



WestsideWizards!



S.A.M. ASSEMBLY 291, LOS ANGELES

JULY 2023

Next S.A.M. Meeting:
Tuesday, **July 8, 2:00-6:00 PM**
Theme: **Summer Picnic**

Next S.Y.M. Meeting:
Sunday, **July 16, 3:00 PM**
Theme: **Magic for Seniors**

Summer Sorcery....and Tacos!

Our annual Westside Wizards Summer Sorcery day (formerly the BBQ) will be on Saturday, July 8, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

No potluck this year: we're having a taco truck cater the event! Just bring your favorite beverage (non-alcoholic since it's a S.A.M. event) and, if you're interested, be ready to share some magic at the outdoor show we'll perform after eating.

This will be a fun, casual get-together that Dan & Jane Cray are hosting for **paid** Westside Wizards members, Westside Junior Wizards members, and their immediate family (or significant others) at their "Cottage of Conjuring." The address is 8040 Nardian Way, Los Angeles, 90045 (in Westchester).

Upcoming Meetings

July 8: Summer Picnic

July 16: Magic for Seniors (SYM)

Aug 15: Wizard Wars (one week later than usual due to Magic Live!)

No Zoom

No Zoom this month as this will be a social gathering and a fun show later in the afternoon.



GOTTA' HAND IT TO YOU

Wizards Perform “Magic in the Spectator’s Hands”

Audiences like watching magic, but they love having it happen in their own hands... even when it's an audience of Westside Wizards enjoying “Magic in the Spectator’s Hands” at their June meeting.

The goal was to amaze with little to no handling from magicians, and **Max Meza**'s reaction to **Christopher Cory**'s card opener—“Oh, wow”—certainly set the tone. Max, a prospective club member, repeatedly divided, shuffled, and restacked a card deck to his heart's delight, only to have Christopher reveal a randomly chosen ace of clubs at Max's selected card location.

Valerie Repnau provided the spectator hands for **Howard Paris**, holding a rope horizontally as Howard passed two handkerchiefs through a “hole” in the rope's center. Soon handkerchiefs were passing through Valerie's wrist, and each other, without Howard touching them.

Bill Dow never touched his props either, instructing **Dan Cray** to deal cards into two piles, choose one pile, then turn over the top card. Sure enough, Bill revealed a matching card on the underside of the card box.

Moments later, S.Y.M. member **Oz** conducted a memory test with another prospective member, **Alan Litteneker**, who was asked to remember which of two aces held between his thumb and forefinger was on top... difficult to do, since the aces had transformed into queens.

Alan and Oz then shifted roles, as Alan had Oz cut a deck into three packs, peek at the top card of one pack, then reshuffle them. Alan slid a single card into Oz' outstretched fist... the glimpsed card.

Valerie returned to the stage professing little knowledge of superheroes or the cities they serve, but **Phil Goodman** had an inkling she might know more than she realized. Sure enough, using face-down postcards, Valerie managed to separate superhero images from city images by intuition alone.

Could it be the Tooth Fairy collects a specific number of teeth every night? Dan Cray added a bizarre twist to the evening (of course) by handing a jar of teeth to Bill and Howard, then having them count the teeth as another **Bill (Bedecarre)** chose a random number from a set of dental charts. Gasp... the number of teeth matched the random number.

Les Cooper put a ribbon on the night's theme by sitting comfortably in a faraway chair while Oz, his volunteer, followed Les' shuffling, mixing, and piling instructions. Oz soon discovered a selected card on the back of the instruction sheet. Then, Les located a second selection even though it was buried within a pile that was stowed inside Oz's pocket.

“I mean, was that not in the spectator's hands?” Les quipped, a statement which perfectly summarized the entire evening's magic. – *Dan Cray*

President's Message

A word from Dan Cray...



Hello Westside Wizards,

Summer is here, and I'm thrilled that for the first time in four years we're getting together for an afternoon of food and fun!

You'll find all the details elsewhere in this newsletter, but suffice it to say that I'm looking forward to welcoming you for Summer Sorcery at my "Cottage of Conjuring." The outdoor setting (my modest backyard) should lend itself to performing some magic that will feel bigger, and different, than the effects we usually favor when we're meeting at OPICA (though those are welcome too).

This event will double as our monthly meeting, so our next Tuesday night meeting will be in August. More on that at Summer Sorcery.

This won't be the first time my humble Cottage has hosted magic. One Halloween season, guests watched me magically survive a friend thrusting his fist through my chest (tip of the magic cap to Andrew Mayne's Gut Buster), and the ol' vanishing wine bottle gag has generated countless gasps from visiting friends and neighbors. In addition, my son Evan and I performed three school fundraiser shows for Zoom audiences in both my home and yard during the pandemic, and for ten years my backyard served as the rehearsal site for my school magic shows.

But... hosting the entire group of Westside Wizards, and their immediate family/significant others? That'll be a first, and a memorable day for sure.

So come by on Saturday, July 8, and add to the legend of the Cottage of Conjuring!

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!



Selected Magic Conventions through 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

August 2023

August 2-5 - **Abbott's Get Together**, Colon, Michigan - Website: www.magicgettogether.com/

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

August 16-18 - **KIDabra: The Conference of Kihow and Family Performers**, Chatanooga, Tennessee - Website: www.kidabra.org/

August 24-27 -- **Poe's Magic Conference**, Baltimore, Maryland - Website: poesmagicconference.com/

September 2023

September 1-4 - **Texas Association of Magicians (T.A.O.M.)**, Fort Worth, Texas - Website: taom.org/2023/

November 2023

November 9-12 - **Pacific Coast Association of Magicians (PCAM)**, Carlsbad, CA
Website: 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:

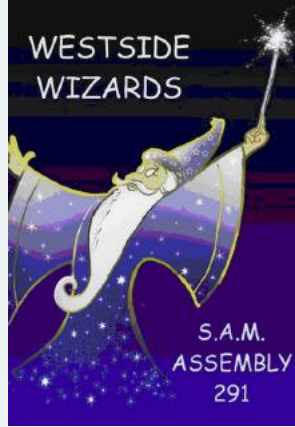
S.A.M. Assembly 22 (Duarte) meets on the third Monday of the month, sites.google.com/view/magicsam22/home

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

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