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September 12, 2008

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**SEARCHING FOR TRUTH: PARANORMAL COMPANY STRIVES TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT
THE SCIENCE BEHIND PARANORMAL ACTIVITY**

RALEIGH, NC: The National Society of Paranormal Investigation and Research, Inc. (NSPIR) is reaching out to educate the community on the science behind paranormal investigations and relay to the public a better understanding of what popular television shows do not reveal to the general viewing audience. Small ghost hunting groups have been forming all over the country thanks to the recent popularity of ghost hunting shows on cable television. But taking it to the next level is just what NSPIR has been in the process of doing. Their educational outreach program strives to encourage people to learn and discuss all aspects of paranormal research and is providing resources to help set certain standards and criteria for paranormal groups to follow when conducting their own investigations.

“There’s more to paranormal investigation and research than just walking around in cemeteries, on battlefields or in old houses and taking pictures,” says George Matthis, Jr., President and Co-Founder of NSPIR. “We would like to see enthusiasts and other paranormal groups follow standardized, scientifically valid procedures when conducting paranormal investigations. By offering the public the basic tools to conduct a successful and valid investigation, we hope that investigators will collect a solid foundation of evidence and will be able to contribute their findings to the scientific research of this type of phenomena.” Vice President Hope Thompson agrees. “NSPIR is dedicated to providing outreach education programs to generate more discussion and inspire the public to learn more about paranormal phenomena. NSPIR strives to convince skeptics that paranormal activity deserves to be considered and studied by the mainstream scientific community.” *Quaere verum* is NSPIR’s company motto and translated from Latin means “searching for truth”. NSPIR is definitely taking great strides in searching for the truth in the paranormal field and is making efforts to share their knowledge and findings with the public.

“Quaere verum”

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NSPIR is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is currently using Meetup.com, the world's largest network of local groups, as an outlet to provide science-based education to paranormal enthusiasts. In June of 2008 NSPIR formed the Carolina Hauntings, Apparitions, and Poltergeists Society (CHAPS) meet-up group as a way for paranormal enthusiasts, other paranormal researchers and experts in the field of parapsychology to come together to discuss and share their own views and personal knowledge of the paranormal. "The CHAPS meet-up group has received a very positive response from the current members and is growing stronger with new members joining every day." says Shawn Showalter who is an assistant organizer for the CHAPS meet-up group and field investigator with NSPIR. Susan Wellnitz, who is a member of the CHAPS meet-up group states, "If your interest [sic] lie in the paranormal, then I think this group is for you. They seem professional and dedicated in finding concrete and scientific proof that paranormal activity is indeed present around us." Another member, Dale T. states, "If you are interested in learning more about the paranormal, then this is a great group to get you started." And Hope Thompson reiterates, "Educating the public is vital to understanding the paranormal and bringing knowledge to those who wish to understand it."

NSPIR has investigated several North Carolina historic locations, such as Fort Fisher and the Battleship North Carolina, as well as many private residences that have reported paranormal activity. The meet-up group provides an outlet for NSPIR's research team to share their evidence, without divulging any confidential details, for others to review and to teach them how to properly analyze their own data. The field of paranormal research is constantly changing with new theories being tested every day. NSPIR sees itself as part of that constant change and the NSPIR team is eager to add their research to a much larger knowledge pool.

If you would like to learn more about the CHAPS meet-up group or become a member, visit the CHAPS meet-up group website at <http://paranormal.meetup.com/641/>. To learn more about the National Society of Paranormal Investigation & Research, Inc. (NSPIR), visit their website at www.nationalparanormal.org or email the research team at info@nationalparanormal.org. All services provided by NSPIR are free of charge and funded by member donations.