

# UFO

# NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

#2 CANEY VALLEY DRIVE • PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 USA

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: LUCIUS FARISH

December 1996  
Number 329

HERALD, Bellingham, WA - Oct. 27, 1996

## THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE

### WHATCOM CITIZENS REPORT STRANGE ENCOUNTERS

BY JIM DONALDSON  
THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

Matthew Thuney of Bellingham says "beings" have visited him in his home.

Russell Simonson says he's seen UFOs fly over his Smith Road farm — twice.

Kathleen Shaw of Bellingham says her dog is an alien.

All are stories gathered as a result of The Bellingham Herald's "X-files" request — timed in advance of Halloween on Thursday — for readers' observations of unexplained phenomena. The request was made in light of a report this year that Washington has a high rate of reporting sightings.

Many are ambiguous.

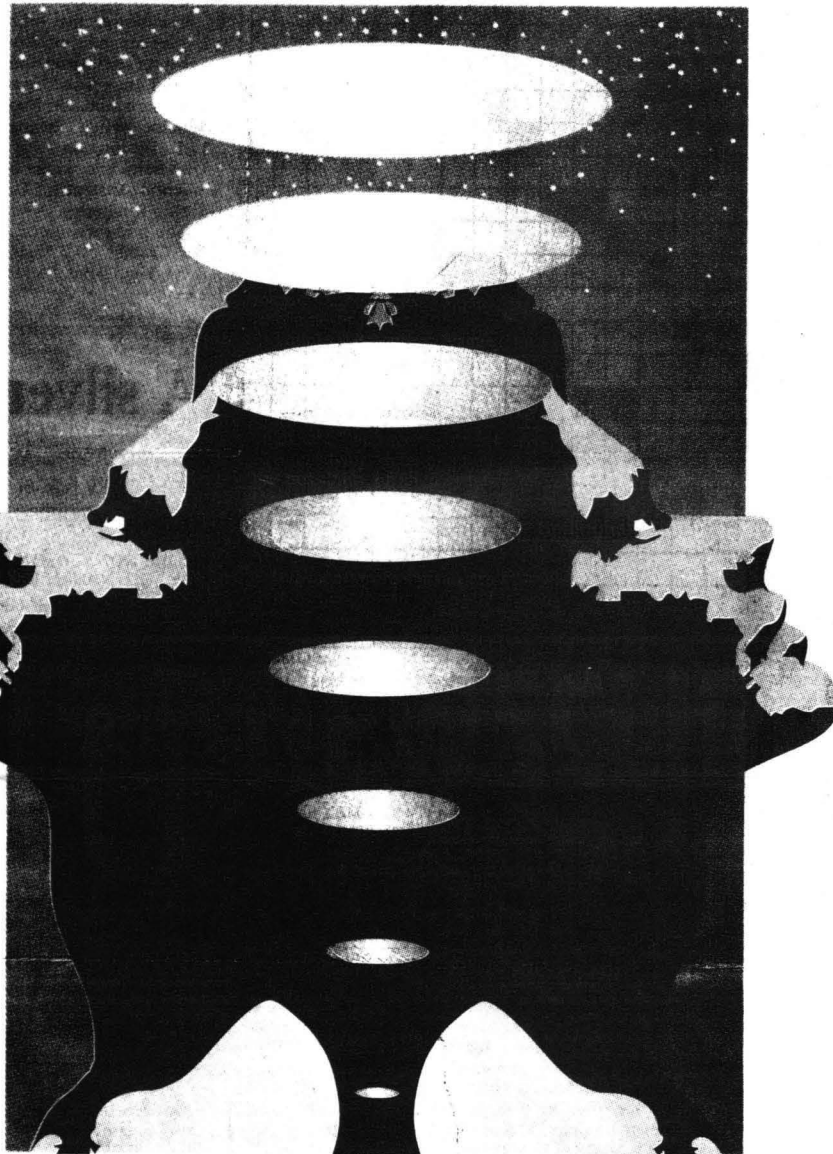
"If you were an alien and you wanted to observe life on another planet, wouldn't you take a form people wouldn't be suspicious about?" asks Shaw, shrugging off the notion she's joking about Suzy Q, her chihuahua-poodle mix.

"I don't believe every dog is an alien, but all my friends know about Suzy," Shaw says.

Yet Whatcom County residents like Thuney and Simonson say they and others in the state are not just howling at the moon when it comes to life beyond Earth.

Indeed, Washington state residents report more sightings than residents in any other state, according to the National UFO Reporting Center of Seattle.

To be exact, 263 residents of Washington made reports of sightings between January 1995 and April 1996, according to the National UFO Re-



#### Making contact

**DETAILS:** The Bellingham UFO Group meets at 3 p.m. the first Saturday of every month at the Bellingham Public Library's lecture room, 210 Central Ave. For more information, call 384-9736.

To report a close encounter, call the National UFO Reporting Center at (206) 722-3000.

porting Center.

Thuney, founder of the Bellingham UFO Group, says he has no explanation for the concentration of reports in this state, though he's heard plenty of theories.

"I don't know if there's an energy vortex here or what," says Thuney, laughing. "It may be just a more heightened level of awareness of people around here. They are more attuned to these kinds of experiences."

Simonson, a 68-year-old retired dairy farmer, says with the center in Seattle, it's only

natural that more Washingtonians would phone "home."

"I think that just a small proportion of sightings are ever reported," Simonson says. "Most people don't want to talk about it."

Simonson talks about his.

He describes the first, in October 1978, as a daytime fly-by of a "disk-shaped craft" about 75 feet in diameter. The second, in February 1986, occurred when a dark object blacked out the stars as it flew past.

"I'm convinced it's nothing from our civilization," Simonson says. "Once you see it, you never forget it."

Thuney is more vague about visitations to his home.

"I've had a few experiences I can't really explain, other than that they came from elsewhere," he says.

Intensifying debate about the possibility of alien visitations are recent scientific reports suggesting the possibility of past elemental life on Mars.

But mention flying saucers to most people and you'll still

hear snickers, Thuney says.

"You have to have a good sense of humor about it," says Thuney, 44, vice president of ASAP Printing and Graphics Inc. in Bellingham.

"When you first get into this field, there's a lot of ridicule directed at people who have had sightings and other experiences. But the level of acceptance has grown quite a bit."

"People realize there is definitely something going on, and we ought to find out what it is," he says.

Membership in his group has grown to more than 400 in the past five years.

"When I first started, I had pretty much swallowed the media line that the people who are really into this are a bunch of wackos," he says. "But I've found that they are just really interested, intelligent, curious people."

Sharon Flip has discovered the same. A hypnotherapist, her close encounters are with people who have had what are called "contact" or "abduction experiences."

"I never look for UFOs to be involved," says Flip, who runs Woodinville's UFO Abduction Study Center. "What I always tell people is, 'Look, something is obviously troubling you, let's look at your life to see what it is.'"

"But 99 percent of the time, the people who think they have had contact truly have," she says.

Still, many people remain reluctant to talk, at least publicly. Two people making UFO reports in response to The Bellingham Herald's "X-files" request would not reveal their identities.

More often than not, Flip says, people come to her looking for confirmation that they have NOT seen a UFO.

"People who come to me are scared stiff. They don't want to think they are dealing with beings from another world," she says. "They don't know which is worse: if they'd rather be crazy or have it be (an abduction)."

"But it's better for everyone to know and understand your problems than to keep this inside."



*"There is definitely something going on, and we ought to find out what it is."*

Matthew Thuney,  
founder,  
Bellingham UFO Group

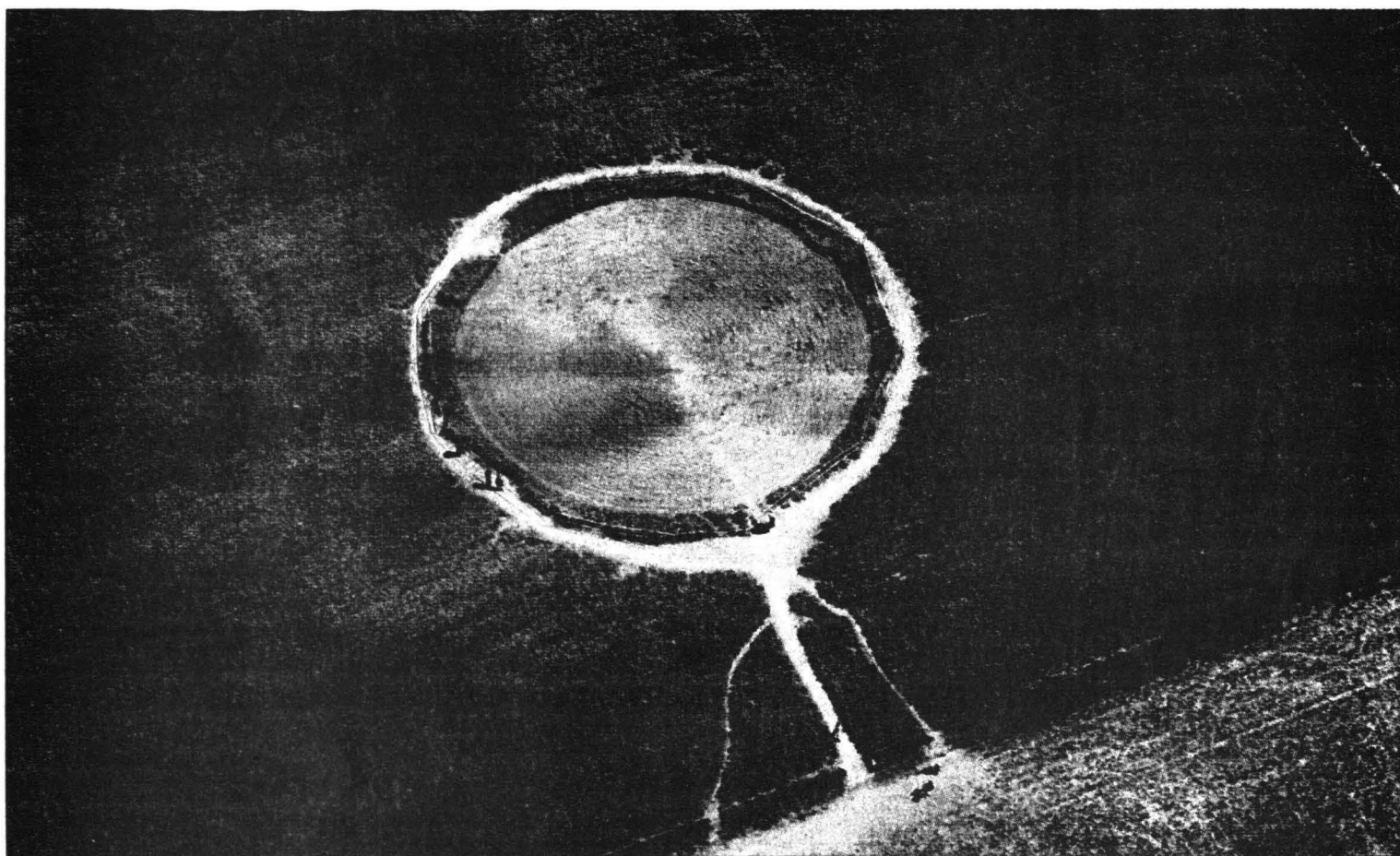
#### ▼ Sightings

**ON THE RECORD:** UFO sightings and related stories, as reported in The Bellingham Herald:

■ **March 17, 1990:** An 8-year-old boy reported seeing a "flying saucer ... like a star with windows in it" near his home on Meridian Street, near what is now Cordata Place.

■ **March 26, 1986:** Two women reported seeing a gigantic bank of bright lights near Georgia-Pacific Corp.'s Bellingham mill.

■ **Jan. 1, 1985:** Two divers reported finding a suspected UFO on the sea floor, 140 feet deep, between Lummi and Eliza Islands. It was believed to be the same "orange fireball" two workers on a fish tender had reported on July 27, 1984. A subsequent search turned up no evidence.



**Crop circles** such as this one photographed in Paulding, Ohio, were discussed in Bloomington recently by Roger Sugden, a Fort Wayne UFO investigator. Sugden's investigation of crop circles in Indiana and the Midwest last summer has led him to believe there are a lot of people interested in this phenomenon. COURTESY PHOTO

# UFO seekers watch for the truth

## Monroe County and area are hot spots for believers in UFO activity

By Gena Asher  
H-T Staff Writer

Aliens are everywhere: on McDonald's paper cups as part of a *Space Jam* promotion, on television shows such as "3rd Rock From the Sun," "X-Files" and even "The Simpsons." And they're sure to be featured in the new *Star Trek* movie that opens Friday.

But some people believe that UFOs, and maybe their alien passengers, fly right over Monroe County.

"Monroe County has really been a hot spot lately," said Lynn Taylor, who joined the Bloomington UFO Network earlier this year, just after the group of long-time sky watchers began hosting public meetings. "There's been a steady overall increase in sightings in this area for several years."

There also might be more people out there looking.

"We have been getting more inquiries about the organization since movies such as *Independence Day* came out," said Jerry Sievers of Vincennes, state director for Texas-based Mutual UFO Network, a worldwide group studying UFOs and related phenomena.

Long-time believers welcome the new interest and generally are nonplussed about the merchandising of aliens.

"I even saw on television that a company is making baby aliens, little dolls with big eyes for children to play with instead of baby dolls," Jean Bruce told attendees at a recent BUFON meeting. Roger Sugden, a Fort Wayne MUFON investigator who spoke to the group about crop circles, mentioned that a friend of his saw alien-inspired art at a gallery in Soho in New York City.

Several people noted that UFO- and alien-mania are making their views on the subject a little more tolerable to "nonbelievers," easing the stigma that has shrouded them for years.

"Even with the bad shows, such as *Independence Day*, they help get people to thinking," Sugden said.

Still, many agreed that it's easier to come out these days. The public meetings, for

instance, continue to swell the ranks, from 35 people attending the first meeting in March to more than 70 at subsequent meetings of BUFON. Sugden reported that the group in Fort Wayne attracts 60 to 100 people at its meetings, ranging from the "just curious" to the support-seeking.

"In the 1970s, people made fun of me for talking about what I'd seen," said Jean Bruce. "Now people may not believe it but they are interested; they don't just automatically make remarks like 'what have you been drinking?'"

A survey last year by Scripps Howard showed more than half of U.S. adults asked believe in UFOs, while another study reported 70 percent of Canadians believe in the possibility of other life forms.

Though these numbers may be up from past years, the Hollywood and media attention to UFOs and aliens isn't new. Hollywood always has had a penchant for stories about aliens or UFOs, just as people all over the world have long been intrigued by the idea.

The 1938 radio broadcast of *War of the Worlds* sent listeners to the streets in a panic, thinking a Martian invasion was under way. Hundreds of UFO-inspired movies have followed.

A report of a downed spacecraft in Texas in 1897 had people talking about spacemen several years before the Wright brothers took a test flight and 50 years before a crash at Roswell, N.M., had people speculating about government cover-ups of an alien presence.

When scientists discovered fossilized evidence of life in a rock from Mars last summer, interest in life in space surged.

But all this attention, whether science or Hollywood induced, may not be the only reason Monroe County watchers are logging more sightings.

"People are more aware of the concept and may be out there looking, but I also think there's more to see when they do look up," Taylor said.

Sugden's investigation of crop circles in Indiana and the Midwest last summer led him to believe there are a lot of people interested in this phenomenon, too, which some say is an alien communication method.

"Some are hoaxes and in this, like anything else, you have to be skeptical," he said, adding that 10,000 "croppies" trekked to the Paulding County, Ohio, site, which drew researchers, scientists, and reporters from

several local television stations and the syndicated program "Sightings."

Jerry Sievers thinks most sightings are what he and other UFO watchers call "nocturnal lights."

"It's been a rule of thumb for a long time that you can throw out that 90 percent (of the reports)," he said. "But about 10-12 percent, after investigation, remain unsolved."

When UFO watchers do spot something, they write down what they've seen or photograph it. Soon, they will be calling local MUFON field investigators, who currently are in training. They'll make their phone numbers available to law enforcement officials so that individuals reporting sightings may contact investigators directly.

Just what are watchers seeing? Most reports involve lights that move in strange ways — blinking or twinkling, or hovering.

Indiana University astronomer Martin Burkhead thinks some of these are UFOs: "unidentified" flying objects — unidentified, at least, until he conducts careful research.

"There are all kinds of things out there for people who haven't spent a lot of time outside to notice," said Burkhead, who, over the years, has fielded lots of calls from people who have seen something they can't identify.

"Sometimes, there are things I may not be able to identify until a few days later, when I've had time to do a little studying."

This time of year, Venus and Mars are striking in the sky and Jupiter is setting in the southwest, he explained, and Arcturus is a brilliant orange star that sets in the northwest during the fall months.

"In the fall the nights are longer and people who are outside are suddenly seeing things in the dark," Burkhead said. "If you haven't been looking and all of a sudden you are out at dark and you see a bright object such as Arcturus, you may wonder just what it is."

UFO watchers are used to these kinds of explanations and say they'll continue their "watch for the truth" through their own research.

"There are so many people videotaping what they see, keeping journals and otherwise documenting events," Taylor said. "There's a huge network of people all over the world who are exchanging information and generally supporting each other in their quests for answers."

## UFO Network sightings

In the last year, the Bloomington UFO Network members have logged the following sightings:

■ **Mallory Road**, large ball of light to the northwest.

■ **Howard Road**, looking to the west toward Whitehall, red light.

■ **Stanford area west** of Bloomington, near Evans Road. Schoolchildren reported seeing "a spaceship, gray metallic with lights on it" to the bus driver.

■ **Owen County**, video footage of a light moving in the sky, hovering over a church with a lighted steeple.

■ **On the same night**, two men followed a light from Spencer to Freedom.

■ **Vicinity of Cutright Bridge** on Ind. 446, three people said they saw lights and spaceships, perhaps even a triangle. Sightings around East Ind. 46 and near Lampkins Ridge Road the same night.

■ **Large headlights** in sky near Dolan.

■ **10th and Russell Road**, "a 38-year-old who doesn't believe in UFOs reported a cigar-shaped object, silver greenish and shimmering, hovering in the area."

■ **Northeast of Bloomington**, report of an orange light about three-quarters the size of the moon, lower than a plane. It circled the area about 15 minutes, then after it left, a helicopter circled for about five minutes.

■ **South of Morgantown**, two people watched a brilliant light through binoculars and noted that it moved around.

■ **North of Bloomington**, flash of blue lights reported.

■ **Two parallel**, gold colored lights in the western sky, stayed at same elevation with some maneuvers.



# Are UFOs for real?

## Local man seeking his own answers

BY REBECCA A. HENSLEY  
Examiner Staff Writer

He does not consider himself an expert on unidentified flying objects.

Instead, John P. Timmerman of Lakeview considers himself a dedicated researcher into the UFO phenomenon.

He is associated with the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies. Many scientists are skeptical about his work because there is no evidence.

"But there are lots of stories," he said.

"A UFO doesn't mean a spaceship from Mars. It means we have insufficient evidence to identify what it was," said Mr. Timmerman.

He said that reports have a lot to do with the credibility of the witnesses. When he receives a report about a sighting, he tries to find other people who may have seen the same thing but from a different location.

Other people may have been closer to the object and identified the structure as a helicopter or advertising plane.

"That's what I hope to find," he said.

If he is not able to determine what the person saw, then it is considered an unknown.

"Unknowns are the UFOs because of insufficient information to verify what it was," he said.

But there are incidents where



EXAMINER PHOTO BY PAUL VERNON

### Voices of witnesses

John Timmerman of Lakeview shows a sample of the thousands of cassette tapes of interviews he has conducted with people who claim to have seen an unidentified flying object. Mr. Timmerman is associated with the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies based in Chicago. Mr. Timmerman hopes to transcribe the tapes.

the person was 50 to 100 feet away from the object and can draw a sketch of it.

The Center for UFO Studies each year receives thousands of reports of unidentified objects.

The primary scientist for the group, Dr. William C. Levengood, is a retired biophysicist in Grass Lake, Mich.

He has been examining plant and soil samples from over 200 crop formations in the world since 1989.

Through his work, he has found significant unexplained differences between the characteristics of grain samples taken from within crop circle formations and those from outside many of those formations.

Dr. Beuerlein arranged for seed germination tests on the samples that he took and found no difference between the seeds that were from inside and outside the circle.

A final report from the BLT team is still incomplete.

But after preliminary tests were conducted on the grain samples, Dr. Levengood told Mr. Timmerman that the crop circle was not man made.

#### Meet a UFO researcher

Mr. Timmerman wasn't always interested in UFOs.

While many people grow up with the fascination, Mr. Timmerman wasn't interested until he was a student at Cornell University in New York.

He said that in 1947 he read a report from a pilot who claimed that he saw nine flying saucers over the Cascade Mountains.

During the summer of 1979, he was invited by Dr. J. Allen Hynek to become a member/volunteer for the center's board of directors.

Mr. Timmerman said that he

served on the board of directors from 1980 to 1985. He remains on the board, serving as the treasurer and public relations officer.

In 1980, he created a traveling photo exhibit of UFOs to provide information, raise funds and to gather sighting reports.

The exhibit has been displayed in malls in 95 cities, including some cities outside the country.

Other duties include answering letters from around the world and speaking to service organizations, clubs and classrooms.

He has never seen a UFO himself.

"It would have to be a close encounter of the third kind," he said.

#### Welcome to CUFOS

The Center for UFO Studies

The center is a clearinghouse for the exchange of information. It is a place where UFO experiences can be reported and where UFO experiences can be researched.

The center is based in Chicago, but a public access office is located in Lima, where Mr. Timmerman was born and raised.

#### Man-made or alien-made?

Mr. Timmerman is active in UFO investigations in Ohio.

Most recently, he investigated a crop circle that was found in a wheat field in Paulding County during the Fourth of July weekend.

After several days of investigations, it was concluded that the imprint that measured 93-feet across was a hoax.

But the ruling may have come a bit premature.

The decision to call the circle a hoax was made by Mr. Timmerman in an effort to curb the number of sightseers in the field. The grain had to be harvested and there were too many onlookers who were delaying the harvest.

The final decision about whether the circle was a hoax is undecided.

After Mr. Timmerman received a call to investigate the circle, he called on Dr. James Beuerlein, who specializes in wheat and other grain crop economics at The Ohio State University.

The first time they saw the circle, they figured out how it could have been made and decided between themselves that the circle was a hoax, said Mr. Timmerman.

