

## White Paper on Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP)

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This is a brief overview of what is currently known about Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) written by Tom Butler and published by Association TransCommunication (ATransC). The ATransC website ([atransc.org](http://atransc.org)) also has a version of this paper.

### Overview

Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) are anomalous, intelligible speech produced in electronic devices. They may be heard as a real-time output but are more generally heard on review of a subsequent recording. No currently understood physical processes account for the existence of EVP. They typically constitute short utterances of just a few words, often in direct response to questions or comments about occurrences in the environment. Reports of EVP have involved virtually every known technology that is capable of supporting human voice. EVP are typically recorded using audio-recording devices or audio-recording computer software.

It is correct to say “the study of EVP is,” but there are a number of different forms of EVP and we speak of these in the plural: “EVP are voices...”.

As the field is evolving, [real-time, two-way conversations](#) are being reported. The introduction of speech synthesis has also introduced a new direction of study.

EVP is a well-established fact; however, the source of the voices, how they are formed and why, remains an important question that requires considerable research. As will be explained in **Characteristics of EVP** and **Theories**, the theory most commonly used to explain the voices is the [Survival Hypothesis](#); however, two alternative explanations that remain viable in the face of research results are that the voices are initiated by the etheric (nonphysical) self of the EVP experimenter or that one aspect of a living person is a biologically evolved awareness that survives physical death as a residue of energy which is able to be detected by electronic instruments. This last theory is commonly referred to as the **Quantum-Holographic Hypothesis**.

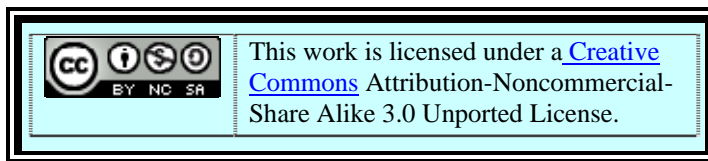
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#### All you need to begin at no cost

Please note that, other than an inexpensive audio recorder if you do not already have one, you need not purchase anything to record for EVP. There is very little research indicating that the “boxes” being sold for EVP are any better than using a regular audio recorder to transform background noise.

ATransC does not sell or endorse tools for EVP which you must purchase. It does consider devices using speech synthesis a promising technology but research must be conducted to better understand how promising and we do not recommend that a person new to EVP make that attempt until better understanding EVP. See [Our Pledge](#) for more information.



## History

Speculation about EVP can be traced back to the 1920s. In a *Scientific American*<sup>1</sup> interview, Thomas Edison was quizzed on his views regarding contacting the dead. Edison said that it might be “possible to construct an apparatus which will be so delicate that if there are personalities in another existence or sphere who wish to get in touch with us in this existence or sphere, this apparatus will at least give them a better opportunity to express themselves than the tilting tables and raps and Ouija boards and mediums and the other crude methods now purported to be the only means of communication.” There is no indication that Edison designed or tried to construct such a device.

From: National Park Service, [Edison National Historic Site](#):

### Did Edison make a machine that could talk to the dead?

This seems to be another tall tale that Edison pulled on a reporter. In 1920 Edison told the reporter, B.F. Forbes, that he was working on a machine that could make contact with the spirits of the dead. Newspapers all over the world picked up this story. After a few years, Edison admitted that he had made the whole thing up. Today at Edison National Historic Site, we take care of over five million pages of documents. None of them mention such an experiment.<sup>2</sup>

In 1936, Attila von Szalay, A Californian, started capturing paranormal voices on phonograph records and then in the mid 1950s he was joined by Raymond Bayless. Together they acquired many evidential EVP on their new tape recorders and they published their findings in the *Journal of the American Society for Psychical Research*.<sup>3</sup>

In 1959, the person credited with bringing EVP to the public, Friedrich Jürgenson, a Russian-born Swedish film producer, after recording birdsong on his tape recorder, heard on playback what appeared to be a human voice. Subsequent recordings contained a message which seemed to be coming from his dead mother.<sup>4</sup>

Konstantin Raudive is credited for learning about EVP as a student of Jürgenson and with the actual introduction of EVP to the English-speaking world with the publication by Colin Smythe of *Breakthrough*<sup>5</sup>

Colin Smyth is credited with coining the term, “Electronic Voice Phenomena” (EVP) as a more inclusive alternative to “Raudive Voices,” as the voices recorded by Raudive were referred to.<sup>6</sup>

## Types of EVP

This is a rapidly evolving field of study, and our reported understanding of what EVP are and how they are formed should be considered “what we think today,” rather than: how it is.” The voices in EVP are formed in three very different ways, but both are dependent on supplied audio-frequency energy.

**Transform EVP:** Traditionally EVP formation has involved the transformation of available audio-frequency energy into voice, which is thought to occur in the electronic equipment. The resulting signal is seen as a simulation of human voice which may very closely mimic the physical voice of the person thought to be speaking. This includes nuances of voice, such as accent, age, sex and attitude. Analysis of the resulting voice usually shows novel arrangement of formants (frequency grouping by octave of the voice box frequency developed during passage through the mouth) and fragmented voice box frequencies (Formant 0).<sup>7</sup> Transform EVP was traditionally accomplished by using radio static (a readily available source of sound in the early days of EVP study) as background sound. Current Best Practices involve the use of unmodulated noise, such as supplied by a fan, but most EVP are recorded today using a digital voice recorder, and the device tends to provide ample noise for voice formation during normal operation.

**Random Selection:** This depends on a random process which is thought to be influenced by the communicating entity. In the application known as [EVPMaker](#), a pre-recorded sound file containing voice is stored in a buffer, and then a random process selects segments of the stored file from the buffer to produce a new audio file. Recorded human speech has been traditionally used, but ATransC has discouraged use of any form of “live voice” for EVP experimentation. However, EVPmaker developer, Stefan Bion, has recently provided a sound file containing speech fragments known as allophones, which have been generated by a speech synthesis program. In this application, if a word is present in the output, it must be

“fortuitously formed” by a chance arrangements of allophones or it must be the product of intended manipulation of the random process. The deciding factor is whether or not the utterance is meaningful for the circumstance. An example of this is at [real-time, two-way conversations](#).

**Environmental control of speech synthesis:** A new approach to EVP has been the use of environmental energy sensors to control the operation of a speech synthesis process. In the [Paranormal Puck](#), this is accomplished by sensing environmental electromagnetic, temperature, magnetism or electrical changes around the device. The device connects to a computer via a USB cable and the computer has a supplied program that uses the sensor information to control a microchip in the peripheral device to produce voice. See [real-time, two-way conversations](#) for an example of this form of EVP.

**What is probably not EVP:** We are working on an article titled [EVP Formation](#), intended to help explain what we know about EVP today. An important part of that article is a discussion about common factors. Based on those common factors, and the result of other studies, we have begun to feel confident in saying that certain technologies (probably) do not produce EVP. The technology that comes up most often is radio-sweep, and in a [case study](#), we report that it probably does not produce EVP as it is reported. There are clearly instances in which the noise produced by rapidly sweeping radio stations is used to produce transform EVP when the sweep output is recorded. The radio sweep process may be beneficial as an aid to the operator’s intuitive understanding of the question.

