

Bigfoot Field Guide Magazine

July 2020

Volume 2 Issue 7

**What is Woo? And why does it hurt
Bigfoot Research.**



**Let's Talk Bigfoot! New Series of Articles
by Randy "Rebelistic" Savig**

**Starting your own Bigfoot Research
Group Pt. 3**

The GCBRC Footage

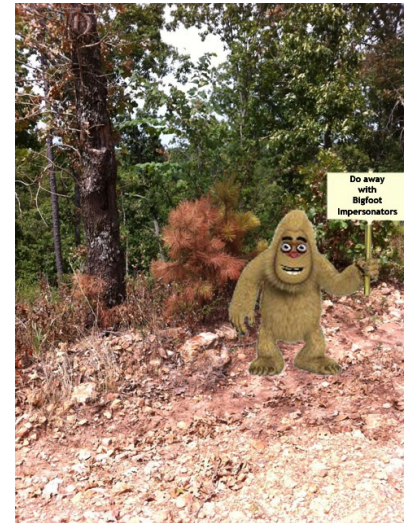
**Into the collections: New Series of Arti-
cles by Jim "Biggjimm" Whitehead.**

**A magazine dedicated to the proliferation and presentation of research for the Bigfoot
Community, presented by the Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center. (MABRC)
Check out our website at www.mabrc.com and www.bigfootfieldguide.com**

Bigfoot Field Guide Magazine

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Bigfoot Field Guide Magazine is published by Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center, the largest active Bigfoot Research Organization in North America.

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Dear Readers,

Due to a little bout of illness, we apologize for the late release of the magazine for July. Rest assured, it wasn't Covid, it was just an illness that comes when you get older. LOL In this issue we delve into the Woo side of Bigfooting, and for those who may ask what the heck is "Woo", that is the make believe side of Bigfooting and the things that Bigfoot supposedly can do. The Bigfoot Field Guide Staff does not believe in the "Woo" side of Bigfooting, because there is no evidence or proof that anything dealing with "Woo" can be proven.

We also bring about the latest in a Hoax that has transpired over the course of several years, and included a large variety of Bigfoot Organizations and Researchers investigating the matter. It also showed that eventually, sometimes you have to expose those who are friends in order to keep your credibility yourself, even when it leaves a bad taste in your mouth and you feel poorly about having to do it.

D.W. "Darkwing" Lee
Editor



Covid-19 & Bigfoot Research

The 2020 year certainly has seen it's share of disappointments across the planet, as Covid-19, protests and riots have plagued the United States.

Usually I spend every weekend in the woods, looking for Bigfoot, but because of the limited resources afforded to us from stores closing early, gas stations shutting down early too, the ability to go researching after hours is severely hampered.

I've spent a great majority of the year working from home for my job, while at the same time, experimenting with new techniques and equipment that can be used in the research.

With my Phantom 3 drone down from a bad sensor calibration, I was able to buy a new Ipad that allowed me to reset those sensors and now my drone is flying again. Flying from my house, it was able to fly missions that I had set up for it.

Others have managed to spend a limited time in the field, with very meager results. Most expeditions, es-

pecially for the MABRC, were canceled, in order to protect researchers from spreading the Covid-19 illness among themselves.

Those responsible Conference planners, cancelled their conferences, while others proceeded to throw caution to the wind and have their events without consideration for peoples' health.

I won't get into the argument over where Covid-19 is a real threat or not, or whose fault it is for it being released, but Bigfoot researchers should always err on the side of caution and wear masks around others, practice safe distancing and other recommended practices, to stay safe and to also protect others.

As the majority of the Bigfoot Community advances in years to the age group that is more susceptible to the virus, it's everyone's responsibility to keep our elder Bigfooters safe.

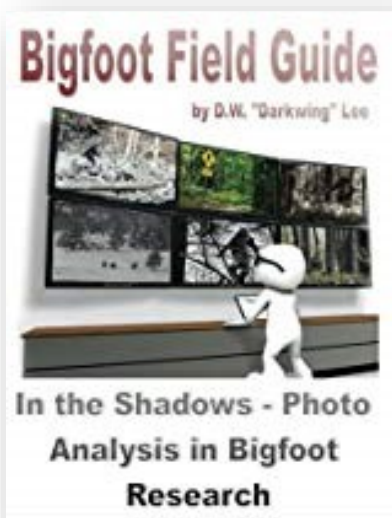
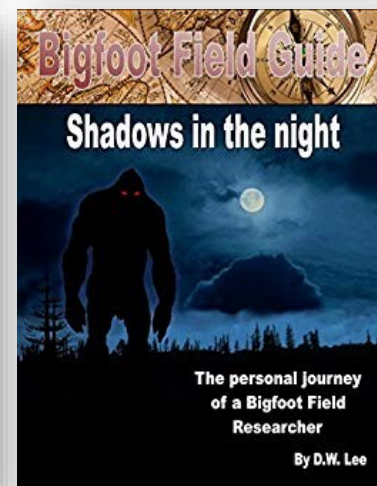
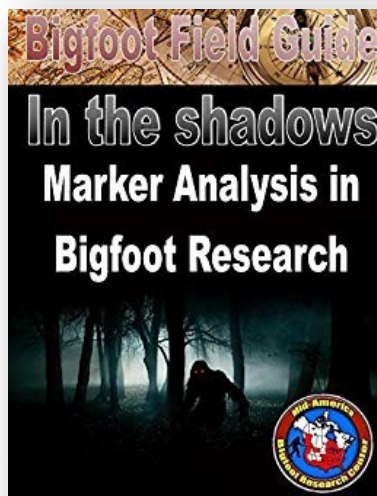


Bigfoot Field Guide Books

The Bigfoot Field Guide has published multiple titles of books that are for sale on Amazon, including in Kindle format.

Written by D.W. "Darkwing" Lee and Izzy "Goose" Gutierrez, these books are How-to books dealing with all aspects of evidence review, from photos, videos, audio and marker analysis, and also how to start your own Bigfoot Research.

Additionally, D.W. "Darkwing" Lee has written a book of his many encounters with the creatures known as Bigfoot. To find these books on Amazon, click on the title to go to Amazon's page for that book.



What is Woo? And why does it hurt Bigfoot Research.

There is many times that people ask, what is "Woo"? In the Bigfoot Community, it means those beliefs about Bigfoot that do not fit in with the Flesh and Blood beliefs and evidence about Bigfoot. From Bigfoot being able to do mindspeak, cloaking, being from an alien world, and many more outlandish beliefs that have come about in the last few years that remain unsubstantiated by evidence.

Let's examine some of the more commonly referred to items listed as woo.

Mindspeak



This particular item relates to the so-called fact that Bigfoot can send through transmissions to one of his "chosen" people and communicate with them. This really seems prevalent

among those who are trying to claim they have habituation on-going, or just outright trying to make themselves look important to their growing following of fools. And then you have those folks who are mentally ill, who hear voices in their heads and since they are on the fringes of the Bigfoot Community, they claim to speak to Bigfoot.

Whenever I hear someone claiming they receive mindspeak from a Bigfoot, I shake my head, because even with human-to-human so-called mindspeak, there is no scientific data to prove that it can even happen. The Military and CIA spent years and millions of dollars to see if humans could do it, and the fact that Bigfoot is an animal/primate like us, there is no evidence or proof that Bigfoot can mindspeak.

Truthfully, we haven't even proven that Bigfoot really exists, so how can we associate so-called behaviors and powers to them without type-

specimens and a sizable Bigfoot population to study to see if they can do anything.



Cloaking

Most people in the "Woo" side of the Bigfoot Community believe that Bigfoot can cloak, even posting pictures they claim show a Bigfoot cloaking.

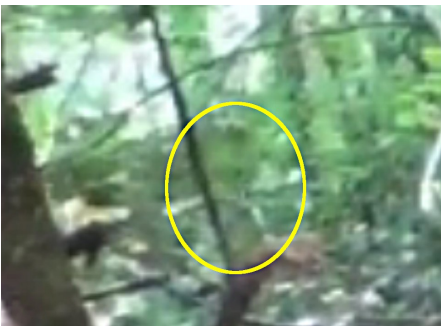
I really believe that after the Predator movies came out full strength in the last 15 or so years, this has built up in the Bigfoot Community.



There is not one animal on the face of this planet, that can cloak and disappear

from view. Even octopus and chameleons can only change their colors to blend in, and octopus can also emit a cloud of ink to disappear behind, yet neither can completely disappear the way the “Woo” crowd claims Bigfoot can.

Barb Shupe is one of the leading proponents for Bigfoot cloaking, having built her fanbase up on the fact she can do all kinds of “Woo” type interactions with Bigfoot. The photo below shows one of her claims of a Bigfoot cloaking.



We’ve shown it enlarged at the end of the article to show the yellow circle in which she claims a Bigfoot is standing there cloaked. I really fell like beating my head into the wall when I see garbage like this.

Ed Waterman, before his untimely death, was another who embellished his fan base with tales of the “Woo” variety. In the Facebook screen capture here, he claims another Bigfoot is cloaked in front of a second

cloaked Bigfoot.

Edward Waterman ► BF Deal and Friends
5 hrs • Edited • 📷

Wild shot! I was taking the pic of the black furry one in the background, shot him through the cloaking body of a nearfield mean looking guy.



By all rights, common sense and all that is scientifically possible, it only goes for rational thinking that if one Bigfoot can cloak, then they all can. I was part of a 12 man encounter with a Bigfoot that was trapped behind a tree for over 5 minutes, because we all had flashlights pointed at it, and it couldn’t move without being seen in the open. This encounter was a prime example of if Bigfoot could cloak, it would have done it then and disappeared, yet, only when we momentarily turned off our lights and flicked them back on, the Bigfoot had bolted for the river reed behind it and made it’s escape. Nope, no cloaking here,

just an animal waiting on it’s chance to escape.

Zapping



Oh this is my favorite “Woo” claim, Bigfoot can zap you telepathically and render you unconscious or worse. I will say this quite truthfully, everyone that researches with me knows I despise the claim of people getting zapped.

I once made the mistake of sending a photographer from Time magazine along with two researchers, one whom I trusted to maintain a level of sanity, and another who was prone to exaggerate things for attention. I really thought the sane one could ride herd on the other. I was wrong.

When they started walking along a trail below where camp sat, the attention-seeker suddenly started jerking and fell to the ground, screaming he had just gotten “zapped”. The sane researcher stood there shocked and didn’t know how to react to the situation.

Upon returning to camp, where the camp potluck dinner was in progress, the attention-seeker came running up to me and said “D.W., I just got zapped.”.

I stood there with my plate of food just disgusted with the situation, until I was rescued by a fellow researcher who knew I was getting ready to explode and pulled me to the side.

I now have a stun gun that goes into the field with me, so that when someone claims they got “zapped”, I intend on pulling out the stun gun, zapping it on them, and telling them, “No, now you got zapped.”

Outside of the electric eel, there is no animal on this planet that can emit any kind of electrical field upon another animal or human.

There is no scientific data or evidence that even suggests that a primate can do this outside of built-up static electricity.

