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# IJA eNewsletter

## Best Wishes for a Better New Year

#### **Contents:**

Chairman's Message Video Editor Wanted Turbo Fest IX Insurance Changes New IJA Logo Progress Workshop in Dublin Cranky Books Reviewed What's New at eJuggle Coming Soon to eJuggle... Juggglow Crowdfunding Juggling Festivals

## **Juggling Festivals:**

St.Paul, MN Atlanta, GA Cambridge, MA **Belfast, Northern Ireland** Austin, TX **Clareville, New Zealand** Lehighton, PA Heerlen, Netherlands **Dublin**, Ireland Barnsley, S Yorkshire, UK **Oudenbosch, Netherlands** Copenghagen, Denmark Lincoln, NE World Juggling Day Everywhere St. Petersburg, Russia Lincolnshire, UK Eugene, OR Quebec City, Quebec, Canada (IJA) Bruneck, South Tyrol, Italy (EJC) Philadelphia, PA







## Chairman's Message, by Nathan Wakefield



A new year is upon us! January is often the time when resolutions take shape and time is spent planning the year ahead. Do you have any juggling goals for 2015? Learn some new patterns? Pick up a new prop, perhaps? Maybe attend a festival you've always wanted to go to. In any event, the start of a new year can often be an invigorating experience. In regards to the IJA, there are a lot of great things happening!

2015 TurboFest just happened this month. I've heard nothing but amazing things about the event, the venue, and the organizers behind it. Currently the Turbo418 crew is picking up steam and hard at work putting everything in place for the IJA festival in July. Everything is on track for an amazing event.

In video news, our 2015 Tricks of the Month series is off to a strong start! We are going to be doing things a little bit differently this year; instead of releasing videos that are lumped into specific categories, we are simply going to be showcasing three jugglers per month from around the world. Jorge Vilchis is hard at work coordinating the project, with additional assistance from myself. There are a lot of great contributors lined up!

Speaking of juggling videos, have you seen Nathan Biggs-Penton's juggling film '<u>Miller</u>'? If you are a current IJA member, you can watch it in its entirety for free on our eZine! Not only that, but there are several bonus clips included that were made exclusively for its IJA release.

The IJA has a lot of exciting things in store for 2015. The Board and Officers are busy working on several substantial projects. I can't make any major announcements quite yet, but believe me, we have several major developments coming up that you don't want to miss!

I hope that your new year is off to a great start.

Juggle on,

Nathan Wakefield

IJA Chairman

## **Video Editor Wanted**

The IJA is looking for a video editor to compile the festival video this summer.

We film each festival and make the video available to members. Most recently, we have been publishing the festival video on eJuggle as a member benefit. It is also published on DVD for those who want it that way, and for non-members who want to buy a copy to support us. Volunteers film the festival events. The job of the video editor is to condense the raw video into a video portrait of the festival. One important aspect is that any background music used must be royalty free. The IJA does not have the resources to try to manage music rights for copyrighted music.

If you are interested in this paid position. please contact <u>Nathan Wakefield</u>.

## 2015 IJA Festival **Quebec City**, Quebec, Canada July 20 - 26, 2015 (Registration will open in April 2015)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\_embedded&v=dktdGPT7T\_w

## Turbo Fest 2015, a Preview of this Summer's IJA Fest in Quebec City, by Don Lewis

Quebec City's TurboFest has become a three day festival. It starts Thursday evening and continues through Sunday afternoon. This was the ninth edition of TurboFest, which takes place at the École de Cirque du Québec (Quebec City Circus School). The TurboFest team run by Véronique Provencher (our IJA 2015 festival director) is in a good groove. They have great facilities and involved volunteers who really know what they expect to happen.

This is the same team that is working hard on the IJA 2015 festival. They have some surprises lined up for us that will be announced in the months to come. I have a lot of confidence in the TurboFest team's ability to deliver a great festival. We're actually going to be in a dynamic city that thrives on tourism and special events. When was the last time that happened?

