

# U wonder F-From above O-h how strange

By Betsy Schert

Staff Writer

The year was 1965 and it was in the fall. Pat Marcellio was on his way to his Trenton home after work. It had just turned nightfall and the stars were extremely bright this particular night.

Without warning, a satellite-like object flew up above. It took about three minutes to get from the horizon to just above Mr. Marcellio's head. Then, the object took a fast right turn and disappeared into the darkness.

"Jeez, I knew that was no satellite," Mr. Marcellio laughed as he recalled his first sighting of an unidentified flying object (UFO).

He said he wasn't scared at what he saw that fateful night in 1965, but his reaction was one of excitement. "When I saw it, I said 'Holy cow, that's got to be from some other world...'"

Mr. Marcellio is a member of a local UFO study group which meets occasionally at Twin Rivers Library. Presently the library has a display of books and drawings on UFOs.

Mr. Marcellio said over the past few years, scientists have started to believe in UFO's and are gathering "more and more new evidence."

Mr. Marcellio spotted two more UFO's on the same night just last year in Hamilton Square.

"My moon and I were leaving my sister's house in Hamilton Square," he explained. "We had just gotten into the car when my mom noticed two rosy pink and really brilliant lights, sort of like flares.

"They kind of looked like water tower lights. My mom said 'Look at that' and the two objects were moving. We pulled over as the objects went slowly across the sky."

Mr. Marcellio said both objects were silent and were just "brilliant, solid" lights. "We drove over to the Jamesway shopping center on Route 33 to see them better, but they disappeared between the trees. They headed toward Hightstown," Mr. Marcellio said. "We called the police, but they said they had no such reports. We also called my sister, and she said she saw them and was watching them also as soon as we left her house."

Mr. Marcellio said he believes these objects and similar ones are from "other planets or solar systems." To help support this phenomenon he began the Central New Jersey UFO Study Group in three years ago with the help of a friend, Tom Benson, of Hamilton Township.

"I first became interested in UFO's in 1955. My neighbor gave me a book which I found to be exciting. I then found out about a couple of organizations," Mr. Marcellio said. "It was first a hobby, then a research

project. Now I'm heavily into the study of abductions."

Mr. Marcellio, at one time, was member of the National Investigative Commission on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) and the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO). Now he is a member of Central for UFO Studies (CUFOS) and Mutual UFO Network (MUFON). Presently there about 30 to 40 members of the study group who meet once a month. At these meetings, they discuss any sightings, new evidence and problems, such as skepticism from others.

"People do say we're crazy," Mr. Marcellio concedes. "That's why the people in our group are really happy because they know we all believe in UFO's."

He said he has been collecting photos for the last 30 years. His collection now amounts to "several hundred photos" many of which are discussed in the group meetings.

Mr. Marcellio has a sincere concern and belief for UFO's and any "beings" or aliens.

"I think they (aliens) are visiting us now and making themselves known slowly over the generations," he said. "They're also observing us now which we have eye-witnessers for."

He stated a scientifically authenticated case occurred in North Jersey about 10 years ago when someone spotted "humanoids" (human-like beings) taking soil samples and putting them into bags. This occurred in two consistent nights.

"These beings will study us like we study animals," Mr. Marcellio said.

"They implant something inside of us to keep an eye on us or to call us for physical exams. They will take skin, blood and different kinds of examinations or tell us we have a mission in life," he said.

Laurie Frischer, 32, of Plainboro, is also a member of the Central NJ-UFO Study Group.

"I only joined the group last year, but I've always been curious about UFO's my whole life," Ms. Frischer said. "Ever since I was a child I was always fascinated by the stars."

Ms. Frischer said her first sighting was around 1975.

"I had seen a light in the Las Vegas area that was making unusual movements. I knew no military equipment was capable of that kind of movement. It was going up and down and sideways. It was really strange."

Ms. Frischer said she never reported the sighting.

She believes if you gravitate toward the center of the galaxy, you will find "more advanced life forms than we are."

"Other beings are probably more advanced than us emotionally and physically," Ms. Frischer said adding, "I'm assuming there is life other than earth."