Dr. Beuerlein took some grain samples for the Burke-Levengood-Talbott Research Team.

The third task of the center is to support and conduct investigations into areas that deal with contemporary ufology.

Dr. Hynek died of cancer in 1986. While the doctor was ill, Mr. Timmerman made a promise to his colleague.

"I promised him that no matter what, he could count on me to continue doing what I think he would want me to do. He smiled and he was grateful," said Mr. Timmerman.

#### Do UFOs really exist?

We're back to our original question, "Do UFOs really exist?"

The answer to that depends on you.

There are many people who are skeptical of those who claim they saw something in the sky.

They are the ones who need hard evidence.

But for others, their sightings are real. And they believe they saw something that could be alien in nature.

"We are looking for people who have had an experience that they remember with great detail, drew sketches or took pictures of what they saw," he said.

He promises that the identify of anyone who contacts him will be kept confidential.

Until an answer is found for all the questions surrounding UFO reports, Mr. Timmerman will continue his research to find his own answer to the UFO question.

TENNESSEAN, Nashville,  
TN - Oct. 10, 1996

### Call it a UFO

**9 FRANKLIN** — Nobody is quite sure what the mysterious object was that several area residents and some law officers saw hovering over southwestern Williamson County on Monday night.

William Goodgine, of 5669 Old Natchez Trace Road, phoned in the sighting, describing it to authorities as an object with red and green lights that flew into view like a plane about 11:15 p.m. Monday and could be seen hovering for about an hour, making no sound.

Deputy Jamie Jones and Sgt. Paul Brady, who responded to the call, said in a report that they saw an object with large lights hovering about 5,000 feet above ground. It rose out of sight after about 20 minutes, the report said.

Local authorities said they checked with Nashville International Airport, which reported that planes had passed through the area, but nothing else showed up on radar. They also plan to ask the Federal Aviation Administration to check its radar records for Monday night.

In the meantime, officials have classified it as an unidentified flying object.

CR: B. Kinnard

## How to classify a close encounter

Remember the Steven Spielberg movie *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*?

That phrase was coined by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who served as a consultant to Mr. Spielberg while making the movie that proved to be a box office hit in 1977.

There are three classifications for sightings that occur within 200 yards of a witness.

They are referred to as close encounters of the first, second or third kind. They are also known as CE-I, CE-II and CE-III.

**CE-I** Though the witness observes a UFO nearby, there appears to be no interaction with either the witness or the environment.

**CE-II** These encounters include details of interaction between the UFO and the environ-

ment which may vary from interference with car ignition systems and electronic gear to imprints or burns on the ground and physical effects on plants, animals or humans.

**CE-III** In this category, occupants of a UFO, whether they are human-like or not, have been reported. There is usually no direct contact or communication with the witness.

## How to file a report about a UFO ...

The following is a list of steps that should be taken before filing a report:

1. Try to get another witness or as many other witnesses as possible.

2. Take several pictures and don't worry about getting a perfect picture. When taking a picture, get as much background and foreground detail into frame.

3. Immediately after the sighting, make complete notes of everything that was seen. Write down the appearance, color, motion

and size of the UFO as well as what you were thinking and feeling when you had the experience. Write down the names and addresses of other witnesses.

4. If the UFO touched the ground, do what can be done to protect the area but don't disturb it. Take photographs of the area where the object landed.

After following those steps, call CUFOS any time at (312) 271-3611. An investigator will be in contact as soon as possible. Or call

John Timmerman at 843-3834.

The center's home page address is <http://www.cufos.org/index.html> on the World Wide Web.

About 90 to 95 percent of all UFO reports prove to be identified flying objects or IFOs.

In order to distinguish between a UFO and an IFO, an investigator must find out as much information about a sighting as possible without leading a witnesses into giving false details.

## UFO-ologist to lecture at MSU on Wednesday

By Ross Raihala  
The Forum

Do UFOs exist? And is the United States government hiding its knowledge of visitors from another planet?

Robert Hastings says yes to both questions and has put together a 90-minute lecture and slide show to prove it. He will present "UFOs: The Hidden History" Wednesday at Moorhead State University.

"Whatever UFOs are, they have chosen to accelerate their interaction with humankind at this point in our history," said Hastings, a laboratory analyst for a semiconductor manufacturer in Albuquerque, N.M.

"My modest goal is to establish there has indeed been a U.S. Government cover-up on the subject of UFOs. It's not speculative; it is extremely well documented."

### If you go

**What:** "UFOs: The Hidden History," a lecture by Robert Hastings.

**Where:** Weld Hall Auditorium, Moorhead State.

**Time:** 8 p.m. Wednesday.

**Tickets:** \$4. Call 236-2264 for more information.

The subject has fascinated Hastings since 1967, when he says he saw U.S. Air Force jets attempting to intercept five UFOs at Malmstrom Air Force Base, near Great Falls, Mont. In the years since, he's spent free time — his "second life" — hunting UFO information, much obtained through the Freedom of Information Act.

Hastings dismisses the stereotype of the wide-eyed, lunatic fringe UFO researcher. And during a recent telephone interview from Albuquerque, he calmly made his case.

**It seems UFOs are a hot topic these days.**

I agree. I've been in this research for enough years to see this cycle many times. The public's level of interest comes and goes; right now it's definite-

ly at a peak. The lecture bookings I have around the country for the upcoming year are unprecedented.

**How do audiences react to your lecture?**

The vast majority of the audience comes to the conclusion that, whether the public considers UFOs as fiction or fact, the U.S. Government certainly considers them to be absolutely real and it has taken counter measures to attempt to limit their influence.

**Why are people interested in UFOs?**

Many people have the need to speculate about our place in the universe. Many people are fascinated by what is out there and how it can potentially impact us.

What is the purpose of life? How do we fit into the great cosmic puzzle? Are there other beings out there with whom we might establish contact at some point and learn more about the universe and our place in it? People want to know how everything fits together.

**So why is the government supposedly hiding all of this?**

There are documents in the public domain indicating that as early as October 1952, the CIA was concerned about potential public panic if the government acknowledged the existence of these objects. There were even references to suggest that there be a disinformation program implemented domestically to pacify public opinion.

**Is public panic a legitimate concern?**

In the Air Force in the early '50s, that precise fear was stated. If indeed we were dealing with something extraordinary here, the potential for panic was judged to be very real. I don't think that's the entire reason for what has gone on. There is another element — if it could be ultimately verified — that I think could be pivotal as well.

**This would be the "Roswell Incident."**

Yes. Something crashed in southeastern New Mexico in July of 1947. There are a number of researchers who have interviewed former and retired Air Force personnel, up to the rank of general. Two generals, in fact, are on the record as stating the object was not a man-made device.

One of them, Gen. Arthur E. Exon, was interviewed in 1990 by a researcher and former Air Force intelligence officer. Exon states point blank that he knew that the Roswell object was "a craft from space" and went on to discuss in some detail what happened during the recovery of this craft and the secrecy surrounding the operation.

It's necessary to point out, of course, that this is all anecdotal

data. Documents regarding Roswell are few and far between. The final verification remains to be had.

**What would it mean if the Roswell rumors were true?**

If Exon is correct and we do have at least one of these craft in our possession, presumably with bodies of non-human pilots, one might imagine that would be a national security secret of the highest order. We would not want that technology to fall into the hands of our adversaries. We would want such a secret to remain deeply buried while we would undoubtedly attempt to make some sense of the technology that was recovered.

**So what about the place where they supposedly test alien spacecraft? Most recently it was seen in "Independence Day."**

That's Area 51. The story has gotten better and better with each telling. Site 51 is its proper name. It exists and it's a matter of record that the military has tested advanced aircraft technology there for decades.

The rumors that we are test flying recovered alien spacecraft, while numerous, are far from being verified. I'm of the opinion there is no credible evidence at this point in the public domain corroborating the assertion that we're test flying alien craft. Stranger things have happened, but again, there are other aspects to all of this research that are much better documented.

**Why do you believe UFOs are actually a reality?**

The experience that I had at the air traffic control tower in 1967 has only been reinforced a thousand times over by my conversations with former and retired military people who witnessed the same type of event. It only brings home to me the fact that this is extremely real, this is not fantasy. This is not Hollywood.

Based on my research and the research of others, I believe the least objectionable hypothesis is that UFOs are in fact craft from another world, perhaps more than one world. For whatever reason they have chosen to intersect themselves into our sphere of reality at this point in our history.

**Do you think the government will ever acknowledge these claims?**

It's difficult to me to believe that another 50 years could elapse without this all breaking wide open. (The UFO phenomenon's) behavior suggests it's playing a kind of a cat-and-mouse, on-again, off-again game of limited contact with humankind.

One hypothesis is that a slow, decades-long preparation process is under way to acclimate humankind to the reality of this, so if there is overt contact at some point in the future, it would be less shocking

## Implants common in those abducted by UFO aliens

There are thousands of people being temporarily abducted. Each probably has one or more implants hidden in them.

A favorite method of insertion by the cunning UFO aliens is through the sinus cavity to near the brain stem. However, an implant can be anywhere.

I would like those who scoff at the idea of alien presence to note the following.

Dr. Rodger Leir and a team of California professionals surgically removed three tiny implants from two Texas abductees.

The gray, flat, objects had a dense fibrous membrane around them that couldn't be cut with a scalpel until it had dried. They found no sign of entry or the normal inflammation present.

The implants were fastened to nerves

and additional nerves came to them that should not have been there. A shiny, black, highly magnetic, metallic material was inside them. The object would fly towards a ferrous object from as much as six inches away. All glowed a brilliant fluorescent green under ultra violet light.

Some abductees effect a variety of electromagnetic systems. Can this be due to emanations from implants? Some implants are thought to be locator devices, but others may be much more than that. Further electronic, chemical, electron microscopy, and photospectrometry examinations are being done.

We face perilous times. Remember to pray for your precious America and planet Earth.

Don Worley, Connersville

## THE MONDAY QA

### On the hunt for alien life

► Most people only see aliens in the movies, but many local folks say they've seen them in real life. And watch out for those reptilians.



Sue Clous

They're back, and they're bad. Aliens, once the warm fuzzy figures of film, are now eclipsing the sun and razing cities in the hot new movie "Independence Day." It's not just science fiction to Sue Clous. She's part of the Grand

Rapids-based Bureau of Investigators of Mysteries and Unusual Phenomenon — BIMUP for short. BIMUP explores paranormal phenomenon and the possibility of extraterrestrial life. The 47-year-old Wyoming homemaker, who spoke with Press reporter Ed Golder, has her own opinions on Hollywood's imaginings.

**Q: Tell me a little bit about the people who make up your organization. What do they do for a living? Do they all share the same level of belief in extraterrestrial life?**

**A:** Some have had experiences. Some have not had experiences. We've got a variety of people. We have an underwater search team. We have experienced pilots, ham radio operators, hypnotists. We have people that investigate paranormal phenomenon like ghosts and spirits. All of them are just down-to-earth people.

People look at us as kind of strange. I just brush it off now. It's not important to me.

SUE CLOUS

**Q: Do you, personally, believe there is intelligent life out there?**

**A:** Yes. I've had some experiences with sightings. Once, when I was quite young, we were camping out West on a vacation. I have a twin sister and she and I both saw this object weaving in and out of the mountains. It was bright. It was typical: saucer-shaped, silver, shiny, moved erratically. It didn't move like a plane would move.

**Q: Do people view you as a kook because of that belief?**

**A:** Some do. But not after they get to know us and realize we're trying to approach this in an educational way. We want to educate the public on the possibility of things going on. We have people look at us as kind of strange. I just brush it off now. It's not important to me.

**Q: Movies have depicted alien life in different ways, most recently as E.T. with an attitude in the movie "Independence Day." Do you think alien life is more likely to be friendly? Or is it just waiting for a chance to blow the White House to smithereens?**

**A:** I think there are several types of aliens, personally. We've had people talk about the typical "gray aliens," the ones with the big black eyes. From what I've heard, they're not the mean ones. They're more in the experimental fields. People talk about the "reptilian alien." They're real violent, real mean, likely to do harm. If the grays came down, I'm sure they would be here to help us. I'm not sure about the reptilians.

**Q: What's your favorite alien life movie of all time?**

**A:** "E.T.," of course. It just depicted people opening their minds to the depiction that, yeah, maybe there's something out there, and they're not as bad as everybody thinks.

**Q: In 1994, West Michigan had a rash of UFO sightings in Holland and Grand Haven. People were calling 911. They claimed to see saucer-shaped objects floating in the sky. Have there been more since then — on that scale?**

**A:** There have been quite a few sightings, not necessarily on that scale. We have sightings over Kalamazoo, Rockford, Gun Lake. You don't hear about it in the paper very much. If something was sighted, why isn't The Press doing something? It seems this would be a very interesting topic, you know.



# Mysterious lights witnessed in Los Tanos sky

by Davy Delgado

SANTA ROSA--City employee Edward Salazar was doing his regularly-scheduled insect spraying late last Thursday night and early Friday morning when he saw some strange lights high above Truckstops of America and the Cinnamon Ridge Apartments.

When I heard Eddie's spraying truck at 2:30 a.m., I woke up and went to the front door. Like old neighbors and good friends, I wanted to show him he wasn't the only one awake, and went to the front door. It was fairly cold and very cloudy. So when I saw a light as bright as the moon above Mockingbird Hill west of the truckstop and Cinnamon Ridge, I assumed it was the moon. But after waiting a few minutes to see if Eddie was gonna pass by, I decided to go back to bed. The drone of the sprayer had faded out of hearing range. That's when I noticed that the "moon" was moving right to left, or north across the sky, at a "comet's" pace. It seemed to be followed by a stream of smaller lights.

We caught sight of the comet discovered by a Japanese astronomer several months ago on the Puerto de Luna road, but had to scan the skies with binoculars for about half an hour. We spotted the star-sized phenomenon in the eastern sky. There's a lot of difference between a moon-sized light and a comet as bright as a distant star or planet. The moon is usually over Pintada at 2:30 a.m. this time of the month; agronomer Tommy Quintana verified where the moon was when I asked him the next day: It was over Pintada. So what was this light?

It seemed like there was a smaller, dimmer light about a mile north of the moon-sized light. I thought it was probably a reflection, since it was so cloudy. Usually, you can see the moon dart through the clouds here and there. The clouds were too thick for that. The lights had excellent cover.

Last Friday night I asked Eddie if he'd seen some lights the night before. He said yeah, one above the hill east of the truckstop, and another above the Cinnamon Ridge. As newspapers and television reported during the next few days, lots of New Mexicans saw them, too. One newspaper mentioned that somebody in Santa Rosa saw them, but didn't say who. Since my loyalty is to my readers, "you read it here first."

## The sinkhole theory

One of the last times strange lights were seen over town, Santa Rosans were soon afterwards awakened by a sudden boom! and vibrating thunder of the roofs of sotaños (sink-

holes) collapsing.

Lights in the sky here were seen on March 9, 1951. One year and 20 days later, the sinkhole collapses occurred, one at the old dump just north of New Mexico 91 North (road to Santa Rosa Lake), the other on a ranch about four miles west of downtown.

Were the strange lights an "omen"?

The lights appeared in various forms, some even during daylight hours. No "discs" or flying saucers were seen, just "fireballs." (A band from Clovis renamed themselves "The Fireballs" afterward.)

This was no episode of *Dark Skies* or *The X Files* ("Xth Files! Xth Files!") These latest "lights" were real, live "moon-size" orbs over Los Tanos. (Are any cattle missing? Did anyone experience a strange abduction?)

No; maybe it fits *The X Files* category.

## The *Dark Skies* theory

The headline of the March 9, 1951, edition of the Santa Rosa News read:

"Local People See 'Fireball' Racing Across Sky."

Here's the story:

"The 'fireball' or meteorite which passed over New Mexico Tuesday afternoon about 2:30 o'clock was seen racing across the skies by a number of Santa Rosa people, as well as by others in Albuquerque, Portales, Clayton, Raton and other places.

"Wade Cockrell, driving one of his big trucks, was coming to Santa Rosa from the Agua Negra ranch and had just 'hit' the triangle west of the bridge at the 54-66 intersection, when he noted a bright object, fiery in appearance, 'scooting' across the sky. He watched it until he reached the stop sign where 54 intersects 66.

"Getting out of the truck, he walked back beside the truck to speak to two workmen riding in the semi-trailer, Tony Gutierrez and brother Carlos "Chapo" Gutierrez. He found they had been watching the object for about the same length of time. They all said it seemed to be about 300-400 feet above town and traveling slowly. Then all at once it seemed to come straight down with sparks shooting from it and leaving a trail of fire.

"To them, it seemed to go down beyond the railroad bridge, somewhere to the rear of the UPHA Club. However, a search made by the Gutierrez brothers and another brother, Joe, failed to disclose anything unusual at the point where they thought it went down. They described the object as being about the size of a cantaloupe.

## The *X Files* theory

"Les Harrison, proprietor

of a welding shop on the hill east of here on Highway 66, said he was working among some old cars parked near his shop, when he noticed a bright object moving across the sky. He mentioned it to his son, working with him, 'Well, that's the first time I ever saw a shooting star in the daytime.' Before he could show it to the boy, the object had disappeared in the distance."

*X Files* to the max.

The article continued:

"Canuto Ortega of the Coronado Courts said he heard an explosion about 2:30 (p.m.), or rather, 'felt it,' and thought it was a blast out of the potash development property up the river. A check at that property disclosed the fact there had been no 'shooting' during the afternoon.

"Dr. Lincoln La Paz, University of New Mexico meteorites expert, is tracing the course of the visitor of Tuesday afternoon. The ball, probably a broken meteorite, was also seen in the places mentioned.

"Steve Williams, a miner at Brilliant, near Raton, had a good view of one fragment. He said he heard a humming noise and looked up and saw an object, apparently the size of a bowling ball, trailing a six-foot stream of fire. It smashed into a canyon about 500 yards away. The area was being checked by Dr. La Paz (that Friday).

"In Albuquerque, airplane pilots reported seeing the object and members of the University of New Mexico Lobos baseball team and their coach watched the object. They described it as a ball, burning blue in the center. Robert Wilson of the J.C. Penney store in Raton, gave a similar account.

"The meteorite's blast was mistaken for a gas line explosion and a truck collision at Roy, and it shook windows in Abbott."

The headline of the March 28, 1952, Santa Rosa News announced:

"Santa Rosa and Vicinity Mysteriously 'Jarred' Last Sunday Night."

"Did you feel that last night?" was the question being generally asked Monday morning by residents of Santa Rosa and vicinity, the article began.

"It all came from an extremely heavy jar of the earth Sunday night at 10:23 o'clock. The shock, which was of heavy intensity, made different recordings in the minds of different people.

"Some say it lasted seconds--in which case, there would not have been a stone, abode or brick structure left in the city. Others say it was a jet plane breaking the atmosphere, which is also out, inasmuch as it would have been followed by

reverberations similar to thunder after lightning.

"An explosion? No gas tank blew up, no hot water heater burst its seams, no blast of powder or dynamite is known to have been discharged--so that is out.

"The shock is believed to have been caused by a cave-in of considerable extent, possibly from the roof of an underground cavern, or maybe another dry hole--which may or may not be found for some time." (Sinkholes collapse from the bottom up.)

The report continued:

"It was the first earth disturbance generally noted here since March 11, 1948, when at 9:30 p.m. a disturbance was reported--being the same time at which Clayton reported an earthquake.

"This jar or 'tremor' was felt as far as the Bob White ranch (formerly the T-Track directly southeast of Twin Lakes and Perch Lake) to the south, in Puerto de Luna, on up the river to Santa Rosa, and across the river and on to Pastura, but did not reach Vaughn. Nor was it recorded at Cuervo, Newkirk or Las Vegas. (The eastern edge of the T-Track, now Santa Rosa Airport, is situate on the 'shelf' of the 'Santa Rosa Sink.')

"Belief in the sinkhole theory, or possibly a drop from the roof of an underground cavern, is based on a similar incident at 12:22 a.m. May 24, 1949. A heavy shock was felt at Vaughn at that time. The next morning it was found that the surface of a sinkhole, or 'sotaño' at Pastura had dropped about 12 feet during the night, being about 24 feet across and from 75-100 feet in length."

## The Roswell theory

As if the last two incidents weren't enough, the April 11, 1952, headline of the Santa Rosa News read:

"Mysterious Object 'Somersaults' Across Pintada Canyon Sky."

"A local section gang and foreman, Jesus Dimas, saw 'a strange object, possibly a flying saucer,' at 3:05 p.m. Wednesday, they reported to the News at 5 p.m.

"This thing was white and long--about 60 feet--and it was turning over and over. (Like a *Star Wars* starship!) It wasn't round, it was about 30 feet wide.

"At 4:05 (p.m.) we saw another about seven miles high,' Dimas continued. 'The first one we could see well. It resembled a bow-tie turning over somersaults, and running about 700 miles per hour, faster than a jet.'

"The News informant said both objects were traveling from east to west and were seen by a railroad gang as they were

working near the Pintada section station of the Southern Pacific Railroad, which is about six miles west of here in Pintada Canyon.

"Those seeing the object said it was turning end over end. All of the men saw he objects, the first one clearly, all agreeing that it was not more than a mile distant.

"This is the second object of a mysterious nature viewed in the Southwest recently," the Santa Rosa paper continued.

"Two Marana Air Base (Tucson, Arizona) pilots reported seeing a strange oval-shaped object over Benson for about an hour, the morning of Thursday, April 3 ('52).

"A civilian flight commander at the air base described the object as 'five or six times as large as a B-52, oblong in shape, without wings or other projections.

"The pilot said, 'I know it sounds crazy, I always just laughed at these flying saucer stories. I sure would appreciate a logical explanation of what I saw.'

"Disks or flying saucers first came to public notice in 1947," the News noted, and 'were seen and reported in 1948, and each year since has brought new stories of viewing 'the aerial visitors,' the Santa Rosa News added.

"LIFE magazine reports one of the U.S.'s top astronomers and his family saw a bright object in the sky while driving between Clovis and Clines Corners in July, 1947 (the "Roswell Incident" occurred the same month and year). LIFE also tells of a formation of lights viewed from Lubbock, Texas.

"Fireballs have been seen in this section of the state numerous times, frequently by railroad men and others who are outside at night," the Santa Rosa News concluded.

Critics claimed as early as 1947 that the U.S. Air Force's "Project Blue Book" lacked a scientifically qualified staff and that it was simply a "cover-up" operation meant to reassure an alarmed public. Many said that if the government had covered up once--as many believed it had done in the Roswell Incident, when military officials issued a press release stating that debris had been recovered from an alien spaceship crash, and then retracted their statement the next day--then they believed the government would do it again.

