



MARCH 2009

THE VICTORIA MAGIC CIRCLE RING 183

The Ernie Crockford Ring

Affiliated members of the Pacific Coast Association of Magicians

March General Meeting Tuesday Mar.3rd 2009 the Tony Award Competition

Hi Everyone. Just a reminder for some up-coming events:

March 3rd: Tony Award Competition.

If you plan on competing this year, please be sure your IBM and VMC Club dues are paid in full. Rules to follow.

April 7th: Annual General Meeting.

Please start to consider nominations for next terms executive.

After the AGM “The Best of Ron Bell”

Ron will give an hour and a half lecture comprising of selected tricks from three “One-Man Parades” (Oct 72 -Dec 95 -Feb 08) and one “Mini-Parade” (Dec 73) all published in The Linking Ring.

Recently the IBM awarded Ron the prestigious Howard Bamman Trophy for his Parade in the Feb 2008 issue of the Linking Ring.

He also won a trophy for the best trick “IMPOSSIBLE DREAM” published in The Linking Ring in 1972 and has received several awards of merit for his published effects. He will perform and teach a number of award winning routines well within the capability of any serious magician. Ron has given lectures in Canada and the USA and his originations are used by many magicians including our own Murray Hatfield.

President Ring 183

Rob Brown





On Feb 16th, the Reilly Round Table convened at the marvelous Malahat Room to discuss the topic of Invisible Thread, (IT) led by the King of Magic, Shayne King. Shayne performed Steve Fearson's Floating Cigarette routine and took us step-by-step through the preparation of the IT and the Fearson Hookup. He then showed other applications of the IT by floating a borrowed \$5 bill.

Next, we discussed Jon LeClair's Hookup and Floating Dollar Bill routine, which John Graham performed. Finally, we moved into discussing

Michael Ammar's Hookup and floating money routine.

Alex Day showed that levitating objects was not limited to cigarettes or money as he made a selected playing card float around his body.

As the session drew to its end, Ray Parker amazed us with a story of how he used to make money by falling off a stage and

John Graham disgusted us by pulling something out of his eye. Ouch!

The next Round Table session will be at 7:00pm, Monday, March 16th at the magnificent Malahat Lounge ~ Building #105 Gorge Road East. Buzz #80 to be let in to the building and head up to the Penthouse. The next topic will be on Close-up Mentalism.

Looking forward to the next Round Table. See you all there!

Submitted by Justin Louie

THE NEXT
ROUND
TABLE WILL
BE AT
"THE HAT"
ON MONDAY
MARCH
16TH AT
7:00PM
FOCUSING
ON CLOSE-
UP
MENTALISM



“FULL DECK STACKS” – one of the easiest to consider is the sequential stack which allows the magician to determine in most cases the card following and often the one preceding when knowing the bottom card of the deck. Si Stebbins uses a numeric progression while Eight Kings uses a mnemonic progression. The basic idea is a rotating suit and alternating colour sequence.

Richard Osterlind’s **“BREAKTHROUGH CARD SYSTEM”** overcomes some of this with no obvious order of any kind being noticed by the spectator. Several systems have been designed for developing a memorized deck.

The Aronson’s Stack in **“TRY THE IMPOSSIBLE”** by Simon Aronson and Juan Tamariz’s **“MNEMONICA”** offer one of the more popular stacking systems of the day.

Bob Farmer and David Roth are also known to have designed mnemonic code system decks.

Other authors such as Martin Joyal’s **“SIX-HOUR MEMORIZED DECK”** and Chris Matt’s **“SIX KICKS STACK”** use a set of rules for one to memorize.

Another approach to stacking is the algorithmic one where a formula is used to relate values and positions of cards. Authors of these stacks are Bart Harding, Charles Gauci and Doug Dyment.

Barry Richardson and Lewis Jones have also published similar systems in their lecture notes or books.

Thank you
Ed Silva-White



*The library will
now be
operated by
request.
Contact
Ed Silva-White
if you would
like to borrow a
DVD for the
March meeting
and Ed will
bring your
selection in
if available.*



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BE A COMPETITOR FOR THE TONY AWARD

This is a splendid opportunity to enhance your skills in a "Friendly" competition.

I will be looking after the Tony Award Competition being held at our next VMC Meeting Tues March 3 2009 at the Langford Fire Hall #1 Starting between 7.30 and 8.00pm.



We have many fine close-uppers who recently "Wowed!" our Magic Dinner guests at our Annual Dinner Many of you already have a well practiced routine which could be the basis of a competitive act.

Note; That the award is for the:
"Most Original Close-Up, Trick or Routine"
(Of no longer than 10mins.)

You can get a clearer idea of what the judges will expect from you at the website www.victoriamagiccircle.com
There are a number of ways you can enhance your chances of winning so study the judging criteria.

