

# November Newsletter

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## CPRI Does the Halloween Circuit

CPRI, Inc was a featured attraction at the Chesterfield Historical Society's Spirit Walk for the second year in a row. Each year the Society hosts a spook trail to raise money for the Society. Also featured at the event was well known author of the "Ghost of Virginia" book series L.B. Taylor who was present Saturday night to sign and sell books. The most popular attraction in the CPRI room was the infamous Brain Fritzer. It seems every time people were asked to volunteer to be fritzed everyone in the room raised their hands. You can read more about the Brain fritzer in the technology sec-

tion of the website at <http://www.virginiaghos.ts.com/technology.php>.

CPRI Founder and President Bobbie Atristain was interviewed by a local CBS affiliate and the story aired on Friday the 28th of October.

In addition to the newscast Bobbie was interviewed on a local Richmond Talk radio show—the Jimmy Barrett morning show on WRVA ([www.wrva.com](http://www.wrva.com)).

In the western section of the State Tommy Amos, the Roanoke Regional Director was

interviewed by a local NBC affiliate, WSLs,



*Bobbie Atristain lets the public try out the Brain Fritzer @ the Chesterfield Spirit Walk.*

at the historic and reportedly haunted Andrew Johnston House—that newscast is available online at <http://www.wsls.com>.

## Ghost of Winterpock News Article Brings in More Eye Witness Accounts

In the Halloween edition of the Chesterfield County Observer (<http://www.countyobserver.com>) the Winterpock investigations conducted by Freddie Sineath of CPRI was featured as their Ghost Story for the paper. What makes

the Winterpock cases so unique is that numerous independent witnesses are all experiencing the same phenomena within the same area. After the article was published Freddie was amazed to check his inbox to discover at least another

35 witnesses came forward the very next day claiming to have experienced the same phenomena.

You can read more about these cases at [http://virginiaghos.com/investigations/winterpock\\_prelim.pdf](http://virginiaghos.com/investigations/winterpock_prelim.pdf).

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- CPRI will be conducting an investigation for the hit BET show "College Hill" this month
- We have welcomed 3 new members into the group—and still looking for more—please see [virginiaghos.com/membership.php](http://virginiaghos.com/membership.php) for more info.
- More Shadow people cases came in after an article featuring the Winterpock case was published.

## CPRI SPOTLIGHT: Tommy Amos

*Tommy was appointed as the Executive Vice President of CPRI in 2005. He was also voted as the CPRI Outstanding Investigator for 2004.*

He was born and raised in Franklin County, Virginia. Tommy earned his Associate of Applied Science degree in Electrical/Electronic Engineering Technology and has continued his studies at Old Dominion University. He is married and has three daughters.

He became interested in the world of the paranormal during his early teens. After discovering that there are few chances to make a comfortable living in

the paranormal field, his interest took him into the field of electronics, where he spent twelve years working as a broadcast engineer with Blue Ridge Public Television in Roanoke, VA. His strong interest in computers has ultimately culminated in his current career in computer technology with Virginia Western Community College. He intends to use his background in electronics and computers to pursue his continued interest in paranormal phenomena.



CPRI Executive VP Tommy Amos

His personal experiences before becoming a member of the CPRI include Poltergeist activity, Astral projection, possession and Angelic intervention. He believes there are intertwining truths between Christian Fundamentalism, Pure Science and Paranormal Phenomena and he intends to continually search for them.

## Rhine Research Center Lecture Fall Series

**Friday, November 11, 2005, 7:30PM:**  
**Can We Explain the Poltergeist? presented by Dr. William Roll, West Georgia College.**

The unexplained movement of furniture and objects that fly through the air is commonly thought to be caused by malevolent spirits. Dr. Roll discusses this belief against the idea that the occurrences are examples of recurrent spontaneous psychokinesis by living people. He examines

*“Dr. William Roll will discuss 7 cases where he has personally witnessed PK.”*

the evidence for movement of objects without tangible contact and the psychological, neuropsychological and energetic aspects of the events. His talk is about seven cases that he has personally in-

vestigated. Dr. Roll has written four books, several book chapters and more than 200 research papers. He has received the Distinguished Career Award from the Parapsychological Association and the Tim Dinsdale Memorial Award from the Society for Scientific Exploration.

For more lecture info visit the Rhine’s website at <http://www.rhine.org>

## CPRI to Re-Visit Eastern State Penn

Hopefully the 2nd time around will be a charm—the CPRI research team will go back a second time investigate the infamous Eastern State Penitentiary. Jason Hawes of the famed show “Ghost Hunters” has called ESP “one of the creepiest places” he’s ever been.

CPRI visited the infamous

penitentiary in July of 2005 while filming with Fangoria’s TV’s new show “Ghost Stories and EVP”. However once the tapes were reviewed it was determined that there wasn’t enough footage for the TV show so CPRI along with Fangoria will be making a return trip in November to visit the historic

prison. Keep checking the website for updates.



