

in this issue



It may be called the Lone Star State, but skies over Texas recently have been crowded with interesting activity. See story on page 7.

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Mutual UFO Network

UFO JOURNAL

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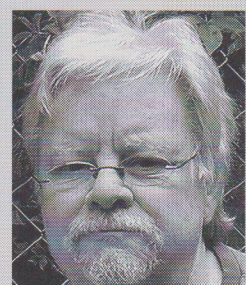
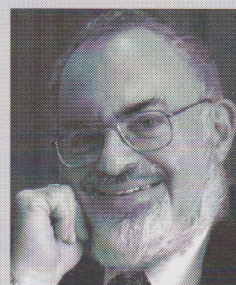
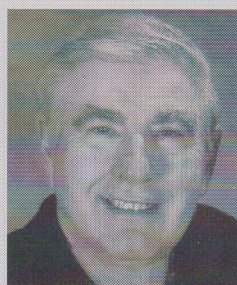
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on the cutting edge

The best, brightest gathered at our recent Symposium

THE 41ST ANNUAL MUFON INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM brought together more than 300 UFO aficionados for talks on a freewheeling range of topics, including crop circles, bombshell UFO cases, personal encounters, and the latest about England's famous incident at RAF Bentwaters. The four-day event offered field investigator training, and participants had opportunities to meet the top-notch speakers, who included John Burroughs, Marc D'Antonio, George Filer, Stanton Friedman, John Greenwald, Kathleen Marden, Linda Moulton Howe, Kevin Randle, Nick Redfern, and Michael Schratt. Look for reports in future issues of the *Journal*. The 2011 MUFON Symposium will be next July at the Hyatt Regency in Irvine, California. See pictures from this year's Symposium on page 3.

Check out what these *Journal* columnists have been doing



Read about George Filer's fascinating UFO encounters as a WWII fighter pilot and intelligence officer (*page 4*). You won't want to miss the review of *Science Was Wrong*, Stanton Friedman's latest book, written with Kathleen Marden (*page 8*). And Ted Phillips' column, "Outside the Box," makes its debut this month (*page 14*).



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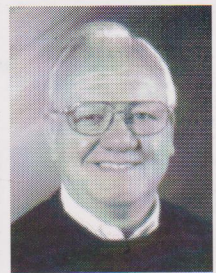
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director's message

The 2010 Symposium surpassed expectations

By Clifford Cliff

THE 2010 ANNUAL MUFON Symposium was the largest in recent years, and it was dedicated to all our many volunteers who form the backbone of our organization. Sincere thank-yous go out to all those who made our event so successful.

Leslie Varnicle, Colorado state director, and her volunteers did an outstanding job. Barry Roth, director of public education, arranged for major TV and radio stations to cover the event. Kim Freeman, Cheryl Gantz, and Patti Wolff flawlessly handled registration. I apologize to anyone I've neglected to mention by name. So very many of you contributed to our team effort to make this Symposium run so smoothly. Thank you.

We had more than 300 participants, 50 of whom were walk-ins, and we signed up eight new MUFON members. The atmosphere at the Symposium was extremely upbeat. Everyone with whom I talked

said that they left Denver feeling good about MUFON.

All of the Symposium speakers were top-notch. John Greenwald did an outstanding job as emcee. Nicole Brown and her staff provided MUFON with outstanding audio-visual effects.

Although Budd Hopkins was unable to attend the Symposium, he was honored to learn that MUFON had presented him with the "Excellence in Ufology" award for his many years of service and for all he has done for ufology.

David MacDonald received the "Volunteer of the Year" award. Among other things, David developed MUFON's Field Investigator Test, which he grades by hand, and he is state director for Kentucky.

Christine Dickey received the "Investigator of the Year" award. She has conducted more than 80 investigations this past year and

Continued on page 18

EDITORIAL POLICIES

The contents of *MUFON UFO Journal* are determined by the MUFON Editorial Committee and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Mutual UFO Network. Opinions expressed are solely those of the individual authors and columnists and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or staff of *MUFON UFO Journal*.

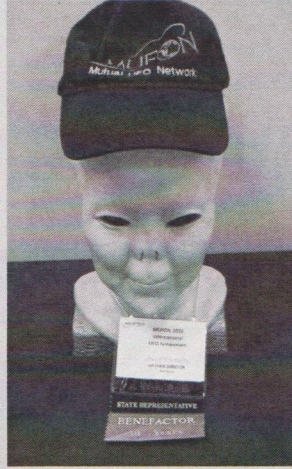
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Kevin Randle, one of the speakers, autographs a Symposium poster.



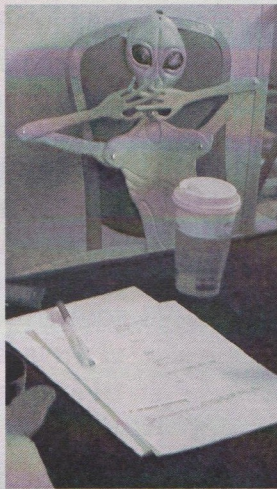
A longtime member models a fashionable MUFON hat.



Steve Firmani, director of New England (left), poses with Lee Dines, MUFON director for England.

on the scene in Denver

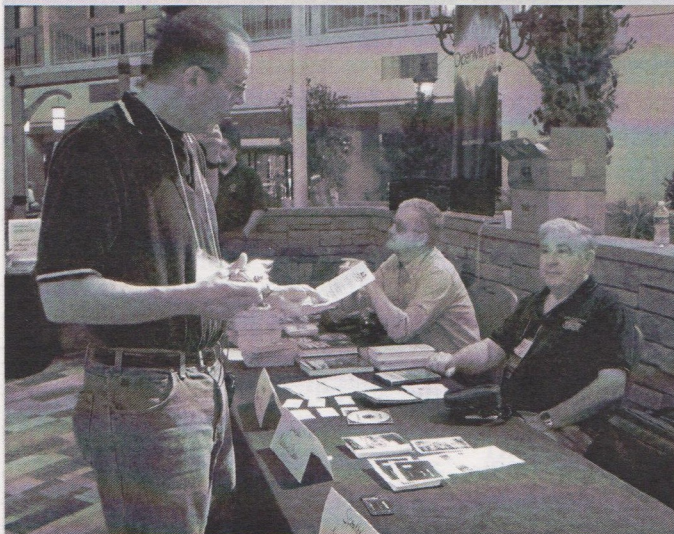
Participants at this year's MUFON Symposium hailed from all over the galaxy. When everything was said and done, everyone agreed that the event was truly "far out."



One of the organizers takes a coffee break.



Leslie Varnicle, state director of Colorado, oversaw many of the arrangements for the Symposium.



Barry Roth, director of public education (standing), talks with Kevin Randle and George Filer at the vendor table.



Chuck Reever, director of investigations (left), chats with David MacDonald, state director of Kentucky, and Terry Groff, deputy director of investigations.

His life as a fighter pilot, intelligence officer

By Janice Currie

LIFE-ALTERING EXPERIENCES often are serendipitous, occurring because a person is in the right place at the right time. For George Filer III that place was 30,000 feet above the North Sea in a KB-50J aircraft when an order came from London control: A UFO was hovering at 1,000 feet between Oxford and Stonehenge in England. Was there a plane available to intercept?

Filer and his six fellow crewmen from the 420th Air Refueling Squadron at Sculthorpe Air Force Base got the assignment. They considered it an interesting break from routine and eagerly dove toward the target, which they were able to pick up on radar when they came within 50 miles. It was the largest radar return Filer had ever encountered, and so sharp and solid that he was sure the object was metal.

4,000-40,000 Miles Per Hour

It was a clear night, and when they were within 10 miles of the UFO they could see a long series of dim lights directly ahead, like the lights on a cruise ship. The object was stationary until the planes approached to within five miles. Suddenly it came to life, its lights turning bright as it rocketed skyward and disappeared.

"We were doing 400 miles per hour," Filer said. "It must have been doing 4,000 miles per hour—or maybe 40,000 miles per hour—it just disappeared. We were disappointed we couldn't get closer."

Both the ground radar and air-

borne radar had registered a strong return for 20 to 25 minutes.

"I can still see that huge radar return," he said, "and I've been chasing UFOs ever since."

Shortly after the incident, Filer and his fellow officers discussed their experience with Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh, who was visiting the base and had asked to meet with anyone who had intercepted UFOs. The Prince disclosed that his uncle, Admiral Earl of Mountbatten, had personally witnessed UFOs.

Subsequent to this encounter, Filer has not been a stranger to UFO reports. He served as an intelligence analyst to Tactical Air Command Headquarters at Langley Air Force Base, which shared space with NASA's Apollo moon program. He passed through the NASA side of the base daily, and learned through his acquaintance with officers at NASA that our satellites had discovered an alien base, almost a mile in size, on the back side of the moon, that lunar orbiters had found detailed artificial structures, including huge tall thin towers, spherical buildings, and what looked like radar dishes.

