



Ghostly Notes

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Terre Haute- Indiana Ghost Trackers

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2006 is Here!!!!

So now that 2006 is here and everyone has been through all the holidays, it is time to get down to business. We are in need of some volunteers for different committees such as: planning committee, activities committee, newsletter committee, anyone wishing to do some work on one of these committees please get in touch with the appropriate people or get in touch with Misty Weeks and she can get you started in the right direction. All these committees plus the hunting and investigations committees

have a very big job to fill and it is not fair to expect the coordinator of each group to handle it alone. It is going to take everyone to get this group off the ground and get us where we need to be in 2006. We also

need to get going on some ideas on PR, fundraising that sort of thing.

Anyone with any ideas on what you would like to see in the newsletter or ideas on what you might like to get some extra training on please let myself or Jenny Whitlow know.



Terre Haute Chapter IGT- Doing a hunt at one of our local covered

We have a lot of work ahead of us and while doing the hunting is the fun part there is a lot of work behind the scenes that needs to be done in order to get to the fun part. So everyone lets do what we can to have a great year.

January Meeting

The January meeting will be on the 21st of January from 2 to 5 pm. The meeting is being held at the Pizza Hut on So. 3rd Street. During the meeting Lloyd has graciously set up for a photographer to

come and talk to us about digital photography. So anyone that wants to ask questions or have pictures to ask about please have them ready. Following the meeting we should be having a indoor hunt set up by

our own Jill F. of course everything is still in the works and between now and then there could be some changes. If so an email will be sent out to each of you regarding the changes.

Member Bio

This months member bio will be on one of our original members, Stan Evans.

Stan was born April 16, 1943 in Paris Ill. He was raised in Casey and graduated from Casey High School in 1961. After high school Stan joined the Air Force in January of 62 serving in Air Force Intelligence for 4 1/2 years. He attended 2 years at Baylor University in Waco, TX majoring in psychology, and was discharged from the Air Force as a Staff Sergeant in August 1966. He attended 2 years at Devry Institute of Technology Residence School in Chicago, and graduated with a Associates in Electronics. He has worked for many companies as an Electronics Technician i.e.: General Telephone, Sony, Motorola, and CBS in the past. He also attended Greer Air Conditioning and Heating Technology and holds a EPA Certificate in Refrigerant Usage, and has owned his own A/C, Refrigeration, Heating, Electrical and Plumbing business for the past 25 years.

He is now divorced, but was married

for 27 years . He has a daughter that is 32, a son that is 30, and another son that is 20 years old. He has 4 grandchildren.

Stan has been with IGT since day one (June 2003),except for a few short months when he took up residence in Decatur Ill. He saw his first apparition in the house he was raised in at the age of 6, and has been interested in the paranormal ever since. He has been actively hunting ghosts for about 20 years. His hobbies are studying and reading about the American Civil war, watching people "for they truly are the Greatest show on earth", surfing the internet, fooling around with high tech gadgets and watching DVD's. and of course Ghost hunting...



Pictured above is our own beloved Stan on two of our hunts.

Monthly Recipe

This month's recipe is one you can drink as you snuggle by the fire with that special someone...

White Hot Chocolate

2 cups heavy cream

6 cups whole milk

12 oz white chocolate, finely chopped

1 tsp pure vanilla extract

1 piece dark chocolate

1. Using a veggie peeler, shave dark chocolate into curls and set aside.
2. Place white chocolate in a medium heat proof bowl; set aside
3. Place milk and cream in a medium saucepan set over medium heat until bubbles begin to form around edges of pan (about 4 min) DO NOT BOIL
4. Remove mixture from the heat.
5. Immediately pour over white chocolate.
6. When the chocolate begins to melt,

gently stir to combine.

7. Whisk in Vanilla.
8. Continue whisking until light foam forms.
9. Serve immediately.
10. Garnish with chocolate shaving.

