



Bigfoot seen here? - Bonny Doon 2006

www.bigfootdiscoveryproject.com

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Message from the Curator

Now that we've completed the second year of publication I'm wondering "Is anyone out there?" This marks the 24th issue of this newsletter, and I think its time to ask for a little feedback from our readers.

So what do you think? How about a note or an email to indicate you're reading this. How about some suggestions or criticisms... feedback of some sort. We've had over 80 subscribers, but only a handful at this time who actually give feedback by attending a meeting or sending an email or contributing to the search.

Send a write up of one of your own bigfoot outings. Send a note updating us on events we've previously discussed that you're still working on. Volunteer to help us set up the **Santa Cruz Mountain Habituation Project**, or help us produce the first **Bigfoot Discovery Day**. Maybe its time to start becoming proactive in the local search for evidence. If you're too far away to help locally, all the more reason to write; tell us what's going on in terms of bigfoot in your neck of the woods.



From our last meeting: Robert and Bart

Now that I've finished the contract job I was tied up with for the last two months, things are readying for the "season." Spring-Summer & Fall are the best times and Summer is of course when the museum has the largest number of visitors. Visitors bring further encounter stories and eyewitness testimony, and sales in the museum store help to fund the

projects, and allow us to devote more time for seeking the resolution to this mystery.

The latest reports from the field have further convinced me that "slow and steady wins the race." I mean that habituation will, in my opinion, prove to be the most humane and efficient way to solve this mystery. Both the BFRO and Biscardi have spent a couple of years now running around in the woods here there and everywhere. They continue to report tracks, sightings, recordings and so forth, but the only efforts that seem likely to *prove anything* are those involving habituation.



Travis, Steve and Kat

A venerable bigfooter once said, "pick a study area that's nearby, so you can go there often." That's what we are in the position to do right here, and I'd like to "kick it up a notch."

So we need bodies to help in the process. First order is to publicize the museum and thus spread the word that we are seeking volunteers to help in the project--flyers to sporting goods stores, in rural gathering places, on college campuses and so forth. We want to set up a County-wide network of observers to help us zero in on the local bigfoot and set up some sort of attraction area where we can win their trust through habituation. That means we need to find a chunk of land in their habitat areas or within the corridors they travel through, and get permission from the land-owners to camp out there frequently, or better yet, get the property owners to actually setup a feeding area themselves.

We'll be putting together a presentation for recruiting volunteers to help build the

network. This will be a slide presentation for schools, clubs and service groups, telling of our local bigfoot encounters and our plan. When people become aware of the museum, they come forward with their bigfoot encounter stories. Everybody can help by being a "bigfoot evangelist," and thereby help us build the local network.

Another date to remember is May 27, the Felton Remembers Parade and carnival. Last year it was great fun... Tom played his bigfoot songs on stage while several of our members danced in bigfoot suits, and Bigfoot rode in our minivan in the parade. This kind of thing makes for visibility in the community and brings in more folks to help us search for answers.



Mike, Joyce and David

Recent acquisitions for the library:

The Complete World of Human Evolution by Chris Stringer; *The Last Human: A Guide to Twenty-Two Species of Extinct Humans* by Sawyer, Deak, Sarmiento, Milner; *Extinct Humans* by Tattersall, & Schwartz; *Strange Indiana Monsters* by Michael Newton; *Smithsonian Intimate Guide to Human Origins* by Carl Zimmer; *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Human Evolution* by Richard Dawkins; *Breakfast with a Bigfoot* by David Alderton; *The Adventures of Tim the Yowie Man; An Encounter with the Yeti And Other Stories* by Kesar Lall; *In Search of the Lost Ape-Men of Sumatra: Hunting the Gugu* by Benedict Allen; *The Mogollon Monster--Arizona's Bigfoot* by Susan A. Farnsworth; *Eyes in the Dark: the Sasquatch Experience* DVD

-- Michael Rugg

Making Plans for Spring and Summer – Circle June 30th on Your Calendar

by Tom Yamarone

The last month has been a slow one in terms of actually setting foot in a forest. Mark Stenberg and I made it out to the Stanislaus National Forest March 10th and it was uneventful. The forests were beautiful at the lower elevations – the roads were wet and muddy, there was snow on north facing slopes and roads at 4,000 feet above sea level and it was a good time to be out during the warm, dry period in early March. More than anything else, it was a good exercise in gearing up for the trips to come.

