

The Charles Howard Ring



VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

affiliated with the
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

Christmas with Ring 92!

Last year our Christmas dinner was snowed out and the postponement was also snowed out. This year we were lucky as the snow only fell on the mountains of the North Shore. The Sands By the Sea Hotel was again our venue with GM Craig Prystay setting everything up tickety-boo. While waiting for the crowd to gather, strolling magicians Jens Henricksen, Dennis Hewson and new member James Hanson kept everyone enthralled. Even 8 year old Shyann Mandrake, granddaughter of Lon Mandrake helped out.

The buffet dinner was delicious and the dessert selection was tempting enough to make a diabetic weep. Then stage manager Rod Chow started the ball rolling for the children's entertainment with David Wilson doing some amusing rope magic with the kind cooperation of two guests. His control of the young lad who wanted to do more than asked was masterful. Next up was Neale Bacon with the help of his ventroloquial figure Horton the Hogg. Together they did a very funny routine. Horton got into the act so thoroughly that he objected vehemently when he was being put into his case to leave.



What would a Christmas dinner be without Santa? Santa (aka Joe Ward) found a spare half hour to have the children come up and receive their gifts. Next Walter Ruteck read the rules for the William Shelley and Percy Poole stage competitions. The juniors started with new member Alex Seaman showing great potential doing silks and a change bag and disappearing candle routine.

He was followed by Jack Chow doing a very colorful program with foil flowers and a Dove Pan. The last junior was Jesse Boyes arriving on a unicycle, changing a cane to silks and

a great foulard effect called 'The Thing'. Jesse was the eventual winner- congratulations Jesse and thank you to all the participants!

The seniors started with Andrew Yeo doing a beautiful and unusual rope routine. He was followed by Gord Boyes and a guest getting all hung up in coat hangers. Then Gary Savard did a great orange multiplying ball routine with help from a yellow silk and a candle. Bruce Hunt did a bewildering art display featuring the Mona Lisa. Up next, Lon Mandrake with his wife did an excellent blindfolded mental magic routine. Finally James Hanson (not competing) did a remarkable escape from a straight jacket and in a locked bag while the results were being tallied. Lon Mandrake was the winner of the William Shelly for 2007 with Gary Savard coming in second place – congratulations to all!

The 50/50 draw of \$112 was won by Melissa, James Hanson's significant other. Oh yes! Karen Eskilson artistically face painted all the children, mostly young but some old, with festive designs. 35 members plus 45 guests enjoyed a magical and delicious Christmas dinner. Happy holidays to all - Munro MacKenzie.

Ring in the New Year!

The next function of I.B.M. Ring# 92, the Vancouver Magic Circle, takes place on Thursday, January 24th, 2008 at the Sunrise Community Hall, 1950 Windermere Street, Vancouver, BC. Doors will open at 6:30 pm.

We will be having a 'unique' workshop to start off the evening. Since we want to 'ring' in the New Year we are going to showcase tricks that can 'ring'. Tricks that might have something to do with a phone or cell, or use a finger 'ring', or perhaps some coins like a Miser's Dream that make 'ringing' noise, or even a trick with an actual bell – or how about this:

Anything from the TarBELL books!

We encourage all members to think of some fun tricks and come prepared to entertain for about 5 minutes. This is not a competition; we just want to have fun. For all the new members who are going to be initiated this night, doing a quick 'ring' trick to fulfill your member duties is an easy task.

This brings us to the two parts of this evening's meeting. First – starting at 8pm it is our Annual General Meeting & Elections Night, so come prepared to vote

for the new executive that will guide our club through 2008. Starting at 9 pm we will begin our very secret Initiation Ceremony for all new members, and for those members who have not taken the solemn oath. We encourage all the new members from the past year to attend this meeting to go through the sacred ritual. There will not be a report on the Initiation part of this meeting as 'what happens at Windermere Hall, stays at Windermere Hall'. Just kidding, nothing bad happens – it's all fun...really...I'm just joking around here...truly...

A Sad Note

Jeff & Emma Christensen's son, Jonah, passed away in early December. They held a memorial on Sunday, January 6, 2007 from 2 pm to 4 pm in the Wosk Auditorium at the Jewish Community Center. In honor of Jonah's love to create and build they are looking at ideas for a lasting memorial, and if you would like to contribute please send any donations to Scotiabank at 12th and Cambie to Jonah's account at 72520-0094080. Our hearts and prayers go out to the Christensen family in this time of mourning.

Thank You Clinton

On behalf of the Executive I want to extend my deepest gratitude to Clinton W. Gray for his unbelievable work on the newsletter for the past 22 months. I think we can honestly say our Magical Minutes have never looked better! While the writing was mainly done by David Parker, Munroe MacKenzie, and me, the editors were Clinton and my wife Nicole, and then Clinton did ALL the layout and graphics. David Wilson took care of the manual distribution and I would send soft copies via email. It was a system that worked well and this was mainly due to Clinton's endless hours putting it all together. So to Clinton – THANK YOU!



Jesse

Jesse Boyes, 12, performs some magic on Tuesday during the Seniors' Christmas Party hosted by Abbotsford Community Services' Lunch with the Bunch program. The event took place at Cascade Community Church. Jesse and his dad, Gord, have been performing magic together for five years as the Magic Boyes.

President's Report



With the upcoming January Election at our Annual General Meeting, a new President

will be taking over and hopefully continuing to write this column in the Magical Minutes. With the By-Laws stating a 2 year term is the limit to one person holding the office of President it is with some sadness, but with great hope for the future of our club as well, that I pass along the gavel to another deserving member.

