



2025 Conjuring for a Cure

Remember in the last issue of the Quarterly Shakedown I said we were changing the format of the upcoming Conjuring? I said more magic and no expo, right? I then proceeded to create a five-act magic show with the help of some amazing talent. Apparently, the board had a different idea and decided we would have more magic but keep the expo. Sure, it's much more work but the board assured me they will support me... in spirit. They told me they have total faith in my ability to plan an expo and expanded magic show, and if I need any additional help, I should just remember to keep my staffing budget in check. I don't have a staffing budget. If you would like to volunteer at the 2025 Conjuring for a Cure benefiting the Michael J. Fox Foundation, please reach out to me through the contact page on our website: SlowMotionMagic.org.

This year we will have a strolling magician, Glenn Crites, as well as games, including Plinko (donated by Costco), a Cornhole-style game and more. Prizes will include SMM playing cards, t-shirts, buttons, raffle tickets and more. What are the "and more's" going to include? Well, if I knew that I wouldn't have said "and more"... I still have two months, cut me some slack. Remember I said no staffing budget?

I would like to give a shout out to Jason Rabotnick, Cheryl Thatt-Burbank, and Kevin Bubank for their amazing efforts in bringing in

membership to Gold's Gym, valued at \$600, jewelry from Kendra Scott Jewelers and, of course, magic from the Magic Apple Studio City.

The expo will run from 2 pm to 3 pm with the stage show starting promptly at 3 pm. The raffle will immediately follow the stage performance. Raffle tickets are available online. Order them with your tickets and they will be waiting for you when you check in. Discounted general admission tickets are available now through the month of September at Conjuring for a Cure [tickets](#). Order early and save \$5 per ticket.

For sponsorships starting as low as \$250, reach out to David Directly 818-201-4941.

How's David Doing?

For those of you who are interested, David is doing great! His second surgery was on June 5th, and he recovered well. No complications reported and one more scar to add to the war-wounds list.

David's Book has been released titled Conjuring for a Cure: A Story of Parkinson's, Magic, and Deep Brain Stimulation. Copies are available on [Amazon](#) and [Barnes & Noble](#).

Kevin's Korner

Our VP has lots of opinions, so we invited him to share them here, in the Quarterly Shakedown, I know it doesn't have anything to do with Parkinson's but there is more to life than PD. Let's distract ourselves from the daily

some high-value raffle prizes. You guys are awesome!

The raffle this year will be different as well. Each donated raffle prize will have its own ticket box, so you are only using your raffle tickets to try and win prizes you want. Prizes include a full-year VIP

challenges and see what words of wisdom the old timer has to share.

THE MYTH THAT IS THE INVINCIBILITY OF LED ZEPPELIN We all know The Mighty Zep burst onto the music scene in 1969 with a powerhouse blues-based sound that was visceral, sexy and addictive. As the Beatles'

brilliance began to wane, the only interesting music coming out of England was by the Who and Stones (more on the downfall of the latter in a future article). American music was mostly being dominated by the post Buffalo Springfield-Byrds monopoly, which spawned Poco, CS&N (and later CSN&Y), Neil Young, Loggins & Messina, The Eagles, Jackson Browne, Linda Ronstadt, etc.

All of these pleasantly “country rock” tinged bands were a considerable cut above pop music of the day, but there was a definite void in the power pop arena. Along come Page, Plant, Jones & Bonham to wake up and shake up the rock world. Oh, how we loved those early classics from LZ I & II, heavily influenced by Chicago & Delta blues but with a power that blasted us to the core.

They quickly ascended to Rock God status, and were being anointed as the “Greatest R&R Band of all Time.” The title seemed to fit ... until ... insert record scratch here ... “The Immigrant Song.”

Good lord, what an abomination of a track. I know what you're saying right now; “Come on Mr. Writer, LZ III is a good, not great album. In fact two of my all-time favorite songs are housed here, ‘Gallows Pole’ and ‘That’s the Way’, both lovely basically acoustic tracks.”

Let’s be honest though, the most played and commercially successful song from III was Immigrant, casting a faint but recognizable odor of doom over the band.

