



WestsideWizards!



S.A.M. ASSEMBLY 291, LOS ANGELES

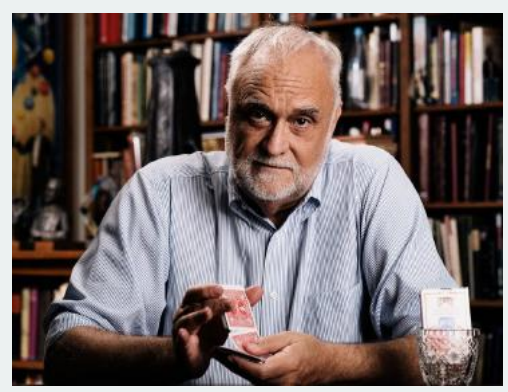
SEPTEMBER 2022

Next S.A.M. Meeting:
Tuesday, **September 13, 7:00 PM**
Theme: **Jim Steinmeyer Tricks**

Next S.Y.M. Meeting:
Sunday, **September 18, 3:00 PM**
Theme: **Coin Magic and Theming a Show**

Jim Steinmeyer Night!

You know the man, the legend, **Jim Steinmeyer**. Jim was one of our first lecturers at the beginning of the Covid pandemic when we were getting our feet wet with Zoom. He presented trick after trick and tip after tip that inspired us so much.



Besides having created amazing illusions for some of the best known magicians in history and producing lots of magic on television, Jim is also a prolific author. He has written some of the best-selling books about magic and magic history including Hiding the Elephant, The Glorious Deception, The Last Greatest Magician in the World, MAGIC, and The Secret History of Magic.



Our homework this month is do a little research from one of Jim's publications and present a Jim Steinmeyer trick that you've enjoyed. Take some time to read and re-read the trick and practice it so you can do Jim proud.

And yes, rumor is that Jim may even be in attendance.

Our next meeting will be at **7:00 PM on September 13** at OPICA and, once again, at OPICA's request, **masks will be required**. Directions on the last page of the newsletter.

Upcoming Meetings	
Sept 13:	Jim Steinmeyer Night
Sept 18 (SYM):	Coin Magic & Theming a Show
October 11:	Spooky Magic (at Pumpkin Patch)
November 8:	Siegfried Tieber Lecture

Using Zoom

If you don't already have Zoom installed, go to 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: 849 8325 1739
Passcode: 970892

[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.

A PACKET IN YOUR JACKET

Wizards Dust Off Their Favorite Packet Tricks At August Meeting

Why use 52 cards when just four will do the job?

That question—and magicians' love for carrying those little vinyl cases with at-the-ready tricks—inspired “Packet Trick Night,” the Westside Wizards' August meeting theme. Members indeed found packets inside their curio cabinets... *lots* of packets, as it turned out, which they then enjoyed sharing with the club.

Raul Fernandez kicked off the fun, reading comments on packet magic from *Focus: 60 Select Card Effects*, by Phil Goldstein/Max Maven (including “Overture,” Raul's favorite). Among the Maven's remarks: “There is always something aesthetically pleasing about a packet effect.” Is there a better way to give a packet trick evening more gravitas than that?

Performances began with **Les Cooper**, who brought seven (count em, seven!) packet tricks and produced everything from the first word out of a volunteer's mouth to a telepathically derived number. **Alexander Scianna** followed by creating dramatic theater, placing four queens “out of existence” (into his four coat pockets) while leaving four face-down sixes on the performing table. One by one, through “the magic of vibrations” (chiming a brass bowl), Alex brought each queen “from out of existence, into existence!” as each six transformed into a queen while each of the pocket cards became a six.

Newcomer **Jeff Thomson** used a packet of kings and queens to share a compelling tale about twins married to twins—all the better since Jeff didn't even know the meeting's theme when he arrived. **Phil Goodman** helped **Bill Dow** become a mind-reader by fanning eight cards, then “mentally planting” an impression of one card into Bill's head. Of course, Bill successfully chose it—the only red-backed card among the eight.

Since **Dan Cray** doesn't usually perform with “cards,” he brought eleven garden herb “prints” instead. One herb was poisonous—but which one? His participant, Alexander, successfully channeled which of the 11 prints was the deadly poison. **Erik Engman** then performed Max Maven's “B'Wave,” a wonderful reminder that imagination is a powerful tool. Longtime SYM member **Oz**, after admitting he misread the topic as “pocket tricks,” nonetheless found a chosen card using only a handful of others.

