

Newsletter Publishers
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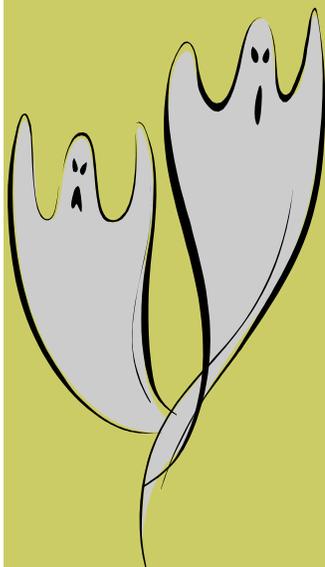
Chris & Jennifer
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The Paranormal Press

The Official Newsletter of the Northwest Indiana Ghost Trackers

Inside this issue:

News/Updates	1
“Local” Haunts (Places of Interest)	1
The Library (Articles & Stories)	2
Creature Feature (Entertainment)	3
IGTU (Technology)	3
Gravesites (Websites)	3
What’s on Slab (Upcoming)	4
Topics for Dissec- tion (Discussion)	4
Eulogy (Final Thoughts)	5



Volume 1, Issue 2

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NEWS/UPDATES

Statewide Public Relations meeting August 9th—IGT Chat Room. For more info, check out [IGT Events Statewide](#) under “Forums”

Bring updated membership forms to the next meeting. You can print them from the website under the “Membership” tab.

The **Lake County Fair** is Au-

gust 5th thru 14th. Please let Mike McDowell know if you are able to help work our booth this year. Needed: tvs, VCR, DVD player, EVP, great pics, coffin-shaped donation box...Contact Sarah Joens at sarah.joens@sbcglobal.net for more info.

Travel Channel, Fridays at 8 PM, *Most Haunted*. Night-vision and thermal imaging cameras

used during investigations within Europe.

Mark your calendars!

On June 10th and 11th, 2006; the first annual Paranormal Investigation Management conference.

Don't miss it!

THE OHIO STATE REFORMATORY

On August 20th some members from the Indiana Ghost Trackers will be making the pilgrimage to Mansfield Reformatory in Ohio. Those of you who are familiar with the reformatory are aware of its dark and dismal history that dates back to the construction of the original state prison in 1813. The first prison was completed in 1815 and within a year was already full.

Seven years later the prison population reached 113, with one of the incarcerated being a woman. As the population increased, the conditions worsened due to overcrowding, which prompted officials to start construction on the new penitentiary. Ground breaking for the second prison began in 1833 and within a year the first prisoners arrived to a semi-

completed institution.

Over the span of 146 years, that the reformatory was in operation, many inmates suffered violent and tragic deaths adding to the validity of the paranormal activity presiding within. 343 men and women were executed behind the stone and mortar walls and many others from suicide, murder and a prison fire that killed over 300 inmates. The victims of the fire died of smoke inhalation; the poisonous smoke was given off from lumber used for construction scaffolding.

In 1979 a judge ordered the prison to close its doors due to several controversial events and the final prisoners were moved to a third location.

On display like a scared masterpiece, the reformatory still stands. No longer a place of penance but, ironically, as a place of entertainment. This beautiful structure is currently a living museum and has also been used as the backdrop to several motion pictures. Ghost hunts, tours and Halloween events are also offered as the city tries to change the reputation usually associated with the facility.



Photo: Graveaddiction.com

WILLARD LIBRARY

(reprinted from Willard Library Legends)

Willard Library has been serving the river city of Evansville, Indiana, since it opened its doors back in 1885. At over 110 years old, Willard is the oldest public library building in the state. Built with a grant by local philanthropist Willard Carpenter, it was formed to be "a public library for the use of the people of all classes, races, and sexes, free of charge forever."

The library, housed in a beautiful Victorian Gothic building, is nestled gloriously near the downtown area of this southwestern Indiana city, providing a sharp contrast with the modern high-rises and six-lane freeways. Willard has been a true icon of the Evansville community for over 100 years and was inducted into the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

Winter 1937: The first sighting of Willard Library's "Lady in Grey"

On a cold, snow-covered night in the winter of 1937, the library's janitor, as was his nightly routine, came to the building at 3 a.m. to shovel coal into the heating furnace, ensuring warmth for the coming busy day.

Armed with his flashlight and gun, the janitor cautiously made his way to the unlit basement to fuel the fire. Though comfortable in his duty, he was always wary of any unexpected nighttime visitors. Suddenly, as he neared the furnace, he froze motionless and dropped his flashlight to the dusty basement floor. A look of amazement and fear overcame the normally docile janitor's face. Standing before him in that dark and

dreary basement of Willard Library was a ghostly veiled lady dressed in glowing grey. In his astonishment, he managed to bend down and pick up his flashlight, noticing that even her shoes were grey.

