



REVISED: 3/7/14

Dear Potential LaSpirits member,

Greetings and thanks for your interest in becoming part of "Louisiana Spirits" Paranormal Investigations. As you may know, we are a group of serious minded individuals who research and study paranormal events. Our main goal is to document the existence of paranormal occurrences. Our secondary goal is to have fun and enjoy ourselves while staying safe.

Being a member of LaSpirits is much more than simply being part of a small, fly by night, group that hangs out in cemeteries all night. We take pride in being the most professional and elite paranormal investigative group in Louisiana, as well as one of the higher ranked groups in the country. Our professionalism and public relation skills reflect for themselves with a flawless track record, trustworthy references, and overall reliability. With LaSpirits, you will investigate historical locations that most groups could only dream of. You will also take pride in often assisting families who are having unexplainable problems in their homes. There is no better feeling than knowing you helped a young child sleep better at night. Finally, you will take part in group seminars and conventions, while dealing with various forms of media, only expanding our coverage area and adding to our case files.

You may be asking yourself, "Have I bitten of a little more than I can chew?" Not by a long shot! We will use all of our resources to educate you in the field of paranormal investigating, while having the time of your life. All that we ask, and demand, is that you participate on a regular basis. This is something that we cannot teach you, for you have to have that special drive in order to do so. When we say participate, we simply mean:

Check your email at least every two days

Participate on our private Yahoo Groups Board and public message board

Attend chat meetings as often as possible

Communicate via email/phone with either myself, John, or your designated CM

Of course, attend investigations as often as possible

Now comes the bad part; the stuff you do not see on TV. I will be the first to say that this is often very time consuming and an actual investigation can often get very boring. We like to often say it is like watching paint dry! We even hit "dry spells", where we get several investigations that produce no evidence. "Why do we do this then?", you may ask yourself. In our opinions, driving 2-3 hours, setting up equipment, and sweating your butt off for 6 hours is all worth it when you obtain even one small bit of legitimate evidence. That is the type of drive and dedication LaSpirits' members possess and that is why we are admired by other groups and even respected by skeptics who are often quick to label all groups in the same category.

Also, I must warn you that by being in such an elite group, we are often targeted by smaller groups and sometime harassed with immature tactics. This always falls on deaf ears, while we never stoop to their levels. Jealousy is normally the cause of this. If you ever receive any negative emails, please forward them to me, as we will handle them accordingly. Although they are few and far between, never let things like that get to you. Ridiculously, people cannot agree that we are all out for the same cause of obtaining that "holy grail" of evidence. Instead, they are out to play "king of the hill", looking for their 15 minutes of fame.

Please take the time to read over all contents. If you have any questions, feel free to contact your chapter's case manager. If you feel you are able to uphold the standards that LaSpirits has implemented, sign the Membership Agreement and return it to your case manager.

In closing, we want to once again thank you for your interest in joining LaSpirits. I can assure you that you will visit places and meet people you never thought you would see or meet. Welcome to a great group of some of the most down to earth, hard working, and knowledgeable people around. As I said, everyone has a say so in this group. If at any time you have a question about something, feel that a change is needed, or are dissatisfied with any practices, please don't hesitate to contact John or I without fear of reprimand. Again, thank you, congratulations, and welcome to LaSpirits, the premiere paranormal investigative group in Louisiana! HAPPY HUNTING!!

