



WestsideWizards!

S.A.M. ASSEMBLY 291, LOS ANGELES

MARCH 2023

Next S.A.M. Meeting:
Tuesday, **March 14, 7:00 PM**
Theme: **Magic With Glass**
(Masks Required)

Next S.Y.M. Meeting:
Sunday, **March 19, 3:00 PM**
Theme: **TBA**

Magic with Glass

We are excited that at our next meeting we will be exploring the art of performing magic with glass. Whether you're a seasoned magician or just starting out with unconventional props, this topic is sure to captivate and challenge you.

During this meeting, we will be sharing and discussing techniques and tricks using various types of glass products. From classic cups and balls routines to modern variations using wine glasses and shot glasses, we will be exploring the many possibilities that glass can offer in the world of magic.

We encourage all members to bring their own glass props and routines to share with the group. This is a great opportunity to learn from one another and improve our skills as magicians.

As usual, we'll be meeting at OPICA (meeting location on the last page) on March 14 at 7:00 PM. Note that OPICA requires masks.

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

- March 14: Magic with Glass
- March 19 (S.Y.M): TBA
- April 11: Magic with Precious Metals (Coins OK!)

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: 856 5033 7784
Passcode: 872810



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

FIFTEEN YEARS SINCE “DARK AND STORMY”! But The Coast Was Clear For Valentine’s Magic At February Meeting

After several months stacked with guest lecturers and special events, the Westside Wizards turned to their in-house talent at the club’s February meeting—just in time to celebrate (drumroll) the club’s 15th anniversary!

Naturally, the evening began with club founder **Les Cooper** recounting the Westside Wizards’ very own “dark and stormy night”—a running gag since the Assembly’s first gathering, which took place during a storm that shut down the electricity just as the meeting began. “We conducted our meeting with the emergency lights in the hallways,” Les said. “That’s how we got started, fifteen years ago, and we’ve gone a long way since.”

This year, the sky was clear and the performing theme was “Valentines Magic.” **Howard Paris** got the night started by combining two card tricks into an extended matrix effect. (Get it? A pair of tricks, become one.) After immediately locating a volunteer’s 9S, Howard regathered the cards and began a new search, counting the cards into two piles until just the 9S remained.

Brian Schwartz said it well: “What’s more Valentine’s Day than a Valentine’s card?” Since his was black-and-white, he brought some pens, hoping someone might choose and apply the colors. Lo and behold: the newly colored card matched an entire set of cards his daughter had colored earlier!

John Thornton, attending via Zoom, presented a hilarious die box routine that teaches kids (or in this case, the Westside Wizards!) why you should “Never play dice with a magician!” **Dan Cray** showed how a broken gold necklace chain, magically repaired, led to his marriage; and **Bill Dow** performed a great torn-and-restored variation before demonstrating that, given some magic, AirPods are really easy to lose.

The always romantic **Phil Goodman** proved that if someone has “a true commitment” to a selected playing card, it shows through their eyes... or in this case, through an enlarged photo of their pupil. Visitor **Bruce Schroffel** tugged knotted silks to produce heart-patterned boxers from his jeans. As Bruce said, “Don’t do this with your grandchildren, okay?”

Then came the evening’s heartwarming moment: Les, with his wife (and club treasurer) **Doris Roach** seated before him, used a square circle to produce flowers, a chocolate bar, a huge ring, a million-dollar bill, and a heart balloon, all as “my expression of love for you.” Doris, completely surprised, gave Les a hug and kiss... the best Valentine meeting finale, ever. – *Dan Cray*



Les offering his heart to Doris

Congratulations to former S.Y.M. Member Evan Cray

Congratulation to former Westside Junior Wizards member Even Cray. He now holds the first Guinness World Record for doing the “[most stage illusion tricks performed in three minutes.](#)”

The most stage illusion tricks performed in three minutes is 10 and was achieved by Evan Cray (USA), in Los Angeles, California, USA, on 22 December 2022.

Congratulations Evan!

