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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Roswell snap-shots

From: **John Velez** <jvif@spacelab.net>
Date: Mon, 21 Jul 1997 17:37:19 -0500
Fwd Date: Tue, 22 Jul 1997 10:03:09 -0400
Subject: Roswell snap-shots

Errol, this is the 'good copy', I'm not sure if I inadvertently sent you the rough draft, use this copy for post if you deem it a worthy one.

John

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Hi Errol, hi All,

It occurred to me that one of the things that made the trip to Roswell so much fun and so gratifying was having had the opportunity to meet, and spend time with some of the folks from our UFO UpDates list. I want to share some of that with all of you guys who couldn't attend yourselves for whatever reasons.

Here are some quick impressions.

Errol Bruce-Knapp- This one isn't fair, because I'm prejudiced when it comes to Errol. I consider him to be as close to my heart as a family member. Errol is one of the brightest, most interesting, fun and easy to be with people I have ever known. Spending some time with my soul brother, the 'Great Bearded One' from the icy climes up north was one of the (primary) factors that contributed to my being there at all.

Sue Kovios- Smart, open, honest, intuitive, warm and (very pretty to boot!) A deadly combination of attributes as a certain large male Canadian I know will testify. My friendship and very warm feelings for Sue were already in place long before this trip.<G>

Rebecca Shatte- I've always been impressed with Rebecca. She's as sharp as they come, and with all of the prerequisite intelligence, character and confidence it takes to pull it off successfully. She's also hugable as all get out and I'm grateful that I had a chance to cement a personal friendship that we had already been nurturing. I respect you Rebecca for your honesty, and I love you because you have more "Balls" in your little finger than most grown men have in their whole body! And, that's no lie.<G>

Dennis Stacy- Not quite as tall as I'd imagined! <G> But the proportions of the man I did get to meet turned out to be as "human" as one could want in a person. I wish I'd had more time to talk with Dennis one on one. He's a guy that has strong convictions, takes the time to think about things, and sticks to his guns when it's time to. The kind of guy you would want next to you if you were belly down in a ditch facing live fire. Someone who doesn't get run off easily.

Stan Friedman- I had two run-ins with Stan (in the Parking lot of the Sally-Port Inn of all places!) and the thing that comes across in waves from him is his personal warmth. Stan Friedman was a genuine pleasure to meet and swap a few lines with. I hope we get to meet again.

Kevin Randle- Kevin, (who was with Bob Estes, who really is as BIG as

Dennis Stacy 'claims to be') was literally the first person(s) that I ran into after checking into my hotel room. Mr Randle greeted me with a big smile, a warm handshake and the following opening line, "John, you have to stop posting so much to the UpDates list, do you have any idea how much time it takes to trash them all?" and he was smiling in my face the whole time! Now that's either tempered steel cohones, or the guy has an unusual (with a twist) sense of humor. Haven't made up my mind yet which one applies. <G>

Kevin Randle did hold his own with Karl Pflock and on a seperate occasion, Ted Koppel and Kent Jeffrey. He gave an intelligent and sober accounting of himself. (When he presented Karl Pflock with "Mogul debris", ie; balsa sticks, paper backed foil and tape, during their discussion, he again demonstrated a 'wicked' sense of humor.)

Mike (and Cathy) Woods- Picture a young, tough, "Mugs McGuinness" from the old Bowery Boys movies of the thirties, only this is a "Mugsy" that made it in the world! <VBG>

Mike Woods has a million dollar personality. You would literally have to go out of your way not to like this guy instantly. We're both city brats that grew up in some pretty tough concrete canyons, we had an instant rapport. Mike and his lovely wife Cathy were two of the nicest folks that I met while in Roswell and I hope that our new 'amigoship' thrives long after Roswell. Here's to, (as Homer Simpson would intone) the Woodseses!

Micheal Lindemann- Sharp, warm guy, very intelligent and articulate. Michael knows his business and IMVHO, represents all of us well when he speaks publicly. (In the very best sense of the word, "representative.") It was a pleasure for me to meet him face to face. I have had some dealings with Mike (an article of mine that he published in CNI News, and an 'on air' analysis he performed for 'Strange Universe' of some daylight UFO video footage that I shot in the skies over NY. All of my interactions with Mike have been pleasant. I respect the guy for all that he contributes and meeting him in person has only served to confirm my good feelings about him. As Errol has mentioned in an earlier post, Mike Lindemann was an excellent speaker and moderator while in Roswell.

Melanie Mecca- If you look up "Old soul" in a reference book you'll find a picture of Melanie. I haven't met too many folks in my life who have it all as "together" as she does. She also happens to be one of the most naturally psychic, wise and intuitive ladies I have ever encountered. Melanie was a joy to meet and someone that contributed immensely to my enjoyment of the Roswell trip. A serious 'class act'.

Tom King & Jason DeGraf- My buddies from Phoenix! I don't have to tell anyone who has been a part of UFO UpDates how I feel about these two guys. Without having met each other in person, (prior to Roswell) we had already developed a strong friendship. I have fought for Tommy and Jason online with every bit of loyalty and fervor that I would put out for my own family members. These are two 'glorious bastards' and just plain two of the nicest people you'd ever want to meet or know. What can I say, they're my buds.

Mr and Mrs Bill Hamilton- I wanted to spend some time with Bill and his wife, but when I ran into them I was in the middle of a hunt for my 'roomie,' who was wandering around the town of Roswell in the middle of a lightning storm while I was in possession of our rented car! I really wanted to spend more time with Bill and his wife. They are lovely people and it would have been a golden opportunity to get to know them better. Bill, I'm sorry, but I was running around like a chicken without a head trying to 'rescue' my roommate from the storm.

There were others that I was fortunate enough to spend some moments with, Whitley Strieber, John Mack, Bob Dean, Travis Walton and Mike Rogers, Yvonne Smith, Linda Moulton Howe, Jesse Marcel Jr, there are more but I'm starting to sound like that notorious name dropper, Charles Grodin! <G>

I don't know how anyone can say that Roswell was a drag. I had a ball, from touch down to take off. I hope that this little 'review' helps you to feel a little closer to all of the folks mentioned. I know that I do.

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