



The Flash Paper

June 2023

Bob Gehringer, Editor



A Letter from Lindy

We are lucky to have the premier Midwest magic convention in our backyard. **Steve Hinrichs** and **Mckayla Oz** put in a lot of hard

work to ensure AbraCORNdabra is a convention to rival all others. O.M.S. had a large contingent at the 13th annual event. The Friday evening pizza get together was well attended, and is becoming a club tradition.

I personally could not attend until Saturday morning so I missed some great lectures and shows. On Friday **Bruce Jacoby** entered the 50+ competition, I heard he had a fabulous act. On Saturday, youth member **Easton Boettcher** wowed the Kernels audience with his rendition of Hippity Hop Rabbits. Congratulations to both!



Alex and Kayleigh

Doug Taylor and **Taylor Made Home Solutions**, once again gifted two scholarships to Tannen's Magic Camp.

All the Kernels were entered into the drawing. I was happy to present the scholarship to this year's winners, **Alex Garcia** of Cedar Rapid, IA and **Kayleigh Rodgers** of Davenport, IA. Looking forward to hearing about their camp experience. Thank you, Doug, this is an awesome opportunity for the young magicians.

My youngest grandson, **Steven III**, accompanied me on the trip. He enjoyed the entire weekend.

Start planning now to attend, AbraCORNdabra 2024, May 17th to 19th.

We had a great turn out for our May meeting. Everyone came out to see **Travis Nye**, and his popup magic shop, from the "Spellbound Magic Shop and Theater" in Sioux Falls S.D. Before we got the chance to peruse all the great magic **Travis** had for sale, he gave a captivating lecture. He spoke on some of the 37-performance topics from last months' article on Balancing the Scales. Travis took several of the bullet points and gave his take on each skill adding antidotes from his personal experiences. In a very entertaining and informative way, Travis gave great insight into how we can improve the magic we perform. After his talk a drawing was held for three different Kenton Knepper DVD's. Then everyone was turned loose to make their magic purchases. Sales were brisk as the meeting ran long into the evening. Thank you, Travis.

A second lecture this month was with **Marcos Waldemar**. A very creative magician from the north of Spain. As this was not scheduled for a regular meeting night, **Dave** and **Sue Arch** opened their home to approximately 18 club members.



Marcos noted magic originating in Spain strives to touch the audiences emotionally, which he demonstrated throughout the evening.

In the first half of the lecture, Marcos taught several card routines, some were very sleight heavy, some not so much. These tricks were routined in such a way that the lay person would not discover the techniques employed.

There was a brief intermission with drinks and snacks. In the second half, Marcos taught tricks that utilized ‘toys’ as he called them. Some very unique gimmicks not commonly seen in the U.S. Marcos gave an entreaty lecture which had something for everyone. One highlight for me was the camaraderie sitting around the fire enjoying a beautiful cool evening with all the attendees and watching Marcos doing additional card routines that were not a part of the lecture.

Steve Nesor said “I am not a card guy but was interested to learn more about the impromptu card work he mentioned in his teaser ad. All I knew of him prior to this was his “The Fly” effect, that has an interesting premise and gimmick. There were plenty of things of interest during the lecture, but the Crushy Balls idea has a number of interesting applications that I’ll be exploring in the coming months.”

Roger Reese reported as follows: “Our special lecturer this month was **Marcos Waldemar**. He was a very friendly performer whose magic entertained and amazed those in attendance. During the 2-hour lecture Marcos spent time showing each effect and then explaining how it worked and how to perform it. Each item performed was also available to purchase or learn via his new “to be released” magic book. The book was currently only available as a PDF document as the physical book won't be released until later this summer. He had very reasonable pricing and an even better price to have everything bundled together.

