

# NEWS from the Paranormal Investigators of Milwaukee

October 2013

Issue 14

## Special points of interest:

PIM has officially posted reports from their visits to Waverly Hills Sanatorium, Bobby Mackey's Music World, Sedamsville Rectory, and Mansfield Reformatory. Please check out the CASES tab located on the Paranormal Investigators of Milwaukee website to check them out.

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## Brumder Mansion Public Investigation

Happy October everyone! Everyone at PIM is looking forward to the many events held during this exciting month! Although October is PIM's busiest month we are certainly anticipating the continuation of the Paranormal fun in November! This year PIM along with the Brumder Mansion will be holding two, 3 hour public investigation sessions both Friday and Saturday night on November 8th and 9th. Tickets are \$40 per session in advance or \$135 for all four sessions. Tickets are available through EventBrite or for more information please contact PIM. This is YOUR opportunity to participate in an investigation of a local haunt and meet members of PIM! You wont want to miss the experience!!!

## History of Brumder mansion

The history of the Brumder Mansion is a colorful one. It was built in 1910 by a wealthy business man who built the impressive home for his family. He and his wife moved in and had 11 children of which only 9 survived. They lived in the mansion for 10 years and then sold the home to reputed Chicago mobster Sam Picks and his brother Ed during the prohibition years. The two decided to use the ballroom located in the basement to establish a night club as a legal front for their illegal side business of black market liquor, gambling and possibly prostitution. Once prohibition ended the building became a popular boarding house for the local Allis-Chalmers employees. It was then used for various things including turning the ballroom, which was once used for illegal business, into a Christian coffee house. It was then in 1997 that the Hirschi family came to own it. The family went to work with renovations and seeking out antiques to fill the beautiful home and make it appear as it once did in 1910. They then opened it as a B&B. That is when the paranormal activity claims began. The Mansion changed hands one more time in 2008 to it's current owners. The mansion has many claims of activity but most are light hearted and even playful. A few of these claims are that doors slam throughout the night, phantom footsteps can be heard, and breakable objects come crashing down from the walls, but somehow remain unscathed. Although there are a lot of claims of activity PIM has yet to capture any evidence of paranormal activity personally but look forward to coming back to try their hand at capturing any form of evidence. They hope you will join them in the fun!! See you in November!!

## Meet Marc Eaton Written by Marc Eaton

My name is Marc Eaton and I am an assistant professor of sociology at Ripon College in Ripon, WI. I moved to Ripon in July 2011 after completing my PhD at the University of Colorado-Boulder. My doctoral research was on online political activism, but after six years of deep involvement in political organizing and research I was ready to get involved in something less antagonistic and emotionally draining.

As I was finishing my dissertation work, I began watching *Ghost Hunters* as a way to relax. Their scientific approach to the paranormal fascinated me, and I began watching the show less as a pastime and more from the analytical perspective of a sociologist. Who were these people? Why did they want to look for ghosts, and why were they relying on technology to address what are essentially spiritual questions? How did their own hopes and fears, experiences of loss, religious backgrounds, and professional training shape the ways they investigated? What, ultimately, did they think they were finding evidence of when they captured EVPs and other phenomena? All of these questions swirled in my head, and I became determined to find answers.

Serendipitously, in the fall of 2011 Noah visited Ripon College, his alma mater, to do a presentation on paranormal investigating. After his presentation I introduced myself, and was welcomed with open arms by Noah and the other members of PIM. Since February 2012 I have investigated about a dozen locations with PIM, and am consistently impressed by their professionalism and skeptical—though certainly not close-minded—approach to each investigation. Although for my research it is important that I participate in investigations with multiple teams to observe different approaches to the paranormal, PIM will always feel like my “home” team.

My short-term plans involve publishing several articles in peer-reviewed sociological journals. As of now the discipline of sociology has been all but silent on the role paranormal beliefs and practices play in our lives, but I hope to open up a conversation through my publications. These will include articles on the interplay of spiritual and scientific approaches to paranormal investigating, negotiating how one reveals the potentially stigmatizing identity of “paranormal investigator” or “ghost hunter,” gender differences in styles of investigating, and potentially other topics that are still in the process of formulation. Looking ahead a couple of years, my larger goal is to publish my research as a book sometime in 2015.

Many thanks to Noah and the other great members of PIM for allowing me to investigate with you and interview you for my research! If readers of this column are interested in participating in my research, please contact me at [eatonm@ripon.edu](mailto:eatonm@ripon.edu), as I am still recruiting interviewees and would love to have a chance to see how other groups investigate.



## Paranormal Investigators of Milwaukee

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**Phone: 414-215-9746**

**Website:**

[www.paranormalmilwaukee.com](http://www.paranormalmilwaukee.com)

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## Calendar of Events:

**October 4th-6th:** Chicago Ghost Conference

**October 10th:** Milwaukee Public Museum Private Presentation

**October 11th:** Private Investigation of the Four Seasons Island Resort, Pembine, WI

**October 12th-13th:** Public Investigation at the Four Seasons Island Resort, Pembine, WI

## October Library Events:

**October 15th:** Greenfield Public Library, 6:30-8:00 pm

**October 21st:** North Shore Public Library, 6:30-8:00 pm

**October 24th:** Greendale Public Library, 6:30-8:00 pm

**October 28th:** West Allis Public Library, 6:30-8:00 pm

**October 29th:** Meqon/Theinsville Public Library 6:30-8:00 pm

## The Return to Bobby Mackey's

In July of this year PIM investigated Bobby Mackey's in Wilder, Kentucky. As mentioned before this was one of PIM's most interesting investigations. PIM has shared both audio and video clips in the posted report of their experiences. Since their first visit they have gone back for more research. This time they came with Noah, Jann, Gravy, John, Missy and Freelance Writer, Tea Krulos. They came to Mackey's with a very specific plan of how they thought best to gain maximum activity. Of course they kept in mind that paranormal activity does not work on cue. Although this time it was much less active than last time some experiences were had. Please stay tuned for report number 2 for the full story! This is one location that seems to never disappoint.

### Recent Investigation News/Highlights

- On September 7th PIM members Missy, Jann, and Noah were asked to investigate a quant farm house just outside of Oshkosh, WI. This home had many interesting claims of activity including the movement of cups out of the kitchen cabinets found on the banisters and scattered onto the floor in specific geometric formations. The three investigators tried very hard to recreate this activity but it was a very quiet night. Although no activity was captured PIM is thankful for the trust of the home owners and the use of their home for PIM's ongoing research of the Paranormal. We look forward to another visit in the future!
- On September 13th to 15th PIM members Noah, Gravy, and John had the opportunity to stay the weekend at the First Ward School House in Wisconsin Rapids, WI. This was PIM's second visit to the school house this year. The first visit left many questions and some interesting activity that is mentioned in the report posted on PIM's website. Evidence review is still ongoing for this investigation.
- On September 22nd PIM returned to Bobby Mackey's as stated in the article above. PIM would like to express our thanks to Mackey's Paranormal Guide Wanda Kay during both our investigations. Wanda certainly knows her history of this location and was very helpful and cooperative during both visits. PIM looks forward to working with her again in the future!
- On September 28th PIM members Missy and Noah traveled south to the Rockford Paranormal Conference. Here Noah had the privilege to participate on the discussion panel along with members of local Paranormal Investigation Teams. This was a great opportunity for the audience to ask questions of the panel and gain their opinion of various questions about their beliefs and different styles of paranormal investigation. PIM will be participating at the Chicago Ghost Conference so if you missed the one in Rockford please visit us in Chicago!

**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!**