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Looking for the ultimate getaway? Start saving now if you want to stay at one of the space hotels currently on the drawing board. Story: Page 3.

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# MUFON

Mutual UFO Network

# UFO JOURNAL

JANUARY 2011

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*'one second that changed my life'*

## 'It was real,' investigator says about the being she saw

By Chase Kloetzke

ON APRIL 20, I WAS ASSIGNED A CASE by my chief investigator, Max Mitchell. In reviewing the report, I began highlighting key elements and making notes. I saw a commonly reported claim of "orange fireballs," red and white lights in the sky that would cluster with as many as 27 together at one count. Multiple witnesses viewed these lights maneuver and hover.


As I prepared for my initial contact call, I jotted down some questions that I had. The witness retold of the sighting and then said, "It happens almost every night." I gave him my contact information and asked him to stay in touch if there were any more events.

Over the course of the next week, we talked daily. I had scheduled an on-site investigation for the following weekend. This was the time of the Tennessee "100-year flood" that occurred throughout the state on May 1, 2010. We were all locked down for another week of flooding. I had already had been researching the usual suspects—satellites, space station, radar

*Continued on page 14*

## a town that minds its own business

The witness that filed this report with MUFON Case Management System (CMS) has not given permission for the release of confidential information, including names and location. Seven other witnesses claimed to have seen the events reported, but all refused to come forward or to go on the record. The events occurred in a small town, and the witness summed up the residential mind-set when he said, "Chase, around here people mind their own business, and we don't like people who don't."



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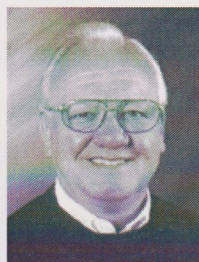
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*director's message*

**Year-end review and a look toward the future**

**By Clifford Clift**

I WOULD LIKE TO WISH everyone a Happy New Year. It's my hope that 2011 will be a happy and prosperous New Year for all of us.

This past year was an eventful one for MUFON. Thanks to our many volunteers and their generosity, MUFON was again successful in working toward fulfilling our mission of scientific and analytical investigation of the UFO phenomenon for the benefit of humanity.

Our field investigators examined more than 6,000 sighting reports in 2010. About 20 percent—or 1,200—of these reports were significant. There does seem to be a commonality within the 20 percent, which may lead to answers regarding the UFO enigma.

In 2010, MUFON headquarters moved to Greeley, Colorado. Our membership grew to 2,830. We launched our new Web site, MUFON Central. And our 2010 Symposium was a huge success.

I am most proud of the way that so many MUFON volunteers—from state directors, assistant state directors, state section directors, and field investigators to regular MUFON members—pulled together to make MUFON a financially sound and professional organization. Thank you all.

In 2010 Chuck Reeve stepped down as Director of Investigations and as the board of directors liaison with state directors. Chuck did an outstanding job coordinating sighting reports with CMS, working with field investigators, and ensuring that everyone was following MUFON protocol. Chuck designed the MUFON flow chart, which proved to be a great blessing. Chuck, we will miss you. Thanks for all your hard work.

Tom Sheets also stepped down as administrator of professional standards. Tom was able to quickly

*Continued on page 21*

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# Do you know anyone interested in a galactic adventure getaway at an astronomical price?

By Janice Currie

LOOKING FOR AN EXOTIC vacation spot? How about space? The price tag is a little high, and rooms are on the cozy side—but the view is spectacular.

The Galactic Suite Space Resort is on schedule to open in 2012 with a single module in orbit 280 miles above the earth, traveling at 30,000 km per hour. The hotel will accommodate four guests and two astronaut pilots.

It will take a day and a half to reach the pod, where visitors will stay for three days before re-entering the transport rocket and returning to Earth. For guests who find sunsets romantic, they'll see a lot of them as they zip around the Earth every 80 minutes. Maneuvering around their rooms may be a little more challenging, but by donning Velcro suits they can stick themselves to the walls.

## Three Nights, \$4.4-Million

The cost for the three-night stay at the hotel is \$4.4-million, which includes an eight-week training course on a Caribbean island. More than 200 people have expressed an interest in traveling to the space hotel, and at least 43 people have already reserved.

The hotel is the brainchild of Galactic Suite's CEO Xavier Claramunt—a former aerospace engineer, award-winning architect, and jewelry designer—who feels the burgeoning industry can look for-



ward to a huge future, one in which space travel will become common.

If all goes as scheduled, by 2015 and 2016 tourists will have a choice of venues from which to view the world.

A Russian company, Orbital Technologies, plans to orbit a privately financed space station that would also be a hotel for space tourists. The Commercial Space Station (CSS) will accommodate up to seven people and is scheduled to be launched in 2015–2016.

The company, which has both Russian and American investors, is teaming up for the project with the Russian space agency, *Roscosmos*, and Rocket and Space Corporation *Energia*, the company that builds the Soyuz passenger capsules and the Progress cargo ships used by *Roscosmos*.

The International Space Station (ISS) has entertained non-astronaut passengers, but it was designed for scientific missions, unlike the CSS

which is designed to be a space hotel. Company CEO Sergei Kostenko told news agency *RIA Novosti*. "Our planned module inside will not remind you of the ISS. A hotel should be comfortable inside, and it will be possible to look at the Earth through large portholes."

The first module will contain four cabins that can hold a total of seven passengers in a cozy 706 cubic-foot area.

The company expects guests to include tourists, scientists who want to perform experiments in space, and overflow from the International Space Station during maintenance or emergencies.

## In Orbit with the Russians

To date, only Russia takes space tourists into orbit. Virginia-headquartered Space Adventures has organized flights for space tourists in the third seat of several Soyuz missions to the ISS, the last being Cirque du Soleil founder Guy Laliberte, who paid around \$40-million for his 12-day trip into orbit in October 2009.

When Space Adventures may send another customer into orbit is unclear. The spacecraft will be needed to shuttle more astronauts to the ISS before NASA's shuttle program comes to an end next year.

Orbital Technologies said they already have several customers un-

*Continued on page 4*

# There's still plenty of space available in space

*Continued from page 3*

der contract from both industry and science, and, of course, those interested in visiting for enjoyment.

Meanwhile, Space Adventures has an agreement with Boeing for passengers to fill empty seats aboard the capsule Boeing is developing to take astronauts to the ISS. That capsule will not fly until 2015 at the earliest, however, depending on government funding.

## Space Taxis

Boeing's commercial space taxi plays an important role in the plans of Las Vegas-based Bigelow Aerospace, which already has launched inflatable modules that could be used as commercial space stations.

Owned by Robert Bigelow, founder of the Budget Suites of America hotel chain, the company has two fully-operational space-station modules orbiting Earth today—Genesis I and Genesis II, traveling at 17,500 miles per hour—and says it's working on larger designs.

The modules were launched in 2006 and 2007 from the *Yasny Cosmodrome*, a strategic-missile military base in Russia and home to the *Kosmotras* aerospace company.

Bigelow, who is risking \$500-million of his own wealth on developing his space station, said: "We hope to build a number of commercial space stations, not just one or two. We'd like to have 10 or 15 or 20. We think the markets are substantial, so that's exactly what we're trying to accomplish."

The Nevada company currently is at work on its inflatable module,

## seats on suborbital flights are going fast

Already 300 people have either paid or signed up for British tycoon Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic suborbital space tours, which start at \$200,000 with refundable deposits starting at \$20,000. You can book space at [virgingalactic.com](http://virgingalactic.com).

Sundancer, constructed of puncture-proof fabric. Folded, it can fit into the nosecone of a rocket, then be inflated in orbit. Several modules can link together to form complexes. Sundancer is scheduled for launch and orbit in 2014.

Bigelow offers a one-month trip to a Bigelow space complex for \$24.9-million. For clients interested in four-year leases, annual prices range from \$144-million to \$394-million.

His plans call for launching an initial Orbital Space Complex from Cape Canaveral in 2014, and then opening it for business in 2015. A second, larger outpost would follow in 2016. That complex would go into operation in 2017.

## International Interest

Bigelow has signed memorandums of understanding with interested parties in Japan, Australia, Singapore, Sweden, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

The race is on between companies vying to provide transport from Earth to space hotels and the International Space Station.

Engineers at Boeing's research division, Phantom Works, are working on the CST-100 Apollo-style capsule that could carry up to seven people, remain at a space station for up to seven months, and fly up to 10 missions. They are partially government funded. Boeing has an agreement with Bigelow Aerospace to use the CST-100 as a commercial space taxi. The craft may be ready for its first commercial flight by 2015.

