

# APRIL NEWSLETTER

## CPRI Paranormal Conference Next Month!

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### Special points of interest:

- Learn about deathbed visions
- Why do paranormal researchers use EMF meters?
- New Book Review
- Events @ the Rhine Institute for the month of April
- And much, much more

CPRI will host its first paranormal conference on **May 13th and 14th in Richmond, VA**. We will be hosting lectures and paranormal related activities that relate to our research. Well-known authors from the field of paranormal research such as **Keynote Speakers Jason Hawes from the SciFi hit "Ghost Hunters", Dr. Sally Rhine Feather of the Rhine Institute, Mark Nesbitt of Ghosts of Gettysburg fame and John Zaffis from "A Haunting in Connecticut"** will be speaking and available for book signings. The Ghostly Internet Talk Show will be broadcasting



Jason Hawes and Grant Wilson

live from the conference. There will also be a chance to purchase t-shirts, books and other paranormal related merchandise. Light refreshments of assorted breakfast pastries, muffins, freshly brewed Colombian coffee, assorted teas, chilled orange juice and grapefruit juice will be

available to all guests. Question and answer sessions will follow all lectures.

### The Banquet

You may also participate in our Saturday Night CPRI Awards Banquet where you can register to win door prizes, listen to REAL EVPs and dine with Keynote speakers and CPRI Investigators. To participate please purchase a ticket and enjoy the fun. Seating for the conference is limited - purchase your ticket early to insure a seat.

## CPRI Prepares to Celebrate 6th Anniversary and Awards Banquet

CPRI will celebrate its sixth anniversary and have its annual awards banquet during the conference. In addition to being the Saturday night banquet celebration with keynote speakers CPRI

Director Bobbie Atristain will also award the CPRI Investigator of the Year award which is voted on by the CPRI membership as well as the Scientific Research awards to mention a cou-

ple. Check out the June Newsletter to see who wins what.....

## CPRI SPOTLIGHT: Rick Atristain

Rick was elected Assistant Director in May of 2002.

He and his wife Bobbie reside in Nottoway County, VA.

Rick was born in Mexico City and moved to the Richmond area when he was two years old. His formative years were plagued with paranormal activity, which led to his subsequent interest in the paranormal. After graduation from high school he joined the U.S. Army and served in Germany as a border Operations NCO and Reconnaissance Specialist along , what was then, the politically sensitive East/West German Border. After his discharge from active military service he stayed in Germany and

worked for a private security firm until he returned to the United States. He then pursued



Rick Atristain has been with CPRI for nearly 5 years.

an Administration of Justice degree, but the lure of money changed his plans and he was hired by a local police department. During his tenure he has received specialized training in Forensic Crime Scene/ Fingerprint Technology. As a Forensic Detective he has worked several high profile murder cases and testified as an expert witness on them. He was also assigned to a Homicide/ Crimes Against Persons unit which is responsible for investigating major crimes. He was also assigned to the Economic Crimes Division. He is currently working for the Department of Defense.

"Anecdotes of deathbed visions have appeared in literature throughout the ages..."

### Deathbed Visions—Are They Real?

Anecdotes of deathbed visions have appeared in literature and biographies throughout the ages, but it wasn't until the 20th century that the subject received scientific study. One of the first to examine the subject seriously was Sir William Barrett, a Professor of Physics at the Royal College of Science in Dublin. In 1926 he published a summation

of his findings in a book titled Death Bed Visions. In the many cases he studied, he discovered some interesting aspects of the experience that are not easily explained: It was not uncommon for the dying people who saw these visions to identify friends and relatives who they thought were still living. But in each case, according to Barrett, it was

later discovered that these people actually were dead. (Remember, communications then wasn't what it is today, and it might take weeks or even months to learn that a friend or loved one had died.)

**Wanna read more?** Go to [virginiaghhosts.com/deathbed\\_visions.php](http://virginiaghhosts.com/deathbed_visions.php)

### The Ghost of Princess Diana is Quite Chatty from Beyond

From the Sunday Mirror (U.K.)

THE woman Diana turned to for spiritual guidance says the dead Princess has "spoken to her" - and given her blessing to son William marrying girlfriend Kate Middleton.

But, says psychic healer Simone Simmons, Diana does not believe her youngest son Harry is truly in love with his girlfriend Chelsy Davy - and the couple are

destined to split.

Simone, 49, once spoke to Diana on an almost daily basis - and now claims the princess has been in touch with her "hundreds of times" since her death in a car crash in Paris in 1997. Her claims

will enrage Diana's closest friends, who are already furious the psychic has cashed in by writing two books about Diana and holding a televised "séance" in which she tried to contact her spirit.



Is Princess Di speaking from the grave?

## Why Use an EMF Meter?

If you have ever watched any paranormal themed TV show that features “paranormal researchers” no doubt you have seen them waving around an EMF detector. Many of these researchers believe that “ghosts” are composed of Electrical Magnetic energy; however, this belief is completely unfounded. There is no proof that ghosts even exist much less that they are comprised of electrical magnetic energy. No one even knows where the origin of this belief came from in the first place.

