



The Flash Paper

July 2025

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

Bob Gehringer, Editor

Prez Adam's Antics

by Adam Schacht



Memories of a Magical Evening

Pictured: My best friend since third grade, Matt, and I at the House of Cards in Nashville. He lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and during a recent visit we made the trip there. Also, I did not realize that the SAM convention was in Nashville literally two days after I was there.

This past month has been packed with magic—both on stage and behind the scenes! I had the privilege of visiting Chicago Magic Lounge and House of Cards in Nashville, and both were incredible experiences. At House of Cards, a close-up magician asked what brought us in. When I mentioned I was from Omaha and the Ring president, he immediately mentioned the Abbott House without me prompting - it was pretty cool to see how far the word is spreading!

The featured act at the House of Cards that evening, **John Carney**, was masterfully deceptive, and the headliner I saw at Chicago Magic Lounge, **Reuben Moreland**, had the whole room laughing. I even ended up on stage for a Play-Doh sculpting competition: I had to create Michelangelo's Statue of David, while he crafted an apple. Let's just say he won with comic timing!

On the home front, it's been a whirlwind of performances - everything from Treynor Days, birthday parties, and a bachelorette party to school assemblies and a corporate event at Adventureland. While there, I had the chance to see **Ben Ulin's** latest show, which was a masterclass in adapting under pressure. After losing his voice, he performed the entire show silently - he told me afterward that it had gone so well, he decided to keep doing it that way for a while.

Though I was out of town for last month's Monday night meeting, I tuned in via Zoom. A big thank-you to **Steve Lindeman** for holding down the fort and hosting what looked like a fantastic evening. I also had a great time at **Jered Blake's** card lecture - really enjoyed connecting with fellow magicians and focusing in on card work. It was a fun coincidence that the routine he taught was the same one I had seen performed live just a few days after at the House of Cards, so seeing it there really solidified my learning.



Omaha Magical Society -
S.A.M. Assembly #7



The OMS board is putting together a tribute for OMS members [Phil Hardiman](#) and his wife [Suzanne](#) for their contributions to The Abbott House.

Although they now live in Florida, some of you might remember them from when they lived in Omaha.

Do you have a memory of them you'd like the board to include in our tribute?

If so please email (samassembly7@gmail.com) me your thoughts.

Thank you. Dave Arch - (402) 714-0337

Getting spruced up for Teller's visit!



I don't suppose anyone would be willing to meet [Darren Kauk](#) down at the Abbott House on Saturday, July 26th from 9-12 PM to dig out some bush roots, lay cloth, mulch, weed and plant a tree. - Lunch will be provided.

You can let Darren know of your willingness to participate or questions you might have by email at: beachcondo205@yahoo.com

Teller has promised to visit the house when in town for the Penn & Teller show at the Orpheum on August 14th.



Save the Date!
Magic Club Picnic
with walk-around magic
is back at the
Boys Town Great Hall.
Saturday, August 9th
Noon to 1:00 pm



with our stage show at the
Boys Town Music Hall
from 1:00 to 2:00 pm

This will be our August meeting.

Check out our website:

<https://omahamagicclub.org>



June Re-Cap by Matt Spielman



For our June OMS meeting we gathered for a vintage mystery magic session. We had everyone in attendance split into 5 groups and one by one each group had the opportunity to select a vintage prop with no instructions from the front table. After all selections were made a 20-minute timer was started for each crew to study their prop and improvise a quick performance for the room. **Tom Gray** and his team were first up with their routine and started off by handing out cards to be randomly selected by the crowd. 7 random cards were then placed on a wooden stand and as they flipped them over one by one the word “Orpheum” was revealed, in honor of the upcoming **Penn and Teller show at the Orpheum Theater**. Next up **Charlie Link** and **Carl Braun** showed off their haunted prop which allowed a chosen card to pass through the prop and appear through the other end as a ghost. **Nathan Roberts** performed for his group showing off their third hand magic curtain along with a special guest “Jake the Snake”. Utilizing a rattle from a group member “Jake the Snake” was able to find an audience member's randomly selected card. From our group **Mike Tushner** and **Mike Bitter** worked on showing off the blackhole within our flaming head chest. Our group didn’t quite unlock the entire function of our prop but we were able to pass a wand through the box and show it disappear and reappear at the other end.

Despite not understanding our prop completely our group still had a blast investigating the function of the box. Throwing together a quick impromptu performance was another challenge and is a great exercise to get more comfortable on stage by experiencing being uncomfortable. Once you get over the fear of messing up or having to improvise on the fly it allows you to zone in on your performance and connect better with your crowd by being more present in the moment. I look forward to more of these sessions in the future, thank you to the groups for putting together a quick impromptu show within 20 minutes and OMS for providing the vintage props.