It was in the 1970s, stationed at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey, that he had perhaps his most startling experiences. Here, Filer flew C-141s and provided intelligence briefings to the staff. One such briefing included the September 19, 1976, incident in which a huge UFO was seen visually and on radar north of Tehran, Iran. One of two F-4 jets sent to intercept the ob-

ject found its instrumentation disabled as it was about to fire on the object. When the second F-4 prepared to fire, a small UFO dropped from the larger craft and disabled the second plane's weapons system.

As a briefing officer, Filer would report to work around 4 a.m. On January 18, 1978, as he drove through the main gates, he noticed red lights on the runway. At the command post the commander told him UFOs had been flying over the base that night and one had landed or crashed at neighboring Fort Dix. The commander said that a military policeman panicked and shot the alien. "What country was he from," Filer asked. "No, not a foreigner, the commander explained, "an alien from outer space."

A Mortally Wounded Alien

The being had been mortally wounded by the shots at Fort Dix, but had managed to escape to an inactive runway at McGuire. It was found there by the 418th Air Force security police. Filer was told that a C-141 was on its way from Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, to pick up the alien's body.

As deputy director of intelligence, Filer's job was to brief the staff daily. He asked, "You want me to tell everyone at the command post that we captured an alien?" With his orders confirmed, he contacted the 38th Military Airlift Wing Command Post and they verified that the incident had indeed happened, that UFOs had been ob-

led George Filer to pursue interest in UFOs

By Teresa Turner

served over the base, and that an alien, of the extraterrestrial variety, had been found shot. Later that morning, just before the briefing, he was told not to mention the alien.

Filer later compiled additional details about the story from researchers Len Stringfield and Richard Hall, who had interviewed the security police officers who found the alien body. According to the researchers, around 3:30 a.m. Sergeant Jeff Morse (a pseudonym) and Sergeant Mark Larimer were on patrol when they saw 12 bluish-green lights in formation above the base.

Their desk sergeant had ordered the officers to be on the lookout for anything out of the ordinary. He told them: "An army MP at Fort Dix had a close encounter with the unidentified object and with one of its occupants." The MP had reported that the UFO was hovering very close to his vehicle, and that "out of nowhere a thing—a being—had appeared directly in front of his vehicle. It was four feet tall, grayish-brown in color, with a huge head, long arms, and a slender body." Panicking, the MP fired five rounds from a .45-caliber pistol into the creature and one round into the object hovering above him. The object joined the other eleven objects hovering above the base, while the wounded being fled.

Morse and Larimer, along with a New Jersey state trooper who had joined the chase, searched the main McGuire runway where "their headlights revealed a motionless



George Filer III in his days as a dashing young fighter pilot.

figure lying prone on the cold concrete in the middle of the inactive runway, about 50 feet directly in front of them." As they approached the body they detected a strong scent of ammonia. Morse described the entity as a smelly, slimy creature that appeared to have an almost snakelike texture.

Within 30 minutes a recovery team arrived, armed with M-16 rifles and grenade launchers, and went into action with what appeared to be a well-rehearsed procedure. They wore no identifying insignia. The being's body was sprayed with something from a backpack. Then

the team crated it, and fork-lifted the crate onto a plane.

Morse and other security police at the scene were flown to Wright Patterson, debriefed, sworn to secrecy—and within days shipped off to various bases. Anyone who knew about the case was transferred or retired, Filer said.

An interesting aspect of the case, Filer said, was that the recovery team seemed to have foreknowledge of the event. They were from Fort Belvoir, Virginia, a four-hour drive or a one-hour helicopter flight, yet they arrived within a half hour of the incident.

The situation provokes speculation. Were they told to expect the arrival of UFOs? Were the UFOs tracked to Fort Dix and the teams alerted? Or could this have been a trap to catch a UFO? Perhaps it was a planned alien and military meeting that was interrupted, or perhaps a UFO accident, or a secret military project? Many questions, Filer acknowledges, but few answers.

His experiences propelled him not only to join MUFON, where he has served as an investigator and is state director for New Jersey, but also to instigate a weekly online newsletter, "Filer's Files," (*see excerpts on page 12*), documenting worldwide sightings. What began as an exciting diversion from a routine refueling operation has evolved into a lifelong passion.

"We have to get the information to the people," he said. "They have to know what's going on." ■

Disclosure gaining more momentum in Brazil

By A. J. Gevaerd

BRAZILIAN AIR FORCE commander Lieutenant-Brigadier Juniti Saito issued a statement August 10 changing government regulation of UFO reports in Brazil. From now on the military will register and forward all UFO reports to the National Archives. Saito's statement was published in *Diário Oficial da União*, the journal of the Brazilian government.

The move is viewed as the direct result of an extensive public campaign, "UFOs: Freedom of Information Now," conducted by the Brazilian Committee of UFO Researchers (CBU) through *Brazilian UFO Magazine*, which claims more than 300 members. The campaign has resulted in the release of thousands of pages of secret documents and hundreds of photographs relating to UFOs, including material about *Operação Prato* (Operation Saucer).

Saito's recent statement was unexpected. It is widely known that in the past the Brazilian Air Force set up several departments to document and research UFO activity. It is yet to be determined if cases officially investigated by these agencies will be included in the reports sent to the National Archives.

Lieutenant-Brigadier José Carlos Pereira, former head of the Brazilian Airspace Defense Command, recently admitted that over the past several decades the Air Force has produced tons of official documents pertaining to UFOs. All of that UFO data has been digitalized

about *Operação Prato*

Operação Prato (Operation Saucer) is a top-secret investigation by the Brazilian Air Force into a series of UFO-related events in the northern Brazilian state of Para during October, November, and December 1977. The Brazilian newspaper *O Liberal* reported numerous sightings of bright objects in several shapes and sizes flying at low altitudes over the Baía de Marajó region. Many of the UFOs fired strange light beams at witnesses. The flying objects were dubbed "vampire lights" or *chupa-chupa* (Portuguese for "the sucker") because some of the victims seemed to lose blood during the attacks, and many witnesses were left with neck scars.

and is being stored in a huge data bank, said Pereira. Civilian and military pilots are required to report UFO activity on official forms, and Pereira said that currently "hundreds" of such forms have been completed.

The Brazilian Air Force's regulation of the way that the military handles UFO reports, especially those coming from air traffic control and aviation personnel, is seen as tacit acceptance of the existence of UFOs.

One official document exam-

ines events that occurred on what has been dubbed "Official UFO Night in Brazil"—May 19, 1986. On that date, according to military sources, 21 spherical objects literally jammed air traffic over the major Brazilian airports. Several Mirage and F5 jets scrambled after the objects and attempted to pursue them for several hours.

The government report concludes: "It is the opinion of this Command that the [UFO phenomenon] is solid and reflects intelligence by its capacity to follow and sustain distance from the observers." The report notes that although the UFOs were able to fly in formation they were not necessarily manned craft.

A spokesman for the CBU said that group is pleased by official recognition of the serious need for proper handling of UFO reports.

There are few countries where the military has taken such a bold and unprecedented public decision. In the 1950s, Brazil was the first country in the world officially to admit to the existence of UFOs. At that time, Colonel João Adil de Oliveira made a clear statement at the Superior School of War in Rio de Janeiro, assuming that the investigation of the nature and manifestation of UFOs should be of immediate concern to the Brazilian military. ■

A. J. Gevaerd is the Editor of Brazilian UFO Magazine and MUFON director for Brazil.

Plethora of UFO activity continues over Texas

By **Teresa Turner**

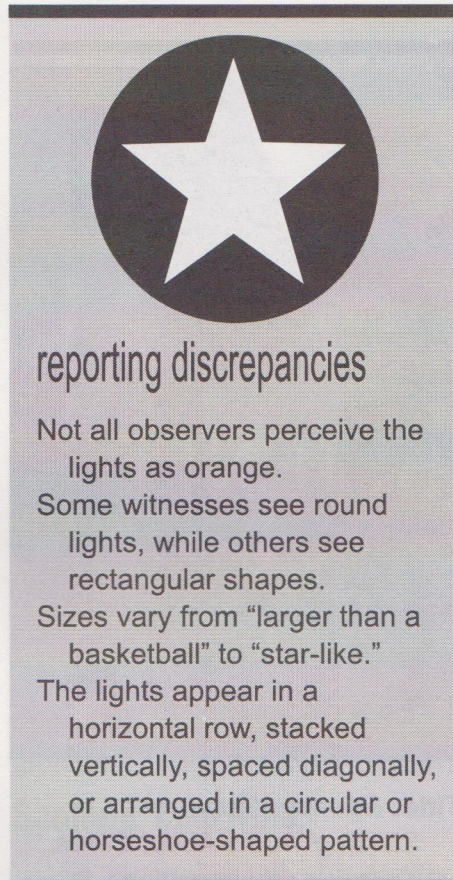
TEXAS MAY BE the Lone Star State, but for the past decade skies over the central part of the state have been playing host to numerous other lights that come and go, perplexing witnesses. The primary area for the sightings is Section 8, which includes Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Erath, Hamilton, Mills, Runnels, Somervell, and Taylor counties. Erath County has seen 99 sightings, while Taylor County has seen 39.

