

From Our Viewpoint

Feedback from members is always important because it helps us understand how well we are doing our job. Our members represent four very different, but we think equally important, areas of interests.

The largest group is people who have lost a loved one and seek to find a way to assure themselves the loved one is okay on the other side. For them, the science of EVP is not nearly as important as the ability to make contact with a loved one.

Some members are simply interested in what we are doing. In effect, they are subscribing to the NewsJournal as they would to any other special-interest publication. We always try to keep these members in mind by including news about the state of the art in our field.

A third group is composed of people who actively study EVP in an effort to find ways to improve the technology. They try just about every imaginable approach, and in the process, give us important understanding of what works and what does not. This is an important point: science cannot happen without skilled practitioners. Skilled practitioners only come from practice, practice, practice.

The last and smallest group are the scientists. EVP is a frontier subject, and as such, there are no scientists who have been trained in an academically accredited institution to study EVP. So when we say “scientists,” we mean people who are approaching the study of EVP from an academic viewpoint, but with training in other subjects such as the humanities and the physical sciences.

If you have been with us very many years, you will know that we have attempted to support all four groups. We try to word the website in a way that science-minded visitors will feel they are dealing with rational people, and at the same time, we try to include articles in the NewsJournal that give hope and inspiration to people interested only in contacting a loved one.

The Sarah Estep Research Fund is our first serious effort to begin initiating research. Meanwhile, we have established the Etheric Studies website (ethericstudies.org) in an effort to foster a culture of cooperation amongst involved organizations and a habit of critical thinking, in place of the faith-based explanations so prevalent in our field today.

Interestingly, the members who have given us the most feedback have been people trying to contact a loved one. It seems that, whenever we begin to question how well we are leading the AA-EVP, we hear from someone telling us that EVP has helped them and how important the contact is to them.

We recently received a very good letter from one of our more academically trained members, commenting on the contrast between anecdotal articles about making contact

with loved ones and the more technical ones we include in the NewsJournal. To quote in regards to this dichotomy, “Both constituencies are valid and have a right to be served by the organization, but mixing them together in the same publication not only does not facilitate acceptance of EVP investigations by mainstream science but decidedly works against it.”

We have given these comments considerable thought. This field needs the support of academically trained researchers, but we also know that mainstream funding organizations are not going to fund our research. It is the person seeking to contact a loved one who has the most to gain by improved techniques for EVP and they are the ones who are funding this research.

It is also true that EVP cannot be studied using techniques of mainstream science. As we have seen in parapsychology, trying to act as if things etheric can be measured as if they were physical simply does not produce the kind of evidence the mainstream public is looking for. We have learned that EVP must be studied from the perspective of studying how a subjective influence causes an objective effect. The objective (physical) part of EVP can be studied using mainstream science, but the results will be meaningless if the subjective (etheric) part is not considered.

In fact, we feel the AA-EVP NewsJournal reflects that need to consider both parts. Separating them, perhaps with two publications, would also separate people seeking contact with a loved one from people who simply want to study the involved processes. Both interest groups need the other to complete the picture.

A Technical Article

The *Physical Processes Involved in Trans-etheric Influences* article in this issue is an effort to develop a model for how the phenomenal voices might be formed. It is complex, and may require a lot of contemplation before it makes sense. To keep it brief, we have left a lot of the detail out, so that will be in a more robust version on the website after we have received a few comments.

The assumption of the article is that EVP are the result of a subjective influence producing an objective effect. We know that the entity works with subjective, etheric, conceptual energy, and here in the physical, we have to work with concrete things. We assume that a physical process is involved and that we can understand what that is. Our thought is that it is time to stop simply talking about these things and to begin modeling what we think may be going on. If we are wrong, then the model will help us understand that and we will have something we can change rather than needing to start from scratch.

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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 or mail to AA-EVP, PO Box 13111, Reno, NV 89507, USA.

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The Felix Physical Séance Circle

by K.M.

[Editor: this material has been extracted from <http://felixcircle.blogspot.com>.]

In the year 2005, several people founded an experimental circle for séance room phenomena, physical mediumship and spirit communication near Frankfurt, Germany. The group was inspired by the work of R. Foy, K. Batcheldor, J. Neihardt and supported through the findings of S. Braude and R. Pilkington a.m.o. researchers and experimenters; the circle was, from the beginning, prepared for a long-term project. After months of resultless experimenting, the first weird occurrences began taking place...

At the end of 2008, one of our trance-personalities, “Rafael Gutmann,” announced there would be a change to a higher-leveled personality. This entity first came through under very unnerving circumstances. The trance induction had changed and was accompanied by heavy hyperventilating and the entrancing ten minutes were very exhausting for all present. Later the entity explained that energy assimilation was the problem. Moreover, the new entity did not want to reveal its name and worked under a pseudonym at the beginning. At this time it only could speak in a very difficult, but interesting manner. It sounded like a radio that loses its signal; the pitch of the voice seemed to increase and decrease in a way, while it was permanently changing its audibility. During this it alternated between fast speeches in a high-pitched voice with changes to a slower, very deep grumbling voice which was nearly inaudible. This was very interesting to observe.

Rafael had already told us that the flamboyant pseudonym “Imperator” was disguising an influential German scientist who wanted to work with us but did not want to reveal his identity until it was clear that a transferring of information through the entranced sitter, the medium, was possible. Later we learned that Imperator chose this name, because some of his scholars called him that unofficially.

Imperator changed the whole process of sitting that we had used for over four years. He urged us to discuss certain spiritual issues and inspired us with new meditations and visualizations. Moreover he wanted us to reflect on the possibilities of ITC and psychic photography and its possibilities and boundaries.

He introduced us to a planetary energy used by spirit helpers and instructed us in meditations to communicate with that energy. At the same time, we applied advice given by Robin Foy and the Scole entities. The trance contents seemed to interact and somehow replenish with these.

Then, what many already were expecting; Imperator identified himself as the deceased German icon of parapsychology, Professor Hans Bender. He gave us many details from his life, mentioning names, dates, and things that he had done, as well as things that he had ignored during his earth time. He also told us of experiments he was once part of in the nineties regarding the issue that he was passionate about; ITC and EVP. He had been involved in working with Friedrich Jürgenson, Klaus Schreiber, Ernst Senkowski, and V. Delavre along with many others. Hans Bender (1907-1991) was in fact part of ITC experiments from both

“sides.” He was involved in the nineties when German and Luxembourgian researchers were contacted by him. During these transcommunications, he called himself “Spook-Bender” like he did when he was communicating through our entranced sitter.



First picture cropped and enhanced for clarity

Bender instructed our group at the beginning of June to begin to try our first experiments. We were urged to gather the no-longer-produced Polaroid 600 model and sufficient film. After much effort and many Euros later we had several Polaroid cameras from different production years as well as fresh film.

After this, we sat ready to take pictures and realized that the preparation process seemed to be taking longer than expected. A mirror was requested—large enough to focus onto it and positioned in such a way as to have a sufficient visible area that reflected the area above the séance table. This area had been mentioned many times in the months before as the area where new phenomena should appear!

We sat Tuesday the 21st of July with nine out of eleven sitters. We waited to see if Hans Bender wanted to process what he had been planning. For the first ninety minutes, Hans Bender came through quickly and well balanced for the medium, now perfectly assimilated. He greeted those back from holiday, he thanked the others who organized the needed objects and announced that after an enquiry at “the Chemists” (a word signifying a group of spirit helpers he mentioned for the first time), he was instructed to inform us that it was possible to take one photo as long as his instructions were absolutely thoroughly followed.

We were instructed to:

- Choose one sitter besides the circle leader and wake the medium up so that there were three of us involved.
- Prepare absolute total darkness; if any light touched the outside transported photo, the Chemists’ work would be destroyed.

Continued page 4

The Felix Circle Continued from page 3

- Place the mirror on the séance table in a position where it would reflect the area above the table.
- Have the medium open the Polaroid camera, so that a green light illuminated the whole photographing process.
- Position the chosen sitter beside the photographer who was to take the photograph and to immediately put it into the wooden box and hand it to the Circle Leader, Dr. P.J., who should not let loose of the box until the end of the séance at around 11 p.m. At that time, he would be allowed to open the box to see if the experiment had been successful!

So after these instructions, Hans Bender withdrew from the medium and the medium woke up. We were eager to see if it was really possible to get some results. We turned the lights on to organize everything that was requested. We then switched the lights off again and began to talk freely knowing, that the moment the sitter opens the camera (the Polaroid 600 has to be swung-open to be able to take a picture) and the green light appears on it, seconds later the photo will be taken. And so it went! (Although the photographer forgot to close the swung open part after the photo was transported outside and taken by the person with the box, we achieved the first exciting result, especially if we compare it with the two control photos we shot soon after the discovery. (See the picture on the previous page.)

Although we can not definitely state what it is, we absolutely know that it is not a reflection of anything in the room. We sit in a completely wood-paneled room, and a reflection would have shown maybe the diagonal wooden ceiling panels but nothing else.

The moment the picture was taken, two sitters had interesting visual sensations. One of them saw a gray whirly sea out of an unknown substance directly above the mirror, while the other saw, for several seconds, an old man's face with gray hair and a thin long nose; probably Hans Bender, although she had never seen him before. Both of these women very seldom *see* anything in the darkened room and never things that aren't objectively there!

What this first picture showed was a mystery to us but we felt that it was similar to the results of other groups and experimenters in psychic photography. Maybe it shows an underwater scene, or a cave scene. Some people see faces, others do not. Is it a work of art or a photo of something natural? Even if we never learn what it is, we are very lucky and highly proud and thankful for being able to show what commitment and disciplined work can bring forward.

On August 11, 2009, the group came together again to see what the spirit control team was planning and if further photos could be achieved. Much earlier than normal, the channeling sitter announced he recognized the energy matrix of the entity, Hans Bender, the deceased icon of German Parapsychology.... He began to give very thorough descriptions of what steps we needed to execute in order to receive a successful outcome. First he greeted the ten sitters

who were present and thanked them for being part of the experiments.

He explained that in fact, the channeling sitter has no bigger part in the production of the psychic photos and other phenomena than any other attending circle member. The necessity to give highly detailed channeled instructions was the only reason why the sitter's channeling efforts were essential. He explained that it is the trance *per se*, that opens the access to deeper realms of reality, where it is possible to influence the dimensional matrixes that create the physical realm and enable us to produce physical phenomena. This deeper level is a spiritual level, because the highly complex physical reality is nothing but a mental, a spiritual concept that interacts with our consciousness to create the illusion we live in as long as we are burdened with our physical body. This is why spiritual entities are free of the limitations of time and space....

