



the charles howard ring

# VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

—Affiliated with the—  
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

## October General Meeting—Halloween!!

The next meeting of IBM RING #92, The VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE, takes place on Thursday Oct 22nd, 2009 at the Sunrise Community Hall in Vancouver (1950 Windermere Street). Doors open at 6:30 for socializing and the workshop starts at 7:00pm. The workshop this month will be "The Magic of Shawn Farquhar". The business meeting is scheduled for 8pm, followed by a light snack and the annual competition for the Tip Top & Tootsie Trophy. If you would like to enter this competition, please contact our Competition Chairman Neil Kremer at least 24 hours in advance.

The Tip Top & Tootsie trophy is awarded in recognition of excellence in Halloween themed magic by an adult or junior member. At least one



magical effect (Close-up, Parlor, or Stage) with a Halloween theme must be performed. The spirit of this competition is to encourage growth in the field of themed magic for any and all holidays or events.

Remember, prizes for best costumes, so get dressed up and come out for some fun!!



## The Magical Minutes

Newsletter Date:  
October 2009

## 2009 Christmas Dinner

The 2009 Christmas Dinner will be held at The Sands Hotel (1755 Davie St) on Sunday November 22nd.

As in the past few years, The Sands will be catering a fantastic dinner at a special price for us.

Tickets will cost \$25 for adults and \$12.50 for children aged 12 and under.

Dinner will be followed by our annual stage magic competition for the W.C. Shelly (adult) and Percy Poole (junior) trophies.

## X-ellent Lecture Series—Friday November 6th

The next installment of the X-ellent lecture series features guest lecturer Michael Weber on Friday November 6th at Douglas College in New Westminster (700 Royal Avenue, Room 2203). As always, cost for members in advance is \$20, or \$25 at the door. Cost for non-members is \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. Junior members are free! The Lecture starts at 7:30pm.

Ask yourself - Is there a Drawing Duplication so perfect that all you need is any four pieces of cardboard, any four markers and a room full of spectators you want to destroy? No preshow, no glimpses, no nonsense. Get a sneak peek at a miracle.

Michael Weber has performed his own brand of original, award-winning magic (IBM, SAM, FISM) for over three decades. You have seen his work in Hollywood blockbusters including Forrest Gump, Ocean's 13, The Prestige and The Illusionist. Now you can meet the man behind the miracles.

**Michael Weber**  
hand carrying you the best of all that is wild, weird and wonderful

When was the last time someone fooled you, inspired you, made you laugh, made you think and most of all made you proud to call yourself a magician?

Michael Weber has performed his own brand of original, award-winning magic (IBM, SAM, FISM) for over three decades. You have seen his work in Hollywood blockbusters including Forrest Gump, Ocean's 13, The Prestige and The Illusionist.

Now you can meet the man behind the miracles.

Weber promises an amazing blend of original magic with cards, impromptu non-card magic and powerful mentalism.

Join Michael Weber and press the reset button on the way you think about magic.

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**Some succeed because  
they are destined to,  
but most succeed  
because they are  
determined to.**

~Henry Van Dyke

## September in Review

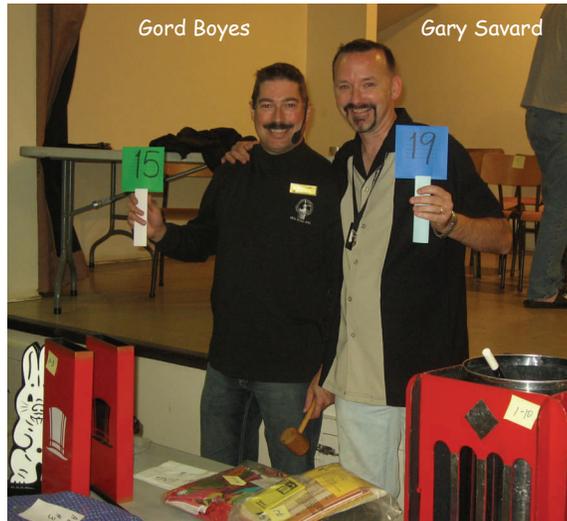
Submitted by Munro Mackenzie

After the summer holidays what better way to get back to MAGIC than have an auction!! Sellers are happy and buyers are ecstatic at their good fortune. Our system is to have first come to the meeting is the first to sell 10 items, then rotate. It works well. The first table had memorabilia from the estate of legendary Tony Eng who passed away earlier this year, attended by VMC and Victoria Magic Circle member Ed Silva-White.

