



...the Charles Howard ring

# Vancouver Magic Circle

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS - RING 92

Affiliated with the Pacific Coast Association of Magicians

## TRI-CITY MAGICAL WEEKEND

November 5th-7th, 2010

Located at the Best Western Sands Hotel, Vancouver BC  
Hosted by Ring #92, the Vancouver Magic Circle

Contact VP Mike Norden at [ibmring92@telus.net](mailto:ibmring92@telus.net) or 604-916-9879

Hello fellow magi!

The summer has flown by and now we are gearing up for the 2010 Tri-City Magical Weekend Convention right here in our own back yard! Yes, it is only a month a half away and we have plenty of news and still tons to do. Let's get started!

First - perhaps you have not heard of the convention yet. (Perhaps you might be an astronaut and been on the space station - then you are forgiven!) Well, it is shaping up to be the best convention we have seen in a long time. Enough chit chat, let's hear the details!

The convention runs from Friday November 5th at 4pm to Sunday November 7th at 3pm. A full weekend of magic! Let's take a look at what the weekend will include:

Friday 4pm Sorcerers' Social hosted by SAM Assembly #95

The Carl Hemon Assembly will be hosting their famous 'One Hand Cut-a-thon' and prizes will be awarded. So get your fingers nimble

and practice, practice, practice. Lon Mandrake will be in charge, so no cheating!

We will have some extra features at the Sorcerers' Social this year with some networking opportunities with a caricaturist, web design and website development, and a professional photographer to name a few. It won't just be hanging with your friends - but that is allowed too!

### **Shawn Farquhar Lecture - Bread and Butter**

Shawn Farquhar is the ONLY MAGICIAN IN HISTORY TO WIN FIRST PLACE STAGE AND CLOSE UP AWARDS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS

He has lectured or performed for most of the major magic events including the largest magic convention in the world in Blackpool, England; World Magic Seminar, Las Vegas; FISM, Stockholm and Denmark, plus the IBM and SAM national conventions in the USA.

### The Magical Minutes

Newsletter Date:  
September 2010



### Tri-City Magical Weekend.

November 5th to 7th, 2010.

Tickets are only \$95.

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"Magic is believing in yourself, if you can do that, you can make anything happen."

-unknown

You will not want to miss this one! Check out more info on his lecture at [www.MagicLecture.com](http://www.MagicLecture.com)

**Friday Night Ring of Fire Show**

Next years host city, Everett WA, and the Ring of Fire will be presenting the Friday night evening show. This allows next years host city to showcase the talent and to announce their dates and intentions for next year!

The show will feature many top names in the magic world! Here is the line up:

Payne

Brian Cook

Mat Wells

Jeff Dial

Fredrick Turner

What can we say? Other than sign me up for next year guys!

**Friday late Night Lecture - Robert Baxt**

Robert Baxt can best be characterized by the description: "If all the world's a stage, he wants better lighting!" Born in Brooklyn, New York, he got his start at the age of 12 when he worked in the original New York City magic shop that Harry Houdini had owned 60 years earlier. He graduated law school but never got a "real" job because he was too busy making a living doing comedy magic. He is the winner of the First Prize in the Gold Medal competition of the National I.B.M. convention, and of a Comedy trophy from FISM. He has written jokes for David Copperfield TV specials and many other well known magicians. His "How to Be Funny" for magicians DVD has sold in the thousands. He now lives in Culver City, California on the former back lot of the original MGM studios where the "Wizard of Oz", "Tarzan", "Gone with the Wind" and many classic Hollywood films were shot.

Oh, and did we mention he is coming HERE?! Comedy magic at it's finest! Check him out at

[www.robertbaxt.com](http://www.robertbaxt.com)

**Hospitality Suite**

Oh yes, it's baaaaaack! Party time starts at Midnight - will there be a special 'Late Night Talk Show Host' appearance? Perhaps a Midnight séance? What tricks do we have up our sleeve for the wee hours of the morning? You will have to register to find out - BYOC! (Bring Your Own Coffee)

**Saturday**

Tim Sonefelt

P.E.A.R.L.S.