In January 2008, more than 30 residents of Stephenville, Texas, reported seeing a large silent object with bright lights. It was flying low in the sky, and very fast. Descriptions of its size ranged from the size of a football field to a disk a mile long and a half-mile wide. The incident garnered international media attention. The official MUFON report indicated that twice radar had picked up an object sometimes traveling as fast as 2,000 miles per hour.

The following MUFON cases all occurred March 31, 2010:

Rural Eastland County

My two daughters and I drove north on Highway 16 specifically to look for the orange lights. We parked, and two of us got out of the car. After about 10 minutes, the lights appeared in the southwest. They would disappear and then reappear, and seemed to be moving nearer Stephenville. One of my daughters was using binoculars, and she indicated that some of the orange lights were surrounded by



a “halo” of smaller, green lights. I took a few photographs, and enlargement of one shows blurry triangular lights.

Comanche County

I was driving a charter bus between Proctor and Comanche when I noticed a small blinking light ahead similar to the light on an aircraft, but I didn't pay much attention to it. It suddenly gave off a brighter yellow light that lasted maybe 10 seconds. After 30 seconds I saw another light. A passenger sitting in the front seat of the bus moved to better see the lights, and then three

or four lights appeared overhead. I began hearing noises like large bugs hitting the windshield and the roof, but when the bus is traveling 65 miles per hour bugs don't hit the roof. I believe I was driving under invisible debris falling from the sky.

Dublin County

My mother and I were leaving DeLeon on Highway 6. Just past the Leon River Bridge in the clearing I saw a flash in the sky. There were four sets of very bright orange and white lights in a straight line. A moment later there was another one to the left of the first. For a brief moment they were together, then they both were gone.

Eastland County

I was driving a hazardous-material transport between Cisco and Rising Star on Highway 183. I noticed an extremely bright series of three circular white lights high in the southern sky. They didn't appear to be moving. Then an additional six lights appeared. The lights went out after a few minutes, and the sky was dark. Then the original first three lights reappeared for a few more minutes. I have seen a space shuttle re-enter the atmosphere, space junk fall and catch fire, comets, meteors, Apache helicopters, and passenger planes with landing lights on. These lights were unlike anything I've ever seen. ■

Teresa Turner is a senior field investigator in Texas.

Science Was Wrong: True—and often tragic—

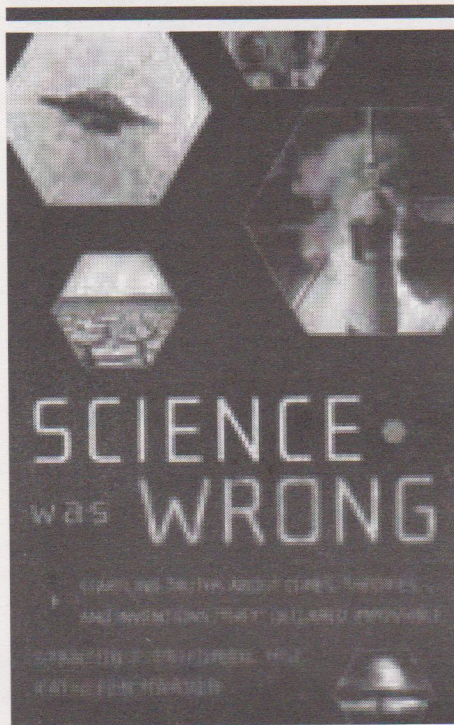
By C.R. Mitchell

THERE'S A BIT of a “Ripley’s Believe It Or Not” flavor to *Science Was Wrong*, a new book by nuclear physicist Stanton T. Friedman and educator Kathleen Marden. And it’s this omigod! element that may first catch the reader’s eye. It is indeed hard to believe that prominent and respected scientists and thinkers throughout history have been so stubbornly wrong for so long about so many things, ranging from aviation and AIDS to smallpox, television, and, yes, UFOs.

There’s a lot of meat among the tidbits, however. Much of the information is fascinating enough to inspire engagement with realms of knowledge previously unknown and/or uninteresting to many readers. But be prepared for the authors’ tendencies to go on—an on.

Cold Fusion and Much More

Take the section on “Cold Fusion or Fraud?” First, we’re told that in March of 1989, Drs. Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann of the University of Utah announced they had created a new form of energy production. The general reader will immediately wonder—and then what? Why haven’t we heard more about this marvelous discovery that could fundamentally affect energy production? Why has the very term “cold fusion” pretty much disappeared from the consciousness of the general public for the past 20-plus years?



Title: *Science Was Wrong: Startling Truths About Cures, Theories and Inventions They Declared Impossible*

Authors: Stanton Friedman & Kathleen Marden

Publisher: New Page Books, 2010

Price: \$16.99

Pons and Fleischmann and their claim to fame are introduced on page 67. But the authors of *Science Was Wrong* seem to forget the obvious questions to indulge in a series of digressions. We have mini-dissertations on heavy water and how nuclear power is produced . . . which leads to the element Deuterium—who discovered it, and when, and what it’s good for

. . . which is followed by a review of the element Palladium.

On page 70, Pons and Fleischmann are briefly brought back to our attention, but by page 71, they are forgotten again, and we’re on the subject of variations in individual elements and how they affect the production of solid-state physics devices . . . which brings us to a bit about the history of physics . . . which leads to the difficulty of determining impurity levels in materials and how that affects resistivity and the flow of electric currents. That engenders a long discussion of superconductivity and the scientists who came up with *that* theory.

A Complex Subject

The explanation of cold fusion is a complex subject, but the unhappy story of Pons and Fleischmann is not. So it’s unfortunate that we have to wade through nine pages of text—to page 76—to find even a bit about the fate of these two experimenters as well as a précis of what’s up with cold fusion today and at least a bit about what has happened to Pons and Fleischmann. Some reorganization would probably be welcome to readers who are primarily interested in how *Science Was Wrong*.

Still, this book is chock-full of interesting “stuff,” from things you’ve always wondered about to things you didn’t know you didn’t know.

The section on “Medicine” can

stories of ignorance, greed, and inflated egos

bring shivers, especially to readers who have had less than delightful experiences with physicians and hospitals. We learn that doctors, big pharma, and the whole health-care profession/industry have often and fiercely resisted remedies that could have saved thousands—even millions—of lives. As the authors point out, these tragic examples were—and are—the result of ignorance, greed, inflated egos—and simple obstinacy.

Tragedy of Childbed Fever

Childbed fever, which killed thousands of new mothers and their babies in the 19th century, has an especially harrowing history. The malady was actually propagated by doctors, who spread infectious organisms from mother to mother; the infected mothers then often passed the contagion to their babies during the birthing process. The results of childbirth fever were almost invariably death, a fate that could have been prevented by basic hygiene. The few doctors who recognized the source of the infections were scorned and ignored by most of their colleagues.

The fight against smallpox was another example of a resistant medical profession that was ignorant of or obstinately determined to ignore remedies that had been used in China and India as early as 1000 C.E. The discussion of the AIDS pandemic, still with us today, is especially horrifying. Friedman

and Marden recount the refusal, through a combination of ignorance and greed, of pharmaceutical companies and blood banks to take steps that would have ensured a safe blood supply, a step that would have kept safe thousands of hemophiliacs who became HIV-positive from transfusions of infected blood. Read and weep.

And there's more. Want to know about the influence of the planets on your birth? Why General Billy Mitchell got court martialed for being right? The shameful history of eugenics? They're all discussed. Especially interesting to "impossibilists," even perhaps the authors themselves, is the discussion of global warming.

Scoffers Take Note

So remember, all you scoffers out there: There may be more truth than poetry in those old myths. The more we learn, the more connections we discover to our common mythological heritage.

If it does nothing else, *Science Was Wrong* opens our minds to possibilities—abductions by aliens, psychic phenomena, the effect of the planets and the solar system's electromagnetic fields on us and our world—we are only beginning to discover. ■

C.R. Mitchell is a free-lance writer and compulsive reader with a fascination for all things pertaining to science.

About the Authors



Kathleen Marden is a social scientist and educator, the former director

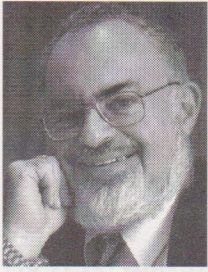
of field investigator training for MUFON, and co-author with Stanton Friedman of *Captured! The Betty and Barney Hill UFO Experience*.

Stanton Friedman was

employed 14 years as a nuclear physicist by major



industrial companies (General Electric, General Motors, Westinghouse, and Aerojet General Nucleonics) and worked on highly classified programs involving nuclear aircraft, fission, and fusion rockets. In addition to co-authoring with Marden *Captured! the Betty and Barney Hill UFO Experience*, he is the author of *Top Secret/Majic* and co-author with Don Berliner of *Crash at Corona: The Definitive Study of the Roswell Incident*.



