



# WestsideWizards!



S.A.M. ASSEMBLY 291, LOS ANGELES

NOVEMBER 2022

Next S.A.M. Meeting:  
Tuesday, **November 8, 7:00 PM**  
Theme: **Siegfried Tieber Lecture**

Next S.Y.M. Meeting:  
Sunday, **November 20, 3:00 PM**  
Theme: **TBA**

## Siegfried Tieber in the House!

We're in for a wonderful treat for our next meeting at **7:00 PM on November 8** back at our regular meeting place, OPICA at Stoner Park. The amazing **Siegfried Tieber** will be with us to explain and explore his approach to "Magic as Medium" —magic as a narrative art form used to communicate, share, and celebrate meaningful ideas. We will dissect Siegfried's approach, both method and presentation, to the Tantalizer, from Royal Road to Card Magic, as a way to illustrate certain ideas.

Siegfried Tieber is a Los Angeles-based performer and sleight-of-hand magician. Born and raised in Ecuador, his first international appearance was in 2011 in Bogotá, Colombia. In 2015, Siegfried headlined at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the largest arts festival in the world, where his performance was highly praised by reviewers and critics. 2017 saw the premiere of his show See/Saw in Los Angeles and in 2018 the project was taken to New York, where Time Out NY listed it as #1 in its "The best magic shows in New York City." Siegfried has been featured in prominent media outlets such as Huffington Post, Los Angeles Times and Forbes. Most recently he was invited to be part of Penn & Teller: Fool Us, a television series featuring the legendary performance duo (yes, he did fool them).



### Upcoming Meetings

November 8: Siegfried Tieber  
November 20 (SYM): TBA  
December 13: Holiday Show with  
Johnny Ace Palmer  
& Office Elections

### Using Zoom

If you don't already have Zoom installed, go to [zoom.us/download](https://zoom.us/download) to get the free Zoom application for your computer or download it from the App Store for your mobile device.

**Note: Our meeting will start at 7:00 PM, but we will start letting Westside Wizards in around 6:45 PM before opening it up to the public at 7:00 PM.**

**This month's Zoom meeting info:**

**Meeting ID: 839 7509 3471**  
**Passcode: 447035**

**JOIN NOW**

**Click on the link above and it will open Zoom and take you to the meeting. You will be then let in by the meeting host**

# SORCERY SUPREME AND GOURDS GALORE

## Westside Wizards Perform Magic Show At Local Pumpkin Patch

No month compares with October when it comes to public interest in magic, and few locations match a pumpkin patch for Halloween season ambience... which is why Assembly 291 combined the two when it came time for their October meeting.

For the first time in Westside Wizards history the club took their October meeting on the road, gathering at nearby Shawn's Pumpkin Patch in West Los Angeles. The evening's performing theme was, fittingly, "Spooky Magic", and for the first half-hour club members discussed Assembly business and performed magic for one another as always—in this case, some of their most disturbing, creepy magic, with **Les Cooper**, **Brian Schwartz**, **Alexander Scianna**, **Cydney Kaplan**, and **Dan Cray** summoning the spirits.

But then they changed things up, inviting customers at the pumpkin patch to come watch club members perform an all-ages Halloween magic show, free of charge inside a mysterious black tent situated at the heart of the pumpkin stacks.

**Christopher Cory** went into action as show announcements blared over the loudspeakers, creating his renowned balloon animals for visitors arriving out front of the tent. Inside, **Jim Witoszynski** treated the packed house to a haunting edition of cups and balls; **Les Cooper** drove a wicked needle through the heart of a balloon that somehow survived to tell the tale, much to the relief of a child volunteer; **Phil Goodman** made cards behave in mysterious, and sometimes ghostly fashion; and Dan Cray helped a participant locate their missing dollar bill by carving into a randomly selected pumpkin and then allowing the participant to retrieve the bill from the gooey interior.

The successful show certainly added a magical new element to Shawn's Pumpkin Patch, which is one of the largest in Los Angeles and features a petting zoo, train, straw maze, hay bales, and carnival games, along with piles upon piles of every warty gourd and pumpkin imaginable. Once inside, nearby Santa Monica Boulevard seemed a world away and the generous staff made the Westside Wizards feel as if they had truly found, in the words of Peanuts' Linus Van Pelt, "a sincere pumpkin patch." – Dan Cray





Alex Scianna



Jim Witoszynski



Phil Goodman



Les Cooper

# President's Message

## A word from Dan Cray...



Hi Westside Wizards,

Welcome back to Standard Time. Some people hate the 5 p.m. darkness, but I've always loved this time of year because the early sunset reminds me that holiday season is on the way—nearly always an enchanted time for us magical types.

