



The ghosts of Ohio[®] Newsletter

www.ghostsofohio.org

Volume 19 Issue 2

WE WISH YOU A
happy new year
2022



James

Every year at this time, I like to do a personal Year in Review, where I look back at everything The Ghosts Of Ohio accomplished over the past 12 months. As I looked over my notes from last December, I can't help but laugh at how naïve I was for thinking that as soon as the final strains of Auld Lang

Syne faded and we officially welcomed in 2021, that all this COVID business would just stop. No more masks, no more social distancing, and certainly no more virtual anything. It would be as if I just work up from that long winter's nap and everything was back as it should be.

I don't think I really believed all that. You can tell from my journal notes from the beginning of 2021 that I knew that it was going to be a long time before things got back to the way they were. There's even a hint of depression kicking in by the middle of 2021 as the idea of another year without in-person investigations and presentations began to sound inevitable. But then something happened: Something that has happened before and what, I believe it responsible for keeping The Ghosts Of Ohio rolling along for over for what will

soon be 23 years: We adapted. We looked at where things were headed, put our ghostly heads together, and changed how we approached things. We made up new protocols, new ways to conduct business, and even made sure our equipment bags were now packed with extra masks and hand sanitizer.

The ability to adapt means that you are open to doing things differently in a changing environment. You realize that going through the motions and going about things the same way you've always done it isn't going to work. In a way, you are forced to change your perspective. And that right there, is what the paranormal field needs. For once you realize that you don't have all the answers, change becomes a necessity and something to embrace. Change is what just might help you find those answers you've been searching for.

So, bring it on, 2022. The Ghosts Of Ohio are ready!

Cheers,

James A. Willis
Founder/Director

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE #1

Encounter At Lick Road

Wendy H., Cincinnati, OH

I grew up hearing all sorts of ghost stories about Lick Road. I recently got to try out my favorite story about Lick Road, which is that if you go out to the bridge at the end of the road and yell out "I've got your baby", the ghost of the woman who threw her baby off the bridge and killed it will come after you.

I went there late one Saturday night with my bestie, Steph. I was driving. If you've never been there before, Lick Road just sort of ends at a dead end. If you get out of your car and walk a little bit, the bridge is just inside the woods. When we got there, it was really dark, but you could kind of make out the outline of the bridge. To be honest, we were both a little freaked out, so we decided to stay in the car. But we put our windows down and at the count of three, we both yelled out "We've got your baby." Nothing happened at first, so we did it again. Still nothing, so we decided to try it one more time. This time, we both saw this bright white light moving through the trees. We couldn't make out what it was, but there was no noise at all, so we don't think it was a dirt bike or a headlight on a bike. We both watched as it looked like it floated over the bridge, getting closer to the car. As it hit the edge of the woods, I decided it was time to go, so I make a quick U-turn and took odd back up Lick Road. Steph said she thought the light looked like the form of a body, but just the head, arms, and torso. I didn't see any of that because I was too busy trying to get out of there. I still don't know what we saw but we both agree we're never going back to Lick Road again, even in the daylight!



PERSONAL EXPERIENCE #2

Christmas Break Gunshots

Doug A., Grove City, OH

Seven years ago, I got a divorce and moved into the house I currently live in. I got a good deal on it because it was what they called stigmatized property, which meant that something bad had happened in the house and the realtor had to disclose it. In the case of my house, a young boy had been accidentally shot and killed when we was playing with one of his father's handguns and it went off. It's a tragic story, but it didn't really bother me and since it was such a great price for the house. I bought it.

I was in the house for about 6-7 months and was quietly spending my first Christmas Eve there when around 10:45 pm, I hear a loud gunshot that sounded like it came from the kitchen. I should say that I own several guns and know what a gunshot sounds like. My first reaction was that someone was in my house and had fired a gun. I was in the upstairs bedroom at the time and grabbed one of my guns and got on the phone with 911. Long story short, the police showed up and there was no evidence of anyone breaking and entering or any bullet holes in any interior or exterior walls. I chalked it up to me hearing fireworks or a car backfiring outside and would have been ready to write the whole thing off had it not been for the following Christmas break.