British tycoon Richard Branson's aerospace firm, Virgin Galactic already offers suborbital flights. Now it has plans to offer orbital flights for space tourists and scientists on spaceplanes it has proposed under NASA's Commercial Crew Development (CCDev) effort.

To help realize its goal, the company has joined forces with both Orbital Sciences Corp. and Sierra Nevada Corp. in the second round of competition for \$200-million in NASA funds to develop craft that can deliver crews to the International Space Station.

Both Orbital Sciences and Sierra Nevada are basing their CCDev entries on winged spaceplanes that will take off vertically from a launch vehicle and return to a gliding runway landing.

Sierra Nevada won \$20-million in the first CCDev competition to begin work on its Dream Chaser

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## *Secret History* offers some bizarre historical ‘facts’ in connection with UFO-related events

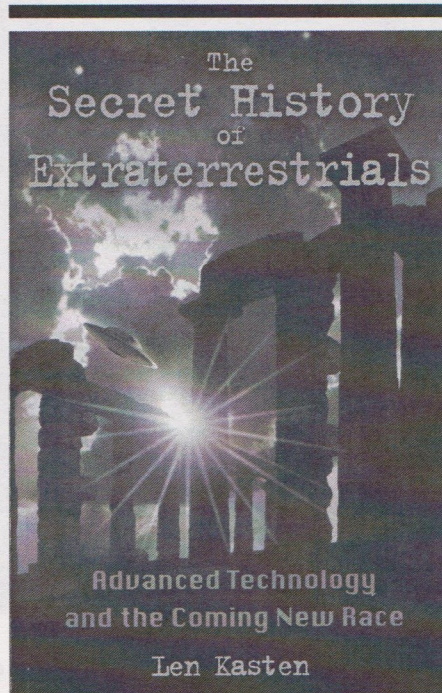
By Dwight Connelly

THE BASIC THRUST of *Secret History* is that the formerly secret history of extraterrestrials is no longer a secret. According to author Len Kasten, everyone who has been paying attention is aware that our government and other governments are working with ETs, are using ET technology, and are even engaged in interplanetary exchanges of personnel.

In other words, anyone who is still pursuing the mundane activity of investigating UFO reports is just wasting his or her time, since we already have all the answers—except perhaps the “why” or “whys” of alien intervention.

This book covers the entire UFO field, including its “far out” aspects, but its presentation is strangely uneven. Some of the material is based on the work of reliable researchers, but much of it is made up of undocumented assertions from questionable sources—where the author even bothers to provide sources.

For example, Kasten matter-of-factly reports: “German experiments in time travel began in the 1920s, with alien assistance.” Or this: “Furthermore, by 1952, the survivor of the Roswell crash, Extraterrestrial Biological Entity No. 1 (EBE #1), was now in contact with his home planet, Serpo, and communications in English between Serpo and scientists at Los Alamo



**Title:** *The Secret History of Extraterrestrials: Advance Technology in the Coming New Race*

**Author:** Len Kasten

**Publisher:** Bear & Company, 2010

**Pages:** 312

**Price:** \$18 soft cover

National Laboratory in New Mexico were beginning.”

The author presents as fact the most sensational and undocumented statements of Col. Philip Corso, Robert Dean, Dr. Richard Boylan, Donald Ware, Erich Von Daniken, and Zecharia Sitchin, among others, despite the widely held view

among serious UFO researchers that these individuals are unreliable sources. Kasten apparently also believes that the discredited Santilli alien autopsy film is legitimate.

On the other hand, he discusses the work of Colin Andrews and other crop-circle researchers with a critical eye, and without sensationalizing the phenomenon. He also is even-handed in describing the work of Stanton Friedman.

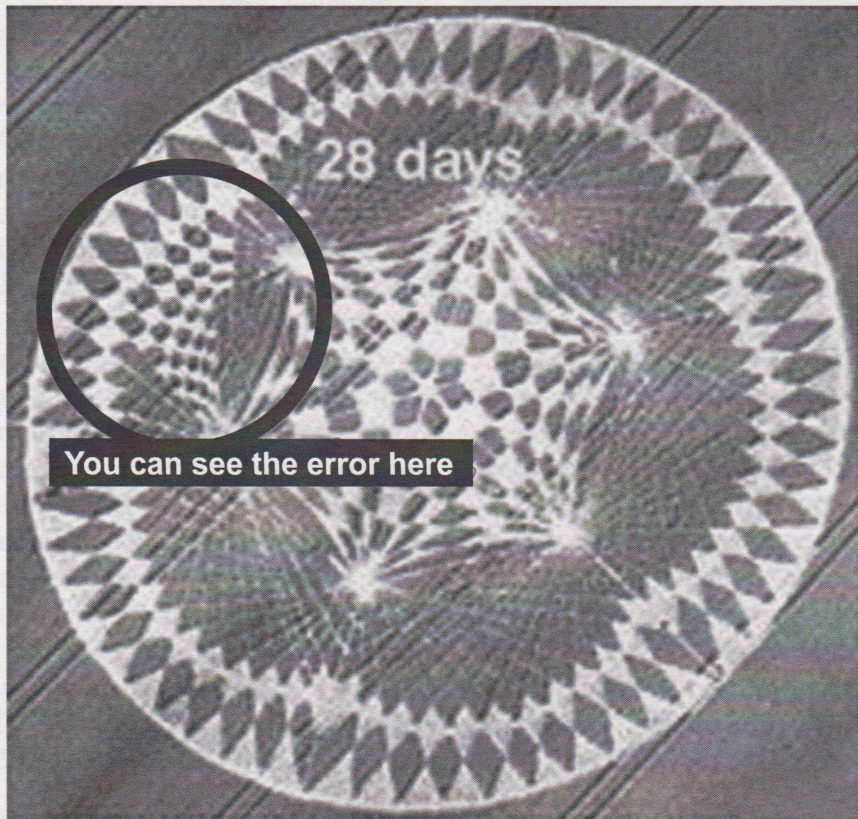
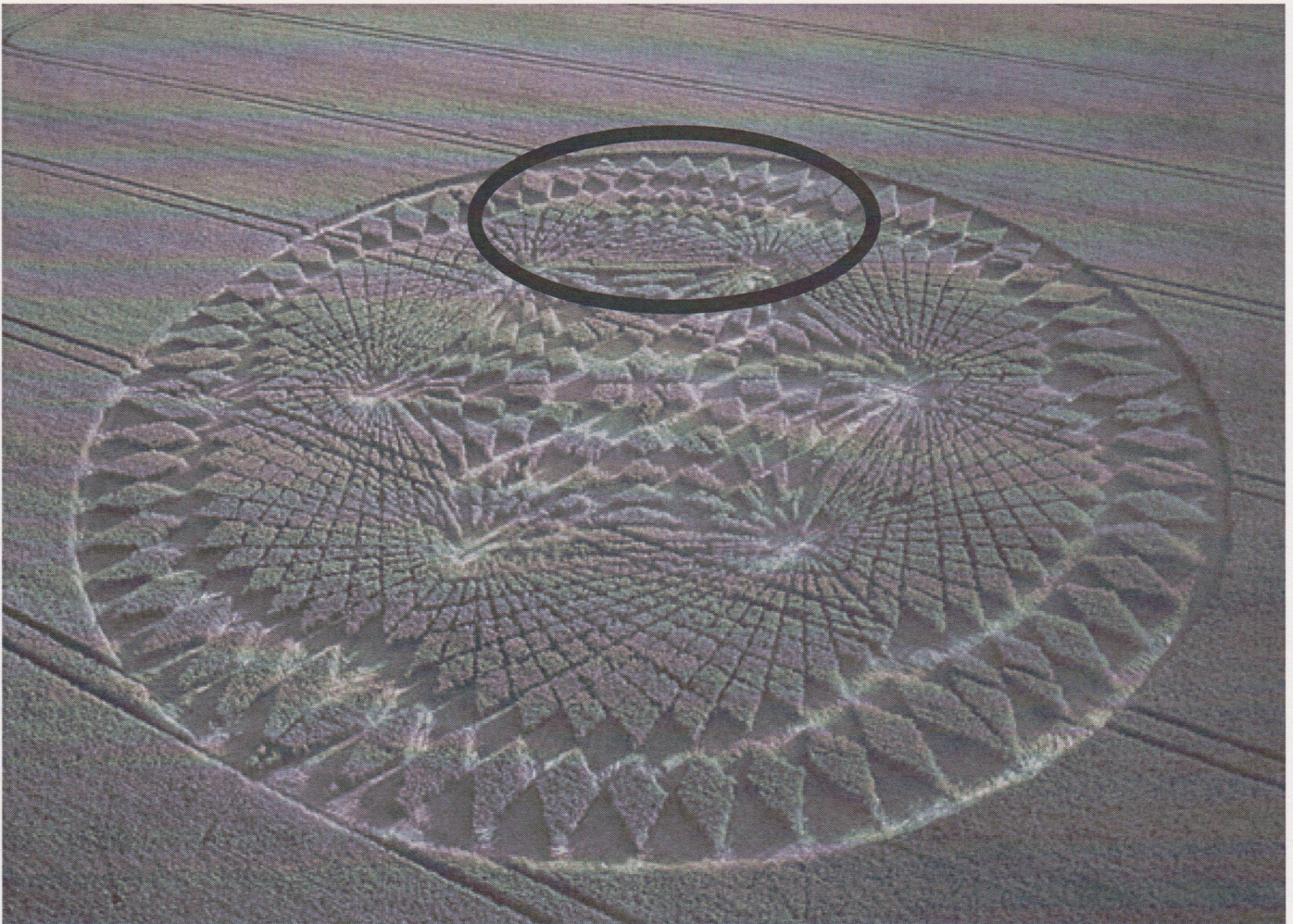
The subtitle, “Advanced Technology and the Coming New Race,” refers to the idea that the ETs are hybridizing humans and aliens to save the planet, to save the aliens, or for some other purpose. This is neither a new nor necessarily “far out” concept.