The propensity that people have today to believe in the “Woo” side of Bigfooting is staggering, and I truly feel it’s because they want to believe so bad in Bigfoot, that they are willing to accept anything that fits into their own beliefs. Bigfoot’s so-called supernatural powers also lends an air of romantic adventure to their dreary lives.

Most “Woo” claims are summarily dismissed, because the physical world does not have any scientific proof to back up these claims. There is also no evidence that supports these

“Woo” claims. When pressed for the evidence to support their claims, most claimants resort to attacking those who have asked, and resorting to their claims that you must be one of the “Chosen Ones” to be able to see the evidence. Which in all cases, tries to use peer pressure upon the questioning people to force them into seeing things that are not there.

This is really the case in Matthew Johnson’s Team Squatching USA group, where they dog-pile you into either believing or they kick you out for being a non-believer.

Beware of the “Woo”.



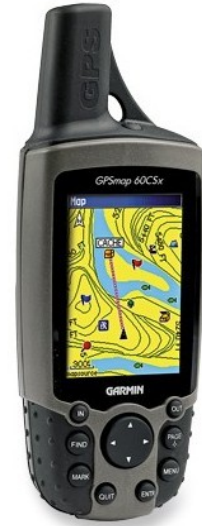
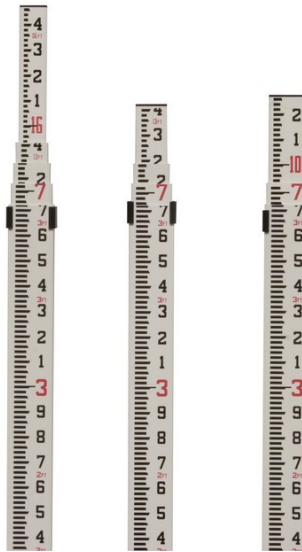
Conducting a sighting investigation

When conducting a sighting investigation, there are tools you need to use, while we won't go into detail for which each is used for, we would like to give the list here with a picture of each. In the future, we will have Equipment Corners articles in our issues to go into detail.

Equipment to measure distances is a main part of your equipment, whether a range finder or

A surveying stake as shown below aids in measuring heights from a distance. These shown below can be purchased either online or at most hardware big box stores.

A GPS device is also necessary so you can mark locations and be able to come back and find them easily.



Survey flags like shown below allow you to mark tracks, trackways and other evidence just as you see on shows like CSI.

A video camera and a regular camera are also necessary, but can both be substituted with a smart phone, and in most cases, a smart phone can also replace a GPS device.

Newer iPhones also have measuring software but it isn't as reliable as a range finder or measuring wheel device for longer distances.

Although the iPhone can measure the size of tracks.

With this toolbag of equipment, your investigation will always be top-notch and hard to critique.



a measuring wheel device.

Let's Talk Bigfoot

With Randy "Rebelistic"
Savig

It appears there is no end to opinions to what an unknown critter called bigfoot is, let alone of what it does and does not do. Where it lives and where it does not. Heck, there is not even an agreement of if it is a natural evolved critter or comes from UFOs or another dimensions!

In this article let's talk about Structures or even better name, Manipulations.

What seems to be happening now days is that any little thing in nature that whoever sees it without much understanding of how nature can do things and without a logical or skeptical thought is somehow a Bigfoot structure. Don't get me wrong, we know that all primates including us, build things. But without dedicated, detailed investigation, documentation, and following the possible evidence it is easy for the naysayers and skeptics to call foul. One strange thing in the woods ain't evidence. Not even

close. Just because it has become popular to see bigfoot stuff in the woods and we seem to have an overabundance of bigfoot structures being posted to social media doesn't mean a thing to help prove the existence of bigfoot let alone that they make things. So, what do we as researchers? Are we just wasting our time? The easy answer is it depends on you and the groups you associate with.

Let me explain myself. When trying to prove something as real we need to do the steps needed to satisfy the ones we are trying to prove it to. In the case of most groups that have been in this a long time, that is to science. So, what is acceptable to science? There seems to be no shortage of answers to this question. A film or picture? If that was good enough the Patterson-Gimlin film should have done that. So nope that will not work. I trust the old footage more than I do the modern stuff because CGI is so real

that a computer can make anything look authentic. Audio? Nope. It can prove an unknown vocalization or sound but not that it has to be a new species. We know it exists because we saw it. That works, right? Nope. DNA will prove it right? Again, nope. It has nothing to compare to so at best it will be classified as not in the database so it's unknown and sadly most likely listed as contaminated by poor collection methods. A body will identify a new species or at least a part of a specimen. Then some of the DNA that has been collected, some of the film, audio and other stuff will become relevant. All the pictures of these structures will still not be made by bigfoot until actual study like has happened with gorillas and chimpanzees can be done.

So why do we waste our time even considering structures? Simple because they are there, and

nature can't explain some of them. Most reputable groups I think have found natural explanations for 90% of what some say are bigfoot structures. But what about the other 10%? Just throwing them in the basket with the natural explained ones isn't really possible or honest in research. Like I stated earlier in this article, all primates including ourselves build things. Most groups have concluded that we are dealing with a primate. So, it is possible. The MABRC has documented bows as some call them where the ends are pushed into the ground as a way of holding them in place. Documentation of rocks being placed on them to hold them down. I even found one that was actually tied to another tree in a rudimentary knot. So, something did it. If natural processes and the human activity can be eliminated what did it?

Part of the problem with this topic is that we seem to be more obsessed with a certain type of manipulation and what it might mean instead of the patterns that seem to be part of all the types of manipulation. To assume that ALL bigfoot would do the same thing throughout the country is ludicrous. We see constant arguing amongst the groups and researchers of what a manipula-

tion's means, instead of the patterns that are similar. Just because an X in one place may say stay out doesn't mean it does in another. Leave your ego at the door and look for what is important, the pattern.

Let's look at what I mean. In the MABRC we have what we refer to as signpost manipulations. It is called that because it resembles any road sign that you see at intersection that show the road names. They are basically horizontal and seem to stand out as a pointer or directional marker. At first glance it would be easy to say it fell from above which is true most of the time. However, they are odd ones also because a few hundred feet down you can find another one. Then another and so on. It is easiest to do this type of footwork in the winter when the foliage is off the trees. A lot of times you can see one from the other that way. Ok, is that possible evidence of something? In itself I'd have to say no. Should we just move on to something else then? Not yet. If you think it may actually be bigfoot related you have just got started. It is easily to see during the day, but bigfoot seems more

active at night so is it easy to see at night? Doing research at night you can check to see if it can be using the horizon light that nature gives at night. If it does, that is more correlating evidence of the possibility that it was manipulated instead of a natural occurrence. Next, set up audio recorders close to those manipulations to see if any of the purported vocals or sounds can be recorded of what we think is bigfoot. If or when we get some that again is correlating evidence. This process can take weeks if not months or years to get the data collected. Then another consideration was made from another researcher in the group. Why would a bigfoot be looking up to see the manipulation as they foraged through the woods? Great question. I don't think any critter does that when going through the woods. Does this mean the rest of the possible evidence is wrong? Maybe not. Her idea was that scent was used to mark the manipulations. That is a tough one to test for as smell is not something that is easily recordable. However, in a separate research area one of these manipulations was found only because I was aware of the idea she had.

I was looking for tracks on a possible tall boy trail when a strong musky odor was smelled, and I looked up to see it. If I walked 10 foot in any direction away from it, I couldn't smell it anymore unless I was down wind. More correlating evidence.

The type of manipulation doesn't really matter as much as the pattern. The MABRC as well as other groups have found other types of manipulations that follow the same pattern. The one that I think was really interesting was when a group of manipulations that you could follow from one to the other ended up going under a bridge and continued on the other side. It was like it was marking a way to avoid the road. Time after time, if the data is there to establish a pattern, when bigfoot are in that area you can collect other evidence to support that it is a pattern. All critters follow repeatable patterns if they feel comfortable. One thing that happened to me is also pretty common. When I first found what I thought was a repeating pattern of manipu-

lation I focus weekly to see if the manipulation changed or was added to. That area seemed to be abandoned by them. Later I did find others where they seemed to re-route that area as a couple of new manipulation appears a few hundred yards away that hooked up to the original line.

So why is this such a hot topic in the bigfoot community? Why do some researchers seem so dismissive of this as possible evidence? Because it represents symbolism. We basically have two sides to this bigfoot coin. Ape vs Hominin. The common thoughts are that apes only make things for utilitarian functions, like nests and hominin folks say that only something closer to human uses symbology. Guess what? Both would be wrong. With the studies being done in the last 20 or so years do show that the great apes do use and understand symbolism, both in the wild as well as in captive studies. People are people. We all have preconceived notions of what we are dealing with in this mystery. Unfortunately, we are all pretty hardheaded to anything that does not fit that

idea. Sadly, that also means that we dismiss possible evidence that may help prove the existence of bigfoot. I don't think it is deliberately done by any of us, more like it just enter our minds as possible. It doesn't fit in our box if you will. So, as we try to prove something to science, we all have to work harder at collecting and following all the evidence that is there. If we dismiss evidence because we are only on one side of the coin, why would we expect anything less than that from science? Following the patterns and evidence is the only way of coming up with the answers.

The GCBRC Footage

The GCBRC (Green Country Bigfoot Research Center) was the forerunner for the Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center, and was active from 1998 until 2007 when the name change occurred. During that time, an expedition was held for the first time in the Hidden Bean Field, owned by Doug "Bullet Maker" Bilby. In attendance was Randy "Driveroperator" Harrington, Bobbie "Cherokee Rose" Lee, Gary "Grizlyadams" Adams, and D.W. "Darkwing" Lee and the game plan was to cover the field with night vision enabled cameras and connect them to a DVR/Computer, all being ran by a small Honda generator.

The red lines show the cords running to the cameras and the generator and their placement in the field.

The camera to the left of Darkwing and Cherokee Rose's vehicle would monitor anything coming from that direction, while the camera by the generator would view anything in that direction, while the third camera by Grizlyadams' truck, would catch anything coming across the creek where a few years earlier, several witnesses observed a large Bigfoot standing in the trail that crossed the creek there.

Darkness fell early since it was February, and the cold was enough that the burn barrel could not keep us warm enough, so everyone turned into their vehicles sometime before 7 pm, and maintained watch through their vehicle windows.

some of the finer points here.

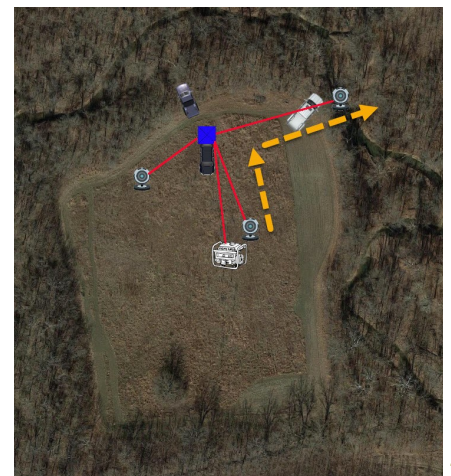
[Bigfoot Field Guide-The GCBRC Footage](#)

During the night, Darkwing had looked out the driver side back window and observed from the light emanating from the houses across the road in the distance, a large animal in 4x4 mode traveling in a direction towards the creek crossing where Grizlyadams' truck was parked. Apparently it stopped and waited for a little bit, because 30 to 40 minutes later, Cherokee Rose needed to use the bathroom, so Darkwing had to pop the back door open and crawl out with her. When the door popped open, the animal ran by Grizlyadams' truck so fast that it startled him. Path of animal in yellow below.



