



The Flash Paper

July 2020

Bob Gehringer, Editor



Presidential Ponderings

With this year having been designated by the OMS Board as the Year of Youth, I am so happy to announce that we are taking what I consider to be a significant step forward.

Arrangements have been finalized so we can now offer through our club THREE different high-end magic kits for children NOT available in any store.

. . . AND each kit comes with a twelve-month membership in our club's Omaha Junior Magicians group too!

Designed by master magic teacher **Michael Ammar** and complete with professionally produced online instructional videos for 24 different tricks each kit sells for \$55 apiece.

You can see pictures of the Purple, Orange, and Green kit props as part of this column and can read more about them and order them online too on our Junior Magicians' website <https://theomahamagicalsociety.org/magic-kits>



Purple Kit



Orange Kit



Green Kit



Congratulations goes to **Steve Nespore** and his team **Amjad Alawamari**, **Patrice Fisher**, and **Steve Lindeman** for working with our young magicians - using this curriculum to fuel their passion for magic and their skills in its performance. - **Dave Arch**



I have heard a lot of magicians say that their favorite stores for magic creativity are Hobby Lobby, Michaels, and the Dollar Store. So, on **Monday July 20th**, join us for our yearly “**Dollar Store Magic**” challenge. This year we have a bit of a twist as we are presenting via webcam. The challenge is to hit up your local dollar store and buy no more than \$5 worth of props. Come up with a fun and interesting presentation that you can do online, and perform for us. If you are not into performing, feel free to buy an item and tell us what you think would be a good routine with it or a routine that you wish to build with it.

We would also like to see crafty magic you have been building or working on! Perhaps you have given an old prop a new paint job, anything crafty and creative in the realm of magic, we want to hear about it. Can't wait to see you online! The Zoom link for the meeting is: <https://zoom.us/j/4028718108> – **David Fox**

Getting Your Questions Answered

If you have questions about The Omaha Magical Society, we invite to join 2020 President **Dave Arch** online the night of our next monthly meeting, July 20th from 6-7 PM (CDT) for him to get to know you better and answer any questions you might have about the club. Please use the same Zoom link that comes with the email you received - reminding you of our meeting that night. If you didn't get an email about our monthly meeting, please let us know through our website: <https://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org>

2020 OMS Officers

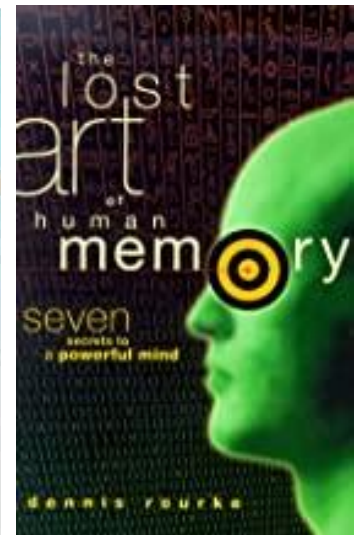
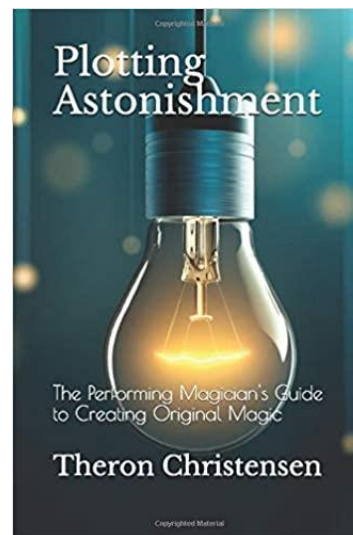
- President** – Dave Arch(dave@sandler.com)
- Vice President** – David Fox.....(Dfox1902@gmail.com)
- Treasurer** – Bob Gehringer.....(gehringerr@cox.net)
- Secretary** – Steve Nespor
(omahamagician55@gmail.com)
- Sgt.-at-Arms** – Amjad Alawimari
(mrwho.magic@gmail.com)

Deserted Island

The Omaha Magical Society’s June monthly magic meeting was based on a simple question, "If you were stranded on a desert island and could only take three magic books with you, which ones would they be?"

Members gathered virtually to share some of their favorites. Titles ranged from the familiar like *Expert Card Technique* by **Jean Hugard & Frederick Braue**, *The Illustrated History of Magic* by **Melbourne and Maurine Christopher**, *Modern Coin Magic* by **J. B. Bobo**, *Our Magic* by **Maskelyne and Devant**, *Tarbell Course in Magic* by **Dr. Harlan Tarbell**, and *Mark Wilson’s Complete Course in Magic* by **Mark Wilson**, a favorite among our OMS Junior Magicians.

