



# The Flash Paper

## May 2024

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

**Bob Gehringer, Editor**



### A Letter From Lindy

Last month's lecture focused on close up magic. That is **Dan Fleshman's** specialty. In season you can find Dan 5 nights a week in the Chop House restaurant at Vail, and Beaver Creek ski resorts in Colorado. Many members in the audience had seen Dan's lecture in the past. I personally enjoyed his presentation, but I want to give Dan a big shout out for a different reason. When I spoke with him in advance Dan said he heard we hold a junior magicians class ahead of the adult meeting. Without being asked, Dan volunteered to spend some time with the kids, and "show them a little something". Dan



performed magic, taught magic and lectured for the full hour we have with the kids. This was a real treat for our students, and was greatly appreciated. Thanks Dan

May 17-19 is the date for this year's AbraCORNdabra convention in Des Moines, Iowa. **Steve Daly** and his team do an awesome job putting together, not only the best convention in the midwest, but I think it ranks with most others across the country. The Ramada Tropics resort is a new venue this year. It will be jam packed with new features as well as past favorites. If you are

attending be sure to break out your finest evening wear for the formal Black and White Gala on Saturday night. The Omaha Magical Society will be well represented. Among the attendees there will be at least two adult members in the Magimasters senior tournament. Also, three of our junior magicians will be in the Kernels young magicians showcase. I'll report on those results next month.

Sadly, missing from this year's convention will be **Oscar Mumoz**, pictured with me to the left. He has been a staple at AbraCORNdabra for many years. A late commitment will keep him away this time around. His presence seems to be everywhere during the weekend. A great guy, and a very funny performer. Oscar is especially active with the Kernels and other young magicians in attendance. The winner of many awards in both parlor and stage, including the International Brotherhood of Magicians Gold Cup award. Oscar is past president of the I.B.M. (2017). His presence will certainly be missed this year. I look forward to seeing him back in his familiar role next year.



Our kudos go to our club's Junior Magicians' Leadership Team **Steve Nesor, Patrice Fisher, and Steve Lindeman** as they presented their first Super Saturday magic workshop for students at St. Roberts.

They already have a couple from the class who have gone ahead and registered for their on-going Junior Magicians' classes! Thank you to the three of you for continuing to spread the joy that is magic.

<https://theomahamagicalsociety.org/youth-classes>

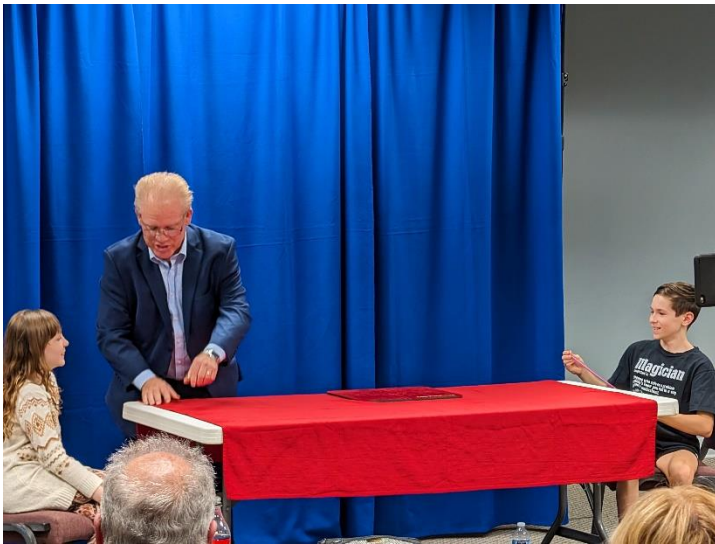


## April Re-Cap

by  
**Matt Spielman**

For our April OMS meeting we had the pleasure of hosting

**Dan Fleshman** and his lecture on restaurant magic which contained demos and teachings from his DVD set “Every Table is a Stage”. Dan has performed magic for the last 50 years with performances at restaurants all across the country along with lectures and corporate gigs around the world. The first 10-15 minutes of the lecture he went over all of the items he had on him at the time, it was like watching Inspector Gadget go through his gear. I lost count and couldn’t keep up writing down what he had on him past his 16th item. Every pocket, sleeve, and magnetized holster on his belt had a piece of his routine loaded and ready to go. Even more impressive was watching him reset and reload an item for the next table, it was incredibly smooth and never interrupted his routine.



