



The Flash Paper

September 2026

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

Bob Gehringer, Editor



Adam's Antics

Making Magic in Craig, Missouri - This past month, I had the opportunity to travel to Craig, Missouri, and perform alongside **Steve Lindemann** for **Ruth and Mike Bitter**.

Ruth and Mike have been putting a lot of time and energy into revitalizing Craig and recently purchased the historic Opera House with hopes of turning it into a community center and helping bring new life into the town. With everything they do for our magic club, I wanted an opportunity to give back and support a project they are so passionate about, so I was happy to donate my time and be a part of it.

It was also great getting to put a show together with **Steve Lindeman**. I think it made the show even more impactful for the audience to see two different sides and two generations of magicians sharing the same stage. We were able to put our time and material together to create a great show, and the crowd was fantastic! We had some really great reactions and had a lot of fun performing together. Ruth and Mike also gave us a tour of the Opera House, and it was very cool getting to see the history of the building and hear about everything they hope to do with it.

If you ever find yourself near Craig, I highly recommend stopping through and seeing what is happening there. If you're interested in the revitalization efforts, reach out to Mike and Ruth and learn more about what they're working on. It's exciting to see how much passion

they're putting into preserving the history of Craig while creating something for the community's future.

Boys Town Magic - This month was also our annual Boys Town magic event! Thank you to all of our close-up magicians who performed throughout the Great Hall and helped make the event such a fun experience. Having magic happening throughout the space gives everyone at Boys Town an opportunity to see something up close and interact with our performers.

I had the opportunity to coordinate the stage show this year and serve as MC. One of the things I enjoy most about putting together a show like this is seeing how different everyone's magic can be. Each performer brings their own personality, material, and style to the stage, so the audience gets several completely different experiences all within one show.

A big thank you to everyone who volunteered, performed close-up, took the stage, and helped make another great Boys Town event possible!

Fall Magic Is Coming!

It's hard to believe we're already heading into fall! I'm gearing up for another season of shows at Vala's Pumpkin Patch, and I'm excited to get back out there for all of the fall festivities.

Fall is always one of my favorite times of year to perform. Between Vala's, Halloween, the cooler weather, and everything happening around Omaha, there's always a fun energy to the season.

I'm looking forward to another busy fall of magic!



A Little Disney Magic - Lane and I are also getting ready to head to Florida this month!

We're planning to visit Walt Disney World and make our way through all of the parks, and we're hoping to check out Universal's new park as well. Since we're going during Halloween season, we're also planning to experience Halloween Horror Nights and Mickey's Not-So-Scary Halloween Party.

I'm always interested in seeing how theme parks use practical effects, technology, storytelling, and even some of the same principles we use as magicians to create an experience for an audience. I'm sure I'll come back with plenty of inspiration and probably a few stories for next month's Adam Antics!

No September Meeting – See You at AbraCORNdabra!

A reminder that we will not be having our regular club meeting in September because AbraCORNdabra is happening September 11–13 in Des Moines!

AbraCORNdabra returns to the Airport Holiday Inn this year with another packed weekend of magic. The 2026 lineup includes **Robert Baxt, James Dimmare, Kevin James, Eric Stevens, Daryl Rogers, Oscar Munoz**, and a **Mystery Magician**.

The weekend includes shows, lectures and workshops, the magiK-MART dealer's room, a magic flea market, the Kernels Young Magicians Showcase, late-night magic, and plenty of opportunities to spend time with fellow magicians.

This year's OscEARS also commemorates 100 years since the passing of **Harry Houdini**, which should make for a fun addition to this year's convention.

If you've never made the trip to AbraCORNdabra, it's a great opportunity to spend a weekend immersed in magic and connect with magicians from around the region.

I hope to see plenty of OMS members in Des Moines!

Until next month.

