

# UFO

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### DE CIPHERING

## CROP CIRCLES

By CHUCK GRAHAM  
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A former social worker hooked on the odd designs found in fields of grain will explain how to interpret them.

There is no denying the mystery of authentic crop circle designs. Their geometric and mathematical perfection do not occur naturally in nature. Science-fiction/fantasy filmmaker M. Night Shyamalan's movie "Signs" cuts straight to the chase. Crop circles are made by aliens who are warning

us about . . . something.

"The look of crop circles - their strangeness, their sense of mystery and the bizarreness of the designs - is the first thing that attracts people to crop circles.

Always," said Steve Canada, who is described as the most prolific book writer on crop circles in the world.

Not bad, when you consider he didn't even think much about crop circles until 1990. A few years later, Canada, who lives in California, took an early retirement from his career in social work to devote his life full time to the study and interpretation of crop circles.

"Everybody has a different idea of what crop circles mean. And people always believe what they need to believe," said Canada, who will be in Tucson tomorrow to discuss his research.

Well, OK then . . . exactly what is it that creates these elaborate, completely self-contained and ultimately religious symbols in the grain fields of total strangers?

The short answer is nobody knows.

The long answer is lots more interesting.

First of all, legitimate scientists are applying laboratory technology to stalks taken from crop circle sites, the stalks' chemical makeup, how much distortion there is in each stalk's cellular structure, the level of radioactivity and all that. So far, the results of those studies have produced zilch.

Canada isn't discouraged. He just brings up the scientific method.

"In every field, the main work of scientists is to systematically eliminate possibilities. That's how science works," he said, sounding like Thomas Edison reminding his laboratory assistants that the thousands of failed experiments while trying to invent the electric light bulb weren't failures. They were successful experiments that proved a certain kind of wire (or whatever) would never make a good light-bulb filament.

"We also know the crops that are knocked down don't die," said Canada during a phone interview from his desert home. "They can be replanted and will thrive."

But methodically eliminating possible explanations for the creation of crop circles doesn't interest Canada all that much. He needs more intellectual action, such as breaking the crop circle code. He looks at the photos of new crop circles "coming in faster and faster now" and sees messages from extraterrestrial beings.

All the designs have always been built on mathematical principles. Just about everybody can agree on that. They are mathematical pictographs - messages in the "language" of mathematics.

Once again Canada calls up names of respected scientists. Albert Einstein often said discovering the world of numbers freed him from the more confining world of words. But for many folks, the language of math

might as well be the language of Mars, no matter how simply the most basic communications in algebra and calculus are explained.

But Canada is convinced crop circles are pictorial representations of a more abstract mathematical language that makes our languages of written words (using the same small collection of letters) seem as primitive as the cave drawings from our own ancient history.

"For the talk in Tucson, I'm getting a whole new set of crop circle slides," Canada said. "Instead of giving a lecture full of details, I'll be talking about how to interpret these different crop circle designs.

"When I lecture, people usually start falling to sleep," he said with a laugh.

Not that Canada is reluctant to talk about his crop circle theories, which ultimately do begin to sound like mathematical equations. He is working on the theory there is a connection between the exact longitude and latitude of a new crop circle and the exact longitude and latitude of the controversial face on Mars, as well as the exact location of several additional astronomical bodies.

Since all these celestial points, including the crop circle, are always spinning through space at incredible speeds across vast distances, it proves . . . well, it's hard for the lay person to figure out what it proves.

But what is known for sure is that crop circles do exist. And it's known that the crop circles in England make the British government nervous. At least those particular crop circles, which are astonishingly elaborate with their three-dimensional designs of crops bent over at several different heights. They could not possibly have been made by cynical lads with ropes and boards working in the dark of the night.

"Whatever is making the crop circles, the British government considers that to be a foreign force invading their country. And the British army can't stop them," Canada said. "Several years ago the British army was ordered to figure out how to make a crop circle.

"So far they haven't able to do it."

Whatever is making the crop circles doesn't have any trouble making more. There are no numbers - but they are out there. While most of us spend our working days earning a living, Steve Canada is out there on our behalf with his computer software that pinpoints all manner of exact locations on Earth and in space, juggling the numbers, looking for patterns that will reveal the truth.

CITIZEN, Tucson, AZ

Aug. 20, 2004

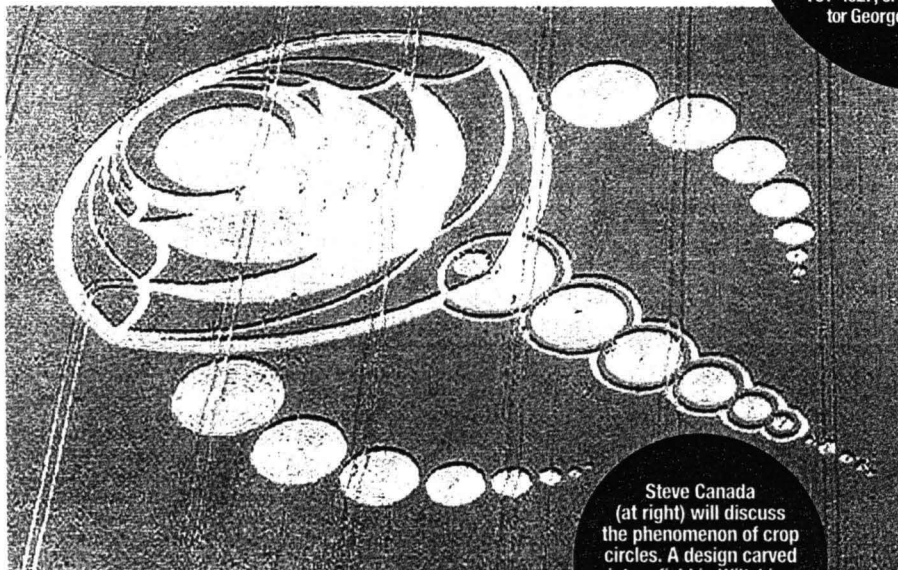


Photo courtesy of Busty Taylor

Steve Canada (at right) will discuss the phenomenon of crop circles. A design carved into a field in Wiltshire, England (above), was photographed July 31.



## UFOs? Scoff if you will

**T**alk about a wasted effort: I drive all the way to Chapel Hill last week to make fun of a UFO nut only to find out she's not a nut at all.

Boy, I hate when that happens.



G.D. Gearino

Her name is Brenda Denzler and she's a member of the Mutual UFO Network of North Carolina, a group of 200 or so people who gather a few times a year to compare notes on

UFO sightings and alien abductions. The organization considers itself a safe haven for people who have encountered unexplained aircraft and want to talk about it without fear of being ridiculed by — well, Denzler is too polite to say it, but she means people like me.

I'll cop to the charge. You start telling me about how you were beamed up to an alien spaceship and had probes inserted into your trailing parts, a certain look of disdain and disbelief will be apparent on my face. I might even suggest that you don't need Freud to help you figure out that some hidden desire is pounding on the door of your consciousness, demanding to be let in. So, yeah, I can see why UFO people prefer a friendly audience.

But Denzler is not one of those kind of UFO partisans. "I've never had a sighting, and I've never been abducted," she says.

Frankly, I was surprised to learn that people even pay attention to UFOs anymore. The whole thing is so 20th century. There was a moment in the early 1970s when UFOs and alien visitation were a hot topic. We read the best-selling books, we marveled at ancient cave paintings that seemed to show spaceships, we debated whether the Pyramids were some kind of beacon for aliens, and we speculated on why aliens found Earth so interesting. Furthermore, everyone had a tale, however tenuous, of their own sighting of a UFO — because who wanted to be left out? Eventually, though, we moved on to other important things, like disco.

Or most of us did. Others, like Denzler, found a permanent fascination in the topic. In 1992, as she neared the end of her graduate work in religious studies at Duke University, Denzler read a book written by a fellow who claimed to have been the victim of an alien abduction. The book was set. Today, Denzler has nearly 500 books on UFOs at home, and she serves as historian for the Mutual UFO Network.

She brings an academic's precision to the topic. Denzler is careful to separate reports of UFOs from accounts of alien abduction; there's a big credibility gap between those two things. Strictly defined, UFOs are merely things in the sky that can't be identified or explained. Reports of them often come from reliable sources, like airline pilots, and Denzler takes them at face value: Somebody saw something strange. But tales of abduction tend to ratchet up the credibility problem dramatically. It's a "two eyebrow" situation, Denzler says — as in, the number of eyebrows a listener raises in disbelief.

I'm a two-eyebrow guy. UFO sightings? Delusions, hallucinations, mass hysteria, hoaxes, mirages, take your pick. Not only do I scoff at the whole idea of alien visitation, but sometimes — just to start an argument — I'll assert that there's probably no other advanced life anywhere in the universe, that we exist only due to

a complicated chain of coincidences that will never be repeated.

Denzler has heard all this, and she's too smart to dismiss it out of hand. A careful researcher doesn't automatically dismiss a theory, she says. Only close-minded people do that.

Again, she was too polite to say exactly whom she had in mind.

Columnist G.D. Gearino can be reached at 829-4802 or dang@newsobserver.com.

HERALD, Circleville, OH - Aug. 17, 2004 CR: J. Fry

# Editorial/Opinion

## Roundtown UFO Society hosts 2nd annual public awareness program

As part of my public awareness program about UFOs, the 2nd annual Roundtown UFO Society's public UFO display will be held on Saturday, Aug. 21.

It will be open to the public from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Circleville Library's meeting room.

This year's display will center more on the evidence of the existence of the UFO phenomenon. If presented in a court of law, at the very least the court of public opinion would sway toward the UFO existence.

I have been asked before "where is the proof that UFOs exist?"

I think anyone who would research this subject would easily find out that there is a whole lot of information out there that the general public doesn't realize.

For example, many people in Circleville still don't know about the 1948 Bruce Stevenson sighting, or of the many other sightings that have occurred in Pickaway County since then. At the Aug. 21 display the sighting reports will all be listed on the county map. There is a total of 30 reports in all. Remember

Guest  
column

Pete Hartinger

Hartinger is head of the local Roundtown UFO Society.

these are just the "reported" cases. The most recent event of July 12, which included a beam of light from a UFO will also be listed. Like many of others before him, the witness became convinced of UFO reality after his experience. Someone told me the other day that this sighting was "close to home." I told him that the first recorded sighting over Circleville was in 1958!

Many people state that they have never seen a UFO. Does that mean they don't exist because they have never seen one? Of course not.

Studying the history of our

world we learned that before Christopher Columbus discovered America there was a great fear.

That fear was that you would fall off the edge of the earth if you sailed too far west in the Atlantic Ocean.

That was because of the flat earth theory that was believed by some at that time. The flat earth theory could be very easily compared to the present day one that many people feel that we live on the only living planet in the universe. Everyone to his or her own belief, but I feel, as many scientists and others do that there is other life out there. Our government hasn't spent millions of dollars on those huge radio listening dishes (SETI) for nothing.

As far as any alien life visiting Earth there is always the argument against it by saying nothing goes faster than the speed of light.

In discussing this argument with a retired U.S. astronaut a few years ago he agreed with me that this is just our present day knowledge concerning space travel. There could be a time warp or dimensional tunnel, etc. After all just think how far we

have come in regards to air travel in just the past 100 years.

Many highly educated people feel that UFOs do exist. In fact a retired engineer told me that he isn't interested in UFO sighting reports anymore.

He just wants to know who is piloting these craft. He accepts the fact that they are real because of all of the evidence.

Part of that evidence will be shown on Saturday at the local library's meeting room.

It is up to you if you are interested in one of the biggest, if not the biggest mystery of all time. There are not nearly as many skeptics as there once was.

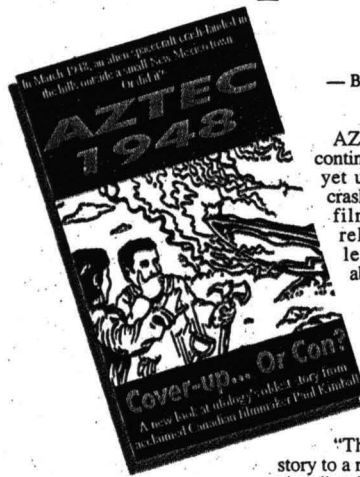
In closing I would like to say that if anyone asked me, "what is the best statement to use in summing up all your years of research and investigations?" I would simply reply, "we have been under observation for many, many years."

If anyone would like to discuss with me about this subject or have questions, please feel free to phone me (740) 477-6252; write P.O. Box 52, Circleville, Ohio 43113; or e-mail me at rufos@columbus.rr.com.

DAILY TIMES, Farmington, NM - Aug. 22, 2004

## Aztec to premiere UFO documentary

*Film relates story of 1948 crash*



— By Debra Mayeux —  
The Daily Times

**AZTEC** — As research continues into the infamous, yet unproven Aztec UFO crash of 1948, a Canadian film company has released the first full-length documentary about the event.

The Aztec Public Library, sponsor of the annual Aztec UFO Symposium, recently received a copy and plans to premiere it at 7 p.m. Thursday at Aztec City Hall.

"This video elevates the story to a national level of discussion," said Leanne Hathcock, librarian and founder of the symposium.

It was her research, along with the help of North Carolina resident

Scott Ramsey, that led to a renaissance of interest in the purported crash in March 1948 in Hart Canyon north of Aztec.

Ramsey has completed countless hours of research and successfully declassified material pertinent to the incident.

"We're working very hard in trying to identify two law enforcement officers at the scene, and at the same time trying to be respectful to the families," Ramsey said.

New Mexico and UFOs have become synonymous since the surging popularity of the Roswell crash in July 1947, but Aztec is coming into its own, according to Hathcock and Ramsey.

"I think the documentary puts Aztec in a positive light," Ramsey said.

City Commissioner Jim Rubow agreed, saying the film was well done.

"I thought it was fairly open minded," he said. "They did a good job of integrating local history giving (the story) a better understanding of anything I've seen to date."

The film begins with a view of San Juan County's high desert landscape and film producer Paul Kimball telling the story of Aztec.

It was a quiet evening north of the county seat, when an oil well fire broke out on a mesa above Hart Canyon. The fire led people to something much more interesting — a crashed UFO containing charred bodies, Kimball tells in the story Ramsey continually attempts to verify.

It has been the researchers desire to locate all living eyewitnesses, but Ramsey said he has missed many due to their untimely deaths.

orites," Ramsey said.

The researcher, who is most prominent in the documentary, believes this incident might be tied to Aztec.

This information will not be found on the video because it was only recently discovered.

What viewers will see is a potpourri of ufologists including Stanton Friedman and Nick Redfern and skeptics like Karl Pflock.

Ramsey, however, is the center of attention, having done most of the updated research on Aztec.

"He was going on the paper

trail and the evidence," Hathcock said, adding Kimball used "talking heads" to tell the story to provide a basis for credibility.

"I feel like it was well done," she said.

"(Kimball) is a purist when it comes to doing a documentary," Ramsey said. "It has to be based on as much fact as possible."

The facts are played out with scenery and "Dick Tracy" graphics for an enjoyable yet informative film that will soon be for sale with all profits benefiting the Aztec Public Library.

Debra Mayeux: debra@daily-times.com



# X-haust files? N.M. governor seeks truth about '47 Roswell legend

By Keay Davidson  
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Ten years after the U.S. Air Force closed its books on the claim that a UFO crashed in Roswell, N.M., in 1947, a top Democratic Party figure wants to reopen the investigation into the cosmic legend.

Despite denials by federal officials, many UFO buffs cherish the notion that in early summer of 1947, a flying saucer crashed in rural Roswell, scattering alien bodies and saucer debris.

Now Gov. Bill Richardson of New Mexico, who chaired the recent Democratic convention in Boston, says in his foreword to a new book that "the mystery surrounding this crash has never been adequately explained — not by independent investigators, and not by the U.S. government. . . . There are as many theories as there are official explanations.

"Clearly, it would help everyone if the U.S. government disclosed everything it knows," says Richardson, who served as energy secretary under President Clinton. "The American people can handle

the truth — no matter how bizarre or mundane. . . . With full disclosure and our best scientific investigation, we should be able to find out what happened on that fateful day in July 1947."

The passage appears in a paperback *The Roswell Dig Diaries*, published in collaboration with TV's SciFi Channel by Pocket Books, a division of Simon & Schuster. The "dig" of the title refers to an archaeological dig at the supposed crash site.

A Richardson aide, Billy Sparks, confirmed the governor's remarks.

Richardson "is interested in either debunking the story or (encouraging) full disclosure" of any unreleased records on the case, Sparks said.

To the Air Force, though, there is no mystery — and there hasn't been for a long time. In 1994, the Air Force published *Roswell Report: Case Closed*, which asserted that so-called saucer debris was, in fact, the ruins of an unusual type of military research balloon, which contained hypersensitive acoustic sensors designed to detect the rumble of any Soviet A-bomb tests.



**Richardson** says people can handle truth.

CITYVIEW, Des Moines, IA - July 21, 2004

# I'VE SEEN 'EM

*Crop circles in Eagle Grove? UFOs in Urbandale?  
One Iowa woman believes the truth is out there*

By Justin Kendall

**M**ike and Brenda Trevis' dogs started barking after midnight on July 3, making quite a commotion for about 20 minutes. It wouldn't be until the Trevises gazed upon about a dozen crop circles flattening their oat field, which sits about a hundred yards from their farmhouse near Eagle Grove, that they would understand what may have stirred their dogs.

"I don't know what to make of it," Mike Trevis told KCCI-TV.

"We talked to neighbors to see if there

was anything different in their crops. This is the only one," Brenda Trevis said. "We're kind of scared because we want to know what caused it."

No tracks — human or animal — led into the field. No weather phenomenon existed to explain the crop circles, although it rained the night before.