Makes 8 cups

25 min to make/15 min prep

Urban Legends- True or False

As I was researching the internet I came across this very interesting web-site called urban legends. Among the stories there were two that really stuck out for me. See if you can tell if they are true or false:

Dead Man Gawking: The claim is that the "hanging man" in a fun house turns out to be the corpse of an outlaw.

In December 1976 a Universal studios camera crew arrived at the Nu-Pike Amusement Park in Long Beach, CA, to film an episode of the television action show, the *Six Million Dollar Man*. In preparing the set in a corner of the funhouse, a worker moved the "hanging man" causing one of this prop's arms to come off. Inside it was human bone. This was no mere prop; this was a dead guy. Was this true or false?

Actually this is true. The body was actually that of Elmer McCurdy, a young man who in 1911 robbed a train of \$46 and two jugs of whiskey in OK. He announced to the posse in pursuit of him that he would not be taken alive. He was proved right— they killed him in the ensuing shoot-out.

McCurdy began his career as a sideshow attraction right after his embalming. He looked so darned good dressed up in his fancy clothes that the undertaker propped him up in a corner of the funeral home's back room and charged locals a nickel to see "The Bandit Who Wouldn't Give Up". The nickels were dropped into the corpse's open mouth from where they were later retrieved by the entrepreneurial undertaker.

No next of kin showed up to claim McCurdy, so the corpse kept mouthing nickels for a few years. Carnival promoters wanted to buy the stiff, but the undertaker turned them all down. McCarty was producing a steady income for the funeral parlor— why tamper with success—

In 1915, two men showed up and claimed that McCurdy was their brother. They hauled the body away, supposedly to give him a decent burial in the family plot. In reality, McCurdy's "brothers" were carnival promoters and this was a ruse to get the deceased away from the undertaker. The promoters' exhibited McCurdy throughout Texas under the same billing as the undertaker had given him—"The Bandit That Wouldn't Give Up".

After that tour, McCurdy popped up everywhere, including an amusement park near Mount Rushmore, lying in an open casket in a Los Angeles wax museum, and in a few low budget films. Before the *Six Million Dollar Man* crew discovered this prop to be a corpse, McCurdy had been hanging in that Long Beach funhouse for four years.

In April 1977, the much traveled Elmer McCurdy was laid to final rest in Summit View Cemetery in Guthrie, OK. To make sure the corpse would not make its way back to the entertainment world, the state medical examiner ordered two cubic yards of cement poured over the coffin before the grave was closed. McCurdy hasn't been seen hanging around amusement parks since.

The second story is as follows:

Legend: A woman dies of a heart attack with a phone still in her hand. The telephone in her husband's crypt is later discovered to be off the hook.

One variation of this legend is that one of the Ball Brothers, of the canning jar family, had a great fear of being entombed alive. He had a telephone installed in his tomb so he could call out if this were to ever happen to him. As the story goes, he dies in the late 1930's. A few days later, some of his wife's family got worried because they could only



Elmer McCurdy
"The Bandit that Wouldn't"

get a busy signal on her phone. Upon entering her home, they found her dead, a look of frozen fright on her face, clutching the phone. When they went to entomb her after the funeral a couple of days later, you can guess what

they found... yep the phone was off the hook *inside* the crypt..... So was this story true or false?

This story was absolutely false..... The fear of being buried alive has led to the invention of various devices whose purpose is to allow the hastily entombed to signal that a mistake had been made. But It wasn't a misplaced fear either—even in this century, physicians of solid reputation have cited numerous instances of people being pronounced dead and then stirring to life again, reviving from a coma or some trauma that had reduced the pulse or respiration to imperceptibility.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, contraptions employing bells, buzzers and flags were devised to send such distress signals. As technology advanced, so did what people wanted to take to their graves as a precautionary measure.. These days it is telephones and modems. Our legend of the deceased husband summoning his wife to his side plays upon our fascination with the supernatural. We don't want to believe death is the end of things, so we embrace stories that seem to confirm it won't be. If communication between the dead and the living is possible, then death must not be all that final a destination. Phone or no phone, to date there has never been any confirmed instance of contact being made from beyond the grave by this mode.

