

The Spirit Guide

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 2007

The Official Newsletter of The Spirit Seekers, Inc.

Voices from Beyond

While the results are often mysterious, EVP research can be one of the most rewarding fields a paranormal investigator can pursue.

By D.W. Koon

(Continued from September Issue)

COLLECTING EVPs IN THE FIELD

While they can share the few similarities, EVPs range all over the map in terms of content, from random and indecipherable sounds and noises, to clear voices of men, women and children that can answer questions posed to them by investigators. The American Association of Electronic Voice Phenomena ranks EVPs in one of three categories:

Class A -- The rarest of EVP types, a Class A recording features a voice speaking three or more words which can be heard and understood over a standard speaker by most people. Just because an EVP is loud doesn't make it an EVP.

Class B -- Much more common than the Class A, the Class B EVP can also be heard over a speaker, but is much less defined, with only one or two discernable words which are often distorted to the point that not everyone will agree as to what the voice is saying.

Class C -- The faintest of all EVP types, the Class C EVP is often not much more than a faint sound or a nearly unintelligible word. The Class C can only be heard with headphones and is very difficult to understand, even when "cleaned up" with audio software.

In order to rank your EVP however, you've first got to capture one. While methods differ, there are some general tips which research and experimentation has shown are useful in capturing EVPs.

GEAR UP: Though you can record EVPs on almost any recording device, try to get the best equipment that you can. While a good quality cassette tape recorder can be used, serious researchers are increasingly turning to handheld digital audio recorders. Easy to use and without the expense and hassle of tapes, even cheaper digital recorders these days offer options like standard and high-quality recording, several hours of record time, internal "folders" for categorizing recordings, and systems for interfacing with home computers. If you do choose a cassette or mini-cassette recorder (some researchers like them because of the theory that spirits can imprint their voices directly onto the magnetic tape), make sure to get one with a microphone jack and a counter.

BRING THE NOISE: EVPs can be captured simply by turning on a tape recorder, but researchers have found the success rate is much higher if the recording is done in the presence of a source of controlled background sound such as a running fan or a radio tuned between stations. Though introducing more noise into a recording might seem counterproductive when trying to capture faint voices, the current evidence shows that spirits somehow use the ambient sound to manifest a voice in much the same way an apparition draws heat from the air -- forming a "cold spot" -- to manifest in the physical world. For this reason, many EVP experimenters seek out older digital recorders with a more "noisy" internal mechanism, which can act as a source of controlled noise while the recorder is in use.

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We're on the web!

www.TheSpiritSeekers.org

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- [Got Costume? Our Halloween Party is October 27!](#)
- [Alan Presents "Haunted Arkansas" at SouthArk!](#)
- [Remember Your Annual Dues!](#)

Meet The Team



Jason Hall
Assistant Director of Investigations

- ! **I Work At:** Continental Express
- ! **Position:** Load Planner
- ! **Time in Current Position:** 3 years
- ! **Birth Place:** Lewiston Maine
- ! **First Job Ever:** Busboy
- ! **Alma Mater:** Jville high
- ! **Hobbies:** reading, writing, guitar
- ! **Marital Status/Children/Pets:** 3 geckos
- ! **Favorite Food:** Italian
- ! **Favorite Author:** Edgar Allen Poe
- ! **Last Book Read:** Night--by Elie Wiesel
- ! **Favorite Movie:** IT
- ! **Favorite Television Show:** Scrubs
- ! **Dream Vacation:** Greece
- ! **Guests At My Fantasy Dinner Party Would Be:**
Ronald Reagan, Stephen King, Richard Dreyfuss
- ! **Best Advice I Ever Received:**
What comes around goes around
- ! **Best Advice I Ever Gave Was:**
Don't pee on that wire
- ! **Though I Was Proven Wrong, I Once Said I'd Never:**
Find God
- ! **What Would Surprise People About Me:**
I cried at Ole' Yeller (last week)
- ! **Future Goal:** LIVE
- ! **My Heroes Are:**
Ronald Reagan, Fire Fighters, Soldiers, Joe Montana
- ! **The Scariest Place I Have Ever Been Was:** Booneville
- ! **My Fantasy Ghost Hunt Would Be:**
The White House
- ! **My Funniest Moment at a Ghost Hunt:** Was when I was coming down some stairs at Booneville, and Ramon peeked his face out of a window and darn near made me fall down trying to get away from him!
- ! **I Am Most Afraid Of:** Melisa!

"I am most afraid of Melisa!"

Mark Your Calendar!

