



THE NORTHWEST RING OF FIRE

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

THE PASTEBOARD

Great Confusion

Last months meeting was held in its usual locale of the 188th Street fire station. Which only goes to show that no one ever reads this rag as it was listed in the previous month's newsletter as being held in the Blue Ridge fire station instead.

None the less everyone eventually found their way to the correct location or simply went home in disgust and disappointment. Either way attendance was light, which was OK as not terribly much transpired at the meeting that night.

A discussion about the PCAM convention which had just concluded the week before was held and anecdotes about previous enclaves shared. Everyone found amusing a story about an escape artists debut performance at the Spokane PCAM back in the Fifties. Seemed this last minute entry into the public show failed to escape from his restraints. The nesw from the convention was that Aaron Wheeler

took first place in the general contest for his clever interpretation of the classic Orange, Lemon Canary trick. Not only did he win a nice trophy and the accolades of his peers but he also has been given the opportunity to take this act, complete with cast iron park bench to the Magic Castle in Hollywood California. Truly a chance of a lifetime.

Our future club president (unless someone else steps forward to run against him) Philemon (Timmy!) Vanderbeck won best mental effect in the general competition as well.

In the Pro Challenge Steve (the Pretty Good) Hamilton walked away with the second place trophy. He just jumped up on stage, grabbed the trophy and walked off with it. You think someone would have stopped him.

Kate Arnold won the coveted third place award for her exceptional manipulation act.

All in all a great showing by the membership of our

Club!

There is a reason why we are looked upon with envy and jealousy by all of the other clubs in the nation.

This of course is all going to end unless some of you

Step up to the Plate!

It is election time yet again in our little magic world and at last look there was a dearth of candidates stepping forward. At present we have just Philemon Vanderbeck and Joe "Not the Meyers".

Contrary to popular belief the club doesn't run itself. In fact if we fail to place the requisite number of officers in the required period of time we will lose our affiliation with the IBM. We need more candidates. Currently the positions of President, both Vice Presidents and Secretary (including the coveted Scribe position) are open.

There will also soon be a need for the Show Chair for next years Smoke and Mirrors show as well as the need for people to come forward and volunteer to take leadership positions for the Day of Magic and the Clubs Summer Picnic. We can't expect the same handful of people to run the whole show year after year and not suffer burnout.

Now is the time for all good men (and women) to come to the aid of their magic club.

And now a Word from our President

Ethics & Magic

One of the things that I love about this club, the magicians of the US Pacific Northwest and British Columbia is that there are so many high caliber and imaginative performers.

We be big and mighty ugly rich with excellent and creatively talented performers. Out of respect for these performers, you and the magical arts, I feel that as my presidency of this club nears its close I would like to address some ethical issues.

Even though everyone knows that it is wrong to borrow/steal artistic, intellectual or physical aspects of others acts and performance businesses we still see it everyday. It is the number one reason why most professional and semi-professional magicians avoid contact with magic clubs and other magicians in general. Because the thieves seem to profit in the short term many fail to realize, or

understand, that those who they have wronged as well as the injured artist's acquaintances never forget. That can be very costly in the long run.

Sometimes the theft is very blatant such as Proof Positive's piracy of Dirk Losander's Floating Table. In their ads they even use language that suggests that Dirk and Tommy Wonder are involved to a point. They are not involved and they are not happy. The truth will come out. Sometimes the theft is a little more grey in appearance but still bad such as the gate crashers at the last PCAM. Sometimes the theft and deception is subtle to an observer but just as damaging. Such as those who take the credit for other performers' works and accomplishments. For example at that same PCAM a performer who put together an imaginative act which took first place in one of the competitions had his accolades diminished by a local high profile magician who immediately began siphoning off credit by claiming that he mentored this performer and this act. He did not contribute even one single idea to this act nor is he a "mentor" to this performer. He has done this to other performers who were not at all surprised by this latest.

Not considered by the examples above who were thinking of saving time, money and effort by lifting the hard work of others is the

time, money and effort expenses of losing trust and respect. It is much more satisfying to advance on your own work and merits.

As I wrote in the beginning of this letter I love the imaginative creativity, vision and enthusiasm of the talent in this club and the area. I feel that we must encourage, recognize and preserve the work and creations of we the magicians of The Northwest Ring of Fire.

Bruce Meyers



Upcoming Events

July 19th 7:00 p.m.
Magic Monday
Third Place Books in
Lake Forest Park

Our next meeting will be
September 9th
And it will Feature a
fabulous and ever popular
Teach In

And as usual we will meet at the

Blue Ridge Fire Dept #14
18800 68 Ave. W,
Lynnwood

Or if no one is there it is at

Lynnwood Fire Department
44th AVE and 188th. ST
Lynnwood.

Business meeting 7:00 Magic at 7:30ish

Our Officers

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SHAWN FARQUHAR



NORTHWEST RING OF FIRE

Lynnwood Magic Club

I.B.M. Local # 339

presents a lecture by

Shawn Farquhar

on Sunday,

Sept. 12, 04

In the history of Magic, Shawn Farquhar is the only magician to win the International Brotherhood of Magicians' competitions for both the Stage Magician of the Year and Close Up Magician of the Year!

Shawn's lecture contains material from his award winning stage and close up acts and features a number of stage, stand up, close up, trade show, comedy and impromptu effects.

The lecture will be held in Lynnwood, (just North of Seattle, WA), at the Rodeo Inn, 20707 Hwy 99, in the Conference room.

Sunday, Sept. 12, at 11:00 a.m. Only \$20

Only \$15 for Members of the Northwest Ring of Fire!

Allow some time to greet your fellow magicians by arriving at 10:30.

It is an entertaining lecture you don't want to miss.