Which brings us back to the Sinkhole Theory.

# There's going to be some serious UFO talk

**T**his much we can believe about UFO investigator Sue Pitts: Her back is killing her.

"It takes me a little while to get moving," she says, just out of bed at her Huntsville home, still stiff from the residue of major disc surgery. It's all come at a pretty bad time, she says. Right as she's been putting together this weekend's First Annual Alabama UFO Conference.

Whoa. Still here? This is where Sue Pitts tends to lose some people, when she starts talking about what's out there.

This weekend, she'll be talking with 400 people or so at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. The guests will include scientists, investigators, researchers, all nodding at things we tend to shake our heads at.

"A lot of people don't take this seriously," she says. "But it's hard to believe there are no other life forms in such a vast universe."

Sounds, well, kind of logical. In fact,

many of us are willing to walk that far with Sue Pitts. There are many things about our world —

"like crop circles," she says — that don't come with explanations attached.

So we can smile at the plastic flying saucer bobbing in her living-room fish tank. We can shrug at possibilities. But are we willing to take the next step?

Try abductions. Pitts will have several experts in the phenomenon on hand this weekend, including people who say they have been on the receiving end of the experience.

How about alien implants? Pitts has that

covered, too, with clinical psychologist Debra Lindemann, who has been involved in the removal and study of several implants from abductees. Lindemann will have slides of actual implants this weekend.

"The implants are triangular-shaped, very small," Pitts says, with a clinical, even tone. "Some of them actually look like a clear Tic-Tac with wires coming out of it."

This is the point that most of us hit auto-pilot, not disbelieving or believing, but just shutting off. Because if these stories are false, we're wasting our time being afraid. If the stories are true, well, we'll be afraid when ET starts knocking on our door.

Even Pitts has a roll-your-eyes threshold. How far is too far for her? Maybe it's the RAILAINS, a UFO group which held a conference in Huntsville last year. The RAILAINS, she says, believe that a human was taken in a spaceship to the top of a

mountain and told he was the messiah.

"I believe that everybody has a right to their own beliefs," Pitts says diplomatically. "I don't believe we should try to tell them they can't believe what they want to believe."

But then she says: "We can try to teach them what's right."

We all have a little of that arrogance, whether it's about religion or politics or anything else we think we know. This is why Pitts faces the hardest kind of sell. She is working against our belief system, against the structure of life as we know it.

We are capable of putting our faith in a great many things, but we usually believe because we want to believe — or because our experiences tell us we should. Pitts has neither of those in her quest to change our minds.

What she has is her own experience. She

became interested in UFOs because of her husband, who says he had his first sighting at age 10. She says she has seen possible spacecraft, too, but it still took a close-up sighting last year to truly erase her doubts.

Now she has investigators and scientists and slides this weekend to help us get there with her. All of this in Huntsville, a city raised on space possibilities.

"Maybe we can sit down and put it all together," Sue Pitts says. "Maybe we will soon."

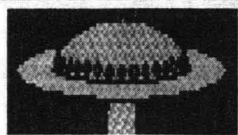
She shrugs then, a little hopeful, a little frustrated. Like most believers having trouble getting believed.

*Peter St. Onge appear Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays in The Times. Readers can call him at 532-4401, fax at 532-4420 or e-mail at stonge@traveller.com.*



**Peter St. Onge Perspectives**

## Skywatch Diary



We returned to Pensacola on Tuesday, September 17th from the Tampa UFO Conference. On Wednesday evening, we found that there had been no sightings reported during the time we were away. I was hoping that we would come back to a report of some activity during our absence. The watch was kept by regulars Tom, Marie, Pat and Judy and our visitors from Medford, MA, Steve and Rachelle. The weather had been quite good all week, and the evenings have become cool now with the advancing fall season. Everyone was very excited to hear highlights of the Conference, of course.

The whole Conference was very interesting and the speakers all had some interesting new information to share. It was the first time we had seen Dr. Roger Leir and Courtney Brown so their information gave a new and interesting perspective. Dr. Leir has been working on the removal of implants and showed some interesting (although not for the weak-stomached) video of the actual surgical procedures to remove the implants from toes and hands. It will be interesting to hear what the result of the analysis of the matter removed during these surgeries reveals in the months to come.

Courtney Brown was, perhaps the most controversial speaker, dealing with the Scientific Remote Viewing of extraterrestrials. The process of Scientific Remote Viewing is proven, but the targets involving extraterrestrials are not verifiable. Nevertheless, this new protocol does expand our ability to investigate the phenomenon from another perspective. During the speaker's panel, the greatest debate was between Courtney Brown and Bud Hopkins and John Carpenter regarding the participation of abductees (or experiencers) in their experience. Courtney Brown put forth that those involved had indeed chosen this experience prior to incarnation and this resulted in some excited exchanges between Budd, Courtney and John. John Carpenter did say, however, that he has had a couple of people he has been working with offer the information that they had previously chosen to participate in these experiences spontaneously and without prompting. He added that it was not advisable to offer

this information to an experience unless they mentioned it themselves.

I did not attend Budd Hopkins' lecture, since it was regarding his new book about the Linda Cortile case. I have not had a chance to read this yet although I have had the book for a couple of weeks. Everyone who has read it, and everyone who attended the lecture states that the case is very interesting and far more involved than originally thought. I did attend Budd's workshop though, and he gave some very interesting information about helping those who are involved in abductions to cope. Many people do not realize that it's not just the experiencer (abductee) who has to deal with their experiences, but it affects the whole family deeply too. Budd focused on helping young children particularly, since at a young age, such experiences often seem very frightening to children.

The highlight of Linda Moulton-Howe's talks was, for me, the pieces of metal that she is trying to get analyzed. The pieces were sent to Art Bell (Dreamland) from a man who said that his grandfather had retrieved them from the Roswell crash. Interestingly in all the correspondence associated with this metal, the writer never mentions the date of this crash/retrieval. However, the metal pieces, which look like aluminum are far from run of the mill. Linda must be commended for her tenacity in trying to find out who is able to manufacture such material on our planet. From the taped telephone calls she played during her talk, it is obvious that even the best scientific minds are stumped about how this multilayered bismuth/magnesium material is made. One scientist tried to replicate it and the result was a sorry comparison to that which they were trying to imitate. One can only speculate as to the real source of this material.

As usual, Michael Lindemann's class and lecture were both fascinating and extremely interesting. Michael stays current on all UFO and related events and always delivers the information in an entertaining and exciting manner. It was gratifying to hear a researcher of his caliber state at the end of his talk that overall he sees a tendency, through the information before him, to have to

draw the conclusion that the whole phenomenon is actually benevolent. He was quick to add that, of course, no one knows for sure, but the evidence is building toward that conclusion.

The highlight of the whole weekend, was for me, Colin Andrews. He was just back from England with the news of this year's crop circle patterns and a very interesting and exciting video of a crop circle being formed! The patterns this year are more amazing than ever, particularly the fractal patterns that have been causing even the most solid skeptic to reconsider. There has been the usual controversy over whether the patterns can be man-made, but these fractal patterns are so large and complex and so mathematically precise that even the naysayers are taking a second look. Colin told of one farmer who knew that there was a pattern in his field, and wanted nothing to do with it, until, Colin showed him the aerial photograph of the pattern (a large fractal). Soon the farmer was opening his mind to the subject and his field to the investigation team! The video that Colin showed is truly amazing. He is currently having it analyzed and going to great lengths to ascertain its validity. Of course, even if all of the information points to it being real, there will always be those who will say otherwise.

However, it is a truly amazing piece of film, shot in daylight that shows luminous discs flying over the field of ripe grain and the crop circle pattern (a snowflake) forming below them. The whole process occurs within seven seconds and it is chill-bump forming to watch!!!

The whole weekend was wonderful. We got to visit with a lot of friends particularly Charles and Marsha Sawicki from Venice, FL, the Schligs from Inverness, FL and Ken and Rita Rohrs from Bradenton, FL as well as the many great friends we have made in recent years who are as interested in this whole phenomenon as we are - and to make some new ones too!

We came home tired and elated. It is great to be around like-thinking, open minded people to discuss all the different and fascinating aspects of the phenomenon! We are looking forward to the next Conference in Gulf Breeze, which will be held at the Beachside Resort on March 21st, 22nd and 23rd, 1997 on Pensacola Beach. For information, contact Project Awareness at (904) 432-8888.

Well, it's back to skywatching as usual now and we are enjoying the cool clear evenings. I'm ready for a sighting or two, guess I'll just have to Keep Looking Up!

## Crop circle discussion planned

by Rich Stripp  
for the Leader

POLSON - Noted futurist and biblical prophecy scholar Gayle Flenniken will join in a discussion of crop circles and their possible messages for mankind next Thursday evening, Oct. 3.

The presentation is sponsored by Terra's Gathering Place owners Lawrence Kennedy, Ph.D., and Sandra Sitzman, MS, CMT, of Polson. Flenniken, Kennedy and Sitzman recently coauthored a book, *Terra In Transition*.

Flenniken lives in Seattle, where she publishes a monthly newsletter called *Planet Alert* about coming earth changes and other events.

Crop circles - huge geometric designs found in grain fields - are

linked to UFO phenomenon by some researchers. They may have been observed for hundreds of years before this century.

The circles started attracting major publicity around the area of

Stonehenge in England in 1978, Kennedy said; by 1991, designs had started reflecting more complexity and were showing up in other parts of the world.

While hoaxers have taken credit for many of the circles in England,

Kennedy said some are too detailed to defy ready explanation. Some

researchers point to ancient symbols or letters found worked into the circles.

Kennedy believes the circles' messages are deliberately abstract.

"This is right-brain stuff," he added. "The minds that are open to this...are going to get it."

Kennedy and Sitzman will steer away from conclusions next week. They hope to use slides and discussion as a form of travelogue, to get people thinking about the circles.

Cost of the event is \$10 per person. It will be held in the former church at 420 First Street East, across from the courthouse. Call 756-4140 for more details.



By Linda Kerth

New Mexico has always been a "hot spot" for UFO sightings. The state has produced more UFO reports than any other area in the United States, and this despite its relatively low population. Some of the most noteworthy reported UFO events have occurred in New Mexico, including the Roswell incident of 1947, the green fireballs of 1948-1950, and the Socorro landing of 1964.

On Dec. 5, 1948, green fireballs were reported across New Mexico. There were at least nine sightings near Los Alamos. Between 1948 and 1950, there were at least 150 sightings altogether. The fireballs were quickly determined by experts not to be meteors. The fiery objects traveled in a nearly level path, never seeming to fall, and were low in the atmosphere. Meteors enter the very high outer atmosphere and seem to fall downward. At their speed and low altitude, the fireballs should have produced "shattering" sonic booms, but they were always described as completely silent. What kind of natural atmospheric phenomenon appears only in New Mexico — and only for a discrete period of time? The green fireballs, like the 1951 "Lubbock Lights" (silent formations of softly glowing bluish round lights, seen from Albuquerque to Lubbock, Texas) are still unexplained to this day.

The following reports are from the Rio Grande SUN, Santa Fe New Mexican and the Albuquerque Journal. Several are from a booklet by Thomas Adams, titled "Pardon the Intrusion, or UFO's over, on & Under the State of New Mexico." The San Luis Valley sightings were recorded by Chris O'Brien in a newsletter called "The Mysterious Valley." A few incidents are from the research files of Linda Kerth.

## 1950S UFO SIGHTINGS

• In January 1952, in the Taos area, three green fireballs by three independent witnesses were reported, one hanging motionless over the road to Santa Fe, another "swaying to and fro" over the mountains near Taos, and the third seen shooting across the sky.

• On July 29, 1952, over Los Alamos; a white egg-shaped object left at high speed when Air Force jets from Kirtland AFB reportedly flew up to intercept it. At 9:30 p.m. that same day, an Air Force reserve colonel reported a yellow round or oval object passing over Los Alamos.

• On Aug. 6, 1954, a brilliant white

between reported UFO activity and livestock mutilations, including June 1976 and April 1978 in Rio Arriba County near Dulce, the latter incident including what appeared to be landing traces. Dulce, the Questa area, and Eagle's Nest, up into Colorado and the San Luis Valley area, have all been areas of reported repeated cattle mutilations.

• In 1978, on July 3, in Taos, several people reported seeing an orange disc "the size of two cars," shrouded in an "uncommon light." Traces of a powdery residue was reportedly found on a nearby truck that had been under the hovering disc. A report said that samples of the powder showed a high proportion of magnesium and potassium. Near Dulce, on July 5, examination by UV light showed a fluorescent substance on several cattle belonging

to the sky was visible for 15 minutes. It left a luminous trail in an upward trajectory. It was reported to have interfered with radio and TV.

• On Sept. 17, 1954, a "blinding green fireball as large as a full moon" was reportedly seen by thousands across Colorado and Northern New Mexico - including football fans in a stadium in Santa Fe. Night reportedly "turned into day" in Denver.

### 1964: Socorro and La Madera

On April 26, 1964, only two days following the so-called Socorro UFO landing, 35-year-old Orlando Gallegos was visiting his father's home in La Madera, just north of Ojo Caliente in Rio Arriba County. At about 1 a.m. Sunday, he left the house to see what was disturbing the horses. He said he saw "something shaped like a butane tank, possibly 12-14 feet high and as long as a telephone pole" that was resting on the ground near the Rio Vallecitos. Gallegos said a blue-white flame surrounded much of the object, but there was no sound. After about a minute, the flames went out and the

to Manuel Gomez, who said he had experienced many cattle mutilations. When this substance was analyzed, it also showed high proportions of magnesium and potassium leading researchers to suspect that the cattle had been "marked for future taking."

• On July 13, 1978, a woman was driving from Española toward Tierra Amarilla, and was about half a mile from Canjilon Junction, when she saw a huge cylindrical object, which she said appeared the size of a writing pen held at arm's length, at about 9:30 at night. She estimated the object was about 500 feet off the ground, below the ridge line, and "hugging" the contour of the hills. It would gain or lose altitude in following the contour of the hills without changing attitude, she said, which struck her as an odd flight pattern not seen with usual air-

object just sat there, he said. He went back into the house to tell his father, but did not return to the site until the next morning.

The object was gone by then, but the area where it was sitting was still smoldering, he said. Later that evening (still Sunday), he reported the incident to State Police Officer Marvin Romero in Española. Officer Albert Vega from Ojo Caliente was dispatched to the scene. Officer Vega reported that he found the ground still smoldering at 7:30 p.m., and the ground was "badly scorched." Vega also reported that he found four depressions in the ground, each 8 inches by 12 inches in size and 3- to 4-inches deep, "sort of V-shaped" at the bottom. He also reported that he found numerous "oval-shaped or cat-paw like" markings, about 3.5 inches in diameter, around the scorched area.

State Police Captain Martin E. Vigil later examined the site, and said he found that "... some of the woody vegetation was still smoking and the ground was warm." He said there was

craft. There were lights down its midline, with one blue light in front, and one red light in back, she said. The object was headed east, and crossed the road in front of her. She said she turned off her radio to listen, and heard no noise. She said she was "terrified" and had a distinct "visceral reaction," that there was "no way this was a plane."

• Nov., 17, 1978, at 8:45 p.m., near Ojo Caliente, three hunters reported a cigar-shaped object which flew over their campsite at an altitude of about 600 feet. The object was illuminated by bright orange lights.

• Early December 1978, on the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, a guide named Joe Lucero said he watched through binoculars at a yellow or orange cigar-shaped object as it flew, then hovered, over Horse

"unmistakable evidence of 'terrific heat' over an area several tens of feet across," and said he saw melted beer bottles. He said the depressions appeared to be from "pressure effects, not dug out."

Capt. Vigil said he phoned Sgt. Sam Chavez at Socorro, whom he knew had visited the Socorro site, and asked Chavez to describe the Socorro site from that previous Friday. He said Chavez' description of the Socorro "landing" was almost exactly like the one at La Madera.

Vigil said the Air Force investigated the site, and he knew of a team from either Los Alamos or Las Cruces that took samples of soil, rocks, and vegetation from the area.

Just two days later, on April 28, 1964, on a Tuesday, at 1:30 a.m., near Edgewood in Santa Fe County, 21-year-old Don Adams reported to the State Police that a glowing or fluorescent green object, which was about 25-feet long and 100-feet high, flew over him, and his car stalled. Frightened, he said he got out and fired six shots at the object, reloaded and shot six more, with no apparent effect. Authorities reported that since the previous Friday, April 24, they had received calls about "similar objects" from south of Truth or Consequences all the way north of Española. "All the reports are similar in that they describe oval or egg-shaped objects, with size estimates ranging from the size of a car to about 30 feet or longer."

Also a few days after the Socorro incident a B-57 pilot flying east of Socorro on a simulated bombing mission reported a landed or landing craft shaped like the object seen by Lonnie Zamora at Socorro.

## UFOs IN THE 1970S THE CATTLE CONNECTION

• From Nov. 15 through Dec. 21, 1970, over the northern Santa Fe County area, at least six UFO sightings were reported...most described as "intensely bright lights," moving at high rates of speed and sometimes hovering.

• Later in 1975, over Northeastern New Mexico, residents reported frequent unidentified helicopters and other strange "meandering" nighttime lights, during a time of numerous cattle mutilations in the area. Between Oct. 30 and Nov. 13, at least 30 UFO/helicopter sightings occurred over Union and Quay counties, where at least four classic cattle mutilations were found. There have been numerous other incidents of juxtaposition

Lake.

• In Taos, March 25, 1979, on a Sunday, a deputy sheriff and friend said they watched a rainbow-colored object, "about the size of a car," fly across the sky. The object appeared to descend to the ground, with a glowing then coming from that area. Following reports were becoming so common, a classified ad in the Taos News in March, 1979, reads: "For the truth about UFOs and a good bread recipe, call 758-XXXX and ask for Jim."

• In 1979, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 12-13, at Stone Lake, southeast of Dulce, on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation, numerous Feast Day attendees reported seeing UFOs at "precisely" 9:30 p.m. both nights. The unidentified objects presenting a

(continued on page 8)

"strange light show." Also on the 12th, two game officers in search of poachers said they had their dark vehicle spotlighted from a yellow light from above. Other area residents reported what seemed to be a helicopter with no lights and no sound. The prior Tuesday, Sept. 11, a mutilated cow was found in a pasture not far from the main street of Truchas. The two-year-old heifer belonged to Nabor Montoya of Truchas.

## UFO SIGHTINGS IN THE 1980S

- **On Feb. 19, 1980**, in Española, State Police District 7 Office in Arroyo Seco received two UFO reports from southwest of the city. The first report came in at 6:10 p.m. from a woman who said she was observing with binoculars a bright yellow light with a red ball on it flying southwest of Española. She said the object rotated clockwise and counterclockwise, then up and down; a light was also visible on the object. At 7:44 p.m. a second person reported seeing a white glowing object moving in a circular motion. Patrolman Thomas Vaccarello, sent to investigate the reports, did not see what the callers reported.

- **May 1982**, near Dulce, residents reported what had commonly become known as "The Light," most often described as orange, but also white and blue, during weeks preceding a cattle mutilation.

- **On April 24, 1984**, at approximately 7 p.m., from Alcalde to Truchas, about a dozen people along the Rio Grande Valley reported to state police that a lighted object hovered over the foothills near Chimayo. Mel and Diane Medina of Alcalde said it "looked like a commercial liner coming in for a landing." The lighted object continued to move in spurts to the west, occasionally hovering over the Chimayo area, and was heard to emit a humming noise. Mrs. Medina

called her father-in-law next door to come with binoculars, and through the glasses the object appeared football-shaped, with an unattached red light that appeared to be "scouting around the skies." They reported the object turned slowly so that all sides were seen through the binoculars.

- **All in all**, 34 people from Medanales to Truchas said they observed the object from about 7:05 p.m. to about 7:25 p.m., when they said the object went over Truchas Peaks and disappeared. No one reported seeing wings on the object, even through the binoculars, and all estimates of size were substantially larger than a commercial airliner.

However, a KC-135 refueling tanker was in the area on approximately the same course, though it was never over Truchas. The presence of the tanker does not explain: 1) the apparent hovering of the object for a long period; 2) the length of the entire sighting (observers claimed to watch the object long before and after radar showed the KC-135 to be in the area); 3) the perceived size of the object; 4) the small red light seemed to detach from the larger object, fly around in an apparent "search" pattern, then return; nor 5) the fact that unidentified targets existed on the radar report over Truchas and elsewhere, where the KC-135 did not go.

- **October 23, 1988**, at 7:51 p.m., on the southern slopes of Mt. Archuleta, five miles northwest of Dulce, a party of eight (including State Police Officer Gabe Valdez and two research scientists) were investigating the area (for a reported underground base) when they saw a bright object move in on a south-to-north path, stopping "dead in its tracks" near the summit of Mt. Archuleta, when it became extremely bright, lighting up "at least half the sky." They said the object then appeared to "fold in on itself," and vanished, leaving no trace.

- **On Thursday, December 14, 1989**, several Christmas carolers, ranging in age from 13 to 18,

reported several lights above Chimayo, described as "a string of lights, about 10 in all." They said the lights "did not blink and made no noise." Then the lights moved east, behind Chimayo hills, where a "foggy beam of light" shot up in the sky, which "shone like a laser." A spokesman at LANL said he "wasn't aware of anything" at the lab that night that could explain the lights. Robert Martinez, father of one of the girls, went out to look, and thought he saw seven jets, though he also heard no sound. However, the family's dog became very agitated. The lights then flew towards Española and out of sight.

- **Several other nearby residents** said they also sighted noiseless lights flying low over Chimayo that same night. One man said he heard what he thought was wind at about 8:30 p.m. and saw seven lights moving silently across the sky. A man from Alcalde said he saw the lights at about 8:15 p.m. through binoculars. He said he saw a formation of about eight jets that looked like they were escorting what he described as "definitely a Stealth Bomber" at about 2,000 feet. Another man from Hernandez said he and his wife and her mother saw triangular-shaped lights in the sky about 8:10 p.m., "four or five big ones surrounded by seven or eight little ones." He added, "They made kind of a whooshing noise and they moved low and slow. They were just cruising by." Two other witnesses also reported sighting the same lights, an Española woman, who said "it looked like jets," and another woman from Dixon, who reported that she, her daughter and her mother all saw nine or ten "triangular-shaped lights" between 8:30 and 9 p.m. A spokesman from the FAA said he was not aware of anything in the sky above Chimayo that night that would explain the lights.

