

Tampa Bay Skeptics

REPORT

VOLUME 1 NO. 2 FALL 1988

TBS Off and Running...

**First meeting a success
Media shows interest**

Tampa Bay Skeptics is on the map, and on the move! A one-man band at the time of the publication of its first newsletter, TBS now boasts a steadily growing paid readership of 94. With one meeting under its belt, a bit of media exposure trumpeting its call, and nearly enough money in the bank to cover expenses, all appears to be on track for a successful campaign to bring our message to the Tampa Bay area.

The June 29 inaugural meeting of Tampa Bay Skeptics drew an enthusiastic audience of about 40, and by all accounts was an unqualified success. Chairman Pat Strong [see listing of Executive Council members on p. 3] commenced with an address to the assembled members and visitors, which included the observation that skepticism is not to be reserved for claims of the paranormal, but is a way of life---there is much to be skeptical of in our everyday life (political promises, advertisements, etc.), within the legitimate sciences, and even within his own discipline of psychology.

Following Strong's address, each member of the Council was introduced, and offered a few remarks (Dr. Mathews, who had attended the Executive Council session the previous evening, was unable to attend). Copies of the Tampa Bay Skeptics' initial Press Release of June 20 were circulated for review, and a video cameraman from WXFL-TV (Channel 8/Tampa) was invited to tape the proceedings.

The juxtaposition of tragedy and comedy in the world of the paranormal was poignantly illustrated in the following segment of the meeting, in which Dr. Posner discussed a recent newspaper article about an alleged cancer cure by "psychic surgery", and TBS' response [see article opposite]. He then showed a tape of James Randi's 1986 Tonight Show appearance in which he performed "psychic surgery", which drew roars of laughter from the studio audience then, and from ours as well.

The meeting ended with an open exchange between the Council and audience. Except for one complaint about the lack of coffee, all seemed satisfied, appreciative, and entertained by the presentation. Unfortunately, the library closing time of 9:00 limited our Q/A session, and as a result, future meetings

(continued on page 8)



Executive Council members (l to r): Strong (podium), Posner, Touchton, Lett, Hardy (Mathews absent)

"Psychic Surgery" Cancer Cure Questioned

The Sarasota Times, a free weekly newspaper, claims on its masthead to be the "Largest Circulated Newspaper in the Sarasota Area". The size of its readership may be another matter altogether, but its June 19 story by Kathy Church, entitled "Psychic surgeon cured my cancer, Siesta Key nurse says", has caused sufficient concern among the TBS membership and Executive Council to warrant inquiry.

Edie Ingenlath, a registered nurse, was diagnosed with "terminal...pancreatic cancer" in 1978 at Shands Teaching Hospital in Gainesville, according to the article. She underwent "one surgical treatment--a subcutaneous scraping of the breast for a cancer there", as well as a brief course of

(continued on page 5)

TAMPA BAY SKEPTICS
Statement
of Purpose

The objective of Tampa Bay Skeptics is the critical examination of paranormal and fringe-science claims from a responsible, scientific point of view, and the dissemination of factual information about such claims to interested parties throughout the Tampa Bay area and environs. TBS does not reject claims on a priori grounds, but rather is committed to objective and critical inquiry. We share the philosophy of the international Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP), although we are an autonomous local group, with no formal ties to CSICOP.

TBS REPORT is published quarterly. We welcome newsclippings, and articles and letters for publication (subject to editing), including opposing points of view. As we are not-for-profit, **stamped, self-addressed return envelopes are requested with all correspondence!**

Views expressed in articles and letters are those of the author, and not necessarily those of the Tampa Bay Skeptics.

TAMPA BAY SKEPTICS
REPORT

(c)1988

\$10/yr. (4 issues)

Published at 6219 Palma
Blvd. #210

St. Petersburg, FL 33715

Editor and Publisher:
Gary P. Posner

Cartoonist: Don Addis

All rights reserved.
Press may quote if
appropriate credit given.

The Chairman's Corner

Pat Strong, Ph.D.

