

Association TransCommunication NewsJournal

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



One of three Orca pods exhibiting greeting behavior during a sort of pow wow between pods near the San Juan Islands.

Interspecies Transcommunication

We just had to share a couple of pictures from our interaction with whales this year. There is little doubt that whales are intelligent. Just as we seek contact with whales, we find that some have seemed to seek contact with us. In the top picture there are 11 Orca fins but another less clear picture showed 19 fins lined up! It was amazing! The second picture shows a gray whale baby that let us scratch him repeatedly like he/she was our pet.



Mother gray whale brings baby to tourists; to be pet?

We are pretty sure that many of you are like us and believe that it is not only possible to communicate with those on the other side but also with other species here and from the other side.

What it is Like on the Other Side?

A member recently asked about literature describing what it is like on the other side. The question made us realize that, while articles on the website and in the NewsJournal address various aspects of the other side, none specifically state what the best guess is as to what a person can expect to find upon arrival.

In general, most EVP messages about the other side are short and simple and are usually not long and descriptive about the other side and its workings. They often state that the person who has made their transition is happy and that where they are now is very beautiful. There have been a few cases where more information has come through EVP/ITC such as with the work of the Lamoreaux brothers (see the article in last month's Journal) or information that came through to the Harsch-Fischbachs of Luxembourg in

the 1980s and 90s.

There are literally hundreds of channeled reports about the nature of the other side. Some of these are the foundation of religions. Virtually all of them were subject to "coloring" by the channel (medium or spiritual teacher), which to some unknown degree may have modified the original message from the etheric communicator.

ITC might be described as "technology augmented mediumship. And if this is the case, then this suggests that even EVP messages may be colored to some extent by the EVP practitioner. However, the difference between mental mediumship and ITC is in how the information is reported. While the product of mental mediumship is the spoken word, there is a tangible record in ITC which may be examined by others.

Association TransCommunication Website

The Association website receives nearly a thousand visitors a day. The frequent emails from visitors thanking the Association for the vast amount of quality information and articles on the site indicates that the website is appreciated. We want to remind members that it is your support, research, sharing of personal experiences and membership dues that make this information available to all these people. Without you, and those who have gone before you, it would not have been possible. You may not realize the good that your small membership fee and donations do for others who want to learn more about their loved ones. Thanks to your support, more people are able to know their loved ones now on the other side survive and that there is a possibility that they may even be able to bridge the veil and communicate with them. You help the Association spread the word that death is only a change to another state of reality and not the end for our loved ones or ourselves.

Continued page 6

Contents

Viewpoint.....	1
Linda.....	3
More Evidential and Intriguing Results from the Morse Team.....	4
Background: George Meek and Bill O'Neil.....	4
EVP Using VoIP and Telephones	5
The Wilderness of Grief.....	7
Brilliant Physical Mediumship of Kai Muegge: Sitting With the Felix Circle.....	8
Phantom Voices.....	9
Sonia Rinaldi's Trans Images.....	10
Morse Code Update.....	10
Big Circle Recording Dates.....	10
Arthur Conan Doyle.....	11
Emails from the Other Side.....	11
Telephone Calls from the Dead.....	12
Q & A on the Idea Exchange.....	15
Are Ghosts Discarnate People?.....	15
The ASPSI is Now the ASCSI.....	15
We Don't Die.....	16
Physical Phenomena: Two Methods of Production.....	17
Using Random Number Generators.....	18
Researchers' Reports.....	19
"For True Scientists, the Ultimate Authority is Experience, not Theory".....	19
Big Circle Results.....	20

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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 400 words—fewer with pictures. Articles should be short and to the point. 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 atransc.org. 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.



Tom and Lisa Butler

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Big Circle: Rhonda Burton
Webmaster: Tom Butler

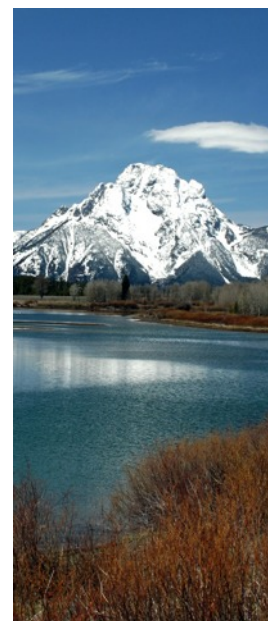
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Linda

by Normand Picard ©

My wife, my twin flame, Linda passed away in October 2010. I just haven't had it in me yet to try to record a communication from her although I have had very significant messages and signs directly from her. Life does continue on the spirit side. I can affirm that. There is something special that has happened two years in a row.



Normand and Linda

Linda passed to the other side in a rather short time. Yes, she was ill for some years, yet we lived life one day at a time. I could see her condition deteriorate but when she suddenly became critical, I hadn't seen it coming.

We were really in love, and as much as we could, we really enjoyed life together. Both of us are spiritually minded in belief and in practice. So naturally, we promised each other that whichever one of us passed first would contact the surviving one if it was possible and show that there is a spiritual life after physical death.

This is what happened on Valentine's Day in 2011. Since I am retired it has become a part of my routine to spend

some time at the local senior center. As you may recall, we had an inordinate amount of snow during the winter of 2011. On this Valentine's Day, I went to the senior center for lunch as usual. It was a bright, sunny day, the snow was melting well and there were small puddles of



Heart-shaped rock

water throughout the parking lot. As I stepped from the parking lot to the curb at the entrance of the building, something caught my attention in the water below my feet. I backed up a step, bent down and retrieved a rock in the shape of a heart.

Linda had a real love of stones, all kinds of stones. Wherever we went, Linda would seem to focus on the ground and find something that attracted her attention. She always brought something home. It's still one of my great memories; her little personal adventures that we shared.

This past Valentine's Day had another similar occurrence. The morning of February 14 was very busy and hectic. I was waiting for someone from the carpet store to come over and measure some rooms for new carpeting. Then I received a few phone calls; one after another. That doesn't usually happen. Also, my son came by with a problem that needed to be quickly solved.

Soon, my head was spinning and I needed a break so I had some lunch with the TV on for background noise. I felt like I wasn't accomplishing anything. That was fine, but still, it was Valentine's Day; a day Linda and I treasured more than other days, save perhaps our anniversaries and birthdays.

Because of those Valentine's Day memories, I wanted to keep my mind busy so I went to the cellar to go through one of my boxes of excess stuff. After about a minute of looking, I picked up another heart; a little treasure that is so special to me.

I have no explanation as how the heart got into that



Heart-shaped trinket



Normand and Linda: wedding day

storage box, but there it was. I had to stop and ponder over some very special memories. Whether Linda placed these hearts so that I could find them, I can't say. I will say that these experiences are wonderful and I hope they never stop.

More Evidential and Intriguing Results from the Morse Team

In the Spring 2012 NewsJournal, we ran an article about a group of researchers receiving Morse code EVP. Alison Kirkbride does the recording with the help of Domenic Capaldi while Eric Cole deciphers the code. Kathy is the newest member of the team.

On June 28, the group recorded a Morse EVP that translated to ***"N3AZQ Hello Alison Portal Group."*** After a little research it was learned that William O'Neil was a radio ham operator and this was his call sign. On August 2nd, another message was received that said ***"George here, do we have contact?"*** On August 3, Alison made a recording and asked who the George was who had sent the Morse the day before. She recorded ***'G.W. Meek, signal weak, a rhyme, Kathleen 69.'***

Alison wrote, "This had relevance in that Kathy had previously asked me to try to get a number that was significant for her son which only she and he would know. I did try several voice recordings but did not get the number, though there were other personal things that indicated it was her son. The fact that the number turned up at the end of the Morse recording was very interesting."

In a later recording, Alison wrote that she "asked if there was anyone who wished to communicate in Morse. The response came, ***'Beware of Dave the deal is sour. I am with Spaz. So happy. Love yu Mom.'*** On hearing the translation of the Morse, Kathy said someone named Dave wanted to hunt on her land (Yuk! My personal opinion). She said that she had gotten a bad feeling about him.

"The ***'I am with Spaz'*** relates to her son's dog. They were constant companions in life. Its real name was Taz; but teenage boys being what they are, her son tended to call him Spaz—with affection I am sure! lol The rest of the team were unaware of these facts until Kathy explained it to us.

"In addition, there was a voice EVP directly after I spoke, which seemed to say ***'I'm Mike's mother, do you watch us?'*** This made sense to Kathy, as her favorite aunt who passed is indeed her cousin Mike's mother."

Background

George Meek and Bill O'Neil

George Meek opened a laboratory to conduct research into the phenomena of EVP in 1971. Meek, a retired engineer, had been interested in survival after bodily death for many years. The idea for building a device to speak to the so-called dead was given to him by a discarnate scientist during a séance. The scientist told Meek that he would provide instructions for building the device. Meek wanted to achieve two-way communication with the other side and became convinced that sophisticated equipment needed to be developed if communication was to improve.

