



The Flash Paper December 2025

“Enjoying magic...with others...for others.”

Bob Gehringer, Editor



Prez Adam's Antics

November Reflections -

November was a great month of connection, creativity, and some long-overdue magic moments! We finally held our cursed Marked Cards Meeting on November 17th - the one that had been rescheduled more times than any of us want to admit. And wow... it was worth the wait. I hand-

picked a few of our club's strongest card workers to lead the night, and they absolutely delivered. A huge thank-you to **Steve L., Trevor G., Jared B., and Larry B.** for teaching, performing, and sharing their personal approaches. We heard from several members afterward that it was one of the most educational meetings in recent memory. That makes me incredibly happy, because the whole intention behind this format was to spotlight the talent inside our own club and create more moments where we learn from one another.

We'll definitely make these “club-led masterclass” nights a recurring thing. If you have feedback - good, bad, or “here's what would make it even better” - please message or email me. And thank you to whoever suggested healthier snack options... we heard you! Expect a little more variety going forward, not just cookies.

Another fun highlight from November was some great conversation with **Trevor** about the ESP deck he's inventing. If you're curious, definitely ask him to show you the prototype at a future meeting. He may be heading



Trevor's cat Flannigan checking out
Trevor's new ESP deck!

toward marketing it, so club members are getting a bit of an inside scoop. He's excited to share his findings and process with anyone interested.

Looking Ahead: December Meeting - Our December meeting will feature our annual **Magic Gift Giveaway**. This is not a white-elephant exchange — Dave and I will be selecting genuine, valuable magic gifts to give out. You just show up, enjoy the night, and possibly walk away with something you'll use in your repertoire. Please try to be there if you can! We also will be voting for 2026 officers. Contact **Joyce Chleboun** or **Ryan Chandler** if you wish to be considered for a position. Or let me know at the meeting.

Adamagic Holiday Season - On a personal note, holiday party season is in full swing. I've been booking events for December, January, and February. The Toys “R” Us event (originally scheduled earlier) is now happening on December 6, from 10 AM to 3 PM at Westroads Mall. I'll be performing magic, showcasing Fantasma kits, and there will be face painters and balloon artists as well. If you're at the mall that day, stop by and say hello!

Venue News - And a quick teaser - in 2026 we may be migrating to a new venue for our OMS meetings. Nothing official yet, but stay tuned for that announcement. Exciting things ahead!

Thank you all for being such a welcoming, talented, and supportive magic family. Each month, I'm reminded of how special this community is. Until next time.



November Re-Cap by Matt Spielman

Last month our club pulled back the curtain on one of the tools in nearly every magician's possession, the marked card. From “nail nicks” of the old western saloons to the modern printed reader systems used today we went through how to create, read, and perform with your own marked deck.



Kicking off the night **Larry Brodahl** performed his friendship test routine “Match” utilizing the Gilbreath principle along a marked deck. A volunteer from the audience was brought up and given the option to choose between two identical packets of cards in red or blue. Next, they were given the chance to shuffle the packet and choose a card. One by one the cards ended up matching Larry's, proving that they were compatible enough to be friends. Larry highlighted the importance of having a gap between reading the card and revealing the card to help prevent the audience from backtracking on how the trick works and by giving you a space to inject some theater into your routine. I highly recommend reading up on the Gilbreath principle, Max Maven called it “a thing of terrifying beauty” and despite the somewhat heady math behind the scenes it can provide some great effects hidden behind a simple cut and riffle shuffle.

Next up **Trevor Groenjes** showed the entire group how to create and read your own marked deck using a safety pin to remove small sections of the back of a card. Every table was given a pre-marked card along with a brand new one to replicate the marking process. Just by making 2 small scratches we were all able to create coded clock style marks on the card to display the suit and value easily. While this method is trickier to read at a glance it is well hidden and can be used in a pinch when marked cards aren't available and you need to whip something up in a hurry. Once we were all through marveling at our newfound ability to mark a deck we split up into 3 smaller groups for the rest of the performances on deck.



