



CPRI DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

The Center for Paranormal Research and Investigation

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Vatican Decides if **ET** Can be Baptized

By: Neil MacKay

As the Pope's astronomer, Guy Consolmagno must reconcile faith and science, then work out what to do if ET phones Rome.

Consolmagno, a 53-year-old Jesuit brother from Detroit, is the Pope's astronomer, with the run of the Vatican's observatory here at Castel Gandolfo, in the hills outside Rome. Despite the aristocratic-sounding name and the arcane, slightly eldritch subjects he immerses himself in, Guy Consolmagno appears surprisingly Earth-bound: a self-confessed "nerd" from MIT, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who's into Star Trek.

It's his job to reconcile the wildest reaches of science fiction with the flint-eyed dogma of the Holy See. Right now,

he's off on a mental meander about "the Jesus Seed" – a brain-warping theory which speculates that, perhaps, every planet that harbours intelligent, self-aware life may also have had a Christ walk across its methane seas, just as Jesus supposedly did here on Earth in Galilee. The salvation of the Betelguesians may have happened simultaneously with the salvation of the Earthlings.

"Is original sin something that affected all intelligent beings?" he asks. "Is there a sort of 'cosmic' Adam predating even life on Earth? Is Jesus Christ's redemptive sacrifice sufficient for the whole universe? Would there be a parallel history of salvation on other planets?"

Wanna read more?
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The leading astronomer for the Vatican has to decide if ET phones Rome could it be baptized?

Special points of interest:

- CPRI will hosts its first paranormal conference in May of 2006
- The latest listings of the Rhine Institute's lectures can be found inside
- CPRI Spotlight on Thomas Ginther
- Happy Holidays to all of our readers

CPRI Wishes Everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

CPRI wants to wish all of our readers and supporters the happiest of holidays and a happy new year. We have had a lot of things happen this year—filming with Fan- goria, working with MTV and BET. We have also witnessed

several members of CPRI being published in paranormal journals such as Ghost! Mag, and TAPS Paramag. We are also planning to work with Duke University's Rhine Institute on collaborating research in the realm of "haunted peo-

ple". There's lots of stuff ahead for 2006 including our first Conference and if it's anything like 2005 we can't wait. Please stay safe during this holiday season and enjoy! Cheers,
The CPRI Team

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CPRI SPOTLIGHT: Thomas Ginther

Thomas was appointed as the Regional Director for Southern Virginia in 2002.

Thomas Ginther has lived in Alton, VA since 1984 and is a native of Wisconsin. He earned a business degree from a junior collage and works as a plant manager in a plastics manufacturing plant. Thomas has been a member of MUFON since 1999 and was tested and approved as a field investigator. He has investigated a number of crop circles in Virginia for BLT

Research and is part of Nancy Talbott's team of field workers. He is also a member of the American Society of Dowers and recently became a member of the Rhine Association (part of the Rhine Research Center) Like many people



Thomas Ginther has been a member of CPRI since early 2002.

interested in this field he has had many strange and paranormal experiences through out his life. Thomas also has a strong interest in the potential of the human mind as it relates to aspects that lie outside the ordinary bounds of scientific understanding.

CPRI Stuff for Sale

CPRI has a new store that you can visit by going to <http://www.cafepress.com/cpri>. Inside you'll find an assortment of CPRI stuff ranging from coffee mugs to a shirt for the family canine. Give the ghost hunter in your family a unique gift and you

"Why give the same old stuff for the Holidays when you can give CPRI stuff—including t-shirts and even something for the family dog."

can only get it at our Café Press Store. We even have custom postage stamps available and steins. There are track suits for him and her and baby jumpers. You can also outfit your computer with a CPRI mouse pad. All proceeds help to keep

our site up and going and to help us cover travel expenses for investigations so we can keep bringing you the latest info and research into the paranormal.

Don't forget <http://www.cafepress.com/cpri>

MOVIE REVIEW: The Fog

"It came back," says someone in "The Fog," to which another character responds, "Sooner or later everything does." They're talking about an antique watch that has washed up on the beaches of Antonio Bay. They're also talking about the shambling, leprous corpses that are about to invade their Pacific Northwest village. They're also talking about horror movies that get remade like clockwork every couple of decades. This new "Fog"

floats in on the fumes of the 1980 John Carpenter original, but the surprise is that it's arguably better.

The best part of the 1980 "Fog" was how much it left to the imagination, a tactic the new film forgoes during the climax, when we get a good look at the suddenly unimpressive specters. On the other hand, advancements in

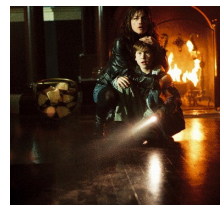


Photo from the new version of The Fog.

computer graphics mean that haze has rarely looked so menacing. After 25 years of post-Carpenter horror movies, this "Fog" lacks the one thing the original had – originality – but it qualifies as more than a mist opportunity.



Phone Call from the **Otherside?**

My 1st husband died supposedly from suicide on November 3, 1998. He died in the early morning hours. Later that night I received a page. I did not recognize the number, and it would not dial out when I tried it. My son thought it may be a code, so he went through the letters that correspond with the numbers. The only thing my son could come up with is "luv u bye".

