



the charles howard ring

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

affiliated with the
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

Installation Banquet and Comedy Night

The next meeting of I.B.M. Ring #92 the Vancouver Magic Circle will take place on Friday, February 16th, 2007 at the Best Western Sands Hotel, 1755 Davie Street, Vancouver, BC.

It is our Annual Installation Banquet, Club Group Photo, & Comedy Night. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for cocktails & socializing, and at 7 p.m. a Buffet Dinner, in honour of our newly elected executive, will be held in the Pacific Ballroom. Dinner price is \$20 per adult and 12 per child, which includes all taxes & gratuity. Spouses and guests are welcome. If you would like to attend the dinner portion of the evening, Please RSVP by email to rsvp@ibmring92.com or call

David Wilson at 604-467-7887 before February 14th to let us know how many are in your party.

Those who wish to join us after dinner, are welcome to do so at 8p.m. Award presentations for the year 2006 will be handed out, followed by the installation of our newly elected executive officers. At approximately 8:30 p.m. a photo shoot by our resident photographer Jack Bastow will be held in the boardroom for the Club's 2007 Group Photo. (We encourage all members to attend for this photo)

Then it's back to the ballroom for fun & laughs with our Comedy Magic Competitions. Up for grabs are the Cecil Ackery Comedy Trophy for adult members and the

Rick Honey Comedy Trophy for junior members. If you would like to enter either of these contests be sure to call Competition Chairman Walter Ruteck at 604-591-1930 at least 24 hours ahead of time.

For anyone wishing to make a night (or weekend) out of this festive evening, the Best Western Sands hotel has offered Ring #92 members the incredibly low Room Rate of only \$69.00 a night. Reserve your room by calling the hotel front desk at 604-682-1831. For those driving to the Hotel, parking rates are \$5 or the evening and \$7 for overnight.

All members that attend will be getting a gift from Ellusionist.com valued at \$10!

Christmas in January

by Munro MacKenzie

Just like a rear-end collision BANG we are back in business. We did NOT meet in December as so many of our members are performing during the busy holiday season.

Our regular meeting which was to replace our Christmas dinner-snowed out so our president, Mike Norden made it a pot-luck affair and what a spread of delectable goodies.

The MAIN event was the election of officers for the coming year. As no nominations came from the floor, nomination chair Munro MacKenzie declared the executive sponsored list duly elected. Please welcome our new president Mike (dynamic) Norden; David Watters 1st V.P.; Walter Ruteck 2nd V.P.; Karen Eskilson secretary; David Wilson treasurer; Denzil Bee Sgt.at Arms; Dennis Chan, former Sgt.at Arms, stepped down to become our librarian. He

hopes to make our extensive library more accessible to all.

A cake was presented to Anthony Young celebrating his involvement with the I.B.M. for 50 years. Unfortunately Anthony was unable to attend the meeting... but the rest of the members had a great time eating his cake!

see *STAGE COMPETITION* page 2



Cake celebrating Anthony Young's 50 years in the I.B.M. Congratulations!

Tony Eng Retires as T.V.P.

After many years of dedicated service as I.B.M.'s Territorial Vice-President for the Province of British Columbia, Victoria's Tony Eng announced at the beginning of January he was stepping down from office to pursue the joys of retirement.

Tony has represented the interests of all magicians through out B.C. since 2000, but after selling his famed Magic Shop in Victoria last year, has heeded the call for his love of R.V.ing. Tony and wife Ann have become "Snow birds" taking up residence in their R.V. in the resort town of Yuma, California ... and loving it. They now answers e-mails while basking in the sun at: tony@tonyeng.com

Tony's successor to the office of T.V.P. is the Vancouver Magic Circle's very own David Wilson.



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Stage Competition is fierce from page 1

A special presentation was made to Clinton W. Gray, a truly altruistic magician. He had just returned from El Salvador where he had been working at his own expense with the Magicians Without Borders organization. He was accompanied by Vermont-based magician, Tom Verner and his wife Janet on this journey to bring happiness to the less fortunate. (See article in August 2003 page 45 about this organization.) A truly gracious contribution.

