



the charles howard ring

# VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

Affiliated with the  
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

## November General Meeting—Sun Nov 23rd Annual Christmas Dinner

The next meeting of IBM RING #92, The VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE, takes place on Sunday November 23rd, 2008 at the Best Western Sands Hotel in Vancouver (1755 Davie Street). Doors open at 5:00 for socializing and the dinner will start at 6:15. A wonderful Christmas Dinner will be supplied by The Sands Hotel at a cost of \$21.50 per person (\$12.95 for 12 and under).

Dinner will be followed by our annual stage magic competition for the W.C. Shelly (adult) and Percy Poole (junior) trophies. These trophies are awarded in recognition of excellence in stage magic. The effect or routine must be visible for a large audience. Close up effects are not permitted. The spirit of this competition is to encourage growth in the fields of assembly, banquet, club, review and cruise ship style magic. If you would like to enter the competition, please contact our Competition Chairman Bruce Hunt.

As always, we will be having collection boxes at the party to receive donations of non-perishable food items for the food bank and/or unwrapped toys for the toy drive. Please join us in supporting these worthwhile causes.

The Sands Hotel is also extending a special room rate of just \$89 (plus tax, based on double occupancy) to members for this night.

Don't forget, the VMC 2009 calendar will be distributed at the party to those who have ordered it. There's still time to order, but you must contact Mike Norden before the party. The calendar will list all our meetings, lectures, and other events, as well as displaying a collection of great photos from past events, for just \$20.



## Membership dues

It's getting close to that time of year again. Membership dues cover the period from January 1st to December 31st each year, so it's time to renew, unless you're one of the smart ones who pays for more than one year at a time and your time isn't up. Because we understand that it can be tough to put



money into membership dues during the holiday season, the deadline for dues is extended until the end of February, but why not bring a cheque to the next meeting and get it out of the way?

Remember, there's a discounted price for a 3 year membership.

## The Magical Minutes

Newsletter Date:  
November 2008

### Magical Mind

Looking on the masses  
Differing social classes  
No matter rich or poor  
Open, unlock the door  
In you there is magic  
All is not tragic  
In you equal capacity  
Concentration, effort,  
tenacity  
Sweet inspiration  
Full blown imagination  
Image in the mind  
Seek and you will find  
Magic in what you think  
Fiction to reality in a  
blink

- Linda Farr

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**Whether you think you can or think you can't—  
you are right.**

**-Henry Ford**

**October in Review**

**Submitted by Munro Mackenzie**

Trevor Watters started the month by organizing a magic and comedy spectacular in support of Mario, his brother-in-law, who has been diagnosed with cancer.

With Simon Jukes from the U.K. as M.C. and featuring Brian Cook (Ring of Fire), Dave Watters, Lon Mandrake, Trevor & Lorena, David Wilson, Donovan Deschner (from Alberta) and Shawn Farquhar, the jam packed auditorium was treated to a hilarious and great evening of magic.



Shawn, who is a two time world champion, spent 14 days in Scandinavia, left Copenhagen on Friday and was able to be at the benefit to perform on Saturday. How is that for a true world champion performing to help a fellow human being? All the performers except Donovan are also members of Ring #92. Needless to say a very good sum was reached for Mario.



Steve Dickson

Our regular meeting was our Halloween night starting with a workshop by Steve Dickson, a professional, and also our newest member. He showed us some great coin moves and also his insight into his many years as a professional. For the workshop, the tables and chairs were arranged a little bit differently as the club tries a few new styles, this time similar to a classroom to encourage the learning environment.

After the workshop, it was time for a quick business meeting, followed by snacktime. The food for this meeting was supplied by Tony Kazoleas, highlighted by two wonderful versions of chili (regular and HOT!!). Remember,

*(Continued on page 3)*

Thanks to John Smithman and Rod Chow, we have some pictures to share. If you take pictures at any meetings or events, be sure to send them to us! (and check out [www.champions.ca\vmc.html](http://www.champions.ca/vmc.html))

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this is really only supposed to be a snack, so Tony really went above and beyond the call of duty (thanks Tony!!).



Barack Obama resplendent in white tails to Brianna Carlson decked in giant cards. The winner was Neil Kremer in a fantastic costume as Doug Henning. Brianna had even baked a Halloween cake but it did not influence the judging.



Brianna Carlson with a sushi cake

The 50/50 draw of \$53.00 was won by Denzil Bee, our Sergeant at Arms. 36 members and 4 guests enjoyed a fine evening

After the "snack", it was time for the competition for the Tip Top & Tootsie Trophy in which at least one Halloween effect has to be performed.

Henry Tom invoked the spirit of his great grandfather by having his initials revealed in ashes on his arm.

Steve Dickson had a 500 year old bird burned and returned as a rose which he presented to his helper, and Alexander Seaman performed a card effect resulting in a magical result.

