

## From our Viewpoint

Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) has many faces. To people who believe in the infallibility of science, it is proof that some misguided people are willing to believe in the impossible as if it were real. To some religions, it is communication with demons. To some open-minded scientists, it is a curiosity that must be avoided because studying such “impossibilities” could ruin their careers. To ghost hunters, it is an effective tool for investigating haunted locations. To people grieving for the loss of a loved one, it is a way to continue their relationship even across the veil.

To the AA-EVP, EVP is a little bit of all of these. We try to understand why some are determined that EVP is scientifically impossible, and acknowledge the belief that it is offensive to some religions. We try to make the Association a safe place for scientific investigation by maintaining a rational and level-headed persona on the website and in the literature. We enjoy the occasional hauntings investigation ourselves, and recognize that many contributions to our understanding of these phenomena are coming from the field. But probably the most important features of the Association are its support of research and people grieving the loss of a loved one.



A recent initiative designed to support bereavement that we are especially proud of is the video we recently posted on [youtube.com/aaevp](http://youtube.com/aaevp). Lisa Huston attended the Atlanta AA-EVP conference and interviewed several of the members for the documentary she has been working on.

We talked with Martha Copeland about the footage that was taken at the 2006 conference and how wonderful it would be if one of the documentarins who had filmed there would consider making a five-minute video for YouTube. We wanted it to focus on the mothers who are receiving EVP communication from their children who now are on the other side. We can't thank Martha Copeland enough for pursuing this idea and approaching Lisa Huston with it. Lisa Huston did the work for a very small sum, and in truth, donated most of the time required to put the YouTube piece together. The result is a professional testimonial on how EVP can be used to make it possible to continue our relationship with loved ones who have crossed over. As of

this writing, the videos (Part 1 and Part 2 to fit on YouTube) are being viewed more than a hundred times a day, making them a resounding success. Also, many emails have been received from people who have been touched by the videos. If you would like a copy of the video, please see the order form on page 20.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are especially difficult for those of us who have family members who are no longer with us in the physical. It is especially hard for those who have lost their partner or a child to put on a good face during this time of year. Most would just like it to get over as quickly as possible. Because of this we were especially pleased with the timing of the YouTube video and that its reminder that our loved ones can reach out to us could be viewed during the holiday season.

We hope that all of you made it through the holidays and that you enjoyed them with friends and family. A special thanks goes to the many members who help and support others who are grieving. The letters that come from those who have been helped through difficult times always talk about how much member support has helped them. It is wonderful to see the enormous effect that comes from recording the voice of a loved one and many times these recordings will come from another member.

We thank those who have shared their stories with members in the NewsJournal this year. For many of you, we know how painful it was to put your story together. By doing so, you bring hope and encouragement to many. If you have a story you would like to share in the New Year, please write to us at [aaevp@aol.com](mailto:aaevp@aol.com). Without your sharing, the NewsJournal would not be what it is.

A heartfelt thanks goes to those who donate their time to the website, to proofreading, to the Idea Exchange message board and to doing articles. We thank people for sharing their innovative ideas and research. With your sharing, we all learn and grow. To those who have so generously donated money to keep the Association running we are very grateful. We could not do it without all of you and we ask the universe to bless your gifts and return them to you a hundredfold.

Most importantly we thank those in the Big Circle group who are no longer on earth but who wish to continue to communicate with us here and who have helped so many through their EVP messages. We look forward to an exciting New Year and send you, all of our friends in the here and hereafter, our wishes for a New Year filled with further breakthroughs in communicating across the veil.

Tom and Lisa

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**Article Contributions:** Articles that explain techniques, help people understand the concepts of ITC and/or provide a role model to which others can aspire are considered for publication in the NewsJournal. The average column is 450 to 480 words—fewer with pictures. Articles should be short and to the point as they would be for a newspaper. Feature articles may be up to four columns, serialized or presented as a brief which refers to the full article which can be placed on the AA-EVP website. Announcements of member activities are welcome, as are reports of successes working with these phenomena and brief comments about your observations. Email submission to [aaevp@aol.com](mailto:aaevp@aol.com) or mail to AA-EVP, PO Box 13111, Reno, NV 89507, USA.

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## Winter 2008

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### Special Thanks

We wish to thank all of you who are supporting the Association with your hard work.

**Happy New Year!**

## Jenny and Brandon - The Newlyweds

Darleen Addis thought that she had heard the voices of her daughter, Jenny, and son-in-law, Brandon, for the last time on September 26, 2006 as they left home on their motorcycle. They died a few hours later when a pickup crossed into their lane and hit them head-on.

Brandon had worked with Darleen at the Brass Pro Shop. Darleen said that he had a lot of talents and seemed to have the same interests as her daughter, so she introduced them and soon they were seeing each other every day. Jenny, eighteen, was a dancer and sketch artist. Brandon, twenty-one, played the guitar and often wrote songs. "He sang, and she couldn't," Darleen recalls. "She danced, and he couldn't. What one was thinking the other knew the answer to."

Just before Jenny's graduation, Brandon proposed to her on a family vacation. Brandon's mother recalls him rehearsing before he left and told us that, "He really loved her, and she really loved him. I wish everybody could have a love like they had."

They were married on July 30, 2006. They exchanged rings and promised to spend their lives together as their favorite song, "Everything" by the band Lifehouse, played. After a honeymoon in Bermuda they moved in with Darleen, her husband Wayne and son Joshua. Jenny enrolled at the Community College and was studying criminal justice while Brandon kept working and was considering going back to college. Darleen says that they wanted children and that she looked forward to being a grandmother.

The two had been married a little less than two months when a habitual traffic offender with no license, a history of drug use and three convictions for driving under the influence (DUI) in the past year, ran them down. He was still on probation for his first DUI and was addicted to prescription and other drugs that were not prescribed to him. He passed out after hitting Jenny and Brandon.

Darleen keeps their room just the way they left it the day of the crash. The wedding dress hangs in the closet and the wedding bouquet is above the dresser mirror. The couple's car still sits in the driveway, the "Just Married" sign in the rearview mirror.

Darleen says that her husband was a skeptic but soon after the funeral, things started happening that totally made him a believer. The first thing that Darleen remembers happening was the dogs barking at the door and then jumping up like they were jumping on Jenny and Brandon. One alarm clock would go off when it wasn't wound up and the other, an electric model, went off at 2 a.m. with just white noise when it was not set to go off. Jenny's picture fell down when Darleen was in deep thought of her and it fell



Jenny and Brandon on their wedding day

the opposite of the way that it should have fallen.

There were many other signs. Darleen had gotten Jenny a little bell when she had her wisdom teeth taken out and on more than one occasion the family heard that little bell ringing. Joshua had a box of mints on his dresser and it flew off to the floor when he entered his room. Jenny's embroidery was in her end table and Darleen moved it to show a photographer but when she went to show it to the man, it was gone. Darleen later found it back in her end table. Brandon's watch appeared out of nowhere and it was the watch that Darleen had seen on him the day they rode off on the motorcycle.

Six or seven weeks after the couples tragic death, Darleen recorded an EVP

that says, "*What's up?*" She knew it was Brandon. When Brandon would answer his phone he would always do so by saying "What's up?"

Soon after joining the AA-EVP this past September, Darleen was on the member message board and was listening to some of the examples that members had posted. She came across one from Debbie Caruso which said "*Ma, Ma - You should know ... I miss you.*" She recognized Jenny's voice immediately and wrote to the group: "This morning I am still sitting here in shock. I do believe that is my little girl on that EVP! The voice and the way



Jenny and Brandon on their wedding day

'miss' is said sound exactly like her! I have played it for anyone and everyone who knew my daughter and knew her voice. They all know it was her. That was captured before I joined the group but I have wanted to for many months. This Wednesday we are facing the one-year mark of the crash. It has been a nightmare. I am so thankful and grateful to all, and Debbie, thank you so much for allowing me to hear my daughter. I know that Jenny and Brandon have met up with those trying to communicate with us because they believed as much as I believe."

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## Jenny and Brandon Continued from page 3

In October, Darleen shared the story of Jenny and Brandon's communication from across the veil on the Maury Show. The show astonished Darleen by having Debbie as a surprise guest. They had not met in person. On the show, Debbie shared another wonderful EVP from Brandon saying, *"I feel the Big Circle. I feel welcome."*



Darleen on the Maury Show with surprise guest, [Debra Caruso](#)

While at the show, Darleen was to receive a reading from Jeffrey Wands. She turned her recorder on to document the reading and discovered an EVP before the reading began that says, *"I'm Brandon."* During the reading, Jeffery said that Jenny was drawing a "Big Circle" around everyone.

We often forget that these tragedies are even more horrendous for those that are left here on earth. Darleen's family, along with Brandon's family, has also suffered through the trial of the man who took the physical lives of this young couple. Darleen admits that she wakes up in pain and goes to bed in pain. The stress has been almost unbearable at times but she says that EVP has given her hope, "It is a way of communicating with Jenny and Brandon and a way of knowing that we are still 'together.'"

Excerpts in this article came from *The Knoxville News-Sentinel* article, "All That Remains, Families of young couple killed in senseless tragedy left with grief and questions" by Matt Lakin, October 15, 2006.

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## Consciousness and Afterlife Conference

The Forever Family Foundation is sponsoring a conference titled **"Investigations of Consciousness and The Unseen World Proof of an Afterlife?"** over two days in San Francisco, California, January 19-20, 2008. Although EVP/ITC is not on the agenda there are many interesting speakers. Cost for an advance ticket is \$225 for members (membership is free). For more information or to purchase admission, call 631.425.7707 or visit:

[www.foreverfamilyfoundation.org](http://www.foreverfamilyfoundation.org)



We will attend, so if you plan to go, please find us and say hello!