Auctioneer Gary Savard had things going at a brisk pace so the evening did not drag. He was ably assisted by David Carlson, a non member but father of Brianna Carlson, one of our



Ed Silva-White



Gord Boyes

Gary Savard

developing junior members. Sgt At Arms Denzil Bee made paddles for everyone to help make the process more efficient.

44 members dug deep into their wallets for the bargains (well, not too deep actually).

The meeting was a week early as the next week the Pacific Coast Assoc. of Magicians set sail on their convention.

The PCAM convention was organized by Shawn Farquhar, just back from Beijing where he had won his 3rd world championship of magic. The convention was held on a cruise ship, the Norwegian Pearl, on a repositioning cruise from Vancouver to Los Angeles with stops in Astoria (Oregon) and San Francisco. While in San Francisco, Shawn arranged for the entire group to attend a show by Chin Chin, the 2008 PCAM ProChallenge Champion, at the J'La Chic Theater at Pier 39, a short walk from where the ship docked. There were lectures, shows, competitions, and of course David Wilson kept the tradition of "Bag of Tricks" alive. The day of

**The Vancouver Magic Circle was well represented at the 2009 PCAM. Competition winners include:**

**Trevor Watters & Lorena Paradon - Gold Medal PCAM Pro-Challenge**

**Mike Norden - Gold Medal Children's Magic & Gold Medal Comedy Magic**

**Kelvin Ng - Silver Medal Close-up**

**Jack Chow - Gold Medal Juvenile Close-up & Gold Medal Juvenile Stage + Complete set of Tarbell volumes donated by Murray's Trick & Joke**

**Nicholas Chow - Gold Medal Best Assistant and Silver Medal Comedy Magic.**

(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 <http://www.champions.ca/vmc.html>)

# September in Review, con't



Trouble and Double Trouble



Bruce Hunt



Dennis Chan Dennis Hewson Barb Farquhar Cheryl Wilson

arrival in Los Angeles, Shawn also arranged an optional trip to Santa Monica where everyone could visit the world famous Santa Monica Pier and then head to Magicopolis for a special matinee presentation of "Escape Reality" with Steve Spill and Bozena. This proved to be so popular that Shawn had to hire an extra bus. Of course what would further highlight the event but a visit to the Magic Castle, which much of the group did either on the Saturday evening or for brunch on Sunday morning. 22 members from our club alone helped make the cruise a success.



Chin Chin Dennis Hewson



Jonathan Hamilton Jesse Boyes

One of the acts in the 2009 PCAM ProChallenge was Trevor Watters and Lorena, who won gold. As if that is not enough Trevor asked Lorena to accept his engagement ring and she shyly said YES. Quite a trip for Lorena as she also celebrated a birthday while on board (ask Trevor how they enjoyed the birthday cake..... especially the leftovers!).



Jesse Boyes



2009 PCAM ProChallenge Competitors

## A Touch of Magic turns to Gold

The Pacific Coast Association of Magicians (PCAM) held its 76th annual convention onboard the luxurious ms Norwegian Pearl as she sailed from Vancouver to Los Angeles. Each year the prestigious PCAM holds an invitation only professional magic competition and for five days magicians from around the globe attended lectures from world-renowned professional entertainers, share secrets and compete in formal contests. The convention highlight was the Pro-Challenge competition. Trevor & Lorena Watters from North Delta, British Columbia presented a comedy magic act that earned them the title of the Pacific Rim Professional Magic Champions.

This year's competition included five other professionals including Chris Randall from Las Vegas Nevada, Henry Tom and Rod Chow from Vancouver British Columbia, Philemon Vanderbeck of Seattle Washington and Shu-Yan Yu from China. The event took place in the Pearl's multi-million dollar theatre which was the picture perfect setting for Trevor and Lorena to present their wonderful magic act they titled "Magic 101".

After all 6 professional acts showcased their talents the audience had the chance to vote for their favorite performance. With their amazing performance style Trevor and Lorena earned the most votes and won the 2009 PCAM Pro-challenge gold medal. Along with their award and a thousand US dollars, Trevor and Lorena will also receive a trip for two to next year's convention in Hawaii where they will perform as headliners for the PCAM Gala Show.



In a year filled with awards and magic they have also experienced small miracles. Over the past year they have produced several fundraisers for Trevor's brother-in-law, Mario, who had been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. In fact using their magic they were able to raise over \$11,000 and are happy to say that he is now in remission.