October

- Radio & TV Appearances—TBA
- 13 - Spirit Seekers Monthly Meeting & Training
- 17 - Alan to present "*Haunted Arkansas*" at SouthArk Community College Noon Symposium
- 27 - *Halloween Party!*
- 31 - Deadline for *Annual Dues*
- 31—10am: Spirit Seekers *LIVE* on *Pat Lynch Radio Show*
- 31—10pm: Spirit Seekers *LIVE* on *Midnight Highway Radio*



November

- 1 - Deadline for *The Spirit Guide* Submissions
- 3 - Investigation (TBA)
- 10 - Spirit Seekers Monthly Meeting & Training

December

- 8—Spirit Seekers Monthly Meeting & Training

* Note: Closed Investigations are
By Invitation Only

For more information on Upcoming Events,
Or to add Events to the Spirit Seekers Calendar,
Email seeker@thespiritseekers.org.

Hitching Ghosts

‘Vanishing Hitchhiker’ stories span the globe, including Arkansas.

It’s a classic round-the-campfire tale: a traveler on a dark, lonely road stops to pick up a beautiful young woman. At some point in their journey, often after providing the Good Samaritan with an address, she mysteriously disappears. Checking up on the provided address, he later finds that she has died years earlier.

The so-called “Vanishing Hitchhiker” stories are known the world over—including a famous Arkansas variant—and serve as the cornerstone of a genre of folklore called “urban legends.” Told as true, often embellished with each telling, these tales almost always form around a kernel of truth, but can soon become wildly inflated.

Folklorists have found that the tale of the Vanishing Hitchhiker goes back hundreds of years. The first known version was collected in 1602, in a Swedish manuscript called “On the Signs and Wonders Preceding the Liturgic Broil,” by Joan Petre Klint. In that story, a group of farmers heading home in a wagon one late night stop to pick up a young girl. When they hand her a jug of water to drink, it is magically

transformed into beer. After predicting a good year for crops and orchards and warning of coming war and pestilence, the girl vanishes.

“She provides the driver with an address in Redfield before disappearing just outside of town.”

Since those early days, the ghostly hitchhiker has covered a lot of ground. The story has spread all over the world, including such variants as the Hawaiian tale of the goddess Pele, who promises those who stop to give her a lift good fortune before disappearing, and African stories of demons who race out of the bush and jump onto truck drivers’ running boards before dissolving in a puff of acrid smoke.

In Arkansas, our version of the Vanishing Hitchhiker is a young girl supposedly seen since the early 1950s on Highway 365 near Woodson. Dressed in white, often seen on cloudy or rainy nights in the fall, she wears a white gown, and is unnaturally pale. Once travelers give her a ride, the legend says, she provides the driver with an address in Redfield before disappearing just outside of town.

Voices (Continued from Page 1)

QUIET, PLEASE: While there is an obvious value to introducing controlled background noise to an EVP recording session, there is even more value in keeping uncontrolled background noise to a bare minimum. While attempting to collect EVPs during an investigation, try to record in a place that is isolated from unwanted sounds such as traffic noise or crowd chatter. If this is impossible, be sure to note the source of the unwanted noise by describing it at the beginning of the recording -- “Recording site is a house just off a busy highway.” If an unexpected noise occurs while you are recording -- a cough, a door slamming, someone entering the room and talking before realizing that you are recording an EVP, etc. -- make sure to make note of the source of the noise on the recording.

GET STARTED: When recording EVPs, begin each new session by noting the time, date and location of the recording, the source of any controlled background noise you might be using, and those present. Limit the number of investigators present during a recording to limit the possibility of false positives. Some find it useful to have everyone present during the recording session state their name and then say a short control phrase (e.g. -- “The quick, brown fox jumped over the lazy dog”) in a clear tone of voice. That way, if an EVP is captured, the investigators who were there during the recording can potentially be ruled out as a source.

I HAVE A QUESTION: Though some researchers are more comfortable with a predetermined list of questions to ask, others find it more productive to simply ask questions

off the top of their heads. Some researchers prefer this “cold questioning” model, believing that the spirits will act as a kind guide, steering the session by telepathically influencing the investigator’s thoughts. However you choose to do it, ask all your questions in a normal tone of voice. Avoid the urge to whisper, both while asking questions or talking to other investigators who might be present. Once you ask a question, wait several seconds before asking the next question in order to give time for a response and/or answer.

OVER AND OUT

In closing, while the Holy Grail of paranormal investigation might be capturing an undeniable, full-body apparition on video, EVPs are -- in many ways -- even more unsettling than the best of video evidence. Proof not only that something exists on another plane, but that it also wants to communicate with us, a good, clear EVP can rattle even the most seasoned investigator. While EVP recordings may not sway the most closed-minded of skeptics, they can give a paranormal researcher that kick of discovery that they need after seemingly capturing nothing on the last ghost hunt. With a keen ear and careful adherence to technique, you might soon be on the receiving end of one of these long, long, long distance calls.