I will be the MC. There will be NO formal introductions.
Just your name. Order of performance will be drawn from a hat just before the competition starts so be prepared to fit in anywhere.

I will try to get a monitor and video set-up so that the smaller stuff can be seen and given fair judgment.

We will have the Club back drop and the very fine close-up table and possibly some enhanced lighting.

There will be a refreshment break half way through.



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THE TONY AWARD COMPETITION

Judging will be done by a panel of three experienced performers.

The audience will vote by ballot, for their favourite act, which will count for 20% of the total score.

Any questions contact me by email.

If you need additional/special support (e.g. sound) for your act let me know.

Thank you.

Ron Bell bellron@shaw.ca

Updated rules for the Tony Award Competition:

This award, donated by Tony Eng, will be presented annually to:
"The Club Magician Who Performs The Most Original Close-Up Trick or Routine."

1. A Club meeting will be dedicated to the competition for the Tony Award .
2. The trick or routine must be close-up in nature and demonstrate distinct elements of originality in concept and/or presentation and must not be longer than 10 minutes.
3. There must be a minimum of three performers for a valid competition.
4. The winner will be decided by a panel of judges and a ballot of all members present.
5. Details on the judging criteria can be found on the VMC website (Awards--Tony Award).
6. The winner will be presented with the Tony Trophy at a suitable occasion.





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Jay Sankey's Trick of the Month "SHADOWLANDS"



Effect: Miracle Man introduces a large white envelope and spills out a small flashlight from inside.

He slips the open envelope over his left hand, flicks on the flashlight and asks for the lights in the room to be dimmed.

As he holds the flashlight directly behind the white envelope, the silhouette of his open left hand is clearly seen, all fingers spread wide.

Then something very bizarre happens.

Between two of his fingers a small lump begins to Grow, and GROW, until the silhouette features a total of 6 fingers!

Even creepier, a seventh fingers slowly grows "Into place!!" Someone screams,!!

The lights in the room are turned back on.

Miracle Man pulls the envelope off his now quite harmless looking hand and even rips it wide open for the suspicious-minded!

Preparation: You'll need two white, standard 9 x 12 mailing envelopes -the cheaper the better (see Notes.) You'll also need a thin piece of cardboard. With a pair of scissors cut open one of the two envelopes and neatly cut out one side of the envelope. We'll call this "the panel." Next place your open left hand down on the cardboard and trace the shape of your hand with a pencil, but be sure to trace it a little bit larger than it really is.

Cut out the tracing (including a slightly oversized wrist section) and glue it to one side of "the panel." Finally, trim the sides of the panel and glue it inside the remaining uncut envelope so that the hand tracing is hidden from view inside this double-wall (fingertips nearest the closed end of the envelope.) After letting the glue dry, if you slip your closed fist inside the envelope.

Next dim the lights in your bathroom, step in front of the mirror and shine a flashlight behind the envelope, you'll find that you should be able to hide your closed fist behind the cut-out of the slightly enlarged hand. And with just a little practice, you too will be slowly uncurling your first finger, and then your middle finger, to create the marvelous illusion of "fresh growing fingers." It looks totally creepy!





A few important tips. I start by slowly spilling the flashlight out of the envelope to give everyone a chance to take a quick peek inside the envelope, but I Never TRAVEL with the flashlight inside the envelope. Knocking around with all the other stuff inside my performance case, the bulging envelope quickly starts to look pretty shabby (and it can even loosen the glue between the hand tracing and/or the envelope's double-wall.) Be careful you don't prematurely flash the cut-out hand in the envelope either by standing in front of an open window or a strong light, OR by accidentally passing the turned on flashlight behind the envelope before you've got your darn hand inside! (I've had that happen.)

I don't always rip-open the envelope at the end, but it IS a very nice convincer and a well-timed, played-down dramatic gesture never hurts.

Notes: Lighting conditions can widely vary from space to space. So much so that I used to carry two different envelopes, because while sometimes there is so much light in a space that you want a thin/cheap envelope for max contrast between the silhouette of the cut-out and the envelope, other times, in darker spaces, you are safe to go with a thicker envelope. I've also experimented with both black and grey cardboard for the cut-out. Both have their merits.

The black easily gives a crisp silhouette, but also has a greater chance of being spotted through the wall of a thin envelope. Again, you will have to experiment a bit with whatever supplies you are able to buy locally.

And make sure you are "wearing" the envelope with your thumb pointing in the right direction! Mind you, the one time I put it on backwards, I still got away with the effect!

I guess what I'm trying to say, is that it's a real "Personal Style" piece.