Lecture





Tim Sonefelt has been performing professionally since 1988 and full time since 2001. His specialties include kid and family shows and his focus is on the school/library and church markets. Tim currently writes for the KIDabra Journal, the official publication of KIDabra International.

Tim has lectured all over the United States as well as in Canada and England. He's performed across the country for corporate and family audiences. With dozens of original effects to his credit, he launched Wonder Imagery in 2004. Wonder Imagery produces the finest printed silks in the world with the exclusive black hem. This venture also brings to life the possibility for custom silks from your digital artwork.

Tim most recently started CreativityAtSea.com with co-founder Barry Mitchell (although it was mostly Tim's idea!). Tim's performances and lectures will tickle your funny bone, inspire your creativity and encourage you to perform at your very best. Check him out at [www.TimSonefelt.com](http://www.TimSonefelt.com)

### Close Up Show

What kind of convention would it be without a close-up show? And so we have the talent to pull it off this year. How does this sound?:

Daniel Garcia  
Shawn Farquhar  
Steve Dickson  
Payne



We will be using the projections screen and cameras so everyone will have a real 'close up' experience. Not a bad seat in the house as they say!

### BONUS - Have Lunch with a Star!

That's right - YOU get to have lunch with one of the talent! We will be picking lucky names out of the hat and YOU might just be the winner. Just another cool reason to come to our convention and not play video games all weekend in your basement!

### Daniel Garcia Lecture

Really?! Do we need to talk about this? Really? OK...

We'd like to take a few moments to clear up some misconceptions about street magic legend Daniel Garcia, or "DG," as the kids say:

Garcia has not created cold fusion, bested Chuck Norris in a nun chucks fight, used his Sharpie-catching skills rescue the people of a humble village, found the cure for cancer, been featured on Dancing With the Stars (he'd totally win if he was), was not with Paris Hilton when she did that one thing that one time, is not tabbed for a post in President Barack Obama's cabinet and is not the mystery man that led to the breakup between Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn. If there ever was a mystery man. We don't read tabloids. Whatever.

However, Garcia has one of the most creative minds in magic today. His effects have inspired thousands -- he's made rubber bands, playing cards and dollar bills do incredible things. He has created card tricks performed by famous magicians, and has been a consultant for David Blaine. Fraud, Fallen, Guide to Loops, Ultragaft -- even the stuff that he says isn't very good is pretty good.

You'll bust a gut while learning incredible

sleight of hand from Garcia. And, unlike Tony Romo, he is on top of his game when Jessica Simpson is watching. Oh yeah -- we went there. (Totally stolen from Ellusionist website - plagiarism is alive and well people!)

### Bill Abbott Lecture

As one of Canada's foremost magicians, the 35-year-old native of Toronto has been performing since the age of five making



numerous televisions and film appearances sharing his talents with audiences throughout Canada, Western Europe and the Middle-East. Over the past 18 years, Bill Abbott has been in constant demand for private parties, corporate functions and special events, becoming one of the most sought-after experts in this unique field of entertainment. The locations of these events are a list of top establishments from Toronto to Montreal and New York to London, England and everything in between. Celebrities from Samuel L. Jackson to Charlize Theron have been enthralled with Bill's magic.

Check him out at [www.billabbottmagic.com](http://www.billabbottmagic.com)

### The Dinner Show - Starring Payne!

This is an extra cost event - \$29 sit down dinner. You must reserve a spot for this event as it sells out every time.



Payne will be presenting a special dinner show that can be seen here and nowhere else!

Master Payne is an award winning magician from Seattle. He specializes in thematic character driven magic and is the writer of the highly acclaimed book on creating thematic character driven magic "Sometimes the Jokes are Just for Me". His second book in his Me, Me, Me Magic Trilogy "It's Not Bizarre to Me" at this writing has yet to be published but may be in print by the time you are reading this. The third volume "All that's Left of Me" will be published posthumously and will contain a vial of his ashes as it's cheaper than interment. Order yours today.

