

UFO talk across America

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There are still many UFO sightings being recorded in the United States and around the world. The largest UFO organization is the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON). I have been a member since 1988. We also have a state organization, MUFON of Ohio. Last year MUFON averaged over 600 UFO sighting reports a month.

A Web site that is very important to view sighting reports is the National UFO Reporting Center located in Seattle, Wash. (ufocenter.com). There are several other smaller UFO groups in the U.S., including our own RUFOS (roundtownufocenter.com). The oldest, continuous group is the Cleveland Ufology Project established in 1952 in Cleveland.

Until recently many of the witnesses have requested to remain anonymous. Times have changed, because many now are allowing their names to be used. They are realizing that many of the public believe or know the subject of UFOs is a reality. Even now UFO witnesses from the past are willing to reveal their UFO sightings. If the trend continues you will have many more people talking about their experiences. No longer do they feel embarrassed.

I am encouraging everyone to feel free to talk among your friends, relatives and even strangers you have conversations with, even if you have not had a UFO sighting. You may be surprised to find out that others have had sightings or they know of someone who has. Try the one-on-one approach. When no one else is around, ask them what they think of the UFO phenomenon? The answers may surprise you. It is time to tell the stories.

We have a member, Hank Taylor, of RUFOS, who travels around the country on business. He has used this method. He has talked to anyone from Indian Elders to retired military people about their UFO experiences, or he has heard of second-hand reports. He has heard of many outstanding sightings of unidentified flying objects.

Just recently I wrote an article in our Pickaway County Historical Society's Spring Quarterly magazine titled, "The History of UFO Sightings In Pickaway County." You can get it at the Society's Historical & Genealogical Library on North Court Street. I have listed several UFO sightings that I know about that have occurred over the past several decades. In every living witness that I talked to, I received their permission to use their names. This gives that much more credibility to the sighting report.

About 10 years ago, I asked one witness if he wanted to talk about his sighting. He refused, saying he didn't want to talk anymore about it. How times have changed, because now he talks freely about it. Many sightings in the past have been treated as family secrets. With the help of the History Channel and other media outlets the atmosphere has or should have the public talking openly about the existence of UFOs.

This is part of the public awareness program that I have used for the past several years. I called this "The Circleville Initiative." Circleville is home to the Circleville-Roswell Connection; 1st Classic Close Encounter; and one of the few if not the only town in America founded on prehistoric earthworks.