



Centennial Anniversary
1921-2021

The Flash Paper

August 2021

Bob Gehringer, Editor



Prez Sez

Every now and then I clean out my wallet and get rid of the clutter that seems to self-accumulate there. I used to carry the 1921 Five Card Monte trick we received a few months back, but I've had so much fun giving those away that I need to replenish my supply. However, The Big Bill Prediction and Wallet Widget have taken up permanent residence, and now that things have loosened up a bit, I've had more opportunities to share those routines with folks in the real world.

I am also eagerly anticipating our September gathering when we will begin meeting together in person for our OMS gatherings. I had an opportunity to tour the new location and I'm excited about all the possibilities that it will present us moving forward.

So, as I prepare for our last Zoom Only meeting this month, I've picked out my two books to take to that imaginary deserted island and look forward to hearing about what books each of you would take. See you then.



Our Junior Magicians are beginning to look forward to the day when we can have hybrid in-person meetings. At present the plan is for one Zoom-Only meeting on the first Monday of the month and an In-Person/Zoom hybrid meeting on the third Monday of each month.

In addition, we will continue to host Thursday Night Office Hours as needed for those who might have questions on recently learned tricks or who just want to hang out and talk magic.

In August we are spending time learning and reviewing several forces from Mark Wilson's Complete Course in Magic and varied card effects that use them. We began with the month with the Discover Magic trick, Future Card, which uses the Cut Deeper Force. They also learned Out of This World and Royal Mix Up.



And we are looking forward to adding another member later this month.

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 Gehringer gehringer@cox.net
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Executive Director - Dave Arch dave@sandler.com

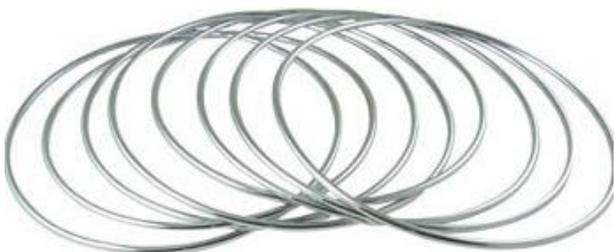


The Omaha Summer heats-up as the OMS Members Rate-A-Trick

Our Zoom monthly meeting for July, 2021 was an entertaining discussion followed by some performances by our club's working magicians. The topic was Rate-A-Trick, and the group brought all sorts of magic and interesting discussion to the evening.

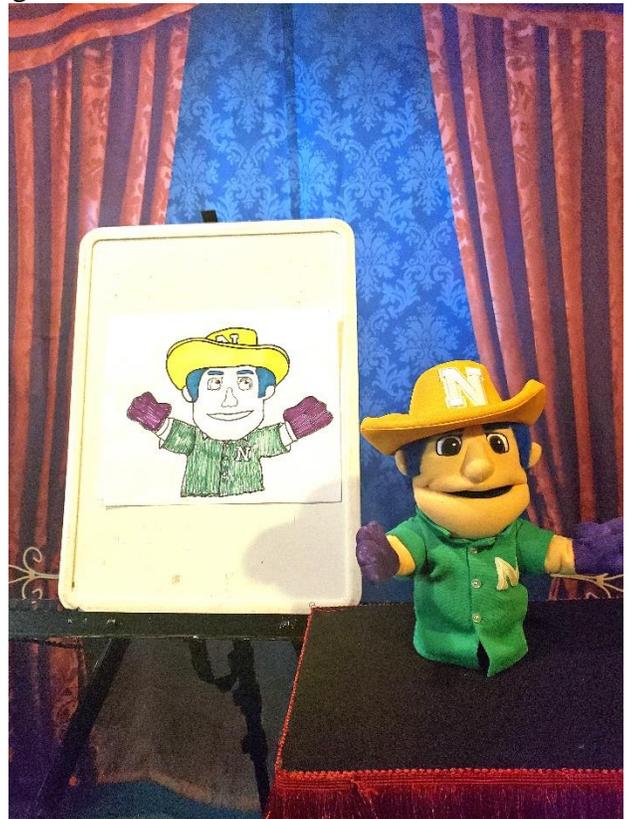
But, first, we viewed a video about the Tannen's Magic Camp. This is a big landmark among magicians for its long-established camp dedicated to the art and skills of the magician. Although this year the camp was a virtual event, it was a real highlight for two of our Junior Magicians. They found themselves in a break-out session with the famous magician, Teller, for whom they performed tricks learned while attending our weekly magic training for kids. Their attendance was made possible by two scholarships given to our club by one of our new members, **Doug Taylor**. His sponsorship is quite the gesture of his dedication to the legacy of magic in Omaha. It is an example of his philosophy of magic as a universal language that can not only break down barriers but open up life to abundance. We are very grateful for the abundance of life he gave to our young, enthusiastic junior magicians.

