



**The Sasquatch in
Current Hominology**
Milestones & Scientists

Christopher L. Murphy

Narrated by Lynn Smyth

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The Sasquatch in Current Hominology

Milestones and Scientists

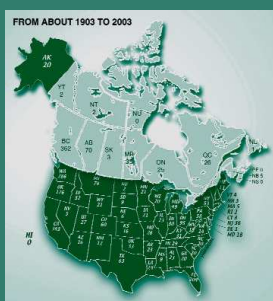
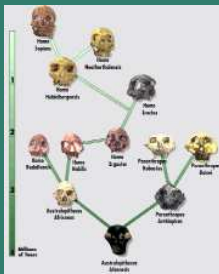
(Script for Video Narrative No. 8)

Christopher L. Murphy

Edited by Gene Baade



Chris Murphy – Author



Preamble

The purpose of this presentation is to identify the individuals connected with the major milestones in sasquatch research and also identify contributors who have PhD or doctorate status. I have concentrated on degreed (PhD) people as it is they who have the most credibility in the eyes of both the general public and the scientific establishment. I do not belittle the great work of non-PhD scientists and general researchers who have contributed by far the most to our knowledge. Please keep in mind that I am depending upon my personal knowledge and records. I cannot guarantee that I have included everyone who should be mentioned in this paper.

Definition, Scope and Origination of Current Hominology

HOMINOLOGY: Hominology is the unofficial scientific discipline for the study of hominoids (variously hominins and hominids), which are believed to be existing primates closely related to modern humans. They may, or may not, be closer in their DNA to humans than other great apes. One belief is that they are *relict hominoids*. In other words, they predate modern humans (which came about some 200,000 years ago) but somehow continued to this time.

The primary hominoids are:

1. Sasquatch (or bigfoot) believed to exist in North America.
2. Yeti, believed to exist in the Himalayas (Nepal and India)
3. Russian snowman (most commonly called leshy or almasty), believed to exist in Europe and non-European Russia
4. Yowie, believed to exist in Australia
5. Yeren, believed to exist in China

Evidence for all of these hominoids is primarily based on footprints (photos and plaster casts), which some scientists have studied and contend were made by a natural foot, and that any form of fabrication is either impossible or so remote as to be discounted.

Other evidence related to the sasquatch is in the form of hand prints and other body prints (photos and casts).

Cultural evidence for each of these hominoids predates written history. It is believed they all go back thousands of years.

Generally, most research has been performed on the sasquatch because of the significant number of sightings and footprint evidence. I also need to mention that economic conditions in North America allow more attention to research of this nature. Sasquatch research is followed by Russian snowman research and yowie research, with research on the other two hominoids to a lesser degree.

In 2003, I determined that there were 2,557 reported sasquatch-related incidents on record for about a 100 year period (1903–2003). This number has now significantly increased. I will venture a guess that it is around 6,000.



The term “hominology” (and consequently “hominologist”) was coined in the 1960s by Dmitri Bayanov, a Russian researcher who worked with Russian scientists, particularly Dr. Boris Porshnev, who wrote the first modern book by a scientist on the possible existence of hominoids (Ieshy and other names). The title of the book is, *The Present State of the Question of Relict Hominoids*. The book is in the Russian language. It was published in 1963.

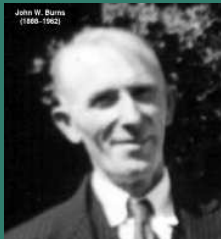


A photo taken in 1968 shows those considered the founders of Russian hominology. They are from left to right: Boris Porshnev, Alexander Mashkovtsev, Pyotr Smolin, Dmitri Bayanov, and Marie-Jeanne Koffmann. Dmitri Bayanov and Marie-Jeanne Koffmann are the only surviving members of this group.

