



The ghosts of Ohio[®] Newsletter

www.ghostsofohio.org

Volume 14 Issue 6

How Lowe Will Rob Go?



James

I'm worried about Rob Lowe.

With summer winding down and back to school items rolling out onto store shelves, we're only weeks away from the onslaught of new

paranormal reality shows. One of the early ones out of the gate is *The Lowe Files*, which features Rob Lowe (yes, THE Rob Lowe) venturing out in search of all things unexplained. The twist here is that he's doing it with his two sons, Matthew and John Owen.

The series is only two episodes in, but it already has me more than a little worried about Rob. Only not for reasons you'd expect.

If you've seen the show, you probably think I'm going to jump on the fact that Rob has a "personal shaman," who goes by the name of Shaman John. But I'll let that slide. I'll also ignore the obligatory spooky music and sound effects that permeate the show, lest we forget that we are watching a paranormal show. I'll also not hold it against Rob that the show feels the need to remind us that nothing is staged/edited, almost to the point where it begins to feel like they are indeed staging things and therefore feel the need to denounce it. You know, wink, wink, nudge, nudge.

What has me really worried about Rob comes whenever he and his two sons

encounter something they believe is paranormal. The first instance of this takes place while Rob and his sons are investigating California's Preston Castle. Their EMFs start to go wild and they believe they are having an encounter with a ghost. Afterward, as one son is recounting his story and admitting he was skeptical at first but now thinks that really was a ghost, the camera pans over to Rob, who is absolutely beaming.

The smile on Rob's face is genuine, as is the twinkling in his eyes. They are the true signs of someone who has just believed he had an encounter with the other side. The fact that Rob clearly gets that he's been able to experience it with his son is probably the reason why his smile is so big. Trust me—go hunt that scene down online and you'll see for yourself how touching it really is.

And that's why I'm worried about Rob Lowe. I don't want him to lose that excitement and enthusiasm.

Let's face it: today's paranormal reality shows are less about facts and more

about scares and...exaggeration.

Seriously, who is going to watch shows with words like "hunters" and "chasers" in the title if these shows never show people "catching" the things they are hunting and chasing? Which is why most shows, over the course of time, have to up the ante in order to keep people tuning in. I get that, but I also think that if *The Lowe Files* ends up feeling the pressure to deliver the goods, so to speak, that before long, Rob and his sons are going to be getting scratched by demons and thrown down stairs, even with Shaman John by their side. And once that happens, I'm sure the sparkle in Rob's eyes and the smile on his face will swiftly fade. And that would be a shame.

Stay strong, Rob.

Cheers,

James A. Willis

Founder/Director



PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Phone Calls

—Julie M., Gallipolis, OH



I'm not sure if this is a true ghost story, but it's really weird to say the least. So I thought I would share. Maybe you guys or your readers can make sense of it.

A couple of months ago, I picked up this old portable phone from a local flea market. Obviously, I don't have a need for a portable phone. But it was so archaic that I just had to have it. It's one of the first portable phones that I can ever remember my family owning. It's the kind where you have to pick the phone up from the base, pull up the antenna, and then turn the phone on to talk. There's even a little antenna on the base that you have to leave up (at least my family did) or else the reception is bad.

Like I said, I bought it because it reminded me of younger days and I thought it would be a nice conversation piece. I wasn't really expecting the phone to work, but when I got home, I plugged it in and was shocked to find it still worked. Reception wasn't bad, either. I left it plugged in and went to bed and forgot about it. That is, until it started ringing in the middle of the night.

Looking back, the first time I heard it, it woke me up and without even thinking, I went through the motions of picking the phone up, extending the antenna, turning the phone on, and saying hello. It was like I was a kid all over again. It was right around the time I woke up and thought "what am I doing" that I realized there was no one on the other end. No dial tone. Just silence. I said hello a few more times and then I heard a click as the phone disconnected. I didn't get scared or anything, at least not that time.

But over the next few weeks, the phone would randomly ring. Every time I would pick it up, there would be silence for 30 seconds or so, and then a click. The weirdest thing is that when the portable phone would ring, none of the other house phones would. So I just thought the portable phone was broken and I unplugged it.

I guess I should explain that to unplug a portable phone like this, you have to unplug the phone cord as well as the power to the base. Here's where it gets weird, though. That didn't stop the phone from ringing. Not sure what to make of that one since I'm not sure how a

phone can act like it's getting a call when there's no power going to it and it's not even connected to a phone cord.

