

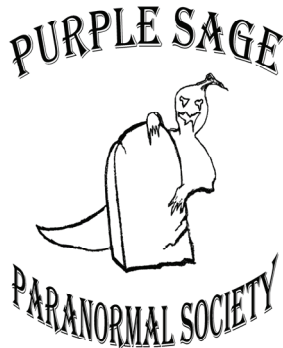
# Ghost Writers of The Purple Sage

NEWSLETTER OF THE PURPLE SAGE PARANORMAL SOCIETY

Volume 1, Issue 2

## Special points of interest:

- Please review the DON'T FORGET list, for our first hunt!
- Any ideas for future hunts are always appreciated!
- The Website has officially launched! And although the web crew is still in the process of adding and changing things, be sure to check it out at : [www.purplesageparanormal.com](http://www.purplesageparanormal.com)
- A Special thanks to founders Roger and Marlane Barton for their endless hospitality!



## FOR THE GHOST HUNT, DON'T FORGET:

- A Digital Voice Recorder
- Your flashlight you received at the Christmas Party
- Your Journal
- A digital camera, if possible.

## Our First Official Ghost Hunt!

Months of meetings, preparation and learning the ins and outs of ghost hunting have finally paid off.

Thanks to PSPS Director, Roger Barton, and his determination for us to have a great ghost hunt, the first official hunt will take place next weekend, where we will be conducting hunts throughout the Las Vegas, NM area. As we learned at our previous meetings, we will be



The Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, NM.

staying in the Historic Plaza Hotel. There have been numerous claims that suggest that the hotel, originally built in 1882, is haunted. Stories, tales and more impor-

tantly, first hand experiences have been told by a number of individuals ranging from the hotels employees to guests who have stayed overnight at the hotel.

Aside from the potential paranormal activity that may be going on at the

Plaza, the hotel has quite an intriguing history. From famous bandits who supposedly once stayed at the hotel to their looming souls that may or may not still haunt the place, we are in for quite an adven-

## Popularity of Paranormal in the media and how that effects us.

By Brenda Paiz

With the popularity of shows like *Ghost Hunters*, *Ghost Adventures*, and *Paranormal State*, the influence of what is real and what is expected are often blurred. There is no doubt that experiences with the paranormal –as bizarre as they may be– are very interesting and exciting for most of us, but it is very impor-

tant to remember that disappointment isn't a rare result when conducting a ghost hunt. We need to remember that these "paranormal" shows are nothing more than reality TV. Reality? Yes. But also TV. And its evident in some episodes that nothing actually happens, but with some background music, eerie sounds, night vision cameras, and smart producers, they manage to

turn it in to a 30-minute uneventful show. And on the other hand, sometimes we do see some pretty incredible yet unexplainable things on these shows. In any case, we need to remember that this isn't TV and we may not find anything bizarre or paranormal during some of our hunts. But that doesn't mean we cant stay positive and hope for the best!

# Once In a Blue Moon

By Denise MacDonald

*two-and-a-half years.* Ironically, we had a 'blue moon' occurrence in December, 2009.

*Once in a Blue Moon ...* is a common expression inferring *not very often*, but what exactly is a *Blue Moon*? According to the popular definition, it is the second Full Moon to occur in a single calendar month.

On average, there will be 41 months that have two Full Moons in every century, so you could say that *once in a Blue Moon* actually means *once every*

There are several urban legends surrounding the spiritualism of a blue moon.

Some say that we can equate the event with disparity and loneliness – others celebration. In fact, ghosts who have lingered (not passed on) are especially visible (and needy) during a Blue Moon occurrence. Knowing this, we have an enhanced opportunity to help ghosts find their way home (see the light/move toward God) by using the energy of this magnificent full moon. The next Blue Moon will occur on August 31, 2012 – will you be ready to help your resident ghost find his/her way home?



“All a skeptic is, is someone who hasn't had an experience yet”

-Jason Hawes

Co-Founder of The Atlantic Paranormal Society (TAPS)

# What is an EVP?

By Peggy Schofield

Electronic Voice Phenomenon (EVP) is the term traditionally used to describe anomalous, intelligible speech recorded in electronic devices. They typically consist of a few words often in direct response to questions or comments. The voices involved in EVP messages often exhibit a shift in frequency outside of the normal human voice, frequency range. The human voice generally ranges between 300 Hz and 1000 Hz. EVP voices have been measured to 1400 Hz. Today, digital voice recorders are the device of choice for traditional EVP experimentation.

The EVP voices are generally classified as:

- a) Loud & clear - interpreted the same by all listeners.
- b) Reasonably clear - interpreted differently by some listeners.
- c) Requiring headphones to distinguish the voices and open to individual interpretation.