We were told that there were two loving spirits standing very near to the circle. Hans Bender then went on to reveal the conduct for today's experiments. This time, four photos were planned by the Chemists. He told us that maybe the spirits who were close would be able to display themselves somehow in the photographs.

Next, we were instructed for over twenty minutes on how to achieve positive results:

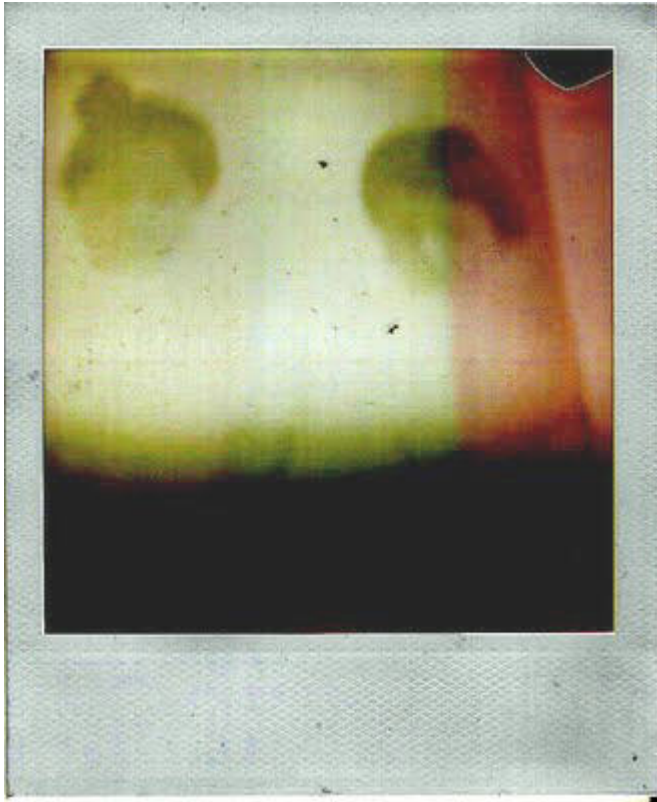
- Three sitters had to be involved: one photo taker; one who immediately takes the exposed film and stores it into a wooden box; and, one sitter that guards the box with all photos in it until we are told it is okay to look into it.
- The photo taker had fifteen minutes, after all preparations were done (placing the mirror on the table, choosing the Polaroid and having the box ready) and the light was extinguished again, to choose when to take the shots ... and give them to the adjoining sitter.
- The photo taker was to open the camera to illuminate the shooting process with the green control light. After everybody saw the photo transported to the outside, the camera had to be closed immediately, avoiding the green light destroying the Chemists preparations.

Unfortunately, closing of the camera, the reopening took several seconds to get the green light back on, and only fourteen seconds were allowed. This put us under considerable time pressure that led to the fact that two of four times the photo taker forgot to close the camera before handing the photo to the adjoining sitter with the wooden box. This may be what caused two photos to have no results.

- Finally, after all photos were stored in the box, it had to be handed to the circle leader, who was to hold the box for exactly thirty-seven minutes in front of his stomach, between the navel and the lap area. We have no idea why, but the spirit entities had their reasons and we followed their directions.

Exactly thirty-seven minutes after the last photo was taken, we left the séance room and lit the bright white light in the corridor to check the outcome.

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Polaroid photograph showing two faces

Above is one of the four photos taken during that session. We have not discovered who the two figures are. We do not even know if these figures are the spirit entities allegedly standing near the sitters' circle as was mentioned by Hans Bender. On the other hand, the pictures are basically much too cloudy to identify someone without a shadow of a doubt. Nevertheless three sitters, a mother and her two daughters, felt that they might have an idea who the figures are and they are researching by checking old family photos.... When we discover more, we will let you know.

The group met again on August 27th. The group began as usual with a greeting, a prayer and two hypnotic visualizations; all done to optimize the conditions of the group and the surroundings. This was followed by what the group calls "free speech." Sitters chat, sing and laugh with no restrictions whatsoever on their communication attempts (except for the basic behavior rules, naturally). This phase helps to relax the sitters' concentrations on personal issues and give subconscious impulses more room!

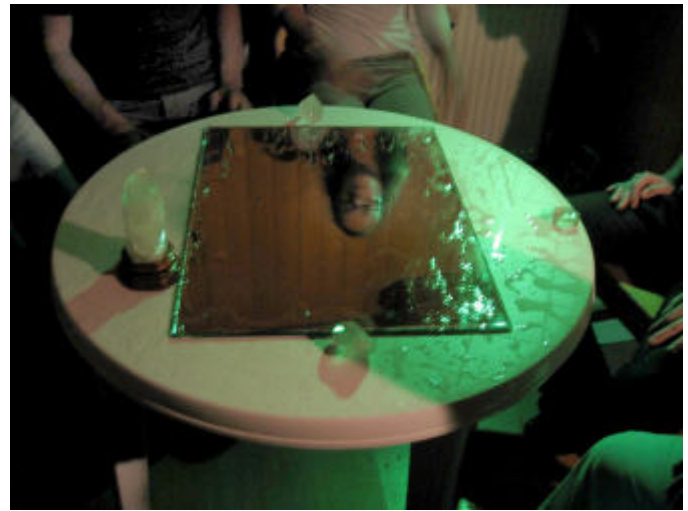
The medium announced that Hans Bender would definitely speak that evening, but at that point, it seemed Hans Bender was unsatisfied somehow and we were requested by the sitter, who at this point was already receiving content from the spirit energy matrix of Bender, to speak with one another or to sing with the music.

Then, SPLASH! With a loud splash, like a water balloon, a huge mass of water came down from above the center of the séance table, splattered in all directions and drowned everything, mainly the sitters' laps and trousers.

"I hope you will forgive us. You unwillingly became part of an experiment by the Chemists who were testing differ-

ent densities to bring objects successfully through! I want to say sorry, but you can be sure it is only water. To be exact: 1.0 liters of crystal clear blue, pure water. Is everybody okay again?" The spirit or trance-entity Prof. Hans Bender asked smirking. The sitters, who were sitting in their wet trousers, answered, "Yes, no problem, Hans! We will be dried again soon!"

Soon everything was in order again and that evening, Hans Bender came through with an unmistakable presence and charisma that astonished us. For the first time he was so well assimilated with the medium's body that for nearly an hour we were allowed to ask questions. These were answered with wisdom and humor and we all were deeply impressed.



Water can be seen on mirror and table

In the last part of the sitting, Hans Bender was very pragmatic and giving instructions before vanishing. He offered us a new experiment in psychic photography, but explained that there were certain energetic issues that would cause a failure this time. He recommended that we wait until the following week to work with the psychic photography.

[Editor: We have to end with the August 27th sitting due to our print deadline. We look forward to the continued experiments of the Felix Circle and will update you next quarter on their results. We thank them for their hard work and for sharing their results with our members. Please see <http://felixcircle.blogspot.com/> for current information on the group.]

Media Watch

Lisa Butler has been writing a monthly "Media Watch" column for the *National Spiritualist Summit* magazine since August, 2001. The column contains items in the news that demonstrate the scientific support for paranormal phenomena and survival. All of the columns through 2008 are available at <http://renospiritualistchurch.org/>.

No Need to “Let Go” of Loved Ones after Death

by Michael Tymn

Previously published in *The Searchlight*, June 2009

There is a school of thought among psychologists and grief counselors that the aggrieved person should find closure by “letting go” and getting on with his or her life. Nothing is more wrong, Dr. Louis LaGrand believes. We should be saying *hello* to our deceased loved ones, not *goodbye*.

“Of all the misconceptions associated with the grief process, none is more damaging than the idea that mourners must let go of the deceased and find closure,” LaGrand, a semi-retired professor, opines. He agrees, however, that you can hold on “too tightly” to the past and that this can prevent the mourner from rebuilding his or her life in the present. He distinguishes between “love” and “attachment,” pointing out that love is being fully committed to the welfare of the departed, while attachment is being more concerned with one’s own needs. “In short, mourners should establish a new relationship with the deceased and *reinvest in life* at the same time,” he offers.

The author of eight books and numerous articles, LaGrand, who lives in Florida, is known world-wide for his research on the Extraordinary Experiences (EEs) of the bereaved, otherwise known as After-Death Communication or ADC. EEs, LaGrand stresses, are not messages coming through mediums or psychics. Rather they involve such phenomena as seeing apparitions, hearing the deceased person, having a scent of the deceased person, intuitively feeling the person’s presence, sometimes even feeling a touch, receiving meaningful symbols and signs, and having vivid dreams about the deceased loved one.

With advanced degrees from Columbia University, the University of Notre Dame and Florida State University, LaGrand is a distinguished service professor emeritus at State University of New York, as well as a certified grief counselor. He gives workshops on grief support and stress reduction in schools, hospices, and health agencies around the United States and abroad. Recently, I had the opportunity to sit down with him and discuss his years of work with the bereaved and his study of EEs.

“The scientific method does not lend itself well to examining spontaneous events or intuitive faculties,” LaGrand says, “and so these things must necessarily fall under the umbrella of the paranormal, but they should not be brushed aside and ignored because they do not meet scientific criteria, as they bring about healing and expanded consciousness for mourners and give meaning to life.”

As LaGrand sees it, the hope generated by EEs and other forms of after-death communication, including mediumship and near-death experiences, is the most unappreciated

virtue in coping with loss and change, especially the death of a loved one.

To deal with grief, LaGrand recommends keeping a journal, noting synchronicities and asking yourself what the message is, reading some of the powerful evidence of the spirit world, starting a daily spiritual practice, whether meditating, writing, chanting, or simply taking time out to talk with our loved ones in spirit.

“Without a doubt,” he responds when asked if believers are more open to accepting the death of a loved one than non-believers. “They believe the beloved is in a better place, out of pain, and most comforting, that there will be a reunion one day. There will always be a relationship and death cannot take it away. This also implies that they are still loved and have an advocate on the other side.”