Turbo IX got great coverage in the local press. There were articles in four newspapers and two television news stories. They were excited to have confirmation that the IJA will be in Quebec this summer with even more jugglers, international competitions, and some outdoor events.

Jugglers started converging on the festival Thursday evening. A simple registration process and we were upstairs greeting friends and passing clubs. The school has a snack bar under the old choir loft that was serving food and hot and cold drinks. It was bitterly cold outside, but comfortably warm inside. Some avid jugglers braved the cold and went outside to light their torches in the snow for an hour long fire jam. Later in the evening, the Turbo version of Renegade started. The Turbo-bar was open, and everyone sat in a large circle around the performance space. A live band complete with drummer tries to follow the action of each person who gets up and shows their stuff, amazing or dumb. After Renegade there were free chips and salsa for those quick enough to get to the supplies set out. Most participants took advantage of the indoor camping area downstairs on the tumbling mats.

Friday featured open juggling and assorted workshops. The evening show was an open stage where artists could show their work. IJA regulars would have felt right at home. Thom Wall performed knife-edged balancing. Kellin Quinn showed some of the polish he is getting at the National Circus School. Board member Noel Yee partnered with Justin Widmar to wow the crowd. Jade Dussault had the audience mesmerized with a hula hoop improvisation. Acts

from circus schools were well represented with artists from Montreal, Quebec, and Vermont on stage.

Saturday featured competitions in the afternoon along with a full assortment of workshops. The main show of the festival was the Turbo Show on Saturday evening. As usual, it was a great variety show. Jacob Sharpe showed hard tricks with balls, and then got serious with diabolos. Les Beaux Freres reprised their towel routine which has to be seen to be believed. Amazing club passing, including a perfectly timed lighted club routine by Daniel Ledel and Dominik Harant. Something we don't see too often was a fluidly graceful amalgam of juggling and acrobatics by Becka Rose and David Louche. And lots of other great acts. Not everyone juggled, but the two hour show was over all too fast.

What do people say about Turbo? Here are a few random guotes gathered during the festival.

"Vraiment cool. genre malade!" - Koke Petit. ""Favorite North American festival. If IJA is anything like Turbo, it will be the best IJA ever" - Nathan Biggs-Penton. "I like it because there are a lot of other artists. I want to go to IJA because I want to see Quebec in the summer" - Dominik Harant. "Amazing, I come every year. It is a delight!. IJA will be warm, a new flavor for IJA" - Dominique Rabideau. "Where old guys feel really old, but still outlast the young guys. IJA will be the most international ever. It's gonna rock" - Greg Phillips. "It is more innovative than Steve Jobs. Juggler's dream! The Woodstock of juggling. Turbofest heats up Quebec so much it will melt snow for the IJA" - Jeff Peden. "Always great to be in a place where everyone has fun training." - Cryptic Firecat. "Awesome, by far the best ... " - Danny Buonocore. "It is great. I try to drive up every year. Great location, great juggling, great times" -Al Mireault. "What a fantastic event. IJA will be better than normal for sure" - Jacob Sharpe. "It is a unique thing. There is circus here. It is less like a festival, more like a party. IJA should be like Turbo but bigger!" -Kellin Quinn.

Get ready for Quebec City in July. The Turbo team is going to be ready for you! Check out the comments and videos on TurboFest's FaceBook page.

https://www.facebook.com/Turbo418



## Insurance Changes, by Don Lewis

A couple of members recently discovered that the insurance that is available through the IJA has been changed. What has happened?

Insurance companies offer this type of insurance through a network of brokers who sell it through organizations to their members. To be viable, there needs to be a minimum number of members who sign on to the policy to make it worthwhile. Brokers can create affinity arrangements so that several small groups can access a policy that would be otherwise out of reach.

In the case of the IJA, the broker arranged for us to have access to a policy through NAME (National Association of Mobile Artists). The deal was that IJA members could get the insurance through our broker without paying an additional membership fee to NAME.