Steve Lindeman was our next performer and presented our table with a pack of children's flash cards showing various objects a child might recognize. 3 people were then given the chance to choose a card from the deck and one by one Steve was able to mentally pick up cues to divine everyone's selected card. After the performance we were shown that the cards were in a stacked order and the marking on the back of the card showed which card was next in order. This method of marking is helpful when you have the deck cut for a selection leaving you with a ton of time and cover to read the card behind their selection, they can keep their card hidden all day long but the one in your possession gives it all away.

Trevor Groenjes shared one of his favorite personal routines that he was hesitant to share with the group. He started off the routine by writing a prediction down on a



billet and storing it away. Next an audience member was given the chance to deal down the cards until they felt they were ready to make a selection and hold onto it. Before moving onto the next member Trevor wrote another prediction on a billet and stowed it away as well. The cards were then handed out to another audience member and dealt down into two piles, with one pile chosen the top card was selected. Trevor then revealed that his billet predictions correctly matched up to the selected cards. The method behind the trick was then taught to the group showing how a single glance at the bottom of a shuffled deck along with making billet predictions in reverse (makes sense when you know how it's done) can create a very fooling multi selection routine.



Last but certainly not least, **Jered Schaugaard** performed a routine at our table that gave the audience a chance to feel what its like to be a magician. A volunteer was given a deck of cards to freely shuffle and split into two parts. Next the volunteer and **Jered** each selected half of the deck and picked a single card before shuffling it back into their halves and swapping them with each other. Showing how easy it was for a trained magician. **Jered** quickly found the volunteers selected card and displayed it to the group.

The spotlight was then on the audience member as they chose a card, **Jered** then loudly told the group what his

selected card was before flipping over the card showing an exact match. The method to the routine was easy and impromptu, all that was required was the ability to read the two cards chosen by the audience and you leave them with a great sense of what it feels like to perform a great magic trick.

At the end of the night, we were given 4 great routines showcasing the range and power of a marked deck along with the training to create our own marked deck when needed. Trevor also brought out his collection of marked decks showing the wide variety of coded and reader marked systems to give us a good idea of the options available on the market and how you can utilize them for various routines. Thank you to all of our volunteers for providing well thought out routines for the group and to everyone behind the scenes for making our monthly meetings a possibility.



Fantastic Jack last year.

'Tis the season of giving. Here is an opportunity to use your talents to bring some joy to others.

Each year the kids at **Boys Town** have a chance to go home for the holidays, but for a variety of reasons many kids remain on campus. These kids will be treated to a holiday dinner. As in past years, OMS will provide strolling

entertainment for this event.

Date: Tuesday, December 23rd, 4:30 to 7:00 - There will be two seatings of approximately 150 each. With this many kids it will need to be a group effort. If you have the availability, and would like to put a smile on the faces of an appreciative audience. **Please let me know.** I promise you'll have a great time too!

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Discover Magic Classes get a Big Boost

Our Omaha Magical Society has had an extraordinary year! November was no exception because we gained a new teacher for our *Discover Magic* youth training program.



Tim Begley had been on my radar for a while. His magic skills were always perfect for our purposes. And observing his cheerful, calm, and very patient demeanor (I can be a handful when I get excited about stuff.) made him a major contender. So, when Tim mentioned that he wanted to join our group. I was ecstatic! He did not disappoint during his first class. Tim endeared himself to the students with his French Drop maneuver, which he taught like a pro. His specific leadership and magic skills are a nice complement to our curriculum. It is a joy for **Tim Kroeger**, **Steve Lindeman**, and myself to welcome Tim #2, now known as “Begs” to our teaching team! Begs has 20 years of experience with youth leadership as a Scout Troop Master, training in youth safety as well as being a mainstay of our CARE Team for assisted living communities in Omaha. When you see Tim Begley, please congratulate and wish Tim the best in his newest role for our club.

But this is not the only exciting announcement for our *Discover Magic* program...

Along with our good fortune of gaining staff for class, our Executive Director, **Dave Arch**, found us a permanent place for our Monday night class. He met with the **Jewish Community Center** to discuss partnering with them to teach magic. It is with a lot of pride that after Dave described our program we are being welcomed enthusiastically after Dave described our OMS mission for our community and our unique program elements. Their school is very excited to add our Discover Magic class to their educational offerings and provide us a regular classroom as our new home for teaching the fundamentals of magic.