David Jacobs, a respected abduction researcher, has dealt with this question in detail, especially in his book *The Threat*. Other respected researchers such as John Mack also have described hybrid breeding programs.

The various ETs come from Serpo, Sirius, Venus, the Pleiades, Zeta Reticuli, another dimension, and elsewhere, according to Kasten, who has been a writer for *Atlantis Rising* magazine since its inception some 14 years ago. The Pleadians, by the way, “are far more advanced than the Zeta Reticulans.”

And the Germans—that superhuman race—have utilized ET

*Continued on page 18*



## 'Oops! Does anybody have an eraser handy?

This crop circle was discovered in a field at Windmillhill in the United Kingdom in 2002.

The unexplained error in the complicated geometric design appears in the circled area of each photograph.

For more information, read the *Letter to the Editor* on the next page.

## What can we learn from crop-circle ‘mistake’?

SOME TIME AGO, I spotted a significant error in a crop-circle impression made at Windmillhill in the United Kingdom in 2002. I’ve circled the flaw in two pictures (see opposite page) showing the elaborate and complex design.

I’ve never heard any comments about this flaw and thought it might be of interest to crop-circle enthusiasts and may perhaps disclose something about the process by which crop circles are made.

If we consider the design as a stamped image, then the flattened areas are negative space and the areas left standing are positive space. The perimeter is a positive and negative stamp forming a diamond radial pattern contouring the “bulge” of the segments, which appear to be magnetic lines of force. There are six groupings of these forms that meld into the center hexagon core.

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*It almost appears that no one is at the controls, and an automatic device just stamps the image at a given location.*

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Inside the circles drawn on both pictures, an area within the outer “bulge” group appears to be different from all the rest. The design in the other similar areas shows a mass defined by lines or stamped out negative spaces in linear form. In the circled areas, however, the area is a checkerboard positive/negative space pattern that appears to have evolved due to an error in execution of the design.

Why did the machine or whatever makes these crop circles start the alternating positive/negative stamping for the perimeter, then suddenly switch? Did someone or something realize it had gone too far, and so attempt to correct the process? Obviously what had happened couldn’t be undone, so the design was finished with this flaw in it. Why wasn’t the process stopped and started fresh somewhere else? Perhaps there is only one shot at it these designs each time?

It’s also interesting that crop circles very rarely line up with the tractor stripes in the field. If I were producing these images, it would be hard to ignore the tractor stripes. I think that I would be tempted to balance the circles within these tractor tracks.

It almost appears that no one is at the controls, and an automatic device or robotic machine just stamps the image at a given location. Someone or something recognized the flaw in this Windmillhill design, however, and corrected it during the process of execution. Perhaps the study of this flaw will shed some light on the understanding of these strange and beautiful works. —Steve Talbott

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## ‘If we are still around’ in 2012, then we’ll address fund-raising

WHEN READING JOHN VENTRE’S article in the November 2010 edition of the *MUFON UFO Journal* (“State Director Shares His Tried-and-True Method for Raising Funds Through Local Conferences,” page 3), I was amused to find this statement at the very end of the article: “In 2012 we hope to be able to expand our scope to include a spring conference in ‘Eerie’ (Erie), Pennsylvania.”

Doesn’t John assert in his recent book (*12/21/2012: A Prophecy*, ad-

vertised in the same edition of the *Journal*) that the world—or at least civilization as we know it—is going to end in 2012? It sounds to me like John may be hedging his bets.

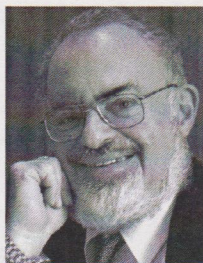
—Robert Cholette

*[Editor’s Note: John’s original text read “I plan to start having a Spring Conference in “Eerie (Erie), Pennsylvania, if we are all still around.” His qualifying phrase was edited out during copyfitting.]*

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## Arsenic and (the same) old story: Media fascination with aliens is misguided

By Stanton Friedman

THE WORD ALIEN has been bandied about by the media quite a bit during the past two months. Generally speaking, there was little attention paid to the notion of extraterrestrial alien visitation.

Instead, we heard about bacteria in Mono Lake, California, that supposedly are able to incorporate arsenic in place of phosphorous. This was news because previously it was thought that all living matter contained phosphorous, oxygen, sulfur, carbon, nitrogen and hydrogen. Arsenic, chemically similar to phosphorous, is poisonous to humans.

From the media hubbub, one would think that humans already had explored all possible niches for life. Could these bacteria have come from outer space? Some interpreted the find to mean that there were even more possibilities for life in outer space than had been anticipated. One might have supposed that by this time we would know that we haven't known everything there is to know about life here, no less out there.

### Try Googling 'Extremophile'

If one googles "extremophile" (form of life, usually bacteria, living in extreme environments), one gets more than 10,000 hits. We have known since at least the 1960s that we were wrong about the inability of life to exist in all sorts of unlikely places—such as environments with no sunlight, or with

temperatures that are too high or too low, environments under too much pressure, very salty, subjected to high amounts of radiation, etc. Life constantly surprises us. We are ignorant. Big names in science often jump to conclusions of impossibility.

Mono Lake already was known to be a peculiar place. Its water is very salty and alkaline, and it contains lots of impurities. It probably isn't surprising that levels of things like arsenic and phosphorous were different there than normal levels for those substances in most other environments.

### Bacteria Attack the *Titanic*

At about the same time there were stories about the new species of bacteria found to be slowly dissolving the metal of the *Titanic* lying deep under the Atlantic Ocean. There is speculation that learning more about these bacteria may help clean up the oceans, which are littered with shipwrecks. The bacteria dissolving the *Titanic* have been at work for almost 100 years, but we just now learned about it.

The word alien came up in a rather different context in stories about recent finding of another exoplanet in a multi-planet solar system roughly like our own. The planet supposedly is in the Goldilocks Zone, named because conditions there are "just right" for life—not too hot, not too cold, and there

is even an atmosphere! Sounds like a pitch for more funding to help find even more exoplanets.

The last number I've seen is 506 and climbing. Frankly, we know almost nothing about the surface conditions or history of the planet. In our own solar system Earth and Venus are about the same size and both have an atmosphere. But the atmospheres have very different compositions. The temperature on cloud-covered Venus is 600-plus degrees and the atmosphere contains sulfuric acid as well. Hardly a pleasant environment for intelligent air-breathing beings like us. There also has been mention that the Kepler space system, closely scanning more than 156,000 faint stars in a small area of the sky, is expected to be the home of hundreds of Earth-like planets.

### Extreme News Coverage

The arsenic and old mono caper got much more coverage than the earlier National Press Club conference featuring former military men describing how UFOs (some of which were almost certainly piloted by alien life) had shown a strong interest in ICBMs ready to be fired with nuclear weapons on board.

In the larger scheme of things one would think this might be of greater importance to humankind than bacteria thriving in an arsenic-rich environment. The same goes for the many reports of solid



observations by ranking individuals as reported in Leslie Kean's important book, *UFOs: Generals, Pilots, and Government Officials Go on the Record*.