LaGrand’s interest in dying and death began some 40 years ago when he attended a conference on human ecology

along with several of his fellow educators. On the drive home from the conference, the subject of dying and death was brought up by one of his colleagues. “I realized then how little I knew about the topic and decided I needed a crash course on the subject,” he recalls. “The next semester, I included a short mini-course on the topic in the Human Ecology course and the students loved it. Within the space of a year I was able to get approval for the first full semester course on dying and death to be taught at the college. Of course, this meant I had to do a lot of study and preparation which brought me to joining the Association for Death Education and Counseling. There I learned much over the years from colleagues I befriended.”

As for dealing with the dying, especially in hospice work, it would be ideal if all the terminally-ill had the knowledge and conviction of the Spiritualist and LaGrand would be happy if his books, including *Love Lives On* and *After Death Communication: Final Farewells*, were more widely available to hospice patients, but the reality is that few hospice administrators and volunteers are prepared to discuss such things. “Hospice philosophy does not push knowledge about an afterlife on its patients,” LaGrand explains. “This does not mean that the topic does not come up. Hospice personnel allow the dying person to take the lead in this regard. Some dying people want to talk about it. Others do not.”

As with hospitals, hospices can differ significantly when it comes to discussing the afterlife, depending on who is in the leadership positions and who is in the trenches, LaGrand points out. “Officially, administrators seem to want to be

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Dr. Louis LaGrand

Kevin's Messages

The Spring 2009 NewsJournal included an article about Lorelei McMorrow's brother, Kevin, who transitioned in December. Lorie was devastated. She was too devastated to record, so she asked for help. Here is an interesting timeline of what happened next.



Kevin

December 8: Kevin crosses.

December 9: Lorie sends an email telling us about Kevin's crossing and asks for help. We posted her request on the Idea Exchange asking members to try to reach him.

December 11: Debbie Caruso received the first message that sounds like, "*Lorie, get on the phone. I'm in heaven.*"

December 12: Teri Daner recorded, "*I'm (or Hi) Kevin, Glad to talk. Geoff.*"

December 13: Margaret Downey asked Kevin if he can talk to Lorie. She recorded "*Yeah,*" and "*Hey Lorie, Cheers, It's Kevin!*"

Lorie told us, "It's interesting how Kevin went to a person on each side of the country and in the middle. Maybe it was his way of showing us what he can do now. He wanted to travel!"

December 13: Lorie emailed a picture of herself and Kevin to a friend, but in her "Sent" folder the subject line had been changed from "Pic of Kevin & Lorie" to "Picture of Fire at Organ Mountain." When Lorie checked the date of the fire she found that it occurred on June 14th, the same day that Kevin wrote the family a letter, "If I am to pass..."

December 16: Debbie Caruso and Lorie conducted a recording session over the phone and received several more messages. Debbie says his energy feels very strong.

December 17: Kim, Lorie's sister, has a dream in which Kevin visits her and shows her his house and that he is seeing everything that is happening....

Lorie wrote: "In a little over a week's time Kevin managed to get messages of his survival through to family members and strangers alike! I've since received several EVP from him. A few are, "*With you, Kevin.*" "*Kevin, love you.*" and "*Lorie, I love it!*"

"It's just so wonderful! It would have been so much more difficult to bear his loss without the EVP. It amazes me how quickly Kevin obviously adjusted on the other side. I know time is measured differently there (if at all!), but if I were to use earthly time, I would say that on December 9th, Kevin was reuniting with loved ones. On the 10th they were no doubt trying to get him to rest up and take some time to do whatever healing he may need. But I can hear him now saying, "I'm fine! Don't need to rest or go to any hospital!" and "I have to let Mom and Dad know I'm alright. And Lorie's waiting to hear..."

Kevin had cancer and no insurance and it was devastating for his family. Thanks to Lorie you can now see Kevin's story on President Obama's Healthcare Stories page (<http://stories.barackobama.com/healthcare/stories/165508>)

No Need to "Let Go"

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politically correct and not say it is policy to discuss the hereafter," he adds. "Without a doubt many people want to talk about what's next. One of the important skills of the caregiver is to determine when an opening for discussion presents itself." But many caregivers are schooled in orthodox religion and therefore not prepared to discuss the subject in a meaningful way. And, of course, there is also the problem of the pastors who serve the hospices and the dying patients. "There are some denominations in orthodox religion who believe the devil is behind much of the communication that is claimed by mourners," LaGrand says, shaking his head. "However, Catholics, Episcopalians, and some others are open to the possibility by way of the Doctrine of the Communion of Saints. When I deal with a conflict, as I did once with a Baptist minister, I let the person do all the talking and make no attempt to change his views. Why? Because both sides hold extremely strong views and I believe it is a waste of time to try to change the other."

LaGrand has observed a wide range of attitudes among the dying. "Some are very accepting of their deaths and are more concerned about how their loved ones will get along," he muses. "Others have some fear of the unknown. Still others will deny their deaths right up to the end. This can be very disturbing to family members. Yet, denial of one's death may be the only coping mechanism a person possesses and can employ, and we have to be very careful about taking that away by trying to get the individual to understand that death is near. It would only greatly add to the anxiety."

While most dying people want close family and friends around for a while, at some point they tend to go within and seek peace, LaGrand ends the interview. "The last words of my father, whom I saw take his last breath, to his sister, who was trying to keep him engaged with life was, 'Please leave me alone.' He died shortly after. He was a believer and was ready to go."

Dr. LaGrand's website is at:

www.extraordinarygriefexperiences.com

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www.aspsi.org



Michael Tynn

Apparitions, Orbs, Ultraviolet and Infrared Photography

by Rick Moran

Originally published in the May-June 2009 issue of *FATE* magazine (www.fatemag.com)



Orbs in a dusty basement of a Baltimore church

One of the most maligned examples of reported paranormal evidence has been the orb. These round balls of light hovering in ghost hunters' photos have gone from proof of unexplained phenomenon to dusty reflections in a relatively short period of time. In the process some interesting evidence may have been tossed out like the proverbial baby with the bath water.

The conclusion that orbs are just reflective dust has been greatly overstated. Like UFO sightings, orbs are ninety percent misidentification, but ten percent unexplained or paranormal in nature.

Understanding the Problem

Before you can defend the notion that some orbs are evidence in support of ghostly activity, you must understand what the majority of orbs really are and how they got onto the photographic film or digital memory.

When you take a picture and the resulting photo shows glowing red eyes in your subject, it is not a sign of demonic possession. The flash firing in a low-light situation catches the eye by surprise, with the iris fully dilated, thus allowing the back of the eyeball to reflect back as red due to the blood vessels found there. There is also a logical explanation for most orbs and it has to do with the camera lens.

I don't see that many orbs on my photos and the reason is simple: I shoot with a fairly expensive digital camera, with a good lens and the standard UV filter! The filter is there to protect the lens, not to eliminate orbs, but the end result is the same. If you add that filter, you will eliminate ninety-nine percent of the causes of orbs.

Inexpensive cameras usually have plastic lenses, rather than glass, and this can be the biggest drawback. Many cameras also have a built in flash, which may or may not be automatic. By design this light source is in a direct line to the lens for reflected illumination from the target object. Dust particles can be highly reflective. When the flash fires, the reflected surface (the dust) returns to the lens as an optical illusion, an out-of-focus object that is brightly illuminated.

Ultraviolet filters act like a pair of UV treated sun glasses. If you look into a lake trying to see fish with your naked eye, you might see some outline of their movement,

but in general you can't see past the sun's rays bouncing off the surface of the water. If you put on a pair of sun glasses with UV protective coating, you look past the glare of the sun to see the fish below. If you place a UV filter in front of the camera lens, it eliminates the dust reflection, allowing the image of the subject to be captured, free of orbs.

Other Sources of Orbs

Orbs are not only caused by dust. The same anomaly can be produced by other things hanging in the air, and even by the speed of the camera lens at its focal length or f-stop setting.

I tell my team of paranormal investigators to take notes, not just of the time and place they shoot a photo, but of the atmospheric conditions, whether they are inside or out in a field. They routinely carry small, personal "weather stations" that they hang from their work vests. If and when you capture that amorphous orange cloud moving toward you late at night, the resulting photo is bound to undergo outside scrutiny. Skeptics will scream it is atmospheric in nature; fog, swamp gas and the like. But if you are carrying a portable weather device you have a minute by minute digital memory of the temperature, humidity, barometric pressure, dew point, wind direction and speed plus a host of other readings.

Have an image of a ghost taken at 2:13 a.m. in the middle of nowhere? You can plug your weather station into your computer and respond to skeptics in a completely scientific manner. The readout will tell you if that orange blob could possibly be weather-related, as well as give you proof that it was moving against the wind when photographed.

Two-Shot Rule

If you still have an orb, more investigation is needed. Remembering the biggest problem is stray reflected light, you can now understand the rule of most good paranormal investigators: take two shots forward and one shot behind you. Compare the first and second shot. Now look for other reflective objects.

We had a photo of a man with an orb on his chest that almost made it into our collection of real paranormal anomalies. We used the two shot rule and found the anomaly was identical in both, though one was not as bright as the other. After enlarging that portion of the image, we found that our orb was actually a small metal lapel pin from a fraternal organization that the subject always wore. At a distance and with a direct light source, it looked just like a classic orb.

If you still have an image that shows an orb, check the lens itself; is it clean? The smallest smudge can cause out-of-focus reflective light. If the distortion is on all of your photos in the same general area of the frame, it might be dirt that is actually in the camera.

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Orbs

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If you still have a questionable photo, pass it around to other investigators for their opinions. Be ready to play the devil's advocate and defend the photo. To be really sure, take your photo to the local college and ask the photography professor to give an opinion. This person may not know anything about orbs, but he or she certainly spends a lot more time around cameras than you, so listen carefully.

If all else fails, you can try to enlist the help of more prestigious organizations, like the Rochester Institute of Technology's photo imaging department or even Kodak. But don't expect a quick response.

Ghost Photograph: Then and Now

Now that we talked about how to eliminate orbs, let's talk a little about how to improve your chances of actually capturing a real apparition's photo.

Ghost photography has been around for a long time, the Gray Lady of Raynham Hall for instance is a perfect example. Recreating that photo today would be almost impossible. It was not taken with an Instamatic, it took two photographers, a weighty 8" x 10" camera, large wet plates, a very long exposure cycle and darkroom processing using what we now call the "inspection method" where you watch the image come up before your eyes to be sure it is properly processed.

