



# The ghosts of Ohio<sup>®</sup> Newsletter

www.ghostsofohio.org

Volume 15 Issue 1

**HAPPY  
HALLOWEEN!**

**15 YEARS!**

I'd like everyone to pause for a moment and take a peek at the masthead of this very newsletter. You know, that thing at the top of the page that says "Volume 15 Issue 1."

Working backwards, the Issue # refers to what issue in the year the newsletter is from. Our newsletter comes out every other month, so we have a total of 6 issues (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6). When we hit a new year, we go back to Issue #1 and start all over again.

Now the Volume # refers to the year. So Volume 1, Issue 1 would be the first issue in the first year. Simple, right?

I say this because the top of this newsletter is Volume 15, Issue 1. That means that you are reading the very first issue in our 15<sup>th</sup> year.

That's right: The Ghosts of Ohio Newsletter is celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> year.

I officially feel old now.

Believe it or not, the very first edition of The Ghosts of Ohio Newsletter was text-only and was mailed out as body content to all 21 people who were subscribers at the time (there were 12-15 members of The Ghosts of Ohio at the time, so the 21 might be a bit misleading).

Along the way, the format changed to a B&W, text-only PDF and eventually to the full-blown, full-color PDF you are gazing at right now. Oh yeah, and we picked up a few additional subscribers along the way. A few thousand, to be exact.

And that's really the point of this rambling introduction: Every time I get a notification that another person has subscribed to our newsletter, I smile. Because it's a reminder that through the years, The Ghosts of Ohio has continued

to strike a chord with people. Everyone signs up for their own personal reasons. But I'd like to think that at its core, it's because you "get" where The Ghosts of Ohio are coming from and believe that we are going through all this Ghost Business the right way. And that means the world to us.

So you keep reading and we'll keep doing what we do.

Here's to the next 15 years!

Cheers,

James A. Willis  
Founder/Director



# Harry...Are You There?

## 90th Anniversary of the Official Houdini Séance Comes to Ohio!



Samantha

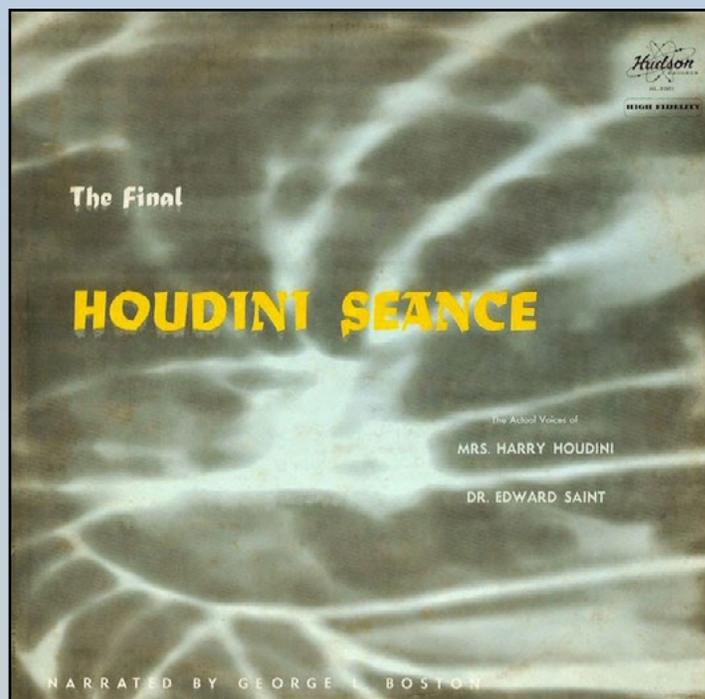
You read that right! For the first time ever, the Official Houdini Séance was held right here in Ohio, at Crop Bistro & Bar in Cleveland.

Famed magician, escape artist and spiritual debunker Harry Houdini died of acute appendicitis on October 31, 1926. Since his mother's death in 1913, and after an appalling experience with a quack medium trying to contact her, Houdini spent the last 13 years of his life dedicated to educating law enforcement and the public about the deceitful techniques used by many so-called mediums. This doesn't mean that he didn't believe in the possibility of contact with spirits. In fact, he longed for genuine proof of an afterlife, which is why he made a pact with his wife Bess and close friend and colleague Joe Dunninger. The first person to die would attempt to make contact with the living world by means of specified tasks. For Houdini, this involved a series of secret codes as well as a pair of seven-lock handcuffs that only he knew how to open.

He died first, and unbeknownst to him, a new Houdini legacy was born.

An official Houdini séance has been held on October 31st every year since his death. Bess led them for the first 10 years without success. Sadly, after the 1936 séance ended, she declared, "Turn out the light, it is finished. Good night, Harry." But it wasn't. Harry's brother Theodore, a.k.a. Hardeen, continued with the séances until his own death in 1945. The torch was then passed to Hardeen's protege and magic collector Sidney Radner, who copyrighted the "Official Houdini Séance" (since so many others had popped up) and conducted the séances until his death in 2011. His son, Bill Radner, now continues the mission along with Tom Boldt, one of Sidney's friends since 1986.