## UFOS AND CATTLE MUTILATIONS IN THE 1990S

- **In March 1993**, a mutilated cow was found right in the town of Taos.

- **From September 1993 through April 1994**, rancher Eli Hronich, over the mountains south and east of Taos, says he lost 10 head of cattle. "I've been around cows all my life and I've seen hundreds of cows that have died from various causes, but I have never seen cows that have been cut up like the ones I lost ... It's unnatural the way they died ... I don't care who says different, I know!"

- **On November 30, 1993**, at 6:07 p.m., Jack Cookerly, an ex-naval aviation navigator, arrived home in the Baca Grants area (San Luis Valley, near Moffat), when he noticed a bright-white object which streaked right over his head which he first thought was a meteor. But when it approached the horizon, he said it "flared up about 20 times its' original size, turned into an oval shape and stopped dead. It was huge!" Then he said it changed color from white to blue and started to descend, slowly like a parachute flare. But unlike a parachute flare which fizzles out, this object instantly disappeared. "It couldn't have been a meteor," Cookerly said, "because ... it made a 90-degree turn, changed its color, shape, size, and velocity."

- **On March 2, 1994**, just after 10 p.m., a photographer from Seattle, visiting the Great Sand Dunes area (San Luis Valley), saw a group of pulsing and flashing red lights over the dune field. She had the "conscious thought" to raise her camera, but was "so mesmerized by the light display she felt paralyzed" and was unable to take any pictures. She was puzzled why she did not take pictures, as she is a professional photographer, her camera was loaded and set up for night-time photography, and the unknown objects were in view for at least 10 minutes.

- **On the weekend of May 7-8, 1994**, six Monte Vista residents (San Luis Valley) reported to Rio Grande County Undersheriff Brian Norton, a fast moving brilliant "white strobe-light," low to the ground in the area of Rio Grande County roads 4N and 3W ... Norton himself said he saw the lights which he described as being "just above the trees and really moving!" He estimated the speed at 200 to 250 mph. Valley Courier editor Mark Hunter said "cars were lined up along U.S. 285 watching it."

- **Two days later**, on May 10, 1994, two cows were found next to the lake at Eagle's Nest. The cows reportedly had "classic mutilation" incisions, and later forensic testing indicated "cooked hemoglobin and cauterization" of the incisions. The incident was investigated within 10 hours of discovery by Gail Staehlin and Gene Neiry, veteran New Mexican cattle mutilation investigators, accompanied by NM cattle inspector Philip Cantu, veterinarian Tim Johnson, and John Altschuler, pathologist.

- **On May 30, 1994**, early a.m., Questa rancher Tom Reed found a three-month old heifer mutilated and reported it to cattle inspector Jerry Valerio.

- **On June 27, 1994**, at 11 p.m., six witnesses in Moffat (San Luis Valley) saw something blocking out the stars while they were sky watching. They all said they saw "a triangular ship with no lights" slowly flying overhead from west to east, "so big it blotted out the stars." The craft was estimated to be three hands-width at arm's length, and it appeared to be about 1,000 feet up. The witnesses also saw a smaller triangular craft following the first one.

- **July 24, 1994**, Eagle's Nest rancher Eli Hronich found another mutilated steer. He also said there was a gray unmarked helicopter hovering over him as he examined the animal.

- **In Taos**, on a Wednesday, possibly Sept. 7 or Sept. 14, 1994, Maida and Toby Martinez and a coworker, Eric Tafoya, said they saw a bright white light accompanied by about a dozen smaller lights drift slowly over Taos. The object was described as triangular and appeared between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m. "on a week night," and made a distinct humming sound as it drifted over a neighbor's trailer and into their backyard.

The light traveled north to south only 20 feet above tree-top level. Mrs. Martinez said "it was as big as my living room ... there was a round light and a series of red lights, about 12 or 15. It was the most spectacular thing I have ever seen," she said. "We could not hear the blades of a helicopter ... [or] hear the engine of a jet. As the object got closer to our home, we heard a hum...it was so close."

Martinez said the object he saw was shaped like a "stealth bomber" and believes the object was probably a military reconnaissance flight. "I do see a lot of military planes flying over - but not that slow!"

- **The other witness**, Tafoya, said he saw another object earlier in September, a "blimp-like object" with a "belly" and a tail, like a "pregnant fish." He said that object had 13 to 14 white lights underneath, and passed directly over him, traveling slowly east to west. He said that when it entered a cloud, the cloud lighted up. "It was nothing like I've ever seen...it was right on top of me, maybe 400 or 500 feet up there, but it was huge, whatever it was...it made a noise, but it didn't make a noise of any other aircraft...it was like a rush of wind."

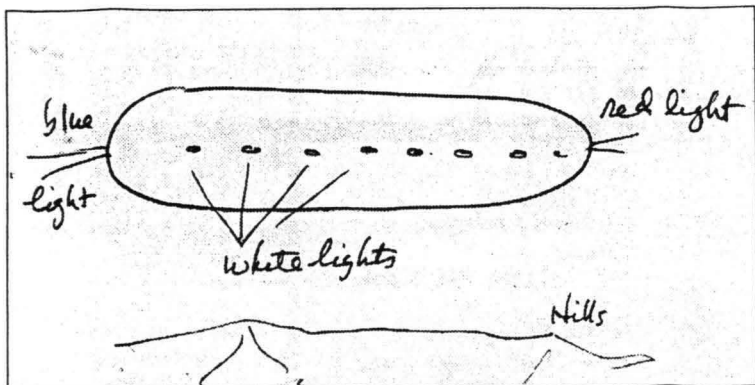
- **On August 17, 1994**, Eli Hronich said he found another mutilated cow, near Eagle's Nest. The following day, Aug. 18, three mutilated cows were reportedly found 20 miles south, near Truchas on the Max Cordova ranch. Cordova said he was certain the cows were pregnant, but no fetuses were found. Two members of the Cordova family said they received "chemical-like burns" after touching one of the cows, and the entire family reportedly suffered from "flu-like symptoms" the next day. Hronich also claimed that his hand once "burnt like hell for two weeks" after touching one of his dead cows.

Cattle inspector Jerry Valerio reported a burn-type rash on his hand after touching Tom Reed's dead calf in May, near Questa. He said that calf "looked like the meat had been microwaved or pressure-cooked."

- **August 30, 1994**, Eli Hronich said he found yet another dead steer. The steer had been on rented pasture at the Norman ranch south of Eagle's Nest. "I wish I knew why they were picking on me," said Hronich. He says he has suffered "a substantial financial loss" at the hands of these mystery cattle slayers. "This whole thing just doesn't make sense," he said. Hronich moved his heard down to winter pasture, hoping for some relief.

(continued on page 9)





Sketch of cylinder reported seen July 13, 1978 over Canjilon junction.

• There have been other cases of cattle mutilations reported to the west, east and southeast of Taos county — the Raton area has had several reports, and Sandoval county rancher Ray Trujillo reported that 20 of his cattle were slain on his ranch in the Jemez Mountains since April, 1993. One of the animals allegedly had its spinal cord "excised."

• On Friday, October 8, 1994, over the La Veta Pass area, around 10 p.m., a "large disc-shaped craft that appeared to be shining a spotlight on the ground" was spotted by two witnesses. A short time later, helicopters were seen "buzzing" the area where the disc was seen. Five days later, on Nov. 2, at 7 p.m., one of the same witnesses, June Martin, reported a "wedge-shaped craft" flying east-to-west over the La Veta area. She described it as "noiseless."

• On Sunday, October 9, 1994, a "glowing ball of bluish-white light" slowly arcing over the Sangre de Cristo mountains above Mt. Adams was reported by several witnesses. It reportedly made a slow 70 degree arc over the mountains, then slowly moved to the southeast. Five hours later, at 4 a.m., NM rancher Tom Reed of Questa, saw a "bright blue floodlight lighting up the forest" in the mountains near the Colorado border.

• On Sunday, Nov. 6, 1994, Chris O'Brien, UFO researcher from the San Luis Valley area, with a friend, saw a "tight wedge-shaped configuration of three unblinking orange lights" directly overhead. O'Brien observed the lights through 3.5 mag night vision binoculars ("I never leave home without them") and said the lights gave the impression of a triangular shape, moving twice as fast as a conventional plane, and silent. That the object was "silent is puzzling ... It did not appear to be more than a couple of thousand feet up and we should have heard something."

## RESEARCH CONTINUES ON UFO SIGHTINGS

The above is only a partial list of area sightings. If the area were to include all of Northern New Mexico, the list would fill a book, or more. It would be hard to find a city, town or village anywhere in New Mexico without a reported UFO sighting.

New information on any of the above cases, as well as reports of new sightings, would be welcomed. Linda Kerth, UFO researcher and MUFON field investigator, at 505-852-4667, in Velarde, is investigating any cases in Rio Arriba County. MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network, recently reorganized in Santa Fe, and has a new state director, Bob Turner, whose number is 505-474-7845. MUFON also has a new UFO hotline direct to headquarters in Seguin, Texas, 1-800-UFO-2166. If you have seen anything extremely unusual in the past, or do so in the future, you are urged to call one of these numbers. Your name will not be used without permission.

# Object in sky caught on film

BY CHRISTINE A. VERSTRAETE  
KENOSHA NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Was it a plane, a helicopter? Or could it have been an unidentified flying object?

A Paddock Lake woman and her son, and an Antioch, Ill. woman, are asking themselves those very questions following their close encounters of the unknown kind recently.

Marcy Effinger and her son, Matthew, 9, were driving home around 6:40 p.m. a week ago Sunday night when they noticed something unusual over a field on 248th Avenue near 65th Street in Paddock Lake.

"I thought maybe it was a helicopter, but it was bigger than a blimp and like an oval shape," said Marcy Effinger, a 19-year Paddock Lake resident, 7014 248th Ave. "There was a big one and a little one. It wasn't moving like a plane. It was like one huge light. It was just hovering."

After Effinger went home to get her camera, she returned minutes later and saw only one of the objects about a mile off over the field. She watched as it moved farther back over the trees, then decided to follow it as it flitted toward Lake Geneva along Highway K.

"We were going west on Highway K and I saw two airplanes fly by and it was bigger than the airplane," she said. "Here I was in my robe chasing this thing and I figured if the police stopped me, 'what would I say?'"

After she lost sight of the object, Effinger went home and called a friend and former Paddock Lake resident, Debbie Mumm of Antioch, Ill. recalled that she, too, had seen something unusual around the time Effinger said the second object had disappeared.

"About 7:15 p.m. we were going

east on North Avenue and had just passed this big accident," said Mumm. "I had thought it was a helicopter, but it was flashing way too fast. It was quite a ways away, but I saw these really, really white lights. The lights were way too high for a plane. It would blink two times, move, then blink two times and move higher. Then it shot to the right and went straight up."

"I told my son, 'it must be the Flight for Life (helicopter),' but it was a weird-shaped light," she recalled. "I didn't push it and didn't want to say anything as my son has a very vivid imagination. I wanted a good night's sleep."

Neither woman notified the police.

Sharon Taylor, secretary for the detective division of the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department, said they hadn't received calls of anything suspicious that night. Nor did the Pleasant Prairie Police.

No pilots reported any strange sightings either, said an air traffic controller at the Kenosha Airport.

"We haven't heard anything nor has anyone said they've seen anything," added Terry Tolster, air traffic manager.

Paddock Lake resident Susan Washack admitted, however, that she had previously seen something strange in the same field on 248th Avenue.

"It just looked like a white light that was suspended in the sky," she said. "It wasn't low enough to be off a tractor. I've seen it maybe two, three times since, but it's been at a distance. I'm not sure what it was."

No alcohol was involved in any of these incidents. The women all say, too, that they aren't what you would call believers in the paranormal.

## Crop circle investigation still underway in the area

By Tony Mellencamp  
News Editor

"People did not make that circle," Roger Sugdon said. He was referring to the crop circle in Columbia City that was discovered July 14 in a field owned by John and Karen Western.

A large circle was made in the wheat field on a little rise with a smaller circle about five feet in diameter a short distance away but not connected to the larger circle.

The circles are similar to those discovered in Paulding County, Ohio, around the 4th of July. They are perfectly circular with bent wheat shafts lying as if woven together.

Sugdon is with the Mutual UFO Network and investigates crop circles as well as UFO sightings. He has investigated the crop circle in Whitley County and in Paulding County, Ohio.

The crop circle in Ohio has been discounted by virtually everyone as a hoax after an agronomist from Ohio State declared it as such in a press conference. But wait. Now for the rest of the story.

After the press conference most of the media left - but Jim Langham

of The Crescent-News in , whose mother resides in Berne, stayed when the others left. He was there when two men from Eastern Michigan University visited and declared they didn't think it was a hoax. As a matter of fact they found that radiation levels were higher around and in the circle than at anywhere else on the Don Arend farm where the crop circle was discovered.

Now the latest news is that a biophysicist from Grass Lake, MI., Dr. William Levensgood, has conducted lab results which show a "significant change" in wheat samples taken at the site.

Associated with BLT Research Team of Cambridge Mass., Dr. Levensgood said that wheat taken from inside the circle had swollen nodes and significantly enlarged cell wall pit diameters in bract tissue.

Levensgood said the nodal enlargement in the wheat was about 20 percent, but such factors as age of the crop, weather conditions and moisture content all effect the amount of enlargement that takes place.

According to Langham, Nancy Talbot, Field Research Director with BTL, said the important thing is that

"there are changes here, minimal, but statistically different."

"What he (Levensgood) is saying here is that this is the 'real McCoy,' based on lab results," stressed Talbot. "This is not something that was made by people. People don't make changes like this."

BLT Research Team has looked at thousands of individual samples from crop circles worldwide including England, Israel and the U.S. But the genuineness of a crop circle does not necessarily mean there are UFO's causing it.

"Most crop circles are not associated with UFO sightings," she emphasized. The ones that are, however, seem to be more prevalent in the midwestern United States."

Sugdon has visited both circles and told Langham that:

"Both have an angled swirl in the northwest section and they both have radiation readings triple what the readings are outside the circle. In both situations the lay of the wheat is a little puffer in the southwest section of the circle. Both had some standing wheat in the eastern portion of the circle."

So the discussions continue.

# Millionaire leads quest for UFO data

*Nevadan buys ranch and hires team to research any paranormal activity.*

**By Zack Van Eyck**  
Deseret News staff writer

FORT DUCHESNE, Uintah County — The search for answers to life's greatest mysteries has led millionaire Robert T. Bigelow to an isolated cattle ranch in the heart of the Uintah Basin.

Here, far from the bright lights of his native Las Vegas, the real estate magnate hopes his team of scientists can unearth the roots of UFO folklore prevalent in this region since the 1950s. Bigelow, easily the most prominent American financier in the paranormal research field, is convinced there is more to the observations of Terry Sherman's family than the simple misidentification of mundane events.

The Shermans made national

news in July — the same time as the blockbuster "Independence Day" hit the theaters — by going public with bizarre tales of anomalous activity on their 480-acre ranch, nestled beneath a red-rock ridge between Fort Duchesne and Randlett.

Sherman told the Deseret News and journalist Linda Moulton Howe on a national radio broadcast that his family saw several



Robert Bigelow has locked the gate to the former Sherman ranch, where he has a team keeping watch for any unusual activities.

types of UFOs, witnessed lights emerging from circular "doorways" that seemed to appear in midair, had three cows mutilated and several others disappear and found unusual soil impressions and circles of flattened grass in a pasture.

Weeks later, Bigelow hopped a jet to Vernal and met with the Shermans, offering to buy the ranch for about \$200,000. The deal closed in September. The Shermans have purchased a smaller ranch 15 miles away near Whiterocks — far removed, they hope, from the disturbing occurrences they endured for 18 months.

Bigelow has erected an observation building and moved in a pair of scientists and a veterinarian. He has someone on the property 24 hours a day, recording anything out of the ordinary.

Officially, the research is being conducted by the National Institute for Discovery Science, which Bigelow formed last October. Among the big names in the institute's stable of scientists is John B. Alexander, former director of non-lethal weapons testing at Los Alamos National Laboratories in New Mexico.

"Our approach is to do good, high-quality research using a standard scientific approach and do what we can to get hard data," Alexander said in a telephone interview from the institute's Las Vegas offices. "One of the missions of the institute is to make information widely available."

But for now, the lid is on tight. Bigelow won't talk to the media and Alexander would give no details of how or why the research is being conducted. Sherman, now employed by Bigelow to maintain the ranch, said he can no longer discuss the activity because of a nondisclosure agreement Bigelow had him sign.

Alexander said results of the study would be published in scientific journals and on the institute's Web page. Other research documents and information about the institute is available on the Internet at (<http://www.accessnrv.com/nids>).

The secretive behavior concerns several regional UFO researchers, including Ryan Layton of Davis County and Chris O'Brien of Crestone, Colo. Both visited the ranch in July before Bigelow became involved.

"It's the most impressive case I've ever personally investigated," said O'Brien, author of "The Mysterious Valley" about UFOs in Colorado's San Luis Valley. "It should be public knowledge, and the public should be allowed some sort of involvement in any investigation."

Moulton Howe, who has written books on cattle mutilations and other phenomena, received a research grant from Bigelow in 1994 to study plant and animal tissue associated with mutilation cases. She was not surprised at Bigelow's interest in the Sherman ranch.

"There's a lot of speculation about possible openings or tears in the electromagnetic fabric of our planet," Howe said from her Pennsylvania home. "To the general audience, that sounds like science-fiction. However, even in quantum physics today, there is discussion about space time, worm holes, black holes. The fabric of reality having something to do with the relationship between the electromagnetic spectrum and gravity forces is becoming a language that

we are seeing more and more in print."

Gary Hart of Bloomington, Ill., an investigator of "hyperdimensional" phenomena, said he believes the Sherman ranch may be the site of an "interdimensional doorway," similar to ones he has investigated near Sedona, Ariz., Pine Bush, N.Y., three other U.S. locations and elsewhere in the world.

"People in Russia say they're very clear that we are contacting other civilizations and they say that we as humans need to open up to this. We have to get past the fear factor," Hart said. "There are places like this where people can actually see into the next dimension. Some of this is very angular in nature. If you stand in one spot, you see things out around it that you cannot see 100 feet away."

That could explain why folks who live around the Sherman ranch say they haven't seen anything unusual. Members of four neighboring families interviewed by the Deseret News did not want their names published, but most said they aren't sure they believe the Shermans' stories.

Further investigation, however, revealed three of the families have experienced unusual activity. The Uintah County Sheriff's Office confirmed that John Garcia, who lives east of the ranch, reported two of his cows were mutilated earlier this year.

Another neighbor said one of his cows disappeared recently. And the man's nephew, Dean Derhak of Salt Lake City, said he was riding a horse on his uncle's property in 1980 when he saw a silver sphere on the ground of what later became the Sherman ranch.

"It was fairly big, about 30 to 40 feet wide. It looked like a bowl upside down," said Derhak, who was 11 at the time. "It scared me and I took off."

Roosevelt veterinarian Dan Dennis said Bigelow met with him Tuesday to ask for his assistance in performing necropsies on any animals that might be mutilated in the future. Asked if cows were being released onto the former Sherman ranch as guinea pigs, Alexander declined comment. Dennis said Bigelow plans to write all area ranchers requesting that they notify his personnel of any unusual animal deaths.

That's OK with the Uintah and Duchesne sheriff's offices. Uintah County Sheriff's Sgt. Steve Hatzidakis said ranchers who discover mutilated animals also should contact his office, although there's not much it can do.

"The problem we've always had is that these guys always call a week, two weeks, three weeks after the animal is located, and by the time you get out there, the animal is in such a decomposed situation" little investigative work can be done, he said.

In an "authentic" mutilation, the animal's sexual organs are removed and the anus is cored out with laser-like precision. Often, an eye, tongue or patch of skin is removed. Blood, footprints and tire tracks are noticeably absent.

Hatzidakis said a typical mutilation is easily distinguished from animal sacrifices that might be performed by satanic cults. Those rituals generally involve a lot of blood, not a lack of it, he said.

According to Layton, UFO and related activity continued on the ranch after Sherman's public statement. Sherman and his wife, Gwen, were outside one evening



Terry Sherman in June checks out one of the strange impressions found on his ranch in Uintah County.

when a bluish-white ball of light, about the size of a tennis ball, came out of the field, circled the head of one of the family's horses and came within 10 feet of Gwen Sherman. It stopped and retreated when she shined a flashlight on it.

To date, Layton said, 10 of the Shermans' cows have disappeared. The family's three dogs also vanished after chasing the light ball. Layton said a circular burn mark was found on the ground near

where the dogs were last seen.

He said Terry Sherman also saw a humanoid figure get out of one of the craft.

"He supposedly had it on a scope or binoculars," Layton said. "It was a human type, over 7 feet tall, decked out in a totally black uniform and very huge, very heavyset."

The whole ordeal has been difficult for the Shermans, who say they lost money on the sale. Sher-

man said he was offered more money by a Colorado family and a local hunting club but did not want to put anyone at risk.

"It's just been a bad deal all the way around," he said. "All that's really redeeming is that you have some knowledge that a lot of people don't have, for what it's worth."

TIMES & DEMOCRAT, Orangeburg, SC - Oct. 25, 1996

## UFO?

Cannon Bridge Road sightings 'couldn't be an airplane'

By GENE CRIDER  
T&D Staff Writer

Eyewitnesses reported sighting a UFO leaving Orangeburg toward Canaan Thursday night. The spacecraft apparently lost its bearings as it tried to reach the UFO Welcome Center in Bowman.

Three people called The Times and Democrat Thursday night, saying they spotted a UFO while driving along the Cannon Bridge Road about 8 p.m.

An employee at North Air Force Base said the auxiliary air field was the site of a deployment exercise Thursday night, but referred other questions to the base's public relations office, which could not be reached.

The Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office had not fielded any calls about the possible sighting Thursday night.

One caller to the newspaper said she sighted the UFO as she was driving down Cannon Bridge Road, past Kucker's lounge.

"It was zooming really, really fast," she said. "It couldn't be an airplane, it was moving so fast."

The UFO was "not like, really, everybody said" — meaning it

wasn't flat, round or silver. It only had one light "and that's why we implied it wasn't an airplane."

The UFO hovered in the air about two — maybe three — seconds, before flying off at what eyewitnesses described as an incredible speed.

Another caller said she sighted the shiny "light looking" oval object while traveling along a dirt road off the Cannon Bridge Road. She, too, reported the UFO having one light. "It was just so bright."

