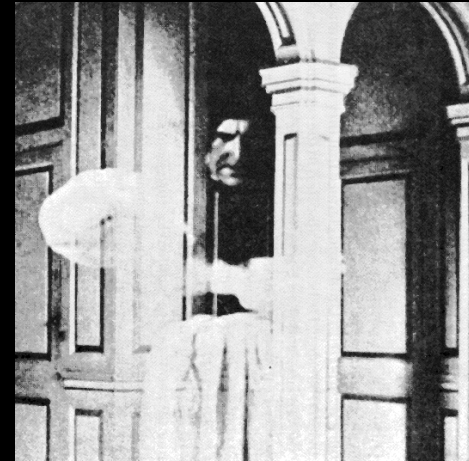



In July of 1909, students from Bristol University went to Brockley Manor to photograph a ghost.

For twenty years, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of the scientific detective Sherlock Holmes, contended that this photo was real.



**In 1929, he was proved wrong.**

The National Capital Area Skeptics is an independent nonprofit educational and scientific organization that promotes critical thinking and scientific understanding, with a focus on paranormal and fringe-science claims. NCAS is based in the Washington, Maryland, and Virginia community, where it serves as an advocate for science and reason, actively promoting the scientific method, rational inquiry, and education.

 **National Capital Area Skeptics**  
PO Box 8428, Silver Spring, MD 20910  
[www.ncas.org](http://www.ncas.org)  
(301) 587- 3827

 National Capital Area Skeptics presents

# GHOSTBUSTING 101

a workshop on the investigation of spirits, ghosts  
& things that go BUMP in the night

9 - 5, Saturday, October 16, 1999  
Leesburg, Virginia

Just in time for Hallowe'en, the National Capital Area Skeptics presents a full-day program that examines investigations of the spirit realm, from the 19th century to present day. The sessions offer diverse viewpoints on attempts to apply science and technology in the assessment of age-old traditions and beliefs.

## Who should attend?

All who are interested in the application of critical thinking and science, especially in regard to paranormal claims. The workshop is open to all, and is appropriate for ages 15 and up.

## Sessions include:

### **"If the spirits are willing..."**

**Chip Denman** will give a brief history of seances and mediums and those who investigated them during the heyday of the Spiritualist movement. He is a statistician at the University of Maryland where he teaches "Science & Pseudoscience" for the University Honors Program, and past-president of NCAS.

### **"Ghosts and electromagnetic anomalies"**

**Joe Holbert** conducts "ghost tours" in Leesburg, Virginia, and investigates the possibility that ghosts are associated with very low-level electromagnetic fields. He will describe his personal research.

### **"Modern mediums and psychic readings"**

Spiritualism lives on today in such mediums as James Van Praagh, best-selling author of *Talking to Heaven*, and thousands of lesser known "psychic readers." **Kari Coleman** will discuss her personal experiences and methods used in giving readings. She is an actress whose skeptical writings have been published by the James Randi Educational Foundation.

### **"High tech communications with the hereafter: Ghost photos, ghost detectors, electronic-voice phenomena, and phone calls from the dead."**

**Dr. Michael Epstein** will present an overview of technological efforts to record evidence of spirits. He is a chemist at NIST, a former vice president of NCAS, a recent recipient of an award for excellence in education which promotes skeptical thinking.

Additional discussion will cover "spirit photographs," modern seances, the Ouija Board effect and more.

## Workshop

9am - 5pm, Saturday, October 16, 1999  
Best Western Leesburg Dulles  
726 East Market Street  
Leesburg, Virginia 20176

for hotel info: (703) 777- 9400  
for workshop info: (301) 587-3827  
ncas@ncas.org  
www.ncas.org

## Registration

\$25 if postmarked by September 25, 1999

\$30 after September 25, 1999

Registration fee includes snacks at morning and afternoon breaks plus handouts.

Lunch is not included. Several restaurants are nearby.

Send to:

**Ghostbusting 101**  
**NCAS**  
**PO Box 8428**  
**Silver Spring, Maryland 20910**

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## **National Capital Area Skeptics Ghostbusting 101 Workshop**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee \$25 x \_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

after September 25: \$30 x \_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Optional 1 year membership in NCAS \$20 x \_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to NCAS. Total \_\_\_\_\_