Admittedly a lot of the tricks in the routine were not original to Dan, he did a tremendous job citing the source of the trick and how he learned the handling. One of his big takeaways was that despite the trick you are performing isn’t your own you should always develop your own style, rhythm, voice, and have it flow into the next trick seamlessly. He credited Slydini’s performance style as an inspiration of his own, bouncing between speed and a relaxing pace to keep the audience on their toes. Dan also discussed how important it is to have your

routine scripted but to also not be afraid to adlib every once in a while, to inject new life into a performance. A few of his scripts contain lines from audience members over the years.



It was a treat watching someone with over 50 years of experience showcase their talents and break them down. One of my favorite experiences of the night was watching him perform Masahiro Yanagida's Ninja Rings followed up with his up-close demo of melting rings into each other multiple times including a super slow-motion demonstration while describing what he was doing. You know it's good magic when even though you know all of the steps of what is happening your eyes and brain still deceive you. Dan Fleshman was a great lecturer and I recommend anyone who missed out to pull up a video and enjoy his work. His website: [www.DanFleshman.com](http://www.DanFleshman.com) has his full Magic Castle set to stream for free and an online store with items he performs.





*Monday Night*

*Magic*



## THE MARK WILSON TREASURE HUNT

SPONSORED BY **THE OMAHA MAGICAL SOCIETY**

Whether you've never read Mark Wilson's Complete Course in Magic or it's been decades since you've explored its 500+ pages, we'll be hunting together in May for magic treasure between its covers.

We'll be bringing enough copies of this encyclopedic work so we can work in partnerships - mining different sections for what we believe to be the best ideas and then sharing them with others.

We'll also have members ready to perform their favorites from the book.

AND if you don't own a copy, you can take one home with you that evening for \$10!

 **SIMULTANEOUSLY  
BROADCAST ON ZOOM**

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

**MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024**  
**7:00-8:00 PM (CDT)**

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

There is no charge for this event.



CARE

The Omaha Magical Society

Our CARE group did a recent presentation at the Florence Home. Performers included **Mike** and **Ruth Bitter**, **Neil Bable**, **Tom Gray** and **Steve Osborn**. We performed close-up for small groups in their dining room after their supper. Both the residents and the performers had a fun time. The director was excited to have us return again in the future. Volunteers wishing to join in on this or our other facilities feel free to contact **Steve Osborn**. [sosborn@cox.net](mailto:sosborn@cox.net)





## Larry's Logic

### Opener FOLLOWER

Ok, so what the heck is an Opener FOLLOWER? Well, it's a trick that does MORE of the same as the Opener, without the 10 second and 20 second timing issues.

Everything about this trick needs to push ME and my magic.

It must be a standalone trick, as I'm trying to get the audience comfortable with me and my magic. I'm trying to get them to WATCH me, not some other person.

It affords me the first chance to really twist a plot into something surprising, which I never do on the first trick. If you twist the plot or surprise someone on the first trick, they can discount your magic due to the fact that "they weren't expecting it, so that's how you fooled them." I'm not giving them that excuse.

I want to fool them because I do MAGIC, and that's my job.



The FOLLOWER also has to have some comedy. It has to have some COMPLEXITY. It has to be sleight of

hand, and again no obvious props. Color is nice also.

So, for me, it's the JASTRO ILLUSION (to the left) highlighting the premise for doing the PROFESSORS NITEMARE/FIBER OPTICS.

[NOTE: The colors of the Jastro matches the colors of my silks.]

This routine takes the audience on a well-defined trip into some very strong and clean magic.

This routine takes about 5:59 on average, and follows the 3:43 long opener.

So, I've basically eaten 10 minutes (or ONE QUARTER of my 45-minute act) introducing myself to the audience and hopefully proving to them that I'm deserving of their attention, as I'm clever, funny, and skilled.

But the FOLLOWER does NOT have to be this trick. If I'm booked for only 15 minutes or only 30 minutes, I use a much shorter trick.

But any trick that I use for the FOLLOWER has to have the same attributes as this one. Jokes, clever, complex, standalone, no obvious props...but smaller complexity.

So, the FOLLOWER changes depending on my needs. The opener does not.

The FOLLOWER also allows me to have a brief encounter with 3 of the spectators in the audience that inspect my ropes. This encounter not only enforces that the ropes are legit, etc. but it gives the audience the first chance to see how I treat my volunteers.