1. Darkwing and Cherokee Rose' vehicle
2. Driveroperator's vehicle
3. Grizlyadams' vehicle

While I could go on with the details, I will post the video link here that explains the events that occurred while covering



A little later, something began messing with the tarp that was covering the DVR under the canopy behind Darkwing's vehicle. It finally took shining a light through the back hatch to scare off whatever it was. No food was under the tarp, so it wasn't an animal smelling food.

The next morning, when daylight made movement easier, the team began recovering the cameras, and the camera that was to the left of Darkwing's vehicle had been sitting inside a wire spool on top of a stump. When it was recovered, it was outside the wire spool and laying on it's side. At the time, it didn't dawn on anyone other than that the wind must have knocked it over. (Although there hadn't been any wind noticed that previous night.)

The video review would take several days later to complete, as the team explored the area before leaving that afternoon for home.

When it was reviewed, some interesting footage was discovered. Within little under a minute, the camera near

the generator at around 7:20, had something trip on the camera cable, readjusting the direction that the camera was pointed in. The camera to the far left that had been on the stump was then picked up and turned in numerous directions, although never pointing itself at the face of the animal or person that picked it up.

As dark as it was in the field at that time, it would have been hard for a person to navigate without the aid of a flashlight. Later examination of the video using more advanced software showed what appeared to be heavy hair as it was pointed in several directions.

The raw footage of each camera can be viewed at the following links.

[Camera 1 that had the cable tripped over.](#)

[Camera 2 that is picked up.](#)

Over the course of several more years of research in this location, multiple encounters with Bigfoot were recorded by MABRC researchers and hunters who had deer hunting leases with Bullet Maker.

This area continued to be ac-

tive over the years, and it borders along Corps of Engineer land that is situated along a major lake in Oklahoma.

Maybe one day, the mystery of Bigfoot could be solved here at this location.

Bullet Maker would later pass away, and the MABRC will always be indebted to him for the experiences they had on his property.



Above, is a witness sketch by Jim "Bigjimm" Whitehead that him and Lem "Stooge75" Weaver spotted crawling along the high grass during a MABRC expedition to the Hidden Bean Field several years later after the GCBRC footage was obtained.



Some of the pictures taken during the expedition where the GRBRC Footage was obtained.



Starting your own Bigfoot Research Group....Part 3

Let's discuss how to plan for an expedition for your group now. For the MABRC, it's a lengthy process that begins with setting a date for the expedition and the location. This is usually done several months in advance so that people can begin making plans to attend and begin putting the resources together to be used on an expedition. There is also two different types of expeditions that the MABRC holds, one is the general expedition, where everyone that wants to attend may. The other is the specialized expedition, in which, those members with special skill-sets are asked to go along and not opened to the general membership. Always remember the following!!



MABRC expeditions on the whole, usually consist of from 10 to 25 people, and the detail that goes into planning an expedition ensures that the expedition goes smoothly, and that anyone can step up and take the lead knowing what the overall plan is.

Let's walk through the process.

A MABRC member wants to have an expedition in one of their research sites. By default, they are now the expedition leader unless they ask someone else to be the leader. They then post on the MABRC Message boards in the Expedition Planning area that they want to hold an expedition along with the preferred date for it.

Other MABRC members then post whether they can attend or not, and an idea is put together how many will be attending.

Now the planning can be done, based on perspective numbers of attendees.

An Expedition Briefing Sum-

mary is then put together to distribute to all who will be attending, including those independent researchers and members of other groups who are invited to attend.

What does the Expedition Briefing Summary contain?

Summary of the area

Summary of the objective

Sunrise/set data

Moonrise/set data

Moon phase data

Weather outlook, must be updated starting 10 days prior to the expedition from weather.com and must be posted on the forum thread for the expedition planning.

- Site selection
- Background information for area, including any suspected Bigfoot activity.
- Topo maps/aerial photos of the target area.
- Primary objectives
- Secondary objectives
- Standby objectives

- Personnel requirements/skill sets needed along with role determinations for participants.
- Equipment requirements
- Expedition rules/land-owner rules.

Shown below is an expedition summary from Memorial Day 2013, as an example.



Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center
 Memorial Day 2013 Expedition
 Expedition Guide

Date: May 23-27, 2013

Area Summary: Kiamichi Mountains, Honobia Oklahoma. This is a heavily forested and remote area with a large number of locations that could be used for shelter by the local Bigfoot. The area is well known for Bigfoot activity.

Objective: To gather evidence to support claims of Bigfoot activity in the area.

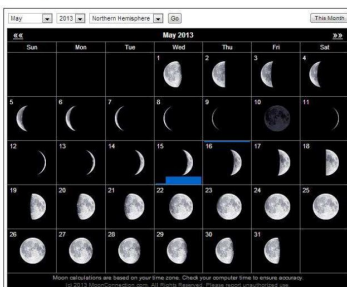
Sunrise/set Data:

Rising and setting times for the Sun						
Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Azimuth	Length of day	This day	Difference
May 23, 2013	6:12 AM	8:25 PM	63°	297°	14h 17m 20s	+ 5m 20s
May 24, 2013	6:12 AM	8:30 PM	63°	297°	14h 18m 38s	+ 5m 18s
May 25, 2013	6:11 AM	8:31 PM	63°	297°	14h 19m 54s	+ 5m 15s
May 26, 2013	6:11 AM	8:32 PM	63°	297°	14h 21m 07s	+ 5m 13s
May 27, 2013	6:10 AM	8:32 PM	63°	298°	14h 22m 19s	+ 5m 11s

Moonrise/set Data:

Rising and setting times for the Moon					
Date	Moonrise	Moonsset	Azimuth	Phase	
May 23, 2013	3:05 PM	4:54 AM	111°	251°	
May 24, 2013	8:14 PM	5:43 AM	114°	247°	Full Moon at 11:25 PM
May 25, 2013	9:30 PM	6:38 AM	116°	242°	
May 26, 2013	10:21 PM	7:40 AM	118°	245°	
May 27, 2013	11:16 PM	8:47 AM	119°	246°	

Moon Phase Data:



Weather Outlook:

No weather to report at this time.

Site Selection:



1 Road from Talihina

2 K Trail Entrance



1 Honobia Trash Bins where multiple sightings have occurred.

2 Location of the Walkie Talkie incident

3 Location of Picture recovery

4 Base Camp/location of the Ridge Walker Video

5 MABRC Member is hit with rocks in back.

6 Former Humphries Cabin

7 Cabin where lots of activity have occurred.

On Thursday, the base camp will be set up at the Ridge Line. Shawna's Honobia Creek Store will be the meeting area to pick up anyone who hasn't been to the Ridge Line and show them the way up. DW's phone is [redacted] if you need to contact him and let him know you are there at the store.

One of the tactics that would like to be tried if we have enough people to put two on each four wheeler, is to line the north trail with the four wheelers at a distance of about a ¼ mile and let them sit on the trail for an extended period as shown below.



Based on what occurred with the walkie talkie incident and the fact that the team felt they had been followed, we will try to give the Bigfoot a shot at following us again. At a predetermined time, the 4 wheeler at location one will proceed towards location 2 and the 4 wheeler there. As they get close, the four wheeler at location 2 will fall in behind the location 1 four wheeler and continue heading towards location 3 where that 4 wheeler will continue to fall in behind and follow. As the four wheelers continue on towards the others, they will form a caravan, and hopes are that the local bigfoot will be following them out. When the first four wheeler reaches the turn off at the star, they will immediately pull over and shut off lights and motor and get out the thermal camera. The other four wheelers will continue on, with all the riders not looking at the four wheeler that has pulled over. The riders have to resist the temptation to view that four wheeler and continue on. The convoy will then head back to the base camp while the 1st four wheeler waits to see if anything comes along behind the convoy with the thermal imager.

Other Operations planned:

Night hikes for those who do not have four wheelers to designated locations to set up listening posts. Night runs by the four wheelers with the thermals will be conducted and set up remote listening posts. During the day, hikes and four wheeler runs can be conducted at random, and to selected locations to look for footprints, markers and other evidence, including possible encounters.

Swimming at Honobia Creek will be optional, but should be done as a group, to give us more opportunity to bond as a group.

Rules:

No going barefoot, this has the potential to create false tracks.

No alcohol or drugs allowed.

If you bring a firearm, you must notify the Executive Director so he knows you have it. This is just so he doesn't get blindsided if Game Wardens show up to talk to the expedition and ask who has firearms with them.

No wandering off by yourself, going to use the bathroom away from camp is permitted as long as you let someone know which direction you will be going in. This is for safety's sake, as this area has a large percentage of wild animals, and other dangers that could cause harm to a lone individual.

All walkie talkies should be on channel 2, cell phone numbers should also be recorded by the Expedition Leader to insure contact information is on hand in case of emergency.

If evidence is found, it should be recovered under MABRC Protocols and Procedures in order to insure its non-contamination.

Remote camps will be placed at pre-determined locations, and a veteran researcher will be placed in charge at each camp. Those researchers with thermal cameras will be dispersed in order to have at least one thermal camera at each camp.

Upon arrival on Thursday, Darkwing will talk to Shawna at the store and see when she dumps her trash at the dumpsters. The plan is to stake out the dumpsters one night with the thermals, to see if any local Bigfoot comes down to them. This could be done on several nights if possible, and the number of researchers and thermals allows it.

Biggimm and Gearman also want to hold a cookout of sorts at the rock quarry with a smoker in hopes of attracting a Bigfoot into the smell of the cooking.

Recorders should be set out far enough away from camp to record the vocalizations if any are heard.

The weather reports will be posted on the MABRC forums as the expedition draws closer.

As you can see, it's better to contain too much information than not enough. With this information, anyone in the group can step up and lead the expedition should the expedition leader get injured or is unavailable for whatever reason.

Within 10 days of the expedition, weather updates begin to be posted on the expedition planning thread, this gives the members of the expedition enough advance warning to pack the type of gear they will need. For example, if rain is in the forecast, members can pack rain gear, bring tarps to hang up over the common areas where people will be sitting, and also to bring protective coverings for their equipment.

If the expedition is going to be a large one, with people coming in from different states, the MABRC will have an online meeting

where they will discuss the expedition. Some of the slides contained in the pdf [linked here](#) show parts of an online meeting.

As some will note, we cover over in more detail about the Briefing Summary, and discuss between all the attendees. This is a good time for attendees to also bring forward anything they would like to try while on the expedition.

Once the whole plan is in place, we always refer back to Murphy's Law.

**"ANYTHING THAT CAN GO WRONG
WILL GO WRONG"**

MURPHY'S LAW

No matter the amount of planning will ever take into account every situation, but it will give you an edge and let you adapt and overcome most situations if you have a basic game plan in sight.