### Characteristics of EVP

The following list is extracted from the book, *There is No Death and There are No Dead*,<sup>8</sup> with additions based on more current work. The characteristics will provide a sense of how EVP sounds and the nature of the phenomenal voices.

#### Transform EVP

The first group of characteristics is specifically for **transform EVP**, which are thought to be formed by the transformation of audio frequency energy into a simulated voice.<sup>7</sup>

**EVP are Distinctive:** EVP have a distinctive character of cadence, pitch, frequency, volume and use of background sound. The voices have a distinctive sound to them that is difficult to describe. For instance, EVP messages often have an unusual speed of enunciation; the words seem to be spoken more quickly than normal human speech. Regarding this peculiarity, Konstantinos<sup>9</sup> wrote, “The best way I can describe it is that it’s almost as if each word is spoken quickly, yet the pauses between the words are of a natural length. The combination of these two speed factors makes for the peculiar rhythm and perceived speed.” You may also notice that the paranormal voices often have a hollow and/or monotone quality.

**Frequency Range:** EVP are sometimes received at higher or lower time base than normal speech. The enunciation of words is not just faster, but the frequency range of the phrases is sometimes higher than normal human speech.

**Missing Frequencies:** Italian researcher, Paolo Presi,<sup>10</sup> has reported that spectral analysis of EVP samples has shown that the fundamental frequencies of voice associated with the human voice box are sometimes missing in EVP. He describes the typical EVP as a “thickening” of the background noise to form the voice.

**Precursor Sounds:** Sounds are often heard prior to an occurrence of EVP. Although these vary in nature, they tend to be within tenths of a second of a phrase and are a “popping” or “clicking” noise reminiscent of the “squelch” sound caused when the automatic gain control engages as the “push to talk” button is depressed on a Citizens Band radio.<sup>11</sup>

**EVP Show Evidence of Being Limited by Available Energy:** Alexander MacRae<sup>11</sup> has noted that the utterances tend to have about the same amount of audio power in their associated sound wave from one EVP sample to another. That is, a short EVP will tend to be louder than a long EVP. A very long phrase might be composed of two or more average-length phrases separated by minor pauses. Also, an utterance may trail off at the end, as if the energy is being depleted before the message is delivered. Again, this is as if the communicator is attempting to manage available power as “packets” of energy. The evidence is very strong that EVP are energy-limited phenomena.

**EVP Are Complete Words or Phrases:** Researcher Alexander MacRae has also conducted considerable analysis of EVP messages, determining that a message is typically one to two seconds in duration and is not truncated at the beginning or

end. If EVP were crosstalk, they would often begin in the middle of a word. EVP messages are usually complete thoughts, as well.

**EVP Are Found by Playing the Soundtrack Backwards:** One of the more bizarre characteristics of EVP is that it is possible to discover an EVP that seems to be garbled, but that makes perfect sense when the soundtrack is played in reverse. By this, we mean to say that the sound track is played so that the voice of the experimenter can be heard speaking backwards, but the EVP can be heard speaking forwards.<sup>12</sup>

As with the ability of communicating entities to anticipate questions by placing answers into recording media before the question is asked, the phenomenon of reverse track EVP provides important hints as to the nature of time.

**Sidebar: EVP Found on the Reverse Direction of a Sound Track**

Please use the technique of looking for EVP on the reverse with care. EVP seems to be formed in noise wherever in the spectrum the experimenter might look for the voice. That is probably why some researchers have theorized that EVP are always ultrasonic or infrasonic. However, in reversed sound track EVP, the presence of the voice seems to be more of a demonstration that the communicators are able to do something that is simply not explainable with known physical principles. Also, EVP is considered communication and leaving a message in a place that most people would not consider looking, or do not have the tools to look, is not realistically considered an attempt to communicate.

Many offered examples of EVP found on the reverse turn out to be nonsensical, and one of the Best Practices in EVP is that, if the message is not meaningful in some way, it should be set aside until supporting material is available. There is also a problem with the value of utterances found on the reverse as evidence. Knowledgeable researchers understand that there are many words that, when heard in the reverse, naturally form other normal words. It is also disconcerting for a researcher to recognize the staccato cadence of reversed-voice speech in someone's offered EVP example and reverse it only to discover the person speaking in the forward direction. Considering these issues, it is often recommended that researchers use the technique of reversing a sound track in search of EVP sparingly, and avoid offering examples that are clearly a forward-speaking voice played in the reverse.

**The Voices in EVP Are Often Recognizable:** It is common for an EVP to contain the recognizable voice of the discarnate person thought to be speaking. It is also common for that entity to say something that was typical of what he or she would have said while in the physical. Their personality clearly remains intact even though the person no longer has a physical body.<sup>13</sup>

**Mundane Voices Are Sometimes Transfigured:** A communicating entity will sometimes remodulate or transfigure the experimenter's words into EVP. In one striking example, the words of a French-speaking radio announcer were changed, mid sentence, into an English spoken EVP. The EVP was clearly inappropriate for what the announcer had been saying.

**Sidebar: Transfigured**

The term, "transfigured," is used in much the same way here that it is used in mediumship to describe how an entity transfigures or changes the medium's features into the entity's likeness.

Please Note: One caution about using foreign-language that you do not understand as a sound source for EVP is that it is very easy to mistake a mundane utterance as seeming to say something in your language. While this is a characteristic sometimes encountered with EVP research, we discourage the routine use of foreign-language sound sources for EVP experimentation.

**Party Line:** Some EVP sound as if they are comments intended for someone other than the experimenter. This is much like momentarily listening in on a party line telephone call. It is not uncommon in both field and controlled recording situations to record comments that seem as if unseen people are discussing the experimenter's actions in much the same way that you might discuss the activity of someone that you were watching.

**A Need for Background Sound Sources:** Research has shown that the voice in EVP is formed as “a thickening” of ambient sound energy. This is an opportunistic use of sound energy that often results in no or largely missing voice box frequencies and an unnatural arrangement of other frequencies usually formed by the passage of the fundamental frequencies through the mouth.<sup>7</sup> Also, EVP has been recorded by audio-recording devices or processes which have been isolated from ambient sound by such techniques as removing the microphone, and in some instances, acoustically isolating the recording device.”

Because of these characteristics, it is standard practice to assure the availability of ambient sound for voice formation, even while isolating the recording device or process from uncontrolled ambient sounds, such as crowd noise.

**Layered EVP:** Experimenters often comment that several layers of EVP appear in the same location of the recording media. This is especially common when more than one background sound source is used during the experiment. For instance, if a fan and radio static are used for background sound, then a message might be found in the fan noise while a second message is found in the radio static—both in the same segment of the sound track.