Source: [www. Snopes.com](http://www.Snopes.com)

Membership

As of January 1st there will be some changes as to how membership is done. Chapters will no longer process or accept membership dues. All membership applications and renewals must be mailed directly to corporate. All fees must be paid via the PO Box or by Paypal on the Main IGT website. ***Dues have also gone up as of the 1st. The new dues are as follows:***

Individual-\$25
Couple- \$40
Family- \$50 up to 5 imme-

diates family members. \$10 for each additional family member living in the same household.

The following benefits come with the membership:

Liability Insurance Protection.
Professional Development.
Advancing the Profession.
Leading Information.
Networking.
Monthly Meeting.

Local and Statewide Ghost Hunts and Investigations.

Website and Forum Access.

Access to Specialized Training Workshops and Seminars.

Voting Rights to Elect Chapter Representation.



Prospect Place-Dresden Ohio by Tracey Beverly

Prospect Place is a 29-room mansion built by abolitionist George Willison Adams at Dresden Ohio, in 1856 It is the home of the non-profit G.W. Adams Educational Center, INC and is located in the village of Trinway, Ohio, just 1/2 mile north of Dresden.

Prospect Place was the home of George Willison Adams family of Dresden, Ohio in the 19th and 20th centuries. This structure is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is currently in the process of being restored. In the 1850's and 1860's the house was a station on the Underground Railroad. Although a few fine homes remain in Dresden from this era, Prospect Place is the last remaining Dresden area mansion, the others have met the fate of time and neglect and are no more.

Since Prospect Place was a station

on the Underground Railroad, African American refugees who had escaped slavery in the South would be kept in the basement of the mansion. They would be given food, lamps, blankets, and whatever they lacked for their trip further north along the Underground Railroad. Prospect Place was one of the largest stations in the state of Ohio. Bounty hunters from the south regularly roamed the Ohio countryside looking for runaway slaves, the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 made this legal, even though Ohio was a free state. It was a very risky business to be involved in liberating these people.

George W. Adams and his father's family were among the earliest settlers of Muskingum County. Leaving the beautiful Virginia home in Fauquier County because of his strong abolition views and



believing implicitly in the doctrine "that all men are born free and equal"—an idea which had few followers among Virginia slave holders of that day—he gave his slaves their freedom and sought a new home in a state where men were not held in bondage and where thought was free.

George Willison Adams, the youngest of George Adams, came with his father to Ohio in 1808, being at that a time nearly 8 years old.

They settled in Madison Township and spent their remaining days in Muskingum County. About the year 1828, George W. Adams and his brother Edward built a large flouring

mill at the place that became known as Adams Mill. This being the first enterprise of that character in all that section of the country. A little later, they built another large Mill near the town of Dresden. These at once proved of inestimable value to the people of that locality for hitherto they had to go very long distances in order to have their grain ground into breadstuffs. The Adams brothers also engaged in merchandising in those days according to the primitive methods of the time, going east for goods, which they shipped by canal to Ohio for there were no railroads in this part of the country.

They also shipped grain and flour by flatboats to New Orleans, George W. Adams often going himself by flatboats down the Ohio and the Mississippi rivers and returning to the north with provisions, which were needed in the new settlement.

During the Civil War, George W. Adams gave much of his means to help the cause of the north and to preserve the union of the states, for the united country was very dear to him and he rejoiced greatly in the triumph of the Union Armies. His public-spiritedness was also shown in the aid, which he gave to the railroads, giving many miles of right of way to both the Panhandle and the Cincinnati & Muskingum Valley railroads companies through his lands. As his Financial resources increased in value he made judicious investment in land and had large and valuable farms which increased in value owing to the cultivation be-

stowed upon them and because of the demand made for property by a constantly increasing population.

