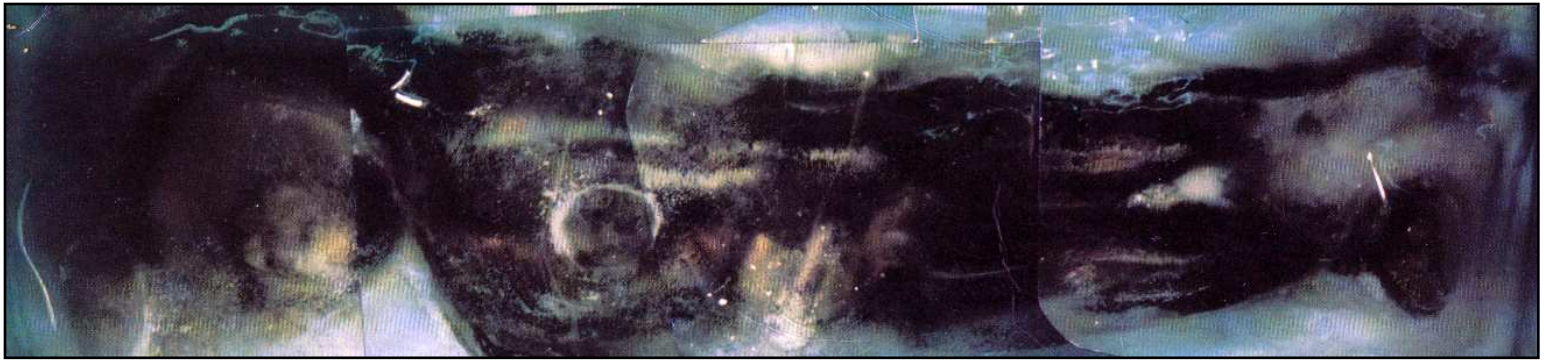




Bits & Pieces – Issue No. 100

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Edited by Gene Baade



Had you been at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago, Illinois, in 1968, you may have noticed Frank Hansen's Minnesota Iceman Display. Dr. Grover Krantz was there, but failed to notice it.

Nevertheless, assume you did notice it and you had your 35mm camera with you, with perhaps your close-up lenses (3 of them, +1, +2, and +4).

Given you got permission to take photos of the alleged body on display, what I show here is how your photos would have turned out. You would have perhaps stood on a chair to get the full length image of the 6-foot-tall body. You would have then zeroed in on the head, one foot and one hand. Actual photos would have been clearer than the print scans I show, but essentially the same

Because the body was encased in ice, not a lot of detail would have been available—but certainly enough to make you wonder. Subsequent artistic enhancements are extremely well done, but considerable “license” was needed.

Dr. Bernard Heuvelmans and Ivan Sanderson heard of the exhibit and were allowed to look at it after it went into storage at Frank Hansen's farm in Minnesota. If Hansen knew the body was a hoax, I am amused that he would allow close inspection.

Anyway, the original story of the Iceman has become beyond ridiculous and so convoluted it is impossible to sort out. All I can say with certainty is that Hansen did have a dummy made later.

In about 1968, Doug Hajicek saw the Iceman at a fair. It had been displayed at various fairs, so this may not have been

the Chicago fair. Doug was convinced that what he saw was a fabrication, noting how the hair was **attached**. Remarkably, Doug had another Iceman experience, which he related to me as follows in 2006:

About ten years later [1978], my girlfriend (wife-to-be) and I were driving out in the Minnesota countryside and we saw a large "Antiques" sign on a farm-like spread. We stopped in, and the owner, who I believe was Frank Hansen, came out to greet us. He was somewhat attracted to my girlfriend and proceeded to take her for a walk, leaving me standing there. I saw an old barn not far off with the door ajar, so I wandered over to have a look inside. There were tons of rusty iron stuff and other junk all over the place and, as I proceeded, I saw a large glass box in a corner. I walked over to it, and there inside was the Iceman, in all his latex rubber glory—covered in dust and grime, as there was no cover. I inspected him closely and noted the hair-attachment anomaly I have mentioned. I then moved one arm to sort of see what the thing was like. I went away thoroughly convinced that what I saw in the barn was the same "creature" I had seen at the fair.

