

CPRI February Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- CPRI Gears up for Conference in May
- UFO Spotted over Chester, VA
- CPRI finds an Animal Psychology Specialist
- Is Temporal Lobe Epilepsy the answer to the paranormal?

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CPRI Gears Up for 1st Annual Conference

CPRI will host its first paranormal conference on May 13th and 14th in Richmond, VA. We will be hosting lectures and paranormal related activities that relate to our research. Well-known authors from the field of paranormal research such as Keynote Speakers Jason Hawes from the SciFi hit "Ghost Hunters", Dr. Sally Rhine Feather of the Rhine Institute, Mark Nesbitt of Ghosts of Gettysburg fame and John Zaffis from "A Haunting in Connecticut" will be speaking and available for book signings. There will also be a chance to purchase t-shirts, books and other paranormal related merchandise. Light refreshments will be available to all guests. Question and answer sessions will follow all lectures. You may also participate in our Saturday Night CPRI Awards Banquet, listen to

REAL EVPs and dine with Keynote speakers and CPRI

or a credit card you may email Brian Bradley at

The Center for Paranormal Research & Investigation's 1st Annual Paranormal Conference



Jason Hawes from the SciFi Series Ghost Hunters will be a featured keynote speaker.

Investigators. To participate please purchase a ticket and enjoy the fun. Seating for the conference is limited - purchase your ticket early to insure a seat. If you have any question please email Teddy Skyler at teddy@virginiaghhosts.com.

brian@virginiaghhosts.com to reserve your space. Please include your name, address, number of seats to reserve and the conference package you would like to reserve (with or without Banquet included). Buy your ticket online at virginiaghhosts.com/conference

*If you do not have Paypal

UFO Over Chester, VA

Sent in to George Filer 1/06

Chester – I reported a sighting a few days ago. Well, the same thing went on the day after and today January 20, 2006. I was watching the sky about 6:15 PM while the sun set, and I witnessed a black

cloud stretching up. Soon the sky darkened enough and I was able to see the black cloud brighten. The end of it was blinking yellow and red lights and it was very close. I could tell it had one light on the side that started the blinking process. It was almost like a laser. I could see

that this craft was both triangular and cigar shaped. I believe this thing was traveling at way over a 100 MPH. I witnessed a couple more, but not so impressive as the first. There were 22 possible crafts.

CPRI SPOTLIGHT: Dr. Stephen Rorke

Dr. S. Rorke join the CPRI team in a consultant capacity in the fall of 2004. His main thrust is EVP research and Cognitive Enhancement via Novel Tech-



Dr. Stephen Rorke of CPRI.

nologies of Brain Entrainment and Induced States of Consciousness Conductive to Learning & Socio-Cognitive Development.

Dr. S. Rorke has experience as a Professor of Physics for Loyola College, has a BA in Communications Theory, has earned a Master of Science degree, is a PhD and is currently pursuing a post-doctorate research EdD degree in the cognitive sciences. His EdD research has brought him to

consult with Jim Hale and CPRI on technical matters related to Cognitive Enhancement via Novel Technologies of Brain Entrainment and Induced States of Consciousness Conductive to Learning & Socio-Cognitive Development, and to pursue a personal interest in EVP (a strangely related field of research, by way of M.A. Persinger).

You can email Dr. Rorke at s.rorke@virginiaghosts.com

“There is no record of Woodroof owning a slave named Chloe...”

Up until the late 70's when the house was purchased by a couple from California, James and Frances Kermeen Meyers, there were no reported stories of ghosts haunting the halls at The Myrtles. It wasn't long after they moved in that all the stories we hear today started. There have been several owners since and the stories just continue to grow. Looking back over the history and putting it up against

their stories you can see discrepancies. First There is no record of there ever being a slave woman owned by Woodruff names Chloe. Even if there were the story of her poisoning the Judges wife and children can be proven false by their recorded deaths from yellow fever. The January article in the Point Coupee Democrat tells how William Winter died on the side porch not on the seventeen step at

told by tour guides. Even their famous mirror that is said to hold the trapped spirits of Sarah and the two Woodruff children did not appear at the house till Arlen Dease purchased the mirror at an antique shop in the French Quarter.

To read more visit Virginiaghosts.com/myrtles_hoax.php

Is Temporal Lobe Epilepsy the Answer?

Temporal lobe epilepsy (TLE), or complex partial seizure disorder, involves seizures starting in the medial temporal lobe. Such seizures are often characterized with paranormal-like experiences. People with TLE often report sensing a presence, de-personalization (out-of-body experiences, feelings of unreality), hearing/knowing from internal sources, vestibular sensations (internal vibrations, rising/floating/spinning sensations), anxiety or panic, forced thinking, odd smells, etc (10). In TLE abnormal firing of neurons in the

mesial (amygdaloid-hippocampal) part of temporal lobe occurs, and a distinct reduction in the asymmetry of brain activity is seen (also seen in schizophrenics).

