

visitors

Newsletter of Illinois MUFON^{NFP} • October 2008 • Number 3

RECORD ATTENDANCE AT SYMPOSIUM



With world-known presenters like Stanton Friedman, Donald Schmitt, Ted Phillips, and Bill Murphy, it was no surprise that the hall filled with its largest attendance ever. Over 250 receptive people came to hear the presentations of these remarkable ufologists at the UFO Symposium 3: “Show Me the Evidence: The Science of Ufology.”

First at the podium was Bill Murphy, who’s presentation emphasized similarities between the fields of science and ufology and the need for discrimination in theories as well as interest. A condensed version of part of his talk is reproduced as an article on page 9 of this newsletter.

Donald Schmitt, in his usual charismatic manner, discussed the military connections to the Roswell crash of 1947. Reviewing the hearsay evidence versus documented evidence of the case, he exposed the general inclination of the government to obfuscate the facts.

Friedman’s presentation, “Flying Saucers and Science” was an excursion into the depths of governmental bureaucracy and their attempt to cover up the existence of alien encounters. Document after document was exhibited that confirms the involvement of military and

(Continued on page 11)

PATTERNS

& CONNECTIONS

by John B. Ringer, Historical Anomalist



USOS AND OTHER OCEAN AND SEA ANOMALIES

Have you ever taken an ocean voyage? I did recently, and after eight straight days at sea, traveling from French Polynesia to San Diego, I knew one fact beyond any doubt. An ocean is a big, big place.

When one stares at the open sea long enough, it’s easy to imagine that you see things. Was that a whale surfacing off the port side—or was it an unusually dark wave? And, what is that smudge on the horizon? An island perhaps? I was, just a bit anyway, bored, and I had some empathy for the sailors of old. The mariners of Columbus’ time spent weeks, crawling across the waters in ships not much bigger than the tenders or lifeboats my ship carried on each side. No wonder they saw serpents and mermaids!

I must admit that I also spent some time thinking about UFO reports of discs flying smack into the water. I thought how neat it would be if one such

(Continued on page 12)

visitors

is the quarterly newsletter of Illinois MUFON^{NFP}, Incorporated and is solely responsible for its content. Illinois MUFON^{NFP}, Inc. is a state chapter of MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network (an international organization), dedicated to the scientific investigation of alien visitation. All of the views expressed in this publication belong to Illinois MUFON^{NFP}, Inc. and are not necessarily the views of MUFON. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or any other storage and retrieval system, without obtaining permission from the editor by email at fcoffman@comcast.net

Illinois MUFON^{NFP}, Inc.

Samuel Maranto, *Director*

David Stockman, *Deputy Director*

Larry Chambers, *Treasurer*

Frank Coffman, *Editor/Public Relations Dir.*

Bill Murphy, *Staff Writer*

John B. Ringer, *Staff Writer*

Scott Waldyn, *Staff Writer*

A one year subscription and membership to Illinois MUFON^{NFP} is available by sending \$20 to:

Illinois MUFON^{NFP}

P.O. Box 2105

Orland Park, IL 60462

or by calling: 708 460-7606

Design by JackRabbit Pix

THE DIRECTOR'S VIEW

Sam
Maranto

TEN FOR TEN

So what have we accomplished in the last ten months besides becoming incorporated and setting up the fundamental for a solid organization?

Well, we had:

1. Three very successful one-day symposiums attended by hundreds of people from five states and two other countries with press and media coverage for and at each event. The next symposium, our fourth, is on November 9th;
2. Numerous public speaking engagements by directors and officers, at universities, public libraries, and at the request of various organizations;
3. And publicity on international, national, local and cable television, radio, newspapers, magazines, journals, newsletters, internet, pod casts, and YouTube. Whether it's our events, case investigations, or some other aspect of Illinois MUFON^{NFP}, it is obviously no small potato.

Now we also have...

4. *Visitors* our high quality quarterly newsletter which is now becoming a staple as well as a standard;
5. A vastly improved and current web-site that is just the beginning to tap into the potential of the internet;
6. Our membership that is growing rampantly with many new members who've joined MUFON International and CUFOs;
7. A brain trust comprised of local university PhD's that is still in the works;
8. More field investigators than ever before;
9. A Director of Community Out Reach to identify social segments that be served more creatively—one segment being ethnic groups. (There will be an announcement early next year with the details of this program in addition to other new programs.);
10. And people who have made a difference by doing something in spite of the odds. And whose motto is "DO IT!"

Are you a MUFON International member? Don't forget to support your local organization by joining Illinois MUFON!

UFOS AND THE NATIONAL DEFENSE

Do UFOs shut down our missiles? What does the government say about alien interference in our national defense? Is there evidence and who has it? These questions and more will be the topic of the fourth UFO symposium to be presented November 9th by Illinois MUFON and CUFOS at the Tinley Park Holiday Inn Convention Center. Join these prominent speakers to learn the truth about what is kept secret from the public. Robert Hastings, author of *UFOs and Nukes* and an independent UFO researcher, will be the key presenter along with Sam Maranto, UFO researcher and MUFON State Director, will also be conducting an interview of witnesses on stage. A question and answer period will be open to all attendees after the formal presentations. Hear them and then decide for yourself!

Military Secrets Revealed!



Go to www.illinoismufon.com to register

***\$20 per person on the website/\$30 at the door
Tinley Park Holiday Inn Convention Center***

I N S I G H T S



PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE FIELD INVESTIGATOR (PART TWO): EQUIPMENT

by Frank Coffman, MUFON Field Investigator, Editor

In the first installment in this series of articles on photography and field investigation, I discussed the important differences between film and digital media for ufological investigations and research. The advantages and disadvantages of each medium were discussed in some detail. I also defended the continued use of film, based upon its merits—chief of which is the comparative difficulty of manipulating the final image produced. I likely surprised some by suggesting a “Complete Field Investigator’s Photography Kit” [at least the camera components of such] inclusive of five cameras!—mini/pocket-size (at least cell phone with camera) and SLR/more sophisticated digitals and film cameras in mini/pocket-size, quality 35mm (either rangefinder or, preferably SLR), and even a middle format (120/220 roll film) model. [Certainly, a local MUFON group or regional research team should have access to the larger, middle format camera (as noted in the *Field Investigator’s Handbook*).]

This article continues the discussion of that complete photography kit for the FI by giving some recommendations on useful cameras—both film and digital—the former being based upon “best buys” and the latter based upon cutting-edge features in digital photography (a subject very difficult to keep up with, I will add). I’m going to follow that with some suggestions on the peripheral, but necessary gear for photography that helps in the formal research and “site investigation” areas of FI work—things like, film types and filters for black and white film photography; tripods, monopods, and other supports; camera bags; and other useful items.