## Path of Least Resistance?

by Bob Ginsberg, Co-founder Forever Family Foundation

It is fair to say that scientists have compiled sufficient evidence to conclude that phenomena such as telepathy, ESP and remote viewing are indeed "real." In addition to proving that some of us have the ability to use these disciplines of consciousness, there is also sufficient data showing that these practices defy our present notion of time and space. People can intuit events before they actually occur and can send their minds or consciousness across the globe to view targets.

It is also fair to say that we have a sufficient amount of data indicating that our consciousness survives our physical death. Reports from individuals who survived a near-death experience, witnesses to the death-bed visions of dying patients, laboratory data from mediumship studies, investigations of reincarnation accounts—all provide compelling evidence we do survive in some form.

Yet, the past century of research has yielded little or no information as to how all of these phenomena work. Although there have been many theories presented, we have come no closer to discovering the answer to the process of such communications.... Of course, finding the mechanism that allows these phenomena would propel us into a new paradigm of consciousness and our cosmic relationship. Life as we knew it would be forever changed.

As I continue to read, learn, and talk to some of today's best researchers and scientists, my radar is always up with regard to discovering such a common denominator. I can't help but think that the processes all have a similar pattern; the information and discarnate entities are always there, waiting for conduits to open in the dimensions separated by fields that represent our physical barrier.

When we think of near-death experiences and death-bed visions, for instance, many assume that during our physical death our consciousness or soul travels to this other dimension. Instead, I posit that this other dimension surrounds and envelops us, seeking a pathway to get through. During these death states, our physical brain is set aside and those on the other side find the opening to bring other worlds to us. The barrier is permeated and the surrounding field of information or spirit always seeks the path of least resistance. During mediumship and meditative states, similar barrier weaknesses are detected and taken advantage of as we provide the openings by discarding our conscious interpretation. Similarly, during precognitive episodes, surrounding information finds its way through the opening, very often during meditative or dreams states. During the phenomenon of telepathy, information is allowed to flow from sender to receiver through a similar process; thought transmission which requires lowering of resistance on the part of the receiver.

Once we are able to isolate and induce these resistance-lowering states at will, whole new worlds will make themselves known. Perhaps this is the ultimate mission of mankind in this physical existence.

## Lance Reed's ITC



ITC image thought to be Lance's father

Lance Reed was doing a video feedback session and instantly thought of his father, Geoffry Reed, when the above ITC picture came through. Lance feels that the features in the picture are similar to that of his father in his younger years. Lance's mother and father transitioned just three weeks apart, and during that time, his father told him to keep the TV signals open, as his mother would try to communicate. Lance ran a few sessions in his parents' now empty house and then this image came through. The picture of his father was taken during his later years.

This past July, Lance was invited to appear on *Spirit TV* to talk about his ITC research using the video feedback technique known as the "Schreiber Method." Since then, he has been invited to other paranormal events to give demonstrations of his ITC method. He has done this in front of as many as fifty attendees with good results.

A few of the images that Lance received during an event at the 500 year old Pack Horse Inn are shown at the end of this article on page 17. Lance wrote, "The people who came through that night appear to be from the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century. There is a picture of a person with one tooth protruding, which a few people noticed straight off.

"I like to say that all my sessions are conducted in the best way possible, landline, cell phones, radios, TVs, etc., are all turned off while the video loop is running. I do this to rule out as much radio-frequency contamination as possible. I also don't accept pictures I find after casually viewing a frame for more than a few seconds, otherwise I feel we are then dealing with pareidolia (finding meaning in meaningless noise). If they don't catch my eye on first viewing, there is no contact on that particular frame, that's my motto"

Here is a checklist of how Lance sets up his video loop:

1. The video camera (Samsung Mini DV digital Cam Model # VP-dD71W with times 34 optical zoom) is connected to the TV "Video In" using a quality audio/visual cable. This bypasses the TV tuner to rule out an external source.
2. The channel is set to AV1 or AV2
3. The video camera is placed two meters (about 6.5 feet) from the TV set.
4. All electronic equipment is turned off to rule out external sources.

5. A firewire cable is connected from the camera to a laptop.
6. The camera is aimed towards the TV screen slightly off center. Lance then gently zooms in until he gets a white pulsating light in the center of the screen. He uses the TV controls to adjust the contrast to max, the brightness to one quarter, color set on half and sharpness on half. (These setting are only a "rule of thumb" as differing equipment vary in settings.)
7. Lance records straight onto the hard drive of his laptop, bypassing the video camera. This is a direct line to further rule out external sources and to obtain a good-quality recording, as nothing is lost by conversion in the camera. He records for three minutes and uses Adobe Premiere Pro to analyze the captured footage.
8. Lance has tried to save the frame via software but finds the pictures to be very compressed and hard to make out. So he learned to use a Vivikai 12.0 Mega max to take photos of the interesting frames. The high resolution digital camera tends to break down the blurriness and hold the true picture.
9. He processes the resulting photographs with Adobe Photoshop CS3 and crops them to 150 pixel width.



Video loop setup to record directly into the computer



Lance (far right) and his images in the video loop

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## Some Ideas About the Way ITC Works

by Rolf-Dietmar Ehrhardt

Edited from the original at [www.worlditc.org/f\\_04\\_rodiehr\\_some\\_ideas.htm](http://www.worlditc.org/f_04_rodiehr_some_ideas.htm)

After studying ITC phenomena since 1986, I have come to the following conclusions about it (let me start with some facts): Since EVP was first discovered by Jürgenson, it has not become much louder, nor much clearer, nor of significantly longer duration. Even in the beginning, some people could get loud and clear voices from beyond. These people did not use amplifiers, infrared or ultraviolet light or other additional equipment, but only a recorder and microphone. Quality and duration of voices varied very much from person to person and from time to time. People who were seriously interested in the phenomenon and continued to experiment, very often got tips from beyond on how to modify their equipment or themselves (by meditation) or even the room's interior...

To my knowledge, people who experimented successfully (who got really good voices from beyond) but who were unknown to each other, did not develop identical equipment. In most cases, each contactee had his own devices. When a person or a group of people had "developed" a system or set of components which worked well, others started to copy that arrangement in order to get more frequent and better EVP. However, most of the results showed that individuals using the copied devices could not improve their EVP. I know that as a matter of fact.

Consider the computer contacts. You can see that it obviously requires more than just hardware and software to get in contact with the beings beyond. Otherwise mankind would have thousands and even millions of contacting people in cities all over the world. There are millions of computers with the same software. It is easy to buy identical computers with identical software. That is not the way to increase the number of contacts. The situation with reference to the contacts by telephone is even more extreme compared to that with computers. There are so many telephones and telephone responders all over the world. Why do we not have many more telephone contacts?

It requires more than just equipment to get in contact with beings beyond! It takes the right individual. If you study reports from successfully working contacters, you will find that all have mediumistic capabilities or are a medium—although they may not know or want to admit it.

After all my research I came to the following conclusion:

**Resonance determines whether we can get in contact with the beings beyond, and, even more, it is a decisive factor as to whether the beings beyond are able and willing to get in contact with us.**

Let me please explain what I mean. At the end of this explanation I hope to show why ITC phenomena take place, why they change in duration and in quality, and of course, why they end.

Most of us know from school what resonance is. I would like to broaden that explanation: We call that condition that touches us somehow—when something causes us vibrate—"resonance." How can I be touched? Of course, through the means of my five senses. But there is something else: even thoughts (from myself) and perceptions (my own or expressed by others) can touch me, can let me vibrate.

You need at least two systems to produce resonance. Both systems should be able to be touched by something or someone in order to go into vibration. For resonance the vibrations should match. Let us take a look at the two systems that we are concerned with, and see



Photo by Christian Guthier ([www.efekt.net](http://www.efekt.net))

how they could get into resonance. There is one system which is in this world, and that system consists of the human being in his or her environment, and there is another system beyond our world.

### What determines how the system on earth is structured?

Let us look at its components:

- The person, with the body and thoughts (hopes, wishes, fears, motivations, perceptions, attitudes, difficulties and so on).
- The technical equipment used by that person or group of persons.
- The environment, the furnished rooms.

All those components together result in a certain "energy field." As you know, human components are not stable, in fact they change often (too often) very quickly. Such changes can be caused by the person concerned, or they can just "happen." In either case, in my opinion, what is the most important component—the energy field—changes too often. Only training can minimize that effect. Let me say it again: in my opinion the human component is the largest part of and has the greatest influence on that mixture of energetic components. Of course the environment, and the equipment used, play their part too. We know that the person will be influenced by the environment. The person creates the environment. That small example shows that all components depend on each other—which makes the situation even more difficult.

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## The Way ITC Works

Continued from page 6

### What does the system beyond consist of?

Most contacts will be made to “persons” who recently died. We assume that “dead people” are not more intelligent or wiser than they were on earth. If we want to get in contact with beings that are relatively higher or finer in vibration (ethereal beings), then they have to transform their energy to a lower level so that they can get in contact with us using other beings of lower or denser vibration.

### The result is:

When we want to get in contact with beings beyond, we have to get in resonance with them and they have to get in resonance with us. That contact can take place when the resonance-matching occurs by having similar energy fields or “energetic structures,” through similar interests, for example.

