



Centennial Anniversary
1921-2021

The Flash Paper

September 2021

Bob Gehringer, Editor



Prez Sez

Second verse
same as the first.

Okay, I admit that I was very much looking forward to our first in-person meeting in months, but it seems that the virus we're all tired of talking about had other plans. So, the OMS Board decided to err on the side of caution and not meet in person quite yet – and probably not for at least another two months. But if we have to be back online for another month as we keep our eyes on the numbers, what a great Zoom meeting to have planned! I am very much looking forward to our evening with Lance Burton for his lecture and the Q & A segment afterward. And, while the stories of his television appearances and working in Las Vegas during his 30-year career will no doubt be fascinating, I personally hope he will spend some time talking about his move back home to his grandfather's farm in Kentucky and what that adjustment has been like. Yeah, I know, I'm weird like that, but I grew up in a farming community and actually want to know things like what type of chickens he is planning to get. Anyway, hope to see you there, it will be fun.

It's that time again.

In accordance with our constitution and bylaws, a nominating committee for 2022 OMS Officers has been appointed so as to be in place by the September meeting. The committee shall report recommendations at the October meeting.

Election of officers shall be held at the November meeting and installation of officers shall be at the December meeting.

To be placed on the nomination list contact either **Joyce Becwar Chleboun** at jddiamondmagic@gmail.com, or **Ryan Chandler** at oldmarketmagician@gmail.com

Other nominations for any office may be made from the floor at the October or November meetings.



This month we concentrated on Card Tricks with a special eye toward those effects that could be done with someone else's deck and an absolute minimum of setup. A good deal of attention was given to the Hindu Shuffle as it could be used as a legitimate shuffle, a force, or to facilitate the use of a key card. We also suggested that when using the Hindu Force, it could be called the "Covid Shuffle" as it represents a touchless method for having a card chosen. A highlight for the month was learning Out of This World. Each student was invited to come up with a list of 5 tricks they could perform if someone handed them a deck of cards and asked, "Can you do a trick with MY cards?" Next month we will be looking at ways to take Discover Magic tricks and others that they already know and give them a Spooky Spin for the upcoming Halloween Season.

Our current 18 members are an eager, diverse, and interested group that we hope to be able to gather with in person someday soon.



SHOW and TELL

Our monthly meeting for August 2021 began with our members sharing their favorite books about magic. This topic is an annual agenda item that always draws a crowd. This year was no exception, as twelve members shared the two books that they would bring if they were on a desert island for thirty days. Some of the books presented for this imaginary hermit's retreat were:

- *John Carney's Carneycopia*, by Stephen Minch
- *Classic Magic*, by Larry Jennings
- *The Collected Almanac*, by Richard Kaufman



- *Scams and Fantasies with Cards*, by Darwin Ortiz (One of the favorites of **David Fox**)
- *Theater of the Mind and also Curtain Call (2 books)*, by Barrie Richarson
- *Blackstone's Modern Card Tricks and Secrets of Magic*, by Harry Blackstone
- *Inside Out*, by Benjamin Earl
- *Greater Magic*, by John Hilliard
- *Fusillade*, by Paul Cummins
- *You, Me and The Devil Makes Three*, by John Wison
- *Magic Digest*, by George Anderson
- *Super Sized Silly (kids magic)*, by David Kaye

Perhaps certain of these titles will be of interest to our fellow members. Of note is that Theater of the Mind has been on many lists as a top ten magic book of all time!

After our book reviews, **Travis Nye**, an OMS member who owns the **Spellbound Magic Shop and Theater** in Sioux City, South Dakota, showed us one of his new items. Travis demonstrated a mentalism trick known as *E Wave*, by **Marc Oberon**. This ESP offering has high quality props and uses no memorization or difficult mental gymnastics. After Travis' performance, it was very clear why it is a popular item.

The evening concluded with several members sharing their oldest props or their favorite magic tricks. **Steve Nespor** had his Egg Bag handy, which has been a mainstay for his stage performances. **Bruce Jacoby** showed us his first hand-made prop, an eight-sided "Duck Bucket."