I am pleased to report that our inaugural meeting on June 29 was a rousing success. We are in the process of developing interesting and challenging activities for future meetings.

Continued success for the Tampa Bay Skeptics will depend, however, on the initiative and participation of its members. Any human organization has its share of doers as well as passive recipients. I hope that the ambience of skepticism is an energizing one, and that this group will produce a contingent of doers.

How can *you* help TBS to grow and thrive?:

1) Make friends and acquaintances aware of the group. The larger our membership the more input, stimulation, and influence TBS will have. And the more financial resources we will have to carry out our programs.

2) Be alert for any local appearances, advertising, or news stories of people claiming paranormal experiences or powers, particularly those using these claims to exploit the gullible. Bring these to the attention of the Executive Council.

3) If you have an area of expertise that would help us in the investigation of paranormal claims, volunteer to participate in such investigations.

4) Please contribute to the newsletter. We welcome letters to the editor, original articles, news items of interest, reviews of pertinent books, and even would consider creative works such as poetry or short stories. Only your imagination and our editor's red pencil limit you.

5) We solicit suggestions for the types of programs you would like to see at the membership meetings, as well as your participation in the programs. Ditto for social events, educational community programs, and any other activities that you think would further the enlightenment of the membership, and the Tampa Bay community at large.

In short, TBS will be only as successful as you choose to make it. Gary Posner has expended tremendous efforts to get us off the ground, but if he and the rest of the Executive Council have to carry the entire burden in the future, we will not have succeeded in providing the kind of viable service that we envision for the Tampa Bay community.

'Bigpaw' Declawed

Tampa Bay's own legendary version of Bigfoot, dubbed in 1948 as "Florida Three-Toes" by noted zoologist Ivan Sanderson, has now been positively identified as a prosaic creature, as reported in a June 11 *St. Petersburg Times* article by Jan Kirby.

The "Clearwater Monster", as it was known to the locals who found its footprints on the beaches in the 1940s and 50s, endowed with claws 14 inches long and 11 inches wide, is named Tony Signorini, and is authoritatively classified as a member of the species *Homo sapiens*.

Assisted by fellow prankster Al Williams, who died in 1969, Signorini would don a pair of cast iron "monster" feet attached with screws to a pair of sneakers, and "would just swing my leg back and forth like this and then give a big hop, and the weight of the feet would carry me that far", accounting for the 6-foot stride ascribed to the monster.

Retired Clearwater police officer Frank Daniels told Kirby that the department suspected a hoax by Williams all along, because "he usually called in the reports of the monster", and was well-known as a prankster, "but we could never prove it." Now that Signorini has taken the famous feet out of storage and has told the entire, "monstrous" story, the book can be closed on this cryptozoological classic.



Homeopathy Rallies, Then Fizzles

The British science journal *Nature* published a paper in its June 30 issue which purportedly offered scientific evidence of the validity of "homeopathy", the fringe-

medicine practice that preaches tiny doses of poisons. For instance, it is alleged by homeopathic practitioners that "microdoses" of compounds such as arsenic are effective in treating disease.

The *Nature* report indicated that white blood cells could be altered by antibody solutions so dilute that no molecules of the antibody could have been present in the solution. Not believing the contents of the article that they had accepted for publication, the editors of *Nature* commissioned a panel of investigators, including Florida's James Randi, to fly to Paris to attempt to determine if something other than valid science was responsible for the reported findings.

Although Randi found no evidence of deliberate fraud, their report in the July 28 issue, entitled "'High-dilution' experiments a delusion", enumerates the multiple reasons why "We conclude that there is no substantial basis for the claim...the hypothesis that water can be imprinted with the memory of past solutes is as unnecessary as it is fanciful."

"Assignment 10" Covers Gulf Breeze UFO Case

WTSP-TV (Ch. 10, St. Pete./Tampa) has introduced the Action News Special Projects Unit, and its hour-long monthly newsmagazine program "Assignment 10", which debuted on August 5. One of the program's segments featured the Gulf Breeze UFO case, which has received extensive coverage in the *Gulf Breeze, Florida Sentinel*, as well as in national UFO-related newsletters.