I noted last time that film cameras of all sorts can be obtained for a fraction of their original cost. The more the initial cost, the more significant the savings is also the rule. If one patiently checks out the market on eBay for the film cameras I’m going to suggest below, one can find amazing deals on quality equipment, that should be useful for the duration of

the Age of Film (which promises to be with us for a while yet—years I mean, not months) [and NO, I’m not connected with eBay in any way, other than as a frequent buyer and occasional seller]. The first of the film types likely to become completely obsolete as noted below is the APS (“Advanced Photo System”) cartridge, already phased out in camera production, but film for which in the tiny cassettes is still readily available. I’m convinced that good old 35mm and the pro-line 120/220 roll film will endure for film purists and art photographers, likely becoming scarcer as the years pass, but not fading into oblivion. Heck, there are still folks out there who mix the poisonous chemicals and do old Civil War era “wet plate,” collodion photography on glass plates—the kind of photography done before George Eastman invented film!

Getting on with recommendations, I’m going to say from the outset that the camera examples and specific gear I mention herein are purely personal preferences and “good examples” in my opinion. There are lots of other options out there. I would recommend that your search for film cameras be done on eBay and that you also do further explorations on the internet for best prices on digital models from reputable camera/photo online stores.

FILM CAMERAS

While the APS (Advanced Photo System) is being phased out—indeed, production and sale of the cameras that use the small APS canisters ended some time ago—the film in APS is still available and will be for some time (likely over the next 3 to 5 years, possibly longer) and processing of the film is still done. The great advantage of this system is, of course, the smaller size for the film cassettes, allowing for actual miniaturization of the camera. Be sure to set any APS camera on the H [horizontal] setting (not the C [classic] or P [panorama]), since this offers the largest negative film area to be exposed for the shot.

I N S I G H T S

I'd recommend the Canon Elph Jr. or Canon Elph II in the APS as good and easily affordable options for a "pocket," "carry-with-you-anywhere-always-ready" camera. I've obtained these from eBay at some staggeringly low prices—under \$15.00, including shipping! (one needs to be patient and check out the market for a week or so and pounce when the real deal comes along).



Canon Elph II and Canon Elph Jr.

While the APS format was used mostly for a whole new generation of "minis" and "point-and-shoot" snapshot cameras, both Nikon and Canon explored the Single Lens Reflex options of multiple lenses and view-through-the-lens-itself that SLRs offer. The Nikon Pronea 6 and Pronea S and the Canon EOS IX and IX Jr. are excellently made cameras that use a spectrum of Nikon or Canon lenses, respectively, including lenses that one might own for their big brother 35mm Nikon or Canon film cameras. These cameras offer many more features, but, of course, are not "pocket" cameras. The original pricing on these went as high as \$700 to \$800, but I've obtained examples of each—including a lens on the camera and not just the camera bodies—from eBay, both at under \$50.00, inclusive of shipping. That's pretty amazing for a quality camera from a first-rate company, and it's illustrative of the kinds of deals out there on film cameras, if one is observant and monitors the market.



Canon EOS IX and Nikon Pronea 6i

Moving on to the ubiquitous 35mm film format which dates back to 1892! and Thomas Edison working with film supplied by George Eastman, this has been the standard camera film size/guage since 1909! Available from a

plethora of companies and in a great variety of both color and black & white film types and speeds, it will remain the standard for the foreseeable future. I'll recommend a pocket type, easily carry-with-you-but-NOT-mini cameras: the Kodak Retina series of rangefinder "folders." To briefly digress, the "rangefinder" camera is NOT an SLR, so the image through the viewfinder is not the exact image the lens sees; the focusing is done by viewing through two windows at once, the images of which are "brought together" by using the focus ring. Of course the simple thing will be to set these to the infinity setting and not worry about focus, since any shot of UFO activity will almost certainly be at a considerable distance. On the other hand, these cameras offer amazing compactness and ease of portability compared to their larger SLR brothers and sisters which require more bulk for the prism and mirror "innards." They literally fold up into a nice pocket size, easily transported in a man's coat pocket or a ladies' purse. My recommendation from the Kodak Retina line of cameras is the Kodak Retina IIa which has one very bright lens configuration (get the f2 lens, if possible, while the f2.8 is also fine). The advantage of this over the earlier Retina models is a film advance lever rather than a knob winder (see photos of the Retina IIa and the Retina I below). The king of this line is the Retina IIIC (large C model preferable to small c model due to the better viewfinder), which allowed the exchanging of lenses and had both a telephoto option and a wide angle that could be mounted on the camera), but these are still pricey, even after all these years, being valued by collectors and old camera buffs, the IIIC bringing \$250 to \$300 sometimes. The recommended IIa should be obtainable for under \$50, inclusive of shipping (again, watch for deals and "pounce.")



Kodak Retina IIa and Kodak Retina I

The 35mm SLRs I'd recommend are the various versions of the Nikon F series which culminated in the standard press camera of a couple decades ago: the Nikon F4.

I N S I G H T S

The earlier “Fs” can be had for under \$100 with lens; the F4 (a bulky camera that is excellent for either hand-held or tripod use and has an amazing shutter speed minimum of 1/8000th of a second!) will likely cost anywhere from \$275 to \$500 with lens.



Nikon F and Nikon F4

Moving on to middle format film cameras (the 120/220 roll film size), there are absolutely amazing deals that can be found on this pro-/top-notch amateur type of camera. Again, the great advantage of these is the enormous negative size when compared to the 35mm format. Even the smaller configuration of 6x4.5 cms is almost three times the exposed negative area of the 35mm, and the larger configurations of 6x6, 6x7, and even 6x9 cms extend this to almost six times the exposed negative area. The advantages of this are the ability to capture much more detail in the image AND to be able to enlarge the positive image to nearly mural-size proportions with “8 by 10s” being super-sharp. Again, the middle formats are not necessarily imperative for every single field investigator, but areas or regions—for example: Illinois MUFON—should have one available, along with someone who knows how to operate it, for each of its various regions or territories. I’ll recommend five models as all being good options, but ranging from the least expensive and most easily portable to the most fully automatic. The price range on these would be from \$125 to \$500, inclusive of a lens, but those prices are tiny fractions of original cost (or comparative original cost, since the first of these I’ll mention go back to the 1940s when they were state-of-the-art.

One can’t go wrong with the workmanship and design of the Zeiss Ikon series of folding, rangefinder middle formats. Zeiss is still one of the premier names in German optics, among the best in the world. I’ll recommend the amazingly tiny (not much larger than the Kodak Retina!) Super Ikonta A. This little wonder takes crystal-sharp 6 by 4.5 cm negatives (16 per roll of 120 and 32 per roll of 220 film). Its big brother, the Super Ikonta C takes wonderful 6 by 9 cm negatives (8 and 16 per roll, respectively

on 120 or 220 film). These cameras are not in any way “automatic”—one needs to know something about light meter reading, f-stop, and film speed settings to do well with one. But, there are a few simple rules that one can follow to make these settings easier:

- ❖ **FOCUS 1:** again the simple setting on INFINITY and leaving it there makes sense for the purpose of any possible UFO sighting.
- ❖ **FOCUS 2:** being a rangefinder, the documentation of a UFO “site” will allow plenty of time for both tripod mounting and fine-tune focusing (both to insure absolute sharpness of image).
- ❖ **F-STOP:** the “f-stop” is the APERTURE setting of the lens. Just as with the metaphor of pipes carrying water, the larger the pipe, the more water flowing over a given time—just so, the wider the lens aperture, the more light “flows” to expose the negative. The SMALLER the f-number, the LARGER the aperture/opening of the lens, so a setting of f2 allows much more light than one of f16 or f22. The “rule of thumb” on f-stops is known as the “SUNNY 16 RULE.” It’s easy to remember: if the day is bright enough that distinct, sharply-defined shadows are cast, then set the f-stop to f16 AND the SHUTTER SPEED to 1 divided by the film speed of the film being used (or its closest equivalent). **EXAMPLE:** It’s a bright, sunny day, and my subject is NOT obscured in the shade (which would require “opening up” the lens to f11, f8, f5.6, f4, or even f2 in that progression from brightest to deep shadow, intuitively can be done with practice). My camera is loaded with 200 ASA (film speed) film. I set my f-stop to f16 (“sunny 16 rules”) AND my shutter speed to 1/250th (the closest to 1/200th that my camera shows, with 1/250th being between 1/500th and 1/125th). Of course, one could use a LIGHT METER and get precise settings before shooting, but “Sunny 16” works quite well once you get the hang of it.
- ❖ **BRACKET SHOOTING:** Whatever your manual setting is, it’s good to “bracket” the same shot (again, here we’re talking “site” shooting and not UFO-sighting shooting). This means that you would take shots at one f-stop above and one f-stop below the first shot AND/OR at the same f-stop but one shutter speed setting above and one below the first shot (the assumption here is that one of the exposures must be close to correct).
- ❖ **LOW LIGHT/NIGHT SIGHTING SHOOTING:** If the chance should occur that a sighting of a UFO happened

when one happened to have a medium format camera handy, and that incident were at low light or night conditions, the quick settings of FOCUS=INFINITY, F-STOP=MAXIMUM WIDE (say f2 or smaller number if available), and SHUTTER SPEED=AT LEAST ONE SECOND. Note that this scenario is highly unlikely, and it might well be better to use a smaller automatic camera, point-and-shoot, or, certainly, a video camera if one is also available.



Zeiss Super Ikonta A and Zeiss Super Ikonta C

Certainly the best deal on an automatic medium format camera is the Mamiya 645 Pro TL with AE Prism Finder viewfinder and power winder. This camera can be had on eBay for a very small fraction of its \$4000 minimum with lens. I've bought a couple of them over the years at \$275 to \$450 dollars. Its later model in auto-focus is still very pricey and the 24 megapixel digital back for the auto model is still about \$12,000+, but it's the cream of automated middle format cameras. As the model number suggest, it takes "ideal format" 6 by 4.5 cm negatives. Its earlier model, the M645 1000s is still a very functional, hand crank film advance camera with various viewfinder options, one of them automatic aperture setting. Both of these are manual focus.



Mamiya 645 Pro TL and Mamiya M645 1000s

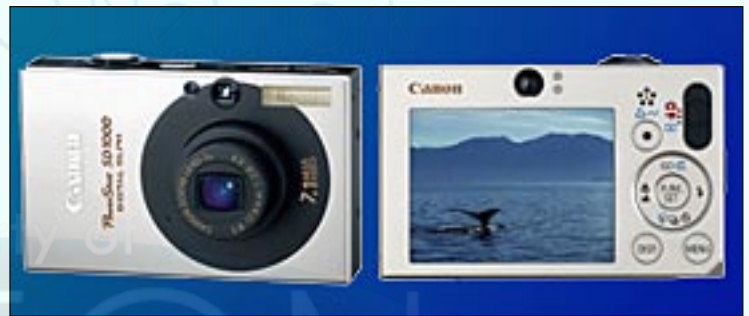
Another manual middle format option is the Mamiya Press in either standard or "Universal" models. This camera is ideally made for tripod mounting, although it can be hand-held, as the "Press" designation indicates. It can

take various film roll backs in 6x4.5, 6x6, 6x7, or 6x9 cm configurations, and there is a wide variety of lenses from extreme wide angle through telephoto that fit this camera system. Again, a fraction of the original cost, but a full system can still be pricey, up into the \$500+ range.



Mamiya Press w/flash

Moving on to digital cameras, I'll recommend really ANY of the new lines of dependable mini-cameras. The example shown below is the latest Canon Digital Elph, the SD1000. This digital mini is fully automatic and takes excellent images for its size. With technology like this available, no individual—let alone no field investigator—should be without a reliable camera that captures quality images.



Canon SD1000 Digital Elph (front and back)

Staying with the Canon line, I don't think there's a better deal on the market today in digital SLRs taking a huge number of Canon lenses (both old film camera and newer made-for-digital models) than the Canon EOS Digital Rebel. In the newest models at 14+ megapixels, and obtainable for less than \$900 with wide angle to short telephoto zoom lens, this is really all the camera that most folks would ever need. And when one thinks of the savings compared to film cost and film processing cost, it wouldn't take many family vacations or family photo ops for this to pay for itself in comparison to a film camera.



Canon EOS Digital Rebel SLR

But, if I had to own only one camera, there is no doubt—based upon current technology—which camera I would choose. It's compact (although not a "mini" it's coat-pocket size); it can work fully automatically as a "point-and-shoot," but it also has manual and programmable settings; at 12 or 14 megapixels and with a 6x optical zoom, its images are super sharp and easily enlargable to poster size; and, in short, its technological sophistication and image quality are purely amazing. I'm referring to either the Canon Powershot G9 or its recently released newer model the G10. Both offer a huge, sharp image viewing/reviewing window and have a "hot shoe" for attaching an external flash for "fill flash" outdoors or for indoor shooting ("bounce flash" to avoid red-eye and shadow, etc.). A college photojournalism instructor and former Pulitzer Prize winning photojournalist friend of mine just used **NOTHING BUT THIS CAMERA** on his around-the-country photo pictorial journey over last summer. I can't recommend this highly enough, and, if you shop around, you can get the new G10 for under \$400.



Canon Powershot G9 and Canon Powershot G10

That will do it for cameras, but let's briefly cover peripheral items in the "Complete Field Investigator's Photography Kit."

For film cameras of the 35mm or medium format variety, it would be optimum to have black & white shooting **LENS FILTERS** in UV/skylight, yellow, orange, red, and green. Actually, a UV or "Skylight" filter ought to be kept

on any camera with a front-threaded lens, simply for the protection of the actual lens itself. With black and white film, the colored filters affect the contrast and tonal qualities of the resultant image. True to life, what-you-see-is-what-you-get (at least as far as tonal range and contrast) requires a yellow filter for black and white film. The advantages of orange and red are to actually "burn through" haze or fog to some degree (they can also produce striking contrast in "art" photography—especially white clouds against an almost black appearing sky. Green filters help separate the green tones in a forested or multi-green scene (they're also used in black and white portraiture to get pleasing skin tones on models—wouldn't be the same effect with color film.

For the research team or for site field investigation, a **TRIPOD** is a necessity. This assures absolute stability for a sharp shot. A **MONOPOD** can be useful and can be carried fairly easily in terrain where lugging the larger tripod might be difficult (although the new carbon-fiber tripods are super light as well as super steady [but very pricey]). I've even seen a somewhat shortened walking stick ingeniously fitted with a screw for camera mounting at the top (good project for the do-it-yourselfer!). In shooting a UFO sighting, if one is that fortunate and the camera—of course—**IS** available, try to stabilize the shooting with anything handy: leaning against a tree or post, over the roof of a car, anything to stabilize the camera base. A handy, easy-to-carry-along, support is the beanbag—rice or navy beans in, you guessed it, a stitched up bag! (Some are available with synthetic "beans"/beads in all-weather fabric and foldable in sections for various camera-support configurations.)

