

# Ghostly Notes

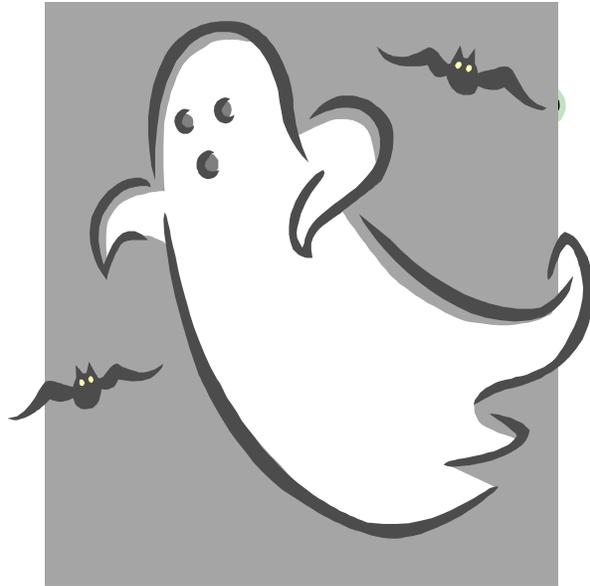
March 2006

## Terre Haute Indiana Ghost trackers

### Monthly Meeting Notes

February meeting went very well. Matt filled in as out interim director and did a very nice job. We had several new faces that showed up and even had Shannon Simpson and Mary Ellen Hammack make an appearance. Jenny did some of her Training on orbs. Since we have had a few members leave we had some positions to fill. I believe that Jenny Whitlow is now our Secretary and Brenda Smith is our Investigations Coordinator. After the meeting an Investigation was held in Sullivan. I understand it went very well. Some good EVP's and a few touches here and there. Well worth going back and checking it out some more. This months meeting will be on the 18th at the Vigo Co Public Library on Poplar St. at 2:00pm. As of now a hunt has not been set up so if anyone has any ideas please get in contact with Matt Greenwell.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting.....



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Taken out at 100 Steps Cemetery.

## Member Bio

This months member bio is on Don Donnelly. He was born in Terre Haute, IN on July 9th 1949 and an only child. His father passed away in 1966 and his mother is 85. He graduated in 1967 from West Vigo High School where he participated in football and track for 4 years. He attended ISU for one year but due to lack of funds had to leave to enroll in a much more affordable school, Indiana Business College in T.H. It was a much wiser choice to do so because he got the opportunity to study the same courses that he originally planned on taking had he chosen to stay at ISU and in a much shorter time span, plus without the high cost involved. He successfully completed courses in Professional Accounting, Business Admin, Corporate Law and Finance and received a diploma (equal to but not recognized as a degree) in the spring of 1969. He accepted a position in the Accounting/Insurance Department at a local long time family owned and operated trucking company, Eastern Express, INC until their sudden decision to close it's doors in 1971 due to family illness and the foresight of having to face the difficult tasks ahead to continue to successfully compete in the trucking business. He then accepted a position in the Accounting Department at

DuPont, but only briefly, as he left to accept a position as a city letter carrier in Terre Haute for the US Postal Service in 1973 where he was employed for 32 years until his retirement in Jan 2005. His wife, Terri, works as a Certified Respiratory Therapist at Health South Rehabilitation Center in TH. They have been married for 15 years and have no children, but they are the proud parents of three parrots, A five year old Red Lured Amazon, a four year old Congo African Grey and a three year old Red -sided Eclectus. They also have a six month old Indian Ring neck parakeet. Their African Grey and Eclectus have large vocabularies already, but their Amazon has yet to say anything other than his name, though he has the potential to also speak many words, if he chooses to ever do so. Most of what free time they have ,however is spent caring for their elderly ailing mothers. Don enjoys attending sporting events of local interest, fishing, mushroom hunting, listening to old rock and roll music and just relaxing watching movies, programs and sports on TV. But most of all , his favorite hobby is of course "ghost " hunting which he was introduced to since attending the first ever meeting to form our local Terre Haute chapter a few years ago. Don has been with us ever since.



Don heading the group in Highland Lawn Cemetery.

### Interesting Websites:

[www.bfro.net](http://www.bfro.net)

[www.cufos.org/ros.html](http://www.cufos.org/ros.html)

<http://theunexplainedworld.com/>

[www.ALIENHUNTERS.org](http://www.ALIENHUNTERS.org)

## Recipe– Garlic Chicken Mozzarella

An easy to make, great weeknight recipe. Serves 4 and takes 30 min to make with 5 min prep.

4 boneless skinless chicken breasts

1 tbsp olive oil

1 (14 1/2 oz) can diced tomatoes with garlic

1 (8oz) can tomato sauce

4 slices mozzarella cheese

Hot cooked pasta.

1. Cook chicken in olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat; 3 min per side or until golden brown, Drain.
2. Pour undrained diced tomatoes and tomato sauce over chicken; bring to a boil, reduce heat.
3. Cover and cook 15 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink.
4. Place cheese slices over chicken and tomatoes; cover and cook 1 min or until cheese is melted.
5. Serve over hot cooked pasta

## Edna Collins Bridge

One of our favorite haunts is the Edna Collins Bridge In Putnam Co. This is how it is described in Wanda Lou Willis's book "More Haunted Hoosier Trails".

One of Putnam County's nine remaining covered bridges is the Edna Collins Bridge, Built in 1922 across Little Walnut Creek on County Route 450, one mile northwest of Clinton Falls. Ironically, it was built to replace a concrete bridge washed out by high waters.