See, nothing happened on Christmas Eve. But a few days after Christmas, I'm sitting in my living room, watching TV, when suddenly, I hear the same gunshot sound again. Once again it sounded like it came from the kitchen. The big difference was that I was only two rooms away from the kitchen, so I was positive that's where the gunshot sound came from. It was also the middle of the afternoon. I didn't call the police this time, but I made the rounds and once again, I didn't see anything out of the ordinary.

The following year, I'm having a small gathering on Christmas Day and around 8:00 pm, all 8 of us are hanging out in the living room and we all hear a gunshot from the kitchen. But again, we couldn't find anything out of the ordinary.

It went on like that every year. It was never on the same day, but once a year, between Christmas Eve and December 30th, I and anyone in the house with me at the time, would hear what sounded like gunshot coming from my kitchen. Last year, I decided to do a little research and found that the young boy who accidentally shot himself to death in my house prior to me buying it has shot himself on December 28th...in the kitchen.

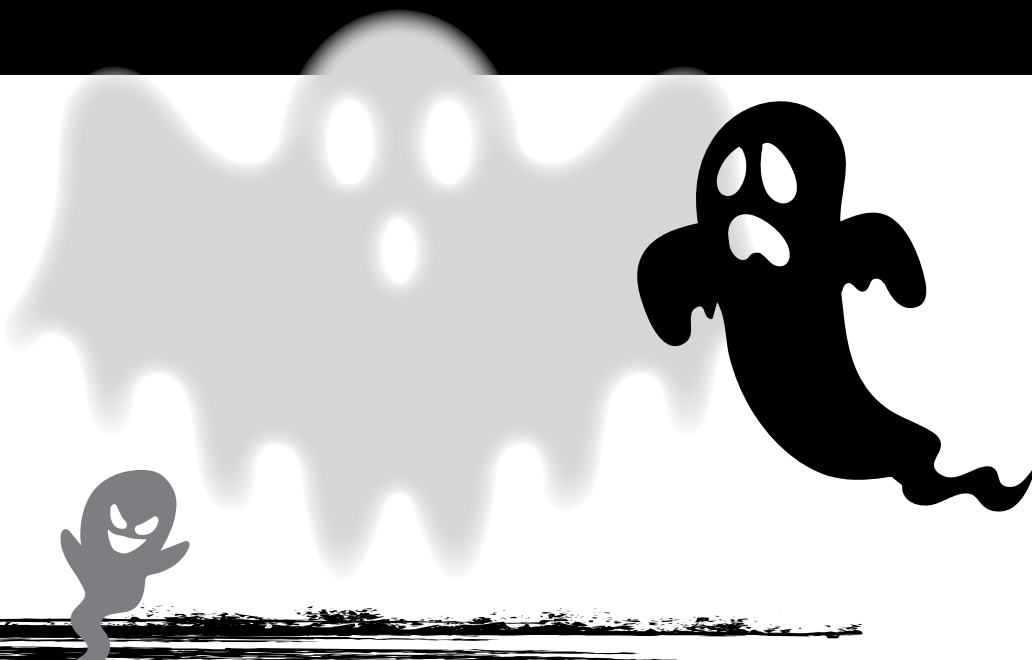


UPDATE ON INVESTIGATIONS & CONSULTATIONS

As of this writing, all members of The Ghosts Of Ohio organization who will be taking part in investigations have been fully vaccinated and most have been “boosted”. Masks will be worn at the request of the home/business owner and/or in accordance with any mask mandates. Virtual investigations and consultations are also available. More information on scheduling is included at the end of this newsletter, but if you have specific COVID-related questions, feel to 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.

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 e-mail 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!





Samantha

BOOK REVIEW

Samantha Nicholson

Horrorstör: A Novel

Grady Hendrix

Quirk Books (2014)

What would you do if you discovered your workplace is haunted? We're not talking about an office, hotel, or bar here. Instead, this novel takes place at a fictional Ikea knockoff set in Cuyahoga County, Ohio called Orsk. This ginormous place has everything you'd expect from such a store, including all the foreign-sounding furniture you could ever need and helpful staff to make sure you buy, buy, buy!