"It was just, like, going real fast," she said. "Airplanes don't look like that."

"It was just really, really, fast, that's all," she said.

And yet another caller said she was disbelieving when called outside by a friend to see an object in the sky.

But, after she saw it, she felt, "It couldn't have been an airplane."

Jody Pendarvis, the builder of the UFO Welcome Center in Bowman, says he didn't see any UFOs Thursday night.

"No. Just regular old jets and a couple of helicopters flying over tonight," Pendarvis said. "I haven't seen no UFOs."

"I'll keep my eyes open, because I'm usually out there until 1 o'clock," said Pendarvis, who is currently working full-time to add legs to the large, wooden UFO in his yard. He is preparing for the grand opening of the welcome center.

"I guess I'll put out my spotlight and tell them to come on in," Pendarvis said. "You know, my place would be the best place to land. Can you imagine one landing in Orangeburg and all the cops being ready to shoot it?"

For doubters, Pendarvis says, "Take it to heart. Maybe they saw something."



# 'A silvery disklike object emerged ...'

**PEOPLE:** Anonymous Whatcom County reader recounts September sighting.

BY JIM DONALDSON  
THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

The most recent UFO sighting in Whatcom County was reported anonymously by a reader of The Bellingham Herald reader in response to its "X-files" request.

"I am very reluctant to submit my name under any circumstance," the man writes. "I don't read science fiction and I haven't seen 'Independence Day.' I don't attend UFO or metaphysics meetings. I am neither psychic nor psychotic.

"To the contrary, I am a professional person in the community quietly raising a family, attending church and living a normal life. But I saw something unexplainable flying in the night sky."

Here is the reader's full account:

On Saturday, September 21, 1996, shortly after 9 p.m. I was driving through the neighborhood ac-

companied by my two boys. We traveled southbound on our quiet street. Approaching a stop sign, my eyes were drawn by the light of the moon shining through a break in the mostly cloudy sky. The clouds around the opening were brightly backlit and framed the moon, which was nearly three-fourths full.

As I paused to appreciate the drama of the night sky, a silvery disklike object emerged from behind the clouds and passed across the face of the moon from east to west, slipping again behind the low ceiling of clouds.

The object flew at an angle that clearly showed its lack of wings or other tell-tale aircraft architecture. It was clearly a disk, tapered at its perimeter and thicker at the center. The reflection from the top surface of the object was somewhat diffused, either by a veil of clouds or the nature of the material. Relative to the moon, the diameter of the shiny object was slightly less than half. The sighting lasted for only a split second, but during a solid, fixed stare.

I lingered by the stop sign, stunned and not sure what to do for a few seconds.

My youngest son, beside me in the passenger seat, broke the silence when he asked "Dad, what was that?"

He had also been drawn to the beautiful moonlit view, ahead of us, only to be interrupted in his appreciation of it.

"Did you see something, son?" I asked, hoping to draw out a description that conflicted with my own.

"Yeah, what was that, Dad?"

"I don't know, son, did it look like a plane?"

"No. Dad, what was it?" he said, uneasily repeating the question.

Neither of us can explain what we saw. I am very familiar with military and civilian aircraft. What I saw in the sky did not look or act like an aircraft in flight.

My oldest son, seated comfortably in the back seat, can only attest to our conversation in the car and later at home.

As usual, he protests, "Why did I have to sit in the back seat?"

# Deputies spot blinking lights in skies over Clay County

Cody V. Aycock  
Times Record News

HENRIETTA, Texas — Reports of unidentified flying lights buzzing town in the hours before dawn Tuesday aroused a flurry of snickers and suspicion from residents of this town.

But believers say the possibilities of a real, live sighting is not out of this world.

Two sheriff's deputies were dispatched about 1 a.m. Tuesday after "several" residents spotted mysterious lights hovering in the skies, Clay County Sheriff Paul Bevering said.

The deputies, armed with binoculars, proceeded to the outskirts of town to investigate.

What they reported seeing next will forever live in Henrietta folklore.

According to Bevering, the deputies spotted "five separate blinking lights" in the distance. As the deputies watched the lights, one of the unidentified objects raced off into the early morning sky, Bevering said.

No other objects had been spotted as of late Tuesday night. The two deputies could not be reached for comment.

The sighting is a first for the Clay County Sheriff's Department, Bevering said.

"These deputies, nor anyone else in this depart-

ment, have ever seen unidentified lights before," he said.

One of the officers was the center of attention as he told his story over lunch Tuesday at JC's Bunkhouse Bar-B-Q, an employee at the popular hangout said.

"It has been a big deal all day," Teressia Roberts said.

Roberts said the deputy took some harassment about the event, but she added everyone within earshot of the tale perked up to listen.

A customer at a local gas stop said he had not heard about the deputies' incident but added he believed in unidentified flying objects.

Upon hearing this, a brave employee of the store stepped up to make a startling confession.

"We see a lot of that stuff, me and my friends," Jerry Nelson said.

In fact, Nelson reported watching an object early Tuesday come out of the sky and make a U-turn back into the unknown.

Nelson said he spotted the unidentified flying object, which had two lights attached to the front, while parked on West Spring Street.

The object came out of the northern sky, he said.

"I thought if it was an airplane there would be a little red light blinking off of it," he said. "There wasn't."

"I never seen anything like it," Nelson added as his co-worker asked him what he was drinking prior to the sighting. The skeptical co-worker abandoned the conversation with a snicker.

However, some residents say the possibility of flying objects is within the realm of belief.

"If you believe in God and heaven and hell, this is not that far-fetched," Roberts said.

# Strange lights fly over Matteson

By Carrie Napoleon

Look, up in the sky! It's a bird, it's a plane, it's ... it's ... well, the experts don't really know for certain.

However Pamela Russel of Park Forest and her two children are curious.

The family noticed a strange light in the western sky Wednesday around 7 p.m. as they headed down Lincoln Highway, westbound toward Matteson.

Russel makes no contention that what they saw was extraterrestrial in nature, but she would like some explanation for the bright orange and silver object the three watched for 15 minutes outside a Matteson shop.

"I don't presume to have a clue. It was horizontal at first and then a silver piece broke off," Russel explained. The two pieces separated and began falling vertically toward earth.

Russel believed the object may have come down past

Interstate 57 somewhere and was concerned it may have been a small aircraft or perhaps even space junk.

However, checks with several experts revealed little.

Bob Malkas, manager of the Lansing Municipal Airport said he heard of no small planes in trouble in the area. He suggested the object may have been a marquee on the bottom of a large plane used to display messages.

The National Weather Service in Chicago said they received no reports on Wednesday.

"It does not sound like any meteorological phenomenon," Amy Gustafson, a meteorologist with the service said. She suggested it may have been a meteor.

Ron Schultz, a spokesman for O'Hare International Airport said the facility received no reports from pilots that evening.

Yet, the director of the National UFO Reporting Cen-

ter in Colorado, Peter Davenport, said reports of this nature are not unusual.

Davenport said the agency, which has operated since 1974, takes calls so fast they don't have time to enter all the data into their system.

Davenport said only about one in 100,000 people actually report a strange sighting.

"Over the last week, we've had light data traffic but significant calls from seemingly good observers," Davenport said.

The observers include a couple pilots on route from North Carolina to Scottsdale Arizona on Wednesday who saw three objects maneuvering above their aircraft. Even the Federal Aviation Agency in Houston made a report this week.

"These calls are pretty solid," he said.

Davenport said it is not unusual for objects sighted to be reported in different locations in the country. In his experience, objects sighted tend to travel very quickly.

# Did aliens visit Bethany?

## Airship 'landing' caused stir in 1897

Nearly a century before the X-Files became a hit on television, Harrison County was the center of a UFO controversy which made newspaper headlines across the country.

In early April of 1897, an unidentified man wrote to a St. Joseph newspaper that he had seen a mysterious airship strike a flagpole in Bethany, killing the occupants of the alien craft whose "bodies were so badly mangled that they couldn't be identified," according to one published account.

The story was reported to numerous publications across the country, causing a sensation which occurred during an era before the term Unidentified Flying Object was coined.

The stories about the UFO landing in Bethany recently came to the attention of Allen B. Logan, a private investigator in St. Louis. Logan telephoned the *Republican-Clipper* and said that he had been asked to investigate historical accounts of two UFO "crashes" which

occurred before the turn of the century in Missouri. The two landings, he said, purportedly occurred at Bethany and Cape Girardeau.

The Bethany incident, as it turned out, was a hoax apparently perpetrated by someone who had been tipping the bottle.

An examination of microfilm copies of the old *Bethany Democrat* turned up several references to the "crash" over a three-week period in 1897.

The *Democrat* concluded that the reports were the product of a "congenital liar" who somehow managed to get the story printed in the *St. Joseph Herald*. From there, the story circulated across the country as if it were fact.

The *Democrat's* editor commented that the Albany papers "are envious of Bethany because we have seen airships." But, he added, the Albany folks would be seeing the same airships "if they used the same brand of whiskey

Newspaper of the era called the tale a product of a 'congenital liar.'

that we use in Bethany."

Logan, the St. Louis investigator, called back to confirm that the 1897 airship landing in Bethany was a hoax and provided the *Republican-Clipper* with a book titled *A History of UFO Crashes* written by Kevin D. Randle who mentions the Bethany incident in his paperback published in 1995.

Randle, who wrote an earlier account about the alleged Roswell, N.M., landing, concluded that it was one of several airship hoaxes which occurred in the Midwest in the 1890's and was not to be believed.

## 'Significant change' seen in wheat at circle site

By JIM LANGHAM  
Staff Writer

**PAULDING** — Even as a production crew from FOX Network's television program, "Sightings," was filming an upcoming broadcast at the Paulding crop circle Friday, a biophysicist indicated that lab results showed a "significant change" in wheat samples taken at the site.

Dr. William C. Levensgood, a biophysicist from Grass Lake, Mich., associated with BLT Research Team, Cambridge, Mass., said that wheat taken from inside the circle had swollen nodes and significantly enlarged cell wall pit diameters in bract tissue.

Levensgood said that nodal enlargement in the wheat from the Don Arend farm was about

20 percent, but such factors as age of the crop, weather conditions and moisture content all effect the amount of enlargement that takes place.

Nancy Talbot, field research director with BTL, noted that swelling tends to be larger in younger plants because they contain more moisture.

"Twenty percent swelling in mature wheat could be as significant as 60 percent in a younger crop," said Talbot. "The important thing is that there are changes here, minimal, but statistically significant."

"What he (Levensgood) is saying here is that this is the 'real McCoy,' based on lab results," stressed Talbot. "This is not something that was made by people. People don't make changes like this."

Both Levensgood and Talbot were present at the circle on Friday to present their findings, based on plant analysis.

"Soil analysis hasn't been completed yet, but it very possibly could add some very interesting information," said Talbot.

Last week John Timmerman of the Center for UFO studies, Chicago, and Jim Beurlein, an Ohio State University agronomist, visited the circle. Based on their observations, Timmerman said that the formation could be man-made. Beurlein said that he could tell that it was manmade.

"If I hadn't looked at a crop formation before, and this was the first time I saw it, I would have agreed with Beurlein," observed Levensgood. "But when taken into a lab and measured by many different things, there are differences in the crop. This one is marginal but the differences are significant."

BTL Research Team has looked at thousands of individual samples from crop circles worldwide



Jim Langham/C-N Photo

Sets up: 'Sightings' crew ready to film crop circle in Paulding County

including England, Israel and the United States. But the genuineness of a crop circle does not necessarily imply the presence of UFO's, stressed Talbot.

"Most crop circles are not associated with UFO sightings," she emphasized. "The ones that are, however, seem to be more prevalent in the midwestern United States."

Talbot said that the research team is studying the possible connection of ozone depletion, certain pollution buildup, magnetic potential in the soil and meteor explosions in connection with the formations.

Last weekend, another formation, more elaborate than Paulding County's, appeared in a wheat field just outside of Columbia City, Ind. A research team led by Jeffrey Wilson, an instructor in the astronomy department at

Eastern Michigan University, determined that there was a radiation anomaly present in that circle similar to the one in Paulding County.

Roger Sugden, Field Investigator for Mutual UFO Network, Inc., (Mufon) has investigated both sites and has noted some interesting similarities between the two.

"Both have an angled swirl in the northwest section and they both have radiation readings triple what the readings are outside the circle," said Sugden. "In both situations the lay of the wheat is a little puffer in the southwest section of the circle. Both had some standing wheat in the eastern portion of the circle."

Even though Sugden recognized the significance of the similarities, he refused to make any correlation between the two sites

without the presence of crop and soil testing.

Don Arend, who farms the land on which the Paulding circle is located, responded to Friday's lab results with a sense of relief.

"We're just glad they (BTL Research Team) were willing to take the time to do an analysis to see if there was something that occurred there," said Arend. "We felt that the conclusions reached by Beurlein and Timmerman were a little hasty."

"It wasn't what they (Timmerman and Beurlein) concluded that bothered us," added Arend. "It's just that they didn't have the lab testing to back it up at that time. Dr. Levensgood and Nancy Talbot spent a lot of time, at their own expense, studying this. They didn't charge one penny in any of this. As it turned out, something apparently did occur here."

CR: J. Hamm

## Tales of encounters fly at UFO forum

Speakers and their audience share experiences of sightings.

By Rodney Crouther  
STAFF WRITER

It was about 1 a.m. March 16, 1965, when Jimmy Flynn, then 45, started walking toward the mysterious, cone-shaped aircraft that had descended over the Everglades.

He relived that morning in front of about 90 people who had gathered Saturday at the Port Charlotte Cultural Center Theater for a discussion on "UFOs and Related Subjects."

Flynn brought a painting that he had commissioned of the ship. Created from his descriptions, the work depicted a conical vessel, 38 feet high and with four rows of windows. There were no visible doors and no markings.

Yet, from the ship came a blast of air that Flynn felt from about 75 yards away. It made a sound that, 31 years later, was still hard for him to describe.

"I've never heard any kind of noise exactly like this. It was so shrill, it would almost hurt your ears," he said.

Flynn, who worked as a hunting guide in the Everglades for 46 years, waved at the ship and tried to gain the attention of its occupants. Then, a pencil-thin beam of light shot out from the ship and struck him between the eyes, he said.

That's the last thing Flynn remembered before he woke up two days later, nearly blind.

Flynn regained his sight in the succeeding weeks and began to tell others what had happened to him. His was one of the more powerful personal experiences related at the seminar, which was organized by Lillian Desguin, a UFO researcher. Desguin has studied unidentified flying objects for more than 40 years and written a book on the subject.

The speakers said they want their stories to be taken seriously, more seriously than "Independence Day," the hit movie that is likely to be the closest encounter most of the country will have with UFOs this summer.

Despite the average person's skepticism about UFOs, extra-terrestrials or other-dimensional life-forms, films like "Star Wars," "E.T." and "Alien" have enjoyed wide success.

Shirley Fox, state section director for the Mutual UFO Network, which includes Charlotte, Lee and Hendry counties, warned against confusing things seen on "Star Trek" with serious UFO research.

"I look at 'X-Files' as a well-con-

ceived idea that is basically just entertainment," Fox said. "Some movies and shows are not-so-well conceived ideas, which are produced primarily to make money."

Over the years, Desguin has opened her Charlotte Harbor home to many small gatherings of people interested in UFOs. She organized Saturday's seminar to try to reach a larger crowd and find a few more people who are open to possibilities outside common wisdom.

"It's not really the quantity of people, you know, it's the quality," Desguin said. "We have a really good group here today."

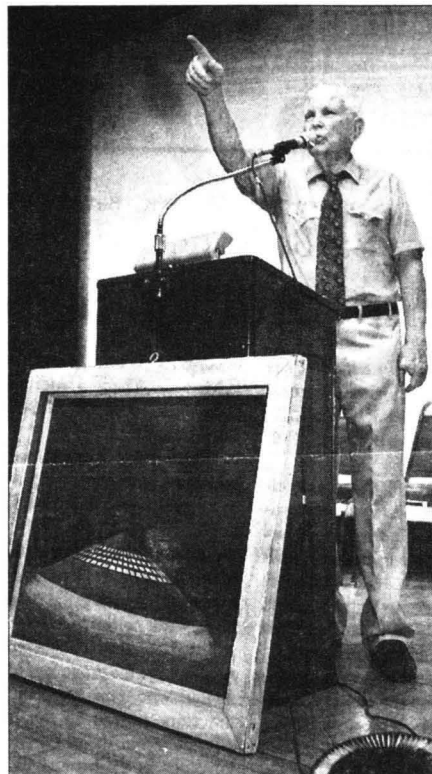
The seminar's featured speakers were not the only ones with stories to tell. Several members of the audience shared tales of their own unusual sightings.

Sim Hensley of Port Charlotte said that, back in 1974, he spotted a strange object in the sky 30 miles east of Cincinnati. At first he told no one about what he saw, because he didn't expect others to believe him.

He said he thinks people are too quick to dismiss the possibility of life on other worlds because it would change the way they view the world dramatically.

"It changes everything, especially with religion," Hensley said. "I think it could end a lot of our fighting, religious wars and things. We would have to re-evaluate everything."

Fear of being laughed at or branded insane, however, can keep people quiet about their encounters with the inexplicable.



During a UFO discussion Saturday at the Port Charlotte Cultural Center, Jimmy Flynn of Fort Myers describes his encounter in 1965 with an alien spacecraft.

STAFF PHOTO  
CARAH THOMAS

"This is the last time I'll ever talk about this in public," Flynn said. "I'm tired of being called a liar."

If the audience at the Cultural Center Theater is any indication, however, attitudes may be changing. Before he could leave the stage,

the room erupted in applause and people implored him to keep telling his story.

"I'm waiting for the day someone turns up the truth about this thing," Flynn said. "I hope I live that long."





[All British clippings courtesy of Timothy Good, unless otherwise credited.]

FOUR-TOWNS JOURNAL, Bredenburg, Saskatchewan, Canada - Sept. 11, 1996 CR: P. Anderson

## Crop circles found in area

What happened in a wheat field northeast of Rocanville last Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning?

mysteriously appear, cleanly carved into an otherwise ordinary field of tall wheat?

What left the stalks of wheat in the circles flattened and somehow

neatly interwoven?

Those are just some of the questions Rocanville area residents and dozens of visitors to the site have been pondering ever since the crop

circles were discovered last Wednesday morning.

The first circle was spotted by Bob Langley who was moving a swathe to an adjacent field for his

employer, Wayne Kingdon. Seeing what looked like a very corncob circle on the slope of a field he was passing Langley stopped to get a better look at it. He noticed a second circle a short distance away.

Langley contacted Kingdon and within a very short period of time they had called others out to the field to see what they had found.

According to Cindy Grainger, one of the first people to arrive "it was definitely very spooky" seeing the circles, but not seeing any tracks to them indicating that someone had been there.

With the absence of any tracks Kingdon believes that "whatever made those circles had to come from the top down."

Kingdon recalls that weather conditions the night before had been ideal for harvesting with only a slight breeze and no signs whatsoever of storm activities, thus ruling out violent windstorms or small funnel clouds.

He had, in fact, gone past the site at 6 the night before and had seen nothing out of the ordinary.

He is at a total loss to explain what took place. "If it was someone pulling a prank they did a helluva job."

Indeed they did. The wheat within the circles was flattened in a pattern spiralling counter-clockwise outwards from the centre. As well the stalks of wheat were loosely woven together.

The fact that the circles are on a piece of land being used to raise money for the local rink immediately created accusations that it was just a hoax to gain publicity and to boost fundraising efforts. Kingdon, who has become the brunt of those accusations, says he can't see any

possible link between the circles and fundraising.

If that was the purpose, he says, the circles would have been better located closer to a passable road and some means to collect some money from all the visitors would have been put in place.

As it is, the site has been visited by dozens of interested people since the news of the circles was publicized on radio and TV. Sightseers have found their way to the field from as far away as 100 miles and vehicles are regularly spotted parked near the circles.

One of those who did visit the site late last week was Dan Clairmont, an Esterhazy resident who is a part-time investigator for groups interested in strange or inexplicable occurrences.

Clairmont took samples of the wheat in the circle and the soil beneath them. He will forward that material to a Vancouver representative of an international organization which studies unusual phenomenon. That group will likely carry out a scientific analysis of the materials to see, among other things, if it had been briefly exposed to a high heat source. Samples taken from other crop circles have indicated that that has somehow occurred. That would not be evident from simply looking at the wheat but will require an analysis using a microscope.

While emphasizing that he has made no conclusions whatsoever about what he had seen, Clairmont hinted that "there were a few fishy things" about the incident. "But it's not up to me to determine that."

His measurements did, though, bring up an interesting point. While the circle on the flat piece of the field was almost an exact circle, measuring 45 1/2 feet by 46 feet, the other, situated on a slight incline, measured 44 1/2 by 46 feet.

Had whatever or whoever made the circles been using a point on the ground to serve as the centre point for the circle it would have been very close to being perfectly round. On the other hand, if the creator of the circle was using a point above ground it would not have taken the slope of the land into consideration when making the circle directly beneath it, resulting in a slightly oblate shape to the circle.

But, says Clairmont, it's hard to imagine someone maintaining a centre point in the air, all the time it took to create the circle in the wheat.

Nor did he find any indication that something had been stuck into the ground to act as a centre point.

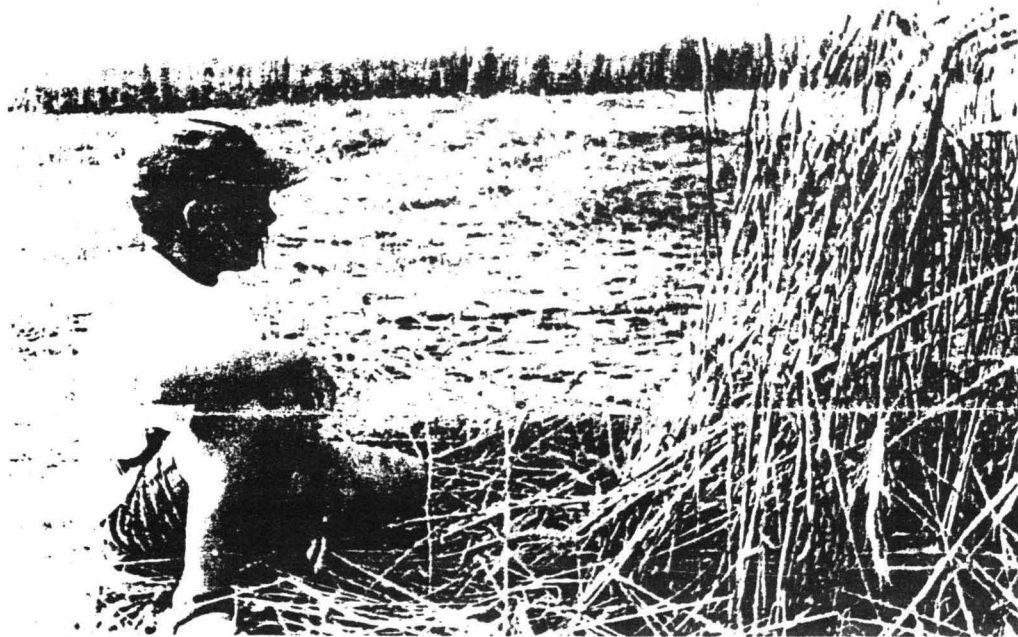
Other incidents reported since the circles were found have added strange twists to the Rocanville situation.