By far, the weirdest thing, which is what made me decide to write you, happened two weeks ago. The phone, which was still unplugged, rang. I had gotten in the habit of ignoring it and just letting it ring, but I decided to pick it up this time. When I did, I heard the usual silence, but then some low static and finally, a male voice that clearly said, "Never been born." Then the line went dead.

I threw the phone away the next day.



**GOT A
SCARY STORY
TO TELL?**

Have you had a ghostly encounter in Ohio? Want to see it featured in a future issue of The Ghosts of Ohio Newsletter? Then here's all you have to do:

Just write down your story and send it to info@ghostsofohio.org with the subject line "Newsletter Ghost Story." Be sure to also include your name as you'd like it to appear with the story. We'll take it from there and send you out an email letting you know which issue it is going to appear in. That way, you can get all your friends to sign up for the newsletter so they can see how famous you are!

SKIP THIS MOVIE: MISSING 411



Samantha

Yes, you read that right. It pains me to say it, but the *Missing 411* movie isn't worth watching. Although it was filmed very well and had a

cinematic quality, the entire film failed on several levels.

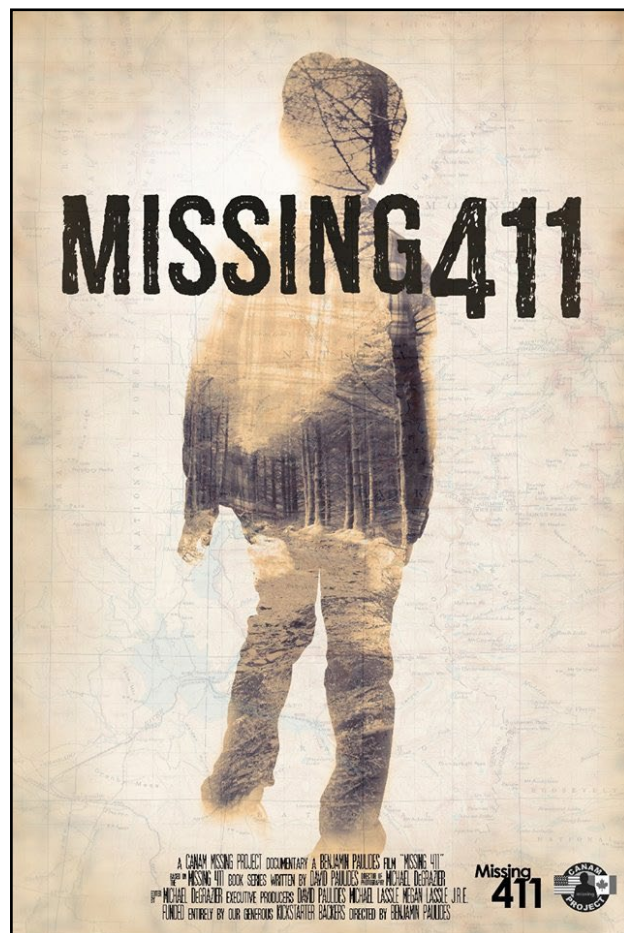
Its biggest failure is the fact that—unbelievably—it contains no explanation of the *Missing 411* phenomenon or David Paulides' research! There's nothing about the commonalities that make the *Missing 411* cases stand out from ordinary disappearances, and there's no background to let viewers know how Paulides was able to connect the dots between cases. Without this core information, there's no chance that viewers will understand the scope or gravity of it, and they certainly won't care enough to spread the word.

Instead, this film felt more like a typical episode of *48 Hours*. It zeroed in on a few cases of missing children, barely skimming the surface of why their disappearances are so unusual. Unfortunately, the heaviest focus was on the disappearance of young DeOrr Kunz, whose story has been rife with controversy since his parents have been caught telling inconsistent stories. There is a lot of genuine suspicion that they may have been involved in their son's disappearance—suspicion that only deepens as viewers watch this film!

Knowing the plethora of true *Missing 411* cases the producers could have chosen for this film, it's confounding why they chose this one.

And speaking of choosing cases to highlight, it's hard to understand why they chose to only focus on children. Plenty of adults go missing every year under strange circumstances, too; and in many cases their stories are incredibly weird. Personally, I'm much more interested in disappearances of adults because they make tougher targets for whatever's happening out there. A child can be neglected or abducted rather easily because of their size and innocence. Adults are bigger, they're not as easy to lure, and they'll put up a good fight. When full-grown, experienced adults go missing, there's a real problem. If we're going to try figuring out what's behind the *Missing 411* phenomenon, we need all the information we can get to connect the dots. We often have more information to go on when adults go missing. It was a mistake for producers to leave them out of the equation.

