

www.bigfootdiscoveryproject.com

February 18, 2007 Volume 2 Number 10

Message from the Curator

Now that the weather has stayed relatively dry, we've been able to do more than the average amount of Winter 'squatchin.' See Tom's field report on page two and three for details about a recent weekend outing in the local hills. As most of our local members know, we're expecting a visit from *Cryptomundo* blogger Craig Woolheater. He's also the leader of the *Texas BF Research Conservancy*, and by the time you read this, his visit should be part of bigfoot history. We expect some of our out-of-town members to appear for this visit as well, so it should be one of our most memorable gatherings to date.

I have exciting news! We've scheduled our first **Bigfoot Discovery Day**. Mark the date on your calendar: June 30, 2007 we are hosting Professor Jeffrey Meldrum from Idaho State University as our first Discovery Day guest speaker. The event will take place that Saturday evening at the Loudon Nelson Community Center in Santa Cruz in Room 3 from 6:00 - 9:00. We chose this venue as it is in the city of Santa Cruz, and thus more likely to attract an audience of students from both Cabrillo College and UCSC.

We hope to have students of primatology and anthropology in the audience to ask tough questions. If "Cryptobipedal Primatology" is to gain status as a legitimate field of study, there has to be peer review. We need real scientists who study these sort of things to give the BF evidence a chance, by exposing them to the facts. Perhaps we can get them to remove their skeptical preconceptions, and judge the evidence and the various theories proposed to explain all the sightings and tracks, on their own merit. Thanks to the www, eyewitnesses have come forward in great numbers over the last few years. It's time to stop calling them all liars or fools, and get to the bottom of this mystery.

We will once again need the help of our membership to pull this off successfully. We want to get plenty of flyers on the various campuses, as well as listings in all the local newspaper calendars. We'll also need help with fundraising to cover the costs of the event. We'll discuss the details at our next couple of meetings and through email correspondence. I need to thank Lance and Tom for getting the ball rolling on this event.

Another bit of news... we have a *MySpace* page on the www. This was started for us by member Hillary Ferris. The URL is <http://www.myspace.com/bigfootdiscoveryproject>. We are doing this as a networking tool to make more people aware of our museum and our project. So far we have attracted over 300 "Friends." This also brings more folks to our web site where they can see what we're doing to help educate the populace about bigfoot.

Recent incident reports taken at the museum...

Veronica reported seeing half of a large naked footprint in the mud next to a creek that crosses a road in Nisene Marks Park last June. She could see the toe imprints. This was not too far from Olive Springs Quarry. She said there is a large area there with trails that is fenced off and apparently other folks in the area have heard screams, etc. She said she'd be glad to escort us on to the property sometime.

Alia & her husband live in Forest Lakes on Scenic Dr., just south of the museum. Early this month they heard outrageous screams at 11:30 p.m. from the woods below their house (which is above the Mill Pond.) The screams lasted for several minutes and were high pitched and loud. She asked her husband if the door was locked and he got up and went outside, looked around then came back in and locked the door as the scream was disturbing and scary.

I was working late on an art project on Thursday evening 2/8 (actually Friday morning at 3:30 a.m.) and heard loud distant screams that were

high pitched but struck me as almost human-like. The screams were of short duration, but repeated several times. I stuck my head outside and gave a loud whistle...my dog (downstairs) barked at my whistle... I waited a couple of minutes for more sounds then gave it up and went to bed. I believe the screams were coming from the direction of Forest Lakes. I plan to have a tape recorder ready should this happen again.

On two occasions children who came in with their local parents have reported a "stick house" in Mt. Hermon "off the path that goes through the woods to the pool." On 2/17/07 a youth reported that many of the kids at the camp have seen it, as well as some of the parents. Some are calling it a "Bigfoot House." I asked the boy's Father to talk to his wife, who the boy said also saw it, and please get back to me with the exact location. This the same approximate area where a road kill deer was carried into the woods and skinned by someone or something last summer. The young men who reported the theft of the road kill supplied me with photos of the deer remains and large flattened spots nearby resembling footprints.