Volumes of choice also included more contemporary works such as, *Moonwalking with Einstein* by **Joshua Foer**, *How to Cheat at Cards* by **Daniel Madison**, *Magic is Dead* by **Ian Frisch**, and *A New Angle* by **Ryan Plunket**.



Also included in the lists were some books by club members like *Plotting Astonishment* by **Theron Christensen** and *The Lost Art of Human Memory: Seven Secrets to a Powerful Mind* by **Denny Rourke**.

The wide variety of choices made for some interesting conversation and a fascinating evening. - **Steve Nespor**





What's Your Magic Story?

by

Patrice Fisher

2020 OMS Interview with Jered Schaugaard

Having some type of "Super Power" is every child's dream. This was especially true for Jered Schaugaard growing up in Anchorage, Alaska, in the 1970's. The state of Alaska was itself only a young teenager, having become a state in 1959. Anchorage was its largest town, with a population of only 48,000 in a huge new frontier. To a young boy in this yet to be fully explored wilderness, with skies that held the mystical Aurora Borealis and endless summer nights unique to Alaska, super powers were surely a possibility.

After all, his grandfather's handkerchief certainly seemed to be proof that he had some sort of illusive power. The pocket square, always nestled in the breast pocket of every suit he wore, was like Superman's cape. That piece of cloth could help his grandfather make things appear and disappear! One sure-fire way to cause never-ending glee for Jered and, I am sure, the annoyance of his parents, was when his grandfather would produce a huge snot bubble hanging from his nose after he blew it into that magical handkerchief. What young kid doesn't love to laugh at a good snot bubble? Of course, persistence usually wins out, and Jered's grandfather eventually disclosed that the magic behind that amazing feat was a small light bulb.

Then, to Jered's delight, a magic store opened in the town mall, and his journey into magic seemed to be fate! Cards and coins were his favorites because they were easy to carry and could be practiced virtually anywhere. Magic was always with him. It was a source of the unpredictable and had the power of possibilities, such as

the possibility of venturing out of the vastness of Alaska and into the expanse of an entire world before him.

What better way to explore that world than to join the Air Force? So, at twenty-two years of age, Jered enlisted and was moved to California for training. During his stint there, he found a magic shop on the Monterey wharf and continued to learn magic. Soon, he was transferred to Tucson, Arizona. That city was a haven for street magic and other performing venues. Jered soon found his home in the local magic store.



For the next six years, Jered spent every free moment in the Williams Magic Shop owned by Emory and Nathalia Williams. When he first visited their shop, he was thrilled by the variety of items to peruse and intrigued with a dark backroom with the smell of coffee and voices wafting into the main area of the store. It seemed to be a mysterious area that one should be almost wary to enter. Soon, Jered was a regular at the shop and asked about where he could get formal magic training in town. Emory glanced up from what he was doing and pointed to that dark room in the back of his place. "Go in the back and talk to the guys." With trepidation, Jered entered that normally off-limits area. It was like walking



back in time to the 1930's. A round table of retired magicians sat drinking coffee and talking their craft. (I can only imagine the intimidation the younger Jered felt at that moment.) Bruce Martin, known as Boston Man, became his teacher and mentor. He not only taught this "young grasshopper" magic, but also lessons like the value of being in the present moment, pacing, breath control to calm one's nerves and that practice and preparedness were keys to successful entertainment.

His first gig was a charity show to raise money for the local YMCA. He had 15 minutes and three tricks. The Professor's Nightmare rope trick was a natural for asking folks to contribute. A little bit (a small piece of the rope) up to as much as they could give (the full rope) was perfect banter for the occasion. That began a life of performing magic as often as possible during his Air Force career. His service allowed him to travel the world and while in Panama he met his wife, Betty. They have been married for twenty-three years.

Travel for the military was a way of life, and in 2001, the Air Force took them to England for three years, where he continued to hone his skills and to perform at the club on base. Afterward, Jered was transferred to Omaha, where he and Betty decided to make their permanent home. Jered was still enlisted and still traveling for his work in the service. He continued to perform while in Iraq, Korea, Japan and finally Australia.

In the center of Australia in a dusty little town called Alice Springs, we have an airbase, which became Jered's last stop in the military. He soon took over the only stage in town in a bar that had previously only been used for local bands. The owner took a chance that Jered might bring in some new patrons, mainly from the base, and he did not disappoint. He packed the house and became a main source of entertainment for a town basically in the middle of nowhere. What a great place to sharpen one's skills!

When 2015 rolled around, Jered decided to retire and join his wife full time in Omaha. He had hooked up with Omaha's own The Amazing Arthur when he first arrived

here in 2004, and they reunited with Arthur becoming Jered's agent. Although, Jered is retired, he still works at Offutt Air Force Base doing contract work, while he also enjoys a very full career as a magician.



