Founded in 1982 by Sarah Estep to Provide Objective Evidence That We Survive Death in an Individual Conscious State.

Published by Tom and Lisa Butler

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Viewpoint

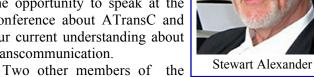
Windbridge EVPmaker Study

As many of you may remember, ATransC contracted with the Windbridge Research Institute to conduct a study about the possibility of using EVPmaker with allophones for real-time transcommunication. That was June, 2008. At last, the final report has been published! Windbridge had refused to let us talk about the study in public out of concern that information made public could somehow compromise the study. It has been a very frustrating three years.

A final report was delivered to us over a year ago, but again, until the study was published we were asked not to discuss it. The study published in the <u>Journal of Scientific Exploration</u> is negative for EVP. We feel that there were a lot of problems with the study and we address these concerns on page 10. It is a little long, but we think it is important that members understand the obstacles posed by looking to academically trained scientists to study our work.

England and Switzerland

As reported in the Winter 2011 NewsJournal, we attended the Stewart Alexander and Friends conference at the Cober Hill conference center near Scarborough, England, October of last year. This year, we have been given the opportunity to speak at the conference about ATransC and our current understanding about transcommunication.



by Stewart during the conference.
This is an important opportunity

Socrates Circle (our development circle) will accompany



Kai Muegge, Felix Experimental Group

This is an important opportunity for our circle members to learn from a true veteran in the field.

As reported in the Fall 2010

As reported in the Fall 2010 NewsJournal, we also sat with the Felix Experimental Group in Germany. The group will be demonstrating while we are in Europe, at Basler Psi-Verein, Switzerland (www.bpv.ch). Their medium, Kai Muegge, has made arrangements for us to also sit with them.

Besides experiencing amazing phenomena and learning more about physical mediumship, it is our hope the experience will help our group begin experiencing more phenomena. Naturally, we will report the trip to you, as well as progress in our circle as things develop.

Idea Exchange

The discussion board was recently upgraded to a more modern and manageable one which includes a photo gallery, chat room and blog tools. As we learned after the purchase, there was no "Recent Posts" tool, making it difficult for people to know where to look for new posts. That has finally been fixed and the board really is ready for your use.

The board is closed to the public so that members may discuss ideas in private. ATransC is an all volunteer organization and we depend on members helping members in the Idea Exchange or through private communication. Your participation in the board is a way that you can help us and others.

The board is an effective tool for managing group experiments. One has just begun in the technical forum titled **Asking the Other Side**. We are trying to gather information about the other side that will give us a better sense of how our communicators see their world. Participants are asked to submit <u>Class A</u> or B transform EVP (ordinary recorder and possible noise background) that can be easily understood by the average person without coaching. Any member can participate and the example does not need to be new. We look forward to your participation in this project.

The meaning of phenomena we study

Perhaps we spend so much time seeking proof of these phenomena that we miss the main purpose for our study. There is an old saying in metaphysics that, "Our lot is to learn, but having learned, our lot is to teach." Yes, we are always learning, but sooner or later, there will be opportunities for each of us to mentor others. That time will certainly come, but will you be ready?

The first question we must ask ourselves is whether or not we understand the meaning of all that we have learned. Information is of little use without comprehension, but even with comprehension, there remains that nagging question: "So what?" So you believe in your immortality and you have internalized that belief as personal knowledge. So what does that imply? The answer to "So what" is what you will be called on to communicate to those you might mentor.

Contents

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Article Contributions: Articles that explain techniques, the concepts of transcommunication and/or provide a role model to which others can aspire are considered. 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 Association website. Announcements of member activities and reports of successes working with these phenomena with brief comments about your observations, are welcome. Email submission to atranscom@aol.com or mail to Association TransCommunication, PO Box 13111, Reno, NV 89507, USA.

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Fall 2011

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Pardy

by Lorie McMorrow



July 27, 2011: I woke up at about 3:30 this morning since Pardy was moving around trying to get up out of his bed. He's very weak and in his final days. When I went back to sleep sometime later I had a very vivid dream. I was at home and noticed water on the floor. I thought that it must be another leak. (Last week I had two broken sprinkler lines in the yard and the City of Las Cruces water main in front of the house also developed a leak, not to mention Pardy's emergency trip to the vet for an eye injury, the fire alarm in the house going off and the front door handle falling off!) In Oriental medicine the water element is associated with the kidneys and I was wondering if someone was trying to warn me about Pardy's chronic kidney failure. Then, a couple days ago he progressed to end stage.

In the dream after seeing the water, I heard a "Meow," which I instantly recognized as being Callie, my cat who passed a couple of weeks ago. I then saw her come walking across the living room to where I was standing by the kitchen. She looked so vibrant and healthy! She meowed again and I knew she wanted to be fed which she often had been demanding about. I went to tell my husband Chris, saying, "You're not going to believe this, but Callie is here." He then saw her too. After he left, I saw some movement out of the corner of my eye and when I looked, I couldn't believe it, here was Rosie Kitty walking towards me. She looked like a big cat and very healthy too, like she used to look before she got sick with kidney failure the last couple years of her life, and became very thin. She passed four years ago. Rosie, who rarely ever meowed, just sat down and looked at me as if to say, "I'm here too, don't forget about me!" I picked her up and hugged her saying, "Rosie, I haven't seen you for so long!" I called Chris to come see her and then woke up. I could still feel myself hugging her, her silky fur and how solid she was!

The next morning when I told Mom about the dream, she said that she had been feeling so bad the night before about my having just lost Callie and now especially going through this with Pardy; being so close to him. So she asked Kevin if he could come to me in a dream that night to reassure me, or if he couldn't that he should send Grandpa or Great Grandma who loved animals. But I think he did even better, he sent Rosie and Callie! I think he wanted me to see how healthy they are now and to know that they're all waiting for Pardy.

August 1, 2011: Pardy crossed over this morning. At 4:00 a.m. he began having some problems. I sat with him and rubbed his ears and kept my hand on his back.

He seemed peaceful, so I asked Kevin to sit with him while I went out in the kitchen to feed Toshi. I've been trying to be strong and keep my emotions good for Pardy, but I just started crying and went over to Kevin's picture and asked him if he'd come get him now. It was so hard seeing him like that.

I then got a little spray bottle so I could spray a little water in his mouth to keep it moist and went to sit with him again. But when I went back in the bedroom, he had gone. I think



Kevin must have taken him right after I asked.

I'm so happy that he's in spirit now and can see clearly, run and walk, has Kevin, Grandpa, Rosie, Callie everyone there to greet him! But at the same time I can't stop crying as I wash his bedding, put away his eye-drops and all his other things. I see him walking around the house and yard. Oh, it'll just take time. He's the sweetest, gentlest soul I've ever known, always there for me and he taught me so much about unconditional love. I know he and Kev will be the first to greet me when I cross over. I'll just miss holding him and having him around in the meanwhile. I know though that with Kev's help, his sweet little spirit will find a way to give me a glimpse of his continuing life.

Continued page 16

Page 3 Fall 2011

Sitting with the Bill Meadows Circle

by Lisa Butler

Bill Meadows in the cabinet

In June, we had an opportunity to sit with the Bill Meadows Circle–twice. They are an English group who have recently demonstrated at Jenny's Sanctuary near London (jennyssanctuary.org.uk/) and at Basler PSI in Basel, Switzerland (bpv.ch/eng/speakers.html). They sit at other locations but because they have no website you only hear about many sittings through word of mouth.

We had heard positive reports about the physical mediumship of Bill Meadows from the Felix Experimental Group, and so he was our primary reason for traveling to France this summer. The trip was well worth the time because we were impressed and touched by our experience during the sittings, as well as delighted to have the opportunity to personally chat with Bill Meadows, his wife Colleen who is the circle leader and circle member, Chris. They are all extremely nice people.

Prior to both sittings, two

people were invited to help with strapping Bill's arms and legs to a chair. Cloth bindings were secured around Bill's limbs and to the chair with Velcro. Nylon cable ties were also threaded through loops on the cloth and used to secure limb and cloth binding to the chair. Cable ties are the binding of choice for many mediums because they are disposable and can only be removed with wire cutters. If Bill had escaped his bindings at any point during the séance, we would have heard the loud noise that is made when Velcro comes apart. Tom was one of those picked for the the first sitting to strap Bill in and check that there was nothing hidden in the cabinet. He was also chosen as one of the people to check numerous times that the medium was still strapped to his chair during the second séance.

There was no recording done of the séances and so I will try to give the highlights as I remember them. All the lights were turned out and we were in total darkness. Marie was the first communicator to come through. She is very funny and soon had us all laughing, and thereby, raising the energy in the room.

We were next treated to a concert of sorts. This was performed by a communicator named Ralph. Ralph, we were told, was ill most of his life and died in his late teens. He loved music in life and now puts on quite a show for sitters. A harmonica, drum, drumsticks, and illuminated trumpets had all been placed on a small table quite a distance from the cabinet. Ralph used those to treat the sitters to rousing harmonica music and animated playing of the

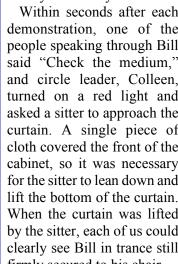
drumsticks. They had illuminated tips which could be seen flashing in the dark as the sticks were used to play a small drum as well as the table, floor and each other.

