

Aperture

The Official Newsletter of the International Remote Viewing Association

A Message from the Editors

As always, this issue of **Aperture** brings you a wealth of information on a variety of topics having to do with remote viewing. We first want to draw your attention to the "Call for Papers" for the 2004 Remote Viewing Conference being held June 11-13 at the Texas Station Casino Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. The joint IRVA/ARE conference in Virginia Beach just a few weeks ago was a huge success, which we hope to duplicate this coming June. The Las Vegas venue will make it easier for those of you in the Western and Pacific Coast states, as well as Hawaii and the Pacific Rim, to attend. We are planning a stellar program, and will announce our keynote and other speakers as each of them confirms that he or she can attend. Please let all your interested friends know so they, too, can plan to come to the 2004 conference.

In this issue, you will also find an entertaining look at the Virginia Beach conference, written by Hampton Roads Publishing Co.'s editor Frank DeMarco, as well as photos of the speakers and participants. Our Taskings & Responses (Q&A) section features Jim Schnabel, author of the book *Remote Viewers: The Secret History of America's Psychic Spies*, which is still one of the most accurate and comprehensive accounts available. And there is an exchange between Mr. Bob Durant and Dr. Michael O'Bannon on the Persinger/Swann neuroscience-of-remote-viewing experiment reported on in Aperture 1:3&4. We also feature an interesting "how-to" article by Bill Stroud, Ph.D. And there is much more besides. Happy reading!

The Editors

Aperture

Ap - er - ture (ap'ěr-chěr) n. 1. A hole, cleft, gap, or space through which something, such as light, may pass. 2. A term of art in certain remote viewing methodologies, signifying the point or portal through which information transitions from the subconscious into conscious awareness.

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This may be **your last issue** of **Aperture** Renewal information on Page 19.



APERTURE

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Letters and contributions to *Aperture* are invited. All manuscripts, review copies, reprints, and information items should be addressed to the Editor. Submission of material does not guarantee its publication.

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A Call for Papers

2004 IRVA Remote Viewing Conference Las Vegas, Nevada June 11 -13, 2004

The 2002 Remote Viewing Conference, "Celebrating Thirty Years of Remote Viewing," focused attention on the history of remote viewing. A special emphasis of most of the presenters, who were scientists, academicians, and veterans of the military remote-viewing program, was on the use of scientific methodologies to validate the skill and legitimize the field. The 2003 Conference, held just recently in Virginia Beach in association with the Association for Research and Enlightenment, added impressively to that theme.

Our past conferences having now established a strong foundation for the dissemination of accurate and reliable information about remote viewing, the 2004 IRVA Remote Viewing Conference will focus on present-day remote-viewing applications and research, inviting comments on the future of remote viewing in the 21st Century.

If you have ideas, experience, new protocols, products, or strategies involving remote viewing, this is your chance to tell the world! Come share your valuable information with a diverse worldwide community of remote-viewing researchers, developers, designers, and practitioners at the 2004 IRVA Remote Viewing Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 11 -13, 2004.

We invite all those interested in

- presenting a paper
- teaching a workshop
- exhibiting at a booth
- helping to sponsor the conference
- ...to submit your proposals

now!

Presenting a Paper

Prospective presenters are asked to submit an extended abstract of two to four pages no later than February 28, 2004. The Conference program committee will review all submissions, and notification of acceptance will be sent out by March 31, 2004. If your proposal is accepted, the abstract will be posted on the conference website before the Conference. You may be requested to submit a full paper, beyond your abstract, for publication in *Aperture*, IRVA's official journal/newsletter, subsequent to the conference.

Presentation Formats

Presentations can be made in any of three standard formats:

1. Regular Presentations: These are spaced 60 minutes apart on the schedule. Approximately 30 - 40 minutes for the presentation itself, with at least 10 minutes additional for questions and comments, and 10 minutes for people to change rooms. Most presentations will be in this format.

2. Panel Discussions: These also have 60-minute time slots. Approximately five minutes for introducing the panelists and agenda, 45 minutes of discussion and questions, and 10 minutes for people to change rooms. Proposals are invited for high-quality panel sessions. All panelists should be experts in a common area of specialization of interest to conference attendees. If you would like to organize and lead a panel discussion, please submit an

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Feature Article

A.R.E.'s Remote Viewing Conference in Virginia Beach

By Frank DeMarco

The Second Annual Schwartzreport Conference, co-sponsored by IRVA, the Association for Research and Enlightenment (A.R.E.), and Atlantic University, was held Oct. 30 - Nov. 2, 2003, at A.R.E.'s headquarters in Virginia Beach, Virginia. More than 270 participants came to see and hear virtually all of the founders of remote viewing in the same place at the same time.

Ingo Swann was there, and Hal Puthoff and Russell Targ. So were Paul H. Smith, Skip Atwater, Dale Graff and James Spottiswoode. (In fact, one of the few living remote-viewing superstars not present was Joe McMoneagle.) They were all witnesses to the birth and development of remote viewing as a discipline, first at SRI International, then in the armed forces.

But the conference did not confine itself to history, fascinating though that was. Ringmaster Stephan Schwartz made sure that it moved on to other questions as well, such as: Where do we go from here; how can remote viewing be used for self-actualization; and what are the wider social and ethical implications of the discipline? And the context was broadened even further in talks given by Edgar Evans Cayce, sole surviving son of famed mystic Edgar Cayce (who might in some senses be called the first and best remote viewer of them all), and by Ingo Swann, in what he said might be his "swan song."

Watching this many-ringed circus was particularly interesting to me, given my background as a publisher of metaphysical material and sometime experimenter in psychic matters. I went to this conference because Russell Targ serves as editor of my company's Studies in Consciousness series, and because we had published Skip Atwater's book, and Joe McMoneagle's books, and even a little-known volume of Ingo Swann's titled *The Purple Fables*. I had no doubts about the reality of remote viewing (although I myself hadn't had any luck doing it), and I very much appreciate the achievements of these and other men and women who brought remote viewing into the mainstream.

But, I admit, I found myself asking why people needed to go to such lengths to "prove" that something could be done, when it is so easy, relatively speaking, to just do it. My natural inclination is with psychic explorer

Robert Monroe, who used to advocate replacing our beliefs with knowns, by means of personal experience. Of course, the limitation of that method is that it converts those beliefs into knowns for oneself alone and no one else. These scientists and military men had set out to do something with much broader social implications, and I think that anyone who listened to their presentations would have to agree that they succeeded. The only way to disbelieve remote viewing today is to be ignorant of the data. And for those who still prefer personal experience, the conference program allowed participants to try their hand at three remote-viewing experiments.

Here's how it went: After Stephan Schwartz introduced the conference program, the first speaker, Thursday night, was Dr. Harold Puthoff, who gave a great presentation on the early years of remote-viewing research at SRI International, formerly Stanford Research Institute. With lucidity and unassuming brilliance, Hal walked us through the way in which he and Russell Targ hooked up, how their careers went from physics to ever-weirder theory and practice, how the CIA (and CIA's funding) got involved, and how life got ever more interesting from there. I expect that he would agree with the Grateful Dead lyric, "What a long strange trip it's been."

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Frank DeMarco



ARE's library and conference center in Virginia Beach

Courtesy of Fay Atwater

A.R.E.'s Remote Viewing Conference, continued from page 3

Friday morning, Paul H. Smith, IRVA's Vice President and a former Army intelligence officer, told us how remote viewing joined the Army. He picked up the story where Hal left off, showing us some of the best remote viewers, both living and dead, and giving us hints of the very real quality and quantity of work they did—regardless of detractors' claims to the contrary.

Paul's talk was followed by our first RV exercise, in which we were asked to intuit the contents of one of seven items, each inside a numbered paper bag, with the target to be chosen (by random number generator) only after our actual viewing. The selected target, a small metal heart, was picked by 32 people, out of a total of 184 participating. Each of the other targets were selected by between 13 and 33 people, a pretty scattered result. (I was one of the group of 13, still not having gotten the hang of it.)