**EVP is Found Wherever the Experimenter Listens:** This suggests that the source of audio noise is not a factor for EVP, so long as the audio energy is suitable for voice formation. In practice, the majority of techniques for recording EVP involve sound conditioning, rather than unique forms of psi detection. For instance, upscaling infrasound so that it can be heard by human ears or downscaling ultrasound, really constitute techniques of sound conditioning, and the resulting EVP is not evidence that the utterance was formed beyond human hearing, but that it was formed when the audio energy was made available to the recording process.

### All forms of EVP

**EVP Are in the Language of the Experimenter:** Alexander MacRae has conducted experiments in a place that has no English language radio or television stations, yet resulting EVP were in English, which is his primary language. It is typical for the EVP, no matter where they are recorded, to be in a language that the experimenter understands. There have been exceptions to this which were apparently intended as a demonstration, but as a rule, EVP will be spoken in a language understood by the experimenter or an interested observer.

This brings up an interesting point of speculation about psi-based communication. Mental mediums often report that they receive communication from nonphysical entities as images which they must interpret. These images are not just mental pictures. They are packets of information that are sufficiently complete for the receiver to fully understand their meaning. [Robert Monroe](#)<sup>8</sup> referred to this form of information as “Thought Balls.”

**EVP Are Not Ambient Sound or Broadcast Programming:** Alexander MacRae has made a contribution to the field of EVP by submitting the newest model of his Alpha Device for testing at the [Institute of Noetic Sciences](#) (IONS). The device produced EVP in a chamber that was shielded from environmental Radio Frequency (RF) sound energy and light.<sup>14</sup> This demonstration proving that EVP are not stray sound or RF has been made before.<sup>12</sup> One of the problems researchers have faced in the past is that “old proof” is often discounted because of the considerable improvement in instrumentation, experimental protocol and understanding of physical principles. In light of this, it is important that our modern generation of scientists is able to witness demonstrations that adhere to modern standards for research, such as that just provided by Alexander MacRae. As of the writing of this book, we await a response from the scientists.

**EVP Are Appropriate to the Circumstances:** There are numerous examples of EVP that are clearly direct responses to questions recorded just prior to the EVP phrase or to the circumstances. An example of an EVP being appropriate to a circumstance is an instance in which experimenters were trying to figure out how to set up a new tape recorder for an EVP experiment. The tape recorder was finally set up correctly, but not before causing a very loud feedback squeal that was recorded. On that recording, a male voice said in a Class A EVP, “*Leave it alone*” right after the loud squeal.



**Precognitive Responses:** Answers to questions may be recorded prior to a question being asked, so that the answer, as a phenomenal message, is on the sound track followed by the experimenter asking the question. More research is required before making informed speculation about this observed characteristic, but the indication is that, while time may be meaningful to us, our time may well be irrelevant to a nonphysical entity. Alternatively, the entity may be sensing what the experimenter is about to ask.

**Vocalized Questions Elicit More EVP:** There is evidence that the communicating entities are able to read our thoughts, as in placing an answer on a recording prior to the asking of a question. However, experiments conducted by Alexander MacRae<sup>11</sup> have shown that EVP responses increase when questions are asked out loud. MacRae conducted a simple experiment during which he ran numerous sessions and did not verbalize questions, and then the same number of sessions speaking the questions. He then counted the number of EVP responses. On the non-verbalized sessions he collected 3.2 utterances per session, whereas on the verbalized sessions he collected 5.3 utterances per session. (MacRae uses a baseline recording session duration of five minutes for such controlled sampling.)

**The “Newness” Effect:** The experimenter’s excitement in trying a new detection device or recording technique may be the source of improved EVP collection. As the new approach becomes “normal operating procedure,” the improvements generally fade back to a more “normal” Quality and Quantity (QQ) of EVP collection. This suggests that it is important for the experimenter to maintain piqued interest during experiments. This is also one of the reasons it is speculated that the experimenter is an integral part of the recording circuit. The experimenter is apparently supplying the necessary psi energy to enable a nonphysical to physical transfer of energy.

**Effective Devices Unique to the Experimenter:** Exceptionally effective EVP and ITC collecting systems have been developed; however, these typically work well for the developer, but do not work as well for other experimenters. This paradox supports the belief that the experimenter is part of the recording circuit. It has also reinforced the concept that the communicating entity may be specific to the experimenter.

Because various devices and equipment setups have worked exceptionally well for one experimenter and not for another, it has been argued that it is a waste of time to try to develop the hoped for equipment that would become the proverbial “spirit telephone,” allowing anyone to use it to call up a loved one on the other side.<sup>15</sup> This may prove to be the wrong assumption. There is growing evidence that people who have not done well with a cassette recorder are now recording increased QQ EVP using digital voice recorders.

**EVP Can Be Thoughts of Living People:** There have been a number of well-designed experiments that appear to have resulted in EVP initiated by living people who were sleeping at the time. As an ethical consideration, such experiments are always prearranged with the person who volunteers to be the sleeping “sender.” In these experiments, questions are clearly answered by a communicating entity, and the answers are appropriate for the sleeping person. This fact of EVP suggests the possibility that EVP can become an important tool for consciousness research. For instance, is it possible that a patient in a coma might initiate an EVP when requested?

### **Theories Proposed to Explain Observed ITC Phenomena**

The existence of EVP is not realistically contested. Any reasonably capable person with a device capable of recording audio can expect to eventually record an understandable utterance. A workable protocol for such recordings can be found in the [Techniques](#) section of ATransC.org. The real questions are what causes the voices, who is causing them (if appropriate) and how they are caused. The following list details the most commonly proposed possible answers:

**Radio signals, unnoticed conversations and/or light-generated signals:** Probably the most obvious explanation is that the voices are recordings of stray radio signals. Inexpensive electronic equipment designed to handle audio signals are designed with “unbalanced” input and output ports, poorly shielded circuitry and what amounts to a “floating ground” in portable equipment. All of these design shortcuts leave the equipment open to detect and record stray radio signals, and if it is possible to pick up a radio station, with a portable radio, then it is also possible to record a stray radio signal. This does not often happen, but it is possible.

The most obvious way to test the possibility that EVP are stray radio signals is to shield the audio recording device from ambient radio frequency noise. One way is to place a turned on, voice-activated audio recorder in a padded metal

container, such as a candy tin, place that in a second padded tin, and that in a third padded tin that has a metal strap from the metal side of the tin to a good ground—usually a metal water pipe will do. This will prevent most stray sound, all light and essentially all radio frequency energy from reaching the recorder.

Since research shows that the voices are formed from available audio frequency energy,<sup>7</sup> some noise will be required for this experiment. Inexpensive digital voice recorders usually produce sufficient internal voice frequency noise for EVP formation, but if EVP are not collected in the above enclosure when the recorder is known to produce EVP in the open, it may be necessary to include a sound source, such as a turned-on am radio with the volume set so that the resulting static would not obscure the voice of a person speaking into the microphone.