NAME has apparently switched to a new insurance broker and now requires a membership fee to NAME in order to get or

renew the insurance. No-one at the IJA was aware of this until a member complained about the change.

Discovering exactly what had changed turned out to be remarkably complicated and time consuming. Chairman Nathan Wakefield has spent many hours on the phone and email just getting the facts straight. Our insurance broker was blindsided by this change as well.

The insurance is still available through NAME, although they have added a membership fee. Meanwhile, our broker is trying to set up a policy for us. This involves either setting up an affinity group with us as the core, or finding a different group policy that we can join.

The reality is that the IJA is not really big enough by itself to have a private policy to offer. Hence, a search for affordable affinity.

We will keep you informed as things progress.



## Considering a New Logo for the IJA, by Don Lewis

Quite a few people took the time to consider the assorted logo images that were published in the last two issues of the newsletter and sent in their comments. Thank you.

There was significant range of opinion which is a healthy thing in a member driven organization. There is clearly a nostalgic affection for the Art Jennings designed logo that we have. At the same time, I'm seeing a grudging acceptance that perhaps the logo is not identifying us as clearly as we might like. There are, of course, a few members who are simply opposed to any change at all.

The most oft-voiced comment was a suggestion to try to rework the elements of the logo to attempt to be a more obviously juggling logo with an easy to read name rather than having the name curved around part of the logo. Apparently I'm not the only one who has been mistaken as a bowler when wearing the logo.

All of your comments have been saved in a private forum so that the Board-Plus team can refer to them as we keep working on this project.

The intention is to take the time needed to get this right. Initially, it was hoped that we could incorporate a new image on the updated web pages that we hope to introduce later this spring. However, since no one design is screaming at us for acceptance, it appears that this will be a longer term project.

Once again, thanks to all who wrote in with comments.

## Workshop with Toby Walker, by Niall Tuohy

Here at Dublin Circus Project we have organized a two day Juggling Masterclass with **Toby Walker** - World Record holder, WJF contest winner and former Cirque du Soleil performer.

You can see the full information on our temporary store website here: <u>https://</u> <u>dublincircusprojectstore.wordpress.com/juggling-</u> masterclass/

Price: €100 Date: 7th and 8th February Time: Saturday 12-2pm, Sunday 2-6pm Venue: The Mill, Cellbridge Community Centre, Cellbridge, Co. Kildare Dublin Circus Project is a non profit organization of circus artists based in Dublin. We work to develop the circus arts in Dublin through facilitating artist development in our circus training space, The Barn, and through the production of circus theatre and cabaret. We work to engage the public in circus arts through hosting beginner circus workshops and working with schools and youth groups providing circus skills training.



## The Cranky Books, reviewed by Don Lewis

Reg Bacon started his professional life as a journalist. He spent ten years writing and editing everything from sports to national news. He took what he expected to be a brief break from the pressure cooker of journalism, and wound up with a thirty-plus year career in show business as a juggler. Not ready to actually retire, he then completed the Harvard graduate program in Museum Studies. Reg was part of an early initiative with Sandy Brown to begin digitizing the IJA's archive collection. He still juggles and entertains, while also working as a designer, editor, and museum collections project advisor. And he writes books.

Reg spent much of the past year writing two useful books for anyone who writes for public consumption. A curious thing to be reviewed in a newsletter for jugglers? Or perhaps not...

Many jugglers find themselves writing promotional materials. This is clearly true for professionals who have to promote themselves, but also for amateurs who have to promote local events, or apply for local support. In our modern age, anyone who blogs or otherwise comments publicly on the Internet is essentially self published. Correct use of language and presentation go a long way to getting respect for the ideas that you are trying to promote.

These books are full of examples of what does not work, and how to fix it. You'll laugh at some of the examples. At others, you may say to yourself "Really? That's wrong?" Punctuation, misused words, grammatical errors, incorrect abbreviation, typographic blunders and hopeless designs are all fodder for Reg's entertainingly cranky attention.

The books are useful, easy to understand, affordable, and entertaining. Plus, they are written by a juggler!