Tom Boldt, CEO of the construction firm Boldt Company in Appleton, Wisconsin, got involved in 1986 after the city dedicated Houdini Plaza in honor of Houdini's time in Appleton. Appleton is where Houdini's family first settled when they moved to the United States from Budapest in 1878. Sidney Radner approached Boldt about holding the séance in Appleton in 1986, and at first



*The annual Houdini Séance became so popular that at one point, a recording alleging to be from one of the séances was released on vinyl.*

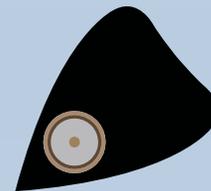
Boldt was reluctant. "Absolutely not. There's no way I'm going to be involved with something like that." However, it turned out that Radner was a persuasive man, and Boldt has been involved in the séances ever since. "The séance has become part of Americana. It's an opportunity to retell Houdini's incredible rags to riches story. And another serious attempt to honor Houdini's claim that if anyone could return from the hereafter, it would be him."

From 1927 to 1995, the Official Houdini Séance was held at Houdini's graveside; and until 2012 was a private affair reserved only for an "Inner Circle" of Houdini aficionados and those who knew him personally. It has since become a public affair and is held in a variety of locations, all chosen because of some significance in Houdini's life. The séances have been held all over the United States, Montreal, London, and this year's choice is Cleveland because Houdini performed there in 1905, 1908, 1916, 1922, and 1925.

*(continued on page 3.)*

# Harry...Are You There? cont.

## 90th Anniversary of the Official Houdini Séance Comes to Ohio!



*Photo of Houdini's widow, Bess, at what was billed as the "Final Houdini Séance" on October 31st, 1936— from [Wild About Houdini](#)*

"Some people make fun of all this stuff and we really don't think that's proper," Boldt said. "We have a real bonafide medium we hire. We don't hire him or her to put on an act. We hire them to use their skills to see if they can make any kind of connection."

So what can spectators expect at an Official Houdini Séance? While spectators are now welcome (ticket prices and availability vary from location to location), there is still an "Inner Circle" of participants who will conduct the actual séance, including the medium, Tom Boldt, Bill Radner, and others. The evening usually includes additional entertainment, including professional magicians and escape artists. Cleveland's lineup includes a three-course dinner, Houdini talks, close-up magic by Paul Gallagher, and finally the séance, with medium Marianne Goldweber. The event will take place from 7pm to 11pm in an "intimate, candle-lit vault under the old United Bank and Trust Building in Ohio City, now home of Crop Bistro & Bar."

In the past, participants have claimed to have experienced phenomena like dropping temperatures, a book falling open to a page on Houdini, a lady's strand of pearls breaking, and mysterious phone calls that revealed parts of Houdini's codes. Were these Houdini's genuine attempts at contacting the living, or were they simply coincidences or products of pranks or overeager imaginations? No one really knows. But whether or not Houdini finally reveals himself during this 90th consecutive séance, Tom Boldt's alternative purpose is clear. "We want to keep the Houdini name out there and the Houdini story out there for people to learn about and hopefully be inspired by."

Personally, I've always found Harry Houdini to be one of the most fascinating individuals who ever lived. If you'd like to know more about him, feel free to read my article from October 2009 titled "[Remembering Houdini: Exposing Spiritualism and Seeking Truth.](#)"



### GOT A SCARY STORY TO TELL?



Have you had a ghostly encounter in Ohio? Want to see it featured in a future issue of The Ghosts of Ohio Newsletter? Then here's all you have to do:

Just write down your story and send it to [info@ghostsofohio.org](mailto:info@ghostsofohio.org) with the subject line "Newsletter Ghost Story." Be sure to also include your name as you'd like it to appear with the story. We'll take it from there and send you out an email letting you know which issue it is going to appear in. That way, you can get all your friends to sign up for the newsletter so they can see how famous you are!

# POSSESSION!

## The Big Bad of the Paranormal World



Wendy

I would say it's probably a valid statement to say that anyone who is interested in the paranormal has seen movies about demonic possession at one time or

another. Whether it was *The Exorcist*, *The Exorcism of Emily Rose*, or *Paranormal Activity*, everyone has a pretty good idea of what possession is. Or do they? Most people base their assumption on what possession is via a Hollywood movie...always over dramatized, and with tons of neat effects. Let's take a closer look at what really happened in these incidents.

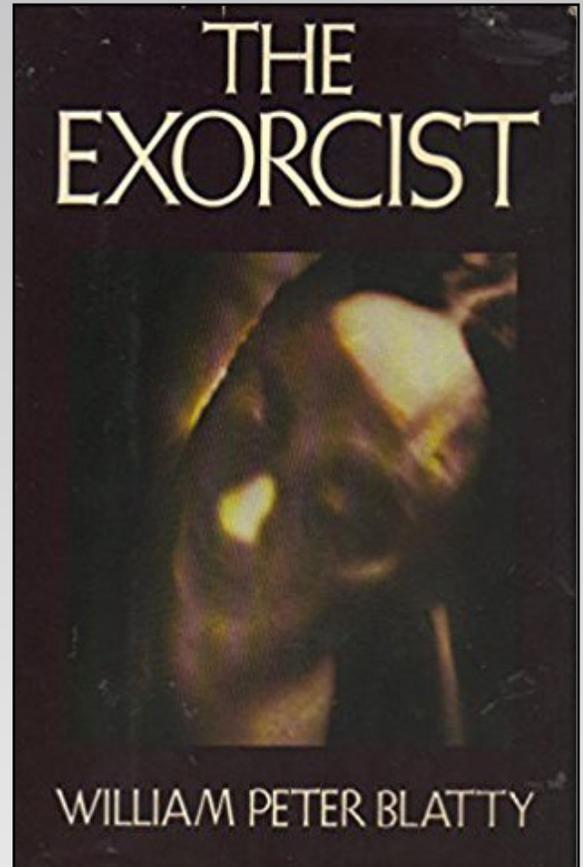
There are many who argue that what some people believe is demonic possession is actually mental illness. In the case of a German woman named Annaliese Michel, this very well may have been the case. Born in 1952, Annaliese was raised in a very strict Catholic family, and in her teens began to make statements about how she needed to atone for what she saw as sinfulness in the world both inside and outside of the church. As a teenager she began to have convulsions, and was diagnosed with epilepsy.