Steve Dickson was judged to be the winner.

Five members entered the costume parade-from



## November Lecture Review

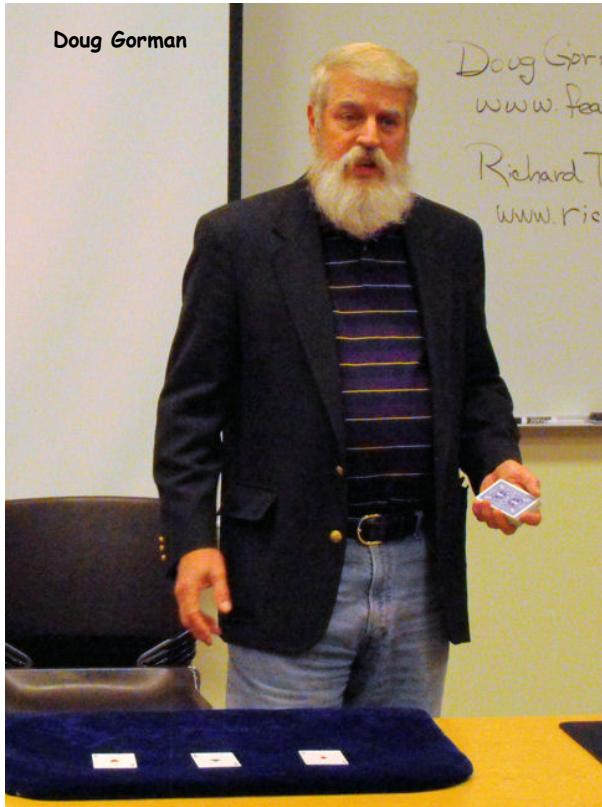
Submitted by David Parker

Richard Turner Lecture - November 7, 2008

For those of you that are too busy to read the rest of this article, I'll summarize it in one word - Amazing!

For the rest of you, let me just say that during this lecture I was reminded of the wonder that I felt the very first time I attended a lecture as a newbie Magician. Myself, as well as everyone sitting nearby were totally amazed and befuddled at how Richard did his "stuff" as we all shared bewildered looks. And to top it off, the guy is blind, he can't even tell if the card is face up or face down, let alone see its value. But, I am getting ahead of myself, so let me start from the beginning

The scene was a rainy Friday night at Douglas College where 25.5 adult and 3 junior members, as well as 6.5 non-members (one joined the club during the meeting) were anxiously awaiting to see the man, who is the "Inspiration to Achieve the Impossible" (that is the only part of Gord Boyes's introduction that I remember). But, alas, we would have to wait a little bit longer, as a fellow San Antonian of Richard's, Colonel Doug Gorman was the opening act. He did a couple of card tricks, the first being a packet trick called Leaders Royal, which was



a "follow the leader" trick which utilized several styles of false counts. The second trick was based on the Mc Donald's Aces premise but was extended to where every single card used in the assembly, as well as all of the other cards in the deck turned into the Jack of Hearts. This trick was interestingly enough called - I Don't Know Jack.

Next up was Richard Turner, who performed his Magic Castle act for us. With the assistance of Denzel Bee and Mrs. Walton seated to his left and right, Richard entertained us with a series of rifle shuffles and cuts, some of them even one handed, and then showed us that the deck was still in new



deck order. He used two of his own decks of cards, plus one brand new deck of cards that Denzel had. The women would shuffle the cards and hand them to him, yet he was still able to cut to each of the 4 Aces, one at a time, as well as find a card that the spectator had selected, replaced in the deck, then cut and shuffled the deck, before handing it back to Richard. He did many demonstrations of his skill, including cutting off any number of cards called out by the audience with one hand. During this demonstration, he asked for a number between 10 and 20. The answer he received was 9, to which he immediately responded, "I can tell she is not from Texas - she must work for the IRS". His ability to feel cards is so sophisticated that the US Playing Card Company employs him as a Touch Specialist to test out their playing cards.

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## Elections

The current executive has enjoyed serving the club and the year end is quickly approaching. At the General Meeting on January 22, 2009, it will be time to vote in an Executive for next year. That means that it's now time to give some thought of whether you would like to be a part of the Executive or if you would like to nominate someone else.

