



the charles howard ring

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

—affiliated with the—
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

June General Meeting—Thursday June 26th Previously Unopened Deck Night

The next meeting of IBM RING #92, The VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE, takes place on Thursday June 26th, 2008 at the Sunrise Community Hall in Vancouver. Doors open at 6:30 for socializing and the workshop is slated for 7:00pm. This months workshop is Childrens Magic. The Business meeting will begin at 8:00pm, followed by light refreshments, and then on to the competition for the Ray Gamble Trophy.

This trophy is awarded in recognition of excellence in impromptu card magic. The competitor must present a single effect using absolutely nothing except what is supplied. The Trophy and Competition Committee will supply each competitor with a deck of cards, cellophane removed but the seal intact. Competitors are responsible for opening the deck of cards in front of the judges. In order to keep this competition separate from other Vancouver Magic Circle competitions, any additional item introduced will result in disqualification. The spirit of this competition is to encourage growth in the fields of impromptu style card magic.

If you would like to enter the competition, please contact our Competition Chairman Bruce Hunt at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at 604-591-9353 or via email at bruce.hunt@ibmring92.com.

June Workshop — Kids Parties do's and don'ts

Congratulations to Mike Norden, 2008 V.M.C Childrens Magician of the Year. At our next general meeting we will be talking about the do's and don'ts and protocol of childrens shows. Many of us have been doing kid shows for many of years so there will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions if you're interested in doing kids shows.

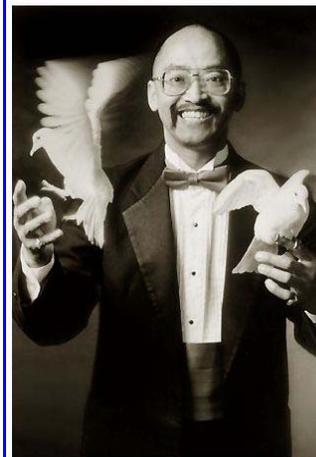
Some topics on kids shows will be, Protocol, what is good magic and what isn't, costume, equipment, promo and anything else people want to talk about.

This will be a meeting you won't want to miss if you are interested in performing for kids. come and share your stories



The Magical Minutes

Newsletter Date:
June 2008



Tony Eng
1946—2008

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PRESIDENT
 Gord Boyes
 (604) 852-7361
 gord.boyes@ibmring92.com

1st VICE PRESIDENT
 Gary Savard
 (604) 870-8686
 gary.savard@ibmring92.com

2nd VICE PRESIDENT
 Bruce Hunt
 (604) 591-9353
 Bruce.Hunt@ibmring92.com

SECRETARY
 Karen Eskilson
 (604) 255-9946
 karen.eskilson@ibmring92.com

TREASURER
 David Wilson
 (604) 467-7887
 david.wilson@ibmring92.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
 Denzil Bee
 (604) 254-1271
 denzil.bee@ibmring92.com

PAST PRESIDENT
 Mike Norden
 (604) 916-9879
 mike.norden@ibmring92.com

May in review.....

Submitted by Munro Mackenzie

The month of May started with a very sad note. Tony Eng of the Victoria Magic Circle (the other V.M.C. in our province) died of cancer. Tony was only 63 years old and had just retired from his magic shop. To have known Tony was a privilege as he was an instant friend in magic. We will all miss him.



Neale Bacon

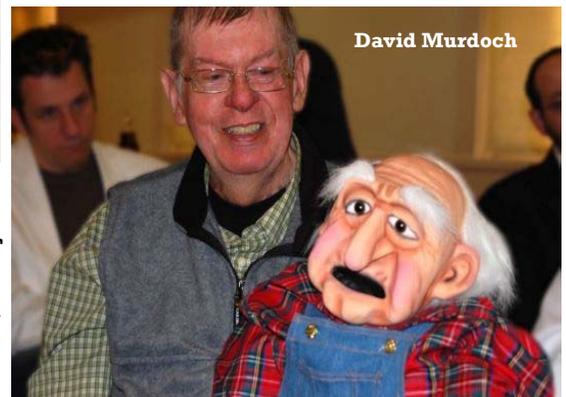
Our regular monthly meeting started with our new format for a work shop. In the absence of Gary Savard, Neale Bacon stepped forward and led a marvelous discussion on using puppets in your magic show. He used several puppets finishing with Horton the Hog who readily engages with children.



Ray Roch

Next Ray Roch demonstrated how his huge frog was his mainstay with children. Ray stated that the puppeteer has to believe his puppet has life to really strike bases with the children.