In 1977, Meek was introduced to Bill O'Neil, a gifted medium and electronics engineer. O'Neil's spirit communicator called himself "Doc Nick" and said he was a former radio ham radio operator. Doc Nick told O'Neil that the development team should try using certain audio frequencies instead of the white noise that was being used by most researchers and provided technical information for building the communication device. He told the researchers that it would provide thousands of sensitive frequencies that the other side would be able to use for communication. A series of devices were made.

Soon, a Dr. George Jeffries Müller made contact with O'Neil. He materialized in O'Neil's living room and said that he had come to join the team in their work on the device. In October of 1977, Dr. Müller's first words were recorded on the device now called "Spiricom." Müller gave the team considerable personal information about himself. He told them that he died in 1967, had been a college professor, gave them his social security number and advised them where to find his death certificate. All of the information was verified as correct.

Meek held a press conference April 6, 1982, at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. He told those who attended, "An elementary start has been made toward the eventual perfection of an electromagnetic-etheric communications system which will someday permit those living on earth to have telephone-like conversations with persons very much alive in higher levels of consciousness."

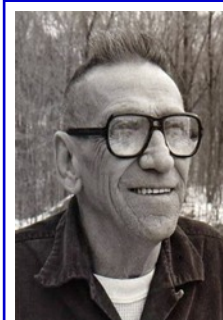
Tapes of the conversations between O'Neil and Müller were made available to the public at the press conference. They ranged from mundane discussions on food to technical advice on how to build experimental video equipment. Müller's voice is fascinating, as it sounds much like a robot in a science fiction movie. The "robotic" sound was an artifact of the suite of audio frequencies that were used.

Meek had hoped to present the device to the media at the press conference, and by doing so, reach a large public audience. However, a large section of the media refused to attend. In the end, the conference made little impact and Spiricom went largely unreported. In addition, Müller eventually told Bill O'Neil that he needed to move on and the two-way conversations via Spiricom ceased.

One of the limitations of Spiricom was that it seemed to depend on O'Neil. Meek had others try the device, one being AA-EVP founder, Sarah Estep. The fantastic results achieved by O'Neil were never repeated.



George Meek



Bill O'Neil



EVP Using VoIP and Telephones

by Tom Butler

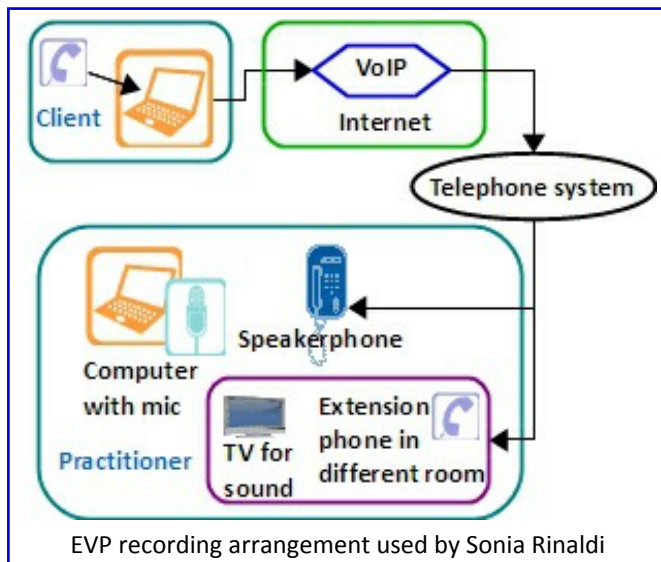
Recording for EVP using the telephone system has always offered tantalizing possibilities. In recent years, cell phones and answering machines have produced very good but usually spontaneous EVP. Now, we see more people using the Internet for planned EVP sessions.

Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) is the technology that makes it possible for a person to use a computer to call another computer via the Internet or even call a landline telephone via the Internet. The most commonly used service has been Skype.com, but others are coming along, including Google Voice (google.com/voice).

This article describes some of the more successful techniques being reported to us by members and associates.

Sonia Rinaldi

Brazilian researcher, Sonia Rinaldi, is a veteran transcommunication researcher. With members of the organization she coordinates, IPATI (translation from Portuguese: Institute for Advanced Research in Instrumental Transcommunication), she has been diligently seeking ways to improve both visual and audible communication across the veil. We have included a number of articles on her work over the years which may be accessed in the Idea Exchange archive.



EVP recording arrangement used by Sonia Rinaldi

IPATI has been a leader in developing new techniques for EVP using the telephone system and Skype. A major part of Sonia's work involves reunions and she has produced some very convincing results using these techniques. We asked Sonia to elaborate on her current setup. Here is her answer with the help of Sonia's translator, Cristina,

Description of technique

This is the configuration of equipment used by Sonia Rinaldi for her recent work with reunions.

In the laboratory: a speakerphone is placed beside a laptop configured to record via a microphone.

The client, who is anywhere in the world, calls that phone

via a computer using Skype (voice only). The telephone is answered by the practitioner (Sonia in her reports) who initiates the recording session in the computer, sets the telephone to speakerphone mode and leaves the room.

The practitioner then goes to a second room in the same building and picks up an extension phone located near a television. As a sound source, the television is tuned to an English or German-language news channel (any language other than the practitioner's native language).

Via the telephone, the client speaks to his or her loved one on the other side while the practitioner listens to make sure that the client asks questions while leaving a thirty-second pause for the etheric communicator's response.

In this technique, the voice from the television, as the background sound, appears to be transformed to produce answers from the loved one. While the background sound is in one language, the resulting utterance is in Portuguese.

Preparation

The client is instructed to prepare questions before calling Sonia's lab in Brazil via Skype. From client Christina, "Before calling Sonia's lab in Brazil, I prepared questions to maximize the communication with my son Stefano. I also decided at the last minute to call from my bedroom, the quietest place in the house."

After the call is connected: "All of a sudden Stefano validates his presence by saying that I was in my room, something I had not mentioned because it was a last minute decision. I could clearly hear my parents and husband as well, which gives me the hope that I will rejoin my loved ones sometime in the future."

"Another communication that amazed me was his suggestion that I contact a friend and girlfriend of his: Lina."

"I contacted Lina the next day and she told me that it was an amazing 'coincidence' that I called. She had been thinking of Stefano and had decided to call me the same day to take me out for lunch. We had lunch together and she surprised me with a gift: a heart-shaped silver locket and chain bearing the words on both side: 'Stefano, ever loved, never forgotten.'"

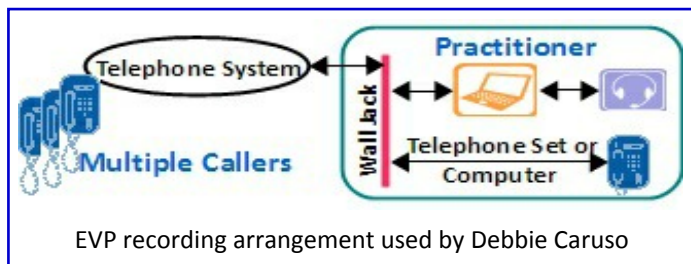
Debbie Caruso

As reported in the Spring 2007 *ATransC NewsJournal*, "Recording EVP Using a Telephone," before her transition, Debbie Caruso had been using a landline telephone and computer for recording EVP. The elements of her setup are shown in the following diagram. A recording program such as Audacity or Audition was used in the computer. (Use *Phone and Modem* in the Control Panel to control the modem in Windows 7.) A telephone was connected to a second telephone wall jack, but she sometimes used a headset that connects to the computer. Continued page 6

EVP Using VoIP

Continued from page 5

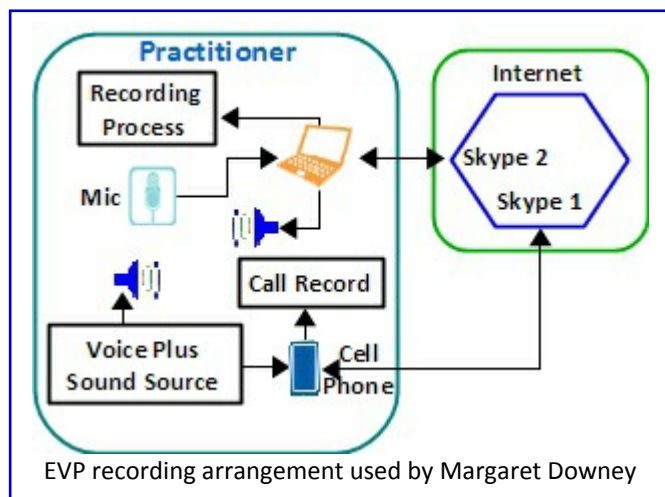
An example of what Debbie was recording is in the article, "Jenny and Brandon - The Newlyweds" at atransc.org/circle/survival_jenny-brandon.htm



Margaret Downey

Margaret Downey uses an Apple computer and iPhone to conduct VoIP sessions. With two Skype accounts, she calls one with the phone and the other with her computer. Both are in the same room but about eight feet apart. A sound source plays into the room near the cell phone.

During the call, Margaret's voice from the cell phone plays out of the computer speakers. A feedback loop is formed because the phone picks up Margaret's voice, the background sounds and the output of the speaker. So, if the phone is too close to the computer speakers, there will be a loud "feedback" noise. Part of the task is to find the best location for everything so that there is a little feedback, but not enough to cause the loud noise.