We have heard that beings in the beyond often have problems getting through to the experimenter on earth. Beings that are not so “close” to earth anymore (because of the change in consciousness) will have problems getting in contact with people on earth because they have an energy field that cannot get in resonance with us. One can compare it in the following way: you cannot receive the messages transmitted in FM (the being beyond) with a radio AM receiver (the human on earth). Both waves (stages of consciousness) exist but there is no resonance possible.

If a person is frightened, then the person attracts beings from beyond that are happy to scare him or her. For example, such beings may be working with suppression and threats and not with love and hope. The degree of development that a contactor on earth has (and that would include wisdom, knowledge, education, attitude, etc.) determines the type of being that is contacted....

Contact with beings beyond can only take place when there is an identical or similar energy field on both sides. If some or many people join a group that is working successfully, the energy field will be changed. That change can strengthen or weaken the energy field of the group depending on the energetic structure of the people joining. In the worst case, the result can be that no contact is possible to that known group of beings in the beyond, or it may happen that the newly expanded group on earth gets in contact with unknown beings.

**I conclude: To copy the equipment of other people seldom makes sense because of the resonant condition.**

- ♦ **The human part of the defined energetic field is much more important than the other parts (knowing that all components depend on each other).**
- ♦ **Individuals who are seriously interested in EVP/ITC should develop mentally and spiritually. Changes and improvements of the other components of the energetic field (equipment and environment) will be suggested by the beings beyond.**

We should not forget that EVP/ITC involves two partners.

We all know from our own experiences that contacts between us and other dimensions are possible. EVP/ITC offers the opportunity to reach people on earth that are not yet interested in that type of knowledge. If there is interest in scientifically confirming the communication among dimensions of reality, here is a possible way:

We have to look for a medium or a person that is at least mediumistic and that is emotionally and materially independent. This means that person should be unaffected by whether the experiences are successful or not. If that person needs public recognition or demands money, or needs to be sponsored (that means more money than is needed to cover the expenses—not living expenses), then it is not the right person. There is always the possibility that such a person could influence a lack of results due to money and/or image problems. That person should be interested in confirming EVP/ITC. All people involved should use a prepared list of questions.

Opinion leaders in some countries should be encouraged to ask questions. Leaders of EVP/ITC groups are, for example, opinion leaders.... All people involved should have no ego problems, should have to mention their motivation and have to prove it if requested. It does not matter whose ideas will be realized and who raised an idea. Perhaps it is possible to define a working basis which can be used by almost all of us.

Researchers who really like to make scientific investigations into ITC should have to meet certain requirements:

- They should know where they stand. What is their opinion about ITC and TransCommunication in general? What is their motivation? The mentioned workgroups with the questions raised can be a help.
- They must know what they want. It is not enough to say that one likes to do and to know everything. It has to go step by step because there is also a change in thinking involved.

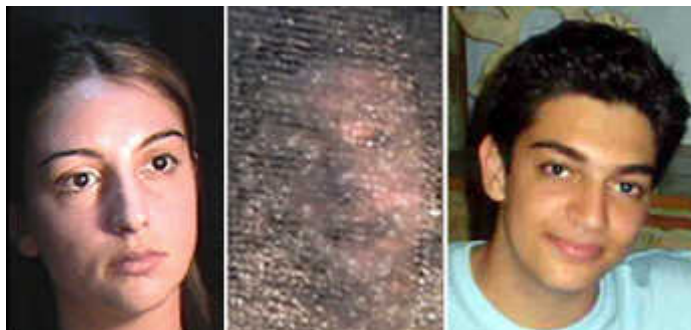
People must be willing to spend time and effort.

- We can do all that alone in our free time, and then there is still more to consider before working efficiently and well together:
- People must be willing to share their knowledge with others without restrictions. They should cooperate in order to avoid double-work. The fact that in one part of the world "new and exciting" results are achieved with "new discovered" methods while in other parts of the world those phenomena have been well known for 16 years indicates that more cooperation would be desirable.
- The goals are important and not the individual or the group involved....
- Competition among researchers to get the best voices, to get the best pictures more often than other groups is counterproductive in our field, because that behavior leads to all the bad situations ITC researchers have been dealing with for years. If there is no trust, no belief in the work of others, then we will not be very successful.

## Sonia Works with New Russian Software

ITC researcher Sonia Rinaldi recently had a couple come into her lab that had lost their son, Felipe. He was eighteen and died in a motorbike accident two years ago. They are farmers in Campo, Brazil and had to travel by plane to reach Sonia in São Paulo. Sonia conducted experiments with them, getting both video and audio examples.

Sonia recorded many transfigurations with the mother Verônica and her daughter Mariana, as well.



Sonia told us, “This is Mariana on the left. She seems to be transfigured into a boy—maybe her deceased brother Felipe.”



Sonia told us, “Verônica is on the left and she seems to be transfigured into her deceased father.”

In audio, Sonia received eighty-three replies from Felipe, many with evidential identifications. The voices were very clear in many of the samples and the parents had recordings of Felipe’s voice when in the physical. Sonia sent some samples to a group in Russia who said they had developed software for comparing and identifying voices. The software is called VoiceNET. The manager of the sales department had offered their services to Sonia at no charge so that she could evaluate the software.

Sonia sent the samples and simply asked them to verify if the speaker in both blocks of samples was the same person or someone else. She did not give the team any background information or tell them that some of the examples were paranormal.

Matvey Zhokhov, from the Speech Technology Center, wrote to Sonia: “...The results for your examples that were obtained with our system, VoiceNET, are the following: The sample, “Voice\_Felipe.wav,” original speech signal was included into the database first, along with the other fourteen samples. We then added Felipe\_test.wav into the system and compared “Felipe\_test.wav” to fifteen others.

After the identification process, the system put the Voice\_Felipe.wav on the first place, meaning that it is most probably the same speaker as Felipe\_test.wav

For identification, the system uses two methods: formant and pitch curves analysis ... All the other ones (examples) ... have bad percentages, meaning that they do not belong to the Felipe\_test.wav speaker.”

In another email Zhokhov wrote, “The results that I sent you are excellent. They show that the samples belong to a single speaker and the others do not.”

Sonia was excited that this could be her fourth officially authenticated case. She feels that more needs to be known about this new Russian software, which by the way costs \$18,000 to purchase. Sonia has had two examples studied at the Universidade De São Paulo, in Brazil, which were confirmed to be the same person along with one case confirmed by Il Laboratorio in Italy.

[Editor: For more information on the software see [www.speechpro.com/eng/products/expert-systems/voicenet/](http://www.speechpro.com/eng/products/expert-systems/voicenet/).

The software was designed to “eavesdrop” in public places to determine if someone speaking there might be on a list of people being sought by authorities. One of the questions that must be answered is how this approach to voice comparison equates to the tools used by Il Laboratorio and the Brazilian university.]

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## Hemi-Sync Trials Update

You may remember that we announced plans in the last NewsJournal to conduct field trials designed to tell us whether or not Hemi-Sync® can be used to improve a person’s ability to record EVP. As of this writing, the AA-EVP has become a professional member of The Monroe Institute (TMI), and has submitted both a formal research proposal and a proposed script for the audio CD. TMI staff is working on merging the required elements of our proposed narration with stock narration. Using as much previously recorded material as possible will save time and cost of narration.

Twelve people have volunteered to participate. We plan to use ten, and will attempt to include members with ability that is fairly representative of the community. We do not have a timeline for when the CD will be available, as TMI is also undergoing organizational/administrative changes due to the transition of Laurie Monroe. An email address list has been made and the volunteers will be kept up to date.

Since the decision to test Hemi-Sync was made, we have been in contact with other people who have used the Monroe material for various purposes and it is exciting to speculate about how the technology might be applied for other work. For instance, could a person use it with an mp3 player to improve clairvoyant sensitivity during a hauntings investigation? Let us know your thoughts.



# The Golden Child

by Toby Richard

I actually predicted Tyler's birth. I remember pointing to my mom's belly and telling her there was a baby. My mother didn't know she was pregnant until she went into labor. She thought all the symptoms she was having were menopause, since she was in her forties. Tyler was born in 1966, three months premature and weighed two pounds. The doctors said if he lived, he would be the strongest and biggest child. He was. I always called him "The Golden Child."



Tyler and Toby when Tyler had cancer

In his twenties, he had testicular cancer. When he finally told me and I got him to the doctor, he had waited way too long and it had spread through his body and bloodstream. It was in his lungs, chest and abdomen. He went through chemo, the very strongest that they had at the time. I didn't think he would make it ... he did. "The Golden Child!"

My parents were alcoholics who owned a bar. My mother especially was verbally abusive. Oh, like you can't imagine ... So I tried to be the protector of Tyler. It was always me and him against the world. Parents drunk and at the bar, I always took care of little brother. When Tyler was eleven and I was sixteen, Daddy died. The very hardest thing for me was to tell that little boy our dad died. After that, my mom really went into an alcoholic depression/anger thing and gave up parenting. I became Tyler's parent. I even went to his school for parent-teacher conferences.

Tyler was different; I will not try to make him what he was not. He did not care about things or money. So he didn't like to keep a steady job. We had many fights over that! He would and did give up his last dollar if someone needed it. He never worried about where he would get the next dollar. He lived in a camper on family-owned property down a stone lane in the woods; very primitive. He would befriend anyone, and I do mean anyone. He liked the "underdogs" in this world and he never judged people. At his funeral, it was strange to see the people. We had bikers wearing their leather, standing next to his military friends in their uniforms, standing next to business owners in suits and ties. That was Tyler. I saw those "big bad bikers" openly weeping over his casket. (Tyler wasn't a biker.) There were people Tyler called friend that most people would cross the street to avoid. Everyone who knew him loved him and I am not making that up. He had no enemies. The sheriff told me that when investigating his murder, in all the investigations he had done, he never before had a victim about whom no one had a bad thing to say.

