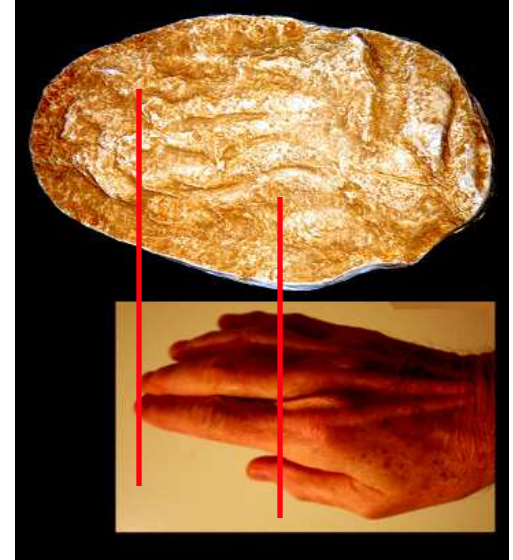


# Bits & Pieces – Issue No. 75

Christopher L. Murphy

Edited by Gene Baade



The familiar stick design seen in this first image was noted by a hunter in the Island Park region, Idaho. He also noticed something else he thought was odd—second image. His comments on both images are as follows:

Found this structure looking thing yesterday as well as what appears

to be a ruff grouse that was eaten on this huge stump. I ask why on the stump and not the ground? All animals would eat it on the ground. Hawks and eagles would take it to their young or up in a tree. No bones at all.

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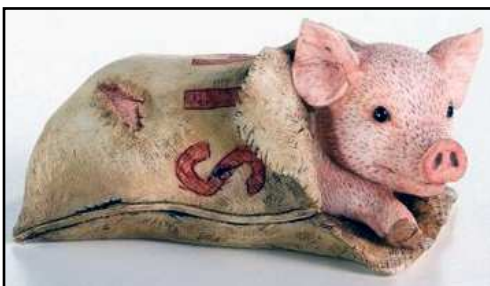
The cast shown was taken by Bob Titmus in 1982. He noticed it at the bottom of a shallow pond on Onion Mountain (Laird Meadow area), California. Bob drained the pond and made the cast. It measures about 12 inches from the tip of the longest finger to the edge of the palm.

I matched my hand to the cast, making the photo about the same size. I recently noticed that the cast has a very short thumb, so adjusted the photo to determine just how short it was. Roughly, the cast thumb is about 29% shorter than my thumb. Would this make sasquatch digits non-opposable? In other words, could it touch the tip of its thumb with its fingers on the same hand? Experimenting with my own hand, all fingers would touch with such a thumb except my little finger.

If the sasquatch has non-opposable digits, as we believe, this makes it very unique because all great apes (which include humans) have opposable digits.

Alternately, if the sasquatch has opposable digits, even an extreme stretch, then it is more inline with all great apes, and most importantly, humans.

The Titmus hand cast is at the Willow Creek Museum, California. If it were obtained and examined by a professional in this connection, we might get some important insights. Unfortunately, we have the same old problem of funding.



The whole DNA issue is a bit of a “pig in a poke,” and no matter how much lipstick scientists put on the pig, we don’t get very much.

Let me put things this way. If you were 10 feet tall and covered in thick brown hair, your DNA would be the same as mine; save a little identifier that makes you unique. Yes, there are some other things that can be determined, but very little that helps in our situation.

The only real hope we have is if DNA comes out as “non-recognized primate.” Hopefully this will indicate some sort of relict hominoid (now all considered extinct). If sasquatch characteristics are

not significant enough to alter its DNA in comparison with humans we don’t have a case.

DNA is great for identifying something for which we already have confirmed DNA. As we don’t have confirmed sasquatch DNA, then there can be no comparison.

As DNA does not identify characteristics within the same species, then DNA that results in “modern human” cannot be differentiated if the sasquatch is in fact a modern human—just happens to be 10 feet tall and covered in hair.

There have been three incidents whereby DNA analysis of alleged sasquatch hair came out as “modern human.” Scientists contend that the hair was simply from a modern human, despite any circumstances that might indicate otherwise.

As I say, it’s a “pig in a poke.”