When Magic Came to Craig

A Night of Laughter, Hope, and Community at the 2026 Craig Farmers Market Carnival

What a great night of memories for everyone who attended. It was a beautiful August evening in Craig, Missouri, and the 2026 Craig Farmers Market Carnival was in full swing. Children were running everywhere—playing games, winning tickets, laughing, and having fun. Parents browsed the vendors while joining in the fun themselves, from the Cake Walk to axe throwing. Free, sweet, juicy watermelon slices were being handed out while music filled Craig City Park.

Then came the sound every child was waiting for—the whistle of Jeremiah's Xpress. The little train carried children around the park grounds while parents snapped pictures and little faces waved to their audience. For a few hours, Craig City Park was filled with the sounds of childhood: laughter, music, cheers, and the simple joy of being together.

And then came the magic. At 7:00 p.m., the games shut down and the crowd gathered around the stage for the biggest thrill of the evening—a professional magic show provided by our very own **Amazing Lindy and Adamagic**.

What happened next was something we will not soon forget. Volunteers were invited onto the stage to become part of the magic. The audience clapped, cheered, laughed, and watched in amazement. Hugs could be seen throughout the crowd. For one wonderful hour, the little town of Craig felt completely alive.

A Special Thank You

Before I tell you why this evening meant so much to us, I want to recognize Jane and John McCallan of the Catch 22 Foundation for their incredibly generous donation of stuffed animals and assorted prizes for our ticket redemption center. Their kindness helped make the carnival even more special for the children of Craig.



And to **Adam Schacht and Steve Lindeman—Amazing Lindy and Adamagic—thank you.**



Adam performing at the Craig Farmers Market Carnival

Thank you for giving your time, your talent, your energy, and your hearts to our community. You didn't simply perform a magic show. **You gave Craig an evening of hope.**

A Little About Craig

For those who may not know Craig, Missouri, we are a small town located about 90 minutes south of Omaha along I-29. When Mike and I bought a cabin at Big Lake, Craig became a part of our lives. What we saw when we first began spending time there broke our hearts.

Houses and yards were in disrepair. Trees and branches were scattered throughout the community from storms and the devastating 2019 flood. Mother Nature had not been kind to this little town.

First came the flood.

Then came a tornado.

The town had simply had enough.

Some people moved away. Others stayed but didn't have the resources or insurance necessary to repair their

homes. Little by little, hope seemed to disappear. But Mike and I couldn't just watch it happen. We knew we had to do something. So, we started holding community events. We organized city cleanup days. We asked people to volunteer. We began looking for ways to bring people together again.

It has been a slow climb. But we have learned something along the way: **Sometimes rebuilding a town begins with rebuilding its spirit.**

That is what made Friday night so extraordinary.

The carnival brought people together. The Farmers Market brought neighbors together. The children played together. Families laughed together. And then the magic show gave everyone something else—a reason to sit together, cheer together, and believe that maybe, just maybe, Craig can come back.



Steve performing at the Craig Farmers Market Carnival

For one hour, people weren't thinking about what was broken. They were thinking about what was possible.



Why the Omaha Magical Society Means So Much to Us - Being part of the Omaha Magical Society has been one of the great adventures of our lives.

Over the years, Mike and I have met so many wonderful people through the Society and attended incredible classes and shows. From the beginning, members made us feel welcome and willingly shared their knowledge and their magic with a couple of newcomers. We have also seen firsthand how generous this group can be.

When Mike and I hosted a fundraiser to help a young man become part of a family through adoption, members of the club stepped up with donations, participation, encouragement, and support. We were grateful then.

But what happened in Craig Friday night went far beyond anything we could have imagined. Mike simply put a post on Facebook asking if anyone might be willing to help with a magic show at the Craig Farmers Market Carnival.

Adam and Steve responded. They didn't ask Craig to prove that it was worth their time. They didn't ask what they would get in return. They simply said they would help. And they came.

More Than Magicians

There are no words that adequately express what that meant to us. The Omaha Magical Society is so much more than a group of magicians who gather to learn and share tricks.

It is a group of miracle workers who share love, laughter, and hope.