Bob Gehringer entertained us with a Blackstone card trick and a French Drop that were his first magic tricks. **John Scheibal** performed a ball and vase trick and **Tim Bagley** brought his prized 1967 English Pennies that he still uses!

The generosity everyone showed by sharing their favorite books as well as their personal stories about their beginnings with magic made our August ZOOM another interesting and entertaining evening.

Patrice Fisher, OMS Secretary



What's Our Magic Story? by Patrice Fisher

Recently, I spoke to our club's Executive Director,

Dave Arch, about some club initiatives I had noticed on the homepage of our website: I believe the role of Executive Director is perfect for a man with so much passion around magic. His enthusiastic leadership has been key to growing and improving our club while at the same time expanding our visibility in Omaha and surrounding communities.

My conversation with Dave centered around our change in location, our website's homepage, and our 2022 goals for directing our club into the future.

Here are the questions I asked Dave:

Q. We've changed our meeting location. Why?

A. There are several reasons the board decided on the change of location...

- It is a larger, more modern facility with many more amenities.
- We will have audio/visual capabilities – enhancing our events.
- The room is brighter with not only a platform, but round tables versus rows of chairs. I believe this set-up is more conducive to the unique nature to the practicing of magic and is also ideal for when we have events to which we want to invite families.

Q. How will our meetings support our shift in location and philosophy?

A. Well, we want to continue evolving how we see ourselves as a club and how the community perceives us

- making every third Monday of the month an "an event" versus "a meeting." Those gatherings will focus on a new, broader *Monday Night Magic* branding, agenda and format.

Q. Will our current agenda format change?

A. We learned much from our Zoom meetings. Our one-hour agenda will be divided into three areas of focus lasting only twenty minutes each. In no set order, twenty minutes will feature a performance from one of our club members. Twenty minutes will involve the learning of a magic trick together. Another twenty minutes will vary from month to month with about a dozen different ideas to maintain variety. There will be a raffle drawing with prizes each month and of course all of it will be broadcast simultaneously over Zoom for those who couldn't come in person.

Q. **Magic in the Libraries** is also mentioned on our website's homepage. What's that all about?

A. This is a fairly substantial undertaking considering the size of our membership. The OMS board would like to challenge us to donate a *Mark Wilson's Complete Course in Magic* book to all of our school and public libraries both here in the Omaha area and in Lincoln.



OMS member **Steve Lindeman** volunteered to coordinate this project. Anyone who wants to help can reach out to him for a book to donate. The club currently owns about 65 books and is buying more. All we ask is that a picture be taken of the hand-off with the librarian.



This project helps to spread magic out into the community and extend our OMS visibility!

Q. And how about Family Night Magic?



Bob Buczkowski and Dave Arch with Dave’s grandson Noah

A. Over the past two years we have developed and tested a magic curriculum (complete with online videos) of one-hour weekly classes designed for kids to learn and practice magic with their parents. The classes teach magic to children while also teaching parents/caregivers communication skills in giving feedback and encouragement - strengthening the whole family through the learning and practicing of magic.

What we’re hoping to do is bring the learning of magic tricks to underserved families at no cost to them. This is another way we’d like to reach outside of our club activities and into the community to benefit people through the multiple ways magic has brought many of us a more enriched life.

2022 promises to be pretty active year for the club. I think we can all look forward to experiencing our new location with its added technology and to supporting our club and community projects.

Thanks for taking time to explain some of the initiatives for 2022 and into the future. I have gained a deeper appreciation of what our club can do to bring magic into Omaha neighborhoods and to capture and spread the enthusiasm and pride of our OMS members. – Patrice



When you shop on Amazon, The Omaha Magical Society could be receiving a portion of your purchase as a donation from Amazon if you:

1. Go to the following link in your browser and sign into your Amazon account - designating the Omaha Magical Society as your charity of choice:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/35-2689855>

2. **Please Note:** Unless you want to sign in every time, be sure and mark the “Keep Me Signed In” checkbox.