Although broad, there is a pattern in the type of entity communicating with investigations. The entities fall into one of four general categories:

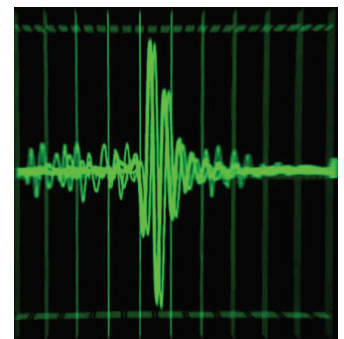
1. A person who has lived in our world, but who has "died," and has "gone on," but has taken time to communicate with people still "living" in the physical world.
2. A person who has lived in our world, "died," but

- has not "gone on," and is thus remaining in the near locale of our world as a ghost.
- 3. An entity who has never lived in the physical. (Angels? Demons?)
- 4. An entity that lives in the physical is not from our world and is able to operate in nonphysical reality.

EVPs are one of the most valuable tools used in an investigation for documenting the presence of a super-



A Digital Voice Recorder, such as the one pictured above can capture EVP's.



# The Progress of PSPS

It has been four months since our first meeting and it is safe to say that we have come a long way from that very night at the Barton residence.

We had discussed plans of a website, potential ghost hunts, and ideas as to where we want to be and how we want to evolve as a paranormal society.

In these short few months we not only had the holidays among us, but we also made time for meetings and discussions as to where our

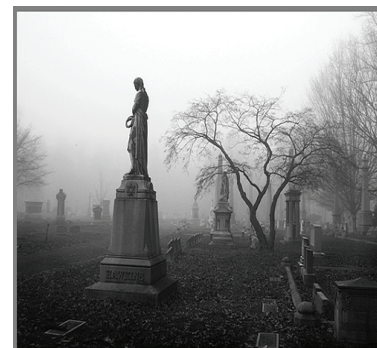
first hunt would be. After some dotting of the I's and crossing of the T's, Roger announced that we would be visiting Las Vegas, NM to investigate the Paranormal in various locations, including the Historic Plaza Hotel. The web crew also had additional meetings to design and launch the web site, that is currently up and running.

In addition, we also got some new equipment that will make our investigations a lot more thorough.

In December, Roger sent an

email announcing the new equipment that we had got, a complete infrared camera system including 250GB SATA 4 Channel Digital Video Recorder w/ audio, 2-1/3 Sony IR CCTV 0 LUX cameras w/ 50' IR total darkness range and 2-1/3 Sony IR CCTV 0 LUX color cameras w/ 100' total darkness range .

This equipment, in addition to the equipment we already have is sure to make our ghost hunts as thorough and as accurate as possible.



**TO MURDERERS, CONFIDENCE MEN, THIEVES:** "The citizens of Las Vegas have tired of robbery, murder, and other crimes that have made this town a byword in every civilized community. They have resolved to put a stop to crime, if in attaining that end they have to forget the law and resort to a speedier justice than it will afford. All such characters are therefore, hereby notified, that they must either leave this town or conform themselves to the requirements of law, or they will be summarily dealt with. The flow of blood must and shall be stopped in this community, and the good citizens of both the old and new towns have determined to stop it, if they have to HANG by the strong arm of FORCE every violator of the law in this country." - Vigilantes of Las Vegas, NM

## Las Vegas, New Mexico: A History

*Information Acquired from <http://www.plazahotel-nm.com>*

Las Vegas was established in 1835 by a group of settlers though a land grant from the Spanish government. It was the last Spanish colony established in North America, and originally called Nuestra Senora de los Dolores de Las Vegas Grandes (our Lady of Sorrows of the Great Meadows) by the Spanish settlers, whose roots went back to the early 1600s. Las Vegas "Old Town" was established in the Spanish Colonial style, with a central plaza surrounded by buildings and an outward radiating road system. The true sense of this history remains, with more than 900 buildings in Las Vegas on the National Register of Historic Places. But soon this sleepy Spanish

village would become one of the more interesting outposts in the American West. By 1882, Las Vegas was rapidly becoming one of the West's leading commercial centers, and the Old Town Plaza was the center of the town's commercial activity for Santa Fe Trail mercantile pioneers like Charles Ilfeld and Don Benigno Romero. To meet the demands of the town's growing business activity, Romero and Jean Pendaries raised the \$25,000 needed to build the Plaza Hotel, the "Belle of the Southwest". New management took over the hotel in 1886 and business was brisk, and many prominent political and business organizations made the Plaza Hotel their meeting place, including such groups as the New Mexico Medical Soci-

ety, the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, and the Territorial Democrats and Territorial Republicans. The year 1900 brought the Plaza Hotel's Victorian era to a close, as a railroad strike coupled with depressed economic conditions curtailed many of the local and territorial activities that made the Plaza Hotel famous. Near the middle of the twentieth-century, one owner of the Plaza Hotel, Byron T. Mills, was apparently ambivalent about the property, and he announced a plan to demolish the hotel, going so far as to sell some of its furnishings and fixtures. For unknown reasons, Mills did not carry through with the demolition. Today the hotel's saloon bears his name, and it's reported that the long-departed, guilt-ridden owner occasionally revisits the hotel in spirit after nightfall.

