



IJA eNewsletter

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Robert Nelson - The Butterfly Man
 Sept 16, 1949 - August 27, 2012

Please read the two excellent remembrances of Robert Nelson published in **eJuggle**, the IJA's electronic magazine:

[The passing of Robert Nelson](#)

[Robert Nelson aka "The Butterfly Man"](#)

Juggling Festivals:

- Portland, OR
- Philadelphia, PA
- Tekirova, Turkey
- Asheville, NC
- Tokyo, Japan
- Manchester, UK
- Penaflo, Chile
- Durham, UK
- Cleveland, OH
- Scharding, Austria
- Helsinki, Finland
- St. Louis, MO
- Munich, Germany
- Minas Gerais, Brasil
- London, UK
- Leeds, UK
- Bowling Green, OH

Happy Dayze Are Here Again

By Robert Nelson (The Butterfly Man), written to commemorate Art Jennings.

Years ago, there lived a man
 Who juggled tears of laughter
 He had a simple dream in mind
 To live forever after

Each breath he took, he tossed aloft
 To soar throughout the air
 A skillful gift he gave for free
 For all of us to share

I caught his breath like many do
 And pitched it to and fro
 And watched in awe, him come alive
 In each and every throw

The patterns he created
 Will never go away
 His breath between the objects
 Forever here to stay

So watch the space above you
 And listen now and then
 You might hear the angels laughing
 Happy Dayze are here again

Message from the IJA Board Chairman, by Dave Pawson

Festival business. I'm happy to announce that Kim Laird has taken on the job of Festival Director for the 2013 festival at Bowling Green State University. She's already hard at work and recently completed a site visit. Like those who visited the site before her, she came away very impressed and excited for the possibilities. Kim is trying to line up special guests, working on transportation options, and bringing on other volunteers to help her with the daunting job of planning the festival. Just 10 more months.... Between the time I wrote this article and got it published, Kim wrote an article [on eJuggle](#) with more details. Meanwhile, Mike Sullivan is on the road investigating options for 2014. Nothing is agreed upon at this time, but we're definitely continuing to explore campus and other arrangements in addition to the convention center festivals that have been prevalent in recent years.

The Vendor Discount Program. In Winston-Salem, we announced that this program would be returning soon, and so it will. At that time we announced that we had commitments from [Bodyhoops.com](#), [Brontosaurus Balls](#), [Dube](#), [Gballz](#), [Juggling Fashion](#), [The Juggling School](#), [Neon Husky](#), [Sportco](#), and [Sweets Kendamas](#). Since the festival, we've also gotten commitment from [Pass the Props](#) and [Malabares](#) to participate in the program. I'm trying to pull together technical details from these various advertisers, and expect to have the program live for our members to use in the next few weeks. All vendors may not be available at the time of launch, but I expect at least 6 or 7 will be. Do you have another vendor you want to see on that list? Chances are we approached them, but by all means give us that feedback. And the next time you speak with them or do business with them, drop our name and remind them they're always welcome....

The response to [HEPTAD](#) by [Wes Peden](#) was enthusiastic. Based on the traffic we saw and the feedback we heard, our members were big fans. We hear you and hope to have more IJA member-exclusive videos coming up in the future. If you aren't yet a member and were considering joining, now would be a good time. Ask a member who has seen [HEPTAD](#), and I suspect they'll tell you the same.

In our board meeting, we were happy to approve several volunteers for important positions within the organization. New board member Scott Krause will be taking on the role

of treasurer – thanks, Scott! Warren Hammond, veteran of two Fun Fund Committees, will be chairing the Fun Fund for the Bowling Green fest. If you're interested in helping on the Fun Fund Committee this year, [drop him an email](#). I participated in the Rochester Fun Fund Committee; it was an interesting and fun way to get involved in the IJA. And congrats and thanks to Jek Kelly, who will be Awards Committee Chairman for the 2013 Festival.

