



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 3 - MAR 2008

"ROO's" BOOS - Notes from Kelly

Smile everybody....Spring is right around the corner! As you read this we will have already had our March 8th Cinema and Supernatural day! I'm really looking forward to Saturday and hopefully we will have a lot to share at the meeting tonight about what we learned from one another. And remember these other great Spring events coming up soon: The PA Paranormal Conference at Bube's Brewery (April 12), our own Spirit Day here at the NCSC on May 3 and "Halloween in May" at the Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookstore on May 31. (Full details on all events at www.spiritsocietyofpa.com)

In my Mediumship class this year we are exploring all facets of the paranormal and one place in particular has me quite intrigued. It is a remote ranch in Utah that has been experiencing bizarre events that range from perplexing to terrifying. I had the class listen to an hour of a program I taped from Coast to Coast on this ranch and by the end of the hour our mouths were just hanging open! Laura and I both purchased the book entitled "*Hunt for the Skinwalker*" written by Colm A. Kelleher, Ph.D. and George Knapp. **I'm having a hard time putting this book down.**

For more than 50 years, strange things have been happening on this ranch. Flying orbs of light, invisible objects emitting magnetic fields with the power to spark a cattle stampede, vanishing and mutilated cows and otherworldly creatures coming out of tunnels of lights.

For one poor family, life on the Skinwalker ranch had become a life under siege by an unknown enemy or enemies. Nothing could explain the horrors they endured.

A first class team of research scientists go on a disturbing odyssey into the unknown to investigate the high strangeness that encompasses this ranch and the surrounding areas.

This book gives a hair-raising account of the scientist's findings. There is so much more "out there" that we cannot even comprehend! There are doors to the unseen world around this ranch that will make you shiver in your boots. I personally would have lasted about a week or two on the property after reading about their harrowing experiences. Native Americans and the Ute's in the area refer to this land as cursed and will not set foot inside the gate! What does that tell you?

Many neighbors and townspeople were also interviewed and have seen first hand strange things in and around the SkinWalker ranch.

The term Skinwalker refers to a "black witch" in Native American Cultures. They are feared by everyone in the area.

Are the bizarre happenings that are occurring on this ranch the workings of an evil skinwalker? Could it be aliens or a portal into other dimensions? You decide. I'm going to continue to learn all I can about his very disturbing place.

What Is A Skinwalker?

In the religion and cultural lore of Southwestern tribes, there are witches known as skinwalkers who can alter their shapes at will to assume the characteristics of certain animals. Most of the world's cultures have their own shape-shifter legends. The best known is the werewolf popularized by dozens of Hollywood movies. European legends as far back as the 1500's tell stories of werewolf's. The people in India have a weretiger legend. Africans have stories of were-leopards and were-jackals. Egyptians tell of were-hyenas.

In the American Southwest, the Navajo, Hopi, Utes and other tribes each have their own version of the skinwalker story, but basically they boil down to the same thing- a malevolent witch capable of being transformed into a wolf, coyote, bear, bird, or any other animal. The witch might wear the hide or skin of the animal identity it wants to assume, and when the transformation is complete, the human witch inherits the speed, strength, or cunning of the animal whose shape it has taken.

The Navajo skinwalkers use mind control to make their victims do things to hurt themselves and even end their lives. The Skinwalker can outrun a car and can jump mesa cliffs without any effort at all.

Sounds pretty scary to me! No wonder they refuse to step foot on the ranch! - Kelly



Source: *Hunt for the Skinwalker* – by Colm A Kelleher, PH.D. & George Knapp Paraview Pocket Books 2005

In one incident, a 7 foot figure materialized within a tunnel of light which then quickly vanished. Interdimensional? "Beam down" from ET craft? (JDW illustration)



Pennsylvania Paranormal Conference April 12, 2008 • Bube's Brewery, Mt. Joy PA

Explore the world of ghost investigation and research in a haunted, historic location with Rosemary Ellen Guiley, Craig Telesha, Linda Zimmerman, Karl Petry and host Rick Fisher

The 2008 event will focus fully on EVP and Ghost Hunting/Research. Doors open @ 8:30; Event 9am to 7pm. Door prizes and author book signings from the speakers & other authors/paranormal researchers 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

This is the 7th PPC, continuing a tradition of great events and the 2nd at this fascinating, haunted venue.