After lunch, Dr. James Spottiswoode demonstrated how scientists work by showing how he had repeatedly gone after new data and then new interpretations of the data, trying and repeatedly failing to find environmental factors that appeared to affect psychic functioning, until at last he found a correlation—still unexplained—between very good and very bad functioning and certain times of

truth about why he was there, and described the shattering effect his own first Hemi-Sync experience had on him. Skip, of course, and Joe McMoneagle, became liv-



Vocal group in action: "Mad Agnes" provided delightful performances

Courtesy of P. H. Smith

ing bridges between RV and the Monroe Institute.

On Friday evening after the conference banquet, Stephan Schwartz was set to give a Power-Point presentation, but the technology gods decreed otherwise. Instead, he spoke to us straight from the heart about the degree to which one person could make a difference. I went up to him afterward and told him I was glad his computer hadn't worked, as otherwise we wouldn't have gotten to hear what he wound up saying. (And later we got to hear his originally scheduled presentation anyway.)

Saturday's first speaker was Edgar Evans Cayce. Hearing his quiet Virginia accent and his gentle and effective humor, I could imagine how his father must have sounded much the same. He described his father and the process by which he gave readings, one of few people now alive who could do so from first-hand memory. As the author, with his brother Hugh Lynn Cayce, of *The Other Limits of Edgar Cayce's Power*, he was able to speak with knowledge and authority about the sources of his father's information and the variables that affected it. The sources included unconscious memory, telepathy with people living or dead, clairvoyance—Edgar Evans said his father was always right when exercising clairvoyance—and either the Akashic records or the Mind throughout time and space. The affecting variables included the state of his father's health, and the emotions and ideals of those around him.

After Edgar Evans spoke, we did our second RV experiment. This time, three people, one of them a cam-

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Ingo Swann, Hal Puthoff, and James Spottiswoode with conference attendees John and Virginia McCaughan

Courtesy of P. H. Smith

day in terms of "local sidereal time."

Skip Atwater then talked about his work, which bridges remote viewing and the Monroe Institute's Hemi-Sync sound patterns. An entertaining speaker, he told of his first encounter with Bob Monroe, back when Skip was still an Army lieutenant unable to tell Monroe the



RV Research

By Bill Stroud, Ph. D.

The Essential Overlap Matrix: An Extension For A Remote-Viewing Tool



Aperture welcomes the submission of articles that present different viewpoints or suggestions that may help to improve the remote-viewing experience. (Always with the caveat, of course, that IRVA does not, simply by publishing them, endorse any particular method, technique, company, or training program that may be the focus of such articles.) Although not necessarily authoritative, we hope that readers who are actively involved in developing their remote-viewing skills will find the insights contained in these items to be useful. The following piece, submitted by a student of a popular CRV training program, is one such article. Do let us, and certainly the author, know how you fare in trying out his suggestions. – Eds.

“Controlled Remote Viewers” distinguish themselves from many self-labeled “remote viewers” in two ways: (1) They follow strict protocols to guard against procedural flaws; that is, they adhere to specific procedures that are in line with the accepted rules of scientific experimentation; and (2) They follow what is called “the Structure,” a specific and progressive procedural scheme that was originally formulated by Ingo Swann and the researchers at the Stanford Research Institute. To most Controlled Remote Viewers, this Structure is viewed as so integral to the CRV discipline that any divergence from it is considered tantamount to theoretical heresy. The Structure is to them what the Bible is to fundamentalist Christians: the supreme authority and guide for proper behavior. And the analogy goes even further: To change one jot or tittle of the Structure of CRV is often considered a betrayal of CRV purity.¹

After my initial training in CRV under Lyn Buchanan, I realized that I had allowed procedural details to become so ritualistic that I began to view everything I did as controlled by the initial procedures of my training sessions. I would use only a pen. (God forbid that I might use a pencil!) I printed my name. (A change to cursive script might start me on a revisionist route!) Noise in the room where I was doing a session was unthinkable! In summary, I had become a fundamentalist!

The challenge to anyone entering a new discipline is to find that precarious balance between staying within the mainstream while also showing a little pioneering spirit. The danger of the former is stagnation brought about by a rejection of new ideas. The danger of the latter is destruction—or at least a radical re-characterization—of the movement itself. Being a legitimate pioneer demands its own balancing act: One must discriminate between amplification and outright abandonment.

Pioneering is often most beneficial when previous theory is simply expanded to be more inclusive, with the new containing the old. In fact, rarely does one jump to new levels of understanding without using past accomplishments as stepping-stones to the future. Emergence, not replacement, paves the road to progress.

Few within the CRV movement have ventured far from CRV’s original structural boundaries set forth in the early 1980s. And it is with some apprehension that I offer any purported new ground to be plowed for expanding these boundaries. What I propose in this article is no attempt at a reformation or correction of anything that has been integral to CRV throughout its history. To expand on this disclaimer: What I present here should be understood as an expansion of an analogy already in service for explaining Stage/Phase 5 of the CRV Structure.² According to Buchanan, Phase 5 should be viewed as a tool “to find out what caused a word or phrase to appear in your session, and what its deeper meanings and implications might be.”³ If I understand his tool analogy, he is asserting that one, as it were, steps out of the “remote viewing mode” and wields the Phase 5 tool on specific conceptions encountered and recorded in a session. Applying this tool to session data appears to be the only instance within the remote-viewing activity that allows the intrusion of explicit rational analysis.

What I present as the Essential Overlap Matrix⁴ (EOM) should be viewed as an extension of this tool. And, to expand on the tool analogy, this extension was created to allow the tool to reach deeper into the dynamics being flushed out with the Phase 5 operation. Also, necessity being the mother of invention, the EOM was created out of my personal frustration in trying to use the Phase 5 tool.

In practice sessions in which I had recorded several

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Feed Back

The most recent issue of *Aperture* (Volume 1:3&4) contains an article by Dr. Michael O'Bannon describing the very provocative experiments carried out with Ingo Swann by Dr. Michael Persinger of Laurentian University. Let me add a few comments to buttress Dr. O'Bannon's excellent review.



Robert Durant

The Paper

The article, "Remote Viewing with the Artist Ingo Swann: Neuropsychological Profile, Electroencephalographic Correlates, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), and Possible Mechanisms," appeared in the journal *Perceptual and Motor Skills*, 2002, 94, pp.927-49. The authors are M.A. Persinger, W. G. Roll, S. G. Tiller, S.A. Koren, and C. M. Cook. Although this is not mentioned in the paper, Roll is not only a well-known parapsychologist, but was also the man who persuaded Swann to undergo testing in Dr. Persinger's laboratory.

Sadly, we have become accustomed to a demeaning treatment of remote viewing at the hands of mainstream scientists. However, the Persinger paper is a most refreshing departure from the norm. The following summary of the paper's abstract gives a good idea of the nature of the research.

Essentially, Ingo Swann was placed in a magnetic field surrounding his entire head for 30 minutes, during which time he reported significant changes in his subjective (mental) experiences. Next, he performed a series of brief remote-viewing trials while his brain activity was monitored by an electroencephalograph (EEG). The EEG readings showed some relatively unusual brain wave activity over certain parts of his brain. Still later, Swann's brain make-up was examined using magnetic-resonance imaging (MRI) and found to have a different-than-ordinary "structural and functional organization" in his right hemisphere.

The abstract contains this key phrase: "The results suggest that this type of paranormal phenomenon, often dismissed as methodological artifact or accepted as proofs

of spiritual existence, is correlated with neurophysiological processes and physical events." This, of course, is precisely the position taken by the remote-viewing community from the outset, when a secular interpretation of parapsychological results was adopted. And, of course, it is what Swann has said at great length and at every opportunity. But now there is empirical evidence supporting the hypothesis, thanks to Dr. Persinger.