Figure illustrating a sound track with the utterance, “Betty’s in there.” A workable level for background sound used in voice formation is shown. The increase in amplitude of the voice is believed to be due to the accumulation of energy prior to formation of the utterance. This is transform EVP.

Variations of this experiment have been conducted by many people. In the simplest version, a recorder is placed in a microwave oven to take advantage of its radio frequency-shielding. One experimenter used a metal paint tin in the desert.<sup>16</sup> Another used a grounded metal oil drum,<sup>12</sup> and Alexander MacRae used the [Institute of Noetics’ Sciences](#) screened room to isolate his recording apparatus from ambient light-, sound- and radio-frequency energy.<sup>14</sup> All of these techniques produced EVP.

Simple content analysis is usually sufficient to establish that the utterance in question is unlikely to be cross-talk or unnoticed voices from people in the room. Assuming the experimenter is not attempting to provide “scientific” evidence, it is usually adequate to note whether or not the utterances are complete statements, if they are appropriate to the circumstances and if they are understandable. If they were stray radio or television signals, they would contain the tell-tale signs of commercial broadcast, they would often be partial statements and they would usually be nonsensical, considering the circumstance.

**Imagination of the experimenter:** This is an important possible explanation for any form of phenomena involving unexpected sounds, images or events. Modern technology is capable of producing such a wide variety of unexpected results, often referred to as mundane artifacts, and a person can easily mistake an artifact as phenomenal unless the experimenter is an expert in the use of that technology. For instance, when used in an automatic mode, and with a flash, modern cameras often keep the shutter open much longer than the user realizes. A characteristic of film and digital image detectors referred to as “latency” will cause a moving camera to quickly image a bright light, such as a street light or flash reflected from a bright object in the scene, much quicker than a poorly illuminated background. This can result in a “ghostly” streak of light in a photograph while the background scene seems to indicate that the camera never moved.

The point is that such photographic artifacts are mundane, yet they are often offered as evidence of ghosts. In the same way, sounds in an audio recording can be made by very mundane influences but yet sound very phenomenal. For instance, it is common for a person to take a breath of air just before speaking, and the sound of that breath can be mistaken as something phenomenal when a person is examining every little deviation in the wave form.

All aspects of etheric studies are plagued by what is generally termed “the lack of critical thinking” amongst people seeking to experience these phenomena. This is a natural result in view of the complexity of the involved technologies and when the very large population of amateur experiencers is considered. So the casual witness to this field of study should be dubious about individual reports of phenomena, as many such reports are demonstrably misattributed mundane events. It is intellectually lazy to say that all reports of etheric-to-physical phenomena are just the imagination of the experimenter when the evidence for the existence of EVP is reviewed. The fact that the voices can be collected by just about any person

with average hearing, access to an audio recorder and sufficient patience to learn how to listen for the voices, provides sufficient reason to discount this argument. A better argument is that following.

**Thoughts of the experimenter:** Once the possible explanations that would prove the voices to be mundane have been dispensed with, there remains the possibility that the voices are phenomenal, etheric to physical influences, but that they are caused by a physical person. It is here that the argument changes from if EVP is real to who is talking.

A number of experiments have been conducted to see if it is possible to record the thoughts of people known to be still in the flesh. Perhaps the most conclusive was conducted by Jacque Blanc-Garin of the French ITC organization, Infinitude.<sup>18</sup> In that experiment, Jacques had arranged with Monique Simonet to attempt contacting her via an EVP experiment while she slept.<sup>17</sup> (It is an ethical consideration to ask permission of the “sender” before conducting such an experiment.) In the exchange, Jacques, in a different part of the house, verbalized the question, “If you answer me, you are maybe in the environment where I record. If that is it, you can then tell me what I currently hold in my left hand?” The recorded EVP was, “*It is a crystal*” Jacques reported that, “I indeed, had a crystal in my hand. Monique saw me!”

Lisa Butler and Sarah Estep also conducted coordinated experiments from either coast of the USA with convincing results.<sup>18</sup> Other experimenters have reported similar results, some possibly impressing their thoughts into recording medium, although this point requires further research.

Current thinking is that the conscious aspect of a person is what survives physical death, and when a person still in the flesh is in some way disassociated from the physical body, his or her conscious self is much the same as the etheric communicator. In other words, it is predicted by some proposed theories that the thoughts of a living person should be able to be recorded in EVP. Probably the real question is whether or not all of the EVP are from living people.

Many of the observed characteristics of EVP could be explained as thoughts of the living. One, the fact that some messages are clearly spoken in response to something the experimenter is about to say, seems to eliminate the experimenter as a source. More convincing are the reports from the [ATransC Big Circle recording group](#) showing that, on occasion, a member will record the voice of a person, say “John,” who is later shown to be the discarnate son of a person who had not yet joined the Association, but that in subsequent conversations, John’s voice is recognized saying the sort of things John would have said while in the flesh.

Another source of experimental evidence that not all EVP are initiated by the experimenter is the results from the [4Cell EVP Demonstration](#). In this series of experiments, four people work together to execute the experimental protocol. A Requester decides on a question and relays only the question to the Sender. The Sender asks his or her etheric communicators to give the answer to the Receiver, and then tells the Receiver that a question has been sent. The Receiver conducts an EVP session and asks for the answer that he or she does not know to an unknown question, and then sends any resulting EVP to the Scribe. The Scribe makes the first determination as to what is said in the EVP, and then the group decides on the best response, and all information is included in a report. An example “hit” recorded by 4Cell Infinite is, **Question:** What are the names of Jim’s Montessori school teachers? **Correct Answer:** “Vivian” and “Rosmund.” Class B answer: “*Vivian.*” Class C answer in same file: “*Rosmund.*” This is one of the better results, but the 4Cell experimenters are averaging around 69% correct or very meaningful responses.

**EVP are “echoes of the past” or residual energy:** The Quantum-Holographic hypothesis has been proposed to explain the origin of consciousness,<sup>19</sup> meaning that the personality has a biological origin and the information being accessed via EVP and the other forms of apparent etheric-to-physical influences are either caused by the experimenter or some other physical agent, or a form of residual energy described by physicist David Bohm and neurophysiologist Karl Pribram as a field of energy that underlies all of reality.<sup>20</sup> This field of energy is thought to have three characteristics that might account for the observed etheric-to-physical phenomena. It is thought to behave according to quantum principles, especially that of entanglement which shows that, once certain objects have become associated in specific ways, influencing one object will have a similar influence on the other, even though it may be very far away.

The second characteristic is that this field exhibits the character of nonlocality, meaning that information in it is equally available from any place in the field. This characteristic is required to explain such phenomena as a remote viewer accessing information that is miles away and a medium supposedly getting information from discarnate entities. It is this nonlocality that requires holographic theory, since it is known that any part of a holographic representation of a scene can



be used to reproduce the entire scene. In other words, the information is not local to any one part of the photographic plate. The third characteristic of this field is that it is formed of the residual energy of consciousness, and therefore contains all that was ever known, thought and experienced. It is this residual energy that provides the information psychically gathered.