Beverly Trout heard about the crop circles through the TV news report. Days later, she was in North Central Iowa investigating them. When crop circles appear in Iowa fields or people spot mysterious tri-

angular shapes hovering in the skies, it's Trout's job as director of the Iowa chapter of Mutual UFO Network Inc. to investigate them. She's been investigating since 1991, when she joined MUFON, a worldwide nonprofit organization "dedicated through its volunteers to resolving the scientific enigma known collectively as unidentified flying objects (UFOs)."

The Trevises, whom Trout calls "intelligent people who are not easily fooled," didn't have a problem with Trout exploring their field.

**"**We're not in the business of saying who or what necessarily. We just observe [the crop formation] and comment on it and find ourselves still puzzled.**"**

BEVERLY TROUT

"They're extremely concerned and puzzled, and this leads them to think outside the box," Trout says. "When it happens in your own back yard, [you begin to] . . . look at this pretty seriously."

Trout counts the crop circles, or "crop traces" as she calls them, near Eagle Grove as the first reported in Iowa this year. But they are far from the first in the state.

In 1995, a crop circle approximately 11 feet in diameter was found in a cornfield near Arlington.

A year later, Brett Anderson discovered circles — about 30 feet in diameter — in his soybean fields southwest of Nevada in consecutive weeks. The swirls were counterclockwise and the stems of the plants weren't broken. Trout investigated the circles in Anderson's field, and found microwave radiation, which is present in many instances of crop circles.

In 2003, Ed Williams discovered his wheat field near Iowa City flattened in a clockwise pattern about 60 feet in diameter.

Trout calls the crop circles near Eagle Grove "extremely irregular." She found traces of phototropism, the movement of plants that have been laid down to seek sunlight. As the plants rise, the plant's nodes, the point on a stem where a leaf is attached, bend. These plants were bending to the left or the right; some bent at 45-degree angles. And some nodes had changed in color slightly, to a lighter shade of green.

When vandals use boards to push crops down, the plant stems and stalks break. But even though the oat stems were delicate, the plants hadn't been broken, Trout says.

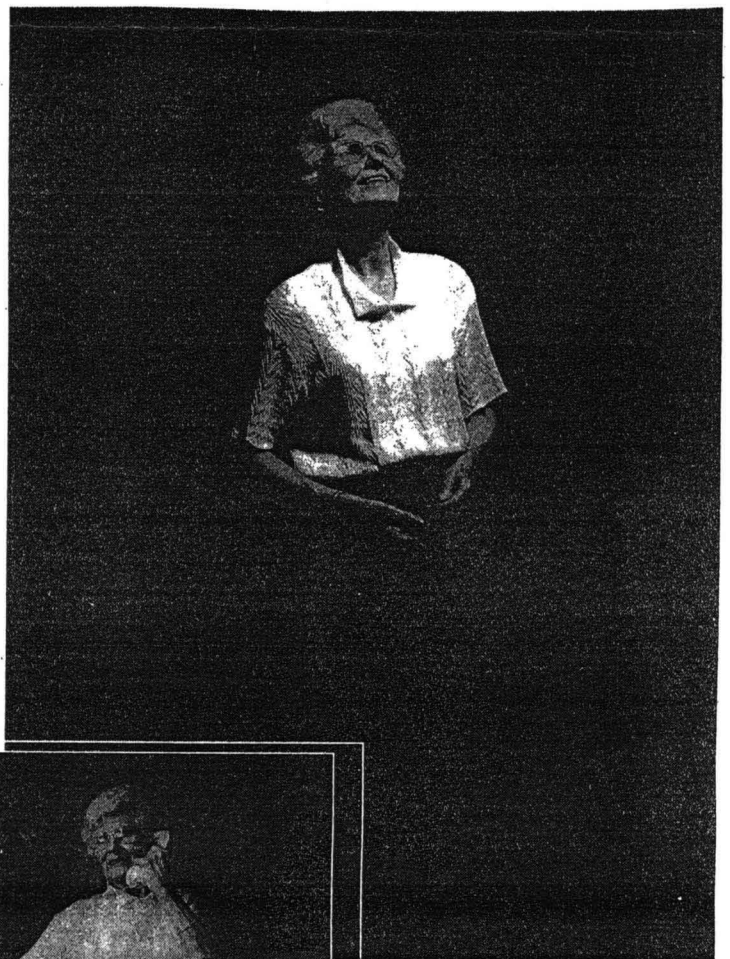
"If a small person stepped on them, they may bend over," she says. "However, if you were maybe 150 pounds, you're going to break them."

Her investigation didn't turn up any clues leading her to believe this is a hoax. Hoaxers usually make pretty designs with swirling patterns, she says. "This had a straight lay on it."

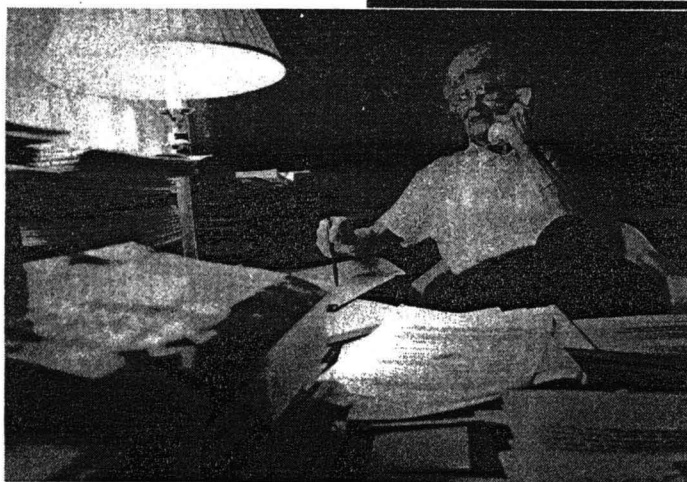
The real proof is in the lab testing, which would show if there were abnormalities in the crops or the soil. "What they would find with the soil we don't know," Trout says.

Talking with the lab liaison in Cambridge, Mass., Trout believes it is a genuine anomaly. But MUFON's higher-ups have decided not to test the sample, saving their resources for formations with a wider number of signs of authenticity, such as microwave radiation.

Trout seems overly careful not to draw any conclusions. But she's willing to admit that many times balls or pillars of light and UFOs have been reported ☐



When crop circles appear in Iowa fields or people spot mysterious triangular shapes hovering in the skies, it's Beverly Trout's job as director of the Iowa chapter of Mutual UFO Network Inc. to investigate them.



(continued on page 4)



over fields where crop formations have been found.

Still the real question remains: Who or what did this?

"We're not in the business of saying who or what necessarily," Trout says. "We just observe [the crop formation] and comment on it and find ourselves still puzzled."

### Personal close encounters

Beverly Trout knows what you're thinking. She knows there are non-believers. A July 2000 issue of Cityview described Trout as a "skeptical believer."

Trout finds a lot of UFO reports hard to swallow. She is extremely concerned with the credibility of witnesses.

"I hate to be gullible," she says. "We investigators are the last people who want to be scammed by anybody on UFOs."

Trout knows her work is bizarre. But what she and the other members of MUFON are dealing with is bizarre. They're trying to separate fact from fiction by examining phenomena that aren't easily explained - things that exist outside many people's paradigms - and building an accurate database of information. However, building a database is difficult since less than 1 percent of such phenomena are reported, Trout says.

Trout claims she has seen aliens. But she doesn't like to look at them. Their appearance is odd by our standards, she says. In past Cityview articles, they've been described as having spindly arms, larger than normal heads and big black eyes. They are gray in color and short in stature, although their height can vary.

The descriptions of the graylings on television are "fairly accurate," Trout says. But she says she's also encountered human-alien hybrids, whose features more resemble humans than aliens.

But Trout isn't eager to delve into the intimate details of her encounters. She isn't interested in people dwelling on her personal experiences. She wants them to realize "there is something to be examined" and a presence that needs to be acknowledged.

"We need to be aware of all the aspects of this phenomenon and not just what seems to be happening to the humans who find [themselves abducted]," Trout says.

Focusing on individual experiences distracts people with the strange, she says, "Then they go off on tangents and objectivity gets lost."

Trout claims that her personal close encounters started when she was 4 years old and have continued to this day. On a few occasions, she says, she has had conscious encounters with beings from other planets.

Of her conscious encounters, Trout remembers being paralyzed somehow. She believes there is a governor on people's emotions to regulate the interac-

tions, and this way, the humans' emotions don't go to extremes. This sort of control process could be acting as a safety mechanism, she believes.

"There is a certain intrusive disadvantage to the circumstances that are created," Trout says. "You're in the state of mind where everything is basically beyond your control."

Trout views her encounters as learning experiences. She talks about an activity "in this learning process where humans can be led into awareness that they have more mental capabilities than they had before."

Humans tend to think they're the highest being on the universe's totem pole, but that's not the case, Trout argues. Whoever is visiting us has technology far superior to ours. But she doesn't deify or demonize the visitors.

"That is a big mistake and leads humans away from being objective to what they're examining," she says.

However, Trout admits objectivity is tough when examining what can't easily be explained. She doesn't believe aliens are good or bad, but somewhere in the middle. And though the interactions with them are full of manipulations and quite intrusive, she doesn't believe they, who-

"I hate to be gullible. We investigators are the last people who want to be scammed by anybody on UFOs."

BEVERLY TROUT

ever they are, think in a much different manner than human beings do.

Glen Singley, assistant state director for MUFON, has not had personal experience with UFOs or visitors. The 51-year-old from Fairfield has been interested in the subject since he was a boy. He's been a member of MUFON for about six years.

"We want to take an objective view and bring to the public's attention that there is something that is definitely going on that we should [be looking into]," Singley says.

Singley is a self-described skeptic. He wants hard evidence, and he's not about to take someone at their word. Neither is Trout.

"I never have seen this as fun and games," Trout says.

### Eye on the sky

Trout can reel off story after story of folks who have experienced abductions or encounters with alien life forms. Many professionals - farmers, doctors, lawyers and journalists - have had encounters with UFOs and visitors, Trout claims. The Internet has helped the cause, but she warns, "You can get a lot of kooks out there."

Trout doesn't come off as crazy. "Nobody thinks it's more bizarre than I do," she says.

She's quite good at discerning who is and who isn't a kook. The Ames family featured in an August 2001 Cityview story was definitely the real deal, she says. That family's mother claimed she had experiences with aliens dating back to early childhood and that now, her two college-aged sons were being abducted. They are still experiencing visits, Trout says. She calls the mother and two sons "intelligent, levelheaded people."

This leads Trout to wonder if the visitors pick a bloodline to study and follow it, because "oftentimes these things operate across generational lines."

"Time after time after time when you go out on investigations, what we would find is the current witnesses either had something in the past that they never reported or knew somebody that had something happen in the past that was never reported," she says.

Singley can recall a couple of sightings near his hometown of Fairfield. Last November, two security guards spotted a triangular-shaped craft passing slowly and silently overhead. They reported the UFO to a national Web site, which passed the information along to MUFON.

He interviewed one of the witnesses - the other didn't want anything to do with the report, which is often the case with sightings. Each point of the mysterious triangle had a light and didn't match the description of a stealth bomber, he maintains.

After speaking with the witness, Singley believes he is credible.

"He had nothing to gain by reporting this," he says. "If anything, he had something to lose if [he's] going to be ridiculed."

## Investigator will speak at UFO meeting

### STAFF REPORTS

The northern Colorado chapter of the Mutual UFO Network will host the state MUFON meeting in Greeley at The Oasis, 609 8th Ave., Saturday afternoon.

The meeting, which starts at 1:30 p.m., is open to the public. There is a \$3 per person charge.

Ryan S. Wood, a forensic investigator of government documents, will be the featured speaker. He will discuss government documents which show the U.S. government knows about unidentified flying objects. He will also talk about his investigations of UFO crash sites, other than the most famous of all in Roswell, N.M., in 1947.

MUFON is an international investigative organization of the UFO phenomenon. It has nearly 3,000 members worldwide and

about 1,000 trained investigators. In 2003, there were more than 4,000 reported UFO sightings. MUFON investigators are able to explain nearly 70 percent of sightings as natural phenomena, airplanes, space debris or other causes, but claim 30 percent of UFO investigations are not explainable.

The organization has a database of more than 30,000 sightings which have occurred during the past 25 years. Access to the database is available on the Internet to MUFON members.

The Saturday meeting will also provide time for an update on the newest sightings of UFOs and provide an opportunity for the public to join the MUFON organization.



Wood

But Singley says the most credible sighting is of a group of five to six lights reported on the same night in three Iowa cities.

On Oct. 7, 2003, three individuals, all unacquainted, spotted the lights and reported them to the National UFO Reporting Center Web site, he says. The first report came from two men fishing on a pond in Southeast Iowa near Belknap who saw the lights overhead moving in and out of position. It was about 7:30 p.m. The next report came from Fairfield, some 30 miles away. The third was from Urbandale.

The Urbandale man claims to have seen a group of lights flying slowly at a low altitude, maybe no more than 2,000 feet, above his house. The lights moved in a circular pattern before forming a V-shape, with one leg of the V being longer than the other.

The man rushed to his front yard and yelled to a neighbor, "Do you see that?" The neighbor looked at the V-shaped craft, which was flying northwest. For about three minutes they watched it, unable to figure out what they were witnessing.

By the time the lights reached Belknap

and Fairfield, they were moving fast, at an estimated 10,000- to 25,000-foot altitude.

Was it the same group of lights? Trout isn't sure.

"The best we know is the man was thoughtful and analytical," Trout says of the reporter. "He was not looking for attention."

MUFON isn't out to exploit those who have had experiences or sightings. Confidentiality is guaranteed, Trout promises.

Everything in Trout's work raises more questions than it answers. And those answers, oftentimes few, lurk somewhere in the mysterious night skies or the unexplained patterns in Iowa fields. Wherever these phenomena occur, Trout will be there to investigate. However, the crop circles near Eagle Grove will remain an unsolved mystery. ☐

To contact the Iowa division of MUFON or to report a sighting, call Beverly Trout at (515) 957-8164 or e-mail her at [nbtufo@netins.com](mailto:nbtufo@netins.com). Confidentiality is guaranteed.

To report a sighting to the National UFO Reporting Center, go to [www.nuforc.org](http://www.nuforc.org).

(continued on page 5)



# SIGHTINGS

**T**he National UFO Reporting Center keeps a database of sightings in North America and claims to be the "most comprehensive and up-to-date UFO information source" on the Internet. The center's records include 212 reports from Iowa. Here's a look at some of the encounters reported this year.

## Ames, June 21, 2004

While gazing at Venus, red, white and blue flashing lights appear in the sky. An object zigzags from north to south and then north again. A second, similar-looking object comes from Venus. The observer believes the objects landed on the outskirts of Ames.

## Albia, June 20

After 10 p.m., campers spot a craft through their tent's air vent. The craft changes color from red to white to blue, darts across the sky and then hovers for a few minutes. The lights are in the shape of a triangle and the ship appears to be rotating, changing colors, from red to white, and appears to change shape, from triangular to circular.

## Ames, June 16

A disc-shaped object moves slowly, northward across the sky, leaving no jet stream or vapors.

## Manly, April 8

A black triangle with no lights is spotted flying low in the night sky. It makes no sound, flies at a medium pace and disappears after flying northeast.

## Rockwell City, March 12

A cluster of lights blinks as if communicating. Then a red fireball appears and a bright blue light streaks across the sky.

## Sioux City, Feb. 27

Sleep-deprived campers see a couple of red flashes of light in the sky while walking by a creek and lose about 20 minutes

between 3:11 and 3:31 a.m. They return to camp to find a friend with multiple red dots on his back that resemble mosquito bites. They find similar red dots on themselves. The witness claims to have had a dream about being aboard a flying saucer. So do the other members of the camp.

## Sioux City, Feb. 20

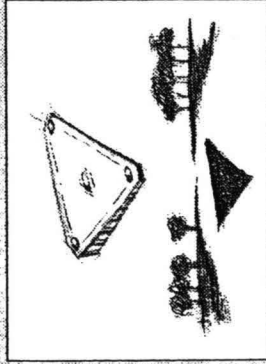
A shiny oval-shaped light flies across the sky at a high rate of speed and disappears.

## Elkader, Feb. 15

A farm wife doing a late-night chore spots a creature or being resembling a "stick man."

## Wallingford, Feb. 9

A blue-white fireball (approximately 24-30 inches in diameter) rolls over a witness's car hood, over his windshield, across the roof and over the trunk of his car, and continues down Highway 4 north of Graettinger before disappearing out of sight. The car's engine shuts off briefly, as does the radio. Beverly Trout investigated the case and filed a report with the National UFO Reporting Center.



## Truro, Jan. 12

A "rounded triangle" hovers over the southbound lane of Interstate 35 near the Truro exit. The craft is silent and has three triangular-shaped white lights. Witnesses get out of their car to look at the object and experience a time lapse of about 20 minutes, although only feeling as if they've been outside the car for about 10 seconds. The object speeds north toward an airliner approaching Des Moines International Airport, turns and flies away. Members of MUFON, including Beverly Trout, investigate and interview one of the witnesses and file a report with the National UFO Reporting Center. ☺

# Investigator shares what he knows about UFOs

BY ERIN FRUSTACI

gtreporters@greeleytrib.com

A forensic investigator of government documents said Saturday he believes strong evidence exists that military and government agencies know of unidentified flying objects and alien occupants.

Ryan S. Wood, who has spent 20 years looking into UFOs, discussed his findings on alleged crash sites and his spec-

ulation on government secrecy at the state Mutual UFO Network Inc. meeting at the Oasis, 609 8th Ave. in Greeley.

"Secrecy is very real, and it continues to this day," Wood said.

He presented two documents to support his claims. On the first he pointed out its numerous pen notations and that it was stamped "Top secret" and "Confidential." The second was a 12-page memo allegedly from Allen Dulles,

who served as director of the CIA from 1953-1961, that sets up a series of eight directives concerning the handling of UFOs.