When the call is answered with her computer, Margaret starts an app named Call Record (ecamm.com). (A similar Windows app is PrettyMay Call Recorder: prettymay.net.)

An interesting observation about Margaret's setup is that the call recorder displays both sides of the conversation so that the caller's voice is strong on the receive side but also slightly delayed. The send side also has the caller's voice but much weaker.

More Techniques?

How do you configure your equipment? Let us know either via the Idea Exchange or via email. Your method does not need to use the telephone or VoIP systems.

Viewpoint

Continued from page 1

How You Can Continue to Help

You can continue to keep the Association going and help spread the word by going to the front page of the Association's website (<http://atransc.org/>) when you buy something from Amazon or Ebay. The links are now low on the right-hand column of the front page. Christmas is coming, and when you make a purchase through the Association website, a small percentage comes back to the ATransC. So don't forget us when you do your shopping. And as always, we sincerely thank you for any extra donations that you can give to this cause, your dollars are tax deductible.

ATransC Archive

We are excited to announce that members can now access all past NewsJournals on the Idea Exchange Archive. Members can download issues 1-1 through 10-1 by Sarah Estep and issues 19-2 to current by us as PDF files. Sarah's issues 10-2 through 19-1 have not been converted. Also available are the first three of fourteen issues of *Spirit Voices* published by Bill Weisensale before his transition.

Combined Journals in Searchable PDF Files

Members can download individual Journals for free but we now have combined versions of all past NewsJournals in searchable PDF files. This will allow members to be able to search all issues for certain references or key words. That means, with this issue, you can search all 50 issues we have produced in one file! We are charging a small fee for this service and all of the proceeds will be used for research and outreach. As long as you are a member, you will be able to update the combined version as new issues are added for no additional charge.

Research

The Rhine Research Institute radio-sweep perception study that ATransC funded is near completion and we expect to have a report in the next issue. Member and lead scientist on the project, Dr. Mark Leary, will provide a three-part article which will detail his prior study of how people hear EVP, the results of the the new study and a discussion of human perception pertaining to transcommunication.

New research questions are being developed. One concerns studying the energy profile of EVP waveforms in an effort to determine where the energy comes from. Another is to test if communicating entities see into the physical via the practitioner's mind.

Most of the easy research has been conducted. Further research requires highly qualified researchers and much more funding. Your membership dues fund daily operation but your donations pay for research furthering understanding of these phenomena. Please consider becoming more active in the ATransC.

Tom and Lisa



The Wilderness of Grief

by Annette Childs, Ph.D. ©

Sometimes it's hard not to wince as I take messages off my office voice mail. It's not terribly uncommon for these messages to be punctuated with sobs as the caller tries to succinctly let me know why they have dialed my number. Last week, after a bereft mother haltingly tried to tell me that she was calling because her son had died, she ended her message with this phrase: "Someone told me you might be able to help me find him." There is never a time when these kinds of words from the grieving do not make my world grow completely and utterly silent as I am transported along with my caller into the wilderness of grief.

Envisioning grief as a wild terrain for which you are not prepared is quite appropriate. Trapped in the rugged wilderness without supplies, several coping strategies would be immediately configured. First, how do you begin to move OUT of the wilderness? There would be no smooth and predictable pathway out, so if you were used to driving, biking or casually walking to your chosen destination, those means of forward movement would no longer serve you.

When you became hungry or thirsty you could not raid the pantry or order from a local café to satiate yourself. In order to move through the wilderness, you would likely need to learn some new techniques, perhaps how to rappel down the face of a rock or how to safely navigate a deep and swiftly moving river. You might have to scale a tree, collect rainwater and perhaps even eat a small creature in order to survive. As the saying goes, desperate times require desperate measures.

So let's revisit the phrase, "Someone told me you might be able to help me find him." In my world, this is not such an extraordinary request. It is not all that different than someone asking a wilderness survivalist, "Can you give me some pointers on how to survive in the wild?" And of course, the answer is, "YES!" I grant you, there is no giant neon hand pointing to a sign that says, "YOUR LOVED ONE IS HERE," but there IS a vast amount of forward movement one can make in moving through the wilderness of grief.

A large part of my work with the grieving does entail helping them to locate their now deceased loved one in their world. I use the concept of Continuing Bonds to help my clients do this. This process can run the gamut from helping them identify a simple psychological or symbolic sense of their loved one, all the way to exploring the

after-life sciences and learning what science and experience indicate regarding the possibility of the continuation of life after death. Without fail my clientele are always absolutely amazed at the vast amount of credible information and scientific explorations that support the grieving who seek to understand what may occur beyond death's door.

Continuing Bonds (CB's) occur on a continuum and it is my job to help the grieving find the place on that continuum where they are comfortable. Sometimes I use the analogy of a swimming pool to help people find their

comfort zone. The shallow end of the Continuing Bonds pool is where we will find grievers who find solace in symbolic or implied bonds to their deceased loved one. A typical example of this type of bond would be someone who has planted a tree in memory of their loved one. The tree becomes a sort of living placeholder for the deceased loved one's presence. Another example of this type of CB would be a scholarship that is set up in a loved one's name,

to support a student that embodies some of the deceased's ideals.

This is a dynamic 'living' representation of their loved one that holds a spot in time. These types of CB's have great healing power, and as time moves forward, they tend to bring a lovely sense of season and forward movement to the healing process. For example, I worked with one family that had planted a rose bush in memoriam to their deceased father. The first year it bloomed, the roses had great significance to the children and they were fiercely protective of each bloom. They saw the blooms as direct expressions of their father. As the years passed they grew better able to enjoy the roses in a more relaxed way, often cutting the blooms and sharing them with friends. When the oldest daughter got married many years later, the aisle she walked down to meet her waiting groom was scattered with the dried rose petals from her father's rose bush, a beautiful and powerful symbol of her father walking her down the aisle.

Some grievers want to move beyond a symbolic or implied relationship with their deceased loved ones. Because of their need to locate their loved one's presence beyond the physical life, this desire often brings them into the realm of the after-life sciences.

Continued page 13



The Easiest Way To Understand The Universe Is Through Wilderness!

by Amritash Choube, flickr.com/photos/amritash_99

Brilliant Physical Mediumship of Kai Muegge: Sitting With the Felix Circle

by Victor Zammit ©

One of the highlights of our recent trip to Europe was the opportunity to sit as a guest in the home circle of the Felix Experimental Group in Hanau, near Frankfurt Germany. We were most impressed by the dedication of the sitters who have been sitting weekly now since 2005. For the last three years, the gifted physical medium, Kai Muegge, has been following the method of mediumship used by physical medium Rudi Schneider to induce trance by using very fast holotropic breathing.



Hans Bender

After the medium was in trance and the lights turned off, we heard the voice of Hans Bender, in life a famous German parapsychologist who was in charge of the proceedings from the spirit dimension. His voice was accompanied by loud knocks around the room. We started to witness bright blue spirit lights the size of golf balls moving around in the séance room and around the

twelve sitters. They seemed to be responsive to the energy of the sitters. One came very close me and stayed at a distance of about 10 cms for quite a while. Next we saw a spirit hand illuminated by a luminous plaque; it moved, turned and made sure it was seen as a perfect solid human hand.

Throughout the sitting, the medium Kai Muegge was tightly controlled by two sitters who had their hands on his arms and knees. During the sessions the sitters held hands and a red light was frequently turned on to show everyone that Kai was still in the cabinet.

A most impressive sight was the abundance of ectoplasm (a whitish, smoky substance which was emitted from Kai's mouth) which accumulated directly in front of him and which was shown in red light. After a short time, the ectoplasm was shown again in red light, this time draped over Kai's head and body. It would be sheer nonsense to describe the ectoplasm as a piece of cloth. It was clearly a living moving substance with a unique structure.

During the séance, a former colleague of mine who died in 1995; the legendary, radical, some even called him



Kai Muegge with his wife, Julia

“revolutionary,” Rev. Ted Noffs of the famous Wayside Chapel, came through giving us great validation that he is who he claimed to be. In my younger student days the Rev. Ted Noffs and I organized a number of highly successful public protests, mainly against the French nuclear testing in the Pacific where much beauty and life were permanently

destroyed. The Rev. Ted Noffs' radical social innovations such as anti-drug campaigning, the social justice programs and “doing good for humanity” programs were recognized by Prince Charles of the Royal Family, Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke and New South Wales Premier Neville Wran Q.C. His work was also recognized by some leading Christians from the United States.

One of the things that influenced me the most was Ted's insistence that we should not allow religions to stand as a barrier between people. He taught: “I am a Catholic. I am a Protestant. I am a Jew. I am a Hindu, I am Muslim, a Sikh, a Buddhist ... I am part of the religions past, present and future, because I am a human being and nothing is alien to me....”. He was tried for “heresy” by the Christian establishment in Sydney but found not guilty. His work is continued in Sydney by his children and grandchildren in the Ted Noffs Foundation.