For any manual cameras one might have, a **LIGHT METER** is useful (if not absolutely essential—remember "Sunny 16" and other intuitive "rules" for shooting and "guess-timating" light). Still one can be had on eBay for a fraction of the original cost—and even the old ones are often quite accurate and still entirely useable. One dials in the settings for film speed and, based upon the light from the subject, either film speed or aperture can be figured.

CAMERA BAGS come in all sorts of configurations, but, perhaps, the larger backpack bags (some with a pouch for a laptop computer as well) make the most sense. If one has to "hump it" into difficult country for a site research, the great benefit of the backpack bag is obvious. But of course lots of gear might require multiple bags—backpacks or more standard configurations, but I'll opt for the backpack models. Both Lowepro and Tamrac make excellent large backpacks (each capable of holding at least two

I N S I G H T S

cameras and lenses and other gear and the option of laptop computer carry as well). Other companies also make these configurations.

Other equipment would include a lens/filter cleaning kit, recharging equipment for digital SLRs and extra batteries for any and all cameras in the kit, a small flashlight (for finding stuff in the dark of course), extra film and extra digital media cards, and for site investigation or extended research, a laptop computer with all the bells and

whistles photo manipulation software for viewing and working with digital images.

That's all for this installment. In installment three I'll get into the wild and interesting realms of infrared photography (both film and digital) and stereography—using either a twin lens camera or mounting two cameras side-by-side or even using a single camera with one lens to take 3D images! ☞

NORTHERN
LIGHTS

by Bill Murphy, Staff Writer

A GRAND UNIFYING
THEORY OF UFOS?

I*hate facts: they get in the way of my theories.* One of my graduate school colleagues in history said something to this effect during the mid-1970s. This tendency to want to find an overall explanation, even if it doesn't harmonize with all of the agreed-upon facts, or to construct rather elaborate structures from relatively scanty data, is always a problem in scholarship, including scientific. In my academic discipline of ancient history, the tension between fact and theory even seems to have a history of its own. In studying ancient times, writers of different language traditions differently balanced the need to have solid factual evidence with the temptation to theorize, to weave the facts into some coherent and satisfying explanatory system.

French scholarship, for instance, seemed to me to emphasize theories rather than amassing large quantities of factual data, telling exciting stories that sometimes appeared to lack solid substantiation. The Nobel laureate who dominated ancient Roman studies in the 19th century, Theodor Mommsen, epitomized the method of the German tradition by collecting huge compendia of names, dates, actions, and places, into solid, even imposing, architectures that didn't exactly titillate the imagination. English authors seemed to fall in between these two Continental European traditions, though perhaps tending more to the solid but stolid German perspective.

As in the more traditional fields of enquiry, so too with ufology. Though exaggerated, there's something to debunker Robert Sheaffer's contention that everyone interested in UFOs seems to be promoting some theory that is supposed to explain satisfactorily all parts of the UFO field. Ufologist Dr. Michael Swords states: "Another 'phenomenon' that ufologists have endured regularly across the years is that of the New Comprehensive Theory: the theory that will solve the UFO enigma at last." The rich variety of UFOs and the vast range of associated phenomena should give pause to one who would explain them all by one theory. There are nocturnal lights, daylight discs, ovals, cigar shapes, and triangles, as well as a variety of lesser-reported shapes, there are shafts of light and balls of fire, in the air or on the ground. Then, there are "waves" of UFOs and "UFO hot spots", there are psychic and physical abductions—not to mention crop circles, cattle mutilations, Bigfoot sightings associated with UFOs, sightings of little people associated with UFOs or not, supposed psychic connections, and even claims of "space brothers" (and sisters) inside or outside of UFOs who converse with

humans through voice, gestures, telepathy, or channeling. And all this does not mention orbs, phantom cats, ghosts, clairvoyance, and all other sorts of Fortean and paranormal phenomena, which some would associate with the general topic of UFOs. Even restricting UFOs to aerial phenomena leaves much on the table, and M.I.T. physicist Philip Morrison worried about using the name "UFO" to represent quite different events. Morrison employed the

...the vast range of associated phenomena should give pause to one who would explain them all by one theory.

term “homogenization” for this practice.

Yet some great names in ufology, researchers like John Keel and Jacques Vallee, relatively early on essayed their own signature comprehensive explanatory theories, quite removed from those of the “nuts and bolts” ET-centered mainstream of ufology at the time. Most recent authors’ attempts to find a unifying explanation, particularly those with some kind of a religious edge to them, seem insufficient to explain the great variety of phenomena associated with UFOs. In some instances, a writer’s first serious effort on the subject incorporates a “grand unifying theory” he/she has on the meaning of the whole of ufology, and generally it is missing some main thread.

I also see this quite often in traditional scholars in other fields who attempt to explain ufology from their own narrow academic viewpoint. While supporting the overarching ET hypothesis, the rise of abductions to the fore in ufology in particularly the 1990s has tended to narrow the discourse. More effort is being spent on the motives of the abductors apparently involved in human hijackings than in attempting to understand what, if anything, globes of light, huge triangles, and structured, domed craft have in common. It is therefore not surprising that many careful researchers prefer to focus powerfully upon aspects of the phenomenon, rather than upon grand unified theories of everything. Thus, while Stanton Friedman may be regarded as the paradigmatic ufologist, and in many presentations makes the general case for taking UFOs seriously as ET craft, he concentrates on Roswell as a case where one of those craft crashed to earth, and MJ-12 as a group formed in response to this incident, to “manage” the situation of alien visitation. Most of Friedman’s work, and the work of researchers like Jan Aldrich, Ted Phillips, Richard Dolan, and many others, is devoted to a portion of the UFO puzzle, rather than trying to explain everything.

I’ll extend this discussion further: I am wary of the efforts of many popular speakers to tie UFOs in with a potpourri of outside topics to form a “Grand Grand Unifying Theory of Everything”. Unidentified flying objects and UFO abductions are mixed in with government conspiracies, pop psychology and pop physics, misunderstood history and Armageddon theories, “free energy” and en-

vironmentalism, channeling, meditation and alternate medication, to create entertaining but weakly substantiated explanatory webs. These theories frequently conflict in major ways with those of other such “researchers” and seem to have inherent contradictions as well, which these charismatic individuals avoid acknowledging or, sometimes even more effectively, do acknowledge as beyond our current “understanding” until we have “evolved” our consciousnesses. There is a long history of such claims and claimants. Their tales seem especially captivating to the more intelligent among us, those of us who think more than most about ultimate meaning, those of us who recognize that there are, indeed, realms beyond the narrow boundaries of material existence, and that material existence itself has mysteries currently unfathomed by modern science.

