



Here is the conversation we had with former Imagineer, McNair Wilson, Monday September 1st. McNair has been kind enough to offer to return to Monday Night Chat in the future. What a delightful and talented man. For those of you who weren't able to attend....here's what you missed:

Ellory -> Main Room: Mr Wilson, I presume...

mcnair -> Main Room: DYes, but don't be presumptuous from here on out.

Itldeb -> Main Room

Ellory -> Main Room: McNair...meet Deb...one of our other Admins here

Itldeb -> Main Room: Hi McNair.

Itldeb -> Main Room: Nice to meet you.

mcnair -> Main Room: Hi, Deb...it that like HiDef?

Itldeb -> Main Room: Ellory, I'm here as long as David doesn't need me hun.

Ellory -> Main Room: gotcha...David is dealing with a really bad back...

Ellory -> Main Room: McNair..are you tuned into the audio?

Itldeb -> Main Room: he'd be here if he could sit at the computer.

Ellory -> Main Room: heh

mcnair -> Main Room: No. How do I do that?

Ellory -> Main Room: I hope he feels better

Ellory -> Main Room: go to the menu on the left...

Itldeb -> Main Room: David says Thanks!

Ellory -> Main Room: click on Tune in Now

[Disconnect] mcnair

Itldeb -> Main Room: he logged himself out

Ellory -> Main Room: he's tuning in...

mcnair -> Main Room

Itldeb -> Main Room: I'll be right back....med time

Ellory -> Main Room: did you find it?

mcnair -> Main Room: I clicked TUNE IN NOW and got some parg BGM

Ellory -> Main Room: it should tak you to a page to click on a sound device, like Quick-time or iTunes...

Ellory -> Main Room: if you want to try it in a different window...it might help

mcnair -> Main Room: I clicked on Q-time and I'm hearing a medley of banjo, now up beat singing

Ellory -> Main Room: yup...that's us!

Ellory -> Main Room: all the music and sounds of the parks

Ellory -> Main Room: if you have any requests, let me know..I have access to the library

mcnair -> Main Room: Now I'm on my feet singing and being a Kid of the Kingdom (with stiff arm movements and

fake smile)

Ellory -> Main Room: heh....

Ellory -> Main Room: you're going to fit in, just fine here

[Join Room] theEpiphany -> Main Room

theEpiphany -> Main Room: Hello Hello....

Ellory -> Main Room: Damien, say Hi to McNair

theEpiphany -> Main Room: Hello McNair...

Ellory -> Main Room: McNair...Damien

Ellory -> Main Room: another former Disney employee

mcnair -> Main Room: I feel like Jimmy Dodd and today is Talent Round-Up

theEpiphany -> Main Room: nice... 😊

Ellory -> Main Room: HA!

Ellory -> Main Room: we'll possibly have a bit of a late start, with this being Labor Day and all

theEpiphany -> Main Room: Man it's slow today because of Labor Day BBQs etc...

mcnair -> Main Room: Which one is the former Disnoid and where did you work?

theEpiphany -> Main Room: heh exactly..

theEpiphany -> Main Room: Feature Animation

Ellory -> Main Room: I know of several folks who will be here, but a tad late

mcnair -> Main Room: And your were at Animation form when to when?

theEpiphany -> Main Room: Jan 2006 to May 2007. Pixar took a nice chunk out o fthe Animation Studios

mcnair -> Main Room: Got it. I live about 10 min. down the road from Pix-ville

theEpiphany -> Main Room: I also took some time off when I moved to California and worked at Disneyland for a year hoping to hit the ground running...but alas that wasn't the case.

theEpiphany -> Main Room: What was your Tenure McNair...??

Ellory -> Main Room: McNair...love the photo of the Tea Prty on your site!

mcnair -> Main Room: I started as Gypetto, in the old Disneyland Christmas Character Parade while I was in high school. I operated a 38" marrionette of "Pinoccke" w/ 18 strings—average string puppet has SEVEN or EIGHT. I did threese Christamses '68-70..... Than My street theatre compnay—SAK Theatre was given a 3 mon. contract to open Italy at Epcot....we expanded to UK, then three projects in "Purple World" (Future World). SAK remained at EPCOT for EIGHT years and produced 42 THOUSAND shows (A real number)..

