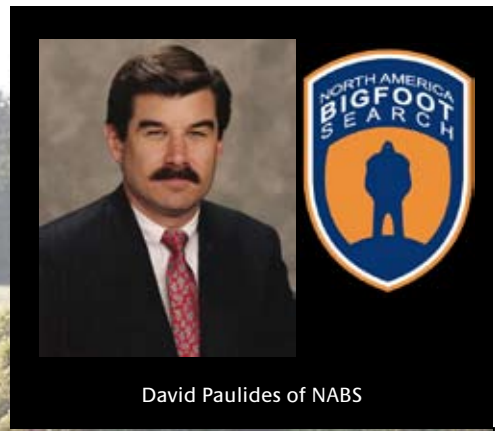




CapriTaurus
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David Paulides of NABS

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Message from the Curator



The main entrance to the soon to be available for rent Bigfoot Discovery Lodge in south Felton.

Now that we've nearly vacated the main floor of the riverside cabin we call home to make way for the "Bigfoot Discovery Lodge," we're looking forward to the summer ahead. As soon as the 4th of July weekend we hope to have the place ready for summer rentals. Once this occurs we have high hopes that the revenue stream will finally be enough to fund the Bigfoot Discovery Project and Museum, so we can get seriously committed to the work of solving this mystery once again.

During the last two months our emphasis has been on this renovation project, and had it not been undertaken the above mentioned home would be up for foreclosure soon. The cabin has provided the

funds we needed to develop the Discovery Museum, the web site and the beginning of an educational product line on bigfoot. But the sale of souvenirs and consigned artwork has not been able to generate anywhere near the amount of revenue needed to repay the loans and cover our living expenses. But now we have a viable revenue source that should be able to fill the bill.

At first, at least for this first summer, we have been advised to rent the entire three bedroom, 1½ bath house for vacationing families and groups of up to 12 people who want to stay in the coastal redwoods of Central California for a stretch of time ranging from three days to a month.

Hopefully we'll be able to keep it rented all through the months of summer on this basis. We will of course have the lodge available for Bigfoot Discovery Day II, and our guest speakers will be staying there during the event. Later on in the Fall, we intend to start renting out individual rooms on a daily basis, and have events at the lodge throughout the winter months. These events would include visiting researchers from all over the world who will stay as our guest at the lodge and give a talk to our members as well as the general public. We hope the word will spread that we are doing serious research here and that other researchers will want to come here to compare notes on unsolved mysteries such as bigfoot.

We intend to bring our research library from the museum to the lodge, where there will be sufficient space to house the entire library out on shelves (much of it is currently in storage) and finally get it cataloged for proper access (this includes an extensive collection of video and audio tapes of radio interviews and TV documentaries). We also intend to fill the lodge with bigfoot artifacts and memorabilia for which we currently have no proper display space at the museum.

Look for more photos and information on the web site as the decorating commences during the month of July. Also during the month of July we will be having an on-going fund-raising yard sale on the museum premises as we did two years ago. You can't stay in one place for 50 years without accumulating a lot of extraneous STUFF, and we'll be working on finding homes for these treasures on weekends in July.

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Report from a Bigfoot Book Signing

- Local Bay Area Man Joins the Search

by Tom Yamarone



The marquee at the Los Gatos Cinema (T. Yamarone)

We had a local, Bay Area bigfoot event on Thursday, June 5th in Los Gatos, California. The sleepy suburb of San Jose played host to bigfoot for one night. The invitation-only pre-release book signing and slide presentation was organized by the North American Bigfoot Search, a group based right there in Los Gatos. Project founder and director David Paulides hosted the event to promote his first book *The Hoopa Project* (Hancock House, 2008).



Dave's expedition vehicle parked in front (M. Rugg)

I arrived a few minutes into the slide presentation and found a seat with the small contingent from the Bigfoot Discovery Museum. There were 40 people in attendance, a nice turnout at the historic Gatos theater. The book was available for purchase along with a map he has produced of bigfoot sightings in Northern California. I would have to get mine after the slide presentation.

When I began taking notes he was talking about the Bluff Creek area and the Hoopa Valley. He began his research to find a study area on the internet, like many of us do, reading reports on the various databases. Using his experience in the business world to collect and collate bigfoot accounts, he was able to reproduce statistical reports that would narrow his geographic search for the optimal research area. He focused his search in California, Oregon and Washington and soon had statistics for reports in every county of these states. Humboldt County in northern California registered a high number of bigfoot sightings and within this region, Willow Creek, CA stood out as the bigfoot capital.