‘Roswell Aliens Didn’t Have GPS’ wins this month’s booby prize

By Stanton Friedman

READERS KNOW that I haven’t had trouble finding examples of smart people saying stupid things about UFOs. This month I have a special treat: “Roswell Aliens Didn’t Have GPS, Apparently,” a July *Discovery Publications* article by Ray Villard. Villard has an impressive background as a science writer, but he isn’t a scientist. He apparently didn’t do any fact-finding, and as a result manages to trash both the Roswell incident and the star-map work connected with the Betty and Barney Hill abduction case.

Since 1994 Villard has been news chief of the outreach programs division of the Space Telescope Institute in Baltimore, home of the Hubble Space Telescope. He opens his recent article with the absurdly cute comment: “Even if you know nothing about the UFO phenomenon [he obviously doesn’t], you certainly have heard about what supposedly happened in Roswell, New Mexico, in early July, 1947: a crashed flying saucer, autopsies on alien bodies, government cover-ups. It ushered in the 1950s kitsch of bubble-headed little green space jockeys inside silvery saucers flitting across our skies.”

Really? The Roswell story in early July, 1947, lasted a couple of days, and it made no mention of alien bodies, alien autopsies, or a government cover-up. There essentially is no mention of Roswell in the UFO literature—ex-

cept for brief negative comments in Ted Bloecher’s *Report on the UFO Wave of 1947* and in Frank Edwards’ *Flying Saucers Serious Business* (1966)—until after I began the civilian investigation of the incident in the late 1970s. I know of no serious researchers who accept as legitimate the alien-autopsy footage made by Ray Santilli.

‘Space-Age Mythology’

Villard blunders on: “This space-age mythology, embellished over the years, tells of an alien interstellar vehicle simply falling out of the sky near a desert town.” Nonsense. The crash was 80 miles from Roswell and in the middle of nowhere. In 1978 I discussed the Roswell incident with Major Jesse Marcel, intelligence officer for the Roswell-based 509th Bomb Group. Marcel believed there had to have been a mid-air explosion for so many small pieces of strange wreckage to be spread over such a large area, and with no crater.

Villard goes on: “The only tangible evidence is scraps of wood and metal foil and other mundane debris that suspiciously look like they came from a crashed U.S. military balloon.” More nonsense. None of the first-hand witnesses with whom I spoke mentioned wood or “mundane” debris. All were familiar with weather balloons and radar reflectors. Wood only was mentioned in the phrase “light as balsa wood,

heavy as lead.” Those light pieces couldn’t be cut or burned or broken.

Ray adds “...unless you believe that the government has been hiding all the goodies—including alien corpses—inside an Indiana Jones-style warehouse all these decades.” As a matter of fact, the government does own highly classified restricted-access buildings above and below ground, and I have been to many. Does Villard think the United States stores its more than 5,000 nuclear warheads in people’s garages?

“If flying saucers are supposedly real, why haven’t we learned where the visitors come from among the stars?” Villard asks. “Didn’t the Roswell aliens leave a driving map in their glove box?” What a stupid question. Villard wants non-skeptics to send him “the celestial coordinates of the home star, number of planets orbiting it, and their distance from the star and relative masses.” Next I suppose he’ll propose a customs gate through which all visitors must pass while showing picture IDs and passports identifying their planet of origin.

Villard goes on to dismiss the star-map work done by Ohio teacher Marjorie Fish in connection with the Hill case. Fish based her work on a star map sketched by Betty Hill, who underwent hypnotic regression to help recall details of her abduction experience inside the spaceship. Fish constructed a wire

frame cube and positioned beads on strings to create a model of the nearby space neighborhood. She viewed this from different angles until a match was found.

Villard considers Fish's map "legendary but meaningless." His logic goes like this: "The Hill drawing contains 25 dots for stars. If you flew around a computer data base of the local stellar neighborhood you'd come up with more than one match that roughly looked 'similar' to her sketch."

Only 12 dots were connected by lines. Villard provides no sources for his misinformation about Fish's star-map model. He does refer to *The Interrupted Journey* (1966), John G. Fuller's book about the Hills that contains nothing about Fish's work. He could have read my book with Kathleen Marden, *Captured! The Betty and Barney Hill UFO Experience* (2007), which deals at length with Fish's star-map models.

Star Map's Accuracy Praised

Even more important, he could have mentioned, *Astronomy Magazine's* December 1974 article "The Zeta Reticuli Incident" by then-editor Terrence Dickinson. It includes comments by Walter Mitchell of Ohio State University's astronomy department and by statistics expert David Saunders, both of whom noted the accuracy of Fish's star-map work. Fish built more than 20 models over a several year period. The largest included more than 250 stars within 55 light-years. Although she had expected to find many matches with the pattern, none emerged until most stars were eliminated based on astronomical criteria such as being too young, variable, close binary pairs, etc.

As it happens all stars in the

*Villard knows that
flesh-and-blood bodies
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map pattern were sun-like and, surprisingly, were in a plane. All the sun-like stars in the area mapped were part of the pattern.

The chance of coincidence for that happening is less than one in 10,000. In 1976 *Astronomy Magazine* distributed 30,000 copies of a 32-page booklet including Dickinson's original article and comments from astronomers. Dickinson in 1980 published a detailed article "Zeta Reticuli Update" in *Star and Sky*. The crazy thing is that Villard was an editor at *Astronomy* from 1974 to 1976, and in 1980 he published articles in *Star and Sky*.

Villard concedes that two of the stars in particular would be interesting to visit since they are relatively close to each other and, according to him, 3-billion years older than the sun. But he's certain explorers would find robots rather than sentient beings, and that residents would be "motivated to develop the far-advanced propulsion systems needed to hop over to the companion star. Such a trip would take close to 2,000 years with our present-generation space vehicles."

Extraordinary. Villard knows that flesh-and-blood bodies will be out of style, but he can't imagine more advanced propulsion systems.

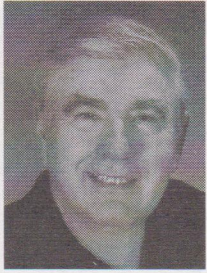
The 1960s saw successful ground-testing of nuclear fission rockets and important studies of fusion propulsion. Surely with his interests in astronomy, Villard is aware that the stars produce their energy with nuclear fusion. Man also has created devices using fusion—these are called H-bombs. One can, if one is willing to spend the money, eject charged particles having 10-million times as much energy per particle as provided by the chemical rockets in our present-generation space vehicles. I presume Villard uses a computer and not a slide rule for calculations, and jet planes and not buggies for travel.

In Ignorant Company

Villard reminds me of UFO skeptic Bill Nye the Science Guy (whose purpose is to deny). Nye appeared on Larry King's television show with me. Nye's ex-wife later wrote to me saying that Nye might have spent five or 10 minutes on the Internet to prepare for the show. It's not surprising that he was so ignorant. Villard appears to follow a similar approach.

Villard didn't reference any of several respectable books about Roswell by such authors as Don Schmitt, Kevin Randle, Tom Carey, and, of course, my own with Don Berliner, *Crash at Corona*. He didn't do his homework about the star map or about space propulsion, either, and yet he is contemptuous of the notion of alien visitors.

Arrogance and ignorance make a terrible combination, especially for a science writer. Villard provides a splendid example of one of the basic debunking rules: "Don't bother me with the facts, my mind is made up." He deserves the booby prize of the month. ■



filer's files

By George Filer

[Editor's Note: This roundup of UFO sightings is presented to keep Journal readers informed about some of the vast number of sightings being reported. Unless otherwise noted, these cases have not officially been investigated.]

A luminous object seen in skies over Caracas

Caracas, Venezuela—According to reports from Ovnivenezuela between 8:30 and 9:00 p.m. on July 20, several people in various parts of Caracas witnessed the dizzying flight of a luminous object. According to a telephone report from one witness, the object was circular and issued a reddish-yellow light that covered it completely, increasing and diminishing by intervals. The UFO appeared over the western sector of the city, not very high up in the sky. Although clouds were present, the intensity of the object's light made it visible. As the witness watched, the UFO shot upward and vanished. From his home in the Plaza de la Concordia area, Luis Maureira and his wife reported seeing a similar object at approximately the same time. The object they saw was reddish in color and looked like a large star.

