



# MUFON

Mutual UFO Network

**UFO HOTLINE:**  
**1-800-UFO-2166**

## ARIZONA CHAPTER

Volume 5 / Issue 9

*The Truth is Out There . . .*

### **PROGRAM: "Alien Abduction Update"**

**MEETING DATE: Wednesday, October 23, 1996 • MEETING TIME: 7:30 p.m. SHARP**

**LOCATION: 5636 E. McDowell Road - National Guard Armory**

**(East of 52nd St. on McDowell; then North on Bushmaster Blvd. into Armory)**

**Tom Taylor**

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520/627-2461

**Mary Hart**

Newsletter Producer  
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**"Whitey" Reese**

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**Chance Vallon**

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520/758-7250

### **DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

I missed viewing the tethered satellite a few months ago (I was looking in the wrong direction when it went by!!), but I was definitely in the right place on October 3 to see the meteor (or whatever it was) that flashed through the night sky on its way to earth. I found out later that the object was viewed from Hawaii to New Mexico. If it was a meteor, it was *close and very big!!*

Those of you who attended last month's meeting had a real treat. Nearly all the UFO slides that were shown by our speaker, Antonio Huneus, were unusual and relatively unknown sightings! Antonio's story about the police in France coming to the home of witnesses to actually take a report of a UFO sighting, just like they'd take any other type of report, was fascinating! We can only hope our own *gendarmes* will someday be as open-minded.

On September 16 Acting Section Director Doris Barley of the Yuma County Chapter presented a certificate of Achievement to Bobbi Jones for completion of her Field Investigator Examination.

Whitey Reese held his first meeting of the Cochise County Chapter on September 28. We wish Whitey and his local group all the best and look forward to working closely with them as we attempt to do with all our outlying area chapters.

As announced at last month's meeting, I have appointed Earlene Ford as "Media Representative" of MUFON-AZ as she has done an outstanding job of promoting our organization.

It's a little early yet, but preliminary arrangements have been made for MUFON-AZ members to have a tour of the VLA (Very Large Array) in New Mexico sometime in May or June of 1997. You've seen these huge, white "dishes" (which are tuned to listen for radio signals from elsewhere in the universe) in many movies and TV shows from time to time; they're mounted on huge "railroad" tracks which enables them to be reconfigured for specific projects. This will be a wonderful and rare opportunity to see this fascinating facility and learn how scientists from around the world come to the VLA to perform various projects using the information

gathered from the dishes and run through the extensive computer system at the center. As it is about a 7- or 8-hour drive from the Phoenix area, we will probably fly to Albuquerque on Friday evening and then drive to the VLA on Saturday, take the tour, drive back to Albuquerque that evening, and take a late flight back to Phoenix. Perhaps some of the group can opt to stay overnight in Albuquerque, see some sights the next day, and fly back Sunday night instead. We will discuss this exciting trip more after the first of the year, and we will work out the details then.

## October

**NOTE: Due to the holidays in November and December, our meetings will be held on the THIRD WEDNESDAY of each of those months: November 20 and December 18.**

MUFON bumper stickers are finished and available for a \$1.00



donation per bumper sticker at our meetings. See Alan Morey at the meeting for details.

Plans are underway to bring in a well-known UFO personality involved in "Area 51" after the first of the year for our January or February meeting.

MUFON-AZ t-shirts make great Christmas gifts, and orders for a few more are needed before Earlene can make the next group order before the Holidays. Please call Earlene at 375-1942 to order yours for \$15.00 each.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meeting, and I think you will find the video of the actual removal of three implants most interesting. (We have edited the video to remove some of the more graphic scenes but have removed none of the factual information).

Keep your eyes to the sky!

Tom Taylor  
State Director

## Media Watch

by Tom Taylor



In the interest of keeping the UFO topic before the public, the following is a list of programs on the subject recently aired via television, radio and newspaper in recent weeks. We will attempt to list programs ahead of time whenever possible; unfortunately, we are often not notified of programs until it is too late to publish them in the Newsletter in time for members to view, hear or read them. In the case of TV and radio programs, ask at MUFON meetings to see if anyone is aware of someone who may have taped them to share.