We see it in the Society's involvement with Boys Town, care facilities, children's hospitals, community events, and countless other places where a little magic can make a difficult day brighter. You bring smiles to children. You bring laughter to people who may feel forgotten. You bring moments of wonder to people who need them.

And sometimes, you bring an entire town back to life for an evening. That is what happened in Craig.

Adam and Steve, you may have thought you were simply coming to perform a magic show. But Craig saw something much bigger. We saw people who cared enough to come to our little town and share their gifts with us. We saw children who will remember the night they watched professional magicians perform in their hometown. We saw parents laughing and cheering beside their children. We saw neighbors sitting together. And we saw something that Craig has needed for a very long time: - **Hope.**

So, from Mike, from Team Craig, from the Craig Farmers Market, and from every child, parent, volunteer, vendor, and neighbor who experienced the magic of that evening - **Thank you, Omaha Magical Society.**

Thank you, Adam. Thank you, Steve.

Thank you for believing that a little town in northwest Missouri was worth showing up for. And thank you for reminding us that sometimes the greatest magic isn't what happens on a stage.

The greatest magic is what happens when people use their gifts to make someone else's world a little brighter.

God has blessed the Omaha Magical Society in tremendous ways.

And after what we witnessed in Craig on that beautiful August night, I can't help but believe—

the best is yet to come.

With gratitude and hope,

Ruth & Mike Bitter

*Team Craig
Craig, Missouri*





AbraCORNdabra 2026 is September 11-13 in Des Moines, Iowa.



<https://abracorndabra.com/>

There is a new venue this year, the airport Holiday Inn. If you plan on attending, you'll need to register soon. Not only to take advantage of early discounts. Registration is limited to 200 people, and they do sell out.



For those who took advantage of the van ride to the Tri State Magic Party, you know what a great time it was. We are again considering renting a 15-passenger van to ride as a group to Des Moines. The plan would be to leave early Friday morning and return home Sunday. **Kevin James** will be driving back with us, so we'll leave after his master class ends at 3:00.

Please text **Steve Lindeman** to sign up for the van ride at (402) 681-4917. If there is enough interest we'll move forward.

Note: This event will take the place of our September meeting.



Circle September 11-13 on your calendar. Those are the dates for the 2026 **AbraCORNdabra** convention in Des Moines, Iowa. Again, this year we'll be having a **Pizza Party** for OMS members



and their guests during the Friday night dinner break in the lobby. If you are planning on attending the convention this year please call or text me at the number below. I'll set up a **text chain** so everyone will be able to pass information within the group.

If there is enough interest, the club will rent a van so we can carpool. The plan would be to leave early Friday morning, and returning to Omaha Sunday afternoon after the last event.

As of this write-up we still have room to sign up for the van trip. Please let me know ASAP if interested so arrangements can be made. Whichever way you plan on getting to Des Moines, be sure to call or text so I can add you to the text chain. I'm sure OMS will have a strong contingent again this year.

Steve Lindeman (402) 681-4917 or (712) 545 9067



August Re-Cap by Matt Spielman

The Omaha Magical Society returned to Boys Town for our annual tradition of fellowship, food, and sleight-of-hand. Boys Town residents and club members gathered in the Great Hall for a potluck style picnic lunch featuring fried chicken provided by the club paired with a delicious assortment of member-contributed sides. During lunch, our roving conjurers took to the floor, bringing up-close magic directly to the Boys Town residents. Special thanks to **Jered Blake**, **Tim Begley**, **Matt Oswald**, **Patrice Fisher**, **Dennis Rourke**, **Susan Brown**, **Mike Ware** and myself for setting a wonderful mood with their close-up work.

Following lunch everyone moved to the Boys Town Music Hall for a jam-packed stage production hosted by our club president **Adam Schacht**. **Ryan Chandler** kicked off the afternoon along with his sidekick the **Amazing Jet** performing a modified version of the sword box illusion. Jet took the lead and removed over a dozen walking canes that were penetrating a small box on stage. Once the final cane was removed the box was opened and **Rex** (Ryan's other son) emerged unharmed from the box.

