



WestsideWizards!



S.A.M. ASSEMBLY 291, LOS ANGELES

JULY 2024

Next S.A.M. Meeting:
Saturday, **July 20, 2:00 PM**
Theme: **Summer BBQ**

Next S.A.M. Youth Meeting:
Sunday, **July 14, 4:00 PM (Zoom)**
Theme: **TBA**

Summer Potluck

It's that time again! Our summer potluck and magic show is coming up on **Saturday, July 20 at 2:00 PM** and it's a great time to have some some food, some fun, some magic, and lots of comraderie. Feel free to perform a trick (or two) later in the afternoon. This is one of our highlights of the year and has been a great way to spend a mid-July Saturday for a late lunch. Note this will count as our July meeting and we will **not** meet at OPICA on July 9.

We will be providing some rotisserie chicken as a main dish and some drinks. We will be relying on our members (that's you) to provide other main dishes, appetizers, sides, and desserts. Check the table below to see what kind if dish we'd like you to bring to feed 4-6 people (or more if you'd like) so that you don't have to do too much.

Last Name Starts With	Dish
A-E	Side Dish (Vegetable, Hot Pasta, etc.)
F-K	Dessert
L-Q	Appetizer (Chips & Dips, Veggie Plate, etc)
R-Z	Salad (Greens, Potato, Pasta Salad, etc.)

Please **RSVP** (dancray@outlook.com) and let us know in advance what you'll be bringing so we can balance things out properly (we don't want to have 4 people bring potato salad).

This potluck is for Westside Wizards, Westside Jr. Wizards, and immediate families and significant others. If you haven't yet paid your \$25 annual dues, feel free to do that before the potluck or pay at the event (see below, right). Once again, we are grateful to be hosted by Dan and Jane Cray at their home at **8040 Nardian Way, Los Angeles CA 90045**, in Westchester.



Upcoming Meetings

July 20: Summer BBQ

August 13: Hardware Store Magic

September 20: TBD

No Zoom This Month

As we will have a summer afternoon, outdoor potluck party this month, we will not have a Zoom meeting.

YOU'RE INVITED

...To The Westside Wizards' Summer Sorcery Potluck!

Sat., July 20, 2-6 pm - 8040 Nardian Way, Westchester

Bring an appetizer, side dish, or non-alcoholic beverages to share. For paid Westside Wizards, Jr. Wizards, and immediate family or significant others only. (See email/newsletter for details.)

Pay Your Dues

New members can pay **\$25** (\$30 to include spouse or partner) dues via **Zelle** to **Les Cooper** at **310-621-8104**

CONJURING AT THE CASTLE

Wizards Return to the Magic Castle's Peller Theater

Monthly magic meetings are great, but there's no better way to vary the routine than by gathering at... the Magic Castle! That's exactly what Westside Wizards members did in June when, for the third year in a row, they met at the world's most vaunted magic locale.

What happened inside is, of course, a secret. Hearsay, however, suggests that on a night when several Wizards were able to visit with magic legend **Juan Tamariz**, club members later journeyed into the Albert Peller Theater to perform feats of enchanting magic.

Flies on the wall (or were they familiars?) speak of club president **Dan Cray** making a volunteer's sketch of a freely named card match a normal playing card that had been inside a sealed envelope.

Whispers also suggest **Brian Schwartz** performed a perfect card prediction, then added even more mentalism by having a volunteer choose random Wikipedia links that ended up spelling out the volunteer's name.

Jim Aksel served up another mentalism treat by predicting what numbers four volunteers would pick.

A red scarf can't assist the magical whims of coins—unless it belongs to **Jeff Thomson**, who also made a convincing case that torn paper sometimes results in... a paper hat! **Don Schuster**, **Constantine Malahias**, and **David Martinez** (a welcome visitor from IBM Ring 21) all treated the group to their A-game cardistry, including Don's demonstration that a mix of intuition, prediction, and luck sometimes results in an unexpected gathering of four Queens.

