

In Lexington, Kentucky, from September 23-25, there is an event scheduled that will draw over 10,000 horror film fans and paranormal enthusiasts. ScareFest is one of the premier conventions of this type in the country and offers a large number of vendors providing a wide variety of paranormal and horror film themed wares.

In addition to an eclectic number of items for sale that will appeal to this audience, there will be a selection of workshops, seminars, and Q&A sessions.

As part of my paranormal investigative team, The Ghost Writers, I will be speaking at ScareFest this year. Our presentation is based on the premise that the dead can talk. Paranormal researchers across the globe will quickly tell you about "Class A" Electronic Voice Phenomena. Haunted survivors will often have tales to tell about whispers in the night. Additional witnesses to ghostly encounters may describe loud voices and screams shattering the quiet of

the household. Mediums sometimes become the voices of the departed to relay messages to the living. Mechanisms, both archaic and futuristic, are employed by those interested in trying to establish a communications link to the ethereal world. Communication with the dead continues to add to the body of knowledge in the paranormal field. Our presentation will examine the events and personalities from the Victorian age through today

that have formed our modern conception of ghosts and how we can effectively communicate with them. As a bonus for participants, we will show them how to create and use dowsing rods, a very old mechanism by which to "talk with the dead."

We will give our presentation at the convention on Friday, September 23 from 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m., in Elkhorn Room A, at the Hilton Lexington Downtown. If you are planning to attend,

please say hello to us while you're there.

One of the reasons that I attend these conferences is that I am able to make some amazing contacts with leaders in the paranormal field. Interviews with individuals like those below provide a wealth of information for this column and for another regular feature I write, titled Haunted America, for *Ghost Voices Magazine*. The publication is the premier magazine in the

United Kingdom for all things ghostly. The magazine can be found online at www.ghostvoicemagazine.com. The speakers scheduled for the conference this year have expertise that range throughout the spectrum of paranormal phenomena.

Other presenters will include: Zak Bagans from *Ghost Adventures*; Ben Hansen of the television program *Fact or Faked: Paranormal Files*; world famous psychic Chip Coffey; Britt Griffith from the *Ghost Hunters*; *Paranormal State the New Class*; and renowned paranormal investigator, Patti Starr. In addition, Karl Pfeiffer of *Ghost Hunters Academy*; Callea Sherrill of the Stanley Hotel; Thomas Reed of the Willow Lake UFO incidents; renowned paranormal investigator Chris Dedman; psychic Susan Rushing; Bishop James Long and Tommy Golden of the Paranormal Clergy, and writer Bertena Varney, among others.

There is also a number of horror movie stars at the convention including: Lea Thompson of *Back to the Future*, *Howard the Duck* and *Jaws 3* fame; Lin

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Shaye, who has appeared in a number of horror films, including *2001 Maniacs*; Elvira Mistress of the Dark; Lance Henriksen of *Aliens* and *Pumpkinhead* fame; Michael Biehn, who starred in *Aliens* and *The Abyss*; Vernon Wells, who was featured in *Commando* and *Mad Max 2: The Roadwarrior*; Erin Gray from *Buck Rogers in the 25th Century*, and *Jason Goes to Hell*; Don Calfa, from *The Return of the Living Dead*; and Kane Hodder, who starred in *Ed Gein: The Butcher of Plainfield* among a large number of other roles, and is best known for his portrayal of Jason Vorhees in four movies in the series. These individuals, in addition to a number of other stars will be part of the lineup at the convention.

Workshops and seminars will include topics such as: Ancient Civilizations and the Extraterrestrial Connection; Kentucky Cryptids, New Investigation

Hardware, The RVPR; Tech 101; Attachments: Demonic and Ghost; Preserving Haunted History on Film; Reaching for the Veil; UFO's and Abductions: Fact or Faked; Realm of the Weird; TAPS Academy; and The Real Amityville Story, among others.

In addition to workshops and seminars, there are other events available to interested individuals. A Golden ticket VIP party for attendees 21 and over will be held on Saturday, September 24, from 10:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m..

A costume ball will offer a gathering place for those in costume and those who just want to enjoy the company of others with the same interests. The ball is

slated for Friday, September 23, from 10:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

An "Undead Wedding" is also part of the fun. Two conference goers, Matthew Robbins and Lacey Grainger from Culleoka, Tennessee, will receive a horror themed wedding. The goodies the couple will receive include a Limousine ride, wedding photography, and a piece of framed artwork from the Collector's Gallery as a wedding gift.

Participants never know who or what they will see when attending the convention. Some individuals dress-up in a wide range of horror and paranormal themed costumes to the delight of conference attendees.



ScareFest literally offers something for every fan of horror films, as well as for paranormal enthusiasts. Set calendars for

September 23 through 25, to attend the scariest convention of the year - ScareFest. We'll be waiting for you.

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