I suggest we need to be careful and investigate when certain individuals, who may indeed be convinced in their own wisdom, bring together a range of separately legitimate and perhaps some less solid pursuits into an appealing explanatory system. Some day one of these people may indeed “get it right”, but so far no one has, and the history, the odds, compel us to be somewhat discriminating, and not take everything just on faith. The lack of critical thinking in this field does harm to the public perception and advancement of ufology. My opinions here are cautious admonitions to us all to beware of extrapolating the data we have to create exciting but under- if not unsupported theories, and also to be careful of swallowing whole attractive explanatory schemes that link UFOs to a variety of other, particularly paranormal, studies. The damage done to ufology’s struggle for respectful recognition by credence being granted a dynamic but unscientific poseur can outweigh the credit for the solid work done by several careful researchers. ☞

Endnotes

Sheaffer, Robert. *The UFO Verdict: Examining the Evidence*. Buffalo, New York: Prometheus Books, 1980: 197.

Swords, Michael. “Letter to the Editor: Sword’s [sic] Caution to Coleman”, *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, vol. 21, No. 1, Spring, 2007: 157. (Lawrence, Kansas: Allen Press).

Morrison, Phillip, see Thornton on p. 9 of his “Foreword” to Story, Ronald D., *UFOs and the Limits of Science*, New York: William Morrow and Company, Inc., 1981.

Do you have skills we need? Illinois MUFON is looking for a few dedicated people to assist us. Professionals of any kind can fill our consultants’ ranks as well as become a field investigator. A person with marketing experience is also needed to fill a board position. Contact Sam at mufonsam@comcast.com

(RECORD ATTENDANCE continued from page 1)

civilian personnel with, not unidentified flying objects, but with flying saucers, alien craft as defined by government sources in the documents.



Stanton Friedman and Ted Phillips answering questions from the audience at the symposium

Finishing up the symposium was Ted Phillips, who reviewed evidence of alien visitations and concluded his presentation with the stunning announcement of his research into a little known discovery made during WWII in Slovakia. Named the Moonshaft, this bizarre feature hidden within the mountains may contain evidence of subterranean alien bases.

In a survey of attendees, most heard about the symposium on the radio during either an interview of Stanton Friedman on "Coast-to-Coast" or from one of the

radio ads running the week previous to the symposium. A smaller percentage learned of the presentations from newspapers and on the internet. With each symposium the number of attendees has climbed as well as the number of members joining Illinois MUFON and CUFOs. Upon review of this symposium, it was assumed that even more would have attended had the Chicago Air and Water Show not been running on the same day. Additionally, the timing of the symposium was also during peak vacation time with many people away from home who otherwise would have come.



Don Schmitt giving his presentation about the Roswell Crash to the audience

It was also determined that the symposiums, which so far have been held in Tinley Park, should be held in various locations about the state to encourage new memberships and interest in ufology. ☞

Catch the Season Premiere of the History Channel's

UFO HUNTERS

Wednesday
October 29th
at

GATTO'S
EST. 1988
Restaurant & Bar
8005 183rd St., Tinley Park, IL

The opening show features the Tinley Park Lights with Sam Maranto and witnesses from the local area!

JOIN THEM from 7:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. for a delicious buffet dinner for only \$22.50 per person (kids 7-12 only \$10.50)

The buffet menu includes:
Gatto's Garbage Salad
Fried Calamari
Pasta Marinara
Vesuvio Chicken & Potatoes
Coffee/Tea/Soda
Full Cash Bar

Tickets available online at
www.illinoismufon.com
or at any
Gatto's Restaurant

(PATTERNS & CONNECTIONS continued from page 1)

craft would accommodate my desire to see that happen. Well, none did, never the less, this got me to thinking about what was going on. Why would a UFO deliberately (and reports make such activity seem quite deliberate) move from the sky to the waters below? As I leaned on the rail and watched the waves and white caps, I thought of the various reports I'd read of UFOs and water.

Various UFO/water sightings

John Carpenter, the American abduction researcher, was watching the night sky to observe the unique starts of the Southern Hemisphere and looking out over the ocean. John and his companions saw a bright object they assumed was an airplane approaching the local airfield. The object had extra lights however, and they were not blinking. One of the party, a former pilot, claimed that the object was not an airplane. As they continued to watch, the object dropped nearer the water, in just a split second. Then, it hovered above the water before lowering slowly into the ocean and out of sight.⁽¹⁾

Edward was watching a video of a golfer taking lessons near the coast. He noticed something crossing the screen in less than a second, and curious, he played it back

in slow motion. What he saw was a flat, circular object leaving the sea at 30 degree angle. He could see the object shedding water as it emerged.⁽¹⁾

Al was fishing off the pier at Montauk Point. He saw a blazing light flash in the sky, then observed three disk-shaped objects hovering about 20 feet above the ocean. He watched them spin in tight circles for five minutes,

As they watched, the object brightened, tilted at an angle, and entered the water with its leading edge.

then they plunged into the water. There was no splash, rather it was as though there was an opening which just swallowed them up.⁽¹⁾

Shannon was watching a beautiful sunset from her yard on Pt. Loma in the fall of 1975. As she took in the view, two objects came straight up out of the sea, side by side and dripping water. They surfaced very fast, and went straight up, in formation. Shannon thought she was seeing the tops of the craft, directly facing her. They were

a dull silver and just a bit shiny. Once overhead, one went left and the other right. Several other people were watching at the time.⁽¹⁾

Lt. Hedison was on communication duty aboard a navy destroyer, about 700 miles out and headed for Boston. The lookout, through the fog, spotted an unidentified green light dead ahead, but radar reported no "blip." The green light then dropped down to within 30 feet of the ocean and started to move toward them. The ship turned 90 degrees in avoidance, but the light came closer. The destroyer turned again, but the light kept pace. As the ship emerged from the fog, a blip did then show on the radar. Now, the ship turned 180 degrees toward Boston again, and the UFO followed this maneuver as well, and it took up station off their port beam. As they watched, the object brightened, tilted at an angle, and entered the water with its leading edge. The ship's captain, now awake, ordered the crew to forget the event, and later repeated the warning two more times.⁽¹⁾

As I started my research, I was surprised to find a web site devoted to the reporting of UFOs in or around the water. The sightings are numerous and go back quite a few years. Clearly, there is more watery strangeness than I imagined. But, why would a UFO deliberately enter the water? What are they doing after they're submerged? Curiosity led me to find out more, as I realized I didn't know much about the oceans of our world.

A vast, largely unexplored world

I quickly discovered what a unique resource the oceans are. While the space surrounding Earth is quite, well, roomy, our land masses are, increasingly, crowded and more than a little populated. With all those eyes, radars, cameras, satellites, telescopes, cell phones, not to mention the Internet, one just can't get away with what was possible just a few decades ago. If anyone, or anything, had clandestine plans, the surface of Earth is a dicey place. The oceans, however, are a wonderland of unexplored, uncrowded space. Just how big are they? Glad you ask.