From there she began to deteriorate, claiming that she saw demonic faces when praying, heard voices, and felt "outside" her body. She was treated at various psychiatric facilities, but when nothing seemed to help, including the anti-psychotic drugs she was taking, she decided it was because she was possessed. Thus

self-diagnosed, she next began to be intolerant of religious imagery, and began to react violently when walking past churches, religious statues, unable to pray holding a rosary, etc. Because, of course, this is what a possessed person should do! An exorcist she met during a pilgrimage in 1973 believed her assertions of demonic possession, and convinced a local bishop to allow her to be exorcised. These exorcisms took place twice a week, for hours each time, and went on for months. During that time, a depressed and suicidal Annaliese began to state that she needed to die for man's sins, and began to refuse food and water. Meanwhile the exorcisms continued.

She died in 1975 from severe malnutrition and dehydration, after which time the priests and her parents were brought up on charges of manslaughter for not getting her medical intervention. Her story became the basis of the movie *The Exorcism of Emily Rose* among others. But looking at her case from a medical standpoint, all of her symptoms mirrored multiple personality/psychosis disorders. Demons, or not?

Of course the movie that comes to mind immediately when talking about possession is *The Exorcist*. This was based on the supposed possession of a 14 year old boy in Maryland named "Robbie Mannheim" to protect his identity.



He was said to have become possessed by demons that came through a Ouija Board he was using to try and contact his deceased aunt in the 1940s. Friends of the family actually stated he was obsessed with contacting this aunt, who had been a spiritualist. According to witnesses, he spoke Latin, levitated, exhibited violent behavior, and had words appear on his skin. He had more than 30 exorcisms and a move from Maryland to Missouri before the "demons" left him alone. Since we do not have the real name of this individual, there is no way further study can be done to find out if he was actually suffering from a mental illness, or was just faking his possession to facilitate a move from

(continued on page 5.)

# POSSESSION:



## The Big Bad of the Paranormal World Cont.

his hometown. Or, if indeed, he had contact with a dark spirit through his obsession.

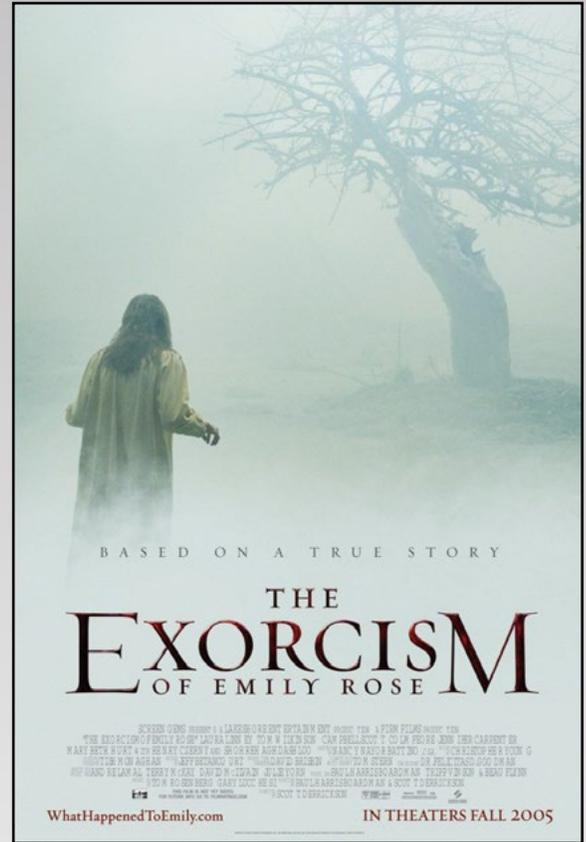
Possession and exorcism exists in many religions, but they all seem to revolve around a similar group of behaviors: speaking in tongues (glossolalia), scratches/bites/writing appearing on the skin, physical contortion, super-human strength, etc. But a lot of these have a basis in psychiatric illnesses.

Schizophrenia tops the list of psychiatric ailments that can be viewed as possession. From hearing voices to feeling outside one's body, hallucinations and feeling something else is controlling the body are main symptoms. And schizophrenia usually is attached to other brain-based illnesses such as dystonia. Dystonia is uncontrolled muscle contractions. This can be an explanation for all the grotesque body twisting that you see so often displayed in movies about possession.

Glossolalia, or the ability to speak in tongues, can be witnessed in Pentacostal worship services. In that case, a spirit is asked to come into the body during which time a possession takes place and the possessed speaks in tongues. Studied by the medical communities, the control area of the brain actually shuts down. The speaker has closed off his or her control to allow whatever may happen to happen. As for it being a language? It isn't. It is gibberish. It's basically portions of words thrown together, caused by the uncontrolled brain just grabbing at anything and sending it out through speech. In the case of demonic possession, you always hear "they were speaking in a language not

known to them." Has anyone ever tried to translate it? Usually it is said to be Latin. But Latin is the basis for most languages, so it isn't that far of a stretch to utter words heard as Spanish, French, Portuguese, and claim it to be Latin. We are exposed to languages all the time, and the brain has an amazing capacity to store these things. I myself, a native Cleveland girl, speak Spanish with a Nicaraguan accent, which confounded my Puerto Rican high school teacher, and my Columbian college teacher. Where did I get it? I saw a documentary on the Sandinista movement when I was around 14 years old, and for some reason my brain grabbed that accent and associated it with the Spanish language.