Scientific Method

Persinger, *et al.* used the following definition of remote viewing: "awareness of distant objects or places without employing normal senses." This is a very narrow definition, and one that I support, but there are some in the contemporary remote-viewing community who assume a very much broader range of demonstrated abilities, such as remote influencing, finding missing persons, and forecasting future events. Like Dr. Persinger, I will limit my consideration to the narrower definition.

Quoting from the paper, "We have approached remote viewing as a similar problem. It is a subset of paranormal phenomena that involve the detection of information at a distance through mechanisms not known to date. Instead of dismissing the possibility as untenable, we have assumed that the scientific method is the optimal procedure by which the cerebral and extracerebral correlates of these processes, if they are valid, can be discerned. We contend that mystical assumptions or implicit references to nonphysical or spiritual explanations are not required to study parapsychological experiences."

Dr. Persinger and his colleagues made the following assumptions:

- (1) all experiences are generated by or correlated with brain activity;
- (2) all experiences (responses) must be evoked by physical events (stimuli);
- (3) events that are stimuli are an extremely small subset of the myriad of events within the environment;
- (4) because structure dictates function, some individuals with altered cerebral microstructures can detect and experience events most people cannot discern;
- (5) different information emerges from varied organizations of experiences;
- (6) the neuro-electrical processes generating consciousness may also function as an insulator for the detection of a subset of events;[and]
- (7) these events can behave as stimuli if the temporal parameters of consciousness are altered."

Item (4) in this list of hypotheses is by far the most

provocative. Put another way, it defines the “natural” or “born” psychic, and specifies that psychics have brain structures different from the structures of “ordinary” brains. This hypothesis aligns with the position taken by society in general, and is exemplified in the remote viewing community by Joe McMoneagle’s assertion that good remote viewers are born, not made.

Swann partially agrees in principle, but is quick to point out that the particular form of psychic functioning we call remote viewing is a learned skill, available to all possessed of normal intelligence and psychology. Moreover, Swann believes that the process of learning remote viewing includes actual changes in brain structure, although at the neuron level. So if Swann is proven correct, the remote viewer’s brain structure changes, and there is no conflict with Dr. Persinger’s hypothesis (4). But Swann also insists that all humans are born with what he calls “superpowers of the biomind,” and that we are literally genetically empowered with psychic abilities. So, in the general sense, Swann’s position conflicts with hypothesis (4).

7-Hertz Spikes

A Hertz, abbreviated Hz, is one cycle per second. The brain typically generates electrical activity at rates varying from roughly 3 - 40 cycles per second.

At Dr. Persinger’s Laurentian University laboratory, Swann was “wired up” to measure his brain’s electrical activity as he sat in a soundproof room. Measurements

were taken both during “rest” (i.e., no remote viewing taking place) and “active” phases (i.e., remote viewing being performed). Under these conditions, Swann remote-viewed 16 photographs and four objects, and performed two “outbounder” exercises.*

Dr. Persinger found that, during those episodes when Swann was remote-viewing, there were correlated “bursts of paroxysmal 7-Hz spike and slow wave-like activity over...” certain areas of the brain. Such activity was not observed during any occasion when Swann was not engaged in remote-viewing activity. According to Dr. Persinger’s report, there were statistically significant correlations between when a series of 7-Hertz “spikes” was recorded by the EEG and when remote viewing was taking place. (That remote viewing was actually occurring was determined by how much the drawings and verbal descriptions Swann produced during the period in question resembled the hidden target he was supposed to be remote viewing.) These spikes did not occur on the occasions when Swann was *not* viewing.

Although the spikes were most robust when Swann was producing remote-viewing drawings, the correlation was still present when he was producing verbal results.

During the two 15-minute-long outbounder episodes, the EEG was “dominated by a specific form of 7-Hz spike and complex slow-wave activity” that was not registered during the baseline calibration either before or after the remote-viewing sessions took place.

Dr. Persinger concluded that,

“The results of the present study suggest that the organization of the brain of Ingo Swann may allow the representation of information at a distance through processes correlated with clear physical and neurophysiological measurements. The accuracy of this information was significantly correlated with the proportion of 7-Hz paroxysmal activity over the occipital regions.”

Moreover, and I think of great significance, the 7-Hz spiking produced by Swann while remote viewing, and apparently most evident when his viewing was most accurate, is extremely rare. Dr. Persinger notes in his report, for example, that he and his colleagues had used the same EEG monitoring protocol with 500 patients suffering from brain injuries of various kinds and never observed the pattern demonstrated by Ingo Swann.

The results support the validity of one subject’s remote viewing. Remote viewing itself is not new, of course, and in fact has been repeated a number of times in various forums since the initial work done at Stanford Research Institute. What is new, and of exceptional interest, is the objective correlation of specific electrical brain function with the remote-viewing process. To the best of my knowledge, this sort of detailed brain-wave study of a remote viewer in action is without precedent. Thus, Dr. Persinger and his colleagues have opened the way for an entirely new approach to illuminating a process that still evades rigorous scientific explanation.

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*An “outbounder” session is one in which the remote viewer is sequestered in a secure, sound-proofed room while an “outbounder” or “beacon” person goes to a randomly selected location. The viewer is instructed to obtain mental perceptions of the outbounder’s location, and then verbally and with sketches to describe it. Later, the viewer’s responses and the actual location are compared to see how accurate the remote viewer’s perceptions were.

Feedback, continued from page 7

RV Research Opportunity

More detailed elaboration of Swann's 7-Hz spikes is in order, and quite within the current state of the art. But as a long-time observer of Dr. Persinger's work, I must add that the detection of the 7-Hz spiking in Swann presents another startling possibility. That is, 30 years ago Dr. Persinger developed a means to inject very specific electromagnetic signals into the temporal lobes of subjects. This work gained him some notoriety in the popular press, as well as charges that he was developing "mind control" techniques.

The temporal-lobe work involved the identification and replication of a number of parameters defining electromagnetic waves. This was done in order to enhance the effect of the injected signals. Normally, we think of such waves as having a "sine curve" shape, but in fact any shape can be produced, among them square and saw-tooth waves, to cite two extreme examples.

What this suggests is that further work with Swann, together with Dr. Persinger's previous research, might eventually yield a means to artificially, and at will, induce the brain functioning required for remote viewing. The reader will quickly grasp the extraordinary implications of such an advance.

Is Swann unique in producing those 7-Hz spikes? Do all who engage in remote viewing produce them? We don't know, and that is a most important question. We should commend such study to any potential funding source.

Swann's Psychological Assessment

From time to time, questions are raised about the effect remote viewing may have on a viewer's general mental health. Thanks to Dr. Persinger, we have a ready answer at least in the instance of Ingo Swann, a man who has almost undoubtedly spent more time "in the ether" than anyone else. During his first two days at the laboratory, Swann was subjected to a vast number of neurophysiological, cognitive and personality assessments, including MRI brain scans.

Here is some of the good news (there was no bad news):

The subject's standardized scores for verbal intelligence, performance intelligence, and the Wechsler Memory Scale were above normal. His most exceptional score was for the Peabody Picture vocabulary which

required selecting the appropriate picture (of four pictures) for a specific word. The Halstead-Reitan Impairment Index was normal. He showed negative for Epileptic-like Signs. All scaled scores for the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory were within the average range. According to the Cattell 16 PF, his scores for abstract thinking, calmness, seriousness, reservation, assertiveness, boldness and self-sufficiency were within the upper 5% of the population. Bipolar activity over the frontal, temporal and occipital regions was normal.

MRI

A neurological examination that was part of the research revealed that Ingo Swann had certain "deficits:" Specifically, deficits in toe gnosis, haptic discrimination for the left hand, and manipulative dexterity for the left hand, toe graphaesthesia, conditioned spatial association, and spatial reasoning. The MRI scan revealed some structural anomalies in the right-brain hemisphere as well. The combination of deficits and the location of these anomalies led Dr. Persinger to speculate that there is a connection between Swann's remote-viewing abilities, etc., and the unusual structure of the right side of his brain.