Mr. Adams was twice married and passed away August 31, 1879, survived by his wife and seven children.

Like several Ohio and nearby reformatories Prospect Place offers fee based Ghost hunts. The proceeds of these Investigations go directly to the G.W. Adams Educational Center, A Non-Profit organization. Prospect Place mansion is one of the most haunted homes in Ohio. With 150 years of paranormal history including sightings and strange activity, this Dickensian mansion stands forebodingly in the rural Ohio countryside. Prospect Place offers a complete paranormal experience for those willing - spend the night, sleep in one of our meticulously restored guestrooms and expect to be surprised by the more permanent residents (some of whom have been here for a very long time). Prospect Place offers three guestrooms for your overnight stay. Below are just some of the ghost that have been spotted:

The Tale of a Bounty Hunter

The three-story brick horse barn and carriage house standing on the estate property has a very interesting history of its own. Built from the destroyed remains of the first Prospect Place (Prospect Place is the second house to stand on the foundation, the first and identical house was burned to the ground by an arsonist) the three-story building has a colorful past. The first floor was used to stable the estate horses and the family carriages. The second floor was used for hay

storage and the third floor was used as a bunkhouse for the ranch hands. According to family history, a true event occurred in the late 1850s. A Bounty Hunter from the South arrived at Prospect Place. He was met at the door to the mansion by G.W. Adams. The Bounty Hunter demanded George turn over any slaves he was hiding in the mansion. George proceeded to produce from his coat his Navy revolver and a standoff with the heavily armed Bounty Hunter ensued for several minutes. Seeing the predicament, the ranch hands working in the barn quickly emerged with their rifles and the Bounty Hunter decided that the situation had become too dangerous. The man retreated to his camp for the night empty handed of slaves. This is where the oral-tradition story ends. The story picks back up with modern psychics who have filled in the blanks from that point on. The ranch hands who felt themselves very well taken care of by George Adams and in his debt decided to execute a little vigilante justice on George's behalf. They tracked the bounty hunter back to his camp and abducted him. Returning to the barn, they held a trial and convicted him of the high crime of slavery (under god's law). The bounty hunter was executed by hanging from the third floor through the hayloft opening. The ranch hands then secretly buried the body. Knowing George would never approve of their actions, nobody ever spoke of this incident again. Today, however, the restless spirit of the bounty hunter roams the barn where he died look-

ing for revenge on the ranch hands who killed him. You may sometimes feel a touch on your arm in the barn, or if lucky, capture an image of a ghostly dark clad man on film.

Constance Cox

The story of a little girl who fell from the front balcony has existed in the Dresden area for more than a century. Anna and William Cox adopted a young girl named Constance who died at a young age. The girl was afflicted with a fever and wandered into the balcony one cold night in the winter when she lost her footing and fell over the low railing to the hard sandstone steps below. The girl's body was not buried immediately as the frozen ground would not allow for the digging of a grave. The body was placed on ice in the basement in a pit originally designed as refrigeration system for the home. Here the child remained until the spring thaw when she could be given a proper burial. Anna (the mother) grieved for her lost child and visited the body daily until the burial. Today the ghost of Constance can sometimes be seen on the second floor near the door to what once was the portico balcony. Other observations of Constance have been made in the basement, the ballroom and the upstairs parlor (the room in which she was kept while ill) which is today the guest bedroom. Her image has been seen standing near the fireplace mantle in that room.

Anna Adams Cox

Anna Adams Cox was the eldest daughter of G.W. Adams. She and her husband William Cox, Jr. inherited the mansion when G.W. died in 1879. For many years, the couple lived a happy and high lifestyle within the mansion. William was known for having lavish balls and parties and for spending lots of money. It seems that eventually the money ran out and he boarded a train to Columbus one morning and was never heard of again. Anna as left heartbroken and alone with her child (the surviving George Cox) in the huge mansion. As time went by many family heirlooms and even parts of the house itself (the copper of the roof) were sold off to make ends meet. Anna died at Prospect Place due to complications from a fall on the ice at the neighboring River Dale mansion. She died lonely and broken, never knowing the fate of her missing husband.