The film also made the mistake of heavily focusing on disappearances happening in national parks. In reality, people have been going missing from pretty much everywhere, even from university campuses and cities. But like all of the other crucial information



that should have been in this film, it wasn't mentioned.

If you're familiar with *Missing 411*, you'll be aware of everything that was left out of this film and you'll feel the same way I do. If you're not familiar with it, this movie won't help you understand it. You'd be much better off reading the *Missing 411* books or listening to podcasts that feature David Paulides (just search for his name on YouTube).

If David Paulides' intent was to bring awareness to his research and the *Missing 411* phenomenon, this film was a complete failure. Like I said, it felt like an episode of *48 Hours*, not the groundbreaking documentary it was meant to be. It was forgettable.



LORE PODCAST REVIEW



Darrin

I feel safe in assuming that everyone who is reading this newsletter is like me and enjoys a good scary story late at night; and if you are like me, knowing that the story is based on true facts or events makes it even better. Well fortunately, I stumbled across a very cool podcast that gives us exactly that!

The podcast is called LORE and it is done by author Aaron Mahnke. Each episode lasts about 30 minutes and consists of Aaron telling a story while melancholy music plays in the background to help set the mood. The story topics range from monsters to haunted mines to serial killers and just about everything in between. Currently there are 66 episodes in his library and a new episode comes out every two weeks.

The podcast is so successful that it is being started as series of books that will be published by Del Rey Books and is scheduled to release October 24. It has also been picked up by Amazon Studios as a TV series that will begin sometime soon on Amazon Prime. So take my advice and on the next dark and stormy night curl up to

the warm glow of your laptop, cell phone or iPod and listen to LORE.

LORE can be found at www.lorepodcast.com and more information about it creator can be found at his site <http://aaronmahnke.com/>.



SEND THE GHOSTS BACK IN TIME!

Several issues ago, we announced our new “Back In Time” feature where we asked you to share your spooky stories from childhood and we would do some research to find out where those stories stand today. Sort of like a supernatural scavenger hunt where we try to unearth all those tales from your youth. I guess we struck a nerve with you guys because the response has been overwhelming! We’ve gotten over 95 requests so far, which include everything from ghosts and haunted houses to mysterious monsters and even a few UFO sightings! Amazing!

For those of you unfamiliar with what we’re doing, it all goes back to the idea that everyone, even those who might not believe in the supernatural, has one thing in common when it comes to ghosts: a scary story of a haunted place from your childhood. You know, the old house you weren’t supposed to go

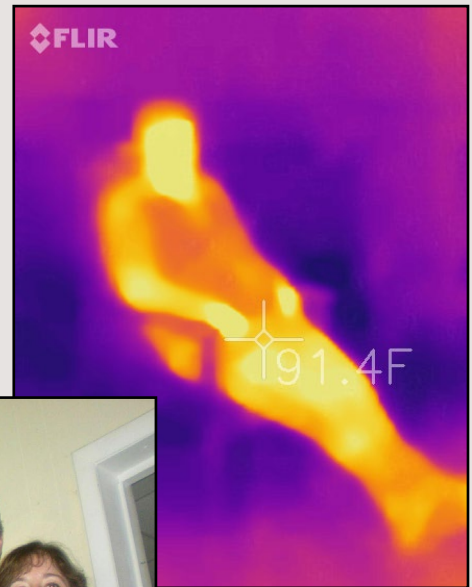
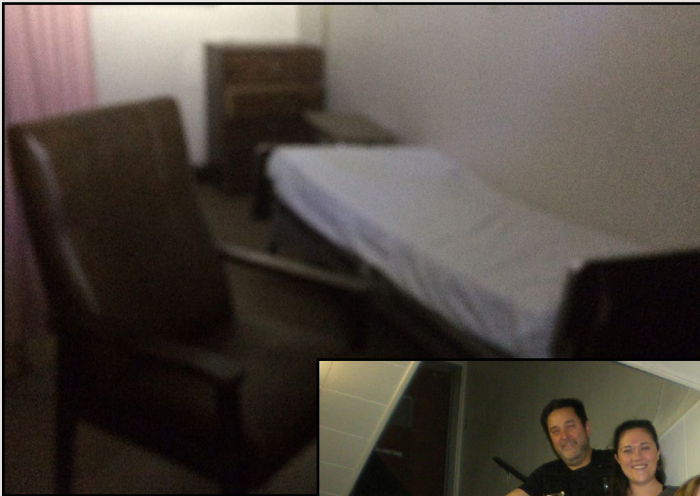
near or the creepy old grave sitting all by itself on top of a hill. Maybe the monster that lived in the woods behind your house. Well, whatever it was, we’re sure that you’ve often thought to yourself, “I wonder whatever happened to that place?” Well, now’s your chance to find out!

