



The Flash Paper

August, 2019

Bob Gehringer, Editor



Presidential Ponderings

As I said in an earlier column, I believe that the question "What will it cost?" when asked prematurely has killed more truly great organizational dreams than any other single question. Your OMS board has been very disciplined about not asking that

question too early. As a result, this year alone the club updated its website, revamped the monthly newsletter, built an Online Video Library, hosted more lectures than any other year (it will be ten lectures in total), implemented a new multi-phased supplemental curriculum for our Society Of Young Magicians, and put in place an Online Magic Learning Center for delivering live lectures, private lessons, and magic discussions between members without them needing to leave their homes.

That having been said, there is a time when the question "What will it cost?" is appropriate, and the board met and asked that question last Tuesday night, August 13th.

As you might guess, the OMS membership fee of \$20 per year and the lecture fee of \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members has never covered the expenses. Nevertheless, the board is hoping to not have to raise the membership dues - believing that lower dues will enable more interested people to participate.

This all begs the question "How then will we raise the additional money necessary to meet our club's yearly expenses?"

The board is now at work assembling ideas on that very topic and would enjoy your thoughts too. Please let them know of any thoughts you have by emailing them directly through their emails listed elsewhere in this edition of the Flash Paper, sending a message through our website, and/or speaking with them in person. You'll be hearing from the board on this topic soon.



Who says you can't teach old dogs new tricks? A snapshot of **Dameon's** Lecture from our Lecture series.

Check out our website:

<http://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org>



Our July meeting was fascinating! Even if the classic Cups & Balls aren't your cup of tea, it was still amazing to see how this trick has infiltrated into the very fabric of society. The meeting started with a video

that touched on Cups & Balls in artwork, advertising and even in political cartoons. I'd never really realized how iconic this trick is. After watching some of the history of Cups & Balls, things got more tangible as **Scott Klinger** presented his collection which included some extremely rare sets. it was thrilling to see these gems in person. **Tom Zepf** showed us a very unique set of Cups that incorporated a lota bowl design that would allow the performer to end his routine by pouring liquid out of the cups.



Tom Zepf and his unique set of cups.

Finally, **Joyce Chleboun** presented a set of cups and balls that were used by her father.

The Cups and Balls presentation ended with **Dave Arch** showing us the World's Smallest Set of Cups & Balls (thimbles) and a break-out session that got us thinking

about how to handle the World's Largest Set of Cups & Balls (trash cans).

The next part of the meeting featured **George Huffaker** showing some bar magic and talking about his time as resident magician at Nino's Place bar.



Finally, the night ended with a thought-provoking question...What makes a trick a "classic." There were no right or wrong answers, but lots of wonderful, thoughtful opinions. It was a jam-packed meeting filled with lots of cool stuff

and great ideas.

Congratulations to **Dave Arch** on celebrating 35 years in the S.A.M.! - **Jeff Sikora Secretary**

<http://MagicSAM.com>



Watch this short video about online recorded lectures and

interviews with some of magic's biggest names that most members of the Society of American Magicians don't even know about: <http://bit.ly/V1Trailer>.

2019 OMS Officers

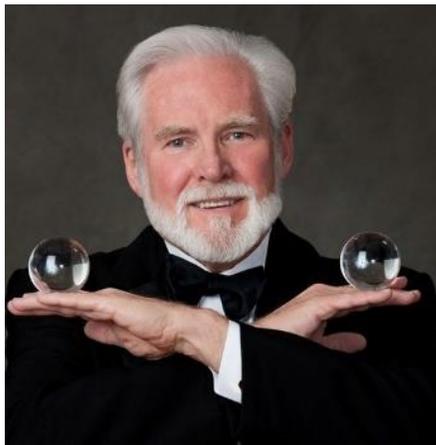
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Flash Paper photographer – Neil Bable



