



the charles howard ring

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 92

—Affiliated with the—
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

Shawn Farquhar—3 time World Champion!!

With a reportedly flawless routine, VMC member Shawn Farquhar not only took first place at FISM for Close Up in the Card category (something he had not entered in the past), he also came home with the much coveted Grand Prix prize for closeup.

FISM is an abbreviation of Federation Internationale des Societs Magiques (International Federation of Magic Societies) founded in 1948. It is the International body bringing together the world's leading magic societies.

The Federation today consists of over 80 clubs, both national and international, as well as national Federations which represent nearly 50,000 Magicians from 41 countries.

Shawn was one of only two magicians representing North America in the Close Up competitions, the other being fellow VMC member Rod Chow.

IBM Ring 92 is proud to be the home to Shawn and offer him a heartfelt congratulations!!



The Magical Minutes

Newsletter Date:
Summer 2009

Did you know..... The United States Playing Company is often asked why the word "Bicycle" was adopted as the name for its famous brand of playing cards. In the late 1800's, bicycling was the fad of the entire nation. People were spending so much money on bicycles that other businesses suffered a sharp recession. Manufacturers were selling 1,200,000 bicycles a year. Americans spent over \$100,000,000 for cycles during a 6 year period. That was a lot of money for times when a gentleman could buy a good suit for \$15 and a dozen eggs for 14 cents. In July of 1885, a faithful employee of the United States Playing Card Company suggested that in keeping with the times, a new brand of playing cards should be named "Bicycle". Officials of the company readily adopted the suggestion.

- submitted by Dennis Chan

VMC Summer Picnic

All members and guests are invited to the VMC summer picnic on Saturday August 29th, 2009 from 12:00 (noon) - 5:00 at Queens Park in New Westminster. The club will supply food, entertainment and fun and games.

See page 4 for more details



2008 VMC Summer Picnic

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June in Review

Submitted by Munro Mackenzie

With June, the smell of summer holidays is just around the corner. Past president Mike Norden wanted to impress on us how important acting is in the presentation of a routine. To do this he imported Brian Anderson, an improvisational specialist, active in



Theatre Sports in and around Vancouver ,to lead us in an evening of impromptu magic. Brian formed 2 teams that competed to do their best at spur of the moment challenges thrown at them .

It was a real hoot. Team #1 of Mike Norden, Neil Kremer and Jonathan Hamilton



It took me a long time not to judge myself through someone else's eyes.

~Sally Field

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>)

June in Review, con't

bested Team #2 of Bryn Williams and Gord Boyes if not in points at least in laughs. Thanks Brian.



During the business meeting Dennis Chan, our new librarian, revealed we have an impressive library of 2011 items.

It was also announced that in adult only competitions, where there was no Junior equivalent, that Juniors could compete for the experience and get judged but



Bill & Claire-ly Lee

not marked. A great learning experience for our juniors.

The refreshment break was provided by Claire-ly and Bill Lee. Brianna Carlson also provided cupcakes. thanks.

The competition for the evening was for the Ray Gamble Trophy.



Bryn Williams

A senior must do a single card effect using a previously unopened deck with the seal intact. Nothing else. Card sharks to the fore lead by Bryn Williams with help from Billy Hseih; next was Gord Boyes followed by Henry Tom and



Jonathan Hamilton

Jonathan Hamilton completed the event.

The juniors competing for the experience were Billy Hseih, Roberto Palomares-a new member from Mexico with excellent card and language skills, and Alexander Seaman.



Billy Hseuh

By the time the juniors had performed, the judges announced that Henry Tom had won the Ray Gamble trophy and Jonathan Hamilton was second.

The 50/50 draw of \$47.00 was pulled by Marion Mellor, the wife of veteran Jack Mellor, with Ed Goldberg the lucky winner.

33 members and 11 guests went home happy with a clever night of magic entertainment.