The Ghosts of Ohio wants you to send us your childhood ghost stories. We’ll take it from there and dig into the history to find out if there really was any truth to the tales that chilled your bones as a youth. Just send an email to info@ghostsofohio.org with as much information as you can remember and we will jump right on it. We’ll even supply you with a free report with everything we were able to uncover. So what are you waiting for? Send The Ghosts back in time!



THE GHOSTS OF OHIO SPEND THE NIGHT INSIDE BELL NURSING HOME

On August 12th, The Ghosts of Ohio conducted an overnight ghost hunt in the Bell Nursing Home in Kimbolton, Ohio. We're still reviewing all the video, audio, and photos from that night, but here's a few pictures to hold you over!





THIS FALL, COME MEET THE GHOSTS OF OHIO!

Hard to tell just by looking outside, but fall is coming. And that can only mean one thing: The Ghosts of Ohio are on their way to your town!

Curious as to how The Ghosts of Ohio conducts a ghost investigation? Wondering what sort of strange and spooky things we managed to capture on our ghost hunts? Want to hear some behind-the-scenes stories from our founder and director, author James A. Willis? Well then, you're in luck!

We'll be hitting the road in the coming weeks and won't let up until December! Here's a list of all the confirmed locations we'll be visiting so far.

Seating for most of the presentations is first come, first seated. Also, while most of the presentations are free, registration is required just to make sure they don't overbook the venue. So you're all encouraged to contact the venue directly to see if pre-registration is required.

More information about all these upcoming presentations and appearances can be found on The Ghosts of Ohio's website and Facebook page, as well as on our fearless leader's author site, strangeandspookyworld.com.



Tuesday, September 12th @ 7:00 pm

Central Ohio Legends & Lore Book Signing/Author Talk
Columbus Historical Society
717-719 W. Town Street
Columbus, OH 43222

Thursday, October 5th

Ohio Library Council Luncheon (Private Event)

Saturday, October 14th, Speaking @ 1pm

Chillicothe Halloween Festival
Yoctangee Park
Chillicothe, OH 45601

Wednesday, October 18th @ 7:00 pm

Central Ohio Legends & Lore Book Signing/Author Talk
Gramercy Books
2424 E. Main Street
Bexley, OH 43209

Thursday, October 19th @ 6:00 pm

Greenville Public Library presentation
520 Sycamore Street
Greenville, OH 45331

Saturday, October 21st @ 1-5 pm

Willowick Library/Barnes and Noble Event

Monday, October 23rd @ 7:00 pm

Plain City Library presentation
305 W. Main Street
Plain City, OH 43064

Thursday, October 26th @ 7:00 pm

Thurber House presentation
77 Jefferson Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215

Saturday, October 28th @ 10am to 4pm

Books By The Banks
Duke Energy Convention Center
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Saturday, November 4th @ 9:30am to 4pm

Buckeye Book Fair
Fisher Auditorium
Wooster, OH 44691

WANT TO SPEND THE NIGHT WITH THE GHOSTS OF OHIO IN 2018?

With fall approaching, The Ghosts Of Ohio are getting ready to launch into full-blown presentation/appearance mode. That means that the Spend The Night program is winding down until next year.

What's the Spend The Night program? Simply put, it's an opportunity for some of our fans to get locked inside of a haunted location with us on a private, overnight ghost hunt.

All you need to be is an active subscriber to this very newsletter. As long as you are, there's a chance your email address will be randomly pulled from the list. When that happens, you and a guest are headed to a haunted location with us for the night!



Investigations & Consultations

The Ghosts of Ohio are continuing to schedule investigations for 2017 as well as a few in 2018. If you or someone you know is experiencing something unexplained in a home or place of business, contact us at info@ghostsofohio.org or visit our website to fill out an investigation request. All investigations are offered free of charge, and confidentiality and discretion are assured.

Not sure if you want or need an investigation? The Ghosts of Ohio also offers consultations. Let us sit down with you to discuss your current situation and what help we may be able to offer. For more information, please visit <http://ghostsofohio.org/services/investigations.html>

Interact with The Ghosts of Ohio

In addition to our website, here are a couple of places where you can find The Ghosts of Ohio lurking online:

 FACEBOOK
<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Columbus-OH/The-Ghosts-of-Ohio/60704381381?ref=mf>

 TWITTER
<http://twitter.com/ghostsofohio>

Administration

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