But while I can skeptically wipe away a lot of possession cases as psychiatric cases, I've still seen some pretty weird things. Lorraine Warren showed us a film she took of a Canadian possession case she had worked on during an event. This man had been subjected to bestiality as a child, and as an adult began exhibiting possession symptoms. I watched this old film of this person's face physically changing and bubbling up along his cheek bones. I watched blood tears run from his eyes, the irises having contracted to an elongated slit. And while the medical community actually has mental illnesses that explain those, it was really chilling to see. The priest on that case was



also there, and as he talked, every time he used the word "devil" something happened. His water bottle, which was on the stage next to his chair, fell over as if it had been kicked. Next, his chair just fell apart and collapsed on him. He stated this happened all the time, and that the incidents were becoming more frequent. He felt he only had a matter of time before he was on the losing end of this battle. He was dead within a year.

So while I myself like to be able to put medical and psychiatric reasons behind the things called demonic possession, and in many cases can do so, there is another side of me that says "but what if I'm wrong?" Happy Hauntings!!!



# My Go-To HALLOWEEN Movie List



James

“So what do you watch to get in the mood for Halloween?”

You’d be surprised as to how many times I get asked that question. So much so that, even as the final hours of Halloween as slipping away as you read this, I decided to put together a little list for you.

These are the movies that I turn to every October 1<sup>st</sup> and keep them in steady rotation through to November. Some are ones you’d expect to find on a list of “Halloween Essential Movies,” but hopefully there’s one or two that you’ve yet to see.

If you’re one of the early readers of this newsletter, you’ve got a couple of hours left to binge watch before Halloween 2017 fades away. Of course, you could always just start stocking up for next Halloween!



**Halloween (1978)**— We’ll go ahead and just get this one out of the way. My first exposure to this classic came on a Halloween night when I was still a young lad in upstate New York. It was several years after it had been in theaters and I had snuck downstairs in the middle of the night so I could watch it on HBO and hopefully not get caught by my parents since it was rated R.

I ended up having to watch it on an old B&W TV (remember those?) and it still scared the hell out of me! That alone should speak to the power of this movie. All that suspense and unending sense of foreboding worked just as well in black and white. All those amazing scenes where The Shape’s face/mask slowly becomes visible in the background worked. And with nary a drop of blood, too!



**Lady in White (1988)**— I absolutely love this slow-burner of a movie! There are so many things I identify with—from the upstate New York setting to the young boy going to school, dressed in his Halloween costume. And then, of course, there’s the idea that it is based on a “true” ghost story from the area.

As for the plot, it involves the young boy getting locked inside his school and encountering something not of this world. He then has to try and convince his friends and family that he really did see something.

I don’t want to give too much away for those of you who haven’t seen it yet. But rest assured, it’s worth a watch.



**Dark Night of the Scarecrow (1981)**— Halloween is not the main focus of this made-for-TV movie, although some of it takes place on and around October 31<sup>st</sup>, including several scenes taking place during the town’s Halloween party.

The premise of the film, without giving too much away, is a man accused (and murdered) for a crime he didn’t commit, returns from the grave to exact his revenge, all while dressed as a scarecrow, complete with a burlap sack/mask.

This movie came out in 1981, at a time where TV execs really didn’t “get” the spirit of Halloween and ended up inadvertently scarring their impressionable younger audience members. The flick doesn’t hold up as well today, but it holds fond memories for me as I was one of those afore-mentioned impressionable audience members. The image of a limp scarecrow hanging in a field suddenly coming to life or the subtle camera pans where the audience catches a glimpse of just one open eye behind that burlap mask scarred me as a child. Add to that the wonderful death/harvest imagery that permeates the film and you’ve got yourself a seasonal classic!



**Halloween III: Season of the Witch (1982)**— This movie bombed at the box office and was originally panned by critics everywhere. But most of the audience’s anger was directed at the fact that Michael Myers was nowhere to be found in this movie. Shortly after the film bombed, it was revealed that this was to be the first of a series of stand-alone (non-Myers) movies, all of which would have Halloween as

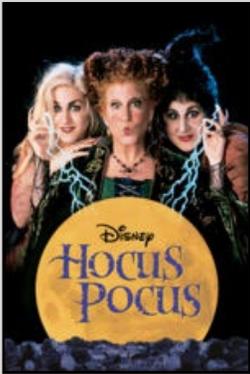
their main setting. The “Halloween III” was added to lure in audiences.



(continued on page 7.)

# My Go-To HALLOWEEN Movie List Cont.

Truth be told, if this movie had simply been released as “Season of the Witch,” it might not had suffered the box office fate it did. Sure, it’s a bit of cheesy 80s horror, but the plot is pure genius: Evildoers try to wreak havoc on America’s youth through Halloween masks. They even somehow manage to pull Stonehenge in on all this!



**Hocus Pocus (1993)**—I will admit that I am not much of a Bette Midler fan...or Sarah Jessica Parker, for that matter. But somehow, you mix in a little Disney magic and this family film just works.

