



Published by Slow-Motion Magic V6N1

Conjuring for a Cure 2026

OK, so I know what you're thinking. The newsletter is not due till January so why is it coming in December? That's a good question. You see the board, you remember the board, right? The board decided we should change the months of the newsletter to better accommodate the events during the year. Let me go on record saying, for once I agree with the board. Usually, the board's decisions involve extra work for me, but this makes perfect sense, so you're getting this newsletter early and they will be published in three-month intervals from this point forward. If for some reason you find this distressing, feel free to save the newsletter and just read it next month. My feelings won't be hurt.

We're already hard at work planning the 7th annual Conjuring which will be on October 11th of 2026. The biggest change for this coming year will be the venue. We will be performing the Conjuring at the College of the Canyons University Center in Valencia. It's a beautiful facility and more importantly, it's an indoor facility. In past years we've had issues being able to put out educational literature as well as issues with the microphones all due to the wind. Apparently, producing a magic show outside in October has had the Santa Ana winds plaguing our event.

As a bonus, we won't have to be the ones picking up chairs and setting them up. Frankly, we decided that we're getting too old for this particular task and we're grateful to have it being set up for us. There is plenty of parking and we're hoping to have a food truck at the event this coming year. We'll keep you posted as we progress.

SO, How's David Doing?

Can you believe it's been six months since my last brain surgery? I guess time flies when you're having fun. I find myself having to turn up the DBS (deep brain stimulator) more frequently, but fortunately, I have that ability and I'm able to keep my symptoms in check. I haven't been able to reduce my medication as I'd hoped, but the medication in combination with the DBS is serving me well. I'm definitely grateful to have had the procedure.



I am excited to report that I received my first royalty check from my book sales. I don't wanna brag, but it was like \$12.00. Not too shabby for my first 90 days' worth of sales. I expect to be independently wealthy by the end of 2026.

I've gotten involved in patient advocacy with Boston Scientific and I've had the opportunity to speak with patients who are potential DBS recipients. I have a unique perspective that surgeons don't have as someone who's living with a DBS unit. I find it quite rewarding to be able to share my experience, and hopefully set some minds at ease.

The year-end appeal

I'm sure you saw this coming a mile away, my year-end appeal. This is the other reason why the board decided to switch the months of the newsletter, so we have a December newsletter and thus, the December appeal.

Before I've said too much, I wanna say that I know we are all inundated with appeals this time of year. My mailbox and e-mail overflows with them just like yours, all from very worthy charities and from very worthy causes. So, if you happen to have a few extra dollars to support Parkinson's Disease awareness, we



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would love to be on the receiving end of that. If you're like most of us and you've exhausted your charitable budget, we totally respect that. Skip this and move on to Kevin's corner for his rants and musings.

If you're still here, great. As always, we feel that awareness fuels research and research will find the cure. At Slow-Motion Magic, we're working to raise awareness year-round with newsletters, performances and appearances.

With that said, this all comes with a price tag. Like most charities, we survive completely on charitable donations and since you didn't skip this and move on to the next article, we're going to humbly ask for your help. Your donations make all the difference.

One of our goals this year is to improve our audio/video quality and replace our ancient camcorder with a more modern camera. There has not been a Conjuring yet where we were able to capture the entire performance without one issue or another due to our camera quality. Each year we hope to get a quality video of the Conjuring in order to sell it to people who were unable to attend, and each year we were unable to achieve that goal.

As we move forward, we will be shifting our focus from YouTube to TikTok in order to reach the younger, more diverse audience. Educating the public is key to raising awareness and we feel this shift will allow us to do that better. Of course, we won't be abandoning YouTube entirely for those of you who enjoy our videos on that platform. Let's just say, capturing live content from performances is essential to meet this goal, so from this end-of-year appeal, we're hoping to raise \$5000 earmarked towards audio/visual equipment.

To Donate, visit www.SlowMotonMagic.org

Kevin's Korner

Hello Friends.

My latest can't sleep music musing drifted me towards a new (interesting?) rock category "Best British Invasion songs not by The Beatles or Stones". The



criteria were obviously songs released by British bands, ostensibly those that were influenced by, copied or were perceived as Beatles wannabes as record companies tripped all over themselves trying to sign the next Fab Four. Therefore, all the songs selected were released between 1964-1967, the heyday of the B. I.

My list consists of 17 songs, all big hits in the U.S. and U.K. starting with number 17 and counting down to NUMBER 1!!! Ya know, building suspense and all. Artist and year released included. **DISCLAIMER:** This list is solely based on my opinion. There were several bands with multiple selections, so I tried to pick their very best. Your opinions may vary. Here goes;

17. You Really Got Me (1964) The Kinks - Their first hit in the U.S. I have to admit it's somewhat tainted by the awful Van Halen cover.

16. Over Under Sideways Down (66) Yardbirds - Cool, jangly sitar sounding guitar riffs by Jeff Beck.

15. Please Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood (65) The Animals

14. I'm Into Something Good (64) Herman's Hermits - Peter Noone's voice is annoying and most of their hits were goofy, but this is a fun pop song, reminds me of Hansen's mmmmbop.

13. My Generation (65) The Who - Some will probably want this early Punk Anthem icon ranked higher, but I only added because of its iconicness (is that a word?)

12. So Tired (65) the Kinks

11. Ferry Cross the Mersey (64) Gerry & The Pacemakers - One of the few one hit wonders on this list (see also #8).

10. For Your Love (65) Yardbirds - Cool bongo usage.



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9. The Kids Are Alright (65) The Who
 8. Needles and Pins (64) The Searchers - When I saw this performed "live" on Ed Sullivan I thought "Dang, these guys are just as good as the Beatles!". Bonus points if you can name their one other hit**
 7. Bits & Pieces (64) Dave Clark 5 - Now these guys were legit competition for the Fab Four. Great look, good mix of blues, soul & pop. Never quite got back to that level after initial buzz.
 6. Heart Full of Soul (65) Yardbirds - Eric Clapton hated this breakthrough hit so much he quit the band...not bluesy enough.
- Here we go, the Top 5...
5. House of the Rising Son (64) The Animals - This reworking of an Appalachian based folk song from the 1930s put this band on the map. Sort of a poor man's Stones but with a better lead singer.
 4. We Gotta Get Out of This Place (65) The Animals - A more traditional rock song. Starts slow then explodes showing Eric Burdens incredible vocal range.
 3. Waterloo Sunset (67) Kinks - Keeps up the band's tradition of lampooning British society.
 2. Substitute (66) The Who - More teen rebellion from the Godfathers of Punk.
- And here it is...drum roll please...
1. Glad All Over (64) Dave Clark 5 - THIS SONG KICKS ASS and holds up really well even today. Check out the down and dirty saxophone track. Reminiscent of the Beatles Please, Please Me but a wee bit grittier. Still not sure why these guys weren't bigger stars but at the beginning of the B.I. they were right there with the Fab Four.

Hmm we seem to have a bunch of empty space in this newsletter. What should we fill it with? I know, pics from my photo shoot at Boston Scientific should do nicely.