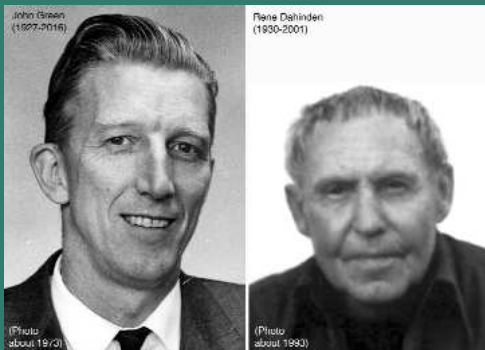
In particular, field work by Dr. Marie-Jeanne Koffmann (born 1919) in the early years and beyond served to further confirm the existence of the Russian snowman (referred to as almasty).

The Sasquatch

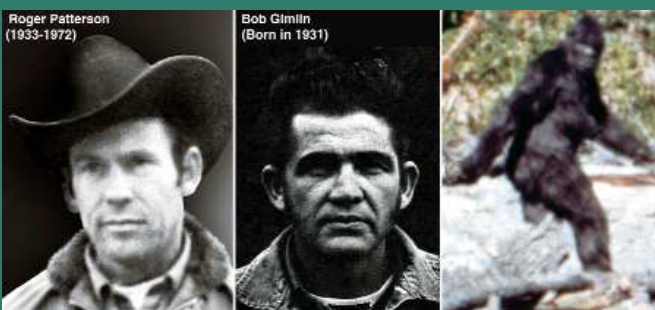
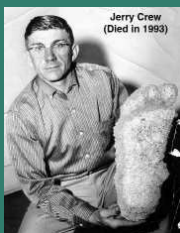
The possibility of sasquatch existence was generally brought to scientific and public attention in 1929 by John W. Burns in a *McLean's* magazine article. Burns was a teacher on a First Nations reservation in British Columbia and recounted stories he had been given by Native people. There were many newspaper/magazine reports prior to 1929, but this magazine had very wide circulation. Not a lot of attention was paid to the subject, but enough to encourage research.



In the early 1950s John Green, who published a newspaper in Agassiz, BC, took an interest in sasquatch research. He teamed up with René Dahinden and there were various magazine and newspaper articles on the hominoid. Green published a booklet titled *On the Track of the Sasquatch* in 1968, and continued with several other booklets of the same nature. Dahinden had a book written for him titled *Sasquatch*, which was published in 1973. Green went on to write and publish his main book, *Sasquatch: The Apes Among Us*, in 1978. It was this book that fully brought the sasquatch to both general and scientific attention.



People in the United States were thrust into the issue when large footprints were found near Bluff Creek, California, by Jerry Crew in 1958. The *Associated Press* carried the story of the find and used the term “bigfoot” to identify whatever had made the prints. Thus the word “bigfoot” became the name for the sasquatch in the USA.



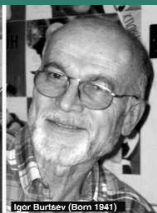
A movie film taken in October 1967, by Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin at Bluff Creek, California, shows what is believed to be a sasquatch. The two men are seen here in the 1970s with one of the frames from their movie showing the sasquatch when it turns to look at Patterson. The movie is about one minute in length, comprising 953 film frames. About 60 to 80 frames are clear enough to show reasonable detail for analysis purposes (although many are only one-sixteenth of a second apart). The film remains the main photographic evidence for the existence of sasquatch.



René Dahinden
(1930-2001)



Dmitri Bayanov (Born 1932)



Igor Burtsev (Born 1941)



Dmitri Donskoy (1910-2007)



Donald W. Grieve (Born 1930s)



John Napier
(1917-1987)

Although considerable detail can be seen in the film frames, enlargements of the subject alone greater than about 96 mm (3.8 inches) in height yields all the credible information available. In other words, what can be seen with the naked eye at that size is the maximum clarity. This was established by two scientists based on the camera model, type of film, and subject distance. This image shows the subject as it would have been seen with the naked eye from the camera position. The subject is only about 1.2 mm high in the actual film frames. It needs to be mentioned that current research shows that the subject was much farther away than originally thought. This being the case, the image size (3.8 inches) stated would be reduced.