At the surface, our oceans cover about 70% of the globe. They contain roughly 97% of the Earth's water supply. No other planet in the Solar System has liquid water (but Mars may yet yield some underground supplies). As you no doubt know, from space, our globe could be called, "the blue planet." Our five oceans (we recently added the "Southern Ocean") are all connected to one another, and the water within is always moving, both horizontally, and in some cases, vertically. There are also many seas, or

branches of the oceans, that are often partly enclosed by land. The Mediterranean is a good example.⁽²⁾

And the depths? That is even more impressive. Our oceans have a present volume of 8,400,000 cubic miles. The greatest ocean depth is found in the Mariana Trench, where the water goes down almost seven miles! The average depth of the oceans, however, is a respectable 2.4 miles.⁽²⁾ In other words, if you have the means to get there and stay there, our oceans provide a lot of room to hide. And, such sanctuary would be (depth and pressure problems aside) problem-free. While a few deep-sea creatures might swim by, the intrusion of humans would hardly be a problem.

Humans have steadily increased the depths to which they can descend, but truly deep dives are a fairly rare event. The bathysphere, developed in the 1930s, could take two men down 3,028 feet. The bathyscaph or “submarine balloon”, developed by Jacques Piccard and his son, went through several design changes and eventually reached the bottom of the Marianas Trench, near Guam, in 1960. The Alvin submersible, operated by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, routinely makes more than 100 dives a year. With modifications, it has reached 14,764 feet. And, there are also the Russian submersibles, MIR-1 and MIR-2, which can work underwater for 17 to 20 hours at a time and reach depths of 19,800 feet.⁽³⁾



Russian MIR-1 submersible

So, we are able to penetrate the ocean's depths on occasion. But when you think about what an immensely large realm the oceans are, the few dives we make are less than a drop in the bucket! Someone hiding in our oceans might as well be on the back side of the moon for all the interference they would experience from us.

The lure and mystery of the sea

I've also learned that humans have always regarded the seas as mysterious. From our earliest civilizations, water has represented a pathway to other places. But, who knew what strange creatures lurked in the depths, or what bizarre people lived on the other side? Whatever fears they may have had, evidence is strong that, from our thinking-dawn, we humans have ventured out onto the waters. Those ancient mariners thought it quite possible they would be attacked by various monsters, fall off the edge of the world, be caught up in giant whirlpools and sucked down into the depths, be lured onto rocky outcrops by sirens, sail on forever and never see home, and other cheerless fates. You've got to admire their spunk!

Quite apart from the reality of deadly storms and mind-numbing calms, the oceans were thought to harbor a variety of creatures far stranger than any land animal. Some of these we know of today—large whales, huge squids, and Great White sharks. But to our distant ancestors, the most feared creature was the sea serpent. You have probably noticed them painted on copies of ancient maps, usually out in the middle of an ocean. The serpent is so pervasive in early mythology that it is near universal. For example, it is found in the Bible, in Babylonian creation stories, and in Norse legends. The serpent is often pictured as the enemy of God (or the gods) and is called Leviathan or Rahab in the Bible. He is also referred to as the, “crooked serpent.” It is strange how a creature which is supposed to be imaginary could be found in so many, diverse myths—and playing such a strong, evil role in all of them. As the kids say, “Where'd that come from?” I have yet to find references which would indicate ancient sightings of UFOs at sea, but if they exist, I'd like to review them. (I know that Columbus saw some strange light, but that report is pretty vague.)

Unidentified submarine objects

There are so many high-quality reports (by my judgment) of UFOs entering and leaving the water that I don't doubt this happens. (In fact, the term USO, for “unidentified submarine object” has been coined for this water-based craft.) As to why they do this, we can, of course, only speculate. My best guess is an obvious one: they are taking advantage of this vast, underwater realm to do whatever it is they do when they aren't poking around our facilities or picking up humans in the middle of the night. Some have suggested these craft need water for fuel or

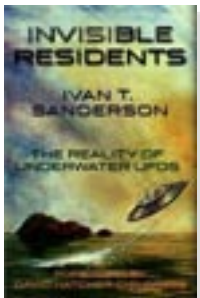
some other function. And, since I'm speculating, I'll also suggest that the ocean would make a great base of operation. After all, we have talked of building cities on the ocean floor, so why wouldn't that work for them?

I'd like to close this with a review of perhaps the best documented UFO/water incident we have—the incident at Shag Harbor, Nova Scotia. This is entertainingly presented by Don Ledger and Chris Styles in their 2001 book, *Dark Object*.⁽⁴⁾ It was also covered in a recent History Channel documentary on USOs. It started on the evening of October 4, 1967, and Styles, who was a



lad at the time, actually saw the object. The sighting is impressive for several reasons, including the number of diverse witnesses and the documentation which was ferreted out by the authors. In summary, a large object (estimated at 60 feet in diameter), that had been seen both by ground observers and pilots, crossed the sky in apparent distress and landed on the water in full view of a number of witnesses. It was seen floating (vaguely, since it was now dark) with a single light on its top, but it eventually sank beneath the surface. Rescue boats found no sign of a plane wreck, which is what they expected, but did find a strange, yellow foam that smelled of sulfur. They also observed odd bubbles rising to the surface.

Since sensitive military installations were nearby, both the Canadian and United States authorities were quickly involved. Naturally, neither government shared their findings, but the book indicates there was a second craft which joined the first, after that troubled ship had traveled underwater some distance. It would be reasonable to assume that repair of the UFO was underway. Some days later, the underwater UFO was seen leaving the water, with its companion, and flying away. Ledger and Styles found many witnesses who were willing to talk, and, no surprise, the usual government stone wall. Thanks to their persistence, some good luck, and a few people who shared more than they were supposed to, the Shag Harbor story is reasonably complete. Good reading! I also just received Ivan T. Sanderson's *Invisible Residents: The Reality of Underwater UFOs*—which I'll be reading soon.



I don't think you need to worry next time you're wetting a line at the local catfish pond, but there seems little

doubt that UFOs can and do enter our waters. There are just too many eyewitnesses, and they can't all be delusional or grossly mistaken. Do our governments know this? Well, when you think about all the military satellites overhead and the Cold War era detection devices that are likely still installed at sea, I don't see how they could not know. But, that's a moot point; they wouldn't tell us anyway. What do you think UFOs are doing in the briny deep? ☞

Endnotes

1. www.waterufo.net/menu.htm Accessed 5-14-2007.
2. *Earth's Oceans*. www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/ocean/ Accessed 4-12-2007.
3. *NOVA: Into the Abyss*. www.pbs.org/wgbh/navo/frontier/deepsea.html Accessed 4-12-2007.
4. Ledger, Don & Styles, Chris, *Dark Object: The World's Only Government-Documented UFO Crash*. Dell Publishing, New York, NY. Published 2001.

MUFON 40TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM CHANGES

A month back I received a call from James Carrion, the AMUFON International director, regarding our hosting the 40th anniversary symposium. It seems there was a change of heart on allowing us to host the 40th. This came as a bit of a surprise and without any prior knowledge or input by our officers.

Concerns were raised regarding our inexperience on hosting such an event. This in addition to the fact that we lack a sizable bank account to assure payment on our half of the bill. Colorado MUFON on the other hand has been host to no less than four MUFON International Symposia in the past ten years. Both experience and finances are well in place as a result of such honors. In short, MUFON International isn't going to gamble on Illinois MUFON^{NFP} after taking it on the chin last year with a shortfall of attendees and ticket sales. I say this as a matter of fact—not begrudgingly.