What's unusual (and what drew me to the book) is that this particular Big Box store is haunted. Every day the staff arrives to discover a number of items in the showroom rearranged, broken, or soiled; and there's nothing on the security cameras to show what happened. Out of desperation, manager Basil enlists a couple of employees—disgruntled protagonist Amy and Orsk devotee Ruth Anne—to spend the night with him in the store to try to solve the mystery.

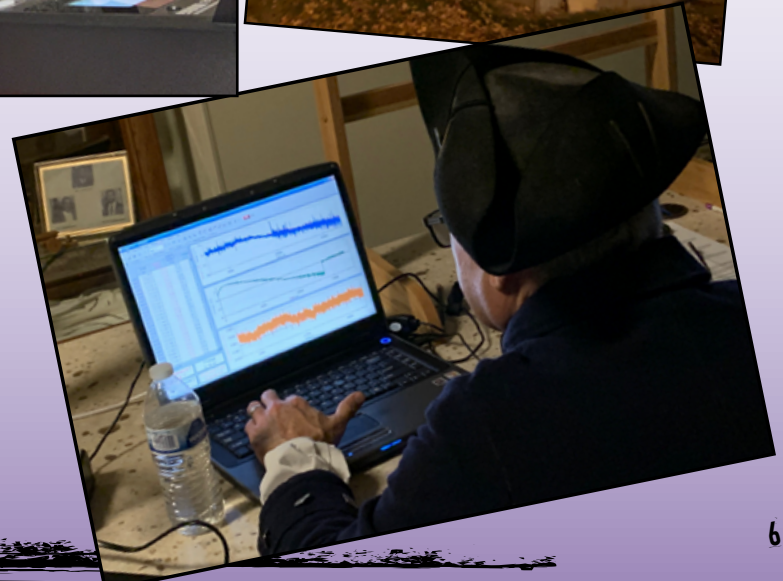
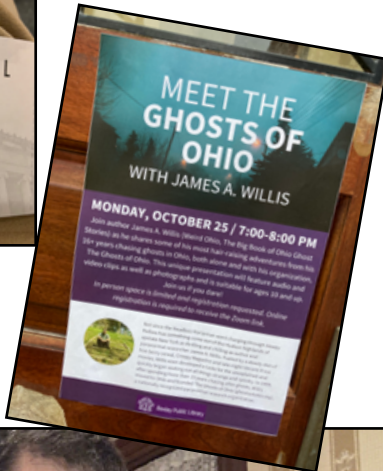
What follows is a mashup of parody and horror that is pleasantly original. The cast of characters is a lot of fun to follow, and so is the book's format. It's written like an Orsk catalog, complete with furniture diagrams & descriptions, a map of the store, and even coupons & advertisements. (I recommend paying attention to these details because they add flavor to the story and made me laugh.) It's silly, spooky, and really an entertaining novel, well worth reading if you're in the mood for a not-so-serious ghost story.



WHAT A YEAR 2021 WAS!

2021 was the year of The Ghosts trying to get back to business as usual. It wasn't easy, but while we tried to navigate the ever-changing COVID rules and, guidelines we were still able to conduct several private investigations, a few public hunts, and over a dozen presentations. We even made our first foray into the land of Virtual Meetings.

