



Spirit Society of PA.

A P P A R I T I O N S

A Monthly Journal of News & Upcoming Events • Vol 13, Issue 1 - JAN 2008

"ROO's" BOOS - Notes from Kelly

Happy New Year! I'm determined to make this the best year I've ever had. After having some health issues over the last 3 years, this is going to be a year of good health, good fortune and happiness... plus having my second book published. I look forward to a great year with SSP and the activities we've planned.

Remember if you have an article that you'd like to share or a story you'd like to tell the group, you are more than welcome to do so. We focus on all aspects of the paranormal, not just ghosts. Have you seen a UFO? Tell us about it. Have you had an angelic encounter? We'd like to know. If there are subjects you would like us to cover in our monthly meeting, we are all ears to listen to your thoughts. This is a group effort, so I'd like all of you to be a part of our meetings and the subjects we cover.

Paranormal State – State of Misinformation

John and I eagerly watched the new show, *Paranormal State* which is seen on A&E Monday evenings at 10:00 PM, I *wanted* to like this show, I *really* did! It became clear to me after the first segment that I was going to find fault with their techniques and conclusions. At first I thought the whole "director's log" was rather funny. It sounds like he is talking into a tin can and trying to sound like Captain Kirk! I suppose it is to make it spookier? I don't know.

The young boy in the first show spoke like Elmer Fudd. OK, that is not very nice, but this kid had way more issues than seeing dead people, in my opinion! I'm surprised that they did not order an exorcism after seeing their other shows.

After watching more episodes, it became clear that there will be a 'demonic spin' on this new series. After last night's show; (about a home where all of the owners' dogs were killed by cars near the property) once again I was disappointed. Why, oh, why, do they feel the need to bring in Lorraine Warren of the Amityville Horror fame? She seems to bring up the presence of demons in every segment!

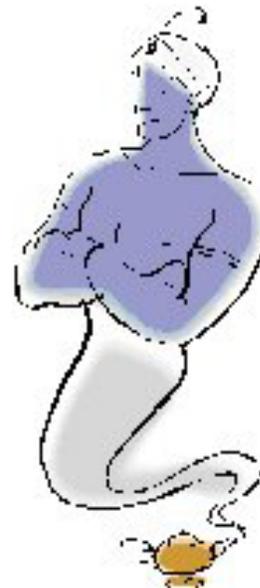
The **leader** of the group, in my opinion, needs an exorcism! Where do they seem to find all of these demons? Oh, that's right; he is being followed by the unnamed non-human entity. He reminds us in every show how a demon is following him and wants his energy. These demonic names are to be kept quiet and not shared. Can you tell me why he then tells one of his group members the name? *Thanks, dude. Now I'm going to have this entity following me around, too!*

Another favorite on last night's show was the so called "Occult Expert." She was a practicing Pagan. Does that make you an expert? I think not. And what about the cemetery caretaker who was being haunted by the "Urn" he was to bury over five years ago? He mentioned at least 15 times that he does not want the 'demon' in his home or around him anymore. I'm sure we will see a host of people claiming *demonic presences* in their homes instead of your run of the mill ghosts after people watch this show.

Paranormal State, without the mention of demons, would be just another group going on an investigation. (And frankly, doing almost nothing to eliminate any explainable sources as the cause of "activity".) Boring! Who wants to watch people sit around for hours on end waiting for something to show up? To score some points, throw in a demon or two and you have a show that is like a train wreck: You hate to look but your curiosity gets the best of you!

(Over a year ago -- obviously when "P-State" was in the planning stages -- someone from the group contacted Kelly and asked about any negative or demonic cases she and the SSP had investigated in PA. Since the only 2 we were involved in had both requested anonymity and move on, she had nothing to share. Naturally, they had no interest in any of the many "normal" cases - and evidence from them - we've dealt with over 12 years. It was evident then the direction this show was taking. - JDW)

What is the Secret? In my classes last month we watched the "Secret". The Secret "formula" is actually no secret at all. It is something I've done most of my life and never knew there was a 'name' for it. It is all about focusing on what you want to draw into your life, **not what you don't** have or what you are currently unhappy about. I teach all of my students to see yourself having whatever it is you desire (in the present tense) and watch your dreams come true.



Visualization is very important. See what it is that you want. Let's say a new car. Go through magazines and cut out photos of the car of your de-

sire. Look at it several times daily. Make a visualization/dream board. Make a collage using these photos of the (car) dreams and hang it where you can see it easily. Tell the Universe what it is you expect to have. (Make sure it is for your own higher good, because *you will get it*). Now, of course, the chances of winning a million dollars in the lottery is not practical, however, you can still ask for more money. Let the Universe figure out HOW you will get what you want. You just have to focus on the desire. See yourself driving that new car! Go test drive your dream car and remember how it feels to be behind the wheel.