Since it is the decision of MUFON International's Board of Directors we graciously wish the best to Denver. We are still planning to have a major event or two next year and are awaiting the date of the Denver symposium before planning ours to avoid a conflict.

For the record, I disagree with their assessment. Making something work is born of a commitment by a few dedicated people. Give me a hand full of them and then the impossible will become commonplace. ☞

—Sam Maranto, President

THE CAVES OF MARS

by Guy Richards, MUFON Field Investigator
guy.richards@sbcglobal.net



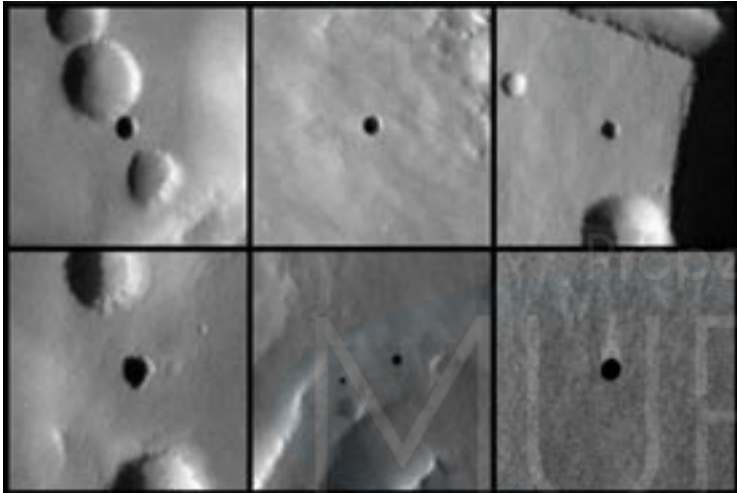
In early 2007 Nasa published some photos from the Mars orbiter that are very interesting. No, they're not the famous "Face on Mars" or the "Cities on Mars" that some claim to have seen in similar photos after they have magnified them a hundred times. At that magnification you could see a Martian Empire State building within all the blur and pixilating.

These new photos are of the northern hemisphere extinct volcano Olympus Mons. It's a huge feature on Mars and is the largest known volcano in the solar system.



Mars' Olympus Mons volcano is the size of Arizona.

On the slopes of Olympus Mons, Nasa has photographed seven caves. They look like round black dots and have been named the seven sisters.

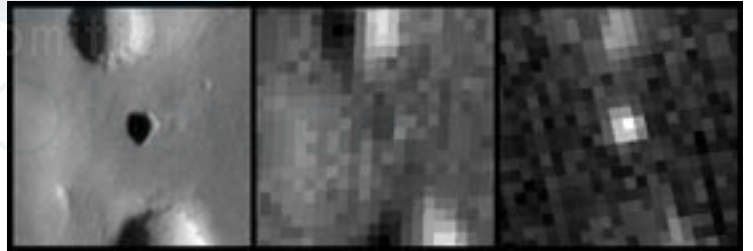


Seven caves on Mars called the seven sisters.

The most interesting is named Chloe. Chloe is about 400 feet across and over 80 feet deep. Nasa is pretty sure that these features are caves because they are associated with volcanic activity and a tunneling phenomenon called a "lava tube". On earth on the slopes of a volcano the lava flowing down the side of the volcano has an outer skin that cools first and forms a tube. When the lava stops flowing or it cools off and shrinks it leaves a hollow tube

that sometimes collapses leaving a cave opening. This is what the exo-geologists think these features on Mars are.

They have also taken thermographs, heat photos, of the caves and as expected for a cave the day cave mouth temperatures are cooler than the surrounding Mars surface and the night temps are warmer. This is because caves tend to have a relatively constant temperature versus their surface surroundings.



Chloe: thermograph (last frame) showing temperature "hot spot" as lightest gray value.

For some months they couldn't tell how deep the caves were because the sun didn't illuminate the bottom or sides of the caves. In June '08 the light was just right and they photographed the side wall of Chloe and estimated the visible depth as over 80 feet. It's likely that Chloe and the other caves are deeper than this as the light that shows on the wall of Chloe does not show any reflection to the other walls or the bottom.

So, why are they interesting? Well, they're interesting because if you are looking for life on Mars, as the most like Earth planet in the solar system, it would more likely be found in a warmer protected environment like a cave than on the exposed surface of Mars. If the temperature at the bottom of the cave was above freezing and there is water present, as they are finding with the current Mars Phoenix lander, then the likely hood of finding life is greater still.

In addition, if you are planning on sending astronauts to Mars for an extended stay a warm, wet, protected habitat with higher air pressure, such as a deep cave, would save a lot of weight on the space craft on the way to Mars and save a lot of time on Mars from not having to build the habitat. The astronauts couldn't walk around in their shirt sleeves but at the bottom of a cave you could make a low pressure shelter from duct tape and a poly tarp.

OK, OK, I confess I'm a hopeless romantic influenced in my youth by such science fiction classics as "Podakayne of Mars" by Robert Heinlein, "The Caves of Mars" and the 1964 movie "Robinson Crusoe on Mars".

Stay tuned, they are looking for signs of CO₂, O₂ and methane emissions from the caves, all signs that life is there. ☺

FROM THE FILES



ORB/V OVER CHICAGO

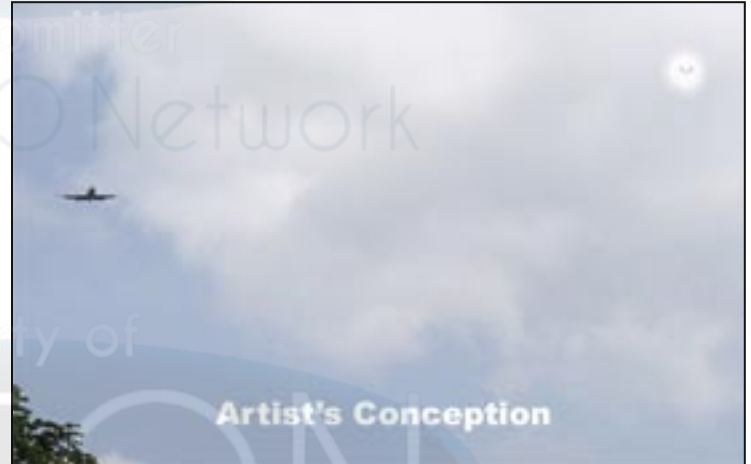
Case No. 11386

Metropolitan areas are frequently the location of sightings of anomalous activity simply due to the quantity of people available to witness such occurrences. Chicago and its suburbs are no different when it comes to the numerous cases of UFOs reported over the city and suburbs this year. In June, a man and woman were sitting in Indian Boundary Park on a sunny day on the north side of Chicago when they both noticed a extremely bright orb high above them in the sky. They were facing north and the glowing object was moving from west to east with a slight wavy motion. It was traveling faster than the jets that were also in the sky at the time and at a higher altitude.