Recent acquisitions for the Reference Library:

Valley of the Skookum, Sali Sheppard-Wolford, Pine Winds Press, 2007

Bigfoot Lives, Todd Douglas Bailey, TizzOdd Productions, DVD, 2006 (This is the Tom Biscardi Video)

Supernatural California, Preston Dennet, Schiffer PublishingLtd, 2006

Haunted Hikes, Andrea Lankford, Santa Monica Press, 2006

Tales of the Cryptids: Mysterious Creatures That May or May Not Exist and *Valley of the Skookum* are both available to purchase from the Museum Store if you'd like your own copy.

-- Michael Rugg

All Quiet in the Western Woods

by Tom Yamarone

We spent another day out exploring the area in mid-January. I was accompanied by my good friend and museum member, Mark Stenberg. We met while out on expedition with the BFRO two years ago and have since been out bigfooting several times. This day we planned to explore possible avenues into and around the Forest of Nisene Marks. Yes, the same place I wrote about last month. It's one of several isolated habitats in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The others we've identified are upper reaches of Pescadero and Butano Creeks in Big Basin and Butano State Parks and the private watershed land around Loch Lomond.

Back to our Saturday morning drive... we started out on Summit Road south of Hwy 17 and stopped by the Summit Market for provisions and directions. Good thing we did! Not only do you get to meet the nice locals, but we were told that there was access through to Eureka Canyon Road along Highland Way – contradicting what the road signs say. I would definitely recommend taking a drive into any of these areas in daylight before attempting to navigate the maze of roads in that area at night.

Highland Way affords you a magnificent overlook to the coast above the Soquel Creek watershed. The majority of this watershed is isolated, without access roads or maintained trails and lies a ridge away from all of the human activity in the Forest of Nisene Marks State Park. The road will eventually wind down the hillside into the canyon that is both the headwaters of Soquel Creek and the San Andreas Fault rift



zone. Here there is a spot that brings mountain bikers out in droves during the day. It's called the Soquel Augmentation on my topo map. There are dirt roads into the park here but they are closed at sunset – yes, the bane of bigfooting in Nisene Marks – closed at sunset.

Highland Way meets Eureka Canyon Road just a few hundred yards from the junction with Buzzard Lagoon Road – an accessible dirt road that leads into and through the state park. We even ventured out to Santa Rosalia Peak along a very rough, rutted dirt road that I would NOT recommend unless your vehicle has good clearance. There we found the other end of the Hinkley



Creek fire road – the one we explored in December. At this point on Santa Rosalia Peak, it was four miles to the

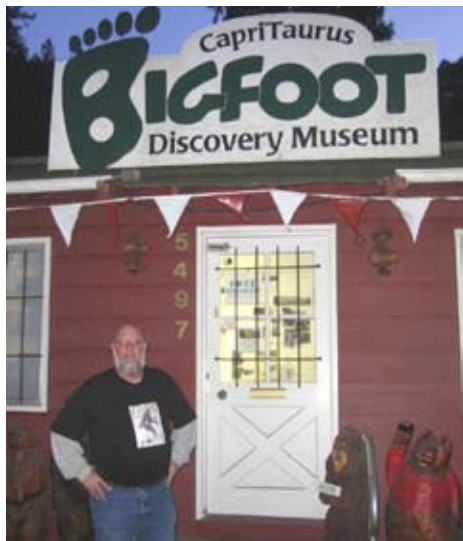
Sand Point Overlook, the place I mentioned a couple of local boys having an encounter back in 1958. We asked some mountain bikers what the road was like to that point and heard it dropped down and climbed back up before reaching that spot. We were already 5 hours into our day and returned to the car after a short hike.

And good thing we did because the best spot we were to see this day was still ahead. We proceeded back onto Buzzard Lagoon Road and head west/southwest – back towards the coast. Now, there are isolated homes up this way even though it looks like you are still in the remote sections of the park. We found some great spots to explore in the early morning but it would involve driving out here – there was no place to legally set up a camp site. Any area above Buzzard Lagoon on your map towards Santa Rosalia Peak would be excellent to check out.

But be forewarned, I have no idea what it's like out here in the early morning hours. We found it to be a very nice habitat – thickly wooded with abundant water and food sources. We'll have to see what it's like at 4 a.m.