Only 60 spots available and it is 90% sold out! Register and contact Mike Norden today!

### **Saturday Night Evening Gala Show**

This is where we put all the talent into one big pot and mix with a few ingredients and make a perfect show!

Your MC will be Robert Baxt and the show will feature the talents of:

**Robert Baxt, Shawn Farquhar, Bill Abbott, Tim Sonefelt, and Trevor & Lorena**

Extra tickets for your friends and family can be purchased for this event for only \$15 - limited supply so call 604-916-9879 now. Operators are standing by...well, OK - my wife is here to take your call. OW! OK - I'M here to take your call now...

### **BONUS - The Dealers Room!**

What would a convention be without a dealer's room? Well, a lot cheaper I say! Ba-dum bump! Anyway...we have a great line up this year and the room will be packed!

Murray Trick and Joke Shop (Victoria)  
Clownin Around (Vancouver)  
Bill Abbott Magic  
Wonder Imagery  
Daniel Garcia  
TonyChrisMagic.com  
Mike Norden's 50% off booth (if room allows...)

The dealer room will be the place to be! And only registered guests get in!

### **Sunday Choices- Tim Sonefelt BONUS Lecture**

Tim will present a mixed lecture. 40 minutes on Gospel and 40 minutes on story telling. Just another way the Executive is trying to bring something different to the convention,. If you have thought of branching out into Gospel magic or want to learn about how to incorporate some story telling into your family and kid shows then this is where you want to be on Sunday Morning.

OR

### **Sunday Choices - Daniel Garcia Master Class**

For 2.5 hours you will learn from one of the best in the business. Street magic has its master and Daniel Garcia is his name. You will get one on one training and intimate instructions with a master in the field. This course is only open to 10 people and we have ONE spot left. The fee is \$75 and for this kind of instruction we can fairly say that is money well spent!

### **BONUS Sunday Fun - Improv Comedy Show and Class**

Eric Fell is a graduate of Vancouver Film School's Foundation



Film Program and originally hails from Delta. In 2004, he completed the Improviser Training Program, and is very excited to be performing with the Vancouver TheatreSports League. Eric is a writer and hopes to one day produce and direct his screenplays, many of which involve pirates. He is also the leader of

the 'Justice Pals' improv show. We are not sure if he wears tights though...

Eric will be leading us in a fun course on improve and comedy. We get to learn AND have fun! What more could you want?! (Yes - there is beer at the hotel...)

## Sunday 'Anything Goes' Contest

We will be hosting a contest to win the new coveted Tri-City Trophy at the 2010 convention! The contest is open to all ages and all genres of magic. Close up, stage, comedy, kids etc.

### Tri-City Convention 2010 – Vancouver Schedule (tentative)

#### Friday, November 5th

(Dealers room open 3:30-6pm / 11pm-12pm)

3pm – Registration Opens  
3:30pm – Dealers Room Opens  
4pm – Sorcerers' Social  
5pm – Once Hand Cut-A-Thon  
6pm – Dealers Room Closes  
6pm – Shawn Farquhar Lecture  
7:30pm – Begin Seating  
7:45pm – Opening Ceremonies  
8pm – Ring of Fire Show  
9:30pm – Robert Baxt Lecture  
11pm – Dealer Room Opens  
12-2pm – Hospitality Suite

#### Saturday, November 6th

(Dealers Room Open 8:45-9:15am / 12:15-2pm / 5:30-8pm / 11pm-12pm)

#### 9am – Doors Open

9:15am – Tim Sonfelt Lecture  
10:45am – Close Up Show  
Shawn Farquhar  
Daniel Garcia  
Steve Dickson  
Payne



12:15pm – No Host Lunch

2pm – Bill Abbot Lecture

4pm – Daniel Garcia Lecture

5:45pm – Break

6pm – Buffet Dinner and Show (Payne)

8pm – Doors Open

8:30pm - Stars of Magic Show

Shawn Farquhar

Robert Baxt (MC)

Tim Sonfelt

Bill Abbott

Trevor & Lorena

11pm – Dealers Open

12pm – 2pm – Hospitality Suite

#### Sunday, November 7th

8am - \$5.99 Breakfast!