Get a bit of the secret into your life this year. Know and believe your life is happy and on track. Fake it until you make it! Your mind does not know the difference between reality and a day dream. Always remember, you are living today what your thoughts were in the past. **Reshape your future today.** Have gratitude for everything you DO have. Focus on what it **is you want to draw into your life** and let the Universe make it happen. Don't worry how; just know you will have it in your life. *Caveat Emptor*, Be careful what you wish for, you just may get it! Dream Big and Stay Strong. - Kelly

Coming April 12, 2008 - The 7th annual Pennsylvania Paranormal Conference at haunted Bube's Brewery, Mt. Joy, PA



Unlike prior years, the 2008 event will focus fully on Ghosts & Hauntings, and Ghost Hunting/Research. Doors open @ 8:30; Event is from 9am to 7pm.

Speakers include:
Host Rick Fisher,
Rosemary Ellen Guiley, Karl Petry, Linda Zimmerman and SSP's own Craig Telesha

Door prizes and author book signings will be offered. Cost is \$90 per person, and includes an excellent buffet for lunch. Payment is due by March 15; after March 15 the price is \$100. Send checks to: Rick Fisher 109 South Second Street Apt. 2 Columbia, PA 17512

More details at <http://www.paranormalpa.com/paconf.html>



Spirit Society of PA.

APPARITIONS

Story & Photo Contributions are Solicited - send to:

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E-mail: weaviate@aol.com

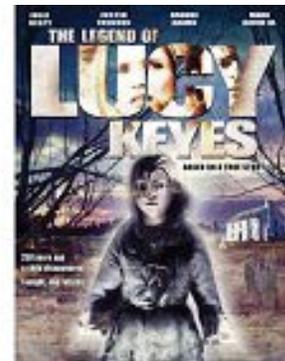
S.S.P. Website: www.spiritsocietyofpa.com

YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS THE FIRST SSP EVENT OF 2008!

Supernatural Sharing, Cinema, Supper & Spirit Circle will be held at the New Cumberland Senior Center on **March 8th** beginning at 2:00 p.m. sharp!

Supernatural Sharing: We will be discussing locally haunted or mysterious places. Please be ready to share any information, stories, photos or evp you have with the group! This is not so much a "presentation" as it is an informal voluntary audience-participation session. Be a part of the group—let's share and discuss!

Cinema: The free movie showing will be "The Legend of Lucy Keyes"—based on a true story! The haunting story of a young girl who disappeared in the 1700s and was never seen again. A modern-day family moves into the house where nearby Lucy and her mother (who continues to call out her daughter's name in a futile attempt for a reply) haunt the area. Can the family unravel the mystery of the disappearance of Lucy Keyes?



Supper: If you've never been to an SSP event where members host dinner—you haven't lived! Scrumptious, mouth-watering food—from appetizers, side dishes, main courses and dessert—bring your appetite and a food item to share. Please sign up at the registration table (or e-mail spiritsocietyofpa@hotmail.com) what food item you are bringing to avoid doubles and to make sure we have a wide variety of items. Be sure to avoid your scale when you get home!

Spirit Circle: While we allow our dinner to settle, relax and enjoy a Spirit Circle hosted by our own Kelly Weaver! Serious participants ONLY. Enjoy the camaraderie and bond with your fellow SSPer's in this intriguing, powerful event. Each participant will receive an answer to one of your life questions. Be prepared with a question about your future, life direction, career or any aspect of your life where some spirit guidance would be appreciated and considered.

All this for only \$10 per person! Please use flyers on registration table to register or go to www.spiritsocietyofpa.com under "SSP News/Events" and look for "Supernatural Sharing, Cinema, Supper & Spirit Circle" event for the flyer in a PDF format. You may register at the door, as well.



Ghosts, Legends, Mysteries & Rouges of Mechanicsburg is again available! By popular demand Melissa Telesha's great little book has been re-published and is available at Civil War and More in Mechanicsburg. (717 766 1899) Stop and see Jack Thomas for a great selection of books on regional hauntings and of course, Civil War and other history.

Musings of a Ghost Adventurer

By *Melissa Telesha*

With the raw chill and howling winds of January, it's the perfect month for a nice, hot cup of tea to warm the bones and soothe the soul.

Tea has a long and interesting history. So precious that in colonial days, tea was kept locked in a tea chest (to protect it from being pilfered by the servants) and was used as a sign of English tax protest during the Boston Tea Party. Tea, it is said, will cure all that ails you and elaborate tea ceremonies are still performed to this day.