Ellory -> Main Room: wow...

theEpiphany -> Main Room: holy crap....that's impressive and then some

mcnair -> Main Room: In 1985 I was invited to a meeeting with Imagineers (at WDW), that lead to a year of consulting in LA (at WDI HQ in Glendale). I was offered a full-time job and moved there and stayed at Imagineering until early 1991.

theEpiphany -> Main Room: what was your reason for leaving??

mcnair -> Main Room: I had started teaching my method of brainstorming through Disney Univ. to execs in all Disney divisions. THat lead to me speaking for Disney at corporate events all over the country...

mcnair -> Main Room: When the economy slowed down in the early 90's (for about a minute and a half) I was doing very little actual Imagineering—having been promoted to Director and starting my own dicvision"Live Show Development" to look at the use of LIVE actors in attraction

Ellory -> Main Room: shows and/or attractions, like...?

mcnair -> Main Room: I was broguth on at the very beginning of Plaesure Island & Disney MGM. I did all the live concept, scripting (co-authored), and over saw hiring and training for elements of live performance in Comedy Warehouse, Adventurers Club...

mcnair -> Main Room: Also the Studios 5 major attractions at opening

Ellory -> Main Room: well we have a number of serious AC fans here

theEpiphany -> Main Room: Unfortunately it's last day is the day of my wedding

theEpiphany -> Main Room: and we'll be out East the next day.....dammit..

mcnair -> Main Room: Great movie ride, SuperStar Theatre, Indianan Jones (That show was my idea after we developed three others first) I also INVENTED "Streetmosphere"—the concept and the word.

Itldeb -> Main Room: I'm back

Ellory -> Main Room: amazing. I know you were also involved in a couple of rehabs as well, weren't you?

mcnair -> Main Room: I am on a campaign to relocat AC as a free-standing nightclub & restaurant at Animal Kingdom Lodge!!!!

Ellory -> Main Room: YES!!

Itldeb -> Main Room: that would be awesome~

Ellory -> Main Room: you got our vote


theEpiphany -> Main Room: And this is why I hate being in Technology. With things such as this your creating a final product that you can stand back and say "you worked on it".

theEpiphany -> Main Room: yeah truly....


theEpiphany -> Main Room: which is why I loved working in Animation...

theEpiphany -> Main Room: at least when I geek it up and code stuff for UAB I can see people getting use out of it...

mcnair -> Main Room: I was involved in early redux of Epcots World of Motion and what the %&#\$ to do with the two funny half-moon-shaped buildings in Future World

theEpiphany -> Main Room: 2 funny halfmoon shaped buildings....Hmmmmmmmmmmm 

mcnair -> Main Room: Also was on early concept for site plan of France and did the Interior Theme work for the Main Gate Disnyland hotle at Paris DLP.

theEpiphany -> Main Room: I want to thank you for making me feel unaccomplished 

mcnair -> Main Room: Also consulted with each area of the Magic Kingdom (DLP) to created small stages throughout the park that were "hidden" so when there was no blue grass gropu it just looked like and old buckboard and some rocks that were flat ontop.

mcnair -> Main Room: I also kept asking why the main performance stage in front of the castle has to be situated such that whenever there's a show there (and usually a silly one) the castle has to close down and pedestrian traffic becomes a nightmare

mcnair -> Main Room: One day I was looking at the DLP model and asked, What if you had a big stage on the side (still with the caslte as a back drop) but keeping the castle entrance open?

mcnair -> Main Room: That's what "we" did-----oooo, there palyng my song, "A Guy Like You."

Ellory -> Main Room: or..really Grande..and have it raise out of the water, like Cirque Du Soliel

Ellory -> Main Room: keep it in the mote until needed...

Ellory -> Main Room: not exactly cost effective..but cool non the less

Ellory -> Main Room: heh


Itldeb -> Main Room: makes sense too

Ellory -> Main Room: how did "Tea with Mcnair" come about?