**Positions to be filled are:**

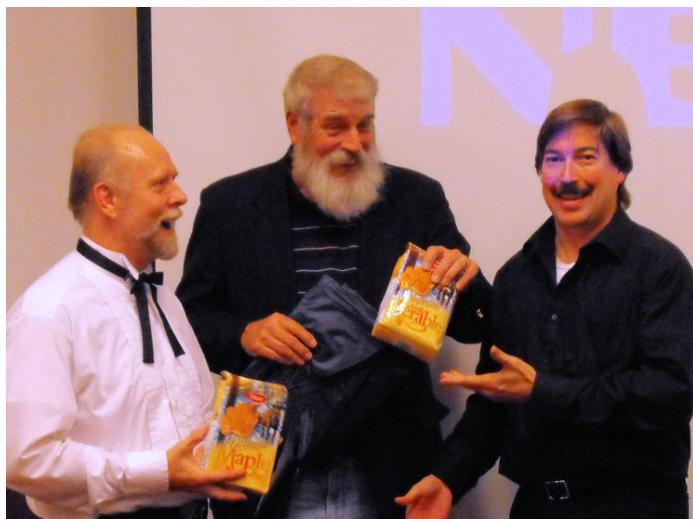
- President
- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Sargeant At Arms

If you are interested in filling one of these positions or if you would like to nominate someone, please contact our Nomination Chair, Munro Mackenzie.



(Continued from page 4)

Then it was time for the break, and an opportunity to spend our money at the dealer's table. As per our usual traditions, we had a draw from the members who pre-booked for the show. David Hamil won, and graciously donated his \$20 winnings back to the club. And in keeping with our traditions, we also gave Richard and Doug the usual ooooooh, aaaaaah, and



yummy gifts from the club.

As with the first half, Colonel Doug Gorman led off the second half with a packet trick called Chameleon, where the cards would match the cards they touched. His second trick was a chop cup trick using shot glasses and corks, with the final loads being olives. It was a very clever trick, but at \$400 out of my price range.

Then Richard showed us how he did some, but not all, of his sleights, starting off with false cuts and false shuffles. He did second deals from the top, second deals from the bottom - even with the bottom card being turned over, as well as center deals, followed by palming, shifts and a few other goodies.

Someone from the back commented, that they were having trouble seeing the cards, so he asked them why he was sitting so far back. Then someone from the front said that they were having trouble seeing as well. Richard said, "Well I can't see anything from here, so we're all even". Well, I certainly saw enough to totally amaze and amuse me, and thoroughly enjoyed every minute of the entire lecture.

## One Enchanted Evening

Submitted by Gord Boyes

Several high profile magicians joined together to present a show called One Enchanted Evening to benefit a family dealing with the financial and mental struggles that come with a family member having cancer. Donovan Deschner, Lon Mandrake, Trevor Watters, Lorena Paradon, David Wilson, Dave Watters and the Farquhar's ( along with the UK's Simon Jukes and USA's Brian Cook) donated their time and talent and raised \$11,000.00 to help one family in their struggle.

It was a GREAT show, but they say a picture is worth a thousand words, so I'll let the pictures do the talking.



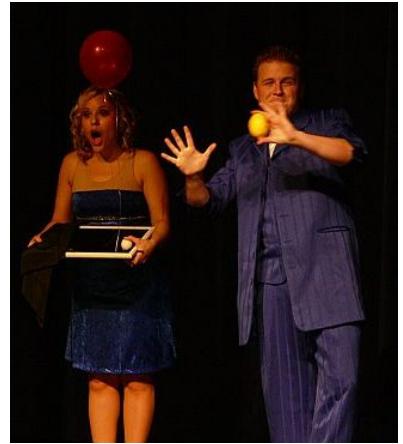
David Wilson



Brian Cook, VMC member and prominent member of IBM Ring 339 in Everett Washington



Dave Watters



Lorena and Trevor



Lon Mandrake on a bed of nails.



50/50 draw, where did these come from?



Donovan Deschner, member of IBM Ring 66 in Calgary Alberta



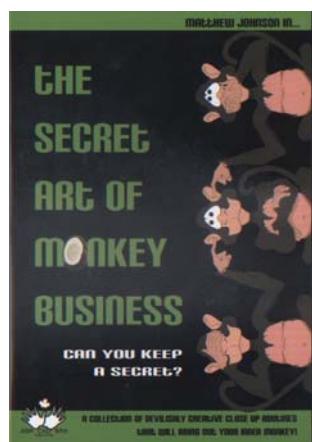
Shawn Farquhar and a confused volunteer



The rightful owner claims his apparel

## Tidbits

Shawn Farquhar is on the cover of the #1 magazine for magic in Europe with a 5 page article which is only part 1. Part 2 will be in the next issue (issues are published every second month). Check out [www.magicseen.com.uk](http://www.magicseen.com.uk) where you can download an electronic version. With quotes like "He's the magic equivalent of one of the seven wonders of the world", you just might want to order a hard copy.



∞ One of Matthew Johnson's most recent creations, a DVD entitled "The Secret Art of Monkey Business" has just received a positive review in Magic Magazine (Nov 2008). "His charm, humor, and charisma will keep you captivated.... You will find nine close-up routines that have been polished to the highest degree". I have a copy of the DVD and I must agree.