Henry Tom

Coming up—Summer Picnic 2009—August 29th

Coming soon .. The annual VMC summer picnic. Come and join the fun and games at Queens Park (by the Band Shell) in New Westminster on Saturday August 29th starting at noon. The VMC will provide hamburgers and hotdogs, condiments and beverages for your family (the BBQ will be cooking from noon—1:30pm). You can choose to provide your own extras, such as salads, snacks, and your own beverages. Remember to bring your lawn chairs can plenty of sun screen.

This year we'll be doing a public show at the park, followed by members wishing to receive their Magic Wand by doing a 15 minute routine.

Fun and frolicking will take place throughout the afternoon.



Did you know:

Munro Mackenzie will not be able to attend. He and his wife Pam are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary!!



Cathie Watters

Dave Watters

12pm—heat up the BBQ

2pm—Public Show

3pm—Magic Wand performers

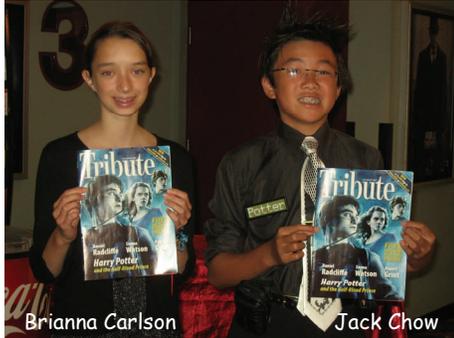
1pm—5pm—Fun and Frolicking



Tidbits

Juniors in Action

Jack Chow & Brianna Carlson (aka Harry Potter and Hermione Granger!) performed roving magic for the early morning private screening, for WestJet employees, family and friends, of the latest Harry Potter film - Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince at the Oakridge Centre Empire Theatre on Saturday, July 18, 2009. After warming up on each



Brianna Carlson

Jack Chow

other, both went to work right away, alternating amongst themselves, with their Harry Potter themed magic which really amazed and entertained the guests young and old. The organizers were openly impressed with their performances and publicly expressed gratitude to the VMC. As everyone entered the theater, they got to join the guests to enjoy this very magical movie with popcorn and pop in hand.

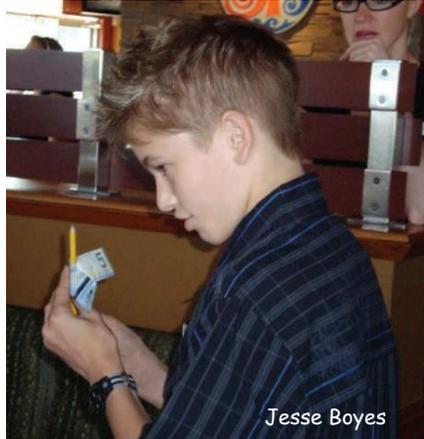
Mentorship

Have you always wanted to perform restaurant magic and didn't know quite how to go about it? Here is your opportunity to perform live under the mentorship of



Brianna Carlson

Steve Dickson. Steve has offered to take those interested to perform with him at Boston Pizza. Learn the ins and outs of working in a restaurant and your role as part of the team while getting that much needed hands on practice!



Jesse Boyes

This is an exciting opportunity for those who have aspired to work in the business and would benefit with the guidance and experience Steve is offering.

If you are interested in joining Steve on a Sunday from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Mission Boston Pizza, give Steve a call at 604-465-2781. This offer is open to junior and senior members and Steve will assist with the transportation wherever possible.



Jesse Boyes

Jonathan Hamilton meeting new friends

Reuse, Recycle, Reduce

To contribute to the 3 R's, please turn in your old 50/50 tickets after the draw so they can be recycled.

Health Report

During a trip to South America, Eric Wolstenholme suffered a fall and ended up in a British Hospital in Montevideo in Uruguay with a fractured hip and femur. Last reports are that he has made the return trip to the lower mainland for a stay in Lions Gate hospital.

We wish Eric a full and speedy recovery.

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After saying goodbye to his friends at VMC and moving to Mexico, Glen LaBarre experienced some health problems. Last report was that he was likely to be returning to the lower mainland for medical treatment. We also wish a full and speedy recovery to Glen.