During the first séance, we were treated to the arrival of two small children. They did not say much but with a red light turned on a few feet in front the cabinet, they both pushed their hands against the inside of the curtain so that

> two independent forms could clearly be seen by the sitters.

Within seconds after each demonstration, one of the people speaking through Bill said "Check the medium," and circle leader, Colleen, turned on a red light and asked a sitter to approach the curtain. A single piece of cloth covered the front of the cabinet, so it was necessary for the sitter to lean down and lift the bottom of the curtain. When the curtain was lifted by the sitter, each of us could clearly see Bill in trance still firmly secured to his chair.

During both séances and



with the red light on, a very human looking hand appeared, coming from the cabinet at the bottom of the curtain. Several people were asked to come forward and shake the hand. Both Tom and I were called up. The hand looked and felt very warm and human. The reality of this right hand was almost too much for Tom and I and we felt it looked a lot like Bill's hand albeit missing the ring he wears. After shaking the hand, the curtain was once more raised to show Bill in trance and still secured to his chair.

Many others have witnessed the hand and have given various descriptions. One friend said that, when he shook the hand, it was much vounger and bigger then Bill's. A respected and critical thinking person who recently sat with Bill reported the hand that appeared from the cabinet had an acute deformity to several of the fingers very unlike Bill's hand. And again within seconds of people being called up to shake the hand, the medium was checked and still bound.

At the last séance we were asked to stand close to the curtain to be touched by Marie and the two young children. Two small hands touched my lower legs and when they let go the curtain wrapped around me and I received a very human embrace from Marie. I distinctively felt the arms and then even a pat from a warm body. Even more mind blowing was that, after all of this, I realized my face had not been obstructed by the curtain. After every sitter had gotten a hug the medium was checked and still secured.



Communicators of the Meadows Circle

by Colleen Meadows

Sadiq: He was a Persian and a Christian. We were told that he lived over 1,000 years ago. He lived at the court and was an adviser to the royal family of that time. He first communicated with us after only a few weeks of sitting in circle by spelling out messages using a table. He is now the leader of the Spirit team and our "gatekeeper." He finally spoke in direct voice in Feb 1998. He seldom speaks during a demonstration but he is always with us making sure that everyone is safe and no malicious influence can get through during our meetings.

Jonathan: Our first direct voice contact about six months after we sat. His voice was heard coming from the centre of the room while everyone was sitting round a table. He said he was lost and was helped and advised by our circle to find his way to the other side. He came back the following week to thank us for our help and has stayed with us. He gave us a lot of information about his life on earth, some of which we could check. He was a Londoner who died as the result of a burglary at his home in which he was hit over the head. He was quite pleased to be able to tell us that the burglars were caught and punished. He had a lot of different jobs in his lifetime and, coincidentally, one of them was running a fruit and vegetable stall in Covent Garden in the late 1950s, early 1960. During this period, I worked in an office near Covent Garden and passed Jonathan working on his fruit and vegetable stall every morning. He was for a long time our main communicator and gave us guidance on how the circle should be run.

Father James: He spoke for the first time about three years after our circle started. He was an Irish man who became a Franciscan monk. He lived about 100 years ago and most of the latter part of his life was spent in a monastery in the Troodos Mountains in Cyprus. It was a multi-denominational monastery and I believe is still there and can be visited. He said he has always been with Bill and was just waiting for him to find the right circle in order to work with him. He took over Jonathan's job and now gives us advice and guidance while Jonathan's role has become less serious.

Ralph: A young Dutch boy who was ill for most of his life. We have not been told exactly what was wrong with him but it seems that it was something that caused muscle spasms, and when he shows his hand, it is as if it is in spasm and his fingers are bent and twisted. He died in his late teens. He loved music and is the one who plays the harmonica and drums so beautifully for us. He often plays folk songs learned when he was a child.

Marie: Was a nine or ten-year-old Polish Jew who died in a concentration camp just outside Krakow. She doesn't speak often about her short life but we believe her family was fairly poor farmers. She seems to have taken over now as our main communicator, controlling everything in her inimitable way. She has always been cheeky and causes much laughter all the time but we notice her almost

becoming more mature as time goes on.

Anna and Sarah: Were with Marie in the concentration camp. They were about the same age as Marie and all three of them died together. They have stayed together and call themselves sisters although they were not related as we know it but they are truly "sisters in spirit."

Star and Sky: Babies who passed to Spirit before they were born. They are not related as far as we know. Since they hadn't been christened we were asked to give them names. We chose Star and Sky and they seem happy with this. They have only recently started talking but they seem more trusting than the other members of our team.

Bill Meadows Circle Continued from page 4

One of the demonstrations that settled Tom's skeptical mind was when the two children lifted the curtain by standing on either side of Bill. As Tom has seen movement of objects behave in other séances, the curtain moved in hesitant jerks at first, as if the children were working hard to gain control of the needed energy to move the cloth. After a few abortive attempts. the curtain lifted as if two very small people were standing, near the sides of the cabinet now, and lifting the curtain so that all of the



Bill and Colleen Meadows

sitters could clearly see Bill in the red light, still bound and in trance. Tom was certain there were no devices which would have permitted Bill to both lift the curtain in that manner and remain in his chair.

We wrote to Colleen and asked more about their communicators. We think that you will find her email back to us interesting. One of their main communicators came into the circle lost and seeking help after passing. The group helped him across and he then came back later to work in their circle!

We hope to sit with this wonderful group again in the future. Some of the phenomena were so different it would be nice to experience it again with a clearer head, as on this occasion, we were pretty much blown away. We thank the Bill Meadows Circle for two amazing evenings!

Page 5 Fall 2011

What Happens When You Die?

by Danny Penman



Sunrise by Kathryn McEwen-Smith flickr.com/photos/katmary/

Former intensive care nurse Dr. Penny Sartori was barely halfway through her night shift when the patient was apparently visited by the spirit of his dead sister.

Through the maze of equipment keeping Peter Holland alive, Dr. Sartori could see him slowly regaining consciousness and becoming increasingly alert. Peter then began staring intently at a ghostly figure at the foot of his bed – a figure only he could see – and then started talking to it.

"He suddenly regained his energy," says Dr. Sartori. "He seemed to be having a conversation with someone we could not see. After a while, a beautiful peaceful smile crossed his face and he relaxed completely.

"When his family arrived he told them that he'd been visited by his sister in the night and that they'd had a long chat. The strange thing was, his sister had died the week before and nobody had dared tell him because they thought the shock might kill him. There was absolutely no way he could have known about his sister's death."

It was in that moment, says Dr. Sartori, that she realized Peter was going to die, no matter how much medical attention he received.

"When a patient says that they have been visited by a dead loved one, you know that their time has come. It's commonly accepted by nurses and we see it quite a lot. Nurses tell each other that 'he's just had a visit' so he'll be off soon."

Indeed, shortly afterwards, 75-year-old Peter Holland did die at Morriston Hospital in Swansea.

Such "deathbed phenomena," of the type experienced by Mr. Holland are surprisingly common. According to recent research at King's College London, around ten percent of the terminally ill or their loved ones report some kind of mysterious inexplicable event that hints at an afterlife. Patients may report visits from deceased loved ones or perhaps catch a brief glimpse of a heavenly realm.

Whilst they are undoubtedly comforting for the dying and their loved ones, do such deathbed phenomena really shed light on the question of whether there is life after death? Over the past few years, scientists have begun studying such phenomena and have concluded that the dying may indeed be visited by the spirits of their deceased loved ones.

Dr. Peter Fenwick, a neuropsychiatrist at King's College London, who leads the research team investigating the phenomena, says: "One possible interpretation of the data is that there really is life after death whilst another would be that something paranormal, such as ESP, is behind them.

"Deathbed phenomena come in three forms. The dying can receive visits from dead loved ones or they may have visions of lights and other worlds. They may also experience strange coincidences such as receiving a visit from a relative they did not know had died.

"Those around them may also experience inexplicable events such as clocks stopping or strange lights appearing around the patient. Others have seen a translucent shape leave the body at the time of death.

"You don't need a religion or a belief system to 'believe' in these phenomena. You just have to look at the data and make up your own mind," says Dr. Fenwick.

It's easy to dismiss cases like that of Peter Holland. Skeptics argue that they result from a heady cocktail of faulty memories, powerful painkillers and the desire to believe in an afterlife at an intolerably stressful time.

Lewis Wolpert, Emeritus Professor of Biology at University College London, denounces such phenomena as delusions. "Such stories are the result of hallucinations, wishful thinking or coincidence," he says. "There is no evidence for God or life after death. I have no doubt that it must be reassuring for those who believe in these things. On the whole, religious people do tend to be happier. I would love to be religious and think that there was a heaven but it simply doesn't exist."

Although skeptics can reasonably challenge many deathbed phenomena, there remains a hard core that simply cannot be explained by conventional means. It is these that Professor Fenwick's team is studying intently. And strange as it may seem, Peter Holland's case is far from unique.

Linda Jacobs' experience is typical. Her father was terminally ill in a Manchester hospital. His mother-in-law had died unexpectedly and the family decided to spare him the unhappy news. As the family gathered round his bedside for what they believed was his last night, he became increasingly alert.

