

INSIGHT'S: PSYCHIC REVERBERATIONS FROM VIRGINIA TECH P30

TAPPS

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 10

PARAMAGAZINE

\$5.95 US/\$6.95 CANADA

NUMBER 21

JUNE 2007

The Mongolian

DEATH

WORM
PAGE 21



{FRANK'S BOX}
TALKING TO THE

DEATH

HAUNTED THEATER

The show must go on, and on, and on...

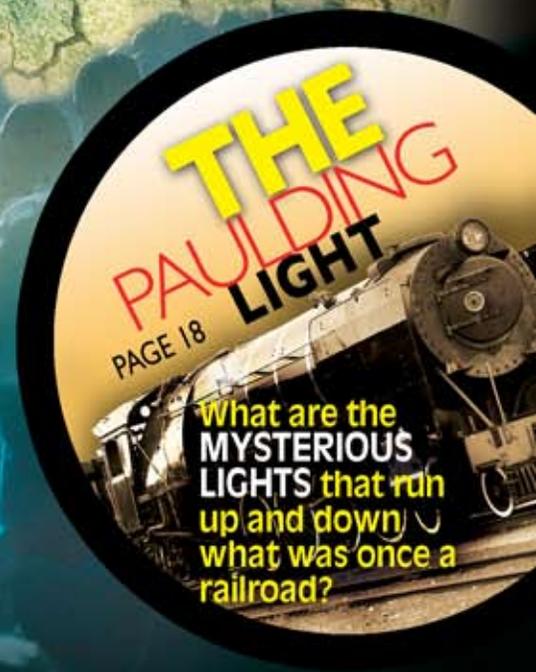
OPENING THE DOORWAY

to the PHENOMENON to **11:11**

EVIL DEAD THE MUSICAL WHAT HAPPENS WITH
EVIL DEAD: THE MUSICAL?
FIND OUT ON PAGE 19

plus

YOUR ASTROLOGY FORECAST for June
COLEMAN'S CORNER and Modern War Zone Cryptids
ROSEMARY ELLEN GUILLEY'S debut column, "ROSEMARY'S BABY"



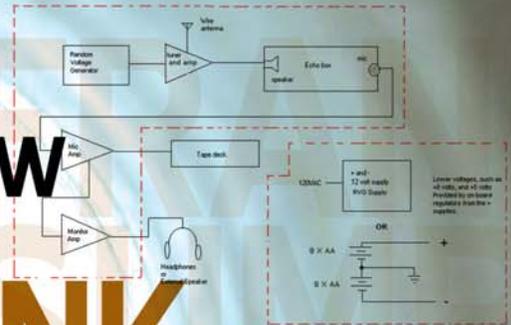
THE PAULDING LIGHT
PAGE 18

What are the MYSTERIOUS LIGHTS that run up and down what was once a railroad?



[By Rosemary Ellen Guiley]

INTERVIEW WITH FRANK SUMPTION ABOUT HIS FAMOUS GHOST BOX



Frank Sumption, the creator of "Frank's Box," also known as the "Ghost Box," prefers to stay out of the public eye. He graciously agreed to give an exclusive interview to TAPS Paramagazine. I am indebted to Randy Schneider, director of the Northern Chapter of Colorado Paranormal Research & Investigations, for helping to make this interview possible. — REG

BACKGROUND

Frank Sumption is the creator of a device intended for real-time, two-way communication with other realms, such as the dead, spirits and nonhuman beings. Such technology is part of instrumental transcommunication (ITC), which involves trying to capture voice and image, and build bridges for communication. Although the box has been in existence for several years, it only recently exploded into the paranormal field — where its use became the subject of instant controversy. In this exclusive interview, Sumption explains how his creation came into being — and how he thinks it should be used.

GUILLEY: How and when did you get the inspiration and instructions for creating the Ghost Box?

SUMPTION: Back in 1995 I read an article on EVP in *Popular Electronics*. I tried it once, but didn't get anything. I sat the magazine aside and told myself I would try again some other time. I came across the magazine again over Christmas break in 1999. I work for a school district, and we have Christmas off. In January 2000 I tried EVP using white noise, and got voices right off the bat. It was an older-sounding man mostly, but somehow familiar. I don't remember what he said, and I didn't save the tapes. From then on I have been completely hooked, and spend most of my spare time on boards, systems, and various methods of EVP/ITC.