### Broken Wand

The magic community took a loss with the passing of Martin Nash last month in Parksville, B.C. He didn't have many friends/family in Parksville, but he always considered the Magic Castle to be his second home. Martin A. Nash, "The Charming Cheat," was one of the top cardmen in the world. For years, he was one of the most popular performers in the Magic Castle's Close-Up Showroom and his technical ability and routining are unsurpassed.

The Magic Castle has graciously agreed to host a memorial celebration for Martin A. Nash August 23, 2009 at 4:00 pm.



# PCAM 2009 Update

submitted by Shawn Farquhar

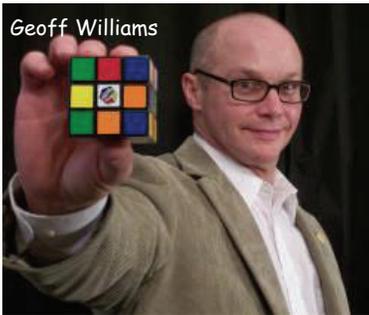
PCAM takes to the high seas on board the ms Norwegian Pearl as she sails from Vancouver to Los Angeles, departing Vancouver Monday September 21 and arriving in Los Angeles on Saturday September 26 .



where we will have time to visit the world famous Santa Monica Pier. From there we will head to Magicopolis for a special matinee presentation of "Escape Reality" with Steve Spill and Bozena. For those that don't wish to spend the

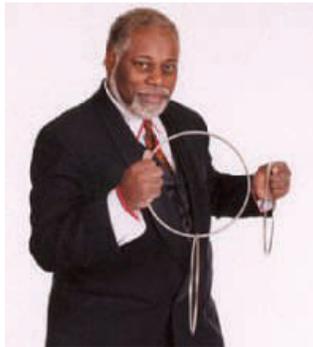
Each performer will do an entire show and not just the standard convention spot we have all seen before.

The first announced talent is Geoff Williams, Creator of "I Hate David Copperfield" trick! THREE TIMES voted "Magician of the Year" for the state of Minnesota by the International Brotherhood of Magicians.



California at The World Famous Magic Castle, which is home to the Academy of Magical Arts. Ken has also been invited five times to perform at the White House.

Also on the roster talent will be Chris Capehart. You are in for a treat as he presents his misers dream, fraidy cat rabbit and linking rings! Yes, I said Linking Rings. I recall the first time I saw him, I thought to myself ... hmm ... he uses different rings than we magicians use!



More great talent joining us includes Ken Scott. Ken has over 20 years of experience, performing over 350 shows a year. He has entertained over a million people with his unique cutting edge programs. He was voted Greater Atlanta Entertainer of the year. Ken was also featured on CNN Headline News, where he headlined their segment on A Day of Magic. Ken performs yearly in Hollywood

DeCamps. But wait, that's not all, also joining us will be award winning magician and world renowned sleight of hand artist Eric

Just like we did in 2005 I am offering an extra charge event to extend your magic experience.



The Norwegian Pearl will dock on Saturday, September 26th and I have chartered a bus to take just 40 people on a special magical adventure. We will disembark as a group and head for Santa Monica

evening in Los Angeles we will make a quick stop at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) [approximate arrival time will be 6PM] and the rest of us will head over to Hollywood to a group of hotels that are within walking distance of the Magic Castle! This is a great opportunity to see a fantastic show in the afternoon and experience the Magic Castle in the evening. Guest passes will be provided for those that are not members of the IBM or SAM. Check out [www.Magicopolis.com](http://www.Magicopolis.com)

We will be hosting our annual competitions for both stage and close up performers and you're invited to participate. Because of limited time, the PCAM Council decided that all contestants must register before the convention and no "at the door" entrants will be allowed. That means if you want to compete you need to first read the rules, then fill out the entry form and then send the form via email to PCAM REGISTRATION.

This years convention will be filled with new ideas and a few of the old that worked so well in the past. Expect to see the Bag O Tricks and Who Wants to be a Magician shows, and more workshops and break out sessions to allow you to learn more stuff than normal. I will also be having a question and answer session with the Cruise Director so you can learn what it takes to work on a ship! Did I mention that the Second City comedy troupe is onboard and you can partake in a comedy course with them ... for FREE! Plenty more surprises in store ....

