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Message from the Curator

Now that our bigfoot “season” has kicked in, things are happenin’. Last issue I talked about the streaker and the man who sent photos of the Pogonip bigfoot. Well, I still have not received a phone call from the man and he has not come into the museum. I don’t think he ever will, because I think the streaker and the Pogonip bigfoot are the same person.

Not all our recent activity has been pranks—we also received a report in early August from a local who had a previous experience with a recurring prowler three years ago. More about that later. Today a man came into the museum who lives above Boulder Creek. He’s been hearing distant screams in the night ever since he moved there 8 years ago, which he had attributed to coyotes. Six months ago he was awakened from a sound sleep by a scream that seemed to be only about 15-20 yards away. He said it had the volume and characteristics of a freight train whistle, and now he spends a lot of time researching bigfoot on the Internet.



We’ve had a number of interesting visitors to the museum over the last month. Two long-time bigfoot researchers came by, and we had a very nice visit. Larry Lund (above, rt), from WA, is known as the “sasquatch sleuth” and Warren Thompson of Redwood City, CA (left) is a former member of the Bay Area Group, one of this country’s first bigfoot study groups. Both of these men have been collecting bigfoot memorabilia for many years and could each start their own museum if they had a mind to. Larry mentioned that he was given 14 boxes of research materials by Rene Dahinden just before he died. Thompson inherited

materials that were gathered by George Haas, the founder of the B.A.G. It is my hope that they will stay in touch and possibly donate or loan an item or two to our collection.



At our last meeting we had two special guests. Paleontologist Dennis Etler (above), a lecturer from Cabrillo College, gave a slide presentation on the probable place for bigfoot in the hominoid family tree. Following Dr Etler, we had a short presentation from Kewaunee Lapsertis (below), author of *The Psychic Sasquatch and Their UFO Connection*. Kewaunee was a lecturer at the UFO Expo being held in San Jose that weekend, so I invited him to our meeting. He was very obliging and agreed to come on fairly short notice. Member Ralph Jack made it happen by bringing Kewaunee to the museum and back to San Jose afterward. Thanks Ralph!



On the last day of the month we were visited by a TV crew from Australia filming a segment for a travel show called “The Great Outdoors.” The subject of the show was Santa Cruz County, and we were at the top of their list of places to visit. Below is a shot of the cameraman and the producer filming the presenter, Jennifer Hawkins, inside the Diorama shed nestled between the two resident bigfoot. I’d show a picture of the on-screen talent, but Jennifer made it quite clear that any photos of her were worth big bucks.



Recent acquisitions for the library:

Tracking the Sasquatch by Barbara Wasson

A New Human by Mike Morwood and Penny van Oosterzee

Monster Spotter’s Guide to North America by Scott Francis

Man-Monkey: In Search of the British Bigfoot by Nick Redfern

Monster! The A-Z of Zooform Phenomena by Neil Arnold

-- Michael Rugg



Celebrating the P-G Film Anniversary with Bob Gimlin 4 Nights in the Cascade Mountains of Washington

by Tom Yamarone



a small group of friends including Bart, Jamie Jackson, Tom, Mark, Bobo, Kevin Jones (kneeling) and Paul Graves (right)

We drove all night in a mini-van packed with four guys and all our gear, arriving the next afternoon ready to go on expedition with Bob Gimlin and our friends from Washington. It had been nearly two years since we spent time with Bob at the Bellingham, WA Sasquatch Research Conference and later that year on a trip to visit John Green at his home in British Columbia. Since that time, Bob had suffered a heart attack and recovered from heart by-pass surgery and we were excited to see him looking fit and riding horses. This was part-bigfooting, part-celebration as we gathered at a forest service cabin in the Wenatchee National Forest on Thursday, August 16, 2007.



We first met our friends in Washington on a BFRO expedition in 2004 and they founded a state-wide bigfoot group later that year – WABFR (Washington Bigfoot Researchers). They were the ones who organized this field expedition and celebration. Bob Gimlin has been active recently on several of their smaller outings in the Cascades and the Blue Mountains. We met up with the group at base camp where we would gather for breakfast and evening activities.



