

CPRI May Newsletter

The Center for Paranormal Research & Investigation, Inc.

CPRI Paranormal Conference this Month!

Special points of interest:

- CPRI Turns 6 this month!
- Our first annual paranormal conference takes place
- A POI at Woodchester Mansion in the UK was conducted in April
- Learn about Indigo kids
- Does bioharmonics exist?

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CPRI's First Annual Paranormal Conference will be this month on May 13th and 14th at the Kroger Holiday Inn Select Conference Center 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. The Ghostly Internet Talk Show will be broadcasting live from the conference. There will also be a chance to purchase t-shirts, books and other paranormal related merchandise. Light refreshments of assorted breakfast pastries, muffins,

freshly brewed Colombian coffee, assorted teas, chilled orange juice and grapefruit juice will be available to all guests. Question and answer sessions will follow all lectures.

at the door the day of the conference with cash.

The Banquet

You may also participate in our Saturday Night CPRI Awards Banquet where you can register to win door prizes, listen to REAL EVPs and dine with Keynote speakers and CPRI 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.



JASON HAWES & GRANT WILSON

To reserve a ticket (there are still some left) please visit <http://vaparormalconference.com>. You may also purchase tickets

Haunted Travel in Virginia

It's that time of year again—planning a vacation? Want something more than your ritualistic trip to the beach? Why not visit some of the numerous haunted locations in VA? There are tons from Gatsby's Tavern in Northern VA to a haunted Bed and Breakfast in Williamsburg that gave a traveler the fright

of his life. Take in a show in historic Richmond at the infamously haunted Byrd Theatre or stay at a haunted hotel such as the Cavalier in Virginia Beach (that way you can have your beach and ghosts too).

virginiaghosts.com/haunted_travel.php.

They are all listed on our website at <http://>



Jesse Sigman, CPRI's May Spotlight member.

CPRI Spotlight: Jesse Sigman

Jesse joined the CPRI, Inc in 2004 and was appointed as Geospatial and Environmental Analyst in the fall of 2005.

Jesse was born on an army base near Kansas City but left at a very early age to grow up with her mother's people in the heart of the Appalachian Mountains. Being deeply rooted in mountain culture left her no stranger to the paranormal world, where she grew up surrounded by tales of strange creatures, old superstitions, and spirits of loved ones gone before.

After graduating from Carroll

County High School with an advanced diploma, Jesse set off to begin her college career at VA Tech as a Mining Engineer, but quickly changed to the Geology program because of her moral opposition to the mining industry. After three years, she began to pursue a degree in Geospatial and Environmental Analysis through the Geography department in addition to her Geology degree.

In the early part of 2004, Jesse contacted CPRI with an extreme interest in developing a standard protocol for studying the environmental aspects

of what humans perceive as paranormal. Now a senior at VA Tech, when Jesse is not working, going to class, or going to a concert, you can probably find her digging through maps in the back of the campus library in search of some key as to what is going on at a current CPRI investigation site.

"Bioharmonics is one of many energy medicines to have emerged in recent years."

Bioharmonics: New Age or New Science?

Bioharmonics is a New Age pseudoscience, which Linda Townsend claims is "the science that studies bioenergy motions and interactions with other energy sources." She should know; she invented it, more or less.

Bioharmonics is one of many "energy" medicines to have emerged in recent years. All have in common the belief in energies distinct from heat, electromagnetic, nuclear, and other measurable energies.

New Age energy is not detectable by modern scientific equipment, though some advocates employ useless gadgets touted as scientific machinery capable of harnessing, collecting, distributing, etc. some mysterious energy. Some are also fond of jargon and attempt to relate this energy to quantum physics. These energies are either indistinguishable from or related to chi or prana or chakras. Some claim they can feel this energy (therapeutic

touch). Some claim they can see it (auras) and that it can be photographed (Kirlian photography). Some have claimed they could harness energy and promote healing or sexual prowess (Reich). Many have claimed that these energies are related to the spirit world.

Wanna know more—visit

<http://skeptdic.com/bioharmonics.html>



CPRI turns 6 on May 15th!

CPRI Celebrates its 6th Anniversary on May 15th

On May 15, 2000 the VA Ghosts and Hauntings Research Society open up shop on the web. The group had one member—Bobbie Atristain and a web address. Within 6 months the group had its first case and enough members to conduct an investigation in November of 2000. That investiga-

tion was the now infamous Chesapeake House with the mysterious doll. There have been many changes within the group during the past 6 years however one thing has not changed—the quest for exploring the paranormal using science and empirical knowledge. This method hasn't been popu-

lar but it is our fundamental goal and we have stuck to it. This year also marks one of our most ambitious endeavors—our first paranormal conference.

Wanna tell us Happy Birthday? Email bobbie@virginiaghosts.com

What Are Indigo Children?