Before the janitor could regain his composure, the image disappeared and he was once again in silent solitude. Frightened and confused, the janitor completely forgot about shoveling that coal into the furnace. He ran crazily from the basement and from Willard Library, never to return to either again.

Other notable sightings and strange happenings

The famed "lady in grey" did return, however. She has appeared many times to many different people in many different ways since that cold winter night in 1937:

-Numerous current & former Willard staff members have reported seeing a shadowy grey female apparition that appears suddenly and then vanishes into thin air;

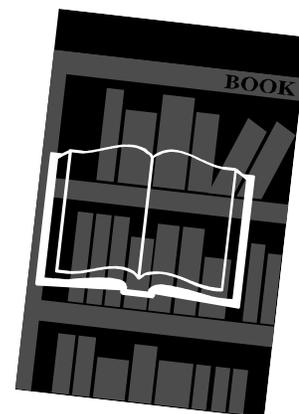
-Former librarian, Bettye Miller, alone in the library after closing time, suddenly heard water running forcefully on the second floor. She discovered that the faucet in the bathroom had been mysteriously turned on;

-In the spring of 1983, the faucet in the second floor lavatory turned itself on while one of the librarians was actually in the room;

-Two members of the Tri-State Genealogy Society, working alone in the library on, ironically enough, cemetery records were overcome with an unexplained strong scent of heavy

perfume;

-Willard employee, Margaret Maier, claims the "lady in grey," whose hauntings were being disrupted by construction, followed her home one evening during the renovation of the Children's Room. Miss Maier and her sister experienced an eerie draft of cold air, the feeling of an unseen presence, and...you guessed it...the strong scent of heavy perfume



Who is the Ghost??

Countless speculations and opinions exist about whose ghost the famed "lady in grey" actually is. Some believed that the ghost emigrated from a nearby cemetery. Others say that a woman died in the building during its early days and that she liked the library so much that she never left (and gets jealous when mortals read her treasured books).

Still, the most widely held opinion is that the "lady in grey" is actually the ghost of Louise Carpenter, the daughter of the library's founder. Louise once sued the library's Board of Trustees, claiming that her father was "of unsound mind and was unduly influenced in establishing (Willard) Library." She lost the suit and, as a result, her claim to any of the library's property. After her death, her spirit returned to the place that caused her so much grief during her life: Willard Library. Those who subscribe to this opinion say that she will continue to haunt the library until the property and its holdings are turned back over to the living heirs of the Willard Carpenter family.

Check out all of
this and more
online at
[www.willard.lib
.in.us](http://www.willard.lib.in.us)
And
[www.libraryghost.
com](http://www.libraryghost.com)

You can see
pictures of the
library, take a
quick look at the
fascinating history
and find out why
many believe it to
be a real life
"haunted house."

CREATURE FEATURE

For fans of spooky cinema (I believe that is an actual technical term!) Hollywood continues to keep you giddy this summer with the release of yet another horror/thriller film opening August 12th.

Coming off the heels of *Dark Water*, **Skeleton Key** is set largely in the dark, swampy backwoods just outside of New Orleans (or Nawlins for some). Starring Kate Hudson (*Almost Famous*) as Caroline, a live-in nurse hired to care for an elderly woman's (Gena Rowlands)

ailing husband (John Hurt). Finding herself isolated in their decrepit mansion deep in the Louisiana bayou, Caroline becomes intrigued by the unusual couple and their eerie home. Her desire for answers drives her to explore the mysterious dwelling. Using a skeleton key she explores the house and discovers a hidden attic room that protects a terrifying secret.

In a community where traditions of Hoodoo/Voodoo and the practice of black magic are

still common, Caroline opens one too many doors and must face the dire consequences.

Directed by Iain Softley (*K-Pax*), **Skeleton Key** is rated PG-13 for violence, disturbing images, partial nudity and thematic material.

Although the film seems somewhat predictable, **Skeleton Key** appears to be the most promising of all the thrillers this summer. Why? Three reasons: 1) anything involving Voodoo— Freaky! 2) Kate Hudson— Schwing! and 3) any film citing “disturbing images” screams GOOD!!!



Movie, video and television reviews.

(Editor's note: The views and opinions expressed here are strictly of this film school graduate and should in no way be taken to heart. Don't take my word for it, see it for yourself!)

IGTU

This one is straight out of a James Bond film. The **MBR-8** is a USB-connect digital pen recorder. With its streamlined pen design it offers up to 8 hours of crystal-clear, digital record-time without use of magnetic tape—the audio is stored in 128MB of flash memory.

