

**Meet The 2008 Officers**

North Central Region Director: Heather Stenger  
 Director: John Halcomb  
 Asst. Director: Corey Loos  
 Secretary: Amy Garrison  
 Trainer: Chris Garrison  
 Public Relations: Kelli McQueen  
 Treasurer: Craig Majors

**The History of Spirit Photography**  
 By Angie Miles

Spirit Photography began in the United States during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. It was first introduced in 1862 by William H. Mumler, a Boston photographer. Dr. Gardner, of the same city, was photographed by Mumler, and on the plate appeared an image that the sitter identified as his cousin, who died 12 years earlier. Gardner published his experience, and spirit photography was adopted by spiritualists, who saw that it could prove their beliefs. In 1863, however, Gardner discovered that in at least two instances a living model was the subject of Mumler's "Spirit Pictures." Although he continued to think that some of the photos might be genuine, he still found Mumler to be fraudulent.

Six years later, Mumler appeared in New York, where the authorities attempted to prosecute him, but the evidence against him was insufficient to prove fraud, and he was acquitted.

Spirit Photography had been growing in the United States for 10 years before it became known in Britain. Samuel Guppy

and his wife, the well known spiritualist mediums, attempted without success to produce spirit photographs in private, then called for the assistance of Frederick A. Hudson, a professional photographer. A photograph of Guppy revealed a dim, draped "Spirit" form.

Hudson became popular and his studio was as patronized as Mumler's had been. He found support from several outside observers. A London Optician, made careful observations of his process, without being able to detect any fraud. John Beattie, a professional photographer and something of a skeptic, made the following statement about Hudson's performance: "They were not made by double exposure, they were not figures projected in space in any way; they were not a result of mirrors; they were not produced by machinery, nor by anything connected with the bath, camera, or camera side. At no time during the preparation, exposure, or development of the pictures was Mr. Hudson within 10 feet of the camera or darkroom. Appearances of an abnormal kind did appear on several plates. (Continued Page 2)

**Ghost Tour Fundraiser**

By Rebecca Auker

As many of you know, John Halcomb was asked by Mike McDowell to create a Ghost Tour for the Gen Con event taking place in Indy during the middle of August. John hopes we can turn this Ghost Tour into a fundraising event for IGT sometime in September/October. He has asked for people to check out different locations in Indianapolis and has asked for volunteers

to do research. If there is anyone in our Chapter who is interested in participating, contact John for more details. PLEASE remember this fundraiser will benefit the entire chapter. Since this will benefit EVERYONE, please try to find a way to help out. We need everyone to work together to make this Ghost Tour a success.

**Inside this issue:**

History of Spirit Photo Cont	2
IGT Festival Appearance	2
"Shutter" Review	3
Membership Spotlight	4
Paranormal Conference	4

## The History of Spirit Photography

By Angie Miles

Continued from page 1

A careful analysis of the evidence shows how even a trained eye can be deceived by sleight of hand. It is notable that Beattie pointed out instances of double exposure in Hudson's production. In spite of this, Hudson, continued to practice, and various spiritualist magazines continued to lend him their support.

In 1874 a Paris photographer, E`douard Buguet, crossed over to London and started the practice of Spirit Photography. Many of the spirits in his pictures were recognized by his clients, and when tried by the French Government and admitted deception, there were those who refused to regard his confession. They believed he had been bribed to confess to fraud of which he was innocent.

Throughout the 1920's and 1930's the whole idea of spirit photography was called into

question by psychical researchers. In 1933 Fred Barlow and W. Rampling Rose presented the results of their research to the Society for Psychical Research and indicated that they had been unable to locate any spirit photographs not produced fraudulently. Their opinion has remained the same for decades. No set of photographs have been offered in recent decades for serious consideration of genuine spirit images.

## IGT Festival Appearance

By Kelli McQueen

Hello IGT members! I just wanted to remind everybody that September 13 is the Back to the Fifties Festival in my hometown of Lebanon and IGT is going to have a booth there. The hope is that we will get our name out there, let people know what we do, maybe sell some items to help out our chapter, and gain a few new members. We will be selling lanyards and maybe other items, passing out pamphlets about IGT, and giving out "ghost suckers" to anyone stopping by the booth.

I will be passing around a sign up sheet at the August meeting for anyone wanting to help work the booth. I will be there all day but would love to have as much help and companionship as I can get. If you won't be at the meeting but know that you would like to help, please

e-mail me at [kelli.mcqueen@gmail.com](mailto:kelli.mcqueen@gmail.com).

Also, I would like to have some kind of presentation in the background for people to look at, maybe a poster of some sort with pictures we've taken or of locations we've been to, etc. If you have any suggestions or have any good photos to give me let me know. I want something visually pleasing to the eye especially if you have any cool photos to share. Maybe we could have EVP's available for people to hear as well? Any suggestions would be helpful.

## “SHUTTER” REVIEW

By: Angie Miles

Newlywed couple Ben (Joshua Jackson) and Jane (Rachael Taylor) moves to Japan for a fashion shoot/honeymoon in Tokyo. Ben and Jane arrive in Japan, but as they drive down a dark road leading to Mt. Fuji, their car crashes into a woman standing in the middle of the road. After regaining consciousness, Ben and Jane can not find any trace of the girl Jane believes she hit. A bit shaken, the couple arrives at their cabin, where they will enjoy a few days for their honeymoon. Ben's shoulder begins to bother him and Jane tells him he needs to have it looked at, but Ben ignores Jane and snaps a few pictures to remember the moment.