And I treat them nicely. Some teasing, but very very gentle.

And I need to do this, since my next trick is going to use a volunteer, and I don't want ANYONE to hesitate my request to help me.

[NOTE: The magician that influenced me the most did NOT subscribe to these thoughts. His first trick used a pretty girl from the audience, a dove, and a zipper dove bag. So, your mileage may vary.]



## Scholarships provided by Doug Taylor and his company



**Emilia Puertas**

Thank you again for awarding me this scholarship. I am 14 years old and in 9th grade. I am looking forward to learning lots of card magic and improving my presentation skills as well. I am also very excited to learn more about the business of magic. Hopefully I will also expand my knowledge in other types of magic and performing. I am from California, love card tricks, but want to learn a variety of skills at camp. I also am skilled at sailing.



**Easton Boettcher** is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader from Sergeant Bluff, Iowa. He is 13 years old and started magic at the age of eight. He was lucky enough to find the Omaha Magic Society during the pandemic and they allowed him to join Junior Magicians virtually. He has thrived through their program and completed all four

wands. The program has taught him so much more than just magic. He has gained so much confidence and communication skills. Easton still joins the Junior Magicians virtually to work with other rising magicians.

Easton is honored to be given this scholarship to go to Tannen's Magic Camp. When he learned he won, he said he was "shocked, honored, amazed, and surprised." This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Easton hopes to learn more card tricks and work on sleight of hand. He also has a new found interest in mentalism and would love to grow in that category. Thank you to everyone who has helped Easton as a magician. He is excited to continue to learn and grow!



## OMS Associate Magicians

**Jane Rohling**, a talented young magician enrolled in our Associate Magicians program, recently captivated the audience during her performance at her school's talent competition. As a freshman at Marian High School, Jane showcased her magical prowess with finesse and creativity.



Jane's act commenced with her rendition of the classic "Cut and Restored Rope" illusion. She enlisted the help of two schoolmates to participate in this mesmerizing effect. First, with Jane holding the rope, one of her peers cut it in half. Then, with each schoolmate gripping a cut end of the rope, an impromptu tug-of-war ensued. The tension in the room escalated as they struggled to see who could pull the ropes from Jane's grasp first. To everyone's astonishment, Jane revealed that the rope had inexplicably melded back into a single piece. The applause from the audience was thunderous.

Following this remarkable feat, Jane seamlessly transitioned into her next effect: "Radical Ropes." Drawing inspiration from the classic "Professor's Nightmare," she magically transformed three equal-length ropes into distinctly different lengths. Jane wove a captivating narrative about rival "high schools," cleverly emphasizing Marian's superiority among them. The audience hung on her every word, and their applause echoed throughout the gymnasium.



To conclude her performance, Jane introduced a baffling card effect—the "10s Game." Armed with a deck of Jumbo cards, she invited three spectators to assist her. As Jane shuffled the cards, each helper cut off a packet of cards and selected the top card of the packet. Remarkably, each of them chose a different card bearing the number 10.

At the completion of the competition, the winners were announced from among the ten acts who performed. Congratulations to Jane Rohling, who secured an impressive **third-place** finish! – **Roger Reese**



**Save the Date!**  
**Magic Club Picnic is back at**  
**the Boys Town Great Hall.**  
**Saturday, August 17th**  
**Watch for more information.**



## The Ventilated Hand

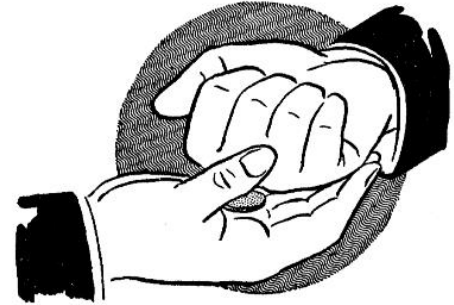
This trick was performed by a well-known performer on the stage at MagiFest last year.

**EFFECT:** A spectator is given seven pennies, and told to hold them tightly in his hand. The magician causes one of the pennies to penetrate through the spectator's hand. If pennies are not available, nickels or dimes may be used.

**PRESENTATION:** Reach into your pocket and produce seven pennies, or borrow them if need be. Hold them in your cupped left hand. Have a spectator cup his hand, and pour the pennies into it. Have the spectator return the pennies to your left hand, counting them as he does. This little bit of by-play is necessary to impress upon the audience that seven coins are used. Have the spectator hold out his left hand in cupped fashion and tell him that now you are going to count the pennies into his hand. Instruct him that when you drop the seventh penny into his hand, he is to clench his fist quickly.