So, our Omaha Magical Society is proud to announce that starting in January, 2026, we will have a new classroom set-up at the J.C.C. for our Discover Magic training for youth, 7 – 13 years of age! Please contact our OMS Website to sign-up or email or call **Patrice Fisher** for more information about this unique and fun experience, learning magic and the transferrable life skills that grow from the art and science when entering our world of magic. - **Patrice Fisher**



Monday Night
Magic

2025

4TH ANNUAL
HOLIDAY PARTY

In honor of the holidays, we've ransacked the club's magic closet and gathered armloads of holiday presents for those who attend December's Monday Night Magic.

Everyone joining (both in-person or on Zoom) will go home with at least one magic book or DVD.
Plus . . . it'll not only be fun when we first open our gifts but also when we successfully swipe a gift from another.

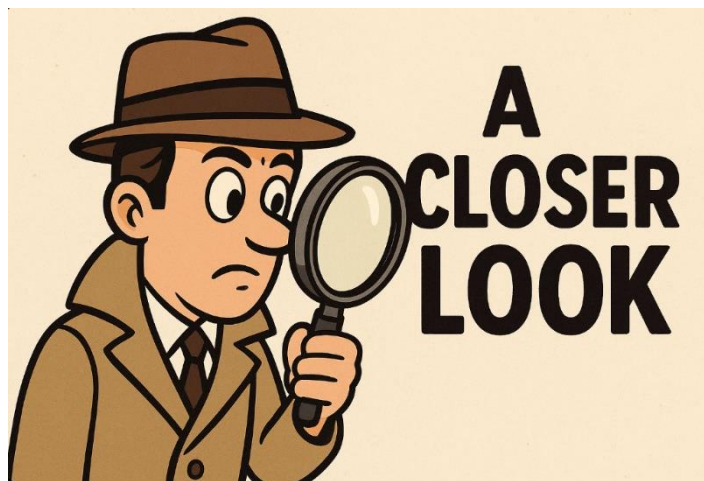
Simultaneously broadcast on Zoom:

zoom.us/j/4028718108

No charge for attending this event.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025 | 7-8 PM (CST)

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



If, like me, you enjoy performing effects where you are not claiming to be the prime mover behind making the magic happen, then you need to learn how to properly react to your effects. I see this bungled far too often, and it's something I used to not be very good at myself because it was something I failed to think about.

Then, one night, I was at a bar in NYC and a guy I was there with had one of those pens that tips over after a while. He balanced the pen on the mouth of a beer bottle and said to one of the girls who was with us, "I want you to concentrate and send your energy to that pen." Now, that's fine. It's not some great presentation by any means, and I have my own thoughts on *Spectator as Magician/Mentalist* that this doesn't really align with, but that's a post for another day.

So, this girl looks at the pen, nothing happens, the guy says "really concentrate," she continues looking and the pen falls. Her mouth drops open and she turns to the guy and he kind of smirks and raises an eyebrow. And her reaction immediately changed. She pointed at him and said in a sing-songy voice, "That's a good one."

I watched her go from thinking something crazy had just happened to knowing it was a trick, just based on this guy's reaction. Or lack thereof. That's the point: You have to react. If you are playing the part of the traditional magician then feel free to play it cool after the effect.



But if you're rejecting that role and instead, you're showing them some strange object you found, or trying some experiment you read about, or doing something where *they* are manifesting the power, then you **NEED** to react, or the whole experience falls apart. Not reacting is just another way of saying, "That was me. I did that. I'm special." If that's your plan, just take credit for it from the beginning. That's a lot less scuzzy than this route which amounts to, "I'm going to put the focus on you [or some external thing] to capture your attention, but then when we're done, I'm going to take the credit for it."

Whatever experience you're creating, if you're not taking direct responsibility for it, then it has to move you too. Why would you show someone something if the outcome of that thing had no affect on you?

