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Coming to you from the city of the weir,



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exploring topics from the esoteric and unexplored to dimensions unknown,



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shining a light of truth on the darkest corners of our reality.



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Welcome to the curious realm.



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Well, hello everybody, and welcome to the curious realms coverage of the 2024 Texas Bigfoot festival right here in Jefferson, Texas, the Bigfoot Capital of Texas. Welcome back to the show. Chester, more. Chris, how you doing, man? And I'm doing good. I actually got more Peppa myself than I thought. I've been on a rampage of a traveling schedule, yeah, no. Some really cool stuff, though. And just a lot of things going on with wildlife. Kids are connecting kids with wildlife. And yep, and this is kind of like a stopping point for me for a few weeks. It's a great way to just celebrate my favorite time of year, the fall, being around a lot of these great people who are interested in crypto Zoology at our friend Greg's conference, you know, so a lot of really cool stuff here. And I had a chance to talk this morning, and it was a lot of fun. Yeah, your your presentation was great. Let's get into that a little bit real quick. But you got, well, tell the audience a little bit about your presentation. What were you here presenting on this year? I did. I had a little bit shorter time frame this year, and I'm like, You know what? I don't want to do a presentation. Presentation. I want to get people pumped up about the the chances we have to go investigate things. Yeah. So I talked about strange East Texas encounters, okay? And I talked about the crazy two vocalizations that occurred, once when I was about 10 or 11, and once when I was 2728



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and in East Texas, that really made me think the whole big phenomenon was worth examining as a journalist. You know, sure. And then I talked about some crazy sighting reports people had and some weird, possible lost tribe stuff that was on my dark outdoors podcast, yeah. And the whole idea was, I think a lot of people come because I asked for a show of hands, and over half for new people never been to a conference. Wow. And wow. I think a lot of people think to have an adventure they have to go, like, to the Pacific Northwest or overseas or something, yeah. And I'm wanting people to know they can go into their backyard, the National Forest 20 miles from their house, and maybe encounter a cool adventure and appreciate nature better. That was really what my talk was about this morning. Well, you know that is a really interesting point to bring up, because when you start looking specifically at Sasquatch, not just Sasquatch, but other animals, other things, like the the gentleman set up next to you with the book on big cats. Yeah, Michael, you know I was, I was giving him my account of

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West Louisiana, but just across the border, where I saw a large cap. My brother, to this day, will be like, You're crazy, man, you're crazy. But I saw it. It was there, and to know that, yeah, if, if you get out there in the woods, once you start getting out there regularly,

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your chances of running into something strange. I remember having a conversation as a teenager with my family, and I'm like, you know, if I could ever go, like, in Oregon, or like, British Columbia or somewhere, and find one Bigfoot track that, to me, would be like, because I'm a hunter, yeah, killing a boon and Crockett sized trophy white tail buck or a giant elk, that'd be the same thing to me. It'd be so amazing. And, you know, I found more than a couple of tracks in my life. Yeah, we're out there. So I'm just the poor, almost the lower middle income kid in West Orange, Texas that got to do a lot of cool stuff. And I want to let other people know that there's an on ramp for them to enjoy nature as well. Yeah, yeah, precisely. And that is a lot of what, not only your and I'll call it straight up, what it is, what your ministry is, is helping underprivileged children and other people get out into the wilderness. It's real, and explore that. Yeah, we just got back from Tennessee with some kids in our wild wishes program in Yeah, our our missions to bring the love of Christ to hurting children through wildlife encounters. And hurting children can mean a lot of things. A lot of times it's loss of a sibling or, you know, or a parent, or terminal illness. We have another organization that brings sex trafficking victims to us that we work with, yeah, and sometimes it's meeting kids, meeting kids at our facility, where we have our exotic animals, or in the field. And we just got back from the Smokies, two little girls from Orange, Texas, dream was to go the Smokies, and they call and they qualified. Wow. Their families went. We helped facilitate that, and then we had a little boy. I met the Tennessee wild man in cryptic con. His dream was to be qualified, and his dream was to be a wildlife photographer. So he spent a couple of days in the field with them, photographing elk that had been restored there. Wow, wild turkeys, bears. Wow.