MUFON's mission is the systematic collection and analysis of UFO data with the ultimate goal of learning the origin and nature of the UFO phenomenon. It is an international scientific nonprofit organization. Twenty people attended the meeting on Saturday.

Board members also de-

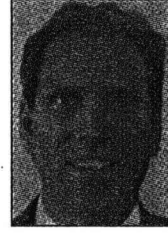
scribed Colorado sightings that have been unexplainable. Many of these are still under investigation by their organization.

Clifford Clift, a member of MUFON, said he got involved six years ago because he had seen objects that he could not explain. He serves on the international board.

Not all MUFON members are as convinced as Clift that UFOs exist.

Mike Pieruccini of Greeley is

the skeptic of the group. Though he said he believes there is life outside of Earth, the factual evidence he has seen has not been enough for him. He said he is still a member of MUFON because he thinks it is interesting and



Wood

finds the people to be nice and genuine.

"Even though I'm a skeptic, they are still willing to listen to my point of view," Pieruccini said.

The northern Colorado chapter of MUFON hosted the event. The 35th annual International MUFON Symposium is July 16-18 in Denver. Wood will be one of many guest speakers.

For more information about MUFON, go to [www.mufon.com](http://www.mufon.com).



# Main Liner starts own Mutual UFO Network chapter

By Douglas P. Scott

It was dawn during the spring of 1975.

Jennifer W. Stein, 20 years old at the time, was sound asleep in her parents' rural Kulpsville home when at once she was jolted awake as if hit by lightning.

Outside her window, a long, rectangular, bright white, cigar-shaped object hovered silently.

As she asked aloud "What's that?" the object moved from a distance of two miles to within 50 feet of the house.

Stein was frozen on the edge of her bed as she began to hear a message repeated to her telepathically.

"You can not move; don't be frightened. We are here to give you some information."

She remembers being scared and crying as a vibration encompassed her body. The tears soaked her pajamas.

Again the voice came back.

"We're done; we're leaving."

Then the object flew away with incredible speed.

Stein ran into her mother's room asking if she saw the amazing display that just took place in their backyard. Her mother had no idea what she was talking about and wondered why her daughter's pajamas were so wet.

Then Stein realized the sun was up and nearly an hour and a half was missing from her memory.

The entire episode was pushed to the back of her mind because had no idea how to deal with what had taken place.

Twenty years later a friend, John Trevett, asked, "What really happened to us when we saw that UFO?"

Trevett had been sleeping on the Steins' porch the night of the visitation, but he had no idea someone else had shared that experience with him and they had never talked about it.

This realization, that someone else could confirm the goings on of that morning meant she needed to embrace it.

"You get to a certain point in your life where you realize that you have to stand on your integrity," Stein says. "Either you look at yourself and say, 'Well I'm really crazy' ...or you just honor your experience and say, 'Yeah, I know that this happened to me and somehow I need to incorporate this into my life.'"

That's exactly what she did.

During the summer of 2000 Stein traveled to the English countryside to see the famous crop circles that dot the landscape.

There she met Rubin Uriate, a Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) representative from California who encouraged her to not only join MUFON, but start a local chapter.

MUFON is a worldwide organization devoted to "the scientific study of UFOs for the benefit of mankind."

Stien took Uriate's advice and began a group here on the Main Line.

"I sat down and wrote a mission statement... and the mission is to bring together like-minded people for intelligent discussion in a respectful, non-fear-based environment."

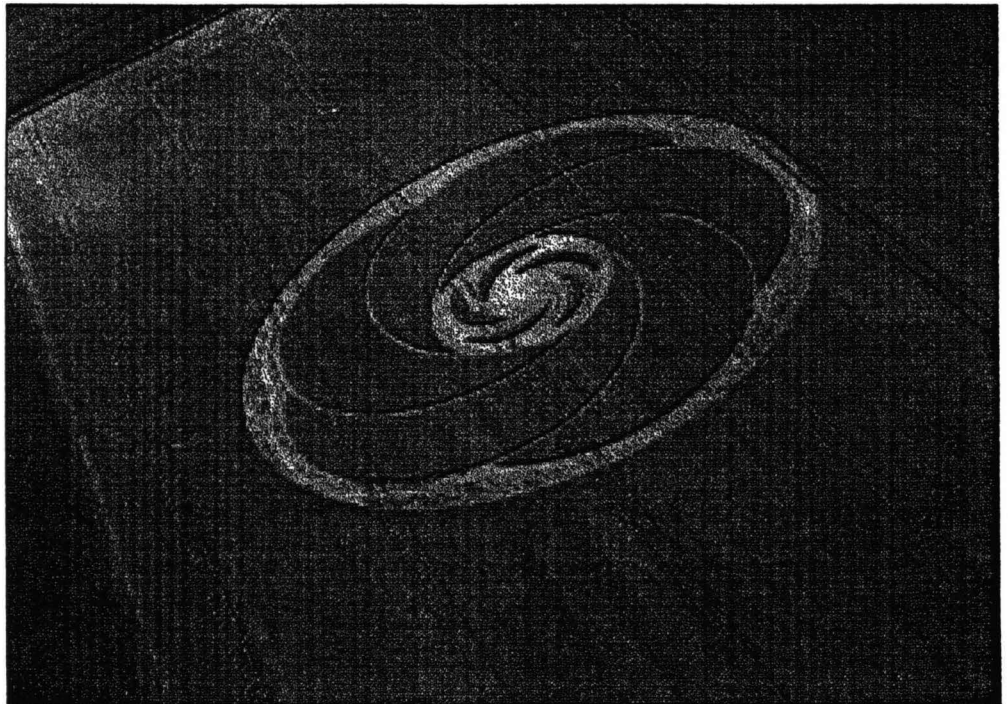
Too often she says people's experiences in this realm are believed or not believed and this isn't how Stein operates.

"I don't take that approach at all. I just honor people's experience. If they want to share something with me I don't judge it as real or unreal, but I'm encouraging them to honor their own experiences, because if they don't no one else will."

Her MUFON's first meeting was in September 2002 at the Radnor Memorial Library. Halfway through her second year Stein has already held a vast amount of special meetings on topics like crop circles, the Roswell incident and the Earth Charter as well as hosted guest speakers like Zechari Sitchin.

"I hold programs that are not just focused on UFO-related material," Stein says. "I see my programs as a cross between noetic sciences and MUFON."

For more information on the group and their meetings visit their Web site at [www.mainlinemufon.com](http://www.mainlinemufon.com).

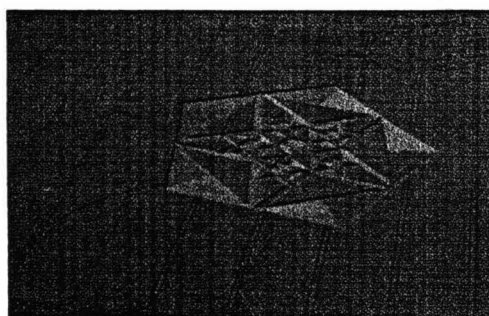
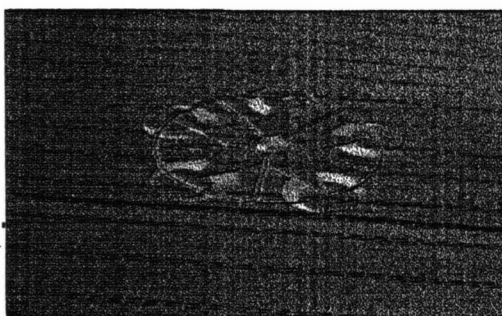


*John Welsh*  
Jennifer W. Stein, who heads the local Mutual UFO Network chapter, speaks about crop circles at the Radnor Memorial Library.

*A close encounter nearly  
30 years ago propels  
Radnor resident to provide  
open forum for discussion  
of the unknown*



Jennifer W. Stein stands with friend Billium Munkers in the middle of an English crop circle. Stein began her own Mutual UFO Network chapter on the Main Line almost two years ago for people to have intelligent discussions in a respectful, non-fear-based environment about the unknown.





# An out-of-this-world trip to Roswell

*UFO stories are not the only things that draw tourists to this surprising small town in southeast New Mexico*

By DEBORAH ORAZI  
Cox News Service

ROSWELL, N.M. — In July 1947, something crashed into the barren landscape 75 miles northwest of here.

More than a half a century later, the debate still rages over what exactly fell out of the sky. Was it a boring old weather balloon as the military has insisted for the past 57 years? Or was it the wreckage of a flying saucer with creepy, big-eyed aliens at the helm as the dozens of books, documentaries and town merchants would have you believe?

Whatever it was, it couldn't have picked a nicer town to crash near.

The Chaves County seat and the largest town in southeast New Mexico, Roswell (pop. 50,000) has going for it not only that mysterious incident but also a surprising variety of other historical and cultural activities. And it's in convenient proximity to several other interesting vacation spots in the area. After some initial reluctance to be known as "the alien's destination of choice," residents have learned to embrace the town's extraterrestrial history.

"They didn't mind being the 'dairy capital,' but they didn't want to be the 'alien capital,'" said Julie Shuster, Director of the International UFO Museum and Research Center in downtown Roswell. "We had 196,000 people through our doors last year, and people here in town are beginning to see the benefits."

There's nary a mention in town of actress Demi Moore, who was raised there, or singer John Denver, who went to high school there.

Instead, the obvious draw has become the glowing street lights shaped like alien heads, the storefronts along Main Street with life-size blow-up humanoid dolls peering from their windows and, of course, the ubiquitous alien adorned T-shirts for sale everywhere.

These aren't scary looking aliens designed to give nightmares, but cuddly, wide-eyed creatures that'll have the kids saying, "Awww, I wish they'd crashed in my back yard!"

After a couple of days in town, the little green men/women seem no more out of place than the crenulated towers of the New Mexico Military Institute (established in 1891), a school known as the "West Point of the West." You'll see its uniformed cadets marching between classes on the campus bordering N. Main Street.

Hmmm, sounds like an alien magnet.

Phyllis Blackard has been a Roswell resident since 1937, she tell us one afternoon at the



Photos by DEBORAH ORAZI/Cox News Service

**THE INTERNATIONAL UFO MUSEUM** and Research Center in Roswell claims to have one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of UFO information on the planet.

UFO museum.

"Roswell has been here since the 1880's, but nobody had heard of the place, except its natives, until this happened," she said.

She remembers well the incident.

"Everybody knew about it but nobody talked about it," Blackard said. "I was really excited about it, not scared."

On July 5, 1947, a rancher named Mac Brazel was riding an area 75 miles northwest of Roswell called the Foster Ranch. There he discovered unusual debris strewn in an area 300 yards wide and three-quarters of a mile long.

The next day he took some of the debris to the closest big town, Roswell, which also was home to Roswell Army Air Field at the time.

That's when the police and, subsequently, the military got involved. The latter issued a press release when word got out about the find. In it the debris was referred to as a "flying disc."

That press release was written and distributed to the press by Lt. Walter Haut, a founder of and frequent visitor to the UFO museum run by his daughter, Shuster. Now in his 80s, Haut marvels at the number of people from different countries who stop at the museum.

## IF YOU GO

The Roswell Visitor's Bureau has brochures and information about events around town. You can call it at (888) ROSWELL or log on to the Web site at [www.roswellnv.com](http://www.roswellnv.com).

A visit to the International UFO Museum and Research Center (114 N. Main St.) is a must. You can get a taste of what awaits you by visiting its Web site at [www.ufomc.org](http://www.ufomc.org).

You'll find some major motel chains, such as Motel 6 (505-825-6666), Fairfield Inn (505-624-1300), Best Western (505-622-6430), and Days Inn (505-623-4021) along Main Street. The first two in particular are fairly new additions and are comfortable.

All the usual fast-food restaurants are located in Roswell, but if you want a small splurge, try Cattle Baron's at 1113 Main St. for its steaks and ample salad bar.

Only 70 miles west, a side trip to Ruidoso is a must. Call the visitor's center at (800) 253-2255 for brochures and information. It also is online at [www.ruidoso.net](http://www.ruidoso.net).

Carlsbad is located 76 miles south of Roswell — an easy day trip.

You can get information about the Carlsbad Caverns by calling (505) 785-2107 or contacting Carlsbad's visitor bureau at (800) 221-1224.

"We've had people from Japan and all over the United States," he said, pointing to a map full of colored straight pins, each designating the hometown of a recent visitor.

Haut's press release was "corrected" about four hours after it was released, and the flying disc became a weather balloon.

According to the more fascinating accounts, five alien bodies also were recovered at the crash site.

Believers have charged the Air Force with covering up the facts, but the military has stuck with its story over the years: it was a weather balloon.

The UFO museum in Roswell has dozens of signed affidavits from witnesses who were

involved in some aspect of the incident.

One witness, Robert E. Smith, swore in statement he said he loaded crates of unusual debris onto a cargo plane while stationed at Roswell Army Air Field as a member of the 1st Air Transport Unit.

Whether you believe in extraterrestrials or not, it all makes for some good fun in Roswell.

But the alien business does tend to overshadow other interesting things to do in town.

Rocketry pioneer Robert H. Goddard worked on his liquid-fueled rockets, forerunners to today's space program, in Roswell during the 1930's.

Hmmm, could it be his work aroused some alien curiosity

in the area?

The Roswell Museum and Art Center has some of the actual rockets he launched included in its Robert H. Goddard Special Collection.

The state's largest planetarium (also in Roswell) is named for him and Goddard gets his own festival in town each October.

The museum and art center is worth a visit for its fine assortment of American art, including work by Georgia O'Keeffe and Peter Hurd.

Roswell's Downtown Historic District encompasses 40 city blocks with homes displaying more than 20 architectural styles. More than 280 of the homes are on the State and National register of Historic Places.

There's no denying, however, that what many people are interested in is UFOs.

The Roswell Incident has even spawned a four-day UFO Festival each July.

Since 1996 the event has grown to include an Annual UFO Music Festival, held at the Eastern New Mexico Fairgrounds in Roswell. This year's big headliners were Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard.

"We don't try to make up anyone's mind for them," Shuster said. "We try to emphasize fun and learning. The museum is the learning part."

# Albany man studying Gulf Coast 'sightings'

By SYLVIA SCHON

Daily Star Staff Writer

ALBANY — Local resident Scott Arnett has been called in by the international Mutual Unidentified Flying Objects Network to probe what may be a major series of sightings near the Mississippi Gulf Coast city of Pascagoula.

The evidence includes videotapes of three incidents, one of which appears to show a living, moving "being," he said.

Arnett has been an investigator for MUFON since 1993 and a section director since 1995. He has interviewed many people about

UFO incidents throughout the years.

These recent videotapes impress him, he said, but he is not ready to say if he thinks they are credible. "I never commit until all is said and done," he said.

The tapes are being examined by MUFON's Washington, D.C., office and copies have been given to the National Aeronautics and

Administration, Arnett said. Meanwhile, he and his partner, D.J. Estopinal of New Orleans, have gathered soil samples from the



ARNETT

Space UFO sightings, he said.

The woman's testimony relates that she noticed the family's three dogs were barking outside that night. She said she looked out and

saw what appeared to be a short creature lying prone on the ground 47 feet away.

Arnett described the witnesses as intelligent, credible and still very frightened.

The first incident occurred in August near the Mississippi/Alabama state line north of Pascagoula, an area with a history of

saw what appeared to be a short creature lying prone on the ground 47 feet away.

She said she grabbed a video camera but stayed in the house and filmed. Her four children, ages 9 to 17, awoke and saw the creature, which hissed at the woman while she filmed, she said.

The creature had a large head, a large oval mouth and long, spindly arms, but no legs were visible in the film. Arnett said that on the video film, it appeared to be gray or brown in color.

In the film, the creature's facial expression appeared to be one of

pain or threat, Arnett said.

The following January the same woman reported seeing and filming a "perfectly spherical" shape in the sky that changed colors between yellow and orange and moved erratically and very fast over a fairly large area, he said.

She called a friend who lives 10 miles away, and the friend was seeing the same incident, Arnett said.

In the days after the second sighting, the woman and two of her children developed bleeding sores inside their noses, she said.

A third and more recent incident involved a cigar-shaped object in the sky that was seen by others, Arnett said.

Arnett interviewed the woman, her friend and all four children. He also gathered soil samples from where the creature lay in the yard and also a "control" sample from farther away. He said the samples are being tested.

"An interesting thing is that when it was there, the dogs stayed away from it. But after it was gone they dug holes at that spot," Arnett said.

The case, including some of Arnett's report may appear in the next edition of MUFON's monthly Journal.

People who witness UFO events are often afraid to talk about it to anyone, he said, even though many feel a strong need to share their experience.

The Pascagoula woman was no exception.

"All she could do was hug me and hug me. I think she was just so glad somebody listened to her," Arnett said.

DAILY HERALD, Provo, UT - July 2, 2004

## Crop circles perk interest of UFO enthusiasts

Todd Hollingshead

DAILY HERALD

A mysterious design that appeared Sunday in a wheat field off south Main Street in Spanish Fork is being deemed as possibly nonhuman by supposed extraterrestrial experts.

Nancy Talbott, who heads a science team called BLT (Burke, Levensgood and Talbott) Research out of Cambridge, Mass., sent local volunteers to the area Tuesday to do field work on the four-circle design.

The two volunteers, identified only as Melissa C. and her daughter Hannah, were searching for microfungal anomalies in the barley; the presence of which, Talbott says, suggests some type of nonhuman interaction.

"There's a lot of sacred geometric patterns in these circles," Melissa said, noting that one of the smaller circles was nonsymmetrical, a possible indication of extraterrestrial involvement.

The two Springville residents have since completed their field work, but the results are not yet available.