While others may disagree, I think the key to such photos is in the length of the exposure and the slow plate speed. While lugging an 8" x 10" bellows camera is not conducive to paranormal field investigations, there is a relatively simple method that has produced good results.

Infrared (IR) photography has been around for 100 years and was used by paranormal investigators in the mid-20th century. The spectrum of light that we can capture on film is very broad. For most applications, we only want a slice of that spectrum, roughly between 350 and 700 nm. In digital cameras, this spectrum is further limited to 400 to 700 nm, to give the casual camera owner a more robust color image. In that situation, the manufacturer has also blocked most of the infrared (IR) spectrum as well, by adding an internal filter plate. This becomes the first obstacle in the search of those illusive apparition images.

While it is possible to take your digital camera apart to remove that filter panel, I would not advise going down that treacherous path. It is possible to send your camera out to be altered, for a price. But unless you can add a filter to the end of your lens, that will not work either. Some of the less expensive digitals today simply are not equipped to take an external filter.

Big-League Photography

If you have a camera that takes a standard-size lens filter, and doesn't have an internal IR-blocking filter, you are ready to go ghost hunting with the pros. There are any number of groups across the country that limit their field trips to this form of paranormal investigating, and several have some inspirational photos to show what can be accomplished with the right equipment. You do not have to

take apart your camera to accomplish this feat, although the alternatives are sometimes problematic.

You actually have three alternatives: 1) You can buy a camera that will take the external IR filter on the lens and send it out to remove that offending IR blocking shade; 2) You can look for a camera that was produced before someone got the smart idea of adding that pesky filter; or 3) You can buy a new camera that is already suited for this purpose.

Purchasing a new camera that can take the necessary lens filter and then having it altered to remove the blocker is possible, but a bit costly. That new camera is going to cost you about \$250 and the alterations another \$200. Choice three, buying a new camera that is designed to perform both IR and normal photography is also expensive, about \$1500 for the bare bones system, \$6000 for a full kit.

Option three involves finding a well stocked photo retailer who will order a brand new Fuji S-3 Pro 123, UVR forensics camera for you. If your budget can afford it, this is the camera of choice, the one the real CSI guys use and built to cover the entire IR spectrum.

Otherwise, this leaves choice number two. Start shopping eBay and local pawn shops for an [Olympus C-2020-Z](#). In the digital world, this camera is old, but it is built like a rock and was designed without that annoying IR blocker. With this camera you can shoot IR immediately without making any alterations. Just slap on a good grade R-72 IR red-black filter (you will need an adaptor, the Olympus takes a 41mm lens, but the standard size for the filter is 52mm—both for IR and UV), set the camera to the smallest f-stop and shoot.

With any camera, a tripod is necessary in low light situations. The Olympus already has a wireless remote control, which is great. If you want to shoot a normal photo, just take off the IR filter, put on the UV and shoot. This camera is not big on pixel size, at 2.3 megapixels, good for most prints, but not if you intend to print your ghost photos poster size.

The Olympus is the choice of most paranormal photographers, but the camera is no longer being manufactured, so you will have to find a good used one. Because of its recent success in photographing anomalous images and good press, the cost of this camera is in flux. A year ago they were selling for under \$100; it is now being offered on eBay for \$140 and the price is expected to continue to rise as more folks learn this camera's secrets.

The payoff for the use of infrared is worth the effort, no matter what decision you might make; the IR trend is now adding many new ghost images.

Success with Infrared

My first IR photo was taken in the 1980s with a 35mm SLR and Kodak IR film. The place was a small country inn, once a stop on a stage route in New England. The team at that time would go from room to room, one taking two photos at each set-up while a second team member would keep a log of where, when and who was in the image. Back in the darkroom, the film was developed "by inspection" and kept in one long strip.

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The Scientific Fallacy: Ruminations on Psi Research and Reviews

by Miles Edward Allen

“Evidence in science is always a matter of degree Both critics and proponents need to learn to think of adjudication in science as more like that found in the law courts, imperfect and with varying degrees of proof and evidence.”

— Marcello Truzzi “On Pseudo-Skepticism,” the *Zetetic Scholar*, #12-13, 1987.

Carl Sagan, whom I greatly admired as a concerned and public-spirited astronomer, once asked: “How is it, that channelers never give us verifiable information otherwise unavailable?”¹



Arizona Falls

Photograph by saa61, www.flickr.com/photos/memoryandreality

Other than the biased way in which Sagan’s question is phrased (i.e. the assumption that they don’t give such information), there are several difficulties here. The main one, as you should realize by now, is that channelers have provided information unknown to anyone living at the time, yet subsequently verified. Garland’s buried crosses, the Cayce oil-of-smoke incident, and the Millboro underground railroad are a few that come to mind immediately. But besides revealing his ignorance of psychic phenomena, Sagan’s comments demonstrate several common problems with the so-called “scientific” approach.

On first hearing it, the concept of “verifiable information otherwise unavailable” sounds reasonable enough, but a closer examination reveals an extremely tough, if not impossible, criterion. “Information otherwise unavailable” would have to be information proven not to exist in any person’s mind or in any library or any other place in the world! And since, as skeptics are so fond of pointing out, “it is impossible to prove a negative,” this proof is unattainable. No matter how hard one tried, one could never be sure that the information was not available somewhere. As if this wasn’t obstacle enough, Sagan also wants the information to be “verifiable.” Just how, do you suppose, is it possible to verify information that doesn’t exist?

Let’s look at one of the examples he offers in elaborating his query. “Why does Alexander the Great never tell us about the exact location of his tomb?” Suppose that a psychic did meet with Professor Sagan and channeled

Alexander, who revealed his tomb’s location precisely enough for an archeological team to dig it up. Based on the history of the scientific community’s reaction to phenomena that do not fit in their world view, we can be sure that such a series of events would change the minds of very few scientists, and of no professional skeptics. Instead of “Wow, channeling is a real phenomenon!” we would have a chorus of lettered men and women claiming:

- (1) that the location of the tomb must have been in some document seen by the channeler, or
- (2) that the channeler actually ‘saw’ the tomb clairvoyantly, or
- (3) that the channeler precognitively saw the future discovery of the tomb, or
- (4) that the location of the tomb was pulled from the “collective unconscious,” or
- (5) that Sagan and the channeler are frauds who made up the story after the tomb was discovered.

If you think this last option too outlandish, you don’t know how fast scientists can turn on a brother, no matter how well respected. Had he endorsed the channeler, the esteemed professor would have been ostracized faster than you can say “Crackpot Carl.” And how might Sagan have reacted to the tomb’s discovery? A strong clue is in his next paragraph, in which he says: “If some good evidence for life after death was announced, I’d be eager to examine it; but it would have to be real scientific data, not mere anecdote.”

Whenever scientists demand that psychic evidence be “scientific,” they mean that it must come from replicable experiments, perfectly designed and perfectly controlled. Of course, they are well aware that no experiment of any kind has ever been “perfect” and so they will always have a way of discrediting evidence that doesn’t fit their view of things. And even if it were “good” evidence based on “real scientific data,” Sagan does not suggest that he would accept it, only that he would “examine it.”

Scientists also know that psychic phenomena in general, and spirit communication in particular, do not lend themselves well to repeatable laboratory experimentation. For example, the main reason that Alexander hasn’t revealed the location of his tomb is probably that he has better things to do than try to communicate with skeptical scientists.

Not only does Sagan require this scientific evidence, he goes further and rules out the acceptance of “mere anecdote.” Now, an “anecdote” is a brief account of an interesting incident; therefore, Sagan is setting up a dichotomy: either evidence is “real scientific data” or it must be treated as just another story or fable. Note that this leaves no room for testimony. No matter how many nor how prestigious the witnesses to the interesting incident, no matter what oath is taken under what penalty, all testimony is relegated to folklore unless the incident can be repeated in a laboratory or seen through a scope.

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As another example of how scientists tend to handle unwellcome data, let's look at the reaction to Schwartz's publication of *The Afterlife Experiments*.

Reacting to Schwartz

In my view, Schwartz' results are proof, beyond any reasonable doubt, of life after death. Thus it was with great anticipation that I read the reviews of this book by prominent skeptics. What I found was about what I expected: condemnation of Schwartz' statistics, castigation of his control groups and some nasty, but not quite libelous, insinuations about the people involved. What I did not find also lived up to my expectations. That is, there was no addressing of the evidence presented in the book other than a few quick references to "coincidence," let alone any suggestion of alternative explanations for the outcomes. To my mind, Schwartz' work is important, not for his flawless application of pristine scientific method (which is patently impossible) but for the presence of unimpeachable witnesses (not to mention the independently produced videotapes).

Such reviews, and similar diatribes against other positive psychical research, lead me to believe that these zealots of scientism have agreed to approach psychic phenomena in the following manner: If you can imagine any possible way that the results could be arrived at via researcher error or via duplicitous or fraudulent means, assume such to be the case. If no such possibilities occur to you, then repel all interested parties by enveloping the case within a dense and malodorous smokescreen of statistical quibbling.

Another problem facing Schwartz (and likely, all sincere investigators) is the existence of some basic incompatibilities between scientific methodologies and his subject matter. For example, after several of the readings by the psychics, lists of possible statements were shown to students acting as a control group, who attempted to guess which statements might apply to the sitter. In normal scientific research, control groups are gatherings of people who are not involved with or affected by the object of investigation. For instance, if the study concerns the effects of a certain pill, the control group would consist of folks who have never taken the pill. But in researching psychical abilities, the attributes being studied cannot be assumed to be limited to the test group. If any personality survives death, it is very likely (although not absolutely certain) that every personality survives death. If anyone can receive messages from discarnate beings, then it is highly probable that everyone can receive messages from discarnate beings, to some extent or another. Such universal potentials make it impossible to isolate a control group from the phenomena being studied. All that Schwartz accomplished by creating control groups of this sort was to give skeptics another opportunity for irrelevant criticism.

The same problem applies to the idea (mentioned by Schwartz and endorsed by at least one reviewer) of comparing the psychic's performance to that of a "cold-reader" (someone practiced in making educated guesses based on

the sitter's responses and body language). If the cold-reader's great grandad were to take that moment to make his presence known and give a little unsought help, truly astounding "guesses" could be made that weren't guesses at all. This would totally distort the outcome of the test and no one would be the wiser.