According to a report from the deck personnel and duty team at the Maiqueta Airport control tower, no incidents or aerial anomalies were reported at the time. (MUFON CMS)

Three UFO reports filed from the Chicago area

Elgin, Illinois—I was driving west on I-90 with my wife and son on July 10. We had slowed for road construction near Elgin when I noticed a line of six lights to the west. At first, I thought they were planes landing at O'Hare Airport, but then we noticed that they were solid orange in color and flickering like fire. These appeared to be nothing like airplanes. They were moving east and remained level. We lost sight of them as they approached some light clouds. (MUFON CMS)

Galatia, Illinois—I was on my way to work at 9:45 p.m. on July 11 when my son spotted something unusual in the sky. I looked up and saw a square-shaped aircraft with four blinking lights at each corner and a red solid light in the center. The object was hovering and shifting from side to side. We watched for five minutes until it just disappeared. The sky was cloudless. (MUFON CMS)

Chicago, Illinois—I was getting off the El at Midway Airport at 9:30 p.m. on July 2 when I observed a silent red-orange fireball moving through the sky from south to north. I am a former aircraft mechanic at Midway and know where the lights are and when they should be on. This object flew right over the airport at a good rate of speed and no higher in the sky than 5,000 feet. (WWW.UFOCENTER.COM)

Flashing lights in skies over Tennessee make witness believe in UFOs

Mosheim, Tennessee—I was sitting outside at 10 p.m. on July 2 when I saw a huge flash of light that illuminated half of the sky. At first I thought it might have been some kind of nuclear weapon because the flash lasted so long, about a second. Then about five minutes later there was another white flash in the middle of the sky, and an object with a red rotating light flew from right to left. Below it there was a white light going the other direction.

Then I noticed another object coming from the same direction as the first one and moving from left to right. It stopped, then continued to move across the sky. It speeded up, dimmed, and finally disappeared. I was not a believer in UFOs until I saw these unusual craft. Now I am a believer—100 percent. (WWW.UFOCENTER.COM)

Red saucer flies over North Carolina beaches

Carolina Beach, North Carolina—At 9:30 p.m. on July 8 I witnessed a red, flickering saucer-shaped object moving erratically through the sky. It paused for several seconds before the light disappeared. Fifteen minutes later, two fighter jets flew past the same location. (WWW.UFOCENTER.COM)

Witness recalls jellyfish-shaped UFO seen over Germany 20 years ago

Wildflecken, Germany—My father was stationed at a very isolated United States Army base that during World War II had been a secret SS training camp under Adolf Hitler. The base itself is very small and located in northeastern Bavaria about 10 kilometers from the border with East Germany. When we lived there, I often found myself awakened in the night, and when I would look out the windows I witnessed odd lights in the sky. I ex-

perienced “lost time.” There was rural farmland around the area with minimal air traffic due to such close proximity to the Iron Curtain. In late summer of 1990, I woke around 3 a.m. to see a large, jellyfish-like object hovering just above the tree line. The object was illuminated by light blue, white, and purplish colored lights. I remember staring at this object for a very long time, but there was no indication that I left my bed. (MUFON CMS)

Orange spheres appear in formation over Poland

Szczecin, Poland—On June 28, as I looked west toward the sunset, I observed a super-bright orange light. I live a short distance from the German border, and it appeared to be coming from Germany. Then six more orange spheres appeared out of thin air. I thought at first I was seeing a flaming ball of fire attached to helium balloons. Then they started to drift toward my home. They moved closer together, then farther apart—just as if they were part of a choreographed event. This show went on about five minutes before the lights faded. To my surprise, another 10 or so more similar objects emerged from the same area and began moving in exactly the same manner. The elevation of all of these spheres was 300 to 500 meters (MUFON CMS)

Duo of fast yellow lights speed over Maryland

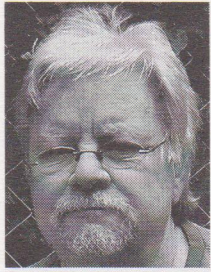
Annapolis, Maryland—I observed two yellow lights rapidly moving northeast at 10:15 p.m. on July 12. The lights were in formation—separated by about a fist at arm’s length. They were five times larger than Venus as I observed them over 55 degrees in my field of view. I have 5,000 hours flying as a military navigator. I can tell you that they clearly were not F-16s, but they were very fast and silent. (WWW.UFOCENTER.COM)

Under observation

Mountain Home Observatory, Idaho—At 9 p.m. on July 20, three witnesses observed three yellow lights maneuvering around the observatory, which is located in a rural area. (WWW.UFOCENTER.COM)

Family in Newfoundland spots bright objects flying over their house

Sydney, Newfoundland, Canada—I was on my deck with my wife, daughter, and nephew at 10:10 p.m. on July 9, when we spotted objects flying toward our house. They appeared to be about 25,000 feet in the sky. Through binoculars the objects looked disk-shaped. Commercial planes frequently fly over the area so we know the difference. The second of these objects got really bright several times, and definitely was not a conventional airplane. Two minutes after they were out of sight, three large planes that sounded loud like military fighter planes flew over headed in the direction of Port Morion. Over the last five years, I have seen a semi-transparent chevron-shaped object in the sky. (MUFON CMS) ■



outside the box

It's time to quit ignoring the paranormal aspects connected to many UFO cases

By Ted Phillips

IN 1951 I WAS 9 YEARS OLD and listening to reports on the radio about flying-saucer events around the world. I thought I could figure it all out by reading every available book on astronomy, meteorology and, of course, flying saucers. Was I wrong! Fifty-nine years later I'm still trying to understand UFOs.

My First Flying Saucer

My father introduced me to Bob, who had been a bomber pilot during World War II. He told me about being on a night flight with a full compliment of Night Intruder aircraft when all the crews observed a brilliant white light on their right. As the circular object approached they could see it was smaller than a light aircraft and gliding smoothly. As it passed over the bombers, the planes were rocking side to side from some turbulence related to the object. After it cleared the planes, the object suddenly, instantly, reversed direction and passed under the aircraft with the same turbulence rocking the bombers. It disappeared on a southerly trajectory into the black sky. They had seen a Foo Fighter; at least that's what they thought in 1944.

Years later I received a thick package from Bob containing a full report on the event. He had seen me on an NBC News documentary and wanted me to have the full report. I was amazed at the work he had done, including locating every

member of every crew on the flight. I had my first detailed UFO report.

Five years later I met J. Allen Hynek, an incredible guy who took me along on UFO landing cases. In 1968 he quietly told me that there was a need for an individual to concentrate on the most valuable cases out there. He asked me to specialize in UFO landing events with physical evidence. Today I have files of 4,701 trace landing events in 93 countries.

Paranormal Activity

In my 42 years of investigations, I found that paranormal activity often would be reported during and after a close sighting. This activity includes such things as dishes flying, doors opening and closing, and things missing and then returned.

A case in Iowa in 1970 involved three witnesses, a mother and her two adult sons (22 and 27), who observed a strange device outside their rural house. On this day, just after noon, Bill was inside the house and walked past a second-story window facing east. He saw a metallic device with two normal-looking men inside it. The weather was very cold that day, there was light snow, and the ground was covered with a couple of inches of snow and ice. Bill called to his mother and brother.

When his brother, Thomas, and mother, Carrie, came into the room, their reactions went from amazement to fear. For an estimated 20

minutes, the "machine" hovered next to the window and the two guys inside stared directly at their three observers.

Then the device slowly moved to a point some 40 feet away, made a speedy vertical ascent, and was gone. The three observers heard no sound at any time. They went outside to check the house for damage. Just below the bedroom window was an irregular area where the snow and ice had melted and the soil was dehydrated, dry as a bone. Trace evidence like this is relatively common after such an event. What happened next was not so common.

The young men carefully looked over the area, made measurements, and snapped some photographs. As the three passed through their kitchen they found several dishes shattered around the room. They thought perhaps this took place during the ascent of the object. But then Thomas pointed out that there were no dishes on the floor when they went outside.

'Haunted' House

I was asked to investigate this report less than a week after the event. I found the witnesses to be ordinary farm folks who didn't embellish the story. They didn't talk to the saucer guys and didn't receive any pancakes from them. In those days I didn't pay much attention to dishes flying around rooms, but I could sense there was something

honest about their story as they tried to understand what had taken place.

Carrie had lived in the house 35 years, and she said that after the UFO event, for the first time her house was “haunted” by a lot of poltergeist activity and just about everything imaginable from the world of the paranormal. The family was upset and frightened, and they wanted the activity to stop.

I put the events in my report, and moved on. Today I see things in a different light, and I find myself peering over the edge of the box. I now believe we must consider everything, even if seems to be way outside the box. In years past, I failed to pay attention to observations of the paranormal. Anything I couldn't pick up and drop into a sample container was resigned to being written up in a final report.

In the past few months I have heard stories from very reliable people. I have seen images and video of events that are difficult to wrap my brain around. If a device lands in daylight and generates traces that remain to be measured, photographed, and tested, we have what I have always considered an inside-the-box report—it seems to fit a number of parameters that repeat and lend themselves to a reliable pattern.

After several years of trace research I began to know what I might find based on the witnesses' description of the object involved. Things repeated themselves with some variations, but the statistics were very solid. I knew the peak areas, the peak months and times, and I could almost predict the next event—though not to the point of going to some remote area to sit and wait. The vast majority of

In years past, the vast majority of physical trace cases could be put inside a box. A lot of current activity doesn't fit in that box.

physical trace cases could be put inside a box. A lot of current activity doesn't fit in that box.

