

The Ghostly Gazette

News

This Summer has been a busy one for everyone. Norfolk Inn was a great investigation. There was a lot of evidence captured and lots of personal experiences that included lights going on and off, deadbolt locks unlocking and things being moved. Alan is looking into going back during the off season.

Thank you to everyone that stopped by the API trailer at Centeron Days. We had lots of interest in what we do and lots of personal stories.

The cookout at Alan's house on July 12 was a huge success. We enjoyed visiting with all who came out and missed everyone who was unable to join us.

Upcoming Events

August 23—Investigation at Jeff and Michelle Young's house in Rogers.

August 30—Parade, starting at Prairie Grove Public School. This starts at 9:00 a.m. Anyone wishing to participate by sitting inside the truck or passing out candy out of the back of the truck, please be at the Prairie Grove school by 8:30 a.m.

September 6—Investigation at a location in Fort Smith with Channel 5 News. More information to come on this.

September 27—Investigation at a private residence in Rose Bud, Arkansas

Myrtle's Plantation—The team voted and we are planning a trip sometime next year. Please email Tammy with your choice of either late spring or early fall. Also, some have expressed an interest in spending a day or two in New Orleans. Let us know if you have any suggestions on ghost tours, etc. for us to do. Tammy's email: apighosthunters@yahoo.com.

API Investigator Spotlight

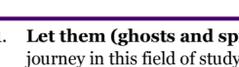


**Carol Martindale—
Lead Investigator/Researcher**

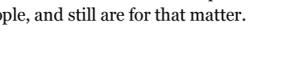
Carol is a freelance writer with a master's degree and work history in Criminal Justice in Baltimore, MD. She has worked at the Smithsonian, lobbied Congress on an endangered species, served on NM State environmental committees, and volunteers for a national prison reform organization. She's been interested in the paranormal since childhood. Carol also does research on many of our investigations.



API Ghost Hunting Tips



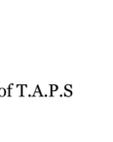
Lake Norfolk Inn investigation—Wisp of light caught in front of a door in an investigators room. This is also one of the doors that had the deadbolt that kept unlocking by itself.



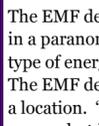
Lake Norfolk Inn investigation—Puddle of water that mysteriously appeared during an EVP session in the bar area.

- Let them (ghosts and spirits) know they are not forgotten**—Let your journey in this field of study be a labor of love. Remember to be respectful of ghosts and spirits, as they were once people, and still are for that matter.
- Never tease, threaten or dare an unseen entity**—First of all, we want to be taken seriously. Secondly, we are ghost hunters, not bullies. Lastly, we sure don't want any vindictive entities following us home or worse yet, attacking and hurting us.
- Conduct yourselves as a professional at all times**—We always want to present ourselves as one in control. And that of course means around other investigators, victims of a haunting, and even to the ghosts themselves.

Equipment Showcase



Using an EMF (Electromagnetic Field) Detector



By Steve Gonsalves of T.A.P.S

Introduction

The EMF detector measures electromagnetic fields and is one of the first tools we use in a paranormal investigation. It is based on the theory that spirits are composed of a type of energy that, when present, can manipulate the Earth's electromagnetic field. The EMF detector can also measure free-floating EMF waves that are passing through a location. "Free-floating" describes energy that is no longer connected to an energy source, but is still present in the atmosphere. For instance, electrical outlets, which leak power into their surroundings, can discharge an energy burst that can be picked up by an EMF detector.

Step 1 EMF Hypersensitivity

Remember, you're not always looking for paranormal activity with the EMF detector. You may be looking for high EMF readings to support a case of EMF hypersensitivity.

Some people experience adverse effects from extended periods of moderate EMF exposure or shorter intervals of highly concentrated EMF exposure.

One cause of EMF hypersensitivity is EMF leakage from any electrical appliance, electrical input/output or energy source. An alarm clock leaking a 10-milligauss EMF all night could cause EMF hypersensitivity based on a person's proximity to the device and duration of exposure.

Adverse effects can include blotchy vision, headaches, dizziness, mild hallucinations and more. Victims of EMF exposure can easily mistake their symptoms for evidence of paranormal influence or activity.

Step 2 Enter the area of your investigation and turn on your detector

Depending on the model of your detector, it may have one or several measurement settings. For investigation purposes, set your EMF detector to milligauss. This is the most common measurement used for alternating-current electromagnetic fields in both residential and commercial zoning. One gauss is one line of force per square centimeter over one second. A milligauss is 1 one-thousandth of a gauss.