However, Dr. Persinger is quick to add that the peripheral deficits discovered during the neurological workup did not necessarily indicate any sort of damage (such as might be caused by injury or illness). In fact, another "paranormally" gifted individual, Sean Harribance, also demonstrated similar "deficits." Perhaps such things are associated with certain mental capacities not regularly manifest in the general population.

Swann's Viewing Style

As remote viewers, we all wonder how "the other guy" does it, and naturally this thought applies to the true original, Ingo Swann. Thus it was interesting, instructive, and even a bit amusing to see Dr. Persinger's account of Swann in action (practitioners of "plain vanilla" Controlled Remote Viewing will recognize everything so dryly noted by this scientist):

During the remote viewing periods Mr. Swann sketched and wrote information on sheets of paper. His verbal behavior alternated between asking specific, very creative questions concerning the brain (in which he was interested) and silence during which time he slowly sketched or wrote on the sheets of paper. These behavioral oscillations occurred frequently.

“His responses included both drawings and words. The drawings ranged from small points or curves to complex structures. When he drew he appeared to be copying a mental image. His facial expressions, including perioral asymmetric movements and his ocular positions, were consistent with attempts to draw or to reproduce his perceptions directly in a manner similar to a person drawing complex shapes on a paper while viewing a blackboard. However, whereas this person would glance between the board and the page for feedback, Mr. Swann stared just above the drawing and appeared to employ proprioceptive feedback from his hand and input from his peripheral visual fields to facilitate the coordination between image and drawing.” [“Perioral” means the mouth and the face immediately near the mouth; “proprioceptive” means internally, as opposed to externally, generated.]

“Intermittently while drawing Mr. Swann wrote a word that contained marked emotional features, such as death, happy, or joyful, on the right side of the page. He attributed this to trained differentiation of visuospatial patterns from linguistic sequences. The ideograms and words alternated temporally. Words and phrases usually occurred after fragments of an ideogram.” [Dr. Persinger uses the word ideogram in the general sense of an unelaborated sketch, not as we understand the technical term in remote viewing.]

Thanks, Ingo, and Thanks, Michael

A footnote on the first page of Dr. Persinger’s report reads as follows: *“We thank Mr. Ingo Swann, whose dedication to the pursuit of knowledge and understanding should be a goal for all scientists.”* Certainly, Swann’s lavish generosity with his time since scientists first took an interest in him is laudable, and needs to be underscored. But I would add my thanks to Michael Persinger and his research colleagues, for without their courageous inquiry into Swann and the topic of remote viewing, treading on ground almost universally considered off limits to science, we would have been robbed of the wonderful insights their objective study has produced.

R. J. Durant
Pennington, NJ

Dr. Michael O’Bannon responds:
I appreciate Bob Durant’s thoughtful comments on

the Persinger-Swann study I reviewed for **Aperture**. While overall his remarks are valuable, I do have a few concerns. There may be too much trust placed in the EEG findings. I worry about attributing too much significance to them, for the following reasons:

1. There are (at least) two known EEG patterns of which Mr. Swann’s EEG spike-and-wave pattern may be examples. These are relatively uncommon patterns, but not unique or heretofore unknown. One is a pattern that has been associated in the literature with aging individuals in low states of arousal.

2. Significance was placed on the EEG spikes observed during the remote-viewing tasks conducted for the experiment and their absence during pre- and post-session baselines. Unfortunately, this fails to consider that the baseline profiles used may not necessarily represent suitable “control” conditions. A useful control condition would be one that has the subject performing activities that require similar mental activity and cognitive demands during the baseline period. This allows the researcher to know what the subject’s “profile” looks like without any remote-viewing activity being present. However, baselines taken under no-activity conditions do not do this adequately. Therefore, the inference that the spikes observed during the actual remote-viewing trials are uniquely generated by remote viewing is not as strongly supported as one would like to see.

3. The remote-viewing tasks with photographs were not as robust as one might hope for to produce strong experimental results. A careful look at the data reported in the article reveals that mean ratings of congruence between target and results were below the midpoint of the rating scale used. The means were 3.5, 2.3, 3.7, 2.3, 4.1 and 2.4. A rating of 4 corresponds to “ambiguous but possible;” lower ratings indicate lower accuracy. The study then proceeds to report correlations between EEG measures and ratings. I’m not sure that enough may have been learned from identifying an EEG pattern correlated with insufficiently strong remote-viewing results. The Persinger-Swann study is certainly a valuable and exciting step in the right direction, but it has only scratched the surface. That’s fortunate in a way, since it leaves so much new fertile ground for future research to explore.

Best regards,
R. Michael O’Bannon, Ph.D.

Taskings & Responses (Q & A)

*It seems to me that author Jim Schnabel's otherwise well-documented book **Remote Viewers: The Secret History of America's Psychic Spies** (Dell Publishing, 1997) generally ignored a large part of the remote-viewing science research and the people who were doing it. He also seemed to have a bias in favor of one particular method that was used, the Swann/Puthoff CRV remote-viewing methodology. Why did Mr. Schnabel ignore almost half the remote-viewing saga by leaving out so much of the science effort and showing an apparent bias in favor of only one method of the several that were used in the government remote-viewing program?*

Jim Schnabel responds:

I did mention Ed May's work at SRI and that it had continued at SAIC. I also made it reasonably clear that Swann's wasn't the only method considered useful, and that even his students moved beyond his scheme eventually. But *Remote Viewers* was meant to emphasize the story of the operational use of RV, particularly the use of military officers in a special RV unit. It was also meant to be a popular history—and thus inevitably had to cut a narrower path through the territory than some people would have liked.

When I was writing *Remote Viewers*, I understood that more exhaustive histories of psi experimentation were being worked on by Richard Broughton at the Rhine lab in Durham, North Carolina and by another researcher, Dean Radin (who later ran a psi lab at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas). When I mentioned lab-type research, I tried to do it in enough detail to give an idea of the methods and their basic evolution, but not in so much detail that the reader would be put to sleep. After the political turmoil at SRI and Dr. Harold Puthoff's 1985 departure, there just didn't seem to be any point (in a popular history of the operational use of RV) in writing about still more lab work.

Incidentally, the research side (academic, unclassified) was where my book project started. I think it was early 1993 and I was in graduate school at Bath, in the science-studies program there, when I heard about Cornell psychology professor Daryl Bem's sort of Pauline conversion about psi, which he discussed at an AAAS convention, thereby raising a lot of eyebrows.

Totally ignorant that there was a significant military/CIA angle to ESP, I visited the labs at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland and in Durham, served

as the subject in a ganzfeld experiment, and started thinking about a book proposal. The book would have been about the shift of psi towards the mainstream in science. Some time in 1993, some interviewees from my previous book, which I was just finishing, told me I should meet a friend of theirs who had done some ESP-related work for them and had lots of wild stories. We drove up to Manhattan one day and I met this friend of theirs: Ingo Swann. I told Swann what I was writing and I think he sort of waved his hand dismissively, and said that the civilian, academic side of things was rather dry and dull compared to the things he had seen and done. He refused to elaborate—and didn't until much later, after I already had large pieces of the story from other sources. But from that day in Manhattan I pretty much abandoned the idea of writing about the academic, laboratory side.

Obviously the operational stuff is more exciting to read about. But I also now think that the experimentalists are wasting their time and their funding, to the extent that they follow the prescripts laid down by mainstream scientific culture. Since the days of Rhine and Warcollier, psi researchers have been banging on the door of mainstream science, in the mistaken belief that science would let them in if they publish positive results with rigorous methods, in peer-reviewed journals—like mainstream scientists do. The door has remained locked. Psi is just too weird. The disturbance it would create in the current edifice of science would be too great. Quantum phenomena also are weird, but their weirdness is easier to ignore because they manifest at a micro level—and also because quantum theory came from within mainstream science, in fact *is* mainstream science,

i.e., part of the edifice. The edifice is pretty creaky; some theories disagree with other theories, and still other theories amount to hand-waving. But it's a roof over scientists' heads, so to speak. They're not going to knock it all down for some guy waving statistics at them.