And before I wrap things up, I at least wanted to make mention of the passing of Robert Nelson. When I was first becoming infatuated with juggling in my youth, I knew of The Butterfly Man but wasn't lucky enough to know him. I read "[Passing the Hat](#)" and learned of this larger-than-life man, and his famous piece of poetry stuck with me enough that I could more or less recite it from memory 25 years later. It has been really touching to see the outpouring of emotion and reminiscences in the juggling community. We should all be so lucky as to touch so many people so deeply throughout our lives. A friend of mine in college used to say, "Everything we do in life, good or bad, we do for the story. No matter what, you have a story you can tell afterwards." I really wish I'd gotten back into juggling a few years earlier and had a chance to actually meet the man and legend, because it seems just about everyone who did has a story (or stories) to tell. That's a beautiful thing. My condolences go out to his family and to all of those in our community that are hurting from loss right now; we can all honor what he believed in by throwing a few things in the air, having a good laugh, and reflecting on his famous piece of juggling poetry:

It matters not
The job you've got
As long as you do it well.
Things are made by plans well-laid;
The test of time will tell.
But how can you count
Or know the amount
Or the value of a man?
By the show displayed,
Or the beauty made
By the touch of the juggler's hand.

Workshop 2012 Feedback, by *Dave Pawson*

As the guy who ran workshops in Winston-Salem, I can also take a moment to summarize the feedback you gave us via our survey. 47 of you responded, and nobody on the whole rated the overall workshop quality below "good"; whew.... A fair number of our volunteer instructors were singled out as doing a particularly great job; special thanks and respect to Freddy Kenton, Gypsy Geoff, Doug Sayers, Tony Steinbach, Jacky Levy, and Ted Joblin. Huge props to all our new friends from [Ea Eo](#), whose workshops got rave reviews all over the place.

I had asked how you felt about leaving the noon hour free from workshops; 24 people liked that strategy, 15 were indifferent, and 6 of you didn't like it. So more good than bad. I had also asked for input on the series of discussion/lecture workshops we did. 18 people liked them, 23 were indifferent, and 4 people didn't attend them or didn't like them. Again, not too shabby.

There were several questions about the Guidebook Mobile App we made available. It was used by about 1/3 of the festival goers, and the feedback was almost uniformly positive. Of respondents, 11 thought it was awesome, 7 thought it was good, 1 thought it was kinda meh, and 1 person disliked the idea enough that they refused to download it. There was some good feedback on how the app could have been improved, and I've shared some of those ideas with the Guidebook team. Since we paid them \$0, I figured we could at least give them constructive feedback.

Very few respondents attended the Pavel special workshop, but the few who responded had good to very good things to say. So all in all, good stuff. Responses to a few specific pieces of feedback that might interest others:

- 1 There were a few requests to have duplicate sessions of workshops. This is a good idea on the surface but is tricky. Our volunteers may or may not be interested in spending more of their time teaching the same workshop again. Some of the comments mentioned that they missed a workshop

due to conflicts; we made a greater effort than usual to **not** have workshops conflict with other events. By the time the dust cleared, we had 5 or 6 workshops running simultaneously in every slot. Having duplicate workshops might have raised that to 6 or 7. But for the sake of completeness, several workshops were taught multiple times, usually by request. In fact, I can't remember any time a volunteer was asked to teach a workshop a second time and declined. Doing these by request may be a good way to balance the burden on our volunteers with the interests of the attendees.

- 2 There were a few very valid comments that it would have helped to have more workshop descriptions in the program. Certainly that would have helped, but that also doesn't come without cost. With the huge number of workshops we had, if we had included workshop descriptions in the program, it could easily have doubled the size and cost of the program. The Guidebook Mobile App was intended to help with this problem; it avoids the printing cost problem, so any workshop descriptions I was provided were available within the application. But of course not everyone used (or could use) the app. Money always makes things more complicated.
- 3 A few people expressed interest in breakout sessions. This was a rookie mistake on my part. It wasn't something I personally thought of, but after a few people mentioned it in the survey, the point is duly noted. I'll be doing workshops again for Bowling Green, so I'll keep this in mind.

All in all, it was the first time I've organized workshops, and I'm happy with how it went. But I appreciate the comments and feedback; room to grow for next year. If I get an army of incredible volunteers like I had this year, we'll make them even better for the 2013 fest.