Stories and speculation continued for the next 35 years. The following is from Wikipedia:

In February 2013, the Minnesota Iceman was reportedly auctioned on eBay. The listing read: "This is the actual sideshow gaff billed as 'The Minnesota Iceman,' by Frank



FOOT FROM FRONT



Hansen in the 1960s. This is a one of a kind hoax that was fabricated by a mid-20th century showman." It was purchased by Austin, Texas, "Museum of the Weird" owner Steve Busti, who has placed it on public display.

Most researchers accept that the story ends there. The only "fly in the ointment" is Dr. Bernard Heuvelmans' and Ivan Sanderson's testimony—they firmly stated that what they examined was a real corpse. We also have testimony from Lloyd Pye (died 2013) who saw the 1968 exhibit in Chicago and declared that it could not have been a hoax.

It would be nice to think that Frank Hansen did have a real corpse. He evidently did fine exhibiting it (made some money), but may have been concerned with the legalities of displaying something of that nature, especially if he had shot it. As a result, he had a corpse fabricated and disposed of the original. His son was studying to become a lawyer in 1968, and he likely would have counseled his father. What would have happened to the original? After Heuvelmans and Sanderson examined it and the former went public with his analysis, it would have been simply buried on Hansen's property.



Alika Lindbergh (1929–) is seen here working on her famous artwork of the Iceman using a photograph. She is more commonly known by her former name Monique Watteau. She is a Belgian fantasy fiction writer and artist. Just when she met and teamed up with Bernard Heuvelmans I don't know. However, he was very fortunate in many ways.

I don't think the Iceman was a sasquatch. If anything, it was an almasty, Nevertheless, Hansen evidently thought it was a sasquatch and visited Roger Patterson and his wife in Yakima County. Just when this was and what they talked about, we don't know. Pat Patterson mentioned the visit sometime around 2000. This was another little incident that raised questions as to the possible authenticity of the corpse.

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This drawing of the Iceman by Alika Lindbergh shows the hominid in a life pose. What we see is very similar to the many other hominoids sighted throughout the world. For certain, people in North America have reported seeing homins like this for many years.



This old encyclopedia has the following information on "Sasquatch:"

Sasquatch or Saskehavas, legendary tribe of aboriginal giants: Indian folklore places their habitat mainly in the vicinity of Harrison Lake, B.C., some 60 miles from Vancouver, though they have been reported as far inland as Kamloops. Known originally to the Indians—most of whom firmly believe in the existence of this mysterious race—as Saskehavas (wild men), they are called by the more skeptical whites Sasquatch (hairy men). They are described by Indians who claim to have seen them as hairy monsters between 7 and 9 feet tall, of subhuman appearance, with wide flat noses and abnormally long

arms. They are believed by the Chehalis Indians of the Harrison Lake area to be descendants of two bands of giants who were almost exterminated in battle many years ago. They are said to inhabit remote mountain caves and meet periodically near the top of Morris Mountain, upon which fires have been observed at regular intervals for many years. The earliest known written record of a belief in Sasquatch is that of Alexander Caulfield Anderson of the Hudson's Bay Co., who established a post near Harrison Lake in 1846; in his reports he frequently mentioned the wild giants of the mountains. The finding in 1932 of remains of a long-extinct race of giants in Mexico gave some impetus to the belief that the

remnants of a prehistoric race of troglodytes may have survived in B.C. Of recent years several small search expeditions have explored the Harrison Lake area without success.

References. Dickie, F., "Cave Men in B.C." *Toronto Star Weekly*, July 21, 1934; Burns, J.W., "My Search for B.C.'s Giant Indians," *Liberty*, Dec. 1954.

Francis Dickie

Back in the mid 1990s, I discussed this material with John Green and wrote the following, which failed to make it into my book *Meet the Sasquatch* (2004) or its sequel and update, *Know the Sasquatch* (2010).