***Always be sure to check current TV listings before viewing!***

Yet another early morning launch, this time of a rocket from White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico, was responsible for a flood of calls from 5 to 6 a.m. on October 9. The resulting contrail was lit up by the rising sun and turned into rainbow colors, providing a spectacular sight!

An alleged meteorite was reported around 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 3. This time I was in the perfect position for a good view; I was driving with a friend back from Tucson to Phoenix and was out in "open country" which provided a great view as the object lit the night sky with a bright green flash as it passed.

On Friday, October 11, the CBS Evening News it was reported that yet another sighting of life on Mars was found on a second meteorite, much younger than the first one.

It was also reported that several probes were planned to bring rock samples back to earth, but with it taking two years to get to Mars, it would be another decade before results could be determined.

The Learning Channel on cable TV featured an entire week of UFO programs during the week of September 30 through October 4.

On Sunday October 13 "Night Visitors" aired on Channel 12 at 8:00 p.m. featuring Faith Ford from Murphy Brown. As this newsletter went to print we had only seen the previews, which looked pretty interesting.

After getting off to a very good start, the new Channel 12 series "Dark Skies" is being pre-empted by baseball coverage for the next couple of Saturdays. We know there are plenty of sports enthusiasts in our midst, but in my personal opinion, I'd rather see a new show involving UFOs than watch a ball get hit around and umpires get spit on!!

Bruce Kerner, producer of the TV show "Dark Skies," was interviewed by Art Bell on "Coast to Coast" the week of October 1. It was interesting to hear that he was not particularly interested in UFOs and in the second segment, which was built around the Kennedy Assassination and Jesse Marcell, that Jesse Marcell, Jr. was never interviewed. What a shame.

It was recently reported that Steven Greer from the Center for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence recently videotaped a "spectacular"

UFO sighting in Scotland. Hopefully new information will be forthcoming.

On the evening of the recent lunar eclipse on September 26 (which was spectacular), several reports were received of UFO sightings in conjunction with that eclipse. We have no specific details at this time.

Also, this week Richard Motzer and I viewed some unusual photos taken the evening of the eclipse. Although they are probably not extraterrestrial craft, we are not sure just what they are. It's probably some malfunction of the camera or something concerning the film development. In any case, they were quite interesting.

Former Astronaut Edgar Mitchell was the guest for an interview by Art Bell on "Coast to Coast" on October 11. Nothing new concerning UFOs was revealed, however. Mr. Mitchell was scheduled to appear on the October 12 episode of "Sightings."

Mike and Roger Bollinger put out an interesting quarterly publication called UFO Update. To subscribe to this publication, or for more information, call (602) 494-9279.

### WEEKLY PROGRAMS:

**DREAMLAND** - KFYI Radio, 910 AM, Sunday evenings, 8:00 p.m. - Art Bell hosts this interesting radio program. The program is aired on the following stations in other cities in Arizona: Globe: 1240 AM; Safford: 1230 AM; Tucson: 1400 AM; Kingman: 1230 AM; and Flagstaff: 600 AM. Art also hosts "Coast to Coast" weeknights at midnight and often features UFO related guests and/or topics.

**UFO AZ/UFO TALKS** - Scottsdale TCI cable, Channel 28, Thursdays, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. and still viewed (since we have not heard otherwise) on Channel 22, Dimension Cable, Monday and Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.; now also in Prescott on Channel 13 Friday nights at 9 p.m. and repeated on Tuesday at 3 p.m. Co-produced by Alan Morey. Ted, Peggy and Jim co-host this continuing series featuring interesting guests and topics related to all aspects of the UFO experience. Related radio



program in the Tucson area on KTUC, 1400 AM, 10:00 p.m. Sundays (after "Dreamland").

The Extraordinary - Monday MORNINGS, 12:30 - 1:30 a.m. (set your VCRs), Channel 15.

Unsolved Mysteries - Fridays at 7:00 p.m., Channel 12.

X-Files - Fridays at 8:00 p.m., Channel 10.

Dark Skies - Saturdays at 7:00 p.m., Channel 12.