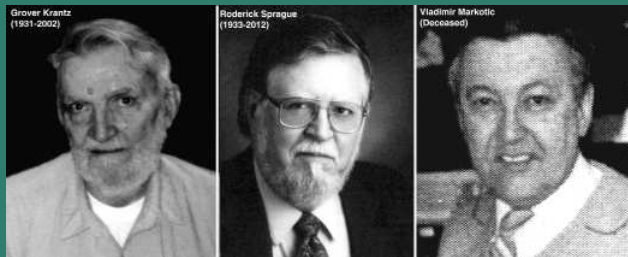
This scale model shows the Patterson and Gimlin film site. You need to visualize that the camera height for this perspective would be about 50 feet in the air. The red map pin indicates Patterson's ground level position when the film frame (sasquatch looking at Patterson) was taken. The sasquatch simply walked across the site and eventually disappeared into the forest. Forensic analysis of the film showed that the sasquatch was about 7 feet, 3.5 inches tall (walking height).

Scientific attention to the film was at most lukewarm. As a result, the film was taken to Europe in 1972 by researcher René Dahinden to see what European scientists thought of it. He is seen here in London, England, holding copies of casts from the footprints found at the Bluff Creek film site. A London "bobby" looks on.

The film was analyzed by several scientists and professionals in Europe (including Moscow, Russia) who concluded or conditionally concluded that the hominoid (sasquatch) seen in this film was a natural being or possibly such. Reports on the film were published by Dmitri Bayanov and Dr. Igor Burtsev (team), Dr. Dmitri D. Donskoy, and Dr. Donald W. Grieve.

Other scientists in North America reported on what they thought of the film, but not by a studying the actual physical film. As a result their opinions were "off the cuff" and inappropriate for "men of science." Nevertheless, one scientist, Dr. Osman Hill, recommended more professional research in a published statement.

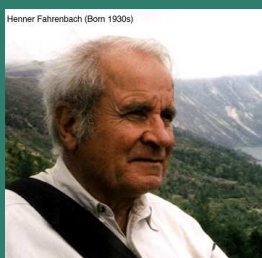
During this time (1967 to 1972) Dr. John Napier of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, decided to look at the hominoid issue, including the Patterson and Gimlin film. His book *Bigfoot, Startling Evidence of Another Form of Life on Earth* was published in 1972. Although the book title is noteworthy, the book's content is optimistic but non-committal. In my opinion, Napier stayed "on the fence." He watched the film "at least half-a-dozen times" and formed his opinions from these viewings. I believe something more "scientific" should have been done by this particular scientist.



Another US scientist, Dr. Grover Krantz, with Washington State University, started looking at the sasquatch issue in 1963. He, along with Dr. Roderick Sprague, compiled and edited a book on sasquatch titled, *The Scientist Looks at the Sasquatch*. It was published in 1972 by a university press. Both editors supported the probable existence of this hominoid.

After the ill-fated University of BC conference on hominoids in 1978, Dr. Krantz teamed up with Dr. Vladimir Markotic to set the record straight on the university's botched conference and subsequent book published in 1980. The two scientists compiled and edited a book titled *The Sasquatch and Other Unknown Hominoids*, which was published in 1984.

Krantz finally published his own book on his finding in 1992 titled, *Big Footprints: A Scientific Enquiry into the Reality of Sasquatch*. This book (reprinted in 1999 as *Bigfoot/Sasquatch Evidence*) continues to be the most profound statement of sasquatch reality by an anthropologist.



Another early scientist is Dr. Henner Fahrenbach. He never wrote a book on hominology, but he was a major contributor to our studies. He developed the statistics we have on many sasquatch aspects. They are presented in *Meet the Sasquatch* (2004) by Chris Murphy in association with John Green and Thomas Steenburg. Furthermore, Henner was highly instrumental in the analysis of alleged sasquatch hair and the best Freeman hand cast.