After watching it for fifteen seconds or so, it slowed when it was directly over them and then shot up vertically hundreds of feet, made a small loop, and then descended back to the original altitude before continuing on its direction eastward. The man, losing the object behind tree branches, got up and watched it as it moved away. As it did, he noticed that the object was now translucent and he could see within the orb a darker v-shaped object. The darker object was not visible previously when the orb was moving toward them or when it was overhead. Whether the direction of the sunlight, which was behind the wit-

nesses, played a factor on the v-shaped object's visibility is not known.

Brilliantly glowing orbs are a common description in many UFO sightings. However, it is not often that another object is seen within the orb. Perhaps the orbs, if viewed from a different angle, in this case as it was departing, or when lit properly by the sun, might reveal the true nature of the craft emanating the glow.



Artistic conception and not a real UFO photograph.

This case was investigated and determined to be a UFO in a discontinuous flight path. The artist conception above was created according to the description provided by the witnesses and was reviewed and confirmed by the witness as a close approximation of what they saw. The aircraft in the left is shown for size comparison. The glowing orb with the v-shaped object in the upper right corner was moving away and smaller than when the orb was directly overhead.

NOTICING A DIFFERENCE?

It's not the same old Illinois MUFON—changes are being made! Like improving our website, more meetings, the new newsletter, and the ongoing series of symposiums offering the best UFO speakers. These are just a few of the dynamic plans that are coming. Join **Illinois MUFON** today to receive valued discounts on special events, the quarterly *Visitors* newsletter, invitation-only documentary viewings, group excursions, and more...all to be announced in the first **MEMBERS' ONLY** issue of the *Visitors* newsletter in 2009. Join today and stay in the know!

JOIN NOW IF YOU...

- realize the benefit of being a part of this dynamic Midwest UFO organization
- would like to support quality UFO research and public awareness right here at home

Send \$20 (check or money order) for a full year subscription and membership to:

Illinois MUFON^{NFP} Membership
P.O. Box 2105, Orland Park, IL 60462

DECEMBER 12, 2008: THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL—AGAIN



So much for “*Klaatu barada nikto!*” Gort is back with an attitude...and he means business. Or so it seems in the tidbits of trailers and teasers floating about the web and in the previews at theaters.

Isn't it interesting how Hollywood manages to come out with a movie or two that predicts things to come?

It was 1951, just four years after Roswell, when Klaatu and Gort walked onto the screen and into the hearts and minds of America via a celluloid space ship.

Handing us an ultimatum not unlike the many we receive daily from academia today. Clean up your act humanity. Quit being a petulance to yourselves and the Earth. The noticeable difference being that no academia or scientist has ever threaten to exterminate us.

Or at least to my knowledge...

So, is this new re-release keeping in style of a Hollywood cognitive process or just a desperate act of lack of imagination? Supposedly, this version is closer to the real story line than the 1951 version. Wasn't it Werner von Braun who warned of a staged extraterrestrial invasion? One sure way to put us in line.

Maybe it's just one more step conditioning us for contact? Whatever the case may be, it will surely happen—that is, if it does, long after the credits roll.

Illinois MUFON will be hosting a private premier showing at Orland Park Marcus Theaters, the details will be posted on the website. ☞

PUBLIC, FI TRAINEES, BOARD MEET AT STARVED ROCK

The general public along with members met on Saturday, October 18th at Starved Rock State Park lodge. The public and MUFON members were treated to case investigations from around the state headed up by Guy Richards and David Finkbeiner. Sam Maranto also interviewed a witness that had contact with a biochemist who claimed to have inspected, at Wright Field, an alien body taken from the UFO crash at Roswell, NM. Immediately after the presentations was a tutorial presentation for prospective field investigators by Mike Stack, Director of Investigations. The first of its kind, his presentation promotes investigative techniques and helps trainees to pass the difficult FI examination.

Concurrent with the public meeting was a board meeting being held in a separate room. The members passed resolutions on reorganizational matters and goals. ☞

REND LAKE EVENT IN SEPTEMBER 2009

The Rend Lake Regatta will take place next September. This will be the first of what we hope will be an annual event. This is going to be an open invitation competition to all UFO related investigative researchers. They will present original and quality work and compete for an assortment of awards and cash prizes. Each entry will be evaluated on a predetermined format (set of rules) by both a board of judges and their peers, the attendees. Open to the public and in cooperation with other organizations, this is bound to be a keeper. ☞



COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER '08
NOVEMBER '08
JUNE '09
SEPTEMBER '09

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- October 29th—Gatto's Restaurant**
 Dinner: UFO Hunters Season Premiere
 7:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.
 8005 183rd St., Tinley Park, IL
 Contact: Sam Maranto (708) 460-7606
 Email: mufonsam@comcast.net (See ad on pg. 11)
- October 30th—Crest Hill Public Library**
 Presentation (Maranto): "Seminar on UFO's"
 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.
 1298 Theodore St., Crest Hill, IL
 Contact: Kristin Nimmo (815) 725-0234
 Email: knimmo@dpvlb.org
- November 9th—Tinley Park Holiday Inn Convention Center**
 Truth...if you dare UFO Symposium 4: "UFOs and National Defense"
 Robert Hastings and Sam Maranto.
 Tickets on sale for \$20 on line at www.illinoismufon.com or \$30 at the door.
 18501 S. Harlem Avenue, Tinley Park, IL
 Contact: Sam Maranto (708) 460-7606
 Email: mufonsam@comcast.net (See ad on pg. 3)
- November 18th—Western Illinois University**
 Presentation (Maranto): "UFOs and the Media"
 4:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.
 Sanburg Theater, University Union, Macomb, IL
 Contact: Sam Maranto (708) 460-7606
 Email: mufonsam@comcast.net
- November 25th—Forest Park Public Library**
 Presentation (Maranto): "UFOs and Chicago-Related Sightings"
 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
 7555 Jackson Blvd, Forest Park, IL
 Contact: Kate Neihoff (708) 366-7171 ext. 114
- June 2009—Majestic Eagle Ridge Resort**
 Four Corners Conference in Galena, IL. More information to come online
 at www.illinoismufon.com (See article on pg. 18)
- September 2009—Rend Lake**
 Rend Lake Regatta at Rend Lake, IL. More information to come online at www.illinoismufon.com (See article on pg. 17)

INCOMING

By Sam Maranto, President

A barrage of activities are soon to be on the menu of things to do in 2009.

First, as a teaser, the Majestic Eagle Ridge Resort in the rolling hills of Galena will be the location of our Four Corners Conference in June, 2009.

In addition to a riveting symposium packed with great speakers we will be hosting a golf and fishing tournament.



...are you drooling yet?



...how about now?

You'll have the chance to venture off on ghost or wine tours, browse the many exquisite shops in this captivating historical hamlet, or chance your luck at a casino on Old Muddy. Whichever way the spirits may lead you there is bound to be adventure.

Relax after a day of lectures and intellectual interlude to a fine meal either at the resort or on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi in a legendary dinner club. There and in-between are a fine scope of eateries assuring your taste buds will never be let down. ☺

For additional information on events within Illinois or to reach an Illinois MUFON representative for any other reason, call, email or write:



P.O. Box 2105, Orland Park, IL 60462
708 460-7606 • mufonsam@comcast.net

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE
Join and become a member
TODAY!