Hans Bender from the afterlife acted as the medium for Ted Noffs and told us that he had come to say how much he supported the work we were doing through the *Friday Afterlife Report* and the website victorzammit.com. (This was not a surprise to me because Ted Noffs had previously contacted me, something that was not known to the Felix Circle). Hans Bender also said that the small apport (pictured left- actual size) representing different religions that materialized through the medium's ectoplasm was a gift from Rev. Ted Noffs.

Then Hans Bender told us that a young man who had committed suicide in 2009 had also come to make himself known and asked whether I could feel him standing in front of me touching my leg.

Continued page 12



The Reverend Ted Noffs



Apport representing different religions was a gift for Zammit from Rev Ted Noffs.



Phantom Voices

By Tom Butler

The evidence is very clear that there are examples of Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) that contain clearly understood messages. EVP are empirically demonstrated phenomena. Yet, a commonly heard complaint is that websites concerned with the paranormal often have examples of EVP that sound like simple noise.

Website visitors have used the contact tool to announce that they are receiving astoundingly long and important EVP, which on close examination, have proven to only contain noise. Yet, others have provided excellent, clearly heard examples. So what is the difference? What leads one person to hear messages where there is only noise while others do not?

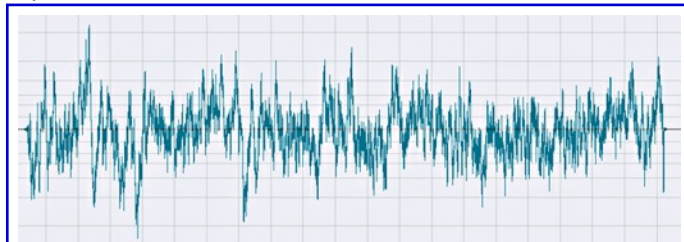
The prevalence of this “phantom voices” phenomenon is increasingly evident as more people become involved in EVP. The resulting confusion is seen as an obstacle to useful collaboration amongst practitioners and certainly must warn off potential researchers.

Listening Test

To develop more understanding of the problem of phantom voices, the ATransC conducted an online listening study using two sound files. One contained simple brown noise (emphasis on voice-frequencies) and the other contained broad-spectrum noise modulated with audio pulses that simulate the cadence of speech. It was clearly stated that neither example contained voice. Possible explanations about what might cause a person to hear phantom voices were included above the hearing test and what was in the files was clearly stated.

Results

Of the 111 submissions, 15.3% (17) reported hearing voices in the brown noise file and 27.8% (33) reported hearing voices in the modulated file. That means that 39% (43) reported voice in one or both of the files.



File 1: Brown noise

Participants were also asked if they had a history of hearing voices not heard by others. Thirty-six percent (40) of the respondents said that they did. Most indicated they were likely in a hypnagogic state of awareness.

Interestingly, many respondents reported hearing music or musical tones. While hearing music might be an associated characteristic of the phantom voices phenomenon, the question has not been addressed here.

Analysis

This was an informal study in the sense that there were no controls. Although respondents were asked how the samples were listened to, it is mostly unknown if the samples were heard under optimum conditions. It is also reasonable to ask if respondents would be candid about hearing voices they were told were not present. There is probably a natural selection of respondents which biases the results away from “hearing voices” reports. The website receives nearly a thousand visitors a day and receiving only 111 responses to the study over more than a year suggests that many who might have read the discussion prior to listening to the sound files, and subsequently heard voices, chose not to respond. For the purpose of future study, it is hypothesized that at least 43% might hear voices in sound files which are not present.

Theory

The phantom voices phenomenon appears to have a number of possible causes ranging from mental illness to the natural human tendency to make sense of ambiguous stimuli. Mental illness does not appear to be a factor for EVP; however, in the most extreme examples, there does appear to be a complex of common behaviors which may imply a situational fixation on hearing voices. This is addressed below in “Listener Fatigue.”

Hypnagogia



File 2: Noise with occasional pulse of noise

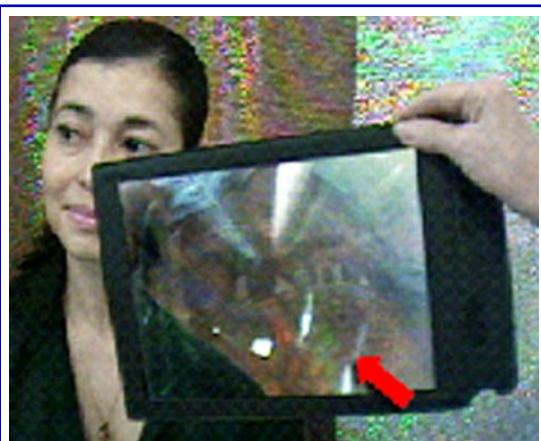
There are a number of mental characteristics described in the psychological literature that touch on this experience, but hypnagogia seems to be a key concept. It is defined as: Inducing sleep; soporific [sleepiness]; drowsiness preceding sleep; relating to the images or hallucinations sometimes experienced in this state. According to Gurstelle and de Oliveira,¹ “...daytime parahypnagogia (DPH) is more likely to occur when one is tired, bored, suffering from attention fatigue, and/or engaged in a passive activity....”

The mind will naturally seek order in chaotic stimuli (see “Perceptual Order” below). The order is apparently based on what is in the person’s memory, so the almost-heard sounds have a familiar feel for the experiencer. A common report received by the ATransC is hearing voices or music for which the source cannot be found

Continued page 14

Sonia Rinaldi's Trans Images

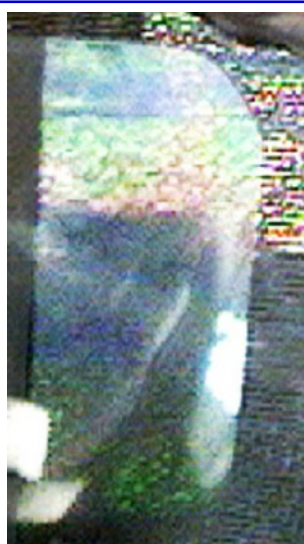
Sonia Rinaldi continues her work helping people communicate with the other side. Here are some of her ITC images using a Fresnel lens.



Marlene pictured with the Fresnel lens



Marlene's father



An image as seen on the lens. It is thought that his might be Marlene's father



Marli pictured with an ITC image that appeared on the Fresnel lens

Morse Code Update

A researcher from the Scottish Society for Psychical Research, Innes Smith, visited Alison Kirkbride last June. He sat with her while she conducted a number of EVP sessions. Domenic Capaldi was also present to video record the sessions. (sspr.co.uk)

We have only a preliminary report, but as expected, Smith was unsure about the paranormality of the EVP examples, saying "... the spoken word messages - to me - will always present a problem in interpretation." Many EVP were recorded by both Alison and Domenic and Alison produce an impressive dog bark EVP on request.

Untrained listeners commonly have difficulty hearing EVP. This is the fear we all have about "being investigated." Alison understands this and it is to her credit that she was willing to share the session results as part of the "research."

Alison succeeded in recording Morse code during the observed sessions and that produced a very different response from Smith. He told us that, "*What is inexplicable (by current physics) is intelligible Morse code messages appearing on a background noise where there were none before.*" He seemed genuinely excited about the Morse code.

Innes Smith has asked to attend more EVP sessions later this year. He has devised experiments targeted at clarifying the apparent paranormality of the Morse EVP. Alison and the Morse Team expect to cooperate with his research. We will keep you informed as to the progress.

Big Circle Recording Dates



Loved ones on both sides of the veil who cooperate to communicate and help one another are known as the "Big Circle." In some instances, loved ones in the etheric have even guided people to the Association.

This "bridge to the afterlife" is maintained when people join their energies on alternate Thursdays at 8:00 PM **local time** to communicate via EVP. You are invited to join in, perhaps by inviting friends and family members to sit with you for a brief meditation to focus your attention on the loved one you wish to contact, and then recording for three-to-five minutes. Here are the recording dates:

October 11 and 25, November 8 and 22, December 6 and 20 and January 3, 17 and 31

See: atransc.org/circle/about_the_big_circle.htm

We encourage you to share your results in the Big Circle forum of the Idea Exchange. Be especially sure to post any names you record. Members sometimes record messages that are specifically intended for another member.



Arthur Conan Doyle

by Lisa Butler

In February of this year, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle materialized in a David Thompson séance and spoke to Tom and me. He also sent greetings from Konstantin Raudive. I asked him about an ITC picture that we had gotten after a Socrates Circle sitting that we thought might be him. He immediately advised us that the ITC picture was indeed him.

During a June 7 Big Circle recording, I asked about Sir Arthur and we received an EVP saying ***"Promise to contact."*** During the next Big Circle session, two weeks later, Tom again asked for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and we recorded, ***"Sir Arthur already helping"***



On the left is an ITC image collected by the Socrates Group. It is thought to be Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Unknown to us at the time of these recordings, Margaret Downey had a sitting with mediums Mike and Marti Perry on June 4. The first person that Mike said was coming through was Arthur Conan Doyle and Margaret told them she felt it was for Tom and Lisa!

The Scole Experiments

In 1993, four psychic researchers and observers embarked on a series of experiments in the Norfolk village of Scole, England. For five years, more than five hundred experiments were carried out.