The lecture started off with a card at any number type routine that definitely fooled the attendees. The second card effect had to do with a prediction of what two cards would be cut to and the final card effect used around eight cards that were ripped in half and mixed into two piles. The finale of which had both halves matching each other. All the effects could work with or without any sleight of hand. It just depends on your skill level and if you want to add additional things to make the effect more baffling. The second hour focused on toys, gimmicks, cards, and a card change. Marcos did a prediction effect using cards with numbers written on them, he performed his “The Fly” card effect where a house fly finds the selected card, he showed us his version of a “nail writer”, a routine where a piece of paper that looked like a candy wrapper would take on the smell of a flavor printed on a card the spectator selected and finally a “Linking Ring” routine where 2 black rings were drawn on the back of a selected card and with the wave of his hand the rings magically linked together and the card was handed back to the spectator. Marcos also showed and explained how he does the Erdnase color change to change the face of the card not once but twice just by passing his hand over the card. He is a master of this move and his changes looked unbelievable.”



This month’s featured magician posing with me at the start of my letter is world renown comedy magician **David Williamson**. David has won many awards for both his sleight of hand and stage performances. He appeared in Omaha as a late stand in for **Jeff Hobsen** when the *The Illusionist* played at the Orpheum theater. They will be back in Omaha on November 16th. Though he is not listed on the playbill you never know. It will be great show either way, and it’s selling out fast. If you’d like to attend reserve your tickets soon.



Pop-Up Store with Magic Galore

Our OMS May Magic Event featured **Travis Nye**. A professional magician, Travis, owns a magic shop and theater in our neighboring state of South Dakota. Fire-eating, and needle swallowing are two types of "Geek Magic" that have been part of his repertoire during his seventeen years of performing. Besides his own stage performing, Travis is also comfortable doing close-up, and parlor magic as well.

Travis is a well-known friend and consultant to many of the members of our club. He has developed a reputation for honesty about the quality, proficiency level, and popularity of his magic stock and other effects new on the horizon of the magic universe. If you cannot find an item, call Travis and he will help.

In addition to running his store, you can buy a ticket to enjoy performances in his adjacent theater. A field trip to his shop, Spellbound Magic and Theater, is always a worthwhile destination event. Last year, our junior magicians were treated to a road trip to peruse his shop. If you are ever in the area, it is worth taking the exit and a break from driving, to visit Nye's place. You will probably see him demonstrating his wares with his welcoming style.



Our evening began with his lecture on performance tips that spanned from how to deal with hecklers, to effective script writing. His insights from his career and lessons learned were followed by the pop-up store that is becoming an annual event for our members.

Besides bringing effects that are sold at his store, Travis knows where to find what you desire. He has become well known in the midwest as an expert on a variety of magic effects and is often contacted for his insight into

the latest illusions. His reputation includes his honest reviews about the strengths and weaknesses of the magic effects he sells.



So, after his tips from years of experience, the shopping began! – **Patrice Fisher OMS Secretary**



Steven Osborn – I'm very pleased to announce that Childrens Hospital has joined our partnership with UNMC in our Magic in the Hospitals initiative. Starting off with our OMS videos with more ideas for down the road!!

2023 OMS Officers	
President – Steve Lindeman.....	amazinglindy@gmail.com
Vice President – Bruce Jacoby.....	bruce@colorfulmagic.com
Secretary – Patrice Fisher	patricekfisher@yahoo.com
Treasurer – Bob Gehringer	gehringerr@cox.net
Sgt-at-Arms – Tim Begley	tpbegley@cox.net
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Larry's Logic

Practicing

Practice – one of my favorite things in the world to do. Practice makes perfect, yes? NO! Imperfect practice makes imperfect.

So, let's talk practice. Because there's several things that magicians need to practice.

- A sleight
- A trick
- A routine
- An act
- Packing
- Unpacking
- Setting up
- Tearing down

So, as you can see, there's a lot to talk about, so this might be another of my multi-month rants.

SLEIGHTS. Everyone realizes that you have to practice sleights, but how do you practice them correctly?

Well first, you have to think about the sleight. Because if you don't realize the point of the sleight from **both** the magicians **and** the audience's viewpoint, you might not be getting the best results for your work.

A perfect example of this is the Elmsley Count. It wasn't until about 10 years ago that I realized this is NOT a count...it's just badly named.

The Elmsley Count is actually a DISPLAY move. We're NOT trying to count 4 cards, as no one needs us to help them count to 4. No, what we're trying to do is DISPLAY the four cards.