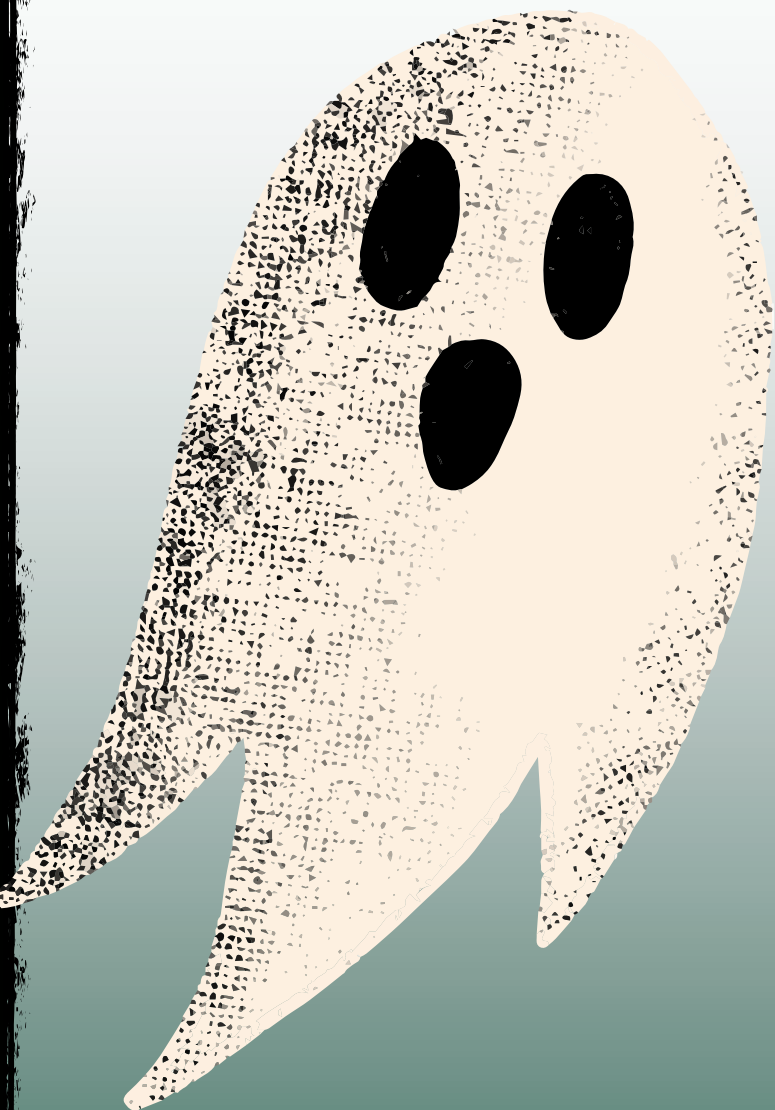
We can't wait to see what 2022 has planned for us!



THIS FEBRUARY, THE GHOSTS ARE COMING FOR YOU, RICHLAND COUNTY!

We'll be hitting the road in early 2022, starting with a month's worth of presentations throughout Richland county.

The following are confirmed presentations as of this writing. Keep in mind that things can, and probably will, change at a moment's notice. So, if you are at all interested in attending any of these events, please be sure to follow The Ghosts Of Ohio on any of our social media accounts as we will post updates as soon as they happen. Also consider contacting the venue(s) directly as they will also be able to fill you in on any guidelines/rules regarding masks.



Tuesday, February 15th, 2022 @ 6:00 pm
Meet The Ghosts Of Ohio presentation
Mansfield/Richland County Public Library:
Lexington Branch
25 Lutz Avenue
Lexington, OH 44904

Thursday, February 17th, 2022 @ 6:00 pm
Meet The Ghosts Of Ohio presentation
Mansfield/Richland County Public Library:
Plymouth Branch
29 W. Broadway
Plymouth, OH 44865

Thursday, February 24th, 2022 @ 6:00 pm
Meet The Ghosts Of Ohio presentation
Mansfield/Richland County Public Library:
Ontario Branch
2221 Village Mall Drive
Mansfield, OH 44906

Monday, February 28th, 2022 @ 6:00 pm
Meet The Ghosts Of Ohio presentation
Mansfield/Richland County Public Library:
Butler Branch
21 Elm Street
Butler, OH 44822

Investigations & Consultations

The Ghosts Of Ohio have begun scheduling for 2022. All members of the organization who would participate in investigations have been fully vaccinated. Additionally, we can also make arrangements to drop off ghost-hunting equipment at your home or business and walk you through how to set it up yourself if you prefer. So, 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](#)

 [TWITTER](#)

 [INSTAGRAM](#)

Administration

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