I must admit I quickly moved on to other interests after finishing *Remote Viewers*, and I haven't kept up with any RV-related research or theorizing since then. But it seems to me that positive psi results coming out of experimental labs beg a very large question: If psi is true, then almost by definition it conveys a statistical boost on average, however tiny, over random chance. Obvious techniques exist (*e.g.*, averaging scores of multiple RVer, or a single RVer tasked repeatedly) to amplify such a statistical advantage to something repeatable and useful. Why then haven't we seen a press conference in which a psi company announces its hundred billion-dollar windfall from stock market picks, or lottery picks? Why haven't we seen a reliable system for finding lost car keys? If some mad genius in a psi lab can develop a psi-based system for doing something useful, then I think that's the breakthrough—mainstream science will be forced painfully to confront psi. However I have a hunch (let's call it that) that this won't happen and psi will remain on the outside of mainstream science for some while longer—until mainstream science itself changes, and naturally embraces psi, and perhaps at the same time embraces much else that would now seem strange. ☉

ReView *By Fran Theis* **Stephan Schwartz's Seminar on The Science of Remote Viewing**

Stephan Schwartz's seminar on remote viewing, offered in concert with the A.R.E. Conference on Remote Viewing held in Virginia Beach, Virginia from October 30 - November 1, 2003, presented an opportunity for attendees to acquire an understanding of the practical application of certain scientific findings related to remote viewing in a permissive, validating environment. During the seminar, the popular term "remote viewing" was applied broadly. Schwartz was quick to point out that, in fact, the phenomena he was covering are most correctly termed "anomalous perception" (AP1) and "anomalous perturbation" (AP2). The first seminar of its kind produced by Schwartz, the entire three days of presentations and interaction were videotaped, and will be edited appropriately and made available in DVD format. He has no plans to repeat the course in near future.



*Conference organizer Stephan Schwartz
 converses with a conference attendee*

Courtesy of P. H. Smith

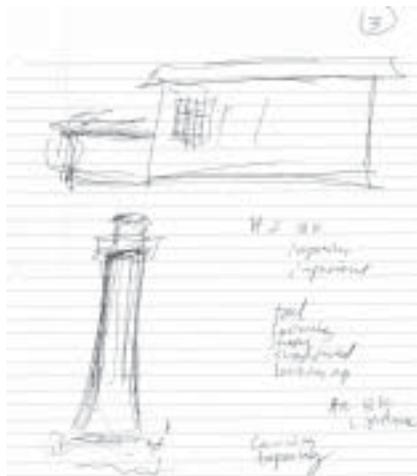
Schwartz told the students, "Remote viewing has the capacity to affect your lives in ways known and unknown, and by developing the skills of remote viewing, you begin the first step of a path that will transform your lives." A welcome complement to operational CRV courses, Schwartz's course is well suited to the individual who has already developed a personal approach to remote viewing. It could also appeal to those who might not be inclined to undertake an extensive review of the existing literature on the subject on their own and, as a result, might not otherwise have the benefit of exposure to the underlying scientific information that exists. Still, Schwartz's course would not be sufficient for those who desire a structured approach to remote viewing within the established, highly disciplined protocols of CRV.

Conference organizers would do well to note that a large number of the seminar's participants signed up for the course at the end of the main conference, having presumably been attracted to additional study of the subject by material presented to the larger group. The total student headcount was 55. The problems that one might anticipate with such a large class size and the wide variation in experience and native ability among participants did in fact occur, particularly in relation to those who had an inclination to share excessively. Stephan, who exuded seemingly infinite patience and

continued on page 17

A.R.E.'s Remote Viewing Conference, continued from page 4

eraman, went out to an unknown destination somewhere within 20 minutes of the A.R.E. conference site. When the 20 minutes were up, Stephan called them, ascertained that they were at a definite location, and then led us through 15 minutes of remote viewing. When the team returned, they showed us the film of where they had been. It was not at all hard then to tell whether you had hit the target, for the four possibilities were the Cape Henry lighthouse, a water park, an exhibition center with an RV exhibit (Winnebagos, not psychics!), and a road construction zone. Here, for the first time, I actually was



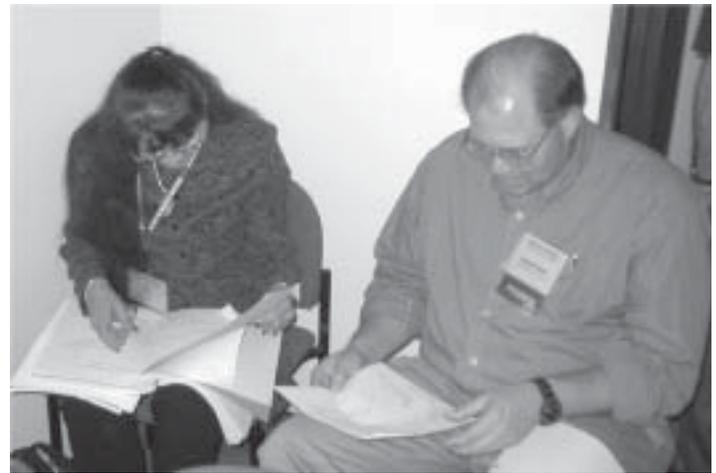
Outbounder RV results by Paul H. Smith

After lunch, Dale Graff talked about remote viewing and dreams, telling how an early experience while canoeing on a remote Canadian river led him into the field. In desperate need of a replacement pair of boots, he dreamed of where he would find them, although he didn't know at the time the meaning of the dream. He indeed did find them—in the middle of nowhere, apparently abandoned by someone—the next morning. It's the kind of event that tends to get one's attention, I suppose. He differentiates between what he calls CSP (Conscious State Psi)

able to overcome my tendency toward analytical overlay and self-imposed consistency, and got many elements of the target, which was the lighthouse. A very funny feeling it was, to suddenly "get it." By a show of hands, it seemed much of the audience did, as well.



RV results by conference attendee Sita Seery (Hawaii Remote Viewers' Guild secretary and online training manger)



*Sita (l) and Paul (r) comparing notes on RV session results
Courtesy of Fay Atwater*

and DSP (Dream State Psi). He's definitely onto something important here! I wish I had taken better notes.

Dr. Henry Reed of the A.R.E. next spoke about RV as a tool of self-realization, and I was particularly pleased to hear him single out Skip's book, *Captain of My Ship, Master of My Soul*, as being explicitly about Spirit. Henry gave a striking example of what he called "value added." One could (as is standard practice) give a remote viewer a set of coordinates and ask "what's there?" But one could also ask, for instance, "How can it be made a more peaceful place?" This is not standard practice. Should it be? Henry mentioned the difference between "Doing Trust" and "Being Trustworthy." Of course, they are not the same thing. His point was, if RV is to become something more than just a parlor stunt or a scientific demonstration of a new cognitive possibility, all sorts of ethical and developmental questions arise.

After supper, Russell Targ spoke entertainingly and well about this same kind of thing. He began by noting that Hal Puthoff had been put in front with the scientists while he himself was back with the mystics. Riding that laugh, he



*Cape Henry Lighthouse
Courtesy of P. H. Smith*

pointed out that a mystic never asks you to believe anything, but rather invites you to find out for yourself. (I found this notion particularly simpatico, of course; it was Bob Monroe's approach, all the way.) Harking back to the Vedic traditions, and ranging freely through modern quantum physics, Russell talked about the use of psychic abilities for self-inquiry. As he put it, 100 years of data demonstrates that "materialism doesn't make any sense." He quoted the Buddha as saying that we give meaning to what happens to us, and thus paint ourselves into a corner, and we suffer. That is, suffering is the creation of our prejudgment; separation is illusion. To become free, we must trade our conditioned awareness for naked awareness.