During some of the experiments, objects materialized, lights danced and solid beings appeared. Luminous spheres also flew around the room in an apparently intelligent manner. Images were received on thirty-five millimeter film that was still in lightproof containers. One of these pictures was of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

These experiments were repeated in the United States, Ireland and Spain. In the United States, scientists from



Scole Group photograph of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

NASA, the Institute of Noetic Sciences and the University of Stanford also took part. You can learn more about The Scole Experiment at thescoleexperiment.com

Interesting Fact: James Webster, a professional magician, with forty years of experience investigating paranormal phenomena, came to the following conclusion about the Scole experiments: "I was unable to discover any sign of fraud, and it seems to me that fraud couldn't have been possible, both because of the type of phenomena observed and by the conditions in which they came about."

More on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Arthur Conan Doyle became interested in the Society for Psychical Research (SPR) (spr.ac.uk), which was established in 1882 to scientifically investigate paranormal phenomena. However, he found himself at odds with the SPR's objectivity. He felt he didn't need laboratory experiments to prove what he knew to be true.

Arthur Conan Doyle became a spiritualist after holding séances with his wife Jean to get in touch with members of their family killed in the First World War. He told the world that he was communicating with the spirits of the dead, after which, he began writing books on spiritualism and addressing vast audiences around the world on the subject of communication with the so called dead. He also clashed with Harry Houdini, the illusionist, who argued that all spiritualists' "tricks" could be replicated by a competent magician.

A few days before his death in 1930, Arthur Conan Doyle wrote, "The reader will judge that I have had many adventures. The greatest and most glorious of all awaits me now."

Emails from the Other Side

Karen Mossey shared a link to a story done by BBC's Matt Danzico. Jack Froese died In June 2011, and in November, several of his friends received emails from his account. His family says that no one knew his password to even get into the account.

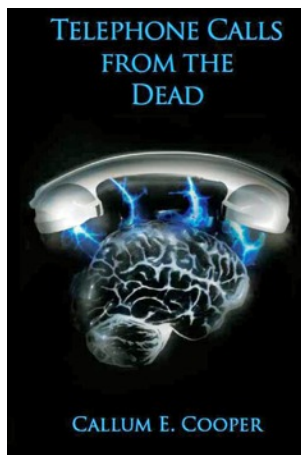
The emails were about small personal things that only the receiver would have known. In one email Jack tells his friend to clean his attic. One of their last times together had been in that very attic discussing what it could be made into if cleaned up. See the video at:

bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-17348635

Karen wrote that she found the video amazing and believable. She thinks that, with the advancement of smart phones and with most of our younger population using them, we will be seeing an increase of communication from the other side from those who use them!

Telephone Calls from the Dead

A book review based on the one in Silent Voices (silentvoices.org.uk/#/book-reviews-2012/4560170991)©



Seeing a ghost in a well-known haunted location is fairly common experience, and I'm sure many of us could relate to this phenomenon, or have spoken to someone who claims to have seen a ghost or had a psychic experience. But hearing of someone having a telephone call from the dead?! This is certainly a rare paranormal occurrence. Cal Cooper has conducted an entirely new study into these

bizarre experiences and presents the findings in this fantastic new book.

Cooper states that he thinks of this book as a revised edition of the original 1979 book, *Phone Calls from the Dead* by D. Scott Rogo and Raymond Bayless. This book appeals to all audiences and makes no assumption that the reader is familiar with the science of parapsychology. This is because the introduction gives a compact explanation of the field and its history and how Cooper became involved in paranormal research.

A chapter is devoted to the lives and work of Rogo and Bayless and how they came to be good friends and colleagues in psychical research. They meet through their EVP research which Bayless started with the psychic medium Attila von Szalay in the 1950s.

In the book, Cooper addresses issues involved in research and the methods which should be considered and applied for the investigation of spontaneous cases of paranormal experiences. Several categories of paranormal telephone calls are highlighted and many case examples are given. Cooper then discusses the statistics involved and the frequency of call types. Possible explanations are then offered in chapters on the psychology of the phone calls and also paranormal theories for the calls.

The cases discussed in this book are certainly captivating. There are accounts of telephone calls from people known to be dead and calls from people thought to be still in the physical, but who were found to be dead at the time of the call. Some paranormal calls are from the living; calls they insist they never made! There are calls where messages of warnings or future events are discussed before the events take place. These events are truly amazing, and appear to have changed many people's lives in the process.

It also seems that paranormal communication has advanced into text messages and emails supposedly from the dead. Such possibilities are considered. The final chapter offers a peer review of telephone phenomena and the research that Cooper has carried out, with contributors

from the field of parapsychology such as John L. Randall (posthumously), Dr. John Palmer (reviving his role from the original book) and Dr. Jim Beichler.

Cooper has been thorough in his studies of the phone-call phenomenon and presents a detailed look at these rare paranormal experiences. This diligence was also appreciated by Dr. Elizabeth McAdams, president of the International Foundation for Survival Research, who provides a wonderful forward for the book. The thoughts of others and myself are that Cooper has truly done the late researchers, Rogo and Bayless, justice in furthering their research efforts and picking up from where they left off.

Cal Cooper is pursuing doctoral research in psychology and parapsychology at the University of Northampton. He is a member of the Society for Psychical Research and of the Parapsychological Association.



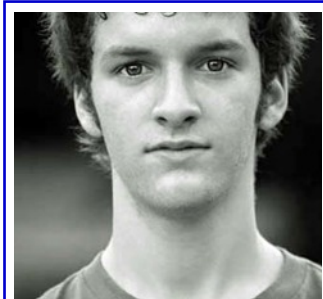
The Felix Circle

Continued from page 8

I could. He told us that the young man said his name was Erik and he had come to thank me for the assistance the reports gave to his mother after his death and to many other bereaved parents. At first I had no idea who he was but then Wendy remembered "Channeling Erik," channelingerik.com, the blog of Dr Elisa Medhurst whose son has been communicating with her through medium Jamie Butler.

We got in touch with Elisa who asked Erik for confirmation. According to the medium Jamie Butler: "Erik said it was him. He was telling me they were all in a room and he showed himself to the medium man and wanted to touch his hair. Said he had messy hair like him. Erik said that these were the things he has been up to. He wants to spread the word that his world is real. There really should not be any more grief here on Earth. Please Mom, tell him to publish."

It is truly wonderful to see that genuine physical mediumship is alive and thriving in Germany today in a circle that truly demonstrates deep



Erik

interest in the past traditions of European mediumship and understanding of the importance of group energy. We will hear more from this circle in the future.



Wilderness of Grief

Continued from page 7

(Some will scoff at this notion, but those who scoff have certainly never arrived at that moment in their lives where they simply do not think they can go on for another moment without some sense that their deceased loved one continues on in some form.)

It is for this group of grieverers that I have created my *Reaching the Other Side: Grief and Healing Seminar*. This is a unique program that combines Continuing Bonds grief-therapy with education on the after-life sciences. The intended outcome of these seminars is to help the bereaved to create a continuing bond, assist them to recognize the many forms that an after-death communication can take, and to support a direct experience of their continuing bond with their loved one. These three things combined offer the most potent medicine I know of to combat the wilderness of grief.

As the harsh edges of grief are softened with education, a space is made for a continuing bond with their loved one. Sometimes during these seminars, families receive a direct experience of an after-death communication through me. Although I do not make these communications the focus of my work, sometimes, when working with the grieving, I will begin to get words and images from their deceased loved ones.



There is nothing even remotely dramatic about this at all when it occurs, in fact you would be surprised at how “ordinary” it is when it happens. These types of After-Death Communication (ADC) are nothing more than mental “calling cards” from their loved ones that I have the sensitivity to discern. I will use an example here that actually occurred today, on the day I am writing this article. Earlier this morning, I worked with a grieving family seeking an indicator that their loved one still continued on after death. When I asked their loved one for a message, the image of something I called a “coat of arms” flashed into my mind. I drew the image to the best of my meager artistic ability. As I handed the image over, there was immediate recognition and you could feel the heaviness of loss lighten into a sense of wonder, connection and gratitude. I had depicted a family heirloom given to the bereaved by the

deceased; an object that was very significant and meaningful. When the family returned home from our appointment, they e-mailed me a photo of the object and gave me permission to share it here, along with the original drawing I gave them.

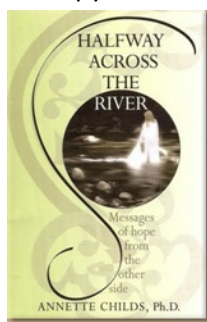
Their willingness to share is precisely why I call my company “**One Candle.**” Now their story becomes yet one more candle on a dark pathway ... and one light at a time, my goal is to dispel the fear of death and bring light to the journey through grief.

Although the small example of an ADC I have given in this article defies logic, proves nothing and creates more questions than it answers, it gets us moving out of the wilderness of grief by focusing on a farther horizon. An after-death communication is not a destination; it is more like a road sign on a long journey. ADC’s themselves are not where the grieving want their focus to stay. As healing as that moment of connection is, our work is to build the healing out from that point.