"He kept saying 'move out of that smoke," says Linda. "He then began smiling and laughing as though he was meeting with people we could not see. He then turned and looked at my mother and said 'your mum is here! What on earth is she doing here?"

Moments later he died - with a smile on his face.

Linda is adamant that her father did not know that his mother-in-law was dead. The whole family had agreed not to tell him.

Continued page 7



What Happens ... Continued from page 6

If this is the case - and there's no reason to doubt her honesty - what can account for such mysterious events? Whilst many would choose to dismiss such stories, Linda is convinced that it provides evidence for an afterlife.

Although visions of a heavenly realm cannot be independently verified, other equally strange phenomena are reported by relatives as their loved one dies.

"Clocks can stop," says Dr. Fenwick. "One lady told me that all of the clocks in her house stopped working at the time of her husband's death. They started again a week later." Although one timepiece stopping at the exact moment of death can safely be dismissed as coincidence, can you so discard several failing at the same time - and in the same house? And how can you account for them all restarting at the same time seven days later?

It's not just timepieces that seem to be affected by the death of a loved one. Anecdotal evidence suggests that mobile phones, video recorders, and TVs can all mysteriously cease to function only to resurrect themselves shortly after. Devices particularly loved and cared for by the deceased are particularly likely to malfunction at the moment of their death. It's not just man-made devices that suffer. Pets can mysteriously fall ill or even die.

Translucent amorphous shapes can occasionally be seen leaving the body. An acquaintance of Professor Fenwick's, a GP from New Zealand, went to the aid of a golfer who had just had a heart attack.

"As he was going to help, he saw what he described as a white form which seemed to rise and separate from the body," he says.

And just as the dying are visited by deceased loved ones, the recently departed seem capable of visiting the living within moments of their deaths. The case of Kate Batchelor, a sheep farmer in the western isles of Scotland, has puzzled researchers for many years. Her brother was ill in hospital but was expected to live. When he died a friend was dispatched to tell her the awful news. When they reached the farmhouse they were greeted by Kate.

"I know why you've come," she said. "I heard him calling me. He was saying 'Kate, Kate' as he passed over."

The time of death noted by Kate was exactly the same as that recorded by the hospital.

Mysterious lights appearing at the time of death have been reported by onlookers. It may sound like a Hollywood cliché but shards of light bursting out from the chest of a loved one at the moment of death have genuinely been seen.

Diane Smyth, from Harlow in Essex, recalls the time she sat with her elderly father as he died. As she awoke in a darkened room, she noticed something strange hovering above her father. As her eyes focused on the mysterious

shape she couldn't help but notice "a flame licking the top of the wall against the ceiling."

"I saw a plume of smoke rising, like the vapor from a snuffed-out candle," she says. "It was being thrown off by a single blade of phosphorous light and was indescribably beautiful. It seemed to express perfect love and peace.

"I eventually switched on the room light. The mysterious light vanished and the room was the same as always on a November morning, cold and cheerless, with no sound of breathing from Dad's bed. His body was still warm."

Dr. Fenwick hopes his research will help us come to terms with the process of dying and of death. He plans to produce a textbook for doctors and nurses caring for the terminally ill. It will be the 21st century equivalent of the Ars Moriendi, the fifteenth century classic on the "art of dying," which

described how best to prepare for death.

"Death is not a frightening process," said Dr. Fenwick. "In fact, it seems to be well-catered for." Dr. Fenwick has become convinced that deathbed phenomena serve to prepare us spiritually for death. It's a process that can take several days and gathers increasing pace as the hours pass.

So what exactly happens in the final hours of life? A common thread runs through many of Dr. Fenwick's case studies and he has now been able to build up a tentative picture of what he believes happens. Often the first thing you experience is the realization that there are friendly spirits in the room who arrive with the express purpose of carrying you to another realm. As you become more aware of their presence, fear turns to happiness and eventually bliss.

These spirits will often sit for hours comforting you as your body progressively shuts down and dies. It is only when you are happy, relaxed and resigned to your fate that the process of reviewing your life begins – including all of its failings – so that you can begin resolving all of your conflicts. Resolving conflicts with friends and loved ones is particularly important. Tying up all of life's loose ends appears to be central to a good death. It would appear that when this process is complete then death quickly follows. It's almost as if in the final moment of peace, the body finally offers up the ghost.

Presumably what happens next is something akin to a near-death experience. This, you may recall, occurs when a person dies, often from a cardiac arrest, and their soul appears to leave their body and travel towards heaven through a long dark tunnel.

Those who have returned from such a journey report a world full of peace and plenty, love and respect, and of infinite knowledge and wisdom.





Light at the End: Near-Death Experience by Chuck Wendig

flickr.com/photos/terribleminds/

Page 7 Fall 2011

There is No Death

by Terir Daniel

The way we perceive death is a *choice*.

When my ten-year-old son Danny was diagnosed with a degenerative illness that would end his life sometime within the next ten years, we began a sacred, transcendent journey

that led us through disability, death and beyond. A large piece of this process involved my helping him to understand life and death in a way that would give meaning to his life and help him face his death without fear.

As his illness progressed, he lost the ability to speak, and by age twelve, was unable to talk in full sentences. We were never able to have an "adult" discussion about death, so I had to feel my way intuitively through his perceptions, emotions and life experience in the

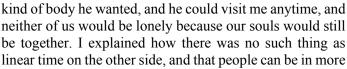
hope of discovering whatever beliefs and images he held about the end of physical life.

Like most American children, the only information Danny had about death came from television, movies and video games. Although he couldn't verbalize this, I imagined that he thought of death as a violent, angry, terrifying event. He'd never known anybody who'd died, not even a pet. His grandparents were alive and well, and although some of the elders in our family had died, they were virtual strangers to him.

Once, when Danny was about six years old, he told me that when people die they go to "Ghost City," a magical place "where kids can drive cars and go to school to learn about fun stuff." When Danny began facing his own death, I wondered if this precious image was still in his mind. Thankfully, our family legacy was not a religious one, so we were free from visions of everlasting torture in hell or a heaven filled exclusively with saved Christians. Danny's mind was completely open, which gave me a rare opportunity to fill it with beautiful, peaceful images, free of fear and judgment.

During the last years of Danny's life, I searched libraries and websites for material on positive, non-judgmental traditions and mythologies about death, and was particularly drawn to Buddhist and Native American stories. I read these stories to Danny, and imparted to him a vision of death and the afterlife that resonated with my own heart, incorporating my personal belief in reincarnation, the essence of our spirits and the possibility of communication between dimensions.

As I wrote in my previous book, A Swan in Heaven, "At night I lay by his side singing to him and telling him that I would be okay on earth without him and would see him very soon. I told him that in the spirit realms he could have any



than one place at the same time. I told him everything I knew, everything I'd learned in my metaphysical studies, hoping he'd understand and wouldn't be afraid of dying."

Religious doctrine, literature, sacred hymns and ageless folk songs impart nightmarish imagery of a "cold, lonesome grave," the "icy hand of death" and "the dreary regions of the dead." Add images of turning to dust, being eaten by worms and a 50/50 chance of an eternity in hell, and the fear of death is securely seated in the



Danny

minds of many children by the age of six.

Even the blissful images of death keep us from a meaningful understanding of the sacred transition from physical to non-physical existence. Sitting next to Jesus on a throne or floating on a cloud playing a harp for eternity doesn't explain or justify our purpose on Earth, and offers us a stagnant, rather pointless afterlife. This leaves us with three basic ideas about death.

- 1. Judgment We'll go to a good place or a bad place depending on our behavior.
- 2. Separation We'll be away from loved ones, where we can't be contacted.
- 3. Permanence- We're gone forever, and all life experience stops.

An innate fear of death is at the root of all neurosis. The ego's terror of extinction is the driving force behind extreme behaviors that are designed to establish dominance and control, such as violence, war, abuse, corruption and bigotry. This is not only true for individuals; it's true for families, governments, religions, corporations and nations. The ego cries out, "What will become of ME?" and acts from an instinctive fear of disappearance and loss of identity. One could think of this as a survival instinct, but it begs the question ... what, exactly, is trying to survive?

I talked with a woman recently whose teenage daughter was dying from a rare disease. She said to me unapologetically, "I like my separateness. I don't want to merge into the void. I don't want to relinquish my individual identity."

That's the voice of the human ego talking. It's the personality wanting to survive, to be recognized and to be in control. The soul knows that it can't disappear, but the ego -- the personality -- lives in fear of annihilation.



There is No Death

Continued from page 8

On the soul level we are eternal; we are parts of the whole, like a blob of mercury from which pieces can pull away but are always magnetically drawn back to their source. Our souls have individual paths, histories and intentions that are acted out when we break off from the source into separate bodies during our incarnations. Our bodies are the "experiential" aspects of that source, but we are never actually separate, and always return to Source via dreams, visions, meditation or death. Because we live in a multi-dimensional

reality, we don't disappear after death, but continue to resonate on a higher frequency. Embracing this view can help us release fear-based notions of punishment rather than correction, judgment rather than support, and an eternity of idleness rather than limitless opportunity for growth.