John Engman, a dual member of the Wizards and their cross-town compatriots at Assembly 22 in Duarte, kept the top-notch card work rolling with the tale of a boy given the task of following a single, black-suited card amongst several red-suited companions... a particularly difficult task when the cards can magically change their suits.

A visit from Magic University director (and Wizards charter member) **Raul Fernandez**, along with **Alan Litteneker**, served as a special intermission, especially since Raul has referred several of his Magic University students to our club in recent months—including prospective member **Emma Sales**, who impressed with her expert card work.

For **Alex Scianna**—another charter member—masterful coin handlings and a baffling card routine could only be topped by a very “high-minded” torn-and-restored effect. **Mel Agacaoili** gave the club fresh handlings of two classics: Out Of This World, and Oil & Water, while **Phil Goodman** closed out the show by proving he alone controls “the circles of power.”

But the night didn't end there, as members hung around the theater afterwards for sessioning with friends, including the magical expertise of **Bill Bedecarre**, **Howard Paris**, and **Jim Witoszynski**. Rumors also suggest that **Jane Cray**, the current “First Lady of the Westside Wizards” was not only at the meeting, but that her husband came up with that amusing, unofficial title during the 80-minute drive to the Castle.

Other details from the evening remain blurred, but all shall be revealed as the Wizards' future meetings unfold!

– *Dan Cray*



President's Message

A word from Dan Cray...



Hello Westside Wizards,

This month I have two words for you: “Summer Sorcery!”

No, I’m not actually stopping at two words. But yes, it’s that time of year for a magical afternoon of food and fun. I’m looking forward to welcoming you to the second annual Summer Sorcery potluck at my humble “Cottage of Conjuring.”

If you were there last year, you’ll remember my modest backyard, so plan accordingly with sunscreen, jackets, or anything you might need for a primarily outdoor setting with possibly warm or breezy conditions.

And of course, be ready to share some magic! We’ll be having a magic show after eating, so again keep in mind there may be outdoor elements to contend with. (Right now, I have a pair of nesting birds that understandably want to dive-bomb me when I enter the yard... but we’ve reached a sharing agreement that may or may not have had something to do with a few breadcrumbs.)

You’ll find all the potluck details elsewhere in this newsletter, but the basics are that this will be a casual get-together for paid Westside Wizards, Junior Wizards, and their immediate family (or significant others), from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, July 20. The Wizards will supply an entree, but please bring a side dish (salad, dessert, etc.) to share with your fellow Wizards and their family. Beverages are fine too, though we request non-alcoholic since it’s a S.A.M. event.

Summer Sorcery will double as our monthly meeting, so our next Tuesday night meeting won’t happen until August. More on that at the potluck.

See you on Saturday, July 20, for another memorable day of magic and socializing!

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!



Selected Upcoming Magic Events

July 2024

July 10-13 - **IBM Convention** in Tacoma, Washington. Websites: www.ibmconvention.com and www.magician.org

July 22-28 - **Future Stars of Magic** at the Magic Castle, Los Angeles, Website: www.magiccastle.com

July 31-Aug 3 - **Abbott's Get Together** in Colon, Michigan. Website: www.magicgettogether.com

August 2024

Aug 4-7 - **Magic Live** in Las Vegas, Nevada, Website: www.magicconvention.com

Aug 31-Sept 2 - Combined **S.A.M, Texas Association of Magicians (T.A.O.M.) Convention** and **FISM North America Championship** in Dallas, Texas. Website: www.fism-nacm.com

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:

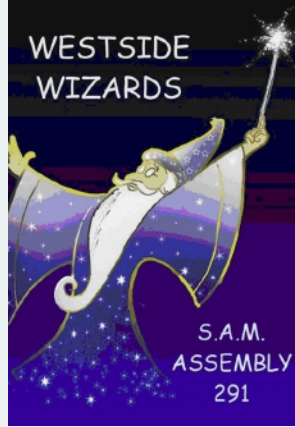
S.A.M. Assembly 22 (Duarte) meets on the third Monday of the month, sites.google.com/view/magicsam22/home

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