Lucius Farish, an Arkansas man who has studied crop circles and other unexplainable anomalies for years, said there are many things researchers look for in newly formed crop circles.

"They look for footprints and they take samples for various phenomenon," Farish said. "Sometimes the nodes at the joints of the plants are exploded

because of microwave energy."

Farish learned about the Spanish Fork crop circle earlier this week and was immediately interested in documenting as much information as possible.

"I've been interested in UFOs for years," he said. "But I can't tell you who made crop circles, why they were made or where they'll pop up next."

Reports by locals are increasingly curious.

Gustavo Lopez, an employee of the nearby Spanish Fork Motors, said he heard a dog whining and yelping when he arrived to work at 5 a.m. Sunday.

"Other residents in the area said they heard the dog too," Talbott said. "It's common for animals to exhibit uncommon behavior in situations like these."

Deputy Staci Petro of the Utah County Sheriff's Office investigated the scene and determined \$300 worth of damage was caused to landowner Paul A. Prior's crops. Prior said damages have jumped to more than \$1,000 because of downtime and loss of work.

Police said they believe the suspects entered the field during the night and created the crop circles only to attract attention.

Prior suspects it wouldn't be

too hard for a couple of young people to make the circle by dragging wood posts in circular patterns. "I can't say I'm 100 percent sure, but I just think it was vandals that worked it," Prior said. "If we're going to be translated, that will be fine, too."

Utah County Sheriff's Office have since decided the unusual creation is within Spanish Fork city limits and have turned it over to Spanish Fork Police.

The Spanish Fork police station said they have had numerous calls from people inquiring about the latest possible extra terrestrial phenomenon.

► Todd Hollingshead can be reached at 344-2524 or [thollingshead@heraldextra.com](mailto:thollingshead@heraldextra.com). Utah County staff writer Janis Nielsen contributed to this report.





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

# Circles' rich harvest for UFO buffs

Farmers have appealed to vandals intent on creating crop circles to stay off their land. But, reporter **JAMIE MCGINNIS** asks, what if the interesting shapes, normally found in fields around the UK at this time of year, really are created by unexplained phenomena?

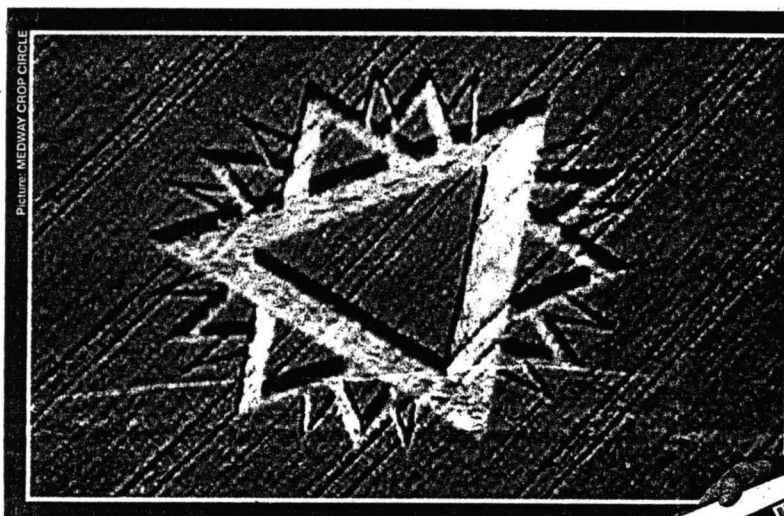
**C**ROP circles are nothing new. One of the earliest sightings of the mysterious geometric shapes was in Lyon in 815AD.

A late 16th-century woodcut depicts the devil mowing strange patterns in a field.

They began to appear in large numbers in the fields of southern England in the mid-1970s, but over the last 15 years they have become more frequent and complex in design. Some 250 are reported across the world each year.

The largest to date, a perfectly formed spiral formation, 244 metres in diameter and made of 409 circles covering almost the entire field appeared overnight at Milk Hill, Wiltshire, in August 2001.

This week a complicated pattern divided into six shapes and made up of 31 circles was found in a field at Burham, near Maidstone.



Thought to have materialised overnight on Tuesday, it is in roughly the same place where two crop circles appeared last July.

People who stood in the middle of the larger of the two created last year, which was shaped like the Star of St David, claimed to experience an odd, giddy feeling.

The origins of crop circles continue to mystify, with claims about their creation ranging from unexplained forces of nature to notions of the patterns being caused by alien spaceships.

Brian Damerell, a member of the Medway

Crop Circle group, believes he can tell if circles are hoaxes by feeling the 'energies' they give off.

Mr Damerell said it was too easy to just assume crop circles were made by human hands. "I don't think all of them are man-made. If they're not man-made, they're obviously made by something, but we don't know what that is."

**I'M WAITING:** Kent UFO investigator Chris Rolfe is keen to hear from all those who have come across anything that defies logical explanation



## Close encounter of the woodland kind

**F**OR several weeks during the summer of 1954, woodcutter Harold Carpenter awoke to a loud humming noise near his home at Temple Ewell, Dover.

The strange sound, which normally occurred between 4am-5am and lasted two or three minutes, came from nearby woodland.

He recounted to Kent UFO investigator Chris Rolfe almost five decades later how on one July morning he decided to get out of bed and find out what was causing the noise.

His curiosity led to what Mr Rolfe believes to be the first recorded 'close encounter of the third kind' in Kent.

Mr Carpenter began walking towards where he thought the sound

was coming from - a wooded area known locally as Sunny Culvert.

He said there was a clear sky, it was warm with heavy dew on the ground, and the sun had not yet come up. He came to a clearing and suddenly noticed to his left a strange-looking craft shaped like the top of a mushroom.

The object was a grey/white colour and seemed to be hovering eight to 10 ft off the ground. It was about 15-20 ft across its base.

But more startling still was the sight of up to five peculiar beings underneath the UFO. They were about four-and-a-half to five feet tall and carrying what looked like large jam jars in one hand. They were using tweezers to pick up twigs and leaves, which they put into the jars.

They all kept close to the mystery object, which was hovering above them silently. The creatures wore a one-piece, flexible-looking grey suit that covered their feet and heads.

Mr Carpenter walked closer, but when he got to within about 10 ft of their craft, one of the beings suddenly looked up and straight at him. Without making any sound, it appeared to alert the others to the fact they were being watched. They slowly approached their craft, which lowered itself to a height of two feet above the ground.

They climbed aboard the UFO, which cleared the trees and turned towards Temple Ewell, gradually becoming higher and faster.

To report mysterious sightings to Mr Rolfe, telephone 0871 8720010.



There are several eyewitness accounts of unexplained shapes in fields in Kent long before they were associated with UFOs or hoaxers. And experts believe that because of the hills and woodland in the county's countryside, many crop circles have gone unnoticed.

**O**N the website Swirled News, Andy Thomas, author of books including *Fields of Mystery*, *Quest For Contact* and *Vital Signs*, explains the variety of beliefs on what causes the circles.

He said: "Some believe they are communications from extra-terrestrials, pointing to the many sightings and videos of aerial phenomena seen in connection with crop formations."

He dismissed hoax theories, pointing out that human teams have struggled to reproduce some of the more complex designs.

He added: "Certain formations have been shown to have appeared within very short periods of time, and the geometrical calculation and construction required for some simply could not be carried out in one night."

Chris Rolfe, of the Folkestone-based UFO Monitors East Kent group, has researched a number of mysterious sightings in the county.

"Some of the patterns they have discovered are so complex that there's no way a gang of people could go out and make them. There are various theories put forward about them being some kind of natural phenomena we don't understand."

"But I am in no doubt there are hoaxes that go on and it's the same with UFO sightings. We have got to be on our guard all the time."

Last month the South East National Farmers' Union issued a warning on behalf of cereal growers to 'would-be crop circleers'. A spokesman said: "The NFU believes that the vast majority of crop circles are man-made."

The spokesman added: "This is not an order to 'get off our land'. We're appealing to anyone who is considering creating a crop circle to think twice."

"Creating crop circles is akin to trampling over someone's back garden - it is unfair and irresponsible. Crop circleers forget that they are damaging someone's property."

## Case 'still open' on huge craft near MP's home

**F**OR many people, crop circles are associated with extra-terrestrials and provide the evidence that they have landed their craft on Earth.

Although Kent has not had as many crop circles as counties like Wiltshire, it has had its fair share of unexplained flying object reports.

Only last year, a number of people reported seeing peculiar craft they could not account for.

From July to October 2003 there was a spate of sightings in the Dover area. Two women driving near the village of Coldred saw a group of lights hovering just above a field.

During the same period, a taxi driver and passenger travelling from Dover to Deal saw three lights in the shape of a triangle up ahead that shone down onto the ground.

And last July an engineer and his wife were dumbfounded when they saw a triangle-shaped object, "lit up like a Christmas tree", in the dusk sky.

Perhaps the most famous sighting eventually embroiled Conservative leader Michael Howard, the Ministry of Defence and the then MEP Mark Watts. It involved claims of a huge UFO the size of a football pitch. Mr Rolfe said the case was still open on the massive, triangular-shaped object reported near Mr Howard's home in Lymington in March 1997.

Eight separate reports were filed with UFO spotters of a triangular craft, grey in colour, hovering in a 15-mile area around the home of Mr Howard, who was then Home Secretary.

Bob Fetch and his son spotted a disc-shaped, grey UFO in Tonbridge on June 13, 2002. And Anne Ledwidge saw a UFO over the Paddock Wood area, heading towards Tunbridge Wells, in December of the same year.

She said: "There was a big red ball, the sun was shining on it, and there were glimpses of silver."

Steve Walker, of Cheriton, Folkestone, related to the Kent UFO Watch website a sighting he had in June 2002.

"I saw a triangular object with what appeared to be wedges on each point. The object was spinning in an anti-clockwise direction. It was black in colour, it made no sound and it did not appear to have any lights," said an astonished Steve.

And Steve Parslow told the site about a UFO that he saw during the same month.

"My girlfriend and I were driving back from Ashford on the M20 at about 2am. As we were coming towards the Leeds Castle junction, a light in the sky appeared to grow bright."

"Before either one of us had a chance to speak to the other, it dropped down towards the horizon at who knows what speed and then shot back up and out of sight."

**KENT ON SUNDAY, Ashford, Kent, England - July 18, 2004**

# The truth is out there...

**MORE** *Gazette* readers have come forward claiming they saw a UFO over the borough this month.

But a leading borough astronomer has reassured residents that aliens did not land in Bridgend.

Clive Down, of Bridgend Astronomical Society, said the strange lights witnessed over Pyle RFC and valleys roads were "undoubtedly a noctilucent cloud."

He said: "These clouds are composed of ice particles at extremely high altitude - typically about 85km - and take on many interesting and varied shapes. They can only be seen at sunset or just after sunset during June or July and shine by reflected sunlight."

But 46-year-old Julie Brett, who also snapped the lights, does not believe the phenomenon was a cloud.

"I was outside my backdoor in Bridgend Road, Garth, taking pictures and I didn't see it

by **BEN GLAZE**

ben.glaze@wme.co.uk

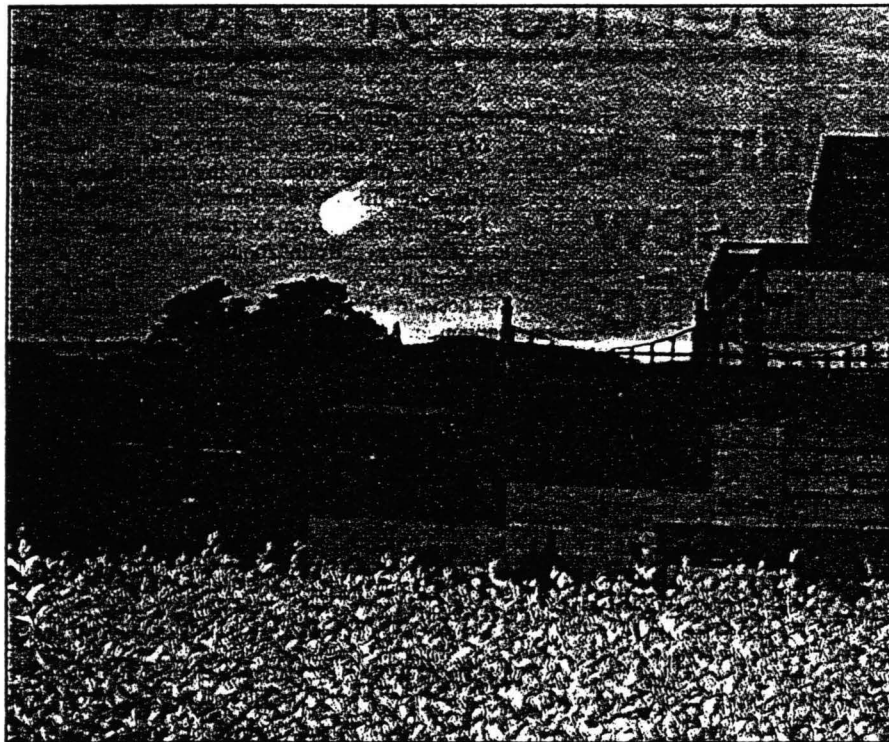
until I looked at the picture," she said.

Mrs Brett saw the *Gazette* story and realised she had shot almost identical pictures.

She said: "I thought, 'Oh my God, I've just seen that in the paper'. I was excited and couldn't sit still all day. I was jumping."

"It's just frightening to think that, if there's something up there, they know about us but we don't know about them. I think it's amazing."

**ALIEN EVIDENCE?**  
Julie Brett's photo - what do you think?



NEWS, Luton, England - Aug. 4, 2004

By **SIMON LAMBERT**

**MYSTERIOUS** goings on have left another spectacular crop circle on the outskirts of Luton

This giant 150-ft design in a wheatfield between Hexton and Pegsdon is just a short spacecraft ride from the formation which appeared in June on Telegraph Hill, near Lilley.

Theories abound as to what enigmatic forces are behind the complex patterns which emerge across the British countryside every year.

Could this latest crop circle be proof that aliens exist and are trying to tell us something?

Alternatively, it could be an elaborate hoax by talented pranksters on the way home from the pub.

Most dedicated cerealists who study crop circles believe the patterns contain great meaning and are created by UFOs or earth forces.

On the other hand, groups of circle-makers have claimed responsibility for some designs, which they created in the dead of the night with wood strapped to their feet to stamp down the crops.

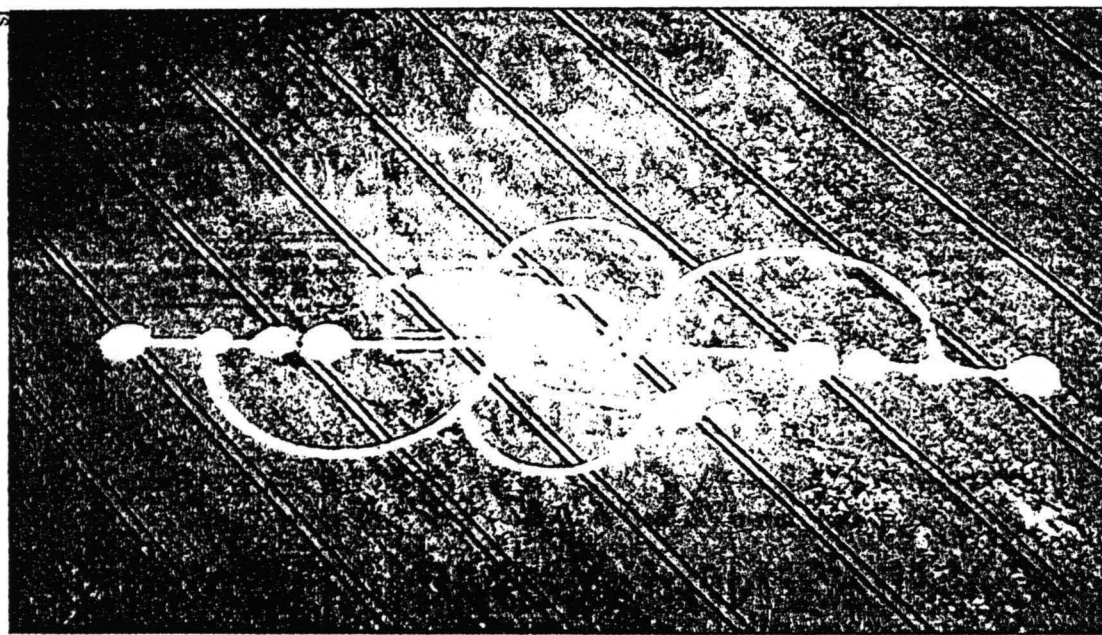
The illicit artists meticulously plan their raids, map out formations on computers and go out in small teams armed with diagrams, 100-ft tape measures and their 'stalk stomper' planks of wood with ropes looped through holes in the end.

Two of the UK's first generation of circle-makers Doug Bowers and Dave Chorley claimed the best location to make a crop circle was where it could easily be seen and within walking distance of a pub.

With its series of connected circles the Pegsdon formation is similar to the pattern which appeared at Telegraph Hill.

Some circle-makers such as John Lundberg have turned their art into big business and fly all over the world creating commercial designs.

Mr Lundberg's firm have made crop circles to promote a variety



## Ever-increasing crop circles fuel new UFO debate

of things, including reality television show *Big Brother*, Orange mobile phones and computer Giant AMD.

Meanwhile in England's crop circle capital Wiltshire, farmers regularly charge people to go on their land and view formations

The News-Gazette was unable

to contact the farmer whose field the Pegsdon circle was in, but the National Farmers Union have warned would-be crop circlers to think of the impact their activities have on farmers' livelihoods.

A spokesman said: "This is not an order to 'get off our land'. We're appealing to anyone who is

considering creating a crop circle to think twice.

"It's akin to trampling over someone's back garden - it is unfair and irresponsible.

