

THE  
**BIGFOOT ABSTRACT**

A Publication of the Bigfoot Information Project

*A Division of Strange Research and Investigations*

ISSUE #4 JULY 1988

\*\*\*\*\*

The Bigfoot Abstract is published on an irregular basis and at present time subscription rates are not available. Mark Opsasnick is the current newsletter editor and project director.

Address correspondence to: Mark Opsasnick, 114 Rosewood Drive, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770.

\*\*\*\*\*

FROM THE EDITOR

Since the Bigfoot Abstract, thus far, has mainly been sent out for free to my numerous friends and correspondents, I must give the following notice. If I am currently exchanging publications with you, you will remain in good standing and will likely receive the next issue for free as well. The envelope in which you received this issue will be marked with a large red "OK". If I am not exchanging publications with you and the outside of this envelope has no red markings of any kind, it means that I must hear from you in the not-too-distant future and receive something in exchange like Bigfoot clippings, etc. or you will be removed from the list. Sorry, but the lack of funds means that the mailing list will be cut. In order to make my job easier, please feel free to send off xerox copies of this newsletter to any of your friends and please, those who are receiving this publication through our friend Ray Nelke's COUD-I service should not request to receive copies directly from me. Expenses must be kept at a minimum. I deeply appreciate your cooperation.

\*\*\*\*\*

MORE MARYLAND MONSTER REFERENCES

By Mark Opsasnick

Recent newspaper searches have uncovered the following:

1. 1902 Frederick County The Baltimore Morning Sun of July 28, 1949 mentions that a creature called the "Gyascutus" was reportedly seen lying across Carroll Creek, causing a flood. Apparently a tongue-in-cheek reference.
2. November 1932 Frederick Frederick County The Frederick News of November 30, 1932 states that a young lady and her boyfriend were driving down a road just over the ridge from

Mt. Olivet cemetery when they encountered a creature they described as "dark, bulky, and frightful". The creature dashed into the woods as the couple swerved to the left.

3. 1870 Frederick Frederick County The Frederick News of November 30, 1932 relayed stories of the "Jabowak", a creature with a "horrible face" which would peer into the windows of residents of McMurray Street. The clipping called it a "stalking animal unlike any even zoologist would recognize." The creature was said to have great height and was frequently climbing fences. A large dog was shot and was held responsible for the sightings.
4. 1890 Creagerstown Frederick County The Frederick News of December 1, 1932 printed accounts of the Jabberwok, which was described as being lizard-headed, humpbacked, long-tailed, and web-footed. Tracks were found and the creature was reported from Creagerstown to Graceham to Thurmont.
5. Summer 1973 Prince George's County A reference to the Goatman is printed on page 233 of Jim Brandon's THE REBIRTH OF PAN: HIDDEN FACES OF THE AMERICAN EARTH SPIRIT (Firebird Press, Dunlap, Ill. 1983).

#####

#### CURRENT OHIO BIGFOOT ACTIVITY

By Mark Opsasnick

In early May 1988 I had an opportunity to visit with Mark Francis and Don Keating, two Ohio Bigfoot investigators who are currently working in a very active region. In an effort not to reveal any specifics about the current research these men are doing, I can mainly suggest that you contact them yourselves to obtain any desired and pertinent information. What I can tell you is that both men were very friendly and open with their materials and I was quite surprised at the amount of evidence that has been collected which leads me to believe that Ohio is probably the hottest Bigfoot region in the country as of this writing.

During the fall of 1985, both Mark and Don were involved in monitoring the home of Dave Tyo and Floyd Wylie who live just over the Guernsey County line, south of Newcomerstown. Floyd and Dave had numerous sightings of the creatures on their property and Mark Francis related a stunning tale of how one evening while surveying the surrounding wooded area six sets of glowing red eyes appeared on the woodline, at various heights off the ground. Mark related that it sounded like a stampede of elephants when the creatures retreated. No body forms were ever seen that evening, just the glowing red eyes. I must admit that I never believed the "glowing" aspect of the Bigfoot eyes. I always preferred to think that the eyes were reflecting from some light source. After talking with Mark and seeing evidence from Don Keating's collection, I have to change my mind. Many other strange events took place on that property during the fall of 1985, including a sighting of a 9 foot tall white, bipedal creature on September 15, 1985 by Don Keating.

Don Keating, along with another Ohio researcher named Tom Archer, took a videotape of some type of creature at an undisclosed Ohio location around Newcomerstown during the mid 1980's (for details on dates and locations you'd better check with Don). Don related that several Bigfoot investigators who had seen the video were quick to dismiss it as a deer. I was allowed to view the

videotape and was quite intrigued by the images on the screen. The whole incident lasts only a few seconds and it is very hard to see the creature on the tape (it appears in the background of some scenery footage that was shot for a video that Don was working on). While the quality isn't that great, one can definitely make out the head of a dark brown or black creature sticking out above the weeds, ducking back down, then coming back up. This takes place two or three times, then the creature appears to turn and move away. In closely viewing this tape, I could not make out any type of neck at all, which would have been evident if it were a deer. Of course, as I said, the quality of the picture isn't great.

Conclusions? That's all but impossible. I think it is just as hard to say this creature in the video is a deer as it is to say its a Bigfoot. The truth is that we will probably never know for sure. However, this piece of evidence simply cannot be dismissed as a deer and then ignored. It appears that those with a personal vendetta against Don Keating are the biggest critics of this videotape. Given that there is valid Bigfoot activity in Ohio, and based on what I have seen I now believe there is, there is a very good chance that Don Keating has captured the real thing on tape. However, until a piece of film as clear as the Patterson-Gimlin film comes along, we're stuck. I really don't know if any type of photo-enhancement techniques would help make the images on Keating's video any clearer, or if the images can be blown up at all, but I feel it would be worth a try. Meanwhile, footprints continue to be found and sightings continue to crop up in Eastern Ohio.

For more information on any Ohio activity you might want to contact Don Keating or Mark Francis directly. Don Keating currently publishes a Bigfoot News newsletter and this would be an excellent way to keep up with what's going on in the Eastern Ohio region. When writing to these individuals, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope to insure a reply.

Eastern Ohio Bigfoot Investigation Center, Don Keating, 535 Heller Drive, Newcomerstown, Ohio 43832.

Ohio Bigfoot Research Group, Mark Francis, 1923 Glenwood Drive Twinsburg, Ohio 44087.

I extend my sincere appreciation to both Don and Mark for the hospitality they showed during my visit. A special thanks also goes out to Ron Schaffner whom I met in Cincinnati. Unfortunately Southwest Ohio hasn't had any recent Bigfoot activity so there is nothing to report. However, Ron still operates along with Charles Wilhelm, the Ohio UFO Investigator's League and publishes CREATURE CHRONICLES. Write to:

OUFOL, Ron Schaffner, P.O. Box 44062, Cincinnati, Ohio 45244.