The arsenic work by Felicia Wolfe Simon was published in *Science* journal. A teasing news embargo led some people to expect an astrobiological breakthrough announcement from NASA saying that life had been discovered on Mars or on one of the several planetary satellites in our solar system, or that a radio signal had been received from a nearby solar system. Some in the media undoubtedly were disappointed. What's the big deal about arsenic in bacteria?

## Scientists Upset

A number of scientists also were clearly upset. *Slate*, a daily Website magazine and a subsidiary of Washingtonpost Newsweek Interactive Corporation, on December 10 published a strong critique by Carl Zimmer with the provocative title: "This Paper Should Not Have Been Published." It included quotes from several dissidents pointing out that not enough attention had been paid to many details.

Zimmer had read a scathing blog by Rosie Redfield, a microbiology professor at the University of British Columbia, who was "outraged at how bad the science was." One of her conclusions in a letter to *Science* was that the paper "doesn't present any convincing evidence that arsenic has been incorporated into DNA or any other biological molecule." Zimmer interviewed a dozen experts who almost unanimously think that the NASA scientists have failed to make their case.

Another article, "Critics Raise Doubts on NASA's Arsenic Bac-

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*The temperature on Venus is 600-plus degrees, and the atmosphere contains sulphuric acid. Hardly a pleasant environment for intelligent air-breathing beings like us.*

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teria" by Lin Edwards, appeared December 9. One of the scientists quoted was Alex Bradley of Harvard University, who maintained on his blog that there are a number of problems with the research.

Another piece of news concerned the team of Andrew Howard and Geoffrey Marcy from the University of California at Berkeley, who began all the effort to detect planets in space, despite early opposition. It recently was reported that they have for five years been looking at data from more than 100 sun-like stars in our neighborhood. Much current discussion has focused on how hard it is to find small Earthlike rocky planets. As a general rule, the larger the planet the easier it is to find.

What Howard and Marcy discovered is that smaller planets are more abundant than larger ones. They estimate that about 23 percent of the planets in our neighborhood are Earthlike. This has led to the seemingly surprising conclusion that there could be more than a billion Earthlike rocky planets in our galaxy alone. Contrast this with radio astronomer and SETI special-

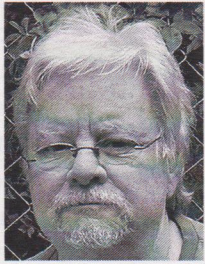
ist Frank Drake's recent comments estimating that there might be as "many" as 10,000 planets in the Milky Way on which there might be civilizations with the ability to send us radio signals using primitive communications technology like ours. These data also suggest that our notions of how planets are formed are not correct—which should come as no surprise at all.

## My Own Conclusions

My own conclusion is that there are civilizations all over the place, and it is not at all surprising that they have been visiting in large numbers once we demonstrated that we have learned the secrets of the nuclear processes (fusion) that power the stars. Our nuclear capabilities eventually could get us out in space to bother other planets, but we obviously haven't learned to use our technology for the benefit of humankind.

I also have concluded that all civilizations would be concerned about finding possible refuges in case of bad things happening at home, and they would have developed technology for colonization and migration. Even a *Titanic* needs life boats. The newest multiplanet solar system discovery also noted something akin to an asteroid belt. This would suggest the possibility of a massive collision from one. This would necessitate plans for moving out. The dinosaurs didn't survive such a collision.

I don't expect to live long enough to see future historians marveling at how the scientific "alien" life community could work so hard for so long at remaining so ignorant about the enormous amount of information indicating the reality of intelligent alien visitations. ■



*outside the box*

## Things that go bump in the Woods: The Charley Chronicles continue

By Ted Phillips

A FEW WEEKS AGO one of the property owners I've been writing about at Marley Woods was walking after dark to feed the dogs. She had a strong sensation of being watched by someone or something very close. She stopped and was turning when something brushed by her right side, hitting her hard enough to move her slightly to the left. She could see nothing before, during, or after. She isn't easily frightened nor afraid of the dark.

Five days later, after being away for a short time, the property owners returned to the farm and found all the dogs barking loudly. Charley and his chain were gone, but he was found in the pen with the two blind calves. He was loose but very agitated. The gate was chained as the owners had left it, and batteries were dead on all three remote cameras.

This was the first known activity in the area in five days. I set up a CCD unit by the remote camera facing east in hopes of getting some video of whatever was going on. In the afternoon, Charley was found loose three times in 30 minutes. The owner tried to keep an eye on Charley as much as possible as she did chores about 30 feet away. Whenever the other dogs began barking, the owner would look and find Charley already loose. She saw nothing else in the area.

The owner called early the next morning. The dogs had been barking,

and she'd found Charley unchained in the cattle pen. She returned Charley to his original location.

A short time later Charley left Marley Woods with a new owner to live on a remote ranch where he can run and herd sheep. Cameras remain active at Charley's former home, and I have hundreds of images to go through to check for any activity that didn't follow Charley.

Later the owner of the Marley Woods property called to tell me that around 9 p.m. she noticed from the house that the barn light was on. Her husband, who had been sleeping, got up and they went to the barn. The flip switch to the light was in the on position. Could this be the start of a new phase of eerie activity without Charley?

### Other Weird Events

The caretaker at one of the ranches told me of an event involving strange figures. He was sitting on a large rock resting one evening when he heard sounds like "fuzzy voices" approaching on the path. He then saw several very tall, thin figures in dark robes with hoods walking toward him. He described their faces as "wolf-like," and he said that they were smoking cigarettes. They passed by 5 feet away and didn't seem to notice him.

One of the ranch owners called my attention to a recent police report in a small local newspaper. A woman operates a foster home on a

farm in a remote area. The property owner and I called and talked with the woman for more than 30 minutes. She told us that the children were playing with a basketball in the fenced yard behind the house. A tall, very thin figure "floated over" the back fence by the woods. It was wearing a black robe with a hood. It approached one boy and took the basketball from his hands. It then turned and moved with a "smooth motion" toward the six-foot-high fence. When the children began screaming, the woman ran outside with her shotgun. She saw the figure gently "float" over the fence as she fired two shots. It did not react to the gunfire and moved slowly off into the woods. It dropped the basketball before entering the timber.

For many years another Marley Woods rancher, now deceased, talked about seeing large circular lights and amber lights in the air and on the ground. His friends and family thought he was crazy when he told them about these events. His property has been the site of some of the strangest events in the area.

A number of years ago during a blizzard his wife called a friend to ask for help. The woman said her husband had suddenly stood up and walked out of the house into the storm. The friend and his father drove over the entire ranch several times but found no trace of the missing man. They were ready to give up the search when they spotted the

man. He was standing in deep snow with one shoe missing, his trousers torn, and wearing no shirt. He was covered with blood from his face to his waist, and seemed dazed. The men pulled him into their vehicle, and on the drive to his house they asked him why he went out in the freezing weather. He replied, "They were there, and I had to go to them."

He refused to talk more to friends and family about his experience, and I learned details of his story from the two men who rescued him.

## A Light Fantastic

For more than an hour on November 4, nine observers watched a brilliant orange-white mass of light 600 feet east of my cabin office. It clearly appeared to be coming from a large device on the ground. I managed to get two good photographs with a 35mm camera using a 300mm telephoto lens. The photographs show the extremely bright central light at one side of a domed-shaped device. The dome displayed numerous orange oval lights over the surface. Tree limbs are seen between the camera and object. This was the first known sighting of this or any similar object.

On November 18, the object appeared again. It was on the ground at the same location. This time it was seen by five observers. The light would shine brightly for one to four minutes, then stop. This off- and-on event continued for one hour and 40 minutes.

On the evening of December 12, I was sitting on the observatory deck with the property owner and a team member when we spotted a faint light to the south. It quickly brightened and enlarged, then faded. It was in the same location

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*A caretaker saw several very tall, thin figures in dark robes with hoods walking toward him. He described their faces as "wolf-like," and he said that they were smoking cigarettes.*

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as the earlier displays. I started the camcorder and recorded the object, which obviously was on the ground. The video allowed me later in daylight to recreate the exact position.

As we watched and recorded several minutes of video going from wide field to telephoto focusing manually, the object continued to brighten and fade in no clear pattern. The object was directly above the east edge of the side door on the caretaker's trailer, which made locating the light quite easy.

As the display continued the property owner watched through binoculars and could see several small lights on or around the object. He saw it move slightly to the west twice, but it always returned to its original position.

We climbed into one of our vehicles with camera equipment and tried to get closer. We started driving along the gravel road heading east and south, eventually turning onto a narrow dirt-and-gravel single-lane road that took us to two abandoned houses, then ended abruptly. We retraced our path back to the first north-bound lane, which

ends at another ranch in the Marley Woods area.