2 views of Bumping Lake from the opposite shore (below) and from near the campgrounds. (above)

Our camp was located 12 miles away along a forest service road near Bumping Lake. We set up camp about 1.5 miles from Bob Gimlin's horse camp and another half mile from another group of bigfooters. The conifer forest in this basin rimmed by 6,000 foot ridges is alive with wildlife and we saw sign of elk, deer, and mountain lion. We camped with Paul Graves, Jamie Jackson and 5 other friends from WA and our California group was comprised of museum members Mark Stenberg, James "Bobo" Fay, Bart Cutino and Cliff Barackman.



Tom playing at the old lodge

Once we were set up, we returned to base camp at the historic American River Lodge. We greeted the 30 or so other participants and introduced ourselves at an informal meeting in the rustic lodge. By the light of a lantern we then discussed the safety and field protocols for the group outing and had time for a few bigfoot songs. Nothing is more satisfying than playing for a group of bigfoot die-hards but there's a little extra joy in playing "Roger and Bob (Rode Out That Day)" with Bob Gimlin there. It was a great way to start the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Patterson-Gimlin film! We returned to camp later that night and small groups walked the forest service roads trying to elicit responses to calls and wood-knocking. There were reports over the radio of possible calls and wood knocks but nothing definitive

was recorded. We enjoyed the company of our host friends and called it a night.

Day two found us walking around to get oriented after a cup of camp coffee. There was a creek about 75 yards behind camp and a towering forested mountainside above that. The habitat was excellent and extended east towards Mount Rainier and south towards Highway 12 and Naches, WA. Paul Graves



Mark Stenberg, Bob Gimlin, James "Bobo" Fay

pointed up to the ridgeline and said, "There are roads here in the valley and up on the ridges, but there in between is where they're at. They are 'mountain monkeys.'" I couldn't agree more.

We made the 20 minute drive to base camp for breakfast and met some more new arrivals. Bob Gimlin was there and was taking some of the people riding up into the forest to look for sign. We drove back towards town to make phone contact with home and with Cliff, who was arriving later that day. We returned to camp and had a much anticipated visit from Bob Gimlin on horseback. He and a friend from the group had come over to have a late lunch and this gave us a great chance to catch up with him. He took Bobo out for a once-in-a-bigfooters-lifetime dream ride. This might not have been Bluff Creek, but for a half-hour or so, it must've seemed like it!



Bob Gimlin riding into camp

Bob and Bobo returned and we settled down for lunch. Bob had some experiences in this area to tell us about. He had been here a month earlier with two other guys and they had been screamed at while sitting around their fire that night. Bob said the volume was incredible and his reaction was to jump up and return the call by "giving it my best Bobo imitation!" They heard one more loud call as the creature seemed to be moving away. The time sure seemed to fly by and the next thing you know, we're camp cooking up some dishes to bring to the evening pot luck dinner at base camp.

Cliff had arrived and joined us, bringing with him two thermal imaging units on loan from the BFRO that he has been using all summer. We enjoyed another celebratory gathering at the hilltop lodge and this time enjoyed the music outside around a propane campfire. Paul Graves and I had been working on playing a



Cliff Barackman, Bob G. and Bart Cutino

few songs together and that was a blast. We have been trying to put music to a song that Bob and Roger Patterson wrote in 1967 called, "Bigfoot the Legend." We did a bluesy version in camp that afternoon and we hope to record a version of it this Fall. At the gathering we ran through a couple more bigfoot songs including Paul's song "D'onoqua" and my tune "the Skookum Cast." We also played "The Ballad of Albert O.", Buddy Knox's



Bobo, Tom and Paul Graves singing bigfoot songs.



Bobo with Bob Gimlin's horses.

Yakima and a redux of "Roger and Bob." It was very fun and in the midst of the music, Bob took the opportunity to thank Kevin Jones for all his work organizing this and to say this was a very special evening for him. It was for all of us. I guess you just have to meet Bob Gimlin to understand how much we love and appreciate him. What a great way to kick off a night of squatchin'!