CPRI to revisit ESP in November.

## The Ghosts of Sweet Briar College

This icon of higher education was founded in 1901 as a condition of the legacy of Indiana Fletcher Williams. Williams wished that her plantation and her entire estate become an institute of higher learning for female students in honor and memory of her only child, her daughter Daisy, who died of antitrypsin deficiency, an inherited enzymatic disorder that is easily treatable today. Daisy passed away in New York at the age of 16 in 1884. She was returned to her beloved Sweet Briar to be buried in the family graveyard on Monument Hill in January of 1884.

Other incidents involving the impish spirit of Daisy, who passed away far too young, have occurred throughout the years. The college's Web site dedicates several pages to these "meetings with Daisy" and, up until very recently, offered an opportunity for more recent "sightings" to be entered, as well.

Tales told include a music box that does not

work, but on occasion plays anyway; the mysterious appearance of a medallion with Daisy's image; and strange laughter and noises throughout the buildings of Sweet Briar. Rather than hide away these legends, Sweet Briar offers them up as a sort of "Southern Gothic" element to the overall Sweet Briar experience. There is a sense of pride in how the founding family of the college still "watches over" their school to this day.

An alumna of Sweet Briar (Bobbie Atristain the founder of CPRI) has chosen the investigation of the paranormal as her life's work. As a freshman, she lived on the fourth floor of Meta Glass dormitory. Above her was the attic. It was an honor violation to go up to the attic and it was actually locked at all times, but the elevator

had a habit of going up to this attic, where it would stop and open for no apparent reason. Daisy perhaps was mesmerized by the mechanism of these machines, as other elevators on the campus act strangely, as well. Noises were a common occurrence, with the police often arriving at the dorm due to the strange sounds echoing from this "unoccupied" space. This alumna personally witnessed these noises and she, along with her friends and roommates, were quite frightened by the experiences.



View of the Sweet Briar College Campus.

To learn more visit <http://ghosts.sbc.edu>

## Shadow People: What are they?

Shadow people are a kind of supernatural phenomenon reported by some individuals. Alleged eyewitness accounts of shadow people are fairly consistent. They are usually described as vaguely humanoid, lacking any discernable features such as mouths or eyes, completely black with little or no

mass, and disintegrate or move into walls when noticed (usually within a split second).

These accounts have been reported all over the world and are sometimes the topic of late night talk radio shows such as

Coast-to-Coast AM where they are a recurring subject. (Art Bell of Coast-to-Coast AM is probably responsible for introducing the term "Shadow People".) However reports of beings fitting the description of Shadow people have been recorded for centuries in literature all over the world.

**Tell us your shadow person story—** visit [http://virginiaghosts.com/shadow\\_ppl.php](http://virginiaghosts.com/shadow_ppl.php)

*"They are usually described as vaguely humanoid..."*

## CPRI Members Speak @ the University of Richmond

Bobbie Atristain, Stephanie Morris and Frederick Sineath spoke to students at the University of Richmond on October 27th in the Student Commons. There was pizza and cokes and lots of questions. CPRI presented the students with examples of real life hauntings and the different dynamics that play out during the investigation process. Many students were

fans of the popular show "Ghost Hunters" and had questions relating to techniques used on the show. All and all it was a great evening and CPRI looks forward to perhaps a return visit next fall.

You can visit their website at <http://www.richmond.edu>



The University of Richmond is the 2nd oldest college in VA second only to William and Mary.

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*Serious Researchers, Serious Investigators, who are SERIOUS about the Paranormal.*

We're on the web!  
Virginiaghhosts.com

  
**CPRI, Inc.**

Formerly the VA Ghosts and Hauntings Research Society

Established May 15th, 2000

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.)

## Mystery Screen of Huddleston, VA

Huddleston is a small town about an hour and half away from Blacksburg and is the location of what Amos describes as CPRI Inc.'s most interesting case. According to Amos, a lady called CPRI Inc. and said she had seen three glowing orbs about the size of a softball pass through her house. The woman said the orbs passed into one room and went out of sight.

The next morning she woke up and noticed her window screen was damaged and had three perfect circles that were discolored and frayed. She gave CPRI Inc. the screen and the nuclear chemist on the team took the screen to a secure lab to be tested. After performing many tests the screen was found to be radioactive but only in the areas that the circular orbs had passed

through.

The chemists came to the conclusion that this was impossible. The amount of radioactivity needed to form cobalt 60 was extremely high. Anything within a mile of that level of radioactivity



*Window screen that's got proof (this is not the actual screen)*

would have died.

At the time this finding was discovered, there had been no ill effects until about a year ago. The woman who lived at the location went in to have hip replacement surgery, and the doctor found pitting in her bones that is indicative of cancer treatments. But the woman had never undergone radiation treatment.

The screen still sits in the lab waiting for its mystery to be solved.