We stopped our vehicle, leaving the lights on. The property owner had remained at the observatory, and he called on his cell phone to tell us that he could see our lights. He said the object still was visible and was moving along the ground toward our location. We moved toward it from the west. Then the property owner reported the object had stopped and was returning to its original location.

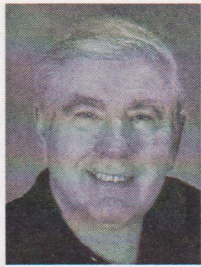
We couldn't see the object at all. Its lights appeared to be directional, and in order to see the light a person had to be directly in front of the object. We returned to the observatory to watch the object from there for a total of one hour and 20 minutes.

## Location Under Surveillance

The next day I checked the video and captured still frames showing the light's position relative to the trailer. (It was behind and above the trailer). Placing the still frame over a frame of the same area taken in the daylight indicated that the light had been at the top of a hill 0.8 miles from the camera.

Its bearing allowed us to go straight to the location. There were no indications of electromagnetic effects, radiation, or any physical traces. There are no roads around or into the site. The trees behind the location are so dense one couldn't get even a motorcycle through them. There was no sound during any of the observations.

Four CCD units are now watching the area 24 hours a day, seven days a week where the light mass occurred. I also sometimes have a long focal-length telescope with an astronomical CCD on the area. ■



## *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.]*

### **Woman reports an alien living in New Jersey wooded area since 2005**

Collings Lakes, New Jersey—I didn't see a UFO but an actual being that I believe to be an alien. This occurred at 1:25 a.m. on September 22, 2005. I only saw it for a couple of seconds from about 15 feet away. This creature shuffled from one side of my house to my garage, then back into the woods. At one point, it turned to look at me, and it appeared very similar to the so-called gray aliens. The creature was short, and had a very wrinkled forehead. Its eyes were black, showing very small whites. Its head was large, with a small nose that seemed somewhat flared. A cloak or hooded robe covered most of the creature's body, and he made a quiet sound.

When I told my brother, he said he had seen the same creature, "a little weird dude with a hood" out back. We speculated that he might have been trying to eat from the trash. We do not think this creature left the area because we continue to hear loud noises outside. (WWW.UFOCENTER.ORG)

### **Flying 'telephone pole' seen over Pennsylvania**

Bellefonte, Pennsylvania—A witness reported seeing a tubular-shaped object at 10:30 a.m. on September 30. The witness said that that the object looked like a flying black telephone pole, and that it also was similar in size to a telephone pole. The tubular object was flying near the airport and appeared to be headed toward New York. There were several low-flying airplanes close to it. A number of witnesses reported this unidentified object to the local authorities. Airport personnel confirmed that something was in the air, but they did not appear to be concerned. Later a similar-looking object appeared again. (WWW.UFOCENTER.ORG)

### **Georgia friends watch arrowhead-shaped UFO chased by aircraft**

Collins, Georgia—About 8:40 p.m. on October 18, my fiancé and a friend were cruising dirt roads. I pointed out some activity in the sky, which we joked was a UFO. Then we noticed military aircraft were pursuing a vague object that appeared seamless against the sky. My friend stopped her car and we got out because the object was about to pass under the moon's light.

We watched it become more

visible the closer it came. We were dumbfounded by witnessing a black UFO with the shape of an arrowhead. The bottom had three lights, one at each point. The lights mimicked the original shape of the object.

We got back in our car at 9:05 p.m. My fiancé tried to use his phone, but there was no service. I felt ill and fatigued, and my face felt like it had been doused with boiling water. My companions said they felt the same way.

After the UFO left, we saw a bull and horses in the field where the UFO had been. They were huddled together like a group of scared children. We decided to follow the UFO. It soon disappeared behind a very thin cloud with aircraft pursuing and circling the cloud-like UFO. Then a bright orange light appeared through the cloud, and the UFO became visible once more as it sped past the aircraft, passed near the moon's light, and began a slow diagonal ascension.

While still following the craft, we turned back onto the main highway outside of Collins as the UFO disappeared. A lot of aircraft, probably military, began swarming over the area.

Later we all felt as though we had been beaten, and our friend called saying to tell us that her new car was acting up. None of us ate for 24 hours, and our skin felt burned—we assume this is a similar feeling to radiation poisoning. (WWW.UFOSNW.COM)

## Newspaper dubs north of England 'top hotspot for UFO sightings'

Scarborough, England—An unidentified flying object with strange strings hanging down was observed in the skies over the north of England on November 7. This led the *Scarborough Sun* to crown the region the world's top hotspot for UFO sightings. The newspaper quoted UFO expert Nick Pope: "At the moment the North of England seems to be having more than its fair share of UFO activity."

## Missouri resident sees boomerang triangle

Independence, Missouri—On October 21 when I was outside looking for wood, I happened to glance up and saw three white lights in the sky right below Jupiter. I could see the outline of a boomerang triangle object with the lights on each corner flying south. At first, I figured it was a Stealth Bomber based in Missouri, but it was much bigger. This object was at least 100 feet from tip to tip. It was flying at an altitude of 10,000 feet moving slowly to the south. I ran to get my girlfriend, but by the time I returned it was moving over the horizon. I have worked for the airlines for nine years, and this was definitely not an airplane. (MUFON CMS)

## Gold 'sparkler' seen high in the Australian sky

Malua Bay, New South Wales, Australia—On November 25 I was having a cigarette when I saw a very large gold sparkler effect above my head just left of the saucepan (Big Dipper) moving north. I watched it go out of sight over my next door neighbors' rooftop. It was round with a very small tail. Gold-colored, shiny, and bright, it was about the size of a nickel. It moved very fast, was silent, and disappeared above my neighbors' rooftop. It was five times larger than the biggest star and flying high in the sky. It appeared to be about three-quarters the size of Cessna light aircraft. I would say it was above the earth's atmosphere. I saw it go over my head and travel some distance in about three seconds before it disappeared. (WWW.UFOINFO.COM)

## Colored lights observed over South Africa

Johannesburg, South Africa—At 8:45 p.m. on November 4, my wife and I saw a red light hovering in the sky. After a few minutes, we saw another five lights in the sky. Some were moving up and down, and others side to side. Then a big yellow light flew toward the red lights. They flew around for around 20 minutes before they disappeared from view. (WWW.UFOCENTER.COM)

## Oregon resident attempts to film blinking red lights seen moving in the sky

Coos Bay, Oregon—At 5:45 p.m. on December 3, I was sitting on my back porch when I noticed what is known as a chemtrail. There was weird blinking light below it, and some kind of object that appeared to be rising slowly. I filmed it with my camera for about two minutes. I had just decided to go back inside when two red lights came at super speed from the south toward the blinking light and object. I turned the camera back on and began filming again. About five seconds after the two red lights approached the object, the bottom red light started flying toward me and went right over my house. It was circular in shape with about 70 red lights moving in a circular motion on the bottom of the craft. This object made a 180-degree turn and headed back the way it came.

I immediately ran inside to see the video, but the film with the red lights had been erased. Other film in the camera was still there. I was really irritated that it was erased. I checked the photos I had taken first with my cell phone, but they also had disappeared. When the craft went by, I noticed a really odd, almost bitter, smell. I have never smelled anything like it before. The smell only lasted about 10 seconds. (MUFON CMS) ■

# I quickly was growing quite uncomfortable...

*Continued from page 1*

reports, stars, and weather—so I now used this extra time to research the geographical area and surrounding areas, and I tried to locate information on possible other reports.

## What Initial Research Showed

This is what I found:

The county lies in both the Mississippi and Tennessee basin. This is a portion of land that has been drained by rivers. The area is estimated to be approximately 520 miles.

Rough terrain and hills are close to the property.

Several significant lakes and ponds surround the area.

The area under soil is consistent with unconsolidated sands and clays of green sand and shell bed formation of cretaceous and orange sand. Fossil shell and mica are also present. Iron is located very near the top soil in bluff loam.

Ley lines (alleged alignments of ancient sites or holy places) are reportedly located at Old Stone Fort in Manchester County and the Pinson Mounds in Madison County. Both are federal archeological parks in Tennessee. The Pinson mounds are considered sacred by Native Americans and were most likely built in the first century. The complex includes 17 mounds and is the largest in the United States.

There are 3 military bases within 100 miles of the event zone.

Satellite imaging showed thousands of acres of farmland used for crops and raising cattle.

I searched for significant data

or similar reports. Although I found several interesting urban legends, there were no historical accounts of UFOs in the area.

I called the county sheriff's office, local newspaper and the airport to check on local reports that may have been documented or to see if any other information was available. There was none.

