

# THE NORTHWEST RING OF FIRE

## The Lynnwood Magic Club \ I.B.M. Local 339

January 2009

# THE PASTEBOARD

## The Holiday Party

On the afternoon of January 4th many brave and hearty souls battled the inclement weather and ventured northward to Shawn O'Donnell's fine eatery and pub to attend the club's annual Holiday Extravaganza. Needless to say their hardships were rewarded with a groaning board of buffet style grub and a dazzling floor show of magical mirth and mystery presented by that living embodiment of magic itself Shawn Farquhar.

The festivities got under way at 4:00 p.m. with the traditional mingling and kibitzing amongst the membership their families and friends. At 5:00 or so the Buffet, a dazzling array of exotic pastas, the requisite sauces, salad and breadsticks was set out and everyone anxiously cued up so as to partake of this ambrosial array of gourmandic delights.

After consuming vast quantities of carbohydrates the assembly settled back to bid farewell to our outgoing officers and welcome the newly elected administration.

Our slate of officers for the most part remained unchanged. However, only after a year of outstanding and dedicated service our President Evan West, the youngest member ever to hold the office, decided to step down.

He was replaced by Brian Cook who I am sure will continue to lead the club to ever and greater heights.

Dan Staple too decided to call it quits and relinquish the position of Secretary handing back to Master Payne. God help us all.

While the membership was still reeling from the news that Payne was back in charge of publishing the newsletter so they would all need to remember where exactly it was they had put their Thesauruses the yearly club awards were given out.

Bud Staple received a special recognition award for all the hard work he has put in manufacturing the club name badges. Twenty Minutes each we were told!

A lifetime achievement award was bestowed upon Jerry Dreessen. President's Choice went to Evan Schuster. The Pomeroy Memorial Award was presented to Master Payne (thus completing his

set) and none other than Brian Cook received the much coveted Magician of the Year Award

There was much rejoicing.

As the recipients of these finely framed certificates were sent back to their seats to lovingly caress their recently received citations the evening's entertainment commenced.

To say Shawn Farquhar is the living embodiment of magic itself would be redundant as it was already quite clearly stated on the previous page. Needless to say the show was one of the finest displays of charm and prestidigitation we had seen in many an age. There is a good reason that Mr. Farquhar has received so many awards and accolades throughout his magic career. Even the most loquacious and erudite description of this marvelous performance would do it a severe and unwarranted injustice. So let us just say it was a fine display of entertaining magic that one and all enjoyed to no end.

The event ended with the traditional white elephant gift exchange and the membership leaving the restaurant only to discover that it had snowed several inches while we were all busy with the indoor festivities.

Needless to say the drive home for many was a harrowing experience but all as far as I know made it home safely and without incident.



## The First Meeting of the Year

The first Thursday after the Holiday party being the second Thursday of the month found us all once again gathered in the Blue Ridge Fire Station for our monthly magic meeting which always takes place on the second Thursday of the month which coincidentally was the first Thursday after the holiday party.

Hey, no one stepped forward to fill the position of Club Secretary so until someone besides me and Dan Staple decide to do so you're gonna be stuck with newsletters and publications like this.

Anyway it was a good turnout for a dreary wet January night. The usual folks were all there and there were even a couple on new faces. However since I didn't get the sign in sheet like I usually do, or did I can't tell you who all was there, nor, oddly enough everyone who performed. I remember that Rich Waters, Brian Melicher, Lance Campbell, One of the New Guys, Dick Ptacek and Payne all performed. But since my cat ate my notes and my memory isn't what it used to be I can't recall if there were any other presenters that evening. If there were I apologize for leaving you out.

Rich received the Magician of the Month award for a fine Three Fly routine that I'm sure he has been working hard on.

All in all a good meeting that everyone had a great deal of fun at. Or at least said they did.

## Other Things that Happened at the Meeting That I Too Forgot About

Dues are due. Well past due actually so it's going to cost you! Roger had a generous deal that if you paid your dues before (or at) the last meeting that you'd get the old price of \$15.00. That offer however is gone and now the dues are \$25.00. You all had your chance. Perhaps if you talk to Roger nicely or buy him a beer he'll overlook your tardiness and let you have the old rate.

Smoke and Mirrors is happening again on April 11<sup>th</sup>. They are still in need of performers and tech support people so get a hold of Philemon to help out on this yearly fund raiser.

Paul Gertner is coming to lecture in February. Many felt it was the 14<sup>th</sup> but no one was too sure. It will be at the usual time and place I suppose but I have no details on it. Perhaps it's on our web page?

Sterling Dietz is doing a winter tour to help raise money for Special Olympics. If you're up to seeing a great "Vegas Style" magic show while supporting a great cause then pencil one of these dates in your calendar.

January 17 - Blaine Performing Arts Center, Blaine, 3pm & 7pm

January 24 - Whatcom Community College Syre Theatre, Bellingham, 3pm & 7pm

January 31 - Lake Stevens PAC, 3pm & 7pm

February 7 - Ikea PAC, Renton, 3pm & 7pm

February 14 - Capitol Theatre, Olympia, 3pm & 7pm

March 7 - Bellingham High School, 3pm & 7pm

Brian Cook is looking for feedback as to what you, our loyal membership would like to get out of our club meetings?

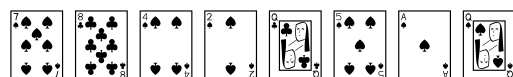
More Lectures? Teach a Trick Nights Member Performances? Workshops? Marketing Seminars? A Coherent Newsletter? Themed Nights? What else?

If you have comments and suggestions let our fearless leader know.

Other than that there's not much other news of import that I can recall from the evenings ongoings.

I'll try to take better notes next meeting. Well actually not since I'll be on a plane heading for Venice next meeting so there won't be a February Newsletter.

See everybody in March!



## Your Officers

President

**Brian Cook**

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Vice Presidents

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Visit our Website

<http://www.nwringoffire.com>

The Message Board

<http://www.runboard.com/bnorthwestringoffire>

## Upcoming Happenings

### Sterling Dietz Winter Tour

January 17 - Blaine Performing Arts Center, Blaine, 3pm & 7pm

January 24 - Whatcom Community College Syre Theatre, Bellingham, 3pm & 7pm

January 31 - Lake Stevens PAC, 3pm & 7pm

February 7 - Ikea PAC, Renton, 3pm & 7pm

February 14 - Capitol Theatre, Olympia, 3pm & 7pm

March 7 - Bellingham High School, 3pm & 7pm

<http://www.magicsterling.com/>

### Paul Gertner Lecture

February 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>

Check the Webpage

### Smoke and Mirrors

April 11<sup>th</sup>

[elementalent@me.com](mailto:elementalent@me.com)

### Kramien's Jamboree

May 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

<http://www.magicjamboree.com/home.html>