Ellory -> Main Room: Great site, by the way...love the articles and photos

[Disconnect] mcnair

Ellory -> Main Room: oops...

Itldeb -> Main Room: did we scare him away? 

Ellory -> Main Room: heh

Itldeb -> Main Room: I saw that Taylor registered on the site. 

[Login] mcnair

[Join Room] mcnair -> Main Room

Ellory -> Main Room: ya...I registered her

Itldeb -> Main Room: welcome back

Itldeb -> Main Room: nice!

mcnair -> Main Room: DIId anything get throguh? It all stopped on my end

2Ellory -> Main Room: you logged out, accidentally

Ellory -> Main Room: after your "Guy Like You" comment

mcnair -> Main Room: ooops....where were we?

Ellory -> Main Room: talking about the castle stage...but I'd like to know about the Tea with McNair site

Ellory -> Main Room: great articles and photos

Ellory -> Main Room: I really want to read Gordons Book, now

Ellory -> Main Room: teawithmcnair.typepad.com

mcnair -> Main Room: I did an email newsletter for years (1996 onward) and then heard about "BLOGS") "I think I had that when I was seven" I told a friend. I looked into it and...

mcnair -> Main Room: "Tea With McNair" was born as a place to, on a regular basis, write about being more ACTIVELY creative. (I do not subscribe to the LIE that there are creative and NON-creative people....

mcnair -> Main Room: TEA BLOG is where I push, poke, encourage, suggest, remind, point out (movie, stage, and book reviews) to any and all who are interested!

Ellory -> Main Room: I love the Tea Party Photo...

Ellory -> Main Room: all your photo associated with the various articles are very...um...creative

Ellory -> Main Room: interesting reading

Ellory -> Main Room: you speak to groups as well, yes?

mcnair -> Main Room: I made two trips to Huntintgon University (Huntinton, IN) as a Guest Director. Alice in Wonderland was my second show there.

Ellory -> Main Room: ahhhh

Itldeb -> Main Room: nice!

mcnair -> Main Room: I do keynotes, workshops, in-house consulting to every imaginable professional group from Johns-Hopkins Applied Physics LAB to the Salvation Army.

Itldeb -> Main Room: very interesting

Ellory -> Main Room: that's quite a range... 😊

Ellory -> Main Room: getting back to the Disney Experience...what did you do that you are the most proud?

mcnair -> Main Room: @ "APL" it was so TOP SECRET that I had to leave my cell phone (it had a camera) at the front desk and I had to have an escort any time I went to the mans room!

Ellory -> Main Room: HA!...wow

Ellory -> Main Room: rubber glove treatment, eh?

Itldeb -> Main Room: did they search you on the way out?

Itldeb -> Main Room: 😊

mcnair -> Main Room: Disney: I was delighted to be at the FIRST concept meeting to answer Michael's (Eisner) request to "build a small studio in Florida" and we came up with an answer to question he did not ask: DISNEY-MGM STUDIOS

mcnair -> Main Room: I am most proud of introducing live, interactive, performance to ALL Disney parks as a result of SAK Theatre at EPCOT. I am very proud of "Streetmosphere" (the word & the concept) and I LVOE Adventurers' Club!

Itldeb -> Main Room: I tell you David and I are not renewing our WDW AP this year because of the demise of AC

mcnair -> Main Room: DIsney is (or was when I was there) the most sensitive (responsive) to guest comments) if WE all wrote to Mr Weis at WDW and suggest relocating AC to Animal Kkngdom Lodge, the critical mass of our emails and letters might get through.

Ellory -> Main Room: hmmm...sounds like a UAB Campaign in the making

mcnair -> Main Room: They just need to know how much we like it and how its NOT being there will reduce our patronage.

Itldeb -> Main Room: I know David wrote an email to them....got a canned response.

mcnair -> Main Room: There are more than a few primetime network shows that were saved, brought back from cancelation, by write-in campaigns of fans.

mcnair -> Main Room: One positive letter —unsolicited—about a Disney resort experience represents 250 people. That's disney math. A few hundred of us writing in could be quite effective. We can notify the other numerous fan sites as well.