Tyler was easily the funniest person I have ever known. Tyler, on his premature birth: "They cut off womb (room) service and cancelled my subscription to fetus monthly." He was one of those people who always had a smile. He was very smart and almost had a photographic memory. He loved to read and knew everything to do with history. I could ask him a question about almost anything and he had the answer. He loved music and wrote poems. I have many notebooks full of his poems. It was his way of getting his feelings out. It wasn't until after he died and I started to read his words that I found out what a tortured soul he really was. He only wanted someone to love him, but had a way of picking the wrong women.

He started dating a woman with a bad reputation. He knew that I wouldn't be happy about her and had been avoiding me for a couple of weeks. During those two weeks, I had been trying to find him; he had been a no show at his bar job. I started to have migraines that put me in bed and then thoughts or visions of him dead with a bullet in him. We had a huge fight. Thankfully, we were back to normal a couple of days later ... those last two days of his life.

In May 2004, at the age of thirty-seven, Tyler was shot to death by an acquaintance who felt that the woman Tyler had started seeing was his. In his confession to the sheriff, it says that the killer asked to see Tyler's gun. Tyler gave it to him and that is when he turned on Tyler and things got ugly. The sheriff's recording of his confession says that Tyler said, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry" and then the guy shot him. Tyler says, "Ouch, you shot me" and the guy takes off and leaves my brother to bleed to death.



Tyler

I have never been so devastated; I couldn't function. I am the one that always kept things together in my family. This almost destroyed me. I was angry at God; at everyone. I had panic attacks, I could no longer drive a car and I stayed in bed and cried. Newspapers were calling for interviews and television news crews were in my driveway. I couldn't deal with all of it. I couldn't pray; there were no words, so I just said "God help me." That's all I could get out. I couldn't sleep; I had all these images of Tyler's last minutes. My husband forced me into seeing a counselor. I didn't want to go, but it was something I needed and I am so glad I did.

I attended every pretrial hearing alone. When I finally got to see the man who killed my brother, I wanted to hurt him. I would dream of ways to hurt him and his family. I wanted them to feel as much pain as I did. Hate, I never knew what hate was. People use that word so casually. I know hate, I never knew I was capable of feeling so much rage. I had to be put on a lot of medication throughout that time.

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## The Golden Child

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The trial went on for about a week. The jury was out less than a day. They found him guilty of reckless homicide and other charges and gave him ten years in prison plus three because of the firearm. No possibility of early release so he will not be out until 2017. I found out they won an appeal a few days before Christmas last year. We went back into court and I went back on medication. He lost, but I can't say I am done as the family will try again.

How did I get through this? I am still working through it. You never get over the loss; the pain is with me every day. My faith is what gets me through. I believe we all have lessons to learn and somehow there is a lesson in all this for me, for the greater good. I don't understand why it happened, but I also don't know the "big picture." If I would not have had the love and support from my husband, I probably would not be alive. I started a journal in which I write letters to Tyler and write of my pain and anger. I write down memories of him, I write down all the ways he still shows me he is around. I pray a lot. I may not understand why, but I pray that I will accept. I pray for the

murderer and his family. I pray that he will be safe in prison and then I ask that someday I will really mean what I pray. I know that if Tyler would have lived, he would have already forgiven him. I know that this is something I needed to do. The anger that I feel doesn't hurt him, it is only hurting me.



Tyler and Toby

I had been trying for so long to get Tyler to talk to me. Little did I know that he had been talking to me all along. It wasn't until Tom Butler emailed me and told me the importance of listening to the recording through my PC. I had been yelling and complaining for Tyler to talk to me and was sitting in the truck he owned with the windows up. It sounds as if he is almost yelling. He says "**Toby, can you hear me NOW?**" This was recorded with my cheap little Olympus digital VN-3100 with no external microphone and no noise.

Tyler shows me every day that he is still with me; that our relationship didn't end with death, it is just different. I have had so many signs and the EVP are a small part of the ways he shows me. He always knew he would die young and before me. He used to say he would haunt me every day of my life. He comes around with all the signs, but there is a whole new meaning to "haunt" for me. His death haunts me every day. Many people do EVP for some sort of proof of life after death. I never needed that proof. I already know the Spirit lives on. I need the EVP from him because I need to have that contact with him. I think he knows ... he knew me better than anyone.

## Online Listening Experiment Results

Two online listening experiments have been conducted using [aaevp.com](http://aaevp.com) as a platform. The objective was to determine whether or not EVP can be correctly understood by the average person. Because we know that people must undergo a learning process to be "fluent" with EVP, we also wanted to collect information that might help us learn a little about the participants, so as to compare results with education, previous experience with EVP and predisposition to accept things paranormal.

A formal report has been written and is currently in the Best Practices Development pages so that we can ask for "peer" review before we attempt to submit it to a scientific journal. Your participation in that review would be greatly appreciated, since how well it is written will reflect on all of us.

The report is over fourteen pages, so to summarize it here, the percentage of correctly identified words (%Rw) for the two trials combined is 34.3%, making it clear that at least the examples used in this exercise are composed of sometimes intelligible words, and therefore, are not figments of an experimenter's imagination.

In an effort to measure the influence that experience listening to EVP examples has on the percent of correctly identified words, we used the poll tool in the Idea Exchange to ask how easily members heard the same examples. With nine participants, the result was a number based on a scale of 0.0 to 6.0. We converted that to an estimated %Rw of 74.4% combined average. The difference between the website participants and members is a healthy 40.2%. Although the comparison is only approximate because of the different ways people were surveyed, the difference in %Rw suggests a measurable factor for the difference "learning" to listen to EVP makes.

Suggested protocols will be documented for improvements in how to conduct such online listening tests, should anyone wish to run a new trial. The [aaevp.com](http://aaevp.com) website is available if you wish.

What we think is safe to conclude from these trials is that the words in EVP are real, and that it is necessary to learn how to listen to EVP much as learning a new language.

## Sony ICD-B16 is a Half-sized B26



Sony ICD-B26

We are told by Gary Nixon and Debbie Caruso that the ICD-B16 is the same recorder as the ICD-B26, but with half the memory and a slightly less powerful audio amplifier. In fact, the instruction manual for both recorders is the same one, with the model indicated as ICD-B16/26. The B26s are very hard to find right now, but there are a number of B16s to be found via Amazon and eBay. Gary was able to buy one for \$25 from Amazon.

# Colors with Crayons: A Meditation for Healing

by Martha Copeland

“Dedicated to my dear friend: George Wynne” ... Martha

There are different levels of friendships that we acquire over our lifetime which range from being referred to as good friends (whose company you enjoy), family friends (friends by birth or marriage), dear friends, close friends and friends with whom you are mere acquaintances. I have friends that I love as much as family members, and the terminology I apply to these special friendships are, “my Soul Friends.”



George Wynne in Santa Lucia

Recently, I received an email from one of my Soul Friends, George Wynne, informing me that he has a very virulent and fast moving form of pancreatic cancer. My first thought was, “Oh my, I hope he doesn’t have to suffer” (or be in pain). I started writing this meditation with George in mind, hoping that by reading this, it might help him through the terrible ordeal he had to go through before reaching the other side. Unfortunately, today I received an email from George’s son, Philip, informing me that George passed away this weekend, and that George had died peacefully, without pain. Although, I was saddened by the news, I know that George is not in pain and he has joined his beloved wife, Maya.

Many of us have experienced pain, whether it be through grief or through mental or physical ailments, but what if we used “mind over matter” to escape our pain? One way to accomplish this would be by taking a mental vacation from what is happening in the “now” of our life by the use of meditation.

## Colors with Crayons: A Meditation for Healing

This “Colors with Crayons” meditation is to help ease or rid ourselves from pain related to physical, emotional or mental conditions. The meditation requires a small box of children’s crayons containing red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet and black crayons, and a container with a lid.

Please follow the instructions below:

1. Remove the red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet crayons from the box and place them on a table in front of you. Next, line the crayons up in a row in exactly the above order. Now, take out the black crayon and lay it

apart from the others. You will notice that the colors belonging to the first seven crayons correspond to the seven spiritual centers that mystics refer to as our “chakras.” Color is energy and our physical body is composed of an energy field. If we use the energy vibration of color to distract from our pain, we can improve and balance our physical and emotional state even if it is only for the duration of the meditation.

2. Settle into a comfortable and quiet place with the crayons laid out on a table in front of you while keeping the black crayon separate from the others. The container (with the lid off but beside the container) is across from where you are sitting and apart from the crayons.

3. Sit up with your spine straight and legs and arms uncrossed. Closing your eyes and taking three long and deep breaths, ask your body to be still and to relax. Visually, go through your body releasing any negativity or discomfort that you may be feeling.

You will want to engage your brain as much as possible to prevent it from wandering during the meditation by focusing on the sensations of smell, touch, sight, hearing and taste. With these physical sensations, we can ease pain by calming both our mind and body.