I created this truly funky effect over 25 years ago after watching some illusionist perform at my high school. He did a version of the "Appearing Assistant in the Tent" I immediately conceived of this no-nonsense handling. I've performed the effect at many house parties over the years. No small part of the fun, is that I never know quite how people are going to react. I've had screams, laughter and even uncomfortable silence. The bottom line is that it's one of those imagination-driven effects that you really have to gently guide your audience towards a certain kind of emotional interpretation. More than once I've "sold it" as a serious moment of magic and its inspired great response. But I do tend, more often than not, to present it a little tongue-in-cheek. That way, it often gets laughs and I don't set myself (or the audience) to try to make too much out of it.





www.magictrick.com/store/

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Hey Victoria Magicians Murray Here!!

Isn't it wonderful to see the sun again? Not to mention the ground (after all the snow finally melted).

All in all it's clear that spring is on its way and not a moment too soon.

Teresa and I have been busy lately with inventory, shows, and our trip to Columbus for our first appearance at MAGI-FEST.

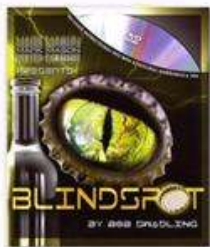
It was an amazing convention with close to 600 magicians and lot's of incredible magic. Canadian magicians were well represented with performances and /or lectures by Shawn and Lori Farquhar (and Hannah too), Calgary's Tyler Wilson, and of course Teresa and I. Also seen were Mike and Jen Segal (directors of the Sorcerers Safari Camp) and International President of the IBM – Joan Caesar. The best part for me was that we were able to find some great new items for the shop so be sure and check out our newest magic. Some of the items include;

SPLIT DECISION - This effect is the brain child of Joe Riding and comes complete with cards, gaffs and a beautiful JOL Leather case to hold the entire effect. The case has a special pocket for the prediction card, and the main case is divided so the two halves do not mix into each other.



Very easy to do, and great entertainment. This is an elegant stunner you will carry always. A card is selected from two halves of a deck by a spectator; the chances of the two halves matching are ten thousand to one. But wait, the twists encountered make this a true classic, and pure entertainment that has proven it self time after time. A beautiful prediction with a surprise twist.

BLINDSPOT - a revolutionary gimmick for performing the classic coin in bottle effect, we call it BLINDSPOT. Every now and then something EXTRA SPECIAL arrives on the magic scene, this we know you will agree, is one of those times. Imagine holding a totally CLEAR BOTTLE, letting a spectator examine both the bottle and the cap, inside and out. Under these impossible circumstances you can still perform the coin in bottle effect. Blindspot is an incredible, brand new gimmick, that will allow you to perform the coin in bottle on a whole new level.





TAG - Have any card freely selected, signed and returned into the deck. The magician then removes any card from the deck. A GENUINE hole is punched through the incorrect card. Next a tag is passed through the hole and tied so the card is fastened to the tag, NO FAKE TAGS etc. IMPOSSIBLE Magic!
- The spectator takes hold of the tag as the card is returned to the deck.

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- The spectator never lets go of the tag.
- The deck is spread and the spectator pulls the tag from the deck.
- The card FASTENED to the tag is now their SIGNED CARD!

This can be given away as a souvenir; the tag is permanently fastened to their card. Complete with gimmick and tags (any tags) PLUS DVD WITH ROUTINE, FULLY DETAILED EXPLANATIONS PLUS BONUS IDEAS AND TIPS.

CARD COLLEGE LIGHTER - Roberto Giobbi's newest survey of sleightless



card magic, **CARD COLLEGE LIGHTER**, gives the famous Giobbi treatment to 21 baffling card tricks by some of the craft's greatest masters, including Vernon, Annemann, Leech, Maven, Fulves, Hummer, Vollmer and Krenzel. These tricks do not require sleights, but they all show the cunning perspective of a professional performer, guaranteeing astonishing and entertaining results. Following in the footsteps of his Card College Light, Roberto Giobbi teaches the secrets of professional-caliber card magic, providing insights into the

presentation, psychology and routining that make these simple tricks into seeming miracles. He gives the reader all the tools necessary for a professional-quality performance.

Plus...SOLO, Humber Wallet Mini, and more...be sure to check it all out. See you at the shop!

Murray



We're Located At
688 Broughton Street
Victoria, BC V8W 1C9
tel: (250) 385-6807
fax: (250) 385-5543

We're Open:
Monday to Saturday
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Sunday - Noon to 4:00pm



www.magictrick.com/store/

Stuff Jack Sends Me!

With Jack Poulter

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The following from Stan Allen: A Return for a Farewell;

It was over a year ago that Siegfried and Roy promised to return to the stage in February 2009 as part of the annual fundraiser for the *Lou Ruvo Brain Institute*. That promise was fulfilled on February 28 at the Keep Memory Alive: Power of Love gala at the Bellagio Hotel on the Las Vegas Strip.