Early Sunday morning, Stephan pre-empted Peter van Daam's scheduled exercise period to show the presentation that he had intended to show on Friday night: "Remote Viewing, the History of an Idea and Why It Matters." I was particularly interested to see him trace his work with psychic George McMullen, whose abilities he had documented in two classic books, *The Secret Vaults of Time* and *The Alexandria Project*. (Years ago, having read and been fascinated by the latter book, I had been glad to snap up George as a Hampton Roads author, telling his own stories.) Stephan showed the intrinsic differences between lab research (which focuses on concentration on variance from chance; concentration on a statistical outcome; statistical analysis as an end product, and involves only a single discipline) and applied research (where statistics are only a part of the analysis; psychics are used; there is no baseline for chance, and the approach is invariably multidisciplinary). He showed how, in his projects, he set out to create a "meta-mind," in which the psychics functioned as the intuitive side and the scientists as the analytical side. And he gave us insight into his four-team approach (teams of parapsychologists, archaeologists, specialists, and record-keepers) in the pre-fieldwork, fieldwork and post-fieldwork phases. He showed, in short, how he has gotten such interesting and important results. I was glad, after all, that we did get to see his presentation!

After another RV session (in which I did not participate and therefore cannot describe), we came to Ingo Swann, who said he had not prepared a talk, but would answer whatever was asked of him, as this would tell what people wanted him to talk about. Some ingots from the fire:

- In the 1980s, he had thought RV was doomed to disappear without a trace.

- Remote viewers and institutions like A.R.E. "fly in the face of the social commitment to keeping humans uninformed." In order to have a controlled society, it would be important to get rid of telepathy.

- At age 71, he said this appearance was perhaps his "swan song." He is tired of being here, wants a new body, and is already planning his next life.

- If society were 60% telepathic, there would be no need to make decisions.



Ingo Swann answers questions for the audience

Courtesy of Don Clewell

- We are trapped in our past, and trapped in our language. (The very word ESP for instance, sounds like it makes sense, but doesn't.)

- We are born with ESP, but the Self gets collapsed down until we fit in. And we must fit in, because the others are aware when we don't, even though they don't know how they are aware.

- We are not taught "Awareness 101." We should be taught, for example, "Sensing Danger 101" (that is, direct instinctual perception).

- Most of our "switches" (our abilities) are turned off. How do we turn them on? Simply find the switch and imagine it's turned on. To turn it on, "Ask. Maybe you'll get a dream."

- "Don't concentrate on blocks. Look for the good and wonderful in you."

- "Compassion is the Philosopher's Stone, the answer to everything. From compassion comes all the things that strengthen compassion."

And for me, that was it. A three-day practice seminar followed, but I didn't attend it. I'm sure, however, that if it was as interesting as the conference that preceded it, the attendees went away from it happy. ☺

Frank DeMarco is author of Muddy Tracks: Exploring an Unsuspected Reality, and is Chairman and Chief Editor of Hampton Roads Publishing Company, Inc.

The Essential Overlap Matrix, continued from page 5

AOL/Stray Cats,⁵ I found myself confused about when and to what image or conception I should apply the Phase 5 “tool.” The key to moving me to some resolution of this dilemma was my taking note of a line in Buchanan’s Manual, one to which I had not given full attention before: “However, you must remember that somewhere inside the STRAY CAT is a small germ of truth—a valid bit of information.”⁶ But this posed for me another dilemma: Do I take every Stray Cat and wield the Phase 5 tool against it?

In pondering this question, past studies that had been part of my academic training and subsequent readings came into play. The dynamics of Phase 5 triggered a recall of some of the methods that the late hypnotherapist Milton H. Erickson used in his therapeutic work with clients. It also triggered a recall of much that I had learned about the nature of myth as outlined by Ernst Cassirer and others.

When Erickson wanted to communicate with the unconscious of a client, he would start telling stories, many stories, one after the other.⁷ Although these stories would appear, on the surface, to have nothing in common, upon analysis all of them could be found to have an essential identity in some respect. The moral or principle of each tale would be similar. The impact of the common essence of the tales reached the unconscious of the client although the conscious mind did not detect this singular factor.

I had found something similar in my study of the nature of mythical thought. Cassirer had outlined how myth-oriented cultures had a mode of thought distinct from what we know as the scientific form of cognition. For instance, for a particular culture to classify butterflies as birds contradicts our analytical, scientific point of view regarding classifications. However, if a culture’s word formation reflects a perspective that focused on the element of flight, then both butterflies and birds form a common class. What appears inconsistent to one culture can be quite consistent to another. Following this same dynamic of *essential identity*, Cassirer noted that an aspect of an image in mythical thought could evoke the equivalent in experience of the whole image.⁸ Likewise, in his study of the “cosmologically oriented societies,”⁹ Eric Voegelin pointed out how one god of a nation could absorb the names of other gods without any sense of cognitive dissonance. Among mythical figures, it was the essence expressed by the god, not the personage *per se*, that was symbolized in the mythical form. For instance, in primitive cultures,

one might actually speak of the devastation of a storm, not with reference to the Storm God, but to the God of War. In a storm and in war one experiences a common essence: devastation.

I was also aware that Freud’s work on dream analysis showed similar dynamics. According to Freud, the “other” person in a dream could be a representation of the dreamer, by virtue of an element portrayed by that character that represents an unconscious dynamic in the dreamer’s psyche.

Against this background, I began to approach Phase 5 of my remote viewing sessions from a different perspective. I pondered the question: Is it possible that each Stray Cat has not only a kernel of truth about the target, but that each Stray Cat has the same truth being expressed in diverse images? If so, then why should I go through the frustrating process of deciding which image to put through the Attribute, Object, Subject, and Topic workout? And even if I were to run every Stray Cat through this cat box of associative analysis, is it possible that doing so in singular and isolated fashion could be causing me to miss some single aspect that, like a golden signal thread, may be running through the array of images? After looking at many of my past sessions, my confidence in this hypothesis grew as I found that many times such a thread was indeed there. I began to call this an “overlap of essence,” using an analogy of stacking several transparent pictures on top of one other to see whether, through all of them, something stands out as constant to each—or, at least, to most of them.

I suspect that it was here that Cassirer had a further influence on the form that the EOM would take. One of Cassirer’s earliest works was entitled “Substance and Function.” I believe this title triggered in me the idea of having two basic forms of analysis to be recorded by the matrix: Shape/Form and Function/Action. I surmised that an image could exhibit a significant overlapping essence in form or function—or both. For example, images could overlap in form: a ball, an apple, a wheel, a bullseye target, etc.—that is, “something round.” Consequently, after listing all images of a session in column 1, I sketched my mental images of the shapes/forms of the images in column 2. Since images could overlap as regards function or action—for example, ambulance (rescuing), SWAT team (rescuing), life preserver (rescuing)—I used column 4 for a verbal description of such activity (usually a word ending in “ing”). I further felt it would be necessary to summarize any overlap of conception for the Shape/Form and for the Function/Action categories (columns 3 and 5). I

further concluded that, should there be an overlap within one or both of these categories, it was altogether possible that these essential overlaps were themselves mere hints, and not literal representations, of the target’s actual form or activity. Consequently, I made the final step for allowing for “New Associations.”

Finally, I left room for a Preliminary Summary for expressing what I intuitively felt to be the impact on me of the entire matrix exercise. (For a discussion of other dynamics that contributed to the development of the matrix, see the initial description in the article, “Making a Stray Cat Prolific: Thesaural Imaging and Remote Viewing,” http://drbillstroud.com/id49_making_a_stray_cat_prolific.htm)

The following Essential Overlap Matrix displays the specific columns and notation fields mentioned above; it represents the EOM section of an actual session. The session’s formal summary and the feedback picture are shown below the EOM.

Essential Overlap Matrix:

(Extracted from Bill Stroud’s RV Session of of March 19, 2003. Target # 276319)

IMAGES	FORM/SHAPE	Frm/Shp Sum.	FUNC./ACTION	Func/Act Sum.
Rushing water		Billows/ rounded forms collected together	Boisterously moving	Rushing action expressing much energy
Volcano			Billowing	
Blow hole			Billowing	
Bomb Explosion			Billowing	
Waterfall			Boisterously moving	
Niagara Falls			Boisterously moving	
New Association: Dam letting out water				
Preliminary Summary: I feel that the target has to do with something billowing or boisterously moving or rushing outward in a way that expresses much energy.				