For more information about Reg's books, and his career, check out his website at Variety Arts Press. <u>www.varietyartspress.com</u>









The official publication of the International Jugglers' Association.



## Latest Articles in eJuggle <u>http://ezine.juggle.org</u>

#### Polynesian Juggling Goddesses of Tonga

Hey, jugglers and historians. There is an entire country of women jugglers in an Asian-Pacific island group called the Kingdom of Tonga. There are 176 islands where everyone speaks English, all women juggle, and men wouldn't dare. I'm on my way Feb. 1, 2015 to Tonga to visit some [...]

#### **Obituary: Edoardo Raspini**

The juggling community has lost one of its living legends, Edoardo Raspini, who passed away on January 11th, 2015, just shy of his 87th birthday. Edoardo Raspini was born January 19th, 1928 to a circus family from the Tuscan area of Italy. His family was best known for their act on freestanding ladders, although his [...]

#### Juggler's Scoop – January 22nd, 2015

Juggler's Scoop is a bi-weekly collection of the latest juggling videos and news bits from around the web. Here's the latest scoop! - Kevin Axtell does some three club spinning and demonstrates to the viewer how him and his friends do. - Michael Karas juggles his way through his 2014 performance statistics. - Drex profiles [...]

#### John McPeak: A Serendipitous Adventure

Several months ago, writer / historian David Cain approached John McPeak about being interviewed for eJuggle. David sent John around a dozen questions. These questions framed the autobiographical narrative that John responded with. David also digitized a video of one of John's television appearances for this article. Photos are courtesy of David Cain and John [...]

#### Ollie Young – An Early Juggling Innovator

Ollie Young (1875 – 1946) was born Oliver R. Young in Columbus, Ohio (USA) to John and Madeline Young. He was a member of a large pioneer family and had at least three brothers and three sisters. As a boy, he worked as a courier for the Columbus Dispatch newspaper and would often deliver messages [...]

#### IJA Tricks of The Month Chile January 2015 By: Diego Rojas

Diego Rojas is a juggler from Santiago, Chile. He's been practicing clubs for about 3 years. This video was recorded in places that he practices in different districts of the city. Diego Rojas es un malabarista de Santiago, Chile, él lleva aproximadamente 3 años practicando clavas . El video se grabó por distintas comunas de [...]

#### "Drop Everything" podcast with host Dan Holzman: interview with Francoise Rochais

Drop everything podcast #10 Hosted by Dan Holzman. The amazing French juggler Francoise Rochais shares stories about her amazing juggling career. Her start at age 5, what it's like to train in Chinese and Russian circus schools, her juggling journal, and much more. 59 minutes. Downloadable mp3 file (81 MB)

## Continued... Latest Articles in eJuggle http://ezine.juggle.org

#### Frank Le Dent – The (Almost) Forgotten Juggling Legend

Frank Le Dent (1886 – 1948) of Philadelphia, PA (USA) is a juggler who was almost completely forgotten for many decades. Juggling history books barely mention him or completely ignore his existence. An article in a Juggler's World magazine from the 1980s referred to Le Dent as the "mysterious American" because next to nothing was [...]

#### IJA Tricks of the Month Costa Rica January 2015 by Malabarismo Tico

Malabarismo-Tico, the largest family of circus artists from Costa Rica, is from the province of Heredia in Costa Rica. We are honored to have the opportunity to contribute and collaborate in "Tricks Of The Month" initiative of the IJA (International Jugglers Association). Malabarismo-Tico Ia familia más grande de artistas circenses de Costa Rica, se honra como [...]

#### Juggler's Scoop - January 5th, 2015

Juggler's Scoop is a bi-weekly collection of the latest juggling videos and news bits from around the web. Here's the latest scoop! - Jugglers from the North Side of Mexico collaborated for a new video. - Amadeusz Kołak goes club juggling by a train. - Jugglers in Russia celebrate a Happy New Year. - Mura [...]