How many times have you been browsing through a magic website, or wandering around a magic shop/dealers' room, and realized that some of the tricks you were looking at were way to expensive? Magic props from

the brick and mortar shops or online dealers can cost a lot of money. Especially when it isn't something you are totally sure you want to put into your act. Well, we are rapidly approaching our monthly meeting, and fortunately for all of us the theme is Dollar store magic. The challenge, to anyone who would like to participate, is to bring a magic effect or routine that cost them less than \$5. I have found that the Dollar Tree is a great place for inspiration and a gold mine for magic and mentalism props. Last year we saw a handful of routines and ideas that played really well and gave everyone inspiration on how to diversify their acts without breaking the bank. If the above challenge isn't something you are interested in, this year we have a second challenge for you. It is said that within the first 5 minutes of being on stage, the audience will have already decided if they are going to enjoy your show or not. In order for our shows to be a success we have to win the audience over quickly and establish who we are and what they are about to see. That



being said, can you show us a great magic trick that gets your audiences' attention, establishes you as a magician, and takes less than 60 seconds to perform? This challenge could be close up, platform, or stage. We will

also take some time during the meeting to have one of our very own magic members, **Denny Rourke**, perform and explain a tried and true magic routine.

Denny is a very skilled magician and I am sure whatever he is going to teach us will be as enjoyable to learn and practice as it will be to watch him perform it. So, as

August 19th approaches, give some thought to the challenges and see what you come up with. Be ready to learn, talk magic, and have some fun at our next OMS meeting! See you all there. - **David Michael Fox**



Each month our club's membership grows. With each new member, there's also a new challenge to provide resources for that member regardless of their magic interest/passion

niche (i.e. performing, collecting, serious mentalism, challenging card or coin sleights, etc.).

The fact that we are attracting an increasing amount of people who don't live in the Omaha/Council Bluffs area also encouraged us to provide an online platform for our members to use in connecting with others of like passion.

To view a video that might spark ideas for using this new resource to grow in your own magic interest area visit <https://theomahamagicalsociety.org/learning-center>

This month two videos were uploaded to the OMS Online Video Library. The first is a routine performed by member George Huffaker from when he was house magician for Nino's bar in South Omaha. If you've never seen George "in character," here's your chance. The second is an interlude for a close-up show (and with large bills can even be done on the stage). It's a demonstration of how con artists really do short change unsuspecting cashiers. Most people have heard of it but never seen it demonstrated. It can easily be used to transition yourself into another more sophisticated money changing routine or gambling demonstration.





If you like magic lectures with practical routines and purchasing your magic at a discount, consider attending The Day Of Magic one-day convention produced by **David Sandy**, one of the premier magic event organizers in the country.

Click [HERE](#) to

download the full flier to see the schedule and determine whether or not this just might deserve a place on your calendar for Saturday, August 24th.

Dave Arch - OMS 2019 President

P.S. Due to the conflict with this event, we have cancelled the previously scheduled **Rob Zabrecky** online lecture scheduled that same day.

S.Y.M. Assembly # Y144 Report

Summer has traditionally caused lower attendance at our S.Y.M. meetings, but that isn't the case this year. We have around 15 members and at any given meeting, you can expect to see about 10-12 members in attendance. Between the Discover Magic curriculum and teaching tricks from Mark Wilson's Compete Course in Magic, we have a pretty well-rounded meeting twice per month.

We're also pleased to announce that one of our members, Drew, is going to be competing in Bellevue's Got Talent on August 17th at the Bellevue Little Theatre, 203 W. Mission Ave. in Bellevue. According to their website, the show starts at 2:30. I hope you can make it there to cheer Drew on!

We're very excited to welcome **Denny Rourke** back as a leader to our S.Y.M. Assembly. Between him, **Steve Nespor** and myself, I think we have a strong leadership that can help foster a lot of growth in our young magicians. - **Jeff Sikora**



Our young members have had a busy few weeks. Here **Jeff Sikora** is shown teaching Heads Up from our Discover Magic series. They have also learned the Newspaper Tree, Clippo, and Presto Print just to name a few. And on August 10th, SYM members **Drew** and **Georgie** performed strolling magic while **Ella**, **Connor**, and **Georgie's** younger brother **Guy** each assisting our OMS Club Members at the OMS Picnic stage show. Thanks to our young members for helping to keep magic alive in Omaha!