This view also gives us a new way of understanding and processing grief. I know a man whose son died in a train collision at age sixteen. The boy was a talented actor and compassionate animal activist. The father laments that his son died before he could fulfill his potential in these areas, and sees his son's death as the tragic "waste" of a life that could have contributed so much to the world. But our existence can never be wasted if the work of our souls continues after death. It's as if we worked for a company and got transferred to a branch office in

a new city, doing the same work in a different location. This young man's love of art and animals, along with the gifts, lessons and growth tools he provided to his loved ones, continues now in another form, and his life is far from over. The guidance, love and energy he radiates from the other side provides boundless gifts of awareness and expansion for his loved ones on earth as well as members of his soul family in the non-physical.

We've all heard the cliché, "nobody's ever come back from death to tell us about it, so there's no proof that the soul lives on." But that's not true. Countless people have had near-death experiences and communication with departed loved ones, and there are hundreds of books on the subject ... there's actually more proof in favor of a world beyond the body than against it.

I began receiving "interdimensional" messages from my son less than an hour after his death. These dialogs continue to this day, and they guide the work I'm now doing as an author and spiritual teacher. I'm certain that the conversations Danny and I had about death during the last years of his life are what made this possible. We looked at death a certain way and it became our reality. The way we perceive death is a choice. If we believe in hell and judgment, we will carry that belief to our deaths and to the deaths of our

loved ones, and the death experience will be filled with stress and fear. If we believe that death is the continuation of a rich, expansive journey, then the experience can be understood and enlightening for everyone involved...

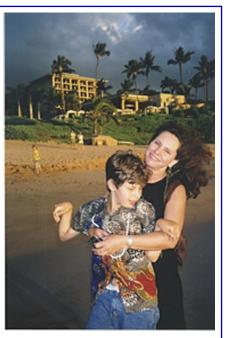
In David Staume's marvelous book, *The Atheist Afterlife*, he explains the energetic changes that occur when we go from physical to non-physical existence. He asks us to imagine that we are in a car that has just lost control and is sailing off the edge of a cliff. Using a basic rule of physics that "any energy unable to express itself in its current form

will transition into another form," the energy of the car hurling toward the ground will, upon impact, be transformed into fire, heat, debris, dust and sound; other forms of energy. Meanwhile, assuming you die in this crash, your non-physical self (your soul, essence, consciousness, mind, spirit, life force, astral body or whatever you choose to call it) will follow the same law of physics and will not disappear, but will transform. Staume says: "If the relationship between your body and your consciousness is the same as that between the car and the energy of movement, your consciousness wouldn't be extinguished either; it would behave like every other energy in the universe; it would obey the law of conservation of energy and it would transition." [The law of conservation of energy states that the total amount of energy in an isolated system remains constant. A consequence of this law is that

energy cannot be created or destroyed. The only thing that can happen with energy in an isolated system is that it can change form, that is to say for instance kinetic energy can become thermal energy.]

An analogy even an atheist could love, assuming said atheist believes that there is a consciousness separate from the body. But when we start to question where the consciousness actually goes, the going gets tough, because this is where theology comes in and drives everybody to their respective corners.

The problem with talking about an afterlife is that most people see it as exclusively enmeshed with religion, and this causes instant contention. There are two reasons why the idea of life after death is always tied to religion: because all religious doctrines talk about an afterlife, and because the only information we ever get about an afterlife is within the context of religion. It's hopelessly tied up in circular reasoning; a perpetual myth-making machine. The idea of a non-religious afterlife would do wonders for helping humanity lose its fear of death, but as long as the idea is only understood in a fear-based religious context, it will continue to frighten us. If the soul is eternal and we live over and over again in different bodies, locations, cultures and environments



Danny with Terri

Page 9 Fall 2011

EVPmaker with Allophones: Where are We Now?

by Tom Butler

Stefan Bion developed a computer program named EVP-maker which uses a random process to select and combine segments of a sound file to produce a new output file. EVP are thought to be produced by the manipulation of the random process. To make the program more controllable for research, Stefan recently provided a sound file containing seventy-two allophones generated with the SpeakJetTM chip-set developed for robotics.

Allophones are small segments of speech, which when combined, can produce "spoken" words. The output from EVPmaker is a steady stream of allophones, which when intentionally selected by the communicating entity, produce EVP messages.

In 2008, Margaret Downey demonstrated real-time conversations using EVPmaker with allophones. An example is at <u>atransc.org/examples.htm</u>. Other practitioners reported similarly meaningful communications using the same technology, giving reason to think the time was right to closely examine real-time communication.

Thanks to a \$10,000 donation to the <u>Sarah Estep Research Fund</u> from a member and a second donation from Becky Estep in memory of her mother and founder of the Association, <u>Sarah Estep</u>, ATransC contracted with <u>Windbridge Research Institute</u> to conduct a study. The assumption was that a report from impartial researchers would be more credible than if ATransC members conducted the study. The research question agreed to by ATransC was:

Can the EVPmaker software using the SpeakJet allophones data set produce real-time answers to questions that are posed by an operator under controlled conditions that eliminate conventional explanations for the results?

The project began June 2008 and the resulting report was published in the Summer 2011 *Journal of Scientific Exploration*.* (Article is here) However, the final report to ATransC was delivered October 2009, and from the following comments from the report, it became evident that it was being reported as another "failure to replicate" article:

Taking all of these analyses into account, this study did not find evidence that the EVPmaker software using the SpeakJet allophones data set can produce real-time answers to questions posed by an operator under controlled conditions that eliminate conventional explanations for the results.

And:

The data in this study tend to suggest that the interpretation of EVPmaker conversations is a subjective process, the content of which is meaningful primarily (and perhaps solely) to the operator.

Examining the Windbridge Study

The study took just over three years from start to published report and cost ATransC about \$12,000 including overhead.

The ATransC objective was to have independent researchers evaluate the technology and help determine the best protocol for replicating the quality of existing examples. The study consisted of four phases: literature search, data collection, data analysis and final report. A single practitioner was used to produce ten sessions containing EVP with transcripts indicating what was heard. Data analysis consisted of allophone frequency analysis, listening panel, message grading as used for mediumship studies and speech recognition software.

Data collection

It was possible for the practitioner to conduct the EVP sessions at home because of a computer that was configured to provide much the same controls as could be applied in a laboratory. One practitioner was used. The practitioner could do as many sessions as needed and was tasked with selecting and submitting what was heard as the top ten sessions. Besides the recorded sessions and the data file from EVPmaker indicating the sequence of allophones, the practitioner also provided a written script of what was heard as EVP in each session. As agreed to by ATransC, there were no constraints on what the practitioner asked the etheric communicators to evoke an EVP.

The study produced examples which the listening panel agreed on, but the one with the most agreement was discarded as a statistical "outlier" with the comment:

One of the 10 samples—Session 6 ("I'm here for you")—fell just under the "hit" threshold with a mean of 2.99 (\pm 0.12). However, it was determined that this value is a statistical <u>outlier</u> and its removal from the data set should be considered. If the scores given to Session 6 are removed from the analysis, the resulting updated mean for the remaining nine samples falls from 1.15 (\pm 0.05) to 0.86 (\pm 0.05). This shows that the perceptions of the listening panel received an average score less than what was deemed a "slight match" to the operator's perception.

1. Convention dictates that values three times the interquartile range above or below the mean be considered outliers.

It is important to note that Class A EVP are, by definition, "outliers"

Lessons learned: 1.) Open-ended questions make it very difficult to use the "reasonableness" criterion. 2.) Based on an ATransC advisor's comments, it is essential to use more than one practitioner. 3.) The data-collection methodology used by Windbridge is an excellent approach to establishing research controls for unattended EVP sessions.

Data Analysis

Frequency Analysis

The frequency of occurrence of allophones in the control sessions was compared with the practitioner sessions because (from the final report):



EVPmaker Continued from page 10

It was hypothesized that if communication involving English words was present in the Active Sessions, certain allophones might be present more or less often than in the Control Sessions.

Not knowing what might come of it, we concurred that this was an interesting test. However, we cautioned several times that the words in EVP produced by EVPmaker are often formed in novel ways. As shown below, the researchers also noted this in the Speech Recognition part of the study. If words in the sessions are heard by people even though they may only be phonically similar to the spoken word, it is unlikely that a change in distribution of allophones between control and practitioner sessions would be detectible.

A second factor is that there may be only a few intended words and many naturally occurring words in a session. For the very many allophones generated in a session (1,675 for a three-minute session), would a Class A utterance even show up in such an analysis?

Lessons learned: Without more study of this technique, it is very difficult to know if the right assumptions have been made by the researchers. From our assessment, it appears to be unreasonable to say that frequency analysis is a realistic technique for detecting the presence of anomalous influence on the selection of allophones.

Listening Panel

An online listening panel was selected and presented ten sound clips from control sessions and ten from the practitioner sessions. An important point in this test was that the examples used from the practitioner sessions were ten of those EVP reported as being heard real time.

One of the questions asked was whether or not the listener heard words in the samples. An average 73% answered "Yes" for the practitioner sessions and 63% answered "Yes" for the control sessions. Roughly half heard words in each of the twenty examples they were asked to judge.

The grading system the researchers used has potential for future research, especially the way they graded what listeners reported hearing. However, one word responses were counted, including such words "I," "yes" and "for." EVPmaker output includes numerous naturally occurring sounds resembling common one-syllable words. This is apparently the case with the control sessions, resulting in both groups having a similar number of reported words.