Mysteries Around Us, KTAR Radio (620 AM), 12 midnight Saturday and 12 midnight Sunday, hosted by Frank Baranowski, a well-known hypnotist specializing in regression.

Late Night Cosmic Contact - Saturdays, 9:00 - 10:00 p.m., Channel 61 [TCI Tucson Public Access]. This new talk show features host Chris Maynard and guests who believe they have experienced contact with life from other worlds. Chris also examines national contact cases to evaluate facts, comparisons and trends of this growing phenomenon.

## Classified Ads

Don't forget that we can advertise for you in the newsletter!! Ads up to three lines long are \$5.00; business-card sized ads are \$10 [we can reproduce your business card as the ad]. See Tom Taylor for price on larger ads. Submit your ad and payment by the first of the month to have it appear in that month's newsletter issue.



Many thanks to those submitting articles and book reviews, and if you haven't done so, here's an invitation to add to YOUR newsletter by doing so. Handwritten articles and those

typed on a typewriter are fine, but if you do have a computer, it saves a lot of time if you can submit your articles on diskette. However, PLEASE save your articles in Word-Perfect 5.1 software or in ASCII (DOS text) format and put your name on them. Then send them (either the hard copy or the diskette) to Tom at 1433 W. Huntington, Tempe, AZ 85282 or fax hard copy articles them to Mary Hart at 907-0609.

## WORLD WIDE WEB

Each month's MUFON-AZ Newsletter is now available to users of the World Wide Web. For those wishing to access the Newsletter on the internet, the "address" is:

<http://www.xroads.com/~noack/mufon.html>

Further UFO-related information can be obtained by accessing:

<http://www.cs.bgsu.edu/~jzawodn\ufo\misc\enigma.html>

**!!!! DON'T FORGET THE DATE CHANGE FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER MEETINGS !!!!**

## Calendar

Pima County Chapter Meeting: Call June Scherrer at 520/326-0078 for details concerning upcoming meetings.

Cochise County Chapter: November 9, Wilmot Library, 1 p.m. Contact Whitey Reese at 520/378-2845 for further details.

Yuma Chapter Meeting: Sunday, November 17, 1:00 p.m., Desert Lakes Club House. Call Bobbi Jones at 520/627-2461 to confirm.

MUFON-AZ (Maricopa County Chapter): meeting November 20 and December 18 (THIRD Wednesdays), usual place and time (see page 1).

October 17 (Thursday) - 7:30-9:00 p.m.: "The Latest Technological Evidence of Life After Death." National Guard Armory (MUFON-AZ meeting auditorium). Sponsored by Institute of Noetic Sciences. Call June for information at 840-0087.

October 18-21 - 7th Annual Phoenix Expo/Conference, Mesa Holiday Inn. Details sketchy at this time; for more info. call Global Communications at 212/685-4080.

November 6 (Wednesday) - Zecharia Sitchin, 7:00 p.m., Mesa Community and Conference Center, 201 N. Center in Mesa. \$25.00 tickets. Call 443-1964 for further information.

January 18-24, 1997 - 6th Annual UFO Congress, Laughlin NV at Gold River Resort. This could be a good trip for our group. Fax/phone 303/543-9443 for details.

## SUPPLEMENT TO ARIZONA SIGHTINGS LIST

Dimitri continues to add to his extensive list of possible sightings which have occurred in Arizona. His most recently published list is below; the entire list, extending from 1946 to all reported to him at present, can be purchased from Dimitri or Tom for \$5.00. If you have documented sightings in addition to those listed, please contact Tom or Dimitri.

## ARIZONA SIGHTINGS 1946-1996

Compiled by D. "Jim" Ossipov, MUFON-AZ

KEY:

CE1-Sighting < 150 m.  
DD-Daylight disks  
CE2-Physical traces, landings  
NL-Nocturnal lights  
CE3-Humanoids, aliens  
RV-Radar/visual  
CE4-Abductions

October 1973 - Mesa (CE4): Ernest Chesser, while camping with family, was abducted by Nordic type aliens. He was given a physical examination and telepathically communicated with a female alien and had sexual relations with her. There were tall greys on the craft. He does not remember much else. Source: Doris Barley and Yuma Chapter investigation.