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



## Portland Magic Jam 2009

David Regal, Aaron Fisher, Nate Kranzo, and Steve Dobson coming to Portland, Sept 25, 26, & 27 !!!

THAT'S RIGHT! David Regal, Aaron Fisher, Nathan Kranzo, and Steve Dobson will ALL be appearing at the very first "PORTLAND MAGIC JAM" in Portland, Oregon, this coming Sept 25, 26, and 27. (Fri, Sat, Sun).



David Regal

There will be lectures. There will be shows. There will be an "Approaching Magic Workshop" for all. There will be a panel discussion with these 4 heavyweights on stage together. There will be stuff to buy. There will be organized jam sessions. And for those who like to session through the night, there will be a 24-hour session room, and a 24-hour restaurant complete with waitresses who would love to see your version of Ambitious Card.

The COST is \$85 for the entire 3 days - which is a steal. Payments can be made on the Jam website at [www.portlandmagicjam.com](http://www.portlandmagicjam.com). (Currently in the process of posting single-day prices.) Note for our Canadian friends, **Canadian money will be taken at par** for the registration!!

The VENUE is a hotel right off I-5, just south of the WA/OR

border, called The Portlander Inn. Optional ROOM RATES are down to \$35 apiece, based on double-occupancy with 2 queen beds. The hotel has every amenity right there on the property, so people flying in or taking the train won't have to rent a car.

The organizers are Greg Moreland and Dan Waterman. They're keeping all the latest information updated on the event website, along with contact info for inquiries:

[www.portlandmagicjam.com](http://www.portlandmagicjam.com)



Aaron Fisher



Steve Dobson



Nathan Kranzo

It's important to understand that the specific times on the website schedule are pretty much final, but that things could still get jostled around purely for Greg's and Dan's own amusement. And remember, if it isn't on the website, and you didn't hear it from Greg or Dan, it just might be a tall tale!

Hope to see you there.

## Kramien's Magic Jamboree 2010

### Kramien's Magic Jamboree

Where you mingle with the stars

April 30—May 1, 2010

I was thrilled to receive an email from Stan Kramien informing me that his Magic Jamboree would be returning in 2010 after a one year hiatus. The most fun you will ever have at a magic gathering! The VMC always has a strong turnout for this annual convention, with great shows, lectures, competitions, dealers tables, the annual auction (run by our club). If you've ever been to it, then you know why it's one of the years highlights for many of our members. I guarantee you'll never hear anyone say that they didn't enjoy it immensely. Double the fun by considering car pooling with some of us. Stan says it's at a new location, bigger and better than ever!



Stan and Jeff Hobson at the 2008 Magic Jamboree



David Wilson and David Watters running the annual auction



**PCAM 2009—Sept 21–26**

**Portland Magic Jam—Sept 25–27**

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

### Our next guest lecturer will be Kostya Kimlat on Sept 4th.

The next installment of the X-ellent lecture series features guest lecturer Kostya Kimlat on September 4th 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.



### September Auction

Our September general meeting will be our annual magic auction. Note that the September meeting will be a week earlier than normal due to the PCAM convention, so we'll be meeting the third Thursday of the month, Sept 17th.

Have a look through your supplies to see if you have something you'd like auctioneer Gary Savard to put on the block for you.



### Vancouver Magic Circle Summer Picnic

**Saturday August 29, 2009**

**Queens Park, New Westminster**

Come and join the fun and games at Queens Park (by the Band Shell) in New Westminster on Saturday August 29th starting at 1pm. The VMC will provide hamburgers and hotdogs, condiments and beverages for your family (the BBQ will be cooking from 12:00pm–1:30pm). You can choose to provide your own extras, such as salads, snacks, and your own beverages. Remember to bring your lawn chairs can plenty of sun screen.

This year we'll be doing a public show at the park, followed by members wishing to receive their Magic Wand by doing a 15 minute routine.

**12:00 pm—heat up the BBQ**

**2:00 pm—Public Show**

**3:00 pm—Magic Wand performers**

**12:00–5:00 pm—Fun and Frolicking**

**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.