3. When shopping Amazon, go in through the above link (not the Amazon app or the main Amazon site) by bookmarking the site on your computer browser and/or putting a shortcut to the website on the home screen of your phone.

We received notice that the **Omaha Magical Society** (EIN: 35-2689855) has been issued a **\$64.85** donation from the **AmazonSmile Foundation** as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between April 1 and June 30, 2021.

Thank you to all who have used  !

2021 OMS Officers

- President** – Steve Nespor omahamagician55@gmail.com
- Vice President** – Jered Schaugaard... jered.incredible@gmail.com
- Secretary** – Patrice Fisher patricekfisher@yahoo.com
- Treasurer** – Bob Gehringerr gehringerr@cox.net
- Sgt-at-Arms** – Amjad Alawimari mrwho.magic@gmail.com
- Executive Director** - Dave Arch dave@sandler.com



Magic in the Libraries Update

As a member of OMS, might you have a library (public or parochial) in the Lincoln or Omaha Metro Area to which you'd like to donate a copy of *Mark Wilson's Complete Course in Magic*?

October is traditionally *Magic Month*, and we're seeing if we can get twenty of these books placed by the end of the month. Please reach out to Steve Lindeman (AmazingLindy@gmail.com) who will get you a copy of the book and share with you some ideas that have worked for him in approaching the librarian and getting your picture taken with him/her for an upcoming issue of The Flash Paper. Here is Neil Bable presenting three books.



to Ashley Lemhoff at La Vista Public Library

Neil is holding the four aces because there is a Four Aces trick in Mark Wilson's book.

And here is a picture of **Ryan Chandler** donating a book to Jill Annis at Elkhorn Grandview Middle School.



to Julie Dinville of Bellevue Public Library



to Lacey Partlow of Papillion Public Library



It's a BIG job getting these books distributed. However, together it will sure go much faster. Thanks



Math Practice Tubes

-Another OMS Centennial Magic Trick-

In their hard copy of this month's Flash Paper, OMS members and Life Members receive another OMS Centennial Magic Trick entitled *Math Practice Tubes*. Instructions can be found in the club's online video library.

Here's the effect on your audience:

With math never being one of your strengths, this product seemed like just the thing. You bought it. In the mail comes four colorful tubes with numbers that enable you to align them into four random four-digit numbers.

Through the company's online training, you seem to be getting faster and faster in adding the numbers. Would the person you're showing this to allow you to practice with them?

You let the person to whom you're showing this arrange the numbers and work on their calculator to add up the columns. You write down your answer before they get done only to find you're way off . . . not even close. They let you try again. Although you are close, you still missed the correct answer.

You then remember what you forgot in the process and have them align the numbers again.

You write your answer down in less than thirty seconds, and it correctly matches what everyone has also obtained on their calculators. Just think how fast you'll be with another thirty days of practice. You thank them all for letting you practice with them.

Tubes pack flat for carrying in your wallet or purse.



Card Through Bill



-The Trick That Fooled Abraham Lincoln-

This trick for close-up or platform (although I prefer platform as the props cannot be examined afterwards) has a playing card apparently melt through a piece of currency. Visually stunning yet easy to learn.

Deekie and Doodle



-Luis Villamonte's Sponge Ball Routine-

Check out our website:

<http://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org>



MISTAKES



-Covering And Recovering-

Stream any late-night talk show monologue. Chances are very good that the audience will not respond well to at least one joke in the routine. Pay particular attention to how the host covers and recovers from the audience's rejection.

As you watch that monologue, you'll notice that the delivery of a joke actually comes in three phases.

The set-up gets the audience ready for the punchline:

"Have you noticed how much dogs hate it when you blow in their face?" This is then followed by the punchline:

"Why then when you get them in the car, the first thing they do is hang their heads out the window?" And the follow-through or emotional tag completes the sequence:

In this scenario, it might simply be the comedian shrugging his shoulders in bewilderment. Sometimes it's the comedian rolling his eyes or sighing. Oftentimes, the follow-through is non-verbal.