Neil Bable followed up next with a silent routine, pulling an endless sequence of objects from an empty bag choreographed to music before concluding with a large flower bouquet production. **Easton Boettcher** took the stage for his first routine of the day; after having a volunteer select a card at random, he brought out his sketchpad and drew a deck of cards. Dramatically the drawing was animated and the randomly chosen card "rose" out of the drawn deck of cards.

Magic Mya marked her very first stage performance with a crowd-pleasing peanut butter and jelly transposition. She got the crowd to join in a sing along rendition of "Peanut Butter Jelly Time" all while swapping ingredients back and forth before finally

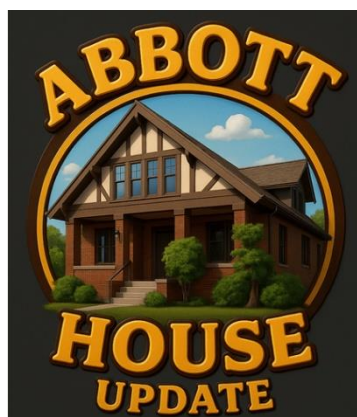
revealing her perfect peanut butter and jelly sandwich. **Easton Boettcher** and **Neil Bable** returned to the stage for second performances before **Ryan Chandler** concluded the show with a finale honoring the 100th anniversary of **Harry Houdini's** death. After being placed in handcuffs by volunteers and sealed inside a heavy mailbag, Ryan recreated a Houdiniesque thrilling escape to cap off the afternoon. Thank you to everyone who performed, cooked, and supported this year's event! It was nice to see some new faces join in on the annual festivities to make a memorable afternoon for the Boys Town residents.



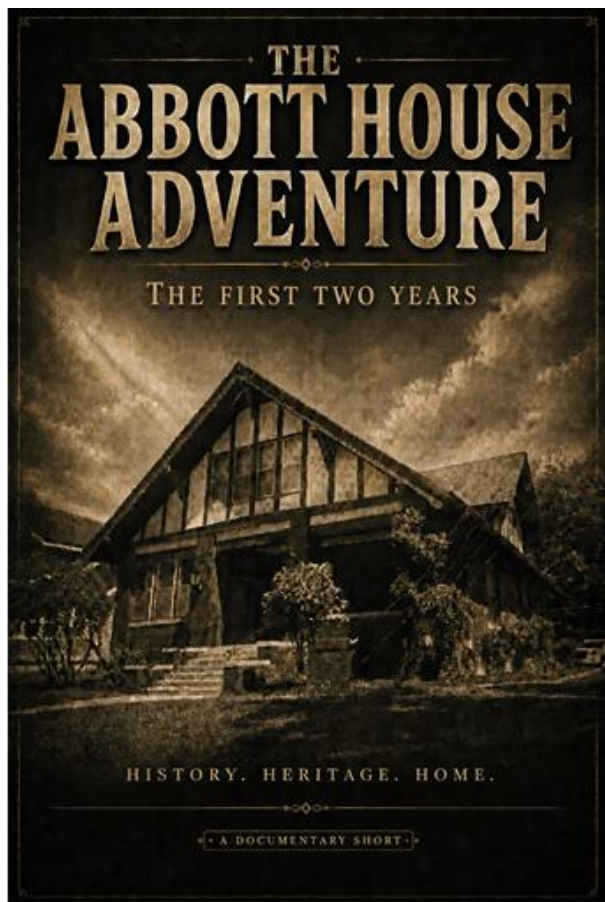


Boys Town Picnic Stage Show





On September 6th, we passed
the two-year anniversary
of owning the historic Abbott House!



In celebration of that milestone, we have created a documentary short - highlighting the major events since taking possession of this unbelievable house. It's been quite a journey!

The link to this online video will be posted in the October Flash Paper and on our club's Facebook page.