A few days later Ben and Jane arrive in Tokyo for Ben to start his job. Ben had worked in Japan before and knew the language well. He was very comfortable and ready to meet up with old friends and colleagues. Jane, feeling like a stranger, tours the city while Ben works. Later they get the photos from the honeymoon and begin to notice white blurs in some of the pictures. Ben just passes it off as something being wrong with the camera. Seiko, Ben's assistant, tells them that the blurs are spirit energy. So Seiko introduces Jane to her ex-boyfriend (Eri Otoguro) who runs a spirit photography magazine. While there, Jane learns of a psychic named Murase, who can analyze the photos... Meanwhile, Ben discovers white blurs on his entire days work with an expensive photo shoot. Jane tells Ben about the psychic and asks him to go with her.

Once Jane and Ben arrive to see Murase, they show him the photos and explain that there was an accident. Ben translates between the two. Murase takes the photos and begins speaking very fast, but Ben will not translate what he is saying, and tells Jane they have to leave. Ben does tell her that the spirits bond with humans when extreme emotions are involved.

Later, Jane begins to look at the pictures from the shoot that was ruined. She notices a building in the background that the light is gathering around. She leaves for the building to take pictures and see if there is any spirit presence there. While taking pictures of an empty office she has her first encounter. Trying to get out of the office, she knocks a picture off the wall and notices the girl in it. Her name is Megumi Okina; she also learns that her husband had taken the photograph.

When she confronts Ben about the photograph he admits he was involved with Megumi, but she became obsessive and clingy. Ben couldn't handle it anymore and tried to break it off with Megumi. He tells her

he never loved her, and asks his friends to have a talk with her. Jane feels bad and decides that they need to find Megumi.

Ben and Jane arrive at Megumi's home and find her dead. She had been dead for a long time as flies and decay has begun. There are also bottles of potassium cyanide on the floor. Shocked Ben receives a call from his friend Bruno saying their friend Adam was in an accident. Ben tells Bruno to meet them at the hospital.

After being at the hospital for a while, Ben calls Bruno to find out where he is. Bruno answers but does not say anything. When it goes to Bruno's voicemail, Ben tells Bruno he needs him there because Adam didn't make it. Ben and Jane leave the hospital to go to Bruno's home. When they arrive they find pictures cut up everywhere, but the frames are all on the walls. Jane sees Bruno down the hall, he begins to charge at her, but Jane gets out of his way. Bruno then jumps out the window of his high-rise and crashes into the concrete.

At Megumi's funeral Ben and Jane watch as she is cremated. They return to New York where everything seems to be over. However, they are not. Jane wakes the next morning to find Ben has made a heart out of rose pedal. She tries to take a picture of it, but the camera is full. She heads out for the day and takes the camera to be developed. When she returns she opens the pictures and is shocked to see Megumi crawling across the floor to stand next to a picture of Jane. Jane then looks in Ben's belongings from Japan and finds his camera. She removes the drive from the camera and loads it into the computer. Jane is disgusted at what she finds.

When Ben gets home, Jane confronts him about the pictures. Jane is disgusted and realizes Megumi wanted to warn her about Ben and that she does not want to harm her at all. Jane leaves, leaving Ben alone in the apartment. Ben takes out a Polaroid camera and starts taking pictures looking for Megumi. He is yelling at Megumi, but nothing shows up in the pictures. Frustrated, he throws the camera down, it took a picture. Ben leans down to look at the photo and saw Megumi sitting on his shoulders. In an effort to rid himself of her once and for all, he hooks up a large amount of power to the photography light, and then puts it up to his neck. The light all goes out and Ben screams.

## MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

What is your name? Corey Loos

What is your forum ID? Raging Wolf

When did you join IGT? November of 06

How did you hear about IGT? Inconjunction a sci-fi fantasy convention

How did you become interested in ghost hunting?

After seeing a shadow person, if you haven't heard the story feel free to ask

Where was your first IGT hunt? Mounds State Park

Do you have a favorite IGT moment or hunt you would like to share? So far my first out of state ghost hunt at Moundsville . Didn't catch anything personally but just being there was really awesome.

Do you have any dislikes? Attitudes can set me off, I don't like arrogant people.

Do you have any other hobbies you would like to share with the group? I'm the Public relation director for Enigma Entertainment a very small independent movie company. I am also addicted to Guild Wars.



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## Paranormal Conference

By: Rebecca Auker (info provided by Corey Loos)

Corey Loos was able to attend the Paranormal Conference that took place at the Hanna House on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Corey said this event had a huge turnout. Eerie Radio along with several other local ghost hunting groups had booths set up there. These groups were able to do a lot of recruiting. It sounds like this is something that IGT needs to look into next year to get some recruits for our organization. Corey stated "It was great to see so many people there. The yard was packed with cars."

Corey also wanted it to be known that there is a new book by Lorri Sankowsky and Keri Young, who were both prior IGT Directions, which mentions IGT on several occa-

sions. It also mentions some of our current members in the book as well.

The book is called The Ghost Hunter's Guide to Indianapolis. It covers the Hanna House, Central State and the Slippery Noodle.

Both Lori and Keri will be at the Nora Library on October 15 to discuss their book and experiences. For more information, please check out their website

[www.indianapolisghosts.com](http://www.indianapolisghosts.com).