However there is merit to using an EMF meter on a paranormal investigation. It has been scientifically proven using the sci-



The TriField is considered the “best” EMF meter to use for research.

entific method that electrical magnetic energy does affect brain waves creating a “fritzing” effect that can cause people to hallucinate therefore believing they have experienced paranormal phenomena.

### Conclusion:

There is merit to using EMF detectors on paranormal investigations as evidenced by Persinger’s research however it is not to “detect ghosts” but rather to detect the presence of EM which can make one think they have experienced a haunting.

## Rhine Institute April Day Events

Wednesday April 12, 12-1pm: An Interview with Tomiko Ogichi Smith, an opportunity to hear firsthand about the interesting career of this well-known consulting sensitive from her early days working as a “psychic sensitive” with Prof. William Roll at the Psychical Research Foundation in Durham, through over three decades of work as a

consciousness educator, medium, healer and teacher of the healing arts. Free.

Wednesday April 19, 12-1pm: ESP and Memory---How Are They Related? a presentation by Dr. Jim Carpenter, Director of the RRC Research Team. Parapsychology is a small field, but a relatively large number of stud-

ies have been conducted on memory and psi.. Dr. Carpenter will provide an overview of this work and suggest some syntheses that are implied in his “First Sight” model of psi. (For more information on his model, see “First Sight: Part One, A Model of Psi and the Mind” in the latest issue of the Journal of Parapsychology Vol. 68, #2 ). Free.

“ESP and Memory and how are they related are just one of the topics discussed at the Rhine Institute”

## BOOK REVIEW: The Ghost Next Door: True Stories of Paranormal Encounters from Everyday People

The Ghost Next Door takes a revealing look into the lives of average, everyday people from across the country who have had experiences in the realm of the unexplained. Whether you're a true believer in ghosts or a hard-nosed skeptic, you're sure to get a chill or two when you read about the woman who was visited by her grandfa-

ther...on the night of his funeral! Or the man who was forced to move by a troublesome spirit...only to find it had followed him!

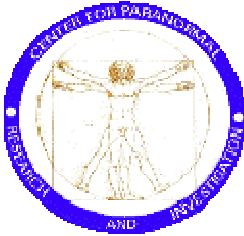
As you make your way through these and other genuinely spooky stories, you'll proba-



The Ghost Next Door

bly find that ghostly encounters are a lot more common than you had imagined. Could there be a "haunted house" in your town? Perhaps on your very street? Maybe even right next door?

E-mail: [info@viriniaghosts.com](mailto:info@viriniaghosts.com)



HOURS OF  
BOREDOM,  
SECONDS OF FEAR

**We're on the web!**  
**[Viriniaghosts.com](http://Viriniaghosts.com)**

The Center for Paranormal Research and Investigation\*\* is a non-profit organization based outside of Richmond, VA. We conduct investigations into the paranormal in a non-metaphysical manner. One of our main goals is to seek out allegedly "haunted locations"\* and to assist those who are experiencing problems with the paranormal. We then look for authentic evidence of the paranormal and try to determine if the location is haunted\*. We are seeking genuine evidence and are careful about the presentation of this evidence... insuring that it is legitimate, researched and analyzed before being presented to the general public.

We use strict SCIENTIFIC methods to obtain TANGIBLE evidence - Evidence that leaves no doubt about its origin, cause and effect. Evidence that will be reproducible under controlled testing conditions. (example - If a ghost is residing in a home and is able to be clearly picked up by videotape, then it should be able to be clearly picked up upon testing replication.)

## 2 Common Things Mistaken for the Paranormal

There are two common conditions that are often mistaken for the paranormal: sleep paralysis and hypnagogic hallucinations. Many times people who experience one of these

phenomena believe they have instead experienced something supernatural whereas it was an entirely explainable event.

The first condition is sleep paralysis. Sleep paralysis is described by Wikipedia as

“Sleep paralysis occurs when the brain is awakened from an REM state into essentially a normal fully awake state, but the bodily paralysis is still occurring. This causes the person to be fully aware, but unable to move. In addition, this state is usually accompanied by certain specific kinds of hallucinations.” Many people who experience sleep paralysis find it very disturbing.

The next condition is known as a hypnagogic hallucination. A Hypnagogic

Hallucination occurs when the dreaming mind intertwines with the waking mind. This can occur on waking (Hypnagogic Hallucination) or at sleep onset (Hypnagogic Hallucination)

H.H. is a common occurrence in people with narcolepsy, however, many people have experienced this phenomena. And although it is called an "Hallucination", it is not at all dangerous or a symptom of a dangerous disorder.

**Wanna read more**—visit [viriniaghosts.com/3\\_mistakes.pdf](http://viriniaghosts.com/3_mistakes.pdf)



This painting represents sleep paralysis.