Most folks who have served in the real military, (Sorry Air Force :)) you know that most plans go out the window when the first shot is fired. It's always safe to assume that this is true for Big-foot Expeditions. Just be able to adapt to the situa-

tions, but always try to stay true to the original plan.

One main rule that I have as the Executive Director of the MABRC, is that when I plan an expedition, I am always the first in, last out, sometimes there will be members who beat me there, or stay longer, but they know that it's on them when they are there without me.

Once the expedition is on-site, copies of the briefing summary are available for anyone who wants one, (usually most folks will print it out before arriving and bring it with them.) and maps of the overall area are where they can be viewed.

The MABRC also maintains a strict Zero-Trace policy where we make sure to pack out all of our trash, and return the camp area back to it's original state as much as possible.

I hope that this helps someone out on planning their own expeditions. The MABRC has held over a hundred plus expeditions, not counting specialized expeditions, and this has worked for us many times over.

Bigfoot Evidence or Propaganda

Written by Randy "Rebelistic" Savig, MABRC Missouri State Director



What are we doing in the woods? Are we out there trying to collect possible evidence of Bigfoot? Are we following where the evidence sends us? Or are we seeing what we want to see? These are questions that I think every field researcher needs to ask themselves every time they go into the woods.

With the internet being the super highway of information all we have to do is click and read, all the knowledge is there right? We can gloriously see everything we want about bigfoot and form an educated understanding of what bigfoot is, what they do, how they look, how they hunt, eat, and if you read the right article how they make babies. But is this "knowledge" we've gain from evidence or propaganda?

The bigfoot community today is made up from all sorts of people and personalities. We have average Joes, wanna-be computer experts, self proclaimed experts, perceived experts, newbies, the old guard, the skeptics, and the want to believers to the scientific types. And each of those could be broken into more sub-groups. There is an unbelievable amount of people that since bigfoot mania has happened has added to the mix. Each with preconceived ideas that we have gain from past life experiences and what they have seen or read about bigfoot. We see everyday when we open Facebook, YouTube or Google with sensational titles like "The best bigfoot audio ever recorded" or "Definitive Video of a Bigfoot" or "Proof Bigfoot Exists". Most in my opinion are good folks that have either misidentified something or let their imaginations run away with them. Mark "Sawdustt" Newbill did a great video showing some of this recently that is worth looking at.

<https://youtu.be/PMpujK1PHns>

Even though it can be frustrating for the researcher, most of these folks are just over enthusiastic.

The ones that seem to be more damaging to the community is the ones that seem to push an agenda. Some paranormal folks turn them into spirits, apparitions, and ghosts to further prove what they are researching to be real. Some of the UFO folks explain the rare sightings that happen in the same areas as "must be aliens". They just don't seem to be able to be willing to think that there may be two different phenomena happening. Unfortunately these folks seem to be taking credibility from both types of research. I have spoken with researchers in both those fields and they too wish that folks would stop trying to combine the two. It is hard enough to get science to look at possible evidence of any field of research that is not mainstream and when they are mixed together it makes it even harder. Then you have the ones that seem to be way out there. The shape-shifting, cloaking, portal jumping, mind speaking, I am chosen types that seem to get a lot of attention from the I wanna believe types to where there is an almost cult-like following that has happened.

Heaven help anyone if they should ask for some possible proof behind those claims. Some have went down that road and it ain't pretty. That is when the name calling and fights begin. Personally I stay away from that. I have better things to with my time. But needless to say these are a real problem in the Bigfoot community. Why you ask? If we as researchers are wanting to help prove the existence of a species to science and find one open-minded enough to look. After a day or two on Google looking at what these folks are saying the scientist will run from it so they don't get branded and lose their standing in the scientific community. They never even get time to look at the real possible evidence out there as they are bombarded with so much of the propaganda as it is so popular.

The next thing we hear is that the old guard or old timers won't let anything new come out as they want to control the knowledge of bigfoot. When I read this on the social media I couldn't

help but laugh! I hate to tell you newbies that are calling foul on the old guard, they will listen and change their standing on things. But they will look into it with a skeptical eye. If you post a picture saying this is a bigfoot just know that they will look at it from all angles. With the software that is available things can be zoomed into more and detail brought out like never before. After seeing hundreds if not thousands of pictures they know what to look for. Same goes with audio. I've been down that road before myself. I had folks send me audio on many occasions of what they say is bigfoot that turns out to be a common critter. Even when confronted with audio that proves it is a known critter you get all kinds of flack from them as they "Know" it was a bigfoot. So any more unless someone does their due diligence and run comparisons for themselves I decline listening to it. So what does it take to get the old guard to look at things? First, is what you want them to review something, whether picture, video, or audio have you, do your homework with it. What, where, and when

are the first details that will be asked by them. If you can't answer it most likely they will not continue to look at it. Best advise for anyone is if you aren't ready for their honest opinion, don't ask and definitely don't make it out to be the best evidence that proves bigfoot is real. You may not be really smart as you think you are. They have see more misidentifications, enough blurry pictures, shaky video or two second audio clips than you can imagine. Second, is it testable or recreatable. Getting one anomalous audio clip doesn't make it a bigfoot sound. One blurry picture doesn't make it a bigfoot picture even if your mind thinks it is. The latest one to come back out is the plywood cutout. Amazing of how may of those come out in so many areas of the country.

The sad fact is once we go into the woods looking for bigfoot we actually expect to find it and our minds programs itself to see it/hear it. That is just how it works.

Our minds are geared that way. Even the old timers had to grow as a researcher to get over that. It's the way it works folks. Being the worst skeptic of our own evidence is what has to be done. Even now after doing audio for a few years, I still regularly find myself mis-identifying sounds I hear in the woods. Last Memorial Day weekend during an expedition is one example. We heard and recorded at camp what I originally thought was a bigfoot vocal. During that weekend Superdave listened to the audio and put it on a spectrogram and said it was just a coyote. Even though I thought he was incorrect at the time, when I put it up on a spectrogram to review it did match 80% with a coyote vocalization except a bit off tone to it. To me it did sound different that night than it did on review. That is why I need to see what I hear. And NO it wasn't something paranormal with it, it wasn't an ET, nothing was speaking to my mind, it was just my mind/ears playing tricks on me. After all we were in a hotspot looking for bigfoot weren't we? I would of really looked like a fool if I would of posted that as absolute proof of bigfoot wouldn't I. ALWAYS do your homework before you post ANY possible bigfoot evidence.

One time that I know of that the old guard did change the way they thought was the Silent Hills Project. We all knew knocks were long distant vocals. Until a happen-

stance situation came up I was also of that mind set. After I recorded what to me is proof of mimicking by a probable bigfoot, I decided to play their own game and started trying to mimic them with howls and knocks. One night which was especially dead in the woods (which happens more often than anything) I decided as the night ended I would knock with my new shiny pick-ax handle on three different types of trees to see which sounded more like a knock that we hear out there. I had a recorder set up about a half mile as the crow flies from camp. I did three howls, and knocked three times on three different trees. That way I could see which tree had a better sound. I mean I needed to know what tree made the best sound, right? Upon doing the audio review the howls came in great, but none of the knocks were heard at all! I shared my findings with the MABRC folks and an experiment was put together to see what the data showed. The data can be seen here: Project Silent Hills as well as on the MABRC forums. It proved that knocks in the woods does not travel as far as once was thought. It is possible that in different terrains like out west it may travel further but as of now I don't think any group out there has followed the experiment to have the data to that. It is possible to teach old dogs new tricks if you can prove that what you are saying is true. Again, testable and repeatable. And with the new da-

ta from the experiment some have changed research methods.

So the same questions remain. What are we/you doing in the woods? Are we/you out there trying to collect possible evidence of Bigfoot? Are we/you following where the evidence sends us/you? Or are we/you seeing what we want to see? Evidence or more properly put, possible evidence is difficult to collect as these critters aren't there all the time so you have to spend a lot of time out there without results. Otherwise all you have is what you think, or have read, or heard some guy talk about on a blog radiocast. That is how misinformation is spread. Anybody can tell a story, but without some possible evidence to back it up it's still just a story. Propaganda is used to gain notoriety and attention, trying to get others to think your way. The sad fact is that less people want to listen to the real stuff because it isn't entertaining. Monster! Spooky Scary stories! And the Way Too Far Out Fantasyland is where the action is. But is that Bigfoot Evidence or Propaganda?

Six things a new BF Researcher should think about.

By Steve Hyde

I want to state right up front that I don't consider myself a particularly smart person or a very experienced researcher. I do however try to learn from observation and the successes and failures of others. If you're new to the field of Bigfoot research it's vitally important that you learn to develop this ability. You can learn a lot from watching what other people in the so-called "Bigfoot community" do, from what brings them good results and also what gets them into trouble. What follows are a few of the things that I have observed and learned over the years, and that you need to consider if you are new to this field. I hope that you will find them helpful.

1. **BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING ELSE, HAVE A CLEAR IDEA OF EXACTLY WHAT IT IS YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH.**

It may seem an odd question, but now is the time to ask it. Just why do you want to go look for Bigfoot? Your answer may be that you simply want to satisfy your

own curiosity, that you want to see it for yourself. That's fine. Or you may want to prove that it exists. That's fine too. But you need to ask this of yourself, because your answer will greatly affect how you go about the quest.

If you only want to satisfy yourself, then congratulations! You're the one that will probably have the most fun doing this. Only you know what your standard of proof is and it can be as high or as low as you want. If you're out in the woods and see a strange shadow or hear an odd noise or see that faint mark that just might be a track and it makes your hair stand on end, maybe that's all that needs to happen for you to be convinced. That's great and nobody should have a problem with that. But you need to realize that your experiences are not going to matter to anyone but yourself.

If you're out to prove the existence of Bigfoot to someone other than yourself, I'm afraid you have a

much tougher journey ahead of you. It's no longer your own standard of proof that must be met, you must now meet the standard of proof of whomever you're trying to convince. Even if that other person believes in Bigfoot's existence in the same manner as you, he or she may not interpret your evidence or experience the same way you do.

If you're going to prove the existence of Bigfoot to the world at large, you'll have to meet the standards of proof of the world at large, and the world looks to the mainstream scientific community to set those standards. And science demands concrete physical proof. If you claim to have discovered a previously unknown species of animal, you will have to produce substantial physical proof sufficient to be able to describe and classify it with scientific rigor. The only proof that will accomplish this is a body

or a substantial piece of a body. Mainstream science has always demanded this, and it always will. You might as well get used to that fact now because it won't change, no matter how badly you may wish it to be otherwise and no matter how frustrated you may get at not being able to find it. Your only available options are to kill or capture one or look for one that died of other causes. Nothing else will do; not pictures, not casts, not hair, not trace DNA, not tape recordings, not film and not stories. You will discover quite quickly that the Bigfoot "community" is sharply divided between those who convey a willingness to obtain a specimen by deadly force and those who object to harming the animals on moral grounds.

Although both sides can present good arguments to support their viewpoint, when it comes to proving the animals exist the researchers willing to kill or capture a specimen are the only ones who will have a reasonable chance of accomplishing their goal. Those who object to this method are left with the option of chance discovery of remains, the possibility of which is extremely remote.