We eventually made it to the Bigfoot Discovery Museum just after dark. We were to rendezvous with another friend and museum member, Bart Cutino. Along with Michael Rugg, we had a bite to eat in Felton and then drove up to our favorite spot off of Hwy 9 and (what I call the “upper reaches” of) Hwy 236. When you reach the stop sign on Hwy 9 at Hwy 236 (not in the town of Boulder Creek, but 6 or 8 miles further along Hwy 9 towards the summit), turn left and drive 4 miles or so to China Grade Road. We go to the right and this takes you down into an area of Big Basin State Park that is near the headwaters of Butano Creek.



We’ve been out here three times and have explored a gated, dirt road into the park. We have yet to have any action here, but it is the most isolated area we have found in the mountains – that is, without dwellings in the vicinity. We stayed out in two groups along this road for more than an hour on this night doing wood knocking with a baseball bat and trying some calls of our own. It was not too cold but a slight breeze made the woods noisy – not ideal conditions for hearing distant sounds. It was great to be out in the woods and good to be out with friends. We’ll keep exploring and let you know when we plan an outing. We hope to have two weekends out camping in 2007 affiliated with the Bigfoot Discovery Museum. We may even try and have one of those up in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

I’d like to end by sharing an archival article that Scott McClean has found recently in his on-going research. I find these references to bigfoot creatures



from the pioneer era fascinating. Scott still has copies of his book that contains all of these articles available on CD. You can purchase a copy at www.mcclean.org.

Page opposite:

Top: View from Highland Way over Soquel Creek

Bottom: Fire Rd to Sand Point, Nisene Marks

This page:

Top left: Buzzard Lagoon Rd

Bottom left: Mark at the museum

Top Right: Bart and Tom in Big Basin

Fort Wayne Weekly Sentinel.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 1873.

The Wild Man Seen Again Tulare (Cal) Times, August 3.

The wild man who has been seen so often in the mountains east of here for the last three years, and who has incorrectly been stated to be a species of gorilla, was seen again recently near Squaw Valley. He was engaged in picking thimbleberries, and was perfectly naked. He is covered all over with long black hair, and had long gray whiskers. He is a white man, large and powerful, and at least six feet high; his finger nails have grown out several inches in length. Downing was within twenty feet of him when he raised up from picking berries. He stood perfectly still and looked at Downing for some time, and then turned and started to run. Downing was sitting down picking berries himself, when this wild creature raised up out of the low bushes near him. He had not seen him before. Downing was out hunting, and was well armed. He is a gentleman of undoubted veracity. Many others of our citizens have at different times caught sight of this monster. William Arnold, an old and well known citizen, saw him some time ago sitting on the top of a large rock, engaged in the highly romantic,

and to him no doubt delightful, occupation of scratching himself. He is the constant terror of the Indians in the mountains eastward, who all have either seen him or know of his existence. They tell the most marvellous stories of his performances. They think he is either the devil or some dead white man, whose ghost has come to annoy them. There can be no doubt of the reality of this wonderful wild man, as he has been seen so often by the most credible witnesses. A short time ago Mr. John G. Knox, our efficient Deputy County Clerk, while driving rapidly in a buggy above the Ash Spring Hill, overtook a man running as though frightened almost to death. On inquiring the cause, the man told him he had just encountered a terrible wild man or the devil, and that it was “enough to frighten anybody.” Mr. Knox took the man into his buggy, and on telling the story at the next home, the gentleman said he himself had seen the same creature. Many persons resident in that vicinity have seen him at various times. We suggest that an effort be made to capture him. His range is pretty well known, and his capture could no doubt be effected without a very great effort.



Sasquatch Census

by Chris Murphy

from "The Murphy File" at
www.hancockhouse.com

How Many Sasquatch Are There? The question of sasquatch population in North America comes up quite frequently. We really don't have much to go on for making a proper estimate, but we can apply a number of "givens" and come up with something that I think is reasonable. Nevertheless, this is totally "off the wall," and if you have a better idea on how to come up with a number, then I ask that you let me know.