I have truly enjoyed the last 2 years as your President and I hope you have enjoyed yourselves as well. My goal was to create a little more fun in the meetings and add some special events as well. I did my best to vary the workshops and keep the meetings short. We added the Open House function and we did some various charitable works like the Bowl for

Big Brothers the last 2 years. By ending my term with a very successful and well received 'Weekend of Magic' I am elated as this "door shuts behind me" so to speak, and new ones open.

We increased our membership in the past 2 years and showed some improvement on the numbers at the meetings and lectures. We had good turnouts for the competitions and with the help of the Executive we refurbished 8 of the trophies and re-instituted the giveaway trophies and second place awards too.

The Newsletter was a huge hit with members and the online distribution was a good environmental and time saving choice. Our website has now reached 750,000 hits in the 2.5 years since it was started after winning the IBM Website Award. It would not be this successful without members like you using it. So my thanks to you.

There are always ups and downs when you are involved in a club, and some politics. I have found this group of people to be one of the most welcoming and nicest bunch of folks I have ever known. I look forward to just being a member (and your webmaster) for the next while and I hope you are as welcoming to the new Executive as you were with me.

I want to add a quick thanks to my Executive – to David Wilson for all his hard work; to Karen for all her advice; to Gord and Jesse for their ideas; to Gary for his opinions; to Joe and David Murdoch for their wisdom; to Dennis for his enthusiasm, to Denzil for her logic and calmness; to Walter for his support and work ethic; to Dave Watters for his ability to have fun; to Craig for his hospitality; to Munro for his dedication; to Rod Chow for his expertise; and last but not least - to my wife Nicole, who without her support, none of this would have happened. Thanks to all!

Web Corner

Mike Norden, Ring 92 Webmaster

How did you do your Christmas shopping this year? Did you do a lot online? In last months Magic Magazine they did a spread on the 12 days of Christmas with 'magic' gifts listed instead. Our own member, Jamie D. Grant, was listed as gift #9. Not Jamie himself, but his 'Impossible Bottles' - a really cool gift!

I would like to welcome 2 new members to the 'Magician for Hire' page – Rick Mearns and Neale Bacon have paid their \$10 for the deluxe ad and have been added. Rick is also our new 'Member Spotlight' so go to www.ibmring92.com and check it out! If you want to be listed please contact webmaster@ibmring92.com

January 1st is also the time for any advertisers to renew for the next year. If you would like to advertise online, or know of anyone or company that would like to, please contact the webmaster. I hope everyone has a great 2008!

Calendar

Thursday - January 24th, 2008
IBM Ring #92 The Vancouver
Magic Circle
Annual General Meeting -
Election Night
Initiation Night for new
members!

Friday - February 22nd, 2008
IBM Ring #92 Presents:
Ken Scott - Lecture
7:30 pm Room #2203 Douglas
College, New West
Member Price \$20 or \$25 at Door

Sunday - February 29th, 2008
IBM Ring #92 The Vancouver
Magic Circle
Installation Banquet Meeting
Tickets are \$21.50 each
Please RSVP to Mike Norden
Door Open 5pm at the Sands
Hotel

April 25th & 26th 2008
Stan Kramien Presents:
The 2008 Northwest Magic
Jamboree
Visit www.magicjamboree.com

Ray Roch



Another oops!
We failed to
report Ray
Roch's
performance in
the W.O.M. Ray
did a fantastic
job entertaining
our sold out

Buffet Dinner on Saturday night
and we wanted to say how much
we appreciated his talents. We
are sorry we missed reporting it -
thanks Ray!

Lecture: Ken Scott



Our next Lecture will be held on
Friday February 22nd, 2008 in
room 2003 at Douglas College in
New West at 7:30pm. Please
contact David Wilson to pre-
register for the lecture and get
the early bird price! Here are a
few words from Ken:

Hello Vancouver Magi,

My name is Ken Scott. I've been a
full time entertainer for 18 years.
I specialize in performing for
family audiences. From school
shows, libraries, to birthday
parties, I always bring a unique

blend of comedy magic to my
audiences which make me
memorable. I'll be in your area in
February.

Attend my lecture and I'll share
with you PROVEN ideas and
routines that work for me which
will work for you. I'll spend time
even teaching you simple things
like how to make your clients
remember your name. Also I will
share routines that are straight
out of my performing show. You
will get ideas and routines that
work!

Whether you are a performer
who performs for adults and/or
kids shows, you will learn
something from my lecture. In
addition, I'll share my version of
"Fantasy Magician". This is one
of my signature routines that
continue to help get me booked. I
now offer it to you.

Missing Report: June

Wow - we missed running a report on the June meeting! So here is a
quick run down of what happened (with thanks to Munro and Dennis
for their help!):

Our June 2007 meeting started with Philemon Vanderbeck of the
Lynwood Ring of Fire giving a superb lecture much enjoyed by all.
After the business section, David Wilson, Denzil Bee and Dennis Chan
quickly visited a local food store and cobbled together a last minute
selection of food for our hungry magicians. The prime entertainment
of the evening was the Ray Gamble trophy for the best effect using a
previously unopened deck. Jack Bastow did a series of 4 Aces tricks,
followed by Glen LaBarre, then Gord Boyes, then Mike Norden also
with a 4 Aces trick and finally Lon Mandrake who did a Sleight of
Mind effect using 2 assistants from the audience. Lon Mandrake was
the winner with Mike Norden second. Mike also won the 50/50 draw
of \$46.00 which he graciously donated back to the club. 30 members
and 5 guests enjoyed our last meeting before the summer holidays.