What difference does this make? Well, it changes how your hands and tempos work.

If I'm COUNTING 4 cards, I can quickly blast through

the move, 1-2-3-4! But if I'm DISPLAYING the cards, I have to do it deliberately enough to give you a decent look at the cards. 1---2---3---4!



[Elmsley Count Tutorial - YouTube](#)

And, if I'm clever, as each card is peeled into my left hand, I'll tilt my hand downward and forward so that you can see the card better...after all you WANT the audience to see what you're DISPLAYING!

And tilting your hand downward and forward takes time. So, it will automatically slow down the Elmsley.

BTW: It was a **Paul Harris** video on YouTube that triggered this moment for me. He did the “tilt hand forward” movement, and I immediately slapped my head.

So, now you know that the “tilt hand” move has to be practiced in conjunction with the Elmsley Count until BOTH moves are automatic.

BUT...if you're doing the VERTICAL Elmsley Count with Jumbo cards that I invented, you'll quickly realize that the “tilt” doesn't work. So, you'll substitute a “move the cards upwards” move to accomplish the same thing.

The gist of all this: understand that you realize that the move CANNOT be practiced without first understanding the *point* of the move. And that the VENUE you're working in (stage -vs- closeup -vs- parlor) can change the sleight.

Other than this, common sense tells you a lot of it. Practice a move frequently for short periods. Watch yourself using mirrors AND video cameras.

Refresh your skills intermittently.



Seeing With Your Fingertips



Issue the following challenge to your audience: "I will attempt a most unbelievable card trick. After a deck of cards is thoroughly shuffled, I will place it in my pocket. An audience member can then name any card in the deck, and I will reach into my pocket and attempt to find — by touch alone as though seeing with my fingertips a card or cards that add up to the number on the group's selected card. The last card I pull from my pocket will match your chosen card's suit."

You'll have their attention.

Before you attempt this trick, secretly place in your pocket the following cards: Ace of Clubs, Two of Hearts, Four of Spades, Eight of Diamonds—in that order. Use the word **CHaSeD** to remember the order of the suits (clubs, hearts, spades, diamonds). The values of the cards merely double with each card.

When ready to perform, divide up the remainder of the deck among some of the audience. Ask them to shuffle their cards. Reassemble the deck and remind them of your challenge.

Put the deck in your pocket. Ask someone in the group to name any card in the deck (except the joker) and then call out their decision. Repeat your declaration that you will attempt to pull cards from your pocket whose values equal that of the card they named—11 for the Jack, 12 for the Queen, 13 for the King— and that you hope the last card you pull will match the suit they have chosen.

By using the words "attempt" and "hope" in your description, you will suggest a certain potential for failure that will only add to the impact on your audience when you ultimately succeed.

Put the shuffled deck in your pocket next to the four cards already there. In other words, the four previously-arranged cards will now either be on the top or the bottom of the shuffled deck.

Now let's imagine the group deciding to challenge you with the five of diamonds.

After suitable concentration and some silent mental figuring (take all the time you need to think - remembering . . . you're supposed to make this look difficult), you reach into your pocket and remove the Ace of clubs. That counts as "one." Then dip into the pocket again and come out with the four of spades. That counts for "four," bringing your total now up to the "five."

However, you still don't have the suit. So, as promised, reach into the pocket and bring out the eight of diamonds; that should satisfy the crowd that you have now matched the suit.

If the volunteer had named the five of clubs, you could have first drawn the four of spades from your pocket, followed by the Ace of clubs.

Unlike most magic tricks, this one seems to grow in popularity with repetition. Although I would never do this trick more than twice for the same group (people might start realizing you draw from a bank of four cards after a few repetitions), don't be afraid to do it two times.



**Sponsor of the
Tannen's Magic camp Scholarships**



Monday Night

Magic

SPONSORED BY THE OMAHA MAGICAL SOCIETY



MYSTERY MAGIC

With the club's recent acquisition of several magic collections, we have accumulated a table of magic tricks without instructions.

We thought it might be fun to have an evening where table groups would take one of those tricks and try to reconstruct it through Googling it and brainstorming possible routines for it - ultimately presenting it to the other tables.