Meanwhile Max was getting updates and was concerned about my planned trip alone to a rural area. He assigned Alyson Burgess as a secondary investigator to ride with me.

## An Anxious Witness

My witness was becoming increasingly anxious. He told me that he and his cousin went out to the area every night looking for UFOs and had begun chasing the lights. I talked him into trying to take pictures of what he was seeing, and I urged him not to be too aggressive in his actions. At this point, I was concerned about his safety on these country roads late at night chasing things we know nothing about.

On May 4, my witness told me about a new object in the sky. He reported seeing one of "those lights" coming closer and as it did, he saw two more objects right behind it. When I asked if he could provide more details, he remained quiet for a moment and then asked if I could just get out there.

Two days later, at approximately 4 p.m., he called very excited and said that there were now a couple of helicopters around the area. He had

never before seen helicopters fly over his property. He said that they flew over his fields like "they were looking for something." Then he said that the night before the three lights came back and flew over his house, just like ". . .you know, the triangle."

## Out the Door in 30 Minutes

In 30 minutes, I had my "go bag" and was out the door. On the way to pick up Alyson, I did consider, how incredible these reports were. Why so many different objects? Why fireballs glowing orange in the sky and woods? What are the clustering lights that display a variety of colors? And now what's going on with triangles and helicopters?

For two and half weeks I've maintained contact with the witness and already have conducted two thorough interviews. I couldn't get around how credible he seemed. He is a professional businessman with a high profile in the community who has lived in the area all of his life. He built his home one mile from where he grew up. I was intensely sympathetic to how desperately he didn't want his family, location or his name to ever be made public in connection with the sightings. This witness had absolutely nothing to gain and everything to lose. He clearly was not looking for publicity or monetary reward.

I knew that I was making the trip to help explain these unusual experiences and find sensible evidence that will allow this man to return to his otherwise normal life.

# Thirty seconds later I felt a complete fear

We arrived approximately 7:15 p.m., and within 10 minutes of pulling into the witness's driveway, he escorted us to the backyard where he pointed to an area in the sky. Then he said, "There's one now."

I looked and did indeed see a light in the sky. As I watched, waiting to see and point out standard aviation lighting, several more lights appeared. Before I had a chance to see any aviation lights, the witness suggested that we would have a better view from the cornfield down the road.

The three of us piled into a big, four-wheel-drive truck and headed toward 100 acres of newly planted corn. The corn plants have grown only four to six inches high. We went to the middle of the field for a panoramic view.

## An Arsenal of Equipment

Upon our arrival at the cornfield, I started to set up my equipment—cameras, tri-field meter, magnetometer, flashlight, binoculars, laser-dot thermometer, and several other pieces of equipment, including my triple-threat digital recorder that also records lower frequencies and white noise.

Almost immediately we started to witness lights in different colors and different locations in the sky. At one point we could turn in any direction and see the lights. We then spotted a "set" of lights that appeared to be coming closer. We all grabbed our cameras and soon found that all four of our cameras—different makes and models—were

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*I was asked to write about this case for the Journal, and I do sincerely understand the importance of telling the story. To this day, however, I struggle with the reality of exactly what I saw. I absolutely will identify it right here. It was real.*

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not working. I started for my other equipment so that I could record readings and I found that nothing was working!

The craft came closer and we easily could see three white lights in a large triangle shape with a red light in the center. A clear outline was visible. The object was completely silent and never changed direction or speed and it flew directly over our heads.

I couldn't believe my eyes. I honestly never expected to see anything, especially this. I felt overwhelmed and stunned. We continued to watch until the object moved out of sight.

There was no hiding my excitement, and I quickly turned my attention back to the equipment that failed. I knew we had just experienced a common occurrence, battery drain, but everything now was back on-line and working. I was extremely puzzled.

As I started to take the battery case off of my tri-field meter to check it, I started to feel very uneasy. I quickly was growing quite uncomfortable. I turned and asked,

"Does anyone else feel like we are being watched? And I don't mean from up there....but observed from here."

Thirty seconds later I felt a complete fear that I have never known capture every cell of my body. It was almost a "blind terror." We all seemed to turn to run at the same time. The witness was about four feet ahead of me carrying a large flashlight. As we turned to run, his light swung around his body and in the beam of light we saw something.

## A Small Being

The witness blurted out, "What the (expletive deleted) was that?" Then he turned the flashlight back to the spot. Standing there about six feet away from us was a being about three-and-a-half feet tall. For one second—one, one-thousand, two. . . . It was only one little tick on a clock, but we all saw it!

Then we were running in full panic mode! All three of us made it to the truck, got in, and left that cornfield so fast that we caught air

*Continued on page 16*

## Now the *witness* had an unbiased witness

*Continued from page 15*

several times on the dirt path to the road. No one spoke.

We reached the driveway of the witness's home and, after getting out of the truck, we all just looked at each other for a moment. No one knew what to say.

Finally someone spoke and we all just kind of started laughing a bit. I felt completely crazy! That lasted just a minute and then there was quiet again.

Alyson began dialing her phone, and I looked up at the witness. He appeared very shaken. I asked him if he was OK, and he replied, "Chase what was that?"

I just looked at him a moment not quite sure what to say. Then he asked me, "You saw it, right?" I answered yes. He asked again, "What was that thing Chase?"

By this time I'm beginning to regain some of my sense. I didn't want to lead the witness, I preferred to hear his description before adding my own impression. I just said, "It was real."

### Struggling with Emotions

The witness was seriously struggling with his emotions. He bent down, then looked up at me and said, "I'm not crazy, right? Thank you for coming.... You just don't know.... You saw it, right? What does it want?"

As he regained composure, I realized that Alyson and I were the strangers. We were the professionals who had no reason to just go along with what he said was happening. Now the *witness* had an

unbiased witness. Normal, rational thinking was coming back to me quickly now. The terror I had experienced was completely gone. I was thinking that we had to get back to that field as soon as possible. Thirty minutes after what might have appeared to anyone watching to be our comic retreat, we were back in that cornfield.

Alyson and I were back in investigator mode, so we decided to back the vehicle into a wood line to conceal our presence. We hoped to pick up additional activity. Alyson soon pointed out a yellowish light in the woods that ascended through the trees and hovered just above the them. As this light moved, its flight tended to have a wobble effect. It soon was gone out of sight.

It ended up being a long night, and one that stays with me in many ways. There are many other small details, and we even made several more visits that yielded nothing after that evening. But the objects that we witnessed and the fear that we felt that first night, not only was surreal but quite frankly unbelievable.

We witnessed what many others had seen in that area. We felt the same kind of excitement and anxiety that I heard many times from the witness during his telephone calls. But that one second ... it never leaves!

It is one second that completely changed so much for me. One second of time that to this day continues to haunt me!

It's true that you can't "unsee" things. My mind always retraces the two thoughts that immediately struck me. The first was that the being's eyes were unlike anything that I've heard reported in the past—not even close. They were not large black almond-shaped eyes at all. I also was shocked at the size of the being's legs. They were very thin and twig-like. I honestly remember thinking....they're so thin. How do they hold his body?

### A Better Investigator

I believe that this experience has made me a better investigator for many reasons. What started as a category 1 case very quickly turned into a category 3. What easily could have been dismissed as "lights in the sky" turned into a very real case that will require much attention to properly investigate.

Initially, I told fewer than a handful of people about this experience. I was asked to present the case at our state conference, but I rarely speak of it now.

I was asked to write about this case for the *Journal*, and I do sincerely understand the importance of telling the story. To this day, however, I struggle with the reality of exactly what I saw. I will absolutely identify it right here, it was real. I am still amazed with the changes that happened because of that one second in my life. ■

*Chase Kloetzke is Deputy Director of Investigations and Star Team Manager.*



# CMS rankings

CONGRATULATIONS to Donald Burleson (New Mexico), Cheryl Ann Gilmore (South Carolina), Steve Hudgeons (Texas), Jimi Hughes (Montana), Lorna Hunter (Minnesota and South Dakota), William Jones (Ohio), William Konkolesky (Michigan), Dominic Mancini (Arizona), David MacDonald (Kentucky), Eddie Middleton (Tennessee), Brent Mitchel (Alaska), Bland Pugh (Florida), Steve Winans (Kansas), and Debbie Ziegelmeier (Missouri) for being at 100 percent in December's Case Management System (CMS) rankings! The top state directors are highlighted on the chart at right.

For help with investigations please contact MUFON International's Director of Investigations, Marie Malzahn, at [mcmalzahn@gmail.com](mailto:mcmalzahn@gmail.com).