After several months, I noticed that trying to hear the voices with the volume turned all the way up would make my ears ring. It became uncomfortable, so I got on the web, looking for something else, another method. I quickly found Stefan Bion's EVPmaker software. That

worked, and still works extremely well for me.

After some months of use, I noticed I kept getting messages apparently relayed from spirits that couldn't use the computer to the ones that could. I started wondering what else I could use to get all spirits. After a week or so of thinking about it, my present system pretty much just popped into my head. All I had to do was build it. That was in mid-summer of 2002.

I had the first box working at the end of August 2002. Until recently I have been unable to make any real changes to the circuit. All of the system components are things I had worked with in the past, so I think my own subconscious just assembled what I needed into a coherent system, and presented it to me.

My system is only one method of supplying the spirits/entities with a "raw audio" to form their voices out of. In March 2007 we, the other members of a Yahoo group for EVP, started experimenting with a new method of providing a "raw audio" that the spirits can use to for their voices. We just tune a radio slowly across the band, either AM, or FM by hand while recording directly from the radio's speaker to a tape deck, or digital recorder.

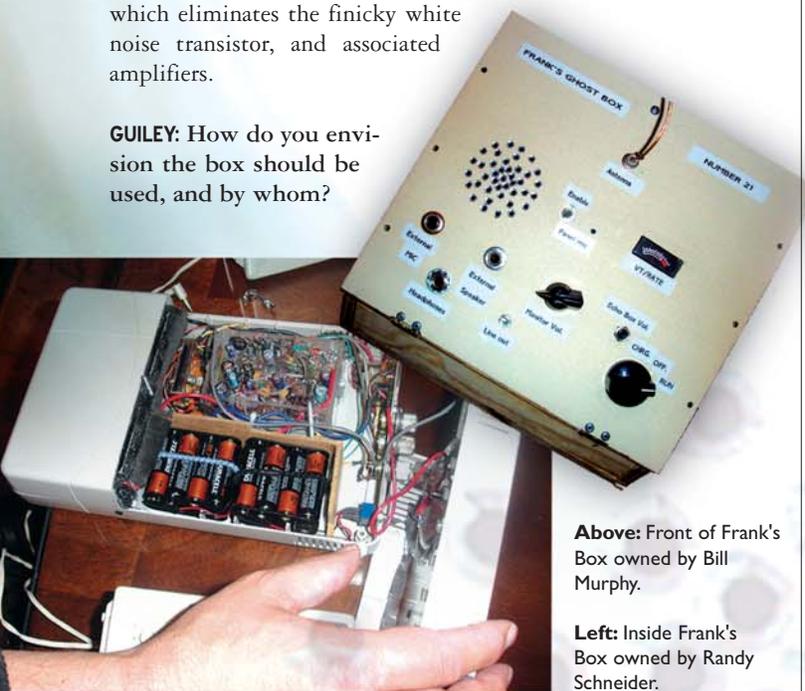
The results are coherent messages assembled from the speech, and music bits from the radio. In April of this year I made the first linear sweep

board, automating this manual tuning method, but have only done one test session on the new system so far. The results are very encouraging. I had assumed after using EVPmaker, and my system, that the "raw audio" had to be random. Apparently this was mistaken, as the new linear system seems to work just as well, and maybe be better than the random system.

GUILEY: Each box seems to be a bit different. Why do you continually change it?

SUMPTION: I have tried various ideas with different boxes as, like adding filtering chips, short wave converters, and tone generators to add in additional tones. I also use different size echo boxes, which is just an enclosure that helps in the clarity of the voices. I also have been using radio modules removed from car stereos, this is the source of the "raw audio," and every tuner is somewhat different. I recently have started using my own tuners, and will use these designs if I ever start making a production board, or system. The latest change is using linear sweep, which eliminates the finicky white noise transistor, and associated amplifiers.