Dennis Chan talked about ventriloquism with his puppets then David Murdoch demonstrated his toothless coverall clad old man did the trick for him.



David Murdoch

Our food break was a mix up affair with several members rushing out to buy food and Sylvia Chow supervising the kitchen.



Juan Garcia and Caramel

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)

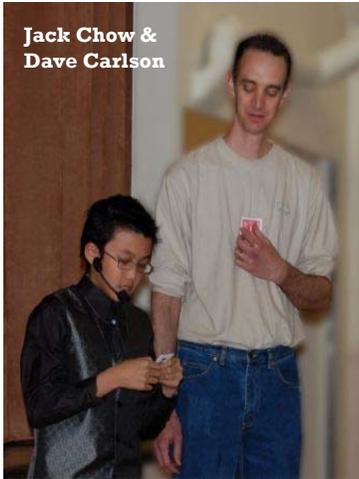
Close Up Night - Thursday May 22

Submitted by Munro Mackenzie

The Dick Gardner Trophy for juniors only had Jack Chow competing. He did a very colourful routine ending up changing a \$5.00 bill into a \$100,00-a pretty big deal for one so young.

President Gord Boyes then did some variations on the Professor's Nightmare that were really unusual. I thought beautiful.

Jack Chow won the Dick Gardner Trophy...



Jack Chow & Dave Carlson



Gord Boyes



Jack Chow

... and Henry Tom won the H.B.Maclean.

The H.B.Maclean Trophy was contested first by Henry Tom, resplendent in a tuxedo, doing some beautiful origami. He put one piece into a wine glass, swirled it around changing it into an egg which he broke demonstrating it was real. Delightful.

Next ,Jack Bastow did a copper coin in a silk routine with help from Claire-ly Lee plus another clever coin in silk trick with help from 2 others.

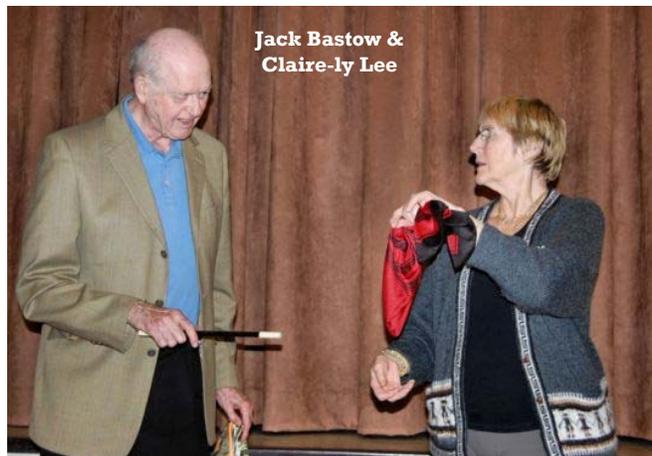
Rod Chow finished up with help from Gabrielle,a guest;and Priscilla another guest and Clairle-ly again.



Henry Tom & Bruce Hunt



Henry Tom



Jack Bastow & Claire-ly Lee

Member Generosity

Submitted by Dennis Hewson



On Friday May 9, Lon Mandrake, Ray Roch, Jens Henriksen and myself, Dennis Hewson put on a show for Eric Lenz at the Kinsmen Adult Care Centre in Richmond, which he attends.

We had a great time with Eric helping out with the introductions and his wife Donna volunteering to help out on stage. Thanks to Lon, Ray & Jens for donating their time with me to help put on this show. Thanks to my wife Melody for taking the photos. Also thanks to the staff at the Kinsmen centre, who were very helpful and we certainly enjoyed the tea and cakes after the show.

Following our successful show in May, at the Kinsmen Adult care center, I was asked if we could put together a show for Father's Day, for Eric and the other clients (which we did).

Sorry

Submitted by Neil Kremer

Dear VMC,

I always look forward to attending the meeting with an open mind and empty stomach as I'm sure a lot of you do to. The food was supposed to be my responsibility (in May) however it appears I mistook the 4th Thursday of the month for the LAST Thursday of the month... These are not the same Thursdays evidently.

A friendly call from the big guy himself (Gord Boyes) provided me with the realization that I'd missed the meeting and therefore did not fulfill my obligation to feed the members.

The quick fix is to simply order pizza however this does not make me feel any better.

I hope my lack of ability to count to 4 did not impact "feeding time" too much.

My sincere apologies to the hungry magicians who missed out on all the tasty delights I and the good people at Costco had planned. :-)

Hopefully I'll be able to compensate by feeding your minds instead. I'm making a donation to the library worth over \$400 (of brand new books & DVDs) which should serve to benefit the VMC for years to come.