2012 Guidebook Mobile App at the IJA Fest, by *Martin Frost*

I don't know if we'll have something like the Guidebook Mobile App available again at the 2013 IJA fest, but if we do, I encourage those of you with compatible smartphones to get the app early in the fest week (or before the fest, if it's available).

For me this year, the Guidebook app completely replaced the schedule parts of the program, not just the workshop schedule. And since I always have my phone with me, I always had the full fest and workshop schedule at hand. The app told me the where, when, who and what for each workshop, and I could of course see what other workshops were happening at the same time.

A handy feature of the app allowed you to create your own personal schedule by marking the workshops or other events that you wanted to attend, with an optional reminder for each. I even used the app a few times after the fest to look up the name of a workshop leader. That was some of the best \$0 we spent on the fest this year.

IJA World Juggling Championships
July 21, 2012
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
OVERALL TOP PERFORMANCES

MEN

Event	Name	Time	
100 meter 3 ball	Albert Lucas	14.1	
100 meter 5 ball	Albert Lucas	16.8	#2 all time championships performance
100 meter 7 ball	Jack Denger	1:29.9	#9 all time championships performance
400 meter 3 ball	Chris Lovdal	1:03.8	
400 meter 5 ball	Jack Denger	2:25.4	#1 all time championships performance
800 meter 3 ball	Len Ferman	2:33	#9 all time championships performance
1600 meter 3 ball	Dylan Waickman	6:22	
4 x 100 meter relay	Team Exerball	58	(Albert Lucas, Nicolas Souren, Jason Matkowski, Chris Lovdal)

WOMEN

Event	Name	Time	
100 meter 3 ball	Sydney Paugh	16.4	#4 all time championships performance
100 meter 5 ball	Riga Moettus	1:14.1	#6 all time championships performance
400 meter 3 ball	Maggie Armstrong	1:34.3	
400 meter 5 ball	Riga Moettus	5:23.8	#1 all time championships performance
800 meter 3 ball	Maggie Armstrong	3:44	#6 all time championships performance
1600 meter 3 ball	Alayna Bowlin	9:24	
4 x 100 meter relay	Happiness Club	1:35.6	(Elise Johnson, Riga Moettus, Laura Schroeder, Alayna Bowlin)

In an exhibition race following the meet, Jack Denger and Albert Lucas ran a match race in the 100 meter 7 balls. Jack Denger won in a time of 58.8 seconds. This is a new world record.

IJA JOGGLING CHAMPIONSHIP RECORDS

Men 100 meter 7 ball	58.4	2010	Lauge Benjaminsen
Men 100 meter 5 ball	15.5	2002	Albert Lucas
Men 100 meter 3 ball	11.9	1988	Owen Morse
Men 200 meter 3 ball	26.5	2002	Chris Essick
Men 400 meter 3 ball	57.4	1990	Owen Morse
Men 800 meter 3 ball	2:13	2011	Eric Walter
Men 1600 meter 3 ball	4:44	1986	Kirk Swenson
Men 5k 3 ball	17:37	1990	Mike Hebebrand
Men 4 x 100 meter 3 ball	55.8	2011	Chris Lovdal, Eric Walter, Tyler Wishau, Charles Schweitzer
Men 4 x 400 meter 3 ball	3:57	1990	Team Exerball (Albert Lucas, Owen Morse, Jon Wee, Tuey Wilson)
Women 100 meter 7 ball	3:06	2010	Meagan Nouis
Women 100 meter 5 ball	42.8	2002	Heather Marriott
Women 100 meter 3 ball	14.9	2000	Lana Bolin
Women 200 meter 3 ball	31.8	2011	Trish Evans
Women 400 meter 3 ball	1:16	1990	Christa Rypins
Women 800 meter 3 ball	2:45	2011	Trish Evans
Women 1600 meter 3 ball	6:17	1989	Kathy Glynn
Women 5k 3 ball	21:46	1997	Trish Evans
Women 4 x 100 meter 3 ball	1:21	2004	Flamingo Club (L. Kaseman, D. Finnigan, B. Kresser, B. Neeser)
Women 4 x 400 meter 3 ball	6:11	2006	Rice, Roy, Finnigan, Harr

IJA Festival 2013 Bowling Green, Ohio, by Kim Laird - Festival Director

We are less than 10 months away from the 66th IJA Fest at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio! Festival planning has been moving along at a steady pace. Bowling Green Visitor and Convention Center even organized a group of jugglers from BGSU to street perform at the recent Black Swamp Fine Arts Festival over Labor Day weekend to reach out to the locals and let them know the IJA is coming!