The poster out front in the entrance (M. Rugg)

David then decided that the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation provided an untapped source of sighting reports from a region that is a hot-bed of sasquatch activity. From what I can

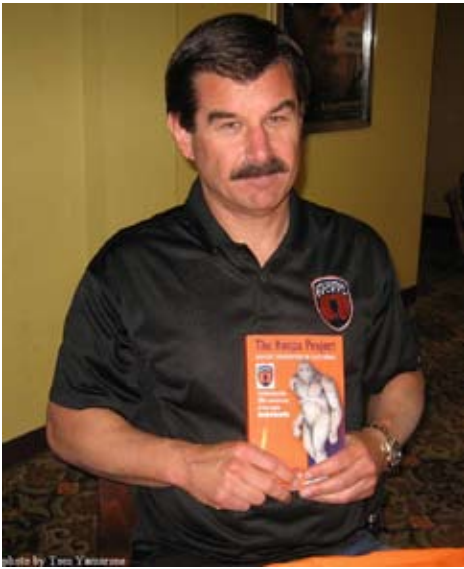
discern, he spent time up there in weekly intervals over the course of 3 years and began introducing himself to the locals. At that time his organization was called the California Bigfoot Search and he would seek out accounts as he made contacts in the valley. Over time, his contacts were well established and reports began to come to him when



Dave Paulides in the lobby with his daughter (Rugg)

he arrived to spend time in the area. Kudos to Mr. Paulides for having the dedication and resourcefulness to pursue the reports in Hoopa Valley! Indeed, my experience in that area has been one of not disturbing the locals as we travel through the reservation into the Six Rivers National Forest near Bluff Creek. We know to stay off reservation land and respect those boundaries. He found a way to befriend local residents and convince them to tell their stories. That, in and of itself, is quite an accomplishment.

As I previously stated, the presentation was geared to the invited general public in attendance and David proceeded to comment on bigfoot research topics throughout the presentation. For instance, he thinks more sightings from automobiles occur when they're traveling downhill. From the native perspective, bigfoot is either a blessing or a mountain devil. He took accounts from natives and non-natives, from on and off the reservation. In fact, the research will continue in that area as Hancock House has requested a second manuscript for reports from the region outside of the reservation.



David holding up a copy of his new book (T. Yamarone)

He gave the audience an overview of the geography along the Trinity and Klamath Rivers. He stated that most of the sightings in the Six Rivers National Forest come from those two rivers. He pointed out where the valley lies in relation to the coast and Redwood National Park and the Trinity Alps wilderness area. Indeed, there is little doubt that Hoopa is a prime habitat for a population of these creatures.

He then detailed several of the more compelling sightings in his book. One involved a 22 year old woman who spotted a creature in her shed where she keeps her garbage cans. She immediately phoned police and they responded in time to feel the ground shake as the creature departed. Setting up a perimeter around the forest near her home, they did not spot the bigfoot again and later concluded it had climbed a tree to avoid detection. The author also expressed his opinion that the creatures are attracted to the scent of a woman's monthly cycle as the witness reported a second incident where trash bags were taken that contained the same used hygienic products.

David then told the audience about a unique aspect to his book – he employed a police sketch artist to meet with the witnesses and produce an image of the creatures. You will be surprised by these images as the facial features appear to be very human-like. He displayed a few of the images and stated that he feels there are two genetic strains within the bigfoot population – one that is more ape-like (like the subject in the P-G film) and one that is more human-like (as these ones sighted around the Hoopa Valley appear). He implied that there has been interbreeding of the native peoples and the bigfoot population nearby. He even boldly stated that “things have gone on with native women that aren't cool to talk about” and stated we would have to wait 10 to 12 months for the second book to find out just what has happened.



Slide showing a police artist's sketch (T. Yamarone)

His bigfoot sightings map was produced after signing a licensing agreement with the Automobile Association of America. It is a zoomed in version of the Northern California sectional series map and includes a portion of southern Oregon as well. The region is bordered on the east by Interstate 5 to the east and goes as far south as Mendocino County. Numbered dots appear where bigfoot incidents have occurred in each county. I agree that those interested in the subject will enjoy

utilizing the map to travel this area and find these locations.