∞ Several of our members joined a bunch of clowns (and I mean that in the kindest way) in a benefit for Cupcake the Party Clown (also one of our members). This wonderful group of people raised over \$11,000.00 to help out a fellow performer in need.

There were clowns making balloon sculptures, clowns doing face painting, clowns singing, clowns dancing.. well.. you get the picture ([see picture on right](#)).

While I was there I had the pleasure of meeting Claus Ritter, one of our members who is rarely able to make it to VMC events, saw Adam Kozielec doing his usual awesome job of entertaining and creating dazzling balloon sculptures, and watch Gary Savard wow the crowd with a show. Jesse Boyes was riding his unicycle around and practicing his juggling and I know there were a couple of other members expected to make an appearance after I left.

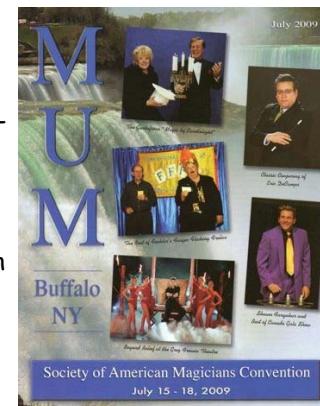
Wonderful to see these people donating their time to help others (who are often the "competition").

∞ Shawn Farquhar will be competing and representing Canada in the International Magic Contest in London on November 29th with other competitors including Richard Turner (USA) and Dynamo (UK).

∞ Magic West did a show with Donovan Deschner, Tyler Wilson, Ryan Pilling, Trevor Watters, Lorena Paradon and the Farquhar's in Calgary, Alberta. It was a nearly sold out show and was a great evening of magic and fun. It was held in the Engineered Air Theatre in downtown Calgary on November 8th and was called Jawdroppers!

∞ November 30th to December 3rd, Shawn Farquhar will be lecturing and performing both close up and stage in Shenzhen, China at the Golden Magic Festival.

∞ Shawn Farquhar will be doing a lecture and close up show at this years SAM convention in Buffalo. He will also be producing the evening gala shows. He did this for the first time in 2000 when he presented the "Canadian Eh team". Since then the SAM has featured theme shows as a main stay of their conventions. This year Shawn is affectionately calling the show "The Canadian Eh Team part Deux!" On the show will be Richard Forget (Ontario), Derek Selinger (Alberta), Teseract, Alain Choquette (Quebec) and Shawn Farquhar (BC)



Judy Forster, mayor of White Rock, enjoys the day and is surrounded by clowns.



## 2008 VMC Christmas Dinner & Show

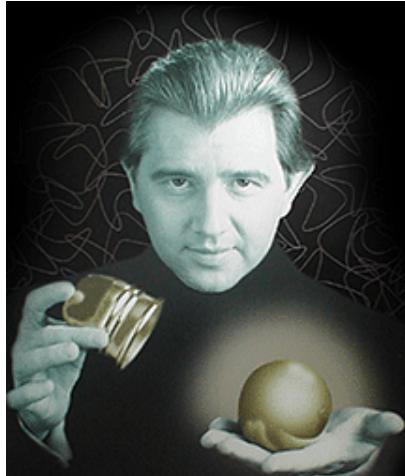
Sunday November 23rd  
 Best Western Sands Hotel  
 1755 Davie St, Vancouver

A fully catered dinner and an evening of entertainment.

### Our next guest lecturer will be Paul Gertner on February 13th.

Our next guest lecturer from Lee Asher's X-eleent Lecture Series will be Paul Gartner, "The Pittsburgh Practitioner" joining us Friday February 13th at Douglas College in New Westminster.

Paul Gertner has performed for more than 500 corporations in more than 20 different countries, has lectured at MIT and has been featured on the front page of the Wall Street Journal...twice. A guest three times on The Tonight Show Paul was the last magician Johnny invited to appear on the show before he retired. Paul has also appeared on NBC's World's Greatest Magic, HBO, That's Incredible! And yes...even Mister Rogers Neighborhood. In 1998 he wrote and starred in the critically acclaimed one-man theatrical production "Paul Gertner-Ten Fingers." This one-man show became the fastest selling play in City Theater's history. Most recently Paul was invited as a featured performer at the Presidential Inauguration of President George W. Bush



### PCAM 2009

PCAM 2009 will be held on a cruise ship, the Norwegian Pearl, departing the port of Vancouver on Monday September 21st, disembarking in Los Angeles on Saturday September 26th.

Don't miss it!!

Check [www.magicatsea.com](http://www.magicatsea.com) for info.

Last month we asked you if you could identify these members.

Left to right are the members of the 1992 VMC Executive:

- Sergeant At Arms—Juan Garcia
- Vice President—Shawn Farquhar
- President—David Wilson
- Secretary—Murray Sawchuk
- Treasurer—Darren Kelly



**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.