4. Pick up the red crayon and examine the deep red color and texture. Closing your eyes, think about all the things that contain the color red. For instance, the wide variety of red flowers that Mother Nature offers, perhaps a favorite red garment in your possession, a red apple or a shiny red fire engine. To make the exercise easy, pick a red apple and utilize all five senses by using the apple as an example. Notice the dark shiny skin with the different shades of red while smelling the apple. Does the outer skin feel cool to your touch? Taste the apple. How does it taste? What sound do you hear when you bite into an apple and while chewing it in your mouth?



5. Keeping your eyes closed while visualizing the apple will help improve your concentration and lessen distractions. Try focusing the impressions you receive from the apple towards your third eye. In your “mind’s eye” (third eye; the point between your eyebrows), see a red mist rising from Mother Earth and forming a circular, swirling motion around your feet. Each time you inhale, the red mist will rise, forming a red ray of light engulfing your physical body until it has reached the top of your head. Exhale ... long and slowly ... while visualizing the red mist floating down towards your feet and repeat this procedure with all the other crayons (except for the black crayon). Once you have accomplished this task, take a minute to compose yourself and relax your breathing.

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## Colors with Crayons

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6. After you have worked with each crayon, pick up the black crayon and visualize something you dislike that is black. It could be a hearse, or the grim reaper, or a big black scary monster. Imagine anything that represents something negative or bad. Take seven long, deep inhalations of a beautiful white bright light and visualize the light entering every part of your body. You may want to visualize thousands of glittering sparkles in the white light that represent the healing energy you are releasing into your physical body. Exhale with your mouth open while visualizing white glimmering lights squeezing the black dots up through your body to your mouth. Inhale deeply and exhale with all your force, removing the tiny black dots of light through your mouth.

7. Now, visualize the black dots of light forming into a long dark cloud flowing inside the empty container that has been placed across from you. These terrible little black dots of light are the evil little culprits causing your emotional, mental or physical pain. To prevent these culprits from being released into the universe to cause trouble for some poor undeserving soul, ask your Higher Self for help. Once you have communicated and feel you have connected to your Higher Self, ask your Higher Self to help you get rid of the ugly black dots by providing a positive outcome. Visualize disposing the black dots from inside you by blowing them from your mouth into the container (located across from where you are sitting). Continue doing this task until you are completely free of any black dots and you can visualize the container being full.



George Wynne with Martha

8. Take a deep breath and slowly open your eyes and place the black crayon inside the container with the black dots. Next you need to quickly and tightly close the lid to the container, disposing of it outside, away from your possession. You may want to throw the (now heavy) container in an outside trash container or bury it in your yard.

9. Once this task has been completed, sit in a relaxed position and thank your Higher Self for the miracle of healing power from above. Notice any subtle changes in your body and notice that you are free from any negativity and pain. You may begin to feel lighter, happier, and more peaceful without the fear of any physical, mental, or emotional discomfort.

Embrace this special moment that you have created by rewarding yourself in some small manner. You may decide

to watch a favorite television show, or eat that last piece of candy or by having a glass of your favorite liquid “spirit,” or by just remaining “still.” “Thoughts are things,” and each of us has the ability to master control over our life. You are a miracle and you have the capability to create miracles.

[Editor: George left a “secret word” with Martha, which he promised to give to us via EVP. We have shared the word with a “neutral party” and invite all of you to watch for it in your routine EVP recording sessions. Please let Martha know if you have reason to think you made contact; post it in the Idea Exchange or let us know. The utterance will have to be at least a Class B example, so if you get a Class C that sounds like George, tell him he has to do better.]

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## Forensics Certification

Garrett Husveth, a digital forensics examiner, has been working with an audio/video forensic examiner this year, analyzing digital state and federal body wire recordings for voice identification. Garrett says that this is a new area for both the audio and computer forensic field. Garrett is training to become a certified audio and video forensic expert. The process will take him over two years.

Garrett wrote, “I am spending the first week of Dec. with two Russian audio forensic software developers from St. Petersburg. They are trained in audio forensics, physics, and linguistics. The examiners are teaching me to use Russian software named ‘Edit Tracker’, ‘SIS’, and ‘Sound Cleaner’ and I am teaching them how to use American data forensic software.

“Almost all of the audio forensic software of value is coming out of Russia these days. The reason for this is simple. The Russians are way more advanced than the USA or Western Europe in voice/speech analysis. This is because they were unencumbered by laws during the Communist era and bugged everything and everyone they wished, therefore they made huge advances in the edit/speech analysis and voice ID.

“The Russian software companies are owned mostly by ex-KGB who were left with no jobs when the Communist government collapsed, literally overnight. I know the Russian analysis software is always VERY expensive. The programs I bought were over \$6,000, but I need it as part of my certification process.”

We received a fun note from Garrett the first week of December. He wrote, “I am with the Russians now and they are listening to my EVP. They are analyzing it with their software and are blown away. The voices do not meet ‘living’ speech patterns but they admit they are human voices. One member has said that under Soviet rule her police department was contacted by a foreign government (she won’t say who) to analyze ‘voices of the dead.’ She knows about EVP!”

Garrett plans on traveling to St. Petersburg this winter to conduct further analysis.

## Brother Appears in Photo



The porch of old house. Look at the light shining on the wood post.



Light on post enlarged and John

Last Memorial Day, Deborah Preece was visiting with friend, Barbara, who lives in a very old bungalow in Akron, Ohio. Deborah's brother, John, had lived in the house with Barbara in the 70s. John crossed to the other side in May of 1993 before his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday.

When Deborah first arrived, she took some pictures of the home that she had known for over thirty years. This picture was taken of the front porch of the house.

Three months later, Deborah was looking over the photos again and noticed a face on the post of the front porch. She wrote, "I asked my husband who he thought it was and he said, 'Well, it's John.'" She then sent it to Barbara and was on the phone with her when she pulled up the picture. Barbara was very excited and also immediately recognized it as John. Interestingly, the real-life picture of John was taken by Barbara as he posed for her on this very same porch when he lived there many years before.

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## Using Voice Recognition Software for ITC

The following message is from a website visitor:

I had an experience with the software, Dragon Naturally Speaking by Nuance Software [\$99 US funds. See <http://www.nuance.com/>].

Due to my carpal tunnel syndrome I've had to start dictating reports, etc. for work using that software. One Sunday, I decided to dictate my journal rather than typing. When I read the journal, every so often there was a word that was way out of sync with what I was saying. When I pulled each of those words out of the journal they were a personal warning about an upcoming situation with an individual I didn't know very well. Would this be considered EVP? Has anyone else had this experience? Thanks and keep up the good work. L.C.

Unexpected text in voice-recognition software has been described to us before, and it seems to be a possible candidate for research. There are other voice-recognition programs, for instance some versions of Microsoft Word come with voice recognition under the "Speech" item in the "Tools" menu. We would be interested in hearing from others who have had experience with this form of phenomena.

## Janet Lyons

Christine Jenkins was attempting to get some ITC pictures from the other side using a video feedback loop. Christine says that she really didn't have any idea what she was doing but had read about it in the AA-EVP Idea Exchange and decided to try. While setting up the feedback loop, she noticed how quiet the TV was and that it did not have a static sound like some years ago when the static was deafening. Then she noticed that there were sounds and they actually sounded like sentences. Her recorder was sitting right there and she decided to turn it on to see if she would pick up some EVP. During this experiment she had been asking for a sign from her sister that she was okay. Christine's sister Janet crossed over in 2005 after a long battle with cancer.

Christine reviewed the video from her experiment and could find nothing. She then played back the audio from her recorder, a Sony ICD B26, and heard voices. The one that stood out most clearly was, "*I love you but I have to say goodbye.*" Christine wrote, "The 'goodbye' was very clear and is what caught my attention. Sometimes, when you record and hear the messages back, you just *know* it is a certain person. I'm sure that you have experienced this feeling. Well, after listening to this particular recording, I just knew it was a message from Janet."



Janet Lyons

"About a month prior to this, I was speaking with a psychic medium and telling her that I wasn't getting my sister via EVP and that it was getting frustrating because I was receiving messages from others but not from her. She told me that Janet didn't like using this form of communication because she didn't like the way her voice sounded on the recordings. I had to chuckle when I heard this because that was *so* Janet. She wouldn't even leave a message on my answering machine, and then when she would say to me, 'Oh, I called you the other night,' I would say to her, 'Well, why didn't you leave me a message?' Her excuse would be that she didn't like the sound of her voice on recorders.

"I feel her around me ... always, and I have chosen to communicate with her through a medium because of her 'voice phobia' and she has assured me that she is proud of me with all I am doing in this research. So even if I don't receive another message from her on my recorder she is with me and cheering me on."

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## Some Interesting Statistics

The AA-EVP website averages over 45,000 visitors a month. In November the website received 44,041 visitors and 163,152 page views.

## The Skeptical Quagmire

by Miles Edward Allen

Personally I prefer to consider the word of the scientific man who is sacrificing his time, his health and his reputation in the effort to solve a persistent mystery, than the snap judgment of a professional conjurer. ... Hamlin Garland

I've never been comfortable knowing only one side of a story. I insist that my beliefs about an afterlife be based on the best evidence and take into account all the evidence and all the reasonable arguments both for and against that belief. That is why the concept for *The Survival Files* always included a section in which I would present the other side of the issues as objectively and clearly as I could. In pursuit of that goal, I sought the views of the skeptical, the unbeliever, and the agnostic. Much to my dismay, I have found very little worth quoting.

