

An African-American Newsletter

August 1, 2006



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Romantic, sensual, soothing, and captivating are the words that the musical talents or recording artists BLUE MAGIC.

In June of 1973, The now world-famous group was formed BLUE MAGIC reached GOLD status and produced the groups first million selling hit single, "SIDE SHOW". The gratifying success of musical tribute led to BLUE MAGIC recording a total of eight albums to date.

The five members of the group are: Richard Pratt, bass baritone; Keith Beaton, second tenor; Wendell Sawyer, baritone and lead vocalist; Ted Mills, Lead vocalist and Vernon Sawyer, second tenor. Richard Pratt left the group around 1980 and Ted Mills left the group around 1989.

The group was formed in 1972 by two shoe salesmen, Allen Rubin and Steve Burnstein. Blue Magic's first office was over a shoe store and after the success of their first album which included "Side Show"

and "Spell", they moved to 13th & Vine Street in North Philadelphia where BLUE MAGIC grew up, 13th & Vine Became 13 Blue Magic Lane.

In November of 1974, BLUE MAGIC signed their first booking contract. The booking agency was Queen Booking Agency located in New York city. In 1975 they had their first world tour which lasted sixteen weeks. The tour included forty-eight states in the US, five countries in Europe, and ten days in the Philippines. They have performed for audiences in London, Copenhagen, Switzerland, Germany, NASSAU, St. Thomas, Bermuda, Montego Bay, Antigua, and Jamaica West Indies. BLUE MAGIC concluded their tour with a fourteen-day engagement in the Virgin Islands and they did a two week tour in Japan.

In April of 1975 BLUE MAGIC was chosen as the best new group of the year which earned them an Ebony Award.

BLUE MAGIC is not only known for their exquisite vocal harmonies but also for their masterful, storytelling choreography. Their choreography is a lesson in dancing imagery. With every movement a new and exciting chapter unfolds. Words, music and movement become as one as a totally captivating vignette unfolding in for the your eyes.

BLUE MAGIC have had change of personnel in the lead singer position. first replacing Ted Mill was Rod Wayne, later Martinez Little and now still performing with Blue Magic Wade Elliot.

BLUE MAGIC give all the credit and success to the one who created them; GOD.

Lastly BLUE MAGIC would like to thank all the fans who contributed to their success throughout the years.



Mae C. Jemison the first Black female to travel in space



Mae C. Jemison was born October 17, 1956 in Decatur, Alabama, but considers Chicago, Illinois, to be her hometown. Recreational interests include traveling, graphic arts, photography, sewing, skiing, collecting African Art, languages (Russian, Swahili, Japanese), weight training, has an extensive dance and exercise background and is an avid reader. Her parents, Charlie & Dorothy Jemison, reside in Chicago. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Stanford University in 1977. She got a Doctor of Medi-

cine degree from Cornell University in 1981. She worked for the Peace Corps in West Africa as a staff doctor.

Dr. Jemison became an astronaut in August 1988. She was a mission specialist. She was the fifth black astronaut and the first black female astronaut in NASA History. Dr. Jemison worked at NASA's Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. In 1992 she became the first black female in space. She resigned from NASA in 1993 and is the Director of the Jemison Institute for Advancing Technology in Developing Countries at Dartmouth College in Hanover New Hampshire.



<http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/jemison-mc.html>

Marijuana abuse

From 1993 to 2003, the number of people seeking treatment for marijuana addiction more than doubled at substance abuse centers.

In 2004, the number of Americans using marijuana at least once a month was 14.6 million. The figures were compiled by the University of Maryland's Center for Substance Abuse Research.

The rate of addiction among marijuana users is slightly lower than for imbibers of alcohol. But among people who use marijuana daily, the rate of addiction is significantly higher than among daily drinkers. Addiction is diagnosed when a person has three of seven indicators such as failure to control usage, preoccupation with the drug, and inability to quit without withdrawal symptoms.

Withdrawal symptoms

include irritability, anger, nervousness, sleep difficulties, change in appetite, and physical discomfort. Staying clean is as hard as it is for heroin addicts.

To find a no-cost, outpatient treatment program, visit:

www.drug-rehabs.org
There are many treatment options.



America's Night Out Against Crime

The "23rd Annual National Night Out" is a unique crime and drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. It is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1, 2006. We cordially invite you to be a part of it all.

Last year's National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, and local officials from

over 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for anticrime programs, strengthen a neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to

criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, cities, towns, and neighborhoods celebrate NNO with a variety of events and activities such as block parties, cookouts, parades, contests, and youth programs.

National Night Out



Cool guys bike to work

Commuting to work by bike is gaining in appeal. On top of its health benefits, it carries a certain degree of admiration among fellow workers. Both men and women say skimming by a bunch of cars stalled in traffic is fun and saves time.

Buses and trains are allowing bikes to come on board in cities including Albuquerque, Washington, D.C., and Boulder, Colo. In Chicago, bike commuters can ride a mile or two to Union Station, board a train to the suburbs with their bikes, then ride a couple of miles more to get home.