Dr. Daris Swindler, an American anthropologist and a leading primate expert, took an interest in sasquatch studies probably in the 1970s. He was one of the professionals who examined the Skookum cast. His report on my book *Meet the Sasquatch* is posted in the Relict Hominoid Inquiry website. What is stated about him on Wikipedia is noteworthy:

Though a longtime skeptic of Bigfoot (the giant, bipedal ape-like creature said to live in North America's Pacific Coast), Swindler was one of the few experts willing to examine evidence cited in support of the creature's existence. As quoted by Stein, Swindler's opinion regarding Bigfoot changed after the discovery of the so-called Skookum Body Cast (an impression left in a mud pit by a purported Bigfoot). After making a detailed examination of the cast, Swindler stated, "Whatever made this was very well adapted to walking on two feet ... It's not conclusive, but it's consistent with what you'd expect to see if a giant biped sat down in the mud."



In Canada, another scientist, Dr. John Bindernagel, took an interest in the sasquatch issue in 1963. He published his findings in 1998 in his book, *North America's Great Ape: The Sasquatch*. Like Dr. Krantz, he fully supported sasquatch existence. In 2010 Dr. Bindernagel made a giant leap forward with his next book, *The Discovery of the Sasquatch*, which outrightly proclaims that sasquatch exist; we have just not found enough tangible evidence (bones or a body) to confirm this.



Across the continent in New York, Dr. Robert Bartholomew took up an interest in the sasquatch issue in 1978. He, along with his brother, Robert, Bruce Hallenbeck, and William Bran wrote a book titled *Monsters of the Northwoods*, which was published in 1991. In about 2006 the book was sent to Hancock House Publishers with a request for consideration as to a new book on the subject. A new book titled *Bigfoot: Encounters in New York and New England* was authored by the brothers and published in 2008; sasquatch reality is highly contended. The Foreword to this book was provided by Dr. Christine Marie Janis, a professor at Brown University, Rhode Island.



Dr. Jean-Paul Debenat in France took an interest in “wild men” at a very early age. He expanded his explorations to North America and took up sasquatch research. He wrote and had published in 2007 a book in French titled, *Sasquatch/Bigfoot and the Mystery of the Wild Man*. The book was subsequently translated to English and published in Canada and the USA in 2009. Dr. Debenat provides astounding insights on sasquatch, leaving us with the impression that there is much more to this hominoid than myth and legend.

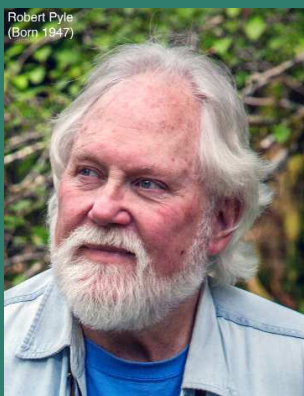


Peter Byrne joined in the search for the sasquatch in 1959. He obtained significant funding and created his Bigfoot Research Project in the 1970s. Byrne eventually situated a research facility in The Dalles, Oregon. It had a free telephone line for reporting and Byrne would go on location and investigate when possible. He had two employees and was fully equipped to handle any situation. Byrne was efficient and well-funded by the Academy of Applied Science in Boston, Massachusetts. Unfortunately, in 1997, what I can only term as animosity distanced Peter from his project and eventually all funding ceased.



In 1994, the bold step was taken by Peter Byrne (Bigfoot Research Project) to have the Patterson and Gimlin film subjected to a forensic analysis. Jeff Glickman, a forensic scientist, spent the next 5 years studying the film. Glickman’s report, *Toward a Resolution of the Bigfoot Phenomenon*, was issued in late 1998. Glickman provides evidence that the film subject is a natural hominoid. He could not find any evidence that it had been fabricated.

After Byrne left (1997), The Bigfoot Research Project was changed to the North American Science Institute (NASI) with Glickman in charge. It carried on efficiently and amiably for about three years and then folded when funding ceased. This was the single biggest letdown in the field of sasquatch research.