Magical Best,
Neil Kremer

*Editors note—A huge thank-you to Sylvia Chow for running to the store and purchasing emergency rations!!

Web Corner

Submitted by Mike Norden

Have you visited our award winning website of late? It's a great way to stay informed of what is going on in the club. We list all the dates and times of the lectures, events, meetings and popular conventions and other activities.

Heck we even provide an active map to our 'secret' meeting place! (Don't tell anyone!) The site also lists all the books and videos we have in our library with an easy to search list by author or title. Then you can call our librarian and reserve something for the next meeting - a great way to take advantage of this resource!

Don't forget to sign the guest book on the way out and let us know what you liked or would like to see added. See you online!

Sponsor Spotlight

Submitted by Mike Norden

Party Empire is run by one of Ring #92's members - Adam Kozielec. They have a warehouse full of everything you could possibly want in the way of party supplies. Their product line includes balloons, party and floral supplies, novelties, theme decor, and ribbons.

They are a distributor and not open to the general public though - BUT if you are a registered business then go check him out...or go with one of the many members who are registered to see what this hidden gem is all about.

If you are a balloon twister then this place is heaven. EVERY size, color and shape is here. Quality balloons at a fraction of the cost. Plus Adam is one of the best balloon twisters I have ever seen. Go visit him and Cleo - and tell them the Vancouver Magic Circle sent you.

They are located at 7787 132nd Street, in Surrey. You can find them on the web at www.partyempire.com

Lecture Review—Dan Garrett

Submitted by Gary Savard

Dan Garretts lecture was one not to miss and I was very happy I didn't miss it.

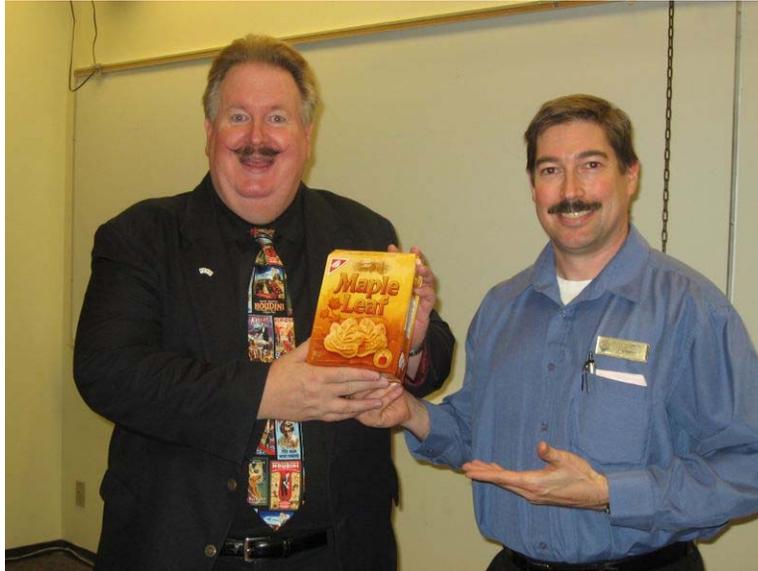
Dan opened with a underhand / overhand shuffle then announced that he will only be doing 2 card tricks this evening.....The crowd went wild (not).

One in the first half and one in the second half. Dan showed us things from a very gutsy ring flourish to a ring and rope routine to childrens magic with multiplying bananas or carrots and he introduced us to Judy the Mouse, a very fun way to add a small animal puppet to your show.

One of the highlights was a card trick called TORN and REBORN. Now this wasn't one of those pick a card tricks lost in the deck and remembering it was in the 23rd po-

sition and then do a flim flam oingo boingo move and then bring the card to the top using your favourite method. No, this was a piece of magic. A card was selected and a corner was torn off and a spectator was given it to hold, the rest of the card was torn to pieces

and put in an envelope and sealed, once the magic word was said the envelope was then opened and the card was restored with the matching piece held by the spectator. Now wait, with the spectator still holding the corner piece and the envelope torn open, the spectator tore the card a second time keeping the same corner and now Dan put them all into a change purse. After the magic words the spectator looked into the purse where a note was found that said "LOOK BACK INTO THE ENVELOPE". The envelope was resealed! That's right; resealed. After opening it the card was back a second time but this time it was laminated with the piece missing. The spectator had the missing piece that fit exactly were the corner was torn off



VMC President Gord Boyes presents Dan Garrett with a taste of Canada.

What else do our members do?