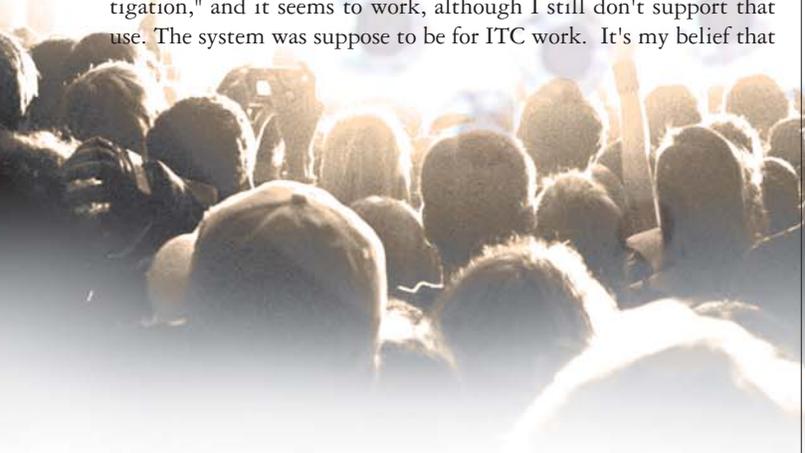
GUILEY: How do you envision the box should be used, and by whom?



Above: Front of Frank's Box owned by Bill Murphy.

Left: Inside Frank's Box owned by Randy Schneider.

SUMPTION: At first it was mostly for my own use, and I seem to have a group that claim to be ET that talk. They used to tell me this stuff was secret, which I kind of ignored. The system was meant to be used as a ham radio, where you would sit at home and the spirits/entities come to you. I have never used the boxes, as my system has come to be called, for "investigations," and I did not intend it to be used in this way. There are some using the boxes for "investigation," and it seems to work, although I still don't support that use. The system was suppose to be for ITC work. It's my belief that



ROSEMARY'S BABY

[By Rosemary Ellen Guiley]

What's the Deal with **FRANK'S BOX?**

Talk about not in Kansas anymore. Baby, fasten your seat belt! There's a tornado of controversy hitting the paranormal, and it's name is a device called Frank's Box. It was never intended for haunted investigations, but it may forever change the way investigations are done. In fact, Frank's Box has become more like *Pandora's box*. Love, hate it, don't know about it – the word is, you gotta have it. Do it. Experience it.

What is this box that has everyone so fascinated – and so divided?

Frank's Box – also called a Ghost Box – is named after its inventor, Frank Sumption, of Colorado. Sumption became interested in electronic voice phenomena (EVP) in 2002. He built the box from spirit guidance conveyed to him telepathically.

The box is a random volt generator that scans low-band electromagnetic frequencies, such as AM radio. It produces amplified, filtered and rectified white noise that spirits and entities manipulate to create voices for themselves. The desired result is real-time, two-way communication with the dead and beings such as angels or "ethericals," and even extraterrestrials.

Two-way, real-time communication is not new. Back in the early part of the 20th century, Thomas Alva Edison was said to be interested in creating a transdimensional telephone – but if he ever worked on plans, they've never been found. EVP research developed in the mid-20th century, and instrumental transcommunication (ITC), the high-tech research that involves both real-time voice and image, evolved from EVP. ITC research goes on around the world.

The most famous precursor to Frank's Box was the Spiricom, created in the 1970s by George Meek, an engineer, and William O'Neill, a medium. Their communications were robotic-sounding but clear voices that delivered sometimes lengthy messages. Meek gave others the plans for Spiricom, but no one could get their devices to work like his. That demonstrates one of the fundamentals of ITC research: the consciousness and intention of the researcher – not the technology itself – determines the results.

Frank's Box has plenty of supporters – and skeptics. The box has come to the attention of the paranormal community especially through the work of Christopher Moon, the president and senior editor of *Haunted Times* magazine. In December 2004, Moon received several boxes from Sumption for testing, and began taking them out on paranormal investigations. He interprets, or translates, unclear information for listeners.

Moon's demonstrations of the box at paranormal events have mes-

ROSEMARY'S BABY

merized and polarized audiences. Not everyone thinks that talking to the dead and spirits is a good thing – especially if they hear something negative come out. Just the prospect of talking to the dead can be emotionally and psychologically unsettling, in volatile ways. Moon advises caution, noting that entities can masquerade as familiar personalities.