In another incident, my 23 year old brother was killed by accident on August 15, 2005. The Saturday after his

funeral, my mothers phone rang 1/2 of a ring, and later went dead for several hours, probably about 8 hours that day. It came on eventually, and Bellsouth could find no line problems. Well, the next day, my son's phone did the same thing, 1/2 ring, and the line was dead for about 8 hours. Once again, Bellsouth said no line problems. When my mother found out my son's phone was out, she asked



Did this woman receive a call from beyond the grave?

how long has it been out? And she told us about when it'd come back on, if it was like hers. It came back on around the time she said. The strange thing about the phone thing, my son lives in Princeton, NC, and my mother lives in Goldsboro, NC.

Upcoming Rhine Institute Lectures

Wednesday, December 14, 12-1pm "Somethings Old, Somethings New"New and old books from the RRC's Alex Tanous Library on continuing aspects of parapsychology, another of the popular presentations by RRC Volunteer Librarians Peggie Feddersen and Barbara Ensrud. Free.

"All research programs are open to the public and are free of charge."

Wednesday, December 21st 12-5pm ANNUAL HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE. This is an open invitation to all RRC Members, Volunteers, Friends and Visitors to drop in for some holiday cheer with other volunteers, Board Members and staff including former RRC Staff Christine Simmonds.

Wednesday, January 4, 2006, 12-1pm: Report from Christine Simmonds from the UK - title to be announced

All research programs are open to the public and are free of charge. The programs are held in the Alex Tanous Research Library at the RRC. Please come and share in this fantastic educational opportunity.

CPRI to Host its First Paranormal Conference

CPRI is preparing to host its first paranormal conference. As of now we have signed on keynote speakers such as John Zaffis and Dr. Sally Rhine Feather—the daughter of the late Dr. JB Rhine who founded the Rhine Institute at Duke University.

Other speakers include CPRI's Dr. Stephen Rorke who will discuss the

finer points of EVP or electronic voice phenomena. Also Thomas Ginther of CPRI and MUFON will discuss the paranormal and ufology. Other topics and speaker will be announced once they have been confirmed. We will



CPRI prepares for its first paranormal conference in May of 2006.

also offer workshops on paranormal photography and EVP. Tickets for this 2 day event to be held in Richmond, VA will be \$75.00 and will be made available for purchase in the beginning of 2006. Keep checking the website for updates.

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We're on the web!
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CPRI, Inc.

**Serious Researchers, Serious Investigators,
Who are SERIOUS about the Paranormal!**

Formerly the VA Ghosts and Hauntings Research Society—Established May 15th, 2000

*The Center for Paranormal Research and Investigation** is a non-profit organization based outside of Richmond, VA. We conduct investigations into the paranormal in a non-metaphysical manner. One of our main goals is to seek out allegedly "haunted locations"* and to assist those who are experiencing problems with the paranormal. We then look for authentic evidence of the paranormal and try to determine if the location is haunted*. We are seeking genuine evidence and are careful about the presentation of this evidence... insuring that it is legitimate, researched and analyzed before being presented to the general public.*

We use strict SCIENTIFIC methods to obtain TANGIBLE evidence - Evidence that leaves no doubt about its origin, cause and effect. Evidence that will be reproducible under controlled testing conditions. (example - If a ghost is residing in a home and is able to be clearly picked up by videotape, then it should be able to be clearly picked up upon testing replication.)

We are skeptics and not debunkers - skeptic means to question and debunk means to expose while ridiculing.

The credibility of the group is maintained above all else as we do not work with psychics or conduct investigations using metaphysical methods. We are not "Ghost Busters", but when a case does prove to be genuine, assistance through other channels may be provided at the location owner's request.

Haunting Experience @ the Chiswell Buck Trout Kitchen in Williamsburg, VA

The reason for this e-mail is I wanted to ask about something my Dad experienced last night. I took it upon myself to do a little web research after he called me this morning and found your site. By the way, you have an amazing web site. Anyway, my Dad called me this morning describing an experience he had. For what it's worth, my Dad is 54 years old and has never experienced anything paranormal in his life. He's not the kind of guy to even think about believing in "ghosts", He works for Disney, is a father to me and my brother, and a grandfather to my two daughters. He's a pretty down-to-earth guy. His biggest joy in life other than his kids and grandkids is his yellow lab.

At any rate, my Mom and Dad are staying at the Williamsburg Inn in the "Chiswell Buck Trout Kitchen", a building separated from the "main" hotel. From what I understand, it is an old slave kitchen that is now a guest room. I am going to do a little more research on the site, but I wanted to get you this e-mail first.

So here's what happened, my father was awakened in the middle of the night by what he describes as a "screeching, screaming noise", as if something was yelling at him. He then looked up to see a "black cloud" that was shaking violently



over his bed. The noise was coming from this cloud, as if it were trying deliberately to scare him. He said in a panic he took a swipe at it with an open palm, and then it was gone. He immediately woke my Mom up and told her what had happened. This

was at 4:30 this morning. They stayed in the room with the lights on until the sun came up and then requested a room change. The manager of the hotel said something to the effect of "these things are not ours to question" and immediately gave them a new room. My mom, for what it's worth, we disappointed as she had been in the room all week without experiencing anything like this, and thought the room was really neat.

My Dad was very careful as he described this not to overstate what he experienced. He said it did not have a definite form, but that it was making the loud noise. I asked him if it could have been a dream. He said maybe, but he did not think so. He described how it was unlike being awakened by a "bad dream" in that he was wide awake when he saw this "cloud"

Image of the Buck Trout Inn