

NEWS from the Paranormal Investigators of Milwaukee

September 2014

Issue 25

Special points of interest:

Now that October is right around the corner PIM will be once again offering their Free Library Events. These events last around an hour and PIM will have a slide show presentation on how we conduct investigations, different types of hauntings, EVP evidence review, and much more. We will also have a question and answer session. We hope to see you there!

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The Return From Mini Expedition

On August 21st PIM embarked on yet another expedition. This time their goal: Farrar School and Villisca Axe Murder House. Both are located in the great state of Iowa. Their first stop was Farrar School.

The Farrar School was built in 1921 as an elementary school and remained so until it closed its doors in 2002. Over the dec-lamming doors, and figures and apparitions ployees, students and PIM's arrival the them into the "climate PIM would be using as their stay. Hanging on is a drawing. This figure in the shape of a the steps leading out of We are told that this is a ple have witnessed in also told that two "hot floor and the boiler room. As it turned out the boiler room did have some interesting occurrences but it also has a fair share of natural knocks, noises, and water dripping. The school is also home to many crickets and there was even a mouse sighting. PIM had a great time investigating the school and per-haps some day will return.



The next day PIM peeled themselves out of their beds and continued on to Villisca. The Ax Murder home is a well maintained and taken care of farm house full of antiques and a very sad past. PIM brought many different trigger objects in addition to their electronic equipment including an axe to hopefully stir up some activity for the investigation ahead. PIM's goal is to also be respectful of the fact that 8 people were brutally murdered , 6 of them children. During the first EVP session of the night 2 distinct knocks guest bedroom where that were guests of the murdered . There are the home but it is in a are nearby. A knock the time that it hap- the knocks are a mys- review is still ongoing. after the team conduct- sion of the night a that lasted through already spooky house paranormal investiga- couldn't have been more perfect. Hopefully someday the team will return to continue the research of both locations.



ades claims of voices, sightings of shadow were made by em- visitors alike. Upon schools owner led controlled' room that home base during the wall of this room drawing is of a dark man walking down the Principal's office. drawing of what peo- that location. We are spots" are the third

were heard in the the two little girls Moore family were no pipes or vents in town and neighbors was not asked for at pened. At this point tery but evidence Almost immediately ed the last EVP ses- storm came through morning making an spookier. But for 6 tors the conditions

Meet PIM's New Investigator Cassie

My name is Cassie and I am 25 years old. I was a bartender/server for the past 10 years until 2014. I now work in the Mutual Funds department at US Bank downtown. I am single and do not have children. I have always been interested in the paranormal, especially since it became popular back when I was in high school. I was randomly searching online at work one day and came across PIM. I looked into their prior cases and researched all about them and realized they were the best fit for me because of their scientific approach. I can't wait to see what this new adventure with PIM has to offer!



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CALANDER OF EVENTS

September 6th: Investigation at Ashmore Estates, Ashmore, IL

September 6th: Investigation of the Lowell Damon House, Wauwatosa, WI

September 13th: Residential Investigation, Watertown, WI

LIBRARY EVENTS

October 9th: New Berlin Library Event

October 15th: Franklin Library

Event

October 20th: Greendale Library Event

October 28th: West Allis Library Event

October 28th: Event at UW Oshkosh

October 29th: Brookfield Library Event

October 31st/November 1st: Milwaukee Public Museum Event

The John Krahnicles: Written by John Krahn

In 1994, a woman took a bite out of a grilled cheese sandwich, only to notice what appeared to be the image of the Virgin Mary on the sandwich. Fast forward to 2004. The woman kept the sandwich and sold it on Ebay for \$28,000. Someone apparently had some money burning a hole in their pocket. This is an example of pareidolia. Pareidolia is a psychological phenomenon where the human brain is wired to recognize images in random patterns. People are particularly hard wired from birth to recognize faces in patterns, such as the man in the moon. A person's religious beliefs also play a large role in this phenomenon. If you search Google, you will find many, many examples of photos where people believe they have captured the images of Jesus, the Virgin Mary, and God in stains, tree bark, food, and many other ordinary objects. Who has not looked up at the clouds and said, "Oh look, a bunny!", or other recognizable images. How does this fit in the paranormal field? I'm glad you asked. We frequently get presented with photographs that the owner believes displays a ghost, angel, or demon. Usually the photo is taken in poor lighting, has low megapixel quality, and is often seen in a mirror or glass with a flash, causing light aberrations. Frequently, the image is only noticed when digitally zooming in on the image, which means the pixels are being moved further apart making it even easier for the brain to see a facial pattern since this causes the image to be more grainy. People will digitally zoom in on a photograph of a piece of dust (or as many call it, an "Orb"). I will discuss "Orbs" in a future article. They zoom in on the image of dust and voila!!! They see a face!!! Clearly they have captured the image of a spirit or demon--Not!! If you take a low quality photo of virtually anything and digitally zoom in, you will most likely see some type of facial pattern. This can be problematic when a person takes a photograph as described above and believes they have a demonic face captured. I have seen irresponsible paranormal groups who have done this and presented the client with "proof" they have a demon in their house and are in need of an exorcism. A situation where the person was confused and perhaps scared has now been made exponentially worse, with no legitimate basis. There is also audio pareidolia which works on the same principal, but with sound. Ghost adventures will often play an "EVP" which is an audio clip full of static, cranked up in volume. You hear it and say to yourself, "I have no idea what that is saying." Until they display the words underneath and then you will often now also perceive that is what is being said. When a sound or sounds are heard and the brain doesn't recognize it, it searches your personal database based on experiences and comes up with the closest match. Pareidolia is fascinating. It just isn't paranormal.

Recent Events/Investigations

- On August 15th PIM had the great honor of participating in making a young man's wish come true. Last month PIM decided to contact the Make-a-Wish foundation and asked to make themselves available to anyone who would want to go on a paranormal investigation. It wasn't long before they were asked to take a young man by the name of Conner and his mom on an investigation. PIM was extremely honored and quickly set it up. It was decided to take him to the Modjeska Theatre, a place that PIM has investigated many times in the past. The investigation went well and Conner and his mom were both great first time investigators!! PIM cannot express how honored they are by this experience and hope to work with the Make-a-Wish foundation again.
- On August 20th Gravy and Denys investigated a private residence in Sturtevant, WI. The claims of this home are the radio turning on by itself, voices, and hair being touched. The evidence review for this investigation is still ongoing but the report will be posted soon.



PIM offers scientific investigations of suspected paranormal activity in homes, businesses, and historic sites. We pride ourselves on providing confidential, professional services free of charge.

To have PIM conduct an investigation for you, contact Noah Leigh (Lead Investigator) through our website or by the phone number listed above.

We look forward to meeting you at a public event, investigating with you, or just hearing from you on Facebook or Twitter!