And where would we be without a competition? The Percy Poole trophy for stage magic by a junior member was won by Nicholas Chow who narrowly defeated Jesse Boyes. The William Shelley trophy for stage magic was



Stage Competitors: (l to r) Smokey Glenister, Knightly Norden, Lemon Amlani, and Ringmaster Boyes



Clinton W. Gray, Henry Tom, Cuphead and Nicholas Chow

contested by Michael Glenister, Alym Amlani, Mike Norden and Henry Tom. Henry won with a very classy production of torn & restored newspaper, some neat rope magic, and finally with a very smooth linking rings routine.

Clinton W. Gray, the winner from last year, was M.C. The very colourful backdrop was loaned by Dennis Hewson. The 50/50 draw of \$84 was won by Graeme Kingston who promptly turned it over to buy a new V.M.C. jacket.

There were 50 members and 16 guests for this memorable meeting.

President's Perspective



Thank you everyone for your show of confidence and support in my abilities as President for another year. Mind you, the fact that no one else ran for the

position helped greatly in the process of me getting elected. I look forward to another year of working with an extraordinary team of Executive members and Directors.

Congratulations to the incumbents and our newly elected VP Walter Ruteck and our new Sergeant at Arms, Denzil Bee. My thanks to Clinton W Gray and Dennis Chan for their past work in those positions. We will be welcoming Gord and Jesse Boyes as Director and Junior Director respectively, for the 2007 year.

Any other members who are wanting to help out or lend a hand in any way are welcome to contact me. We are always open to ideas! I am going to use this space to let you know the goals I have set for this year. Feel free to hold me to them—I can't be re-elected next year anyway!

The club will be applying for the Ring Quality Award from the IBM, and just like the Website Award we will stop at nothing short of winning it. We will host the second Annual Open House this summer with more performances from members for the Magic Wand Degree and more fun for the public.

The executive will be working on having one of the best Weekend Of Magic's we have ever seen! We have been talking with talent and we hope to have the line up and early registration

out to you soon. Mar October 19th and 20th on your calendars as you won't want to miss this.

The refurbishing of the remaining trophies continues—eventually they will all shine with their original glory. Last but not least, I plan on meeting and talking to everyone of you at some point this year. I have gotten to know most people over my last term but I still have many to meet and much to learn. Joining this club has been one of the best experiences of my life and I hope to continue for a long time.

Eric Evans

The Secret Art of Magic

Eric Evans tours the world performing street magic, while also performing in a wide variety of venues from restaurants to theaters to Universal Studios in Hollywood, California. But most notably, Eric is co-author of the book *The Secret Art of Magic*. He is taking time out of his busy schedule to bring you the *Excellent Series*.

COMING IN APRIL

...perfect for anyone desiring solid, bullet-proof effects; ...member has used them in parlor and stage shows. Predominately stand-up, the tricks cover a wide range of skill level—from easy to challenging. Some of the highlights from his lecture include...

- His work on the Miser's Dream sequence, including several soon-to-be classic bits with a young volunteer that always brings huge laughs.
- Eric's single-coin routine that is a mainstay of his award-winning stage acts including an original addition that is sure to fool—and more certainly to please, even the most reserved spectator—you'll be considering where you can add it to your existing coin work immediately.
- Coins, Coins, Coins, and more coins. A virtually unending number of Jumbo coins from the hand that Eric calls Mephisto's Mitts. Plus the production of a countless stream of dollar sized coins emanating from...you'll have to see it to believe it.
- Eric's version of the Kangaroo Card (a chosen card "plop" from out of a hat that has fooled even the most knowledgeable card men).
- His version of Johnny Brown's "Balls from Mouth" that creates the illusion of far more balls than are used; includes Eric's surprising climax.
- The Closer to his street show—the trick he uses to get the money! He uses a borrowed bill in a combination of classic effects that makes them both seem new, including a hilarious destruction of the bill that...



The "What's Nu?" Review

by David Parker

Having seen Alain Nu's "The Mysterious World of Alain Nu" television specials on TLC, I was looking forward to seeing his lecture on February 9, 2007 at Douglas College. I certainly was not disappointed, which is good news (forgive the pun) for Alain, as he gauges his performance by what people say about it after the show is over. Alain got his start in magic at the age of 16, and after working as a restaurant magician and performing illusions, is now demonstrating the "mysterious powers of the mind".