Moon and Sumption have gone their separate ways over philosophical differences. Sumption feels the box should be used primarily for ITC,



L to R: Mark Macy, Randy Schneider, Bill Murphy and Rosemary Ellen Guiley, at The Stanley Hotel.

and by anyone who wants to use it. Moon says he is in contact with Edison, who heads a spirit team that works with Moon. Edison has told him that there are only 30 people who have the right attunement to use the box through training.

Jason Hawes and Grant Wilson, both of whom have seen the box in action, weighed in with skeptical opinions when they interviewed Moon on their radio show, *Beyond Reality*.

"This doesn't look like a good idea to me," said Wilson. The scanning, he said, seems to create "an auditory matrixing fest" in which people will hear what they want to hear. They will treat the box like an "electronic Ouija board."

Hawes agrees, noting that it's potentially dangerous to allow unknown spirit sources to communicate through one's psyche. And, the scanning is vulnerable to contamination from various sources, such as cell phones. In short, Hawes said, you don't really know what you're getting.

However, witnesses say that sometimes what comes through the box is uncannily on the mark. "The replies that come back really can't be denied," said Moon.

Moon demonstrated the box at Darkness/TAPS haunted event at The Stanley Hotel in Estes Park, Colorado, in March. People drawn by lots



Two versions of Frank's Box.
Left, owned by Bill Murphy. Right, owned by Randy Schneider.

were allowed to ask questions to contact the dead they knew. Many in the audience heard words in apparent answers to questions. Responses were interpreted by Moon, assisted by medium Chip Coffey.

using it to try to contact a specific spirits or entities biases the result, as I think with EVP work people tend to hear what they are looking for, and can, at time create those voices, or other evidence being sought.

When I run a session, I don't ask questions, nor ask for anyone in particular. I announce out loud that I am doing an EVP recording, and start the tape deck. When I first started using EVPmaker, asking questions would result in "them" calling me names and cussing at me, so I would just ask if there were any messages. I think it was training, so I would do session with no expectations, or other biases. I was too intrigued and fascinated to stop. I think anyone should be able to use the system, just like it seems anyone can do EVP recordings. It does seem to require a certain amount of training, or practice for the ears to pick up the messages, and they tend to be distorted, and mixed in with the raw audio.

GUILEY: How should people handle negative responses?

SUMPTION: I think the universe itself is made of positive and negative – good and evil – and it takes both sides. I always welcome all to speak. I do get some really obnoxious voices at times, but if they get too bad I've found if I just erase that little portion of tape, or delete the voice out of the file after it has been copied to the computer, they stop. I don't know why that works. I have found that sometimes I'll get a really nasty, cussing, name-calling voice, only to be followed by something angelic sounding. I have also found if I reverse the negative, play them backwards, it's often positive in reverse. I just accept the negative as part of the mix.

GUILEY: Why did you end relations with Christopher Moon?

SUMPTION: Chris and I had philosophical differences when it came to the use of the boxes, and who was "allowed" to use it. My feeling is that when others wish to use this system, their results may be different than mine, or anyone else's for that matter, as I believe there are multiple levels that can be reached through ITC systems. At this point, I am not manufacturing the boxes, since it is still experimental. The box's use would be in the category of "use at your own risk," and don't expect the results to be absolute truth, nor the entities that may come through to be who the claim. Contrary to what may have been presented, you can't just dial up some dead entity, and expect it to be that person coming through with a high certainty. I think it's safer to maintain that element of doubt. I made the box, and I think my concerns, and cautions should at least be considered.

GUILEY: What is the highest and best potential for the box?