From left to right: **Nathan Roberts**, **Mike Tushner**, **Mike Bitter**, **Charlie Link**, **Carl Braun** and **Thomas Gray** prepare and preform the act designed by their table with the chosen props.



Monday Night

Magix

**SECOND
ANNUAL**



SPONSORED BY THE OMAHA MAGICAL SOCIETY

THE ANTI-COMPETITION COMPETITION

Come and watch three of our members go head to head in what promises to be a fierce competition to see who can violate the most principles from The OMS Performance Feedback Form while performing a routine where all the tricks successfully work.

You can check out The OMS Performance Feedback Form by using the QR code on this poster.

The winner by popular vote will then not only have bragging rights but also soon thereafter no doubt display the above trophy appropriately titled *What's Missing?* in their living room or off ice.



SIMULTANEOUSLY
BROADCAST ON ZOOM

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

MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025
7-8 PM (CDT)

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

No charge for attending this event.



Jered Blake

What can I say, another perfect magic class and flawless execution of the material. If you've never been to an Abbott House Card Sleights class than you don't know what you're missing...you're welcome.

Rather than brag about how amazing the evening was, let's do some straight talk (requires less creative writing). I was asked to teach beginner sleights, but what is a beginner sleight? I don't really know. We've worked on the Cull, Faro Shuffles, Elmsley Count, and the other one that's similar but not; none of those are easy, but should certainly be in every card magician's repertoire.

This last class we talked about the MCF. The plan was to walk through the five elements (not the Fifth Element...that would have been better). The elements of the MCF are the same as a pick-a-card find-a-card trick (PACFAC). The PACFAC is certainly something card

magicians learn in the "beginning", but is it a beginner trick, with beginner sleights? Not necessarily. As I soon found out, several of the attendees don't know a PACFAC (totally fine).



I know you're asking yourself, where's the straight talk you promised, you're rambling. Well, here it is. I am enjoying presenting the classes, but the next class is going to be more show (from the attendees) and less tell (from me). As usual, I will solicit the group for ideas and then disregard the consensus and do whatever I feel like.

If you didn't attend the class, you can find videos of the material (and other tutorials) here:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL11V84ChrfjPuv6sfXvi7ugBjDeSAimun&si=JztGz4iPYhpa5BRE>

I look forward to seeing you all in the next class.
Date TBD.

"The mind has exactly the same power as the hand, not merely to grasp the world, but to change it."



July's class is scheduled for Saturday, July 19th from 2-4 PM.

WHAT: Learn the basics of building a solid routine of one of the oldest tricks in magic - The Cups and Balls.

WHO: Old Market Magician [Ryan Chandler](#) with Guest Teacher **Theron Christensen**

HOW: If you have your own set of cups & balls, feel free to bring them. If not, we will provide the props for you.

AGENDA:

- *We'll start with introductions.
 - *Then Ryan will demonstrate and teach a very simple cups & balls routine.
 - *After that, we'll talk a little about the cups & balls history and format.
 - *Theron will do a presentation of his 2 cup and ball routine.
 - *Then we'll see where everyone is in their progress and then tailor the class to the needs of the room so that everyone leaves getting what they want from the day.
- There is no charge for this class.

Contact Ryan at oldmarketmagician@gmail.com to let him know of your interest or to ask any questions.



Four to Go By Harry Lorayne

Usually, the Classic Palm is the first sleight a beginner in coin magic is taught (see fig. 224). I haven't taught it to you. I don't intend to. If you're an advanced amateur, you already know it. If you're a beginner, I believe it is too difficult a sleight to bother with now. The Finger Palm more than serves the purpose. If your interest in magic continues, you will be practicing the Classic Palm, and other advanced sleights, soon enough.

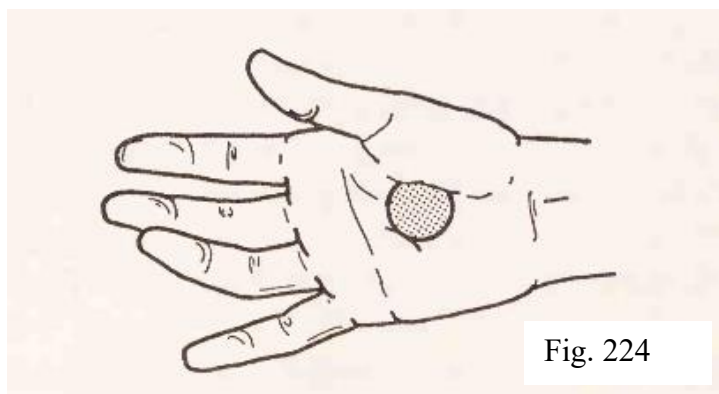


Fig. 224

The difficulty of the Classic Coin Palm is not in keeping the coin in palm position but in getting it there. It is ordinarily done with the fingers only; no other leverage is used. And it is done, usually, as you pretend to place the coin into your left hand. For that, the Finger Palm is as good or better.