"Crop circlers seem to forget they're damaging someone's property and there's a financial implication."



# UF-NO

## Authorities claim that aliens haven't visited Ireland yet

**DEFENCE** and aviation sources have claimed that there has never been an unexplained UFO sighting in Ireland.

Reports of unidentified flying objects have been investigated by the authorities as far back as 1962.

Government documents show that the Department of Transport and a team of air accident investigators helped compile Ireland's very own 'X-Files.'

### Incident

Speaking in the Dail on May 17, 1984, Deputy Pat 'The Cope' Gallagher asked the then Minister for Foreign Affairs, Paddy Cooney, about an incident off the Donegal coast — where an object resembling a missile was fired from a point north of Tory Island.

**The Minister said:** "The incident will join the inconclusive list of UFOs."

A revealing written response from the then Minister for Transport, Albert Reynolds, to a question by Deputy Michael Keating regarding the number of UFO reports documented in the State was made on March 10, 1981.

## EXCLUSIVE

By KEVIN JENKINSON

The future Taoiseach listed eight UFO reports from October 1962 to November 21 1976.

Exact details of each report weren't provided, just the dates, the area of the alleged sightings — and any action taken by the authorities.

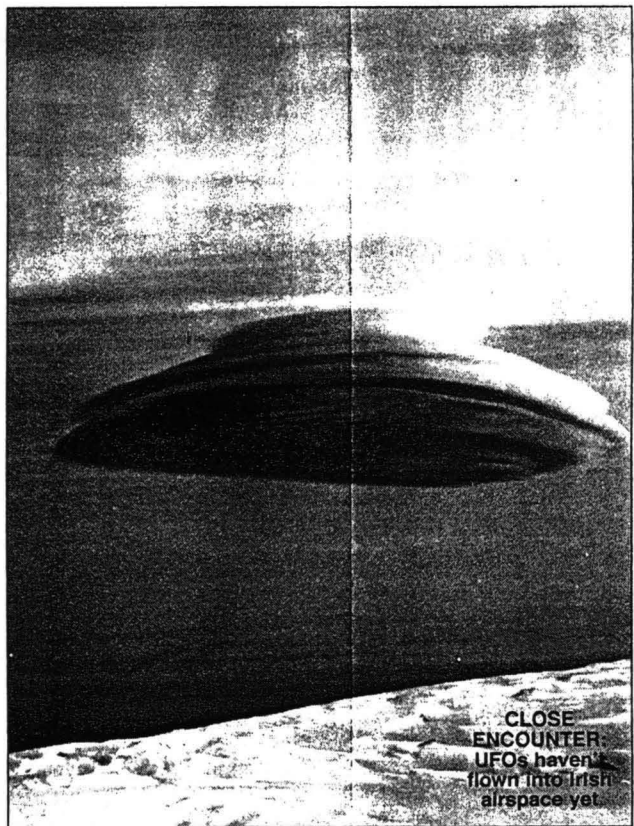
**Air Traffic Services and gardai investigated two incidents that 'proved negative' in Enniscorthy Co Wexford in 1967 and north Dublin in 1976.**

Another incident on February 13, 1976 in Whitehall, Dublin, was probed by the Air Corps and Air Traffic Services — but was also false.

And there were no records available for two reports made at Shannon Airport — and two by Met Eireann.

A reported sighting on July 10, 1969, resulted in Air Traffic Services issuing a warning to aircraft.

A spate of UFO sightings in the late 70s led the local civil defence in Howth, Co Dublin, to hold an exercise to deal-



**CLOSE ENCOUNTER**  
UFOs haven't flown into Irish airspace yet

ing with a possible UFO landing.

The exercise also dealt with potential radiation fallout from a spacecraft.

### Decades

Ireland has had many UFO sightings in recent decades — and most are investigated by amateur investigators such as UFO and Paranormal Research Ireland (UPRI).

The most recent cases involve strange lights having near misses with passen-

ger aircraft at Dublin Airport.

But a spokesperson for the Air Accident Investigation Unit said that no UFO reports couldn't be explained.

**"Aircraft often take evasive action to avoid a collision — but they have nothing to do with UFOs."**

A spokesperson for the Defence Forces said: "We're not involved in that sort of research. We get queries about strange lights, but there are no ongoing investigations into unusual sightings."

WEEKLY NEWS, Newbury, England - July 29, 2004

# More reports of UFOs over Hungerford

THE MYSTERY fireball seen over Hungerford has been appearing in West Berkshire skies for at least two months, the *Newbury Weekly News* can reveal.

Our report last week, and exclusive picture taken by *NWN* web designer Chris Day, prompted a flood of dramatic calls.

Latest revelations include:

■ a sighting exactly one week earlier, in the same place at the same time

■ strange sound and light effects in the area prior to sightings

■ pets behaving strangely as the object passed silently overhead

■ a sighting of an identical fireball rising from the ground and disappearing into cloud cover

The fireball, which changed direction and flared on and off, caused consternation among emergency services, which deployed a police helicopter to search for debris.

Firefighters scoured the Hungerford area where residents believed the object must have crashed; a six-wheel, all-terrain vehicle and operational support units were deployed. All searched in vain for debris or impact site.

Among the new reports was that of Ellen Benn, of Hungerford Newtown, who said: "We saw it about the same time of night two months ago and we were bracing ourselves for a crash."

Report by John Garvey

"It was too fast for a plane, so we thought it must be a meteor or debris from outer space."

Olive Bell, of Fairview Road, Hungerford, saw a fireball around the same time as the original sighting.

However, she reported an object shooting upwards before disappearing into cloud cover.

She said: "It took off into the sky. There was a cloud and I didn't see it any more."

"It didn't make any noise or sparks. It was just a moving ball going at a fair whack — it's very strange."

Brian Harris, of North View Heights, Hungerford, also saw the object last week, and said: "I'm sure it came down. It kept lighting up and going out."

"I saw the same thing exactly a week ago but it was much higher and disappeared into dark cloud."

Newbury Town Council marketing officer Julia O'Reilly described a strange "fizzing and popping noise" from her home in Tarrant's Hill accompanied by flashing lights, minutes before the fireball passed overhead.

She said: "About 20 minutes before that my poor cat started going ballistic. It was really weird, the cat was just so spooked."

Another caller, who asked not to be named, said that his dog was inexplicably terrified as the object passed overhead.

Mary Pett, from Bulpit Lane, Hungerford, said that she and neighbour Brian Regan spotted the object at around 7pm at the end of June.

She said: "It came over the house and went towards the north."

"It just glided across the sky." Reg Presley, lead singer with 1960s legends The Troggs, and a keen expert on crop circles and other paranormal phenomena, said: "There have been many sightings of strange lights in the sky in that area."

Mr Presley, who lives in Andover, added: "A couple of years ago, my daughter saw seven orange balls of light hovering stationary in the sky — then they just zipped away."

Meanwhile, a group of UFO watchers from America who were holidaying in Marlborough, Wiltshire, are now camping out near Hungerford after the *NWN* report of the sighting reached them.

Shar Napp, from Southern California, said: "We take an interest in these things at home."

"Someone brought a copy of your report to the camp site and it was being talked about, so we decided to come and see what it was all about."

Andy Heywood from the National Space Centre in Leicester said that one possible explanation for the sighting was the annual Perseids Meteor Shower, in which hundreds of meteors fall from the sky every hour as the earth passes through the debris from an old comet.

CITIZEN, Prince George, B.C., Canada - July 28, 2004

# Mysterious lights seen in night sky

by FRANK PEEBLES  
Citizen staff

Bright lights in the skies over Prince George and crop circles in the Moore's Meadow ravine. Are they connected?

Plenty of people have seen the crop circles, being in a high-traffic public place, and one local man says he may have just been tired but he saw an unusual light in the sky only days before the circles appeared on July 12.

Ivan Paquette couldn't sleep. His wife Christine works late hours so he let her slumber as he let himself out onto the balcony, as is his custom on restless nights. There was something different about this night, though.

"I don't remember exactly what night it was," Paquette said. "It was about 3:30 a.m. and I'm a stargazer. I was looking up, out there on my balcony, and there was this incredible light. It was huge, way bigger than a star. I was thinking I was seeing things, it was moving back and forth, left to right, in a subtle way. It was a bright white colour."

Paquette continued to watch for about 20 minutes, then went back into the house. About an hour later, his curiosity led him back to the balcony where he looked again for the bright object. It was gone.

"I told Christine about it the next day and I said watch, there will be something about it in the newspaper," he said. "My wife spotted the story about the crop circles in Moore's Meadow right after that, only she didn't tell me about it for a few days. It kind of spooked her a bit."

Brian Battersby, president of the lo-

cal branch of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, says he hasn't heard of anything celestially unusual around that time, but not everything is seen by the eye of the giant telescope in their Tedford Road observatory.

"The classic UFO was in the sky that night — Venus," Battersby said. "It often seems bigger and brighter closer to the horizon, and the imperceptible movement side to side is pretty classic eyeball tricks. If you watch satellites they seem to zigzag, but it is only your brain telling you that's what you're seeing, they are travelling in a straight line. Venus would have been nine or 10 degrees off the horizon at that point."

Battersby acknowledges that lights do appear in the sky that cannot be readily explained, but also noted that vapour clouds can cover an object while appearing almost transparent to the naked eye.

Arcturus, a star in the Bootes constellation, and Capella, a star in the Auriga constellation were also prominent in the sky those nights. It would be easy to make a mistake.

"I'm not a liar, and I'm not a guy who likes to create stories to draw attention to myself. Fact or fiction, I saw something and it is fact to me," Paquette said. "I've checked the sky since then and it has not reappeared. A couple times I've gone out at the same time of the night, in fact, and there's no sign of it."

Perhaps coincidentally, though, there were circles of flattened grass in the tall greenery of Moore's Meadow at about the same time.

**"I was looking up, out there on my balcony, and there was this incredible light."**

— Ivan Paquette

CR: G. Conway



# Doomsday crop circle

Message in the wheat says the world will end in 2012

By Beth Hale

IT is one of the most intricate crop circles yet seen.

And to those who believe that such phenomena are the work of higher powers, it is one of the most disturbing.

The awesome 350ft pattern features a giant Egyptian mosaic in the shape of two wings, surrounded by symbols which bear a striking resemblance to the Mayan calendar which predicted that the world will end in 2012.

The circle appeared overnight next to Silbury Hill in Wiltshire, the largest man-made mound in Europe.

Only yards away are the 5,000-year-old West Kennet Longbarrow burial grounds, one of the largest and most impressive Neolithic graves in Britain.

According to folklore, the mound is traditionally visited at sunrise on Midsummer's Day by a white figure which is accompanied by a white hound with red ears.

Its ghostly associations have made it popular with present-day pagans and dabblers in the occult.

And it has been the setting for several crop circles in the past, though none so intricate as this.

Crowds flocked to view the elaborate design in a wheat field over the weekend.

Steve Alexander, who has pho-

tographed crop circles around the world, said: 'This is the most complex one I have ever seen.'

'I know a lot of people think all crop circles are man-made but this one takes some believing.'

'It would take days to produce such a well-sculptured design and this one just turned up overnight.'

The Mayan civilisation which existed for about 2,000 years, disappeared around AD900 leaving

pyramids, a unique form of writing and a network of lost cities in the deserts and jungles of Central and South America.

The 2012 prophecy stems from the date on which the Mayan calendar ends.

Meteorologists believe that simple crop circles, of which there are records dating back centuries, could be caused by whirlwinds.

But sceptics believe that intri-

cate circles are the work of professional fakers who use planks and bits of rope to create the patterns.

The phenomenon, predominantly in the West Country, attracts visitors from as far afield as the U.S. and Japan each summer.

In 1991, two Southampton pensioners, Doug Bower and David Chorley, confessed they had been making patterns in fields since the 1970s. But although they

claimed to have hung up their 'stompers' - the wooden planks they said they used to flatten the crops - the circles have continued to appear.

The shapes have grown more complex, ranging from representations of the DNA spiral to intricate mathematical figures.

Three years ago an incredible array of 400 circles aligned in a mammoth 'psychedelic swirl' 1,500ft across, turned up in a wheat field in Wiltshire.

The circle symbols are said to resemble the Mayan calendar, which ended in 2012

CITIZEN, Prince George, B.C., Canada - July 13, 2004 CR: G. Conway



Citizen photo by Dave Milne

**COPY CATS?** — Citizen reporter Frank Peebles provides scale for one of the crop circles found in Moore's Meadow on Monday morning. Tall grass in the main meadow had been stamped down to mimic mysterious crop circles often attributed to aliens. Tracks in the area indicate this was the work of more terrestrial beings.

## UFO sightings on pace to set record

From a translucent, saucer-shaped object in British Columbia to mysterious lights buzzing motorists in New Brunswick, Canadians are on their way to reporting a record-high number of UFO sightings this year.

More than 400 stories of curious encounters were filed through the end of July, compared with just over 300 by this time last year, says Ufology Research of Manitoba, a group that tracks reports of unidentified flying objects.

At this rate, the total for 2004 will surpass the current record of 673 sightings reported last year, said Chris Rutkowski, research co-ordinator for the Winnipeg-based organization.

The group receives reports directly by telephone and e-mail, from sister agencies that follow the phenomenon, and via federal departments such as Transport and National

Defence.

Rutkowski isn't sure why the numbers are rising, but suspects it might be linked to public awareness of recent exploratory missions to intriguing planets such as Mars and Saturn.

'I think there is a resurgence of interest in space,' he said Thursday in an interview.

The Prairies seem to be a hotbed of unexplained activity.

In Alberta, 61 sightings occurred up to the end of July, compared with 76 in all of last year. There were 50 in Manitoba, already double the total for 2003, while 19 reports emerged from Saskatchewan, topping last year's 13.

Rutkowski believes that while most UFO reports have simple explanations — many being meteors — a small percentage are puzzling and deserve the attention of scientists.

— The Canadian Press

24 HOURS, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - Aug. 6, 2004 CR: G. Duplantier



# TRANSLATIONS

[The following translations are all courtesy of Scott Corrales and the Institute for Hispanic Ufology, with translation copyright being retained. Credit for individual contributors will be given at the end of each article. All articles are from South American and other Spanish-language newspapers and media sources.]

July 10, 2004 — *El Tribuno*, Salta, Argentina — Cachi, at 19:30 hrs on Thursday — HUNDREDS WITNESS LARGE UFO — "It was perfectly plate-shaped," said the director of FM San Jose — Hundreds of people in Cachi's main square, among them artists participating in an art fair, who were creating sculptures and paintings on site, saw a large unidentified flying object (UFO) that crossed the skies over Cachi on Thursday night.

"It was truly impressive. I'd heard people say that this phenomenon was recurrent in the region, but I never thought I'd have the privilege to see such a sharp, clear and disturbing sighting, since I'm unable to find a logical explanation for the phenomenon I've just seen with my own eyes," said Javier Rodriguez, the recently appointed director of FM San Jose.

Holding a degree in communication arts and national broadcasting, Rodriguez, 29, stated that "the time was approximately 19:30 hours and we were chatting in the town square with the host of one of the station's programs--Antonio Zuleta--who has become internationally famous due to his UFO films in the area."

"And we just happened to be discussing the subject when an artisan standing under the shelter of the local museum, some meters away from us, told us he'd seen something, raising his index finger skyward," he says. "It was a fantastic vision: a perfect disk of bright luminous intensity, moving as it issued forth red flashes, from North to Southeast at a prodigious speed, changing directions in a startling manner, gyrating at impossible angles for any vehicle known to us," explained the expert.

"From our position," Rodriguez added, "we can say that it had the size of a dessert plate. In other words, some 50 cm across, which makes me dismiss the possibility that it was a satellite, which are as small as a star and follow a fixed trajectory and constant speed. I cannot say, obviously, that it was a spacecraft from another world or from our own, but I can tell you that it was a phenomenon as inexplicable as it was interesting."

On the other hand, Antonio Zuleta, consulted by *El Tribuno*, said: "there were so many witnesses to the event that the debate about alien civilizations was a subject of lengthy discussions at coffeehouses, restaurants and other establishments in town, which is now filled with tourists, many hoping to have their own sighting."

"Fortunately, it occurred at peak hours on an afternoon with a clear sky, as is customary [in Cachi]," he emphasized. — CREDIT: Gloria Coluchi

July 10, 2004 — *El Tribuno*, Salta, Argentina — WILL UFOs BE VISIBLE IN SOUTHERN SALTA? — Hotels are booked and Police will undertake a security mission in the mountains — The chief of the Rosario de la Frontera Volunteer Fire Brigade, Jose Exequiel Alvarez, confirmed yesterday that area residents may witness the movement of a UFO flotilla across the skies and stated that "the best places from which to view this shall be the mountains surrounding the Termas Hotel Complex."

Alvarez made his announcement in a special session on July 1st, after having discussed a sighting with Sebastian Bidonda, a researcher of this subject, known to ufologists as "Alfabidondo," a contactee or a human who has telepathic communication with alien beings.

According to Alvarez, during his foray with Alfabidondo, the contactee concentrated and seconds later a formation of spaceships "commanded by Captain Kirian," who maintained a mental dialogue with the Jujuy resident, told him that "on the 23rd of this month residents of Rosario would have to prepare themselves for a fabulous sighting."

Beyond the eccentricities of the story, residents of this locality are divided into skeptics and believers, readying themselves for a nocturnal vigil in the hills. Nothing else is being discussed in the streets today and hotels are virtually booked solid with the arrival of tourists from Tucuman, Catamarca, La Rioja, Santiago del Estero and Salta, eager to witness the promised phenomenon.

"People think I'm nuts when I say such things, but the fact is that I was there when Alfabidondo got in touch with Captain Kirian. I have seen the spaceships cross the skies over my head in one of the most marvelous spectacles I've ever beheld," said Jose Exequiel Alvarez.