As it turns out, a continuum of TLE exists within the normal population. A large part of the continuum is composed of people who display complex partial epileptic signs without suffering seizures. These people, while being clinically normal, report more frequently the paranormal-

type experiences seen in TLE, and are typically more likely to believe in the paranormal or in psi experiences (15). The unusual brain activity is detectable using EEG and through the use of drugs specific to TLE many disturbing paranormal experiences such as UFO abductions and haunting episodes will cease.

You can read the entire article at Virginiaghosts.com/tle.php

Rhine Research Institute February Lectures

Wednesday, February 1, 12-1pm: The End of Magic? a talk by Dr. Tom Robisheaux, Duke University Department of History, that will explore the long historical experience with both “magical thinking” and practices as

well as the dilemma in understanding them. A former lecturer at the RRC Summer School Program, Dr. Robisheaux is an historian of Europe with a particular interest in the 1500-1800 years when the modern world first took shape. He is also completing a research project on witchcraft. Free.

spiritual teacher and healer. \$90 advance registration. For more details see attached or www.DonnaSpringGulick.com.

Wednesday, February 8, 12-1pm: Shamanism, a Historical and Cultural Perspective, a presentation by Matt Epstein, RRC Board of Directors, who is researching a long-time interest in the overlap between shamanism and the paranormal, attempting to find as many scientific resources as are available. Free.

Saturday, February 4, 9:30-4:30pm: Managing Your Extrasensory Capabilities, a workshop presented by Donna Spring Gulick, local

Please visit rhine.org for more info.



The Journal of Parapsychology published by the Rhine Institute.

New CPRI Specialist: Animal Psychology Specialist

Melissa Kepley was named Animal Psychology Specialist for CPRI in 2006.

From a very young age Melissa had an inexplicable connection with animals of all species. The pursuit of an explanation for this feeling of connection led her to begin research into the paranormal and parapsychology. She began formally working with animals as a veterinary technician, and broadened her knowl-

edge and skill base to include pet grooming, canine obedience training, biofield therapy, and grief counseling for pet owners mourning the passing of their beloved companions. She returned to school in the year 2000 to earn her B.A. from The College of William and Mary in Comparative Psychology, a field of study that utilizes animal cognition and behavior models to analyze aspects of human

behavior. She is also a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant through The International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants.

Through her work with CPRI, Melissa hopes to further research the role animals play in detecting paranormal activity, as well as the existence of interspecies communication on a telepathic level.



MOVIES: Underworld: Evolution

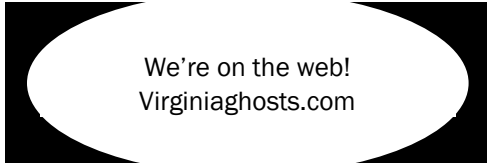
Underworld: Evolution continues the saga of war between the aristocratic Death Dealers and the barbaric Lycans (werewolves). The film traces the beginnings of the ancient feud between the two tribes as Selene (Kate Beckinsale), the vampire heroine, and Michael (Scott

Speedman), the lycan hybrid, try to unlock the secrets of their bloodlines. The tale of action, intrigue and forbidden love takes them into the battle to end all wars as the immortals must finally face their retribution.



Underworld 2 is now in theatres

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Serious Researchers, Serious Investigators, who are SERIOUS about the paranormal!



CPRI, Inc.

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.

Individual Responses to Infrasound

Nussbaum, David S. INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES IN HUMAN RESPONSE TO INFRASOUND. Diss. UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO (CANADA), 1983. 26 Jan. 2006.

A review of literature describing the effects of very low-frequency sound on humans revealed a controversy between authors claiming that infrasound is very harmful to humans and those claiming that infrasound cannot engender any subjective or objective symptoms. This thesis shows that these discrepancies may be explained by individual variability in response to low-frequency sound.

An experiment was performed to determine whether some individuals are uniquely sensitive to infrasound. Three Acoustic Conditions were employed. These consisted of a Control (amplifier hum) condi-

tion and two 8 Hz infrasound conditions; a High Distortion signal and a Low Distortion signal. Subjects were grouped by their subjective responses.

No Control subjects exposed to amplifier hum reported any adverse responses. The distribution of symptoms (headache and fatigue vs. dizziness and nausea) between the High and Low Distortion groups was significantly different as shown by the Fisher Exact Test ($P = 0.05$). In persons reporting symptoms, the higher level of harmonics was primarily associated with headache and fatigue, while reduction of harmonics primarily resulted in dizziness and nausea.

Subjects reporting dizziness and nausea were subjected to as many as four additional sessions—two Control, one Low Distortion, and one with only some harmonics without infra-

sound. These sessions showed that these symptoms were replicable and related only to the infrasound. The one subject who reported dizziness and nausea in response to the High Distortion stimulus found the Low Distortion stimulus much less tolerable.

Multivariate (MANOVA and Stepwise Discriminant Function) and Univariate (Analysis of Variance, Scheffe Tests) analyses showed that the subjects reporting adverse symptoms can be distinguished from the other groups on the basis of heart rate, respiratory rate, systolic and diastolic blood pressure changes, gaze nystagmus, time estimation, and mood scales but not EEG, plethysmography, TTS, short-term memory task, Eysenck Personality Inventory, Cornell Medical Index or age.