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



PARA-TECH
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Opinions & Observations by JDW

Whispers on the Recording. No, its not a sequel to *Whispers in the Attic* (Kelly's first book) but it is relevant to attempting EVP. Having recently participated in a couple of investigations where numerous people were involved (split up and covering different parts of large locations) it reminded me of the impact investigators' voices may have on EVP recording attempts. Although done with good intentions -- not broadcasting their voice so that people exploring other areas may not misconstrue their comments as EVP -- I feel that people speaking in whispers do more to compromise analysis of your recordings.

Consider the quality of many EVPs - whispery and of course not always easy to hear - then listen to recordings of people whispering. This good-intentioned gesture may not interfere with someone on another floor but it can affect devices used in the immediate area. Frankly, its somewhat natural, and I've been guilty of it myself.

In my opinion, the solution is simple: If you have something to say, speak - don't whisper. Keep the volume down and of course, try to keep conversation to a minimum. The result will save time in reviewing recordings (a tedious process we all agree), wondering if the whispery voice was someone on your team instead of someone on the "other side".



Spirit Society of PA.

A P P A R I T I O N S

Story & Photo Contributions are Solicited - send to:

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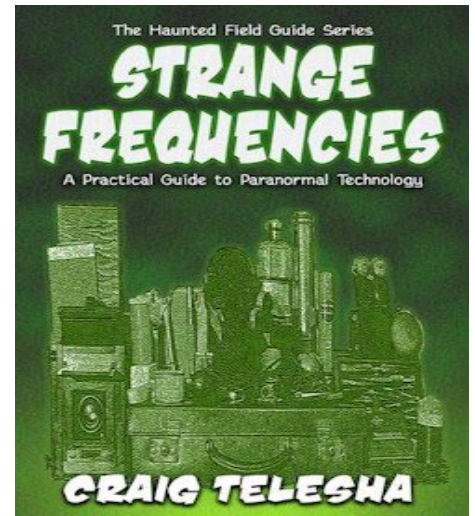
S.S.P. Website: www.spiritsocietyofpa.com

New from Troy Taylor's Whitechapel Press
Haunted Field Guide Series -

STRANGE FREQUENCIES: A Practical Guide to Paranormal Technology by Craig Telesha

Congratulations to long time SSP member Craig Telesha for what it certain to be a great addition to contemporary paranormal literature! Craig's knowledge of the workings of electronics technology and how it can be applied to paranormal investigations has been invaluable to SSP for several years - Now,

a broader audience will benefit from his knowledge. *Strange Frequencies* will be available at the upcoming PA Paranormal Conference on April 12, where Craig will be one of the speakers.



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 SSP member Jack Thomas for a great selection of books on regional hauntings and of course, Civil War and other history.

LANCASTER ELK'S CLUB (2/24/08) PSP Founder Rick Fisher invited several SSP Investigators to join him at the beautiful Lancaster Elks Club where several types of activity have been reported. It was built in the early 20th century (part of it had been a mansion) and evidently still serves as "home" to some former residents and club members. Several possible voices were recorded here, and the club managers' post-investigation comments about where and what activity had been observed did seem to confirm many of the things Kelly sensed (suggesting both residual and intelligent energy). Two investigators - Melissa and Ryan (no, not DIRECTOR Ryan) had a strange experience with a shadow in the basement poker room. A very interesting place indeed!



Left: Rick, Laura & Melissa set up recorders in the 2nd floor ballroom. Strange things have been reported here during receptions.

Rt: The beautiful 1st floor bar area with ornate carvings & paintings.



Left: Basement poker room where both Melissa & Ryan had a mysterious shadow block light coming in from behind them while seated in the center chair.

Rt: Poker room is to right, at end of bowling alley.



Right: A former club secretary who died in this 2nd floor office has been seen in the club. Next: Kelly had a strange attraction to this old "How I love an Elk" in the adjacent office. Far right: Pro-Bowler "Roo" shows her form on the lanes!