Chris Cory did the impossible (as always), using four face-up cards with red dots and another four with black dots to show he could take a card from one pile and transform the other pile into the opposite color... twice.

Brian Schwartz demonstrated the difference between sleight of hand and illusion, initially whittling four face-up Jokers into four face-down Jokers (the sleight), then showing that all four cards were in fact aces (the illusion).

Then, there were encores. Les and Oz magically gave each other two black 7s; Brian demonstrated David Regal's “Off With His Head”; and Dan performed Max Maven's Viva Las Vegas, along with—gasp!—a Chris Angel effect called “Mental Freak.” Phil closed out the performances with his superhero version of “Out of This World.”

Next month for the Westside Wizards: Jim Steinmeyer Night, with our special guest/honoree... **Jim Steinmeyer!** – *Dan Cray*

SYM News...



This month we meet on the third Sunday, September 18, 2022, at 3:00 PM Pacific Time and 6:00 PM Eastern Time.

The theme for this month is Coin Magic and How to Theme a Show. Come prepared to perform a coin effect, and if you don't do coin magic, you might learn a simple effect that you can perform.

Next, come with your questions on how to create a theme for your performance. We will do our best to answer your questions and help you create a themed show.

As listed on the first page of this newsletter, we are honoring Jim Steinmeyer this month for the S.A.M. meeting on Tuesday, September 13, at 7:00 PM. All the tricks performed that night should come from one of Jim's many books, lectures, or Impuzzibilities series of booklets. Lots of opportunities this month for everyone to perform.

Jim Steinmeyer will be present for this very special event. The Westside Wizards have never honored a single person before, so be there to be part of this extraordinary night.

Magically,

Les
S.Y.M. Leader

S.Y.M. members and parents... I really would like to get the local Westside Junior Wizards meetings going again, but we need at least five members to commit to being there for the meetings.

Many of you may have lost your interest in magic during the pandemic or moved on to other hobbies. Let's recapture that spark and let the magic happen again.

Please email me at cooperl@ucla.edu if you are interested in returning to **live** local magic meetings.

President's Message

A word from Dan Cray...



Hi Westside Wizards,

What a difference a month makes!

If you were at the last meeting, you probably heard me mention our September meeting's performance theme would be "Magic with Glass." That changed three days later, when Les Cooper and Doris Roach contacted me and the other Board members to let us know that an unusual, wonderful opportunity had come our way.

Without getting into a ton of details, it comes down to this: for some time, Les has been interested in our club hosting a "Jim Steinmeyer Night," where our club members would perform Jim's effects—ideally, for the man himself, as an homage to his amazing work. With that in mind, Les reached out and invited Jim to come by one of our monthly meetings. Jim graciously accepted, and the scheduling stars just happened to align for this month.

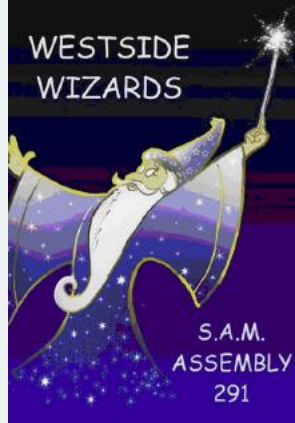
Thus, the Westside Wizards are *thrilled* to be hosting "Jim Steinmeyer Night" on September 13! What an honor, not only to have Jim spend an evening with us but to visit with one of magic's masters. Many, many thanks to Les and Doris for their efforts on this, and of course to Jim for clearing some room on his schedule.

Pssst—just between you and me, we might have some special surprises planned. Also, since the entire evening will be dedicated to Jim, I'm very much hoping you'll take part by performing one of his many published effects. You can find more on that elsewhere in this newsletter... and keep in mind that some of Jim's best mysteries require no cards or props whatsoever (see his *Impuzzibilities* and *Nothing But Mystery* books).

Yes, this is akin to presenting Leonardo da Vinci with a stick figure "Mona Lisa"... but we're hopeful that Jim will appreciate the gesture nonetheless. Feel free to present your own spin on his work... though bonus points will go out to anyone who makes the Statue of Liberty disappear. Just bring it back undamaged, please.

As you can probably tell, I'm really excited about our upcoming meeting. I hope you can join me, and all of your fellow club members, for Jim Steinmeyer Night!

See you on September 13!



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. We also welcome your participation in the youth program with the **Westside Junior Wizards**, Assembly Y141.

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:

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INFO@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG OR SYM@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG FOR THE JUNIORS**