Trevor and Lorena's charity does not end at home. Twice annually they embark on tours to raise funds for various community projects, programs, firefighting and police associations. The first tour happens every February as they travel across Western Canada through Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. The second tour runs in October and is primarily based on Vancouver Island.

Trevor, a delta native and Lorena born and raised in Surrey BC both attended and met in Douglas College at the New Westminster campus. Trevor attended taking stagecraft while Lorena was taking the theatre program. From the age of twelve, Trevor had a love for entertainment and was performing magic and illusions. Lorena was seven years old when she started taking various dance and theatre also directing

and producing in some of her high school productions. Together Trevor and Lorena combined their past entertainment experiences along with their education to complete a comedy magic illusions show like no other.

Trevor and Lorena are now looking forward to booking a long-term contract at an international hotel or onboard a luxury cruise liner.

## More PCAM Adventures

Submitted by Dennis Chan

Dennis Chan did what???!?

Yes I, Dennis Chan, actually spent money playing the slot machines aboard the ship's casino. When I told David Wilson what I did, he immediately went into a state of shock and delirium and he almost spilled his drink! Luckily there were several people there to calm him down. My loss at the casino was \$4 US

..... and Dennis Chan was seen where???

According to several witnesses Dennis Chan was seen "hanging around" the Bliss lounge and he doesn't even drink. He was even seen boogying with Lorena. Yes, it was true.

A big thanks to Shawn and Lori Farquhar and all your behind the scenes staff for putting on a great convention.

And on a serious note on the first day of the convention my room-mate Jeff Evans and I went to the 12th deck for lunch. After lunch we went down to the 4th deck for the safety drill. It was then I realized that I had left my camera bag back on the 12th deck, where we had lunch. I rushed back up to the 12th deck as everyone was coming down for the safety drill. When I got back I went to the place where we had lunch and to my relief my camera bag was still there. Nothing was touched or missing. I had travelers cheques, US cash and my Visa card. I will never forget this. This is a lesson and an experience in itself. I am passing this experience on to other travelers. If there is a safe, please make use of it. Aboard ship one does not need any cash (except for the casino)

## New KIDs on the Block

Seven entertainers from the Lower Mainland have started up the first Canadian Chapter of KIDabra International, The Association of Family and Kidshow Performers.

KIDabra International is an extraordinary group of folks headed by Mark and Tami Daniel, dedicated to setting and raising the bar on Family Entertainment.

The purpose of KIDabra shall be to advance, elevate, and preserve children entertainment through magic, clowning, puppets, and theater as a performing art, to promote harmonious fellowship throughout the world of entertaining children and to maintain and improve ethical standards in the field of children entertainment.

You may have heard rumours about this first Canadian Chapter starting up and wondered why the members were being so quiet about it. Were they being sneaky?? What were they up to?

Nothing quite so sinister. Actually, they simply wanted to start quietly while they established their Charter and



discussed what their objectives were and how they wanted the club to run. Now that the foundation has been laid, they're ready to swing into action.

The seven founding members are lead by club President Mike Norden, and include Gord Boyes, Jesse Boyes, Donald Dunphy, Bruce Hunt, Rick Mearns and Gary Savard. When KIDabra International was informed of these names, they immediately assigned the club as Chapter 11 (I'm not sure why they were snickering when they told us that). So far all club meetings have been held in the Fraser Valley at the Boyes residence in Abbotsford.

You can learn more about KIDabra International at [www.KIDabra.com](http://www.KIDabra.com) and more about Chapter 11 at [www.KIDabra.ca](http://www.KIDabra.ca)

The first official club event is a fund raiser for Cops for Cancer to be held on Sunday Oct 25th at the Abbey Arts Center in Abbotsford. You can find more information at [www.KIDabra.ca](http://www.KIDabra.ca) or by speaking to any Chapter 11 member.

## Win a Free Trip to the 2010 CAM!

Courtesy of Magicana's Tony Eng Youth Fund, in partnership with the Canadian Association of Magicians and Kent Wong.

Magicana is giving away this AWESOME all-inclusive prize package to a young magician: a free trip to the 2010 CAM Convention in Kitchener-Waterloo! The contest is open to young magicians, age 13 to 18, living in Western Canada (British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba).