Lessons learned: Listening panels do work, but one protocol does not fit all forms of EVP. Word-like sounds naturally occur in EVPmaker output, making it necessary to use grading rules which will ignore one-syllable words. EVP is considered communication, and a second consideration is the reasonableness of a response. For instance, a stand-alone word like "oracle" should be ignored unless the practitioner has specifically asked questions for which it is appropriate. One cannot say the word is present if a listening panel does not agree,

Continued page 12

Debbie Caruso's Son Joey

David Mierzwinski had conducted experiments using a cell phone to call his computer and then record the call while rubbing a mesh paint filter against the extended antenna on the cell phone. He received some loud clear responses that referred to vibration, shaking and what sounded like random thoughts that he says were not his own.

Margaret Downey became interested in the technique and spent an entire afternoon exploring the use of the filter that Dave had used. She made several recordings of the noise to be used as the input file for EVPmaker. No radio or voice of any kind was used in the formation of this source file. Sending the output from EVPmaker to the computer speakers, she used various recording tools to record for EVP. She wrote, "These were gotten while using my home phone to call my Google voice number, which rings my cell phone, and my cell phone was patched into my computer so



Debbi Caruso

Audacity could record the phone call. Then I turned EVPmaker on and put my home phone next to the speaker.

"I often ask for Big Circle people. Here's some of what I got this afternoon. These clips are raw. No alterations of any kind. 'I'm Debbie's son. This is Joey.' 'Debbie's son, Joey's, learning with us.'

"Next, I used an app on my iPhone called *Listen Up*. It filters

real-time and makes your phone kinda like one of those amplifying earpieces to help people hear the TV better. My phone was still connected to my computer at this time and I'm still using the Graco [paint] filter rubbing file as the

source in EVPmaker for the background, but this time, no phone call. I just used my phone's mic to record into the computer. This was the first thing that was said as I tried this method: 'We are waiting, Margaret Downey.'

"For the last EVP example, I used the precleaned radio-sweep file that Jayne and I co-created as the input to EVPmaker. I asked for someone to say 'The Big Circle' and hear the response as, 'The circle is big. Good evening."



Joey

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Page 11 Fall 2011

EVPmaker Continued from page 11

but since short words are sometimes spontaneously formed by EVPmaker, care must be taken not to include them in the analysis. A methodology would need to be established for determining which is the case.

Judging Content of Reported EVP

As they do for messages in mediumship, the researchers scored the reported EVP with what the practitioner asked or said and reported that:

Of the 124 responses, roughly one-third (31%, 38) received a score of 0 [No fit]. Similarly, another third (34%, 42) received a score of 3 [Obvious fit]. The remaining third of the responses (35%) received median scores of 1 [Fit with minimal interpretation] (20) or 2 [Fit with more than minimal interpretation] (24). The overall mean was 1.56 ± 0.11 , a score at the middle of the scoring range, and the higher end of the 95% confidence interval fell below 1.8.

Based on the distribution of these scores, it was concluded that responses perceived by the operator did not consistently contain information that logically matched her questions.

Of course, there remains the fact that nearly a third of the responses did agree with the practitioner. The conclusions arrived at by the researchers beg the question, "How can a 31% agreement be discarded when one is speaking of something that is not supposed to exist?"

Lessons learned: Content judging appears to be a good way to establish a numerical value to the objectivity of a reported utterance. That is essentially what analysis of results from a listening panel is supposed to provide. The rules of "convincingly objective," however, should be based on reasonable consensus.

Speech Recognition Program

The researchers "trained" a speech recognition program to understand phrases spoken with the SpeakJet allophones. They then attempted to use that program to find the reported EVP phrases. From the report:

It is evident from this comparison that these 10 phrases that the operator heard during the real-time EVPmaker Active Sessions were not present in the EVPmaker output at those times in the sessions. However, similar vowel sounds were often found in the output. For example, when the operator heard the phrase "you are here," the allophones being "spoken" by EVPmaker actually "said" something like "ooch k hoe are teer." Similarly, when the operator heard "I'm here for you," EVPmaker was "saying" "I oo we're kk door you."

Here is the example which was discarded as an outlier. **Reported phrase:** *I'm here for you.*

Allophones from EVPmaker: \OHIY \UW \WW \IYRR \KO \EK \DO \OWRR \IYUW

Associated phonetic sounds: ("I oo we're kk door voo")

The computer program was trained to find words in allophones "properly" arranged to form those words. It is difficult to "hear" what this sounds like by reading the phonetic sounds above. They were heard by the practitioner and many of the listening panel as "I'm here for you," This is an example of how allophones might be arranged to approximate the intended words. Words that would be understood by a human but not found by the program.

Speech recognition programs have been tried for EVP many times, but to our knowledge, with no meaningful success. We made this clear to the researchers, but they insisted they could make it work. Trying to keep an open mind, we agreed. In fact, they did not make it work and we believe this part of the analysis should have been discarded as a bad idea.

Lessons learned: At this time, speech recognition is not a realistic tool for EVP formed with EVPmaker. It may be useful for transform EVP since forensic voice analysis has been successfully used to compare "living" and discarnate voices

Discussion

The Journal of Scientific Exploration* is a <u>peer-reviewed</u> publication which has published two other "<u>failure to replicate EVP</u>"-type articles. Based on this and our attempts to communicate with the society, we do not count it as a friend of EVP/ITC. We have no visibility as to who the "peers" were and our assumption is that they are peers in science but not peers in ITC. In truth, being amongst the very few organizations friendly to the concepts of survival and transcommunication, we expected to have to publish the final report in the *ATransC NewsJournal*.

This is the first point we need to make. Peer review is not vetting. It is academics agreeing that the paper is academically sound, while vetting by subject matter specialists would have pointed out that many of the assumptions and procedures were inappropriate for the subject.

The basic scientific method is observation leading to hypothesis which predicts outcomes that can "The idea that you don't show anybody, including your colleagues, results until they are peer-reviewed is something new in science. And it's brought about because of media attention. I don't think that's a good idea."

Richard A. Miller in an interview by Michael D. Lemonick, Global warming "I stick to the Science," Scientific American, June 2011.

be tested to further refine the hypothesis. This is important and appropriate to the study of transcommunication. However, many of the tools of mainstream science are not appropriate for this study. Most glaring is the statistical discard of an example because it was understood too much more often than the others.

The listening panel and judging content procedures are essentially the same. As is clear in judging content, they are subjective considerations of objective phenomena. Being subjective,

Continued page 13



EVPmaker Continued from page 12

it is necessary to constrain the results to plausible communication. This was done in judging content but counting one and two-syllable words as "Yes" for presence of words only serves to provide fodder for statistical analysis. In fact, the presence of EVP was noted, making the conclusion that EVP were not present unfounded. From the report:

Thus, consensus among participants during the listening panel did not rule out pareidolia (finding patterns in sound that are not there) as a possible explanation for the perceived presence of ITC in the Active Sessions.

And

Based on the distribution of these scores, it was concluded that responses perceived by the operator did not consistently contain information that logically matched the questions.

The researchers had been advised that previous attempts to use speech recognition have failed. Most EVP are formed in novel ways, which is especially true of EVPmaker. In fact, this is the common problem of frequency analysis of allophones and the speech recognition attempt made by the researchers. Both were interesting ideas which after seeing they did not detect phenomena known to be present, should have been abandoned. The report should have looked more like "We tried this but it did not work," rather than, "We did this and it showed that phenomena were not present."

Lessons learned

Here is the research question used in the published report:

Can the presence of ITC be objectively detected in real-time ITC sessions recorded by an experienced EVPmaker operator in which the operator claims successful contact with an external entity has occurred?

There was a shift in emphasis from the original question (at the beginning of this article) which highlights the breakdown in communication between Windbridge and ATransC. It is ATransC policy to promote open, candid collaboration and to make research results available to the average person. That was one of our requirements. ATransC is a nonprofit organization and funding this study had the potential of attracting more donations to enable future studies. Instead, the researchers refused to allow us to discuss the study until the final report was published—three years later.

The unavoidable conclusion is that research about techniques and human factors, such as protocols for listening panels, should be conducted by subject-matter specialists, and that work should be vetted by subject-matter specialists. Attempting to force-fit methodologies of mainstream science has not added to the understanding of these phenomena, except to show what does not work. There is a class division between academically trained but uninformed scientists and informed but generally poorly trained subject-matter specialist which impairs collaboration. This makes it necessary to conduct this work with the resources of the paranormal community.

Conclusion about EVPmaker

Despite the conclusions arrived at by Windbridge that EVP thought to be produced by EVPmaker are probably imaginary, there remain important examples of EVP from that technology which are very objective. So what is reasonable guidance for members? There can be no doubt; EVPmaker should not be recommended to people who are new to EVP. The difficult to follow output too easily leads people to find meaning where none was intended.

An example recorded in another study, "Her radio," illustrates the complexities faced by researchers. Close examination of "radio" shows that it is actually a transform EVP—one formed by morphing noise to produce a clear expression. So in fact, that EVP is not a demonstration of EVPmaker's capability. It could have been recorded with an ordinary audio recorder using background noise.

The ATransC recommendation will be that EVPmaker should be considered a specialty tool to be used by people already accustomed to recording EVP using a recorder with possible background noise (transform EVP). EVP from EVPmaker should be examined to determine whether or not it is actually transform EVP.

