

January, 2020

The Flash Paper

Bob Gehringer, Editor



Presidential Ponderings

Your OMS board (and I too) firmly believe that the future of our magic club will be linked directly to how successfully we foster enthusiastic mentoring between adult members and interested young people. The benefits are numerous. The

adults get energized as they pass on what they know and get to experience the freshness of magic being discovered for the first time in the young people. The young person gains a greater appreciation for the role of a mentor in their own knowledge and performance growth - quickly moving beyond what YouTubeTM has to offer.

Consequently, the board has designated 2020 as "The Year of Youth." Without lessening our emphasis on strong and diversified monthly programming and regular lectures by international experts in their area of expertise, we will be expanding our youth offerings so that in 2020 we now offer *weekly magic classes* for those ages 7-17. You can read more about this initiative on our club's website under the Young Magicians tab and in this special issue of the Flash Paper.

Here's a brief synopsis:

On the first and third Monday nights of the month, the *Society of Young Magicians* will continue to meet under the leadership of **Jeff Sikora**.

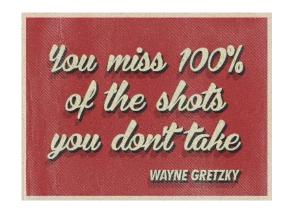
On the second and fourth Monday nights, the *Discover* $Magic^{TM}$ curriculum will be used to develop new magicians under the leadership of **Steve Nespor**



Whenever there's a fifth Monday night, we will be hosting *Learning Magic Tricks with Families* where entire families come together to learn magic tricks.

Finally, a four-week (one hour per week) on-site program entitled *Magic That Matures*TM will be offered to after-school programs in elementary schools.

This all reminds me of what has become a classic quote from former professional hockey player Wayne Gretzky.



Might You Know of an Interested Child?

Dave Arch (OMS 2020 President



January 20 - 7:00 - 8:30 pm

"But the trick sounded so good!"



Anyone who's been interested in performing magic for longer thn a year has at least one *Dream Drawer*. Within tht drawer lies the remnant of many broken dreams and hopes. As promising as the trick sounded in the ad or looked on the video, it just never lived up to its hype. In January, six people will bring a trick from their own *Dream Drawer(s)* to show the group – gettinginput from over 500+ years of members' magic knowledge and eperience. If you have a trick you'd like help on bringing to life, pleae let our Vice-President David Fox know by emailing him at Dfox1902@gmail.com

The process just might be as interesting as the result.

In addition, OMS member, Tom Neddo, will be performing and teaching a tested and proven routine from his own repertoire.

Check out our website:

http://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org

Broken Wand Ceremony for Fr. Ted Richling



Former OMS member, **Fr. Ted Richling**, passed away on December 23, 2019, and services were held on December 29. At the service, our President, **Dave Arch**, conducted the Broken Wand Ceremony on behalf of the club. If you've never heard a Broken Wand Ceremony, please visit https://bit.ly/385zg8P where the audio of Father Ted's ceremony is posted.







What's Your Magic? by Patrice Fisher

Jeff Quinn, who was born in Omaha, took the long road home. His dream career was working in radio. As such, his love of radio broadcasting sent him working throughout the Midwest and northeast enjoying a career as a disk jockey. Starting as he did on the night shift, it wasn't easy to get his name recognized. The way to promote himself and his station was through personal appearances. How could he make himself stand out? He needed a schtick. A book of magic might just do the trick (literally and figuratively). So began his journey into the world of magic.

When **Jeff** wasn't working at the station, he was practicing slight-of-hand magic. One of his many part-time jobs during this time was as a security guard at a mall. His fellow coworkers brought reading materials or small TVs to bide the time between rounds. Jeff practiced magic for hours to hone his skills. Soon, he had enough tricks (up his sleeve) to get paying gigs at family parties, schools, libraries and retirement homes.



After ten years of being on the road in radio, **Jeff** came home to Omaha to assist his mother. Radio stations KFAB and KGOR employed him. His work was mostly off air, writing promos and commercials.

These proved to be valuable marketing skills, transferrable to his goals as a magician. A turning point for Jeff was signing up for a magic class at Metro Community College taught by Jim Stockton. This led him to the *Omaha Magical Society* and his 30 years as a very active member in many capacities, including a stint as President.

Meanwhile, the connections **Jeff** made in radio, the club and through community work made it possible for him

to pursue his ambition as a fulltime magician/hypnotist with shows all around the Midwest. Jeff also decided to "climb the chairs" of the *National Society of American* Magicians. He began as Regional Vice President, then as 2nd and then 1st Vice President. In 2016 through 2017, Jeff reached the pinnacle of the Society, becoming the 100th President! His role was lots of work but ultimately took him all over the United States and England.



Today, Jeff is still a major asset to our club. He is one of the founders of the *Society of Young Magicians* and serves as a teacher and mentor. He is a welcoming statesman for our magic society as well as for the city of Omaha as he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. We are so fortunate to have **Jeff** supporting our club so enthusiastically. His passion is invaluable to our identity and our strength as a group. Thanks **Jeff**, for your past 30 years of service and hopefully 30 more!





Meeting Report December 2019 SYM #Y144 End of Year Show



This month the **Omaha Society of Young Magicians** held their End of the Year Show. In all, nine young people performed.

Casper opened the evening's entertainment with a Crystal Silk Cylinder routine. Ethan followed that with some card work, as did Eve. Drew then entertained the crowd with his Bill to Lemon. Sophie shared her Torn and Restored Bill routine and afterwards, Georgie's pet hamster made a magic debut appearing, disappearing, and finally appearing again. Liam then showed us his Oil and Water effect with a volunteer from the audience.

Ella and Connor wrapped up the evening with two sword routines. Ella with the Sword through Neck and Connor found a chosen card with a Sword thrust into a shower of cascading cards.

SYM Group Leaders PNP **Jeff Sikora** and **Denny Rourke** emceed the evening as our young people presented an evening full of amusement and

amazement for parents, friends, relatives and some of our members at large. We look forward to seeing the wonderful things they will develop and perform in the coming years.



A Spellbound Audience





December Meeting at The Upstream



Our December meeting was held at the Upstream Restaurant. **Dave Arch** recognized many members for their outstanding work during the year and **Dave** was thanked for his leadership in 2019. A special recognition was given to **Tom Zepf** for his many years of involvement in magic. Of special acclaim is his yearly **Haunted Physics Lab** that he hosts along with the Physics Club at Creighton University. Tom was awarded a Lifetime membership to the **Omaha Magical Society.**



January Online Video Library Addition -The Broken and Restored Rubber Band-



It never hurts a magician to have in his/her impromptu repertoire the ability to pick up a rubber band and apparently break it and then restore it within inches of a spectator's eyes. Take about forty-five minutes to practice with this short video, and you'll have a routine that's proven its worth in hundreds of performances.



2020 OMS Officers





Joe Cole's Schedule.

Sunday – Good Life Bar (Elkhorn) 6 to 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 my schedule here:

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



Steve Lindeman

I have been doing strolling magic at **Texas Roadhouse** in Council Bluffs from 6:00 to 8:00 every Tuesday for years. All other shows for the month are not open to the general public. It would be fun to see any members in the restaurant some Tuesday



Ryan Chandler's Schedule

I have all my upcoming public shows posted at https://www.oldmarketmagician.com/shows

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