Sincerely,

Brad M. Duplechien

Founder of LaSpirits

brad@laspirits.com



Rules, Guidelines, and Terms of Service

1. Maximum number of trainees allowed on an investigation is 1 or 2, depending on the size of the investigation site and the number of experienced investigators available.
2. The selection of investigative members for an investigation is as follows in order:
 - a. All Chapter members from the designated chapter where the investigation is located.
 - b. Brad, Brandon, and John.(Directors/Founders)
 - c. Trainee members being considered for membership.
 - d. Any additional members from other chapters who are willing to attend, if the added help is needed.
3. Anyone making false claims or falsifying stories to add to their credibility as an investigator or anyone tampering with evidence to add credibility to an investigation will be removed from LaSpirits.
4. Anyone who makes unwanted sexual advances to any member and/or client will be removed from LaSpirits.
5. When on an investigation you will be required to act in a professional manner. There will be no horseplay, loud belching, farting, etc. There are times when we get to relax and have fun, but not during an investigation.
6. The practicing of witchcraft or Satanism or the use of a Ouija board as a means of collecting evidence is not allowed to be used at any time.
7. Unless written consent is obtained from a client, all information obtained on an investigation is confidential.
8. If attending an investigation or seminar, members should wear proper attire, primarily your LaSpirits Dickies shirt or any approved LaSpirits apparel which can be purchased at www.cafepress.com/laspirits. You will be required to purchase a short sleeved Navy Blue Dickies brand shirt (normally found at Wal-Mart) and turn it in to the designated member, along with \$15, which will cover the cost of the embroidery work.
9. The Case Manager, or designee will be responsible for the placement of equipment. While this is going on, all other members will be taking plenty of photos while taking base readings of the area.

10. No one under the age of 18 years old is allowed on investigations.

11. No member shall be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while on an investigation or seminar. Also, no members are to have any sort of non prescription drug on their possession during any LaSpirits function.

12. No one shall venture out by themselves on an investigation. For safety reasons you should stay with at least one other team member. It is the responsibility of either the Case Manager or the designee present to assign these 2-man groups to particular areas of the investigative area. Regardless of what has taken place in other areas you are to stay in your assigned location with your partner until you are instructed to move to a different locale.

13. You are not required to purchase any equipment as a member. If you use another team member's equipment, you are to treat it as if it was your own and you are to be held responsible should any damages occur. If you are interested in obtaining any type of equipment, contact me and I will send you some links to some affordable items.

14. As a member of LaSpirits, you must follow specific guidelines, methods, and practices. It is for these reasons we must insist that as long as you are a member of LaSpirits, you are not to be part of another paranormal investigative group. Past experiences have proven that nothing good comes out of multi-group involvement, being a conflict of interests. Of course, we are not saying you cannot be friends with and/or associate with people who are in other in-state groups, just please do not discuss member only details such as investigation dates, client information, and daily group activities. If you are a member of another groups' message board, simply tell us about it in advance.

15. Within a day or so of your acceptance into the group, you will receive an email, inviting you to our private Yahoo Groups board. This is for members only, and is where we discuss, in detail, all past, present, and future investigations, as well as group outings. To remain a close knit group, we try to have non-investigation related outings as often as possible so everyone can get to know one another off the investigation field. Once logged on to Yahoo, click "Groups" on the main page and you will be directed to the board. This is also a place to upload pictures, EVP's, and videos for sharing, a calendar of events, contact database, etc.

Once you have completed your (2) month probationary period (see section 17), you will also receive an email to activate your LaSpirits Yahoo email account. The email address will be the one placed on the website and is how the public will contact you, if needed. Please check it as often as possible.

16. Every OTHER Sunday night at 9:00pm, we have a group chat meeting. These meetings are not mandatory but they are a great way to stay "in the mix", discussing any current events/activities we are working on.

(NOTE: At this time, chat meetings are not implemented, but may change at a later date)

17. Effective 2/1/12, we began implementing a probation period for new members. Any new member will be placed on a 2-month probationary period. During this time, the new member will be closely evaluated in regards to participating and communicating with the group and his/her case manager. While on probation, you will be granted access to the LaSpirits Yahoo Groups page, as mentioned above, but you will not receive an LaSpirits email account, nor will you be added to the website until a successfully completed your (2) month probation. During this time, the new member is not required to purchase a Dickies shirt. Instead, they will have to wear a plain, navy blue t-shirt or polo shirt for an investigation. If during the probationary period, the new member does not show the initiative and level of participation that is required by LaSpirits, then he/she is subject to dismissal with no advanced notice.

18. Once accepted into Louisiana Spirits under the above mentioned (2) month probationary period, please fill out the attached membership agreement and send back to John Combs, Director of Research, at jcombs@laspirits.com