#### Miller by Nathan Biggs-Penton

Miller is an attempt to share a bit more about how I think about juggling and to help me through circus school. The movie is broken down into eight main sections and seven smaller ones. Each of the eight larger sections document the results of different research ideas during my year in Sweden. The smaller sections consist of some of my favorite sequences, getting stuck in elevators, British beat boxing, some fun facts about Chicago, among others. At the end of the movie there is a short thanks to the Miller family. These great friends were the people that taught me to juggle, encouraged me, and introduced the world of juggling to me by constantly playing old IJA footage on the Television. This movie is largely in thanks to them. The final goal is to share ideas about juggling in hopes that others will take them and push them in new directions to expand the world of juggling. Enjoy!

#### Message from the Chairman, December, 2014

The end of the year is upon us. I often like to take the holiday season as an opportunity to look back on the year and reflect on what I've learned, things I've experienced, and what I am anticipating for next year. It's fun to apply this concept to different categories of interest in your [...]

#### **Cirque Ziva Chinese Acrobats Review**

The Golden Dragon Acrobats from Cangzhou, China, present Cirque Ziva. New Victory Theater, Times Square, New York. Til January 4th (many sold out shows, new shows may be added). I've seen many troops of Chinese Acrobats over the years in New York, Jerusalem, Orlando, etc. They never cease to astound me and this troop is [...]

#### EJC 2014 – Legends of the Stage and Gala Show

This is the final of a three part series. See EJC 2014 – General Review and EJC 2014 – Open Stages. Part three will be about the Legends of the Stage and Gala shows. Before I get into the review, I want to give a big shout out to the wonderful photographers who let me [...]

#### Juggler's Scoop - December 24th, 2014

Juggler's Scoop is a bi-weekly collection of the latest juggling videos and news bits from around the web. Here's the latest scoop! - Svetlana Zueva goes juggling in the workshop. - Bob and Trish have uploaded their annual Christmas Juggling video. Bob also recently set the world record in five basketball juggling. - Fitness Undressed [...]

#### IJA Tricks of the Month – USA – December 2014 – Bronkar Lee

Bounce juggling in Venice Beach. Bronkar is the world's only rhythmic juggling beatboxer. He holds multiple world records and has honed his craft with appearances all over the United States, Canada and Europe. He has been a featured act on Disney and Celebrity cruise lines, played at Madison Square Garden, and performed at colleges, corporate [...]

#### "Drop Everything" podcast with host Dan Holzman: interview with Kevin Axtell

"Drop Everything" Podcast #9 with host Dan Holzman. My conversation with artistic movement juggler, ex IJA board member, and Firewalk leader Kevin Axtell. Topics include The evolution of club juggling, the spinning community and Kevin's life and career. 62 minutes. Downloadable mp3 file (91.7 MB)

### Coming Soon to eJuggle, by Scott Seltzer

In February, 2015, we are looking forward to publishing the following content on eJuggle:

- Message from the IJA Chairman
- Bobby Jule Interview by David Cain
- Juggling Robots: A Video Survey by David Cain
- · Trixie: New Information, Photos, and Video by Scott Cain
- · IJA Tricks of the Month video from USA
- IJA Tricks of the Month video from Mexico
- IJA Tricks of the Month video from International
- · IJA Tricks of the Month video from the Flow community
- Twice/month Juggler's Scoop current events articles by Nathan Wakefield
- · "Drop Everything" Podcast with Avner The Eccentric by Dan Holzman
- "Drop Everything" Podcast with David Aiken by Dan Holzman
- · "Drop Everything" Podcast with Scott Meltzer by Dan Holzman
- · The IJA Challenge (with prizes) by Richard Kohut
- · "Be Funnier with Scotty Meltzer" (Members Only)

## Juggglow – Intelligent juggling balls - A Crowdfunding Project, by Manuel Mitasch

The research group "Embedded Systems" of the University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria was approached by Jonglissimo to build a high tech juggling ball. The result of their work is a smart ball called Juggglow that can be connected to a smartphone (Android and iOS), change LED color, count catches and drops, and measure throw height. Additionally, an app offers fun juggling games, challenges and tutorials that are made possible through the technology built into the ball.