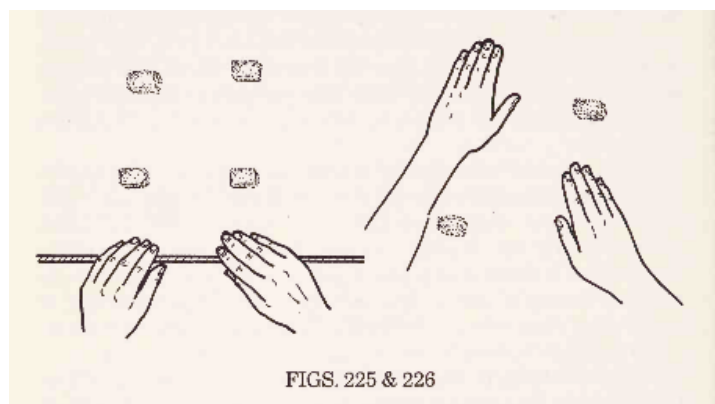
I mention all this now because I want to teach you a classic, almost standard, table routine for which you must use the Classic Palm. But here it is not used for a coin; it is used for bulkier objects. That makes it much easier. And you will have the leverage of the tabletop to assist you; that makes it even easier. Each time you palm an object, it is necessary to keep it in that position for only a split second. That makes it a snap.

This is a perfect after-dinner" routine. You must be sitting at a table with your spectators opposite you. I've always performed it either with tightly crumpled-up dollar bills, or overturned bottle caps, all of which are particularly easy to palm. You need five of the items you're using; the audience is aware of only four. If you're using dollar bills, have one prepared (crumpled into a tight ball) in your right jacket pocket.

I'll explain this as if you were using dollar bills. Place four of them onto the table, in square formation. As you do this with your left hand, and/or as you talk after they're placed, you have plenty of time to palm the extra dollar bill in your right hand. Palm the extra one while your spectators are helping you crumple.) For the routine itself, you have the tabletop for leverage.

Let me explain what I mean by "leverage." In this case, I'm referring to something solid to press against in order to get the dollar bill into palm position. Refer back to Figure 224; note that the item is held in place between the fleshy thumb part of the palm and the fleshy little-finger part of the palm. This is the area closer to the wrist than to the fingers.

If you press your palm against the dollar bill, at the correct position, and contract your hand just a bit, you'll find that you can hold the cube in palm position. Yes - some experimenting, to find the correct position for you, and some practice are necessary. Practice placing your hand flat onto a tabled dollar bill and picking it up in palm position, quickly. Practice doing it with either hand. After you've practiced, try the routine.

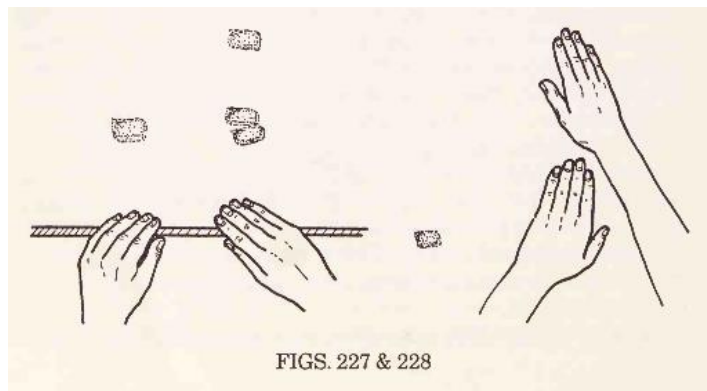


Secretly palm the extra dollar bill. (After some more practice, you'll probably prefer to have the extra dollar bill already palmed as you place the four visible ones into square formation.) As you patter about the four dollar bills your hands are in rest position, fingers touching the table, at the table's edge (see fig. 225).

Place your left hand onto the dollar bill at the upper left and your right hand (with the palmed dollar bill) onto the dollar bill at the lower right (see fig. 226). Release (silently, simply place it to the table, then arch your hand slightly up and away from it) the palmed dollar bill and palm the upper left dollar bill. "If I cover these, a



strange thing happens. One dollar bill joins the other.” Move both hands back to rest position (see fig. 227).



Almost immediately, place your left hand onto the two-dollar bills at the lower right, and your right hand onto the one at the upper right (see fig. 228). Release the palmed dollar bill and palm the upper right dollar bill with your right hand. "When I cover these, another dollar bill magically travels." Move your hands back to rest position for only a moment.

