



JOHN E.L. TENNEY'S

# WEIRD LECTURES

PRESENTING A SPECTACLE RICH IN NEURAL EFFECTS SURPASSING IN ILLUMINATION AND MAGNITUDE ALL THAT HAS GONE BEFORE IT.

Weird Lectures?! is proud to present Researcher, Archivist, Author and Lecturer John E.L.Tenney for your organization, club, class or special event. If you think your group would enjoy an engaging and thought-provoking lecture... then you should request one!

John Tenney's columns have been printed in magazines and newspapers world-wide, and he has lectured to numerous public and private schools, universities, organizations and clubs. He has been interviewed extensively on radio and television. John has been actively involved in the field of paranormal/conspiratorial research for well-over a decade. *The Great Lakes Ghost Hunters Society* and the *Michigan Anomalous Information Network* were founded in 1997 by Mr.Tenney in order to provide an open forum of ideas for those individuals seeking information regarding occurrences and news events that have their basis in the "Paranormal." Currently, Mr. Tenney is in the process of creating two national publications dealing with Paranormal/Supernatural Phenomena. He is also the author of the children's book, "*Bad Luck Chuck.*"

Everyone is encouraged to schedule,host or attend one of these fascinating lectures. One of the goals of these lecture/discussion groups is to provide insight to those people who have an interest in these fields so that we might create a more well informed community of the generally interested. The sharing/construction of knowledge is a prime goal held by Mr. Tenney.

Lectures can include, (if requested) a slide show and/or an audio portion and giveaways, these options create a fun and startling lecture for all!

## Price of a Lecture:

The charge for a lecture is based upon travel time/expenses and materials. If the lecture takes place inside the state of Michigan a minimal fee of \$75 to \$125 dollars is usual. We will work within your budget.

## Elementary/Middle/High Schools:

If you are a teacher at a elementary/middle or high school you can request a lecture at NO CHARGE! A brief worksheet can be given out before the lecture and collected at the end. Lectures are suitable for Grades 4th thru 12th.

## Sampling of venues & organizations that have hosted lectures.

Royal Oak Library, Royal Oak • Baldwin Library, Birmingham • Royal Oak Optimist Club

Seaholm High School, Birmingham • Southeast Michigan Mensa

Faust Public Library , Westland • Clonlara School, Ann Arbor • The Magic Stick, Detroit

Mensa Statewide Conference • The Berkley Front, Berkley

Northville Library, Northville •West Bloomfield Library, West Bloomfield • Grace Dow Library, Midland

## Appearances/Consulting & Writing

Fox Family Channel • Discovery Channel • History Channel • WKRK 97.1 FM • WDIV Detroit Chnnel 4

Royal Oak Daily Tribune • Metrotimes, Detroit • Detroit News • Detroit Free Press

"I will never forget you and the chills you sent down our spines with your tales of the paranormal!"

- Rori J. Bielak, Detroit Public Library

Lectures that can be requested:

- History of UFOS
- Michigan's UFO Phenomena
- Our Weird World
- History of Ghosts & Hauntings
- Michigan's Haunted History
- Secret Societies & Conspiracies
- Cryptozoology and Monsters

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## Hauntings, UFOs, the unexplained are his passion

ROYAL OAK - They wander the halls like children lost at the mall, with no idea who they are or what they need. They just know they're someplace they're not supposed to be. And they're scared.

That's where Royal Oak's John Tenney, 32, comes in. Tenney studies ghosts and UFOs through his part-time job as a paranormal investigator and researcher.

Armed with tape recorders, he visits homes to hear ghosts chatter in the walls. He scans the sky for unusual sights. He has spent more than his share of nights in local cemeteries hoping to see something from the great beyond. The surprise? Believing in ghosts is not as weird as some may think.

"Paranormal experience is a lot more common than anyone would believe," says Tenney, lounging in his eclectic Royal Oak duplex where family photos mingle with black cat candles. He treats his sideline like a science, albeit one that hasn't quite reached the mainstream.

"Think of all the things people thought were strange that became respected sciences," he said. "Alchemy became chemistry, watching the planets became astronomy."

Tenney lectures in schools and libraries, for clubs and service organizations, and spends hours at the library and on the Internet investigating his passion. He fields calls and e-mail every day from people telling him their paranormal stories and asking for advice.

Everyone has seen a UFO or sensed a ghost in their house or office or

knows someone else who thinks they did, Tenney said. Thousands of stories are written every year about paranormal experiences and interest seems to grow stronger all the time.

Tenney says his first few lectures in the mid-1990s had about a dozen participants. His last few drew about 200 people. Halloween is the time of year when Tenney says everyone wants to hear a ghost story, especially the real kind.

But Tenney can't indulge his audiences with the kind of scary experiences people lap up at the movie theaters. He thinks real ghosts just aren't scary.

"They're like children, that's the best way to describe them," he said. "I've never felt threatened. They're trapped and scared. They're not like a terrible black force." He's never directly communicated with a ghost. Real-life paranormal investigation isn't like an episode of the "X-Files," he said.

When someone calls with a serious concern about a ghost in their home, Tenney checks it out methodically. He said he first visits the house to inspect its mechanics and figure out if strange groans and creaks are emanating from the structure itself.

He checks the plumbing, tests the electrical, flashes lights around the attic and basement - and discovers the culprit in about 99 percent of cases. But there's always that 1 percent.

If it seems that a place is actually haunted, Tenney sets up recorders to catch the slightest sounds

in unused spaces. He says it's easy to hear ghosts talk. The problem is even ghosts trapped in south Oakland County don't always speak English. Tenney said the tapes he keeps stacked in his basement have whispered languages that sound like Polish and German, but nothing significant can be made out in English.

He makes notes of ghost sightings or sounds at dwellings around the area, which he thinks will help future paranormal experts determine patterns to hauntings. There's not one place in south Oakland that has an extreme level of ghost habitation, he said. UFOs were Tenney's first passion when he took up studying paranormal phenomena as a 10-year-old boy. He read everything he could on the subject through his teens. Then he met a conspiracy theorist studying the Kennedy assassination when he was about 20 years old, and the friend taught him how to unearth underground research on UFOs and other paranormal issues.

Tenney was hooked. He thinks his passion will carry through a lifetime, but there's one problem.

"It costs money to do this type of research," he said, laughing and stroking his black cat, Charlie, which he adopted from a rescue shelter. "There's no money in researching ghosts and UFOs."

CHRISTY STRAWSER 10.27.03 ©Daily Tribune 2004

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