Most of the movie takes place on Halloween night and involves a group of young, unsuspecting kids who inadvertently light a candle that causes 3 witches/ sisters to return from the Netherworld. Sounds pretty intense, but Disney manages to keep things light and even throws in a song or two along the way. Still, there are some very dark themes lying below the surface of this one, which makes me enjoy it even more. Or maybe it’s because I have three older sisters and know all too well what happens when Halloween rolls around and they decide to run amuck, amuck, amuck!



**Trick ‘r Treat (2007)**—Written and directed by Michael Dougherty (of *X-Men* and *Superman Returns* fame), *Trick ‘r Treat* is one of the newest additions to my October must-watch list. Much of that has to do with the fact that Dougherty not only managed to capture the spirit of 80s horror films, but also what it feels like to watch such a film.

In essence, this film oozes 80s Halloween and horror. It’s even presented as an anthology, another type of film popular back in the day. And each story centers around a fictitious town (in Ohio!) and what happens when people don’t pay attention to the “rules” of Halloween.

And of course, no mention of *Trick ‘r Treat* would be complete without mentioning the glue that holds all of the anthology tales together: a small, child-sized creature who appears to be dressed in orange pajamas with a burlap sack over its head. This little guy is affectionately referred to as Sam, short for Samhain.



**The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad (1949)**—For it’s original release, this Disney film consisted of two shorts: one based on a section from Kenneth Grahame’s *The Wind in The Willows* and the other a retelling of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Hence the odd title of this movie.

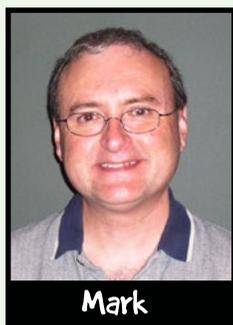
Today, you can find the Sleepy Hollow version all by itself and, obviously, this is the one I turn to every October. Featuring the voice of Bing Crosby as the narrator (who even sings), the animated classic might start out as classic, lighthearted Disney fare. But make no mistake: When the Headless Horseman shows up, he is a truly horrific sight and is presented in such a manner as to draw comparisons to *Fantasia*’s Night On Bald Mountain segment.



## DVD Review

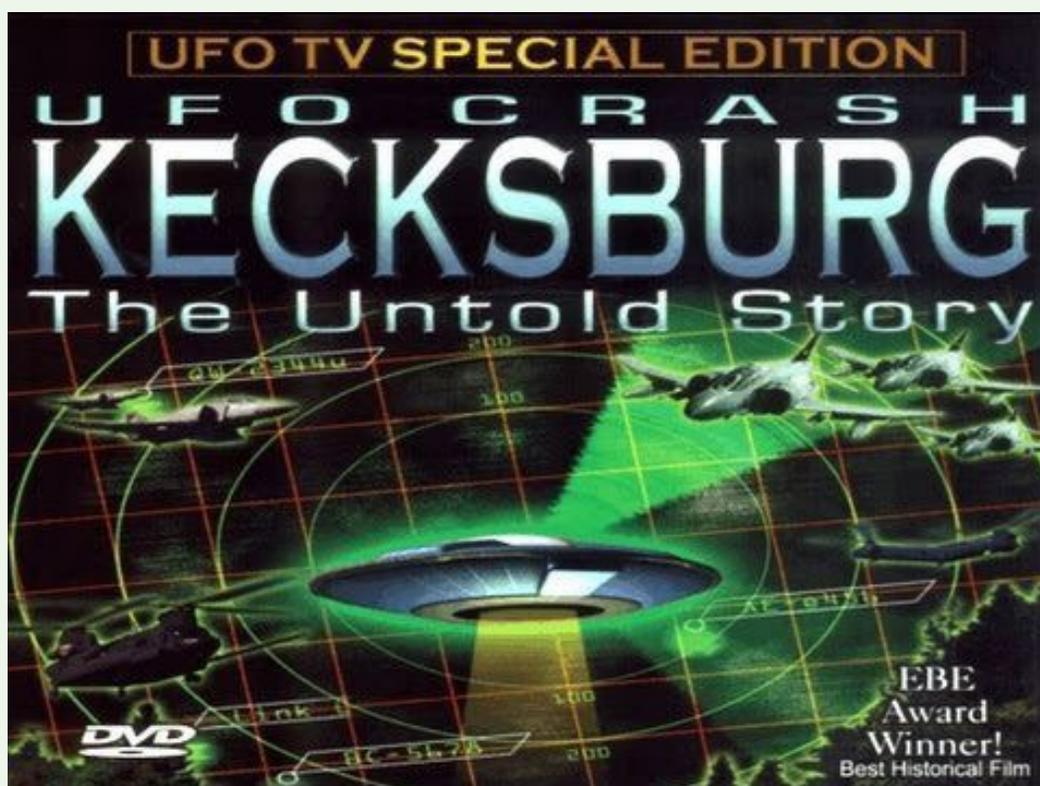
## Kecksburg: The Untold Story

**Note:** Every so often, a case comes along that stays with *The Ghosts of Ohio* long after we've discussed it. The Kecksburg UFO case is a prime example. The DVD was reviewed extensively by Wendy in Volume 12, Issue 5 of our newsletter ([available here](#)). Prompted by my recent visit to the Kecksburg crash site, Mark felt compelled to watch this DVD for the first time and became fascinated with the story all over again. That's the sort of excitement and wonderment we encourage here at *The Ghosts of Ohio*. And with that in mind, we present to you Mark's review of the DVD. —JAW