Horses being ridden out to the circle began to act very nervous as they got close to the circles. Two persons trying to take pictures had their camera batteries fall out of their cameras. Another person who had made a videotape of the circles found strange coloured patterns on the pictures on the tape.

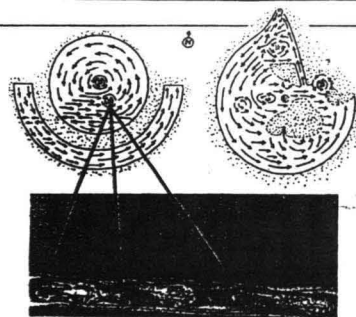
Kingdon himself recalls that when he lay down in one of the circles he began to feel as though he was spinning quickly in the direction of the wheat patterns and when he closed his eyes, rather than black, he saw a strange bright red colour. Others who did the same things also experienced those sensations.

If weather conditions permit the field the circles are in will likely be swathed this coming weekend, but it has been decided to swath around them, leaving the circles intact.

Kingdon reports that he's the type of person who has to see something before conclusively believing it, so the circles has left him with nothing but questions. "It sure makes you wonder," he says.



WHAT DID IT? Justin Chartier, 6, of Welwyn along with his dad Cam were among the dozens of people who visited a wheat field northeast of Rocanville this past week to see two mysterious circles which appeared over night.



Anatomical anomalies in crop formation plants

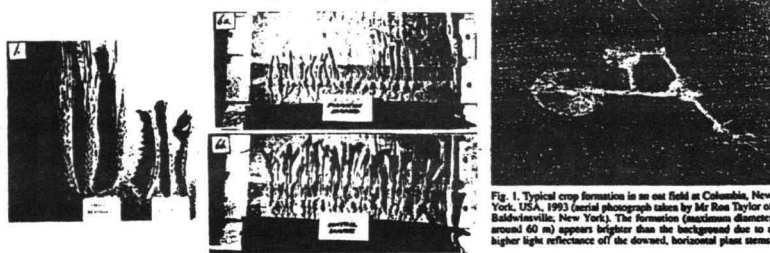


Fig. 1. Typical crop formation in an oat field in Columbia, New York, USA, 1993 (aerial photograph taken by Mr Ron Taylor of Baldwinsville, New York). The formation (maximum diameter around 60 m) appears lighter than the background due to a higher light reflectance of the downed, horizontal plant stems.

Evidence may point to a natural cause of crop circles like those found near Rocanville this summer

## A scientific explanation?

### Research group advances a theory about crop circles

By KEVIN WEEDMARK

A scientific explanation may spoil some of the fun of speculating about the crop circles that showed up in a field near Rocanville, but members of a research group that has been studying crop circles around the world think they have such a theory.

The theory is based on an energy burst that could be related to air pollution or the thinning ozone layer.

William Levengood of Grass Lake, Michigan is a research scientist with a Bachelor of Science degree in physics and mathematics from the University of Toledo, a Master of Arts degree in bioscience from Ball State University, a Master of Science and a PhD in biophysics from the University of Michigan.

Levengood first became interested in crop formations when a British crop formation investigator, Pat Delgado, asked if he would be willing to examine some plants taken from some British formations.

He agreed, and found some peculiarities about the plants.

Among the first observations was that, although the seed heads and glumes in the formation plants looked normal on the outside, inside they were devoid of seeds. The control plants taken outside the formations were normal and contained seeds. The formation plants also had a condition known as polyembryony, an uncommon genetic aberration which results in the formation of multiple embryos within a single glume, preventing the development of seeds.

These findings were duplicated in samples from other British formations. After ruling out other known causes for polyembryony, Levengood was left with one known possi-

bility—the condition can be produced by ionizing radiation.

Of the hundreds of sites from which samples have been taken, about 90 per cent reveal some or all of the changes.

In the early 1980s, a British meteorologist, Dr. Terrence Meaden, began researching the phenomenon. He specialized in research in atmospheric vortices, tornadoes, and whirlwinds, and suggested that crop formations, at least the simple circles, were the result of atmospheric vortices, perhaps accompanied by electrical forces.

Levengood and his research team have further developed the theory. Levengood suggests highly-charged complex ion plasma vortices which originate in the ionosphere.

In a 1994 paper published in *Physiologia Plantarum*, Levengood wrote "Crop formations consist of geometrically organized regions ranging from two to 80 m diameter, in which the plants (primarily grain crops) are flattened in a horizontal position."

"Plants from crop formations display anatomical alterations which cannot be accounted for by assuming the formations are hoaxes. Near the soil surface, the curved stems often form complex swirls with vortex-type patterns... evidence is presented which indicates that structural and cellular alterations take place in plants exposed within the confines of the circle type formations, differences which were determined to be statistically significant when compared with control plants taken from outside the formations."

Nancy Talbot, field research co-ordinator with the BLT Research Team, said in an interview Friday that people shouldn't be

surprised to find a natural cause to the sometimes complex patterns of crop formations.

"Think of a snowflake or a flower petal," she said. "Those are very complex patterns formed in nature. Fluid dynamics and plasma physics dictate the kind of patterns you can find in crop formations."

For a paper published in *Nature*, Levenson studied vortex instability by dropping denser liquids into perfectly still vats of water, and found a wide range of patterns can be formed randomly and spontaneously.

Talbot says that crop circle reports appear to vary on an 11 year cycle, in sync with the cycle of sunspot activity. The more sunspots, which produce radiation, the more crop circles.

She also believes the phenomenon may be related to the thinning ozone layer, which has been shown to allow more radiation into the atmosphere as it thins.

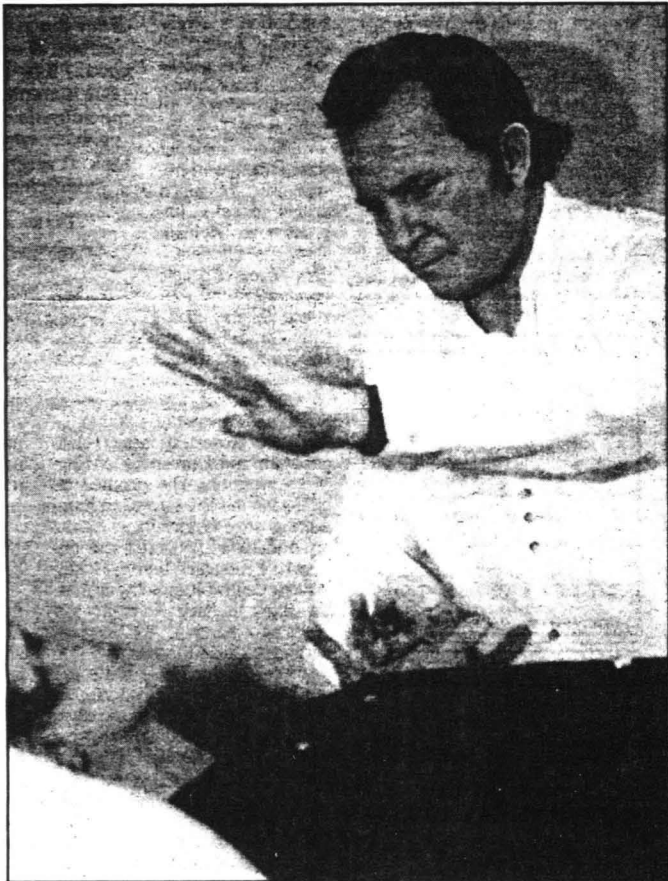
"We have a case where we have more and more radiation hitting the earth's surface, and this may be one thing that it's doing — creating these vortices," she said.

"But it may be an early warning for us. Whatever is causing this is making the plants infertile. What if it happened to all the crops? If it can do this to plants, what can it do to us?"

She compared the research into crop circles to early research into the effect of pesticides on marine mammals. "At first no one believed it, but now we know that one of the byproducts of pesticides is decreased fertility, and pesticides can be directly responsible for reproductive cancers in human beings. We feel our research is just as important as that early research into pesticides."

## IN THE NEWS

# 'HEALING' HANDS AND SPACE ALIENS



JANET WORNE/HERALD-LEADER

**Ze'ev Kolman** sought to apply his healing techniques yesterday on Barbara Bach of Wilder, Ky., who said his efforts had helped her before.

## Israeli claims meeting gave curing power

BY KEVIN NANCE  
HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

**Z**e'ev Kolman is a short, soft-spoken man with a strong Israeli accent and a tuft of reddish-brown hair that curls on top of his head.

On a mountain in the Sinai Desert in 1974, he says, he had an encounter with extraterrestrial beings that left him with a mysterious power to heal people with "bioenergy" that emanates from his hands.

Kolman is in Lexington through Thursday to treat people and to sign copies of his book — *The Secret of Healing*, co-written with Hans Holzer, author of *Ghost Hunter* and more than 100 other largely uncritical books about haunted houses, reincarnation, ESP and other paranormal phenomena — at Joseph-Beth Booksellers from 1-3 p.m. Sunday.

Kolman heals people, he says, by waving his hands over his patients, infusing them with a force they say they experience as warmth, tiny needles penetrating their bodies or spiderwebs pulling at their skin.

Robert Baker, a member of the Kentucky Association of Science Educators and Skeptics, a local group that investigates paranormal claims, said that Kolman is a type of New Age healer whose

techniques are highly suspect because they cannot be scientifically proved.

"The woods are full of these kinds of healers," Baker said. "Alternative medical practices such as acupuncture, hypnosis and others are undeniably popular in some quarters these days. But things like 'bioenergy' and 'energy fields' and so on — science generally doesn't accept this nonsense. He may believe he has these powers, but I guarantee you that if we put him in a laboratory and put them to the test, he would fall flat on his face."

Baker reserved his harshest criticism for Holzer, whose book titles include *Ghosts I've Met*. "He believes in ghosts, haunted houses

and the spirit world. He does not have the credibility that I think anybody in modern medicine would accept. I certainly would not trust his opinion about the healing powers of anybody."

Baker said that many of Kolman's patients may experience relief due to "the placebo effect."

"The power of suggestion is a very powerful force," he said. "When people believe, it can have a positive effect on some people."

Asked whether this effect was responsible for much of his patients' improvement, Kolman shrugged his shoulders. "Look, if people become healthy from the placebo effect, it's also good. I'll be happy. But if traditional medicine is no answer to a disease, why not look at alternative medicine?"

One patient who believes in Kolman's approach is Ralph G. Anderson, a wealthy farmer, businessman and University of Kentucky alumnus who donated \$2 million to the UK College of Engineering three years ago.

Anderson sponsored and underwrote Kolman's first weeklong visit to Central Kentucky in June. He plans to have Kolman as a guest at a party at his Harrodsburg cattle farm today.

"I really think this guy's got the healing power," said Anderson, who personally received treatment from Kolman and says he witnessed the Israeli heal a woman who could not walk. "I believe in that stuff."

During a visit at the Hilton Suites Hotel in Lexington yesterday, Kolman demonstrated his technique for a reporter and photographer. His patient was Barbara Bach of Wilder in Northern Kentucky, who in June was treated by Kolman for several ailments.

Maintaining a distance of about 4 inches, Kolman's hands swept over her body, lingering oc-



**"Look, if people become healthy from the placebo effect, it's also good. I'll be happy. But if traditional medicine is no answer ... why not look at alternative medicine?"**

ZE'EV KOLMAN

asionally at her head, abdomen and feet. At times he shook his fingers the way you would dry wet hands without a paper towel.

During her first treatment, Bach said, Kolman withdrew a yellow "poisonous abscess" through her navel. "We had to take I don't know how many Kleenexes and clean it up."

After the treatment, she said, she breathed more easily and felt better. Now she and her husband are planning to establish an alternative medical clinic in Northern Kentucky, which will receive regular visits from Kolman.

Kolman declined to discuss in detail his 1974 encounter with extraterrestrials, saying only that he didn't understand it. But in his book, he describes being approached by a "bean-shaped structure" and then being surrounded by a cloud that contained "eleven creatures, like human beings, standing around me in a half-circle. Their bodies were clear like milky glass; their heads were hairless; their eyes were outstanding; and ... their faces seemed to reflect my own."

After that, he writes, he woke up, descended the mountain to his camp — he was a reservist in the Israeli army — and soon discovered his healing powers.

Now Kolman maintains offices in Tel Aviv and Vienna and travels the world treating people for a variety of illnesses, including cancer, back pain, eye and ear problems, problems in women's reproductive systems, mental illness and non-functioning limbs.

Kolman's clients include several celebrities, including U.S. Sen. Claiborne Pell, singer Carly Simon, actor Robert Wagner and others. Soon after he leaves Lexington, Kolman said, he will be traveling to Moscow "to heal a very famous ailing person. I won't tell you his name, but you can guess."

## No wonder their eyes were like saucers!

**STEEL**END bar stewardess Margaret Mellon nearly lost her bottle when she had a close encounter for the first time.

Margaret (58), 22 Midfield Terrace, was preparing to go to bed around 3am last Thursday after watching a video with her sister-in-law, Janet Duffy.

She had just got into bed when Janet, who sleeps with her curtains open, told her to come into her room.

The pair saw the sky above Saline Hill light up — orange,

tinged with pale blue. They then watched in amazement as a massive craft started to fly towards their house.

"It was not a meteorite. It was definitely a craft of some kind as it had flares as if some kind of gas were coming out of the bottom," Ms Mellon said.

"I was absolutely flabbergasted and Janet was out for the count, because she was so frightened that it was going to hit the house. I just wish that I had had a film in my camera so that I had some evidence to show

everybody."

The strange craft took no less than three-quarters of an hour to reach their house before it flew over the rooftop and disappeared in the direction of Oakley, she suggested.

Margaret, who works in Steelend Miners' Welfare Club, admits she was reluctant to report the phenomenon for fear of being ridiculed.

"I have always been a sceptic as I have always thought that seeing was believing," she said. "I definitely believe now!"

## UFO watchers spot 'boomerang' object

UFO watchers have received reports of a boomerang-shaped craft hovering over homes at Clayton.

The recently-formed Potteries Organisation for Paranormal Investigation say the mystery object was spotted last week.

Spokesman Gary Cartledge said: "A lady saw a 'flying boomerang' which circled in the sky before it headed off towards Hanchurch. It came back several times - occasionally disappearing into cloud cover."

"She said it was black and solid in appearance, but gave the impression that it changed shape as it moved. No engine noise was heard and it did not bank as a conventional aircraft has to do as it changes direction in the sky."

Checks with local flying clubs in case it could have been a glider drew a blank.

Mr Cartledge would like anyone else who had sightings of the unidentified flying object to contact POPI on 01782 593719.

Evening Sentinel, Stoke-on-Trent, England - May 20, 1996

## Mystery light was UFO, says video man

**SKYWATCHER** Gary Steadman grabbed his video camera to record what he thinks could have been a UFO hovering above Barnsley town centre.

He spotted the mysterious bright light as he stood at the door of his Bismarck Street home a fortnight ago. Now he has decided to release the film in the hope other people who may have seen the UFO will come forward.

His own enquiries to solve the mystery have drawn a blank — with RAF bases in Lincolnshire telling him no military aircraft were in the Barnsley area on the night.

West Yorkshire Police have also confirmed that the force's helicopter — which has triggered several UFO false alarms in the past — was nowhere near Barnsley.

"The light was too big and too bright for it to have been a helicopter," said Gary. "It seemed to be shining through the clouds and the flight was too fast and erratic for a plane."

The UFO was first spotted at around 9.30pm but vanished within a few seconds. It reappeared a few minutes later and was then clearly visible for more than 10 minutes before vanishing.

## Strange shape in the night skies

**WITH** reference to the Echo story "UFO sighted over sea" (April 1) — I must write regarding an experience my daughter and myself had on the night of March 28 while looking skyward for Hyakutake's Comet, at 8.30 at night.

I have never believed in UFOs but what we witnessed was rather unusual.

Suddenly appearing from direct west, heading east and almost overhead, an object appeared shaped like a boomerang with equally spaced lights around its perimeter. At first we thought it was a plane, but it was completely silent, moving at a fair speed, and it then disappeared as fast as it appeared.

I would be very interested to know if there have been other sightings similar to this one.

**RAY SHEPPARD,**  
Richmond Park Avenue,  
Queen's Park,  
Bournemouth

Evening Echo, Bournemouth, England - April 18, 1996

Dunfermline Press, Fife, Scotland May 17, 1996



# History that's out of this world

**QUESTION:** Did the ancient Greeks or Romans spot any flying saucers or similar extraterrestrial activities?

THERE is good evidence that there have always been sightings of what we now term UFOs. For example, an illustration in the Swiss Library in Zurich depicts globes of light being seen by amazed onlookers above Basle on August 7, 1566.

Perhaps the most intriguing story concerns the Dogon tribe of Mali in Africa. Earlier this century two French anthropologists spent 19 years living among them and discovered that the Dogon possessed extraordinary knowledge about astronomy. They knew of the rings around Saturn and the moons of Jupiter, despite these being relatively recent scientific discoveries.

Sceptics claim such knowledge came from missionaries. The Dogon say the information was given 10,000 years ago by an alien race that came from a planet around Sirius. They were reputedly given details of the Sirius System, which was not formed from a single star like our sun. Seemingly the Dogon were aware of the detail that only modern astronomical techniques have begun to verify — including some detail our science still has to confirm or disprove.

Almost every ancient culture recounts visits by a race from the stars. One of the most scholarly researchers — albeit rather unsung — was Sunderland man Raymond Drake — whose book during the Fifties and Sixties preempted Von Daniken. Drake found various



Spaceship sighting: Did flying saucers visit in classical times?

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

references in Greek and Roman writings. The terminology was typical of the day with blazing swords, shields and the like crossing the sky.

The big problem with ancient UFO reports is that few people were able to read or write so things weren't documented properly. Much went by word of mouth and became distorted over the centuries.

Jenny Randles, Paranormal Researcher, Fleetwood, Lancs.

SOUTHERN DAILY ECHO, Southampton, England - May 11, 1996

# 'I know they're out there. . .'

UFO experts are investigating the extraordinary story of a Hampshire woman who claims to have been abducted by aliens carrying out a sinister programme of "genetic harvesting."

Mum Karen Smith has convinced hardened sceptics that her story is genuine. She is being backed up by members of her family who also believe they have seen strange lights and alien beings.

Karen, 34, from Romsey, said she has been visited by aliens every seven years since the age of seven — but only has she now plucked up the courage to talk about her experiences.

"I know people may think I am crazy but I know what I have seen and experienced," said Karen. "I really believe I am being used as a breeding machine. It's very upsetting to speak about what has happened."

Karen claims grey figures with large black eyes have pinned her to the bed and on one occasion, inserted a glowing tube into her stomach.

This week she volunteered to undergo regression with one of Britain's top hypnotherapists in an attempt to remember more about her experiences.

Her father and grandfather also claim to have encountered the aliens and the entire family often make sure they are awake between 3am and 4am, when the visitations always occur.

## Exclusive by James Chapman

Investigators at Encounters magazine, which features stories about the paranormal, said Karen's claims are "the most amazing story of family abduction" they had ever come across.

UFO expert Marcus Walker said: "We have lots of reports of alien abduction but many do not stand up to proper investigation."

"But Karen's story is extremely convincing and backed up by her own relatives. We have no doubt at all about her claims."

Recalling her most vivid encounter, Karen said: "It always starts with a humming noise in my head — then I know they are coming."

"There are bright white lights and then these grey figures about four feet tall. They have very hypnotic eyes."

"You can communicate with them but it is always unspoken. I know they can sense my fear."

Karen claims that the creatures have inserted a tube into her belly button — which UFO experts say may point to the aliens "harvesting" eggs from her ovaries.

Karen runs the Body Graphics tattoo parlour in Eastleigh, and is doing a fine trade in tattoos of the alien creatures she claims are out there...

PRESS GAZETTE, London, England - June 7, 1996

# Two new magazines promise objective UFO reporting

By Andrew Johnson

Two magazines promising objective investigations into UFOs and their related phenomena, such as abductions and crop circles, launch this month.

Sightings from Rapide Publishing and Ark Soundwaves' first magazine, *UFO Reality*, aim to break away from the sensational by emphasising the quality of their research and experts.

Mike Ktomi, editor of *UFO Reality*, said: "We aim to present an optimistic view of UFO phenomena. There's a lot of strong information about it which is suppressed or lost. For example, the Mexican government officially recognises that UFOs exist because there are so many flying over Mexico City."

He said the magazine would cover stories only from credible witnesses, such as astronauts, soldiers and government officials, here and in the USA, where the magazine will also be distributed.

The magazine has teamed up with a national paper to launch research into UFO sightings in the UK. This project is to be unveiled later this month.

Mark Smith, editor of *Sightings*, said the magazine would take an 'objective and sceptical' look at UFOs. "People are interested in the detail of these phenomena," he said.

"We will have one reporter whose brief is to go round the country speaking to people who've claimed to have seen UFOs."

Features in the first issue include an interview with former MoD UFO agent Nick Pope and a look at the story behind the Fox film *Independence Day*.

*Sightings* is a £2.95 monthly with an initial print run of 50,000 and a settlement circulation after a year of 25,000-30,000. It has four full-time staff and is expecting to use 12 freelance contributors.

*UFO Reality* is a £2.50 bi-monthly with a print run of 33,000 and will also employ four full-time staff. Ktomi is hoping for a settlement circulation of more than 100,000, including in the USA, once it is established.

It is the first venture into publishing by Ark Soundwaves, which started by distributing videos on UFOs.