28 August 1993 - Yuma (DD): A stargazer observed a purplish circle



through a telescope. Source: MUFON-AZ Newsletter, September 1993.

**28 August 1993 - Yuma (DD):** A man observed a glowing, round object for a short time. Source: MUFON-AZ Newsletter, September 1993.

**20 September 1994 - Yuma (CE4):** A young man was abducted by several aliens and taken to their craft. Inside he saw a blonde woman and a man with a tattoo. He saw cows and also saw aliens removing the cow's insides. One type of aliens were muscular reptilians having black eyes with yellow slits in them and having ridges on their faces. Others were smaller and wore helmets. A period of three hours "lost time" was experienced. Source: MUFON Journal, January 1995, P. Ferrughelli - 1994 sightings.

**April 1996 - Carefree (DD):** Two men observed a bright object which changed in intensity. Sighting lasted 5 minutes. Source: Telephone call to D. Ossipov, Maricopa County Section Director.

**9 May 1996 - Phoenix (DD):** A woman saw a cigar-shaped object with one flattened end which was stationary and was of metallic appearance. The sighting lasted 20 seconds. Source: MUFON-AZ Newsletter, June 1996.

**24 June 1996 - Phoenix (DD):** A man observed two discs, one with a stop-and-go motion and the second following with a wobbling motion. Sighting lasted 6 minutes. Source: Phone call to D. Ossipov, Maricopa County Section Director.

### **ROCKEFELLER FUNDS UFO BRIEFING REPORT FOR U.S. AND WORLD LEADERS**

Roughly 1,000 copies of a 168-page Unidentified Flying Objects Briefing Document: The Best Available Evidence have been delivered to carefully selected "movers and shakers of society" who may be almost entirely ignorant of the documented UFO

evidence but who could, if sufficiently moved, very quickly undo the atmosphere of secrecy that has surrounded this subject for decades. Distribution began in April and recipients of some of the early copies reportedly included John Gibbons (President Clinton's science advisor), the president of France, Henry Kissinger, Colin Powell, other heads of state, and influential people in the U.S., Congress, and around the world.

The purpose of this briefing is stated in the cover page as follows: "While Several Governments of the world have dealt with this (UFO) problem, as you can see from this report, we believe these Governments should make available NOW all the UFO evidence they have collected for a thorough and open inquiry by the scientific community."

Principal author of the report was Don Berliner, a respected UFO researcher, author and senior associate of the Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR). Co-authors were Antonio Huneus, an internationally known science writer and editor and MUFON's International Coordinator, and Marie Galbraith, an advocate of "frontier science" (which she described as "... science that is on the cutting edge ...") and wife of investment banker and former Ambassador to France, Evan Galbraith. An Executive Summary to accompany the report was prepared by Richard H. Hall, Chairman of the Fund for UFO Research and a recognized international authority on UFOs since the 1950s.

The Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS), MUFON, and the Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR) provided data for this report and had equal input on its contents. A letter of endorsement signed by the head of these organizations appears at the front of the report. Supporting documentation is on file at FUFOR.

Laurance Rockefeller, 85-year-old venture capitalist and philanthropist, funded the report and is reported to have bent the ears of the President and Hillary

about it last August when he played host to them at his sprawling ranch in Wyoming. Fraser Seitel, Mr. Rockefeller's spokesman, said "Laurance's feeling is that he is not convinced one way or the other. But he is interested in learning what the Government has on file . . ."

Rockefeller has funded other UFO-related projects including some of Dr. John E. Mack's abduction research at Harvard. According to Michael Luckman, director of the New York Center for UFO Research, Mr. Rockefeller has financed at least two recent meetings of a group called the Starlight Coalition, which Mr. Luckman said is "composed of former intelligence officers and military officials from the Pentagon who are prepared to talk about extraterrestrial contact." Unfortunately, only 1,000 copies of this report have been printed, and it is not offered for sale. Cases include: 1944-45: "Foo Fighters" Over Europe and Asia; 1946: "Ghost Rockets" Over Scandinavia; 1947: First American Sighting Wave; 1952: Second American Sighting Wave; 1957: Third American Sighting Wave; 1958: Brazilian Navy Photographic Case; 1964: Landing Case at Socorro, New Mexico; 1967: Physiological Case at Falcon Lake, Canada; 1975: Strategic Air command Bases UFO Alert; 1976: Multiple Witness Case in Canary Islands; 1980: UFO Incidents at Rendlesham Forest, England; 1981: Physical Trace Case in Trans-en-Provence, France; 1986: Jet Case Over Brazil; 1986: Japan Airlines 747 Case Over Alaska; 1989: Multiple Witness Case at Russian Missile Base; 1989-90: Sighting Wave in Belgium; 1991: Paraguay; 1992-1993: Mexico; 1993: United Kingdom; and 1994: United States.