2. BE WARY OF PEOPLE. YOU WILL LEARN MORE ABOUT HUMAN NATURE THAN YOU EVER WILL ABOUT BIGFOOT.

This occurs in a number of ways. As with any group of people who interact with each other, there are always the fusses, fights and squabbles, the making and breaking of friendships and alliances. One thing you will learn is that the Bigfoot community is indeed a microcosm of society in general. Human weaknesses abound in this field. You will encounter the typical variety of ordinary folks, intellectuals, nut cases, pricks and morons.

But there are some individuals to whom you should be particularly wary. There exists in the world a large group of people who think that anyone who believes in and/or spends time researching Bigfoot (or UFOs or paranormal phenomena) is by definition an idiot. There are a number of people within that group who decide to try and take advantage of the "idiots" by jerking them around psychologically for their own amusement. Look at any of the numerous Internet message boards and you'll see this happening.

The most common tactic used is to bait someone into an exchange of personal attacks. This will quickly draw others into the fray, and any ongoing civil discussion degenerates hopelessly. The instigators usually try to portray themselves as believers of some sort, but it becomes apparent pretty quickly that they have little or no real knowledge of the subject. You will also encounter "eyewitnesses" who do the same thing. They will contact you and report a sighting or experience just to mess with you. The best policy is to blatantly ignore them.

When they don't succeed in baiting you they will disappear.

3. BE OBJECTIVE. THERE IS A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A THEORY AND A BELIEF.

People's ideas about Bigfoot are much like people's ideas about God. Each person has his or her own unique concept, and it will range from quite logical to seemingly drug-induced. I'm quite sure you have your own opinions about Bigfoot, but if you're going to be a good researcher you will need to consider your opinions in the light of theory and not of belief.

The reason is simple; if you consider your opinions to be a working theory, then you can be flexible and modify or change your theory as necessary to fit the empirical evidence you gather and analyze. If your opinions constitute a heart-felt emotional belief, then you will tend to stick to that belief regardless of any evidence that would contradict it.

At present my own working theory of Bigfoot is that it is a quite normal animal, a species of ape somewhat similar to the great apes we are familiar with. I call it a working theory simply because I conduct my research using assumptions I have made based on my theory. But I'm careful to keep an open mind and to try and be objective. If I were to come across good evidence that Bigfoot is a hominid more closely related to humans than the great apes or something else entirely, like the whole phenomenon is an extraordinary human hoax or some type of mass hysteria, then I wouldn't have much problem changing my

working theory. But if I had a deep heart-felt emotional belief that Bigfoot was (for example) a humanlike being with near-human intelligence and I acted accordingly, my belief would constantly cloud my judgment and I could never be an effective researcher, even if my belief in the end proved to be correct.

4. ALWAYS QUESTION YOUR ASSUMPTIONS. Remember that all theories and beliefs are based on assumptions, some more valid than others. And it's important to question your basic assumptions occasionally.

Most researchers automatically assume that Bigfoot actually does exist and that is always the first assumption in need of challenging, but there are others. For example, there is a popular theory that Bigfoot is (or is a descendant of) the fossil ape species *Gigantopithecus Blacki*. It's a perfectly logical theory; there is in fact a documented fossil species of large ape that is thought to have lived between 1 million to 300,000 years ago, and scientists have inferred from the fossils certain character-

istics that match closely with the more consistent descriptions of Bigfoot. But there are some shaky assumptions involved. *G. Blacki* is the only fossil species of large ape we know about, but that doesn't mean it was the only species that ever existed. And we only have *G. Blacki*'s jaws and teeth. No cranium or other remains have been found to date. In fact, the only thing we know for sure about *G. Blacki* is that it was apelike and had big jaws. There is also a popular theory that Bigfoot is a relic animal, an ancient species that somehow managed to survive the Pleistocene epoch and remain in its primitive form. This may indeed be the case, but on the other hand Bigfoot may be a species that has undergone as much or even more evolution in the last million years than we have. It may actually be a form quite advanced from its prehistoric ancestors. We simply don't know. But it shows that we must be mindful of the assumptions we make.

5. BE SKEPTICAL, OBJECTIVE AND REALISTIC ABOUT EVIDENCE AND KNOW ITS LIMITATIONS.

We all get excited whenever we find evidence, especially if we think it's compelling or of high quality. You must realize that unless your find consists of a body, your evidence will be considered circumstantial. That is, the interpretation of the evidence depends a great deal on the circumstances of its acquisition; where it was found, how it was found, who found it, etc. and the predisposition of the interpreter to accept or reject it.

We also have to be realistic about the possible impact the different types of evidence can have regardless of its quality.

Footprint casts. These are probably the most famous pieces of Bigfoot evidence. This type of evidence tends to have very little effect in trying to prove anything because of the possibility of misinterpretation and of forgery.

The ones with dermal evidence aren't really much better, since they can only further demonstrate what DIDN'T make the print.

You can demonstrate that a human foot or a known ape foot DIDN'T make the impression by noting dermal or anatomical

characteristics that are different from those feet, but you cannot adequately describe what DID make it. I personally don't think that footprint casts by themselves really matter much anymore, and I quit casting tracks some time ago.

To me tracks are more valuable in context. I'm more concerned now with what they can tell me about where, when and why the animal goes on its travels. As you go in the field, don't be real concerned about bringing plaster with you. Except in very extraordinary circumstances casting tracks is a waste of time. You're better off learning how to study them in the ground.

Photographs and film. Some very well known (to us, anyway) pieces of evidence fall into this category. They also tend to be the most controversial, and their actual value as evidence is hotly debated. You have the same problems here as with footprints since there is always the possibility of misinterpretation and forgery. As with casts, you can at most demonstrate only the possibility that something was indeed recorded on film. The Patterson film and the saga surrounding it

should be an abject lesson to all those who think that film evidence by itself can be demonstrable proof of the animal's existence. It's valuable only if the person examining it is already predisposed to believe in the animal's existence. It will never constitute evidence to those who are not. If you are predisposed to accept it, film and video can be valuable.

Much was learned about the animal's actual appearance and movement from the Patterson film by those who chose to accept it as genuine. So it is worthwhile to take a camera with you on your trips, just don't expect any real recognition to come from it no matter how good your results may be. The most you can hope for is to perhaps convince someone to pay closer attention to the phenomenon.

Hair and trace DNA. I lumped these two together because they are both analyzed much the same way. They also have the same problems as the first two categories. At most, you can only demonstrate what it is NOT. Hair and DNA can only be tested by comparing them to known control samples. If they don't match to any known samples, then the result will be in

conclusive. Think about it. The only way you could positively identify a hair or DNA sample as coming from a Bigfoot is if you had a known, beyond-a-shadow-of-a-doubt sample of Bigfoot hair or DNA to compare it to. If you had such a substantial sample that it was known beyond all doubt to be Bigfoot then you wouldn't have to resort to the DNA analysis. The mystery would already have been solved by conventional means at that point. I always have to shake my head whenever I see or hear of someone chasing the unmatched trace DNA in bits of hair and feces and the like trying to use it as proof, always to no avail. But I wouldn't tell you not to bother collecting this type of evidence, since it's as close as most of us will ever come to actually holding in our hands a bit of the unknown. If you're the sort who is into UFOs, it's sort of like going to Roswell and finding a sliver of metal in the side of that hill. There's no real way of knowing, but it could be. And that's

personally satisfying for a lot of people.

Anecdotal evidence. This includes eyewitness accounts and the second-hand stories that you always hear. Keep in mind that human eyewitnesses are notoriously unreliable, and no two people will describe anything, much less a Bigfoot, in exactly the same way. And since you weren't there when it happened, you not only have to deal with whatever facts the witness can give you but also the witness' own interpretation of those facts. Was it really a Bigfoot he heard screaming, was it really a panther, or was there really even a scream at all? Ultimately the witness might seem pretty sure, but you can never be. Two people may see the same animal at the same range at the same time. One will see a dark-colored animal with prominent ears; one may see a light-colored animal with no visible ears. The difference? Perhaps just the angle of the head and the angle of the ambient light on the hair with respect to each witness, which could be very differ-

ent. The veracity, abilities and motives of the witness come into play too. For these reasons and many others, eyewitness testimonies and anecdotes are intriguing but not worth much in the way of solid evidence. They are often the only things you as a researcher have to work with, but your interpretation of them is entirely subjective and you alone have to decide how to act on them.

6. THE BIGFOOT MYSTERY IS SOLVABLE, AND YOU CAN BE THE ONE WHO SOLVES IT.

If there is one great thing about the Bigfoot mystery above all other great mysteries, it's that it is within the reasonable capability of any ordinary person to decisively solve it. All it takes is to be at the right place at the right time and to be prepared. Think of all the other mysteries. Unless one crashed in my backyard, my chances of scientifically proving that alien spacecraft are visiting the Earth are pretty slim.

I have absolutely no idea how I could go about scientifically proving the existence of a ghost even if I thought I knew where one was. I would have to live close by a large lake reputedly inhabited by a monster for it to be practical for me to try to find it, and even then the cost of the equipment necessary to make a realistic effort would be prohibitive. The sea serpent would be many times worse. I'm pretty sure some people will make the trip to Mars in my lifetime and I'm just as sure I won't be one of them, so I can't re-search the "structures" on Mars. Most all of the other natural and man-made mysteries always seem to be in exotic far-flung locales that I can't afford to go to, and the paranormal subjects are by their nature not scientifically approachable.

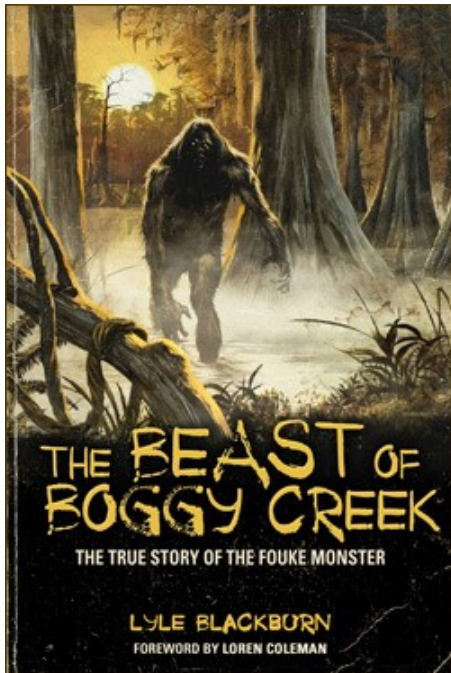
But Bigfoot is different. Bigfoot is the only mystery for which there does exist some objective evidence to support it. That evidence indicates the presence of the phenomenon in places as far apart as Washington State and Georgia. If for the sake of argument we accept that evidence, then it

stands to reason that it could be found in at least some areas in between. That means that the mystery is potentially accessible to a great many ordinary people. All they would need to do is think, study and plan logically, and occasionally visit an area that they think could be a viable habitat and be prepared for a possible encounter or to find evidence. Having a camera, tape recorder, sample bags and tweezers along with the normal camping and safety gear would be the only real necessities.