## 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.

	State	Director	Weighted Rank (50/50)	Assigned	Completed
1	New Mexico	Donald Burleson	100 percent	29/29	31/31
2	Michigan	William Konkolesky	100 percent	131/131	118/118
3	Tennessee	Eddie Middleton	100 percent	64/64	52/52
4	Kansas	Steve Winans	100 percent	35/35	18/18
5	Texas	Steve Hudgeons	100 percent	186/186	170/170
6	Ohio	William Jones	100 percent	99/99	94/94
7	Missouri	Debbie Ziegelmeier	100 percent	92/92	80/80
8	Minnesota	Lorna Hunter	100 percent	31/31	29/29
9	Kentucky	David MacDonald	100 percent	40/40	35/35
10	South Carolina	Cheryl Ann Gilmore	100 percent	19/19	22/22
11	South Dakota	Lorna Hunter	100 percent	3/3	3/3
12	Montana	Jimi Hughes	100 percent	12/12	17/17
13	Arizona	Dominic Mancini	100 percent	93/93	117/117
14	Florida	Bland Pugh	100 percent	142/142	142/142
15	Alaska	Brent Mitchel	100 percent	7/7	6/9
16	Indiana	Jerry Sievers	99 percent	128/129	104/104
17	Pennsylvania	John Ventre	99 percent	118/119	138/138
18	Georgia	Ralph Howard	98 percent	75/77	64/64
19	Oklahoma	Marilyn Carlson	98 percent	38/39	25/25
20	New Jersey	George Filer	98 percent	57/57	38/39
21	Oregon	Thomas Bowden	98 percent	77/77	64/66
22	West Virginia	John Ventre	96 percent	13/14	13/13
23	Utah	Elaine Douglass	96 percent	24/24	27/29
24	Iowa	Jim King	96 percent	24/26	22/22
25	Washington	James Clarkson	87 percent	63/80	65/68
26	Colorado	Leslie Varnicle	87 percent	64/65	47/62
27	California	Georgeanne Cifarelli	87 percent	161/168	149/187
28	Nebraska	John Kasher	85 percent	19/24	23/25
29	Maryland	Donald Borton	82 percent	31/34	20/27
30	California (Area 1)	Ruben Uriarte	81 percent	89/140	131/132
31	New Hampshire	Steve Firmani	78 percent	11/16	16/18
32	Delaware	John Ventre	75 percent	1/2	3/3
33	Maine	Steve Firmani	75 percent	13/16	12/17
34	Rhode Island	Steve Firmani	68 percent	3/8	12/12
35	District of Columbia	Don Borton	66 percent	1/3	1/1
36	Connecticut	Steve Firmani	65 percent	12/28	16/18
37	Alabama	Roy Patterson	61 percent	10/32	25/27
38	Vermont	Steve Firmani	61 percent	2/6	9/10
39	Massachusetts	Steve Firmani	59 percent	17/38	29/39
40	Virginia	Susan Swiatek	59 percent	32/41	13/32
41	North Dakota	Lawrence Gessner	54 percent	1/3	3/4
42	Hawaii	Lorna Hunter	54 percent	5/6	1/4
43	Louisiana	Vivian Walker	54 percent	37/43	5/21
44	Wyoming	Richard Beckwith	45 percent	4/6	1/4
45	New York	Samuel Falvo	42 percent	41/94	37/90
46	Illinois	Samuel Maranto	40 percent	38/112	44/92
47	Arkansas	Norman Walker	32 percent	6/25	12/30
48	Mississippi	Norman Walker	31 percent	2/8	3/8
49	Nevada	Ellen Bullock	9 percent	1/25	5/33
50	Wisconsin	Nathan Tomisich	6 percent	0/26	5/39

## Mact Con to track increased UFO sightings

BECAUSE OF A MARKED INCREASE in the reported sightings and experiences that regularly are being entered into MUFON's Case Management System (CMS), MUFON's Star Team Project has begun actively tracking and targeting specific areas where cluster sightings have been reported and parts of the United States that show vigorous activity.

MUFON is hopeful that this will benefit efforts to recognize possible flaps and strengthen deployment efforts. Monthly MUFON Activity Condition (Mact Con) reports soon will begin running in the *Journal* and also will appear on MUFON's Web site.

For Mact Con classification purposes, the United States will be divided into eight geographic regions, and reports from each region will be tracked individually. Using information gleaned from CMS, MUFON has been able to determine a "normal" number of sighting reports for each region. An increase in sightings in a given area over a short period of time will constitute a change in alerts.

Mact Con category 1 is used for normal activity, category 2 identifies increased activity, and category 3 is an alert warning of a possible flap or multiple events. When an area is classified as category 2 or category 3, all state directors involved will

be notified immediately. Each Mact Con region will have a Star Team leader who will actively track data and start research. The team leader will notify the Director of Investigations and the Star Team Manager if deployment is deemed necessary.

Systematic reports and the historical data base used in MUFON investigations add value to CMS reports. Investigators receiving reports that have not already been entered into CMS now are required to enter each report before beginning to conduct an investigation. This will ensure that CMS data is current and that each investigation receives proper attention.

—Chase Kloetzke ■

### up for review

## *Secret History* author appears bright but gullible

*Continued from page 5*

technology for nearly a century, according to the author. It's a wonder that they managed to lose two major wars, especially since Kasten indicates they had established a base on the dark side of the moon in 1942.

That mystery was partially solved when the author explained that both the Axis powers and the Allies had alien backers during World War II, and that the humans were just proxies for these warring aliens. The Nazis, by the way, currently have a secret base in Antarctica, according to Kasten.

The Mayan calendar and 2012 could not be ignored, of course, and the author goes through numerous

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*An entire chapter is based on a source known as Anonymous, which is perhaps an improvement over some of the named sources.*

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mathematical manipulations in an unimpressive attempt to show a relationship between 2012 and Roswell.

I am not making this up: An entire chapter is based on a source known as Anonymous, which is perhaps

an improvement over some of the named sources used by the author.

There is more—much more—such as a glass city on Mars, an Iraqi Stargate, and development of the B-2 bomber.

Although this book falls short of being a reliable primer, it is well written and interesting, as Jules Verne and Erich Von Daniken are interesting. The author actually appears to be very intelligent but quite gullible—not a rarity in the UFO field. ■

*Dwight Connelly is author of The World's Best UFO Cases and former Editor of the Journal.*

## UFO abduction researcher Robert LeLievre dies

MUFON LOST A VALUED MEMBER and friend with the death of Dr. Robert LeLievre from pulmonary complications on December 10.

LeLievre was a professor of psychology and a distinguished faculty member of the University of Great Falls in Montana. His notable career included stints teaching at Bradley University in Illinois, Purdue University in Indiana, Goddard College in Vermont, and Stone Child College in Montana.

He was Associate Dean of the College of Professional Studies at University of San Francisco, and a visiting faculty member at the National University of Malaysia and at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. He served as senior clinical psychologist at St. Brigids County Hospital in Louth, Ireland, and he held clinical positions at the Golden Triangle Community Health Center in Havre, Montana, and the Kennebec Valley Mental Health Center in Waterville, Maine.

A member of MUFON, Robert had a keen interest in UFOs. He garnered national attention with his research to determine if abductees share common personality traits. His research replicated the findings of the 1990 study by Kenneth Ring and C.J. Rosing indicating that not only are abductees no more fantasy-prone than the general population, but they also show no signs of mental illness or personality disorder. Abductees studied did, however, show sensitivity to alternative realities, along with early and recurrent

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*LeLievre's research replicated findings that abductees are no more fantasy-prone than the general population.*

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paranormal experiences.

"Robert was a kind, generous and caring member of MUFON, committed to helping others," said MUFON International Director Clifford Clift.

"He felt the pain many abductees suffer," Clift said. "Robert wanted to find a way to help abductees through their ordeal. To that end, he and Les Velez started MUFON's abduction committee's scientific study of abductees.

"Robert was a very valued and integral part of MUFON's research program with abductees. He was instrumental in developing a four-part program to address abductee's experiences. The first part of Robert's program included a personality study of people who believed they were abducted. The study incorporated a control group of people who didn't believe they had been abducted." The result of Robert's study of abductees was the Omega 3 paper he presented at MUFON's Symposium in 2010.

"Robert will be missed," said Clift. "Our heartfelt condolences go out to his loved ones." —J.C. ■

## First spaceport is located in New Mexico

*Continued from page 4*

vehicle. Orbital Sciences, too, has announced a spaceplane entry for CCDev round two.

Branson had planned to partner with one of the companies but decided instead to join both teams.