The case revolves around numerous close-range photographs taken by an unnamed town resident, usually referred to as Mr. X, and has aroused much controversy within the pro-UFO ranks. The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) strongly supports the photos as genuine, while the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS), in its April "Bulletin", says: "Ufologists have better things to do... than spend endless hours listening to tales of UFO visitations from Mr. X...it is important that ufology quickly expose [hoaxes] for what they are."

Although "Assignment 10" reporter Marlene Schneider interviewed only pro-UFO figures in the report, and declined TBS' offer to provide a skeptic, one interviewee (a photographic analyst) was highly skeptical of the reality of the photographs, providing balance to the presentation.

TAMPA BAY SKEPTICS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Paschal N. Strong, Ph.D. (Professor of Psychology, University of South Florida, Tampa)

VICE-CHAIR: Miles W. Hardy, Ph.D. (Professor of Psychology, University of South Florida, Tampa)

SECRETARY: Jerry L. Touchton, Brandon (Physics Teacher, Tampa Preparatory School)

TREASURER: Gary P. Posner, M.D., St. Petersburg (Free Inquiry Faith-healing Investigation Project; CSICOP UFO Subcommittee)

AT LARGE: James W. Lett, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Indian River Community College, Fort Pierce)

AT LARGE: Charles R. Mathews, M.D. (Medical Director, Sarasota Memorial Hospital)

SNIPPETS

A survey of 2,100 college students from 41 campuses, published in *Current Anthropology*, has its authors concerned about the quality of science education in the United States. A large number of the students believe that ancient man and the dinosaur were contemporaries, that fossils are the remains of those animals that didn't make it onto Noah's Ark, that life on earth began in Eden, and that some races are more evolved than others. The authors put much of the blame on creationists who have succeeded in watering down discussions of evolution in textbooks.

(*Newsweek*, May 30)



Former Florida Governor LeRoy Collins revealed in an op-ed piece that he changed his name from Thomas LeRoy Collins at the suggestion of a numerologist. A struggling young lawyer during the great depression years, Collins was advised by a boarder in his home that "when she put all these numbers together [address, phone, office number, age, etc.] there was only one deduction: I was doomed to total failure...I didn't believe a word of it; yet suppose, just suppose, she was right. I meekly asked her if I could do anything to improve my prospects." He says she came up with the answer: "Get rid of 'Thomas'. If you do that your outlook is quite good." Although he protested that that was his name, he decided "why take a chance? The unused Thomas was dropped."

(*St. Pete. Times*, June 13)

Famed Dutch psychic Peter Hurkos, "who told police that a bearded man named Charlie was behind the Tate-LaBianca murders organized by Charles Manson", died of a heart attack on June 1.

(*Newsweek*, June 13)

The 85 year-old mayor of Florala, Alabama, already facing impeachment for improperly pardoning drunken drivers, declared "National Voodoo Week" on July 20. H.T. Mathis issued his proclamation from the courthouse steps at midnight, while wearing a turban and cape, with snakes on his shoulders.

(*St. Pete. Times*, July 21)

A Gallup survey taken shortly after the Reagan astrology flap indicates that 12% of American adults

express a definite belief in astrology, an additional 8% are less certain, and 80% profess disbelief. 25% read newspaper horoscope columns regularly. The report says that 29% expressed belief in astrology in a similar 1978 poll.

(*AP/St. Pete. Times*, July 23)

The aircraft carrier USS Forrestal is haunted by a ghost dubbed "George", according to sailors' stories contained in a news release issued by the crew in July. Reported unexplained events include flickering lights, ringing and cries for help on a disconnected phone, a freezer opening by itself, and a spirit body "five feet away...He went into the spice rack...When he didn't come out, I went in to take a look. There was nobody in there."