Next, our members shared tricks that they know an audience enjoys, but for which they are not so enthusiastically performed. One of such tricks is the Egg Bag. A lively discussion ensued about the pros and cons of that classic illusion. Either you love it or hate it seemed to be the consensus.



Linking Rings was another trick that seemed to have a lot of merits for some and not so much for others.

But, the highlight of the meeting were performances by **Jered Schaugaard**, **Larry Brodahl**, **Steve Lindeman** and **Dave Madsen**. Each showed their go-to and favorite tricks. **Jered** and **Larry** performed card tricks with slight-of-hand expertise that always entertains us, and sparks conversation. **Dave Madsen** showed us a very upbeat performance set to music that is a hit in his stage shows. It is a fast-moving shuffle of many record albums that change colors in concert with his patter and background music.



It is always fun when **Steve Lindeman** performs one of his stage tricks. He shared a mentalism trick known as Color Match, using a puppet of Herbie Husker, the University of Nebraska football mascot. It is a hit with an audience not only because of our love of college football, but because it incorporates the "free thought" of a volunteer who chooses colors to paint the black and white picture of Herbie, only to have Steve pull a matching Herbie Husker puppet out of the magic box that sat untouched next to him on stage.

Patrice Fisher - OMS Secretary



August's OMS Centennial Magic Tricks

Two NEW Videos in Our Club's Online Video Library

A Whimsical Gambling Routine

With low stakes, lots of room for comedy, and an easy-to-follow progression to the routine, this one just might go into your performing repertoire.



The Back Palm

OMS member **Luis Villamonte** shares with us his work on the back palm for the vanish and reappearance of a playing card.

Check out our website:

<http://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org>



- Every club member has access to another video in our online video library with SIX more tricks and gags that can be done with the *Wallet Gizmo* from last month's Flash Paper and wait . . . there's more!

- In addition, every member will also receive with the hard copy of their newsletter four stickers perfectly sized for placement on the outside of a card box. And they're repositionable too!

A presentation idea might go something like this:

"The magic club to which I belong had a special deck of playing cards commissioned in honor of their centennial year. Here I have the deck with me (show them the official looking sticker). Outstanding workmanship. I don't care how closely you look the cards over you'll never find the gimmick." (Here you could give them a chance to do just that - handing packets to different people).

After getting the cards back and reassembling the deck, you might then say something like "Now let me show you what they can do" as you go into the card routine you'd planned all along.

Might be a fun way to change things up a bit? Of course, then you could put away that deck and bring out an ungimmicked one . . . or maybe not.



COSTUMING -Communicating Character-

Try this experiment the next time you watch a late-night talk show!

Turn off the sound for at least half the show!

With no sound, you'll be able to focus your attention on the host's selection of clothing. Check below all that you can learn about him from his clothes.

- _____ Introverted?
- _____ Extroverted?
- _____ Wealthy?
- _____ Detail oriented?
- _____ Stylish?
- _____ Aloof?
- _____ Pretentious?
- _____ Flashy?
- _____ Folksy?
- _____ Other?



Once you start making that list, it's amazing how much we do learn about a person's personality from the way they dress.

Now repeat this same experiment for several different evenings to observe how much he varies his attire. You'll probably discover a definite pattern to his clothing choices!

Like an actor wears a costume to enhance the character they play; the talk show host wears his clothing to strengthen the persona he has decided to project. His costuming serves as an extension of his character development.

What do you think the following combinations communicate about the personality of the one wearing them?

Suit or no suit?
Double breasted suit or single-breasted suit?

Long skirt, mid-length or short skirt?

Skirt or pants?

Skirt and blouse, dress, or suit?

Bright color, dark color or earth tone? Sports coat or suit?