A low energy Bluetooth chip is used for the communication. Therefore, the balls can be used with smartphones and tablets. For detecting catch and drop impulses, flying time, and height, an acceleration sensor is used. A microUSB port can be used for charging. The battery life depends very much on the features used. Normally, the ball works for 6 hours with constant light.

A lot of research went into designing the circuit board in a robust way and creating a shell that protects the circuit board for longevity. The balls can also be used without a smartphone. By tapping on the balls, it is possible to step through predefined color sequences.

One good news for all juggling and IT nerds: The engineering team decided to make their API publicly available. This means you can build your own ideas and apps using the functionality of the ball. It will be interesting to see what kind of apps will be made, maybe some siteswap analyzer, juggling to sound apps, or a new creative way to teach juggling. You can now support Juggglow through a crowd funding campaign and get one of the first smart juggling balls. By supporting the campaign you will help the project to finance the initial costs for mass production. This will hopefully ensure that the project will bring the joy of juggling to more people around the world.

Crowdfunding campaign: <u>https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/</u> juggglow-the-next-level-of-juggling Website: http://www.juggglow.com/

Video: http://youtu.be/486\_SKhgwuA



## **Juggling Festivals**

For a list of even more festivals, check the worldwide juggling event listings on our website at: www.juggle.org/events.

MONDO XXVI Juggling and Unicycle Festival January 30 - February 1, 2015 St.Paul, MN www.mondofest.org/festival

37th Annual Groundhog Day Jugglers Festival February 6 - 8, 2015 Atlanta, GA www.atlantajugglers.org/festivals/gh15.htm

JuggleMIT February 7 - 8, 2015 Cambridge, MA web.mit.edu/juggle/www/juggleMIT.html

Belfast Juggling Convention February 13 - 15, 2015 Belfast, Northern Ireland <u>facebook</u>

Austin Juggling Festival February 20 - 22, 2015 Austin, TX juggling.place.org/jugglefest

23rd New Zealand Juggling Festival 2015 February 26 - March 1, 2015 Clareville, New Zealand www.nzja.org.nz

Pocono Juggle/Circus Arts Fest March 6 - 8, 2015 Lehighton, PA poconojugglecircusartsfest.WebStarts.com

Winter Juggling Convention 2015 March 13 - 15, 2015 Heerlen, Netherlands website

Dublin Juggling Festival March 20 - 22, 2015 Dublin, Ireland <u>facebook</u>

British Juggling Convention 2015 March 27 - April 2, 2015 Barnsley, S Yorkshire, UK www.bjc2015.co.uk

Dutch Juggling Convention May 14 - 17, 2015 Oudenbosch, Netherlands <u>www.njf2015.nl</u> Nordic Juggling Convention 2015 May 22 - 25, 2015 Copenghagen, Denmark www.facebook.com/events/656110361124145

Flatland Juggling Festival June 5 - 7, 2015 Lincoln, NE www.underthecouch.com/flatland

World Juggling Day 2015 June 20, 2015 Everywhere www.juggle.org/wjd

Second Russian Juggling Convention St. Petersburg, Russia June 21 - 27, 2015 rujc.ru

JuggLINCOLNvention 2015 July 3 - 6, 2015 Lincolnshire, UK www.jugglincolnvention.co.uk

Eugene Juggling Convention July 17 - 19, 2015 Eugene, OR www.facebook.com/events/1452436025015727

68th Annual IJA Juggling Festival 2015 July 20 - 26, 2015 Quebec City, Quebec, Canada www.juggle.org/ija/festival

38th European Juggling Convention August 1 - 9, 2015 Bruneck, South Tyrol, Italy www.ejc2015.org

Philly Fest 2015 October 3 - 4, 2015 Philadelphia, PA www.phillyjugglers.com

#### 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 <u>enews@juggle.org</u>. 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.