There is growing evidence that some form of field exists, that it is of a subtle energy that is not detected by normal means and that it interconnects groups of life forms. Rupert Sheldrake<sup>21</sup> refers to this field as a “morphic field,” and Dean Radin<sup>22</sup> calls it a “biofield.” However, the existence of a biofield does not assure that Bohm and Pribram’s field is proven to exist, or how such a field might be populated. This author is not aware of experimental evidence showing that residual consciousness does remain in a field. Conversely, the experimental evidence of EVP seems to show that consciousness is local, that it is self-aware and interactive.

Super-psi<sup>23</sup> is a second hypothesis designed to explain observed psychic abilities, but from the perspective of psychology. This hypothesis also depends on a vast reservoir of residual conscious energy which is accessible by people who exhibit the ability to access information that should not be available to them.

Both the Quantum-Holographic and Super-psi Hypotheses may provide important pieces to the puzzle which will eventually explain personal survival and EVP and should not be completely discounted—especially the concept of a biofield. However, neither hypothesis explains the evidence collected via EVP.

**Cultural Influence:** A theory that is gaining in acceptance is that the voices are phenomenally formed, and may be initiated by a discarnate entity, but that the utterances may also be considerably influenced by the practitioner or an interested observer. This theory is based on the hypothesis that the message is formed via a mind-to-mind exchange of information via the etheric aspect of the practitioner and the etheric entity. This is thought to be in the form of image, concept and understanding all wrapped into one gestalt package. The information is thought to be transformed into the physical via the entanglement of the practitioner's etheric Self with the physical body. This is the same path hypothesized for mental mediumship. The result is that the practitioner tends to filter what is allowed into the physical, and subsequently into the recording, depending on expectations.

For instance, the practitioner may expect that any discarnate entity speaking from a cemetery will naturally be earthbound and therefore in distress. In such an instance, the message would come to the practitioner as a gestalt “This is who I am and what I am doing,” and come out as the EVP, “Help me,” because of the assumption of distress.

There are indications that some EVP are initiated by the practitioner. As is discussed above, it is believed possible to record the thoughts of living, and as such, it is not difficult to think that some thought are spontaneously recorded. This theory should not be taken to say that discarnate entities are not thought to be initiating EVP. It is recognition that the subject is very complex and the degree to which the practitioner influences the result has not been well examined. At the very least, the meaning of EVP should be based on due consideration of this question.

**EVP are imitated by etheric entities:** The primary hypothesis for this is the **Survival Hypothesis** (See the supporting article below) in which the personality of the person is thought to have evolved from "outside" of the physical aspect of reality. In this theory, the personality becomes entangled with the physical body at the time of the birth of the physical body. When the physical body is no longer able to support "life" the personality is released to once again associate itself with the greater reality.

EVP are thought to be initiated by a personality existing in the greater reality via a mind-to-mind exchange of information between it and the etheric aspect of the practitioner or that of an interested observer. The etheric personality-physical body entanglement permits the practitioner to transfer the information into the physical as a form of embodiment not unlike what is thought to occur with a mental medium. Rather than the mental medium embodying the information as words, the EVP practitioner unconsciously facilitates its formation into words using physical processes acting within an electronic process.

## Conducting an EVP Experiment

### Types of Recording Sessions

In controlled conditions recording, it is possible to control ambient noise and supply special forms of background noise. Auric energy is thought to accumulate in a “special” recording area, which is thought to help make contact. In field recording, it is difficult to control environmental conditions or supply background sound, but in known “haunted” locations, the energy helpful for contact may already be present.

EVP formed in an audio recorder by transforming available background sound is referred to as **transform EVP**. In this, it is sometimes possible to recognize the voice of the speaker. EVP Formed by using computer generated voice fragments for a computer program such as EVPmaker, are referred to as **synthesized voice EVP**. Using random processes such as a random event or number generator, or detection of “random” changes in environmental energy is referred to as **random process EVP** and may include speech synthesis. When recorded human speech, whether or not an understood language, or when human speech detected from radio broadcast or the environment is used, it is referred to as **live voice EVP**. (ATransC will usually not use live voice examples for research because of the problem of undetected false positives.)

### Recording Procedure

**Recording Equipment**—Any device capable of recording voice frequency sound. A computer is recommended and a way to transfer audio from the recording device to the computer. The computer can also be used as the initial recorder. Also, the computer should be equipped with an audio management program, such as the open source, [Audacity](#).<sup>24</sup> It is possible to use just the audio recorder, as experimenters have always done before the advent of personal computing, but again, this set of instructions is designed to offer the best chance of success. There are instructions for transferring audio into a computer at atransc.org in the [Techniques section](#).

Digital voice recorders are recommended for transform EVP. Less expensive models produce more internal noise which is useful for voice formation. High quality units will probably require added background noise. A computer can also be used, but will probably require added noise.

**Scheduling**—Entities will speak at any time of day or night. In the beginning, however, it is advisable to record at a regular time and place. By doing this, the entities learn when there will be an opportunity for contact and expectation of the upcoming session helps focus attention on the process. Try to find a place that will be quiet and free of interruptions. Background sounds are okay, but it is important to be aware of these so that they can be distinguished from the EVP.

**Background Sound Source**—Research has shown that for transform EVP, the entities use sounds in the environment to help form the words. Most recording situations have some background sounds, but it may be necessary to add noise with something like a fan or running water. Some people use foreign language radio, crowd babble or audio tapes, but ATransC discourages the use of radio static or live voice of any form.

**Preparation**—Begin with meditation and a short prayer to ask for only those intending the highest good and an invitation to friends on the other side to participate. *It is best to recording when personal energy is the highest.*

**Special Considerations:** It is possible to supply background sound to facilitate EVP formation while recording in controlled conditions. A common household fan will usually do, but one of the reasons the sessions are referred to as “experiments” is that practitioners are always on the hunt for the ideal recording equipment, conditions and background sounds. So, be inventive. In controlled conditions, it is also possible to use high-quality recorders, because you can supply sound.

Think of EVP as a form of communication. A rule of thumb is that the communicators will leave their message wherever they think someone will listen. Higher quality recording devices tend to record fewer phenomenal voices, and electronic circuits that are strongly constrained by limiting circuits leave fewer opportunities for voice formation. It is a good practice to expect to find the voices where normal human voice would be found, and in noisier conditions.

It is harder to bring sound for field recordings, and it is for this reason that digital voice recorders that produce a lot of internal noise are so popular for field recording. As a rule of thumb, set the mic sensitivity to medium and the quality to low. Set the volume to medium and then experiment from there. Many people prefer voice-activated recording

because it produces less to listen to and more internal noise for voice formation. The communicators can trigger voice-activated recording if there is enough sound to lower the threshold.