(*AP/St. Pete. Times*, August 7)

A seven-week search in the Himalayas for the Abominable Snowman, also known as Yeti, was unsuccessful. The six-man British team uncovered "clues" (footprints and two dead sheep carcasses), but no conclusive evidence.

(*St. Pete. Times*, June 8)



Many among the crowd of 12,000 drawn to a Lubbock, Texas church (by a parishoner's reports of having received messages from the Virgin Mary) witnessed visions of Jesus in the sky. One of the faithful reported that in her sequence of photographs, "The sun looked blue. It kind of danced. It did it three times, like the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost." A spokesperson from the West Texas Society to Advance Rational Thought (a group similar to TBS) had this to say: "While we are certainly open to any verifiable paranormal events, so far the only amazing thing that has happened here is the fact that thousands of people would flock here from all over, against common sense, on the unverified claims of one man."

(*AP/St. Pete. Times*, August 16 & 17)

[Please send your Snippets to the editor at TBS REPORT]

(*"Psychic Surgery" continued from page 1*)

chemotherapy. Given no hope for recovery by her physicians, she sought treatment at the East-West Clinic in Philadelphia. "The doctor who founded the institute told her he had cured himself of a terminal illness through macrobiotics, diet and meditation. And she said he did the same for her...she went for a scan and found the pancreas and all areas were free of tumors."

Apparently this "cure" was only temporary, as we are told that early last year Ms. Ingenlath developed breathing difficulties, and sought treatment at New York's Sloan-Kettering Institute, where "a scan revealed a tumor on the right lung." Informed by friends of the pending arrival to Miami of Orbito, a Filipino "psychic surgeon", the patient opted to shun conventional treatment. She was not disappointed: "His hands (sans instruments) burned my chest cavity. I felt the fingers penetrate my skin...A God-awful odor came off my body. There was a dish by the table and I said, 'I want to see what you took out of me.' It wasn't chicken liver; it was a tumor." She was once again cured of cancer.

The Executive Council of TBS wrote to the editor of the Sarasota Times on June 29, expressing its skepticism of the accuracy of the reported claims, noting that past investigations by Randi, Dr. William Nolan, and others had found psychic surgery to be "merely a clever sleight-of hand exercise...There has never been a documented case of a cure from 'psychic surgery'...and your article certainly indicates no attempt on the part of your reporter to document this instance. Assuming your newspaper's commitment to the public welfare, we hereby urge you to employ your good offices in an investigation of the accuracy of the claims..." TBS also offered its assistance in the investigation, and included several medical release forms which it hoped the patient would sign and return, so that TBS might "attempt to independently verify what would be the first documented case of a paranormal healing of any sort."

No response was ever received to our letter, and the editor has stated in interviews with reporters from the Sarasota Herald-Tribune and the Tampa Tribune that he never received it (a photocopy was then sent to him, by certified mail, on August 2, and was delivered on Aug. 5). As of press time (first week of September), no response has yet been received by TBS.

However, Sarasota H-T health reporter Judy Ciarcia, who was contacted by TBS regarding our inquiry, reported back on July 16 that in a recent conversation with her, Kathy Church had put Ciarcia in contact with Ingenlath, who agreed to an interview with Ciarcia, which was scheduled for July 18. Unfortunately, Ciarcia reports that Ingenlath did not make herself available for the interview on that date, indicating that she had to travel to Miami on personal business, and that she would be returning in a few days. However, Ingenlath remains mysteriously unavailable as of press time---Ciarcia has called Ingenlath's place of employment several times in recent weeks, and has been told that not only is it not known *when* she will be returning, but even *if* she will be. We plan to update this story in our next issue.

Astrology Subcommittee

Tampa Bay Skeptics is interested in forming a number of Subcommittees, each to explore one facet of the paranormal or fringe sciences in depth. With the focus of our upcoming meeting being upon astrology, this appears an opportune time to request all interested parties to sign aboard our Astrology Subcommittee.

To help insure that TBS' scientific studies of astrological claims are objective, and designed so that the astrologers tested will agree in advance, in writing, to the protocol (thus not allowing for their subsequent rejection of our findings on this basis, should they prove negative), we have invited Janet Sciales, prominent Bay-area astrologer, to be a party to our efforts.