First off, I have to use Pareto's Law here, which is commonly called the 20/80 Law. Remarkably, the law works exceedingly well. I used it time and time again in the business world. What it states is, in any situation, 20% of the "numbers" will give you 80% of "actions or results." If, for example, you added up all the money you spent in a year and listed all the recipients of that money (people/companies), you would find that about 20% of the recipients got about 80% of your money. And of course, the reverse also applies (80% of the recipients got 20% of your money).

We have an estimate of 400 sasquatch incidents per year. In other words, it appears that sasquatch might have been present (sightings, footprints, sounds, other) on 400 occasions.

Now, we have to take into account where sasquatch incidents take place. Naturally, the incidents happened in a place where a person was. Otherwise we would not have known about it. Given people are in, or get into, about 20% of the land mass in North America, then people "occupied" (were present in – permanently or temporarily) about 1.87 million square miles of land.

This means that the sasquatch "presence" was (400/1.87million) .000214 sasquatch per square mile. In North America, there is a total of 9.35 million square miles.

There are therefore about (MINIMUM POPULATION) 2,000 sasquatch in North America.

Certainly, there are two big flaws here. One is that I have based the total sasquatch population on the areas occupied or visited by humans. Also, I have used the entire area of North America which includes Canada's frozen North, and the USA's scorching deserts. Furthermore, I have not taken into account what might be sightings or incidents associated with the same creature. As I don't have anything else to go on, then I have to consider these factors as trade offs.

So, here is the formula:
 Number of Incidents = N
 Square Miles Occupied = S (Which is 20% of Total)
 Total Square Miles = T

FORMULA: (.20N/S)*T

Now, I have a bit of a theory that the sasquatch that are sighted are a long way from the main population of these creatures. I have stated many times that this population is in British Columbia, the Yukon, and Alaska. Essentially, the sightings/incidents beyond this entire region are of individuals in small bands that have wandered away. IF I WERE TO GUESS, I would say that what I have calculated here is about 20% of the number of sasquatch that are concentrated in the region stated. I therefore put the true population at 10,000.

What we have then is about 8,000 sasquatch in B.C., the Yukon and Alaska, and about 2,000 wandering around outside of this area causing about 400 sightings /incidents per year.

The obvious question here is, if there are 8,000 sasquatch in one region, why can't we simply go in and catch one? Well, here's the "kicker." The region stated has 709,000 square miles of essentially non-penetratable forest (it might as well be 20,000 leagues under the sea). Statistically, there would be one sasquatch per 88.6 square miles. Even if they were all concentrated in 20% of the area, we still

end up with 17.7 square miles per sasquatch. And the fact that the creatures don't appear to sort of "settle down" in one spot greatly decreases the odds of finding one.

Now, I will say without reservation that there are probably bones in there that have "survived" the natural process of elimination. The problem is, where does one start looking for them?



EDITORIAL COMMENT

Bigfooter Lawsuits

Awhile back there was a great deal of media coverage about Tom Biscardi's lawsuit with his former partners at the Great American Bigfoot Research Organization. Biscardi is now threatening to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law anyone who uses, without permission, anything on his web site (whether for educational purposes or not.) He has also threatened to sue Beckjord for posting a web page that paints him in a bad light.

Now, some other very prominent bigfooters are also talking about lawsuits. Recently on Cryptomundo an alleged videotape of a bigfoot eating pancakes was posted for all to see. As it turns out this tape was originally procured through the efforts of the founder of the BFRO, Matthew Moneymaker. It was his intention, and that of the owner of the tape (a man who provided the money resulting in the video), to share this clip only with certain selected bigfooters. So now there are threats of lawsuits against both Craig Woolheater and Loren Coleman, the two primary bloggers on Cryptomundo!

You know what? If this kind of thing continues, bigfoot doesn't have a thing to worry about. No one will ever again get involved in bigfooting fulltime for fear of the possible financial repercussions! Hey calm down everybody... shouldn't we be *working together* to solve this mystery?

-- Michael Rugg

If you are reading this and don't have a subscription yet, what are you waiting for?
SUBSCRIBE NOW • \$25 per year
make check payable to CapriTaurus