* Journal of Scientific Exploration, scientific exploration.org
You can access the report on Windbridge's website:
windbridge.org/papers/BoccuzziBeischel2011JSE25ITC.pdf

Trance Entrainment

by Tom Butler

The entrainment exercises offered by the Monroe Institute are designed around focuses or levels (See **The Monroe Way** at <u>atransc.org/articles.htm</u>) where Focus 10 is: "The first stage in separation of mind-consciousness from physical reality." A similar process appears to be active in the way mediums enter the necessary levels of awareness to produce phenomena. For instance, Hoyt Robinette demonstrates blind readings of what is written on paper just before producing phenomena. (atransc.org/circles.htm)

Physical mediums tend to follow essentially the same pattern of introducing a series of etheric speakers, each with a unique specialty such as gatekeeper, moving objects and reunions. In some cases, the communicating entity wakes up the medium to experience the phenomena along with the sitters. The medium is alert right away, and afterwards, the medium quickly returns to deep trance. This is a relatively short cycle of wakening and return to trance, yet when brought back at the end of the session, the medium takes many moments to shake off the grogginess of trance.

There appears to be a relationship between the procession of etheric visitors and the medium's depth of trance. In the same way, Robinette's routine may be a form of entrainment used to induce the needed state of awareness. This is an important point which may help explain why mediums are so bound by routine.

We would be interested in hearing from you about similar examples of possible entrainment.

Page 13 Fall 2011

Electronic Voice Phenomena is Affected by Solar Weather

by Tom Ginther

Recently, I returned to recording Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP). After some initial good results in which I heard clear voices played back through headphones, the results became inconsistent. My technique had not changed and I was recording about the same time everyday. I also settled on one digital recorder that seemed to give me the best quality sound. I had read somewhere that terrestrial and space weather may have an effect on EVP recording. If there is a way of predicting if EVP will be poor beforehand or after the fact, I would know that it was not the fault of me or the "talkers" if I recorded poor EVP; but maybe something in the environment.

Twenty-eight recording sessions averaging five minutes and thirty seconds in length were conducted between November 11, 2007 and December 25, 2007. They were all conducted within an hour of 4 p.m. in twelve different locations in rural Halifax County, Virginia. I frequently walk two dogs for about an hour and a half when I get off work, hence the consistent time. There are a number of abandoned farmhouses on my walk that I have been "haunting" for the last few years, so much so that I am now on a first-name basis with some of the non-physical inhabitants.

My method was as follows: I recorded in one of the locations using an Olympus digital recorder while asking questions intended to solicit a response such as questions about objects left in the buildings, what they were used for, who made them and how's it going. I downloaded the

recordings via USB port into the WavePad (nch.com.au) program for listening. Maybe I am over-analytical but it takes me at least thirty minutes to fully listen to five minutes of recording. Each EVP is graded with the Class A, B or C system supported by the Association TransCommunication and added to an Excel spread sheet. Basically, a Class A can be heard without headphones and people can generally agree on its content, a Class B requires headphones to distinguish and not everyone will agree on the message and a Class C requires headphones, may require amplification and filtering and will not be heard by everyone.

The temperature, humidity and barometric pressure for each day from a weather website were recorded and entered into the spreadsheet. Data for solar flares, solar wind speed and proton density were also added. The spreadsheet was then sorted, first by total number of EVP for each date, second, by number of Class B EVP and then by the number of Class A EVP. After sorting, it became clear that solar flares do affect EVP quantity and quality. As you can see in the table, the first nine ranked had totals of six to eleven EVP, and more Class B with flares at the minimum in the A-0 range. The bottom nine only had zero to two EVP each, and flares from A-0 up to A-8 on through to B-4. Solar flares are rated from A-0 to B, C, M, and X-8; with the X class capable of satellite damage and electric grid blackouts.

Also noted was that top fourteen had an average solar wind proton density of 1.59 as compared to the bottom with an average of 2.25.

Continued page 15

Date/Number	Where	Minutes	#EVPS	A	В	C	Temp.	Humidity	Bar.	Flares	Solar Wind	Protons CM3
12-4-07#58	treestand	7:20	11	0	5	6	42	32%	29.84	A-1	319	5.1
12-23-07#5	bighouse	5:56	10	1	5	4	61	75%	29.93	A-0	430	0.7
12-21-07#3	packhouse	5:03	10	0	5	5	46	63%	30.22	A-0	610	0.9
11-11-07#43	bighouse	9:17	10	0	5	5	56	44%	30.27	A-0	369	3
12/28/07#6	treestand	6:03	8	0	4	4	50	77%	29.72	A-0	393.5	1
11-27-07#55	1sthouse	5:48	7	3	1	3	54	45%	30.23	A-0	441	0.9
11-23-07#47	outbuilding	4:54	6	0	4	2	48	29%	30.23	A-0	568	1.9
12-21-07#4	outbuilding	5:43	6	0	3	3	46	63%	30.22	A-0	610	0.9
11-27-07#53	bighouse	5:23	6	0	2	4	54	45%	30.23	A-0	441	0.9
12-13-07#64	lasthouse2	4:30	6	1	1	4	71	60%	29.93	C-3	517	0.9
12-14-07#65	treestand	6:08	6	0	1	5	62	39%	30.14	C-1	496	1.3
11-23-07#45	lasthouse1	7:32	5	0	3	2	48	29%	30.23	A-0	568	1.9
12-30-07#7	livingroom	6:20	5	0	2	3	70	60%	30.08	C-1	324.7	5.1
12-13-07#63	lasthouse1	6:57	5	0	2	3	71	60%	29.93	C-3	517	0.9
11-27-07#52	oldhouseporch	6:14	4	0	0	4	54	45%	30.23	A-0	441	0.9
11-11-07#42	lightpole	6:30	3	0	1	2	56	44%	30.27	A-0	369	3
12-19-07#2	C'sGate	5:17	2	0	1	1	53	47%	30.11	B-4	567.1	1
12-19-07#1	1st house	1:44	2	0	0	2	53	47%	30.11	B-4	567.1	1
12-11-07#62	bighouse	6:24	2	0	0	2	72	60%	29.79	B-3	577	3.6
11-27-07#51	iceboxbarn	3:49	2	0	0	2	54	45%	30.23	A-0	441	0.9
12-6-07#59	lightpole	6:04	2	0	0	2	37	38%	30.31	A-8	333	2.4
11-23-07#46	bighouse	5:27	2	0	0	2	48	29%	30.23	A-0	568	1.9
11-11-07#44	lightpole	2:05	2	0	0	2	56	44%	30.27	A-0	369	3
12-11-07#61	1sthouse	5:38	1	0	0	1	72	60%	29.79	B-3	577	3.6
12/6/07#60	firsthouse	1:38	0	0	0	0	37	38%	30.31	A-8	333	2.4



EVP and Solar Weather Continued from page 14

The density and wind speed vary throughout the day as it buffets the Earth's magnetic shield, and that may explain some of the EVP in the middle of the data with flares in the C class. Other than that, the temperature, barometric pressure, and humidity were pretty close between the top and bottom half.

Examples of my work

Recently, I attended an eight-week class at the Rhine Research Center titled "World of the Paranormal." One of the guest speakers was Diane Corcoran, president of the



Tombstone with possible apparition (arrow)

International Association for Near-Death Studies, who talked about her work. She was accompanied by a woman who talked about her near-death experience. If I remember correctly, she had been clinically dead for twenty minutes during heart surgery. This got me to thinking about all of the EVP I have collected over the years and just what it means to be human and to have "crossed over."

I have collected some very strange EVP and a lot of it from the Traynham Grove Cemetery and the surrounding area which is about a fifteen-minute walk from my home. It dates back to the mid-1800s. The majority of the 100 or so graves are just marked by rocks and are very sunken. There was a school and church nearby but they are long gone, leaving this cemetery secluded and unvisited; well back in the woods and off of a gravel road. I have also taken a number of pictures of "dead" people from there.

Based on my EVP and pictures, some people seem to know they are "dead." Some seem to be stuck in the time they lived and appear to be in a kind of denial. Some seem to be hiding from something; maybe not wanting to go wherever it is they are supposed to go. I recently asked the spirits near a rock foundation, which was all that remained of someone's home, what they did for fun. The answer came

back "People dead," as if to say, "What? Are you serious?" I asked at an old house, "What do you do all day?" and the answer was "Take long walks." In a neighbor's outbuilding, I recorded, "Be quiet. Hide." as if I was an intruder in their home. It did appear that this building was something else in the past. I have asked what type of crops they grew and recorded replies as if in the present tense. I have heard "Help us" or "Help me" at least a dozen times.

One day I asked, "Do you disagree that it is 2008?" The answer I recorded was: "That is not right! It's not 2008." As I was leaving, I said, "I guess I have bothered you enough" and someone responded, "No problem." Then someone said, "Bye, Thomas."

I have taken some interesting pictures from the area, as well. I once commented that, "I have taken pictures in the past, once a group of ten or so looking back at me." On playback, I heard: "Looking back; looking back at you." From the site of a mill, of which only the rock foundation remains, I asked if anyone wants to say "Hello," and someone responded "Hello." I asked, "When did you die?" and recorded, "Died in 1915. I fall down." I complained about the ticks crawling on me and someone told me to "Just pull them off."

