



Spooky Plumbers-Turned-Ghost-Hunters To Speak At University Of New Hampshire

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DURHAM, N. H. - Believers will want to come early. Skeptics who think what they hear will debunk anyone's beliefs in the paranormal should, too; the Oct. 24 presentation at the University of New Hampshire by the stars of the Sci-Fi Channel's popular "Ghost Hunters" is expected to be such a hit that organizers fear they will have to turn people away.

And you can forget haunting the planners in advance for a seat. The talk is first-come, first-serve.

"We've never had as many phone calls for an event as we have in the past three or four weeks for this," says David Zamansky, assistant director of the Memorial Union Building at UNH. "Ghost Hunters" Jason Hawes and Grant Wilson are coming to the university as part of the MUB's 2007 Current Issues Lecture Series. "People have been trying to reserve a seat. We're telling them to come at least two hours early if they want to be sure to get in."

Almost anyone who has cable television is familiar with the one-hour show that has Hawes and Wilson traveling around the country investigating reports of haunted houses. What sets them apart, avid fans will tell you, is their use of electronic equipment that is supposed to be able to detect spooky activity.

That means being able to tell the difference between a ghost and a cold draft. To do that, the ghost hunters rely on digital thermometers, infrared and night vision cameras, electromagnetic field scanners, digital cameras and recorders and laptops. The duo—both professional plumbers by trade—head the Atlantic Paranormal Society, or TAPS, a group of ordinary people who try to sniff out unusual occurrences and determine if they are, indeed, other worldly.

The event, which is free and open to the public, begins at 8 p.m. in the MUB's Granite State Room and is co-sponsored by the MUB and the Memorial Union Student Organization. For information on the MUB lecture series, go to http://www.unhmub.com/leadershipcenter/pdf/mub_lectures.pdf.