To be sure, there are a few deceitful people ready to relieve you of your purse by faking contact with the spirit world. Some of these villains are so adept at snooping and cold reading and sleight of hand (and foot) that they can fool many of the people much of the time. Thus, in this treacherous world, it is wise to be skeptical. But there are significant differences between being skeptical and being a "professional skeptic" or what I have come to call an "überskeptik" (a term I define as an outspoken proponent of skepticism, whose livelihood, power base, and/or social status depends on bolstering the illusion that all psychic phenomena are bogus).

Being skeptical means being aware of the possibility of fraud and coincidence; being an überskeptik means automatically rejecting all possibilities except fraud and coincidence. Being skeptical means remaining open to all possibilities until one is proven to be correct; being an überskeptik means being closed to any psychic explanation, no matter how strong the evidence or how preposterous the other possibilities. Most critically, being skeptical means giving all sides of an issue a fair hearing; being an überskeptik apparently imparts a willingness to mislead others as to the existence and nature of psychic phenomena.

There are a plethora of überskeptiks in this world. Many are philosophers, some are scientists, and a surprising number are magicians (or, at least, amateur magicians). Several are such skilled communicators that their influence is widespread. It is very likely that readers of this document have been influenced by the works of these professional naysayers, and so I feel I have a duty to expose their devious methods.

The approach most often and enthusiastically followed to obscure evidence for Survival is to attack the character of either the witness or the researchers who present such claims. Of course, if a witness has been known to fabricate experiences or the researcher is known to have falsified data, then it is legitimate to take such dishonesties into consideration when evaluating their claims. Even when there is no hint of past or present fraud, however, überskeptiks often resort to besmirching the people

involved. The stronger and more convincing the evidence, the more the skeptics try to focus attention on irrelevancies such as personality.

Although popular with some in the media—because it makes a good story—I find such name-calling to be divisive and detrimental to the process of understanding and communicating the truth about heaven. Therefore, I shall refrain from using the names of those super skeptical philosophers, scientists, and magicians here. The reader needs to be on the lookout for the tactics I describe herein no matter from whom they originate. And the entrenched überskeptiks will know who I am talking about anyway.

### Ad Hominem

Since we have already described the focus-on-the-person-not-the-facts approach, I'll start with a few actual examples.

A classic instance of what I call The MacLaine Maneuver (named in honor of dear Shirley, who has been the subject of more skeptics' attempts at humor than any other person) is provided by a long-time critic of the idea of reincarnation. This maneuver involves belittling an idea by poking fun at its proponents. A common way to do that is to suggest that Shirley MacLaine has been in some way associated with them. In attempting to denigrate the past-life regressionist, Dr. Helen Wambach, this critic refers to her as "a star of the tabloids and one of the 'authorities' to whom Shirley MacLaine appeals for a scientific underpinning of her investigation."

Dr. Wambach has done considerable research on people who, under hypnosis, seem to remember past lives. This is similar to the work of the Drs. Goldberg, Netherton, Newton, and many other regression therapists. What really draws this critic's scorn, however, is Wambach's and Goldberg's experiments with progressive hypnosis. He begins his commentary with: "In recent years, past-life regressionists have extended their activities to explorations of future lives." (In fact, the only thing recent is his awareness of the subject; hypnotic progressions have been going on at least since 1910.) He then lampoons the idea, calling Dr. Goldberg a "comedian" of "stupendous talent" and making the MacLaine reference to Dr. Wambach. All this without the slightest mention of any of the mountains of evidence that Goldberg and Wambach have compiled.

Another popular way to imply that people are whackos is to put their names in the same sentence as a reference to UFOs. For instance, when a critic wished to call Dr. Gary Schwartz' character into question—without, of course, risking a libel suit—he wrote: "It might be a warning sign to us that Schwartz was educated at Harvard, which also gave us Dr. John Mack, the man who apparently has never met anyone who hasn't been abducted by space aliens."

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**The Skeptical Quagmire** Continued from page 14  
(The fact that several other überskeptics have also attended Harvard is, naturally, not mentioned.)

Or, observe the not-so-subtle linking in the following comment by another überskeptic: “Unless carefully controlled studies and standards are applied, people can deceive themselves and others into believing that almost anything is true and real—from past-life regression and extraterrestrial abductions to satanic infestations and near-death experiences.” Apparently the writer hopes that his readers will be so alienated by aliens or distracted by the devil that they will forget about those cases that have been subject to careful controls.

### **Guilt by Association**

Here is a quote from a popular skeptical magazine. The author’s statements are technically true—his implications are not.

“The Society for Psychical Research was founded in 1882 ... These researchers examined reports of apparitions and ghostly hauntings.... Many famous mediums such as Eusapia Palladino (in Italy) and Leonora Piper (in Boston) were tested under controlled conditions in an effort to determine whether they possessed extraordinary powers.

“Palladino was especially elusive, and the scientific community was split as to whether she was fraudulent.... Palladino was also tested in the United States at Harvard by Hugo Muensterberg (1909) and at Columbia University (1910) by a team of scientists; and in both cases the physical levitation of the table behind her and the feeling of being pinched by her spirit control (called John King) was found to be caused by her adroit ability to stretch her leg in contortions and to pinch sitters with her toes, or levitate a small table behind her. This was detected by having a man dressed in black crawl under the table and see her at work.” [Emphasis added.]

The final sentence of the first paragraph quoted is correct — both Palladino and Piper were famous and they were both tested. The next paragraph, detailing some of the tests that Palladino failed, is also accurate—some legitimate questions were raised concerning Palladino’s physical effects. But—and this is a huge BUT—Leonora Piper was never, ever accused of cheating by any of those who studied her first hand. As detailed in numerous books and articles, Piper was scrutinized, examined, and analyzed by the most hard-nosed skeptics and the most experienced investigators for decade after decade. One of these skeptical investigators, Professor Richard Hodgson, of Cambridge University, had been a key player in “exposing” Eusapia Palladino and had announced his intention to do likewise to Piper. Not only did he find absolutely no evidence of fraud, but, after ten years of careful study, Hodgson publicly admitted that he had been wrong and that, in his own words, “I have no hesitation in affirming with the most absolute assurance that the ‘spirit’ hypothesis is justified by its fruits.” He was joined in his endorsement of an afterlife by two other highly respected

skeptics who investigated Piper; Professor James Hyslop of Columbia and Professor William James of Harvard.

The material quoted above demonstrates a favored technique that scientism’s true believers use to deal with evidence that contradicts their creed—i.e., guilt by association. Since the article’s author could say nothing directly against Piper, he introduces her in the same breath as Palladino, hoping that his readers will absorb the unstated but implied idea that both have been discredited. He even says that Palladino “was especially elusive, and the scientific community was split as to whether she was fraudulent,” thereby encouraging his readers to infer that, in contrast, Piper was easily exposed and scientists were unanimous in their claims of fraud. (Also, he talks about Palladino pulling tricks in dark rooms, but he fails to mention that Piper worked in rooms that were fully illuminated.)

But the author is not done making unwarranted associations: “Late in his career the famous magician Houdini (1874-1926) exposed several bogus mediums. By the 1920s the spiritualist movement was thoroughly discredited, because when the controls were tightened, the effect disappeared.” [Emphasis added.]

In truth, the Spiritualist movement was not discredited during the 1920s; two of the world’s best known mediums, Briton Eileen Garrett and American Arthur Ford, were at the height of their careers during the 1930s. Thus, we have here, at best, an opinion stated as a fact. Placing such an opinion immediately after the true (but irrelevant) statement about Houdini, is clearly an attempt to get the reader to falsely assume that Houdini was largely responsible for the exposure of mediums. The final phrase, though—“when the controls were tightened, the effect disappeared”—is simply not true in all cases. With Piper and with others, the controls were tightened and re-tightened to the extreme and the effects just kept on coming.

### **Amazing Omission**

Some debunkers seem quite adept at making relevant facts disappear. Consider, for example, this performance taken from one überskeptic’s on-line newsletter.

The critic begins a segment by offering “a few excerpts, with my comments, about a recent news article ...” This article is about Allison Dubois, the psychic who was the model for the TV show *Medium*. He does not give the name of the newspaper, nor the author, nor any citation that might encourage his readers to look at the entire article. He offers a critique of a couple of the minor examples of Dubois’ paranormal insights as described in the article. He then dismisses the article and changes the subject.

I must say that this critic did precisely what he said he would do—he offered his comments on a few excerpts. And his criticisms have some merit, although his sarcasm is a bit over the top. The trouble lies in what he did not offer. The newspaper article from which his excerpts were taken is the very same article that tells the story of Phran Ginsberg,

Continued page 16

**The Skeptical Quagmire** Continued from page 15 whose teenage daughter, Bailey, died in a car crash in 2002. Let's take a look at the rest of the story.

Dr. Schwartz had set up a telephone connection between Ginsberg, in New York, and Dubois, in Arizona. Neither party knew the other, and Ginsberg was not allowed to speak. Thus, the possibility of prior investigation by the medium was ruled out and educated guesses based on feedback (i.e., cold reading) were impossible.

The article continues: The first thing Dubois said was that she saw a photo of her daughter hugging her sister at a party. At that moment, Ginsberg was looking at a photo of the scene. "Then she told me Bailey wished me 'Happy Valentine's Day.' And that didn't make sense, because it was October," [Ginsberg] said. But later that day, she took the photo from its frame, and on the back Bailey had written 'Valentine's Day Dance.' ...Dubois also had described the accident and Bailey's fatal head injury.

Describing Bailey's head injury is particularly striking for a reading without feedback, but that could be attributed to mental telepathy. The truly evidential piece, of course, is the reference to information known to no living person—the link between the picture and Valentine's Day.