**Recording**—Vocalize your comments during an EVP session. The entities will often come through as soon as the recorder is turned on. These beginning messages may be the loudest, so it is a good idea to turn on the recorder and wait a few seconds before speaking. Questions should be recorded, and a period of time between each comment should be left for the entities to respond--about ten seconds. At the end, ask if the entity has something to say.

It may help to make an “appointment” with the intended entity the day before, during prayer or meditation. Some also provide feedback before the session so that the entities will know what worked in the last experiment. It is not necessary to record in the dark. People often try different devices and energy sources to help the entities communicate. Leaving written questions in the EVP experiment area the day before has worked for some.

Keep recording short. Recordings should be closely examined, at least until it is understood where to find the voices. A best practice for field recording is to use two recorders. As a rule, EVP will only occur on one recorder or sound track, making it possible to avoid mistaking local sounds for EVP (false positives).

**Playback**—In transform EVP, the voice is usually not heard until playback. Experimenters report that the voices tend to become stronger and clearer as the entities gain in experience, but at first the voices may speak in whispers. Voices may not be recorded in every session and it may take several sessions to discover the first voice. Hearing the voices is a learned ability. It might take thirty minutes to examine a three or four minute recording.

**Classes of Voices**—**Class A** voice can be heard and understood over a speaker by most people. **Class B** voice can be heard over a speaker, but not everyone will agree as to what is said. **Class C** can only be heard with headphones and is difficult to understand. Class B or C voices may have one or two clearly understood words. Loud does not equal Class A.

**Keeping a Log**—Maintaining a record of recording results is very helpful. Include the date, time, seconds into the recording, the message itself and the question asked. Be sure to label and save the audio file so that they can be found at a later time. Experimenters report that they feel weather may affect results, but this has not been well studied. Atransc.org has [geomagnetic and solar reports](#). There is also a link for moon phase information.

### Digital Voice Recorders

Digital voice recorders are recommended for EVP experiments. Today, all sound tracks—digital or analog—should be listened to in a computer and with a headset. Unlike tape recorders, the built-in microphone is usually satisfactory for EVP. There is a selection guide in the [Techniques](#) section of atrasc.org. The section includes a setup guide for Audacity, which is an effective audio management program that can be downloaded at no cost.

### Computer Recording

A computer instead of a digital recorder can be used for recording EVP. It should have an audio input jack, speakers, headphone jack and sound player application such as Audacity. Most experimenters use the computer to analyze and store examples. If the recorder does not have a USB interface, it is possible to play the recording into the computer while recording with a recorder program. The Earphone jack of the recorder can be connected to the Microphone or Line 1 jack via a cable. The sound source should be set to the correct jack via the pull-down menu in Audacity. Recording with a sample rate of 11025, mono and 16 bit resolution is sufficient for EVP. Files should be edited as \*.wav format, but shared as \*.mp3.

### Analyzing the Recording for EVP

Always use headphones when listening to the recording in a computer. The earmuff style that completely covers the ear is best, but also good are the soft rubber ear buds that are inserted in the channel of the ear.

Assuming a digital recorder is used, the voice is digitized right after it is limited to the required signal strength coming from the input amplifier. If it is necessary to record the sound file into the computer via an audio cable, the signal is turned back into analog, and then digitized again by the computer. There is little or no evidence that an EVP will be changed while in a digital format, but it is possible for change or even new utterance while transferring in the analog phase.

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It is possible to reasonably reproduce the average human voice with a sample rate of 8,000 KHz, so it is recommended that the audio file be saved into the computer as a 11025 KHz sample rate, 16 bit word file. Mono or stereo is a personal choice. Once the audio file is in the computer, it should be saved as a \*.wav file for storage and editing.

Current best practice for sharing an EVP example on the Internet is to convert the file to mono, \*.mp3 format, but using editing tools on mp3 is discouraged.

It is also best practice to provide a raw clip of the EVP, along with a bit of your voice for reference, if possible, followed by a short silence and then the whole clip again with any editing you may have done. Explain what you have done so that your listener will know what to expect.

Finally, ten decibels or so of amplification, perhaps a little noise reduction and high-end filtering is about all that should be done to a sound track to make the utterance more easily understood. It is possible to change the meaning of an EVP with over processing, and the rule of thumb is to discard the EVP if it cannot be understood with only slight enhancement, and certainly discard nonsensical utterances.

A listening technique is to select a few syllables of a possible utterance and then play it over and over to allow your mind to look for familiar sounds. People are trained to recognize common arrangements of sound as words, but EVP are often formed from odd arrangements of sound, depending on what is supplied, and the usual cues are often missing. A very loud, well-spoken phrase could still be difficult to make out for a person not accustomed to hearing EVP.

### Storage and sharing

Be sure to set up a method of saving your recordings in your computer that will allow you to easily locate examples. A good practice is to save the raw recording session in a dated folder and then also save clips containing the EVP in the same folder. Field recordings are saved under the name of the location and the date. It is helpful to keep a separate folder for your Class A examples for easy retrieval for demonstration to friends. ATransC follows the labeling practice of: (c)owner\_of\_evp2008-what\_evp\_says.mp3. The (c) symbol indicates the intention to protect rights to the example. Using first and last name helps sort many examples in the folder for easy retrieval. The underline and dash symbol with no use of capitals helps assure that computer systems and the Internet accept the name. A 200 kb audio file can be reduced to around 15 Kb when converted from a \*.wav file to an \*.mps file. This makes it easy for sharing files via the Internet.

**Sharing examples:** Use the copyright symbol (c) to indicate your intention to protect your file, and in principle, people must get permission before using the file in any way. If you want to encourage the use of your material and still receive credit, use the [Creative Commons](#) (cc) symbol and put the link to which Creative Commons license you are attaching to your file.

## Lessons Learned by Others

### Who Can Hear the Voices?

A series of online listening studies showed that the average ATransC website visitor participating in the study could correctly identify only 25% of the words in the Class A EVP examples. ([See the study here](#)) Most experienced practitioners have learned not to expect a person who is unaccustomed to hearing EVP to correctly understand examples. This is especially true if the person is skeptical to begin with. The message to all of us is that, even though the example may be very clear and obvious to us, it is unrealistic to attempt to show an example to the police or a grieving person.

Of course, it is possible to guide a person into hearing what we say is in the recording. But by every rational measure, “teaching a person to hear what we say is in the recording is considered “leading.” People, especially people who are grieving the loss of a love done, are simply too easily guided into hearing what is not there.

Before attempting to share an example with untrained witnesses, ATransC recommends that the example be passed by a listening panel without prompting. Only if the majority of a listening panel is able to hear what is believed to be in the example, is the example ready for untrained ears. Doing this helps to protect the practitioner from accusations of taking advantage of people.



[Certified Proxy Practitioners](#) have established both their ability to make contact for others and to help grieving people without guiding them into false assumptions. There is no reason others cannot learn to do the same, but for the sake of all of us, we ask that practitioners take the extra step of using a listening panel and being very conservative about contacting the authorities. To do otherwise hurts all of us.