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# THE LITTLEST HUMAN

A spectacular find in Indonesia reveals that a strikingly different hominid shared the earth with our kind in the not so distant past

By Kate Wong



SMALL BUT CLEVER, *Homo floresiensis* hunts the pygmy Stegodon (an elephant relative) and giant rat that roamed the Floresian rain forest 18,000 years ago.

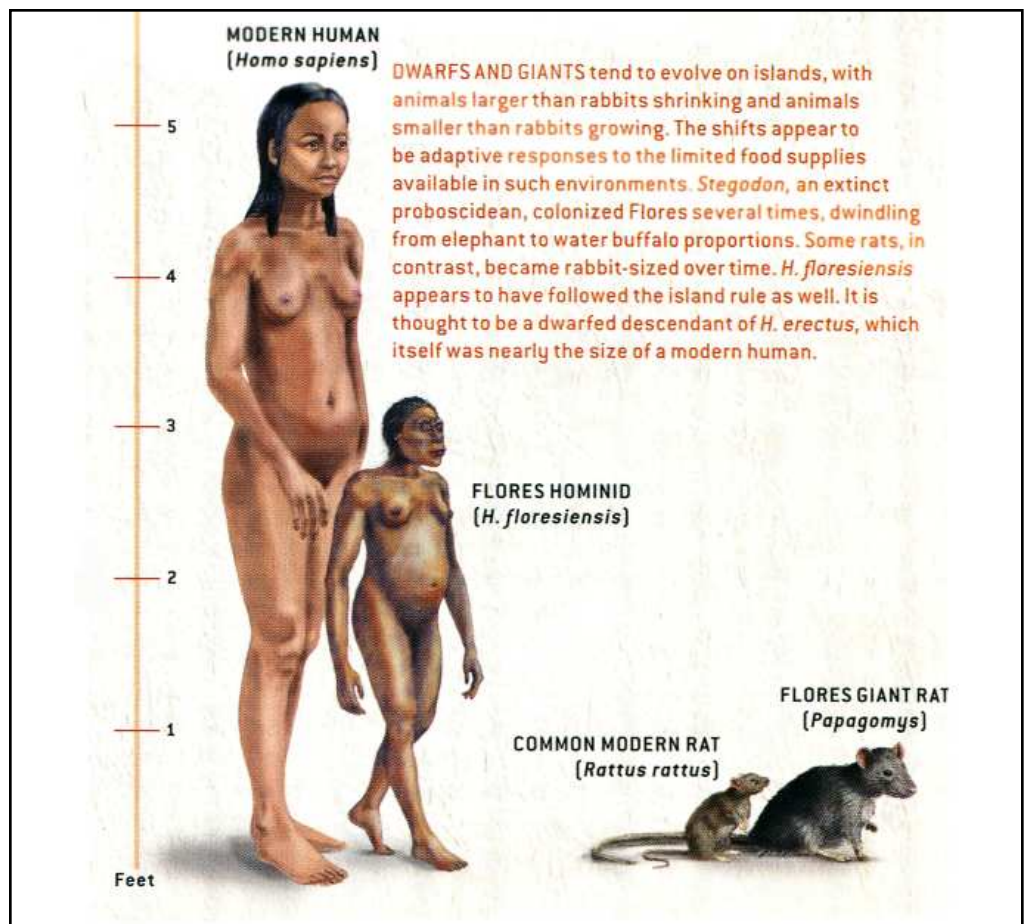
This article from *Scientific America*, February 2005, inadvertently bolstered belief that sasquatch could be a relict hominoid species, which existed alongside modern humans, and may do so today.

The bottom line here is, this little relict homin existed just 18,000\* years ago. Modern humans had been around eleven times that long. As a result, they co-existed. The two may not have known each other, but if they did, then modern humans would have likely gotten rid of them.

This thinking was naturally applied to the sasquatch, which by living in North America was more isolated. Also, its size made it less vulnerable. Nevertheless, Native stories recount how sasquatch were driven away to remote forest regions. They would be quite safe in these regions because even today we can't "get in there."

Few scientists bother with the sasquatch, so don't know about this possibility.

\*Now some scientists say 50,000 years.



# Willow Creek welcomes Bigfoot fans for annual symposium

## From Siberian expeditions to Californian cave paintings, all things Bigfoot discussed at event

Sara Watson Arthurs  
THE TIMES-STANDARD

WILLOW CREEK — Dmitri Bayanov believes his trip to Humboldt County — his first visit to the United States — is fate.