It's also been an active time the last month networking with bigfooters to plan for outings this year. There are plans being made for bigfoot events to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Patterson-Gimlin film, plans being made for group outings sponsored by various bigfoot groups and our own plans being made for the inaugural Bigfoot Discovery Day featuring a lecture by Dr. Jeff Meldrum!



Here at the Bigfoot Discovery Museum we are looking at our most exciting year yet in terms of events and activities. We are hoping to have a couple of group camping trips in the local area and an event to coincide with Felton's Memorial Day Parade and Festival. But the pinnacle event comes at the end of June when the museum presents a lecture in Santa Cruz, CA featuring Jeff



Meldrum. He is one of the most active and recognized bigfoot researchers, a university professor and scientist dedicated to examining the subject and, as of the fall, an author of one of the best bigfoot books – *Sasquatch: Legend Meets Science* (A Forge Book, 2006).

Besides being able to meet and talk with Dr. Meldrum, the event will also afford us the opportunity to meet up with dozens of bigfooters from around the state. We'll have the opportunity to hear Dr. Meldrum's presentation and those in attendance will have the chance to look into our local investigations, areas of interest and meet some of the local witnesses.

Plans are still in the works for specific activities that weekend at the museum and

elsewhere, but tickets are on sale for the lecture event in Santa Cruz on June 30th from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Loudon Nelson Center. I hope you all have made plans to be in attendance and encourage you to contact the museum and reserve your spot by purchasing tickets.

This has been the primary focus for me as I am planning my bigfooting schedule for 2007. I started my personal quest into this mystery when I attended the International Bigfoot Symposium in Willow Creek, CA nearly four years ago. Since then there have been events out west in Bellingham, WA in 2005 and Pocatello, Idaho in 2006. (Note: there are annual bigfoot conferences in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas as well, and a bigfoot festival in Honobia, Oklahoma as of last year.)



These are great opportunities to meet and network with people you have heard about in the bigfoot community. The people you have seen on the television documentaries, the ones you've heard on the radio or read about in the print media will be there in person. People you have interacted with on internet bigfoot forums or bigfoot email lists might be there as well. In any case, no matter how you've made some of these connections, nothing compares to making that acquaintance in person.

That's why I'm so excited by the initial response to Dr. Meldrum's appearance at Bigfoot Discovery Day. I think you will all be pleasantly surprised by who shows up at this event. Almost everyone I know in California is planning to be there – that's a few dozen bigfoot-friends! We've also had inquiries about the event from Washington, Oregon and other neighboring states.

So, mark that date on your calendar and begin making your plans! First and foremost, reserve a ticket to the event and if you are planning on staying in the area Friday or Saturday night, get your accommodations booked – it's a summer weekend in the Santa Cruz area, a popular destination. Check with the museum if there is a problem as there may be alternative lodging in Felton. I'm camping at the state park in Felton as this suits my needs and my budget.



appreciative audience. That has certainly been the case as each of these groups was kind enough to let me perform at their shows – one of them even backed me up on my song, "The Skookum Cast." Sex Rat is a Sacramento, CA band with an amazing guitarist and a bunch of great original rock songs. NPK is a southern Humboldt County band based in Garberville, CA and the DiveBombers are also a local favorite based out of Shelter Cove, CA. Here are some photos from the four performances I did in February, March and April. You might see a familiar face in



these. I will say that at every gig, people came up to me to discuss the subject and many had bigfoot stories of their own to tell. So, it's keeping the subject out there in a fun way. If you are interested, you can hear what each of these bands sound like at myspace.com. Go to www.myspace.com/



Bigfoot Songs Meet Local Bands in 2007

Thanks to my management at the Sasquatch Talent Agency in Humboldt County, I've had the opportunity to play with several outstanding local bands in the last two months. This is the fun side of bigfooting for me and it's always nice to play the bigfoot songs to an excited,



bigfootdiscoveryproject and find these bands in our friends space. Click on their names and that will take you to their page where they feature four of their songs. Enjoy! These are really excellent bands. See you next month here and at the museum!