THROUGH THE

VICTORIAN KEYHOLE

*A Series of Culinary & Visionary Encounters with Kelly Weaver
Presented at Alfred's Victorian, 38 N. Union St. Middletown, PA*

Dinners held monthly.
Next event
April 2nd @ 7pm
"HEAR THE ANGELS"
Details at
www.kellysmagicalgarden.com
Reservations 717 944 5373



Herbal Garden

A-B-C's

It's the time of the year where you begin planning your herb garden. Consider some of these herbs for their magical properties!



Pennsylvania Lavender Festival June 13-15

Willow Pond Farm ♦ Fairfield, PA
www.palavenderfestival.com

ANGELICA—Protection, Exorcism. Grow in the garden as a protection. Carry the root with you as an amulet. Burn the dried leaves in exorcism rituals.

BAY LEAVES—Psychic visions and dreams, repels negativity and evil.

CINNAMON—Spiritual quests, augmenting power, love, success, psychic work, healing, cleansing. Used in incenses for healing, clairvoyance, high spiritual vibrations. Reputed to be a male aphrodisiac.

DILL—Useful in love charms. May also be hung in children's rooms to protect them from evil spirits and protect against bad dreams.

EUCALYPTUS—Used in healing rituals, charms and amulets. Place the leaves around a blue candle and burn for healing energies.

FERN—The Fern is an extremely powerful protective plant. Grow them in and around the house for protection from evil and negativity.

GARLIC—A very protective herb, healing, good weather, courage, exorcism.

HAZEL—Hazel wood is excellent for an all-purpose wand. Forked branches can be used for divining. Sprigs of Hazel can be carried for good luck, they are especially powerful if bound together by red and gold thread.

IVY—Protects the houses it grows around and over from evil and harm. In the old traditions, Ivy and Holly was given to newlyweds as good-luck charms.

JASMINE—Used in love spells, charms and sachets. Women have used Jasmine from the earliest recorded history because of its seductive effects on men.

LAVENDER—Sleep, long life, peace, wishes, protection, love, purification, visions, attracting men, clarity of thought. An ingredient in the Purification bath sachet, also used in purification incenses. It is thrown onto the Midsummer fires by witches as a sacrifice to the ancient gods. Lavender is a frequent addition to healing sachets, especially bath mixtures, and is added to incenses to cause sleep.

MARIGOLD—Prophecy, legal matters, the psychic, seeing magical creatures, love, clairvoyance, dreams, business or legal affairs and renewing personal energy.

NUTMEG—Clairvoyance and psychic power of visions.

OAK—The Oak is a sacred tree in many cultures. A witch will often seek out a grove of Oak to perform rites. It has always been considered unlucky to cut down an oak. After getting permission from the tree, burn oak leaves for purification of ritual spaces. Oak is often used for all-purpose wands and they imbue great power. The acorns have been carried to increase fertility in women and to increase sexual appeal by men, preserve youth and to banish illness. Hang Oak over windows and doors to protect your house from evil spirits.

PERIWINKLE—Protection against evil influences. Hang around doors and windows.

ROSEMARY—Improve memory, sleep, purification, youth, love, power, healing, protection, intelligence. Add to all purification bath sachets, love incenses, and protection incenses.

SAGE—Fertility, longevity, wishes, wisdom, protection, healing, health.

THYME—Sleep, psychic energy, courage, healing, purification incense, magical cleansing baths, a renewing of one's personal energy, warding off of negative energy. A pillow stuffed with it cures nightmares.

VANILLA—The bean is used in a love charms, the oil is worn as an aphrodisiac.

WORMWOOD—Wormwood is burned to gain protection from wandering spirits. Used in divinatory and clairvoyance incenses, initiation rites and tests of courage. Enables the dead to be released from this plane so they may find peace.

YARROW—Courage, love, marriage charms, dispelling negativity, psychic abilities, divination. A very potent healer, it intensifies the medicinal action of other herbs taken with it.

SSP's Calendar of Events



MAY 3 **SATURDAY**

Spirit Day in May

New Cumberland Senior Center

1:00 p.m.

\$10 pp

MAY 24 **SATURDAY**

SSP's History & Mystery Series—Codus

Furnace, Chickie's Rock & Haldeman Mansion

Meet at Codorus Furnace

(Transportation is on your own)

10:30 a.m.