### Final Observations

This white paper has become a primary tool for communicating the state of the art for EVP. It is based on the understanding of the ATransC Directors and reflects their policy in leading the Association. Important points the reader should take note of include:

- Mainstream science has not accepted its charter to examine what EVP are, nor has parapsychology. In an effort to foster a culture of cooperation and a unified public appearance amongst people and organizations involved in this study, ATransC has proposed “[Etheric Studies](#)” as a field of study concerned with survival of the personality, trans-etheric influences, the etheric and the etheric-to-physical interface.
- [Best Practices](#) have been proposed, and a forum has been established in which people in the community can cooperate to develop them.
- The [Sarah Estep Research Fund](#) has been established to coordinate research projects intended to further understanding of these phenomena. Donations to the Association which are earmarked for the fund will be used to fund targeted research projects.
- Live voice is not accepted by the Association for research, but it is accepted as a practitioner prerogative for personal use.
- Transform EVP is still considered the most effective form of EVP.
- EVP formation using speech synthesis, rather than background sound or live voice is currently considered an important direction for research because it avoids the question of radio contamination and reduces false positives.
- Radio sweep has not been shown to produce EVP as the output of the sweep process, but transform EVP may be formed as the noise from radio sweep is recorded. The radio sweep process may be effective as an aid to intuitive understanding of the question.
- A project of considerable interest is a [digital EVP platform](#) using speech synthesis.
- **Using EVP for finding people or things is probably possible, but the state of the art is such that it should not be presented as evidence at this time. Until more research has been conducted and better techniques have been developed, ATransC strongly discourages people from taking EVP examples to families or the authorities with the intention of "helping" solve a crime or missing person's case.**

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## Supporting Articles

### Instrumental TransCommunication (ITC)

ITC is the term coined by [Ernst Senkouski](#) to describe apparent instances of trans-etheric communication involving visual media, and in rare instances, two-way, real-time communication. There have been extreme instances of ITC in which real-time, two-way communication was accomplished using computers and television sets. These were the Timestream communications experienced by Maggy Harsch-Fischbach and Jules Harsch<sup>1</sup> of Luxembourg in 1986 and independently by Fritz Malkhoff and Adolf Homes<sup>2</sup> in 1989 as a demonstration of cross-correspondence. These were extraordinary instances of ITC and are not thought of as a norm for people learning to work with these phenomena.

A second form of extraordinary ITC is referred to as Direct Voice Radio (DVR). [Marcello Bacci](#) of Grosseto, Italy and Anabela Cardoso of Spain (publishes the ITC Journal) are using DVR. In this technique, the communicating entity is able to impress the voice on the output of the radio as if the radio is detecting an etheric radio station. Much longer messages are received in this way and they are usually of a more spiritual nature. Current understanding of DVR is that it is actually a form of direct voice as reported in séances using a physical medium. From what we are aware of today, DVR has not been replicated by EVP researchers who have tried.

The average person can expect to record phenomenal features, such as human and animal faces, in any visual recording media imaging reasonably chaotic optical energy. For instance, optical noise developed in a video loop will sometimes produce phenomenal features as still images in individual video frames. Also, photographs of light reflected from medium-gray surfaces, such as turned off television screens or compression noise in digital photographs will produce features. One good technique for generating sufficiently chaotic optical energy is to photograph light reflecting from swirling water. There are examples of these techniques in the [Examples](#) section.

The actual source of these apparently phenomenal visual features has not been sufficiently studied to permit educated speculation, but in a few instances, faces found in the noise strongly resemble the faces of people who were “asked” to show themselves in the experiment. Because the existence of the features is so easily demonstrated, there is little doubt of the reality of the phenomena. The who, how and why of the phenomena is what requires study.<sup>3</sup>

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### The Survival Hypothesis

The [Survival Hypothesis](#) is a theory designed to explain anecdotal and experimental evidence suggesting that a person's personality survives after the death of his or her physical body. The term is widely used to mean that people have a dual nature, being a physical body and an etheric aspect that supports the personality or “who that person really is.”

There are a number of implicit conditions which must be true for the Survival Hypothesis to make sense. Included in these are:

- There is a physical universe which can be described as the physical aspect of reality.
- There is a greater reality which includes the physical universe, but also includes other aspects. For the sake of this discussion, all aspects of reality that are not physical are referred to here as “etheric.”
- There is a fundamental form of energy which is different for each aspectation of reality. Implicit in this is that a mechanism must exist to cause differentiation of reality.
- This fundamental energy behaves according to Principles of Natural Law, and those principles produce subsets of principles, depending on the mechanism causing differentiation of the energy.
- The physical body has evolved according to Principles of Natural Law as they are expressed in the physical aspect of reality.

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- Consciousness evolved according Principles of Natural Law as they are expressed in the etheric aspect of reality. For the sake of this discussion, this consciousness is referred to here as “Self.”
- The energetic nature of Self is different from the energetic nature of the physical and Self cannot exist in the physical without some form of adaptation. For the sake of this discussion, this concept is referred to here as the Principle of Agreement which requires that an object of reality, such as a concept or a Self, must be energetically in agreement with the aspect of reality it will inhabit. This is referred to here as “embodiment.”
- Self is embodied into the physical at the moment of birth of the physical body, and by virtue of the physical body’s energetic agreement with the physical and the Self-physical body entanglement at the time of birth.
- The physical body does have a form of consciousness which maintains its biological functions, but this consciousness does not animate the body.<sup>1</sup>
- Self is in a symbiotic relationship with the body, and is disassociated from it when the body is sleeping or in some way distracted.
- Self permanently disassociates from the body at the moment of the death of that body and its point of view returns to the etheric aspects of reality according to its spiritual maturity. For the sake of this discussion, “spiritual maturity” refers to Self’s understanding about the operation of Natural Law. In this hypothesis, the nature of the energy that is associated with Self is determined by this understanding, and so, limits the aspects of reality Self will be in agreement with, and therefore able to inhabit.<sup>2</sup>

Discussions of the Survival Hypothesis seldom address the body consciousness; however, the [Theosophical Society](#), which takes much of its teachings from Eastern thought, does refer to something that might be loosely described as a “unit of life” called a “Monad.” In modern terms, this unit of life might be better described as the “life fractal,” as it seems to be a fundamental form.

The concept here is that everything is based on a fundamental energy which is governed by ordering principles called Natural Law. To avoid opening too many philosophical arguments, this description of the Survival Hypothesis is limited to the central topic of Self, physical body, the etheric and physical aspects of reality and the relationships of these elements.