Mark

A UFO crash recovery story akin to Roswell, Kecksburg: The Untold Story unfolds in a rural area near Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, on December 9, 1965. UFO investigator Stan Gordon narrates the investigation and presents a detailed chronology of the mysterious events along with 21 eyewitness accounts of the story. While the DVD was distributed in 2005 with updated artwork on the box, the actual presentation dates to 1998, so it is nearly 20 years old. The quaint computer technology shown and low-level graphics give this away, along with the styles of the time. So, just be aware that this DVD does not contain current material, and the professional level of production is not polished. There are sound quality and volume consistency issues, annoying white-screen transitions between scenes, and the irritatingly clear movement of Stan's eyes back and forth as he reads from something that is apparently not quite a teleprompter.



**Kecksburg: The Untold Story**

**Running Time: 92 minutes**

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However, overlooking these issues, the DVD contains a compelling narrative of something mysterious that crashed in Kecksburg, PA, in 1965. The recovered object has been described as a large acorn with strange hieroglyphic writing on the bulbous ring beneath a seamless curved metallic surface with a burnt-orange color. Several eyewitnesses, young boys at the time, observed a partially controlled descent with what could be described as retro-rockets firing as the object passed overhead. Others claim to have observed a crash path

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## DVD Review

# Kecksburg: The Untold Story Cont.

through trees and the carving of a channel in the earth to the partially buried object. All witnesses described the incredibly fast response of military and supposed NASA personnel to the landing site and the complete lock-down of public access. This fact suggests that the flying object had been tracked by the military before it crashed, though it does not automatically imply that it was also unidentified. The 1960s was the decade most known for the Space Race between the USA and Soviet Union, and rockets and satellites were being launched into orbit at a frenzied pace.

Whatever crashed in Kecksburg was large enough to require a flatbed trailer for removal. However, the officially released “fallen meteorite” explanation strains all credulity. Numerous witnesses describe the object recovered by the military as being unlike anything they had ever seen before. One of the particularly chilling stories told by an ophthalmologist describes the military taking a 17-year old boy from the Kecksburg area to see his mentor in the field, telling him only that the boy suffered “burns” to his eyes. When he was examined, the doctor found that the boy’s corneas had become completely opaque and white (like the internal lens in cataract patients). From today’s perspective, over 50 years later, this physiological effect could be related to a massive exposure to Ultra-Violet energy. The source of such a powerful UV exposure on earth in 1965 remains a mystery.

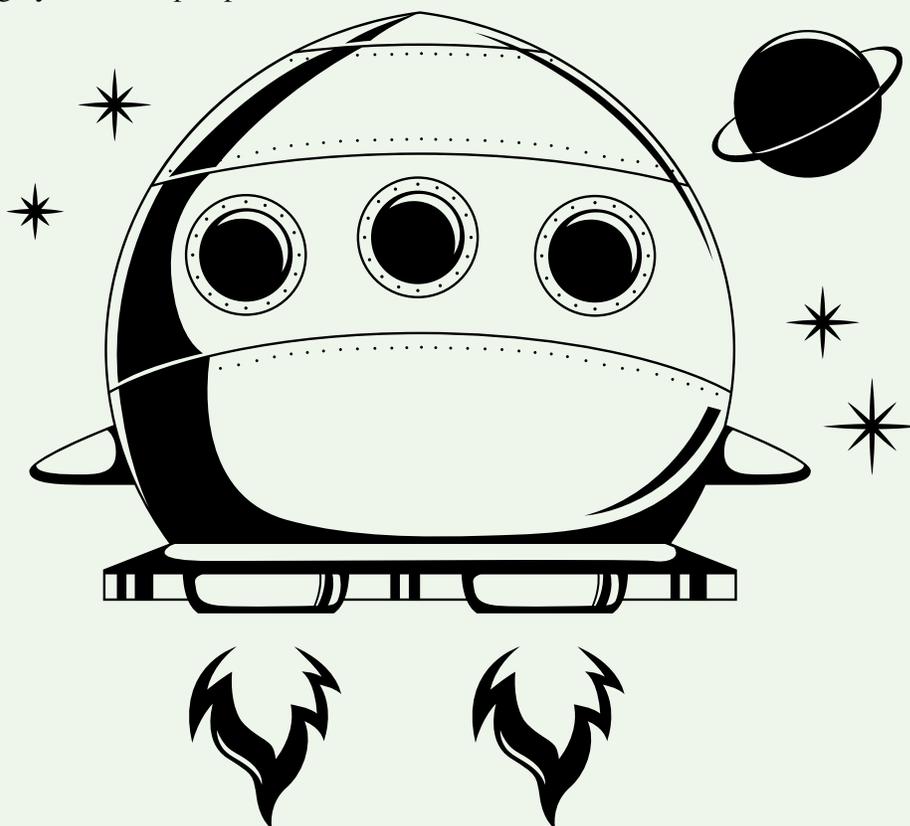
It is believed that the flatbed truck and military caravan moved the

possible UFO crash wreckage to a hangar facility at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which was, of course, home to Project Blue Book in 1965. One witness claimed to have delivered a load of bricks to the hangar in question at WPAFB, where he briefly observed something he was not supposed to see: a craft-like structure matching the Kecksburg UFO description, with strange markings along the bottom, being entombed behind a false wall of matching brick. After that, the location of hardware and the truth behind the crash have been veiled in utter secrecy for decades.