Janet has expressed to TBS not only her willingness, but her *eagerness* to have her own claims subjected to scientific testing. No doubt she will elaborate upon this at our general meeting on October 4, and we urge all interested parties to attend. Any others who wish to participate in the Astrology Subcommittee should contact TBS at our mailing address. And any others who wish to be party to the formation of a Subcommittee devoted to another area of the paranormal/fringe sciences should similarly contact TBS with their suggestions.

YOU MUSTN'T EQUATE THAT "POP"
MUMBO-JUMBO WITH SERIOUS, SCHOLARLY
PROFESSIONAL MUMBO-JUMBO!



Originally appeared in St. Petersburg Times

More on Astrology...

In light of the Reagan astrology flap this summer, CSICOP has again written to 1,709 U.S. newspapers, suggesting that they add a disclaimer with their astrology column, as do 21 papers at last count (see last issue of *TBS REPORT*). Included was a two-page article by Paul Kurtz and astronomer Andrew Fraknoi entitled "BELIEF IN THE STARS IS NOT A GOOD SIGN: Scientific Tests Fail to Support Astrology". [Copy available from TBS for stamped return envelope].

You Are Cordially Invited to Chicago
for the
1988 CSICOP Conference

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
November 4-6

at the Airport Hyatt Regency O'Hare

"The New Age:
A Scientific Evaluation"

Friday, Nov. 4

The New Age: An Overview; Channeling;
Crystal Healing; New Age Experiences; The
New Age and Business; The Shirley MacLaine
Phenomenon; plus Keynote Address

Saturday, Nov. 5

Cryptozoology; Graphology; Media Responsibility
and the Paranormal; UFO Abductions; CSICOP
Goes to China; plus Awards Banquet/Entertainment
(hosted by James Randi)

Sunday, Nov. 6

Enhancing the Skeptics' Message; Local Groups
meetings

Full details available from TBS - please enclose
stamped, self-addressed return envelope.
Or contact CSICOP/Box 229/Buffalo, NY 14215

* * * * *

For those of you unfamiliar with CSICOP, or with
other national/international sources of skeptical
information on the paranormal, please be made aware of
the following:

- 1) *The Skeptical Inquirer* - critically-acclaimed
flagship journal of CSICOP. See address above.
- 2) *Free Inquiry* - leading secular humanist journal.
Box 5/Buffalo, NY 14215
- 3) *Prometheus Books* - leading publisher of
skeptical works. 35-page catalogue.
700 East Amherst Street/Buffalo, NY 14215

Please excuse our
complexion problem...

We had hoped that *TBS REPORT*'s pimples (known
as dot matrix disease) would have been cured by now,
but the gods of desktop publishing (DTP) have conspired
to frustrate our efforts.

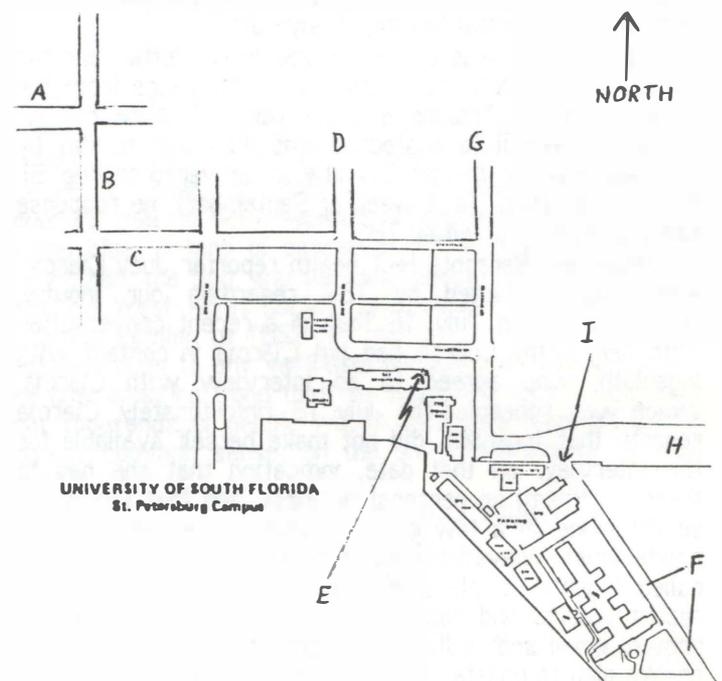
We will continue to pursue avenues to publish *TBS
REPORT* on a laser printer (short of making Posner scrap
his Apple for another computer), and are confident that
this can be accomplished in time for our next
issue---the DTP gods willing.