### **ANTONIO HUNEUS MEETS TRAVIS WALTON**

David and Earlene Ford escorted Antonio Huneus on a trip to the Sitgreaves National Forest and Meteor Crater outside Winslow, Arizona on Monday, September 30. Antonio had mentioned he would like to see the crater and the forest



where Travis Walton had his abduction experience (made into the book and movie "Fire in the Sky"). The first article that Antonio wrote for Fate Magazine involved an interview of Travis by telephone. Earlene called Travis' wife and arranged a luncheon meeting with Travis for Antonio. This luncheon proved very rewarding and fact-filled. David and Earlene were impressed with Travis and with Dana, his wife. After lunch, the trip continued on to Meteor Crater, and another meeting with Travis had been arranged for the return trip. This second meeting also went well, and Antonio, David, and Earlene all felt that they had new friends in Travis and his wife Dana.

Earlene Ford

MUFON-AZ Media Representative

### IN SEARCH OF WISDOM??

The pamphlet states: "Trip to India - In Search of Wisdom." It promises visits to dozens of "holy places," meetings with "wise teachers," a dip in the Ganges River, and other goodies. The picture shows a disheveled, toothless, barefoot fellow, promoted for the occasion to a "holy man." The price of this pleasure is \$2,400 -- "plus extras." In search of wisdom? What a ripoff!

Sure, there are marvels like Taj Mahal and many others; sure, there are yogis and other spiritual leaders, but "wisdom"? This is a place where most of the unjust social and caste order -- now officially abolished but still surviving, existed for millennia. A total imbecile could become a king or, God forbid, a Prime Minister, just because he was born in a high caste, while a gifted genius would be kept at menial tasks due to his low status of birth.

This is a place where brides are still barbecued because it is cheaper than a divorce! Baby girls are still killed because parents prefer male children!

The most famous export were bogus "gurus." We all recall a "holy man" who needed 92 Rolls Royces to drive around and, with his followers, almost took over an entire county in Oregon. Other "gurus," after nicely milking naive Americans, faded away somewhere in the Himalayas.

You want wisdom? You want Indians? Then stay here! We have 500 Nations of Native Americans (incorrectly called "Indians" from their first discovery), each with a rich history and folklore, each with profound philosophies and religious beliefs and knowledge of the importance of taking care of Mother Earth -- and still vastly neglected and ignored.

The last issue of our Newsletter included report on the "Star Knowledge UFO Conference" where several speakers were Native Americans. As condensed as this report was, due to space, it was evident that Native Americans could teach us "civilized folks" quite a thing or two when it comes to spiritual and universal meanings.

You want wisdom? Then look to our own "Indians" -- the Native Americans. It will be a very inexpensive, but oh, so rewarding, adventure.

Dimitri "Jim" Ossipov  
Maricopa Co. Section Director

### IN MEMORIAM

We were very sorry to learn of the recent passing of MUFON-AZ member Dave Schulze, who had moved home to Texas last year. Many of you may remember him as a good friend of Tom's and active member while he still resided in the Phoenix area.

The Arizona Republic

SEPTEMBER 16, 1996

# Surreal saloon

## Beer baron's a sucker for 'El Chupacabra'

By Thomas Ropp

Staff writer

Ed Chilleen was just fooling around on the Internet.

Did a keyword search "El Chupacabra" for fun.

What came back was an obsession.

"I couldn't believe it," Chilleen said.

"They had a whole Web page just on El Chupacabra."