Keep this in mind. There are people who have been actively in the field after Bigfoot for decades working in the best possible areas. What do they have? A few pieces of plaster, a hair or two, a few pictures and a lot of stories. Most of them still haven't seen one. I've been an active field researcher for about seven years. What do I have? A few pieces of plaster, a hair or two, a few pictures and a lot of stories. I do think I've seen one a couple of times, but I'm not really sure. Most all of the witnesses who have encountered Bigfoot weren't even looking for it. They were just out and about one day and there it was. So don't let all this "have to spend a lot of time in

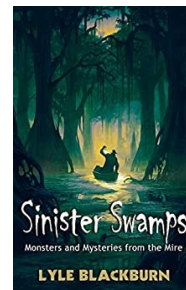
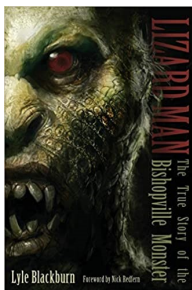
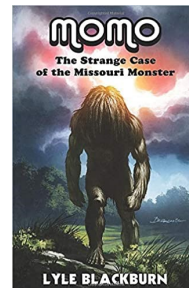
the woods and know all the secret knowledge and tricks" nonsense bother you. The real truth is that all that is factually known or reasonably speculated about Bigfoot to date can be learned in a few hours' reading. I don't know exactly what things it takes to find a Bigfoot, but one thing is obvious: sheer time spent in the field and lots of trivial knowledge certainly doesn't seem to be among them. It doesn't matter how long you have or haven't been looking for Bigfoot; whenever you do go out there, know that you're on the same level as any of us. But above all, you should behave as if you always expect success. That way you will always be prepared.

Book Review: The Beast of Boggy Creek



the famous movie, *The Legend of Boggy Creek*. Including correcting some of the wrong information portrayed in the movie.

Additional books written by Lyle are definitely books that you should always include into your Bigfoot library.



As books about Bigfoot generally go, the author usually just re-uses information found around the Internet or in other books, but this book, by Lyle Blackburn, definitely he goes into the field and does his research to put in his book.

By visiting his website, you can find further sighting reports and other great information related to the Legend of Boggy Creek.

He spends all his spare time going to the Fouke, Arkansas area in search of further information related to the Legend.

He even goes into detail about



The Debi Jones Hoax

This hoax was exposed through a collective effort of the MABRC, Bigfoot Outlaws and other independent researchers who discovered that Debi Jones was claiming audio from other sources as her own that she recorded elsewhere. Using the Ott audio from

YouTube that was posted in 2015 and presented it multiple times in presentations at conferences and on radio shows, and then at a conference in Texas, tried to present the Sierra Sounds as audio recorded by her when members of the audience

spoke up and confronted her about it. Follow the [link here](#).

We leave it up to you after watching the video whether she was guilty or not.



Let's Talk Bigfoot

With Randy
"Rebelistic" Savig

What is Bigfoot?

It appears there is no end to opinions to what an unknown critter called bigfoot is, let alone of what or does and does not do. Where it lives and where it does not. Heck, there is not even an agreement of it is a natural evolved critter or comes from ufos or another dimensions!

In this article let's talk about what bigfoot is?

One of the questions that seem to be asked on every podcast or video is, "What do you think is Bigfoot?" I hate that question. That answer should always be we do not know. Honestly, we do not know. Without having a body or proven DNA which requires a specimen that it can identify with we are all guessing and assuming. Period. You want to talk about controversy with egos going wild ask the self-proclaimed experts on opposite sides, grab some popcorn, and enjoy the show! There are a

lot of different ideas from just an ape, a hominid, an alien, interdimensional being, even a spirit or ghost.

People can hold deep feelings about what they think bigfoot is. There is where the problem lies. The whole problem is that when we think, believe, or feel something is, it closes our minds to the other possibilities. I wish that didn't happen, but it is innate in every person. Even the humblest and openminded person has a real hard time following the evidence once they form an opinion. Scientists even do this. Science does not fail to give answers. But if something does not fit the scientist's thoughts it's usually disregarded. So, us amateur scientists, researchers, or investigators sure ain't immune to it.

It sure seems so easy for a person once their mind thinks something that it is so easy to intentionally or unintentionally dismiss things that do not fit in that box in their minds.

The two prevailing thoughts

with those who know bigfoot are flesh and blood that are most discussed in the bigfoot community are ape and hominin. Let's first look at what both can agree on. These critters are primate, live wild in the wilderness. They are flesh and blood critters that leave evidence any other living critters leave in their environment. They are tall, muscular, hairy, have a viable breeding population, live off the land, and are elusive.

From there things can get more opinionated. And honestly it is just an opinion until we get viable DNA and a specimen to compare it too. But none the less let's discuss both sides.

Ape hypothesis says it an undiscovered ape. One that came here from across the Bering Land Bridge as so many other critters did at different times as the ice receded. There is a possible extinct ape that seems to lead as the candidate that it is or evolved from, Gigantopithecus blacki.

From the limited remains found of this critter it sure would appear to fit with the size reported in the bigfoot sightings. Science has said that it was an ape that lived pretty much exclusively in the forest and was an herbivore. It was not until recently that science discovered that some of the great apes ate meat. So, it would not be out of speculation to think that, Gigantopithecus would of also or may have evolved to eat meat as is reported in bigfoot. I think with the limited fossil record in forested areas it is also very possible that it could be a distinctively different ape species. One interesting thing that matches uncandidly with a known great ape is the red color that is frequently reported with bigfoot matches the orangutan. All of the great apes live in wooded forest environments as does bigfoot so there is a lot of common traits. One thing that has to be questioned is all the great apes live in tropical areas only, whereas bigfoot does not need to. Adaptation? It sure could be, as we see that in a lot of critters. Another thing that is noted to be a good indication of bigfoot being an ape is the ease it has to be on all fours like an ape. Knuckle and print casts as well as what appear to be a midtarsal break in

the foot would make it easy for it to do so. However, bigfoot is so much more fluent with bipedal walking than the great apes. It would seem that bipedalism is preferred by bigfoot as the reports of quadruped locomotion are limited in the sighting's reports. Now I am one who will be the first to acknowledge that it would be extremely easy to misidentify a bigfoot if it were on all fours leaving an area. Just as easy as a bear could be misidentified as a bigfoot when it is standing on its hind legs.

Next, we have the Hominin hypothesis. This hypothesis also claims to have come over on the Land bridge. This one is the one that most researchers that have been around for 20+ years or a strong religious background seem to have a lot of trouble with. However, it seems that the newer researchers are far too easily saying yes to it and denying the known abilities of the great apes, as well as trying to affix modern human qualities to them. It seems because they walk upright like people do that, they have to be human is a common thought. Not very much to base an idea on in my opinion. So, let's look at some of the things described that could lead credence to it being a hominin.

First there is a conciseness that bigfoot curious about people. I have not seen any studies that say that it is a common behavior in wild apes. Then there are a lot of reports of a very human like face verses an ape face. There are a lot of drawing made by artists that do show a face that is very hominin than it is ape. Sightings reports by reliable witnesses that state that also. We do have a fossil record of large extinct hominins that could be a candidate. Is it possible that they did not go extinct? There is ample evidence for critters thought to be extinct or exterminated that pop up all the time. Science has yet to answer if the other hominins were hair covered or naked like us. If an ape could stay undiscovered in the forests throughout the world, why couldn't a hominin? By using the human example of hominin, we did not evolve to withstand the environment without manipulating it a lot due to our weaknesses, but we did it. So why is it so hard to think a hominin that evolved differently would have to be like us? If all hominins evolved the same, they would all still be here today. It is said that IF we are the only hominin on the earth at this time, that it would be the

first time ever in the history or the planet that that has occurred. One falsehood that I have heard for the hominin hypothesis is that they can avoid man better than any ape can. This is nonsense. Apes have avoided people for years and years or new ones would not still be being discovered. From my experience people are not that observant and usually do not see things that are in plain sight let alone trying to elude us.

Now let's look at some of the possible evidence that bigfoot could be a hominin. I think it is pretty much a known fact

with researchers that Bigfoot mimics. At this time hominins are the only known critter to have the hyoid bone in the correct location to be able to do that. None of the known great apes have that ability. Then you have the most heated debate, the chatter, talk or whatever you want to call it. It is spouted all the time as proof that it has to be a hominin as no ape can do that. My answer to that is KNOWN ape. But without knowing what we are dealing with we cannot say it is not an ape. We will get into vocalization and sounds in another article. So why should any of this matter? As I said earlier,

when we allow ourselves a mindset on what bigfoot is, we can too easily dismiss the other side. Whether ape or hominin I can guarantee they have more in common than they have different. The little piece of the puzzle that could make a world of difference may come from either side. But if both sides spend more time arguing than sharing and listening it will be missed completely. Follow the evidence even if it rubs you wrong. Something this complex is not going to be simple, or easy. But we do not have to make it harder than what it has to be.

2020 Arkansas Bigfoot Conference is canceled

Robert "Laughsquatch" Swain recently announced the cancelation of the 2020 Arkansas Bigfoot Conference due to the Covid Pandemic, as the facility where it would be held has closed down to all events until further notice.

The cost of supplying masks and other supplies to pre-

vent attendees from catching Covid as well as the inflated cost of insurance has made it untenable to hold due to the costs.

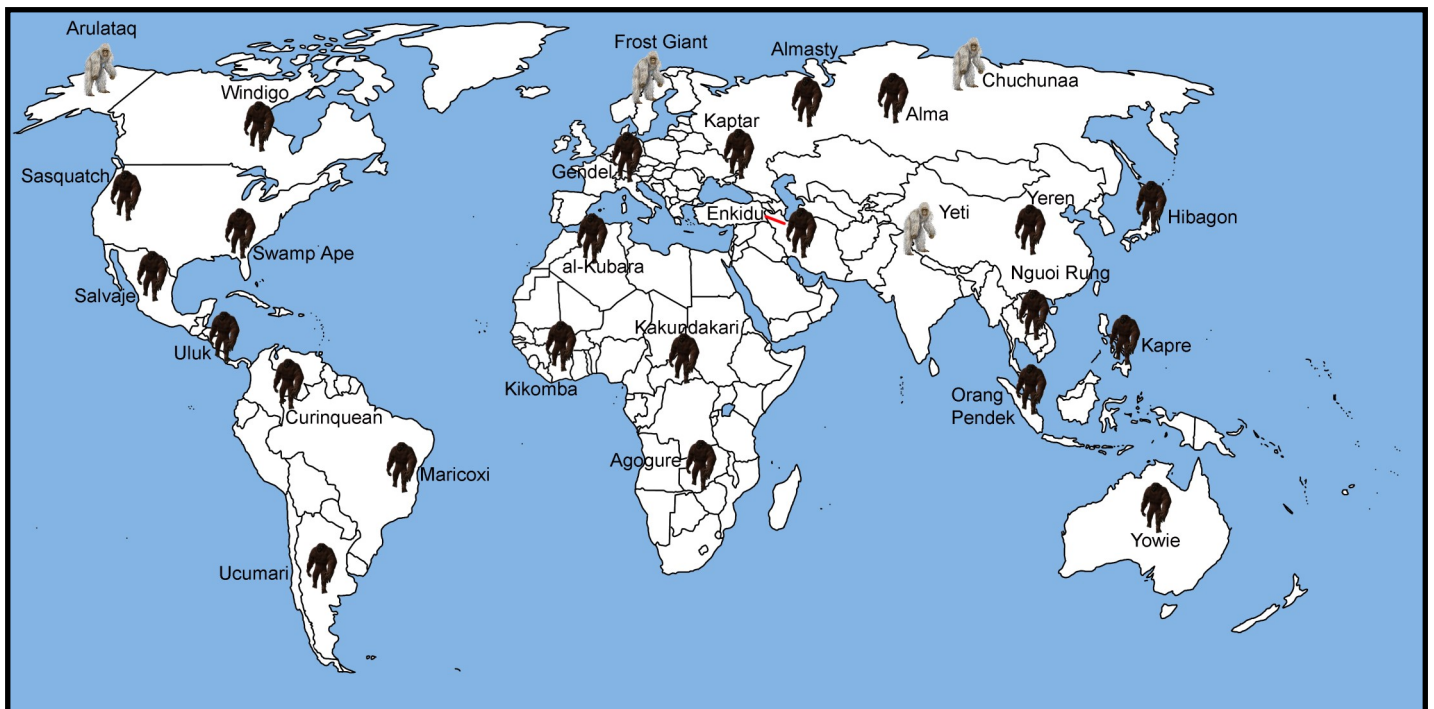
2021 will see a return of the Arkansas Bigfoot Conference once the pandemic is over with.