Registration will open much earlier than in the past. Pending board approval in October, registration will open with Holiday Special pricing. This is planned to open in mid November and run through January 15. Early Bird pricing will then take place for a slightly longer time period followed by regular pricing. Regular pricing will close June 15. The reason for early closing of pre-registration is the need to have meal plans, residence hall reservations, and camping reservations in place and to Bowling Green State University officials during the third week in June.

CAMPING!? Yes, camping will be a housing option on campus for the 2013 fest. If you are considering camping during the 2013 fest it is important to register for the fest early. There are a limited number of campsites available. BGSU has limited camping to 40 campsites. Each campsite may have a maximum of four people. The fee for campsites is \$11 per night per person. Campers will have access to indoor bathrooms and showers near the campsite area. Other housing options are residence halls and local hotels. Residence hall reservations and camping reservations will need to be part of your IJA registration process. The hotels, which have also offered special IJA rates, will take reservations directly from you, the fest attendee.

Finishing touches are being put together on the first special workshop offering. Yes, I said first. There will be two, possibly three, special workshops during the week of July 15-21. Scheduling is being arranged so that at least two of

the workshops do not overlap so those wishing to take two special workshops can do so. More on special workshops next month!

Would you like to help decide on some fun things that will happen at the fest? Volunteer for the Fun Fund Committee! Warren Hammond has been appointed by the board to chair this committee for 2012-2013. There is a limit on the number of Fun Fund Committee members. If you are interested in being considered for a seat on the Fun Fund Committee, email Warren at funfund@juggle.org and include a little information about yourself and why you would like to be on this committee.

As part of fest preparations, an online contest was held which was open to graphic art students including BGSU students. Their "assignment" was to create a postcard to advertise for the IJA fest coming to Bowling Green. Fifteen different students submitted a total of 42 entries. With the help of Thom Wall, Erin Stephens, and Keith Nelson, five finalists were chosen. They were asked to tweak their designs and a winner was selected. The winning design appears on the next page. This postcard will now have text added to the back which will be not only in English but also in Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, French, and German. Stacks will be mailed to representatives from various regional and national juggling fests. If you are holding a fest and would like some cards to help get the word out about IJA 2013, email laird@juggle.org with a contact name and address and I will get the cards and some IJA membership forms and fest registration forms to you before your fest.

Less than 10 months away! Are you excited yet? More news and registration information along with an activity schedule for the week coming your way in the October article. This is one IJA fest you will not want to miss!

IJA Awards - 2013

The IJA is seeking nominations for its 2013 awards.

Information and criteria can be found at

juggle.org/history/honoraryawards

Submit awards nominations to:

awards@juggle.org

Look for the IJA Festival Postcard at a Festival Near You

Kim Laird ran an online contest mostly for BGSU graphic art majors for an advertising postcard for the 2013 fest. The winning designer is Tanja Dabic who is originally from Smederevo, Serbia.

This was done for class credit costing the IJA \$0 which made this a win-win all around!

If you are hosting an upcoming festival, please contact Kim to get some postcards to distribute at your event. laird@juggle.org



Was that Family Friendly ? by Don Lewis

A funny thing happened the way to the Cascade of Stars intermission. We had all just seen a masterful display of juggling theatre by Compagnie EA EO and were eagerly commenting on just how inspiring it was. As I turned around to go get a drink, a mature couple seated behind me let me know very clearly that they were profoundly unhappy with the show. They had driven in from a nearby town because the show had been advertised as *family friendly*. As far as I could tell, they hadn't actually brought any family with them.