Chilleen, also known as Crazy Ed, couldn't stop thinking or reading or talking about El Chupacabra, the goatsucker, an alleged diabolical creature that is reported to have sucked the blood from farm animals across Mexico.

**OFF  
RAMP**

Wasn't long before Chilleen's fixation spilled over into his brewery and restaurant business.

Over the weekend, Chilleen opened the Goatsucker Saloon in Cave Creek, the town too tough to manage.

In a few months, he hopes to bottle a Goatsucker Beer.

The interior of the Goatsucker Saloon is done in Western artifacts with blowups of artists' renditions of what El Chupacabra looks like.

"Some say it's a cross between a lizard and a space alien," Chilleen said. "Others say it looks like a cow with spines down its back."

Chilleen favors the bovine-from-hell look.

"For the dance floor, we got an old cow skull and will have laser lights and smoke coming out of its eyes," Chilleen said.

"We also have a goatsucker drink that's a margarita with red raspberry brandy laced through it."

His Goatsucker Beer will be a porter, which is a dark, heavy beer. He said he hopes to distribute it nationally along with his Chili Beer.

Chilleen's Goatsucker Saloon is next to his Satisfied Frog Restaurant, which is at 6245 E. Cave Creek Road.

He said he has filed for a federal trademark registration for El Chupacabra and Goatsucker.

He's aware of the joke possibilities, including the inevitable "this saloon really sucks."

"That's OK with me," Chilleen said, "as long as they get the address right."



# Chaos rules in charting comets' paths

## Celestial objects' tenuous orbits keep scientists stymied

London Observer

Comet Hale-Bopp is careering toward the inner solar system, but computers have no way of predicting the path it will take. That's because it's the result of cosmic chaos, which makes even the most stable orbit susceptible to a dramatic change of direction.

This process is unpredictable, but computer simulations are now capable of providing a statistical picture of how this kind of event occurs, and can offer insight into catastrophes that have struck our planet in the past.

When a single planet orbits an isolated star, it can follow the same orbit forever. The equations that describe the orbit can be used to calculate the position of the planet in its orbit at any time in the past or future, using Newton's laws. But add just one more object to the system, and things change.

The "three-body problem" can't be solved perfectly — not because of any deficiency in today's computers, but because the equations are

not integrable. It is impossible, even in principle, to calculate the orbits of any of the three bodies into the indefinite past or future.

High-speed computers have run calculations for huge numbers of orbits and show that planet orbits are stable for billions of years. But this isn't true for smaller objects, such as comets, especially when their orbits take them close to large planets, such as Jupiter and Saturn.

That's where chaos comes in.

The essential feature of chaos is that a tiny difference in starting conditions grows enormously as time passes. Imagine a ball balanced on a narrow mountain ridge. The tiniest nudge — perhaps the breeze from the wings of a passing butterfly — will decide which way it rolls off the ridge, and whether it ends up hundreds of miles away on one side of the mountain, or hundreds of miles away on the other side.

In a similar way, to exactly predict the fate of a comet passing near Jupiter, the comet's position

would have to be known to literally infinite precision, and no computer can make that prediction.

Mark Bailey, director of the Armagh Observatory in London, has carried out a study of comet orbits. He had a good incentive to do the work, because in the early 1990s astronomers discovered a class of comets wandering about our solar system at least 10 times as far from the sun as Earth. These objects are balls of ice and rock, a few hundred kilometers in diameter, each containing about 65,000 times as much mass as an ordinary comet, such as Halley's.

The evidence suggests that these comets have fallen into their present orbits from farther out in the solar system, and astronomers believe that there may be 35,000 objects larger than 100 kilometers across, orbiting just beyond Neptune.

Bailey's calculations also suggest that a comet is likely to wander into the solar system roughly every 100,000 years.

The Arizona Republic

Thursday, October 10, 1996

# UFO encounter may cost election

## 'Maury Povich' appearance harms incumbent's credibility

Associated Press

NEW SMYRNA BEACH, Fla. — Your neighbor tells you space aliens cured her of cancer. Do you:

A) Smile, nod and tell her that you, too, have been cured?

B) Look at your watch, mumble about being late and get away?

C) Re-elect her to the County Council?