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And it was just so cool to see those kids be kids, yeah? Because what happens Chris is like somebody will have something on March 16, this tragedy happens to them. Maybe they lost their dad or somethina. riight. or mom. In their mind. life will never get better than March to

15th. Yeah, so there's a cap, so we can take them into a place that has beautiful things, are interested and let them have an experience. They can see that life still has hope, and that's kind of the way we do and we've done Bigfoot expeditions like that. Yes, too, yeah. Third wild wish of our we've done our wild wishes program. We just did the 253rd kid in the program, wow. And the third kid that we did in the program wanted a Bigfoot. Yeah, I talked about that in my presentation. I remember that, and it was, it was such a fun experience. But really, that's what that stuff's about. You know, because me and my wife love kids, and it's a way to instill hope, and I have fun, and at the end of the day, we're all playing Scooby Doo out here. Yeah, you know, we're kind of in the midst of my stream, looking for monsters, and, like I say, one day we're gonna go up to old Mr. Johnson in the in the ape suit and pull and it's not Yeah, exactly,



06:10

yeah, yeah, Bigfoot, yeah. Well, and you know, speaking of that, like, even to watch you with Gulf Coast Great Whites now, yeah, man. And your passion with that really, really, really, shows the example of why you need to encourage children. Yeah, man, you know, because seeing your Verve with that, like you got into all of this because of your love of great whites, because because of a book you had when you were like eight years old, what led you to your entire career? Yeah, man. And I'm reading dangerous sea creatures, and I just seen jaws. And, yeah, my mind was just like, you know, and, you know, a month ago, a little over a month ago, I'm with the Atlanta white shark conservancy at the end of a boat looking at a great white shark, a 12 foot great white under our boat that they that have been tagged and working on a documentary my friend Paul faci we're doing a documentary about return of great whites in the Gulf. Cool, and their journey begins in the Atlantic. So we went there, and then we're doing stuff in the Gulf. So that's cool, and that is a gulf Great whites.com my shameless plug for my blog. Go subscribe. It's the official blog of great white sharks. That's right. But what that is about is a conservation triumph, because great whites were nearly wiped out to a certain extent. I mean, yeah, in the Gulf, it was like mythical. It was like seeing a Bigfoot to people. Yeah, I did a story called JAWS rising in like, 20 years ago in tide magazine, and



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it was controversial, because I listed a report and I talked about so old accounts are no great whites in the Gulf. And then a group called Oster started putting satellite tags in about six years later, and they popped up around Panama City, Florida and all that. And then we have this one from the Atlanta white shark conservative. It's February, 26 of 2024



08:00

was 100 yards off the beach and South Padre Island. Yeah. Her name is liebeth. She's kind of the star of our documentary. Yeah, all 2600 pounds ever? Wow. She's a beast. That's a massive, massive animal, yeah. And so it's about that conservation triumph. And, you know, some cool stuff. And let people know not all the mysteries are solved. Yeah, yeah. Well, and even the fact of, you know, if you're it's almost kind of like if you're on land, being near a spider, you know, if you're in the water, you're probably pretty close to a shark, and you don't even realize it, like, even the even the videos that you showed me, it was like



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it was 15 foot deep water. It was like prime surfing average, you know, the average. We were probably average of



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a quarter mile offshore average. But many times we were within 250, 300 yards of shore. Yeah. And looking around, and that group does great work, because they also do, like, safety awareness. Yeah, they have shark alerts, like, Hey, you just saw a great white 100 yards on the beach. Here's the beach. You can make your own decision what you want to do, yeah, and I saw some brothers out there surfing, and I was like, hey, Lord help them.



09:18

I don't know if these guys got the memo. Yeah, yeah, you know. But I like that information. It's not trying to scare they're not trying to scare people, yeah, but they're trying to inform them. And it's fun, man. And, you know, I was sitting there talking all these shark scientists, and they all have a story like me. Somehow, Megan, who's the head biologist there, or whatever, you know, little girl in Florida, thinks you got to go to Australia when she's an adult, to become a shark scientist, yeah. And now she's, you know, now she's a shark scientist in America and on the Atlantic coast. So it's really cool, and to see that. You know, in my life, I never, when I was a kid, I didn't, like, have a cap like, I thought I would never see a great one. I didn't ever think it's impossible, but it wasn't like, within the realm of like, probably gonna happen, yeah? Well.