Using your right hand, take a penny from your left and place it in the spectator's cupped hand. Make sure that each succeeding penny clicks against those in the spectator's hand. After you have counted and dropped five pennies into the spectator's hand and clicked the last four, his eyes and ears are ready for the sixth penny. You then pick up the sixth penny with the thumb and forefinger and click it against the pennies in the spectator's hand. Immediately after the click, come right out with it again and count seven, and presumably throw the last penny from your left hand. The spectator closes his fist; you grasp the back of his hand with your right hand (this hand contains the hidden penny).

The spectator's clenched hand contains the six pennies; the back of his hand is to the floor. Your right hand is cupped slightly and holds his fist from below. The cupping is to prevent the penny from touching the spectator's hand.



From now on the rest is up to you. Give out with a bit of patter about the difficulty of making a coin penetrate through solid flesh, or any comment that fits your personality. Slowly bring your coin into contact with the back of his hand and say that the coin has penetrated his fist.

From Scarne's Magic Tricks. Used with permission.



With an increasingly diverse number of magic-related activities being managed by club members, OMS member [Patrice Fisher](#) made the suggestion that we build a centralized calendar to help in the efficient coordination of those activities. Thank you for that idea, Patrice. You can see the beginning of this new calendar on the club's homepage (towards the bottom of the page): <https://theomahamagicalsociety.org> As we worked to put this together, I was amazed





## Omaha Magical Society - S.A.M. Assembly #7 Facebook Features Some snippets for those who don't visit Facebook



### Dave Arch

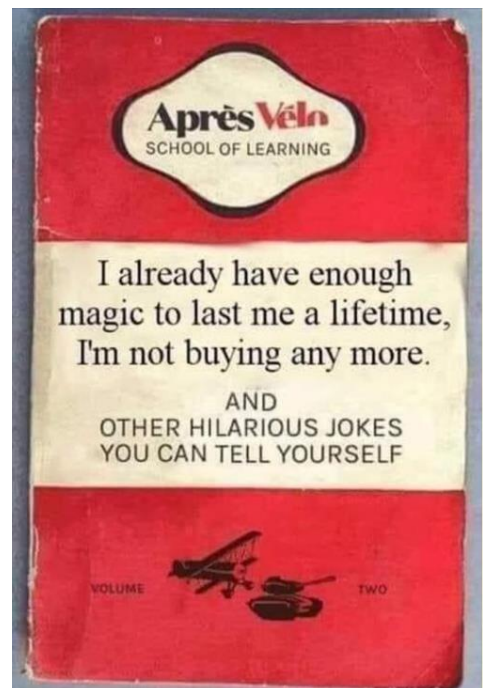
Let's try this again.  
Yesterday morning I posted a video of an electrical mystery from long-time club member John Thompson.  
There was a subsequent snafu with the video I posted.  
I repost it today with an acknowledgement that I do not have enough knowledge of things electrical to explain how this works.  
I only repeated the steps in the process John used in showing it to me.  
THANK YOU, John, helping us as a club experience afresh some of the wonder that magic creates.  
<https://vimeo.com/936097094/69bde7bd4d?>



Next weekend is the AbraCORNdabra magic convention over in Des Moines. If you're going and want to be included in the text thread, please let me know so I can be sure to have you in the group. We'll use the text thread to stay in touch with each other - announcing the location of our OMS club only pizza party for Friday's dinner and to tip each other off to cool things we might discover during our time there.



Neil Bable posted this picture.  
Some magicians jammin at the Inner Rail Omaha!





## Monday Night Magic

**Monday May 20th**

**7:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

Cross Training Center  
5030 N. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Omaha, NE

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

Check out our website:

<http://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org>

### 2024 OMS Officers

**President** - Steve Lindeman ..... [amazinglindy@gmail.com](mailto:amazinglindy@gmail.com)  
**Vice President** - Adam Schacht ..... [schacht2222@gmail.com](mailto:schacht2222@gmail.com)  
**Treasurer** - Bob Gehringer ..... [gehringerr@cox.net](mailto:gehringerr@cox.net)  
**Secretary** - Patrice Fisher ..... [patricekfisher@yahoo.com](mailto:patricekfisher@yahoo.com)  
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