We look forward to being able to report on that event when it happens.



Guess the movie!!

The movie scene below is perhaps one of the most chilling scenes of the entire movie, and really made sense out of the movie for me. Can you guess from the scene, what movie it was? The answer is on the back page of the magazine.



Lights and Bigfoot



There is much debate on how lights affect research in the field. Experienced researchers go into the woods at night with little lighting, eager for encounters with Bigfoot in the dark. This is not to say they don't carry flashlights, but the option to use the light until absolutely necessary is what many do.

When in the field, do not shine your flashlight at every noise or shadow, as this will usually force the Bigfoot to maintain a healthy safe distance away from you and decrease your chances of an encounter.

Bigfoot will avoid light sources whenever possible, and in this respect, always choose locations

to research that lighting will not have an effect on your chances of bringing Bigfoot close in to you. Use lighting to also benefit you, pick spots to sit that allow you to view ridgelines and other prominent features with the available lighting provided by stars, the moon, and even residential lighting from yard lights and housing if possible. Sometimes, you will see movement between yourself and the lighting.

The MABRC Senior Researchers have also been using small cameras mounted on spotlights, so that when the necessity to light up an area where it's suspected a Bigfoot is located at, the camera will record wherever the light shines at.

Always remember, that when using a flashlight, it can become a showstopper, bringing a halt to any activity being committed by a Bigfoot in your immediate vicinity if you shine it at them.

There are some cases where the Bigfoot will continue to stay in the area, throwing rocks and doing other intimidation tactics to show their displeasure at the lights being shined into the woods around them.

Using small camp lanterns in your camp can also be used to spot eyeshine from Bigfoot around your camp or location, be sure though to keep the lanterns behind you, so that it does not affect your night vision.

One particular instance, a landowner who had lots of activity, placed motion-sensing lights around his house, it did not take long before he noticed a line of small rocks being placed at the exact line where the lights would detect motion. It's speculated that the local Bigfoot had figured out how close they could come to those lights before they would light up the area.

Placing rocks in an arc around the lights gave the Bigfoot a border that they could see and avoid the motion sensing lights.

The landowner actually moved these lines closer to the lights, and after several times of the lights being activated, the rocks were moved back to the original lines by whoever or whatever activated the lights.

Just food for thought.

MABRC Cast Exchange Program



The MABRC has initiated a Bigfoot/Sasquatch cast exchange program under the direction of Jim "Bigjimm" Whitehead, MABRC Western Oklahoma State Co-Director. Under this program, individuals and groups can contact the MABRC or Bigjimm, and inquire about a trade of copies of the casts. Or you can use the contact form at the bottom of this Blog and someone will contact you. The MABRC will trade a copy of any cast in their collection with a copy of one that the

person contacting us either cast themselves, or acquired from another source.

No original casts will be traded, only copies.

The party sending the cast will be responsible for their own shipping, while the MABRC will be responsible for shipping of their copy. All casts will be cataloged, accredited to the original discoverer and the donator if they wish.

The purpose of the program is to build a collection of casts from all over North America in this region that ALL Researchers from ALL groups that research in the region will have access to for comparison purposes.

In the future, the MABRC will photograph the casts in the collection along with measurements and post them in the OSSIE Database. This will allow researchers to also view important details online, instead of having to travel long distances to examine the casts.

Armchair Researchers = Analysts



The MABRC was the first Bigfoot Research Organization to recognize the potential of having armchair researchers within its ranks, even giving them an appropriate title, Analysts.

Other groups have followed in the MABRC's leadership in this, and once again, the MABRC is changing the way Bigfoot research is being conducted.

Analysts perform a wide range of duties that frees up the Field Researchers to spend more time in the field, not behind a computer

or watching video on a screen for hours at a time.

Analysts fulfill duties such as analyzing photos, video, audio recordings, posting sighting reports, articles and papers on the forum.

They also help in the writing of research protocols and policies that can give the Field Researchers guidance in the field to being back their evidence in a manner that can withstand scientific scrutiny.

Currently, many of the major

research projects being conducted by the MABRC, from biome/food information to sighting report analysis is being conducted by the MABRC Analysts. A recent camera project produced over 10,000 hours of combined footage that require extensive time to review, thanks to MABRC Analysts, that time taken to review it has been cut down considerably.

Many individuals have applied to other organizations and have been turned down due to physical limitations or health factors, the MABRC does not turn those folks away. In the MABRC, our Analysts provide a great support system for those in the field, and are considered just as important as the field researchers that are out beating the bushes for Bigfoot.

Anyone wanting to join the MABRC as an Analyst is more than welcome with in the organization, and feel as much a part of the MABRC family as any other member.

Comparison Photos

When you post a picture that you think may contain a Bigfoot in it, be prepared to be asked for comparison photos of the same location from different times. Too many people fall under the matrixing issue, believing that they have a Bigfoot, yet if they would take the time to review comparison pictures, they would either realize that they are seeing shadows or even leaves creating the impression of a face. If the same view is there a day later, then claiming it was a Bigfoot in the first place only erodes any credibility you hoped to of gained from the original picture. The MABRC requires any picture turned into them for evaluation to be accompanied by comparison photos, and other groups should always have that requirement too, for anything turned into them. You should never give anyone a free pass without the accompanying comparison photos to evaluate.

It is also MABRC policy to always ask for comparison photos whenever a photo is

submitted to us for evaluation.

The following photo illustrates the need for comparison photos. The lady who sent this in, thought a Bigfoot was standing at the end of her driveway, and she took the photo.



Upon on-site analysis and taking the comparison photos, it was discovered to be dark leaves in a brush pile that resembled a humanoid type figure.



Using a BB Gun



Or a paintball gun.

Seen a post today about using a paintball gun, and it made me think about a seldom used technique by MABRC researchers that don't have thermals can use while researching.

If you think you have a Bigfoot standing in the underbrush, but don't want to approach it. Take

a BB gun and simply shoot into the shadow where you think it is standing. If it moves, then you know it was a Bigfoot, if it doesn't, then it wasn't nothing more than a shadow. A paintball gun has the same effect. The Bigfoot more than likely will only react to it like a bug bite, but will move.

Many will claim that this will infuriate the Bigfoot and make it attack, I have used this technique before, and I still have all my arms and legs. I have seen two shadows move after being hit with the BB gun.

Bigfoot Field Guide Website

In the interest of consolidating our many platforms, the Bigfoot Field Guide Blog has been migrating over to our new website, www.bigfootfieldguide.com and even though we have lots of dust there from the construction, we welcome our subscribers to go

over and check out the site. You don't have to register, all content is free to the public with the exception of the content found in the magazine, which is only available by subscription, and eventually as single issue purchases. It's still a lot cheaper to buy the sub-

scription, and we appreciate all of you who have done so.

So check out the new website and enjoy it's features.

Into The Collections: A Look At The Candidates

By Jim “Bigjimm” Whitehead, MABRC Oklahoma State Director.

Part 1: Gigantopithecus and Indopithecus

Over the years I have heard a lot of speculation as to what bigfoot could be.

Over the years various creatures have been proposed as a possible candidate for the ancestor for bigfoot. I figured it would pay to look at the most commonly proposed suspects. This will be the first of series of articles in the magazine looking at the fossil candidates that are often proposed as the true identity of bigfoot. In this first part, we are going to look at the most famous bigfoot candidate of them all.

Gigantopithecus And Indopithecus

No fossil creature has been the subject of bigfoot communities attention more than Gigantopithecus. It was the largest ape that ever lived. It is also an ape that is also subject to a lot

of controversy in the scientific community. Gigantopithecus and its close relative Indopithecus (which is often considered a subspecies of Gigantopithecus), are known from rather scant fossil remains. This has led some scientists to wildly speculate about the enigmatic creatures, and some of that speculation has led to some serious misconceptions. Indopithecus was first described in 1915 as a species of Dryopithecus, a chimp-like ape that lived in Europe. It was then moved over to the genus Sivapithecus, a genus of ancient orangutans. In 1950, it was decided that while its size and robustness were enough to give the fossils their own genus, and Indopithecus was created. Then in 1979, it was decided that it was closely related to Gigantopithecus and lumped in with that species. In 2019 the genus Indopithecus was officially reestablished; as the creature was deemed different enough from Gigantopithecus to be its own genus. Gigantopithecus itself was discovered in a bone market

in 1935 and was correctly identified as a close relative of Sivapithecus by anthropologist Ralph Von Koenigswald.

Much of the confusion lies in these fossils scant remains. Both giant apes are known only from teeth and jaws, which has led to some to make some rather bold assertions as to their anatomy. Despite being twice the size of Indopithecus, Gigantopithecus is closely related to the other ape, so much of the anatomy would have been shared, and any arguments about it would have to be applied to Indopithecus as well. The trouble with the giant apes started in 1939 when Dr. Robert Broom argued that the species was related to the African bipedal hominid Australopithecus. In 1945, this view was championed by Franz Weidenrich, who promoted an already outdated theory that the various human populations had evolved from apes in their local environment, and went on to

claim that all Asians were descended from it.. Today this view would be likely be considered racist, but for much of the early 20th century it was considered an accepted theory. The initial discoverer, Ralph von Koenigswag, also believed that it was a hominid, but argued that it was an offshoot of the human lineage. This led to arguments in the academic community about the relationships of the giant apes that lasted well into the 1980's. The late Dr. Grover Krantz agreed with Von Koenigswag, and noticed that the jaw had a U shaped curvature as opposed to the V shaped curvature of chimps and gorillas. This, along with the size of Gigantopithecus led him to speculate that the massive ape and bigfoot had to be one and the same. And the Bigfoot/ Gigantopithecus connection was born, and many bigfoot researchers have held onto that theory to this day.