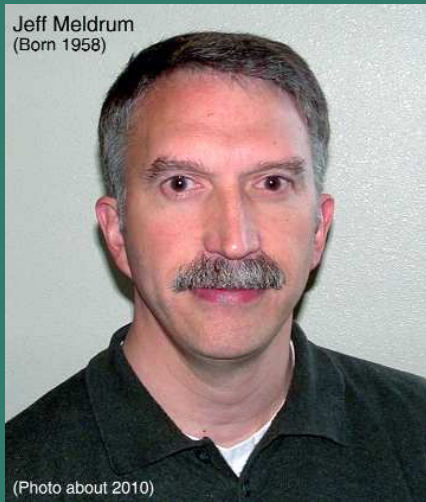
At some point, likely in the 1970s, the sasquatch emerged in the vast experience of Dr. Robert Michael Pyle. His book, *Where Bigfoot Walks: Crossing the Dark Divide*, was published in 1995. It’s a significant work with amazingly detailed information. As to the hominoid itself and finding it, given it exists, he states:

“I do not propose the species designation to dramatically disrupt the forest planning process without better ecological information. Rather, serious research efforts should be launched by federal, tribal, state, provincial and private groups and coordinated by the National Biological Service and its Canadian and Indian Nation counterparts to determine the likely range of the species and its ecological requirements.”



In about 1983, Dr. Chris Bader took an interest in sasquatch and featured this hominoid in his book, *Strange Northwest*, published in 1995. He was working toward his doctorate at the time. He does not provide a scientific analysis. He just recounts testimony and general information, but he does so very methodically with notes at the end of the book.

Jeff Meldrum
(Born 1958)



(Photo about 2010)

In about 1995, anthropologist Dr. Jeffrey Meldrum of Idaho State University took an interest in the sasquatch. His book, *Sasquatch: Legend Meets Science*, was published in 2006. His final decision is: “In several instances the evidence is intriguing if not outrightly persuasive and compels to further investigation.”

Dr. Jeff Meldrum was our primary scientist at the time and he was asked to create a society for hominology. John Green funded the project and many researchers gave advice as to its formation. In 2011 Meldrum created a website called the **Relict Hominoid Inquiry** with a scientific board—this was done with the concurrence of his university. Unfortunately, the envisioned society did not materialize—no organizational initiatives were undertaken. Nevertheless, important scientific papers were, and continue to be, posted on the website, which Meldrum calls an “on-line journal.”



The legacy of Dr. Boris Porshnev (died 1972) and the advent of the Patterson and Gimlin film (taken to Russia in 1971) encouraged Dmitri Bayanov and Igor Burtsev to increase their efforts in researching the Russian snowman. Significant field work was undertaken, including an attempt to find the grave of Zana, a reported “ape woman” who died in the late 1800s.

Bayanov's first major book on the Russian hominoid, *In the Footsteps of the Russian Snowman*, was published in 1996. Bayanov then concentrated on publishing his findings on the sasquatch and a year later (1997) his book, *America's Bigfoot: Fact, Not Fiction*, was released.

Being highly knowledgeable on the history of hominoids in the Western hemisphere, Bayanov then wrote two more books: *Bigfoot Research: The Russian Vision* (2011) and *Russian Hominology: The Bayanov Papers – Fact and Folklore* (2016).

From the outset, Bayanov has been urging cooperation between Russia and North America in all aspects of hominoid research. He and Burtsev created the International Center of Hominology in Moscow in 2003 (associated with the Darwin Museum). Bayanov continued to stress the need for a proper world hominology society when the RHI failed to address this need. His on-going thrust was to get mainstream science involved in research. This objective was basically embraced by all researchers, but all attempts to present the evidence as a means to this end had failed.

During all this time and up to the present, Igor Burtsev has made significant contributions as to both the Russian snowman and the sasquatch. Extensive material in Russian is posted to the Internet. He is also working on a major book titled, *New Turn in Russian Snowman Research*. Preliminary copies were printed as to findings up to 2011.



I have been informed that chances for involvement by the Russian scientific establishment are less than those in North America.

In 2016, Bayanov decided to try a new approach to get scientific recognition. He wrote a preliminary paper called “The Making of Hominology” that set out to justify hominology as a new official scientific discipline based on the history of science, itself. In short, although conclusive proof of current hominoid existence had not been obtained, the evidence collected is enough to warrant an official scientific discipline and subsequent funded research by the “scientific establishment.”

The paper was not published, but was sent for editing stating that additional material was forthcoming. After about one year, the paper had expanded into a book. Photographic evidence was added as it related to the sasquatch together with the authoritative conclusions on the Patterson and Gimlin film. An ebook was made available at no charge under the original title, *The Making of Hominology*. I was asked to be shown as an associate author.