For better bicycling, breathe right.

Bicyclists put a great deal of emphasis on what they eat and drink before riding. But they think breathing comes naturally, and there's little you can do about it. Cycling expert Richard Ries says that's not true.

Good breathing can make a big difference in your performance. Even recreational riders ride faster, farther, and more comfortably by breathing well. Here's how to practice breathing right:

* Push out the abdomen first while inhaling, then in the same breath let your chest rise.

* Forceful exhaling evacuates waste products from the lungs more completely. Think of blowing out a match held at arm's length while keeping your mouth wide open. Or purse your lips and force the breath out of your lungs.

* Practice rhythmic breathing by coordinating with pedal movement.

Ride in the morning when pollution levels are low or in rural areas with little traffic.

More information: *Bicycling Science* by Whitt and Wilson, MIT Press.



What's Going On August 2006?



August is National



A fair is an exhibition. It is an exposition. It is an extravaganza of fun and food. In 2006, fun and food will probably win you over. Fairs are serious affairs for agriculture and livestock businesses, but for most fair goers, entertainment is the big draw.

You can spend part of a day viewing exhibits, which can especially be fun if you walk

about with cotton candy and a balloon. You might marvel at huge pieces of farm equipment that look like they may come from another planet.

Both kids and adults are entertained by the music, the games, and the midway. And for those willing to pay the price, big-name entertainers can be seen in the grandstand.

Hundreds of years ago, fairs were places for buyers and sellers. Business still goes on at the fair, but the name of the game now is more likely to be "fun!"



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**BLACK HISTORY**

Marcus Garvey

(August 17, 1887-June 10, 1940)

A National Hero of Jamaica

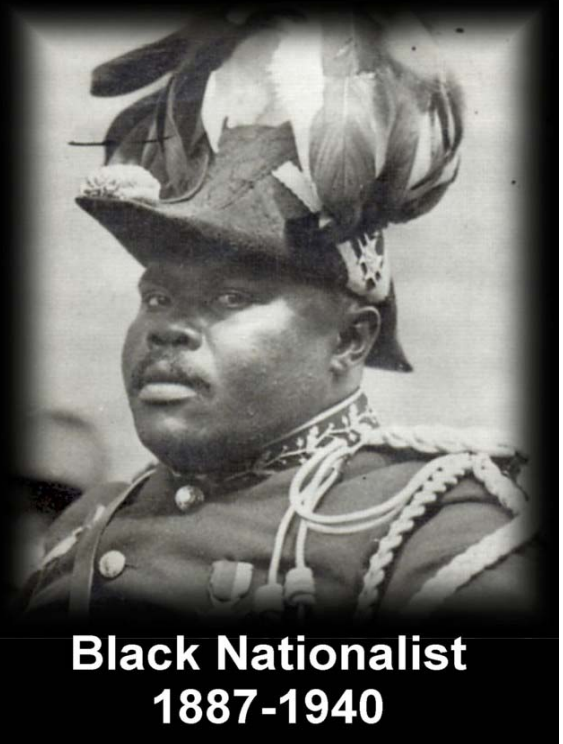
He was a black leader who started a "Back-to-Africa" movement in the United States.

Garvey believed that blacks would never receive justice in countries where most of the people were white. He preached that blacks should consider Africa their homeland and that they should settle there.



<http://www.swagga.com/marcus.htm>

Marcus Garvey



Is it just junk or can it be recycled?

After cleaning the garage, redoing the basement, and going through the house reducing clutter, a question arises. How to dispose of the discards?

Actually your options are many. Such as:

Eyeglasses: The Lions Club has been recycling eyeglasses for approximately 80 years.

Clothing: Unwanted apparel can be donated to a charity such as Goodwill or sold to a consignment shop.

Blankets, towels, and bedding: These can be donated to your local animal shelter for use as bedding.

Oil: Quick-lube shops such as Jiffy Lube and auto stores such as Pep-Boys will take used oil.

Cans, glass containers, and plastics: Many areas have recycling centers where such materials

can be dropped off. Call for specific information as different areas accept different items.

Household toxins: Almost all areas have toxics drop off or Tox-Away days. Check with your local waste management company.

Antiques, dishes, and other general items: Consider a garage sale. Make some money and find your old favorites a new home.

Computers: Some schools and charities accept computers. Check out other options at www.UsedComputer.com.

Cars: Various organizations including Goodwill will accept your car. Some raffle them off for charity. Earth Share through Car Program LLC accepts cars, trucks, trailers, boats, and RV's.

Books: Your old friends can be donated to a library for their book sale or given to an assisted living facility that might need books for their library.

Aluminum cans and other scrap metals: These are "hot" items and can be sold to scrapyards. A recycle center would be pleased to get them.

Computer printer and copier ink cartridges: Many business supply stores, including Staples, accept them.

Mobile phones, pagers, and PDAs: These can be recycled through Collective Good who will make a donation to your favorite charity. Check at www.collectivegood.com.

For more information on recycling of various products look at web site