I believe the first major encyclopedia reference for Bigfoot or Sasquatch was the article shown here that is in the 1970 edition of the *Encyclopedia Canadiana*. It appears, however, that the article was first published in the 1957 edition and was just carried over to subsequent editions. Unfortunately, the information provided is highly erroneous. The noted Bigfoot researcher, John Green, who lives in Harrison Hot Springs, B.C., has thoroughly researched all aspects of Bigfoot sightings and related information in Harrison. He has read the entire report of Alexander Caulfield Anderson and informs that it contained no mention of anything to do with Sasquatch. Furthermore, although Anderson did make the first trip covering the entire route from Fort Kamloops to Fort Langley (1846), he did not establish a post near Harrison Lake. Moreover, the information on Morris Mountain is totally fictitious. Green tells us this mountain is not much more than a "largish hill." While Sasquatch may have been sighted there by the Chehalis Indians, he has found no information to support the reference to fires being seen on the mountain.

The information on "giants" is interesting, but cannot be substantiated. Surely if the finding was factual, there would be detailed information on record with photographs of the "remains."

End

I believe this image shows Francis Dickie (source for the encyclopedia article). Dickie was a newspaperman for the *Sunday Journal and Star*, Lincoln, Nebraska.



Evidently he wrote an article on the sasquatch that was published in the *Toronto Star Weekly*, July 21, 1934, and another different article in his own paper published on July 29, 1934. I provide this complete article with comments in *Sasquatch in British Columbia*, pages 82–92. It appears Dickie conversed with John W. Burns on many subjects. I suppose Burns just repeated Native stories without checking anything.



I have mentioned in a previous paper that originally (late 1990s) my book, *Meet the Sasquatch* (MTS), was titled *Meet Bigfoot*. Yvon Leclerc, a superior artist and researcher in Quebec, worked with me. The front cover of the book, seen above, shows his sasquatch portrait.

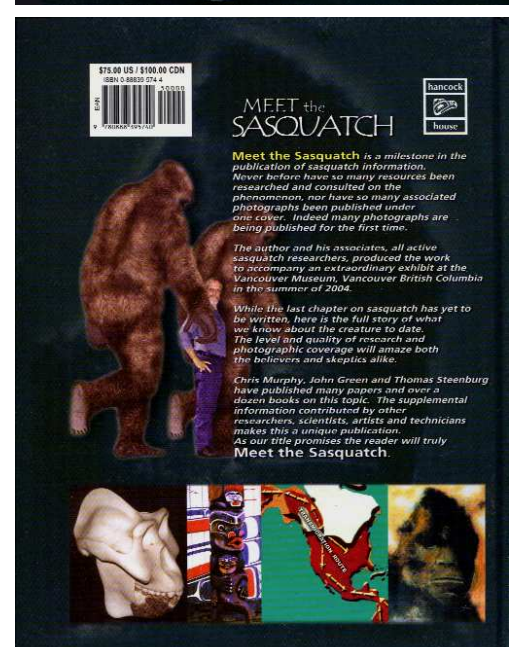
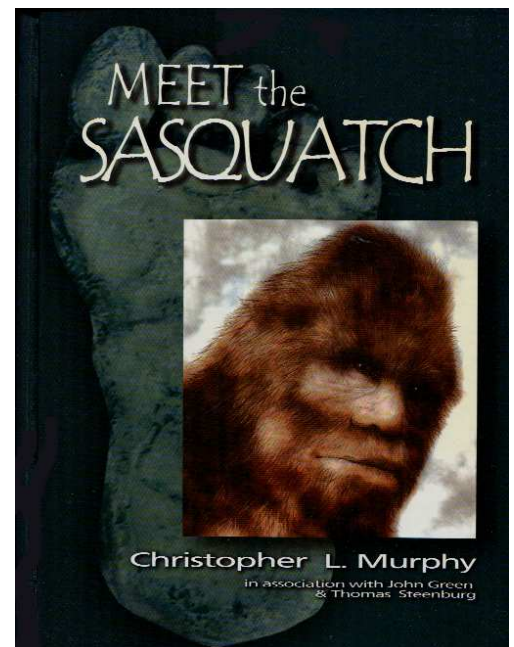
Over 20 years has now drifted by and every book has a story, seldom mentioned within its covers. I was asked to think about this subject for Issue 100 of *Bits & Pieces*.