9:30am – Doors Open

10am – 12:30pm - Daniel Garcia Master Class (extra cost event)

10am – Tim Sonfelt Storytelling & Gospel Lecture

11:30am – Theatre Sports Improv Class starting the Justice Pals

1pm – Anything Goes Contest

2:30pm - Weekend Ends





# Clownin' AROUND



## MAGIC SHOP

I'm writing this on the fly. Trying to get out the door to go to a week-long workshop in Washington state with a person that I saw in Winnipeg. He (Avner Eisenberg) is a person I thought "I can learn from him!"

Avner received a standing ovation in his show. Designed by him to be given to him by us willingly. He then proceeds to show us that the show is not over. He was mistaken. Again, he works hard for us and when he accomplishes what he wanted which was to entertain us while we (the audience) waited for a bigger show to start, the audience leaps to its feet one more time. Get this...that's 2 **STANDING OVATIONS** in one show.

Now, I have signed onto this workshop. What do I have? A piece of paper that says I've paid and a schedule that goes like this. 7:30 breakfast. 8:30 walk. 9 warm up (seeing we're all camping I think this will be the one I concentrate on) 9:30 morning class. Noon lunch and free time 3:00 afternoon class. 5:30 supper 8:30 campfire. Next day same schedule: there is no definition of what we are doing, class description, or how we are going to do that or how we are going to

accomplish it. Bring toys and warm clothing the note said. Duh? It's raining in Washington? What am I nuts?

So I have the car packed to the rafters with toys that I hope won't cause me to be turned back at the border as some nomadic clown looking to financially prosper in the states. We have a nose for birthday parties you know!

I think I am struck by a few things as I journey out this portal to camp in mid September. I just wonder how easily my money and I are parted....no that's not it. I am going on blind faith that I will get something of use out of this workshop. I have that faith because I was impressed with how this fellow handled his audience, the quality and universality of his show and the little use of any words spoken. I believe him to be a good teacher but more important that I am a good student.

So the guy has impressed me with his talent so I have swung open wide the learning door.

But when do I allow myself to learn from others? Okay when I am impressed or I

have that "envy" of I want to do what you just did. I want to be able to raise in others that sense of enjoyment, awe, surprise or dumbfoundedness I just experienced. It's easy to learn when we want what they got.

I challenge you to learn when it ain't so attractive. Every time you are watching a performer, let yourself fall into that observer mode. What are they doing that you don't do? How have they expanded the trick from what is the usual presentation. What do you like and what don't you like. The hard part is to find the **WHY**. Don't get caught up in, that guy does a lousy double lift. He flashed blah, blah, blah. It's easy to discount someone you think is less than you. But everyone can teach you something. Allow yourself to learn. It'll keep the imagination bubbling.

There is an old joke about "how many actresses does it take to change a light bulb?" The answer: "47 - one to do it and 46 to say 'I could have done it better'.

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

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

-2010 VMC Executive

**Remember to check out all the fun stuff at Clownin Around Magic Shop's dealer booth at the Tri-City Magical Weekend!**



## Ray Roch's Magic Box/Suitcase Table

The magic box/suitcase table depicted here was built by Jack Hughes in Surrey BC in the early 1940's or there about . . . I bought it from Jack Mellor when his Magic shop was located in the back of his insurance office on Granville street, Vancouver, BC.

Jack told me that it initially belonged to Roy Wheeler, a long time Ring #92 VMC member who used it while entertaining troops during the 2nd world war. (I don't know if the war service link is true?) Nevertheless, at this time (2010) it is at least 65 years old and was used by Roy Wheeler in many of his excellent performances. (Roy Wheeler owned a print shop and was an excellent magician)

When I bought this suitcase/ table, it was covered with Naugahyde and in reasonably good condition. I removed the Naugahyde and a good friend; Ray Bertrand painted it, and the accompanying poster to depict a colourful old-time Vaudevillian or Flim Flam Man.

