



THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92



THE MAGICAL MINUTES

Affiliated with THE PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

-- JANUARY 2004

ELECTIONS & BALLOON WORKSHOP TO START YEAR!

The next meeting of IBM Ring #92 – The Vancouver Magic Circle takes place on Thursday, January 22nd, 2004 at the Sunrise Community Hall. Doors will open at 6:30pm as usual for socializing. However, the starting time for this month's business portion of the meeting has been moved ahead to 7:30pm. It is our annual General meeting, during which time elections will be held to choose the members who will guide our club through the upcoming year. 2004 executive positions to be filled include, President, 1st Vice-president, 2nd Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant-of-arms.

The workshop is to follow and will double as the feature entertainment of the evening. Adam Kozielec and Cleo Kobes proprietors of party empire, the lower mainland's foremost balloons supply house, will be on hand to delight everyone with a hands on presentation. Adam, and expert balloon-ologist will delve into the secrets of good balloon twisting, teach us a thing or two about balloon sculpturing, and show us all some amazing balloon creations. The VMC will be providing balloons for everyone who wishes to participate. As well, Adam and Cleo will have a selection of fine merchandise available for sale, if you happen to see something that tickles your fancy, or would like to stock up on your supplies.

BIG TURNOUT & GREAT SHOW AT CHRISTMAS DINNER!

Because in December most of our members are performing we do not have a meeting. Our November meeting is actually our Christmas dinner meeting and this year we held it at the Sands by the Sea Hotel where **Craig Prystay** is the G.M. By special arrangement it is an organized pot luck dinner with the club providing 4 cooked turkeys, with a wide wild variety of food.

During the pre dinner social hour we were entertained by table hopping magicians **Walter Ruteck, Eric Lenz, Dennis Hewson, Ray Roch, Anthony Young, Juan Garcia, Cameron Fisk, Kelvin Ng, and David Watters.** Magic galore!

Karen Eskilson, lovely in red again, ran the 50/50 draw. It eventually won the winner **Clinton Lee**, \$119.50. 134 people attended of whom 54 were members. Among the most notable attendees were past presidents **Ian McLeod** and **Francis Martineau.** These two gentlemen represent well over a century of performing magic between them.



Funny man Rick Mearns

Continued Next Page...

ALL MEETINGS OF THE VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE ARE HELD AT
THE SUNRISE COMMUNITY HALL LOCATED AT
1950 WINDERMERE STREET, VANCOUVER, B.C. (unless otherwise stated)

**VMC
EXECUTIVE**

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604-467-7887

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604-436-4347

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PAST

PRESIDENT

David Watters

IBM Ring #92 –
The Vancouver
Magic Circle,
publishes The
Magical Minutes
10 Times a year.

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NOVEMBER 2003 CHRISTMAS DINNER!

The children were delighted that Santa (aka **Joe Ward**) was able to take time from his busy schedule and visit us. Club photographer **Rod Chow** had to beat the kids off with a candy cane to get close to Santa.

Dennis Chan, resplendent in a chef's uniform, ran the kitchen detail ably assisted by turkey cookers **Cathy Watters** and **Cheryl Wilson**. After dinner we had the competition for the William Shelly Trophy – best adult stage magic; with last year's winner **Jeff McLeod** as M.C. First up was **Matthew Johnson** with a clever silk and color changing rings routine; followed by **Ray Roch** with an outstanding coin manipulation. He has to have the shortest fattest fingers in the club yet, moves with the delicacy of a brain surgeon. Thirdly was **Steven Best** with silks to doves (about 5") to a large white rabbit. **David Watters** then delighted us with a native Indian people's routine involving legend and myth. He made all the props and costumes himself. **Neil Marshall**, our popular deaf mute member, delighted us with a silks and Santa number. He was followed by **Trevor Watters** who with the help of two beautiful blonde dancers tried to make a shish kebab of one of the girls in a trunk. Luckily he failed and she emerged smiling (although sweating). Finally **Donovan Atreides** did a wonderful card routine concluding with a clever cigarette suspension.