### The World's First Spaceport

Interestingly, Virgin Galactic is the anchor tenant at Spaceport America, the world's first facility built to provide launch services for space-bound commercial customers and passengers. The launch facility, near Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, has been providing launch services since 2006 and will be fully operational in 2011. Other tenants include such aerospace firms as Lockheed Martin, Moog-FTS, Armadillo Aerospace, and UP Aerospace.

Another player in the space taxi race is Space Exploration Technologies, also known as SpaceX. The company was created by Elon Musk, 39, who started up Internet companies, including PayPal, which he sold to eBay in 2002 for \$1.5-billion. That same year Musk started Space Exploration Technologies.

The company's factory will be familiar to anyone who has seen *Ironman II*. Director Jon Favreau, who based his version of the superhero on Musk, used the location as the setting for the opening scene. ■



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Do you know someone in the MUFON organization  
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Contact Patti Wolff  
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## calendar

**February 19**—Phoenix  
MUFON presents Clifford Clift, international director, speaking about MUFON's mission, resources, and Case Management System. He will speak at 2 p.m. at Vision Quest Bookstore in Scottsdale, Arizona.  
[phoenixmufon.com](http://phoenixmufon.com)

**March 19**—Niara Isley will speak about MILABS, ETs, and inquiry into the nature of reality. Join Phoenix MUFON at 2 p.m. at Vision Quest Bookstore in Scottsdale, Arizona.  
[phoenixmufon.com](http://phoenixmufon.com) ■

## list your calendar event

Submit MUFON-related events by the 15th of the month preceding the event to [editor@mufon.com](mailto:editor@mufon.com). Items are limited to six lines. They will be published as space is available.

## director's message

# MUFON announces new Investigations appointments

*Continued from page 2*

investigate problems between state directors, members, and MUFON, and to resolve any issues. Tom has been a real asset to MUFON, and he, too, will be missed.

On a brighter note, Marie Malzahn has agreed to take over the position of Director of Investigations and liaison with state directors and MUFON. Marie is extremely qualified for this position. She also possesses the ability to communicate and work with people in order to solve problems. MUFON is fortunate to have Marie as Director of Investigations.

Dominic Mancini has accepted the position of Deputy Director of Investigations for the Native American Reservations. Dominic has a close relationship with the Native

Americans in the Southwestern part of the United States. This is an important position because MUFON receives many exciting sightings from the Reservations. We are very pleased to have Dominic serving as MUFON's representative.

As we move into 2011, I believe all of our volunteers and members will continue to work to make MUFON a household name. Although this will take time, money, and effort from all of us, I'm hopeful that we are up for the task. I know all of MUFON's members share my enthusiasm and excitement about the future. Together we look forward to the challenge of making MUFON a first-class organization. Let's show the world the greatness of MUFON. ■



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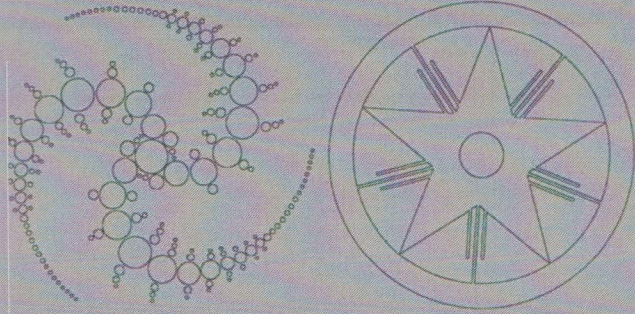
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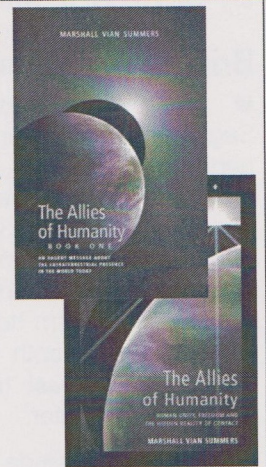
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## the night sky

By Gavin A. J. McLeod

### Bright Planets (evening sky)

■ **Mars** (magnitude 1.0): From Sagittarius into Capricornus. In the northern hemisphere, Mars will begin the month low above the southwest horizon and will set 30 minutes later. Mars will descend into the glare of the Sun just past mid-month.

In the southern hemisphere, Mars will begin the month very low above the west-southwest horizon and will set 30 minutes later.

■ **Jupiter** (magnitude -2.3 to -2.1): In Pisces. In the northern hemisphere, Jupiter will begin the month very high above the southern horizon at sunset and will set below the western horizon 6½ hours later. By month's end Jupiter will be very high above the southwest horizon and will set below the western horizon 4 hours later.

In the southern hemisphere, Jupiter will begin the month very high above the northwest horizon at sunset. It will set below the western horizon 3½ hours later. At month's end, Jupiter will be standing above the west-northwest horizon at sunset and will set below the western horizon 2 hours later.

### Bright Planets (morning sky)

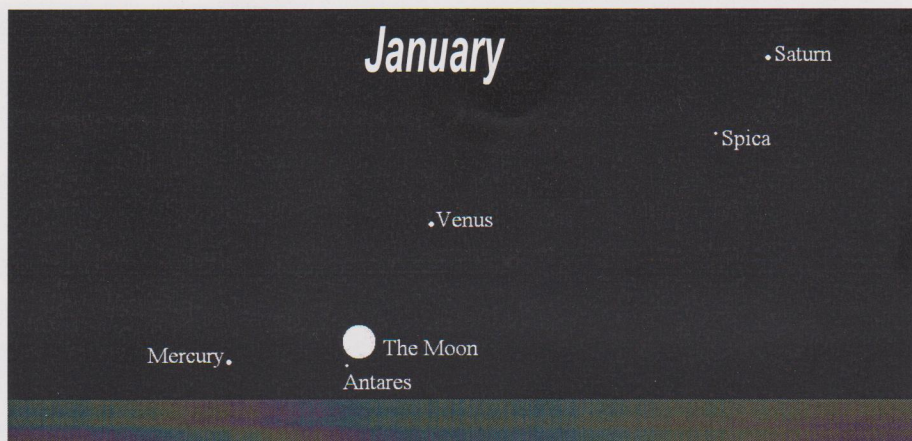
■ **Mercury** (magnitude 0.1 to -0.4): From Ophiuchus into Sagittarius. In the northern hemisphere, Mercury will begin the month rising above the east-

### moon phases

**new moon:** January 4  
**first quarter:** January 12  
**full moon:** January 19  
**last quarter:** January 26

### conjunctions & occultations

**January 2:** Mercury 3 degrees north of the Moon  
**January 4:** Mars 2 degrees south of the Moon  
**January 10:** Jupiter 4 degrees south of the Moon



*Observers who look to the southeast just before sunrise on January 1 will see the Moon, Venus, Mercury, and Saturn together in the morning sky.*

southeast horizon about 1½ hours before sunrise and will be standing low over the southeast horizon at sunrise. By month's end, Mercury will be rising above the east-southeast horizon about 30 minutes before sunrise and will be very low above the southeast horizon at sunrise.

In the southern hemisphere, Mercury will begin the month rising above the southeast horizon 1 hour before sunrise and will be standing low above the east-southeast horizon at sunrise. By month's end, Mercury will be rising above the southeast horizon about 1½ hours before sunrise and will be above the east-southeast horizon at sunrise.

■ **Venus** (magnitude -4.5 to -4.3): From Libra through Scorpius into Ophiuchus.

In the northern hemisphere, Venus will begin the month rising above the east-southeast horizon 4 hours before sunrise and will be high above the south-southeast horizon at sunrise. By month's end Venus will rise above the east-southeast horizon 3 hours before sunrise and will be above the south-southeast horizon at sunrise.

In the southern hemisphere, Venus will begin the month rising above the east-southeast horizon 2½ hours before sunrise and will be high above the eastern horizon at sunrise. At month's end Venus will be rising above the southeast horizon 3½ hours before sunrise and will be very high above the eastern horizon at sunrise.

■ **Saturn** (magnitude 1.0 to 0.6): In Virgo. In the northern hemisphere Saturn will begin the month rising above

the eastern horizon 7 hours before sunrise and will be very high above the south-southwest horizon at sunrise. By month's end, Saturn will be rising above the eastern horizon 8½ hours before sunrise and will be high above the southwest horizon at sunrise.

In the southern hemisphere, Saturn will begin the month rising above the eastern horizon 4 hours before sunrise and will be high above the northeast horizon at sunrise. At month's end, Saturn will be rising above the western horizon 6¾ hours before sunrise and will be very high above the north-northwest horizon at sunrise. ■