



WestsideWizards!



S.A.M. ASSEMBLY 291, LOS ANGELES

MAY 2023

Next S.A.M. Meeting:
Tuesday, **May 9, 7:00 PM**
Theme: **A Trick You Would Show Milt Larsen (at the Magic Castle)**

Next S.Y.M. Meeting:
Sunday, **May 21, 3:00 PM**
Theme: **TBA**

Making Magic at the Castle!

We are pleased to invite you to the next Westside Wizards meeting at the world-famous Magic Castle, located in the heart of Hollywood. This exclusive event will take place on Tuesday, May 9, at 7:00 pm in the Peller Theater.

The highlight of the evening will be an exciting challenge for our members: to perform "The Trick You'd Show Milt." As we're sure you already know, Milt & Bill Larsen, Jr. created the Magic Castle, and along with Irene Larsen (Bill's wife) and their daughter, Erika, the Larsen family is royalty in the magic world. Therefore, our theme is to prepare a trick that you would show Milt or any Larsen family member. We're not saying or promising any of them will be there (and they probably won't), but it never hurts to be prepared just in case!

Not only will you have the opportunity to perform in one of the most legendary venues in the world of magic, but you will also get to meet and network with other members of the local magic community. We welcome all of our members, regardless of experience, to join us for this great event.

Please note that this event is exclusive to members of our local magic club and you won't be able to bring a guest (unless you're also an AMA member yourself). After the meeting concludes, we'll be free to roam the Castle and see other shows.

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to expand your knowledge and skills in the world of magic. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!

Upcoming Meetings

- May 9: A Trick You Would Show Milt Larsen (at the Magic Castle)
- May 21: (S.Y.M) TBA
- June 13: Magic in the Spectator's Hands

No Zoom This Month

Since we'll be at the Magic Castle, there will be no Zoom this month.



COVETING “THE PRECIOUS”

Wizards Conjure Coins and Other “Precious Metals” at April Meeting

Why devote a monthly meeting to coin magic alone, when you can expand the possibilities by performing “Magic with Precious Metals” instead? That’s how the Westside Wizards approached their April meeting, performing a broad range of metal-themed effects.

Phil Goodman kicked off the “metal magic” with some gold-standard coin work: one became two, then three; two in each hand become a single coin in one hand; soon all four coins reappeared before transforming into Chinese coins.

Bruce Schroffel, who claimed he’s “just a hobbyist with a dented zombie ball,” actually researched precious metals instead of performing... a project which entailed creating a circular chart that listed several of them metals. One randomly chosen number later, Bruce arrived at the listing for gold. Lo and behold: the back of his chart had a gold-colored French fry container!

Studying quantum flux doesn’t intimidate **Alexander Scianna**, who explained it’s where “the possibilities of matter reside.” His proof? If he “observes the flux,” he can create matter—such as a coin that appears from thin air. Toss it back to the flux, it disappears... only to reappear whenever he grabs for it. As Alexander said, “it’s the flux of all possibility!”

Coins aside, **Brian Schwartz** noted there are precious metals in our hands every day: our phones. With **Jim Witoszynski** and Phil as volunteers—one to use their web browser to find the most-searched songs, the other to offer a random number—Brian showed that “technology knows what other technology is doing” by asking “Siri” to identify the song that the nearby phone had found at the chosen number. Sure enough, the iconic voice named—and played—the same song.

Les Cooper’s metal magic started at intermission, when he showed everyone how to balance eleven nails on a single nail. Then came his real material—first, predicting which of five brass coins a volunteer would choose. (The dramatic reveal: four flipped-over coins were blank, but the chosen coin said “This Coin.”) He then seemingly failed to identify a card chosen by volunteer **Valerie Repnau**... only to reveal the card’s name written on his “lucky coin.”

There’s no better birthday present than a set of “wishing coins,” as **Dan Cray** demonstrated by showing how the coins not only passed through solid glass but granted his wishes... or at least, their own, warped versions of his wishes.

Howard Paris also made coins do the impossible as a means of proving that “Time is money, and time flies... so money flies!” He also closed out the evening with a treat for everyone to marvel over: an elaborate, metallic gyroscope that demonstrated conservation of momentum in compelling fashion.

The April meeting also featured the return of performance feedback (for those who want it), and a spirited auction of *The Complete Works of Derek Dingle* (first edition) by Richard Kaufman, which was donated by Les. (Congratulations to Brian, the winning bidder!)

This month, the Wizards trade precious metals for a precious meeting location: the Magic Castle! – *Dan Cray*



Les Cooper mesmerizing Bill Bedecarre with Coin Sleights

President's Message

A word from Dan Cray...