The performance was filmed by ABC television and broadcast as "The Return of Siegfried & Roy," a special edition of the network's hour-long 20/20 news magazine show. Airing on March 6 [10 p.m. ET], the show will feature the magic duo's performance, as well as a segment on the Ruvo Institute in Nevada, a center dedicated to the study of debilitating neurological diseases.

Siegfried and Roy say their participation in the fundraiser will be both a return to the stage and their farewell performance, the final time they will present their signature illusions.

"We never got to say a proper goodbye," Roy said.

"This will be our final bow and it will never be repeated"

20/20 Friday, March 6, 10:00 p.m., ABC Ch 16, CHEK Ch 6

The 20/20 crew has been in Las Vegas for the past couple of weeks covering Siegfried & Roy for this special episode, including a five-camera shoot of the duo's farewell performance on February 28th. [The ABC schedule lists the show at 9pm and 10pm, so you may want to set your recorders for both slots.

The Ellen Degeneres Show Tuesday, March 2nd, Syndicated

(A-Ch Victoria Ch 12 11:00 a.m., CTV, Ch 9 4:00 p.m.)

Neil Patrick Harris, a.k.a. "Magic's Goodwill Ambassador," will appear on Ellen, Monday, performing an effect "On the Couch."

**Jack Poulter
On an Island in the Pacific
e-mail: jpoulter@islandnet.com
Success depends on attention to detail!**



Stuff Jack Sends Me!

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Many members will have heard of these two magicians and their classic acts. I never got to see them -- until now! I hope you enjoy them as much as I did. -One of the all time great magicians from Holland **Fred Kaps** a real pro! Here is his award winning FISM act.

A chance also to see his salt pour routine.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?gl=CA&hl=en&v=U5GYtuzMNs0>

Roy Benson- this is a real gem! Shot in 1955 here is a chance to see the amazing Roy Benson in action - what a personality he had!

Hilarious! Another great example of a real pro!!

Also another example of a great salt pour routine.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?gl=CA&hl=en&v=xOfzp4Wt-pE>

News Worthy



Ron Bell, will be conducting a Magic Therapy session at the Eric Martin Pavilion each Thursday, starting on February 19 th at 1-2pm for the next 6-8 weeks. This is a wonderful form of therapy, well respected by professionals therapists and a great way for magicians to polish their skills while helping those with physical and mental challenges. If you are interested in learning more and would like to attend a session please contact Ron at bellron@shaw.ca

After the AGM in April “The Best of Ron Bell”

Ron will give an hour and a half lecture comprising of selected tricks from three “One-Man Parades” (Oct 72 -Dec 95 -Feb 08) and one “Mini-Parade” (Dec 73) all published in The Linking Ring. Recently the IBM awarded Ron the prestigious Howard Bamman Trophy for his Parade in the Feb 2008 issue of the Linking Ring. He also won a trophy for the best trick “IMPOSSIBLE DREAM” published in The Linking Ring in 1972 and has received several awards of merit for his published effects. He will perform and teach a number of award winning routines well within the capability of any serious magician. Ron has given lectures in Canada and the USA and his originations are used by many magicians including our own Murray Hatfield.



Murray Hatfield & Teresa were invited to play a part in a special segment on the Variety Show of Hearts Telethon this past month. Keith, a boy from the Penticton area, was diagnosed several years ago with an aggressive form of Leukemia. During his long and difficult battle and convalescence he became interested in magic.



When Variety Club found out, they wanted to do something special. They arranged for Murray and Teresa to present their Swords & Shields Illusion with assistance from Keith and Global TV's Tony Parson's.

Then in a video segment featuring Lance Burton - Keith and his family were presented with a free trip to Las Vegas to see Lance Burton's show.

Murray and Teresa are now off to the interior for a series of 26 shows in 2 weeks.

Shayne King and Joy Kruger are getting exciting about this year's Stan Kramien Magic Jamboree, which will happen in the 2nd weekend in May. You can peruse the web site and see the great talent that will be performing and lecturing there at www.magicjamboree.com

This jamboree is a great time, whether you are solo or coming with a spouse (and even kids). There's lots of green grass and trees, fresh air, good food, and good people, up in the Oregon Hills, at the Kramien Farm!! A good time is had by people of all ages! This is a really relaxing getaway because everyone's got their casual farm attire on (unless they're hitting the big stage) and folks can break away from the crowd whenever they want by just strolling for a minute or two out into the beauty of nature. Yet, its also stimulating because the moment you want the entertainment or snacks you just head into the oversized barn where you can chat with people, take a seat to listen or view the happenings, peruse the vendors booths, etc.



Hope some more of the Victoria clan will come join in the fun!!