By about 2002, a full manuscript of *Meet Bigfoot*, 143 full size pages (11" x 8.5") had been prepared with 257 photographs.

One of the features of this book was all of the encyclopedia references on both sasquatch/bigfoot and the yeti that I could find, starting with the *Canadiana* reference as provided in the previous article. My idea here (keep in mind this was about 20 years ago) was to say in effect, "The following provide the official stand on sasquatch and the yeti."

I created four copies of the book, or manuscript, in color and professionally bound. I gave one each to Yvon Leclerc (my illustrator), Mrs. Patterson, and David Hancock. The latter with a request for a published book. Hancock went to see John Green and gave him the manuscript. At that time, John was the "go to guy" as to anything on the sasquatch. Green called me and said the book was great and to come over and see him. I thereupon sat down with him in his living room. His first recommendation

was to change the title to *Meet the Sasquatch*. He did not like the word "bigfoot." We then went through the book page-by-page. I put a red line through anything he did not like. I wanted him to be associated with me for the final product, so had to compromise. There was a fair amount of material to be deleted. He did not mind the encyclopedia references—those I decided to delete. I will present the others in *Bits & Pieces* as I move forward. I kept in touch with Yvon Leclerc, but Hancock wanted a new front cover. Yvon's sasquatch portrait was placed within the book. I then, with John Green's help, and now with that of Thomas Steenburg, significantly revised the book (about 660 photos used). It was published in 2004. The front and back covers are shown below:



The Heryford cast (Abbott Hill, MTS, page 105) is shown on the front cover along with artwork by Peter Travers. Peter had just recently created the image and it was on the BFRO website. Peter is a professional artist, so I was very pleased that he allowed me to use his image. I put my own sasquatch portrait on the back cover—just a small image on the right hand side.

After some 16 years, I just noticed that this image has been shadowed in the cover background. Hancock House did the final, so this was done without my knowledge. I noticed it when I scanned the back cover.

When the books arrived from the printer (June 2004) we had a book signing at Hancock House. John Green and Thomas Steenburg are seen here on the left with me on the right.



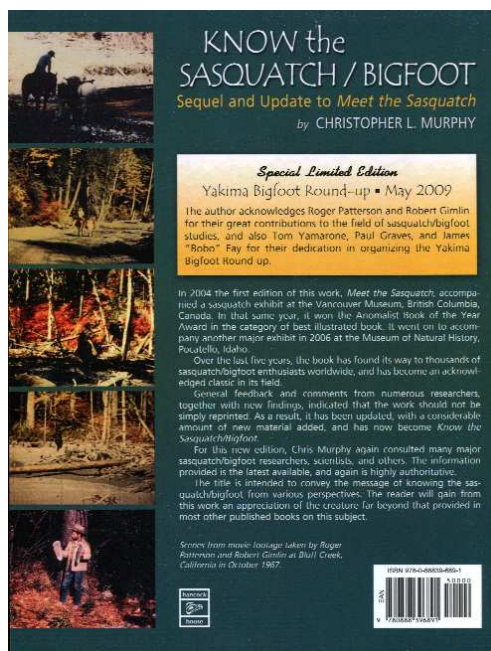
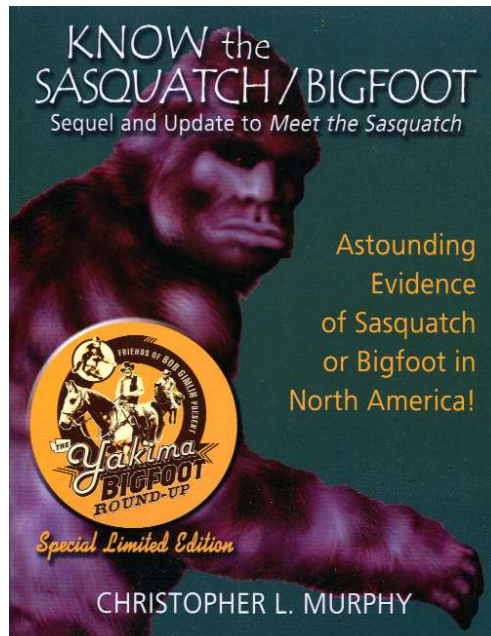
It was a great day, but it bothered me that I had not told the full story of the sasquatch as I knew it because I was somewhat restricted. Furthermore, as I continued my studies, my knowledge naturally increased.