Researchers estimate that up to sixty percent of the bereaved experience some type of ADC. Yet an ADC in itself does not always lead to a healing outcome. Those who have a strong ADC, but cannot construct a sense of meaning around the experience, may actually find the experience more disruptive than healing. Exploring the deeper meaning of continuing bonds and ADC’s can help the bereaved to locate their loved one after loss, but finding a way to construct meaning around the experience is the foundation for healing. These things combined are what carry the griever out of the wilderness of grief ... not necessarily the after-death communication itself.

If you have experienced a loss and you are in the wilderness of grief, remember that support and education are two of the things that you can use to begin to prepare your world for an ADC. As the saying goes, “build it and they will come”; read, stretch, grow, seek. Build a container for the possibility—and the universe will respond by filling the darkness with light.

Annette Childs holds a Ph.D. in psychology and is a Nevada State Licensed Therapist. She is a diplomat of the American Psychotherapy Association, and a Fellow in



Thanatology, Grief and Bereavement. She is the author of three award-winning books and speaks throughout the United States and internationally on topics related to personal growth and transition. You can find her books at onecandle.net/books.html



Phantom Voices Continued from page 9

or recorded. In most reports, the sounds are described as a distant conversation or the sound of a radio program that can “almost” be made out, but no specific words or songs can be identified. As it happens, the phantom voices are often associated with a person who is distracted by activities that permit the person’s mind to wander. They may also be experienced at the beginning and end of sleep time.

Experiencers often resist mundane explanations, and insist they are experiencing something paranormal.

Audio Illusion

There are also a number of types of auditory illusions that have been identified. A good article about these is “Audio illusions that will fool your ear (and brain)” by Rich Pell.² One such illusion is described as “The phantom words illusion,” which is simply the same two words being repeated over and over but time displaced between the left and right channel. This demonstrates how easy it is to hear words and phrases that are not there, and even hear them change, as the brain attempts to make sense of the aural ambiguity. This is a pretty interesting effect!

Passive Concentration

Perhaps a better term for hypnagogia would be “passive concentration” because the person has focused attention, but not with concentrated awareness. This distraction from the inner chatter of the brain leaves the mind open for unnoticed inputs.

In principle, the hypnagogic state of mind is ideal for our etheric communicators to commune with our otherwise too busy mind. Passive concentration is a spontaneous version of mindful meditation which is a deliberately cultivated technique for communing with one’s inner senses and is an important technique for mediumship. The important point is that we must recognize the part these natural tendencies play in our perception of phenomena.

Apophenia and Pareidolia

Apophenia is a term used in psychology for the mind’s natural tendency to identify patterns where none exist. Pareidolia is a subset of apophenia which applies to finding meaning in sound or images that does not exist. Skeptics love to use these terms to explain away reports of paranormal experiences. When applied to all reports with no examination of the evidence, these terms are, in effect, psychobabble used to explain why people reporting paranormal experiences are imagining things. The term, “apophenia” does not apply to simple cases of misidentification such as a balloon being identified as a UFO or a fellow investigator’s reflection being mistaken as a ghost in a mirror. It applies to the result of the mind’s need to find order in chaos. When presented with information the mind is unable to identify or make sense of, its natural reaction is to offer up the next best fit. If the person is intent on

finding voices in noise, the mind will probably offer a likely word or two.

Some reports of the paranormal may be instances of apophenia. The study of things paranormal often involves poorly formed images and hard to understand sound files which must be carefully studied. A person who is unfamiliar with the concept of mediumship, and who does not know it is possible to sense subtle energy, may be inclined to express a natural fear of the dark as a “sense of a nearby evil entity.” Such responses to unfamiliar experiences are not evidence of a psychological flaw, but are natural human attempts to relate to circumstances. The “antidote” is education.

Perceptual Order

In Gestalt psychology, the whole is seen as being different than the sum of its parts. In this, the observer might find understanding where there is little or no substantiating information. The Gestalt laws of perceptual organization³ also provide possible explanations for the natural human tendency to find order in chaos. They include:

The Law of Similarity: Similar stimuli or elements that are close together tend to be grouped.

The Law of Closure: Stimuli tend to be grouped into complete figures.

The Law of Good Continuation: Stimuli tend to be grouped so as to minimize change or discontinuity.

The Law of Symmetry: Regions bound by symmetrical borders tend to be perceived as coherent figures.

The Law of Simplicity: Ambiguous stimuli tend to be resolved in favor of the simplest.

Clairaudience

Clairvoyance or “clear seeing” has become a catchall term for the ability to sense information in subtle energy. This may be in the form of voices, images, smells or a general “knowing.” It is possible that a person might hear voices in a sound track containing only noise, via clairaudience, if none are physically present. However, in the study of EVP, the voices are either physically there or they are not. If they are there, then others should be able to experience them. They are objective, meaning they have physical form. Understanding this point is central to the study of how transcommunication is experienced.

Listener Fatigue

EVP practitioners spend a lot of time listening to often noisy audio recordings. The expected EVP are usually mostly hidden by the noise and one must listen very carefully to distinguish them. Once isolated, the paranormal utterances are usually Class C, meaning they are not very easily understood. This makes it necessary for the practitioner to concentrate and listen to the sound segment many times. This situation is a formula for noise to be mistaken as anticipated EVP.

Continued page 15



Discussion

The first documentation of EVP was in 1959 and the phenomenon remains poorly understood today. Fundamentally, the examples are just sound tracks usually containing a lot of noise and a few, often poorly formed words.

With proper training, usually gained by trial and error with feedback from friends or from other ATransC members on the Idea Exchange, the practitioner learns to recognize the difference between actual voices transformed out of background noise and imagined messages. However, in cases in which this learning has not occurred, practitioners have been known to find meaning which does not exist in the noise. For all of the reasons one might propose to explain this, the most available means of avoiding problems with phantom voices is education.

This study should provide a sense of how common it is for individuals to mistake mundane information as something paranormal. The phantom voices effect is not unique to EVP, but can be seen in virtually all forms of transcommunication including visual ITC and mediumship. While this report addresses what has been called here, "phantom voices," the larger phenomenon might be referred to as a form of hyper lucidity as the experimenter's mind goes to extremes in an attempt to assign meaning.

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Q & A on the Idea Exchange

The ATransC Idea Exchange is intended to provide a safe place for members to ask questions, express opinions, share experiences and learn how to work with all forms of transcommunication. It is important to know that the board is closed to the public to protect your privacy.

Tom and Lisa Butler monitor the board virtually every day and make it their business to try and find answers to your questions. If you are seeking better understanding of these phenomena, then please drop by and let us know what is on your mind.

Are Ghosts Discarnate People?

According to a 2009 CBS news poll, 48% of Americans say they believe in ghosts, or that the dead can return in certain places and situations. Seventy-eight percent believe in life after death.

This large number of "believers" should be encouraging to those of us who study things paranormal, but unfortunately, there is more. A report on the Gallup website indicates that 32% of people surveyed say they believe "ghosts or spirits of dead people can come back in certain places and situations," (ghosts or spontaneous after-death communication), while only 21% believe that "That people can hear from or communicate mentally with someone who has died" (mediumship).

Most polls we have reviewed show that, while people believe in ghosts, many do not make the connection between ghosts and survived personalities. This is even more evident when people's fear of hauntings situations is considered. In an apparent hauntings situation, a person who is experienced with transcommunication might stop to sense whether or not it is a loved one while the average ghost hunter will reach for the smudging stick to clear the house. (To most ATransC members, that is a lot like slamming the door on a loved one.)

Gallup polls are also showing a distressing trend: while 32% believed in ghosts in 2005, 38% were believers in 2001 (a 6% decrease). Similarly, 28% of people believed in mediumship in 2001 compared to 21% in 2005 (a 7% decrease). There is a general trend of growing **disbelief** in the phenomena associated with transcommunication which seems to indicate the skeptical community's campaign to discredit all things paranormal is beginning to work.

As a footnote, 55% of respondents believed in "psychic or spiritual healing or the power of the human mind to heal the body" in 2005, 1% more than in 2001.

From: CBS News, "Poll: Majority Believe In Ghosts" by Sean Alfano, February 11, 2009, cbsnews.com, and Gallup, "Three in Four Americans Believe in Paranormal" by David W. Moore, June 16, 2005, gallup.com

The ASPSI is now the ASCSI

The Academy of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies has changed their name to the Academy for Spiritual and Consciousness Studies, Inc. (ASCSI). The Academy was founded in 1972 as the academic affiliate of the Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship. They publish two scholarly quarterlies, *The Journal for Spiritual and Consciousness Studies* and a newsletter, *The Searchlight*. Both deal with religion, psychical research and related topics. Please visit the Academy's website at ascsi.org.



We Don't Die

by Sandra Champlain ©

"We talk about heaven being so far away. It is within speaking distance."

Dwight L. Moody, evangelist and publisher, b. 1837

Saturday, October 22, 2005 - Omega Institute, Rhinebeck, NY

Heavy raindrops fall on the roof of my cabin, tucked amongst the trees behind the retreat center. The air is cold and damp, my hair and clothes are wet from the walk in the rain and the only warmth is coming from a small heater in the corner of my room. I put on my pajamas and crawl under the covers. The roommate that the retreat center has assigned to me is still out to dinner with her friends.