If you know of anyone who is eligible, send them to [www.magicana.com](http://www.magicana.com) for contest details and for info on how to enter. The contest is now open and the deadline to apply is January 15, 2010.

For complete rules and regulations about the contest visit [www.magicana.com](http://www.magicana.com) and click on Tony Eng Youth Fund; or just cut and paste this link: <http://www.magicana.com/youth-CAM.php?vSec=you&vSub=opportun>

For more details about the CAM Convention, visit [www.canadianassociationofmagicians.com](http://www.canadianassociationofmagicians.com)



Magicana would like to acknowledge and thank our sponsors, The Canadian Association of Magicians and Kent Wong, for making this contest possible.

**Tidbits**

**A magical night for Jessica—  
Boston Pizza hosts evening of  
magic and escape**



Gary Savard

Over the summer, Steve Dickson and his mentoring program put together a Magical Evening for Jessica , an 8 year old Mission girl who underwent treatment for a brain tumor earlier this year.

Steve and his crew of about a dozen magicians performed throughout the evening . Joining them was Gary Savard who was featured that evening doing a straight jacket escape, shackled and hanging 20 feet in the air upside down by a crane truck. The escape was to symbolize the escape for Jessica from all the treatment, doctors, and hospital visits she has endured for the past 12 months. The event raised over \$2000.00. Also that evening Jonathan Hamilton was featured in a auction, auctioning himself off for a date or a magic show. He was seen many times at the mentoring program doing magic for cougars. I think he was looking for one for his act, you'll have to ask him how he made out the next time you see him.

**Red Robinson  
Talent Showdown**



Jack Chow and his beautiful assistant, cousin, Juliana Chow, taken backstage with the legendary Red Robinson and his daughter, Kellie, who were co-MC's at the Red Robinson Talent Showdown this summer at the PNE. Jack & Juliana were specially invited to perform their magic act on the Global BC stage on the last day of the Showdown during the Finals judges deliberations.

**Canuck Place Fundraiser**

VMC member Jeff Christensen's 11 year old daughter Hannah recently presented a cheque for just under \$3,000.00 to Katherine Nichols from Canuck Place Children's Hospice. The money was generated by VMC members Matthew Johnson, Gary Savard, Rod Chow, Jack Chow & Julian Chow, David Wilson, Karen Eskilson, Henry Tom, Steve Dickson, Hannah Christensen and Jeff Christensen. The event occurred at L'ecole Bilingue School in Vancouver and occurred on what would have been Jeff's son Jonah's 8th birthday. Jeff and his family would like to extend their sincerest thanks to all of the VMC members who volunteered their time/talents to make this possible and look forward to an even bigger show next year. Not actually sure how they'll do that as they sold out this year with nearly 400 people in attendance!!



Hannah Christensen

## VMC Members on Lecture Tour

submitted by Tony Chris Kazoleas (AKA Zany Zack)

Matthew Johnson and I (Tony Chris/Zany Zack) had a wonderful opportunity to present our dual magic lecture on a mini-lecture tour of the United States in August. Our stops included the Magic Castle, Hocus-Pocus, The Magic Garage, and the Tacoma Magic Circle.

We had a blast. We decided it would be a fun road trip to drive down for the whole tour. Neither Matt nor I had been to the Magic Castle. When Max Maven invited us down to lecture there, it was like a dream come true.



Our first lecture stop was The Magic Garage in San Francisco. When we arrived in the Bay area, we were awed by the Golden Gate Bridge. It is a majestic sight, almost like a bridge in the sky. We ventured down to Peer 41 along the bay, and experienced some fine fish and chips right along the wharf. There were several unique buskers for our entertainment. That night we each performed a close up and a stage show, all public, before our midnight lecture. It was well attended and we had a great time.

The next day, we headed out for the Magic Castle. We took a day off in Hollywood, and toured Universal Studios. We bought a front-of-the-line pass, which was exactly what it sounds like. We avoided all lineups for all rides. We went on everything once and then took the trolley tour. My favorite ride was the Simpsons ride but it kinda made us feel a bit woozy due to the extreme motion swings.



Matt and I then spent the night wondering the streets of Burbank, just taking in the sights. The next day we lectured at the Magic Castle. I can't even begin to tell you how amazing that was, for both of us. The magicians were great, and we had a total blast lecturing in the Magic Parlor Room. We shook hands with some well-known magicians, and we made a lot of new friends.