During his many years of learning and practicing magic, Jered was drawn to Mentalism. It became his favorite category of magic and main act to perform. Before Covid-19 created the petri dish that is current America, he was not short of work at corporate events, festivals, and other public and private venues. His fellow restaurant magicians in town such as Joe Cole and Steve Lindeman, have been very supportive by giving Jered any overflow or when needed, asking him to fill in for them doing restaurant tabletop magic. He is currently filling his time catching up on reading the many magic books in his home collection as well as writing a new mentalism show. Jered certainly is making the most of his time back here in Omaha!

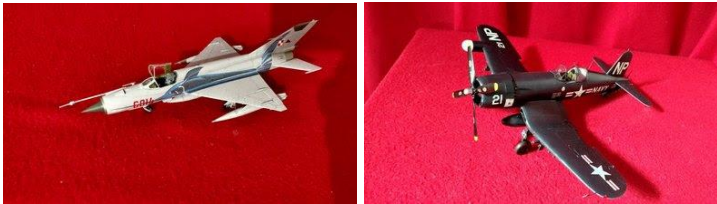
Check out our website:

<http://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org>



Thanks goes out to OMS member and former board member, **Neil Bable**, for the time he spent organizing his presentation for the ten participants who came online to hear about his passion for model building

and see samples of his work. His Meet-A-Member presentation was organized around the HISTORY of model building as well as his own history (starting at the age of 5!).



Then he took us on tour of some TOOLS he uses in his projects as well as the paints that have worked the best for him. Then he finished with SAMPLES OF HIS WORK. As you can see from the pictures included here, his focus is on planes which he also builds on commission from other model enthusiasts. Seeing that his own Dad was a pilot it all made sense. Thank you, Neil, for giving us this glimpse into an area of interest that obviously brings you joy.



OMS Library Update

All 1200 volumes of the OMS library have been delivered to the UNO Rare Books Division where they'll be housed in a climate-controlled environment. The arduous process of entering each volume into an online database has begun. Thank you, **Larry Brodahl**, for offering to work with UNO in helping move this part of the process along. Completion date is scheduled for December, 2021.

Non-Profit Status Update

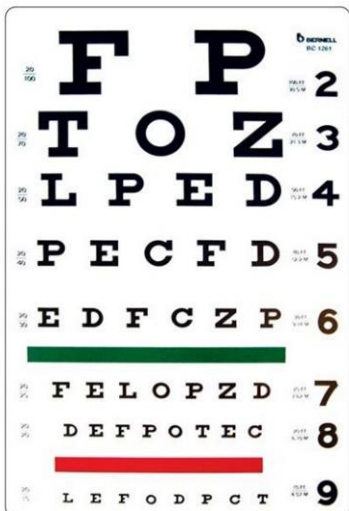


IRS

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Due to the COVID's impact on the Internal Revenue Service, getting ourselves recognized as non-profit corporation is not moving as quickly as we had hoped. However, we are now a recognized corporation by the State of Nebraska (which is essential for moving to the next level). We're hoping that recognition will be given by the IRS by the middle of the Fall. We'll keep you updated.

July On-Line Video



Used as a solid introduction to a series of card tricks, *The Observation Test* is the newest addition to the OMS Online Video Library. With only six playing cards you test the observation powers of those watching your magic - giving them a glimpse into the psychology that you'll be using to create mystery.

Easy to do/psychologically intriguing.



OMS Junior Magician Magic Kits Now Available Online!

With our club's board designating the year 2020 as *The Year Of Youth*, we are pleased to

announce what we believe will be a significant resource in helping all of us pass the joy of learning and performing magic onto the next generations.

Designed by legendary magic teacher Michael Ammar, tested at Boys Town and proven in our own OMS Junior Magicians program over the past year, these three magic kits (now available for purchase on our website) each contain 24 magic tricks.

- These kits are not available in any store;
- Every kit comes with online instructional videos; and
- Each kit includes a twelve-month membership in the Omaha Junior Magicians' club.

You can order any of the kits online by clicking [HERE](#)

Each kit costs \$55 plus \$8.25 shipping.

I hope you find these tools useful in spreading the passion that is magic. Dave Arch (OMS 2020 President)

Homeschool Classes Offered



For twelve weeks starting the first week of September, Steve Nespor and Dave Arch will partner to present magic classes for students ages 8-14 who are being homeschooled. The magic classes will be fifty minutes per week for twelve weeks at the Southwest Church of Christ as part of a larger offering of homeschool classes. You can see a promotional video for the classes at: <https://homeschoolmagicians.com/>



**OMS Annual Picnic
for Boys Town
Cancelled due to
Covid - 19**

13405 Marinda ST.
Omaha, NE 68144