Until the late 1980s, we were receiving an average of one trace case every other day on a global basis. Over the past 20 years the patterns changed. The number of large metallic saucers landing and tearing up stuff on the ground has been falling off, and the number of events involving small balls of light are on the increase.

Marley Woods

In 1998 I received a call from a concerned rancher asking me to look into a series of events he and his family were experiencing on a continuing basis. There had been no known trace cases, but the rancher mentioned some video so I went.

The people involved asked that I not disclose their names or the location. I agreed and have kept that promise. I called the area the Marley Woods because there was nothing nearby with that name. Each time I returned to the area I would hear new reports and see new video, most recorded by a rancher using his first video camera. You can see some good clips on my new Web site, tedphillips.org.

In this column I plan to focus on things outside the norm. I'll pass along any solid landing cases that

might take place but also events with that extra-high strangeness, which seem to be on the increase.

A Net of Tiny Lights

I'll end with a short version of a recent event from one of 11 sites under investigation. An extremely credible observer was working in a field when he was surrounded by tiny lights the size of peas. He said it was like a fishing net suddenly dropped over him. The tiny lights each generated snapping or popping sounds like the old firecrackers you could set off in your fingers. None of the lights touched him. They hovered over his head and down to the ground. He couldn't remember how long they were there or how they left.

Several days later, and 600 feet from the initial encounter, he found himself once again under the net of tiny lights. Both events were in daylight and he had no memory of the time duration. If any readers have heard of similar events, please contact me. I'm only interested in the information, no names or locations are necessary.

In closing I'd like to quote a friend's statement made 31 years ago. I believe Jacques Vallee to be the foremost expert on UFOs. This is from his *Messengers of Deception*. “I propose: that the UFO we see is a device which creates a distortion of the witness's reality; that it does so for a purpose, which is to project images or fabricated scenes designed to change our belief systems; and that the technology we observe is only the incidental support for a worldwide enterprise of subliminal seduction.”

It has taken me a great many years, but I now agree. We must get outside the box. ■

letter to the editor

Reader lauds 2010's superb Symposium

IT WAS MY PRIVILEGE to attend the 2010 MUFON Symposium. I have attended at least 15 past MUFON symposiums, and I have to say that 2010 was one of the very best.

It featured first-hand eye-witness testimony about some very important events, and a collection of expert speakers. All of the presentations went smoothly in spite of the unfortunate absence of two of the Saturday morning speakers, Budd Hopkins and Donald Schmitt. Those who spoke in their stead were well prepared and interesting.

The implications of testimony brought out in some of the presentations were particularly profound and even stunning, material that definitely is on the cutting-edge.

Colorado State Director Leslie Varnicle and her fellow workers deserve much credit for their hard work in making this symposium such a success. In addition to having built one of the most successful MUFON State organizations, Leslie's group deserves much of the credit for the continuing excellence of several symposiums over the years. Three cheers for Leslie and her crew!

—William I. McNeff

editorial policy

Letters to the Editor may be submitted by e-mail to editor@mufon.com. Please include your full name. Letters chosen for publication may be edited for length and clarity.

calendar

September 4—The 2nd Annual Exeter UFO Festival in downtown Exeter, N.H., will feature Stanton Friedman and Peter Robbins.
[exeterufo@gmail](mailto:exeterufo@gmail.com)

September 9–12—Alliance Studying Paranormal Experiences (ASPE) 2010 Paranormal Symposium and Film Festival at Angel Fire, N.M.
aspefiles.org

September 11—Virginia MUFON presents "UFOs at the Beach Conference" from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront.
cpackvb1122@yahoo.com or
757.217.8401.

September 18—Preston Dennett will speak on "Unidentified Submerged Objects (USOs)" at a meeting of Phoenix MUFON at 1:30 p.m. at Vision Quest Bookstore in Scottsdale, Ariz.
www.phoenixmufon.com

October 9—Casa Grande MUFON presents Len Kasten discussing Project Serpo at 1 p.m. at Eva's Restaurant on Pinal Avenue in Casa Grande, Ariz. Meals ordered or \$10 fee.
azmufon@rocketmail.com

October 9 & 16—MUFON Pa East Coast Conferences will be at the Sheraton Bucks Co. in Philadelphia (Oct. 9) and at Westmoreland Community College in Pittsburgh (Oct. 16). Cost is \$30 and \$20, respectively. For more information, visit www.mufonpa.com. Order tickets at www.johnventre.com.

October 16—Phoenix MUFON presents Dennis Balthaser discussing the pyramids of Giza, Roswell, and Area 51 at 1:30 p.m. at Vision Quest Bookstore in Scottsdale, Ariz.
www.phoenixmufon.com

October 23—"Mysteries of Space and Sky VII: UFOs and the Paranormal," a conference in the Annapolis, Md., area, will feature talks by Carl Feindt, Norman Gagnon, Ed Weibe, Ron Fink, and Rob and Sue Swiatek. For more information, please contact S. Peter Resta at spr100@aol.com

November 6—UFO Club of Virginia Beach, VA, meeting at the Kempsville Public Library.
757-217-8401.

November 20—Phoenix MUFON presents Carol Rosin, former spokesperson for Wernher Von Braun, at 1:30 p.m. at Vision Quest Bookstore in Scottsdale, Ariz. Von Braun disclosed a government plan for making ET threats appear to hoaxes. Rosin is president for the Institute for Cooperation In Space (ICIS) and has testified before Congress against the weaponization of space.
www.phoenixmufon.com ■

list your calendar event

Submit MUFON-related events to editor@mufon.com. Please include the word "calendar" in the subject line of your e-mail. Items are limited to six lines. They will be printed as space is available.

STAR Team manager brings impressive training and leadership credentials to the job

By **Chuck Reever**

CHASE KLOETZKE (pronounced Klets-ki) is Mufon's new STAR Team Manager. Chase, a field investigator and 15-year member of MUFON, was selected from a field of more than 20 applicants.

Chase brings leadership and team-building experience from two very different career paths. Working as a manager for a large retail specialty chain store, she had responsibility for supervising a large number of employees at several store locations.

Military Background

As a master trainer/master instructor for the Department of Defense specializing in active-duty readiness, Chase also has worked with several branches of the military—the United States Navy, the United States Marines, and Homeland Security forces. In this job, she created, organized, and conducted six-week programs before unit deployment, often training as many as 200 participants at one time. She had full command and was responsible for each participant's readiness for full deployment.

As a master trainer and master instructor, Chase's duties consisted of organizing mission-specific training activities, overseeing other instructors assigned to the program, and evaluating and testing participants. She also was responsible for making readiness assessments to ensure those assigned to her train-



Chase Kloetzke
ex-trainer for Defense Department

ing programs were adequately prepared for full deployment.

Anti-Terrorism Training

After the attacks of September 11, 2001, Chase was asked to train and ready the Coast Guard's anti-terrorism Maritime Safety and Security Teams while in transition to Homeland Security. She actively created plans and specialized training for job-specific requirements and personally supervised this training. She has won numerous awards and accommodations for her work.

Chase was raised in South Kingstown, Rhode Island. She now

lives in Millington, Tennessee, with her husband, Pete, and their two sons. Her husband is a career Naval Submarine officer, which means the family frequently moves to different parts of the country.

Chase retired from her Department of Defense position in 2005, and she looks forward to pursuing her interest in MUFON and her goals for MUFON's STAR Team.

A certified field investigator, Chase has logged many "boots to the ground" hours investigating MUFON cases.

Plans for Star Team

In connection with her new position as STAR Team manager, Chase already has begun developing future STAR Team activities. She has submitted new phase 1 STAR Team concept presentation, completed phase 2 standard operating plans, and now is at work on phase 3 deployment procedures.

These different phases of the STAR Team Project will be reviewed and then sent to state directors for their review and suggestions. When the STAR Team Project is complete, phase 4 will consist of an online manual on MUFON's new Web site.

MUFON is pleased to welcome Chase as the new STAR Team Manager. ■

Chuck Reever is MUFON director of investigations.

Board of directors endorses a plan designed to

Continued from page 2

has assigned more than 50 cases to other field investigators. Christine took over as state director for Arizona this year and has done an outstanding job of reorganizing that state's MUFON activities.

MUFON's Symposium kicked off with a Field Investigator Training by Chuck Modlin, deputy director of investigations, who put together a powerful training session enhanced by the best speakers available. Robert LeLievre presented his 18-month Omega 3 research study on abductees. Anyone who would like more information about the Omega 3 project can e-mail hq@mufon.com to order a CD or paper copy of the full study.