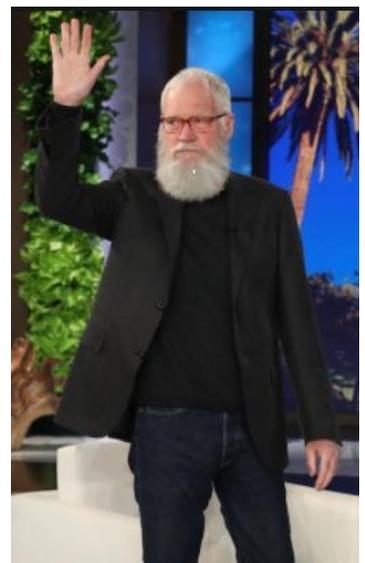
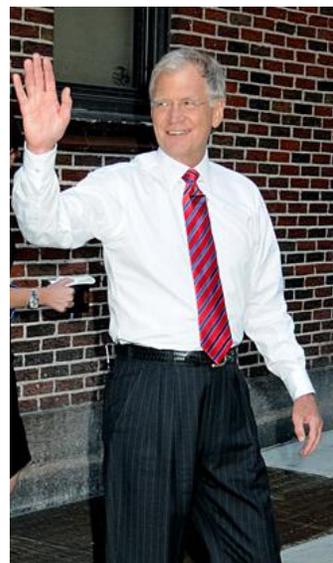
Tie or open shirt? Short sleeve shirt or long-sleeved shirt? White shirt or colored shirt? Plain shirt or patterned shirt?

Of course this assumes you've already defined the character you wish to portray.

If you have already defined your performing persona, then select your attire to silently support and complement your character.

If people could turn the sound off on you as a magician, what would just your clothes reveal about yourself? Is it the image you want?

Excerpted from the book *Showmanship for Presenters*. Used with permission.





Overhead! -By Dave Arch-

No doubt you've seen "two-person telepathy" party stunts where one person leaves the room while the other remains. After coming back into the room, the person is able to discern an object selected by those in the room to the puzzlement of those watching.

This obscure version has one of the partners leave the room and stay in the other room while the remaining partner holds his/her hand above the heads of several people in the room. Each time s/he holds his/her hand above a head she repeats the single word "Overhead." Then finally the partner remaining in the room holds his/her hand over the head of another person and asks the question "Over whose head?" From the other room the partner successfully discerns and calls out the name of the person over whose head the partner's hand is being held.



This can be repeated over and over as each time it's repeated those watching rule out yet another of their theories as to how it works. Following are some theories which quickly get eliminated:

- No verbal coding between the partners. The same exact phrases are used every time.
- The chosen one from the group is not always the second, third, or fourth person in the process. The ordering of the people is ultimately under the completely free choice of the partner remaining in the room.
- No pre-arranged ordering of the people (i.e., First Bob, then Mary, then etc.)

And best of all for the performers there is no memorization required.

The Secret

The secret is that both partners know that the person who ultimately will be the recipient of the phrase "Over whose head?" will be the last person from the group to speak prior to the partner leaving the room.

Although this has never happened to me, if two people "tie" in speaking at the same time as the partner leaves the room, the partner simply returns and asks the group if everyone is ready.

In my experience, as opposed to most other times in magic, repetition here only makes the routine stronger.



Monday Night Magic



Starting on Monday, September 20th, The Omaha Magical Society sponsors *Monday Night Magic* with a featured magician, a learn-a-trick section, prizes, and more on the third Monday of every month from 7:00 - 8:00 PM at The Cross Training Center ([5030 N. 72nd Street in Omaha](#)).



Grown Up Show & Tell **Monday, August 16, 2021** **7:00 - 8:00 PM**

Join us for our last regularly scheduled Zoom-Only meeting. (We begin our hybrid in-person gatherings in September!)

To start our evening on Monday, August 16th we'll be inviting you to show two magic books you'd pack if you went away to a deserted island for thirty days - telling us a little bit about your choice.

Next up will be an opportunity to display one of the oldest magic props or books on your shelves and talk a little bit about its history. It can be anything from a prop you've used since you began magic to a treasured, autographed original poster, and anything in between.

During the evening, **Travis Nye** has graciously agreed to drop in from **Spellbound Magic Shop** and do a live, virtual demo performance of "E Wave."

Here's hoping that you can attend what should be a fun and fascinating night. 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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