For more information on EVPs, visit the website of the American Association of Electronic Voice Phenomena at www.aaevp.com.

EMF Meter

By A. Lowe

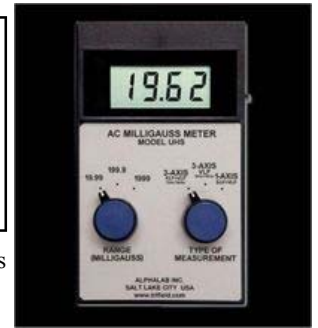
The electromagnetic field detector or EMF meter is sometimes considered the ghost hunters best friend. In the paranormal community it is used to help show that spirits are present. In the scientific community, ghosts do not exist, so they use it for other things like measuring electromagnetic radiation.

Most meters measure the electromagnetic radiation flux density, which is the amplitude of any emitted radiation. Other meters measure the change in an electromagnetic field over time.

Electromagnetic fields can be either Alternating current (AC) or Direct current (DC). An EMF meter can measure AC electromagnetic fields, which are usually emitted from man-made sources such as electrical wiring, while Gauss meters or magnetometers measure DC fields, which occur naturally in the earth's geomagnetic field and are emitted from other sources where direct current is present.

EMF meters usually measure radiation in milligauss. In absence of a moving magnetic field, an ideal meter will read 0

There are many different types of EMF detectors, but the two largest categories are single axis and tri-axis. Single axis meters are less expensive, but take longer to complete a survey because the meter only measures one dimension of the field; thus, they must be tilted and turned on all three axes to obtain a full measurement. A tri-axis meter measures all three axes simultaneously.



milligauss. Industrial EMF meters will often read 2-3 milligauss when placed in an open field devoid of emitters such as power lines (either overhead or buried).

The majority of EMF meters available are calibrated to measure electromagnetic radiation, which is alternating at 50/60Hz (the frequency of US and European mains electricity) This is because in recent years people have become concerned about the long-term health effects of exposure to high levels of radiation emitted from some electrical appliances.

This is why it is best to dine out every night, that and doing dishes is not very manly. Take your meters to the kitchen sometime and measure your appliances output on and off. You might be surprised at the levels of radiation that are being emitted. Bon appetite, Ya'll.

Ask Angela

Money, Money, Money!

I totally get that the more people start to realize that there are ghosts in this world, it just becomes another income for certain greedy people.

I have lived with ORBS all of my life. 20 to 30 years ago, except for those of us that are blessed with seeing and communicating with ghosts or spirits, you would never have heard of ghost tours or charging \$200 to \$300 a night in a haunted place. You would have been written off as crazy and hearing voices in your head, maybe a little shock treatment! HA

I have truly been blessed with a sixth sense. I have never tried to make a profit from it, as it was always a gift to help someone say goodbye. I am lucky enough to see both sides.

I just wonder though, doing things personally and privately, am I doing the right thing? With all the ORBS in my house from day to normal day I could make a fortune!

Sherry B.

Sherry -

I grew up experiencing paranormal activity, and for me it was perfectly normal. I do not perform readings for money, but do pass on messages that I receive.

"We are all spirits having a physical experience, and we should help one another on that journey in anyway we can."

Angela is a Spirit Sensitive and Co-Founder of Spirit Seekers. Questions for "Ask Angela" may be emailed to spirit@thespiritseekers.org.



I have never accepted money for that service. For me, it is a gift that I share without compensation.

For other psychics, it is how they choose to make their living. If they do it on a full-time basis, in lieu of another job, I cannot fault them for charging a fee. I think of their gift as that of an artist, or even a doctor. It is understandable that they have to pay bills and buy groceries, and so must charge for their services.

The real problem is the con-artist who makes a living by preying on people in their time of grief. I find that behavior inexcusable and terribly sad.

Spirit Seekers never charges for their services. We will investigate a location at the request of the owner, and perform a cleansing if desired. As for whether you are personally doing the right thing - I believe that anytime we help people, it's the right thing. We are all spirits having a physical experience, and we should help one another on that journey in anyway we can.

Angela

My Scariest Investigation Experience

By Jason Hall

Most of us who have jumped into this paranormal hobby have one thing in common, we believe wholeheartedly that life exists beyond our physical bodies and we are searching for answers. For me it was a search. I will readily admit that death is a scary scenario for me. Until recently, I didn't really believe in any god. That left only one option after death, nothingness. I don't know how you, the reader, feels about just one day ceasing to exist, but for me it was an unacceptable answer. Nobody wants to believe that when your body gives out that's just it, no trumpets at Heaven's gate, no purgatory, no second chances, only darkness and nothing else.