They were deeply offended by the foul language and nudity. This took me somewhat aback, since in the course of an hour's performance, there wasn't much of either. I was only aware of one partially uttered expletive by one actor who was quickly taken to task for it by his fellow actors - a sort of object lesson as part of the piece. A misbehaving actor did drop his drawers, but he bent over so rapidly while doing it you didn't even have to blink to miss being flashed. Perhaps people in the front row saw more, briefly. I doubt that these good folks, even with their vision sharpened by outrage, actually saw more than a pair of hairy legs. I certainly didn't. It fit perfectly into the persona of a troubled person begging for any kind of attention - even scolding.

I see a lot of contemporary dance in Montreal. Partial or even full nudity in a theatre setting never seems to bother anybody of any age in that context. Perhaps to me it seems so commonplace that it is barely noticeable, but to others it is like a day-glo explosion that taints the entire show.

The lady of the couple very seriously asked me if I would let my granddaughter see that show. From the way in which the question was posed, I understood that I was expected to be uncomfortable answering it. Actually, I was able to confidently respond that I would be perfectly happy to explain anything in the first part of the show to any child that was discomfited, in terms that they could understand and be comfortable with.

Now, having said that, I wouldn't describe it as a children's show. There were some mature themes and aggressive behavior that would be confusing to some children. It was a family show because families include adults. Children usually take their cues from adults that they respect, and adults explain things to kids in ways that they can understand.

I don't think the couple bought my explanation of children's vs family shows. I would probably be uncharitable to think that they may have actually enjoyed their outrage more than any part of the show. At least they understood their reaction in terms of their personal environment.

But they were not in their environment, they were in ours. They were seeing a show designed to impress some of the most enthusiastic jugglers on the planet as part of the capstone event of a week long, highly specialized,

convention. Compagnie EA EO conclusively proved to us that world class juggling can meld with contemporary theatre to produce eye popping results. In a world where technique has fairly well known limits, this sort of show demonstrates that artistry and presentation combined with superb technique has no limits. We're all a bit richer from having seen this exciting combination.

I'm not sure what more I could have said to this couple who had clearly found themselves briefly trapped in an alien culture, having paid full price for admission. They would probably have been delighted if someone on stage had performed *eat the apple*. I'd like to think I widened their thinking a bit, but I rather doubt it. I regret that they probably went home with their discontent and spread it around like manure on a fallow field so that everyone for miles around could enjoy the aroma.

And therein lies part of the problem with selling the public show to the unsuspecting public. They're going to see some of the best juggling in the world ... and are totally unequipped to appreciate it.

Come to our show and be confused by most of the audience reacting with wild enthusiasm to things you're unequipped to understand.

Perhaps at intermission, someone should get on stage and eat the apple. But then again, the mundanes would probably be confused by our lack of respect for that venerable act. Perhaps a half-time mime?

After the show, some of the jugglers seated around me were wondering why these good folks picked me out of a crowd to complain to. Well probably because I was wearing a polo shirt with a discreet logo rather than a T-shirt, and I also was visibly within their age range. It doesn't really matter why. The important thing is to consider the complaint with respect and politely beg to disagree.

The reality is that the hapless couple briefly joined our extended family and unhappily discovered that they were uncomfortable with the world that we offered to share.

The IJA makes an effort to keep the public show family friendly and makes sure that the performers understand that. Once the curtain goes up it is essentially out of our hands and up to the artists. We've certainly had headline shows in the past that turned out to be considerably less family friendly in spite of the IJA's best efforts.

We do not all travel to the IJA festival to see shows that only a child will watch. We demand the best and usually get it. That doesn't mean that we don't cater to children. The Planting the Juggling Seed show is specifically aimed at children even though it can be enjoyed by all ages.

Now, I wonder how our 'guests' would have reacted to the juggling strip tease that was on Le Plus Grand Cabaret du Monde a few years ago ?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47f7O9V4ELE>

Update on Special Friends Juggling Club, by Bob Neuman

A brief background: Special friends Juggling Club consists of 14-16 adults who attend the North Arlington (TX) YMCA in the afternoons. Each person has their own unique challenges – many having more than one. I volunteered to start teaching juggling about two months ago. The classes are one hour, once a week.

The group is very enthusiastic and has made a lot of progress. No one can juggle three objects – yet. But the most advanced can keep two balls in the air with one hand for a long time.