From *The Jerx* blog. Used with permission.



The Year in Review – 2025

See past issues for full articles.



January's *Leftover Magic Tricks Competition* had everyone involved.



Our first Tri-State Magic Party was a success. Looking forward to 2026.



The Omaha Magical Society



Greg Wilson gave a lecture for us.





Ezra Millard Elementary



What's missing Contest



Vintage Prop Contest

OMS at AbraCORNdabra



Boys Town Picnic and Show





Penn & Teller Come to Omaha



Teller was glad he was able to reconnect with Carl Schrat, the previous owner of the Abbott House.



Teller sharing while visiting the Abbott house



Our information booth at the Orpheum



Pizza and Prestidigitation night



Rick Holcombe Lecture



Thanks to Larry Bodahl,
Jered Schaugaard,
David Fox,
Bruce Jacoby, Joe Cole,
Ryan Chandler, and
Theron Christesen
For these classes.



That's Odd!



A Paper Tear



King of card Sharps



Observation Test



3 Persistence-of-Vision Coin Vanishes



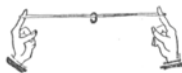
The Larger the Bill



Four Kings



The Fall Away Ring



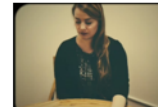
Four to Go By Harry Lorayne

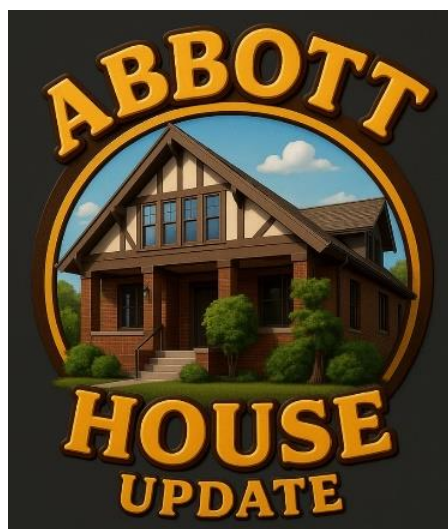


Card Forces

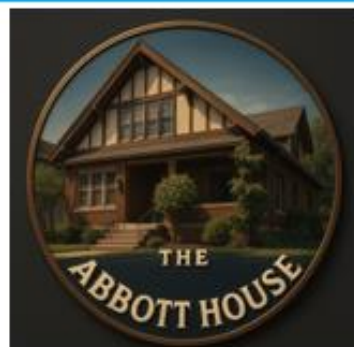
Force	Average Score
Classic Force	45
Riffle Force	51
Drizzle Force	54
Under-the-spread Force	72
Second Deal Force	80
Cross Cut Force	86

THE INVISIBLE DECK



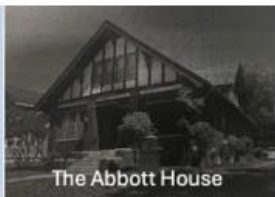
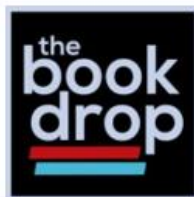


Check out these links to observe videos about the Abbott House.



An Abbott House Retrospective

<https://vimeo.com/1142150869/080f7bf694>



The Abbott House

Check this You Tube link to access Patrice's monthly reports and the Omaha Public Library podcasts about the Abbott House.

<https://youtube.com/@abbotthouse>



David P. Abbott's Books - History and Evolution on Vimeo as told by Teller

Donna Roth Little Theater



<https://vimeo.com/1138142673/6bc316ef7>



<https://vimeo.com/1138745431/04210e1a1>



Check out our website:

<https://omahamagicclub.org>

This month's Magic Event is on **Monday**

December 15th

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Cross Training Center
5030 N. 72nd Street

Or just click on this link:

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

2025 OMS Officers

President - Adam Schacht schacht2222@gmail.com

Vice President - Steve Lindeman amazinglindy@gmail.com

Treasurer - Bob Gehringer gehringerr@cox.net

Secretary - Patrice Fisher patricekfisher@yahoo.com

Executive Director - Dave Arch samassembly7@gmail.com

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