Back at camp, we were again in radio contact with other small groups and decided to call blast from our location. Nothing responded and we continued to try different calls – some recorded and some done by participants. Paul Graves and Bobo can do bigfoot calls that rival the alleged recordings we hear! The camp was treated to some classic Chevy Chase-like falls in the dark and we took turns sitting outside camp in the forest listening. We recorded some unusual owl sounds and always had a digital recorder running.

We stayed up late that night and again, some of the groups reported possible sounds. We didn't have anything happen at camp and pairs of us were out and about all night with night vision and thermal devices. It was great squatchin' with our friends from Washington and I hope we get to do this every year.

The next morning we had another excellent breakfast at base camp and spent the day exploring around the small lake and environs. This evening, we cooked in camp and set up the call blaster as soon as it got dark. We also visited the other isolated campsite to check out a surveillance camera set-up that a WABFR member from British Columbia utilizes in the field. It's a 4 camera system and is neatly assembled to be utilized from the car. In camp, the monitor can be operated remotely in the tent while the cameras are well-hidden in boxes on the car. We returned to camp and talked about what we were going to do that night.

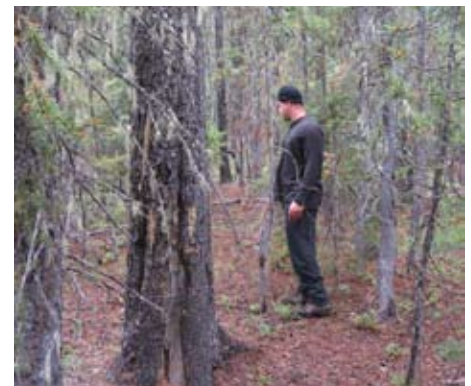
We decided to have a little fun before getting serious with the gear, so we pulled out the guitars and had a raucous camp sing-a-long.



Bobo up on a horse Bob was training that week.

Bart, Bobo and Cliff took the opportunity to drop back away from the fun to break out the thermal imagers and see what might be in the vicinity. Bart struck gold as he stepped up onto a 4-wheel drive track where our tent was pitched about 75 feet from the camp center. Approximately 150 feet away from him (and only 100 feet from us), he observed a sasquatch through the thermal imaging unit that appeared to be watching our camp. His sighting lasted nearly two minutes as he saw it peer around a tree and lean out exposing its arm, shoulder and head that glowed white on the thermal screen. It then dropped down to all fours in some sort of evasive manner and was swinging its arms in a breast-stroke-like motion before standing back up and turning its back on camp. We did have a lantern on and were in full swing with the music, talking and laughter. At this point it turned back towards camp and raised a hand as if to shade its eyes. It dropped back down to all fours and again rose to a standing position. Shortly after this, it turned and walked back out of sight.

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Bart at the spot where he saw the bigfoot.

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Bart returned to where Bobo and Cliff were and told them of his sighting. Cliff quickly hooked up a digital recorder to the unit and they went to where Bart was but could not locate the creature. We continued playing music but that was to be our only definite sighting that night. We stayed up and eastern Washington had its first rain in months at midnight. Mark and I camped down at Bob Gimlin's horse camp and woke up to sounds of the horses' hooves stamping the ground and rain dripping on the tent. We hooked up with our friends and had breakfast at one of the mountain cafes along the highway. We spent the afternoon helping Bob break camp and load the horses. That, in and of itself, is a story to tell the grandkids.

Many of the participants departed that Sunday afternoon and our group from California had the place to ourselves. Kevin joined us for this final night and we took turns wearing the thermal imager attached to a bike helmet and walking the roads. We had a couple of exciting moments but nothing definitive to report. It is a great location and we were excited by Bart's sighting the previous night. We all jammed into the tent and slept well as the rains came around 5 that morning. They stopped in time for us to break camp, pack the van and head off for a short visit at Bob's house in Yakima .