I want to know what is going to happen to *me*, not my body but the essence of what makes up Jason Hall in all his glory and shortcomings. There is a line from a song that says "... You can't tell me it all ends with a slow ride in a hearse." This sums up what I think, I refuse to believe that one day we will all just cease to be. This is why I spend hundreds of dollars a year to traipse around the State searching for proof of life after death. It is not to prove it to the skeptics or my friends, or for the ten seconds of sheer terror surrounded by four hours of boredom. I do it because I have to know. I do it because I need to know. Earlier this year I received an answer to my question and it was harder to accept than I ever thought it would be.

It was early spring, we were investigating the Tuberculosis Sanatorium in Booneville, AR. I have always looked forward to this investigation because it seems there is always something paranormal going on there. The first time I went to Booneville in 2006, I captured some good photos. I have one that actually looks like a face coming through the floor. These kinds of photos are always good to get, but I wanted real proof. A photo can always be explained away by a hundred different explanations: light, reflections, shadows etc. They can never be one hundred percent verified. I left that investigation a little disappointed that I hadn't seen anything with my own two eyes.

The investigation this spring was very different, towards the end of the night Alan was trying to make contact with the dowsing rods and contact is exactly what he made. Alan made contact with a female on the fifth floor, after some yes or no questions it was determined that this spirit wanted to take us to her room on the fourth floor. To be honest I wasn't very impressed at first, until she led us to her room. We were all

walking down the hallway on the fourth floor, Alan asked her to point out her room as we were walking. All of the sudden the rods swung to the left and pointed to room 445. Here is where I started feeling a little antsy, like something might really be happening, and I was witnessing it. We walked into the room and Alan started asking questions. It turns out she was a female patient who had died in this very room, she had brown hair and brown eyes and children (when she was alive). As I was watching this entire spiritual Q&A, I couldn't help feeling sorry for her. Why is she relegated to the place she had died, how depressing is that? Is this what happens when we die? Are we stuck in whatever place we are unfortunate enough to die?

Alan talked to her for about twenty minutes, and the entire time my mind was racing. I was truly frightened. I am not sure if I was scared of the fact that there was an actual ghost in my presence or if I was scared of being like her when I died. I just knew that these thoughts would be on my mind for some time. I wanted to leave that room and that building as fast as I could, and never go back.

This was the first time in my three years of paranormal investigating that I had witnessed something so surreal and frightening at the same time. I had just started attending a church, I was trying to feel out that route, and then this happened. These two things clashed and there was no reconciliation in my mind. It seems I was asking questions when I was not ready to receive the answers. I sent my final investigation report to Alan along with a note that I was considering giving up my position in Spirit Seekers. He told me to think about it and not to make a decision until I could talk to him or Angie.

I pondered all this for about a week. I had time to calm down and think about things rationally, without the burden of fear. I finally concluded that I had initiated this search and it would be irresponsible and cowardly not to continue to seek, just because some of the answers made me uncomfortable. These experiences have made me think, and thought for the advancement of knowledge is always a worthy cause. As you can see I am still here, I didn't quit. Because some things you just can't un-know.



A face appears to be rising from the floor in this image captured by Jason at the Booneville Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

The Spirit Seekers, Inc.

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Roland, AR 72135

[Email: spirit@thespiritseekers.org](mailto:spirit@thespiritseekers.org)

*Where The Here and
The Hereafter Meet!*

We're on the web!

www.TheSpiritSeekers.org

The Spirit Guide

is available at:

The Broom Closet

There's Magick in Store
3009 West Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72205



Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Annual Dues Deadline Approaching!

Protect your Spirit Seekers Membership - don't miss the **October 31** deadline!

Spirit Seekers Annual Dues of \$36 per person includes free admission to all meetings and training sessions; as well as invitations to all open investigations and a monthly e-newsletter. Printed copies are available at the meetings.

Annual Dues are payable by **October 31**, each year; and are pro-rated for Members who join during the current year.

Annual Dues may be paid by mailing a check to:

The Spirit Seekers, Inc.
14900 Wild Oak Lane
Roland, AR 72135

Annual Dues may be paid in person at any Spirit Seekers event; or through the web site via PayPal.

[http://www.thespiritseekers.org/
TheTeam/AnnualDues.htm](http://www.thespiritseekers.org/TheTeam/AnnualDues.htm)

Noon Symposium

"Haunted Arkansas"

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Please join us as Alan Lowe, Director of Investigations / Co-Founder of SPIRIT SEEKERS, takes us on an interesting walk through some of Arkansas' most haunted places.

Light Lunch Served at 11:30am / Program Begins at 12:00noon

For more information, please call: 870-864-7192; or email: ce@southark.edu

