

Contacted by aliens? Here's what you can do

By Don Carter
P-1 Reporter

Once you've been contacted by an alien from outer space, your life will never be the same again.

That obvious truth is behind a new organization called the UFO for Unidentified Flying Object Contact Center, which offers help to those who believe they've been contacted.

The center is the "baby" of Dan and Aileen Edwards, who say they perceived a big gap in the local UFO scene several years ago. Dan explains that other UFO organizations are devoted mainly to research and investigation of purported UFO sightings and that "they don't really care anything about the contactees themselves.

Noting that the person who's been contacted is often ridiculed by family and friends, Aileen observes that "they don't have anybody to talk to, confusion reigns supreme, and they may become very erratic in their behavior.

One of the center's first cases, Dan says, involved a woman who had seen a row of lights from her kitchen window and "became totally upset — she couldn't eat, and lost weight."

"Most of them think there's something wrong with them," his wife adds.

Group therapy

When the woman was hypnotized, the row of lights was found to be a row of windows — apparently the windows of a space craft.

The Edwards use hypnosis and what amounts to group therapy — talking with others who have had similar experiences — to help contactees bring out and deal with the emo-

tional problems. The group now has 30 members, and Dan estimates that 28 of them are "good, solid cases" with strong evidence of having been contacted.

Would you call this a social, political or religious activity?

"Yes on all three counts," Dan responds, explaining his view that a person contacted by aliens will undergo certain changes in his social, political and religious thinking.

"People who were religious before may become atheists after the contact," he says. "And those who were atheists before may become religious — they're astounded by this unknown."

The contactee who has been abducted against his will tends to be resentful at first. Dan says, "then they feel a love for them the aliens... and finally they're angered that they were left in the dark. In the end they're consciously unaware of what happened.

Gospel or symbolism

The Edwards believe that many people may have had contacts long ago, and that they were programmed not to remember what happened consciously. "The contact may have been 10 years ago, or when they were little kids," Dan says, "and it seems as if it were programmed to come to the surface at a certain time."

That's why hypnosis is a useful tool "to help people see what is locked within them," Dan says. But he adds that even with hypnosis, it often is difficult to sort out exactly what happened.

"Some people feel that everything they saw (when contacted) is the gospel truth. Others view it as sym-

bolism," he explains. But Dan says he is less concerned about interpretations than helping them to come back to earth. "We're not here to prove or disprove anything."

Both Aileen and Dan say they've had personal experiences with aliens. Some years back, Aileen was driving from Pendleton to Stanfield in Oregon. About midnight, the car was "engulfed with a green light — we could see the shadow of the wheat, and it stayed with us for about five miles."

Aileen says she knew nothing about UFOs at the time, and that the eerie experience drove her into a study of both Eastern and Western religions.

More recently, Dan says, "Under hypnosis she sees nothing about the green-light experience. It's our belief that she was abducted and programmed."

Dan, 37, had his experience about three years ago. He and Aileen were asleep when he "awoke to find three beings standing in the doorway... I said, 'Oh, no,' and went soundly back to sleep. It could have been a dream.

"But in the morning I had a brand new pair of shoes on my floor, and the toe of one of them had been crushed. Then I rolled over and found a pin-prick in my shoulder that hurt all the way through."

Dan says he's convinced it was an encounter with aliens, because the pin-prick matches physical symptoms reported by many other contactees.

Although he says there are hundreds of symptoms, the most common are "a shoulder pain like tendonitis or bursitis, a lower back problem about the third vertebrae up and a knee problem — when you dip, there's extreme

pain." All three of these places are acupuncture points that affect the intestine, Dan says, so that explains why many contactees suffer from constipation or diarrhea.

Points to ponder

Dan views the number of symptoms and experiences he hears about as being "like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle... everybody's got a piece."

Although he doesn't know how they all fit together, he believes that the increased number of reported alien contacts and the coincidental establishment of about a half-dozen contact centers in the past year may point toward some of the biblical prophecies in the Book of Revelations. "We believe in a creator," he says. "And I believe in it (the Bible) as being literal."

Dan, a quality-control supervisor in a local manufacturing company who doesn't want it named because his superiors may not approve of his avocation and Aileen, a Boeing secretary, met five years ago when both were volunteer workers with the local UFO Reporting Center. That organization investigates reports of UFO sightings.

The Edwards' UFO Contact Center has regular meetings, at 2 p.m. the last Sunday of each month in the Downtown Seattle Public Library. The meetings usually feature speakers who are experts on one of the many aspects of what's now called "UFOlogy."

In addition, the Edwards have a Friday evening "drop-in" at their South Seattle home for people who want to get together and share experiences. They welcome phone calls from contactees at 722-4655.



Dan and Aileen Edwards have formed a group to offer emotional support to those who feel they have had contact with a UFO

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