We enjoyed the time we got to spend with him and will look forward to seeing him again soon. We are so fortunate to call Bob Gimlin our friend. Hearing the events of October 1967 first-hand leave no doubt as to the authenticity of the P-G film. As Dr. Meldrum pointed out in his talk in June, the subject of the film has attributes that cannot be explained by the skeptical arguments. No one I know doubts the film or entertains the ludicrous "man-in-a-suit" theories. We enjoy the company of Bob Gimlin for the man and the friend he is. In fact, talk of that day rarely occurs. He's very interested to know what bigfooters are up to and the latest news from the field. Next month we will celebrate the actual 40th Anniversary of the P-G film. It was nice to get head start on that in August. Hope you enjoyed hearing about the trip. It was one I'll always remember – and I'm sure Bart will never forget it!



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F I E L D W O R K

On page one I mentioned a local report from early August. This came from member Mike DeGregorio, concerning a late night incident that took place at his home in Ben Lomond. This is the same residence where a chicken was killed in 2004.

According to Mike, his daughter was watching TV in the living room at midnight, when she heard footsteps on the front patio outside the window. Unable to see anything through the window in the darkness, she ran to the front door and opened it in an attempt to get a glimpse of the prowler. She still couldn't see anything in the darkness, but she could make out the sound of footfalls, now on the pavement in front of her house. Her mother was also listening and heard what appeared to be the sound of footfalls and the crunching of vegetation on the hillside in front of the neighbor's house across the street. The daughter also reported seeing an upright shadow cast when the prowler crossed in front of the neighbor's porch light. We investigated the next day.



Mike and I interviewed the neighbors at the house where the intruder exited. They said their normally yapping puppy was very quiet at midnight on the night in question. I noticed they had several trees full of ripe fruit in their yard and asked if they always got so much fruit. They said it was a funny thing, but they typically ate very little of it "because the fruit always gets picked in the middle of the night." They also noted that the deer were conspicuously absent of late. They had peaches (see photo above), apples, pears, and berries on their property and reported wild turkeys loose in the backyard as well. I believe we now have a strong indication of why the bigfoot are active in that area at certain times of the year: it has to do with the ripening of the fruit and the coming of harvest time. Most local activity is experienced between August and the first rains in November.

— Michael Rugg

The Patterson-Gimlin Film - a 40th Anniversary Celebration

VFW Hall, Willow Creek, California
Saturday, October 20, 2007
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
(lunch provided from 12:00 to 1:20 pm)

Bigfooters are gathering in Willow Creek on Saturday, October 20th to celebrate the famous bigfoot film from Bluff Creek. 40 years ago, Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin emerged from the wooded hillsides north of Willow Creek to announce they had captured bigfoot on film. That film had a profound effect on the world, the people researching this phenomenon and is considered one of the best pieces of evidence for this elusive creature. It has withstood the test of time and on this day we'll remember the events of October 20th and thereafter in a series of short presentations and discussions. The list of people participating in this celebration is as follows:

- **Daniel Perez**, author and publisher of BigfootTimes and "Bigfoot at Bluff Creek",
- **David Murphy**, currently authoring the biography of Roger Patterson,
- **James "Bobo" Fay**, a long-time field researcher from this area who will share his first-hand account of the life and times of Irwin Supple, Bluff Creek's first bigfoot,
- **Scott McClean** will discuss his archival research from his book "Big News Prints" and share relevant articles,
- **Cliff Barackman** will display and discuss footprint casts from the film site and the Bluff Creek area and
- **Tom Yamarone** will perform his musical tribute to Roger and Bob as well as an original song written by the two men.

We can certainly anticipate a friendly, informative, informal and fun gathering in Willow Creek on Saturday, October 20th. We are expecting the Willow Creek-China Flat Museum to be open for this occasion for a limited number of hours that afternoon. The admission fee is \$25 for this event - \$10 of which pays for a barbeque lunch by a local caterer.

For more information, please go to www.bigfootsongs.com or contact Tom Yamarone at tyamarone@pacbell.net. The VFW Hall in Willow Creek seats 90 persons. Hope you can join us!

