

# GOT GHOSTS?



by Sharie Derrickson, Staff Writer

## Got wine?

Among the vats, tubing, and bottles, it is said that a ghost resides. It is not just any ghost, but one of some historic importance, and it may not come as a surprise that this ghost has chosen the winery as a favorite haunt.

It was a Sunday afternoon and the winery was abuzz with chatting visitors, country music, and the smell of barbecue filled the air. The group made its way to the barn loft of the winery – a place where pieces of the past ended up being stowed. In the corner, several sleighs stood looking lonely and abandoned, but with their own set of stories to tell. Steve Conaway, owner of the Thousand Islands Winery, told the group that he thought that a spirit did occupy the winery as he and his staff often heard whistling.

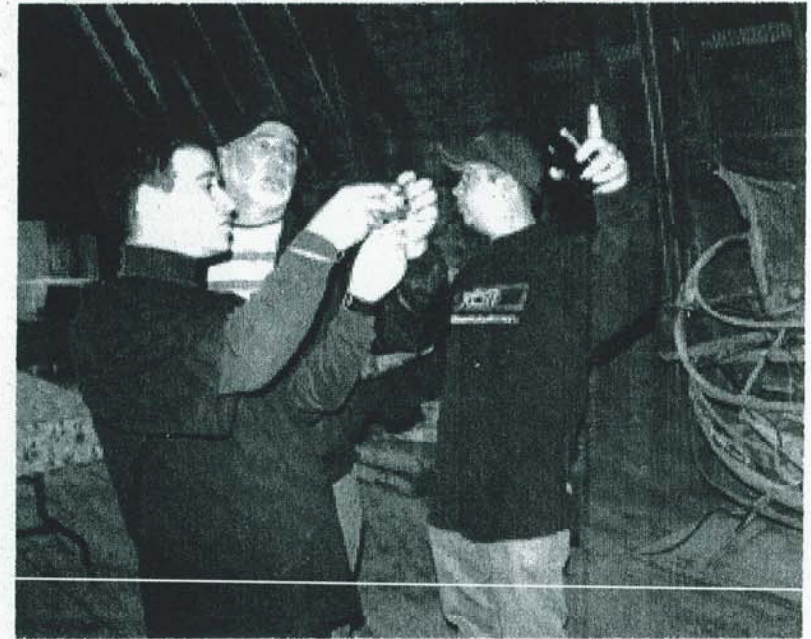
The winery was once a working farm owned by famous riverboat captain, Chester Massey in the 1930s, and it is reported that Massey was known to be a whistler, Conaway said. “We’ve heard whistling when nobody was there,” Steve said.

And, Steve said with a chuckle, it is rumored that the captain liked his drink. “I think he is happy this is a winery now,” Steve said.

“Oh, there is something here, alright,” Zaffis said after a bit of time wandering around the loft. He said he could feel a presence of some kind, a benevolent presence, and wanted more time in the loft to investigate with EVP recordings and cameras.

Steve produced photos taken in the winery – purported orbs, but Stacey had to be the bearer of bad news. “It’s dust,” she said. According to Stacey, it is often difficult for the untrained eye to distinguish light reflecting off small particles of dust floating through the air from actual orbs.

The group said that they would listen to the EVPs and analyze the still and video footage to see if the winery is indeed inhabited by a ghost.



Members of the Central New York Ghost Hunters group investigate a possible specter in the loft of the winery.