While trophy chair **Glen LaBarre** tabulated the scores **Dennis Chan** entertained with his dummy Seymour. Or was it the other way round? Funny!!!

Jeff McLeod next entertained with his video taping for the consideration of the Magic Castle selection committee and it was a humdinger. His linking rings routine while he mouths the words to Danka Schoen is the best I have ever seen/heard.

When the winner was announced, the 2003 William Shelly trophy was awarded to **Steven Best** for his excellent act. I thought his proud mother, Ellen was going to jump out of her red outfit she was so excited.

It was undoubtedly the best local talent stage show I have ever seen.

Munro Mackenzie
Ring Reporter



Dennis Houston feeling knotty!



Anthony Young Fu-Ling Yoo!



Wacky 50/50 Ticket Sellers



Kelvin Ng's high-wire card act!



Cameron mystifies the Mackenzie's



Dennis Chan & Seymour on Stage!



Nick Chow and Santa (Joe Ward)



2003 Stage Magic Winner Steven Best

VMC 2003 DECEMBER REPORT!

December is another non-meeting month as so many of our professional and semi-professional members are working. On top of it all, our regular meeting night would be Christmas Day so you figure it out. We had a departure from our usual wet (West Coast) weather in that we had SNOW, which is a real 4 letter word in this part of the country.

Magic was alive and really well received in our world though. At Science World Vancouver, the wildly successful, "One Magic Christmas," ran from December 27, 2003 till January 4th, 2004. This event was produced and organized by S.A.M. Assembly #95 under the leadership of its president **Lon Mandrake**. Of the 29 magicians performing during the 9 days, 27 are members of the V.M.C. (I.B.M.). They had 5 stage shows daily in the Weirhauser Theatre as well as 3 strolling magicians doing walkabout on the second level. This was all in addition to the regular activities that Science World sponsors during the Christmas break. One of the featured magicians was **Shawn Farquhar** and his 3 year old daughter Hannah, who were on leave from their Caribbean cruise ship duties for Christmas. We are fortunate in our part of the world that the I.B.M. and S.A.M.'s Assembly have worked for years in peaceful harmony and cooperation. Science World had overwhelming crowds due in part to the annual magic show.

Our first meeting of 2004 will be the January election of officers and a very lively return to general magical activities.

Munro MacKenzie

Ring reporter.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOPHAT!



IBM RING #92 – The VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE has added another lecturer to its 2004 lecture series lineup. World renowned Author, Speaker, & Magic Icon EUGENE BURGER will be in town Sunday, February 15th, 2004 at 1:00pm with his Lecture "CREATING A MORE MAGICAL PERFORMER". Eugene has offered us a high intensity 4 hour Workshop which would run the same day at aprox. 4:00pm – Tentative on Enough participation. Sign up for both by calling **David Wilson** @ 604-467-7887.

STAN KRAMIEN has announced Friday, April 23rd & Saturday, April 24th as the dates for his 17th ANNUAL NORTHWEST MAGIC JAMBOREE at the big top ranch in Newberg, Oregon. One of magic's best-kept secrets, this country conference features two days of Star Studied Magic Shows, Contests Galore, 5 Lectures, 20 Dealers, and INCLUDES your meals and an open bar, ALL for one price! Among the headliners this year are Shimada who will be performing his full dragon act, Illusionist Michael Angelo & Company from Utah, Funny Man Pete Biro, Alexander – Master of Marvels, Tricia Bunnell – America's foremost balloon artist, **Dave Womack**, Doc Eason, Jackson Rayne, Brenda, Rick Anderson, The Saxons, Steve Taylor, Art Manning, Irene Larson, Jerry Andrus, and Vancouver's very own Money Magic Man **Rod Chow**. Stan also tells us he will be performing a special illusion for the crowd himself. If you've never been, what are you waiting for? Join the dozens of Ring #92 Members who make the trip every year. (See enclosed flyer)