We were all wondering how prepared he was for this lecture. He came out drinking some water, reading his patter from a piece of paper – he even had to put on his reading glasses to read his notes. It then turned out that things really did not seem as they appear as we soon found out that his glasses had no lenses in them, the glass had no water in it, the paper had no writing on it, a lighter appeared out of nowhere and vanished just as quickly, as the paper burnt up in a flash of smoke. That certainly set us up for an evening of unexpected surprises.

He then proceed with a unique presentation of the "Invisible Deck" where an invisible watch (bought at the same store as the deck) also appeared on

his wrist. He then proceeded to demonstrate mentalism with everyday borrowed objects, and three variations on how to determine people's zodiac signs. This was followed by a lengthy discussion on tips for performing restaurant magic, and a trick Alain called "diner" magic.

Following the break, we had the draw for a member to win their admission fee back. In a startling feat of mentalism, Chris Schuh actually drew out his own ticket. Was that a coincidence, or did he learn more from Alain's lecture than the rest of us? From there it was on to our traditional presentations of the coveted V.M.C. pen, the lovely garment bag, as well as the yummy Maple Leaf cookies to the lecturer (with the usual photo ops.).

Alain told us the story of how he ended up getting on television, and the trick that convinced the television executives to give him the specials – an amazing Any Card At Any Number, where the spectator does the dealing of the cards to reveal the named card at the named position. This was, in my opinion, the best trick of the evening.

The lecture finished up with some metal bending, as well a Russian

Roulette trick with cards that could also be done over the telephone.

There were 43 members and 6 guests in attendance, and judging by the conversation amongst us after the show was over, Alain must have been happy with his performance.



Juliana Chen & Alain Nu ham it up at the lecture

Next Lecture:
Friday, April 6th
ERIC EVANS
Douglas College - Room 2203

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

COLLECTORS WORKSHOP - VIKINGMAGICCOMPANY.COM

A monumental event took place in May of 2000. Viking Mfg. Co. acquired the entire assets of Collector's Workshop, moving the production facilities to Edinburg, Texas.

Collectors' Workshop and Viking have set milestones in production, quality and design. Each and every piece they produce goes through a thorough field test, using accomplished performers to test and evaluate the effect for ease of performance, audience appeal and

durability. Once an effect makes it through this testing, it is put into production, passing five inspection stations as it is produced, plus two final inspections, before the item is shipped. In the rare event that something slips by them, they immediately replace or repair it at their expense without question.

Visit often; tell your friends, and enjoy the Magic of Viking Magic Co. and Collectors' Workshop.

WEB CORNER

Mike Norden

Hello web heads! Well, we certainly got a response from the members from my column last month! It looks like most people read the newsletter whether it's online or a paper copy – this is great news! Apparently it's just that no one wants to play my silly trivia games. Watch for an email coming to you soon about your choices on the newsletter. We will be starting fresh with a master list of who would like to get it online or paper, and the universe will align again.

Now, it is time for this column's annual award for the Best Website – the Rufus Award! If your website is linked on the members page then you were entered. A team comprising of the webmaster, President, last years winner, and an outside expert have been hard at work admiring the great websites our members have – and the winner is.....sorry, you have to come out to the banquet to find that out! Coming soon to ibmring92.com will be a very cool Youtube page. I am scouring the internet for funny and cool magic and magician related videos. We will post these on our website for all to enjoy. If you have some favourites please email me! See you next time!

Mike Norden is Ring 92's webmaster.
Contact him at mike.norden@ibmring92.com

TIDBITS FROM THE TOP HAT

Henry Tom was featured in two North Shore newspapers about his magic and SAM shows at Science World. He was also interviewed for the CBC radio Early Edition, on Dec. 28th. His video on YouTube is getting lots of hits... check it out!

Jack Mellor will be the MC and magician for a senior group production called "Show Time." Directed by Trevor Evans, the writer of Wayne & Schuster for many years, it runs throughout February, March, May & June.

Jamie D. Grant has been named Associate Editor and Content Manager of the brand new Street Magic Magazine. This new publication will be released sometime in March and is being described as the GQ for magic. "We're trying to focus on the fact that magicians are real people. They shop, have other interests, and do normal things (sometimes), lol." says Jamie, "We're really trying to focus on that aspect and hopefully give people an interesting read."