Ellory -> Main Room: I'm sure we could organize a good showing from our little group here

Ellory -> Main Room: we currently have over 2200 members....

mcnair -> Main Room: Onward & Upward. "Kongaloosh!"

Itldeb -> Main Room: and a lot of them are fans!

Ellory -> Main Room: I was there for my first...and could be..last time last October. I got pinned and everything...really enjoyed the whole concept

mcnair -> Main Room: AL Wies president of WDW is an old freind, I am planning a hand written note (with my idea) soon.

Itldeb -> Main Room: we went every night that week except for one. it was awesome!

Ellory -> Main Room: Deb and David have probably lost count as to their attendance

Itldeb -> Main Room: yes, we have.

Itldeb -> Main Room: we went every night when we were there in June too.

mcnair -> Main Room: AC gets a 99% guest approval rating. An im possible number when you know how they evalute at WDW.

Ellory -> Main Room: It seems like they would try like "heck" to save it...somewhere

Itldeb -> Main Room: they have such a following and it's not just locals.

mcnair -> Main Room: I've heard rumors they're thinking about something. I want to give them a plan and offer my services to make it happen

Ellory -> Main Room: It would be popular wherever it went....even AK

mcnair -> Main Room: FIRST: Careful pack up all the props, furniture, pictures, masks and artifacts and save them,,,,,for now.

Itldeb -> Main Room: that they should definitely do

Itldeb -> Main Room: and hope some of the props don't get "lost"

mcnair -> Main Room: AK LOdge is the best place thematically, but I would rather they build a free-standing AC (w/ restaurant) at Downtown Disney so it is more highly accessible)

Itldeb -> Main Room: that would make sense

Ellory -> Main Room: that would be great!

Ellory -> Main Room: McNair...what all have you got coming up..aside from the letter writting campaign...(heh)

mcnair -> Main Room: Start writing NOW. Make sure to include Mr Green (head of all parks/resorts)

mcnair -> Main Room: Nothin'

Ellory -> Main Room: I find that hard to beleive

Ellory -> Main Room: working on any new plays?

mcnair -> Main Room: I have a brianstorming book finshed and looking for a publisher: "TH!NK UP, The Productivity PlayBook"

mcnair -> Main Room: It's a fun simple, highly illustrated book for business managers (at any level) to invent, design, solve, create, name, re-name....anything. And get big bonuses and be promoted!!

Ellory -> Main Room: for those reading the transcript..visit McNair at mcnairwilson.com or teawithmcnair.typepad.com

mcnair -> Main Room: You took the words right out of my fingers, thank you, friend.

Ellory -> Main Room: my pleasure...and Thank you so much for joining us this evening...

Itldeb -> Main Room: Ellory's good like that.

Itldeb -> Main Room: always get the word out.

Ellory -> Main Room: we'd love to have you back again...when it's not a Holiday weekend....

Itldeb -> Main Room: most definitely McNair.

mcnair -> Main Room: Okay, those reading and not asking. Tomorrow morning what question will you think, "I wish I'd asked McNair...." ????

Ellory -> Main Room: we seem to have more viewers than chatters tonight

Ellory -> Main Room: HA!

mcnair -> Main Room: Chat on! Love to come back...whenever you'll have me.

Itldeb -> Main Room: we'd love to have you!

Ellory -> Main Room: Thank you...you're welcome anytime....

Ellory -> Main Room: on behave of all of us at UAB...thank you...and goodnight McNair

mcnair -> Main Room: Maybe folks can submit Q's in advance by emailing me (see my sites).

Itldeb -> Main Room: yes, Thank you!!

mcnair -> Main Room: You are most welcome. I enjoyed meeting most of you.

Ellory -> Main Room: sounds like a great idea....we'll be loaded for bear next time

Ellory -> Main Room: Deb...give my best to David...hope he feels better

Ellory -> Main Room: Goodnight to all...

Ellory -> mcnair: Thanks so much Mcnair....great time

mcnair -> Main Room: Good night, Gracie.