Directions to TBS meeting (see p.8):

Take I-275 to Exit 9 (I-175 East / S. Bay Dr.) (A)
Turn Rt. at 6th St. S. exit (B)
Turn Lt. at 6th Ave. S. (C)
Turn Rt. into campus at 2nd St. S. (D) As you
reach the "bend in the curve", Bayborough Hall is
the long bldg. on right (E). Must enter bldg. at NE
or SE corner only for Room 130.

NOTE: "Streets" run N/S and "Avenues" E/W

PARKING: The lots will probably be filled to near
capacity by evening class students. All lots have "Decal
Parking Only" signs, but the campus police have promised
not to ticket after 7:00. May park in any lot (or on street
where permissible), but best bet for lot spaces may be at
far SE corner along the water (F). To get there, proceed
to 1st St. S. (G) and turn right. Turn left at 8th Ave. SE
(H), then right at sign saying "Florida Institute of
Oceanography" (I).



READERS' FORUM

Editor:

I am one of those holier-than-thou characters who pronounce most self-styled "skeptics" ineligible for that title because they are bound to a false creed. The axiom that "Supernatural agents and miraculous events have no existence in our real universe" is an overstrong generalization. The correct formulation seems to be that "Events of supernatural causation *should be disregarded by science*, because they are able to put up an intelligent resistance to rational investigation, and are certain to frustrate or delude those who undertake to study them." This assertion is defensible, while the first one isn't.

Your editorial (p. 3 last issue) is unrealistic because it assumes the first axiom (and ignores) the "quasi-real" phenomena refractory to attempted scientific study, which are real by some criteria but not by all, presumably deliberately concocted by unknown supernatural agencies, apparently to amuse themselves by pulling our legs...I believe you will find that many people who have actually looked into these matters have concluded that only such radical acceptance can account for *all* the evidence...

Re: Mensa's Special Interest Groups mentioned on p. 2 last issue---are *all* of these topics supposed by *intelligent* people to be devoid of all truth? As this is a self-contradictory proposition, it must be false.

A. Mebane, Venice

Editor's Reply: As illustrated in my editorial, skeptics such as myself recognize the first axiom to be unprovable, and thus we are certainly *not* bound to it. We are open to demonstrable evidence of the existence of the paranormal. What you term the "correct formulation" represents speculation without any hope of a demonstrable defense (it would be thwarted by *them*) although you are correct that "many people" agree with you (i.e. "believers"). Mensa's SIGs mentioned in the article are *pro*-paranormal, their

topics assumed *true* by presumably intelligent people. Hence the need for my SKEPTICS Service.

Editor:

When I received your newsletter I was pleased to learn of the formation of the Tampa Bay Skeptics, but took a wait-and-see attitude in anticipation of the first meeting. I was very impressed by the meeting and have decided to join the group, and am willing to aid in any way I can.

Mike Smolik, St. Petersburg

Editor's Reply: We thank you, and the many others who have expressed similar sentiments of support.

Editor:

The greatest swindle on this Earth is the church's promise of life after death, heaven, hell, etc. There is no scientific evidence whatsoever to these teachings. Will fear of these swindlers' power prevent you from exposing their swindles?

L. J., Largo

Editor's reply: We consider claims of paranormal healings, contacts with deceased spirits, and other testable religious claims to be within our purview, but not religious tenets taken strictly on faith.