STAR Team Impact Project

At the State Directors' meeting, John Schuessler and Jan Harzan reported results from the STAR Team Impact Project (SIP), and I presented the financials for SIP. Here is the abbreviated financial bottom line for that project:

Feb. 1, 2009 to Sept. 30, 2009	
income	\$334,666.67
Feb. 1, 2009 to Jan. 30, 2010	
expenses	\$334,666.67
ending balance	\$0.00

All of the Bigelow Aerospace Advanced Space Studies (BAASS) funds were used for salaries and investigator expenses during our one-year contract with them. The following individuals received funds: Richard Lange, STAR Team manager; Jessica Johnson, coordinator; six dispatchers; Mark Easter, public relations; and field investigators.

Dispatchers were paid \$12 an hour and field investigators received a per diem and travel expenses, which included airfare when needed. By contractual agreement, MUFON did not receive any funds for administrating SIP.

Financial Concerns

I also presented MUFON's financials for the fiscal year 2009, and I shared with the state directors how close MUFON came to going under financially in February, due to unpaid bills from 2008 and 2009. These bills totaled \$15,000 more than allotted in the budget to cover our normal operating expenses.

Some very generous contributions saved the day. We owe the following people, among others, a big thank-you. The Board of Directors collectively gave more than \$12,000; Jim King, Iowa state director, gave \$3,000; John Ventre, Pennsylvania state director, gave \$3,000; Debbie Ziegelmeyer, Missouri state director, gave \$1,500; LesLee Alexander, MUFON member, gave \$1,000, and a few other individuals gave \$100 to \$250 for a total of \$21,000. Space prohibits listing everyone, but their contributions are much appreciated. The \$6,000 more than the \$15,000 needed to pay back bills was used for two new computers and to develop our new Web site.

MUFON's board members do not receive any money for their service. They pay for attendance to the Symposium, board meetings, all meals, lodging, and airfare. This has been the case since I joined the

board in 2000. Why do people give their time and money? The answer is simple. MUFON board members are committed, passionate, and hopeful about discovering an answer to the UFO enigma.

Our expenses owed total \$27,000, which includes the cost of the new computers and Web site development. Regular expenses have been trimmed and the bills have been paid, computers purchased, and the Web site is up and running, but MUFON still is in need of \$6,000 to stay even. I would like to ask if there is anyone who can step forward and provide MUFON with these funds. Many times when I tell people we are in need of more money, they say, "All you need to do is ask." MUFON is asking.

Fiscal Year Ending June 30

Here's how MUFON's finances stand for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010:

July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010	
income	\$155,250.65
expenses	\$156,324.07
ending balance	-\$980.37

Without the generosity of so many wonderful people, MUFON would have shown a loss of more than \$21,000 instead of a loss that was cut to \$980.37.

Over the past 40 years working with successful businesses, I have learned that it's important that every organization be a first-class operation. MUFON is no different. We also need to be a first-class operation. Members deserve it, the public expects it, and I, as the international director, require it.

position MUFON as a first-class organization

Three Budgets

This is why I presented three budgets to the state directors and the MUFON board of directors—a “status quo” budget, an “improved” budget, and an “ideal” budget.

The “status quo” budget is based on 2,700 members, a salary for the international director of \$1,000 per month (if there are funds to pay the salary), one office-support staff member, no research programs, and very limited communication between volunteers and headquarters. This is the budget of MUFON’s past, and I find it personally unacceptable and inadequate to meet MUFON’s mission statement.

The “improved” budget, just a step up, provides more funds. It will require 3,300 members, and would pay the international director a salary of \$2,500 per month, increase office support staff to one full-time and one part-time employee, provide very limited funds for research, and include some money for better communication between volunteers and headquarters.

The “ideal” budget would allow MUFON to become a first-class organization. This budget requires 4,000 members, and would pay the international director \$5,000 per month. It would provide \$3,000 per month for research, and it also would provide for great communication between volunteers, headquarters, and the public. It would allow for two full-time and one part-time employees. The ideal budget incorporates a better business model for MUFON’s success, and it will include dollar-making projects.

For MUFON to become a first-class operation will require leadership, communication, and research and education.

Leadership. This quality starts with the international director. The ideal person for this job has vision, communication skills, and knowledge of non-profit organizations, is able to commit 50 to 60 hours per week to MUFON, and is knowledgeable about the UFO phenomenon. The physical and mental energy required for this position means that the international director needs to be younger than 60. To hire and keep such a qualified international director, MUFON will have to be prepared to pay \$5,000 per month. I want to be extremely clear that I’m advocating this salary for the next international director, not making a plea to increase my own pay from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per month.

Communication. Good communication is paramount to MUFON’s success. We need better ways to communicate between members, state directors, and MUFON headquarters, and this will cost money to set up and maintain. We also need to have an increased office staff equipped and prepared to assist our members, researchers, and the public.

Research and Education. We need to be able to pay for education projects, UFO propulsion-system research, and research into abductions. MUFON also needs to provide support to our field investigators. Currently, Chuck Reever serves as director of investigations for no pay, but this position de-

mands a salary of at least \$3,000 per month.

Membership Fees

The board of directors took the following action regarding annual fees, effective October 1, 2010:

■ **Regular members** may elect to receive a hard copy of the *Journal* for \$50; an electronic copy for \$35; or both hard copy and electronic versions for \$55.

■ **Senior citizens and members 18 and under** may receive a hard copy of the *Journal* for \$40; an electronic copy for \$30; both for \$45.

■ **International members** may receive a hard copy of the *Journal* for \$60 plus postage; an electronic copy for \$35; or both for \$65 plus postage.

Our Web site includes a pay-for-view area—*MUFON Central*—designed to generate income. We hope to use the Web site for marketing and conducting Webinars for members and the public.

MUFON has a new radio station—*MUFON Radio*—hosted by Richard Woods. We feel that the Web site and radio will bring in additional funds for MUFON to become a first-class operation.

Let’s all participate in getting new members and being a part of the largest UFO investigative organization in the world.

On a sad note, Kim Freeman has accepted a job in Ft. Collins. Patti Wolff will replace Kim as office manager. Although Kim will be greatly missed, MUFON wishes both women much success as they begin their new endeavors. ■



Mutual UFO Network, Inc.

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Greeley, Colorado 80634

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www.mufon.com

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Call the MUFON office at
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Or e-mail patti@mufon.com

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E-mail your name, MUFON number, old address,
and new address to hq@mufon.com (please include
the words "change of address" in the subject line).

To order MUFON merchandise

Books, videos, CDs, DVDs, back issues of *MUFON UFO Journal*, copies of MUFON Symposium proceedings, and clothing, cups, and pins with the MUFON logo may be ordered the following ways:

- visit www.mufon.com
- call **970.352.5319** and ask for Patti
- e-mail patti@mufon.com

To order Symposium Proceedings and DVDs

MUFON has published the proceedings of the annual MUFON International UFO Symposiums since 1971.

- 2008 published proceedings "UFOs: A Worldwide Phenomenon" (\$33 postpaid in U.S. or \$42 outside the U.S.) may be ordered from the office or at www.mufon.com
- 2008 speaker DVDs, videos, and audio CDs (\$19.95 each or \$159.95 for a set of nine DVDs) may be ordered from the office or at www.mufon.com
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To leave a legacy to MUFON

Don't let your valuable research end up at a flea market or estate sale! Please remember MUFON in your will. Besides monetary bequests, you can donate UFO case files, periodicals, etc. Contact MUFON at **970.232.3110** for more information.

To nominate a Volunteer of the Month

Do you know someone in the MUFON organization who deserves to be recognized in the *Journal* as a Volunteer of the Month?

Contact your state director, and e-mail editor@mufon.com (please include the words "volunteer nomination" in the subject line).

To contact the Editor of MUFON UFO Journal

E-mail Janice Currie at editor@mufon.com

To access the MUFON members message board

mufonmembers.proboards55.com

Case-sensitive password: **Hynek1947**

MUFON UFO Journal Advertising Rates

frequency	1 time	3 times	6 times
back cover	\$450	\$425 each	\$400 each
inside back cover	\$425	\$400 each	\$375 each
full page inside	\$350	\$325 each	\$300 each
half page	\$250	\$225 each	\$200 each
quarter page	\$150	\$125 each	\$100 each
calling card	\$55	\$50 each	\$45 each

Contact Patti Wolff, business manager,
at **970.352.5319** or patti@mufon.com

CMS rankings

CONGRATULATIONS to Donald R. Burleson (New Mexico), Elaine Douglass (Utah), Cheryl Ann Gilmore (South Carolina), Jimi Hughes (Montana), Lorna Hunter (Minnesota and South Dakota), William Jones (Ohio), William J. Konkolesky (Michigan), David MacDonald (Kentucky), Marie C. Malzahn (Idaho), Eddie Middleton (Tennessee), Bland Pugh (Florida), Ruben J. Uriarte (Area 1 California), John Ventre (Pennsylvania), and Steve Winans (Kansas) for being at 100 percent in August's Case Management System (CMS) rankings! The top 10 state directors are highlighted on the chart at right.