Okay, here we go: one year since relaunching our club's in-person meetings with a special night at the Magic Castle, we're celebrating by returning there for another special night!

This is a great chance for all of us to perform on a Castle stage (barring a last-minute change, we'll have the Peller Theater as our meeting site), socialize with one another at a centerpiece of the magical world, and possibly attend some shows as the evening progresses.

Our performance theme is simple, and fun: The Trick You'd Show Milt. (Referring, of course, to Castle co-founder Milt Larsen.) So, whether it's your go-to routine, your new favorite effect, or an idea you've just been dying to try in an elegant setting... now's the time!

I stand by what I said last year: the talent level in this club deserves a Magic Castle stage. (And I know some of you already perform there from time to time.) For those who would rather not perform, your love and knowledge of magic is just as welcome, and necessary, especially when we're meeting at one of the world's most vaunted magic locations.

One other thing: don't forget the Castle's dress code! (See their website for details.)

<http://www.magiccastle.com/dresscode/>

There are no entry fees for our club that night, but parking is \$8 for AMA members, \$25 for non-members.

I'm really excited about this meeting! See you on Tuesday, May 9, at the Magic Castle.

Dan

Open Mic Magic!



Do you want to perform magic with magicians from around the world, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Iceland, India, Germany, and other locations?

Do you want to watch other magicians perform live?

You can sit back, relax, and watch a free magic show, or if you prefer, perform for other magicians from the comfort of your home.

Every Wednesday at Noon, local time (8:00 PM in the UK), Kevin Peel hosts OPEN MIC MAGIC via Zoom. Shows usually last a little over one hour and feature magicians performing with cards, coins, silks, some parlour and more. Here is the link to get your free tickets:

Tickets are FREE

Get your weekly dose of live magic in your home.

So, get your FREE ticket NOW! The link is:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/open-mic-magic>

Open to beginners, hobbyists, semi pros, professional magicians, and anyone who loves magic.

And if you are a magician, hang out with other magicians for lively discussions about magic after the Zoom show.

Hope to see you soon on Open Mic Magic!

Magic Conventions through 2023

May 2023

May 9-11 - **Collector's Expo** in Cleveland, Ohio. Website: magiccollectorexpo.com

May 19-21 - **AbraCORNdabra** in Des Moines, Iowa - Website: abracorndabra.com

May 28 - **The Darlington Magic Circle May Day** of Magic in Darlington.
Website: www.thedarlingtonmagiccircle.co.uk/news.html

May 11-14 - **Master of Magic** in Turin, Italy. Website: mastersofmagicconvention.com/en/home-english-2023

July 2023

July 11-15 - **IBM Convention** in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Websites: www.ibmconvention.com and www.magician.org

July 23-25 - **Society of American Magicians (S.A.M.)** in New Orleans, LA - Website: www.samconvention.com

July 23-25 - 42. **Magische Sternfahrt** in Saalbach, Austria. Website: www.zaubern.at/magische-sternfahrt.phtml

August 2023

August 6-9 - **Magic Live**, Las Vegas, Nevada Website: www.magicconvention.com

November 2023

November 9-12 - **Pacific Coast Association of Magicians (PCAM)**, Carlsbad, CA
Website: <https://magicshopsandiego.com/collections/new-collection/products/pcam2023>

Other Los Angeles Area Magic Clubs

The Westside Wizards is not the only magic Assembly in the Los Angeles area. Several other Assemblies, Rings and clubs are in Los Angeles. Here is a list of other local organizations:

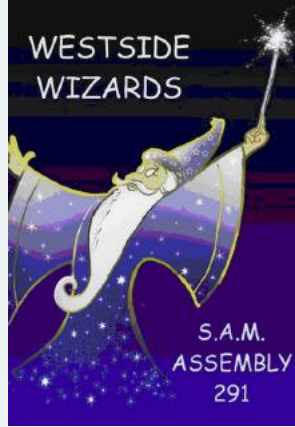
S.A.M. Assembly 22 (Duarte) meets on the third Monday of the month, sites.google.com/view/magicsam22/home

IBM Ring 21 (North Hollywood) meets on the first Thursday of the month. www.ibmring21.org

IBM Ring 96 (Seal Beach) meets on the third Saturday of the month. www.ring96.com

IBM Ring 280 (Santa Clarita) meets on the second Thursday of the month. www.ibmring280.com

Academy of Magical Arts (at the Magic Castle), www.magiccastle.com



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 (2023-2024)

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



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

2021-2022	Dan Cray
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
INFO@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG OR SYM@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG FOR THE JUNIORS