Decades ago, he picked up a "wish" at a party — something akin to a fortune cookie — which said "You will get to America during a proletarian revolution."

This weekend the chairman of the Smolin Seminar on Questions of Hominology at the State Darwin Museum in Moscow is in Willow Creek for the International Bigfoot Symposium. During the flight, he said, he reflected on the scientific revolution the symposium represented.

"Then I realized, all these people are proletarians in the scientific community," he said.

"All these people" are Bigfoot researchers from around the country. Anthropologists,

amateur detectives and those simply fascinated gathered in Willow Creek for the symposium, hosted by the Willow Creek-China Flat Museum and taking place there and at Trinity Valley Elementary School. And many of them do see it as a

revolution in the way people think about Bigfoot.

"The whole point of this is to take an issue that's had problems with credibility, and give it the kind of academic credibility it's long deserved," said the museum's Rudy Breuning, the conference's master of ceremonies. "We're trying to break out of the fruitcake mold."

The conference drew 220 people from 22 states, Canada, Belgium, Scotland, Great Britain and Russia.

Presentations and talks on Bigfoot took place Friday and all day Saturday. Today the conference will conclude with excursions to Bluff Creek, where Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin made the renowned film they said was of Bigfoot in 1967.

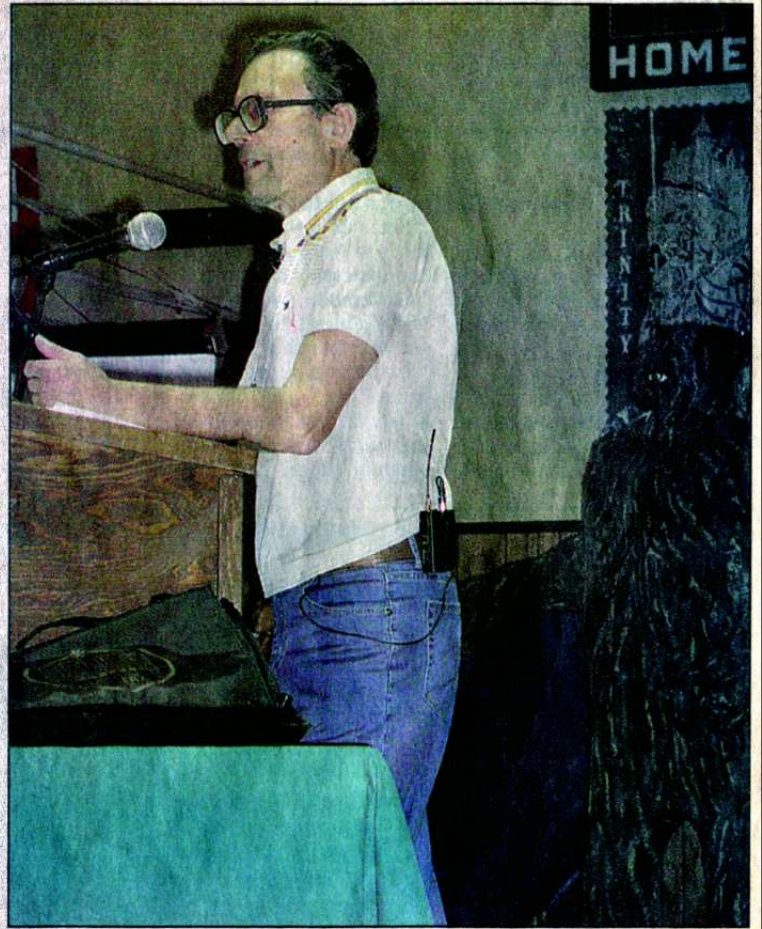
Bayanov gave a presentation on how his field has evolved over time in Russia. Sightings of Yeti, the Eurasian name for Bigfoot, have been reported for

a long time but investigations into them gained momentum in the 1960s.

Some took the stories more seriously in Russia. Bayanov quoted another

**"The whole point of this is to take an issue that's had problems with credibility, and give it the kind of academic credibility it's long deserved."**

**Rudy Breuning  
master of ceremonies,  
International Bigfoot  
Symposium**



Sara Watson Arthurs/The Times-Standard

**Dmitri Bayanov gives a presentation on Russian Yeti sightings as the creature himself, in wooden statue form, watches from behind.**

■ See **BIGFOOT/A8**

It will soon be 16 years since the Willow Creek Bigfoot Symposium in September 2003. This was probably the biggest and best to date, becoming somewhat legendary.