Optional: Calibrate EMF Detector

Note: You must have two detectors to do this.

Normal wear and tear can impair an EMF detector's performance. If you have two EMF detectors, you can conduct a simple field calibration test to make sure the detector you're about to use is working properly.

Find a spot where your EMF detector gives you a reading of 0 milligauss (or as close as is practical), and place the detector on the ground. Now place another EMF detector about one foot away. If your EMF detector is calibrated correctly, both will show the same reading. It's smart to continue administering this field test before each investigation, or send your EMF detector to a technician or the maker for calibration once a year.

Step 3 Establish a base EMF reading for the area of investigation

Before you look for spikes in the EMF, you should first establish a base EMF reading for the area (typically, the base will be under 1 milligauss). Walk around the area with the detector held in front of you at your mid-section, and record the range of EMF readings.

Note: Be careful not to shake the EMF detector or move it back and forth too quickly, as it might give you an inaccurate reading.

The base EMF reading is the average of your lowest and highest EMF reading. For instance, if your lowest and highest readings during your initial sweep are .75 and 1.25 milligauss, your base reading is 1 milligauss.

A base EMF reading allows you to accurately assess any EMF spikes -- which are generally defined as sharp rises of 1 milligauss or more above the base -- you encounter. On a hunt, for example, you could enter a site and right away see 2-milligauss spikes. You'd break out the cameras, do EVP work and even try to make contact. It all could be wasted effort if the area's base reading is already 1.5 milligauss.

A .5-milligauss jump is relatively insignificant, absent other supporting evidence.

Step 4 Look for EMF spikes on the EMF detector

Once you've established the base EMF reading for the area, walk with the EMF detector out in front of you at your midsection. You are looking for substantial spikes in the EMF.

The more intense the electromagnetic field, the greater chance that paranormal activity is occurring. However, a good investigator will rule out other sources -- man-made or natural -- when encountering a substantial spike in the EMF.

Step 5 Make sure you're not getting a false positive EMF reading

In the context of a paranormal investigation, a false positive describes a spike caused by a natural or man-made source. When you get an EMF spike, find the direction it's coming from.

If your base EMF reading is .4, and you register a spike of 2.5, move your detector in each axis (up, down, forward and back) to see if your EMF reading gets stronger or weaker. If you move your EMF detector backward and the spike dissipates, you have ruled out that direction. If you move forward and the spike increases, chances are the source of the EMF spike is in that direction.

Step 6 Move in the direction of the EMF spike

If your EMF reading climbs higher as you proceed in a certain direction, continue in that direction until you locate the source of the EMF spike.

If your reading spikes, then dissipates, change axis so you can find the EMF spike again. In our experience, when an EMF reading dissipates in every direction it is a sign that the energy you're picking up is coming from its own source and not a man-made source.

Step 7 Identify different kinds of EMF

In our investigations we've found that man-made power sources such as light fixtures, electrical outlets, power boxes and exposed wiring tend to generate consistent EMF readings, as do household objects like rugs and blankets.

On the other hand, it's more common for spirits -- which behave in some respects like free-floating EMF waves -- to produce spikes in the EMF that seem to dissipate. This may be an indication that a spirit is moving around the location.

It should be noted that some hydroelectric power -- such as water turning a wheel -- produce EMF spikes that rise and fall. It's important that you become familiar with different sources of EMF energy so you can identify them in an investigation.

Step 8 Review your EMF evidence scientifically

Ruling out conventional sources for EMF spikes doesn't mean you have found a ghost, nor is a free-floating EMF spike seemingly independent of natural or man-made causes confirmation of a paranormal presence.

As a serious investigator, such findings are an indication that you should intensify your investigation and employ other tools. If you suspect a paranormal presence, you may want to start taking pictures, begin EVP work or try establishing contact. The EMF detector is one of the first tools we use in a paranormal investigation, so remember, no matter how persuasive your findings are, the hunt has only just begun.

Arkansas Paranormal Investigations

Please feel free to visit our website for more information about requesting an investigation or joining the group.

www.paranormalbeliever.com

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? E-mail us at aspilot@aol.com.

Contributors

Alan Silva—Founder/Director

Tammy Elliot—Secretary

Carol Martindale—Researcher

Michelle Young—Newsletter

*Steve Gonsalves EMF article was featured on the syfy.com web site.