



## After deadline

# Is area UFO focal point?

*(Editor's note: The following is the second in a two-part series on UFOs.)*

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Staff Reporter

Dan Edwards, director of the UFO Contact Center, said he interviewed nearly 50 people during June and July who had been contacted by UFOs in King and Pierce counties. Of those 50, only two had what he considered invalid stories.

"The King-Pierce County area seems to be one of a number of focal points for contact around the nation," he said. "Lately, groups like ours are forming in those other focal points too. We don't know why, but there seems to be a trend."

The UFO Contact Center is a non-profit organization founded earlier this year to investigate UFO sightings. Other organizations, mainly government organizations, investigate them, too, but they do it in the wrong way, Edwards said.

"They want facts, only cold, hard facts. They learn nothing. We care about the individuals who have a contact. And we are trying to gain an awareness beyond facts," Edwards said.

### Awareness

Awareness is what UFO contact is all about, Edwards said. The beings that abduct people like Kathy are not studying us like specimens in a zoo, he said, but are instead passing on an awareness to us.

"People who have been contacted find themselves quietly driven to do things; read books, take courses in school they hadn't thought about before and so forth. They are being driven and directed," Edwards said.

Most of those individuals have been contacted more than once or will be, he said.

"I can't honestly say I know who is contacting us. I think they are probably from another galaxy, but I can't prove it," he said.

Note he said "contacting us." Both Edwards and wife Aileen say they have been contacted. Aileen was first contacted in 1953 while

driving through Eastern Oregon, he said. The night suddenly lit up with a brilliant green light. Her husband at first thought perhaps the atomic reactor at Hanford had exploded. They drove on, rounded a hill and the light was gone as quickly as it appeared. Since then, she has had other contacts, Edwards said.

Edwards had what he calls, "an awareness experience" in 1979. He woke up one night to

find three beings standing in the doorway of his bedroom. He said, "Oh no," turned his head and went back to sleep.

### Shoes moved

The next morning he found his pair of shoes near the head of his bed. He had not put them there. In addition, the toes of the shoes were crushed. They had been normal the night before.

Finally, he found a distinct puncture mark in his arm. Although he believed he had been contacted, he had no proof until a man called him.

The man claimed the beings had abducted him and taken him to Edwards room. When Edwards woke up, the room filled with a bright white light, the man said. Then one of the beings sent a gold-colored beam of light shooting from his hand to Edward's. It entered his body and then returned to the being which sparkled with different colors, Edwards said.

What does it mean? The colors of light seem to have meanings, Edwards said. Green involves mind-expansion, for example, he said.

Through hypnosis session at the Center, Edwards has heard similar stories from a number of people. He hypnotizes them to "Level Seven," which is one level above a state of hallucination, he said. Therefore, they remember what occurred accurately and often can later remember what they said during their hypnotic trance, he said.

### Self-taught

Edwards is not a school-trained hypnotist. He is self-taught through reading and practice and holds no educational or professional credentials.

He said he is especially careful during the sessions to suggest nothing to the contacts.

He does not know why contacts don't consciously remember their experiences. Many become nervous or troubled after a contact and are confused because they don't understand why. If a person has seen a UFO and feels unusual afterwards, they may have had contact, he said.

## Sighting reports raise questions

Unidentified flying objects are attractive things. They offer a taste of adventure in our often too-orderly world, a hint of the unexplained, the mysterious. They are the sort of thing we want to believe in.

Kathy's story (which appeared Thursday) is consistent. She appears sincere and, if appearances are an indicator, she seems to be telling the truth. Still, there are three reasons to doubt her:

- She did not hear the tapes of her hypnotic sessions. She saw only the transcripts, which jibe with her memory of the sessions. The UFO Contact Center would not let reporters listen to the tapes and, when asked, did not release copies of the transcripts.

- Her hypnotist, Dan Edwards, has no formal training in hypnotism. He is entirely self-taught.

- Although she says otherwise, Kathy may have a predisposition toward believing in UFOs. She said she used to watch them with her father when she was a child in Eastern Washington. Her father also claims to have been abducted by a UFO, although he never mentioned it to Kathy until after she revealed her experience to him.