Whether or not this one account is sufficient proof of life after death is a matter for debate, but when überskeptics bring up only irrelevancies while failing to discuss the really impressive evidence, they do their followers a grave disservice.

### **False Consensus**

This is claiming that most people agree with your position without offering any evidence thereof. Consider, for example, the statement: "Reincarnation may be defined as the view that human beings do not, as most of us assume, live only once." This phrase, taken from a series of articles on reincarnation, is both prejudicial and false. The majority of earth's inhabitants believe in some form of reincarnation and the writer cites no survey of his readership to determine their beliefs in the matter.

### **Pretended Ignorance**

This requires blatantly ignoring all existing evidence in favor of something you reject or against something you embrace. Pointing out that another dimension is not necessary for some views of reincarnation, one professional skeptic wrote that it does not depend on "a mysterious realm whose location cannot be specified and which has never been seen or otherwise observed by anybody." In truth, there is ample testimony from people and spirits who have experienced these realms.

### **Arguments Not Evidence**

In philosophy and mathematics one can prove something by argument alone, but in the real world, proof requires evidence. A thousand lengthy expositions as to why something cannot be are no match for a single citation of that something occurring. Überskeptics often drone on for page after page citing this argument and that argument, all

the while refusing to seriously consider any evidence. This is reminiscent of the ancient arguments for the earth being the center of the universe, or the more recent "scientific proofs" that stones cannot fall from the sky.

### **Incomprehensible Equals Impossible**

According to many critics, the most important argument against survival after death is the "body-mind dependence" argument. Many thousands of words have been devoted to various aspects of this argument, but the überskeptics could save us all a lot of eyestrain by condensing their polemics into one simple sentence, to wit: "I don't understand how it could work, therefore it cannot be."

If only they would follow Dr. Jung's lead when that famous psychiatrist stated: "I shall not commit the fashionable stupidity of regarding everything I cannot explain as a fraud."

The idea that "inexplicable equals impossible" is echoed throughout the writings and speeches of überskeptics. Time and again the believer is asked to explain how the mind can survive the death of the brain, or where heaven is located, or why an elderly person's spirit might appear as a younger version of himself, and so on. The answer to all such questions must be "No one knows for sure." But if you are ever faced with such a challenge, you might add that no one knows why electricity works. And no one has ever seen a memory trace in the brain. And, to get down to the real nitty-gritty, no one knows how action at a distance is possible, either. In short, the reality of something is not dependent on our being able to understand it.

God save us from the arrogance of scientists, the condescension of magicians, and the smugness of philosophers!

Miles Edward Allen is the author of *The Survival Files: The Most Convincing Evidence Yet Compiled for the Survival of Your Soul*, and several other books on diverse topics. His two websites dealing with life after death are [www.TheSurvivalFiles.com](http://www.TheSurvivalFiles.com) and [www.SurvivalTop40.com](http://www.SurvivalTop40.com).

Notes for *The Skeptical Quagmire*

1. Garland, Hamlin, *Forty Years of Psychic Research*, MacMillan Co., 1937, p. 146.
2. Hodgson studied Piper almost continuously from 1887 until his death in 1905.
3. Hodgson, Richard, "A Further Record of Observations of Certain Phenomena of Trance," *Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research*, 1897-8, vol. XIII, pp.284-582.
4. Written by Carla McClain and headed "Varied readings on Arizona psychic," the article appeared in the *Arizona Daily Star* on 17 January 2005.
5. Bob Ginsberg, Phran's husband, points out in correspondence with the author that the actual sequence of events was somewhat different than the newspaper article relates (for instance, the statement about the photo was not the first thing Dubois said and Phran did not take the picture from the frame until the next day). Nevertheless, these variations do not affect the strength of the evidence.
6. Carl Gustave Jung, Speech to the SPR, 1919

## Coining the Term, “ITC”

Recently Tom asked Ernst Senkowski about the date that he coined the term, “ITC.” We felt members might enjoy reading his response.

“It is not possible to give an exact date of my coining the term ‘ITC.’ It was sort of a process that started during the early 1980s when I looked for a suitable description of my EVP work. As a long-time radio ham operator, I used (only for myself!) the German neologism **transfunk** with **trans** (for beyond) as opposed to **CIS** (our side), and **funk** for ‘radio’ or ‘wireless.’ As far as I remember, I found the word ‘**Transfunk**’ on my tapes.

“Some time later, I considered this too special so I introduced the more general term **transcommunication**, adding **instrumentell** to discern it from the pure mediumistic activities. This happened during the later 1980s so that I could use it in the first edition of my book *Instrumentelle Transkommunikation* that appeared in 1989.

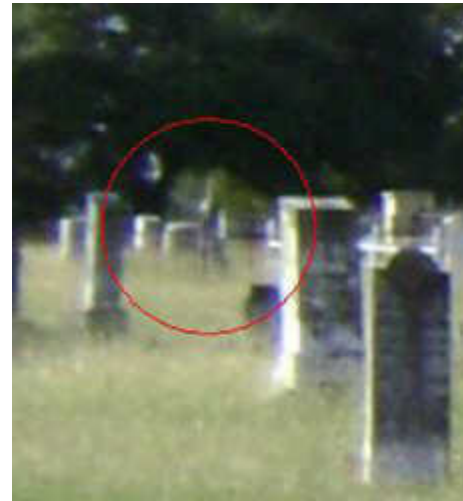
“I should like to add a few remarks: In the eighties it was not so clear as it seems to be now. Apparently the electronic devices are of secondary importance—the main component of ITC is psychic—without a possibility to separate the ‘mind’ or ‘spirit’ of the terrestrial operator from that of an entity in the beyond. The best way out seems to consider ITC as a psychic activity from both sides.

“There is another problem I have difficulty to understand. EVP/ITC in your country seems to be different from ITC, but in my understanding ITC is a superordinate concept comprising all sorts of electronic means and forms of contents (voices, images, computer texts). It may be that for many people the voices are easier to accept, and the other forms ‘far out,’ but basically there is no difference.”

Ernst’s book is available in English at [www.worlditc.org/c\\_07\\_senki\\_00\\_content.htm](http://www.worlditc.org/c_07_senki_00_content.htm) and was introduced onto the web by Ernst’s friend, Rolf-Dietmar Ehrhardt, with the hope that it would reach a bigger audience.

## Cemetery Photo

Christine Jenkins was walking around with her husband and son in a cemetery in Salado, Texas. The cemetery dates back to the early 1800s and they were placing flowers on certain grave stones that seemed to be old and neglected. Christine’s son Braydon stopped at a gravestone and said “I want to give this lady a flower.” Christine wrote, “A little insight about my son; he is twelve and has Cerebral Palsy so for him to pick up that this was the gravestone of a woman was amazing to us. Also the woman’s name was Emily which is the name of Braydon’s puppy, kind of a neat coincidence.”



The person is at the center of the circle. A person who makes a phenomenal appearance in a photograph is referred to as an extra.

Christine started snapping a series of pictures and said out loud, “Braydon wants to give you this flower.” On her recording she found a voice saying “*Okay.*” And in the pictures she found this interesting photo. She wrote, “What my hubby and I are seeing in this photo is a woman walking, she is wearing a vest and what looks like high boots with her pants tucked in. I can say without a doubt that no one was in the cemetery with us.”

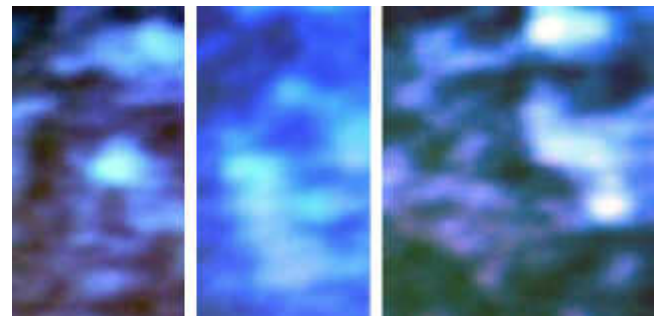


Picture of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is from December 1914 New York Times

## Lance Reed’s ITC

Continued from page 5

Weeks after taking the ITC picture to the left, it occurred to Lance to look for images of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. He wrote, “Don’t ask me why because I have never seen the man before. I knew that he was involved ... with investigating the paranormal.”



Three examples of Lance’s technique

Lance’s website is at [www.lanceitc.com/](http://www.lanceitc.com/)



## Kindred



Kindred

When Margaret Downey took her dog, Kindred, to the vet for a routine checkup, she learned that Kindred's kidneys were functioning at only 25% of normal. The vet guessed Kindred would live, at most, only a few months. That was back in February 2005. Through lots of love and care, which has included daily subcutaneous fluids, Kindred's continued survival has surprised everyone. She's been nicknamed the "Miracle Dog" by the staff of the vet's office.

Recently, a blood test brought an urgent call from the vet who asked Margaret to bring Kindred in immediately. The tests looked bad and the plan was to give Kindred fluids intravenously for three days. Since Margaret has been working so hard to keep her dog alive, she has prepared herself for the worst, but even so, she was not ready to lose Kindred. She wrote to us, "I decided to ask some questions about Kindred in an EVP session. I wanted to know if I should give the IV fluids, and was told, *"It's helping."* And I wanted to know who was going to take care of Kindred when she made her transition. Clearly I'm putting the proverbial cart before the horse, as I'm hearing the attached reply as, *"Not this week. We can help her."* ... I thought it was pretty clear so wanted to share with you. It put a smile on my face."



