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The BIGFOOT ABSTRACT, publication of the BIGFOOT INFORMATION PROJECT, is published on an irregular basis. At present time subscription rates are not available.

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### USING THE BIGFOOT LISTINGS

By Mark Opsasnick Director/Editor

I've received a number of inquiries concerning my MARYLAND BIGFOOT REFERENCE GUIDE and subsequent additions listing published in BIGFOOT ABSTRACT #1 (April 1988) and I feel a few comments are in order to clarify my own position. The purpose of these listings is to provide researchers with a source of reference for alleged Bigfoot sightings from the state of Maryland. I am in no way endorsing all of these alleged sightings as genuine, as anyone knows that validating Bigfoot reports is simply impossible. My goal is to provide a brief description of the sighting and then list the corresponding literature that goes with it or the investigator that brought the report to my attention.

A good example would be the many Dwayyo references (Dwayyo being the regional name given to Bigfoot) which were on the list in BIGFOOT ABSTRACT #1. Common sense should tell you that many of the entries have no credibility - for instance, there is no way that University of Maryland students can have these things locked up in their dorm rooms - BUT its not my job to pronounce judgement on any of these reports. I am simply compiling a comprehensive data base for everyone to use. Should I ever become aware that a particular sighting report is a hoax (and this can only happen if an eyewitness personally tells me that he/she fabricated a claim), I will make a note of that in a future listing.

Of course I do have an opinion as to the credibility of each sighting, but I will not make it public. If anyone wants my opinion on any Bigfoot report, they can contact me personally.

ETC., ETC.

If you received the first two free issues of the BIGFOOT ABSTRACT, it indicated that you were considered a correspondent and I appreciated your past research efforts. In the future (probably beginning with issue #3) the BIGFOOT ABSTRACT will increase in size and quality and individual issues will be sold. Free copies will be distributed only to those organizations with whom we are exchanging publications. Sorry, but I ain't rich.

By the time you receive this I'll be in Boise, Idaho and there is really no way to get in touch with me unless I contact you. Again, I ask that all publications and magazines continue to be sent to my Greenbelt address until further notice. Any other correspondence should be sent to BIP c/o STRANGE MAGAZINE P.O. Box 2246 Rockville, Maryland 20852. Despite the move to Idaho, a number of BIP projects are underway, including the

indexing of our files and a list of BIP participant guidelines. Both of these items should appear in the next BIGFOOT ABSTRACT. If you don't receive the BIB or Ray Nelke's COUD-I research kits, you will probably be notified by mail when issue #3 is available.

Recently I had a couple of articles published which may be of interest to Maryland Bigfoot followers. First, the April 1988 edition of The GATE includes a piece by myself titled "Maryland Bigfoot Captured on Film?" which is an attempt at taking an objective look at Dennis Volkman's September 2, 1986 videotape which he shot in Patapsco Valley State Park. Reactions to this article have been mixed, but I feel that if anyone is going to review a videotape of an alleged Bigfoot taken here in Maryland, it should be me. I tried to give it full and fair consideration. Secondly, the BIGFOOT CO-OP for April 1988 included my "Encounters With Maryland's Bigfoot" in one of their "On The Trail - Journal of a Researcher" columns. This deals with the unknown animal tracks which I discovered on 1-17-88 in Laurel, Maryland and includes some area Bigfoot sightings. If anyone is interested in obtaining pictures of these tracks, drop me a line and we'll work out some type of arrangement. I shot one roll of color and one roll of black and white and they both turned out well. Is Bigfoot really wandering P.G. County these days? I kinda doubt it, but I certainly can't explain these tracks and I do have great faith in several eyewitness accounts from the 1970's. I also wouldn't rule out that Bigfoot could be travelling by sewer (akin to those Buena Park, California reports of 1982), which could explain his ventures so close to the big city.

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The MARYLAND BIGFOOT REFERENCE GUIDE is still available from Arcturus Book Service for \$3.50 plus 85¢ postage and handling. While you're at it, you might want to send \$5.00 to Arcturus for a year's subscription to their catalogs. While wandering through Albany, New York back in June 1986 I happened to drop in unexpectedly upon Bob Girard (Arcturus' hardworking proprietor) and was simply amazed at the amount of UFO/Bigfoot material that they had at their disposal. Bob Girard is a great person and was quite helpful to this stranger off the street seeking monster info. I give Arcturus my highest recommendation. For more information send an S.A.S.E. to Arcturus Book Service P.O. Box 831383 Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083-0023 or call Bob Girard at 1-404-297-4624. He might just have that long lost book or magazine that you've been searching for!

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In closing, BIP must take time out and give special thanks to our friend Warren Thompson of the Bay Area Group and Mark Chorvinsky of STRANGE Magazine for their recent input and research efforts. BIP is currently working in conjunction with Mark C. and his STRANGE co-horts and all of our file material is being donated to the STRANGE Archives

Till the next issue

Mark Opsasnick