Note: All letters are subject to editing for purposes of clarity, length, and taste. Initials only are used if the editor is not certain that the correspondence was intended for attribution.

TAMPA BAY SKEPTICS MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION/BACK ORDER FORM

- YES, I wish to support the Tampa Bay Skeptics in its efforts to examine and report upon fringe-science and paranormal claims. Enclosed is my check for \$10. Please enroll me as an Associate Member and begin my annual subscription to *TBS REPORT* with issue _____.
- Please list me as a subscriber only, beginning with issue _____ . Enclosed is my check for \$10.
- Please send complementary copy of V. 1 No. 1 for stamped return envelope. [Note: available as photocopy only]

Please make check payable to Tampa Bay Skeptics, and mail to:

Tampa Bay Skeptics
6219 Palma Blvd. #210
St. Petersburg, FL 33715



TAMPA BAY SKEPTICS GENERAL MEETING

GUEST: JANET SCIALES

Tampa Bay's Most Mediagenic Astrologer

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4 --- 7:30 P.M.

ROOM 130 - BAYBOROUGH HALL

USF, ST. PETE. CAMPUS

(See map on page 6)

General public welcome

* * * * *

(continued from page 1)

in Tampa will be arranged elsewhere.

As the event came to a close, the WXFL cameraman conducted a brief interview with Jim Lett, a few seconds of which appeared on the 11 P.M. newscast.

Members of the Executive Council have been interviewed by other media representatives as well. Gary Posner was interviewed by phone on WFLA Radio's "Morning Newswatch" on June 28, fielding questions from News Director Steve Hall and reporter Martin Giles. Hall remarked that "a lot of our news folks here at 970 WFLA may be joining your ranks." Posner was also interviewed by phone by a UPI reporter in Miami on July 19 about a Lotto winner who selected his multi-million dollar digits based upon a practitioner's interpretation of one of his dreams.

On June 14, Charles Mathews was the studio guest on "Breakfast with the Dolans", a Sarasota talk show on WSPB-AM radio. The Sarasota Herald-Tribune interviewed Mathews and Posner for its July 3 article on

TBS, and the Tampa Tribune interviewed Posner and Strong for its major July 30 feature article on "The Unbelievers". Unfortunately, the article erroneously placed Posner in Tampa rather than St. Petersburg, greatly complicating the reader's ability to track him and TBS down in order to inquire about the group (an inconspicuous correction was printed in the August 2 issue).

St. Petersburg Times human interest columnist Jacquin Sanders devoted his July 10 column to a profile of Posner and TBS. An arch-skeptic himself ("I don't believe in anything, from God on down," he told Posner), his piece was well-intentioned, but contained numerous inaccurate quotes, many phrased more negatively than than the originally expressed thoughts, probably the result of his extremely sketchy notetaking. Most irritating was the one in which he had Posner declaring with certainty that the Siesta Key "psychic surgery" case (see p. 1) is untrue, despite just having been advised that our investigation had not yet begun.

Strong and Posner were also the featured guests on Tampa's Jones Intercable public access TV interview program "Options for Change", hosted by Rhody Parker, on July 26 (rerun several times later in the week on Tampa's Paragon cable system). Although Parker was able to locate several psychics and astrologers to appear on his program unopposed, none would agree to appear with representatives of TBS. Parker indicated to us his interest in follow-up programs on the same theme, possibly including formal challenges to psychics and astrologers to submit to controlled testing of their claims.

TBS UPDATE SERVICE:

If you would like to be kept more closely informed of TBS' activities (and other relevant community/media events) than a quarterly newsletter allows, send us a stamped, self-addressed envelope with "TBS Update Service" printed in the lower left corner. As events warrant, notices will be sent to all interested parties. Upon receipt, if you wish to remain on the service, please send another stamped return envelope.

TAMPA BAY SKEPTICS

6219 PALMA BLVD. #210

ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33715

FIRST CLASS MAIL