SUMPTION: As with all forms of EVP, I think the first purpose is to show that life is forever. Next, it shows that the universe is a big, and very lively place, with multiple, maybe infinite levels, or dimensions. That's why I don't think anyone can set down laws or protocols about how spirit contact is to be made, how it works, or what is acceptable. I often find myself at odds with other researchers who act like they have all the answers. Maybe the best potential for the "box" is to open things up in the paranormal/EVP field. ■

{The Yaboo discussion group Sumption refers to is EVP-ITC, which can be found at <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/EVP-ITC/>. The photo there of a man wearing a hat, who looks like a classic Man in Black or a Shadow Person, was captured in 2006 by Sumption. He adapted the box to a small portable TV, and then filmed the screen with a digital camera. That image, as well as other of Sumption's ITC photos, can be found at <http://evp2007.50megs.com/photo2.html>. Another web resource is www.itcbridge.com.}

ROSEMARY'S BABY

Overall, some people were thrilled by the results and some were frightened. Private comments ranged from "Wow, this is amazing, and I want one," to "This is dangerous and should be shut down."

I had the opportunity at The Stanley to see two other boxes in action, one owned by Randy Schneider, director of the North Chapter of Colorado Paranormal Research and Investigations, and Bill Murphy, Los Angeles, a paranormal researcher and film producer, 13 Pictures. All three boxes were different, and each had a different "feel" to their operations.

One session with Schneider's box took place in the highly active Room 418, where a woman once felt demonically attacked or possessed, and where trapped ghosts are said to linger. Present were myself, Schneider, John Zaffis, Adam Blai, Chris Fleming and Patrick Burns. We asked for spirits to identify us, and we heard our names come through the box – not all at once, however. But most startling was the full name "John Zaffis," heard quite clearly.

"It's a tool like a recorder, no more dangerous than doing an EVP," said Schneider, who got his box from Sumption in November 2006. "People do have to be very careful about what they hear coming through it, and listen closely."

Schneider says he tries to take a scientific approach to using the box, primarily for ITC, in keeping with Sumption's vision. He turns it on for short periods of time and records the voices without asking questions, and then analyzes the results. He also does trials in which he asks questions. Nothing negative has ever come through, he said.

Murphy acquired his box from Sumption during The Stanley event. He has been involved in ITC research for about two years, which led to his meeting Sumption. He has not encountered negative entities via the box.

"I ask that only positive beings come through," said Murphy. "I think intention goes a long way in everything that we do, including communication with the unseen. I look for guidance and enlightenment. I don't wish to communicate with anything that could have an ulterior motive. Whatever you put out you come back with. If you veer off into a less positive thought mode, the box could possibly reply in the same."

Murphy prefers to use his box for ITC research rather than investigations or mediumship. "The box is not limited to the dead – that's not all it can do," he said. "You can tap into a higher truth with it. That is the use that Frank wishes. I like to use it as it was originally intended. I think I get more accurate messages that way. My role is a documentarian. Frank is a pioneer and has a vision, and I want to honor it." Murphy puts his hand on the box, which seems to imprint it with his own energy, and facilitates activity.

"Imagine that the box emits a stream of noise or phonetic slices over your head left to right," he said. "You hear words from the slices using your intuition, hopefully not tainted by emotions or prejudices. Intuition represents the truth. Anyone can hear the truth that exists out there in the ethers for all of us. We have to be careful to discard broadcast phrases that mingle with the messages. Don't mistake broadcast for a message from the unseen. The messages are embedded, and it's up to the operator to decode them. Use the box to get outside your own prejudices and fantasies. You have to bypass your own intellect and plug into the matrix."

Mark Macy, a leader in ITC for 20 years as co-founder of the International Network for Instrumental Transcommunication (INIT) and founder of World ITC, had experience at The Stanley with the boxes owned by Schneider and Murphy. "The way the box is set up to scan different frequencies, what comes through it could be open to misinterpretation," he said. "But my own experience with it was that the voices that came through were legitimate. For example, words were repeated several times, and that wouldn't happen with random scanning."

Regardless of whether the box delivers real transdimensional communication, people are divided on whether or not it should be used at all. Wilson