Evan is also a member of the Academy of Magical Arts Junior Society and made his debut paid magic performance just over a week later at the Castle on New Year’s Eve 2022. He attends UC Berkeley.

You are on your way to a MAGICAL future.



Charter Members!

Before the last meeting celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the Westside Wizards there was some discussion who were the charter members. Here is a list of the 20 original members who were there that dark and stormy night:

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| Les Cooper | Alexander Scianna |
| Doris Roach | Don Kenney |
| Paul Hirsch | Wendy Sobel |
| Raul Fernandez | William Turner |
| Stephen M. Levine | David Cotelessa |
| Peter Fryer | Tim Mannix |
| Buzz Hays | Craig Mulholland |
| Tom Meseroll | Don Kuehne |
| Kobge O. Egbok | Bill Thacker |
| Irwin Kirby | Matthew Savin |



“It was a dark and stormy night at the middle school...”

Now you know!

Special Auction — This Month Only!!

A few months ago, we auctioned off a hardcover book and said there would be more in the future. The future is now. For the March meeting, the book up for auction is:

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF DEREK DINGLE BY RICHARD KAUFMAN

This is a First Edition book, copyright 1982.
Hardcover and 219 pages.

The book is in very good condition and no longer in print.

This book is a collectable.

On Amazon this book is listed for \$200.00 plus shipping.

Yes, we could sell this book on Amazon, but would rather sell it to people we know and the Westside Wizards will benefit from this sale.

Half of the sales proceeds will be donated to the Westside Wizards.

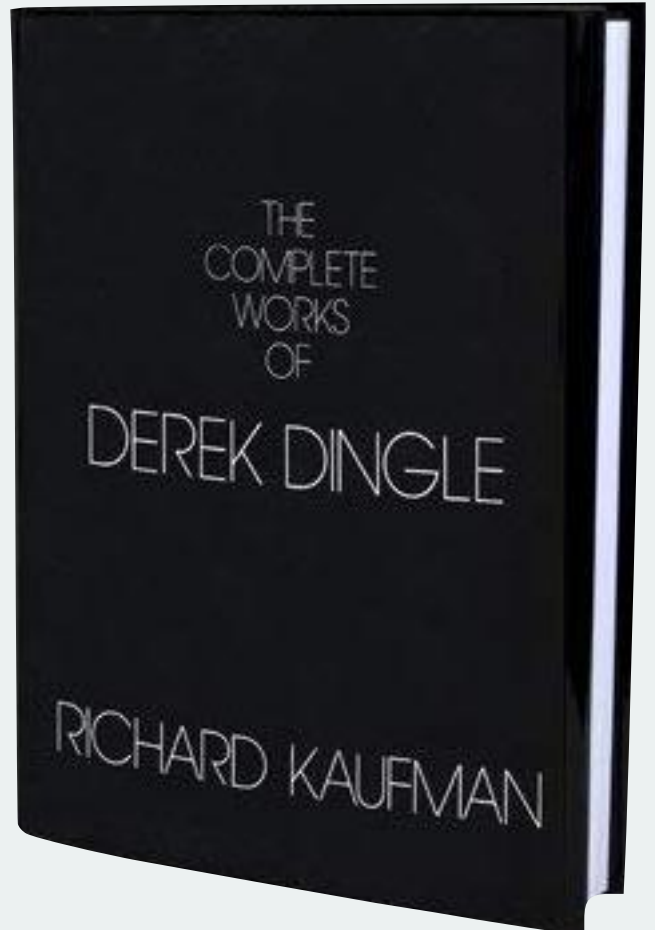
We found these prices in a Google search for this book:

EBay – used - \$199.95 plus \$9.95 shipping.

The bidding will start at **\$75.00**.

Will you be the new owner of this book?

More great books to come in the future



President's Message

A word from Dan Cray...



Hello Westside Wizards,

This might sound a little odd, but of late I've been thinking about how last month's fun, low-pressure gathering was even more enjoyable than I'd expected.