The program bought some scarves. I'd been using balls (that I made and gave to them). Some of the group had really stalled at two balls thrown one after the other (they tend to throw both at the same time).

At this point I'd really like to thank all of the jugglers (too many to name) who I pestered about overcoming this problem and were kind enough to offer advice. The various suggestions ... and scarves are helping. With 16 different aspiring jugglers – it's gonna take awhile.

In order to get more ideas I "sat in" on the Y.E.P. training at the last IJA fest (I originally went to Y.E.P. at Sparks). Y.E.P. has added new instructors and fellow attendees are always tremendously helpful. I had never taught juggling before Sparks – so, I didn't even know what to ask at the time!

Paul and Wendy Arneberg, along with some of their JUGHEADS grad and student instructors gave a really great presentation.

I was never a big believer in "testing" in juggling. But after hearing how they ran their program it seemed like an idea I could use (Thanks!). As an aside – I never realized what a dynamic program they have (although we are seeing the results)!

On Sept. 5, we had a juggling skills assessment (aka "test").

I got some award pins from Dave Finnigan (very nice and inexpensive) and I printed off some IJA certificates.

The "test" was to measure how much each person improved from the start. Because of the wide range of challenges this required keeping notes on each individual. In other words, this was not a standardized test by any means.

Some members can concentrate on a task easily but interaction, especially with multiple partners, is very difficult. Others have a hard time concentrating for very long.

My instruction includes: a warm-up; single ball exercises (some had a hard time throwing 1 ball up and catching it in the same hand – especially palm-up, fingers forward – some like to catch it like a fly ball); then two and three ball exercises (the latter is mainly holding that third ball and throwing the other two – so far); scarves; then bounce passing balls – trying to use various club passing patterns (the balls are the exercise type – a little larger and softer).

continued on next page...



Update on Special Friends Juggling Club continued from previous page...

We do this in two ways – two people bounce passing one ball and larger groups bounce passing more balls. We've had all 16 participate and used up to 4 balls (I announce largely before adding in the 4th ball that "it IS the ball of death" to much laughter. So no, not everyone is passing at the same time – but they all must try and be aware of what is happening. I have also renamed several patterns – one is the "torture chamber" (nothing like the club pattern – but difficult for them).

At times we break into smaller groups (luckily there are two counselors that run the program and another volunteer helps out). That way I can work with the more advanced ball jugglers sometimes.

A side note here – I had to get much smaller balls for some of the jugglers. Some are just small in stature – but some of regular stature have smaller hands and fingers.

The test went well. I was a little worried about a few of the lower skilled participants. Could they pull it off? In addition, I wasn't sure what effect the pressure of a test would have.

I told them a week in advance that there would be a test. Any further out and they would forget, but this gave them a "heads up."

I am very happy to say that everyone exceeded my expectations! The two counselors told me that they could be very competitive – and were they ever. Each person was tested in front of the group. They were very encouraging and supportive of one another (shouting BLAR – Bringing Love And Respect when drops occurred).

The test was over individual props and then the ability to pass a ball and a ring with others. For fun, we had a single ball endurance (had to catch in the same hand – more difficult for them). I thought this would be short lived but it was lasting too long. So, in my best Matt Hall/ Games imitation – I made it harder – they had to switch to using the other hand. Two jugglers were still lasting too long – so, I declared it over – much to everyone's amusement.

I was as pleased as the group! To see their progress was amazing – they put in a lot of hard work. As you can see from the picture – they are beaming after receiving their pins and certificates.

A final thanks to all the Y.E.P. teachers and my fellow students, and to all the jugglers that I bugged for help with teaching methods.

2011 IJA Fest DVD finally available in the IJA store



Rochester 2011
2-DVD set
Member Price: \$30.00
[IJA Store](#)

The 2011 Rochester IJA festival had its amazing moments. Now you can relive them with this two-DVD set. If you weren't at the festival, you can now see what all the fuss was about last summer.

Stefan Sing was the headline act of the Cascade of Stars. It was a heck of a lineup, including Francoise Rochais. Tony Pezzo won the Individuals Championships. David Ferman won Juniors. Ben Hestness and Stefan Brancel won Teams with their Titanic routine.