In 2018, the decision was made to have the book published in print. However, Bayanov wanted to get testimonials from some scientists that they agreed with his concepts. The following scientists submitted their positive testimonials, which are included in the book:

Dr. Jane Goodall
Dr. Nikolay Drozdov
Dr. Paul LeBlond
Dr. Henry Bauer

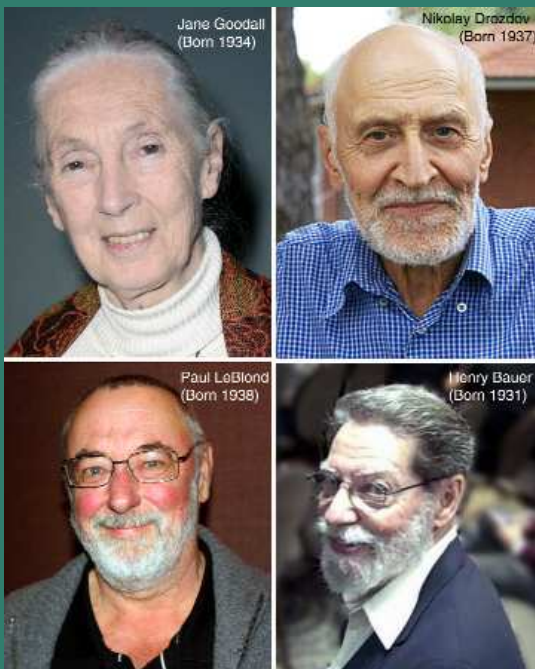
At the request of the publisher, a sub-title was added resulting in:

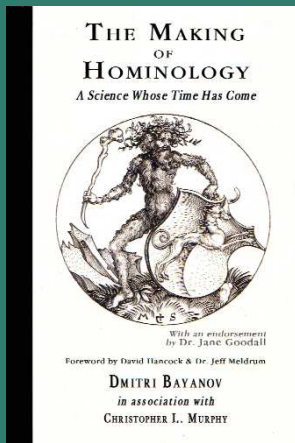
The Making of Hominology: A Science Whose Time Has Come.

Rather than having Dr. Meldrum provide a testimonial, he was asked to write a book Foreword. The book has now been published by Hancock House Publishers in Surrey, BC, Canada.

Besides numerous non-scientific books and other non-scientific publications, the only other initiative for public awareness is a traveling museum exhibit. In fourteen years it has traveled to eight public museums, two in Canada and six in the USA. A ninth exhibit opens at the end of this month (May 2019) in Lacey, Washington State. It was anticipated that providing physical sasquatch-related artifacts might kindle professional interest. Despite the popularity of the exhibit, I don't know of any in-roads in this connection.

At this juncture (2019) every effort is being made, albeit independently, to obtain more tangible evidence for hominoids (primarily for the sasquatch and the Russian snowman). Inability to obtain a specimen (alive or dead, or a part thereof) has resulted in the analysis of alleged sasquatch hair for DNA identification.





A major program for hair or tissue analysis was undertaken by Dr. Bryan Sykes at Oxford University, Great Britain, in 2012. Many hair samples were provided. All DNA extracted indicated known animals, with two cases showing “modern humans.” The only conclusion is that either the sasquatch is a modern human of some sort, or the hair sample came from a modern human.

Since then, another analysis of hair found in an alleged sasquatch footprint also resulted in “modern human.”

The main stumbling block in DNA analysis is the cost to have such analysis performed. With no organization and subsequent funding, very little can be done. For the last 50 plus years, the state of hominology world-wide has been a “free for all.” Independent websites are now the main vehicles for research and publication of findings. Each website holds all others at arms length; any cooperation or coordination is at best minimal.

The main thrust at this time is to have hominology recognized as a valid science and thereby turn over the reins to the scientific establishment. The book, *The Making of Hominology*, is a major milestone in this quest.

It is believed that, if or when firm evidence is obtained, hominoids will enable us to more fully understand ourselves and the world in which we live.