

# February 2008 Newsletter



THE CENTER FOR PARANORMAL RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION, INC

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## CPRI is Going Strong—Record Cases



Members of CPRI, Inc. pose at the annual May 2007 anniversary celebration in Blackstone, VA.

Many people have written to us in the past few months asking if we are still active due to our website being stagnant and even DOWN! We had been hosting with a company since 2002 and decided to move for a lower priced option—free—thanks to Tommy Amos. The transition wasn't as smooth as we would have hoped for which resulted in the site being

down for a few weeks. Also due to the huge amount associated with an 8 year website we also had older version of pages and templates popping up....but alas that is behind us now.

We have been working on a record number of cases that have resulted from all of the hype over the new shows on TV including "Paranormal State" and the all new "Ghost Hunters International". Thanks in large part to this over exposure of the paranormal on television CPRI, Inc. has been getting a huge number of cases from all over the Commonwealth and even in West VA.

We are also busy trying to move into the 21st century

by developing a custom online reporting system to streamline investigations being documented and then being posted online. This isn't an easy task since every member of CPRI holds down at least one full time job and many have families to take care in addition to our passion for our paranormal hobby.

Please stay tuned for the new redesigned site that will incorporate our online reporting system in late Spring of 2008.

Thanks for all of our readers who have supported us through the years—we LOVE ya!

## Thomas Ginther Appointed to the Exec Board

Thomas Ginther, a resident of Alton, VA and native of Minnesota has been chosen to sit on the CPRI, Inc Executive Board along side Executive Vice President Tommy Amo and President Bobbie Atristain.

Thomas is a distinguished member of the Mutual UFO

Network (MUFON) and is a field research for the prestigious Crop Circle Research Group BLT. Thomas joined CPRI in the Fall of 2001 after hearing about CPRI from some locals in the Danville, VA area. Thomas has always had a keen interest in the supernatural. His re-

search articles have been published by FATE Magazine and on Ghost Village. Thomas brings his Midwestern sense of humor and vast knowledge of all things paranormal to CPRI. Congrats to Thomas!

### Special points of interest:

- LOTS OF CHANGES GOING ON WITHIN CPRI
- A NEW SET OF SERIAL HAUNTING HIT THE HEART OF THE COMMONWEALTH
- TIDBITS AND TRIVIA REGARDING PARANORMAL
- EXCITING NEW RESEARCH INTO EVPs AND SOLAR FLARES

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## MOVIE REVIEW: *Cloverfield*



Movie Poster for the new horror hit "Cloverfield" in theatres now.

Who would have thought that the writer of UNDER SEIGE: DARK TERRITORY would one day end up directing one of the most groundbreaking films in the past twenty years? I just got back from seeing the top-secret JJ Abrams project known only as CLOVERFIELD and ran directly to my computer to slam out some thoughts, all of which are positive. This is going to sound extremely bold, but CLOVERFIELD is life changing. Sure it's just a

movie and yeah, it's not the best movie of all-time, but it will change the way films are made and will forever become a classic among young movie viewers everywhere.

In the end, I was disappointed - and not by the movie. CLOVERFIELD is one of those films you wish you could see for the very first time again because the impact will just never be the same on second viewing. I treasured the experience of

getting to see this in the theater and it will forever leave a mark on me. "This is a story that needs to be told..." there are still good movies to be made - and people who have the heart to make them.

"I ACTUALLY LIKE WATCHING IT. I DON'T AGREE WITH THEIR INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES BUT AS FAR AS TV GOES IT'S ENTERTAINING."

## OP ED: A&E's *Paranormal State*

By: Bobbie Atristain

Anytime a new paranormal theme show comes on TV everyone from co-workers to members of the general public ask me what I think. The case was no different when A&E broadcasted their new hit show "Paranormal State". The show follows a paranormal research group based on the Penn State campus. I

must admit I was skeptical. I thought it would be another knock off of the SciFi hit "Ghost Hunters" - however much to my surprise it wasn't. I actually LIKE watching it. I don't agree with their investigation techniques but as far as entertainment goes it's far more entertaining than any other paranormal reality based show. Ryan, the

group's leader says he's not about the "reveal" and instead wants to focus on the people behind the haunting. I say well done Ryan. It makes for great TV and although I don't set my Tivo to record it I do watch it when I'm channel surfing because it's actually entertaining. Check it out on A&E.

## TAPS Lectures @ William and Mary

The Founders of The Atlantic Paranormal Society better known as TAPS lectured at the College of William and Mary in October of 2007 as part of their lecture blitz for the Halloween season. Many members of CPRI who were close to Williamsburg took the time to go out and hear Jason and Grant talk about

their adventures in Paranormal Research. The guys are great and always entertaining. Even if you don't regularly watch the show "Ghost Hunters" you will still find it amusing to see and hear the behind the scenes tidbits that you get when hearing them lecture. The dynamic duo are always a hit and happy to

chat with fans and paranormal enthusiasts alike. If you get a chance to hear them speak go listen—it will be very entertaining—even if you are a skeptic...