Jeff Christensen aka The Great Smartini - Magical Educator has been very busy performing his

assembly show at various schools and libraries throughout the lower mainland. He recently appeared in the Delta news for his participation in World Literacy Day festivities. Jeff also received press in Coquitlam for his environmental education program. Jeff says a recent highlight was doing a show at the Inlet Theatre in Port Moody and having his own dressing room!

Chris Schuh currently teaches an accredited fine arts Magic Course in a private school in BC. Students of the school can study under Chris or David Noble, another magician and teacher at the school. The course covers teaching tricks to the students, performance skills, audience management tools, scripting, and various presentational methods for delivery magic.

If you know someone who's just starting out in magic, consider Burnaby's Continuing Education night magic classes taught by Michael Glenister. Michael is a professional teacher and his Memory Techniques workshop has been chosen to be featured at the Burnaby school district's professional development day.

Greg Ladret Builds New Show

Exciting new developments in the Ladret house of magic. As some of you know, out-of-town member Greg Ladret is getting married to Dawn, in August. Along with gaining a wife, he will also gain two teenage daughters. Although he does not yet have grey hair, we suspect that it will be not far off.

Michelle, the eldest daughter, joined Greg for two weeks last summer at the summer camp in the Poconos, where he is the head of the Magic Department,

having followed in the footsteps of fellow VMC members Clinton W. Gray and Gary Savard. Michelle became an instant fixture in the Magic Department, taking up to three classes per day with the various instructors. Now firmly hooked on magic she sees it as a possible way to supplement her income throughout long years of medical school.

Shannon, the youngest, is a dancer, singer, actor and is very bendy, which makes her a great candidate for getting

into tight spaces in illusions. Both girls performed with Greg in his New Years Eve show, and will join him for several other events through out the year.

Although Dawn had hopes of just being a happy spectator at all the shows, she has already been forced into service as a backstage assistant to Greg and her daughters. There's no turning back now! So, we figure that's Greg's latest magic effect: One plus one, plus two makes... a whole new show!

CONJURORS' CALENDAR

the monthly guide to magic & events in our community

Friday, February 16, 2007

IBM Ring #92 The Vancouver Magic Circle
INSTALLATION BANQUET AT THE SANDS
Comedy Night - come out for a laugh!
The Cecil Ackery Comedy Trophy (Adult)
The Rick Honey Comedy Trophy (Jr)

February - Multiple dates

BC Touring Council presents
THE AMAZING KRESKIN
Details at www.amazingkreskin.com

Feb 17 - Act Theatre, Maple Ridge
Feb 18 - Performing Arts Center, Vernon
Feb 20 - Fort St. John, venue TBA
Feb 21 - Vanier Hall, Prince George
Feb 24 - Civic Center, Port Hardy

Thursday, March 8th, 2007 - 7:00pm

Lon Mandrake and Trevor Watters present
SEAQUAM SECONDARY FUNDRAISER SHOW
Contact the school at 604-591-6166 for tickets

Thursday, March 22, 2007 - 6:30pm

IBM Ring #92 The Vancouver Magic Circle
MARCH MEETING - PAST PRESIDENTS NIGHT AND ONE TRICK CARD NIGHT!

Friday, April 6th, 2007 - 7:30pm

IBM Ring # 92 presents
MAGIC LECTURE BY ERIC EVANS
Douglas College - Room 2203
Advance - \$25 / \$20 for members
At Door - \$30 / \$25 for members

April 27th & 28th, 2007

Stan Kramien present's his
20TH ANNUAL NW MAGIC JAMBOREE!
Annual magic get-together in Newberg, Oregon. See the likes of Mac King, John Carney, Mike Caveney, David Williamson, Tina Lenert, and Jerry Andrus. This is a wonderful convention with great hospitality and free beer!

Sunday, June 10th, 2007 - 1pm

IBM Ring #92 The Vancouver Magic Circle's
MAGIC FOR YOUNGSTERS SHOW!
Children's Magician of the Year competition for the Wilf Rutherford Trophy. Held at the Shadbolt Theatre in Burnaby.