For help with investigations please contact MUFON International's Director of Investigations, Chuck Reeve at **530.414.4341** or **530.582.8339**, or by e-mail at merlin@suddenlink.net. ■

understanding the chart

The CMS Report is based on two measures of UFO Investigation effectiveness—(1) assigning reports within 72 hours of receipt and (2) completing all investigations within 90 days of being assigned.

- **Assigned** is a six-month running average of the number of cases assigned within 72 hours divided by the total number of cases received in that six-month period.
- **Completed** is the number of cases completed beginning 62 days back and going back six months from there (for a total of eight months back) divided by the total number of cases reported in the same period.
- **Weighted Rank** is the average of the two columns expressed as a percentage.

Rank	State	Director	Weighted Rank (50/50)	Assigned	Completed
1	New Mexico	Donald R. Burleson	100 percent	26/26	43/43
2	Michigan	William J. Konkolesky	100 percent	79/79	86/86
3	Tennessee	Eddie Middleton	100 percent	47/47	62/62
4	California (area 1)	Ruben J. Uriarte	100 percent	138/138	108/108
5	Kansas	Steve Winans	100 percent	12/12	19/19
6	Utah	Elaine Douglass	100 percent	19/19	10/10
7	Pennsylvania	John Ventre	100 percent	116/116	134/134
8	Ohio	William Jones	100 percent	61/61	65/65
9	Minnesota	Lorna Hunter	100 percent	24/24	24/24
10	Kentucky	David MacDonald	100 percent	21/21	24/24
11	Florida	Bland Pugh	100 percent	133/133	171/171
12	South Carolina	Cheryl Ann Gilmore	100 percent	18/18	25/25
13	South Dakota	Lorna Hunter	100 percent	3/3	5/5
14	Montana	Jimi Hughes	100 percent	9/9	11/11
15	Idaho	Marie C. Malzahn	100 percent	19/19	16/16
16	Indiana	Jerry L. Sievers	99 percent	82/83	60/60
17	Missouri	Debbie A. Ziegelmeyer	99 percent	55/56	43/43
18	Arizona	Christine Dickey	99 percent	95/96	95/95
19	Georgia	Ralph O. Howard	98 percent	55/57	59/59
20	Oklahoma	Marilyn K. Carlson	98 percent	24/25	28/28
21	Texas (SD)	Steve A. Hudgeons	98 percent	156/158	196/201
22	Iowa	Jim King	97 percent	16/17	17/17
23	New Jersey	George A. Filer III	97 percent	26/26	42/44
24	West Virginia	John Ventre	95 percent	9/10	10/10
25	Oregon	Thomas Bowden	95 percent	50/51	39/42
26	Washington	James E. Clarkson	93 percent	37/43	38/38
27	Colorado	Leslie H. Varnicle	92 percent	43/43	59/70
28	Alaska	Brent Mitchel	92 percent	6/7	13/13
29	California	Georgeanne Cifarelli	87 percent	186/190	129/166
30	New Hampshire	Steve Firmani	81 percent	12/19	20/20
31	Maryland	Ron Fink	79 percent	15/20	22/26
32	North Dakota	Kurt Pflieger	75 percent	1/2	2/2
33	Nebraska	John C. Kasher	74 percent	14/20	11/14
34	Alabama	Roy E. Patterson Jr.	65 percent	7/18	11/12
35	Illinois	Samuel Maranto	61 percent	43/36	36/63
36	Louisiana	Karen Bravata	56 percent	11/18	15/29
37	New York	James G. Bouck Jr	49 percent	44/75	38/92
38	Mississippi	Norman D. Walker	49 percent	3/10	9/13
39	Wyoming	Richard Beckwith	42 percent	6/7	0/7
40	Massachusetts	Steve Firmani	42 percent	7/31	19/30
41	Rhode Island	Steve Firmani	35 percent	2/10	5/10
42	Connecticut	Steve Firmani	32 percent	4/23	10/21
43	Arkansas	Norman D. Walker	29 percent	7/28	10/29
44	Delaware	John Ventre	25 percent	0/4	2/4
45	Maine	Steve Firmani	24 percent	3/20	9/26
46	Nevada	Ellen Bullock	12 percent	7/30	1/50
47	Virginia	Susan L. Swiatek	11 percent	4/33	4/36
48	Wisconsin	Nathan Tomisich	10 percent	3/35	5/40
49	Vermont	Steve Firmani	10 percent	1/10	1/10
50	Hawaii	Lorna Hunter	0 percent	0/2	0/6

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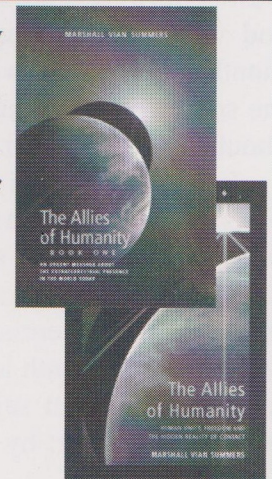
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the night sky

By Gavin A. J. McLeod

Bright Planets (Evening Sky)

Venus (magnitude -4.7): From Virgo into Libra. In the northern hemisphere Venus will begin the month above the west-southwest horizon at sunset and set 90 minutes later; by month's end Venus will be low above the southwest horizon and will set 45 minutes later.

In the southern hemisphere Venus will set below the west-southwest horizon about four hours after sunset.

Mars (magnitude 1.5): In Virgo. In the northern hemisphere Mars will begin the month above the west-southwest horizon at sunset and will set 90 minutes later; by month's end Mars will be above the southwest horizon and will set about 75 minutes later.

In the southern hemisphere Mars will set below the western horizon four hours after sunset.

Saturn (magnitude 1.0): In Virgo. In the northern hemisphere Saturn will begin the month low above the western horizon at sunset and will set one hour later; by month's end

moon phases

last quarter: September 1

new moon: September 8

first quarter: September 15

full moon: September 23

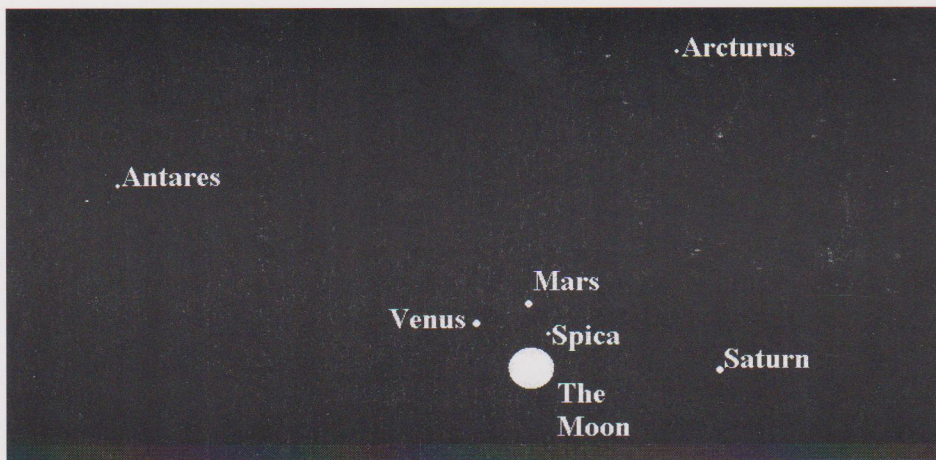
conjunctions & occultations

September 1: Venus 1.2 degrees south of Spica

September 4: Mars 2 degrees north of Spica

September 9: Saturn 8 degrees north of the Moon

September 29: Venus 6 degrees south of Mars



Observers who look toward the southwest just after sunset on September 12 will see the Moon, Venus, Mars, and Saturn together in the evening sky.

Saturn will be very low above the horizon and will set 10 minutes later.

In the southern hemisphere Saturn will set below the western horizon two hours after sunset.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky)

Mercury (magnitude 4.6 to 2.0 to -0.6): In Leo. In the northern hemisphere Mercury will begin the month lost in the glare of the sun; by mid-month it will rise above the east-northeast horizon 90 minutes before sunrise; by month's end Mercury will rise above the eastern horizon one hour before sunrise.

In the southern hemisphere Mercury will be low above the western horizon at sunset and will set about 45 minutes later.

Jupiter (magnitude -2.9): In Pisces. In the northern hemisphere Jupiter will begin the month rising above the eastern horizon one hour after sunset and will be found above the west-southwest horizon at sunrise; by month's end Jupiter will be found low above the eastern horizon at sunset and will set below the western horizon 45 minutes before sunrise.

In the southern hemisphere Jupiter will rise above the eastern

horizon two hours after sunset and will be low above the western horizon at sunrise.

Celestial Phenomena

Zodiacal Light, sunlight bouncing off dust grains in the solar system, will be visible over the horizon from very dark locations in northern latitudes in the East before sunrise September 5 to 19. Look for a pyramid of light somewhat resembling light from a city or town.

Autumnal Equinox: September 22. ■