COURIER & ADVERTISER, Dundee, Scotland - May 8, 1996

# UFO enthusiasts disappointed with appeal response

LOCAL UFO enthusiasts are disappointed with the response from members of the public after an appeal was put out in February for information from witnesses of unidentified flying objects.

In the first four months of the year, numerous sightings of bright lights in the skies over Tayside and Fife have been reported.

In February, a spate of encounters flooded in after three Broughty Ferry children saw something out of the ordinary in Orchar Park. Another boy described an object as "like a rugby ball with lights," seen near Broughty Castle the week before.

The appliance of science has helped explain many recent sightings of unidentified flying objects.

Only last week, the sighting of three strange lights over Newport by a man walking down Dundee's Forfar Road was dismissed as probably being a Hercules transport plane from RAF Leuchars.

Astronomical, meteorological and natural phenomenon have also been put forward as explanations.

But according to Bob Stewart, of Cupar, who does research for Stirling-based Strange Phenomenon Investigations (SPI), a lot of questions still remain unanswered.

He has worked with Dundee man Graham

Beedie on collating information from the local area for the British UFO Research Association.

"After the Orchar Park sighting, Graham and I interviewed the children and we are totally convinced they saw something which cannot be explained by scientific means," he said.

"They described a structured craft about 300 feet off the ground, and said a smaller craft emerged from a mother ship."

"We have tried to convince other witnesses to come forward but the response from the public has been quite disappointing."

Bob is currently investigating bizarre sightings of lights seen by puzzled residents of Kirkcaldy in April, and would like to trace the person who took a video of the incidents, as reported at the time.

Bob has just returned from a conference at Leeds University where evidence of a Government cover-up was presented by one of the country's leading UFO researchers.

Bob said, "Many people give statements to the papers about what they have seen but wish to remain anonymous, making it very difficult for us to investigate."

"We want to find out exactly what is going on and the only way we can do this is if people come forward."

TIMES, Oban, England - May 23, 1996

# Did you see a UFO?

Dear Madam

I am writing to you in the hope that you may be able to help me.

I have recently received a report through the British UFO Research Association regarding the alleged 'sighting' of two 'unidentified flying objects'. The incident occurred on the A82 between Tyndrum and Bridge of Orchy on February 1 1996 at approximately 7.15pm.

The incident is reported to have been witnessed by three cars on the above mentioned road - I am in contact with the occupant of one of those cars. The observed objects are said to have been triangular in shape with red and green lights. One of the objects came within close proximity of one of the cars, reportedly within 20 or 30 feet of the car's righthand door. I would therefore request that anyone, and in particular the occupants of the other two motor vehicles who may have observed these same objects, contact me so that I may try to establish whether there is any validity and credence to this report.

Anonymity will be upheld if requested.

I thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Graham Beedie  
1E Dudhope Court  
Dundee  
Tayside

# 'Alien abduction' fascinates the media



Woman wants incident to be taken seriously

by MARK BEALES

A LITTLE Clacton woman told this week why she revealed to millions that she was abducted by aliens. The incredible story has meant she has been on eight TV shows and been in two national papers.

Ros Reynolds-Parnham claims she was kidnapped by "beings" and that 14 years on is still finding it hard to cope with.

Mrs Reynolds-Parnham, 35, of Plough Corner, Little Clacton, said she has not received a penny for her stories and does not relish the limelight.

She added she just wanted her case to be taken seriously.

Since the incident the Essex UFO Research Group learned of the story and it then found its way to The People newspaper in 1991 and since then the phone has not stopped ringing.

So far she has been on GMTV, Good Morning with Anne and Nick, This Morning, The Esther chat show, The Magic and Mystery Show, The Time, The Place, Kilroy and The Kelly Show in Ireland.

She has also been in Saturday's Daily Mirror and

the The People, is due to be on TV's Babylon Zoo and Radio Five Live soon.

She is also in Without Consent, a book by Carl Nagaitis and Philip Mantle.

The incident is said to have happened in 1982 when she was in Sudbury with a friend.

She said a bright object hovered over her car for several minutes, keeping track with the vehicle as it moved.

She added: "It just came straight over the top of us.

## TERRIFYING

"It came back over two or three times and that's when it was parallel to us, matching our speed. I wound the window down and had a good look."

The car then stopped as if it had run out of petrol and "we were sitting in the middle of the road with this thing over our heads, it was terrifying."

"We had a row over who would get out of the car and the last thing I remember was Philip bending over the

engine."

Mrs Reynolds-Parnham claims the next 3½ hours are a mystery and she only remembers waking up with the car engine running and the lights back on.

She said: "I remember two beings with little heads and big eyes, they were bluey grey and about 3ft 6ins.

"They took me on to the ship which was pinky grey inside like a waiting room. I don't remember any windows, just a pedestal in the middle."

"I remember them doing some kind of experiment, they were very cold, very unemotional and very calculating. "I remember the smell and the atmosphere, it was horrible like rotten eggs."

Ros said there were up to six beings but they did not speak to her.

Her friend could not recall anything happening.

The term "alien" is not liked by Ros as she thinks there

Ros Reynolds-Parnham - doesn't relish the limelight.



could be several explanations.

While asleep, she said, she has produced several strange drawings of her experience and when attempts have been made to discover what happened, she claims they have ended mysteriously.

In 1988 there were attempts made to hypnotise her but she claimed all the clocks there stopped, a beam of light appeared and a sceptic was pinned to the wall and was later found to have claw marks on him.

She said she has constant headaches and was left with physical scars from the incident.

After telling friends about the case she said they all deserted her and she now comforts herself with her prize-winning dogs.

As she finds it hard to sleep she normally stays up until 3am communicating with people on the Internet, a global network of computers.

Ros said: "I've never said to anybody it was definitely aliens, it's embarrassing and upsetting."

"It could be aliens, it could be something else. I'm very, very open-minded about it. It's not in my head."

'Two beings with little heads and big eyes'

PORTSMOUTH NEWS, Hants., England - May 21, 1996



GILES Broadbent

## Space aliens invaded my binoculars

Once again I find myself in a minority. Not that minorities are inherently bad places to reside. In fact, there are distinct advantages: good seats at the annual convention are never in short supply, for example.

Unfortunately, this minority is different. It contains the greatest collection of discredited, abused and put-upon wannabes ever brought together since the SDP and the Liberals sought common ground.

You see - and I sense the impending collapse of my credibility - I've seen a UFO. No, I wasn't whisked away by shiny-domed, blank-eyed dwarfs or ordered to mate with the six-suckered planthart of the Pronteous 5; I simply saw a flying object that escaped all explanation.

It happened one summer's evening when I was about 12. I was laying down, back against the pavement with my swanky new binoculars hard to my eyes. As I was scanning the heavens a small ball of light whisked across the lenses like the blip on a heart monitor.

I followed it keenly, adrenalin pumping, and, in a matter of seconds, it whisked across the dome of stars to rendezvous with three other glowing objects hovering in a triangular formation.

After a while they sped off together and vanished in a blur.

For obvious reasons, I've kept quiet until now. Then last week I read extracts from a new book called *Open Skies*.

*Closed Minds* which recounted the 'triangular'

phenomenon as one of many recognised UFO mysteries.

'Admittedly, my close encounter of the turgid kind was dull by comparison to many.'

The author is former civil servant Nick Pope, who used to be Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a at the MoD. In other words, he was Whitehall's UFO man, Sir Humphrey doing Fox Mulder's job.

His brief was to collect all information relating to unexplained activity, investigate thoroughly and then be sure to dismiss them all as aircraft lights witnessed by losers, weirdos and New Age travellers.

But Mr Pope, not a man prone to wild imaginings and conspiracy theories, found the number of inexplicable occurrences and the welter of credible encounters too great to dismiss as the loony rantings of cider-drinking farmhands on lonely country lanes.

The man from the ministry became so convinced that there was something out there that he blew the gaffe.

He concluded: 'By the time I ceased to be UFO desk officer I had formed the view that UFOs were potentially the most important issue currently facing the human race.'

So the least I can do is prepare my smug, I-told-you-so smile and start storing tinned peaches under the stairs.

Of course, you're free to dismiss me as a crank or - more kindly - believe that I am mistaken. But I don't need any validation. Because disbelief won't alter the facts whatever the facts may be.

Admittedly, my close encounter of the turgid kind was dull by comparison to many. But if I did see an alien craft - and I'm still ready to be convinced either way - I'll never witness a more epic sight.

Until they land, of course.

# 'I SAW A UFO OVER POLEGATE' Visitor's claim after mystery lights

A WOMAN staying in Polegate is convinced she saw a UFO flying over the town in the early hours of last Wednesday.

Mrs Olive Stookes, who lives in Peckham, was enjoying an Easter break with her husband at a friend's house in Hailsham Road, Polegate,

By Penny Moran

at the time of the sighting.

She claims she saw three different coloured circular objects, one silver, one red and one green, each one the size of a small dinner plate,

flying through the sky at 4.20am. As they approached they appeared to change into triangular shapes.

According to Mrs Stookes, the objects were coming from the Hastings direction and heading towards Lewes. They were flying at a reasonably slow speed and in an aircraft display formation, but were not making any noise.

She said, 'I was having trouble sleeping. I got up, looked out of the window and saw what, at first, looked like a satellite. It was like something you'd expect to see on television. It was all very fascinating and lasted about 20 seconds, but it was also very peculiar.'

She added, 'I couldn't have mistaken what I saw for anything else because the skies were clear and there were no stars. I hadn't been drinking and I certainly

wasn't dreaming. I realise some people may not take this seriously and I can understand that - I have reservations about UFOs myself!

'I just find it hard to accept the fact that I might have been the only person to have seen the UFO. Someone else must have seen it.'

The friend Mrs Stookes was visiting, Ivy Cook, said she found it hard to believe her friend had seen a UFO, but added that Mrs Stookes was 'very stable, not the sort of person that imagines things'.

Police said they had not received any other reports of UFOs in the area that night.

However they stated the police helicopter was out during the early hours of Wednesday morning in the Polegate area, and 'this could have explained the sighting.'

GAZETTE, Eastbourne, England

April 10, 1996

BURTON MAIL, Staffs., England - May 21, 1996

## 'Region is a hot spot for flying triangles'

BURTON and South Derbyshire has been declared a UFO "hot spot" zone after dozens of mysterious sightings during the last month.

Investigators have been inundated with calls about "flying triangles" and other UFOs.

They came after close encounters with two giant craft by postal worker Mr Tom Culleton in Winhill

He told the *Mail* he watched one "the size of a football pitch" gliding over homes during the early hours of May 1, and spotted a massive triangular craft two nights later.

The case, which was featured in the *Mail*, was taken up by the Derby-based Phenomenon Research Association, which issued an appeal for spotters to come forward.

Group leader Mr Omar Fowler said he received 30 phone calls the night the paper came out, followed by about half a dozen over the next few days.

"Burton is one of the hot spots of UFO activity. Big questions are being asked throughout the UFO community."

The *Mail* has also received reports, including one from a woman in St Paul's Square on May

16.

She described a craft with a very bright light over Shobnall Fields.

Another woman, from Scrop-ton, reported two very large flying saucers over her house on Saturday night, making noises like fireworks.

Mr Fowler can be contacted on (01332) 761464.

SHEPESHED ECHO, Leics., England - May 10, 1996

## UFOs sighted over Queen's Park

THE STORIES of the mysterious green light over Loughborough in the *Echo* in January and of a UFO sighting by a local man have prompted an East Leake woman to contact us.

More than 40 years ago, Mary Wain was walking in Queen's Park when she saw two mysterious UFOs overhead.

She said: "It was in the middle of a summer's day and the sky was bright blue. Although it was so long ago it was so remarkable that I have never forgotten it."

She recalls that the two cigar-shaped flying objects were high in the sky and of a shiny bronzed colour. They did not have wings but on the sides there were whirling circles which were gradually going round. Once over the park one went to the left and the other turned right.

Mrs Wain is still perplexed as to what she saw. "We didn't have a TV and UFOs were not talked about like they are now," she told the *Bystander*.

If you have any idea what Mrs Wain might have seen, please contact the *Bystander* on Loughborough 232632 or write to the Loughborough and Shepeshed Echo, Echo House, 18 Jubilee Drive, Belton Park, Loughborough, LE11 5TQ.





# Experts mum on Hull Hum

By DAVID WEBER

Call it the Hull Hum. Or perhaps the Nahant Oscillation.

Call it whatever you want, and prepare to hear varied theories about the cause of the mysterious droning vibration that has been heard and felt by residents of the peninsular towns of Nahant and Hull and even neighboring Hingham since last month and possibly earlier.

The only sure things about this mystery are that the strange rumblings are not related to earthquakes, according to MIT and Boston College experts, and that state environmental officials haven't a clue about their source.

"To be absolutely honest

## Residents mull source of mystery vibrations

with you, nobody has any firm ideas," said state Department of Environmental Protection spokesman John Rodman. "Nobody has anything as a likely avenue of pursuit. People are still looking for answers, but this is a strange one."

Those who have heard the "hum" say it sounds like an engine running in the distance. Those who feel it notice picture frames vibrating against walls or feel their windows rattling.

Some people say the vibrations last only a few minutes and are felt only at certain times of the day. Others say they go on for hours and are likely to oc-

cur any time of the day or night.

"It sounds like an airplane flying underground," one person said.

"It's sort of like a rumble," said Elizabeth Campiglia of Hull. "My ears told me something was going on. You could put your fingers on the window and feel it."

Another Hull resident, Anne Rogers of Christine Road, said, "When I first felt it, I didn't pay much attention because we have so many airplanes that fly over our house. But there weren't any airplanes flying over our house (at the time).

"I think it's the drilling out there," she theorized.

The "drilling" is the most popular theory and refers to the work under way by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, which is boring a tunnel 400 feet beneath the floor of Massachusetts Bay for a sewage outfall pipe.

The MWRA project provides a fine explanation, except project spokesman Paul DiNatale said the drilling temporarily ceased about two weeks ago, just about the time most people began to notice the vibrations.

Not to mention the fact

that the 9 1/2-mile MWRA tunnel was under construction for almost five years before people began hearing the hum.

Other theories range from the Central Artery project to jet engines being tested at odd hours at Logan Airport to underground springs.

One former Rhode Island resident said he used to feel vibrations at his coastal home when the supersonic Concorde jet departed New York and took a northward path before turning east toward Paris.

The most intriguing theory involves a phenomenon known as the "Taos

Hum," named for the New Mexico town where residents claim to have begun hearing a mysterious hum in 1991. The sound was described as that of diesel engine or distant train.

While no one has pinpointed the cause of the Taos Hum, one explanation advanced by a University of New Mexico engineer was that it resulted from low-frequency noises such as those emanating from worldwide submarine communications. The Navy has a submarine communication transmission station in Maine.

But none of these theories have yet to pan out.

"It's weird. It's amazing," Rogers said. "All the sudden, you start wondering." □

TIMES, Waitsburg, WA - Sept. 19, 1996

## VANCE ORCHARD: Touchet Valley Ramblings

### New Bigfoot book

Literature about Bigfoot/Sasquatch had an interesting ... to say the least ... addition in a recent book authored by a Russian scientist who has devoted many years to the subject.

Russian scientists have taken the lead in the search for the truth about Bigfoot, (or "Snowman") the government sponsoring research. This story has been ongoing for many years, but until this book by Dmitri Bayanov, the West has had little information.

Such publications here as "Bigfoot Co-op" and "Cryptozoology" have printed some articles by Bayanov but that is about the size of it.

Bayanov's book, "In the Footsteps of the Russian Snowman," clears up and details what has been going on in Russia. It makes highly interesting ... and eyebrow-raising ... reading, to say the least.

Bayanov has compiled information about the Russian Snowman dating back hundreds of years, arranging the information chronologically, from accounts of medieval travelers to the sighting reports of the present. Here he has put together the accounts of observations of the Bigfoot in the wild and even in captivity, including a case of interbreeding with humans.

There, I told you there would be some eyebrow-raising!

Bayanov has been engaged in the Bigfoot/Snowman investigation since 1964, so is no stranger or novice to this field. He is a founding member of the International Society of Cryptozoology, organized in 1982 (the year Paul Freeman ran into a Bigfoot in the Blue Mountains). He has served on the ISC board for 10 years.

Bayanov is but one of the several Russian researchers who have contributed to this book's contents. This is the first English-language book about the searches for the Bigfoot in the former Soviet Union. It is of interest to quote Bayanov

about his background and reasons for becoming involved in the Snowman search.

"I became involved in it all mainly out of a philosophical interest in the nature and destiny of man. I believe there is no other living organism on earth today which can tell us as much about man's origin as the relict hominoid (Bigfoot).

"In the eloquent words of my Canadian colleague, John Green, 'this is not a game or a fantasy, it is a question of serious scientific research of tremendous importance. It may not have the glamour of moon shoots, but in what it can teach us about our origins and our physical potential it may be even more important.'

"That was the start. As my involvement and knowledge grew I realized that the subject is steeped in folklore and mythology, thus giving us new insights into history and prehistory. Crowning it all, the hominologist feels a bit like a Sherlock Holmes, racking his brains over sightings, footprints and other clues, under the ever skeptical eye, in this case, not of Scotland Yard,... but the Scientific Establishment."

And, bet your bottom dollar on the Scientific Establishment giving this book the hard eyeball!

While the chapters on the case of a Bigfoot interbreeding with a human were of much interest, I was captivated by accounts of the Snowman's attraction to horses. There were instances of a Snowman having plaited the mane hair of horses and stories of Snowman riding horses to the horses' exhaustion.

This information reminded me of the accounts in my book "Bigfoot of the Blues," in which a St. John, Wash., woman, Sheryl Jenkins, tells of seeing Bigfoots on more than one occasion. In each

case, she was riding horseback on a lonely trail adjacent to Mill Creek Watershed.

According to Bayanov's research, "Wildmen (aka Bigfoot, Snowman) are fascinated by horses and other hoofed animals, so it is pure logic to make full use of this in a bid to befriend a wildman."

Which quotation ties in with another Bayanov statement:

"I never tire of stressing that the solution of the hominoid problem lies first and foremost in biology and only in the second place in technology."

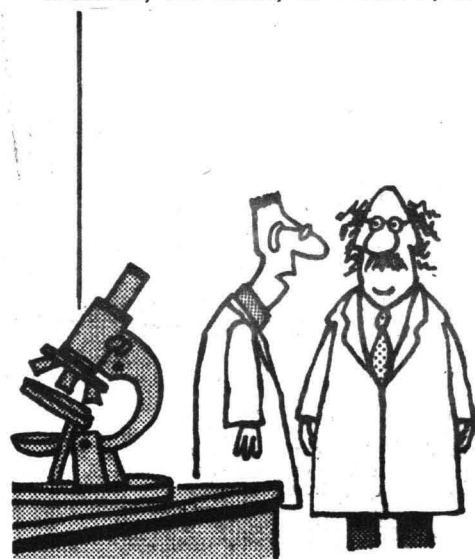
And then there's this one, too.

"It is better to see one (Bigfoot) than hear (of one) a hundred times."

It will be highly interesting to see how the Scientific Establishment reacts to this book of Bayanov's.

To get a copy, check with your local bookstore or write to the Bigfoot Co-op, 14602 Montevideo Drive, Whittier, CA 90605. Cost is \$18.50, postage included.

REGISTER, New Haven, CT - Oct. 5, 1996



"What a letdown — there were no LITTLE GREEN PEOPLE on Mars."

### Full Mars story yet to unfold

When NASA recently announced it had found ancient life forms in a Martian meteorite, the media had a field day. It was all very positive and well-received by the public, who went abuzz with excitement.

But it bothered me that the whole thing seemed to be a carefully planned media event as the networks led off the evening news with the story and the print media followed suit next day. It was all a little too pat.

My skepticism was deepened when, a day later, it was announced that a White House conference on the subject of life on Mars was scheduled for November. Anyone who knows anything about conference scheduling knows it takes a lot longer than that to pull together a conference of scientific presentations.

The obvious conclusion was that the life-on-Mars story was known to government insiders much earlier and its release as a news story was carefully timed for political reasons.

The clincher came out of the Dick Morris scandal. Morris, who was President Clinton's re-election campaign manager, resigned in disgrace when a tabloid newspaper re-

vealed that he'd been dallying with a high-priced hooker, letting her listen in to phone calls with the president and making other breaches of national security.

Among the revelations made by the hooker: She knew a week ahead of the public about the life-on-Mars story.

All this adds up to strong indication that the White House is preparing the public for further revelations about either Mars or alien life in contact with Earth, or both. Small wonder. Since 1976 there has been photographic indication of extraterrestrial life on Mars; a mile-wide formation in the Cydonia region is popularly known as the "Face on Mars" and appears to be artificially created, not natural.

Furthermore, since 1990 two Mars orbiters — one Russian, one American — have mysteriously ceased functioning as they approached Mars. With several spacecraft scheduled to probe Mars next year and with the public clamoring for the truth about UFOs, I suspect that the life-on-Mars story is much bigger than the White House is letting on.

John W. White  
Cheshire

CR: J. White



Night People know him

as the clearinghouse

for bizarre nouveau

## Art Bell: Radio's prince of the paranormal

By Dennis Roberts  
Bee staff writer

Forget hobgoblins, witches and headless horsemen. For a really spooky Halloween, tune in to Art Bell, America's number one radio voice to the folks on the graveyard shift.

"I stay up just because I want to hear Art's show," says Modesto fan Charlene Pendleton, one of an estimated 8 to 10 million listeners who catch Bell's program, which he broadcasts live from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m. nightly.

Who's Art Bell? You must be a Day Person. Night People know him as the clearinghouse for *bizarre nouveau* — the new folklore that is enhancing (or, some say, explaining) the culture's spook stories with tales of UFOs, remote viewing, prophecy, alien abductions, lost Martian civilizations, crop circles and time travel.

Art Bell spin-offs include a monthly color magazine, "Art Bell After Dark," an autobiography, "The Art of Talk," and a popular web page sight on the Internet. "Coast to Coast AM," Bell's Monday through Friday program, has grown from about 165 affiliates a year ago to more than 300 today. "Dreamland," his Sunday night program which deals exclusively with paranormal subjects, is carried on 215 stations.

"The exotic stuff Art talks about really helps you stay awake," says Darrin Sales, a Modesto security guard who's been listening to Bell's program over KFTV Radio 1360 for about four months. And, Sales says, "more and more people seem to be listening. It makes for some weird conversations."