No one thought it would take this long to work out the production and distribution issues to make this video available. Finally, we have contracted for on-demand production and mailing services which means that from the moment you place your order in the IJA store, your DVD set will be automatically be produced and shipped within a couple of days. You won't have to wait for an IJA volunteer to package your order and find the time to go to the post office.

IJA DVDs are NTSC and region-free (will play in any region). They should play on all North American and Japanese DVD players, all computer DVD drives, and most recent European equipment. They may not work on some older European equipment which supports only PAL or SECAM. These DVDs are DVD-R format, which means the video is burned on a DVD-R disc, which should play in all but the oldest DVD players.

The price for members is \$30. You have to log in to the store to see this price. Otherwise, you will see the non-member price of \$40.00. If you haven't shopped at the IJA Store before or don't have an account with us, then sign up as a new customer and send an email to store@juggle.org to update your account status to "member".

Meet The IJA Board

*The eNewsletter will include profiles of the new Board members so that you can learn a bit more about them and their hopes for the IJA. This month, meet **Nathan Wakefield**, Board Member 2012-2014.*

Life is a journey, not a destination. That's the way the old saying goes. I've always felt that way about juggling as well; no matter how good you get, or what you do with it, there is always more to explore and enjoy.

For me, my juggling journey began in college. I was working out at the rec center one day, when a woman approached me about wanting to ask me some questions about a student organization I belonged to for the school paper. I agreed to the story, but the only problem was we were having a hard time agreeing on a meeting place to talk. Our class schedules conflicted, and she was going home that weekend. The only real time she was free was during the University's Juggling Club, which she attended every week and invited me to. "There's a club for juggling?" I thought, "Weird! I'm not a juggler ... I can't go to that." I declined initially, but was eventually persuaded to go after she assured me that I didn't actually HAVE to know how to juggle to show up. I was very surprised when I got there how open and friendly everyone was. They seemed legitimately interested in teaching me to juggle, even though I was just stopping by to talk to someone about something unrelated. I had a good time and soon started coming every week just to hangout. Before long, I was cascading three balls. I still didn't really feel like a juggler though, so I never really pushed myself beyond a few basic patterns.

Fast forward a couple years. College is over. I'm at home going through my old school stuff, and I find my old juggling balls and some cheap clubs that I bought but never actually quite got down. As a post-college goal, I made it my mission to practice the clubs every day until I could finally juggle them with ease. To my surprise, after just a couple weeks, I managed to get them down reasonably well. Maybe I could be an okay juggler after all if I actually believed in myself and practiced regularly. So, I got online to see if there were any resources available to learn new juggling moves. That's when the obsession began.



Soon I was buying all new props, traveling to festivals, and studying juggling DVDs, practicing as much as I could all the while. A couple years later, I was helping to plan juggling festivals, writing for a juggling blog, traveling to international festivals, and teaching others the basics of juggling.

Just when I thought my juggling journey could not take me any further, I was given the honor of being nominated and elected to the IJA Board of Directors. I want to give this position my all, and give back to the community that has brought me so much joy over the years. Specifically, I want to concentrate on working to expand eJuggle, integrating more members only content, and aid in any areas that simply need a helping hand.

Currently I live in Southeast Michigan and am active in the Michigan/Ohio juggling communities. When I am not juggling, I enjoy training for endurance athletics and working on various film projects.

Years ago when I first walked into that campus space to see what a juggling club was like, I never dreamed that I would one day be on the board of directors for something like the IJA. I can't wait to see where my juggling journey takes me next.



eJuggle

The official publication of the International Jugglers' Association.

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Etoh Satoshi was awarded the gold medal at the 2012 IJA senior-level stage competition. Here is an exclusive look at his preliminary video, which got him into the competition.

