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UFO UpDates Mailing List

UFO History Workshop

From: Jan Aldrich <jan@CYBERZONE.NET>
 Date: Sat, 5 Jun 1999 18:37:45 -0700
 Fwd Date: Tue, 08 Jun 1999 01:57:19 -0400
 Subject: UFO History Workshop

Greeting List,

On the 29th and 30th of June a number of us met at the International Holiday Inn at Chicago's O'Hare Airport to participate in a UFO History Workshop. A more detailed announcement will follow shortly; the present message concerns one of the first projects we agreed to undertake.

The workshop was organized by Tom Tulien who cosponsored the event with the Fund for UFO Research. Michael Swords, Richard Hall, and Jan Aldrich moderated the sessions. Attendance by Dominique Weinstein, Bernard Thouanel, and Jean-Jacques Velasco of France and Maurizio Verga of Italy gave the meeting international perspective.

We basically discussed our current holdings and projects, what should be done, what we would like to do, what as a small group with limited time and money could actually do, and we approved several projects which seemed possible to accomplish. One project was to convert the "Preceedings," an 86 page pre-confernece booklet listing resources, collections, proposals, and comments on various historical topics into an expanded, "Proceedings."

We now come to the purpose of this message, we wish to solicit some of the following information from list members:

- 1) Biography and UFO related projects. For those with an interest in UFO history, a short biography of no more than one page is requested, please include projects you have worked or are working on currently. (Projects do not have to be history related.)
- 2) Inventory of UFO material. For the present please keep the inventory to no more than two pages. Please do not list every UFO book in your collection, but rather the amount of books, what UFO publications do you have complete or nearly complete runs, what is the extend of government material, case files, clipping collections, etc. Please list any unique items you feel are rare or important even if they are only copies. Finally end with:
 - a) Accessibility. Is your collection available to others? If so, what are the conditions. If it is not accessible, please so state.
 - b) Succession Plan. Do you have a plan for the disposition of your material if something should happen to you? It is not necessary to announce your plans, only whether or not you have such a plan.

*NOTE: As an example to others, all participants agreed that

they would each establish a succession plan. The "Proceedings" will discuss the "hows" and "whys" of succession plans in greater detail.

****ALSO NOTE:** We intend to update such inventories from time to time and make them more comprehensive. Please keep the inventory you submit on file and consider using it as a shell for a more detailed document.

3) UFO Collections. We are interested in finding and preserving UFO collections--especially "lost" collections. Please let us know of collections that should be preserved. (If you can give any details about whereabouts of the collections, description of contents, and possible contact(s), that would be most welcome.) Obviously we are aware of the papers of Condon, Menzel, Smith, Barker, APRO [we would welcome suggestion on how to get access, here], etc. However, we would like to know about less well known collections including information, if known, on location, contents, accessibility. (As Loren Gross so aptly put it, "We would like to know about 'dry holes,' also." Collections that are known to be lost or destroyed should be listed. Personal papers of individuals associated with UFOs which contain little or no UFO material are of interest. Such information will save time of other researchers.)

4) Proposals for history related projects. In the two days of the workshop we only just skimmed along the surface of what needs to be done. Please let us have your ideas. Please limit the proposal to no more than two pages.

5) Historical papers. Short papers, notes, etc., on some historical aspect or event which is not well known are most welcome. Again, the maximum length should not exceed about three pages.

6) Contacts with official and academic bodies--especially from list members outside the US. This information would be most interesting. Official contacts from several countries are discussed in the current "Proceedings" for Italy, Switzerland, and Sweden. Information from other countries is most welcome.

Please consider submitting a contribution for one or all of the areas listed above. The deadline is 30 June.

At the MUFON convention, it might be possible to met and discuss the historical undertakings either individually or in a small group. (More on this in another message.)

Thanks.

Regards,

Jan

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Jan Aldrich
Project 1947
P. O. Box 391, Canterbury, CT 06331, USA
Telephone: (860) 546-9135

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