And speaking of great conferences, the 2004 PCAM Convention in Seattle this summer is really starting to create quite a buzz. PCAM President Brian Cook recently released the names of some of this years featured performers. Among them will be Doug Malloy, Max Howard, Joanie Spina, and Steffan Soule. Register online now before the next price increase. Stay tuned to all the latest updates by visiting their website @ www.2004pcamseattle.com

The Vancouver Magic circle received a couple of Christmas Cards over the Holidays. One from Michael and Darlene Stratman (past IBM International President) wishing us holiday Greetings and another from Wendy Chase & Family (George Watson's Daughter) Thanking the VMC for being a wonderful source of fun and friendship throughout her fathers many years. She also sent along a \$200 donation to our club in memory of George Watson.

Ring #92 Treasurer **DENNIS "The Bull Dog" CHAN** reports that 50% of Vancouver Magic Circle members have now paid their 2004, Membership Dues. If you are among the delinquents, Sound advice would be to pay up before "The Bull Dog" puts the bite on you!

The Globe trotting Farquhar family, Shawn Lori, & Hannah were back home in Coquitlam for the Christmas Season. Shawn kept busy doing shows, building props for his show and visiting with family and friends. They were off again in mid January after signing on once again with Norwegian Cruise Lines for a 46 week contract.

IBM RING #92 - The Vancouver *Magic Circle*

LECTURE SERIES PROUDLY PRESENTS:

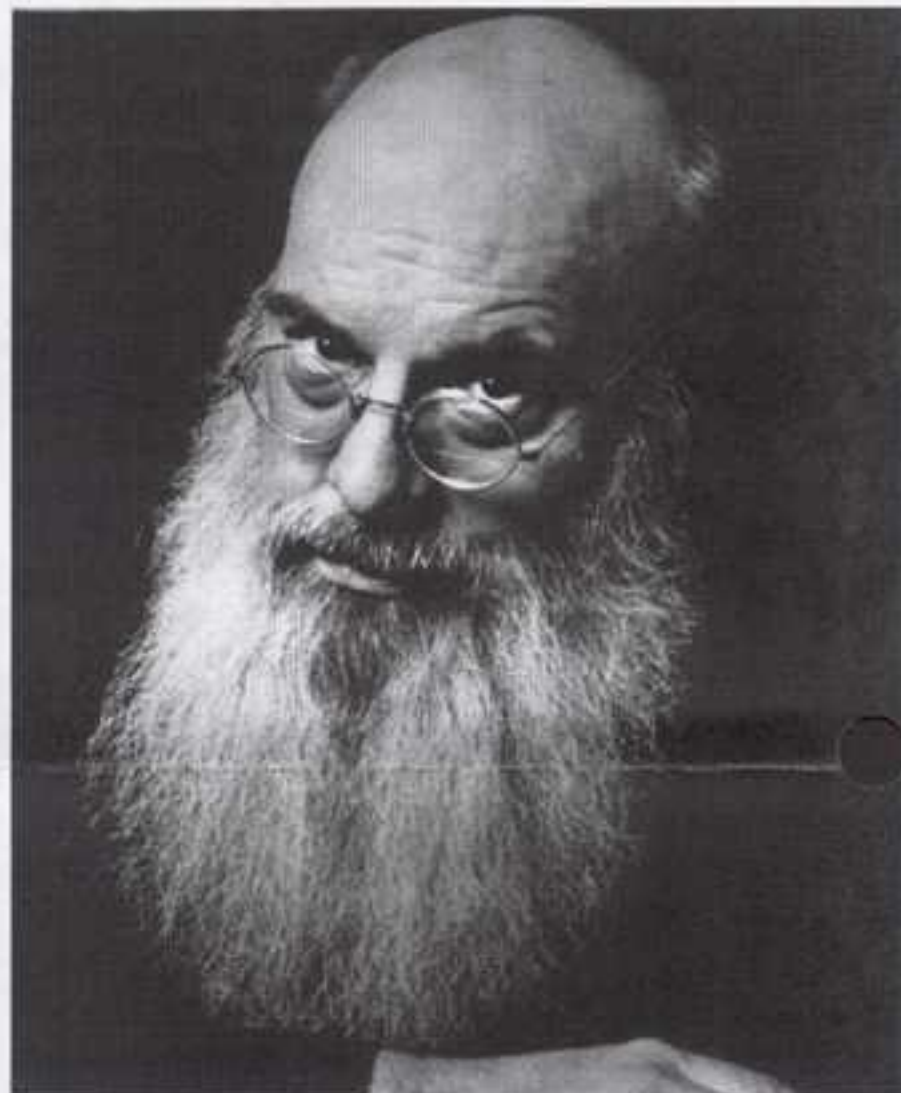
Eugene Burger

He's amazed and delighted audiences from Las Vegas to Tokyo. As *Stagebill* magazine proclaimed, *Eugene Burger* is "universally recognized as perhaps the finest close-up magician in the world."

"Close-up magic" is just that: magic performed right under your nose, where everyone becomes part of the show, and with *Eugene Burger* it is an unforgettable experience, for as the *Chicago Reader* noted in an unprecedented eleven-page cover story about him, "Burger adds something extra." His warmth and humor are captivating and his magic is simply amazing.

By definition, magicians are pretty special people, but *Eugene Burger* is considered exceptional even by other magicians. He has written fifteen best-selling books for the trade, starred in eight instructional videos, lectured extensively to magicians' groups in over a dozen countries, and his writings have been translated into several languages.

His deep understanding of the psychology and philosophy behind the magic have won him international accolades, cover stories in conjuring magazines, and four awards from the famed Magic Castle in Hollywood.



Date: Sunday, February 15th, 2004 at 1:00 PM

Douglas College

700 Royal Ave New Westminster

Room 2203

Pre-registration: \$20.00 VMC Members / \$25.00 Non-members
Admission at the door: \$25.00 VMC Members / \$30.00 Non-members

To Register Call David Wilson: 604-467-7887

Or Dave Watters: 604-590-4465

TIDBITS FROM THE TOPHAT!



Cont'd...

After a nod from the general membership, at a meeting last fall, the Vancouver Magic Circle executive has made a slight shuffle in the 2004 calendar of events on a one-year trial basis. The Ray Gamble trophy competition for best-card effect with a previously un-opened deck will be held at the June meeting this year, and moving to the February meeting in it's place, will be the competitions for the Cecil Ackery comedy trophy for adults and the Rick Honey trophy for juniors. This change was made in an attempt to bring a little more fun and levity to our installation banquet which has seen attendance drop off in the last few years. This means that all you aspiring comedians should start practicing your jokes and polishing your funny bone, comedy magic night is just around the corner.

That Charismatic Conjuror of the North **Clinton W. Gray** has relocated his base of operations from Williams Lake to the Big City of Kamloops. He told us in a recent visit that he's very happy with the new, more central location and that it's now only 3 hours by car to the Vancouver Magic Circle meetings. Clinton's new contact info is: #206-448 Cherry Avenue, Kamloops BC V2B 2R9 250-314-8003, laugh@canada.com.

Matthew Johnson has been a very busy guy working as a magical advisor for a national Mattel Commercial for the Game **Balderdash**. The filming took place at Vancouver Film studios on Jan 12th. He did Balloon sculptures for a scene involving Balloon twisting Ninja's. He also tells us he managed to scoop a bunch of never before seen Matel Games to bring home. (Perk of the Job.)

The VMC Extends a tip of the hat to our dogged ring reporter **Munro MacKenzie** for an Uninterrupted 13 issue run (and counting) of Informative Vancouver Magic Circle reports in IBM's Linking Ring Magazine. Keep up the great work Munro!

After living in the same apartment for 45 years VMC Life Member **Ian McLeod** recently moved into new digs at the Rideau Manor in Burnaby. Ian was feeling a little under the weather over Christmas and spent a few days in hospital but is back home now and would love to hear from you at his home # 604-421-2720.

