sanders Lecture - November 12

Annual Christmas Dinner - November 28

Ring # 92 is proud to re-introduce the 'Tri-City Magical Weekend' by being the first host for 2010! The Convention will rotate through the 3 rings (Vancouver, Everett & Victoria) each year!

- **When:** Friday November 5th - Sunday November 7th
- **Where:** Best Western Sands Hotel, 1755 Davie St, Vancouver
- **Why:** Awesome Lectures, Saturday Evening Show, Sorcerer's Social, Dealers Room, Magical Lunch - and MORE!
- **Who:** **Daniel Garcia** (close up master), **Shawn Farquhar** (World Champion), **Robert Baxt** (IBM winner for comedy), **Bill Abbott** (comedy magic), **Tim Sonefelt** (kids magic)
- Plus local talent like **Trevor & Lorena**, **Steve Dickson**, **Payne**, **Jeff Dial**, **Brian Cook**, **Matt Wells**, **Fredrick Turner**, **Jamie D. Grant** and MORE!

Registration rates for members of all three clubs starts at just \$95! So come out and have some fun – visit [www.ibmring92.com](http://www.ibmring92.com) for more info and to register!



As part of your plans to attend coming events, please include a visit to Clownin Around Magic and help support our magic community.



We wish you a very SAFE, FUN, and most of all, a very **MAGICAL** Halloween!

- 2010 VMC Executive

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.

Neil Kremer, Editor