Summary Outline At End Of Session:

- Natural
- Expressing much force
- Expanding from source
- Billowing in form
- Cascading in one direction
- Lots of white color
- Roaring sound
- Evokes awe to watch

I feel the target is something that expresses a lot of energy with an expansion of its contents. Something like a mushroom cloud or boisterous waterfall.

Feedback Picture:

Keeping within the tradition of those remote viewers who align themselves with CRV protocols and CRV Structure, it will be important for all to approach the EOM as merely a working hypothesis. Using the EOM and evaluating the summary information it produces will determine its real value for remote viewers.



There is, however, one situation that will most likely make the use of the EOM invalid on almost all accounts: the case of “Castle-Building.” Castle-building (AOL Drive in Ingo Swann’s CRV terminology) occurs when a Stray Cat undergoes elaboration by the viewer, most often producing false data about the target. Such a consistent and thematic expansion of an image or conception can give the appearance of an “essential overlap” as discussed in this article. Consequently, distinguishing between an authentic and a logically produced essential overlap of images or conceptions will require further study and experimentation.

As with all theories attempting to uncover what is really happening in remote viewing, I anticipate that the Essential Overlap Matrix will at best advance us just one small step toward understanding the dynamics of the discipline of remote viewing. I further expect that any insight it might offer will be dwarfed by the numerous new questions it will raise, thus again revealing more emphatically the extent of our ignorance.

¹ Adherence to or divergence from “the Structure” developed for the original Ft. Meade remote viewers may appropriately be viewed as separating remote viewers into at least two groups: “orthodox” and “reformed,” respectively. Note particularly the distinctions evident in the methodology taught by the Hawaii Remote Viewers’ Guild (reformed?) in contrast to the training formats of Paul H. Smith and Lyn Buchanan (orthodox?). Although Buchanan teaches beginning students to adhere to the Structure, as a trainer and remote viewer he has taken the pioneering path in many ways, distinguishing himself by his creative expansion of many aspects of the traditional CRV methodology. Relative to those who have roots reaching back to the Ft. Meade group, Buchanan could well be classified as having his own “reformed” movement.

² The term “Stage” was used originally to describe each of the sequential progressive steps of the Structure. CRV trainer Lyn Buchanan uses the term “Phase” instead, which will be used throughout this article.

The Essential Overlap Matrix, continued from page 15

³ Lyn Buchanan, *Controlled Remote Viewing: Course Training Manual*, p.33.

⁴ The term “matrix” in this article is used to describe a particular column-row array of information. It should not be confused with the popular notion of “the Matrix,” which in many CRV circles is used to refer to the nonphysical reservoir of all information that can be accessed via remote viewing.

⁵ “Analytical Overlay” (AOL) is the technical term used to describe an image or conception that is considered to be produced by the remote viewer’s imagination, usually the result of an association or implication from descriptive elements recorded in a session. Lyn Buchanan calls an instance of AOL a “Stray Cat.”

⁶ *Op. cit.*, p.36.

⁷ For an exhaustive treatment of Erickson’s therapeutic use of “tales,” see Sidney Rosen, *My Voice Will Go With You: The Teaching Tales of Milton H. Erickson*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1982.

⁸ For a summary discussion of the influence of such a unique per-

spective in language formation and mythical thought, see Ernest Cassirer, *Language and Myth*. New York: Dover Publications, 1946, p.96 ff. For an extensive explication of mythical thought as a particular symbolic form, see Ernst Cassirer, *Mythical Thought*. Vol II of *The Philosophy of Symbolic Forms*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1955.

⁹ For a discussion of this phenomenon, see Eric Voegelin, *Order and History*. Volume One: *Israel and Revelation*. Louisiana State University Press, 1956, p.7.

Bill Stroud, of Clearwater, Florida, has an extensive background in three areas: theology, philosophy and psychology (B.D., Th.D., Ph.D). Although semi-retired, he is active as a speaker, freelance writer, and workshop presenter. For further information, see www.drbillstroud.com. Email: drstroud@verizon.net

This issue’s Website Quick-Reference Guide

International Remote Viewing Association

Article, “Making a Stray Cat Prolific: ...”

Bill Stroud, Ph.D.

Remote Viewing Instructional Services, Inc.

The Monroe Institute

www.irva.org

http://drbillstroud.com/id49_making_a_stray_cat_prolific.htm

www.drbillstroud.com

www.rviewer.com

www.monroeinstitute.com



*Ingo Swann with conference attendee
Kristen Vasques* Courtesy of Kristen Vasques



IRVA president Skip Atwater (r) at dinner with Dr. Hal Puthoff
Courtesy of Fay Atwater

Taskings & Responses

(Q & A)

Have you been burning to ask a question of some remote-viewing expert? Are you wanting to know something about remote viewing, but didn’t know where to turn for an answer? We will be printing questions and answers in the “Taskings & Responses” column in future issues of *Aperture*. Please forward your questions to:

Janet@irva.org (with T&R Editor in the subject line), or mail to:

T&R Editor,

Aperture, Box 381,

E. Windsor Hill, CT 06028.

Stephan Schwartz's Seminar on The Science of Remote Viewing, continued from page 11

compassion, demonstrated the personal characteristics that undoubtedly contributed to his past successes utilizing the clues of psychics on various archaeological and oceanographic projects. Unfortunately, participants who were able to move faster through the material were held captive by those who needed clarification, and thus in the last few hours of instruction important material needed to be rushed. However, in anticipation of just such an eventuality, Schwartz provided participants with an early draft of a book that he is writing, titled *Through Time and Space*, which covers most of the material presented in the seminar in additional detail.

Schwartz stressed the importance of regular meditation, "at once the simplest and hardest thing you have ever done." He went to say, "On the basis of the evidence accumulated through research to date, the practice of meditation will also make it easier for you to be consciously aware of the information channel that provides good remote-viewing data." After providing a multistep process leading to effective meditation, Schwartz further offered, "There are a lot of things one might say about what is happening to you physiologically during meditation, but they can be summed up by saying your brain chemistry changes, your blood chemistry changes, your stress level goes down, your muscles relax, your heartbeat slows, your blood pressure goes down, and your sense of well-being increases. Not bad for 20 minutes."

Importantly, Schwartz discussed research by Dr. Michael Persinger, Dr. James Spottiswoode, and others that relates geomagnetic field strength (GMF) and local sidereal time (LST) to unusually successful remote viewing. In his workbook/draft book, he provides a mathematical formula for determining LST, and Internet website addresses for finding additional data.

Schwartz covered the subject of target selection in considerable detail, utilizing dramatic photos to demonstrate entropy and numinosity. Exciting, groundbreaking results of research undertaken by Dr. Edwin May regarding target entropy were presented, psychophysiological evidence that, in conjunction with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology in ongoing experiments, has the potential to help us understand how anomalous perceptions enter our physical brains.

The subject of Associative Remote Viewing (ARV) created considerable consternation among a number of seminar participants when Schwartz attempted to make clear the process of post-viewing random target selection. While students seemed to have no problem with

ARV as long as the associations were assigned in advance of the viewing, conventional conditioning reared its head when target selection seemed to be logically out of order. Conversely, the class seemed to easily and intuitively relate to the importance of selecting ARV targets that are visually orthogonal and contain consistent energetic representations.

The entire class participated in a precognitive remote-viewing exercise designed to describe the location of deposed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein at the time he is ultimately found by U.S. or coalition forces. Original results will be kept for future analysis by Schwartz and Dr. Spottiswoode, who together may eventually present a paper to the Parapsychology Association on the subject.

In the context of personal transformation through remote viewing, a bit of Schwartz's philosophy was evident as he repeatedly described the historical problem of societal and personal dissonance between public persona and actuality. The dissonance between verbalizing and actuality creates an energy, says Schwartz, and "eventually you'll crash and burn" if that persists.