Meanwhile, faced with popular expectations, the 31st Sheriff's Office of Rosario de la Frontera announced that it would carry out a "special control operation" on the hillsides. "We are interested in having people come in to see anything they hope to see, but we want to avoid tragedies arising from one reason or another," functionaries told *El Tribuno*. — CREDIT: Jose Echevarria, *ArgusPR*

July 12, 2004 — *El Centro*, Talca, Chile — VICTIM OF "WINGED DOG" ATTACK RECOGNIZES CHUPACABRAS — Juan Acuna says that a computer generated photo from Corporacion GEO is identical to the creatures who terrified him next to a canal.

PARRAL — After a week of maintaining his silence, Juan R. Acuna Pereira, the Parral resident who was assaulted by two strange beings identified as "winged dogs," said yesterday that the creature is identical to one shown in an image presented by Corporacion GEO, depicting the mythical Chupacabras, and which was done based on statements from others who have suffered similar attacks.

"It had no fangs, it was just like a dog, and with short ears, just like a dog, and it stands on two legs, and has shining eyes," he said, confirming the computerized image belonging to Corporacion GEO. He insisted that [the creature] is just like a dog and without the fangs shown in a Mexican photo shown last week. The only difference is that the beleaguered Parral native saw both animals were black in color and flew around."

Despite his silence to the media, the victim's days haven't been peaceful. His wife says that Juan doesn't sleep at night and when he manages to do so, he has nightmares and has delirium all night. Sometimes he wakes up shouting: "Attack, attack!"

What they are hoping is that a specialist will offer him some assistance, since after that night of horror, Juan doesn't dare go outside in the dark, not even to the outhouse. He is with someone at all times, whether by a brother or his brother in law. He will not remain home alone. His fear is "a living thing," they say.

The family also regrets the mockery of neighbors who do not believe what has occurred. What is curious,

say the affected parties, is that if they do not believe, why then do they shut themselves up in their homes early, when before they would stay awake until dawn by the bridge?

Juan Acuna said that a friend of his, Jorge Vejar, told him that a dog was found dead in a field without a drop of blood. When they opened the door to see what happened, the other dogs entered the house and hid under the chairs, visibly frightened and unwilling to go out again.

Diario *El Centro* also had access to a report by Susana Soto Yanez, the woman who offered first aid to Acuna. The victim's brother-in-law's spouse recalls that the attack by the "critters" occurred at around 1:00 a.m. Her relative was fleeing from the bridge along the side of the canal, calling for their help, at a time at which they were both fast asleep.

Susana Soto did not understand -- and much less believed -- the story that some winged dogs had attacked her relative. After changing his clothes and treating his wounds, because he arrived practically naked at their house, she went out to find a cell phone to summon an ambulance, without positive results.

She says that she retraced her relative's route from her house to the side of the canal toward the bridge and noted some strange noises, but she says she entrusted herself to God and nothing happened. Unable to achieve her goal, she returned home and asked her husband--who had had a few drinks, she admitted--to go and find an ambulance. The husband covered the same route as his wife, when upon reaching the bridge--recalls Marcelo Alberto Guajardo--he suffered the surprise attack on his foot by one of the "winged dogs".

He shouted in such a way that he managed to scare off the "critter," he said. Guajardo described the day on which the events took place: "it was a thing that attacked my foot and knocked me backward. Good thing I was wearing leather boots. I looked and saw it was flying. I let out a shout and it let go of me ... there were two of them. They were small, but they vanished. I didn't see if they flew off or not -- they just vanished all of a sudden. If I don't scream, I told myself, I'll die right here...I don't blame this situation on any rooster," he said.

— CREDIT: Liliana Nunez O.

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July 13, 2004 — *La Manana*, Buenos Aires, Argentina — UFOs SEEN OVER 25 DE MAYO —\*\*\*More sightings this weekend in Gobernador Ugarte\*\*\* — The UFO phenomenon in the region of Gobernador Ugarte, parish of 25 de Mayo, is ongoing. Strange lights and maneuvers were reported this past weekend. One worker told the strange story of how the lights on his truck turned on and off by themselves as he stopped at a local ranch. Some residents say this is quite normal in the area, while others express their fears.

*La Manana* spoke yesterday to Hector Labaronne, who has been filming UFOs for some three years now with his family. The "La Esperanza" ranch is where the greatest number of sightings and ground prints have been reported in recent times. This family possesses over five hours of video recordings of the lights and objects that appear in the night skies. The significance of these events has led to the screening on August 16th at 20:00 hrs. in the Sala Pablo Picasso of Capital Federal (Buenos Aires) of a 90 minute video of the Ugarte sightings.

-- *How long have you been recording UFOs?*

More than three years now. The video to be shown in Buenos Aires is part of the five hours we've recorded. Almost all of the images are similar, except that some are on different days and nights.

-- *How long since the last sighting?*

We saw lights last night (Sunday), also on Saturday, and there are some things that occur that are beyond the norm. For example, last Friday, one of the rangers who lives in a shed had a strange experience. At around 1 a.m., he saw a light, went outside, and realized that his truck's lights were on. He went to turn them off, but noticed that the pickup truck's lights weren't on. The light went out in the meantime. He thought it could be a loose wire and went to bed again. About an hour later he woke up to find his lights were on. This happened four times successively. He didn't go out after that because he was scared. The next day he remarked about this event and some people told him that there are "flying saucers" in the skies over this area, or that strange lights are seen. He says that when he went to bed, he could feel as though someone was running at the edge of the shack. We still don't know what it is, but we're sure there's something to it. This happened at the "La Esperanza" ranch.

-- *Are you accustomed to these strange happenings?*

I see so many lights that we sometimes don't record them, because they look like the ones we already have. What I always want is to see what they are up close, which hasn't happened yet. The closest [they came] was 300 meters. The best days are when the sky is clear.

-- *Do people come to see this phenomenon?*

There are many people who come to see this phenomenon and keep doing it. We sometimes don't have any contact with them because they seek the other locations. We always go to the same ranch. The lights fly right over Ugarte--many people of that town are seeing them. Since it is a normal occurrence, no one pays them much attention. A low-flying red light 100 meters over Ugarte is a normal thing.

-- *What time of year does this occur the most?*

The colder it gets, the lower they fly. They can move some 30-40 centimeters over the ground. They don't leave traces. What we see are lights and sometimes a solid object behind them, like a suspended deep bowl. We've had them close, but when we get closer, they move away--that happens always. They don't come over to where we are. They always avoid us.

-- *Are all the sightings in this area similar?*

Yes. Many people are afraid. Not me, because if they'd wanted to do something to us, they would've done it already.

-- *What do you think about the presentation to be held in Buenos Aires?*

It's great that this video should be presented in Capital Federal, since it has some very good images. This phenomenon is taking place everywhere. What happens here is that it occurs more often. I don't know why they like this place. People from Buenos Aires, La Plata, Cordoba--everywhere, have come to Ugarte.

The words of Hector Labaronne reflect what this family has experienced in recent years, along with other residents of Ugarte. As this newspaper reported a few days ago, major UFO researchers have visited Ugarte.

The Fundacion Argentina de Ovnilogia (FAO) has performed studies in the area since July 4, 2002, when senior official Aragonés indicated that he had seen UFOs in the area. At this time, the national media drew attention to the cattle mutilations taking place in different parts of the country, cases which also occurred in Ugarte.

Research and eyewitness accounts have revealed sightings in previous decades. In the 1950's, personnel from Estancia San Jose del Socorro reported the surprising appearance of several circular marks near a eucalyptus forest. In the summer of 1971, a 12-year-old boy witnessed the low-altitude flight of a strange aerial artifact. In the mid-1990's, a local resident claimed having been taken aboard a spacecraft, providing details of his experience and showing marks on his arms. — CREDIT: Gloria Coluchi

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July 13, 2004 — *Infobae*, Argentina — ARGENTINA: UFOs Reported in 25 de Mayo — Residents of



the Buenos Aires community of Gobernador Ugarte, parish of Veinticinco de Mayo, claim having seen strange luminous flying objects in recent days.

Gobernador Ugarte, a village of 300 residents, is located on Route 51 between the cities of Chivilcoy and Veinticinco de Mayo.

Hector Labaronne, a local resident who has filmed these apparitions for three years, explained that "they are like balls that wander and shed light. I call them mushrooms, and when it's very cold they come down--it's possible to see them at 30-40 centimeters off the ground."

"We're tired of seeing these balls of light. We'd like to see more, but when they're only 30-40 centimeters off the ground, we want to get closer and they move away," the man said.

He explained that the balls "are seen at different times, especially from 19:00 hours onward, and when the light they issue is turned off, something silvery can be seen, like a deep bowl."

The sightings apparently recurred this weekend and even caused the lights of a truck on the La Esperanza ranch to come on by themselves, causing a farmhand to panic. — CREDIT: Gloria Coluchi

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July 20, 2004 — *Hoy*, Buenos Aires, Argentina — ARGENTINA: UFO FILMED FOR 17 MINUTES AT COMODORO RIVADAVIA — A resident of Comodoro Rivadavia claimed having filmed an unidentified flying object (UFO) over Cerro Chenque, in the vicinity of this city of Chubut, last Friday morning. Marcelo Soto claimed that the object apparently rested on that mountain and he was able to record it from his home in the Jorge Newberry neighborhood.

The film shows a phenomenon that is very similar to the one seen in recent days over Gobernador Ugarte (Pcia. de Buenos Aires), said Soto to a local FM radio station.

The image captured is "unedited, and from the center of the luminous sphere, which changes colors, it can be seen how other lights emerge from within."

"I didn't know what it was, but it attracted my attention. I wanted to have the best possible image and that's why I left the camera alone, pointing to where the UFO was, and then I connected [the camera] to the TV set. That's when I got scared," he added.

"The object approached and receded. There was some kind of light in the center of the sphere that changed color and something that really drew my attention: other lights came out of the center of the circle toward the side."

In this regard, the director of Comodoro Rivadavia's airport, Roberto Romero, explained that Air Force radars "have not recorded any sightings of any luminous objects, nor have aircraft reported anything like it" in recent days, adding: "If now they say there's a video on the presence of a UFO or shining object, well, then that can't be refuted." — CREDIT: Gloria Coluchi

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July 23, 2004 — *Semanario Colon Doce*, Buenos Aires, Argentina — Flying Saucer over the Region — Jorge Paez says that in the early hours of last Thursday morning he saw a strange object in the sky, adding that his wife and son were also witnesses.

Rojas resident Jorge Paez, who lives in the La Loma district, claims having seen an unidentified flying object (UFO) that was heading east of Rojas "behind some wilderness at the dog race track," parallel to Route 188.

"The time was approximately 6:00 a.m. when I was coming home from work and saw a flying saucer that approached and departed ... a light that became increasingly larger before vanishing and appearing again, [something it did] for some ten minutes, easily," he indicated.

"I left work and was on my way home, and I looked at it as it came up, since I saw it from far away, from behind the trees in the wilderness of the dog race track," he said. "It came up from behind the eucalyptus trees."

"My kid has a spyglass and I was looking [at it] through it. It was like a red ball that changed colors, becoming white, yellow...that moved in what appeared to be circles. It did that for about ten minutes, then vanished," Paez said. "I was startled by what they were saying about 25 de Mayo (where a UFO supposedly appeared) and they spoke about the cold, and it was very cold last night. I saw it clearly."

"I'd never seen anything like it before. I woke up my wife and the kid so they'd see it. The kid didn't want to get up at first because he thought it was a lie. I woke him up so that he'd see it, and he also saw it."

"It looked like a light the size of the moon. That's all I saw," he ended by saying. — CREDIT: Gloria Coluchi

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July 30, 2004 — *Terra.com.br*, Brazil — BRAZIL UFO FRAGMENT TO BE ANALYZED — The Technical-Scientific Department of the Piaui Police collected a chunk of an unidentified flying object (UFO) that fell in the region after an explosion in the sky. The material shall be forwarded to the INPE (National Institute of Space Exploration) for a more thorough analysis. The Secretary of State of Safety Matters, Menandro Pedro da Luz, has said that he himself verified the material collected and that it was no more than a piece of iron plate, measuring around one meter, that shows signs of heating, possibly as a result of entering the Earth's atmosphere.

The Secretary was unable to say if there were signs of radiation on the object, but reported that the material is being sent to INPE for a more detailed analysis.

"There is an office at INPE at Navidad, in Rio Grande do Norte, or the one in Sao Luis, in Maranhao, due to the Alcantara rocket launching site. They must identify the origin and nature of the material collected," he remarked.

The Delegate of Batalha, Police Sergeant Raimundo Nonato, known as "Sargento Cajura," was frightened by the arrival of the car from the Technical-Scientific Police department to collect the object. The local population has visited the police precinct to assuage its curiosity about the object that exploded in the sky, causing a loud report and a flash in the early hours of Sunday morning. He has information that other pieces of the same material are scattered between the cities of Barras and Batalla. — CREDIT: Eustaquio Andreas Patounas and Liliana Nunez O.

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August 1, 2004 — *La Estrella*, Arica, Chile — STRANGE CREATURES REPORTED IN PAMPA ACHA — Two strange creatures, described as small dinosaurs and with a physical appearance similar to that of a kangaroo, were reported by the occupants of a Terrano pickup truck traveling between Iquique and Arica on Thursday night.

The vehicle's driver, Dario Riquelme, was traveling in the company of Army official Hernan Cuevas, his wife and two young children. According to his account, the situation left them feeling rather nervous and confused at 9:40 p.m. that evening. The event took place in the Pampa Acha sector exactly, only a few minutes before passing by Presencias Tutelares, located some 17 km south of the city.

Riquelme and his party had left Iquique at 6:00 p.m. They were only a few minutes away from Arica and

were holding a normal conversation when something strange darted in front of the vehicle. "My companions said: 'look at that tremendous beast' and I managed to hit the brakes. Then after a few minutes, the second one ambled past and it was even more startling, because it was just like a dinosaur, walking on two legs. It had very noticeable thighs," Riquelme said.

According to the driver's description, the figures were grey and hairless. The second one, which crossed a few minutes later, was clearly seen by Riquelme, Hernan Cuevas and his 12-year-old daughter Tania. They estimated the creature's height at 2 meters, due to the fact that the beast's distance from the vehicle at the moment it crossed was not more than 4 meters. In the case of the second "animal," they said it was smaller, but they were able to see it clearly because it was a clear night and there was moonlight. However, what was most remarkable about both creatures was the speed at which they crossed the road and the strides they took.

The trip from Iquique, where Riquelme and Cuevas had gone to purchase a vehicle, had been normal up to that point, but the strange event caused nervousness among Mr. Cuevas's wife and daughter. "The good thing is that when they started screaming, my companion and I didn't lose control and kept calm. Later we stopped to smoke a cigarette and walk around. From there I descended calmly to Arica, but I'm still nervous," explains the driver, who reached *La Estrella* immediately after reaching the city.

Riquelme's account coincides with that of Hernan Cuevas, who is a recruiting officer with the Army in this city. "When the first crossing occurred, I asked Dario if he had seen it and he said yes. Then we started making comments on what it might have been and shortly after, another one walked by, shorter, but very similar to a dinosaur or a lizard running on two legs. Even my daughter saw it and let out a scream," said Cuevas.

Twelve-year-old Tania stated that the creatures were very similar to a dinosaur and with short hands. Meanwhile, Mrs. Cuevas almost didn't realize what was going on because she was paying attention to the couple's young child, who was asleep.

Neither Riquelme nor Cuevas had ever experienced a similar situation and will not even compare it with descriptions of other creatures, such as the alleged Chupacabras that attacks and exsanguinates animals in the field. But they have still not managed to find an explanation for what they saw Thursday night. — CREDIT: Claudio Ojeda

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August 3, 2004 — *La Estrella*, Arica, Chile — CHILE: MORE STRANGE CREATURES REPORTED IN ACHA by Fernando Perea — An animal very similar to the ones [reported near Arica on July 29] has been reported in the Pampa Acha sector, 20 km from our city. The latest case involved four of these creatures and at almost the same time of day.

A new report involving the sighting of strange animals in the Pampa Acha sector was made known in our city yesterday and coincides almost exactly with the one described on Thursday by the driver of a pickup truck carrying 5 passengers from Iquique to Arica and which we published in our Sunday edition.

This case involves the six members of the Abett de la Torre Diaz family, who live at Fuerte Baquedano in the community of Pozo Almonte. All of them were travelling from their home toward Arica two weeks ago and as they crossed the Pampa Acha sector, less than 20 kilometers away from the city, near Presencias Tutelares, they were faced with four creatures they described at first as "dog-faced kangaroos" that moved slowly through the air.

The event occurred at approximately 21:00 hours and left almost all of the family's members traumatized. The family consisted of Carlos Abett de la Torre, an Army subofficer, his wife Teresa, their three children and a 3-year-old nephew. "I was traveling in the backseat with my brothers, talking, and suddenly everything went dark. Then I told my brother what I was seeing and he told me to keep quiet, because Mom gets nervous. Later I looked through the window and saw some things that looked like birds, with dogs' heads and backswept wings. My father said they were like gargoyles," explained Carmen Abett de la Torre, one of the couple's daughters.

Carmen added that she wasn't very sure if the creatures had wings or legs, but that they moved them toward the back (sic). The height of these animals was calculated at some two meters. Two of these beings flew over the vehicle; minutes later, another two appeared, but this time leaping in front of the vehicle. "We were speechless for some 10 minutes and my Mom told us to react, and then we started discussing what we'd seen," said Carmen.

Teresa Diaz, Carmen's mother, was traveling in the front passenger seat beside her husband and was the one who saw the entities the clearest. Her impression was that these animals were moving slowly over the car first, and then in front of it. However [they appeared to match] the vehicle's speed, which was nearly 100 kilometers per hour.