It's a question 53,000 voters in Volusia County have faced since September, when incumbent Lynne Plaskett told daytime TV viewers that 20 years ago, a dinner-plate-size flying saucer came into her house, levitated her from her bed and scanned her from head to toe.

Within four months, she told a *Maury Povich Show* audience, her deadly lymphoma was in full remission, confounding her doctors, who thought it should have killed her.

Plaskett, now 46, said she hopes her TV appearance doesn't turn voters against her.

"People can believe me, or they

can not believe me," she said. "I'm just an honest person who told my story."

Adding that the experience has nothing to do with her record in office, she said, "I'm just hoping people can separate the two."

But some voters can't and plan to vote against her Nov. 5, even though they know nothing about her opponent, Jim Ward, former mayor of Port Orange.

"Flaky," said Stan Dudzinski, owner of an employment agency. "I don't vote for aliens."

Others are more open-minded.

"Whatever turns you on," barber Pelham O'Neal said, adding he will probably vote for Plaskett again. "I think she's done a good job."

When Plaskett, a city planner for Edgewater, Fla., ran for office two years ago, the alien incident never came up. It was not something she discussed openly.

Until, that is, Sept. 11, when

Plaskett appeared on the talk show with five other people who claimed they had been abducted, studied or molested by extraterrestrials.

Plaskett just recounted her experience. It occurred the night after she was told she was dying of cancer.

After hours of crying, she went to bed. Soon she heard a buzzing coming through the walls. The room filled with fog, she was levitated from her bed, and a "small, disklike object" came in through the window, passed over her, up and down, three times, then disappeared.

Plaskett was lowered to her bed, the fog cleared, the buzzing stopped and she fell asleep.

"When I woke up the next morning, I knew I was going to be all right," she said. "I knew that it wasn't God. I knew that it was another force."

She said she realized the object was an alien craft years later, while watching a TV show about UFOs.

# Apparent meteor sheds light on night sky in West

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — An apparent meteorite streaked through the West's nighttime sky, transfixing residents from California to New Mexico and briefly turning darkness into day.

The light "just blossomed out into something like a flare or a torch flame. It seemed to have little sparkles coming from it," said Patricia Dobbins, who saw it from the Griffith Park Observatory.

A Death Valley National Monument park ranger pulled his vehicle to the shoulder, the flash of light so bright it made it "seem like daytime."

"It was just incredibly bright and then immediately out of the sky," Calvin Foster, a ranger at Lake Success near Porterville, said Friday. "It looked like a shooting star. My first thought was a flare because it was so bright."

Foster said the display lasted

just two to three seconds.

Meteors — also called shooting stars or falling stars — are bright streaks of light that appear briefly when metallic or stony matter enters Earth's atmosphere. Friction with air heats up the matter and creates a trail of hot, glowing gases. Meteors often burn up before reaching the Earth's surface.

Atmospheric observers with the March Air Reserve Base

control tower said the meteor fell in a westerly direction shortly before 9 p.m. Thursday. No debris was found Thursday night.

A Moreno Valley police helicopter reported the flash to the March ARB air-traffic tower in Riverside County, said Air Force Capt. Steve Razo. Residents throughout California and New Mexico also reported the glowing, greenish-yellow flash.

A Los Angeles television news

helicopter pilot said he swerved to avoid what he initially thought was a spotlight from another helicopter.

"This is probably the biggest flash we've seen in two years," said John Mosley, an astronomer at Griffith Park Observatory. "The meteor was probably a crumbly piece of asteroid, or possibly a fragment of a comet."

But it also might have been a falling satellite, said Frank

O'Donnell, a spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

The North American Aerospace Defense Command, deep inside Cheyenne Mountain, in Colorado Springs, Colo., tracks satellite debris and said the occurrence did not match any items it was following. A NORAD spokesman said Friday it was likely a natural phenomenon, such as a meteor.

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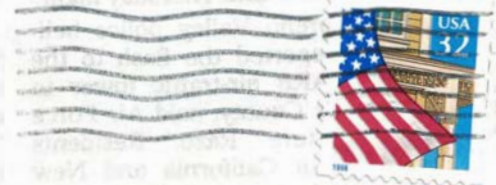
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