Weird indeed. Current Art Bell topics include *chupacabra* (the flying "goat sucker" that drains blood from victims), reverse speech, secret messages of the pyramids, and — oh, yeah — the coming jet



Jim Lawrence/The Bee

# RADIO W-EIRD

stream holocaust that will pretty much wipe out most of humankind.

Even Art Bell himself admits this stuff is weird.

But, he says, it also might be true.

Sitting in the family room of his home in Pahrump, Nev., about 50 miles northwest of Las Vegas, Bell explains that he's always been interested in the paranormal. And, yes, he has personally seen a UFO.

"It was after 11 at night," Bell recalls of the incident, which took place five years ago when he and his wife, Ramona, were returning home to Pahrump from Las Vegas.

"Suddenly Ramona said, 'What is THAT?' Coming up behind us was a very large triangular craft. I pulled the car over and got out and when I did, here it was coming directly over our car. It was at about 150 feet in altitude and from one point of the triangle to the next was about 150 feet. It

blotted out the moon and the stars.

"It literally came directly over us. It was making zero sound. You could hear crickets a quarter mile away. It wasn't flying. It was floating ... and we stood and watched it float over the whole valley." The object stayed in view for about five minutes.

"He (Art) always wants to see stuff like that," says Ramona. "But it was one of those sights I could have really done without seeing for my whole lifetime."

The Bell's home is within gawking distance of the military's worst-kept secret — Area 51. There, depending on which story you believe, authorities are hiding alien spacecraft, alien bodies and/or unbelievably advanced flying machines and weaponry. Could the craft they saw have come from there?

"When you've seen something like that, you know one of two things," Bell says. "Either we have technology that's way beyond what they admit we have. Or it came from somewhere else. Those are your two possibilities."

### Threatening messages

Bell broadcasts six nights a week from his home, using a bedroom-sized studio packed with audio boards, computers and other electronic paraphernalia. A fax machine in the family room buzzes into action frequently, as Art Bell listeners feed him newspaper and magazine stories, their own personal experiences

and — fairly often — threatening messages. He receives threats by fax, phone and mail, a situation that has prompted both Bell and his wife, Ramona, to obtain concealed weapons permits. Their desert home — whose location, Bell tells visitors, must not be revealed — is surrounded by a chain link fence with a locked gate, put up earlier this year when the number of threats increased along with his fame.

Who, you might ask, would want Bell dead? Callers and guests suggest government agents might arrange his demise because he is too close to the truth about UFO coverups and secret military programs.

Then, too, government agencies might be concerned about Bell's "Roswell artifacts" — a batch of metal pieces sent to him by an anonymous listener. Now known as "Art's Parts," the pieces supposedly were recovered from the legendary UFO crash which believers say took place near Roswell, N.M., in 1947.

Self-professed Satanists and vampires are another source of worry, as are militant fundamentalists who believe God would be pleased to have Art Bell off the airwaves.

"In the calls that I've taken, I've found that some people ... who are deeply religious ... get very, very angry," Bell says.

"Many of them believe that we are the only intelligent life anywhere, and if we're not, some of their basic tenets are threatened."

### The devil's mouthpiece?

Though Bell is "Lutheran by birth," he doesn't profess any particular religious view. Neither skeptic nor true believer, Bell says he is simply a journalist, an investigator who allows his talk show guests to state their case.

"I let the listeners decide for themselves," he says.

What many evangelical Christians have decided is that Bell is a promoter of the occult; one an-

gry caller denounced him as "the devil's mouthpiece." However, he shares at least one thing with evangelicals: a vision of a world on the brink. What Christians call The End Times, Bell calls The Quickening — a period of history when natural disasters, supernatural phenomena and unfettered technology are carrying the human race toward — what? Oblivion? A New Jerusalem? Bell says he doesn't know.

What he does know is that there's a lot of strange stuff going on, and he wants other people to know about it, too. Recent

(continued on page 19) 18



guests and topics on Bell's show have included:

- **Ed Dames**, a "remote viewer" and retired Army major who reportedly led military experiments in psychic espionage. Dames now heads PSI TECH, a civilian company that uses those same techniques for corporate research.

Dames says his remote viewers can zero in on the past and the future, on targets in outer space and on anything contained in the "collective unconscious" — meaning anything that exists. He says Mars was inhabited millions of years ago, which accounts for structures "discovered" by another frequent Art Bell guest, Richard Hoagland. He also says Mars probes sent from Earth have been shot down by robotic sentries.

According to Dames' remote viewing research, crop circles are time/date stamps left by time travelers. Since the circles usually disappear within a day or two, the circles enable travelers to know exactly where they are when they return.

On a show aired Oct. 11, Dames told Bell that he has suspended remote viewing efforts aimed at outer space and UFOs in order to concentrate on an ecological holocaust which will devastate Earth within the next 3½ years. The ozone layer has become so depleted, he said, that the jet stream will soon drop "down to the deck," sweeping the planet with 300-mph winds.

- **Edgar Mitchell**, former Apollo 14 astronaut and moonwalker who founded The Institute of Noetic Sciences, which explores psychic phenomena.

- **Richard C. Hoagland**, the researcher who claims that NASA astronauts, including Mitchell, saw ancient ruins on the moon. (Mitchell says he didn't see anything on the moon except moon rocks.) Hoagland uses NASA photographs to make a case that those ruins exist, and that they correspond to similar structures on earth.

Hoagland and several scientists are currently trying to get permission to open a newly-discovered chamber in the foot of the Sphinx where, legend says, the libraries of ancient wisdom have been hidden for thousands of years. Bell has been invited to be there when the secret chamber is opened.



Art Bell and wife Ramona show his new book.

- **Linda Moulton Howe**, an Emmy Award-winning producer who investigates unexplained phenomena such as crop circles.

- **Gordon Michael Scallion**, a futurist who sees visions as though they were projected on three television screens. Scallion has successfully predicted earthquakes and hurricanes and forecasts a major quake for California in 1996 or 1997 that will send streams of refugees to tent cities which will be set up in Nevada.

Bell doesn't pass judgment on his guests' stories, at least not publicly, though he is leery of channelers and faith healers.

"When you interview that many people per year, there are some that I consider credible personally and some I don't,"

says Bell. "I treat them all well."

### Satanic deception?

Bell occasionally deals with political topics on his show. But there's little doubt that most people are tuning in to hear "the weird stuff." They won't be disappointed Halloween Eve. During his Wednesday night/Thursday morning broadcast, Bell will stick to the traditional with a show he calls "Ghost to Ghost," when callers and guests tell their most chilling true ghost stories.

In spite of conducting hundreds of interviews with dozens of experts in the paranormal, Bell says he still has reached no conclusions about how all that weirdness fits together. Is it possible, he is asked, that some of

those angry callers might be right? That it's all a deception of Satan?

"It's possible," Bell says.

Out there in the desert, where the stars seem bigger and closer and where people have seen a giant triangular ship glide silently across the valley, just about anything seems possible.

**Art Bell's "Coast-to-Coast" and "Dreamland" programs can be heard locally on these stations:** KFIV 1360 AM, Modesto — M-F, midnight to 5 a.m.; KYOS 1480 AM, Merced — M-F, 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. and Sunday 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.; KVML 1450 AM, Sonoma — M-F 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. and Sunday 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.; and KJAX 1280 AM, Stockton — M-F midnight to 5 a.m. Bell's web page is found at <http://WWW.artbell.com>

BARRICADA INTERNACIONAL, San Francisco, CA - Aug. 1996 CR: R. Heiden

## Elves in the toilets

Following the recent spate of strange apparitions ranging from UFOs to Satanic vampires that attack sheep, it should come as no surprise that a new mythical creature has appeared on the scene: a small figure with a mischievous grin and a penchant for tricks.

In mid-June in the city of Masaya, several children from the San Jerónimo neighborhood's Simón Bolívar School were distraught after seeing "elves coming out of the toilet bowls." The girls rushed out of the bathroom; one was so scared she fainted. They claim to have seen three elves dressed in red suits, hats and shoes, and

student Alejandra Montenegro even reported that she saw them "disappear before my very eyes."

Darwin Altamirano, a 10-year-old fourth-grader, corroborated the story. "We were playing during the 9:30 recess when we saw five girls from the fourth, fifth and sixth grades running out, shouting, 'There's elves in there! There's elves in there!'"

He said that at first he did not believe them, but when he went to take a look in the bathroom, he saw "the doors opening and closing all by themselves." Another student, Bismarck Altamirano, claimed to have heard "strange laughter."

As usual, there was no shortage of proffered explanations, some more believable than others. The Nicaraguan public was even treated to a discourse on the nature of elves which are allegedly a



kind of angel in limbo; neither good enough to get to heaven, nor evil enough to be sent to hell. Others suggested that the students see a psychologist.

The daily newspaper *Barricada*, however, came up with the most plausible theory, suggesting that it was hunger that had driven the elves out into the open. "The kids come to school with nothing more than a cup of coffee or a glass of water in their stomachs; it's no wonder they're hallucinating," reported the paper.

This was backed up by one teacher, who said, "Many of the children come here without eating breakfast, or lunch if they come in the afternoon. Some of them have even fainted in class." ■

## Bigfoot family in the Blues?

A recent report about not one but several Bigfoots seen in the Mill Creek Watershed has sparked anew the question: Is there a family of Bigfoots resident in these mountains near Walla Walla?

Over the years since 1982, when ex-Forest Service watershed patrol rider Paul Freeman reported his near confrontation with a Bigfoot, this issue has surfaced. There is at least one instance of a sighting of a large Bigfoot accompanied by a smaller one, suggesting an adult and its "teenage" young. As memory serves, there was such a sighting on Mill Creek within 10 miles of Walla Walla. Then, a couple of years ago, two hunters were on the mountain road out of Dayton in the Robinette Mountain vicinity as darkness was falling. In this report, the men saw what each was certain was a Bigfoot and a smaller one as the creatures headed into the timber at the edge of a plowed field. Since it was getting dark, neither hunter opted to pursue the creatures to get any closer, they said.

Evidence of an adult Bigfoot and two young ones was shown in extensive trackage on the hillside

above Mill Creek two years ago. These tracks came into the field at a point where the Scenic Loop Road tops out in its climb up from Mill Creek. The tracks then angled off just under the crest of the hill to come down and across the creek at the Meiners Road, then up that road and into the mountains. These tracks indicated three different Bigfoots, one whose tracks measured 15 inches and two other sets of tracks which were smaller. Veteran trackers who investigated said it appeared that one of the small Bigfoots would from time to time disappear, suggesting it was being carried by the adult.

Now, a sighting on Sept. 20 lends credence to the possibility that these three are part of a family and maybe part of the whole picture. The September report is from people who were traveling across the Skyline Drive from Dayton to Tollgate and had stopped at the Table Rock lookout tower. But-toned up for the winter, the tower was not manned. This point in the Blues, at some 6,200 feet, provides an excellent view on a clear day, of the Columbia River to the west and even the Cascade peaks. There is

also an open panorama of the Watershed below you.

It was this latter view that the party was taking in, with binoculars, when their scanning over the hills revealed a highly interesting view ... to say the least! What they saw, going across a distant ridge, was a group of four upright, walking creatures (not bears) likely Bigfoots, two large ones and two smaller ones, seemingly a family of the critters!

All of which reminds me of the plaster casts of Bigfoot tracks in the collection put together by Wes Sumerlin of Walla Walla. Here you will find some casts of little feet along with the many others which would fill the shoes of the tallest pro basketball player! Footprints of the teenagers and younger ones of our Bigfoot family of the Blues?

\*\*\*

With that information into the computer, we soon had a reply to an e-mail I sent to Henner Fahrenbach, research scientist at Portland. Fahrenbach, Bigfoot aficionados of these lines will recall, sent some Bigfoot hairs given him by Wes Sumerlin, to the labs for DNA testing. I passed along the Bigfoot "family" report, but asked him for an updating on the DNA search at the Ohio State University labs.

This search has drawn national

and even international attention of the media. Here's what Fahrenbach has to report, both on my suggestion of a "family" of Bigfoots as well as the DNA testing: "Thanks for the information. I don't doubt that, if in any given location, a family unit exists, they are going to be seen rarely together. That follows from foot print statistics alone. Besides that, it is to be expected that big primates like this would disperse for feeding. Did anybody follow up on these reports and try to find foot prints? I am always interested in having foot prints with corresponding sightings, especially with height estimates, to refine my sliding scale that relates feet to height.

"The DNA has come to a halt largely because the sasquatch hair, in contrast to human or other ape hairs, yields only short fragments of DNA on extraction (20-30 base pairs long rather than 200-300 for human). There is one other graduate student who may give it a try, yet. But I talked to national authorities on primate hair DNA and they assured me that the Ohio lab is as competent as the best, better than the FBI, and no other lab could do better."

No doubt, the DNA trail does not end there, but for now it sure has grown dim.

# Hale-Bopp comet discovery spawns conspiracy theories

By SUE MAJOR HOLMES  
The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Alan Hale isn't surprised by tales of an alien spacecraft trailing the comet he co-discovered last year.

Nor is he surprised by stories floating around the Internet about how the government is trying to keep it from the American people.

"I fully expected incidents like this," he said Tuesday in a telephone interview from his rural home near Cloudcroft in the Sacramento Mountains of south-central New Mexico.

And, he said, it will only get worse as comet Hale-Bopp gets closer to Earth.

"I personally have been called a traitor to Earth for hiding information," he said.

Discovered in July 1995 by amateur astronomers Hale and Thomas Bopp of Stanfield, Ariz., the streaking ball of ice and dust is now 270 million miles from Earth — beyond the orbit of Mars — and is growing brighter. Hale hopes it will be brilliant by March 22, when it will come closest to Earth.

While scientists hope Hale-Bopp will produce knowledge on the nature of comets, right now it's producing stories on the Internet.

"There's been nutty stuff since the day it was found, since we realized it was a large comet coming in fairly close," Hale said.

He has heard it's an alien mother ship or an angel from God. He has been told the comet is a sign of the Prophecies or a nonexistent object meant to defraud the public.

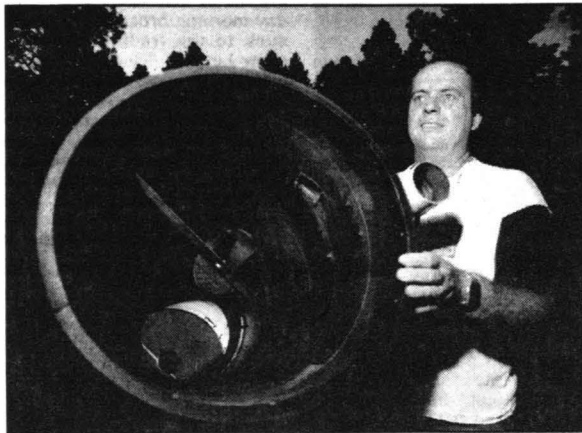
"For centuries, people have associated comets with bad events happening on the Earth. ... People 500 years ago didn't understand the mechanics of the solar system. These bright objects appeared from nowhere, hung around for a few weeks or so, then disappeared.

"There's no excuse for that these days. We know what comets are, we know a lot about our solar system. ... But there's still a complete lack of science literacy in our society," Hale said.

So he's collecting stories off the Internet about Hale-Bopp.

One claim of proof of an alien presence: The comet changed course. Comets don't do that, and Hale believes the story arose because people misinterpreted how science works.

In the case of any newly discovered comet, astronomers try to get a fix on



RICHARD PIPES / Albuquerque Journal

Astronomer Alan Hale, shown with his telescope near his Cloudcroft, N.M., home, says wild tales regarding the comet he discovered last year don't surprise him.

*"For centuries, people have associated comets with bad events happening on the Earth. ... People 500 years ago didn't understand the mechanics of the solar system. These bright objects appeared from nowhere, hung around for a few weeks or so, then disappeared."*

— Alan Hale

its orbit as quickly as possible so they can study it. For Hale-Bopp, they figured its orbit with very limited information since the comet was so far away, Hale said.

The initial findings were published as "an extremely uncertain orbit," then scientists recalculated as more data became available, he said.

The latest claim arose about three weeks ago, when a man in Houston noticed what Hale calls a "large anomalous object" with Saturn-like rings near the comet.

Hale said the man was "predisposed to believe in government conspiracies, that scientists are all a bunch of liars" and concluded the object was an alien spacecraft.

Hale said it was a star the comet happened to be near at

that time. The apparent rings, he said, were caused by diffraction, a phenomenon involving the breaking up of light rays.

To those who suspect a conspiracy surrounding the comet, Hale has a bit of advice: Go look. It's hard to hide a comet.

He recommends going out about an hour after sunset away from city lights and looking in the west-southwest sky about 10 degrees above the horizon. Hale-Bopp can easily be seen with a cheap telescope or even a pair of binoculars. It's even visible to the naked eye.

"There's an object that's very clearly not a star surrounded by a large milky cloud," Hale said. "To the naked eye, it looks like a fuzzy star. It will get a lot brighter, we hope, over the next four months."

NEWS, Red Bluff, CA - Oct. 18, 1996

# Mutilations UFO work?

By BRYON BURRUSS  
DN Staff Writer

Something strange is going on. Exactly one year after a similar discovery in the Lassen National Forest, a pair of cows were found slain and mutilated Wednesday in a fenced pasture at Pappose Meadows, about 15 miles from Susanville.

No meat was missing from the animals, yet odd pieces of their hide, along with their right ears, right eyes and tongues, rectums and genitals had been removed. All the blood had been drained from the cow's bodies, yet there was no blood on the ground around the slaughter sites, no bullet wounds or evidence of a struggle or cause of death, and no footprints or tracks around the bodies, according to Jean Barton, president of California Cattlewomen Incorporated.

Elwin Roney of Roney Land and Cattle in Chico found the slaughtered animals Wednesday.

One cow — red and eared with horns — belonged to Roney. Its jaw was scraped clean of hide and meat, and it was missing its right shoulder and right leg, along with the hide from the stomach and udder and the hair on the hide just above the right ankle, said Barton. The remaining hide was slit in straight cuts and the foreleg, which would normally be stiff with rigor mortis, was reportedly still limber.

The second cow — a black crossbred 10-year-old that had just calved on Oct. 2 — belonged to Barton. Its mouth was mutilated and its ribs were exposed and the meat on top of them was shredded, the heart and lungs were within the chest cavity, the entire stomach was exposed and the hide near the ribs was cut in "cookie cutter" scallops, said Barton.

Both cows were found lying on their left sides, with their right ears, right eyes, tongues and udders missing. As with the animals last fall, the rectums and vulvas were removed with what Barton described as "smooth, blackened cuts."

Roney's cow was thought to be dead about a week when it was found — Barton's cow, one or two days.

On Oct. 16, 1995, Barton was leading her horses to water when she had found two other cows mutilated on exactly the same day of the year in exactly the same field, not far from the Ronald McDonald campground at Eagle Lake.

The first cow was a 4-year-old black crossbred. Its left cheek and skin had been removed from the facial bone. The second cow, an 8-year-old Hereford, was missing its upper and lower lips on its right side.

Both cows were found lying on their right sides, with their left ears, tongues and part or all of their udders missing. Their rectum and vulva of each animal were surgically removed, leaving only smooth oval holes and their uteruses were missing.

Both cows had calved within the previous three weeks.

The animals were estimated to have been dead three days, which meant they would have been slaughtered on Friday the 13th.

Again — no blood, no tracks and no cause of death.

Cattle mutilations may be a recent development in Lassen County, but more than 10,000 have been reported since 1967, and the lack of blood or evidence and the organs and tissue taken are always the same, according to the Fyffe Police Department in Alabama, in a report prompted by the mutilation of more than 30 cattle in Fyffe and neighboring cities in 1992.

Over the years, the mutilations have been attributed to such causes as abnormal predator activity, organized satanic cults, UFOs

and covert government operations, according to a January, 1992 article by Keith Rowell in the MUFON Oregon Observer.

"No coyote or vultures can make holes that clean and clean off a jaw like that," said Barton, who pointed out there were no animal tracks to be found anywhere. "A lot of people think that its coyotes if they don't see the bodies when they're fresh."

The Lassen County Sheriff's Department, which investigated the mutilations Wednesday, believes they were conducted by an unknown satanic cult.

Ceremonies of Satanists and witches have been known to include animal sacrifices.

Many practitioners believe the slaughter of sacrificial animals releases a "life energy" that may be used by the magician to connect with the god they are invoking. Some Satanists also believe that by drinking blood they may possess the "divine" quality of the life from which the blood was taken.

It is also true that witchcraft practitioners celebrate eight major Sabbats during the year, and Halloween represents one of their most significant.

Barton, however, believes the explanation that makes the most sense is that aliens are harvesting the animals for unknown purposes.

"I don't want to go out on a limb here" she said, "but there are no tracks and no footprints. Elwin's cow had its horn shoved into the ground 8 or 10 inches as though it had been dropped from quite a height."

"I mean this stuff has been going on for more than 20 years. A lot of people don't realize when it happens and a lot of others keep quiet about it."

"It seems that UFOs are spotted at the same time as many of these mutilations," she said. "Last year, we sent samples of the grass around the cows to a biophysical lab in Michigan for analysis and it showed signs of microwaving."

What about the involvement of the government?

"If you tell the law enforcement about it, they will just laugh at you."

"You've heard of Roswell?" she said, referring to reports that a downed flying saucer was hidden by the U.S. government in New Mexico in 1946. "It sounds like that was a pretty good cover-up."

"Surely, with all the resources they have, they have investigated these mutilations and know all about them."

NEWS, Taos, NM - Oct. 10, 1996 CR: D. Perkins

# Anonymous tip leads to mutilated cow

Michael Abbey, local private investigator of unexplained animal deaths, received an anonymous tip on his answering machine Thursday (Oct. 3) reporting a dead cow 15 miles up Taos Canyon. The tip was duplicated Friday morning (Oct. 4) on the radio show, "Breakfast With Nancy (Stapp)" when a caller, identified only as "Jim," said the cow had died either Sept. 29 or Sept. 30. Stapp was interviewing rancher Tom Reed of Questa and Gail Staehlin, private investigator from Albuquerque, about cattle mutilations.

The white-faced cow, which was said to belong to Herman Manzanares of Española, had a cored-out rectum, and the udder and the tongue missing. About an inch of bloody liquid had accumulated in the body cavity, but there was no sign of blood on the ground, or any visible tracks around the animal.

This cattle death may have coincided with a Sept. 28 reported UFO sighting in Taos Canyon. If you are sure a cow is dead, not just lying down, contact the livestock inspector, 841-4000, or private investigator Michael Abbey, 751-1969, to take tissues samples.