The situation caused such nervousness among the whole family that all they wanted to do was get to Arica to forget the traumatic incident. Once in the city, they told their relatives what had happened. "Then we were terrified to go back," Teresa added with regard to the day they were getting ready to return to their home in Fuerte Baquedano.

At the time of the strange encounter, the moonlight provided certain visibility, which in this case, as well as in the earlier one made known last week, enabled the event to be clearly seen. Furthermore, the animals did not go any farther than 20 meters from the car in which the Abett de la Torre family was driving. All of the family's members agreed about what they had seen. They are startled and nervous as a result of their sighting. None of them went public earlier for fear of ridicule and mockery.

Teresa Diaz's husband is a subofficer with the "Cazadores" regiment of Iquique and according to his wife, he had never seen anything similar after 25 years of driving along the same highway in this region. Carabineros of the Cuya barracks stated that until now, no one has approached them to report a similar event. However, they had heard of strange creatures being witnessed in the Pampa Acha sector from third parties. In any event, they added that they constantly patrol the road and near the sector where the incident occurred. Nothing unusual has been found up to now.

There are now two eyewitness accounts of these strange animals in the same sector and almost at the same time. This is reminiscent of what occurred last year in Chaca, where a hundred birds were found dead from exsanguination. At the time, one witness claimed having seen an animal attacking the birds, and according to his description, the assailant was similar to the ones reported by both families in recent weeks: in other words, a sort of bird or kangaroo standing two meters tall, with lower extremities shorter than its upper ones and which moved by taking prodigious leaps. — CREDIT: Liliana Nunez O.

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# BIGFOOT

'The Minerva Monster'

## 1978 sighting is local legend

By ED BALINT  
Repository staff writer

PARIS TWP. — It was a hot summer night in August 1978.

Evelyn Cayton was sitting at the kitchen table with family and friends. They heard a noise in her back yard on Lincoln Street SE, about two miles west of Minerva.

It wasn't the first time. The kids had heard strange noises before. They thought it was a hermit. Maybe a crazed mountain man. It made the dog go berserk.

Then they saw something in the woods — a 6-foot-tall, thickly haired beast.

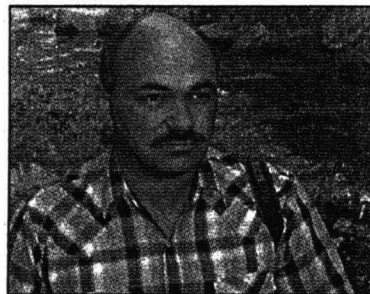
The night of Aug. 20 was different. The beast got closer than ever, peering into the kitchen window, illuminated by an outside light, reeking of ammonia and rotten eggs.

### THE QUESTION

Call the REpline at (330) 430-7999, and let us know if you believe in Bigfoot. If your answer is yes, call Ext. 1001. If no, call Ext. 1002.

Weighing 300 pounds, black-and-brown matted hair covered its head and body, making the face indistinguishable.

(continued on page 18)



"There is still not one shred of evidence to positively prove that the creature exists ... (but) apparently something is out there. There's too many reliable people who are claiming to see this thing."

— Bigfoot investigator Donald Keating of Newcomerstown

## Bigfoot hunter comes up empty

By ED BALINT  
Repository staff writer

NEWCOMERSTOWN — Donald Keating has searched for Bigfoot for 20 years — nearly his entire adult life.

He founded the annual Bigfoot conference in Newcomerstown, an event that drew about 200 people last April. He's also director of the Eastern Ohio Bigfoot Investigation Center and the Tri-State Bigfoot Study Group.

He has traveled to British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, Pennsylvania and West Virginia — all in search of Bigfoot. He has camped out in the wilderness. He has purchased night vision and recording equipment to document the existence of the elusive creature.

Keating, 41, has been interviewed countless times, by Japanese media, on Comedy Central and on radio shows.

Now he is ready to give up on Bigfoot. Keating's investigations into about 100 Bigfoot sightings — including the famed Minerva Bigfoot case of 1978 — never ended with conclusive evidence of a huge, hairy beast that walks like a man, emits a pungent odor and can bust loose with a blood-curdling scowl — half scream and half howl.

Many scientists scoff at the notion. Much of the general public thinks people who believe in it are certified nut jobs. Film footage and photos are grainy or out of focus. And why, they ask, hasn't a Bigfoot lumbered out of the shadows of the wilderness and waltzed into a Wal-Mart parking lot?

Keating's Bigfoot odyssey started in 1984, after he read the book "Sasquatch: The Apes Among Us." He had heard reports of sightings in the Newcomerstown area less than six months earlier.

He still takes the subject seriously. But he is running out of steam.

"Of all the people I've talked to, and probably the thousands of hours that I've spent out in the woods," said Keating, "there is still not one shred of evidence to positively prove that the creature exists."

Still, he is a believer. "Apparently something is out there," he said. "There's too many reliable people who are claiming to see this thing."

The Internet, stuffed with Web sites, devoted to Bigfoot, breeds baloney, Keating said. Everything you ever wanted to know about Bigfoot — including bad poetry — is on the World Wide Web. Societies, T-shirts, Sasquatch footprint-casting keychains, tracking kits, "BELIEVE IT" stickers, and, yes, Bigfoot blogs.

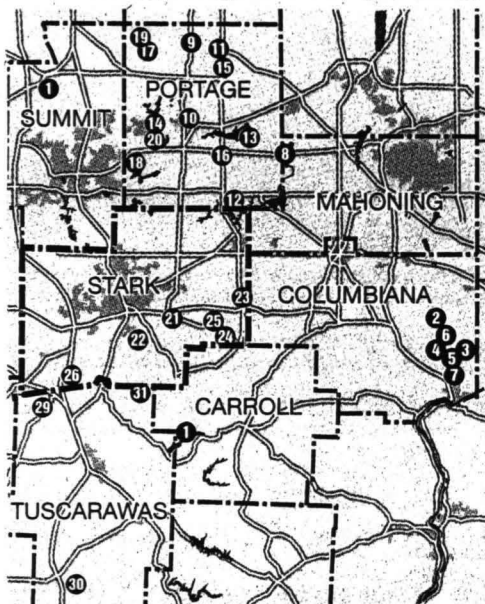
"There's too much BS that can be fabricated on the Internet," said Keating, who delivers produce for a farm in the Newcomerstown area. The Internet is filled with "the greatest fiction writer never published."

Footprints aren't convincing, either, he said.

"I've seen, dozens," Keating said. "Some ... could belong to an unknown creature. I think other ones, they're

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## Tracking Bigfoot sightings: Stark and surrounding counties



### Bigfoot sighting reports

Most sightings by state:	Most by county (Ohio):
1 Washington 296	1 Portage 12
2 California 282	2 Stark 7
3 Ohio 158	3 Jefferson 7
4 Oregon 149	4 Columbiana 6
5 Texas 106	5 Athens 5
6 Colorado 66	6 Clark 5
7 Pennsylvania 61	7 Medina 5

Source: Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization

**Carroll County**  
1 Aug. 1976 - A woman recounts her childhood sighting near Atwood Lake.

- Nov. 2001 - Ongoing accounts with a screaming ape-like creature.
- July 2001 - A man driving down the road witnesses a huge creature walking across the road.
- Fall 1997 - Outdoor photographer hears a howl/scream on two separate occasions that were identical to the sounds on the "Sightings" television show.
- Summer 1982 or 83 - Nighttime sighting by three in car, on Sprucevale Road near Calcutta.
- June 1980/82 - Sighting at a home on Duke Vodrey Road, above Beaver Creek.
- June 1971 - Late-night sighting by children at a home in Calcutta.

**Mahoning County**  
8 1972 - Nighttime sighting at a Lake Milton marina.

- Nov. 2002 - A family is hearing howling behind their home identical to the howls on the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization Web site.
- Oct. 2003 - Ongoing encounters with "Fang" on old family land.
- Sept. 2002 - A father and his two sons glimpse a large, hairy ape running away from them while dove hunting.
- Summer 1994-95 - Daylight sighting by motorcyclist near Atwater.
- Aug. 1999 - Tracks found in West Branch State Park.
- April 1997 - Loud vocalizations and other noises heard late at night near railroad tracks.
- Oct. 1995 - While driving to a job, a man witnesses an 8-foot Bigfoot walking across the road.

- Summer 1986 until a few years ago - A man has heard similar cries in the night for over 15 years that were noted in another BFRO report from the same location.
- Summer 1983 - Silhouette seen protruding above brush line near Mogadore Reservoir.
- Summer 1976 - Large footprints, area of matted grass and sounds of bipedal footsteps noted along shores of Aurora Lake.
- Nov. 1970 - Tracks found along soybean field near Edinburg.
- 1960s - Sighting in the Audubon wildlife preserve, outside Aurora.

- Feb. 2001 - Two men see a hairy creature running into woods.
- Feb. 1995 - Two friends witness tall, hairy creature drinking from a pond.
- 1992 - Group of sightings offers clues pointing to deer predation, similar to evidence found elsewhere in Ohio.
- Aug. 1978 - Minerva Bigfoot sighting near abandoned strip mine.
- Aug. 1970s-1980s - Encounters with a hairy creature in the same area as the 1978 sighting.
- July 1978 to 1980 - A series of sightings, screams and smells near the abandoned strip mine.

- Sept. 1998 - Teenager has two sightings less than two months apart in a ravine behind her home.
- Sept. 1978 - 9-year-old playing hide-and-seek comes face to face with a small ape-like creature.

- Oct. 2002 - Multiple wood-on-wood sounds heard in the Beach City Wildlife area.
- 1997-2001 - A family's encounters with a reddish-brown beast outside of Newcomerstown.
- June 1988 - Night sighting near Sandville.



Earlier that night, the Caytons and their guests searched for it. They saw it in the headlights of a car. The manlike animal moved toward them. Everybody got scared and ran inside. A woman was so frightened she cried.

Twenty-six years ago this month, the stunned group reported what they saw to Stark County sheriff's deputy James Shannon.

Some details elude him, but Shannon remembers that night, the start of what he calls the most bizarre investigation of his 30-year law enforcement career.

"They heard something in the window, kind of clawing and pawing," said Shannon, who retired in 1997 as a captain in the department. "From what I remember, I don't think this creature, critter, whatever the hell it was, was trying to get in as much as it was saying, 'Hey, look at me.'"

Shannon did not suspect a hoax. Not a hint of it.

The family saw something. He doesn't know what, though he's not convinced it was a Bigfoot.

Then again, "For all I knew, I could have been the first person to substantiate the existence of one."

### What is Bigfoot?

■ Bigfoot is a large, hairy humanoid creature said to live in wilderness areas of the United States and Canada.

■ An alternative name is Sasquatch, which is derived from a Northwest Coast American Indian term. The term Sasquatch is an anglicized derivative of the word "Sesquac," meaning "wild man." Indian tribes across North America have a total of more than 60 different terms for Sasquatch.

■ Bigfoot was a journalistic term generated in the middle of the last century during a rash of sightings in Northern California.

Sources: [www.frog-definition.com](http://www.frog-definition.com) and Google

### Bigfoot buzz

The sighting was a sensation. It made the front page of The Repository four times.

"Deputies seek 6-foot beast," trumpeted the headline on the first story, at the bottom corner of the front page. A few days later, the story was bannered across the top: "Beast still, but noises, odor persists."

"Deputies will resume a stake-out tonight in efforts to spot a 6-foot hairy beast that frightened a Lincoln St. SE family earlier this week," the Aug. 24 story began.

Jim Hillibish gumshoed the story for The Repository.

"It was those doldrums between the Hall of Fame (festival) and Labor Day," he said, laughing. "It was a good story, and we kept it going."

Overnight, the property became a Bigfoot outpost, attracting media from Akron, Cleveland and even outside the country. Wire services spread the story nationally. Bigfoot investigators from Florida and California and hunters armed with high-power rifles descended on 14186 Lincoln St. SE.

A van drove onto the Caytons' front yard one time. A group of hunters hopped out, flanked by Doberman pinschers, trekking into the deep woods and old strip mine behind the property. Bigfoot believers camped out in the woods.

It got so bad that the Caytons posted a fence to keep gawkers out. Evelyn Cayton was on the brink of a nervous breakdown. "I think the hype lasted into the fall," Shannon recalled.

In 1983, Herbert Cayton, Evelyn's husband, recounted the Bigfoot buzz.

"One day there were 100 to 150 cars ... in my driveway, on my lawn and lining both sides of the road," he said.

Evelyn and Herbert Cayton are deceased. The remaining Caytons are publicity shy. Howe Cayton, a son, and Rebecca Manley, a daughter, declined to be interviewed about the Bigfoot.

The family took a lot of razzing. At a high school football game, local folks mocked them, chanting, "Bigfoot, Bigfoot." A local eatery spoofed the sighting, advertising on a roadside sign: "Bigfoot ate here."

Herbert Cayton took the skepticism in stride.

"There were doubters," he said. "Those who yelled things from car windows when they passed. It was weird. ... The way I feel about it is if they don't want to believe, they don't have to."

"I think most people thought of it as a joke, as a lark," said Shannon.

But the Cayton report spurred claims of other sightings.

"Somebody claimed that they saw a Bigfoot running across Route 30 near the Caytons' house," Shannon said. "It was a fog-shrouded night and all of a sudden they saw this thing dart out in front of them."

Another sighting was reported on Liberty Church Road SE.

The woman "reported hearing strange noises in the woods surrounding her house since sometime in June," Shannon's August report said. It sounded like a cat fight or a woman's shriek, she said. Neighbors heard the noises.

### Searching for Sasquatch

Shannon took the Bigfoot report seriously, like any other investigation: a stolen car, a drug deal, a barroom scuffle.

On the night of Aug. 20, he spent an hour or two at the Cayton home, then returned when daylight broke.

Shannon and four other deputies scoured the area, searching for six or seven hours in Army surplus Jeeps and on horseback.

"A lot of people thought it was a bear; somebody thought it was a deer," Shannon said. "And I thought, 'These people ought to be able to tell the difference.'"

Herbert Cayton, who worked the midnight shift at Diebold, wasn't home that night, but said he had seen the creature twice before.

"It was shaped like a man and it walked like a man," he told The Repository in 1983. "When a bear moves away, it goes away on all four feet. This swung up over the (edge of the) strip mine on two."

Part of a skull was found in a pit behind the Cayton home, Shannon said; it appeared to be from a cow or other large animal. Tufts of fur were found on the remains of a chicken coop, where the Caytons had spotted the Bigfoot sitting.

The fur and skull went to Malone College for analysis. The skull also was taken to the pathology laboratory at Aultman Hospital, but the hospital refused to examine it.

Nobody knows what happened to them.

Suzie Thomas, spokeswoman for Malone College, said she's fielded questions about the samples before and has asked those who were on campus then.

"Either their memory is failing them, or they're just not admitting they were involved in a hunt for (Bigfoot)," she said, laughing.

"So it doesn't go down as positive proof of something that's out there."

He's perhaps most fed up with the Bigfoot brethren.

"This will ruffle a few feathers, and frankly I don't care," Keating said. "There's too many researchers out there who are at each other's necks" and won't share research.

"Some of them are just working toward the cause of building up their ego," he said, whereas "finding the answer as to whether it does exist or does not exist has always been my goal."

overexaggerated because of weather conditions or they're just misidentifications of common animal tracks."

In 1985, according to newspaper accounts, Keating said he encountered a creature about four miles south of Newcomerstown.

"I've heard a lot of sounds and I've seen glimpses of things far off in the distance that you can't identify," Keating said.

## Professor says no way in Ohio

Gene Poirier, retired chairman of the anthropology department at the Ohio State University, maintains it's next to impossible for Bigfoot to exist in Ohio or the United States.

"As close as one could say, there's 'zero' chance 'that anything exists in Ohio whatsoever. I think it's a myth feeding on itself, quite frankly."

Hard-core Bigfoot believers are not in Poirier's fan club.

"My life has been threatened more than once by these so-called true believers," he said.

Poirier says Bigfoot might exist — just not on this continent.

He's researched the Yeren, also known as the China Wildman. His study of China's Bigfoot has been featured on Discovery Channel and PBS.

But Bigfoot could not exist in the United States, he said, let alone Paris Township, where a Bigfoot sighting was

reported in 1978.

Here, he says, is why:

■ Primates could not survive in this country because of the habitat and environment. "Primates are usually tropical or sub-tropical animals."

■ "If they do exist," he said, "they exist in such small numbers they're not a viable breeding population."

■ Bigfoot may exist — in your head.

"We need to have unexplained things out there. It makes us who we are as humans. The human mind doesn't want everything to be explained, so these legends may simply be a phenomenon of the universal human mind."

■ What about photos?

"People have sent me photos and say it was just here, then it was gone, or my camera did not function."

He also dismisses one explanation by some true believers that UFOs and Bigfoot are in cahoots. They maintain "the

He's still waiting to make the discovery that would shock the world.

But for now, Keating's turned his ambition to finding a job in radio or meteorology. His Bigfoot group no longer meets monthly. He might not even attend his own conference next year.

"I'm just getting to the point where I'm fed up with it."

You can reach Repository writer Ed Balint at (330) 580-8315 or e-mail:

[ed.balint@cantonrep.com](mailto:ed.balint@cantonrep.com)

creatures are emitting certain waves ... and you could actually pose them for a photo, but the aura around these creatures doesn't allow them to show up."

■ Nobody has produced bones or body of a Bigfoot. And footprint evidence is not convincing. Hair samples, footprint castings and fecal matter are "shaky evidence," because the material can be easily contaminated if not collected properly.

"The evidence could be good, but we don't always know who's collected it and we don't always know where it's from."

■ Most sound recordings are "crap."

"I can't tell you how many tapes and sound tapes I was sent by different people in Ohio saying here is the sound of Bigfoot baying at the moon. It could be anything under the sun."