Since 1998, additional information has come to light related to previously classified projects related to on-orbit spy photography and the return of film canisters in gold-colored and roughly acorn-shaped pods.

On display at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, these pods are much smaller than the Kecksburg recovery, so this explanation seems unlikely, but it would explain the immediate deployment of military retrieval teams. However, these reentry pods contained no internal rocket motors either, so the controlled descent observed by some and supported by radar tracks refutes this explanation as well.

The urgent secrecy surrounding the Kecksburg crash site has never been broken. Who knows? Perhaps the remains of an alien craft still lie entombed behind a normal looking brick wall inside an unremarkable old hangar facility at WPAFB.



# LORE • A new TV series perfect for some Halloween-time chills



Kathy

In the August edition of our newsletter, Darrin Boop gave a winning review of the podcast, *Lore*.

Based on his

recommendation, I started listening to *Lore* and it drew me in immediately. I turn it on any chance I get. (There are over 70 episodes so far!) I was thrilled to hear shortly after my new addiction formed that Amazon Prime Video was turning *Lore* into a TV series launching on, of all days, Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

Being lucky enough to have Amazon Prime Video, I jumped right in to watch that Friday night, and I was not disappointed in the least. In fact, dare I say, I like the television series more than the podcast. But back to that in a moment. Let's start at the beginning and get you up to speed if you haven't heard of *Lore* yet.

The podcast is created and narrated by Aaron Mahnke more info can be found on Aaron at [www.aaronmahnke.com](http://www.aaronmahnke.com) and the podcast can be downloaded from your favorite podcast-grabbing app or from [www.theworldoflore.com](http://www.theworldoflore.com). Aaron's voice is captivating. He is calm and yet beguiling as he tells strange, real-life stories from historical documentation.

Appropriately macabre music usually plays in the background adding just the right amount of spookiness. Each episode is focused on one theme, which can be nearly anything imaginable: think horrific



medical procedures from the 50s, *Dracula*, strange creatures, possession, etc. The list goes on and on. Each episode is around 30 minutes or less and provides enough specific detail to convince you but then leaves some unresolved items to keep you wondering. It is perfect listening while driving to your next ghost hunt or heading home on a dark night.

Now, back to the TV series. It takes everything that is magical about the podcast (creepy music, Aaron's voice, and disturbing theme) and adds visuals!

Perfection.

They are able to use story reenactment, historical photos and documents to turn what is an already fascinating tale into a completely captivating and legitimately creepy look into our past. No more wondering what the crazy doctor looked like that invented the lobotomy. Want to see the schematics for a device that allows those potentially buried alive to let someone know they are still kickin'? Done!

It would be wrong to leave out the acting as one of the strong points of the show as well. I know I told you there is reenactment. Hearing that may lead you to think of the super-cheesy (and horribly acted) bits you see in your favorite ghost shows. But not so for *Lore*. The actors are actually credible and

do an amazing job at bringing the story to life and making you feel something for the people involved.

Adding the visual elements to *Lore* has made this far and away my new favorite binge-worthy TV show. If you have Amazon Prime Video or maybe a free-trial just waiting for you to sign up, I'd get out there right now and watch the first 6 episodes of what is sure to be a long-running series. I don't think you can go wrong with this one!



## The Ghosts (of Ohio) Were Back! Celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lima Lantern Tours



Samantha

It was 10 years ago this month that The Ghosts of Ohio was involved in the very first Lima Lantern Tour event in Lima, Ohio; so, it was an honor to be invited back by

Aubree & Cara to help them celebrate their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. And since 10 years is a big deal, we wanted to do something extra special. On October 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, ticket holders got the chance to conduct their own paranormal investigations inside three of Lima's most historic (and possibly haunted) locations, including the Lima Adult Learning Center, the Ohio Theatre, and the building that houses Crankers Cycling, a building that had *never*

been investigated before! This was apparently a great idea because both nights sold out quickly!

Each evening began at the Wingate by Wyndham hotel with a short talk by our own leader Jim Willis. He explained the plan for the night, gave an overview of the various pieces of equipment participants could borrow, and introduced the members of The Ghosts of Ohio who would be stationed at each of the stops, including (yours truly) Samantha Nicholson, Julie Black, Kathy Boiarski, Darrin & Julia Boop, Stephanie Willis (Jim's wife), and Frank Yensel. With all of that out of the way, it was time to board the trolley.



The participants (30 in total) were divided into three groups, each beginning in a different location. Upon arrival they were greeted by Ghosts of Ohio members and local historians who gave brief explanations of each location's history. Once pieces of equipment

(continued on page 12.)

## SEND THE GHOSTS BACK IN TIME!

Several issues ago, we announced our new "Back In Time" feature where we asked you to share your spooky stories from childhood and we would do some research to find out where those stories stand today. Sort of like a supernatural scavenger hunt where we try to unearth all those tales from your youth. I guess we struck a nerve with you guys because the response has been overwhelming! We've gotten over 95 requests so far, which include everything from ghosts and haunted houses to mysterious monsters and even a few UFO sightings! Amazing!

For those of you unfamiliar with what we're doing, it all goes back to the idea that everyone, even though who might not believe in the supernatural, has one thing in common when it comes to ghosts: A scary story of a haunted place from your childhood. You know, the old house you weren't

supposed to go near or the creepy old grave sitting all by itself on top of a hill. Maybe the monster that lived in the woods behind your house. Well, whatever it was, we're sure that you've often thought to yourself "I wonder whatever happened to that place?" Well, now's your chance to find out!

