“Who you gonna call” to investigate the History House’s alleged paranormal activity? Central Maine Ghost Hunters of course! Last July 19th members of our History House Board invited Renee, George, Heather, and Mike to try their high-tech ghost hunting equipment within our establishment. Curator, Kim Wilson and I volunteered to join the team of Central Maine Ghost Hunters for a late evening of ghostly sleuthing.

With equipment ranging from tape recorders to spirit boxes and structured light sensor cameras (SLS), the crew led us on a quest throughout the house searching for a variety of paranormal phenomena. Feeling like the kids on “Stranger Things”, Kim and I followed along, using some of the Ghost Hunters devices. One of these gadgets was a spirit box which goes through radio frequencies and white noise to hear spirits speaking. Ghost Hunter, Heather used one of these in the front west parlor to interact with a Philbrick spirit who had operated a pottery business on the History House river-front property during the early 1800’s. Another gadget, an electromagnetic detector, used blue lights to indicate spirit energy. We saw these light up at random times as she communicated with the Philbrick spirits.

Meanwhile, upstairs, another Ghost Hunter, Renee sat in the dark Children’s room facing an array of antique dolls on the sofa. (Of course, anyone knows that you never hang out with the old dolls in a haunted house)! Renee was fearless. With the use of her spirit box she engaged with a child who had once resided in this room. Within the confines of this small space, a camera, belonging to Ghost Hunter Mike, caught sight of an orb streaming across the room. Needless to say, witnessing this orb was exciting! (Orbs of light are generally thought to be the manifestation of energy, which is why they’re sometimes referred to as ghost orbs or spirit orbs).

Then it was on to the old master bedroom, where we witnessed most of the paranormal activity of the evening. Kim explained that several years ago she had seen a blue orb come from the closet and stream across the room – a ghostly sight she thought as it was unexplainable by any other measure. This was the room and specifically, the closet, that yielded the most paranormal activity. At one point, in the dark Museum room the Ghost Hunters crew, Kim, and I watched the filmed
infrared SLS images of our bodily outlines along with other paranormal entities on a laptop computer. We saw a blue orb exit the closet and settle on each one of our forms. Then it appeared to reassemble itself into a small stick figure in the room’s doorway. One of the spirit boxes seemed to tell the photographer, Ghost Hunter Mike, to stop filming them and go away. As if this wasn’t spooky enough, we all decided to sit within the closet to feel whatever energy we could. Everyone but me seemed to feel a heavy presence. I wasn’t disappointed because the computer visuals of the energy fields were still very convincing.

We engaged with a little spirit, who led us to a small opening behind an upstairs room’s knee-wall. One of the Ghost Hunter’s crawled into that small space and learned it had been a favorite “haunt” of the little guy at some point in his life. We also spoke to other resident spirits in that room. Kim asked if they liked how we kept the house going. The answer was they all felt we cared for them like a “mother”.

Before leaving at 1 am, everyone admonished the various ghostly residents not to follow anyone home. Kim and I certainly felt it had been an entertaining evening. We pondered what we had discovered and concluded that the paranormal evidence would be terrific when transferred to film. Unfortunately, this was not to be the case. When the Ghost Hunters pulled together their History House footage the very important clips from the master bedroom were completely missing! One can only wonder.