<http://ezine.juggle.org/2012/09/18/etoh-satoshi-exclusive-video/>



Latest Articles in eJuggle

eJuggle already has a lot of content — more than you would expect to find in a printed magazine. And you find new content more often. Here is a partial list of recently added content. Use the link to eJuggle to see new content, and log in to access content that is just available to IJA members. <http://e.juggle.org>

- Juggler's Scoop – September 20th, 2012 Nathan Wakefield**
- Assembly of Awesome 2012 Review Nathan Wakefield**
- Could a Juggling Superhero Exist? hermannism**
- Etoh Satoshi Exclusive Video EtohSatoshi**
- Jeff Civillico, Juggling Headliner in Las Vegas and w... Niels Duinker**
- Animal Juggling Acts David Cain**
- Robert Nelson aka “The Butterfly Man” Guest Writer**
- Brad Weston's Stagecraft: Clown Brad Weston**
- IJA eZine-Tricks of the Month-September 2012- Doug... Kyle Johnson**
- Notes from Thom – September 2012 Thom Wall**
- Juggler's Scoop – September 5th, 2012 Nathan Wakefield**
- The Language of Juggling hermannism**
- Have An Edge David Deeble**
- A Message from the Chair, September 2012 Dave Pawson**
- WJF 8 Convention Review Matthew Wise**
- Doug Sayers IJA eZine video of the month (August 2012) Doug Sayers**
- IJA BACK TO COLLEGE...FEST 2013 Kim Laird**
- Props 2 U – Thank You from Cochabamba, Bolivia Erin Stephens**
- Four person patterns old and new Aidan Burns**
- EJC 2012 Lublin Festival Review**
- The passing of Robert Nelson Todd Strong**

This is a partial list, earlier articles omitted.... Get the full list at feed://ezine.juggle.org/feed/

More Festivals!

Check the world wide juggling event listings on the IJA Website at <http://www.juggle.org/events>.

**Juggling Festivals**

Portland Juggling Festival 2012
 September 28 - 30, 2012
 Portland, OR
<http://www.portlandjugglers.org>

Philly Fest
 September 29 - 30, 2012
 Philadelphia, PA
[website](#)

Turkish Juggling Convention
 October 1 - 7, 2012
 Sundance Camp, Tekirova, Turkey
<http://www.j-fest.com>

Asheville Juggling Festival
 October 5 - 7, 2012
 Asheville, NC
fortyfingersjuggling@gmail.com

Japan Juggling Festival 2012
 October 6 - 8, 2012
 Tokyo, Japan
<http://www.juggling.jp/jjf/jjf2012/en>

Manchester Juggling Convention
 October 13, 2012
 Manchester UK
[website](#)

XIV Convención Chilena (& IRC)
 October 18 - 21, 2012
[Parque Mallinco, Peñaflor, Chile](#)
[website](#)

Durham Juggling Festival
 October 19 - 21, 2012
 Wolsingham, Co. Durham, UK
[website](#)

The Cleveland Circus
 October 19 - 21, 2012
 Cleveland, OH
[Facebook](#)

Scharding Juggling Convention
 October 19 - 21, 2012
 Scharding, Austria
[website](#)

5-3-1 Festival of New Juggling
 October 19 - 21, 2012
 Helsinki, Finland
<http://www.531festival.com>

St. Louis Jugglefest
 October 26 - 28, 2012
 St. Louis, MO
<http://wujuggling.com>

Halloween Convention, Munich
 October 26 - 28, 2012
 Munich, Germany
<http://www.muenchen-con.de>

14th Brazilian Juggling and Circus Convention (& IRC)
 November 14 - 18, 2012
 Minas Gerais, Brasil
<http://www.cbmcirco.com.br>

The London (juggling) Convention
 November 24, 2012
 London, UK
<http://tlc2012.org>

Leeds Juggling Convention
 December 8, 2012
 Leeds, UK
<http://tlc2012.org>

66th IJA Juggling Festival
 July 15 - 21, 2013
 Bowling Green, OH
<http://juggle.org/festival>

Having a Juggling Festival? List it here!

If you're organizing a juggling festival (or if you simply know of a juggling fest) and you want to advertise it in the IJA eNewsletter, just drop a note to eNewsletter editor Don Lewis enews@juggle.org. Such listings are free.

The eNewsletter generally comes out near the end of each month. Your festival can be listed for a few months, and you don't have to be an IJA affiliate to have a fest listed. Hey, jugglers want to know about juggling fests. Help them out and get more jugglers to your fest at the same time.