I question if I am completely crazy. I clearly feel that I have been led on a path to figure out if life after death is real. The cab driver who brought me here could not believe that there was such a class as I was now taking. I told him I was taking a course called Electronic Voice Phenomena. The course promised that it was possible to hear messages from our deceased friends and family by using recording devices. Although the cab driver thought I was a little weird, he gave me his email address and made me promise to tell him what happened.

I want it to be real on one hand, but on another hand, I think the idea is insane. Is it possible that our deceased loved ones are still nearby and that they talk to us by putting their voices on a recorder? The course instructors, Tom and Lisa Butler, have been doing these recordings for seventeen years. Why would people waste their time if this wasn't possible?

I put all of those thoughts out of my mind and pull out my Sony digital recorder, which had been recommended by people effective at getting EVP. I am always a good student who does her homework and I want to get this recording done before my roommate comes back. When we met yesterday, I lied to her and told her that I was in a writers' workshop, as I didn't want her to know that I was really trying to communicate with the dead. I didn't even tell my family what I was doing this weekend. Only the cab driver knows the real reason I am at the retreat center.

Cuddled under the covers, holding my recorder, I close my eyes and try to imagine myself sitting in the center of a high-energy field, as our energy is supposedly used by the other side to put these voices on the recorder. I imagine my grandmother, grandfather, aunt and uncle standing around the foot of my bed and press the record button. I begin to talk. "All right my dear friends, I'm going to do one more recording. Try to speak as loud as you can. If I am supposed to help people to believe in life after death, I

have to hear you, so please try to talk loud. I will be quiet for about a minute and then I'll say goodnight and I won't bug you anymore." (Earlier in the day I had been talking to the same four imaginary people, unsuccessful at hearing any voices.)

I stop talking to allow the recording of the raindrops on the roof of the cabin. The dead must manipulate white

noise so I figured the sound of the rain might be okay. I wait and after about a minute I say, "Goodnight" to my imaginary or invisible friends and press the stop button. I put on my earphones, press the rewind button and begin to listen.

Not expecting this time to be any different from the other attempts that I have made to listen to the deceased, I press the play button on my digital voice recorder. Convinced that I will hear nothing, I wait and listen.

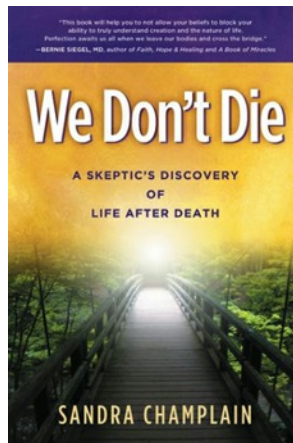
Then, I hear something. A sharp chill runs through my body and my skin is covered with goose bumps. I press rewind to hear it again and again and again. My mind is in a state of shock because I should not be hearing the words that I am hearing; I should only be hearing raindrops.

Loud and clear I hear a man saying, "**Goodnight, Sandra,**" in what sounds like a computer-generated voice. Then, two faint women's voices say, "**Goodnight, goodnight,**" followed by another male voice saying, "**Goodnight.**"

I am suddenly stunned and afraid. I don't know what to think, and feel sick to my stomach. What I am experiencing is unreal, like nothing I could have ever imagined. Are these people really here with me? Are people always with me? I become upset with myself for even coming to this retreat center. I find myself wanting to talk to someone human, but it is too late at night and there is no one around. I replay the recording over and over and over. Finally, I am mentally exhausted, and just before I fall asleep, I have visions of my grandparents and aunt and uncle hovering over me. "Are you really here" I think to myself and go to bed very certain that my life will never be the same again.

I want to apologize ... for not sharing this information ... sooner. You might have thought that I should have shouted from the rooftops that, "I, Sandra Champlain, have proved there is life after death." You may have told me back in 2005 that I had enough credible evidence, between the EVP and the other studies I had done, to make a profound difference in the lives of people that had lost someone close to them. However, my own fear of being called crazy, weird, being laughed at or people not wanting to be involved with me, stopped me from sharing this information ... until now.

Continued page 18





Physical Phenomena: Two Methods of Production

by Robin Foy ©

Not everybody is aware that physical mediumship now takes place in two totally different ways. The traditional view within the Spiritualist Movement is that physical phenomena can only be presented by spirit helpers using the controversial substance known as “ectoplasm.” This method has been used by physical mediums and their guides and helpers since 1848. Generally, it involves a physical medium who is usually in deep trance throughout the proceedings. The medium usually sits in a “cabinet” to concentrate energy (this is typically an enclosure just large enough to hold a sitting person). Most physical mediums operate in total darkness or in dim red light.

The ectoplasm is exuded from the physical medium's body (from any or all of the body's natural orifices) and can be molded by the spirit guides and helpers to form a solid materialization of a spirit person, which can often be positively identified by friends and relatives of the spirit person. For the manipulation and levitation of objects such as a trumpet (a megaphone like object used for amplification of direct-voice communication from spirit) in the séance room, an ectoplasmic rod with a pseudopod for gripping is used by the spirit people. In every case, the ectoplasm remains connected by an umbilical cord-like structure to the medium whilst phenomena take place.

It is this ectoplasmic connection which makes it physically dangerous for the medium. If a sitter does something silly, like switching on an electric light in the middle of a séance, the ectoplasm shoots back into the body of the medium at an alarmingly fast rate; causing, at the best, burns to the medium's body, and at the worst, internal damage that has on occasion, led directly to the death or serious injury of the medium. Such was the case with Helen Duncan and Alec Harris, both famous materialization mediums. Consequently, in all sittings where physical mediumship is conducted through an ectoplasmic-based system, careful precautions have to be observed for the safety of the medium. The ectoplasmic-based physical medium often takes many years to develop their mediumship fully.

The second and more modern method of producing physical phenomena is by way of an energy-based procedure. This form of physical phenomena was largely pioneered by the spirit team working with the Scole Experimental Group in the 1990s. There may be one or more mediums in a group where this method is being used. They may not necessarily be in deep trance; sometimes, the members of the group are not aware of who the medium or mediums might be! The spiritual energies of all the group members are blended and involved in the energy-based process. Whilst groups of this sort should start out in total darkness, the spirit team working with a particular group often brings its own spirit-lighting fairly

soon in the development of the phenomena to provide adequate illumination.

The energy that is used by the spirit team is a blend of three different types of energy which, when mixed together, provides one creative energy, which can then be used by the spirit team or individual spirit persons in a physical way to demonstrate the phenomena which are produced. These three forms of energy are:

1. Spiritual energy taken from all the sitters in the group.
2. Spirit energy brought by the spirit team from the spirit world, especially for the purposes of their producing the “creative energy” needed at a particular sitting.
3. Columns or “pillars” of natural earth energy which exist in certain geographical locations around the world. Groups sitting for physical phenomena can attract one of these columns of energy to them for the work, or even create a new column in the place where they sit.

There are a number of advantages to working in this new way with energy, although I should point out that neither method of working is better than, or superior to, the other. These advantages include:

- a) Phenomena can develop quicker in the energy way, sometimes in months rather than in years.
- b) There is absolutely no danger whatsoever to mediums or sitters if somebody does something stupid during an energy-based sitting. The phenomena will simply stop,
- c) The energy-based method is more versatile in that more types of phenomena can be developed in this way. At Scole, we counted around 180 different types of phenomena that were developed during the five-year history of the Scole Experimental Group.

These are the basic facts of the two methods for producing physical phenomena....

From: Physical Mediumship International
robinsphysicalphenomena.webs.com

Robin Foy was the founder of the Noah's Ark Society in 1990. In 1992, he was co-founder of the Scole Experimental Group and, later, of the New Spiritual Science Foundation. The group demonstrated physical phenomena to the public and to scientific investigators who were senior members of the Society for Psychical Research.



Robin has authored two books: *In Pursuit of Physical Mediumship* (Janus Publishing Co Ltd) and *Witnessing the Impossible*. (Torcal Publications 2008) which is the only complete record of every sitting of the Scole Experimental Group.

Both books are currently available via scoleexperiment.com. Also see the pamphlet *How to Develop Energy-Based Physical Phenomena* at robinsphysicalphenomena.webs.com

We Don't Die

Continued from page 16

In my book, *We don't Die: A Skeptic's Discovery of Life After Death*, I talk about the deaths of my grandmother, then my father, then my dear cat, Ozzie, who we had to euthanize just weeks after my dad died. My grief during that time was the most painful thing I have ever experienced. It opened my eyes to a suffering that I could not have previously imagined....

There are some very specific things I hope that you get by the time you are done reading, *We Don't Die: A Skeptic's Discovery of Life After Death*. Of course, I will give you every bit of supporting facts, figures and information, so that this information is real to you:

- You survive physical death. Your body disappears but you will still exist.
- Your friends and relatives that have died are still around and you can connect with them.
- You will feel that you are not alone, ever. You have love around you even if you cannot see it.
- You will understand grief, what it is, why we must feel it and how to lessen your pain.
- You will experience remote viewing, an extrasensory perception technique that may leave you speechless. This experience will leave you believing that you are much more than the physical body you know yourself to be.
- You will no longer fear death and know that death is a natural progression to something better.
- You will no longer fear life and realize that you can accomplish incredible results for yourself.
- You will have a new relationship with fear, have better relationships and be able to achieve your dreams realizing that you can never fail.
- There is more to life than meets the eye, and there is more to you than you know.