Every joke and every magic trick share these same three components.

In a magic trick, the set-up might be:

"Watch closely as I put this silver coin in your hand."

The punchline is usually when the magic happens - giving to the room fresh audience energy. As the volunteer slowly opens her hand, the coin is seen to have changed into a brass coin.

The follow-through then becomes your reaction to the audience's reaction. Usually the magician holds his/her breath until the audience has registered their collective response to the coin changing color. Then there is a releasing of the breath and a smile.

However, what if you find your group not responding positively to the trick? What are you going to do? What do the best performers in the business do?

Go back and watch the streaming monologue to see how the host did recover from the less than enthusiastic response to any of his jokes. I believe you'll notice the host using his follow - through to extricate himself from the uncomfortable situation before quickly moving on.

He might say something like:

"These are the jokes folks!" or "Testing one, two, three, is this microphone on?" or speaking to the co-host, "I told the writers that this one wouldn't play!"

But that's it! He then moves on!

And don't believe for a moment that those tag lines were ad-libbed. Every comedian develops a stock listing of such bailouts.

What lines could a magician use?

These have worked for me!

"Well, that one didn't go anywhere, did it?" or as you go over and write in your notebook, you say "Just reminding myself to never include that trick again!"

No audience wants to see the performer wallow in a failed joke or trick. Few enjoy seeing a fellow human in pain.

Sometimes we're tempted to apologize or explain that "this has never happened before." Although it might make you feel better, it won't help your participants feel better.

Shrug it off and move on! Your audience members will thank you.

From the book *Showmanship for Presenters*. Used with permission.

A portrait of Lance Burton, a well-known magician, wearing a black tuxedo and a black bow tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a vibrant blue with glowing, concentric circular patterns and star-like speckles, creating a magical atmosphere.

Monday Night Magic

SPONSORED BY THE OMAHA MAGICAL SOCIETY
FEATURING LANCE BURTON

Delighted to announce that Lance Burton will be joining us - providing a lecture at our Monday Night Magic event.

While successful on TV, Lance Burton's greatest accomplishments have been made in live performance. Working primarily in Las Vegas he has performed an astounding FIFTEEN THOUSAND shows in his 30-year career.

In addition to his teaching, there will also be an opportunity for a Q & A segment.


Broadcast on Zoom
<https://zoom.us/j/4028718108>

No charge for this event

Monday, September 20, 2021 | 7-8:30 PM




Omaha Magical Society - S.A.M. Assembly #7 Facebook Features Some snippets for those who don't visit Facebook


 **David Michael Fox**
Admin · August 30 at 8:48 PM · 🌐


Hey everyone, I am planning a road trip for the OMSers to visit Spellbound Magic Shop in Sioux Falls Saturday November 6th! Just want to see if anyone is interested in coming with me for a fun visit, jam session, and day of magic!? I am planning on driving, but if we have enough people wanting to go, we may need additional drivers. Once we have a group together, I will work on the details with you. Comment below if you are up for the Magical adventure!



👍👍 5 9 Comments Seen by 65

 **Drew Bartholomew**
Maybe if theres room left. I may be interested.
Like · Reply · 1w

 **David Michael Fox** Author Admin
I think we might need two cars. I have 3 people from Lincoln that are interested, including Bruce Jacoby. We may have to have a Lincoln vehicle and an omaha vehicle.
Like · Reply · 1w

 **Travis Nye** 📧
I appreciate all the support and seeing so many of you interested in coming. If there is anything I can do to make your trip/visit easier or memorable, do NOT hesitate to ask or mention it.
Like · Reply · 6d



"Son, your mother and I agree—it's time for you to leave the hat."



Monday Night Magic Broadcast on Zoom Monday, September 20, 2021 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Here's hoping that you can attend what should be an interesting evening. When you're ready to join, just click on this link <https://zoom.us/j/4028718108> (which is the same link we use for all of our monthly meetings).

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