Place your left hand over the one-dollar bill at the lower left, and your right hand over the three-dollar bills. Palm the one-dollar bill with your left hand, and release the palmed dollar bill with your right hand. "And finally, the last dollar bill travels." As you say this, move your hands to rest position. As soon as they reach that position, simply relax your left hand, letting the palmed dollar bill fall to your lap. All attention, of course (including yours), is on the group of four-dollar bills. You're clean!

Afterthoughts: Your hands automatically move back to rest position each time you show that a dollar bill as traveled. They hardly pause there at all. Once you start the routine, you should go right through to the end without any pauses or hesitations. Your audience should not have time to think - just enough time to let the magic register.

Because you've moved to rest position each time, it's natural to do it at the end. The lapping of the extra dollar bill is just about automatic. As soon as it's gone, you should do any action that naturally shows your hands empty—like picking up the four cubes and moving them to a different position on the table.

The patter I've suggested is explanatory only, and that's all that's necessary. Use whatever you like. You may even want to try it in complete silence, or saying just the word "watch" before each magical transfer.

You can, of course, cover the corners in a different sequence than I've suggested. Be careful not to get yourself all twisted up. I've done it as explained for over thirty years. When I started doing it, I worked it out so that I wouldn't have to cross my arms at any time during the routine, and so that the last dollar bill palmed would be one nearer the table edge. You might as well take advantage of the time and work I put into it, and do it just as explained.

Dollar bills are easy to handle and palm, but, as I've said, so are bottle caps. Bottle caps should be placed on the table with their openings (ridges) up. The ridges make them very easy to grasp in palm position. Crumpled-up bills are also easy to palm; the rough paper almost clings in palm position. Try it and see.

It goes without saying that you must never perform any routine that involves lapping with spectators behind you, or at any position that would expose the lapping. Be aware of angles of vision at all times.

From *The Magic Book* by Harry Lorayne.
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PENN 5 & TELLER

50TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR



AUGUST 14 | ORPHEUM THEATER

**TICKETS
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orpheum
mahama
performing
arts

TICKETOMAHA.COM



To help promote this show, we have more posters coming and some flyers. We would like additional help getting these up. We're starting to set up Artist interviews and want to make sure people know there will be live iMAG video for great views anywhere in the theater.
- David Bucksner Event Promoter (More information at our meeting.)



Welcome Annie and Evey!

*This is the story of two sisters who found their muse in magic by watching two of our OMS member magicians perform. Their enthusiasm and curiosity led to seeking out our club for junior magician lessons. When I asked their mom, **Danielle Haymore**, for some feedback about our classes, she very graciously wrote this review. – Patrice Fisher*

Annie the Amazing, age 11, and **Evey the Extraordinary**, age 9, are sisters who joined the Discover Magic class in March of 2024. They had seen **Joe Cole** perform at the Henry Doorly Zoo during the Halloween season, and they enjoyed his show so much that they saw it twice. It inspired them to want to start learning how to do magic. Evey wanted to be able to do cool tricks like **Joe Cole**. Annie thought it would be cool to look like she was doing real magic, and she wanted to show people that she could do it!

For Christmas, one of the girls asked for and received a beginner's magic set, and they both enjoyed entertaining family and friends with it. In the spring, the girls asked their mother if **Joe Cole** could perform at one or both of their birthday parties later that year. As she was looking into it, she discovered the Omaha Magical Society and the Discover Magic program.

She took the girls to a free magical performance that was sponsored by the Omaha Magical Society, which they both enjoyed very much and participated in. After the show, the girls wanted to purchase a trick from the

performer. One of the Discover Magic teachers, **The Amazing Lindy**, performed a trick for the girls and gave their mother **Patrice Fisher's** phone number.

In March, Patrice helped enroll Annie and Evey in the Discover Magic program, and the teachers kindly met with the girls during office hours on Thursdays to help them catch up on tricks that had been taught in the class in January and February. Currently, a year later, Annie and Evey are still enrolled in the Discover Magic program, and they are still having a great time!

"I like that [in the Discover Magic classes,] after we learn a new trick, we each get to do the trick our own way, if we want," Annie says. "I like that we usually



learn a new trick every class," says Evey.

They do tricks individually, and they often like to adjust tricks so that they can perform them as a team. So far, their performances have included an hour-long show for their great-grandmother and grandfather, showing a trick to children at a Boys Town event, and performing up-close tricks for residents at an assisted living facility. They also enjoy entertaining family members at meals with magic tricks, and they helped one of their younger friends put on her own magic show for her parents, teaching her some tricks and being supportive audience members for her. Annie's favorite trick is *Lightning Ball*, and Evey's favorite trick is *Radical Ropes*.



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

July 21st

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Cross Training Center

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 Gehringerr gehringerr@cox.net
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Check out our website:

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