Sometimes it's nice to simply talk magic or try new routines with other people who love it just as much, so in that sense, we've now hit a stretch where we're able to get back to that. Much as I enjoyed the guest lecturers and special events we've had the past few months—and yes, we will be having more of them as the year progresses—it also feels good to see the club returning to its core concept: magicians helping other magicians enjoy, and maybe even improve, their art.

This month's meeting certainly falls into that category. Our "Magic With Glass" theme stems (see what I did there?) from a theme that was postponed last fall. In April, coin magic takes center stage when we focus on "Magic With Precious Metals"—but by all means, feel free to ditch the coins for any "metallic" routines you want to perform. (A heavy metal music act? Truck bed magic? Surprise us, folks!)

One other thought: spring is approaching, and that's going to be very noticeable at our March 14 meeting since this month's shift to Daylight Saving Time means we'll be arriving in daylight rather than darkness. Now personally, I think it's more mysterious when magicians arrive after nightfall (of course I'd say that, right?), but I have to admit it's nice seeing the seasons change, and that'll be particularly obvious this month.

Finally, a friendly reminder that this May, for the second year in a row, we'll be holding our club meeting at the Magic Castle. Mark your calendars for May 9, from 7 to 9 pm. More details as we get closer.

See you on Tuesday, March 14, for Magic With Glass!

Dan

Magic Conventions through July 2023

(Accurate as of this writing, January 2023)

(Source: <https://www.themagicwordpodcast.com/>)

March 2023

March 17-18 - **Magic Capital Close-Up Convention** in Colon, Michigan. Website: magiccapitalcloseup.com

March 17-19 - **Portland Magic Jam** in Portland, Oregon. Website: pdxmagicjam.com

March 23-25 - **Houdini Festival of Magic**, Historic North Theater, Danville, Virginia. Website: thehoudinifestival.com

April 2023

April 1 - **Michigan Magic Day** in Marshall, Michigan. Website: www.eventcreate.com/e/michigan-magic-day?fbclid=IwAR1gJIA9vwPdPWbnjmyBazdeglPX7-BRF765_TSK8OmFFy-ok5z0eglxE9I

April 13-16 **MZvD Jugendworkshop** in Bielefeld, Germany. Website: www.mzvd.de/jugend/jugendworkshop

April 20-22 - **The Senior Tour** in St. Louis, Missouri. Website: www.baskervilleproductions.com/seniortour

April ? - **WonderBash** in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Website: www.morethantricks.com

April 21-23 - **52 Friends Magic Convention** in Hamburg, Germany. Website: www.52freunde.de

April 26-29 - **Obie's 4F** Invitation Only Convention (Fechter's Finger Flicking Frolic) in Buffalo, New York
Website: www.ffffmagic.com

April 29-May 1 - **MagiCon** in Belfast, Ireland. Website: www.online-usm.com/magicon2022

April 30 - **MAWNY** (Magician's Alliance of Western New York): Batavia, NY Website: www.mawny.org

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

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

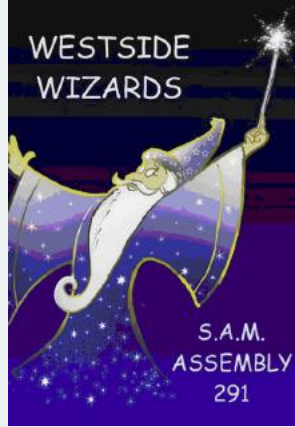
Academy of Magical Arts (at the Magic Castle), www.magiccastle.com

Magic Castle Swap Meet

The annual Magic Castle Swap Meet has been announced for Saturday, May 6. Traditionally, this happens in the morning and the best deals area available the earlier you get there. Although the swap meet is open to AMA members and their guests (entry fee required), only AMA members will be allowed in for the opening hours with their guests allowed to enter a bit later.

This is the time to look for great deals on books, props, tricks, cards and more and wonderful gems are found each year. Don't miss it!





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:

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