This leads us to LZ IV and one of the most recognizable and popular rock tunes of all time “Stairway to Heaven.” While this is a “fine”

Don’t get me wrong, the rest of the album is PHENOMENAL, but by this time it feels like the band started to fall in love with how great they were instead of being in love with making great music.

The next studio album, “Houses of the Holy” (the first non-numbered album and precursor of the ever more self-indulgent and pretentious LZ), featured the hit track “The Song Remains The Same.” No, LZ, unfortunately it doesn’t. Pretentious, droning and tooo looong for what it was.

“Dye’r Make’r”—a reggae attempt that so badly under-utilizes the musical and vocal talents of the 4 members it begs the question “Why did you record this piece of crap?” Pile on with “No Quarter,” more pretentious psychedelia that just drags on and drags me down.

This was their first album I listened to ONCE ... nuff said. It was also the last album I spent my hard-earned \$2.25/hour salary on.

By the time the next studio release, “Physical Graffiti” was released, I was skeptical at best. One of the first singles released “Trampled Under Foot” was reminiscent of “Immigrant Song” ... a mindlessly pounding beat with little regard for rhythm or melody. FEH!

By the time the supposed Zen-inspired rock anthem “Kashmir” was released with its ponderous, plodding pace, I was officially off the LZ bandwagon ... er ... uh ... zeppelin. Borrowing from the opening line of “Kashmir,” “Oh let this song beat down upon my head ...”

The point is, the band began to pump out mediocre album after mediocre album and the

Stairway to Heaven. While this is a fine song and pleasant enough, sadly Stairway suffered from a **shitload worth of overplay** . Perhaps if I'd heard the song somewhat south of the, say, 27,000 times it was played on the radio (and in my own home) I would still be able to hear it today without the involuntary spasms & wretching.

listening (and buying) public kept lapping it up as if life itself was to be gleaned from the brilliant content within.

Like most bands who stay too long or sell out or change too much from what made them beloved or successful initially, Led Zeppelin was no different. The uniqueness here is while

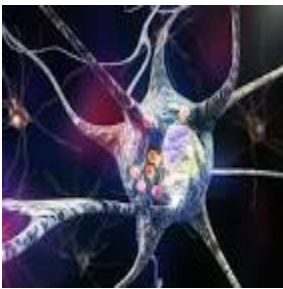
the fall was fast and far, most of the rock and roll world failed to notice.

I mean, ten zillion record buyers could be wrong, right? Or maybe it's just my opinion, which it is.

In my next entry, I'll discuss how my 2 older kids turned me on to a joyous new world of rock and roll. Or as I like to call it, the birth of the "Weird-o Band" era.

What is the new breakthrough in Parkinson's disease?

AI Overview



Recent advancements in Parkinson's treatment include a new adaptive deep brain stimulation (aDBS) device that adjusts electrical signals in real-time, approved by the FDA in February 2025. Other breakthroughs include [stem cell therapies](#) showing promise in early trials for replacing lost dopamine-producing neurons, a new [liquid levodopa delivery system](#) for better symptom management, and a significant discovery about a protein called [PINK1](#) that helps researchers understand how to stop the disease at a cellular level. Additionally, new [nanocarrier technology](#) is being developed to deliver drugs directly to the brain.

Adaptive Deep Brain Stimulation (aDBS)

- **What it is:**

Helps reduce tremors, stiffness, and medication burden in real-time, making symptoms more manageable.

- **Status:**

Approved by the FDA in early 2025, with FDA-approved algorithms running on a Medtronic device.

Son of a bitch! As soon as I get DBS, they come out with a new adaptive Deep Brain Stimulator. That's just like when I read the book Feeling Good by Dt. David Burns. It was a life changer for me, switching up my whole way of thinking. Then the bastard came out with Feeling Great. How am I supposed to just feel good when I can feel great? I bought it, but he better not come out with Feeling Fabulous.

Support Parkinson's Disease awareness .
www.SLowMotionMagic.org or call 818 201-4941ss



An FDA-approved therapy that involves implanting electrodes in the brain to monitor activity and deliver calibrated electrical pulses to prevent symptoms from emerging.

- **Benefits:**