I have driven a bus for the Gizeh Shriners on a part time basis for about 9 months. They were desperately in need of a qualified driver and as a retired Greyhound driver, I fit the bill. It's a great part time job as I only take trips when I want to and can choose from trips to Portland, the Okanogan or Vancouver Island.

I had no intention of going back to driving once I retired, but Shriners have such excellent equipment and the patients children) so appreciative, that I reconsidered.

I'm enjoying the interaction and when we stop for lunch, I usually dazzle the children with a bit of close-up magic to brighten their day.

Shriners Hospitals for Children is a one-of-a-kind inter-

national health care system of 22 hospitals dedicated to improving the lives of children by providing specialty pediatric care, innovative research and outstanding teaching programs.

Children up to the age of 18 with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate are eligible for admission and receive all care in a family-centered environment at no charge - regardless of financial need.

If you know of a child Shriners Hospitals might be able to help, please call our toll-free patient referral line: 1-800-361-7256.

Submitted by Ray Roch



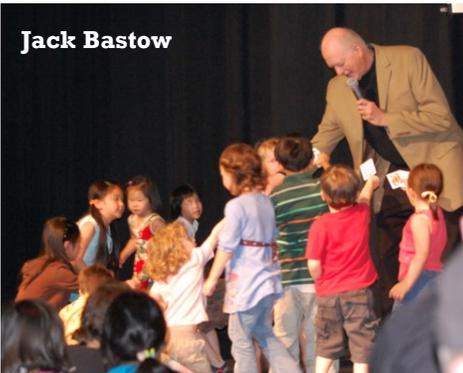
Childrens Magician of the Year 2008 Submitted by Mike Norden / John Smithman

This year the competition landed on Sunday, June 15th - which so happened to be fathers day! Despite this, or perhaps due to this, we had a nice audience of over 140 kids and adults at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts theatre in Burnaby British Columbia.

The rules for the competition are simple: No fire, sparkle, confetti or stage illusions and a ten minute limit. It must be aimed at entertaining children and be in good taste. Oh, and since this is a public show the audience are the ones who vote by casting their ballots during the intermission after seeing all the competitors. A truly unique event!

We had eight competitors this year and we were eagerly anticipating a fabulous show! After stage manager Rod Chow, announcer David Parker, and VP Gary Savard got things rolling and addressed the audience the show was on!

The Master of Ceremonies for the whole contest was last year's winner, Jack Bastow. He did a great job introducing the contestants and magically 'changing' audience children into volunteer stagehands to clean up dropped cards and so on between acts.



Up first was Tony Kazoleas aka. Zany Zack. A change bag (one of many to come) was used to get the magic rolling -



and some wonderful cd's were handed out. Not only is Tony a wonderful magician but he is also a talent musician and singer and he used this to his advantage during his routine. Handing out inflated plastic guitars and some music he sang a lively jingle that got the kids up and about and interacting nicely! He was well-dressed and lively, and after only the first performer the gloves were off!

Second up was Neale Bacon, showing off his talents as a vent this year with his pal 'Horton' the pig. Horton had decided it was time to quit magic and become a game show host! Neale was not in favor



of this change in employment and with some help from two audience members he played out a round of 'Jeopardy' style questions that seemed to be a little...well how you might say...FIXED! (a la change bag, we might add) Another great routine!

Following Neale, was Graeme Kingston aka. 'Bobby Loonie' a past winner of the award in 1993. Rolling onto stage with a fully self contained cart with prop cases and sound he was a whirlwind of fun! His

costume as bright and colorful and the kids interacted perfect! A funny routine with a puppet chimp was done - followed



by the production of 'David Hopperfield' his live rabbit. A little mishap with the bunny production happened but he recovered nicely with a perfect joke about the 'hare' brush getting stuck. We are pretty sure we saw a change bag in there somewhere too...

Gord Boyes, our President, was next. With the help of his son Jesse (an award winning junior magician himself) they captivated their audience right away. After a couple of tricks it was right to their signature piece! Gord got out a GIANT balloon and blew it up with a leaf blower (that literally appeared out of nowhere!) and then proceeded to shove Jesse into it - after a failed attempt (a faulty balloon) they got Jesse inside a new balloon and blew it up. Jesse then



blew up a small balloon inside the large one to plug the hole! Truly a sight to see! However time was up and Gord picked Jesse up as the balloon shrank and made their Houdini-like

escape off the stage. Alas, their time came in at over 12 minutes and they were disqualified. Sorry Mr. President, you cannot overrule it!