Almost immediately I started working on corrections to the book. About four years later I decided I needed to have a sequel and update. I originally just called it *Meet the Sasquatch II*, and eventually told David Hancock of my plan. I vividly recall that day. I sat with him in his office and explained that I wanted to include more information on the sasquatch. When finished I said, "We really need to have a different title." He thought for a moment and said, "Why not call it *Know the Sasquatch*? That was a stroke of genius. It reflected exactly what I wanted the book to contain. I had introduced the hominoid in *Meet the Sasquatch*, now I concentrated on getting to know it.

I touched bases with John Green, and he told me to delete his name (association) if I was going to use material that did not have his approval. I thereupon

decided to "go it alone." Both John and Thomas were not happy with some people and events in history, so I deemed this was the wisest way forward. Little did I realize what I was about to unleash.

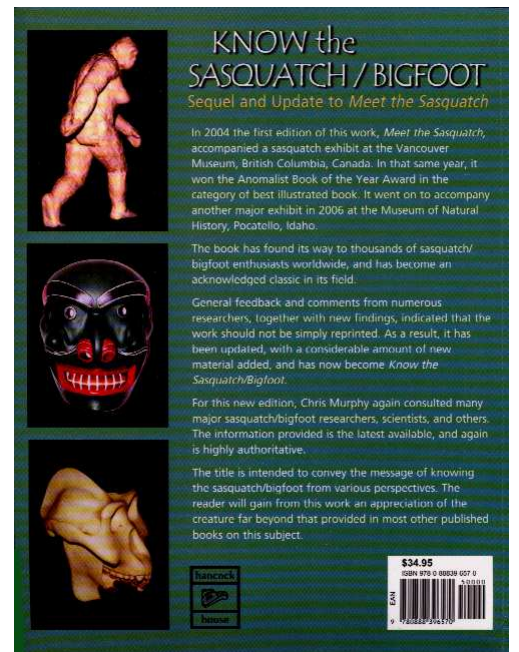
By the end of 2008 I had the updated book complete (many more photos added). I used an image created by Brenden Bannon, another professional artist, on the front cover. Hancock House decided to do a special run (Special Edition) for the upcoming Bigfoot Roundup at Yakima in May 2009. Shown here are the front and back covers:



Mountain footprints found in August 1967. Coleman had long doubted these prints and even commented on that fact in his review of *Meet the Sasquatch*. Several photos recently uncovered of prints found on Onion Mountain served to support his claim.

Despite the fact that I provided Coleman's material verbatim with a colored background to firmly identify it, John was livid. He said that whatever I used in a book would be ascribed to me, the author, no matter who wrote it. Things were so bad I had to simply get up and leave in silence.

I stopped the press for the regular edition, and then agreed with John to put the entire case before Dr. Jeff Meldrum and be guided by his decision. It took several months to sort things out and I did some original research myself on faking footprints. This confirmed in my mind that the Blue Creek Mountain prints could definitely be authentic. Dr. Meldrum ruled that he considered the prints authentic, so I revised the book—the Coleman material was deleted and replaced with my analysis. The front cover remained the same, but less the logo. The back cover was changed as follows. The book was published in 2010.



I kept in touch with John Green, but much less so than in the past. After his wife, June, died he sort of drifted away, ending up living alone in Chilliwack, BC. He died in May 2016. He remains the premier sasquatch/bigfoot researcher and author. Of course, I think about him every day.