In keeping with the era that was David Abbott, The Abbott House Board gave approval to begin the reconstruction of the lower level of the house - advancing the vision of an additional event space with a non-alcoholic magic speakeasy vibe - including its own "secret" entrance off the parking lot behind the house.

We gratefully acknowledge **Darren Kauk** and **Mike Ware** for the vision, expertise and labor to advance this project.

The above artist's rendering shows one of several potential configurations for this unique space - adding yet another dimension of functionality to The Abbott House.



Pete and Babe Petroshek are lifelong members of our Omaha Magical Society. They have long since retired from their career in magic, and always enjoy our CARE Team visits to their senior community facility.

Peter The Near Great had his **101st** birthday. It was quite the crowd to celebrate his big day. An additional milestone to honor for Pete and his wife, **Babe**, was their 77th anniversary! If Pete wasn't 101, I would have thought that he and Babe married in middle school! 😊.

Magic was their livelihood and surely must have something to do with their energy and longevity.

Music, snacks, and cake were enjoyed by the full house of easily 50 friends and family. Smiles, laughs, music, and Best Wishes created a joyful afternoon.

Happy Birthday and Anniversary to Babe and Pete. Our Omaha Magical Society wishes all the best for you!

Patrice Fisher

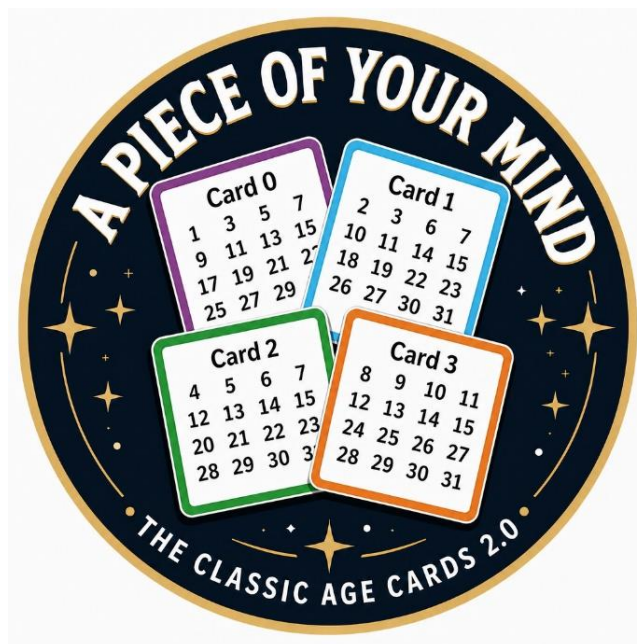
2026 OMS Officers

President - Adam Schacht schacht2222@gmail.com
Vice President - Mike Ware mike.ware@betteromaha.com
Treasurer - Bob Gehring gehringerr@cox.net
Secretary - Patrice Fisher patricekfisher@yahoo.com
Executive Director - Dave Arch samassembly7@gmail.com

Check out our website:

<https://omahamagicclub.org>

A PIECE OF YOUR MIND



Added to our club's Smartphone App Library in September is this improvement to the classic "Age Cards" trick where a person thinks of a number on any of the numbered cards and hands the cards with their numbers to you, and you can nearly instantaneously apparently read their mind - telling them the number on their mind.

In this version, you perform it in two different ways - teaching the spectator the method(s) so they can perform for others.

THEN you perform it again under even more stringent conditions where they delete all the cards from the screen before handing them back your phone.

You still discern the number on their mind.

Although you send them a link so they can show their friends, they'll never be able to recreate the kicker ending you showed them.

Enter the club's App Library here:
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/12164137> - using the password you received when you became a club member (same one you use for our club's video library).

Become an OMS club member online here:
<https://theomahamagicalsociety.org/membership>



THE TOILET TRICK

Imagine - Your friend is over to watch a movie or something. You come back from using the restroom

"Did I ever tell you about my toilet? I thought... hmm.... no... Here I'll show you." You take him into the bathroom and lift up the cover of the toilet tank. "Looks normal, right?" He agrees. "Yeah, but check this out."