Next up was Bruce Hunt aka Merlin. He last won this award back in 1983! Bruce came out dressed as well, Merlin! Full



Bruce Hunt

robes and beard - the whole nine yards! He got off on the wrong foot though - or perhaps that was because he changed his hand to a foot to start with! He used a great 'applause meter' prop that got the audience clapping and shouting - to the point of breaking his machine! A few children were chosen to help him out with a trick and hilarity ensued! And of course there was a change bag....we think...

Ray Roch 'roched' the house next, a long time performer and talented parlor and close up magician. We were all excited to



Ray Roch

see how he would fare with the kids! Well out came another puppet for show, a stunning frog that seemed to be alive! A card trick, which is always a risky routine with kids, was done and his frog found the selected card by using highly secretive methods - how did that happen? Only the frog knows....

Mike Norden, aka, 'Norden the Magician' (does anyone use their real name in kids magic anymore?) was next. Norden had won the event just in 2006 and was itching for another win. He came out and went right into awarding prizes, by using none other than the CHANGE BAG! Using a helper from the audience he notices his magic was not working and decided his volunteer just needed a magic wand. Then a bigger magic wand, and then a bigger wand...and well, you get the idea. Seven wands later Norden had pulled out a huge wand 12 feet long 2 feet wide! It was HUGE! During all this he did a card trick and made a prize for the volunteer which was a balloon. Which mysteriously looked like it was pre-blown up? Well, when you only have 10 minutes....

The last performer was Dr. Henry Tom. Henry has been entering a lot of con-



tests in the last few years and winning a lot. He has won the close up award, the card trick award, and stage magician as well as awards at Stan Kramien's Jamboree! He performed a torn and restored newspaper routine, followed by the coloring book, which surprisingly had not been done already. He then finished off his act with an amazing card trick which

was found inside a real egg laid by his puppet duck 'Peking'...as in Peking duck. Yes, he is a real doctor!

Who would be the winner?! Well the audience cast their ballots amongst strong security and the armed guard took the boxes away to be counted. While this was happening the audience was treated to Nicolas and Jack Chow as the 'Magic Chow Brothers' Being of the ages of 5



Nicolas & Jack Chow

and 9 respectively, it truly is amazing what these kids can do. Both of them have amassed a plethora of awards including being the youngest winners ever at PCAM. Not to mention their father, Rod Chow, is a 1st place winner at the last years SAM convention - wow, perhaps we should bottle their tap water and sell it! The audience was amazed and the Chow's were rewarded with thunderous applause!

Next up was 2007 winner Jack Bastow. Doing a 25 minute show he did a full range of tricks.

When the announcement came that the winner was decided everyone held their breath and the second place award went to - Henry Tom!



Mike Norden & Jack Bastow



A Sunday in August—TBA

IBM Ring #92

The Vancouver Magic Circle

Annual Summer Picnic

Contact David Watters for more info.

July 9th—13th, 2008

P.C.A.M. — Monterey, California

P.C.A.M. is known for hosting the biggest little convention around. This year will be no exception with three gala evening shows, including a premiere evening of close-up, top notch talent, exclusive dealers, contests, lectures and more magical fun than you have experienced in years!

Check it out at www.pcam2008.com

Our own Trevor and Lorena will be in the Pro Challenge!!

July 21st—26th, 2008

IBM/SAM Joint Convention 2008

See our own Rod Chow in the Close up contest!!

Magic Convention of the Century.... This meeting of magicians will encompass six days of championship amazement. There will be \$50,000 in contest prize money and performing contracts. The program also includes separate People's Choice Awards for both stage and close-up performers. In addition, the convention features six never-to-be-repeated lectures on the art of magic, and magic's top funny men talk funny business. We have included special events for young magicians, spouses and hospitality events for all.

Check out www.magician.org for more information.

September 13th, 2008

Lynnwood Ring of Fire presents

DAY OF MAGIC 7

Featuring Eric Buss at the fabulous Everett Historical Theater. Don't miss the 2 big lectures, a swap meet, the anything goes contest, the gala evening show, and much MUCH more!

More information to follow in future months

Our next guest lecturer is Michael Vincent in September 2008.

Michael Vincent is one the few magicians in the world who is an 'ambassador' for Slydini's concepts. Michael spent his early years mastering all of Slydini's magic. He will be the first to tell you, "I don't perform any of Slydini's routines any more, except for the Pins, The Coins, and The Knotted Silks, but what I do make use of are the powerful concepts which turns a great trick into a powerful experience of Magic".

This session will be an interactive workshop where you will experience the real power of "Audience Attention Control" or "Mis-direction". Here, Michael will expose you to concepts, which can elevate and unleash the real power of your magic.

Michael Vincent
The Tapestry of Deception



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.