Reading tea leaves has been a method of divination for centuries. The official word for this form of fortune-telling is tasseography, sometimes referred to as tassology or tesseomancy. The word "tasse" is the French word for "cup," which was originally derived from the Arabic word "tassa" for "cup."

The basic steps to tea leaf reading are to make a cup of tea not using a strainer. The tea is then either drunk by the reading recipient or poured off. The cup is then inverted onto a saucer. Once the cup was turned right-side up again, the tea leaves left behind that had stuck to the inside of the tea cup were "read." The leaves that were closest to the rim were to indicate the immediate future; the ones closer to the bottom further on in the future.



Normally, tea cups were ivory, white or off-white and the tea, in general, was black or a very dark color. From the random tea leaves stuck to the cup one could soon imagine they formed the shape of a specific symbol. If the shape was the white of the

cup, it was a positive sign; if the symbol was made up by the dark-colored tea leaves, it could be perceived as negative or an area of life that needed improvement.

There are teacups produced specifically for the purpose of tea leaf reading. One popular design is the Zodiac teacup that features the signs of the Zodiac on the inside of the cup. This allows the seer to incorporate astrology into the reading, as well as the symbols made in the tea leaves. Another common tea cup used for tasseology is the symbol teacup, which is just what it sounds like. It has symbols imprinted inside the cup which can give more information for a reading.

A few symbols and their commonly agreed upon meanings are:

- Dog—a faithful friend
- Comet—misfortune, chaos
- Key—good business, money, good husband/wife
- Scissors—separation of a loved one
- Castle—unexpected fortune
- Pine Tree—Happiness
- Raven—Divorce, business failure or death of an aged one
- Mountain—powerful friend

- Many Mountains—powerful enemy
- Clover—Happiness & Luck
- Dragon—Sudden changes
- Elephant—Good luck & health
- Flower or Bouquet of Flowers—Happy marriage
- Kettle—Death
- Mouse—Danger of poverty due to swindling or death
- Unicorn—Scandal

Symbols that represent misfortune and sorrow are: Cross, Snake, Spade, Pistol, Cat, Gun, Toad

Symbols that indicate good fortune and happiness are: Circle, Star, Anchor, Crescent Moon, Fruit

By using lines or lines of dots left behind in the smaller tea leaves, a journey would be divined. Using the handle of the teacup as south, the direction of the line would indicate which direction the journey would lead. The length of the line would determine the duration of the journey.

If the tea leaves reveal only a swampy mess of used tea leaves with no discernible symbol, letter or number, it is advised to try again in a few weeks or months when the receiver's mind is less confused and muddled.

Don't worry if this happens to you. If nothing else, you have enjoyed a nice, hot cup of tea that warmed your bones and soothed your soul.

FROM NEW JERSEY MUFON:



Atlantic Coast UFO Conferences is proud to announce NJ Mufon's inaugural Northeastern Conference. **Feb. 15,16,17 2008** at the beautiful Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, NJ.

This conference features 12 of the world's most renowned experts in ufology, including Bill Birnes (Editor, UFO Magazine), Peter Davenport (NUFORC Director), abduction researcher Budd Hopkins, Dr. Lynn Kitei (Phoenix Lights) & Peter Robbins (Rendlesham case) Details at www.atlanticcoastufos.com



Director's Log 666AC: "The entity following me is beginning to show itself - A horrific DEMON with large POINTY EARS!"

FROM TROY TAYLOR

Welcome to the new issue of the newsletter and what will be the last issue for 2007! This is the newsletter that will bring to a close what was both an exciting and very troubling year. I think that we can all agree that it was a year of many exciting changes and fascinating things in the world of the paranormal. It was also a year that saw a lot of new friends added and old friends disappearing; a lot of disappointments and revelations about those who can be trusted and those who cannot; a lot of back-stabbing and arguing; and a lot of people exposed for who they really are, both good and bad. The year 2007 was a year that made much of the paranormal world seem just toxic and polluted. Those of us who have been involved in this field for a long time now have become so exhausted by much of what's happening that many of us (myself included) seemed to lose focus on what's really important. People don't seem to be interested in providing great information, putting on quality events and tours, writing good books or even doing authentic paranormal research. Now it seems to be about being big, shiny, famous and having your own TV show. What the hell happened in 2007?

I don't know — it sorta seemed to get away from us, didn't it? I spent the last couple of months of this year just staying away from it all. It just became too overwhelming and I lost interest in trying to keep up with the gossip, the complaining and the general stupidity that seemed to be going around. Instead, I dropped out, helped my buddy Skip at the Avon while he was recovering from surgery and started working hard on my writing projects again. I made some hard decisions over the last couple of months and dedicated myself to 2008. I regained my focus and made some real plans for the new year:

- * Only putting together and attending a handful of high quality events in 2008, not traveling all over the country just to say that I could.