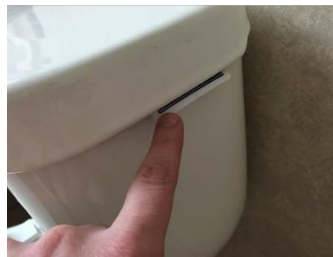
You go get a deck of cards, he chooses one, you give him the chance to change his mind. You have him fold the card in half and tear it, then in quarters, then in eighths. Then you have him drop the pieces in the toilet. "Wait," you say as you plunge your hand in the toilet, "hold onto this piece." Jab the piece in his pocket and press on. You flush the torn card away.

"You chose a card. I gave you the chance to change your mind. You ripped it up. We flushed everything down except for one piece. Look in the tank. And when he does, there is a *mostly* restored card floating there. It matches his selection and the missing piece fits

Method - Please use a strong force! My favorite is a cross-cross force with duplicate cards on the top and bottom so I can give them a choice of the upper or lower card after the cut.

Go into your bathroom with a duplicate of the card you're going to force. Take the card and rip off an eighth of the card; an index corner works best. Place the rest of the card so it's pinched between the toilet tank and the toilet lid. The picture below shows a slightly exposed view.

Keep the torn corner in your pocket.



Walk back into the other room from the restroom. Bring your friend into the bathroom to explain your amazing toilet. Lift the

lid and show him the normal toilet tank. Replace the lid, letting the duplicate fall into the tank in the process. Go get a deck of cards. Force the matching card. Allow him to fold and tear up the card while you get the duplicate corner in finger palm. Let him dump the pieces in the toilet. Reach in and grab at the pieces, secretly bringing out the finger-palmed piece. Make your spectator take the piece you apparently plucked from the bowl. Flush the toilet. Allow your friend to lift the tank cover and discover the restored card and match up the missing piece. The End to a very memorable piece!

From The Jerx blog. Used with permission.

From **Donna Roth** - You might be a magician if:

16. There's a pack of cards in sight as you read these words.
17. You're holding a fan of cards in every photo that you are in.
18. You actually want to go to a lecture.
19. You record every magic special on TV.
20. You have a tie with playing cards on it.



ENDOWMENT FUND GROWTH

We now have four members who have indicated plans to include the Omaha Magical Society in their will.

Below is a picture that explains the concept of an Endowment Fund.

Please contact our Treasurer Bob Gehring with your questions at gehringerr@cox.net.



An endowment is a fund established with financial gifts that generates income for The Omaha Magical Society forever. Interest from the investment of the gift continues to financially support the club in the area(s) of the donors' passions while the investment itself remains untouched.

The above illustration is based on an 8.8% investment return with 5% used by the club in the form of grants and 1% used for administrative costs.



**KEVIN JAMES
MEET & GREET**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026
6:30 - 8:30 PM

ABBOTT HOUSE
3316 CENTER STREET, OMAHA, NEBRASKA

SEARCH YOUTUBE TO SEE
KEVIN JAMES IN ACTION!

EXCLUSIVE EVENT —
20/15 MEMBERS & ABBOTT HOUSE MEMBERS ONLY

THE ABBOTT HOUSE ADVENTURE
THE FIRST TWO YEARS
HISTORY HERITAGE HOME
DOCUMENTARY PREMIERE TOO!

The Abbott House Adventure

Documentary Short

has its public premiere on Sunday evening, September 13th in conjunction with the Kevin James reception for Abbott House and 20/15 Members.

Although there are currently no openings for any new Abbott House members, you may still become a 20/15 donor and join the fun here: <https://theomahamagicalsociety.org/donate>



September 11-13, 2026

AbracORNdabra

Des Moines, Iowa

AbracORNdabra.com

13405 Marinda ST.
Omaha, NE 68144