Last month was enchanted too, as you know if you joined us at Shawn's Pumpkin Patch. First a spooky, Wizards-only magic show, followed by a Halloween-themed family show for everyone visiting the patch—definitely some great, autumn fun. Many thanks to Shawn, Sabrina, Eliie, and the entire pumpkin patch staff, and to all of you who shared your magic.

This month will be even better, since we have the ultra-entertaining **Siegfried Tieber** coming by to give a lecture on "Magic As Medium." Few magicians know how to create a memorable performing character as well as Siegfried, so I'm looking forward to hearing his philosophy of using magic as a narrative art form to communicate and celebrate meaningful ideas.

Given that our Nov. 8 meeting falls on election day here in California, it's probably appropriate that we'll be hearing from our club's Nominating Committee that night as well. The three-person, volunteer committee—**Phil Goodman** and **Brian Schwartz** representing the board of directors, and **Alexander Scianna** representing the general membership—will present their recommended slate of candidates for our next BOD. The election itself will then take place next month, at the December meeting.

Speaking of December, a quick reminder about some great news: we have a truly amazing guest lined up for our year-end, December 13 meeting. The one and only (drumroll) **Johnny Ace Palmer** will be performing a magic show as a special treat for the Westside Wizards! It's such a thrill, and an honor, for our club to host Johnny this holiday season.

Because Johnny is the most generous man in magic, he is graciously presenting this show, just for our club. Please keep in mind the December meeting will therefore be limited to Westside Wizards members and one spouse or significant other and immediate family only—no friends or other guests, please. Also, note we won't be holding a potluck this year due to OPICA's ongoing pandemic health rules, so please **DON'T BRING FOOD** in December, or to any of our meetings.

What an incredible end-of-year lineup: a Siegfried lecture on character development this month, followed by a year-end magic show from Johnny Ace Palmer in December!

See you on November 8.

# WESTSIDE WIZARDS 2023 DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW USING ZELLE

Last year we asked our members to pay their dues by using Zelle. It was very successful, and we would like to continue this process for collecting your 2023 dues.

Zelle is FREE and available at most local banks, including, Chase, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, One West Bank and more. Zelle is usually located in the Pay & Transfer section of your account. This is an instant transfer and is not reversible, so be sure to send your payment to the phone number listed below.



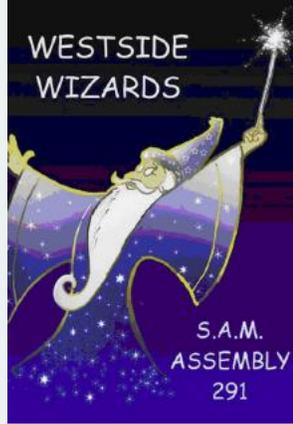
When you are ready to pay your Westside Wizards dues, set up a recipient in Zelle in the name of **Les Cooper** and phone number **310-621-8104**.

**Westside Wizards dues remain \$25 and \$5.00 for your spouse or partner.**

We will also accept checks made out to **Les Cooper** and sent to our home address, **1937 Midvale Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025**, or you can pay your dues in cash or by check at our monthly meetings.

Thanks in advance for your continued membership in the Westside Wizards.





The **Westside Wizards** was formed to give the West Los Angeles area a Magical presence and hopes that you will participate and be active in Assembly 291.

## Westside Wizards Officers (2021-2022)

President	Dan Cray
Vice President	Phil Goodman
Treasurer	Doris Roach
Secretary	Brian Schwartz
Member at Large	Raul Fernandez
Member at Large	Jim Witoszynski
Immediate Past President	Les Cooper
M.U.M. Editor	Dan Cray
Newsletter Editors	Phil Goodman & Dan Cray



### Westside Wizards Meeting Location

Stoner Park OPICA Adult Day Care Facility,  
11759 Missouri Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Between S. Bundy Drive and S. Barrington Avenue. Park off Missouri Avenue, next to the ball field

## Past Presidents

2015-2020	Les Cooper
2013-2014	Bill Bedecarre
2011-2012	Frank Padilla, Jr
2009-2010	Raul Fernandez
2008	Les Cooper

**Contact us:**

**[WWW.WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG](http://WWW.WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG)  
[INFO@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG](mailto:INFO@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG) OR [SYM@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG](mailto:SYM@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG) FOR THE JUNIORS**