■ INVESTIGATOR. Retired sheriff's deputy James Shannon stands in an overgrown area off Route 30 near Minerva that gained national attention in 1978 with the reported sighting of an unidentified beast. Shannon investigated the case.

### Police report

Shannon and other deputies interviewed the Cayton family, friends, even a professional photographer in quest of a snapshot of Bigfoot.

The Caytons never used the word "Bigfoot."

Mrs. Cayton simply described a creature, more than 6 feet tall with stubby legs and hairy, indistinct features, that at one point turned to protect two "smaller things that were standing beside it," the report said. It eventually walked away into the strip mine.

Manley, 27, and her sister Vicki Keck, 25, were shaken.

Scott Patterson, 18, a family friend, also was rattled. Skep-

tical of past sightings, Patterson told Shannon he was now a "believer."

The sightings didn't end on Aug. 20.

Two days later, Mary Ackerman, another Cayton daughter, said she saw the beast standing on the edge of a strip mine when she pulled into her parents' driveway, and five days after the initial report, John Nutter, a photographer from Cuyahoga Falls, said he saw a bear about 30 feet away in a wooded area near Liberty Church Road SE. Nutter took a photo and retreated quickly. A deputy combed the area for 90 minutes and found what appeared to be bear tracks.

But Nutter's color film pro-

duced a "fuzzy" image, and he waffled on the bear story.

"I thought it over and now (I) don't think it was a bear," he told The Repository a few days later. "It made a sound unlike any bear I've ever heard."

### More sightings

The Minerva Bigfoot continues to fascinate. Last month, a researcher visited the Cayton home to search the woods.

And reports of Bigfoot persist in Paris Township, a hotbed of sightings, though not with the same fervor of the 1978 sightings.

David White, 58, said he's

(continued on page 19) 18



heard mysterious sounds behind his Paris Township home, a few hundred yards from the Cayton home, at the rear of Skyland Hills Mobile Home Park.

"It's a blood-chilling sound," he said. "A curdling sound."

White paused. His eyes grew wide. "It will scare the hell out of you."

He said he heard the noises last summer, echoing from the woods next to a small lake.

David's wife, Connie White, backed him up: "You don't want to look and see what it was," she said. They said it sounded like the noises on a Bigfoot TV show.

"I've heard wildcats, panthers, you name it," said David White, who grew up hunting with his father, "and I've never heard the sound like I heard here."

Hunters have seen "something" in the woods, he added, vowing never to return. They said it sounded like a bear.

"It scared the animals off," David White said. "The turkey, the deer, the rabbits — all the wild game was gone."

In the 1980s, White said, his teenage son was haunted by "something" in a remote area on Crowl Street SE; it was months, maybe more than a year, before his son would camp in those woods again.

David White said he saw a Bigfoot in the Greentown area when he was a schoolboy. About an hour before sunset, White and two friends rode bicycles back to a strip mine pond off Highland Park Street NW.

Bigfoot was about 100 yards away, he said, on the other side of the lake, the creature's upper body ominously poking over the brush line.

"This dog we had, a big collie, it wasn't scared of nothing," White said. "When it ran, we knew it was time to go."

White stretched his hands about four feet apart: "Its shoulders were that wide."

#### The story lives on

A few years ago, the leg-

endary Minerva sighting was featured on the "Ripley's Believe It or Not" television show.

In 1996, The Wall Street Journal interviewed Shannon.

"We're a pretty urban county, so there's not too many places for Bigfoot to hide," Shannon told the reporter. "When Bigfoot walks into one of our liquor stores and pulls a holdup, then I'll believe it."

The Akron Beacon Journal's coverage included an artist's rendering, and the story forever linked reporter Barbara Galloway, now an Alliance High School teacher, to the "Minerva Monster."

"Of probably all the 3,000 stories I've done in my career, that's the one that everyone remembers."

Her name pops up on the Internet, mingled with reports detailing the Minerva case.

"People remember it, for some insane reason," she said, "and they ask me about it quite a lot. I probably get a couple inquiries a year."

Galloway recalls details of the Cayton story, including a "lion-like, tan-colored animal on four legs that walked with it." She also recalls the Caytons "didn't feel they were in imminent danger. ... It was just maybe curious."

She camped out on the Caytons' porch with photographer Ted Wall.

"Ted was a grizzled veteran of news and he was like, 'By gosh, if it is here, I am going to get a picture of it.'"

The creature never showed. But Galloway does not discount the story.

Some things couldn't be explained, she noted. A tunnel, 7 or 8 feet long, was dug through dense brush and thorn bushes, leading to a gully behind the Cayton home. It resembled a nest or sleeping area — maybe Bigfoot's bed.

Galloway grew up a farm girl. She knows the work of a bear when she sees it. It marks its

territory, clawing trees, she said, leaving scattered bark and tree limbs.

And "a person basically would have had to go in there with a chain saw and carve out a perfect circle, and it wasn't like that at all. It didn't look human, and it didn't match the behavior patterns of a bear."

#### Sticking to their story

The Caytons stuck to their story, said Shannon, Galloway and Donald Keating, a Bigfoot investigator from Newcomerstown.

"They were very plain, simple, down-to-earth people, and you could tell something had happened that really frightened them," Galloway said. "There were never any inconsistencies with their story, however many times we went over it."

Shannon drew the same conclusion.

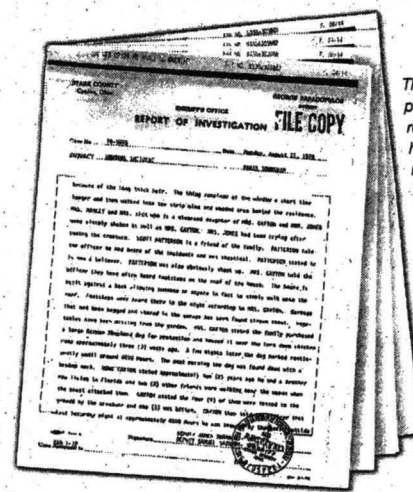
"Some of the persons were interviewed separately and all described the beast identically," he reported. "All hoped they would never see it again."

"Some of the persons were interviewed separately and all described the beast identically. All hoped they would never see it again."

— Excerpt from a sheriff's report after 1978 sighting

Keating, who founded the annual Bigfoot conference in Newcomerstown and the Tri-State Bigfoot Study Group, said the Minerva story stands out among the hundred or so he's probed.

"Back in '85, when I spoke with the family, and again in '91, their reports were the same



The 1978 13-page sheriff's report of the hairy beast reported in Paris Township.

#### Bigfoot report

Here are highlights from the Stark County Sheriff's Department report on a Bigfoot spotting at the Cayton house near Minerva in August 1978:

■ Footsteps were often heard on the roof of the house, which is built against an embankment allowing anyone to simply walk onto the roof.

■ A large German shepherd dog, bought for protection and housed near the old chicken coop, barked continuously one night. The next morning it was dead with a broken neck.

■ Howe Cayton, 18, described an attack two

years earlier. Howe, his brother and two friends were walking near the woods, when the beast tossed the four of them to the ground and bit one of the boys. Another time, Howe Cayton said, the "thing" chased them near a lake by the woods.

■ Grandchildren saw "the thing" many times while playing behind the house.

■ The creature sat on its hind legs similar to how a large dog would sit.

■ Everybody at the home said it did not resemble a bear, its face couldn't be seen and it stank. Then, deputy James Shannon

once smelled the odor, but did not see the beast.

■ Something with "a pair of reflective eyes" sat on the chicken coop.

■ A paw print, on the ground below the kitchen window, was examined, but was unclear.

■ "Mr. and Mrs. Cayton appeared to be conservative, responsible citizens as did all the other persons present who claimed to have seen the beast. No one was drinking and the officer could find no previous motivations to incite any of the statements or observations made by the parties."

practically word for word as they were in '78," he said. "If you had a list of the top 10 sightings in Ohio based on credibility or believability, Minerva would easily be in the top three."

Massive publicity overwhelmed the Caytons, Galloway said.

"They were quite appalled when all the reporters and the hunters did show up," she said. "They were kind of reluctant to even do the story, but on the other hand they felt they had to

make it known it was even happening and that this unusual thing was in their area."

Shannon still wonders exactly what the Caytons saw.

"To this day, I don't think that I doubt that they saw something, and underscore something. I don't necessarily think it was a Bigfoot."

You can reach Repository writer Ed Balint at (330) 580-8315 or e-mail: ed.balint@cantonrep.com

## Patterson film and footprints

The Patterson film is the most recognized image in Bigfoot lore. You can buy a T-shirt emblazoned with frame 352 — where a large, hairy creature glances at the camera before vanishing into the woods.

It's also the most debated.

In 1967, the grainy film surfaced, igniting the Bigfoot phenomenon.

A few years ago, the family of Ray L. Wallace and others blew the whistle and claimed the film was a big, fat hoax.

Mark Chorvinsky, editor of Strange magazine, told the Seattle Times that Wallace told him "he knew who was in the suit."

Wallace, a Bigfoot investigator, created the Bigfoot myth before the film was shot, family members said. He asked a friend to carve wooden 16-inch long

tracks, launching media coverage and leading to the term "Bigfoot," according to the Associated Press.

It was the quote heard around the Bigfoot world.

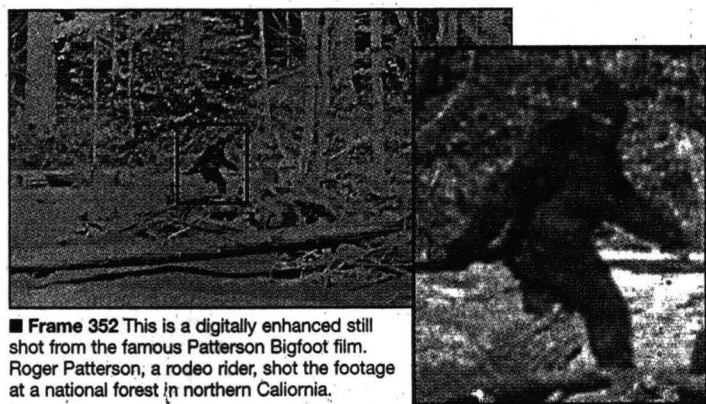
"The reality is, Bigfoot just died," Wallace's son, Michael, said after his father's death in 2002.

In 2004, Philip Morris, a costume designer, told the Charlotte Observer that he had sewn the costume for Roger Patterson, who shot the film. Patterson wanted to buy a gorilla suit for a gag, he said, but asked how to make it more realistic.

Morris said he told him to use a stick to extend the arms, brush the fur to cover the zipper and wear football pads to make the shoulders bigger.

He never saw the suit again until the Patterson footage appeared on TV.

Bigfoot believers dispute the claims.



■ Frame 352 This is a digitally enhanced still shot from the famous Patterson Bigfoot film. Roger Patterson, a rodeo rider, shot the footage at a national forest in northern California.

DAILY OKLAHOMAN, Oklahoma City, OK - July 29, 2004

## Bigfoot or not, Oklahoma's image could use some polishing



ANN DEFANCE

You might have missed it this week, as all the television prime time was devoted to such matters as elections, conventions and nominations for leader of the free world, but one local station sent a reporter to southern Oklahoma in search of Bigfoot.

I'm not criticizing the journal-

istic enterprise involved. It is, in fact, quite enterprising. It's a perennially good story, and if I'd thought of it first, I might have gone on the safari myself and got out of the office for a while.

I hesitate to allow satisfaction to those people in other states who won't let go of a certain

image of Oklahoma that's been around for seven decades or so.

They believe we're the kind of people who go out looking for Bigfoot, and that that kind of people must be a little bit backward.

They still think Oklahoma is all dry and dusty, a condition made worse when the buffalo

herds stampede. They think we're all American Indians, we all own oil wells and we all eat okra all the time. They're surprised to find we have indoor plumbing and wear shoes.

These attitudes don't really

bother me, which may be the problem. We know that some of those assumptions are somewhat true, but not entirely; not everybody likes okra. Yet, Oklahoma has never tried hard to correct that image. As a result, we see first-time visitors who arrive here reluctantly, for one reason or another, and are amazed that Oklahoma is a civilized, beautiful, friendly and welcoming place.

Of course, it's possible that Bigfoot is indeed lurking around somewhere, which is another wonderful possibility about this state — anything can happen here. Rumors would put him in collusion with the Boggy Creek Monster, who works out of an abandoned barn in Atoka; or in residence in the Ouachita Forest, getting his mail at Clayton; or living in the Red River Valley, somewhere

near Progre.

We should just tell outsiders that we mistook some legislative candidate for Bigfoot.

Personally, I hope they find him. He will be good for a great interview, terrific quotes and our image.

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# Witnesses 'shook up' over creature sighting

By **CHUCK TOBIN**  
Star Reporter

Conservation officer Dave Bakica is convinced that whatever two Teslin residents saw early last Sunday morning, it shook them up.

Marion Sheldon and Gus Jules were travelling out of town along the Alaska Highway on an ATV, sometime between 1 and 2, when they passed what resembled a person standing on the side of the highway.

Thinking it was a local from their small community who might be in need of a ride, they turned around and headed back, Bakica explained in an interview Tuesday, recalling his conversation with Jules and Sheldon.

As the two lifelong Teslin residents and members of the Teslin Tlingit Council approached to within some six metres, they noticed the figure was covered in hair, but standing upright – the entire time.

Though natural light was dusky at best for that time of the day, with the aid of the four-wheeler, Jules saw what he

believed to be flesh tones hidden beneath the mat of hair, as he relayed to Bakica.

Sasquatch, Big Foot?

"I have no doubt they saw something, and are convinced it was not a bear or anything in the ordinary," the conservation officer said. "They are convinced this was something out of the ordinary.... And they are pretty shook up over it."

Jules, Bakica emphasized, is an experienced hunter.

He described the figure as standing about seven feet tall, but hunched over. They could see it was not a person.

And as the two parties went their separate ways, the dark-haired figure took but two or three steps to cross the width of the Alaska Highway, about two kilometres northwest of town, near the airstrip.

Bakica said ground conditions, mixed with a few rainfalls, made it impossible to pick up any remnants of definitive tracks, and there was no hair on branches or the like to be found.

As well, by the time he'd talked to

Sheldon last Sunday night and went to the scene Monday morning, half the town had been out to the site to have a look for themselves, as the conservation officer put it.

But Jules has launched an additional, more in-depth search for any evidence that could substantiate their experience.

"I have no doubt in my mind that they believe what they saw was a Sasquatch," said Bakica. "Whether it was or not, I do not know."

"Just because you can't prove something was there, does not mean it was not there."

Sheldon and Jules could not be reached for comment.

Folklore and eyewitness accounts of the Sasquatch, Big Foot or whatever names there may be for a large, ape-like animal which walks upright, have around for decades.

In April 1991, three Pelly Crossing residents reported seeing a Sasquatch while driving between Pelly and Stewart Crossing.

The creature fled back into the woods as the vehicle passed, but they

did take picture of what they claim to be footprints measuring 37.5 centimetres (15 inches) long in the melting snow.

On the other hand, it was reported in December 2002 that the creator of the Big Foot myth died at the age of 84.

Ray Wallace is said to have started the myth in 1958 by having a friend carve wooden feet measuring 40 cm.

It was later claimed by Wallace's family that tracks around a construction site had been faked.

But the myth caught like wildfire, and was quickly embraced by the North American lust for its own legend of the unexplained, just as the Himalayans had the Abominable Snowman.

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, TX - July 29, 2004 CR: W. Andrus

## Think you can ID this creature?

Dog? Coyote? Whatever it was, at least the chickens are safe again.

By **ELVIA AGUILAR**  
EXPRESS-NEWS STAFF WRITER

When chickens started disappearing from Devin Mcanally's back yard, he blamed his long-haired terrier, Chenzie.

But when 35 birds vanished in one day, he knew there was another culprit.

Three weeks later, the Elmen-dorf rancher and retired English teacher still is wondering what attacked his flock, even after shooting a mysterious nearly-hairless critter as it munched on a nearby mulberry tree.

"It had a hair pattern down the ridge of the back about 1 to 2 inches long," Mcanally said. "I have lived here for 15 years and have never seen anything like it."

Mcanally took pictures of the beast before burying it in his backyard. Some of those pictures have circulated among animal experts, who disagree on what it is.

Wildlife biologist Brian Mesenbrink, with the San Antonio office of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, saw the pictures and declared it was a coyote with mange.

Mesenbrink said the Elmen-dorf area has a heavy concentration of coyotes.

"The mange is caused by parasites that infest the skin of the coyote and end up killing it," he said. "I know the Elmen-dorf area has a lot of coyotes and I am pretty sure that's what it is."

Not so fast.



COURTESY PHOTO

Experts differ on what Devin Mcanally shot. The rancher himself suggests it has a rat's facial features.

*"I don't believe that it's a coyote. The creature had fangs protruding outside the upper jaw unlike any coyote."*

**DEVIN MCANALLY**  
Elmen-dorf rancher

Terry DeRosa, living collections manager for the San Antonio Zoo, said that because the creature weighs only about 20 pounds, it could be a wild Mexican dog.

Mcanally isn't so sure it's either.

"I don't believe that it's a coyote," Mcanally said. "The creature had fangs protruding

outside the upper jaw unlike any coyote."

He added that the creature's ears resembled those of a desert rat and it had the muzzle of a rat.

He encountered the doglike creature with bluish skin during the day.

He's hoping for a more thorough investigation, since his

chickens have stopped disappearing.

"I am curious to see what it is, and I thought more people would be as well," he said. "I would like to see someone identify it through DNA."

Jody Baker, Mcanally's friend, is surprised by his encounter.

"When you are in touch with nature and live in as remote a location as Devin, you become more aware of the diversity of nature and how much we don't know about the natural world around us," she said. "It's truly amazing."

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