



# WestsideWizards!



S.A.M. ASSEMBLY 291, LOS ANGELES

OCTOBER 2024

Next S.A.M. Meeting:  
Tuesday, **October 8, 7:00 PM**  
Theme: **Halloween Show Preview**

Next S.A.M. Youth Meeting:  
Sunday, **October 13, 4:00 PM (Zoom)**  
Theme: **TBA**

## IT'S SHOWTIME!

October is one of our favorite months of the year as spooky Halloween magic is in the air. Once again, the Westside Wizards will be performing a pair of magic shows for the public this Halloween season!

At our next in-person meeting at **7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 8**, we will be doing a run-through of our shows and members can rehearse what they would like to perform at Shawn's Pumpkin Patch the following week.

The shows will be on **Friday evening, October 18th**, at Shawn's Pumpkin Patch. The address is 3443 South Sepulveda, near the corner of Sepulveda and Palms. (Note that the pumpkin patch has moved from the Santa Monica Blvd. location it was at the past two years.) **Please arrive at 6:45 pm.**—and bear in mind that Shawn's has no parking lot, so allow time to find street parking.

Our show times will be at 7:15 pm and 8:00 pm., for pumpkin shoppers who will be eager to see some magic, so please consider performing! Think large, visual magic with only brief presentations—these shows will each be approximately 15-minutes and performed outdoors, for a standing, family audience that needs to see and hear the magic from considerable distances.

That means we need members to perform one or two short parlor or stage routines, for a total of no more than five minutes per member. Shawn's will supply a performing table, and there's a chance we'll have a backdrop, but assume you'll have limited control over audience viewing angles. There will also be a lot of background noise, since this will be a carnival-type atmosphere.

We'll be rehearsing at our regular October meeting (7 pm on Tuesday, Oct. 8th), so please bring the routine you'd like to perform and present it at the meeting so we can determine the number of performers and the length of each routine, and gather constructive comments from fellow club members.

Participation in the show is voluntary, but if you choose not to perform we welcome emceeing, audience management, or just having you come by to offer encouragement to fellow members.

Shawn's typically has a large crowd of magic-loving pumpkin shoppers on Friday nights, so be sure to mark this special night on your calendar! – *Dan Cray*

## Upcoming Meetings

October 8: Halloween Show Preview

October 13: SAMY TBA

October 18: Halloween Shows

## 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: 894 4107 7140**  
**Passcode: 677511**

[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**

# SWAPPING AT THE MEET

## Wizards Transform Their Magical Trash Into Others' Treasure At September Meeting

The Westside Wizards experimented with a first-time theme at their September meeting: “Tricks You’re Thinking of Getting Rid Of.” The concept was simple: members would bring a new or used magic trick that they’ve had cluttering their shelves for years, perform it, then either sell it or give it away.

As it turned out, the club’s members had lots of stuff cluttering their shelves! **Les Cooper** brought an entire table’s worth of collectible books and gimmicks; **Phil and Andrew Goodman** also had a tabletop of their own, with gizmos and books by some of magic’s biggest names. **Alan Litteneker** demonstrated a prop with surprise method for vanishing a ring, along with several other goodies, while **Dan Cray** performed an acrylic crystal cylinder with vanishing/appearing capabilities from his bin of magical apparatus. **Brian Schwartz** and **Mel Agacaoili** brought enchanting, used goods that didn’t seem used whatsoever. And then there was **Howard Paris**, who arguably won the evening when he hauled in an entire children’s wagon filled with a magic counter’s worth of large and small props.

The second half of the meeting turned into a mini-swap meet, with whatever effects or props members wanted to sell. Seeing the crazy, wonderful tricks that everyone unearthed from their magic junk drawers turned out to be even more entertaining than expected. The strong turnout, fun performances, and interesting prop displays made it a night, and a theme, that may—poof!—reappear at some future meeting. – *Dan Cray*

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## 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!



# President's Message

## A word from Dan Cray...



Hello Westside Wizards,

We've arrived in October—the most magical month of the year, at least in the eyes of Halloween-loving muggles. (And Halloween-loving club presidents.)

As you know, the Westside Wizards will be celebrating by performing a pair of 15-minute magic shows for the public. We'll be rehearsing at our October meeting (7 pm on Tuesday, Oct. 8th), then performing the shows on Friday evening, October 18th, at Shawn's Pumpkin Patch. (Please arrive at 6:45 pm.) Shawn's typically has a large crowd of pumpkin shoppers on Friday nights, so be ready to show them your most visual, awe-inspiring magic!

On the club business side, the Westside Wizards Board Elections will take place this December so I'd like to extend my thanks to Les Cooper, Bill Dow, and Jim Witoszynski for volunteering for our club's Nominating Committee. The committee will select a recommended slate of board officers and then present that slate to the membership at the club's November meeting, so please contact them by the end of this month if you have any interest in becoming a Westside Wizards board member.

My two terms (four years—gasp!) as Westside Wizards president will wrap up at the end of this year. What a great, magical experience this has been! Very different from what I expected, largely due to the pandemic, but I've enjoyed adding a few new approaches to an already successful club and I hope you've liked them as well. I'm looking forward to continuing on as the board's Immediate Past President.

In the meantime... Halloween, and our October magic shows, are upon us! I'll see you on the 8th for rehearsals at OPICA, and then on the 18th for our pumpkin patch shows—and here's wishing you an enchanted All Hallows' Eve!

*Dan*

# Selected Upcoming Magic Events

## November 2024

Nov 7-9 - **TRICS** (Carolina Close-Up Convention) in Charlotte, NC, Website: [tricsconvention.com](https://tricsconvention.com)

Nov 7-10 - **PCAM** (Pacific Coast Association of Magicians), Victoria, British Columbia, Website: [pcammagic.com/2024-convention-2](https://pcammagic.com/2024-convention-2)

## January 2025

Jan 25-27 - **MagiFest** in Columbus, Ohio - Website: [www.vanishingincmagic.com/magic-conventions/magifest](https://www.vanishingincmagic.com/magic-conventions/magifest)

## February 2025

Feb 14-16 - **Blackpool Magic Convention**, Blackpool, England. Website: [blackpoolmagicconvention.com](https://blackpoolmagicconvention.com)

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## 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:

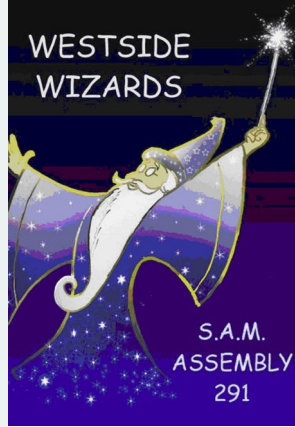
**S.A.M. Assembly 22** (Duarte) meets on the third Monday of the month, [sites.google.com/view/magicsam22/home](https://sites.google.com/view/magicsam22/home)

**IBM Ring 21** (North Hollywood) meets on the first Thursday of the month. [www.ibmring21.org](https://www.ibmring21.org)

**IBM Ring 96** (Seal Beach) meets on the third Saturday of the month. [www.ring96.com](https://www.ring96.com)

**IBM Ring 280** (Santa Clarita) meets on the second Thursday of the month. [www.ibmring280.com](https://www.ibmring280.com)

**Academy of Magical Arts** (at the Magic Castle), [www.magiccastle.com](https://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](http://WWW.WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG)  
[INFO@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG](mailto:INFO@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG) OR [SYM@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG](mailto:SYM@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG) FOR THE JUNIORS