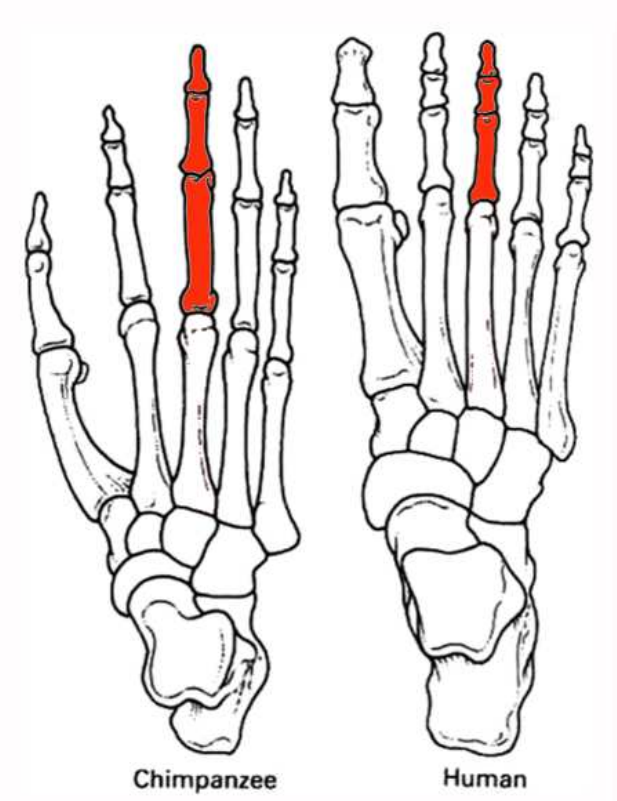
The Foot of Humans and Apes
Notable Quotes & Commentary
By John Morley, Biologist




Sasquatch Cast

The following is from "Re-interpreting the evidence for bipedality in Homo floresiensis," Maria B. Blaszcayk and Christopher L. Vaughan, South African *Journal of Science,* 102, Sept./Oct. 2007.

> One of the key traits that separate hominins from all other primates is the habitual use of a bipedal gait. Humans are the only extant species in the hominin group, and our bipedality is the most distinctive adaptation from our closest living relatives, the apes. This single characteristic is seen to be such a defining feature that skeletal adaptations to bipedalism are frequently used to identify our extinct hominin ancestors and relatives, and attempts at classification of these extinct species are often made on the basis of these adaptations.

The above quote did not consider or acknowledge the hominin called sasquatch. Dr. William Charles Osman Hill of the Zoological Society of London, Director of Yerkes, Regional Primate Research Center, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, commenting on the Patterson and Gimlin film had this to say:

> The creature portrayed is a primate and clearly hominid rather than pongid. Its erect attitude in locomotion, the gait, stride and manner of that locomotion, as well as the relative proportions of pelvic to pectoral limb are all manifestly human, together with the great development of the mammary glands.

An obvious difference between human and nonhuman primate feet can be seen in the length of the phalanges, which are relatively short in humans (Schultz, 1963, see the opening image). While the hallux (great toe) is adducted and has similar metatarsal/phalangeal length ratios, the length of the phalanges of the third digit is only 18% of the total foot length in humans, but 33% of total foot length in gorillas, and 35% in chimpanzees (Keith, 1929). In general, the lengths of the lateral four toes are shorter in humans than in apes (Stern & Susman, 1983; Aiello & Dean, 1990).

It is obvious that the third digit phalanges in sasquatch footprints (as evidence by photos and casts) is not homologous to that observed in an ape foot, but instead is like that seen in the human foot. This is but one more piece of scientific evidence which supports that the sasquatch foot is not the foot of an ape.

—00—