Double Treat

Photographed by Cresk, www.flickr.com/photos/cresk/

The Keene Example

Consider, for example, an incident related in the confessions of Lamar Keene.² No skeptic has ever doubted Keene's claim that he achieved wealth and fame as a trance medium through the use of trickery and fraud. His life was turned completely around, Keene testifies, when he met a woman named Florence Hutchinson who became an inspirational mother figure to him. This woman had traveled from Oklahoma to obtain a reading from Keene at the spiritualist enclave of... But she had not made a reservation so, Keene says, "my first inclination was to tell her to get lost ... But she really was a kindly and appealing lady," so he allowed her to take the place of her friend who did have an appointment for the next day.

Now, Keene claims that there is a network of fraudulent mediums around the country who maintain and share files of information on their sitters, and that the files kept at ...were some of the most extensive anywhere. But, when he went to consult these files, he says, "I found myself stymied. Florence Hutchinson had never been to ... before and there was nothing on her in the files. However, since she looked like such an agreeable sort," Keene decided he could get away with doing a cold reading. This he did, and things were going fine until Florence requested his help in finding a legal document that had been missing since her husband's death. At first she asked if the document had been taken by a certain cousin of whom she was suspicious. It would have been easy for Keene to say yes and end the inquiry right there, but instead, for reasons unknown to him, he said: "Oh no." Whereupon Florence (speaking to whom she thinks is her departed husband) asks: "Well darling, where is it?"

"There was no way of ducking the question except by pretending to lose trance and to suddenly wake up," Keene writes, but: "Then I said the first thing that came into my head, which was: 'You have a metal file cabinet at home, the portable one, and it has a false top in it. There is a key to the false top in the bottom under some papers.

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The document is in that false top.” Keene thought that this sounded stupid but, at least it got rid of the woman—but not for long. As you have probably guessed by now, Florence rushed home to Oklahoma and found the missing document just where Keene said it would be.

Florence’s mention of the cousin was exactly the kind of clue Keene was searching for in his cold reading, so what prompted him to reject that solution? As for the rest, Keene thinks it was an “incredibly lucky” guess. Actually, though, it was a series of four statements: (1) that Florence had a portable metal file at home, (2) that the file had a false top, (3) that the key to that top was beneath the papers, and (4) that the missing document was in the false top. Dismissing those four statements plus the rejection of the cousin’s involvement as luck is, indeed, not credible.

Remember, also, that this incident proved to be the key to Keene’s reformation from fraudulent medium to honest citizen. Thus, we are asked to believe that this once-in-a-lifetime series of lucky guesses just happened to occur when the person who could inspire Keene’s turnaround just happened to unexpectedly take a friend’s place in his séance room. I, for one, reject such a long line of coincidences as preposterous. It is far more reasonable to conclude that Keene had a real psychic experience when he most needed one, especially in light of all the other evidence in favor of spirit contact. [Note that Keene was hardly the first to lead distraught widows to secret compartments holding important papers. As far back as the mid 1700s, the great scientist and mystic Emanuel Swedenborg was reported to do the same.³]

If spirits can interfere with a cold reading by an admittedly phony medium, they can certainly influence “wild guesses” made by folks in experimental control groups and in every other walk of life.

Counting Blanks

To return to Schwartz’ work for a moment, I’d like to point out that the good professor weakens his own case by being far too conservative in scoring the data from psychic readings. For example, Schwartz tells of a session⁴ in which the medium simply drew a blank, receiving no information about the sitter. Logic and fairness would demand that this session be thrown out of the study. Clearly, it is unreasonable to expect there to be a willing spirit hanging around to talk about every sitter every time. But Schwartz counted the sitting as one in which the medium’s accuracy was scored at zero percent—just as if the medium had made a series of statements without any hits. Averaging this zero score in with the medium’s other scores would seriously lower the medium’s overall rating. I do not see a justification for this approach, unless Schwartz was assuming that the work of pulling information from “the great beyond” was being done solely by the medium and did not depend upon the cooperation of a dearly departed. (If such a bias existed, his results are doubly impressive, for if there’s one thing that’s certain it is that you can’t rely on dead people.)

Detectives Needed

Overall, the trouble science has with psi arises from trying to quantify information that is essentially qualitative. Of what value are counts of hits and misses on irrelevant trivia such as pet’s initials or whether the diseased organ was a gall bladder or a spleen? Clearly, numbers do lie, or, at least, they are subject to biased interpretations. Statistics are designed to smooth over anomalous results; what we need is to focus on the anomalies. All the bar charts and derivatives in the world are not as convincing as a single revelation of unique character attested to by unimpeachable witnesses. To help dig up such evidence, I propose that scientists equip their teams not with statisticians, nor with cold-readers, nor magicians, but with good old-fashioned detectives.

As an example of what I mean, let’s consider this case related by Dr. Thelma Moss, in her book *The Probability of the Impossible*.⁵ Dr. Moss tells of an investigation that was prompted by a homeowner’s complaint that four different guests, on four separate occasions, had reported seeing a man walking about the house—a man who wasn’t there. The homeowner, himself, had never seen this “ghost.”



Charming Commotion
Photograph by Cresk, www.flickrriver.com/photos/cresk/

According to Moss, she endeavored to be “scientific” about the investigation by having each of the witnesses interviewed separately and the interviews tape recorded. From these, she learned that each witness reported seeing a man in dark pants and a white shirt (one witness included a suit jacket) walking in and around the house — one witness saw the apparition by a bedroom door, one by the swimming pool, and two saw it walking into the dining room. Next, Moss arranged for six psychics and six “nonpsychics” to be given an individual tour of the house, after which they marked on maps any places where they sensed a ghost. Dr. Moss does not include the entire study in her book, but she does make note of “the sophisticated statistical analysis” made of the data. I can just imagine the skeptics tearing that sophisticated analysis to shreds—and, of course, never mentioning the astounding facts buried beneath.

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A good detective, searching for proof “beyond reasonable doubt,” would pursue this case quite differently When all the interviews and background checks are done, if he has uncovered no evidence of false testimony, our detective has little choice but to declare the facts valid as reported. In other words, it can be concluded beyond a reasonable doubt that the witnesses actually saw the figure of a man in dark pants and white shirt walking about the house....

Assuming that all the interrogations and investigations had been properly done with no adverse results, the “case of the four visitors” could have been one of the most evidential ever reported. Nothing is ever absolutely, one hundred percent certain, but it would have been evidential enough to deserve the label “solid proof” that ghosts exist.

The Role of Science

As for the continuation of life after death, it seems clear that experts will never reach a consensus on a statistically sound, scientifically replicable, proof. Not only can statistics always be distorted, but some experimental factors, such as the involvement of discarnate entities, can never be controlled. In my opinion, this does not matter, for the cases presented in *Read Before Dying* are more than sufficient to establish proof beyond a reasonable doubt in any court of logical and objective minds.

All this should not be construed to mean that I am some sort of psychic Luddite seeking a return to the days of table tipping in darkened parlors—not without an infrared camera anyway. EMF meters, voice analyzers, EEG machines, and other such technological advances have a definite place in psi research. And science has a valid role in determining the characteristics and factors at play in various phenomena. But, scientists need to stop wasting time and resources on attempts to prove the already proven existence of psychic phenomena and concentrate more on determining how it works.

Notes

1. *The Demon-Haunted World*, 1995.
2. Keene, chapter 8.
3. Berger, p. 7.
4. Schwartz, p. 187.
5. Moss, p. 323.

Some text in the “Counting Blanks” section has been edited to make the article fit in the available space. The entire article is at:

http://thesurvivalfiles.com/Documents/doc_SF.pdf.

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 website is at: <http://thesurvivalfiles.com>



Miles Edward Allen

What is “In the Literature”?

We recently received a comment that there is no literature about how to detect the presence of EVP. This raised a few interesting questions and suggested a need that is probably common to all frontier subjects.

We have published a pretty good report in the online *Journal* that includes pertinent information about using an online listening panel in the study of hearing and understanding EVP. Alexander MacRae has had articles published in the January 2004 and October 2005 *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research* that showed the use of a listening panel to establish the presence of anomalous voices. There is at least one article discussing computer analysis of EVP at aaevp.com. There are probably similar reports in other countries, but the point that was made clear by this comment is that none of these are “in the literature.”

So, if not these articles, what is “in the literature”? As a rule, the “literature” is thought of as that which is produced by academically trained researchers and published in a peer-reviewed journal. Here “academic” means work done by a doctorate-level, clinically trained researcher. EVP is a frontier subject and there are virtually no academically trained researchers in this field (based on that definition). Yet, there is good research that has been conducted and for a literature review prior to developing a research protocol, it would help to study the non-academic material.

The problem is that it is difficult to find any such research that is reported in a way that can be used. The sad fact is that few of us in this field have been trained in writing a useful report. If one is written, what peer-reviewed publication will print it? Where would it be archived for future access as being “in the literature”?

We have developed an article describing what a web page should have to pass as a source of “in the literature” articles. We have also begun a list of web pages that should be considered “in the literature” archives for EVP/ITC. A link to these pages is at <http://aaevp.com/research.htm>. We will also maintain a Google search tool exclusively for qualified pages. There is no membership requirement to participate.

In general, an “in the literature” web page must contain articles or links to articles that comply with the standards of good science report writing. A writer’s guide is also provided and researchers are encouraged to emulate the best scientific standard possible. It is our intention that the list will be hosted on many sites and will grow to include both a solid foundation of reports about good science in EVP/ITC and develop into a role model for others who wish to take up this study.

Librarian

As a community service, it would be good if someone was able to assume the role of librarian of “in the literature” sources. Let us know if you are interested in taking on the task. We can host the material on aaevp.com, but to be effective, it would require that someone develops a reasonable writer’s guide and helps to keep track of where useful, well written reports are so they can be included in the list.

Physical Processes Involved in Trans-etheric Influences

In the article, [The Formation of EVP](#) (Summer 2009), three techniques for the formation of Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) were discussed: Transform, EVPmaker and speech synthesis stimulated with detection of changes in environmental energy. This article provides an informed speculation as to the physical processes that might be involved in voice formation using these techniques.

Scope

Trans-etheric influences sometimes share characteristics. For instance, EVP and visual forms of the phenomena appear to depend on the same physical processes, while [apports](#) seem to depend on other processes. Moving, interactive orbs seem to use even different processes. Understanding the physical processes involved in the manifestation of such phenomena may help the understanding of what is occurring on the other side of the veil. The following theory is specific to EVP but may be applicable to other phenomena, depending on future research.