*\$10 pp

**Benefits SSP, Museum of History's Mysteries & Haldeman Mansion Restoration*

JUNE 21 **SATURDAY**

SSP's History & Mystery Series—

Gettysburg

Meet at Gettysburg

(Transportation is on your own)

Limited to 25 SSP member participants

Time TBA

AUGUST 23 **SATURDAY**

SSP's History & Mystery Series—

Mechanicsburg

Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Park,

Mechanicsburg

12:00 noon

FREE

SEPTEMBER 20 **SATURDAY**

Harrisburg Cemetery Investigation

Meet at Harrisburg Cemetery

Time TBA

FREE

OCTOBER 4 **SATURDAY**

SSP's Halloween Party

New Cumberland Senior Center

Time TBA



Black Dragon



Black Magic Rose



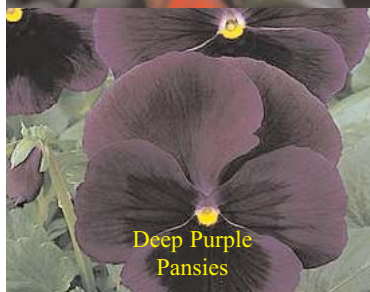
Black Pansies



Chocolate Cosmos



Orange Dahlia



Deep Purple Pansies



Monkshood

Musings of a Ghost Adventurer

By Melissa Telesha

This spring, dare to be different and plant a Halloween Flower Garden!

Who says a flower bed has to be pink, yellow, white and pale purple? BE BOLD! Black flowers are making a huge splash with gardeners and designers; and more varieties are available on the market than ever! Adding orange flowers, of course, is a must—why not integrate blood red or deep purple annuals? If you're into roses, the Black Baccara or Black Magic variety is to **die** for!

Black Pansies are en vogue this year and a must-have for your wicked garden is the leafy Black Dragon Coleus with its blood red centers with curly black tips. Try some deep orange Gerber Daisies and/or Dahlias and even traditional Marigolds for an autumnal feel.

For some mystical ground cover, you can't beat Wonderland Deep Purple Alyssum and/or (my personal favorite) Wonderland Copper Alyssum. Chocolate Cosmos and Bingo Deep Purple Pansies are perfect accents!

Add some dark purple foxgloves. Known as "Dead Man's Bells" or "Witches Thimbles," these were once used in medieval Italy as a jury—suspected criminals were fed the poisonous foxglove and if they lived, they were guilty and executed; if they perished, they were innocent—your basic no-win situation.

The monkshood (a devious dark purple) was believed to have sprouted from the spittle of the hellhound Cerberus. It contains a deadly poison and witches were said to use this plant to contact spirits of the dead.

For some night-time mystery, Moon Flowers should be planted in the back of your garden (they grow very tall) and have an intoxicatingly delicious aroma. This flower blooms at night since it is pollinated by moths. Highly poisonous, in small doses it was used for medicinal purposes in folk medicine. It's been rumored that witches would use the moon flower for its hallucinogenic qualities.

Add deep red clematis and allow it to climb up an old piece of distressed fence or spooky gate. Use those Halloween decorations almost year-round—scare the heck out of the neighbors by "planting" a plastic skull or fake boney arm sticking two-thirds of the way out of the ground. (Hmmm ... perhaps they always wondered what happened to the people who USED to live at your house.)

Create a creepy, disheveled scarecrow; use plastic witches' cauldrons and Jack o' lanterns as plant containers; consider planting a tiny pumpkin patch—use your imagination and go wild!

A few wicked herbs:

The mandrake plant is known as "Satan's Apple" supposedly used by witches to cure sterility and as an aphrodisiac and hallucinogen. Legend has it if you pull it up, its screams will scare you to death.

Believe it or not, the humble parsley has a somewhat evil reputation. The reason it does not grace your garden with a one hundred percent success rate is that the seed has gone to the Devil and back several times by the time it has germinated. Never accept parsley seedlings from anyone—doing so means there will be a death in your family. Transplant parsley, transplant death.

Periwinkle is known as "The Sorcerer's Violet" and was once used in the ancient art of alchemy.