Anna still wanders the halls of the estate searching for the life and husband she once loved.

The Refugee in the Basement

Many refugees (former slaves) escaping on the Underground Railroad once stayed in the mansion basement. One women seems to have been injured, likely in her attempt to escape from the south. She received a head wound and was in bad shape when she arrived. Although the staff of the mansion tried everything to save this woman, she eventually died of her wounds.

Today many have seen or heard this woman in the basement. She is not an angry or resentful spirit, quite the contrary in fact. She was most pleased with the attention she receives here and looks upon the mansion as her home. She is a watchful guardian spirit of the mansion and has only become angry with people who have been bent on doing the house harm. She is normally friendly to ghost investigators: however, she has been known to play a prank or two now and again.

Prospect Place has a very rich heritage and is a ghost hunter's dream. Members of the Terre Haute IGT are very actively looking into setting up an overnight hunt at this area in the near future.

Visit the website at: <http://prospectplace-dresden.com/> to hear examples of EVPs previous ghost hunters have recorded as well as many picture galleries for different parts of the mansion.

[www.freewebs.com/thchapterigt/
index.htm](http://www.freewebs.com/thchapterigt/index.htm)

Members due for Renewal:

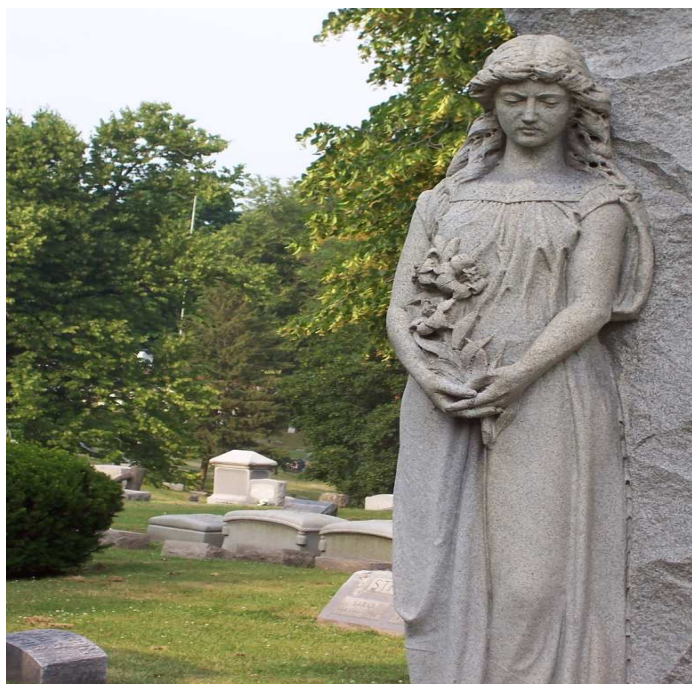
Dec: Sean Harris

Jan: Jenny Whitlow

Donnie Vandevender

***Don't Forget to go to the main
website and renew for this
coming year.***

www.indianaghosts.org



IGT Mission Statement

Our goal is to gather and collect data that will lead to a better understanding of ghosts and hauntings. We consistently work to obtain real and solid evidence of ghosts and always strive to maintain a professional approach in the presentation of such evidence. In the process of pursuing that goal, we also wish to aid any individuals having problems with or dealing with a situation. We hope to do this by educating them as to the true nature of their situation and giving them the information and understanding necessary to create a livable resolution for the individual(s) and the spirit(s). We will also assist

people who cannot live with their situations or put them in contact with a trained professional who can assist them. We are open minded to all theories and methods as this is still not an exact science. Everyone in the field of paranormal research learns as they go. Hopefully, in the end we will collect the necessary proof and field -tested theories that are vital to bringing the subject of ghosts into the mainstream of science.