Theory

In EVP, the voice is seen to be formed from available audio-frequency energy.¹ In simple terms, this is just noise; however, some noise works better and most experimental recording devices are really noise conditioners intended to improve the Quantity and Quality (QQ) of the recorded utterances. The most optimum noise appears to be broad-spectrum audio containing many voice-frequencies and providing numerous optional stable states.

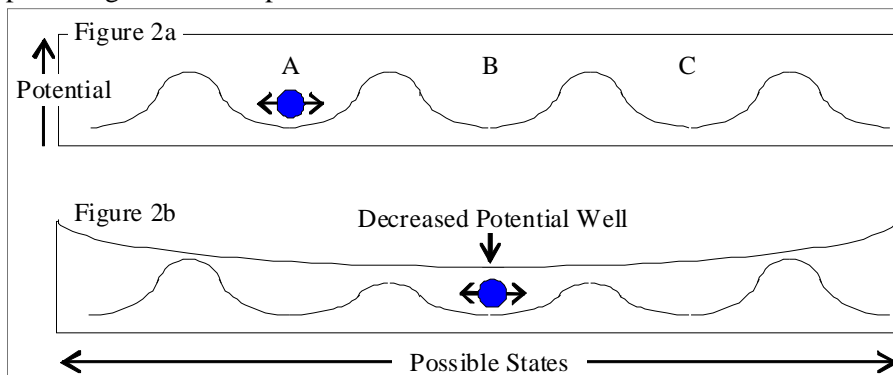


Figure 2 shows energy wells A, B and C representing stable states amongst all possible states (horizontal axis). The energy required to move from between states is represented by the vertical axis. In this theory, the influence of intention decreases the “depth” of the potential well making it easier to select states.

Stable States: Figure 1 illustrates a chaotic system; in this case, an object orbiting a planet. It has been noted that a system tends to be more stable when it is not restricted to a single state. For instance, it has been reported that, “the rhythms of a healthy heart are chaotic.”² By “numerous stable states,” a system such as the orbiting object in Figure 1 is intended. The object is able to occupy different orbital paths and remain in a stable orbit. The three paths illustrated in Figure 1c are stable and tend toward the orbit illustrated in Figure 1a. In terms of chaos theory, the “norm” of the orbits would represent the “attractor” toward which all stable variations of the orbit are drawn. An orbit

outside of the influence of the attractor would tend to be unstable and the object would be expected to “leave orbit.”

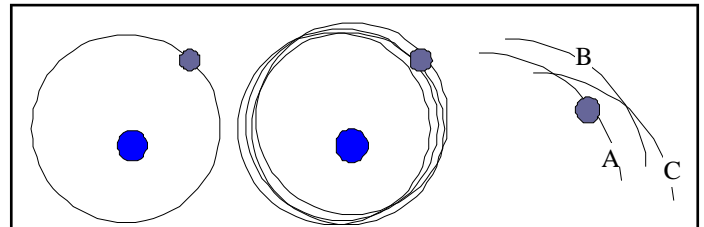


Figure 1a

Figure 1b

Figure 1c

An observer may see the path inscribed by an object orbiting another object as a single path (Figure 1a); however in chaotic systems like the orbit of a planet around the sun, there are actually small deviations in the orbit from cycle to cycle (Figure 1b). In this discussion, paths A, B and C represent different stable states for the orbiting object (Figure 1c).

Potential Wells: Figure 2 illustrates the concept of [potential wells](#). The horizontal axis indicates possible states of a system and the vertical axis represents the energy required to change states (potential). The wavy line indicates the relative potential required to change states. This can be referred to as a series of potential wells, for which locations A, B and C represent troughs. The small circle represents the selected state and the illustration indicates that it requires more energy to move out of a trough, but once in the next trough, the selection is once again relatively stable. This illustrates the concept of optional stable states.

Intention Decreases Potential Well: Figure 2b is the same as 2a, except that the potential energy required to change states decreases toward potential well B, making it easier to select relative to A and C.

According to this theory, the influence of **intention** as expressed by a personality is able to reduce the amount of energy required to change the state of a system, thereby causing the system to assume a desired state. The concept is thought to apply to physical energy in general, and should not be specific just to ITC. A common physical factor is [permittivity](#) (symbolized by the Greek letter epsilon), which is a measure of how easily an electric field affects a material; however, other possibilities should be considered, for instance a literal interpretation of an attractor in chaos theory may be more appropriate.

Figure 3 is a spectral display of an EVP. The horizontal axis is time increasing to the right and the vertical axis is frequency increasing toward the top. The bright horizontal bands are caused by the anomalous voice and represent increased energy associated with emulated formants. Here, it is important to understand that the voice is not formed by a physical organism.

Continued page 15

Trans-etheric Influences

Continued from page 14

Formants are frequency groups formed in the mouth based on sounds generated by the vocal cords. Their relationship, intensity and duration collectively produce a voice. In EVP, available frequencies appear to be selected and given more power to emulate voice. The vertical black line in

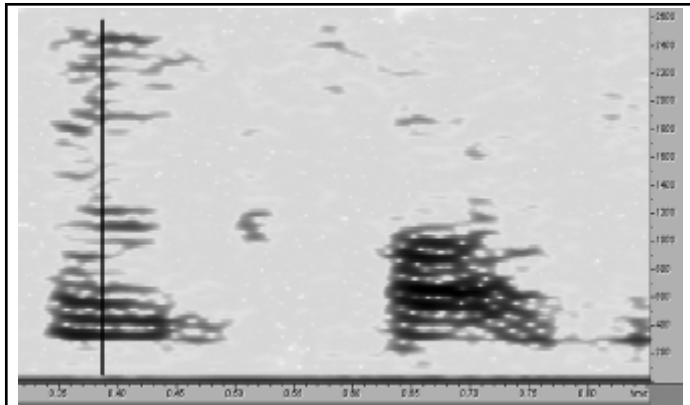


Figure 3: Spectral view of an EVP. The dark bands represent increased power density; vertical scale is frequency, horizontal scale is increasing time to right. Horizontal bands represent emulation of formants beginning at 350 Hz.

Figure 3 represents a “time slice.” The emulated voice is created moment-by-moment. Figure 4 shows a segment of the spectrogram in Figure 3 taken to the left of the black line and up to about 1,000 Hz and rotated 90 degrees. The line below it illustrates increases in energy associated with the emulated formants as encountered along time-slice A-A’. In this theory, this sample represents many such samples over time to produce the phenomenal voice.

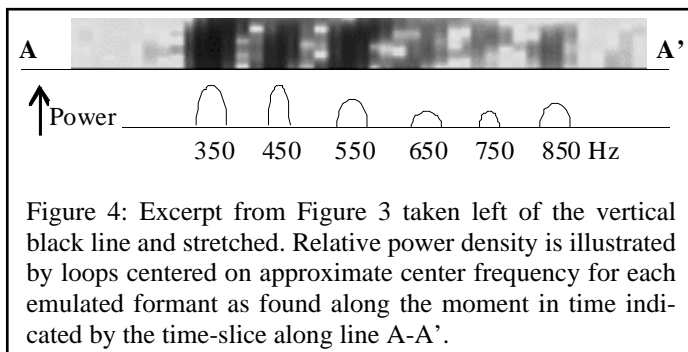


Figure 4: Excerpt from Figure 3 taken left of the vertical black line and stretched. Relative power density is illustrated by loops centered on approximate center frequency for each emulated formant as found along the moment in time indicated by the time-slice along line A-A’.

Stochastic Resonance: A weak signal can be amplified by higher amplitude noise via the process known as [stochastic resonance](#). A common characteristic for both visual and audio forms of ITC is the presence of noise and the formation of audio or visual features in the noise. In the video-loop technique, order naturally emerges in the optical noise as small areas of about the same intensity. It is in these areas of order that features are sometimes found. The indication is that information is being impressed on these small perturbations acting as “seed energy” which evolve into the areas of order. In audio-loops, the signal tends to “go to” saturation too quickly to permit the natural emergence of order to be recognized. [[Technical Reference](#)]

Hypothesis: A trans-etheric influence is initiated by an etheric personality as a subtle-energy expression of inten-

tion that acts on physical processes to select required energy states to form a desired effect.

Applicability: To determine applicability of this hypothesis, it is important to remember that there is necessarily an etheric-to-physical interface; that something like intention represents the etheric form of the influence and some fundamental physical characteristic must be the physical form of the influence. As with the audio signal represented in Figure 4, the influence must be considered as a moment-to-moment application of influence to produce a general result. An economical solution requiring a minimum amount of energy should be expected.

In EVP, it is speculated that a specific component in an electronic circuit is used to inject the information. The component is most likely one with an active region, such as a transistor junction or the inter-element region of a vacuum tube. It is also likely that a plasma field is more susceptible to influence; something common to both transistors and vacuum tubes.

This hypothesis may apply to all forms of trans-etheric influence. Clearly visual and audio forms of ITC involve transformation of energy into anomalous features. Less obvious is whether or not this hypothesis applies to [psi functioning](#). The question must be asked and tested as to if the action of intention can be seen to change the energetic environment of portions of the brain to intelligently produce information. Likewise, can audible phenomena such as [direct voice](#) be caused in this way? Can gravity be so influenced as to cause levitation?

Testing The Hypothesis: The key to this hypothesis is ease of selecting energy states. In EVP, using naturally occurring noise such as that produced by a fan should produce higher QQ of EVP than using noise generated by a technology that produces many frequencies of similar amplitude. Ideally, the noise will have multiple instances of each frequency of different amplitudes so that the most useful one can be selected. This can be tested.

Optical energy would be best for visual phenomena if it is very chaotic. In EVP formed via random processes, such as seen in EVPmaker,³ the random process that has the most chaotic distribution of signal noise should be the most effective for EVP.

Unstable circumstances should be expected in haunting phenomena. Changes in noise or environmental energy are likely “carriers” for trans-etheric influences in much the same way that chaotic noise appears best for EVP.

[Edit: A more complete version of this article will be posted at aaevp.com/research.htm.]

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New Book about Adolf Homes

Jutta Liebmann of the [German VTF](#) has told us about a new book titled, *Mit dem Jenseits auf Du und Du - Ein Tag im Leben des Adolf Homes*. It is written by Adolf Homes' friend, Hans-Gerhard Kundler and provides insight into how Homes received his extraordinary contacts via computer, television, radio and telephone. Kundler, now eighty-seven, describes it all from his personal view during his frequent visits to Homes in Rivenich. He introduces Homes and his family as well the extraordinary contacts, which Homes received during many years.