However there are some major problems with the Gigantopithecus/ Bigfoot connection. Science marches on, and much of the confusion about Gigantopithecus and Indopithecus has been cleared up over the years. This is largely in part due to a more complete understanding of some of the giants close relatives that were lesser known. . As I

mentioned earlier, Gigantopithecus is closely related to the Sivapithecine apes. These include Sivapithecus, Ramapithecus, and Lufengpithecus. These apes are closely related and ancestral to the modern Orangutans. Many of the arguments of Gigantopithecus having been bipedal were also applicable to them as well. In fact, many outdated books listed Ramapithecus as a hominid as well. However, their Orangutan relationship has been revealed over time, and they are no longer considered hominids. And their connection the giant ape put serious strain on its possible status as a biped as well in the eyes of the academic community. Even the character Krantz used as evidence for their bipedalism, the U-shaped jaw, was found to common with Sivapithecine apes, which Gigantopithecus and Indopithecus are members. Even the modern Orangutan has the U shaped jaw. The reason for the hominid-like features are that the Sivapithecine apes are adapted for upright walking in the treetops, but not on the ground. These traits carried over to the giants. A recent paper described an in depth investigation of the tooth wear of Gigantopithecus to determine its diet. An early 2000's

study thought it resembled that wear of chimpanzees, but the new study found that the wear on the enamel was most consistent with that of grazing animals like cattle. In other words, Gigantopithecus and Indopithecus were herbivores; grazers that fed on grass, woody plants and tubers. There is no evidence of them being omnivorous, as we see in bigfoot reports. The final feature shared between Gigantopithecus and Bigfoot is size. However size can change real fast in a species. On the island of Crete, elephants shrank to the size of a pig in a few thousand years. Clearly, size is not a good feature to base a connection on.

With this, the status of Gigantopithecus, and by proxy Indopithecus as potential candidates for the true identity of bigfoot is on shaky ground. While the giants may not be the best candidates, there are other giant primates out there that may well be better candidates. In the next part, we will look into another huge fossil ape. This one is little known outside the academic community, and unlike gigantopithecus, the argument for its bipedalism is starting to appear to be growing stronger as we learn more about it.

Procedures for Shelter Evaluation

When locating what you suspect as being a shelter it is important to follow some very basic steps that will assist you in classifying it.

These procedures are also important in proper documentation, which will help your research credibility and overall understanding.

We will be dealing primarily with shelters at this point but most of the procedures are true for all constructs you find in the woods.

First and most importantly, when you find one, **DO NOT** start walking all over, jumping up and down, pulling material off or generally messing up any possible evidence that may be present.

Stay at least 10 feet away from the structure, you can even take a branch or use your foot to draw a rough circle around it as a reference point and no intrude zone (for the time being).

Make note in your field journal of location, date, time and initial observations, include GPS if you have that available. Also, note any ground conditions present at the location, is the ground

covered in leaf litter, is it grassy, or dirt. How, thick is the vegetation, trees, brush etc.

Now, take pictures of the structure from all angles possible, without entering the 10 foot circle. You cannot take too many photos. If the structure is particularly interesting I would even suggest picking a point, take a photo and step sideways take another picture, continuing to do so until you have circled the entire structure.

The majority of the time the ground will be covered in leaf litter, which really can assist your investigation greatly.

Pick a location, preferable in front of any opening and start removing the leaf litter within the circle. Take your time and pay close attention to the ground under the leaves. If the construct is human there is a very good chance you will find shoe or boot tracks under the leaves. If this is the case, do not stop your investigation, because you can still learn a great deal from doing it. Also, this does not automatically negate a bf possibility. Obviously, you are also looking for possible bf prints

under the leaves. However, finding human tracks at the location, you will have to pay closer attention to any possible bf tracks to insure they are not distorted human tracks.

Any tracks you find, make sure you photograph, even the human ones.

The next tracks to look for under the leaves are deer and bear. The reason being that both animals are opportunistic with shelters and will use human constructs in the woods. Also, document these tracks.

Your next step is to sketch the structure in your field journal, sketch it from the four cardinal points. Now, carefully measure the structure, noting your measurements on your sketches, including opening size.

Now move to the interior of the structure, look and see if there are any compression areas within. This is especially important if you can ascertain it is a relatively new construct. (It wasn't there last week.)

All animals including humans will leave compression areas if it was used for a shelter. If you find a compression area, measure and photograph it. If you are leaning toward it being a bf shelter, remove the contents, especially those in the compression area and secure them in bags, taking care not to contaminate them. You will go through the material at a later time in a clean environment to ascertain if there is any hair etc. in it.

Now examine the construct itself in detail, how old is the material, is there any cut marks, is there any weaving of material and if so how intricate. Any larger limbs or tree material, was it carried or dragged to the location (if dragged you should see the scuff marks on the ground when you removed the leaf litter.).

Make sure you note everything in your journal and take photos! There are a few basic types of human constructs made in the woods by, survivalists, hunters, boy scouts, kids and photographers. In some areas these can be plentiful, especially if any Boy Scout or survival classes were taught in the area. Take a little time and familiarize yourself with these. I will give a basic inscription on some of

them; it is by no means extensive, complete or definitive.

Debris Shelter: Primarily a survival shelter for protection from cold weather (even when it is cold outside you can be very warm in one)

Common construction: One end of a large limb or tree is placed in the crotch of a tree, stump rocks or other such to support the end 3-4 feet off the ground. The other end is left on the ground. Smaller limbs and brush are leaned against this to form an inverted "V". They are placed in sufficient number to support the cover. The cover is forest litter, creating an insulating blank of leaves etc. Very, very seldom with there be any cut marks on this type of shelter as it is made completely from available forest materials.

Tee Pee Shelter: Similar to a debris shelter, constructed when no notch or other suitable location is available. Both free standing and using an existing tree for support. These are more often made by boy scouts and kids, as they are much less efficient, less stable and more energy intensive to construct. Branches with leave material still attached is the prefer method of insulation as the angle of the structure is not great for holding leaf litter.

(Note: look for cut areas on the insulating branches, knife, saw etc. a good indicator of scouts and kids.)

Wikiups: These are domed structures, where brush is pulled to a center location from still rooted plants, secured and covered. If planned the blank or what ever will have been removed.

They may also be made by driving saplings into the ground. The frame work will usually be interwoven with horizontal brush. Not a survivalist structure, but is made by kids, scouts, native re-creationists. **Blinds:** Used by hunters and photographers, these are often only two or three sided. Consisting of loosely woven branches, with enough openings to allow for good views. Often times they are very loose weaves as the intent is as much to break up the human outline as it is to completely hide them. They can be found with or without foliage woven or stuck into them.



BIGFOOT MOVIE BEATDOWN

By Jim “Bigjimm” Whitehead

It’s been awhile since I did a Bigfoot Movie Beatdown, so today I picked one I actually enjoyed..... Sort of. 2006's Sasquatch Mountain. Or Devil on the Mountain. It was a sci-fi channel original movie, which usually means its crap, but in this case its complicated. The writers were fans of bigfoot and read up on the matter. But due to meddling from the sci-fi channel it went from a potentially amazing movie to a B movie at best. But not necessarily a bad one.



To understand the movie a little better, some background information is required. Originally, the movie was supposed to be a recreation of the famous

1924 Ape Canyon incident where Fred Beck and fellow miners fought off an attacking troop of sasquatch after shooting one that fell into the canyon. The writers envisioned it as basically “Cowboys Vs Bigfoot”. Then the Sci-Fi channel happened. Instead of miners they wanted outlaws. They demanded that the bigfoot movie be set in modern times. Outlaws became Bank Robbers. They wanted a story about the law hunting the criminals. Basically, the Sci-fi channel had somehow turned what would have been a dramatic film about a real bigfoot encounter into a crime drama with a little bigfoot thrown in.



One thing you are going to notice is that Lance Henrik-

sen is in it. He is cast as the big-name draw, but he is barely in it. He played a truck driver whose wife was killed by a bigfoot some years prior. This was a weird point in his career when he started taking roles in as many bigfoot movies as he could get. Seriously, he has been in Sasquatch/The Untold, Abominable, Sasquatch Mountain/ Devil On The Mountain, The Lost Tribe, and Big Legend. That’s five separate sasquatch films. It makes you wonder if he has an interest in the subject. That having been said, he really doesn’t contribute much to the story. He is just kind of there. If you paid for a big name actor....use him.



There are several annoying things with the film that you will notice. The first is that it was shot with this weird over exposed filter that makes everything look washed out and bright. Bigfoot movies should NEVER be bright. There was also the fact that area it was shot in was largely devoid of underbrush, it almost looked like a city park. It was shot in Arizona, and I really don't know if that's what the forests are like there. Again, I would have preferred SOMETHING for the bigfoot to hide behind. The flow of the movie is alright, things seem to progress, but there are some scenes that seem a bit slow. There is also the issue that there are some bizarre cuts and edits in the film that seem very noticeable. Some of the bigfoot attacks are quite comical as well. If you are expecting to see bodies ripped apart, I have bad news for you. This is more of a crime drama than a horror film.



As for the bigfoot itself, horror fans have derided it for not

looking scary. As a researcher, I have to say it looks great. This is one of the best-looking Bigfoot I have ever seen on film. There is nothing that stands out as making it a monster and not a plausible animal. The film "Letters from the Big Man" was given praise for its suit, but in all honesty this one is just as good. The suit looks so good that over the years stills from the film have been presented as "evidence" multiple times.



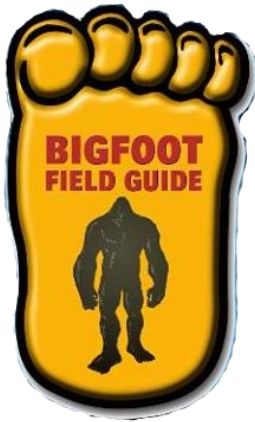
The creature is shown attacking humans, and it is eventually revealed that a local hermit had been feeding the creature(s), and they became habituated to getting that food. When he died, the now starving bigfoot was desperate. This is not an unrealistic scenario.

So overall, what do I think of the film. I am not going to pretend that it didn't have its problems.

But in the end, I did find it enjoyable. I think the actors were enjoying themselves, and as a crime drama it was okay. The bigfoot was one of the most impressive ones I have ever seen on film in regards with its appearance. Overall, if you have an afternoon to kill and can overlook the flaws, I'd give it a watch.

There are worse bigfoot movies out there.





Bigfoot Field Guide
Bringing the best information to our
readers.



Founded in 2001 by the MABRC, the Bigfoot Field Guide has expanded from its humble beginnings as a radio show, to videos, newsletters, magazines and the Bigfoot Field Guide blog, as well as maintaining a presence on Facebook.

Reporting a Sighting



The importance of turning in a sighting report is critical to Bigfoot Research, details from a sighting can be incorporated into a large database to formulate information that can show patterns in Bigfoot behavior, increasing the overall knowledge about the creatures.

If you have a sighting, there are numerous organizations out there to report it to, and at the MABRC, we take sighting reports through our website at <http://www.mabrc.com> and through e-mail at sighting@mabrc.com

Please give us contact information so that a researcher can contact you with further questions if necessary. All contact and location information is kept confidential to insure the witness' privacy.



The movie was "Abominable". Recommended watching