CAPTIONS

Left page:

Dr. Meldrum at the Bellingham, WA Sasquatch Research Conference, 2005.

Members of the Alliance of Independent Bigfoot Researchers get together for a photo at the Pocatello, Idaho Bigfoot Rendezvous, 2006. (top)

Socializing with Doug Hajjcek, Rick Noll, Bobo and other bigfoot friends. (bottom)

Right page:

Sex Rat with the "Yamarone Brothers playing "Skookum Cast". (2 photos)

Tom playing bigfoot songs in Shelter Cove during NPK's show.

NPK

The Divebombers.

Bobo and Tom as the "Yamarone Brothers"



M i s c e l l a n e o u s

Here are a few images illustrating that you can't always be sure if it's the real deal when you catch a glimpse of a hairy biped or spy some other potential bit of physical evidence. Top right shows a werewolf standing in front of our museum. I found this image online accidentally... It was placed there by a special effects company in Boulder Creek that makes werewolf costumes. They travel around photographing some of their costumes in front of various landmarks as a marketing tool.

Our eyewitness from Bonny Doon reported seeing a 6' tall hairy biped standing at the entrance to Rustic Lane (see photo page 1 top right.) It had it's back to her, so she couldn't see the face. She described it as looking "kind of like a sheepdog... It appeared to have dreadlocks all over it." At that height and with that description, there's a possibility she was observing a man in a costume such as the one seen here.

Below is a "sasquatch skull" *sideshow gaff*. It's a man-made contrivance created by an artist/craftsman. Other well-known such things include Fiji Mermaids and Jackalopes, examples of which we have in the museum.



Below is a photo of Craig Woolheater and his wife taken when they visited the museum in early March. I don't know if you can make out the little "orb" floating over Craig's head in this print, but there are several other less distinct orbs of various sizes floating around above Marcy and Bigfoot Alpha as well. What's interesting is that there was a photo taken of Craig and myself just a moment before this shot, and no orbs are present. Since the onset of digital photography, orb photos have been on the rise. So what's up with that? I have done no research on the subject to speak of, but I'd have to guess that the orbs are a visual anomaly created by the camera... Something like a lens flare. I believe it has been suggested that it's water vapor in the air clinging to particles and highlighted by the camera lens. Anybody out there have any opinions or information on this subject? These orb photos show up all the time... It would be good to know if anyone has proven they are NOT "paranormal."



Bigfoot ongoing computer broadcasts:

Sasquatch Detective Radio

Mon. 9:00 PM EST

www.sasquatchdetective.com

I've heard some very good, as well as one very bad interview, on this show

The Sasquatch Experience

Sean Forker and Henry May

www.blogtalkradio.com/sasquatchexperience

Searching for Bigfoot (Tom Biscardi)

www.bigfootliveradioshow.com

Weds 7:00 PM PST

Bigfoot events calendar:

19th Annual Bigfoot Conference / EXPO slated for May 19th, 2007. Put on by the Tri-state Bigfoot Study Group, Don Keating chairman. More details can be found at www.eobic.com

Bigfoot Discovery Day

June 30, 2007

Felton, CA – Santa Cruz, CA

Featuring a lecture by

Dr. Jeffrey Meldrum, Idaho State Univ.

"Sasquatch: Legend Meets Science"

Louden Nelson Center, Rm 3

Santa Cruz

6:00 – 9:00 P.M.

There will be a lunch event at the museum in Felton earlier in the day

To defray the expenses, the lecture/event will be \$10/adults, \$7/members, students, seniors and \$5/children.

Squatch Fest 2007

July 28-29

Lexington, Ohio

for info email:

usbigfootresearchassociation@yahoo.com

Honobia Bigfoot Conference

Oct. 5-6

Kiamichi Mtn Mission Camp Grounds at the intersection of the Indian Trail Highway and State Highway 144

Honobia, OK

Texas Bigfoot Conference

Oct. 20 weekend (P/G Film 40th anniversary)

Jefferson, TX

more details to follow as they are known

We've also heard rumblings about a west coast Bigfoot Conference/Anniversary Celebration to take place in Humboldt on the weekend of Oct. 20... more details as they're revealed