Nathan Coe Marsh

NathanCoeMarsh.com



September 9th Lecture

Southwest Church of Christ - 7:00p.m.

[Video: Two Minute Demo](#)

[Video: National TV](#)



What's Your Magic Story?

by Steve Nespor

This month it was my pleasure to interview **David Fox**. We mostly know him as the guy who has been facilitating our monthly meetings for the last couple of years. It is obvious that he works hard to make those meetings enjoyable and engaging. Others; however, know him as *The Midwest Mentalist*



who has been amazing audiences with his jaw-dropping mentalism for several years now. His ability to connect with an audience in a way that is fun, entertaining, and inclusive makes his act something people want to experience even more.

In speaking with him, I found out that **David** has two bachelor degrees. One in Theatre Performance and another in Chemistry. Being interested in the sciences, it is no surprise that **David** has a fascination with the human psyche and when he combines that with his Theatre Performance background, he uses it to his advantage when you see him on stage.

His magic story began at around the age of six. Like many youngsters, he wanted a magic kit for Christmas. The cardboard suitcase the tricks came it and its contents provided opportunities for performance in front of friends and family, sometimes during the commercial breaks of television shows the family was watching together.

When he first began coming to magic club meetings, he was too young to drive, so a parent brought him. He remembers sitting toward the back of the room taking it all in, but at the time, there was no program for young

magicians and so there were times he had no one to connect with. Thankfully another member, **Joe Brogie**, took notice of him and helped him hone his craft. It is a friendship that has continued even after Joe moved to California. The two talk on a very regular basis to this day.



Sometimes those discussions are around one of the effects that **David** is working to create. He is an inventor as well as a performer and has a number of projects in various stages of development. I am happy to say he gave me a prototype of a product he is working on that I was able to immediately put to use because the kinds of things he works to create are for real world applications to make a performer's life easier.

While the majority of his performance work is for corporate clients, it is still possible to see him in public shows. He is teaming up again this year with **Theron Christiansen and Ryan Chandler** for their Halloween show, **Magic of the Night** which will also include **Joe Cole** this year. Those of us who had the opportunity to attend last year's show were treated to a very enjoyable evening and I am looking forward to this year's production.



Take a moment to say hello to him at the next club function. You might even ask **David** what part the **Masked Magician** played in his magic story.



OMS Magic Picnic at Boys Town



This year's annual "Harry Potter Indoor Air-Conditioned Picnic" was held once again in the amazing Boys Town Great Hall on Saturday August 10, 2019. One look and it is easy to see the resemblance to the Hogwarts Great Hall of Harry Potter fame. The crowd of around 100 attendees included residents, club members, and their families. The picnic lunch was highlighted by strolling performers, a stage show, and a magical souvenir.



Johnny, George, and Steve performing walkaround magic.

Thank you to the scheduled strolling performers who provided entertainment before and during lunch that **Amjad Alawimari, Shayden Olson, George Huffaker, Bob Charleston**, two of our SYM members, **Drew McIntyre** and **Georgie Acamo**, as well as the many who volunteered to share a trick or two the day of the event.

After lunch, President **Dave Arch** emceed the stage show and sent all who attended home with a great mind reading souvenir they could perform for friends and acquaintances long after the event concluded. The stage show included a diverse assortment of club members and their various magic styles.



Steve Nespor started off the afternoon with some ballooney and then **Steve "Amazing Lindy" Lindeman** brought up a volunteer for an instant magician routine that wowed the crowd. **Ryan Chandler, the Old Market Magician**, brought his skills off the stage and on to the floor of the Great Hall to perform street magic for the crowd.



Steve and one of his volunteers.

Theron Christensen's quiet and powerful style rounded out the show and his performance of the Miser's Dream with a young boy from the audience was a study in how magicians can treat volunteers with kindness and gentleness and get gasps of amazement from the crowd.



Theron and Guy

Thank You as well to those who brought side dishes and desserts - turning it into an energizing couple of hours. And finally, a special Thank You to our OMS treasurer, **Bob Gehringer**, for maintaining the relationship with the Boys Town organization that enabled us to share what we do with others.