A hypnotherapist, medium, remote viewer, speaker, dowser and recorder of EVP, Sandra is passionate about learning and sharing her knowledge with others to make a difference. Sandra is unstoppable, and aims to teach people to live courageous lives, go after their dreams, have loving relationships and know that they can never really die.

For a copy of Sandra's book see:

wedontdie.sharepoint.com/Pages/YourEndorsementNeeded.aspx

Using Random Number Generators

In the article "Random Event Generators Predict the Future," Daniel Lew says that for years, "Random number generators have been running all over the world, electronically flipping 200 coins each second, with the intention of measuring a global consciousness. Scientists of the Global Consciousness Project (GCP) ... are using [Random Event Generators (REG)] to test whether a human consciousness extends a field around the earth which can change the results of random events. They claim that when an important event occurs, such as the 9/11 terrorist attack or the Indian Ocean tsunami, the random event generators start to display patterns that should not exist in truly random sequences. (noosphere.princeton.edu)

"Not only does the GCP detect spikes of less-than-random activity around some important events, but according to the project it actually predicts them, too. In the aforementioned 9/11 attack, there was a bizarre spike of non-random activity four hours before the attacks. As for the Indian Ocean tsunami, analysts say that the REGs detected it 24 hours in advance. 'We may be able to predict that a major world event is going to happen,' says Roger Nelson, the project leader. 'But we won't know exactly what will happen or where it's going to happen.'"

From: *Damn Interesting*, damninginteresting.com/random-event-generators-predict-the-future/

Members using REGs

Cindy Heinen reported that she has been using an REG while working with the Society for Anomalous Studies. She took many samples during a recent investigation at an old mansion but the REG showed nothing of significance. However, when something funny happened and everyone started laughing, the REG went way above the threshold lines. She also noted that, when two people started talking about sad events, there was a small movement toward recording outside of the threshold.

Cindy also reported that they had been utilizing some energy work sessions in conjunction with EVP sessions, but so far there has been no improvement in EVP. They have gotten some interesting visual and real-time audio phenomena. One was a light source that came from a person's forehead and shot to the ceiling.

The Butlers operate a Psyleron REG-1 with an Acer One laptop. While a session was running, they showed the device to David Thompson, the physical medium. While his attention was focused on the display, it registered far above the normal range envelope. It dropped back down when he was distracted talking to them. This occurred two times in a row.

If you are working with an REG, or are just interested, a forum on REGs has been set up in the Idea Exchange.



Researchers' Reports

- Margaret Downey wrote, "This last week was the 32nd anniversary of a suicide that deeply affected me and has a profound impact on my life. I decided to do a recording for myself (manual AM radio sweep as background, recording into Audacity on my computer) and ask if my friend and mentor "Bones" was there. He came through right away saying, **"Hello"** and **"I'm Bones."** This is very similar to his voice as I remember it.

I also got what I consider to be a sign. I've not seen a post from the TV show Bones in my Facebook feed for eons. But when I logged into FB after having spent the morning crying and talking to my therapist about this event that haunts me, there this image was near the top of my news feed. That alone was pretty impressive to me. BUT there's more ... looking at the numbers, they are all significant. Now, I'll admit, I might be reading more into this than was intentionally there; however, I can't help but think of these also being confirmation of a sign.

11 million FB fans: Bones had worked at our mutual employer for 11 years.

13,127 likes: The first number is backward but his birthday is 31-Dec (and I'm 7, July).

311 comments: March 11 is the birthday of both my grandfather and my treasured friend who was there with me the day Bones killed himself.

In the recording I thanked Bones for the sign and heard his reply as **"You're not broken."**

This is extremely significant, as I was so upset the night before I couldn't sleep. At 4:30 in the morning, I typed a poem into my phone using the notes application. One of the lines in the poem reads, "I am broken, shattered." And indeed, that is exactly how I am feeling. It is astonishing that after decades, the grief can still knock me to my knees (and then some!).

- David Mierzwinski says that some of the backgrounds make it harder for him to hear because he has loud ringing in both ears all the time. He was using Cool Edit Pro software with no microphone and was experimenting with a Japanese-language file that he had made using multiple voices uttering nouns. He switched to the Japanese file unannounced and wrote, "They quickly picked up on the new pattern." He recorded, **"Dave is unpredictable."**
- Jutta Liebmann reports that she is using a bath radio with an extended FM frequency band. For background noise, she presses the tuning button manually in short intervals. During a recent experiment, she received direct replies for her spirit team. She was able to reply during the EVP session. She documented her EVP on a CD and played it to some of her colleagues during the VTF conference in Fulda, Germany. She wrote, "They heard the replies very

clearly. For instance, I heard a name and asked the entity whether he knows Dr. Raudive in the spirit world and I have received the answer **"Yes, we know him."**

Jutta added, "In Fulda, I have done some EVP experiments in a small group in the evening with this radio and the participants received EVP replies. One lady got a clear reply from her deceased father! However, this method of EVP recording cannot be recommended for beginners! It is intended for experienced practitioners only."

- Alison Sniffin used Skype in trying to reach her mother and recorded **"Alison."** She also said "Mom, can you use my voice?" and recorded **"I'm trying."**

She also wrote, "We have a new Teflon frying pan and I am forbidden to use a metal spatula in it. The pan is so slippery I can't seem to cleanly flip an egg unless I use a metal spatula. This morning I used two plastic spatulae to flip the egg. I was silently "flipped off" about it when I heard the sound of a little bell and looked up to see our metal spatula, which was hanging on the wall between two other utensils, swinging back and forth. The other utensils were not moving.

- Tim Woolworth wrote that he has recorded his name, both first and last, every time his ghost box is on and that he has reached specific people on the other side that he has been asked to find by loved ones. He feels that there is much more to radio-sweep than anyone can fathom and that it is his goal to conduct ghost box research with like-minded, educated, levelheaded people.

"For True Scientists, the Ultimate Authority is Experience, not Theory"

This wonderful quote comes from near-death researcher Bruce Greyson who goes on to say, "Some may think that Near-Death Experiencers (NDErs) must be religious to start with, and their experiences could be their imagination. However, there are NDErs who weren't religious before their NDEs, and Greyson has found that one of the aftereffects of NDEs is a lowered religiosity. Interestingly, NDErs also generally have an increased spirituality after their NDEs. Another thing that Greyson has found in his research is that, contrary to what most would expect, NDErs are more inclined to use logical thought after their NDEs than before their NDEs.

Bruce Greyson, M.D. is Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Virginia. He is co-author of *Irreducible Mind* (2007) and co-editor of *The Handbook of Near-Death Experiences* (2009).

From: *The Epoch Times*, Near-Death Experiences: 30 Years of Research—Part-2, theepochtimes.com



Dr. Bruce Greyson

Big Circle Results



We encourage people to try to record on Big Circle Recording night, which is every other Thursday. (See page 10) Even recording close to that date, asking for the Big Circle members on the other side, and then sharing the results on the message board, can be a real help to people on both sides of the veil. Here are just a few things that have come through during the past few months:

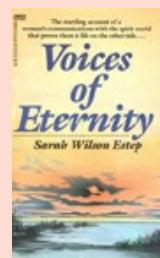
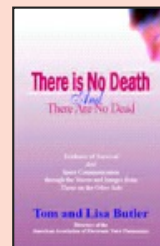
- Margaret Downey recorded ***"Bring us in, Let us talk, Debbie," "What's up Mom?"*** and ***"It's Cathy."***

The first voice sounds like transitioned member Debbie Caruso and Margaret feels the second voice is Debbie's son Joey who is also on the other side. The third EVP is from Martha Copeland's daughter Cathy who helped found the Big Circle recording team and is still helping people with their recording. Margaret also recorded ***"Yvonne and Debra."*** We think this is referring to Debbie and member Yvonne Wybra, who crossed over earlier this year. Margaret also recorded ***"This is Henry, this call's amazing"*** and ***"John"*** but she is not sure who was speaking or who the message is for.

- Alison Kirkbride recorded ***"Talk to Donna"*** and ***"Let me hear Sue Carol"*** during a Big Circle recording session. Alison did not recognize these names.
- When Lisa and Tom Butler asked about their friend Mary who had recently transitioned, they recorded ***"I know she went on over to the spirit land."*** When asking about the Big Circle they recorded ***"We keep up the cause"*** and ***"We are a team."*** When just asking for any messages for loved ones here, they recorded, ***"I miss (word can't understand) I'm her son."***



Boo



Access books recommended by ATransC at atransc.org/resources/books.htm.

Association TransCommunication Membership Form

You can also use the online form at http://atransc.org/online_membership_form.htm

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

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

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

Membership includes quarterly NewsJournal, optional Member Registry, discussion board and archive access.

You must be 21 years old or older to be a member.

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

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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? _____

Do you record EVP? ____ Plan to record? ____ Did you join because of the loss of a loved one? ____

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