Members of CPRI pose with TAPS Founders Jason Hawes and Grant Wilson at W&M's lecture in October of 2007.

## RESEARCH: Solar Flares Do Affect EVPs

CPRI's very own Thomas Ginther had his in-depth research regarding EVPs and Solar Flares published on Ghost Village. Below is an excerpt:

"I recently got re-interested in recording Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) and after some initial good results in which I heard clear voices played back through headphones, the results became inconsistent. I had not changed my technique and was recording about the

same time everyday I did this. I also settled on one digital recorder that seemed to give me the best quality sound. I had read somewhere that terrestrial and space weather may have an effect on EVP recording. If there is a way of predicting if EVP will be poor before hand or after the fact, I would know that it was not the fault of me or the "talkers" if I recorded poor EVP; but maybe something in the environment."

The entire article details is results taken over a long period of time regarding Solar weather and EVP quality and quantity. If you want to read more of this fascinating article please visit [virginiaghosts.com/evp\\_solar\\_flares.php](http://virginiaghosts.com/evp_solar_flares.php)



Thomas Ginther conducting research at the historic and haunted Berryhill Mansion in VA.

## TIDBITS & TRIVIA: Famous Doppelgangers

Doppelganger" is German for "double walker" - a shadow self that is thought to accompany every person.

There have been many cases of doppelgangers appearing to well-known figures: Guy de Maupassant, the French novelist and short story writer, claimed to have been haunted by his doppelganger near the end of his

life. On one occasion, he said, this double entered his room, took a seat opposite him and began to dictate what de Maupassant was writing. He wrote about this experience in his short story "Lui."

John Donne, the 16th century English poet whose work often touched on the metaphysical, was visited by a

doppelganger while he was in Paris - not his, but his wife's. She appeared to him holding a newborn baby. Donne's wife was pregnant at the time, but the apparition was a portent of great sadness. At the same moment that the doppelganger appeared, his wife had given birth to a stillborn child.

"QUEEN

ELIZABETH I SAW  
HER  
DOPPELGANGER  
LYING HER IN  
BED—SHE DIED A  
SHORT TIME  
LATER."

## FOLKLORE: Bloody Mary, Oh My!

Slumber parties are never complete without something a little scary. Sometimes the scary thing involves a Ouija board or a game of "Light as a feather, stiff as a board." Sometimes the scary thing is when someone freezes your underwear. Occasionally, someone suggests trying to summon Bloody Mary.

There are many different versions of the Bloody Mary ritual. In some of them, her name isn't Bloody Mary at all, but Mary Worth, Mary Worthington, or even Kathy. The most popular legend has a murderous Bloody Mary emerging from the mirror in a candlelit room when her name is spoken 13 times in

succession. Once she emerges from the mirror, Bloody Mary will claw your eyes out.

Or maybe she'll drive you insane. Or maybe she'll pull you into the mirror and you'll disappear forever. It depends on whom you ask.



Queen Mary I of England posing for her official portrait.

## Hours of boredom, seconds of panic



THE CENTER FOR PARANORMAL RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION, INC

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*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.*

**WE'RE ON THE  
WEB!**  
[Viriniaghosts.com](http://Viriniaghosts.com)

## Ghosts Affecting Children



Chesterfield county kids are frightened by the "monsters" in their rooms at night.

Every once in a while we get in what we call "serial" haunting. A set of cases unrelated but reporting the same phenomena in a specific geographic area. Our best known case of this was in the Winterpock area of Chesterfield county. There were numerous reports of "Shadow People" reported in a specific neighborhood in Winterpock. Research Freddie Sineath has been chronicling this phenomena for CPRI for years. In 2007 we started to notice another set of serial haunting also in the Chesterfield County area—this one in the Ettrick/Matoca/Lake Chesdin section

of the county. It involves children. The kids are all exhibiting the same phenomena and all live closely together. All of the cases except for 2 were reported independently of one another. We have also had a new case in the Eastern VA area with a young child reporting similar activity. What could be the cause of this? Is it because many believe children have the unique ability to sense paranormal phenomena that adults can not experience. We are not sure but our Central Regional Team are hard at work investigating these cases to see if a correlation can be developed. It's not

unusual for children to fear the proverbial monster in the closet but these cases are so strikingly similar that it has caused CPRI to take notice. Please keep check for updates once we have completed our research into these fascinating cases in the heart of Virginia.