"Mr. Who" and the Gehringer Boys



Ryan Chandler and Denny Rourke performing their art at the picnic.



Joe Cole's Schedule.

Sunday - Good Life Bar (Elkhorn)

6 -8pm

Monday - Good Life Bar (180th and Pacific) 6 to 8pm

Tuesday - Upstream (Downtown) 7 to 9pm

Wednesday - Fernando's (114th and Dodge) 6 to 8pm

Thursday - Upstream (Downtown) 7 to 9pm

Saturday - Fernando's (76th and Pacific) 6 to 8pm

You can also see it here:

<http://omahamagic.com/weekly-shows/>



Ryan Chandler's Schedule

I have all my upcoming public shows posted at

<https://www.oldmarketmagician.com/shows>

David Michael Fox performing at the
10 Year Anniversary @ Nebraska
Firefighters Museum

Aug 17 @ 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM

CELEBRATING 10 Year Anniversary

ALONG WITH **Smokey Bear's 75TH BIRTHDAY**

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9am - 10pm**

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Our own
David
Michael
Fox

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OMS SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

<http://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org/sponsorships>



Lecture Room Rental \$75

When we have a lecture at the Southwest Church Of Christ, room rental for that lecture is \$75.



Lecture Sponsorship \$325

You might consider sponsoring a lecture for \$325. That's the average cost of a lecture in our annual lecture series. Your business or name could be given recognition for the sponsorship.



Online Video Library (Monthly) \$20

The monthly cost of the online video library platform that we use is \$20 . You might sponsor one or more months.

Refreshment



Refreshments (Monthly) \$20

With a great thank you to OMS member, Bob Miller, who consistently brings us cookies, soda, and other treats to our monthly meetings, the average cost per month is \$20.



Boys Town Picnic (Monthly) \$25

The average cost of the food we serve at our annual Boys Town Harry Potter Indoor Air Conditioned Picnic is \$300 (\$25 per month) . Recognition of your business or yourself as the sponsor could be included.



OMS Website (Monthly) \$30

The monthly cost of the platform we use for the website we're currently visiting is \$30.



Nathan Coe Marsh Coming To Omaha!

On Monday evening, September 9th, from 7-9 PM at The Southwest Church Of Christ in Omaha, Nathan Coe Marsh will be presenting his lecture entitled Practical Impossibilities.

Check out the lecture's own website to see if it would be a fit for you: <https://nathancoemarsh.com/practical-impossibilities/>. Dave Arch (OMS 2019 President)

Email Platform (Monthly) \$15

The monthly cost of our email management platform is \$15 per month.



The Omaha Magical Society Membership Directory SAM Assembly #7

Club Directory (Monthly) \$8.00

The monthly cost for our online club photo/phone/email online and phone app directory is \$8.00 per month.

Stretch Sponsorships



July, 2019

The Flash Paper

Bob Gehringer, Editor



Presidential Ponderings

As you might have heard by now, the University of Nebraska at Omaha would like for us as a club to begin holding some of our monthly meetings on their campus in the new Community Engagement Center right off Dodge Street between the bell

tower on one side and the UNO library on the other. By

competitions were won by magicians, and a series of postage stamps were published by The United States government declaring to all that magic was now officially an "Art." Slowly it began to dawn on thinking magicians the world over that magic was not a closed system as once thought but rather an open system with an unlimited number of magic tricks capable of being invented. We no longer had to protectively huddle over what we had perceived as a small collection of secrets. Generosity of knowledge to the seriously

The Flashpaper (Monthly) \$120

Sponsor one or multiple months of the OMS monthly newsletter. Your business or name can be given recognition as the sponsor.



Library Housing (Monthly) \$500

With 1000+ books and videos in our extensive club library, the OMS board believes that the time has come to rent a more permanent home - giving OMS members access to this significant resource.



Other Ideas?

Although OMS Board approval would be required prior to implementation, maybe you have another idea around which you have a passion?