### Etheric Aspect of Reality

The term, “etheric,” is reference to “ether,” as it was used by the Greek Philosopher/scientist, Plato, when he postulated a fifth substance to complement the four elements of earth, fire, water and air.<sup>1</sup> An alternative spelling for ether is “aether.”<sup>2</sup>

In science, “ether” was postulated as the medium of propagation for electromagnetic radiation. Ether as a physical substance was never identified, and the concept was eventually set aside. Nevertheless, the idea of a still undetected media that exists at the edge of known reality and that is capable of propagating subtle influences remains a topic of conjecture. In today’s terms, the need to identify the mechanism to propagate the influences variously described as a morphic field,<sup>3</sup> biofield,<sup>4</sup> or contact field<sup>5</sup>. While “ether” is probably not being considered as a term to describe this subtle energy field, the original use of “ether” would seem to apply.

As it is being used in the explanation for Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) and Instrumental TransCommunication (ITC), “etheric” refers to all things that are not traditionally described as “physical.” In metaphysical cosmology, “all things physical” includes the physical universe as the Physical Plane of existence. In this cosmology, there are other planes of existence, each distinguished from the others by differences in the character of the energy forming the plane and the intention for its formation. In the Survival Hypothesis,<sup>6</sup> distinction is only made between physical and nonphysical, such that all things nonphysical are etheric.

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**Books:** Please refer to the [book page](#) for a reading list.



## Association TransCommunication (ATransC) Today (Formally the American Association of Electronic Voice Phenomena or AA-EVP)

ATransC offers several venues of support to its membership:

- Quarterly NewsJournal publication. See the table of contents for a recent issue at [atransc.org/membership.htm](http://atransc.org/membership.htm)
- Address-sharing list for those who are interested in communicating with other experimenters. This list is known as the “Member Registry” list.
- Access to the Document Archive which contains the majority of quarterly newsletters published since May, 1982.
- Access to the Idea Exchange discussion board. Here you can hear and see examples and share your work while asking for help from other members.

In 1982, AA-EVP founder, Sarah Estep, introduced the phrase, “Established to provide objective evidence that we survive death in an individual conscious state,” which is now included in the ATransC NewsJournal. Current directors Tom and Lisa Butler have been careful to continue this view as a fundamental goal of the Association.

The Association averages around 500 members in 47 USA states and 22 countries including the US (current: 2009). Members understand that this “objective evidence” must be based on good science. As such, you will see that great care is taken by members to maintain an objective view of these phenomena. The evidence strongly indicates that the messages are nonphysical in origin; however, members also recognize that there are other possible explanations.

January, 2010, the Association name was changed to Association TransCommunication or ATransC in recognition that it is necessary to study all forms of trans-etheric influence in order to study any one form. The change was also to recognize that the Association is an international one and that important contributions to the field of study come from many parts of the world.

Today, ATransC members are experimenting with a wide variety of devices and techniques and are testing many different forms of transcommunication. While EVP remains the golden standard for objective evidence, it is best thought of as one of many tools used for studying the nature of the greater reality.

**Grief Management:** Many members are learning to use EVP for grief management. A medium may reassure a person that a loved one is okay on the other side by delivering a message from that loved one. In a similar way, hearing an EVP recording that has a (sometimes) recognizable voice of a loved one speaking an evidential phrase will do wonders for someone grieving a loss. Development circles around the world are showing that it is reasonable to consider forming a circle to seek the physical phenomena of the séance room. The Association promotes the establishment of such circles because the value to those who have personally experienced the materialization of a loved one in the séance room is immeasurable to a person suffering from grief.

**Sharing Ideas:** ATransC members are generally happy to explain their techniques for working with transcommunication and share the examples they have collected. Some approach these phenomena from a very technical and research-oriented view, while others simply like to work with one technique and do their experimenting by analyzing the information they receive.

Interestingly, several members are research scientists. Their titles are not shown on our member lists, however. Just as you may be harboring doubt about these phenomena, many institutions feel that a “true scientist” would not be associated with such organizations. Therefore, the Association takes great care to follow the privacy wishes of its members, and it is for this reason that the Idea Exchange is also restricted to members.

**Sarah Estep Research Fund:** AA-EVP Founder, Sarah Estep, made her transition in 2008, and to memorialize her, the Sarah Estep Research Fund was established with the help of a substantial contribution from daughter, Becky Estep. The first research funding granted by the SERF is to [Windbridge Institute](http://WindbridgeInstitute.com) for Applied Research in Human Potential to conduct a research project titled **Real-time EVP Conversations: A Pilot Study**. The study officially began on June 2, 2008.

Association TransCommunication welcomes prospective new members; see the [Membership page](http://atransc.org/membership.htm) at [atransc.org](http://atransc.org) for more information. Tax-deductible donations to support the work of ATransC are also welcomed and appreciated.

## Membership Form

The Association TransCommunication (ATransC) is dedicated to research that will lead to improved understanding of survival of the personality after the change called death, the implications of survival, improved transcommunication techniques and the dissemination of information about survival to the public. You are invited to join us in this work.

### ATransC member Benefits:

- As the primary member benefit, you will receive the quarterly NewsJournal designed to provide information about transcommunication researchers around the world.
- Your name can optionally be included in the Member Registry, which is an address sharing list for members.
- You will be able to participate in a members-only discussion board to share your ideas and examples with others.
- You will have access to an archive that contains many of the past NewsJournals.

You can also submit a membership form online at [atransc.org](http://atransc.org) using PayPal.com. PayPal takes credit cards.

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### Membership Registration (Please print or type)

- Member** \$30/year All benefits for one year
- International Member not using Email** \$40/year All benefits for one year \*
- Sustaining member** \$100/year Member + name listed in NewsJournal

\* If you live outside of the USA and do not receive the *NewsJournal* via email as a PDF file, \$10 USD is required for postage.

**The ATransC is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Funds in excess of dues are tax deductible in the USA.** In addition to my annual dues, I am enclosing a DONATION of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to support the ongoing work and programs of the Association. **Please make checks payable to ATransC.**

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address (Optional)\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number (Optional)\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip code\_\_\_\_\_ Country\_\_\_\_\_

By indicating that I want to share my name and address with others through the optional Member Registry, I realize the list is private and agree that other names on the list will not be given to anyone who is not on the list, used for commercial purposes or the furtherance of personal causes. I also understand my membership will be terminated if I violate this agreement. Minimum information for the Registry is name, city, state, zip. Email address and street address are optional but one must be included.

Do you wish to be in the member Registry (address sharing list)? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to include your physical address? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you wish to include your email address? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to receive the NewsJournal via postal service? \_\_\_\_\_ or via email? \_\_\_\_\_

**On the other side, tell us a little about yourself, and if you work with transcommunication, what techniques you like to use and how you found us.**

### Member Profile: (Please check what best describes your interest in EVP)

- I am mainly interested in EVP
- I am interested in all forms of transcommunication
- I joined because of the loss of a loved one
- I have a general interest in the study of survival of personality after physical death.

### I certify that I am twenty-one years of age or older.

I understand that the ATransC is not liable for the results of experiments that I might conduct, and that the Association is also not liable for damages due to the use of information it publishes on the Internet or in literature such as the NewsJournal. Officers of the ATransC reserve the right to refuse membership to anyone.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_