The Ghosts of Ohio wants you to send us your childhood ghost stories. We'll take it from there and dig into the history to find out if there really was any truth to the tales that chilled your bones as a youth. Just send an email to [info@ghostsofOhio.org](mailto:info@ghostsofOhio.org) with as much information as you can remember and we will jump right on it. We'll even supply you with a free report with everything we were able to uncover. So what are you waiting for? Send The Ghosts back in time!





# The Ghosts (of Ohio) Were Back! Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Lima Lantern Tours Cont.

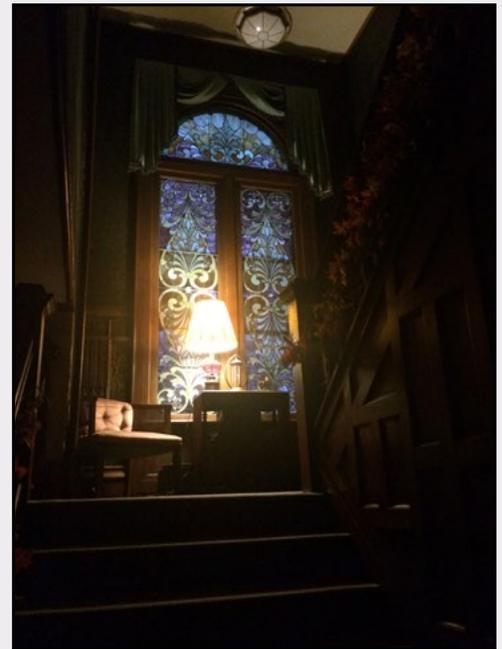
were handed out, it was time to investigate! Participants had approximately 45-60 minutes to conduct their own explorations into the paranormal before it was time to board the trolley for the next location, where the process was repeated all over again. By the end of the evening, all participants explored/investigated all three destinations before the trolley brought them back to the hotel to share their experiences.

Were any ghosts found? It depends on who you ask. We had reports of individuals having some success with dowsing rods and KII meters, some discovered areas of unusually high EMF (including a strange instance of a concentrated ball of high EMF in the center of a room which seemed to be corroborated by dowsing rods), and at the Ohio Theatre Frank witnessed one TV turn off while a different one turned on, even though the two TVs are not linked.

Regardless of whether participants experienced anything paranormal or not, it seemed that everyone had a great time taking part in this unique event. And on top of that, the proceeds went to Downtown Lima, Inc., which helps to promote and preserve downtown Lima and its rich history, so there is plenty to feel good about!

To all the participants of this two-night event, we thank you!

Of course, all of this would not have been possible without Aubree & Cara (the driving forces of the Lima Lantern Tours), the Wingate by Wyndham hotel for putting us up for the weekend, the local historians who generously shared their knowledge, and all of the property owners who allowed us to take over their locations for three hours each night. On behalf of The Ghosts of Ohio, we say a heartfelt *thank you!*



If you or someone you know participated in the event and would like to share feedback (good or bad), we'd love to hear from you! Your thoughts will help to shape events in the future, so don't be shy. Contact [info@ghostsofohio.org](mailto:info@ghostsofohio.org)



# THANK YOU ALL FOR AN AMAZING OCTOBER!

Wow! What an October we had here at The Ghosts of Ohio! Lantern tours, book signings, packed presentations, and so much more! Of course, the best part of all was getting to meet all of YOU who came out to listen and, best of all, share your personal experiences with us!

It was an October we will not soon forget, although a lot of it went by as a strange and spooky blur! Good thing we took a lot of pictures so we could look back and smile after all was said and done!

Here's but a small sampling of some of our adventures:



# WANT TO SPEND THE NIGHT WITH THE GHOSTS OF OHIO IN 2018?

Hard to believe that 2017 is drawing to a close, isn't it? But it is. And while the very thought of that might send you into a panic over shopping lists, wrapping paper, and how many extra folding chairs you'll need to put around the dinner table, there's something else that just might make you smile a bit: The Ghosts of Ohio have started making plans for the 2018 Spend the Night With The Ghosts of Ohio program!

What's the Spend the Night program? Simply put, it's an opportunity for some of our fans to get locked inside of a haunted location with us on a private, overnight ghost hunt.

All you need to be is an active subscriber to this very newsletter. As long as you are, there's a chance your email address will be randomly pulled from the list. When that happens, you and a guest are headed to a haunted location with us for the night!



## Investigations & Consultations

The Ghosts of Ohio are continuing to schedule investigations for 2017 as well as a few in 2018. If you or someone you know is experiencing something unexplained in a home or place of business, contact us at [info@ghostsofohio.org](mailto:info@ghostsofohio.org) or visit our website to fill out an investigation request. All investigations are offered free of charge, and confidentiality and discretion are assured.

Not sure if you want or need an investigation? The Ghosts of Ohio also offers consultations. Let us sit down with you to discuss your current situation and what help we may be able to offer. For more information, please visit <http://ghostsofohio.org/services/investigations.html>

## Interact with The Ghosts of Ohio

In addition to our website, here are a couple of places where you can find The Ghosts of Ohio lurking online:

 FACEBOOK  
<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Columbus-OH/The-Ghosts-of-Ohio/60704381381?ref=mf>

 TWITTER  
<http://twitter.com/ghostsofohio>

## Administration

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