As Jutta explained, "Prior to Adolf Homes' death in October 1997, he recommended to his wife and daughter that they should not aim to receive such contacts as he had received during all the years, in order to avoid negative effects on their health (This would suggest that his contacts as a medium had unfavorable effects on his health).

"The CD included with Kundler's book has fifty-one examples of contacts made by Homes. After listening to some of these examples, I noticed that the voices sound totally different compared with our usual EVP. The paranormal speeches by his contact partners from the other side, such as Thomas Beckett and Dr. Raudive, are very long and the voices often speak slowly, except for the contacts with his deceased mother whose voice sounds similar to the usual EVP messages. Homes' mother died when he was an infant and his father did not return from the war, therefore he was an orphan.

"To enable these contacts, he used two old tube radios, a black and white TV and a very old Commodore computer for the written messages, which were shown on the monitor of his computer. These messages via computer came through without any space between the words and sentences. The contents of most of his messages were very academic and sophisticated, and sometimes Homes was unable to understand the contents. Therefore, he came into contact with Professor Ernst Senkowski, who had been a guest during these contacts. Questions were written into the computer, and sometimes the next day, the questions were answered in the computer by the entities."

Jutta sent us a further comment, "On consultation with Jürgen Nett, Christian Hilpert and other experienced VTF colleagues, and others such as Mr. Ehrhardt and Mr. Fornoff who are also very serious and very experienced EVP researchers, I have come to the conclusion that the former EVP contacts received by Homes are authentic.

"As I have learned from the book, Mr. Homes was very modest and not skilled at all with technology; therefore, he would not have been able to play tricks in this connection. My personal view is that Homes had the same extraordinary mediumistic abilities as Marcello Bacci in Italy has today. The clear reception of two-way direct-voice EVP is an advanced development in transcommunication, but it is possible as the direct voice contacts in Luxembourg and others have proven."

The book is currently only available in German.

Orbs

Continued from page 9

(Never cut film, the critics will tear you apart if the film is not in one continuous run.)

To my surprise there was one image on the last roll exposed. In what was then a living room, you could see two team members seated in the background, but in the foreground stood the figure of a man. Hat, boots and a long coat were evident, although the apparition itself was totally black and devoid of features. He was leaning on a rocking chair, but slightly transparent. Through some rough calculations we determined that he stood about six feet four inches tall.

Similar IR photos are now showing up on the Internet. Even a few of the popular TV shows are now featuring the use of IR photography. On the battlefield of Gettysburg, one photographer has captured many images of ghostly soldiers, not visible to the naked eye.

While I do not expect that this will be the turning point in our search for proof of the survival of the human spirit after death, it does go a long way to raise new questions about our world. As we dispel some common mistakes in photography like misidentified orbs, we are introducing more exciting ways to capture otherworldly images.

The FLIR System.

No discussion of ghost hunting photography would be complete without acknowledging the most sought after camera of the century, the [FLIR thermal imaging system](#). This system displays heat signatures in real time that can be recorded. I do not know a single paranormal investigator who does not want one of these systems, but most are unwilling to pay thousands of dollars to indulge their desire.

The FLIR is a complicated device that has been used by police agencies and fire departments for years to find the heat signatures of victims or perpetrators in non-visible terrain. These agencies have regular training programs for the operators. Could it be used to capture ghosts, maybe? It will certainly capture the images of anomalies that could be ghostly.

Standing alone, no images I have seen are proof positive of a spirit in your midst. Like a K-2 meter, tri-field meter, IR thermometer or any camera image, they add to the list of possible proofs, but can't stand alone as the one single piece of evidence to prove a ghostly presence.

If you are looking for yet another avenue to explore that is relatively inexpensive in the ghost hunting field, my choice would be the properly equipped IR digital camera. It will not replace your notebook as the most important piece of equipment in your bag of tricks, but it certainly will yield some interesting evidence.

Rick Moran is a retired journalist with more than thirty-five years experience in the paranormal field. He is currently the Coordinator the Association for the Study of Unexplained Phenomenon (ASUP) a nonprofit research and educational corporation, now based in Texas. Their website is www.asup-inc.org



Rick Moran

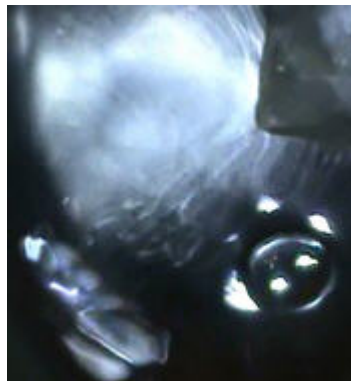
Research

As of this writing, the [Real-time EVP Conversations: A Pilot Study](#) project being conducted by Windbridge Institute is in the data analysis phase. The project, funded by a member of the AA-EVP, began in June, 2008. We had projected a finish to this phase for May, 2009, but as we understand, there have been delays in completing the listening panel. After the data analysis is complete, a final phase is scheduled to allow Windbridge to write a report and find a publisher.

We continue to examine possible research projects. One project that we would like to see funded is “Does EVP help a person through the grief of losing a loved one?” We believe that the answer to this question is a resounding yes and we believe that this research project could be funded for under \$10,000. Having this type of study published in a peer review journal would be one of the most positive things that we could do for EVP. This type of study is not addressing that old conundrum, is it real or not, instead we think that it would show what we all know; EVP helps people! If you want to fund this study or if there is another project that interests you and you want to fund its study please contact us at aaevp@aol.com.

Rhonda Burton’s Visual ITC

Rhonda Burton posted an example of her visual ITC taken by video recording light reflected from moving water. She wrote that she recorded a three minute session but that her next effort will be just thirty seconds. Remember that it is necessary to review every video frame, which are recorded at the rate of around thirty frames per second. The example provided here shows what appears to be a phenomenal face in the lower-left quadrant. There is a bubble in the lower-right and the tip of the crystal is in the upper-right.



Face in moving water

Big Circle Recording Dates

Please think about recording with the Big Circle group on or close to October 1st, 15th, and 29th, November 12th and 26th, December 10th and 24th and January 7th and 21st. Then go to the Big Circle area of the Idea Exchange and share what you record with other members. In the past, members have recorded messages intended for other members and this has really been a blessing. So join in! This year’s recording dates fall on Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve, perfect times to celebrate with loved ones here and on the other side!

See the article explaining how to record with the [Big Circle](#)

News From Members

- Kathy Conder wrote that Michigan Paranormal Encounters is hosting its 3rd annual Allegan Paranormal Conference at the historic Griswold Auditorium in Allegan, Michigan on October 16th and 17th. For more details including ticket purchase and vendor information go to <http://strewnpapers.com/clients/mpe/conf2009.html>
- Jutta Liebmann wrote us in late June that the annual VTF conference in Fulda was very successful. More members than ever attended and they had two excellent scientists as presenters. Dr. Van Laack spoke about NDE experiences and Illobrand von Ludwiger spoke about the multidimensional thesis of Burkhard Heim.
- Vicki Talbott wrote that she was on Bruce Halliday’s show and had plugged the AA-EVP as much as she could. Thanks Vicki and also to all of you other members who do this when you do media appearances. Your help spreading the word is appreciated.

Thoughts and Comments

- From Regina Antonucci: IMO your hard work and efforts have certainly helped make EVP more acceptable as being a legitimate phenomenon of nature worthy of scientific research.
- From Jutta Liebmann: I have just listened to the AA-EVP sample DVD-presentation no. 2 on your website and I am moved by the evidence given there for survival. Especially, the wonderful young people of the Big Circle, the messages from Braden, Cathy and the others have impressed me. I would like to report about it to my [VTF](#) colleagues, as we too have many members who have “lost” children and relatives. What a comfort this is!

Precognitive EVP?

One of the more interesting characteristics of EVP is that a response to a question might come before the question is asked. Vicki Talbott recently posted an example in the Idea Exchange that illustrates this. As she wrote: “I hear *‘That’s* (or it’s) *the month of May,*’ before I ask ‘What month is my birthday?’” She explained that, “I was at my sister-in-law’s this past July in Chicago (and recorded) late at night. I felt I had to whisper or those in the house would think I had lost my mind and was talking to myself.”

The example has been added to the web page with Vicki’s EVP examples at http://aaevp.com/examples/examples_voice10.htm. It is a Class B, but perhaps with headsets you will be able to make it out.

We theorize that EVP is caused as a mind-to-mind communication between the communicating entity and the practitioner (or an interested observer). If this is the case, then it is reasonable to assume Vicki had thought about what she was going to ask just before actually asking the question. As such, the entity would have been communicating in a regular way by simply responding to what it was being asked.

Big Circle Members' EVP Recognized

Margaret Downey shared an EVP on the AA-EVP message board. She said that she had immediately thought of Karen Mossey's son, Rob, the moment she heard the EVP saying, **"This is Rob."** She wrote, "This message came through while doing a radio sweep session with someone on Sunday. One second before Rob spoke, the person I was sitting with got a message from his uncle saying, **"I am Ernest"** (the uncle's name). I had been talking about the Big Circle and how amazing and helpful all the kids are. Hearing Rob right after the uncle saying his name made me think that Rob might have helped Ernest leave a message."



Robert Benjamin Browning

Karen Mossey replied, "This has made me so happy and it is so significant. I so needed to hear from him and I believe because I am under so much stress now with moving, that Rob chose to come through to you [knowing] you would bring it through for me. Along with this goes a special story. For nine years since Rob made his transition, his "Specialized" bike that he rode everywhere has been in my garage. He loved that bike almost as much as he loved to fish. He got in the best of shape riding it everywhere and he had put a lot into it with special shocks and gadgets...."

"This past Saturday, as I was unloading things at the town landfill, I saw a man going through the metal bin pulling out old bikes. He had his father with him and his kids in the truck. I looked at him and said 'Are you looking for a bike?' 'Those are all broken.' He said, 'My wife, kids and I like to ride on the trails. I can't afford any other recreation because I lost my job and I am looking to find a bike so I can go riding with my family.' For nine years, Rob's awesome bike has sat unused and I looked at it every day. Something came over me as I looked at this young man and I said, 'I have a bike. It is a very nice bike, a "Specialized." Here is my cell number if you would like to look at it. I live in Hudson and I am moving.' He said thank you so much and I did not hear back from him until yesterday. (Yes, the same day you got this message). He said he also lived in Hudson and was living with his parents and he would like very much to come and look at the bike. I had been thinking about it, and whether after nine years, Rob approved of me letting his bike go.