David described the Hoopa Project (T.Yamarone)

He concluded the evening by detailing the reception his manuscript received by Hancock House Publishers. He also stated that he has been contacted to participate in two episodes of the History Channel's series *Monster-Quest*. He then answered questions from the audience for 15 minutes covering a variety of topics that ranged from communicating with the natives in their language, to life expectancy of these creatures and again about the two genetic lines.

I was glad to have attended. I did purchase a copy of the book and map and am in the process of reading the book as we go to press. There was no time or setting for interaction on a personal level with the author or the museum members in attendance and that was regrettable. We'll hopefully look forward to spending time talking with David at the Bigfoot Discovery Day II activities in August. For now, go check out his organization's website and blog at www.nabigfootsearch.com. *The Hoopa Project* is slated to be released in July by Hancock House.





The lodge as viewed from the top of the levee just above the pathway to the river.

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Last time a number of our local members contributed items to sell as well as time hauling stuff to the museum and helping to get it sold. We will need help again this year, especially to haul the stuff up to the museum from the lodge.



On the local research front we have exciting news. We are entering into a strategic alliance with Dave Paulides and his NABS group, to follow up on all the local bigfoot reports that continue to come into the museum. Dave has an extensive background in police work and has been working as a private investigator for a number of years.

To quote his biography, he “spent 20 years in municipal law enforcement working a patrol car, being a member of the SWAT team and later being a detective in Vice/Intelligence and Assaults. After earning his Masters Degree, Dave left law enforcement and went straight into technology being a Human Resource Director and later a COO where he spent the next 7 years. After a divorce he found himself with significant time alone and was looking for something to challenge his skill base. A fishing trip to Humboldt County and a chance meeting with Two Hoopa Police Officers changed his life.

As Dave was building a database of research in the Hoopa Reservation, he and fellow Silicon Valley technology executives formed North America Bigfoot Search (www.nabigfootsearch.com). This is what Dave works under and utilized as a communication tool between witnesses, himself and interested members of the public. The formation of the site has been a catalyst for additional contacts and credible information and has developed significant synergy in the Bigfoot community.”

Dave has already followed up on a couple of our local reports. He interviewed residents of the local Forest Lakes community where we found a “stick house” near Gold Gulch Creek on some private property in a steep little canyon. Dave interviewed the property owners and other nearby neighbors and found that no one knew who the builders of the structure were. He agreed with my assessment of the structure as a possible bigfoot hunting blind, and noted that there were two and possibly three separate wild animal trails that converge in the view of the structure. He also reported that he had seen a similar structure while investigating a bigfoot encounter near the Klamath River in Del Norte County. To quote his report: “the blind in that sighting was very close in construction to the blind in Felton. The same type of materials,

relative to the area and the dimensions were all close [in] size to each other. Just an associated note the blind in the Klamath had an elevation of 350’ and the elevation of the Gold Gulch blind was also 350’.”

Recently I was contacted by museum member Dave Sierras whose brother-in-law works with a man whose son saw a bigfoot in Ben Lomond (6 miles north of the museum.) I was also contacted by a local --Mike F.--who it turns out is a neighbor of the man who had the sighting. Mike told me that his chicken had been taken out of its coop in the middle of the night by someone with a “very long arm.” The chicken had its feathers partially plucked and its breast eaten off, the remains left not far from the coop. This intrigued me a lot as we had a similar chicken event a couple of years ago only a mile or so away near Quail Hollow.

When David S finally provided me with the contact information I spoke to the man on the phone who saw a bigfoot in his backyard in February of this year. His house is next to that of Mike F. as I mentioned above. He saw a 7’ tall dark brown hairy hominid on February 8 at about 8:30 pm in his backyard. He was out having a smoke, heard a noise, turned to see eyeshine, then shined his flashlight on it as it slipped into the trees. This is the kind of report that I normally follow-up on ASAP, but I have been extremely busy on the lodge project so I contacted David Paulides and asked him to do the eye to eye follow-up. He emailed me that he did it and he interviewed the neighbor, Mike F. as well. I’ll let you know in the next newsletter what he discovered, as I’m still awaiting his written report and pictures.

--Michael Rugg



Bigfoot Discovery Day II

We’ll be discussing logistics of this event at our next meeting on July 20. In the meantime we need everyone to spread the word so we can fill the hall again! Also, if you are planning on coming a distance for BDDII... you need to look into lodging NOW, as vacancies can be scarce in this area during the summer months.