The term "Indigo Child" comes from psychic and synesthete Nancy Ann Tappe, who classified people's personalities according to the hue of their auras.

Usually each universal age is accompanied by a preponderance of people with that life color. For instance now most adults are either Blue or Violet, the two colors with the attributes most needed in this the Violet Age of transition. During the next age, the Indigo Age, Indigo colors will be the norm (Understanding Your Life Through Color 1982).

According to Tappe,

The Indigo phenomenon has been recognized as one of the most exciting changes in human nature ever documented in society. The Indigo label describes the energy pattern of human behavior which exists in over 95% of the children born in the last 10 years ... This phenomena is happening globally and eventually the Indigos will replace all other colors. As small children, Indigo's are easy to recognize by their unusually large, clear eyes. Extremely bright, precocious children with an amazing

memory and a strong desire to live instinctively, these children of the next millennium are sensitive, gifted souls with an evolved consciousness who have come here to help change the vibrations of our lives and create one land, one globe and one species. They are our bridge to the future.

For more info please visit

<http://skeptdic.com/indigo.html>



Is your child an "Indigo Child"?

Woodchester Mansion Investigation

Woodchester Mansion is an architectural masterpiece of the Victorian age abandoned by its builders before it could be completed. It has been virtually untouched by time since the mid-1870s, and today offers a unique opportunity to tour and explore a Gothic building in mid-assembly.

According to the reports of two members of the group that stayed at the Mansion on the night of September 7th

2001, the noises began at around midnight with a soft tapping sound coming from the top of a 25 foot Victorian ladder which was left when builders abandoned the house. This was only the beginning of a whole barrage of noise, which centered on the inner wall of the south range corridor.

Rick and Bobbie Atristain from CPRI visited the mansion with Honorary CPRI UK member Robert Snow of the Ghost

Club on April 16, 2006. We were prepared to take some EVP samples (as lots of previous groups had much luck with these) however because the Mansion was open to the public for a fundraising affair we weren't able to attempt any EVP research. Rick's report regarding this mini POI of the Mansion will be available for download from the CPRI website. The group hopes to conduct an all night FOI in the near future.

"This was only the beginning of a whole barrage of noise, which centered on the inner wall of the south range corridor."

MOVIE: An American Haunting

Something terrifying happened to the Bell family of Red River, Tennessee, nearly 200 years ago, causing the death of one of its members, the only validated case in U.S. history where a spirit or entity caused the death of a human being. Bell family patriarch John (Donald Sutherland) and his wife Lucy (Sissy Spacek) are pillars of their community but when a land deal goes sour with one of their neighbors, the woman -- generally considered to be a

witch -- curses the family and in particular their beautiful daughter, Betsy (Rachel Hurd-Wood). Soon after, a series of increasingly terrifying episodes are visited upon Betsy and John by a malicious unseen entity. A friend, Richard (James D'Arcy), the local school teacher, tries to help but nothing can stay the demonic onslaught ... finally resulting in death for one of the family. It becomes clear that the Bells and their descendants will never really be

totally free from the evil that haunts them -- an entity which they themselves may have helped to create.

An American Haunting opens in theatres on May 5th.



An American Haunting is based on the true case of the Bell Witch Haunting in TN



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Hours of boredom, Seconds of panic

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
VIRGINIAGHOSTS.COM

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.)

The Bell Witch Legend

The Bell Witch is believed by some to be the spirit of Kate Batts, an old neighbor of John Bell who believed she was cheated by him in a land purchase. She swore on her deathbed to get even and after she died, the haunting began. Modern researchers have found, however, that Mrs. Batts actually outlived Mr. Bell. It was true, however, that the spirit once referred to itself as "Kate Batts' witch."

The "witch" reportedly manifested herself as an invisible presence at first, gnawing on the bedposts, scratching at the walls, and jerking the blankets off of sleeping family members. Later, those in the house heard horrid noises, like that

of someone strangling or choking, lips smacking, and loud gulping. Eventually the spirit began trying to speak, first whispering faintly, then later gaining power, enabling this entity to speak directly to anyone in the room. Often she would converse, sing, shriek, curse, and physically interact with the Bell family and other witnesses - most times with a high degree of physical violence. 'Kate', as everyone eventually called her, did not hesitate to slap, pinch, or claw those whom she considered deserving of her wrath. Once, during the haunting, an entire 'family' of spirits, who called themselves a 'witch family', appeared to arrive and began speaking with those in the house.

These spirits called themselves 'Black Dog, Jerusalem, Mathematics, and Cypography.' Later, these spirits left, and only Kate remained to torment those in the house. It is notable to see that in our recorded history, this is one of few poltergeist cases where the entity could actually speak.

To read more please visit

http://virginiaghosts.com/bell_witch_haunting.php.



**This is the grave of John Bell—
a supposed victim of the Bell
Witch.**