Kindred and Kizmyt

We wanted to share another picture with you and that is of Margaret's pet cat, Kizmyt. Margaret lovingly calls her "Nurse Kizmyt." As you can see from the picture Kizmyt always comforts Kindred when she is receiving her subcutaneous fluids.

## Cat ITC Image

Margaret Downey got a great ITC image of a cat during one of her sessions in which she photographs moving water ([www.ITCdeadpeople.com](http://www.ITCdeadpeople.com)). Martha Copeland feels it is her cat Sarah Jane who made her transition last year.



Sarah Jane and Margaret's ITC image that looks like her

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## News About Members

- Mark and Debbie Constantino did presentations on EVP at the Virginia City Ghost Conference in November and at the Queen Mary Long Beach Conference in December. They will be at the Las Vegas Paranormal Conference in January and the Tombstone Ghost Conference in February. See [www.spirits-speak.com](http://www.spirits-speak.com).
  - Martha Copeland was a guest on Pamela Edmunds' talk radio show, *Bridge between Two Worlds*.
  - Margaret Downey was a guest on both the Dave Kane radio show and Christine Jenkins live radio show. You can listen to Christine's archived show at [www.blogtalkradio.com/CJEVP](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/CJEVP).
  - Garrett Husveth did twenty-three lectures on the paranormal in October. Garrett sold twenty copies of the AA-EVP book, *There is No Death and There are No Dead*, getting information out to more people on EVP. He also donated money from the book sales back to the Association! Thank you, Garrett! See [www.hauntednewjersey.com](http://www.hauntednewjersey.com)
  - Rob Smith wrote that after two years it is finally a reality—the first Australian website dedicated to EVP/ITC research and awareness! See <http://evp-itc-australia.org/> to take a look at Rob's new website.
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## Big Circle Recording Dates

Please think about recording with the Big Circle on these dates: January 11 and 25, February 8 and 22, March 7 and 21 and April 4 and 18. Then go to the Big Circle area on the AA-EVP message board, the Idea Exchange, at [www.aaevp.com/ideaexchange/](http://www.aaevp.com/ideaexchange/) and share what you recorded. Many members have gotten recordings that are meant for other members. By recording together we build the energy!

## Researcher Reports

- Randy Baker shared his first EVP. It was captured at the Rose Hill cemetery near Antioch, California. Randy wrote, "My wife and I were chatting, and I guess that bothered the spirit, as she says, ***"I want be less noise."*** Clearly it is an older woman with a bit of an accent. It was captured with an RCA digital recorder. We were all alone, and the nearest town is several miles away.
- Cindy Blake runs the Michigan Ghost Watchers and says that her group uses several methods for capturing EVP but they find that they get more by sitting down with a recorder and talking to the spirits than by just turning one on and walking away.
- Lloyd Bradshaw, Jr. recalls a recording from a couple of years ago when he asked, "Where's heaven?" He recorded, ***"We're in heaven."*** Recently he asked "Is heaven here?" and got a reply in his mother's voice saying, ***"That's right."***
- Chris Cook was at a local cemetery in Cape Sable Island, Nova Scotia and asked if there were any spirits present that could hear his voice. The EVP message that came after his question was, ***"Gone up into heaven."***
- Debbie Caruso's son Joey would have been twenty years old on 9/11/07. That day she recorded him saying, ***"Ma - I love you."*** Debbie wrote, "His message gave me the strength to get through that day!"
- Margaret Downey got this interesting ITC picture of a cat. She also recently recorded Karen Mossey's son Rob saying, ***"Rob."*** Karen wrote to Margaret saying that it sounded just like how Rob would say his name.
- Christine Jenkins wrote, "... my son is very sensitive to spirit. I was speaking with him one day about spirits and heaven and he had tons of questions (of course). So I decided to turn on my recording while we were talking to see if anyone would chime in, because I find this method works well. He was telling me that he in fact has five angels. He even gave me their names. During this recording session you hear my son say 'The Angels almost like he sees them, and then all of a sudden this loud voice comes through saying ***"Hey lil guy."*** This was a very strange recording because to me it sounded exactly like his father, who at the time of the recording was over two-thousand miles away. Needless to say I had to get on the phone and make sure he hadn't transitioned without us knowing. It was that clear!"
- Neil Kiernan recorded EVP after he asked his father to leave a message for his atheist brother, Donald. He got his father's voice saying, ***"Tell Don I love him ... not that it will help."*** Neil wrote, "The only person who called Donald 'Don' was my father. He was right; Donald believes we just picked up a stray telephone call. My brother Paul was watching Donald as I played the EVP for him. He said Donald looked shocked. Everyone else in my family now admits something supernatural is happening. Donald is the last holdout, which is strange because he fears death so much."
- John Kurkis had his recorder on as he was walking along an area of graves at the Gates of Heaven Cemetery in Mount Royal, New Jersey. He was not asking any questions and recorded a child saying, ***"Goodbye, Grandpa."***
- Clara Laughlin wrote to us saying that longtime member, Anne Smisko, had made her transition in August. She recorded during the funeral and received, ***"She's OK," "Clara, she's still asleep ... Mike ... Elsie."*** Mike is Anne's husband and Elsie is a sister-in-law. Clara did get a direct message from Anne just a few days later.
- Madeline Pettengill was very excited about a recording that she got the day after Thanksgiving. It was, ***"Mom's wishes."*** Madeline wrote that she had captured it in her bedroom and that it was the clearest EVP that she has gotten so far. She thought her mom was giving her a belated blessing.
- Lance Reed shared an EVP and wrote, "You hear me talking, then a lady tries to come in right at the beginning of the recording. Then at the end, when I say 'may peace be with you,' you hear the same voice saying, ***"And you!"*** It was recorded at 3am with only me in the room. Kind of cute, I thought."
- Sara Rubin is trying to record EVP but wrote that they had gotten a very clear phone call, answered by two family members (on extensions) at the same time, right after their daughter made her transition. After Sara's husband said "Hello," Sara writes that, "Chiya's voice said loud and enthusiastic, ***"Dad,"*** and then the line went dead. Sara wonders why these direct spontaneous unexpected phone calls are so clear and unmistakable, compared to EVP which are much more obscure.
- Debra Shapiro was recording during the third investigation of a private residence and recorded ***"I'm right beside you."*** The voice sounds like that of a little girl. The homeowner reported that the voice sounds like one that she has heard in the house before.
- David Sircom sent in a couple of recordings that his group got at Alumni Hall at Springfield College. They asked if the spirit could make the light flash if he wanted them to and recorded, ***"I think I'm bored with you."***
- Vicki Talbott's friend Dorothy recently lost her battle with cancer and is now communicating with Vicki from the other side. During a recording session, Vicki asked if Dorothy was there. First a male voice answers, ***"She's just fine ... she's here."*** Then Vicki hears Dorothy saying, ***"They have classes!"*** Vicki wrote "That would be so interesting if the Big Circle held classes for those who wish to learn how to communicate!"
- Leslie Taylor had given up looking for a particular grave and found an EVP at the end of her recording that said, ***"Too much trouble."***

## YouTube Video is Available on CD

The [Big Circle YouTube video](#) is available on a CD as a one-part file. We know that some of you do not have access to the Internet and would like to view this fourteen minute minidocumentary. We also know that some of you would like to show this to a friend, and having it on a CD would make that easier to do.



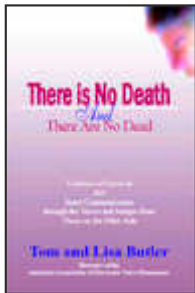
The CDs are \$12.50 each (US funds) including mailing. You can order online at:

[http://aaevp.com/resources/books\\_order.htm](http://aaevp.com/resources/books_order.htm)

or by writing to:

**AA-EVP, PO Box 13111, Reno, NV 89507, USA.**

### There is No Death and There are No Dead



The book is receiving praise as an important EVP/ITC learning tool. Why not consider giving a signed copy as a gift to yourself or a friend?

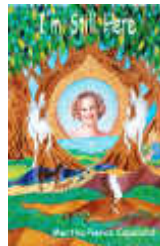
You can order a signed copy at [aaevp.com](http://aaevp.com) or a letter with signing instructions to:

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## AA-EVP Membership Form

You can also use the online form at [http://aaevp.com/online\\_membership\\_form.htm](http://aaevp.com/online_membership_form.htm)

<b>Members</b>	\$30.00 per year
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Membership includes quarterly NewsJournal, optional Member Registry, discussion board and archive access.

**You must be 21 years old or older to be an AA-EVP member.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Member Registry? \_\_\_\_\_ Include Physical Address? \_\_\_\_\_ Include Email Address? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to receive the newsletter via postal service? \_\_\_\_\_ or via email? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you record EVP? \_\_\_ Plan to record? \_\_\_ Do you have research/development background that may apply to EVP? \_\_\_

**In addition to my annual dues, I am enclosing a DONATION of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to support the work and programs of the AA-EVP**

By indicating that I want to share my name and address with others on the Member Registry, I realize they are private and I agree that other names on the list will not be given to anyone who is not on the list, used for commercial purposes or the furtherance of personal causes. I also understand my membership will be terminated if I violate this agreement. I certify that I am twenty-one years of age or older. I understand that the AA-EVP is not liable for the results of EVP/ITC experiments that I might conduct, and that the Association is also not liable for damages due to the use of information it publishes on the Internet or in literature such as the NewsJournal. Officers of the AA-EVP reserve the right to refuse membership to anyone.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: AA-EVP, PO Box 13111, Reno, NV 89507, USA**