We'll also have a panel discussing Dan Harlan's approach to routining a magic show that can be found in his booklet entitled *More Than Meets The Eye*.

In anticipation of that discussion, you may use the QR code at the bottom of this poster to download his booklet and use the link on the cover of the booklet to access Dan's video on the subject of routining.

SIMULTANEOUSLY BROADCAST ON ZOOM:

<https://zoom.us/j/4028718108>

MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023 | 7-8 PM (CDT)

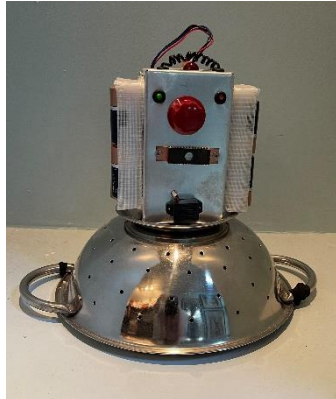
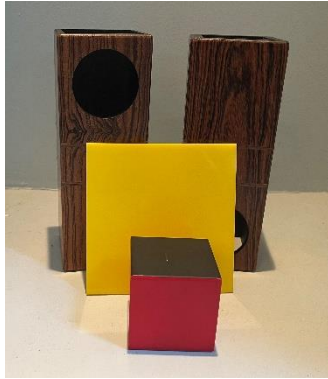
The Cross Training Center - 5030 N. 72nd Street - Omaha, Nebraska

No charge for attending this event.





Here are pictures of the tricks without instructions that the **Monday Night Magic** table groups will brainstorm for possible routines, and then present to the other tables.



On Monday night, June 19th, June's Monday Night Magic panel members include: [Roger Reese](#) (Facilitator) along with [Larry Brodahl](#), [Jered Blake](#), and [David Michael Fox](#) discussing the pros and cons of **Dan Harlan's** model for routining a magic show. In anticipation of the discussion, you may download and read about The Harlan Routining Model here: bit.ly/45N6k41

What about those people joining the fun on Zoom for June's Monday Night Magic?

They will not be left out.

In addition to enjoying the panel and performances, they will be challenged to build a solid routine utilizing Omaha Magical Society's Hypnotic Wheel.



Check out our website:
<http://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org>



Bruce and Christopher Hart

AbraCORNdabra's Lucky 13 Doesn't Disappoint

The Midwest's Premier Magic Convention held its lucky 13th gathering in Des Moines on the weekend of May 17-19. This convention has been a yearly draw for many magicians around the country and abroad. There are several factors that

make this convention a big draw for seasoned magicians to newbies.

One of the biggest draws for the convention is **Steve Daly** and **Mikayla Oz**. These two run a convention where I feel that they try to make everyone have a personalized and wonderful experience! I have always felt very welcome in my seven visits. Another draw is that they only allow 200 participants. By limiting the numbers, it makes for an intimate experience. You're able to see all the lectures and shows up close. It also allows participants to jam and chat with any or all magicians who are there to lecture or present. I have had some great experiences with many different magicians over the years.



Mathew performing

Another big draw is the way that Steve really welcomes and supports young magicians. The convention helps many youths with scholarships and invites them to present their magical skills in the **Young Kernels** magic show. This year there were two youth that had connections with the OMS. **Easton**, from South Dakota and **Matthew**, from Kansas City. Easton performed on our own Magic for Hospitals video. Matthew was one of the winners of the Tannen's Magic Camp scholarships last year. They both did a wonderful job during their performances.

Steve and Mikayla always bring in some well-known magicians to lecture and perform for the attendees and this year was no different. **Bizzaro** opened the convention where he shared some of his insights of developing his magic for his shows. I think one of his highlights was his color changing sponge balls he developed several years ago.

The afternoon lecturer was **Christopher Carter**. Christopher was highly anticipated by many attendees. Christopher's mentalism was very entertaining and useable by any mentalist.

Before the evening events the OMS held its annual pizza gathering. I don't know the final count but there were close to 25 attendees.