After we finished our lecture we spent the evening at the Castle. We watched amazing shows, drank lots of beer, chatted with tons of people, got the royal tour and drank lots more beer. People were kind, and bought us more beer which we enjoyed very much! This made us both very happy, and added to the whole experience.

The staff at the Magic Castle finally kicked us out at closing time which was around 1:00 a.m. Matt and I then stayed and

partied a bit in front of the castle until we were the last two there at around 3:00 a.m. Standing amongst the Castle and palm trees, we realized neither of us was fit to drive. How we made it back to our hotel is a story for another time, but we poured ourselves into bed.



The next day we drove to Fresno (about a 6 hour drive) for our lecture for Paul Gross at Hocus-Pocus. All was going well, until we were about an hour outside of Burbank. We had a bit of engine trouble in our

rental car. To make a very long story short, our car sort of blew up and Avis had to send us another car from L.A. I won't go into details, but we ended up just barely pulling into Hocus Pocus with only minutes to spare. That was stressful but it sure added to our road trip experience. Matthew and I sure were scared when a whole mess of smoke started billowing out of our exhaust system for no apparent reason. Boy, I'm glad we survived that one.

The lecture at Hocus-Pocus was totally awesome-o-rama and we had a great turnout. Both Paul and Betty Gross are wonderful people. We had an excellent time lecturing, and we had a great response after peddling our goods to all the fine magicians in Fresno.

The next day we headed to our final lecture destination, a very long trip to Tacoma, Washington. It was a nice drive without any exploding cars, so we were able to just cruise on down the Interstate 5, kicking back to the sounds of Queen, Nirvana, The Beatles

(which we were singing along to the whole time), and of course AC/DC for that kick-into-turbo-drive feeling.

Tacoma went very well, and after the lecture we headed out to a another drinking establishment with some of the fellas. We stayed out until the wee hours of the morning, drinking more beer with our newfound friends.

The next day it was time for the road trip to wrap up as we headed home. Only a few short hours from Tacoma and we were back where we started a week earlier. We returned the rental car and the guy at Avis asked us what happened to the car he rented us. That is also a story for another time.

If you ever have a chance to go to the Magic Castle, do it!!! It is an amazing experience and one that I will cherish forever after.



**KIDabra Halloween Show—Oct 25**

**X-ellent Lecture Series—Nov 6**

**VMC Christmas Dinner & Show—Nov 22**

**Kramiens Magic Jamboree 2010—April 30—May 1**

## KIDabra Halloween Fun Show

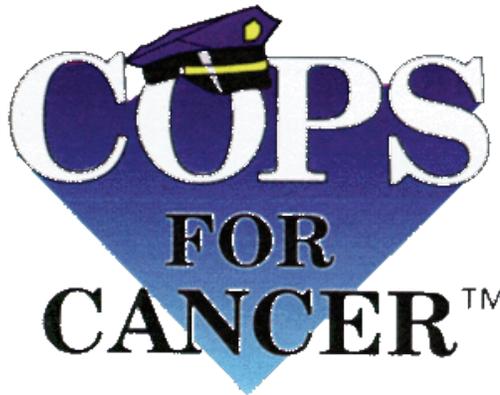
### Sunday Oct 25th

Check out the first of what we hope will be an annual KIDabra Halloween Fun Show!! Sponsored by KIDabra Chapter 11 and Cops for Cancer. Come on out for a fun evening and help support a great cause.

Tickets are just \$12 each, or \$10 each if you purchase 4 or more! You can purchase tickets using Paypal at [www.KIDabra.ca](http://www.KIDabra.ca), or for more information on how to obtain tickets, please call 877-399-TADA (877-399-8232) or email [info@kidabra.ca](mailto:info@kidabra.ca)

Operators are standing by so call now.

Please help by telling friends and family about this worthwhile fundraiser.



## X-ellent Lecture Series - Michael Weber on November 6th.

Hmmmm..... you're thinking... "I thought the next guest lecturer was going to be Curtis Kam, the connoisseur of coins". Well, if you had been paying attention to newsletters in the past you'd be thinking that!

The bad news is that Curtis Kam is unable to make it. The good news is that Michael Weber will be coming in his place.

The next installment of the X-ellent lecture series features guest lecturer Michael Weber on November 6th at Douglas College in New Westminster (700 Royal Avenue, Room 2203). As always, cost for members in advance is \$20, or \$25 at the door. Cost for non-members is \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. Junior members are free! The Lecture starts at 7:30pm.

**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.