I have used this table in countless performances at every venue imaginable. It was colourful, mobile and completely self-contained, making it indispensable during close-up magic performances where I had a standing crowd, or was mingling about a fairground or hospitality suite.



## VMC SUMMER PICNIC - submitted by Dennis Chan

THE CLUB'S ANNUAL PICNIC AND BARBEQUE was held at: Queen's Park in New Westminster on Sunday 15 August 2010.

As usual it was a fun day for magicians and family members. The affable David Watters was in charge of the games, which were a lot of fun and took various skill levels...Bruce and Georgina Hunt were in charge of picking up the burgers, hot dogs, buns, chips and other refreshments plus the barbecue grills. Thanks to Bruce and Georgina.

Gord Boyes and Dennis Chan were in charge of "slaving over a hot stove". There was plenty of food to go around, Brianna Carlson brought some mini donuts which everyone enjoyed.

The winner of the 50/50 draw was Ed Goldberg who won \$56.00. Thanks to Bryn and Joanna Williams for selling the 50/50 tickets.

The festivities finished with two performers doing their fifteen minute show for their Magic Wand holder's degree. The first performer was Rosalind Chan who did silks, coins, cards, 2 prediction effects and a peanut butter and jelly trick where a chosen card ended up inside a jar of jelly.

The second performer was Bruce Meyers, who along with his wife Jennifer, came up from the Stanwood Washington to take part in the day's activities. Bruce did string magic, rubber band magic and silk magic. Congratulations to Rosalind and Bruce for their fine performances. These shows were open to the public.

There were 31 members, 28 guests and 2 dogs at the picnic. Everyone had a great time.



# Coming Events

General Meeting and Auction Night - September 23

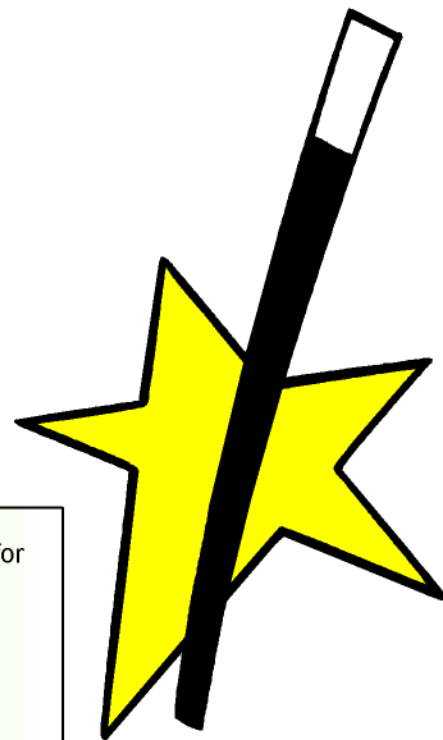
General Meeting and Tip Top & Tootsie Competition - October 18

Tri-City Convention VANCOUVER - November 5 to 7

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.

## NEXT GENERAL MEETING AND AUCTION NIGHT



Our next general meeting takes place at the usual secret location (Sunrise Community Hall) on September 23rd. It will be ANNUAL AUCTION NIGHT. Have a look through your supplies to see if you have something you'd like auctioneer Dave Carlson ([dave-carlson@shaw.ca](mailto:dave-carlson@shaw.ca)) to put on the block for you!

We will also be taking nominations for our 2011 VMC Executive.

**Doors will be open at 6:30 PM for viewing of auction items and socializing. The business meeting will start earlier than normal - 7 PM. Immediately following the meeting the auction will commence.**

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*

Neil Kremer, Editor

Answer to question on previous page: OOPS! Nobody wanted to be featured as the mystery photo.

Maybe we will have a brave soul for next time... anybody? ;)