There are daffodils growing near one home that is now just a fireplace, chimney, and a few foundation rocks. I asked about the flowers and a woman's voice told me in an EVP, "I planted them." Then a man's voice cuts in to say, "No talking!" There were a lot of liquor bottles lying about so I asked who the drinker was. Someone said, "They are lying!" I had a dog with me and he suddenly looked to the left. At that time I recorded "I told you, get back in the house." Another voice said, "We're all up" This always sounded like an alcoholic bully controlling his family even in the afterlife ... and they are still there. I have about eight sessions from there, all similar with a controlling drunk trying to stop everyone else from talking and there are five or six people still there. He has cursed me more than once, told me not to come back again and once said he would kill me

I have many more examples to share and am capturing more each time I record. Maybe with enough EVP, one day I will figure out what this whole afterlife thing is about ... as long as the dead keep talking.

Tom Ginther lives in rural Halifax County, Virginia. He has been a field investigator for MUFON since the nineties and a field worker for Nancy Talbott's crop circle research group, BLT. He is also a member of the Rhine Research Center and conducts paranormal investigations with his own group, South Side Paranormal, and assists other Virginia groups.



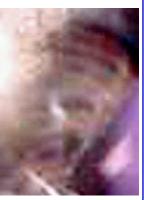
Page 15 Fall 2011

Faces in Reflected Light

Moving water visual ITC depends on recording light reflected from moving water. The chaotic movement of the water produces much the same form of optical noise that is found in video-loop ITC. The technique is explained at atransc.org/techniques.htm.

Just as in video-loop ITC, features are typically at least partially obscured by optical noise, but there is much more distortion in moving water ITC. As in all forms of transcommunication, features are representations or simulations of the intended image. While there may be sufficient agreement with the person's face being represented in the ITC to identify the person, the features are not exact representations.









These images were taken by the Socrates Circle. Top-left is what appears to be a hand (right) maybe two hands holding what appears to be a skull (brown area). Take time to let your eyes find the pattern. Is that a laughing man in white behind the skull?

Top-right is what appears to be a man wearing an old-style middle-eastern crown. Perhaps his left hand is to his mouth. Bottom-left appears to be a man looking to your left and wearing a hat. Our impression is that he is some kind of Egyptian royalty from the time of the Pharaohs. Last (bottom-right) appears to be a man dressed as if living in Siberia.

Pardy Continued from page 3

In the book, <u>The Risen</u>, Timothy and <u>August Goforth</u> say that the first ones to greet us when we pass over are our pets. Won't that be wonderful! After Timothy passed from AIDS he woke up in a place for recovery and laying on the bed next to him was his beloved cat who had passed previously. I'm so glad that he and the "Risen" group in spirit have shared this with us in this very insightful book.

[Editor: Just 2 days after Pardy's crossing Lorie conducted a recording session for EVP.] After asking Pardy if he was there I heard a low bark. I then asked Kevin, Grandpa and Great-Grandma if they had Pardy and recorded, "Hi, we love you." Then there was something kind of strange. It sounded like, "Ruff, ruff, ruff, loves you." Like barking ending with the words "loves you."

I asked again about Pardy, and right before I did, I heard the words, "*Pards here!*" Kevin always called him Pard. That was actually his name to begin with, and later we got to calling him Pardy. A little bit after that someone says, "*Seven days off.*" So maybe he needs a full week of rest? Like I said, that would be so like Pardy!!

I ended with thanking Kevin, Grandpa, Great-Grandma and anyone else who came through and recorded after that, "We heard you, love you, love you."

[Editor: Later that week] I did a recording session this morning to see if I could get more messages about Pardy. I got the feeling I should be patient and give him time, but of course I had to try! I began by asking Kevin and Grandpa to help bring through a message about Pardy. I recorded, "Kevin helping," and "Love him," which sounded like Grandpa's voice. I didn't get much else until towards the end of the session I asked the Big Circle, Debbie and Sarah for help. Right after I said that, I heard, "He loves his home." I then thanked everyone for coming and immediately heard a very calm female voice say, "They come." This is class A and easily heard without headphones.

I was very happy to hear, "He loves his home," and am especially grateful for the combined energies that brought this through! I think the female voice may be Debbie. I was thinking of her. [Editor: Lorie has gotten many more encouraging messages about Pardy and has also recorded Pardy's bark.]

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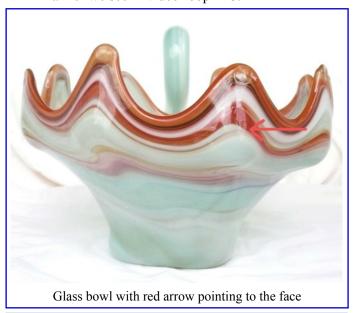
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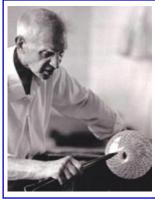
Visual ITC in Glass

Sue Cole was taking pictures of a blown-glass bowl shaped like a swan and noticed that one of the pictures had a face in reflected light. She found a picture of the man who made the bowl, and as you can see here, there is a resemblance. She sent the picture to us, and as we examined the face, we noticed other faces. What she had was an excellent example of a face formed by a fortuitous arrangement of reflected light and visual ITC faces formed in the usual chaos into order manner we see in video-loop ITC.





The possible face in reflected light is on the right side. There were many other faces, such as the two pointed at with red arrows, which may be examples of visual ITC.



Master glass artist Archimede Seguso; from <u>Fabrizio Veronesi</u>



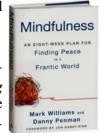
What Happens ... Continued from page 7

This is all well and good but what happens if you should meet a sudden unexpected death? Obviously no one knows the answer, so perhaps it's best to heed Dr. Fenwick's advice: "You should be ready to die at a moment's notice. Those with a clear conscience die well. Those who are angry or frustrated have a much more difficult death."

If you have experienced a deathbed phenomenon, please contact Professor Fenwick with your information at Peter Fenwick@compuserve.com. Some names in this

article are changed to preserve medical confidentiality.

Danny Penman's new book *Mindfulness:* An Eight Week Program For Finding Peace in a Frantic World will be out in late October. It is published by Rodale. (franticworld.com)



An Exciting Experience

by Elly Fithian

[Elly Fithian has participated for many years in the <u>Society for Research in Rapport and Telekinesis</u> (SORRAT) letter-writing experiment mentioned in the Summer 2011 NewsJournal. She also meets with a development group in Colorado.]

I want to share with you a most exciting thing that happened in association with a friend who died last week. He was the husband of one of the women in our group, and participated in our discussions of spiritual matters.... He had been in bad shape for years, but suddenly dropped dead at his house. A few days later, I felt him around me, so I let him write something by automatic writing. He wanted to let us all know he was okay and to share this with the group.

His wife came to our [next] meeting and I showed her the messages. He had said he might be able to write some more at the meeting, so I was provided with a pen and paper. As I started to write the date he took over and did it for me. He was getting the hang of the process, and was writing in large rather sloppy cursive. We asked him questions, which I wrote down on the paper. One of the women asked what it was like to die. He said, "It was easy! You should try it sometime (ha ha). You WILL, of course, but not right away."

As he was writing, one of the other women noticed a little tapping noise.... I stopped writing, but the noise continued. It seemed to be coming from inside the table. We all got excited, realizing that our friend was doing the tapping! There was a flurry of taps followed by just a few, and then a bunch more. I think the group energy made it possible for him to do this, as I have never had this happen by myself.

The tapping continued as we asked more questions, and congratulated him on being able to make the sounds. He was still tapping away when we left. It was good to be able to introduce the group to this, as they seem to be more involved in spiritual development practices and abstract questions about life and the universe...."

Page 17 Fall 2011

There is No Death

Continued from page 9

specifically chosen to help our souls grow, then life actually means something. If we are allowed endless "do-overs" and endless time for correction (rather than a one-and-only final punishment or reward), and if we're not graded on performance, then perhaps our primal fear of death wouldn't be so pervasive and we could stop living our lives like nervous kids getting ready to take their college entrance exams. If the clock isn't ticking and we're not being watched and judged, maybe we wouldn't be so panicked about competing with each other, being right, clinging to people, possessions and ideas, forcing our will onto others and fighting desperately for a secure foothold on earth and in Heaven.

Most of us have experienced dreams, visions and impressions that feel as if we've been contacted by loved ones on the other side. Many of us have experienced flashes of thought, sounds, verbal phrases, kinetic events, music or scents that we felt were sent by some sort of "higher" force, be it departed loved ones, angels or guides. And although the majority of people believe in an afterlife and in angels, most don't believe that contact is possible, and they dismiss these experiences as coincidences, oddities or freak events.

But if we trust these experiences, if we trust what feels true, we can be led to a whole new way of seeing our world, including the world beyond the physical. What's the point of spiritual work -- seeking, praying, meditating and studying -- if not to help ourselves find peace? We are just as able to choose a theology of fear as a theology of love, and in doing so, we can begin to see that in death there is no disappearance and no loss of identity. And in seeing that, a great peace, grace and acceptance can come into our lives, changing the way we live and die.



Terri's new book, <u>Embracing Death: A</u> <u>New Look at Grief</u>, <u>Gratitude and God</u>, examines cultural myths about the afterlife and offers a path to alternative perceptions via meditation, visualization and afterdeath communication. Learn more about Terri at AfterlifeAwareness.com

Big Circle Recording Dates

Recording dates

We have been told many times by our communicators on the other side to ask for help from the Big Circle as part of your daily meditation. Here are the recording dates:

October 13 and 27, November 10 and 24 December 8 and 22, January 5 and 19

The Big Circle team is there to help at any time. Often members get messages that help other members so be sure to share what you get with other members in the Idea Exchange.