"When the man arrived, he brought his father and his little daughter and when he saw the bike he almost cried and said, 'this is so wonderful. I can't wait to show it to my friend at church who cycles too.' He said he wished he could give me money but he had no job and was living with his parents and could not even afford \$10 and I said to him all I ask is that he use it the way my son loved to use it and pray for me that I survive this stressful move. He said 'Are you sure your son is okay with me having it?' I told him

that Rob no longer needs it where he lives and would be honored to again have it used. That is all I said.

"His little daughter and I pumped up the tires and he took it for a ride. He came back and gave me a hug and said, 'How can I ever thank you, Karen? It is such a wonderful bike,' and I said, 'Ride it and enjoy it with your family.' He said, 'Perhaps you will see me riding it in Nashua.' As he left, his little daughter turned to me and said, 'Thank you ... you are so beautiful.'

"I think my Rob spoke through her little lips and was telling me that my soul has now evolved to even a more beautiful spiritual level and that all the gifts Rob gave to me in his life by sharing it with me, I could now have the opportunity to give something back.... I cried for awhile after they left and knew that Rob approved and was happy and I think he knew he had to send a message through one of my good friends to let me know that. He chose you Margaret. So with all my heart I thank you."

Martha Copeland even chimed in with, "... That voice sounds just like Rob's physical voice! Karen and I shared videos of Cathy and Rob during her visit with me several years ago. It was from hearing Rob's voice on Karen's videos that I feel qualified in being able to recognize his voice on recordings. Great recording, Margaret."

EVP Recordings in Concert

We received a request from Jesse Guessford: "Hello, I am creating a music composition entitled *Grieving Point*. I would love to utilize actual EVP within the work. I am looking for an organization or an individual that would be willing to allow me to use their recordings within this composition." We put the word out to members and several of them gave permission for Jesse to use their EVP.

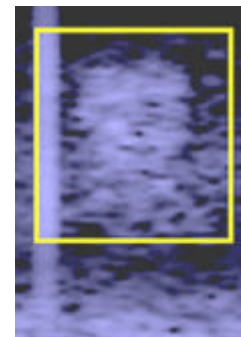
In August, the members who had shared their EVP received another email from Jesse that read, "I am writing you to invite you to the premiere of *The Grieving Point* by the music and dance company, MMT In Concert. I have attached a formal invitation to this email.

"The work utilizes several of the EVP recordings that you so graciously donated. If you are unable to attend, I would love for you to hear how those recordings were used. You can listen to the piece at my website: www.jesseguessford.com/mmt. The recordings are the focus of the sections labeled as Interludes."

From Guessford's biography: "Most people would classify Jesse Guessford as an experimental composer, his family, however, thinks he should write horror movie soundtracks. Over the years he has softened; occasionally a chord may appear that is not fully dissonant.... He usually can be found composing for electronics, but then again he also composes for solo instruments and chamber groups, so it all depends on what is on the program.... he does have a doctorate in composition, which lends a hint of credibility to some of his crazy ideas."

Researcher Reports

- Regina Antonucci says that when she is able to find time to continue EVP research she is able to record anomalous voices on a continuous basis at almost any location. Regina has been recording for seven years.
- Amy Burns wrote a message to the AA-EVP Idea Exchange saying that her husband's grandmother died two weeks earlier on their 25th wedding anniversary. She was ninety-eight years old. Amy wrote, "I recorded this EVP yesterday at her grave. It was a windy day and my husband had just said "hello" to her and then he said "hello" to his grandfather, who passed away in 1972. I hear her saying **"I'm talking to him,"** Please feel free to edit and any help you can give is appreciated." Christopher Scott worked with the recording and sent a note back saying, "I'm so sorry for your loss. I have attached my edit. In it I hear: **"I'm talking to grandpa."** I used Audacity's noise removal filter, then a high pass filter set to cut off at 7000 Hz, then I amplified it.
- Suzanne Burt wrote, "Your site has taught me a lot about techniques and how to analyze audio. I have recorded many Class A EVP using a digital recorder." Suzanne says that she does not ask questions when she records but she does get answers.
- Domenic Capaldi shared an EVP that that says, **"Jack Ruby,"** and wrote, "Out of curiosity I downloaded a clip from YouTube of Jack Ruby speaking but due to the poor quality recording it was hard to make any comparison.
- Annette Childs says that she continues to experiment with EVP. "We got a very good sample of my husband's grandfather saying his name **"Grandpop"** and it is in his own distinct voice. This is the first instance where we have captured a humanoid voice. Before this, they have been more robotic or electronic sounding.
- Linda Gray was taking a video of her dog barking at a crab and recorded an unexpected voice saying, **"Duchess."** Linda commented that, "The ghost thinks my puppy is her dog, Duchess."
- Jutta Liebmann wrote that she recorded at her hotel room during her stay for the VTF conference. She received a clear message stating **"Scientists there, Köberle"** Jutta feels that Mr. Köberle, the former VTF-president, was pleased that there were scientists participating in the conference and wanted to let the group know this.
- Richard Lovelace shared an EVP that was recorded during an investigation. His wife was telling another person about what had happened to the woman who had lived in the house. The EVP says, **"and she died."**
- David Mierzwinski shared some EVP from an experiment. He wrote, "I have a TV tuned to the cable Spanish speaking channel. This TV is turned up loud. I position the cell phone half way between myself and the TV in the next room. It's important to have distance between the TV sound and cell phone. I simply record the VOIP call on my computer. The process is strange because you can sense that what you are hearing on the call does not match the sound coming from the TV in the next room. I had called on the 'loud talkers' from London and John Lennon's people... I got a garbled message that John Lennon was in Canada at a concert, and then this!: **"What's he look like on the phone ... Please?"**"
- Deborah Preece visited an old cemetery in Mt. Dora, Florida and reported that she got two long recordings with voices as she walked and spoke at some of the grave-stones. A powerful thunderstorm began as she was leaving the cemetery, but she had to stop at the pet store. "I parked the car and announced I would leave my Sony recorder on (it is voice activated) in the car while I ran through the rain to the pet store. The rainstorm absolutely gave texture to many voices ... and then I heard one saying: **"I'm so sorry ... Deborah."** Due to some additional comments, and I must say, the voice, I believe this to be my little brother, John, who crossed over in 1993."
- Lance Reed was recording in a graveyard and asked, "whoever is with me, please come forward and speak." A young boy's voice replied, **"Matthew."**
- Christopher Scott wrote, "While visiting my friend, Michael, I got my first chance to serve as a proxy practitioner. We recorded to make contact or get news of his wife, Patti. We each used a recorder and recorded in silence, then we used FM radio sweep. I was able to receive one message, **"I love you, sweetheart,"** that I believe was from Patti. I was also able to introduce Michael to the Big Circle. We did get a couple of messages from Cathy, so I am reasonably assured that the Big Circle is helping Michael. Michael is now recording on his own and I am helping him analyze his recordings. Since I am not recording much right now, he is also getting messages for me."
- Richard Smith did some sessions asking about Doomsday in the year 2012. One question was: "Will the Earth experience cataclysmic events on or about Dec 21, 2012?" He got two replies. The first was: **"Angels shout, bring out parity!"** (Note: parity means equality). The second was **"Every human makes a difference!"** Rich says, "It sounds more like spirits are suggesting that our actions can change the outcome ... certainly not the first time we have seen this type of spiritual encouragement." To see more on Rich's experiment go to www.paratexas.com/2012.htm
- Pamela Teters wrote to Becky Estep that, while doing a recording, she noted that Sarah Estep had recorded Beethoven and how she loved Beethoven. She recorded **"He's here."**
- [Keith Clark](#) posted a series of images found in the optical noise generated by a spectral view of an audio signal. In this technique, the noise is used to produce faces in much the same way that video loop noise is used. The square is around what appears to be a male head.



Face in spectrogram
Fall 2009

Memorial Bench for Sarah Estep

A Note from Becky Estep

My sister bought a “memorial bench” on the Ocean City, NJ boardwalk in Mom’s honor. Cindy had a plaque made to put on the bench which says: “In loving and living memory - Sarah Wilson Estep.” My sister, brother, and I plan on making a one day trip there in a month or two to see the bench and take pictures of it.

If you find yourself on the boardwalk of Ocean City, please keep a look out for the bench. It’s across the boardwalk from the music pier, where there are several other rows of benches. If you’re facing the cluster of benches where Mom’s bench is, you will see an ice cream place on the right. A little ways down on the left, there is a small store called (of all things) “Heaven’s Grocery Store.” There are memorial benches all up and down the boardwalk—they’ve been there for years and they all have their own special plaques on them.

Mom loved the music pier; we used to sit there and watch the ocean. There were only six benches left that were available to the public to purchase, so we were really lucky to be able to get one for my mother.

Help Us via Amazon and eBay

Don’t forget when you are doing your Christmas shopping, or for that matter any shopping, when you use the buttons on the front page of www.aevp.com to link to Amazon and eBay, they give back a percentage to the AA-EVP. It all helps! Thank you!

There is No Death and There are No Dead



This was written to help teach about EVP/ITC. You can order a signed copy at aaevp.com or send a letter with signing instructions to:

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

The book is \$18 plus shipping. Include tax if you live in Nevada.

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AA-EVP Membership Form

You can also use the online form at http://aaevp.com/online_membership_form.htm

Members	\$30.00 per year	All benefits for one year
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not receiving the NewsJournal via email:	\$40.00 per year	
Sustaining Members	\$100 per year	Same as above + Member name listed in NewsJournal

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

You may specify that your donation be used for research or for the public outreach and education of the Association: _____

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? ___ Did you join because of the loss of a loved one? ___

I understand the Member Registry is a private list and I agree that I will not give any of the information to anyone who is not on the list or use the list for commercial purposes or to further a personal cause. I also understand my membership will be terminated if I violate this agreement. I certify that I am at least twenty-one years of age. 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 not liable for damages due to the use of information it publishes on the Internet or in literature such as the NewsJournal. The AA-EVP reserves the right to refuse membership to anyone.

Signed _____ Date _____

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