

HUNTING: 'Training is not glamorous'

Continued from page 1C

and thoroughly examines any potential member's motives.

The process to become a lead investigator takes anywhere from several months to several years, depending on the individual. The training entails gaining knowledge of terms regarding phenomena and the technical equipment used to measure it, aptitude using equipment and analyzing data collected, participation in investigations and other CCPI activities, constant professional behavior and a verifiable personal encounter with a paranormal presence.

The encounter also must be experienced by a team leader for authentication purposes. "It's a lot of work," said CCPI trainee Desire Cameron, the newest member of the group.

The personal paranormal encounter criterion is imperative to being part of an investigation team because it's impossible to know how a person will react to seeing or hearing a ghost or paranormal activity until the person actually sees or hears a ghost or paranormal activity, CCPI members said.

And some encounters can be scary or dangerous. If a paranormal presence is physical or scares a person, CCPI members said, they need to be able to count on each other for help or assistance. They can't afford mistakes or foolish reactions.

The fascination with the science of paranormal investigation outweighs any potential danger, members said.

"It's an addiction," said Debbie Anderson, a lead investigator.

Although CCPI members will speak about the science of what they do, showing off the infrared technology used to collect audio and visual data of a paranormal presence, they admit that some people think they are delusional.

"You get people calling you crazy to your face," Anderson said.

Labeling CCPI members as "crazy" probably stems from a misunderstanding of how the group approaches the paranormal.

CCPI members don't believe just anything they see or hear. They are typically skeptical about what they discover, they said.

Ken Kuechler goes so far as to call himself "hyper-skeptical" when it came to paranormal presences. The CCPI trainee thinks ghosts exist, but acknowledges that a vast majority of people rarely experience anything paranormal.

CCPI estimates that 99 percent of the time, their investigations find no pres-



WILLIAM WOODY/The Daily Sentinel

LOOSE CHANGE AND FLOWERS can be seen at a gravesite in Potter's Field. The Colorado Coalition of Paranormal Investigators does not know how many people are buried in the old cemetery.

ence of paranormal activity, and members aren't going to pretend ghosts exist. The group does free investigations of public places and private homes when asked.

"We tear everything (data) apart," Kuechler said. "If we doubt anything, it's discarded."

If it's not discarded, the information might make it on the CCPI website, www.cooparanormal.com, where Yunquez has posted several reports, audio recordings and biographies of team members. They have nothing to hide, she said.

Among the reports posted to the site is one Yunquez made

in 2008 at the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park while investigating alongside members of the Sci-Fi series "Ghost Hunters." The hotel was made famous in Stephen King's "The Shining."

But investigations need not be far afield; the group has found plenty of locations in the Grand Valley area to keep them busy.

"We are investigating public or private places (up to three times) a month," Yunquez said. "And we still meet monthly for training sessions. Training is not glamorous. It entails hours of sitting in the dark, trying to catch evidence of the things that go bump in the night."

DAVID KEARSLEY

Should you be in or out of the market?

How do you balance the turbulent swings of today's stock market?

POWDERHORN WEALTH MANAGEMENT HAS STRATEGIES TO HELP.

Powderhorn Wealth Management

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SMART INVESTING, CALL

970-242-6858

Foundation Wealth Management securities and advisory services offered through GENESIS Wealth Management, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC

hunting_the-haunted_cont



Clipped By:

skarenm

Wed, Jul 13, 2022