Viewpoint Continued from page 1

You may have noticed that, with the change in name of the association and push for more objectivity has come more frequent mention of things metaphysical. As the reality of these phenomena becomes better established, we see that there are profound implications which must be considered. Probably the most important is that each of us will continue to live and have experiences long after this lifetime. This understanding follows the acceptance that our communicators are often our survived loved ones. We will join them in good time. What will we bring with us?

One of the more interesting EVP to come from the 4Cell studies was from Vicki Talbott's son who responded to the question, "What was your surprise when you transitioned?" with "Regrets." This was understood as Braden trying to say that he had a life review and it was not all fun. There have been other such warnings that what we do matters beyond this lifetime.

Another important consideration is the idea that thoughts are things. Much of the study today in parapsychology is showing that the intention behind the thought seems to guide the behavior of that field of subtle energy which appears to permeate all of reality. This can be objectively detected as the effect of intentionality on living organI hold it true that thoughts are things; They're endowed with bodies and breath and wings; And that we send them forth to fill

And that we send them forth to fill The world with good results, or ill. That which we call our secret thought Speeds forth to earth's remotest spot, Leaving its blessings or its woes Like tracks behind it as it goes. We build our future thought by thought,

For good or ill, yet know it not.
Yet, so the universe was wrought.
Thought is another name for fate;
Choose, then, thy destiny and wait,
For love brings love and hate brings hate.

— Henry Van Dyke

isms-both via contact and at a distance, and on the effect on random processes such as the formation of EVP.

Expectations have been shown to have a profound effect on what is experienced. For instance, a person who is fearful of the unknown will more frequently record fearful EVP than will a person who is comfortable with the unknown.

Interestingly, current research tends to support the idea of trans-etheric influences as a factor in our lives. Using different terms, it can be argued that people on the other side are actively helping people in the physical have experiences and understand their meaning. If this is so, then it is appropriate for us to proactively give permission by seeking this help. Yes, prayer might help.

All of this points to the need to consider the implications of what is being discovered about transcommunication. We will attempt to bring you information about these implications; not in the religious sense, but in the sense of what is currently understood. In every case, we would like to hear from you. What do you think? Is it important to talk about the practical "So what" of etheric studies? Would you rather we did not?

Tom and Lisa



Researchers' Reports

- Susie Alverson asked her son Lance to give her the name
 of his brothers. She recorded "Luke" which is the name
 of her oldest son. She heard this in real time but it was
 much clearer on playback.
- Rhonda Burton closed her session by saying "I love you, bye-bye" and recorded a sweet little voice saying "She loves me." In another session she recorded in silence using her Olympus 4100. She wrote, "This sweet voice was captured at the very beginning at two seconds, right after my voice saying 'Hi Momma.' You will hear another female say, "That's my girl," possibly one of her grandmothers. I believe this is my Jen, choosing to speak to me as a young child."
- James Goodman was doing an investigation with a team.
 Someone said, "Did you know Michael J. Fox may be doing these soon?" An EVP is captured immediately following this that says, "Joke." It is a child's voice and it is interesting that she recognized that they were joking.
- Paul Kelly shared an EVP that was recorded at Union Cemetery. He wrote that he and Lori were conducting a simple daytime walk-through investigation of the cemetery. It was about 1:30 or 2:00 pm. At one point, they had separated with Lorie about 30 yards away using a digital recorder. She was quiet, not asking any questions. Unbeknownst to Lori, the recorder captured the clear, unmistakeable voice of a young child (boy?) saying "John ... I'll miss Andrew!" You can clearly hear the lament in his voice. Paul wrote, "Very strange that it really sounds as if he is speaking directly into the recorder. Perhaps he was attempting to pass on a message to a loved one who was still living or was talking to another deceased relative? Or perhaps he was not even aware of our presence at the time and Lori just happened to be at the right place at the right time? Who knows."
- Lorie McMorrow wrote, "Mom called me this morning and the answering machine had already picked up by the time I answered. When I played it back I heard Mom saying, 'Lorie, are you there, Lorie?' Right after the second 'Lorie,' a man's voice, which sounded like it might be Kevin, calmly says, 'You fell off the chair.' It's easily heard. So I called Mom back and asked her if she fell off a chair recently. She was surprised, but said well not for a while. About a year ago she said she fell off her swivel chair that she uses at her computer desk. But last night she almost fell off it again! She also said that Dad was working on it as we were speaking, tightening a bolt on it. She asked how I knew. I said, 'I got a tip from the other side!' I think it's just their way of letting us know that they can see us and are aware of what we're doing."
- Jutta Liebman wrote that prior to the VTF conference in Fulda, she made a short EVP recording, explaining to her spirit friends that she preferred to drive to the conference. She wrote, "After the evaluation of this recording I heard a prompt, clear woman's voice saying "Verwende nicht das Auto" (Do not use the car!). Some seconds later, I

- distinguished a fainter male voice saying: "h\Hoher Schaden ..." (A lot of damages). As I have experienced in the course of my long-term EVP contacts, I know that my spirit friends always tell the truth in important matters, I accepted their warning and went by train to Fulda. The female voice sending this warning message could be the voice of my deceased mother. During the conference I presented this EVP-warning message to Christian and Carola who understood it at once."
- Mark Pierce has been conducting EVP sessions in a barn behind his house for about a year. He shared a recording in which he asks for those in spirit to knock twice if someone was present. You immediately here a fast "Knock, knock."
- Christopher Scott wrote, "I was experimenting using airband radio as background noise. I tuned into a strong airport homing beacon at 127.69 MHz. The beacon sounds like a series of stronger beeps over a tone. The beacon is pretty hard to listen to, so I applied noise reduction to this clip to make it easier to listen to. In this clip, you can hear me say, 'Constructive messages, I would like to receive them.' The response I hear is 'Wait for your friends.' This is funny because earlier in the session I had referred to the spirits as my friends."
- Allison Sniffin posted several clips where they said her name. They are all live radio sweeps (hand-held radio, manually), recorded into Audacity. She wrote, "I've started the daunting process of organizing my files in such a way that I can compare voices with the idea of recognizing personalities. I've been finding out that some of the radio voices have also left phone messages. Their voices are identifiable as well when I've used the relatively new technique (for me) of Graco filter in EVPM. If a spirit person's voice can be identified across the different techniques/mediums, I'm thinking it would be tranform EVP in all cases. The last file begins with my mother's voice telling the techies that I had texted her. True, I had texted her at her old cell phone number. The number is defunct; I just did it for fun."
- Jayne Thompson asked if anyone was there from the Big Circle. She recorded a clear "Good evening". She requested that anyone who spoke use the voice they had when they had a physical body. She got the answer "I don't have a physical body."

On another night she recorded "This is Margie." Margie is Yvonne Whybra's mother. Yvonne wrote back to Jayne, "I don't have the words to thank you. The name "Margie" sounded the way she pronounced it when she was in the physical. It brought tears to my eyes; good tears." Yvonne had listed her mother, Margie, on the Big Circle list of names that Rhonda Burton keeps. It was hoped that listing the names here would help members look out for certain names in their recordings. If you want a loved one listed you can email Rhonda at <a href="mailto:recording-recording

Page 19 Fall 2011

Researchers Reports Continued from page 19

- Gregory Treas wrote, "Last night I went to a large old cemetery here in Boise, Idaho to do a recording. I was sitting under a tree very relaxed asking questions and about three minutes into the recording, I had an amazing experience. I felt a strong presence and was surrounded by a light, white mist. My heart started to beat faster and my speech got quicker. Reviewing later I can hear my sister's name, 'Merrilee,' between when I announced that I felt a presence and before I asked them to identify themselves. After that, you will hear a brief distant siren, then the rest of the recording. Regardless of the EVP, the experience was truly amazing, and different from anything I have experienced before. What a thrill'!
- Briah West shared a recording that she made using water. She wrote, "To my ears the voice is quite clear, it sounds like 'I can hear you talking' or 'I can hear me talking' or something close to that. This voice reminds me of my mother's voice which I hear often when I record.

News From Members

• Becky Estep wrote, "I was channel surfing last night and saw a program called *Ghost Adventures*. I've seen bits and pieces of their other shows. They used a recording device that gets 'live voices.' In other words, you can hear the EVP voice while it's being spoken in 'real time.' I was amazed that they got some clear messages – not all of them were – but some were pretty good.

"My sister is in the process of getting Mom's *Season of Being* copyrighted. It's the last thing Mom wrote, about two years before she passed on. It's a collection of essays about life in general, along with some observations of little day-to-day things."

• The Biography's *My Ghost Story* ran a very positive piece on Lisa Winther Huston and Margaret Downey's work connecting loved ones via EVP. Margaret records for messages and Lisa videotapes the session. Margaret recorded several messages for siblings Renee, Kelley and Dana from their parents who were killed by a drunk driver. You can see the segment at youtube.com/evpsessions. Direct comments are made to the children and it is wonderful to see EVP shown in a positive manner rather than a scary one.





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Member Registry? Include Physical Address?	Include Email Address?								
Do you wish to receive the newsletter via postal service?	or via email?								
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