Some of the seminar's underlying take-away messages of the non-scientific type included Schwartz's admonition to "accept yourself the way you are," and that "what we're involved in is transformation . . . the choices you make to transform your life," and finally, "the whole process of remote viewing is supposed to be fun!" He left attendees with the clear point of the importance of Dr. Dean Radin's finding that the single most important characteristic of remote viewers is that they meditate.

Schwartz's personal adventures—numerous tales of related experiences that he sprinkled throughout the lectures—enhanced enjoyment of the learning process and provided information that would not be available from a less experienced or enlightened instructor. The course's content makes a notable, authoritative contribution to the remote-viewing community's combined efforts to bring about a greater public understanding of the reality and significance of extraordinary human functioning. For this alone, Stephan Schwartz is to be highly commended! ☺

Fran Theis is an experienced student of remote viewing, having trained in courses offered through Remote Viewing Instructional Services (www.rviewer.com) and The Monroe Institute (www.monroeinstitute.com).

*(This review is the first of several that will be published in the pages of **Aperture** in the coming months. A review of the Monroe Institute's Remote Viewing Practicum will appear in the near future.)*

A Call for Papers 2004 IRVA RV Conference, continued from page 2
abstract containing the agenda and the motivation for the topic to be discussed, and listing your proposed panelists as co-authors.

3. Poster Session: For the first time this year, there is the option of presenting your paper as a poster in the exhibit area. Poster sessions allow for presentation of new developments and works in progress. Although there is no specific schedule for posters, you will need to be available periodically to answer questions about your presentation.

Paper Topics

The following is a list of suggested topics for papers, although you are welcome to come up with a topic not on the list. Your choice should be of general interest to the conference's attendees and be clearly related to remote viewing. All proposed topics are subject to review and acceptance by the Conference program committee.

- Ethical considerations in remote viewing
- Commercial forecasting
- Medical diagnosis
- Criminal investigation and forensics
- Financial investing
- Natural resources exploration
- Archaeological research
- Research goals and methodologies
- Historical explorations
- Spiritual enlightenment
- Remote Viewing process & techniques
- Remote Viewing "do's," "don'ts," and "how-to's."
- Remote Viewing success stories
- Remote Viewing underpinnings, scientific bases, and theory
- Etc....

Submission Guidelines

All submissions of extended abstracts must be received by the Conference program committee by the dates specified. Notification of acceptance will be sent via e-mail to submitting authors. The preferred method of submission is via e-mail, either in the body of the message or as an attachment in MS WORD format, sent to Janet@irva.org. If e-mail is not an option, proposals may be mailed to IRVA, Box 381, East Windsor Hill, CT 06028, Attn: Janet. (or via Fax: 860-882-1212)

Workshops

Workshop facilitators/instructors are asked to submit a proposed workshop outline by February 28, 2004.

All outlines will be reviewed by the Conference program committee and instructors informed about acceptance on or before March 31, 2004.

Accepted workshop outlines will be published as workshop descriptions in the actual Conference program. Therefore, please draft them with an eye to attracting the interest of the conference's attendees, rather than the reviewers.

Workshops are a half-day in length, scheduled in two time slots: 8 am - 12 Noon and 1-5 pm. If you feel your workshop requires a full day, please structure it into a Part I and a Part II, both half-day courses. We are interested in proposals that cater to the diverse interests of all conference attendees. Workshops, particularly full-day ones, may be scheduled on days before or after the conference.

Workshops will require a minimum number of attendees, and will be subject to cancellation if that number is not met in advance of the conference. Fees for attending all workshops will be charged by IRVA in addition to the standard conference fees. Proceeds from workshops will be shared between the workshop facilitator and IRVA.

Exhibiting at a Booth

Companies and individuals wishing to exhibit products or services of interest to the conference attendees should submit relevant information describing your offerings, for publishing in the program guide. Details on prices, available booth sizes and layouts, etc., will be provided on request. Please call Janet toll-free at (866) 374-4782 or e-mail her at janet@irva.org after December 15, 2003.

Sponsoring the 2004 IRVA Remote Viewing Conference

Companies and individuals wishing to be recognized as leaders in the remote-viewing field are encouraged to help sponsor the 2004 IRVA Remote Viewing Conference. If you are interested, please submit information describing your offerings for publishing in the Conference program guide.

SPONSOR package: US\$5,000

Includes:

- Two exhibition booth packages, which can be used toward a double-size exhibit/retail area as close to the exhibition entrance as possible.
- Vendor plenary session: An opportunity to speak to all assembled Conference attendees about remote viewing or related products.
- Prominent signage indicating that you are the host of a coffee break.

- 4 Gold IRVA Passes to the Conference.
- Your hyperlinked Name and Logo appearing on the Home Page of the conference website.
- Your name and printed logo appearing on the front cover of the Conference program guide and in the Foreword to the Conference program guide.

CoSPONSOR package: US\$2500

Includes:

- One exhibition booth package.
- Signage indicating that you are co-host of a coffee break, along with one or more other co-sponsors.
- 2 Gold IRVA Passes to the Conference.
- Your Name and hyperlinked Logo appearing on the Conference webpage.
- Your Name and printed Logo appearing in the Foreword to the Conference program guide.

Important Dates

February 28, 2004: Abstracts for proposed papers, panels, posters, and workshops are due. (If your proposal is not accepted for one of the 60-minute time slots,

you may apply for a poster session, but this request must be received no later than April 15, 2004. Notification will be sent to you as soon as possible thereafter, via e-mail or other means.

March 31, 2004: Notification of acceptance.

April 15, 2004: Last day for early registration.

June 11-13, 2004: 2004 IRVA Remote Viewing Conference

Pre- and Post-Conference workshops, as they require, will be scheduled as close to these dates as feasible, based on submissions received by the Conference program committee.

Further Information

For all exhibition, sponsorship, conference program, and website inquiries, please e-mail Janet at janet@irva.org or call toll-free (866) 374-4782.

Specifically for exhibition and sponsorship inquiries, please e-mail Janet at janet@irva.org with "2004 IRVA Conference" in the subject line, or call toll-free (866) 374-4782. ☎



Edgar Evans Cayce, last living son of Edgar Cayce, signs books

Courtesy of P. H. Smith



2003 Conference Speakers— (left to right) Ingo Swann, Stephan Schwartz, Hal Puthoff, James Spottiswoode, Henry Reed, Paul H. Smith, and Russell Targ (absent: Skip Atwater)

Courtesy of Don Clewell

Membership Information

Thanks to all of our members for a successful year. Can we count on your continued support? Our newsletter *Aperture* has been well received and has become the leading RV periodical. You can renew your subscription for one or two years, and we accept MasterCard and Visa as well as checks.

- One year \$35.00 (\$45.00 outside the US).
- Two years \$65.00 (\$75.00 outside the US).

Send payment to: IRVA, P.O. Box 381, East Windsor Hill, CT 06028

About The International Remote Viewing Association

The International Remote Viewing Association (IRVA) was organized on March 18, 1999 in Alamogordo, New Mexico, by scientists and academicians involved in remote viewing since its beginnings, together with veterans of the military remote-viewing program who are now active as trainers and practitioners in the field. IRVA was formed in response to widespread confusion and conflicting claims about the remote-viewing phenomenon.

One primary goal of the organization is to encourage the dissemination of accurate information about remote viewing. This goal is accomplished through a robust website, regular conferences, and speaking and educational outreach by its directors. Other IRVA goals are to assist in forming objective testing standards and materials for evaluating remote viewers, serve as a clearinghouse for accurate information about the phenomenon, promote rigorous theoretical research and applications development in the remote-viewing field, and propose ethical standards as appropriate. IRVA has made progress on some of these goals, but others will take more time to realize. We encourage all who are interested in bringing them about to join with us in our efforts.

IRVA neither endorses nor promotes any specific method or approach to remote viewing, but aims to become a responsible voice in the future development of all aspects of the discipline.

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