- * Making sure that our tour companies remain your best chance to actually experience the history and hauntings of all of our cities. When I started putting together ghost tours in 1994, it was purely for the fun of introducing people to the haunted history of locations that had only read about in the past. We'll make sure that remains our focus in 2008

- * Getting back to writing for the sheer joy of writing. People tend to forget that this is what I do, it's my day job and I loved doing it. I have started remembering what it was like to write about what you really want to write about and not writing something just because someone will buy it.

I hope to have some great experiences in 2008 and plan to leave this year behind me. We spent so much of 2007 being forced to focus on the negative underbelly of what calls itself the "paranormal field" and I, for one, don't plan to dwell on that in 2008. I hope that you'll join me in this and that we can all look forward to a great new year together.

(Reprinted with Troy's permission)



While Kelly has already given *Paranormal State* the "review" it deserves, I can't help but add a few comments myself.

It appears *PS* is structured to compete with *Ghosthunters* by besting that show's relative lack of really scary moments (at least to those of us experienced in investigations) with a constant barrage of sensationalized encounters with the dark side of the paranormal.

Many of us have had some issues with TAPS - or at least the way their show is produced - but fundamentally these guys have the same approach we and other responsible groups have followed for years: Eliminate any rational explanations for "activity", then seek evidence that suggests that unexplainable activity is indeed paranormal.

So far on *PS*, I've seen nothing of this approach. On the contrary, the PRS moves in with the notion that not only must the place be haunted, but its gotta be something nasty... Evil... DEMONIC! (Granted - there are truly negative hauntings, but they are very rare - How has PRS managed to "find" so many?) Forget examining the location for creaky floorboards, drafts around windows, etc. Thorough EM scans, noting common sources of high readings such as wiring, appliances, etc. - who needs them? Got a door swinging open "by itself" that activates a motion camera? Don't check the location - just use the footage in more than one episode! Historical research/verification? Another waste of time! If someone says a whole family was murdered in the same town and buried in the cemetery across the road, believe it!

OK, those of us have been involved know how television works: Dozens of hours of footage pared down to the final 20 some minutes that comprise a half hour show can completely alter what really transpired. However, in this case, I doubt it.

Whether *PS* thus far has been the result of ratings-driven sensationalism or not, I see far-reaching effects from it. Just how many more people will be reporting "Demonic Presences", and how many more paranormal groups will be rushing out to help, already convinced there is not just a haunting, but an EVIL one! Worst of all, is the field day the skeptics will have with this show!

After many years of relying on a combination of intuitives (such as Kelly) and hard evidence to investigate reportedly haunted places, SSP has established a solid reputation, despite the fact that some researchers feel that the use of intuitives or parapsychology have no place at all in this field. Now with *PS* on the scene, the word of psychics and controversial demonologists will have surpassed diligent research and carefully obtained evidence as proof of hauntings in the minds of many.

In my mind, that is a giant step backwards! - JDW

2008 S.S.P. Meeting & Event CALENDAR



88th PA Infantry Marker (Approximate position of "Iverson's Pits")
- Oak Hill, GNMP IR Photo by SSP Co-Founder John Weaver

<u>MONTH/DATE</u>	<u>DAY/TIME</u>	<u>EVENT/LOCATION</u>
JAN. 14	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
FEB. 11	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
MARCH 8	SATURDAY 2pm	Supernatural Sharing/Cinema - N.C.S.C.
MARCH 10	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
APRIL 14	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
MAY 3	SATURDAY 1pm	SSP SPIRIT DAY 08 - N.C.S.C.
MAY 12	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
MAY 24	SATURDAY 10:30am	History & Mystery Srs, York/Lanc Co.
JUNE 9	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
JUNE 21	SATURDAY 2pm	History & Mystery Srs, Gettysburg*
JULY 14	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
AUG. 11	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
AUG. 23	SATURDAY 12:00pm	History & Mystery Srs, Mechanicsburg
SEPT. 8	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
SEPT. 20	SATURDAY 7pm	Harrisburg Cemetery Investigation*
OCT. 4	SATURDAY Time TBA	Halloween Costume Party - N.C.S.C.
OCT. 13	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
NOV. 10	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.
DEC. 8	MONDAY 7pm	SSP MEETING - N.C.S.C.

Events marked with an asterik are SSP "Members Only" Events*

Please visit www.spiritsocietyofpa.com for latest event news & full details!