The Friday night schedule kicked off with the Magimasters Senior Magic Tournament. It is the only convention in the country that holds a magic contest for magicians over 50 years old. There were 10 magicians this year who competed for the title, trophy, jacket, and cap. Following the contest **Rafel** from Belgium presented his unique magic and way of developing effects.

The evening was capped off when attendees were split into two different groups that either attended the pizza/pop party or the sideshows which fit into the 13th year theme. Probably one of my top highlights was part of the sideshows. **Ben Ulin** and his female assistants from his shows did a glow magic show. It was entertaining and very well put together. If you ever have a chance to see this show in the future, don't miss it!

Saturday was kicked off by **Kenton Knepier**. Kenton is a magician originally from the Des Moines area. He had



some great information and shared interesting stories from some of the amazing magicians he had collaborated with in the past.

One of the convention's most anticipated events ended the morning - The Young Kernels Showcase Show. Each youth can do about a 5-minute performance, which is not a contest. The young magicians receive feedback about their performance following the showcase at a pizza and pop party. What a great way to get the youth's attention with pizza and pop!

Saturday afternoon might have been the highlight as far as lectures and presentations. The afternoon was kicked off by **Christian** and **Katalina**. I remember several years ago they were contributors to SAM's MUM magazine. Their mentalism and mind reading were amazing. They demonstrated several things from their show that anyone could make and use for some real worker's effects. Their time was followed by **Rob Zabrecky**. Rob has definitely perfected his own character when he performs. Rob's show presentation was amazing; however, you must realize that it is not for everyone. I enjoyed how Rob shared from his book, *A, B, Z's of Magic*. He used the alphabet to give great information to help anyone who wanted to improve their magic and performance, such as: scripting, understanding your material, and giving back.

Saturday evening finished with the OscEars. This event started a couple of years ago and has been a lot of fun. It is a time where the theme of AbraCorndabra or the "mystery magician" is celebrated. This year's theme was the Addams Family to honor the "mystery magician" that would be introduced during the celebration. Many of the staff from the convention were dressed as Addams family characters and handed out little magic items. They looked great! Some of the staff members then presented their own magic show. Attendees were encouraged to wear costumes to the event and the winner would win free registration for next year! During this event there are many awards to be given away such as: senior contest winner, participation awards for youth, and special awards from the convention. A special award this year was given by OMS president **Steve Lindeman**. He awarded one of the youths in attendance a scholarship to Tannen's Magic Camp. Congratulations to this year's winner, **Alex Garcia**. After the convention was over another scholarship was given to **Kayleigh Rodgers**. OMS thanks **Doug Taylor** and his company, **Taylor**

Made Home Solutions for these generous gifts! The OscEars closed with the announcement of the mystery magician. This year's magician was **Christopher Hart**. Christopher has an impressive resume that includes time at the Magic Castle, working at Hollywood Magic Store, working for **David Copperfield**, and doing magic on many TV commercials and now in Lake Tahoe. Christopher might be better known by many in his role as The Hand in the recent Addams Family movies. Christopher performed an amazing segment of his show. I was very impressed with it. At the end of Saturday night every year Steve has some great posters that all the performers and lecturers sign for the convention goers. I have enjoyed collecting these for the past seven conventions that I have attended.

You might wonder if you can acquire any new magic during AbraCorndabra. During the convention there is always a great dealer room! There were many dealers who had many types of magic effects, one with some larger illusions, dealers with books, a new magic toy and some interesting wood effects. On Saturday there is also a silent auction with many items and all proceeds go into the Young Magician's Fund for future scholarships. Before the convention even officially opens, there is a magic flea market. I have never seen so many magicians selling things from their collections!



Some of the OMS members at AbraCorndabra

If you have never attended AbraCorndabra, or missed this last year, please seriously consider making the trip to Des Moines in 2024. It has become a yearly visit for many, with magicians they consider family.

By **Bruce Jacoby** - O M S Vice-President



Monday Night Magic

Monday June 19th 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Cross Training Center
5030 N. 72nd Street
Omaha, NE

Or just click on this link <https://zoom.us/j/4028718108> (which is the same link we use for all of our monthly meetings).

13405 Marinda ST.
Omaha, NE 68144