Joe Ward kept himself busy over the holidays. He's been playing Santa for many happy children at a number of different functions. In addition to the Vancouver Magic Circle Christmas dinner, Santa Joe also made an appearance at the Best Western Sands Hotel staff Christmas party.

Ring #92 webmaster **Anderson Chow** is taking a break from web page duties for awhile and is on a well deserved vacation in Malaysia till March.

Coquitlam night school is offering courses on face painting and balloon twisting starting at the end of January. The instructor for these courses is none other than our very own **Karen Eskilson**.

FOR SALE: Modern Art Illusion, nice addition to any magician's repertoire. For more information call **Martin Domino** at 604-836-8749.

Conjurers Calendar

A MONTHLY GUIDE TO MAGIC AND
EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 2004
IBM RING #92 - VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - ELECTIONS
7:30PM - BUSINESS MEETING
8:30PM - BALLOON WORKSHOP

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23RD, 2004
GENE ANDERSON LECTURE
7:00PM - ROOM 1606
DOUGLAS COLLEGE, NEW WESTMINSTER
Reservations: David Wilson @ 604-467-7887

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 2004
EUGENE BURGER LECTURE
1:00PM - ROOM 2203
DOUGLAS COLLEGE, NEW WESTMINSTER
Reservations: David Wilson @ 604-467-7887

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH, 2004
IBM RING #92 - VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE
2004 INSTALLATION BANQUET
BEST WESTERN SANDS HOTEL
1755 DAVIE STREET, VANCOUVER, BC
5:00PM - DOORS OPEN / HAPPY HOUR
6:30PM - BUFFET DINNER
Members & Spouses \$20.00
All Others \$22.00
7:45PM - OFFICER INSTALLATION
8:00PM - 2004 GROUP PHOTO
8:30PM - COMEDY COMPETITIONS
CECIL ACKERY COMEDY TROPHY - ADULT
RICK HONEY COMEDY TROPHY - JUNIOR

FRI, APRIL 23RD & SAT, APRIL 24TH
STAN KRAMIEN'S 17TH ANNUAL
NORTHWEST MAGIC JAMBOREE
At the one and only BIG TOP RANCH
NEWBERG, OREGON, U.S.A.
(See enclosed flyer for more details)

AUGUST 4TH - 8TH, 2004
2004 P.C.A.M. CONVENTION
SEA-TAC MARRIOTT HOTEL, SEATTLE, WA
Hotel Reservations: 1-800-314-0925
PCAM Convention Info:
www.seattlepcam2004.com

IBM RING #92 - The Vancouver *Magic Circle*

LECTURE SERIES PROUDLY PRESENTS:

Gene Anderson

Gene Anderson creates so much magic and laughter that wherever he appears he is in danger of becoming a one-man epidemic of fun. A newspaper reporter wrote, "He does more with a newspaper than a kennel full of Great Dane pups!" That's true, but there's a whole lot more than that!

Today Gene is a world-renowned magician having performed all over the USA and in twenty other countries on six continents. Gene's performance, combining jaw-dropping magic and his infectious humor, is the perfect addition to any banquet or meeting. He is the acknowledged master of newspaper magic; you'll never look at your Sunday edition in the same way again! Gene also features such unlikely objects as ropes, eggs and even a sink stopper; this joyous funster is no boring, "Is that a coin behind your ear?" magician! His show involves delightful audience participation pieces, but he's always careful to provide the laughs with absolutely no embarrassment to his helpers!



Date: Friday, January 23rd, 2004 at 7:30 PM
Douglas College

Room 1606

700 Royal Ave New Westminster

Pre-registration: \$20.00 VMC Members / \$25.00 Non-members
Admission at the door: \$25.00 VMC Members / \$30.00 Non-members

To Register Call David Wilson: 604-467-7887 or
Dave Watters: 604-590-4465