Reputed to be haunted, the bridge is steeped in mystery: Who really built the bridge? Was there an Edna Collins? If so, is she the one who haunts the bridge? Many say that there are actually two ghosts haunting the bridge. There are several stories and theories concerning all of these questions.

The Edna Collins Bridge is considered the "baby" of all Indiana bridges. It is the state's only covered bridge that was built in the twentieth century. Some records indicate the builder was either George Collins or Collings, while others list the builder as George Hendricks or Hendrix.

Susan Harmon, a Putnam County Librarian, did an exhaustive search to try and solve this mystery, but to no avail. There was a family of Collins/Collings in the area at the time the bridge was built but no George. She had much the same problem locating any information on a George Hendricks./Hendrix. One thing seems to be certain: the Edna Collins bridge was built by a George.

But was there an Edna connected with the Collins/Collings family? Apparently ,yes. She was the daughter of James and Sarah Newgent Collings, who were married in Putnam County on Aug,17, 1837.

In the 1860 census Sarah was listed as a forty-six year old widow with four children: John-20,Wm.G.-18, Nancy-15,and Edna-10. the Last time Edna appears in the census records was in 1920. At that time she was listed as single head of house, age 68. Two years later Edna Collins covered bridge was built and christened in her name.

For several decades stories have been told about the ghosts of



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*

Edna Collins bridge. The legend begins in the early 1920's when a little girl drowned in Little Walnut Creek just beneath the bridge.

Her parents often traveled into Greencastle. The little girl would beg to be allowed to stay behind with her dog and swim in Little Walnut Creek. Often her parents would agree and drop her off along the way. They wouldn't be gone long, and she was to listen for the car horn that would signal their return.

On one of these occasions, when the parents returned to the bridge her father honked, but she did not come. Thinking she hadn't heard the first time, he honked again, and she waited. She still didn't appear. He honked a third time. When they didn't get a response, her parents got out of the car to look for her.

There on the bank sat her dog, soaked. He ran to them, jumping and running back to the waters edge. There in the middle of the creek lay their daughter, facedown in the water. Her father rushed into the water, the distraught pet bounding after him. Once back on the bank her father tried unsuccessfully to breathe life into his little girl.

Since that horrible day the ghost of the little girl is said to haunt the bridge. Throughout the years, many people who have heard this story have visited the bridge and have seen the little girl they call Edna Collins for lack of another name. Some say they've seen her standing at the end of the bridge with her dog beside her, waiting.

There might be another young girl haunting this bridge, however. The story begins in the mid 1800s at the village of Portland Mills, not too far from Clinton Falls. According to folklore, there was a doctor from Clinton Falls who was seeing a young girl from the community, and he had gotten her pregnant. He performed an unsuccessful abortion. The young girl died. For several years this story circulated along with sightings of a girl at the Portland Mills covered bridge.

Portland Mills no longer exists. In 1896 it became part of the lake bottom of the Cecil B. Harden Lake at Raccoon State Recreation Area, and the Portland Mills covered bridge was relocated to Little Raccoon Creek in Parke County.

Some of the former citizens of Portland Mills believe the young girl's ghost wanted to stay in Putnam County, where she lived and died. They believe she has taken up residence at the Edna Collins Bridge. Thus the town of Portland Mills is no more- But its spirit lives on.

## ***Crazy Phobias-***

### **A**

Ablutophobia- Fear of washing or bathing

Aerophobia- Fear of swallowing air

Ambulophobia-Fear of walking

Anablephobia- Fear of looking up

Anemophobia- Fear of wind

Anthrophobia- Fear of Flowers

Arachibutyrophobia- Fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of your mouth.

Arithmophobia- Fear of numbers

Aulophobia- Fear of flutes

Auroraphobia- Fear of Northern Lights

### **B**

Barophobia- Fear of gravity

Basophobia- Fear of walking

Batophobia- Fear of being close to high buildings.

Bibliophobia- Fear of Books

Blennophia- Fear of Slime

Bogyphobia- Fear of the bogeyman

See if you can guess what some of these are without looking at the answers. Stayed tuned next month as I will present you with the letters C and D....

## Terre Haute Indiana Ghost trackers

*If anyone knows of any Sullivan Co Ghost stories please contact James at Tucker303@yahoo.com*

*He is currently writing a book about Sullivan Co haunts.*



### **Memberships due: March**

None

### **Memberships Due: April**

*Krystal Harney*

*Jill Ferguson*

*Stacey Ulasek*

*Tracey Beverly*

Remember you can renew your memberships online at [www.indianaghosttrackers.org](http://www.indianaghosttrackers.org) or with your Director.

Were on the web at [www.freewebs.com/thchapterigt/index.htm](http://www.freewebs.com/thchapterigt/index.htm)

## IGT Mission Statement



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*

Our goal is to gather and collect data that will lead to a better understanding of ghosts and hauntings. We consistently work to obtain real and solid evidence of ghosts and always strive to maintain a professional approach in the presentation of such evidence. In the process of pursuing that goal, we also wish to aid any individual having problems with or dealing with a situation. We hope to do this by educating them as to the true nature of their situation and giving the information and understanding necessary to create a livable resolution for the individuals and the spirits. We will also assist people who cannot live with their situations or put them in contact with a trained professional who can assist them. We are open minded to all theories and methods as this is still not an exact science. Everyone in the field of paranormal research learns as they go. Hopefully, in the end we will collect the necessary proof and field-tested theories that are vital to bringing the subject of ghost into the mainstream of science.