Features include: PC and Mac compatibility; manual record mode; MP3 player (WMA, WAV compatible); USB-

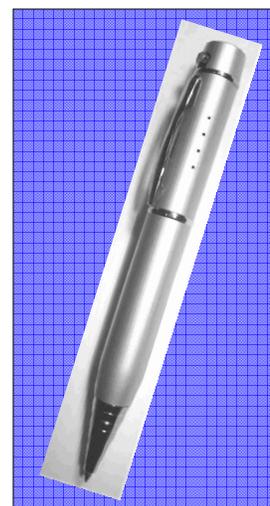
connection; playback via earphones or PC voice recognition-software compatibility; built-in 38db microphone capable of 5' to 10'; built-in audio-out jack.

Measuring only 5.5" the **MBR-8** comes complete with built-in rechargeable batteries (via USB connection), earphones, USB-connect plug (for connection to PC), audio software and a manufacturer's warranty.

All that for only \$179.00! ...Oh yeah, and it writes too!

Manufacturer's Warning: This device is not intended for unauthorized eavesdropping and should be used only in a legal and lawful manner in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

(Yeah right, like THAT would stop James Bond!)



GRAVESITES

www.rb59.com/ghosts

(sells computer database created for ghost investigations)

www.sightonline.com

(S.I.G.H.T.—Kentucky ghosthunter's organization)

www.hollowhill.com

(tips, resources, haunted locales)

www.jesusreligion.com/ghost

(ghosts, spirits & the Bible; photos, live cams)

www.terrorsyndicate.com

(phenomenal homemade haunted houses—don't miss this one!!)

www.keywestghosts.com

(for you, Parrotheads)

www.darklinks.com

(Halloween, goth...dark side of the net)

www.coasttocoastam.com

(mostly UFO information but a few apparition/ghost pics—good for a laugh!)



WHAT'S ON SLAB

August 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 LC Fair begins	6
7	8	9 PR Chat	10	11	12	13 Div. I
14 LC Fair ends	15	16	17	18	19 Full Moon	20 Div. II
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 tentative Div. III
28	29	30	31			
<p>Notes: Lake County Fair runs August 5th—14th...Play the Mouse Game...Eat corn dogs and elephant ears !!!!</p>						

TOPICS FOR DISSECTION

—“The Witch’s Castle” in utica, Indiana (Clark Co.)...anyone know about this??

—Been to haunted Savannah, GA?? Got photos, stories, EVP to share??

Here are some books to look into...

Ghost Hunting: How to Investigate the Paranormal (Lloyd Auerbach);

How to Be a Ghost Hunter (R.H. Southall);

Give us your feedback:

How to Hunt Ghosts: A Practical Guide (Joshua P. Warren);

Hauntings and Poltergeists: A Ghost Hunter’s Guide (Lloyd Auerbach)

To discuss any of these topics, log on to www.indianaghosts.org and click on “Forums.” Let’s hear your thoughts Ghost Trackers!

Quote of the Month

**“Ah, distinctly I remember
it was in the bleak
December;
And each separate dying
ember
wrought its ghost upon the
floor.”**

**-Edgar Allen Poe
("The Raven")**

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EULOGY

Annual Dues

Checks should be made payable to Indiana Ghost Trackers and mailed to:

IGT

610 Roosevelt Rd.

Valparaiso, IN 46383

You may also pay in person at a monthly meeting.

Contact Anne at gotghosts@comcast.net if you prefer to pay by Paypal. A service charge will be added.

MANSFIELD

Those of you who are visiting Mansfield Reformatory, please keep us in mind here at *The Paranormal Press* when you are pouring over your photos and notes. We would love to include some excellent pictures as well as your thoughts and stories about the place and your overall experience.

GHOST HUNTERS

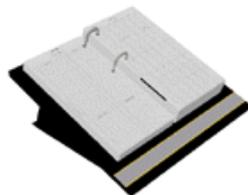
Don't forget to "TAP" into the Sci-Fi Channel Wednesdays at 7pm for the second season of Ghost Hunters!

The one-hour weekly "Docu-soap" premiered July 27 so you still have time to catch the series early. If you missed the premiere; you missed some good EVP's. But don't fret! I'm sure they will re-broadcast the episode at a later date.

Share and Tell

Remember to bring your photos and EVP from the previous month's hunt or any investigations to the next meeting!! Let's share what we get! Your fellow IGT mates may find something you missed or may be able to help decipher that almost inaudible recording.

Photo of orb taken at a Crown Point cemetery



IT'S COMING!

August 1st will be **91** days til Halloween!!

And don't forget: *Saturday, October 29th*

IGT Halloween Party!!!

Do you know where your costume is!!

E-mail submissions for *The Paranormal Press* to:

christophermojica@hotmail.com or jenmojica@hotmail.com