How much water has flowed under the bridge in my life since then? I count 16 Hancock House books, including those by Dmitri Bayanov and me. A book by Dr. Jeff Meldrum came out in 2006—long waited word from this anthropologist—and we saw the formation of the Relict Hominoid Inquiry (RHI) in 2011.

Furthermore, I have had eight sasquatch exhibits, with a ninth in the making. Also, Sasquatch Canada made its debut and I believe this website is among the best on the Internet.

The sasquatch issue is not a case of poor research; what has been and is being done by many people is astounding. The main thrust now must be to move hominology fully into the world of science—make it a scientific discipline. This is now "on the table" with our book *The Making of Hominology*. Your support is important.

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## BIGFOOT

FROM A1

researcher who said the idea of a wild man roaming Siberia or the mountains of Tibet seemed plausible but one tromping around California was "a little too much to ask even Californians to accept."

He said the collapse of the Soviet Union brought changes to Bigfoot research. Some areas where researchers had led expeditions are now politically unstable and therefore off-limits. At the same time, Bayanov said Russia's greater freedom of the press makes it possible for him to publish his books.

He added that he had tried to travel to Canada during the Soviet era, and was unable to get through the bureaucracy, instead communicating with his American colleagues only through correspondence.

"Today, here I am in front of you," he said. "If anybody doubts that Bigfoot is real, I trust that nobody doubts now that Bayanov is real — who does not doubt that Bigfoot is real."

Kathy Moskowitz, the Sonora-based forest archaeologist for

the Stanislaus National Forest, gave a talk on the "Hairy Man" myths of the Yokuts tribe. She said they indicate that Bigfoot has been around for hundreds of years in several cultures.

After the creation of humans, one story goes, Hairy Man cried because people were afraid of him. In the only known pictograph of Bigfoot in California, he's drawn with lines coming out of his eyes believed to represent tears, Moskowitz said.

The painting, on the Tule River Indian Reservation, includes a male adult, female adult, and baby Bigfoot. She said the Yokuts refer to them as "Mayak datat," or "Hairy Man." Hairy Man figures in several Yokuts stories. He's said to have stolen food while it was being prepared, and parents tell their children not to stay out late or Hairy Man will get them, she said. But in most of the stories she shared he's more elusive than threatening.

One begins with the animals deciding what to do once humans began to spread out, taking over more of the land and food. Moskowitz told of each animal coming up with a

plan — the hummingbird seeking food from flowers, the dog by befriending people, Hairy Man by living "among the big trees" and hunting only at night.

Rick Noll of Edmonds, Wash., told the audience of an expedition in September 2000 to try to collect Bigfoot evidence. Armed with audio recordings meant to simulate calls, fruit to serve as bait, a thermal imaging camera and "very, very gross-smelling" pheromone chips developed from gorilla and human bacteria, Noll's team tried to lure a Bigfoot out toward them. They didn't see one, but they succeeded in making a cast of an impression that Noll believes to be of the torso of a prone Sasquatch.

Noll said some counties have passed ordinances prohibiting the hunting of Bigfoot and, in one case, attempting to declare it an endangered species.

Sara Watson Arthurs covers education and health. She can be reached at 707 441-0514 or sarthurs@times-standard.com.

The Lacey Museum sent me a few shots of how things are shaping up with my exhibit in the main room of the museum.

What is called “museology” is an art form and it takes a lot of thought to plan things out. Photos and even videos don’t bring things to life; what you see with your eyes is far better than images.

These photos are just a taste of the entire exhibit and there will be a few adjustments. More material will be displayed at the Lacey City Hall.

The 9-foot tall iron human skeleton will have a special nook with windows. People going to the City Hall for their usual business are going to get a little surprise. I’m sure I will get a few pleasant surprises as well when I see what Erin (museum curator) and her staff have done.

I will mention that I have a *Catalog of Exhibit Items* on the Sasquatch Canada website. All of the artifacts displayed are shown and explained.

This will be a notable event, so try to get there if you can. There are all sorts of things to do in Lacey, so it’s a good summer destination.

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