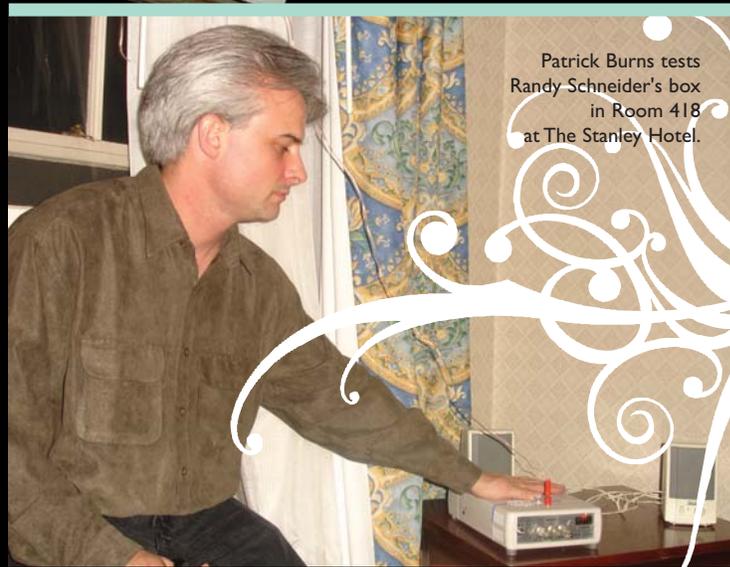
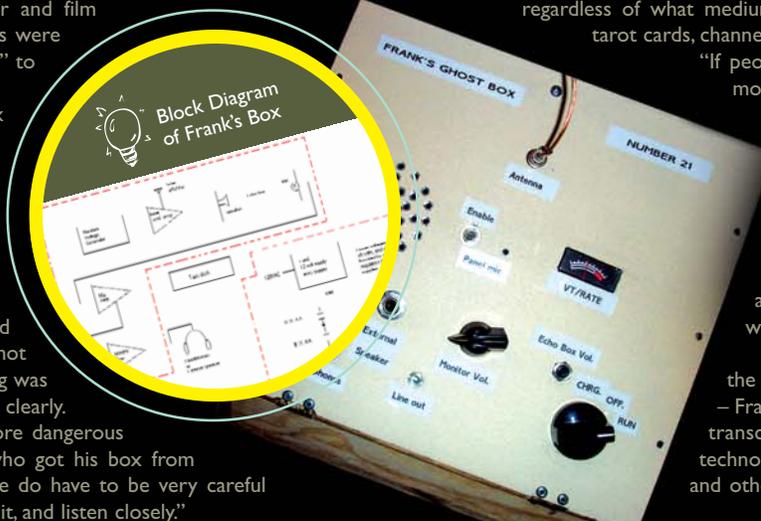
feels the dead should be left well enough alone, while Hawes says that if the box is the real deal, why not use one to reach the dead? It might assist closure in grief. But Wilson says the box might create problems rather than solve them. For example, what if a spirit gave bad personal advice, or said a religion is false – and people trusted the answers?

Such concerns have existed as long as humans have tried to talk to spirits.

Macy feels that in the long run, the box could be a good tool for communication with the other side. "What comes through it depends largely on the attitude of the experimenter," he said. "People who are steeped in love, good will and decency will attract a lot of positive spiritual influences regardless of what medium they are using—Ouija board, tarot cards, channeling, or ITC devices.

"If people are steeped in fears or animosities, then they will attract negative, destructive and harmful influences. This is the law of resonance, and it applies to everyone, even if they're not involved in spirit communication, because spirits move in and out of our world all the time and affect everyone, for better or worse."

Love it or hate it, bottom line is, the genies are well out of the bottle – Frank's Box is only one among many transcommunication devices. Their technology is improving. More boxes and other devices will keep coming into



Patrick Burns tests Randy Schneider's box in Room 418 at The Stanley Hotel.

use, and landing into a lot of different hands. People will use them to suit their purposes. That has a lot of seasoned investigators nervous. Hopefully, we'll learn how to use these devices responsibly.

One of the best actions paranormal investigators should take is to educate themselves about EVP and ITC, and follow Macy's advice for refining personal attunement.

WEBSITE RESOURCES: Christopher Moon, www.haunted-times.com; Mark Macy, www.worlditc.org; Randy Schneider, www.cprinvestigations.com; Bill Murphy, www.ghosttown.tv; American Association–Electronic Voice Phenomena, www.aeavp.com.

Rosemary Ellen Guiley is a leading expert on the paranormal, with 31 books in print. She also does investigations. Her website is <http://www.visionaryliving.com>.

FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:
E-MAIL ROSEMARY AT reg@visionaryliving.com