10:00

Oh well. And the idea of, you know, once again, like, oh my god, if I want to see a great white I've got to go to Australia, yes, you know, I've got to go to the other side of the globe to see one. And that not the case, yeah. So I got up now I've been able to say I've done great white



10:14

encounter, or work as a journalist in the Pacific, off the coast of California, now in the Atlantic. Yeah. So that that's just from a little kid, the little kid in me is a is a cool perspective, but we're gonna be doing some special stuff with a thing called Summer of the shark this year, sponsored by the coastal Conservation Association, cool, and we brought kids to the shark cage at the Texas State aquarium. Oh, and we've done that three times now over the years, we're gonna be doing more of that and go snorkel with sharks. And they're in a shark cage, and a sandbar shark swim right from me to you. Wow. And there's a girl named Marina. Marina, baby, if you're watching, you're awesome. She's going to be a marine biologist. She is graduated now. She got to go in with us. I'll never forget it's me and her on this one side of the cage. I'm over here to the right. She's right here, and I kind of turn around. She popped for the water, dude, it's the greatest moment of my life. Boom Back in the water. And I'm like, That's what that's about, you

know? Yeah, no, precisely. It's about trying to make somebody's dream come true, yeah, man. And and really about education. Because when you especially, I'm just a few years younger than you, but I remember Jaws when I was a kid. And the fact of, when you get older and you start realizing, like a lot of the quote science that's in Jaws, like, where they're like, this is very rare in these waters. Like, it's not that rare in those waters, you know, things like that. And even the idea that that movie led to a mass global panic that literally led to almost the destruction of an entire species of animal. But I think, I think JAWS has been a major net positive for sharks. I would, I would generally think, because what happened was, after people got over that about a decade, JAWS got a lot, most of these scientists origin stories, JAWS got them interested, yeah. And so I think it's been a net positive in the long run. I mean, I'm one example, but cool, you mentioned that jaws.

 12:07

So it was filmed in Martha's Vineyard, which is across Nantucket, south from Cape Cod and from the National Oceanographic so I wasn't thinking about that. I drive down the Woods Hole, yeah, it says the oceanograph against I said, Oh my God. It's the Oceanographic Institute on the mainland that Richard drive was talking about. Sound like fan boy. And now taking pictures in

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front. And then I got to go across. And we, I got to go. We got to go film. We got to go film at the jaws bridge. We came under the bridge in the pond. And then we got to film at the beach, a little boy got hit the scary scene in the movie. And so, you know, I always look at like, if you take pop culture, a lot of times, stuff gets wrong in it, but it's what we do with it, yeah? And that's kind of what Jaws is. And next year is the 50th anniversary of Jaws, yeah. So I am excited to release our Gulf Great Whites documentary, and we're,

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we're in almost the final stages of filming, and then it's going to be crafting the story. Because what I do is, I'll take a story, I know the basic story we're going to film, and then once we get what we get, I go through it and go, Okay,

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this is really what's going to be it's going to flesh out to this? Yeah, Paul faci, he's my buddy who films and does the editing and stuff done our higher kind of wildlife documentaries after the outdoors. He

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He's done some really great filming, and since we met through Bigfoot stuff, by the way,



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it was crazy. I look at it, he's on the top. He's under the end of the boat, and he's looking down, and there's the Great White and I'm like, how do we get here? You know,



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well, and it is one of those, you know, you have to step back and see that. And even even knowing what you do, once again, education wise, with younger children, when it comes to higher calling wildlife, but also with the education stuff that you put out with dark outdoors, I think, is one of the most important things out there, especially, especially for communities like this, that almost encourage the concept of, you know, go out into the woods by yourself. Yeah, go out, go out into the make sure nobody knows where your Squatch spot is. Like, no, you want at least two people to know where you're squashing a game plan, you know, you know, always talk about, like, have a couple of people who know where you're gonna be, yeah, at least where you're gonna be parked, that area, general area, a time you're gonna be out of there, yeah? You know, have a transponder on you, you know, which is a device that could sound to a satellite. You can hit a button. It goes your GPS coordinates from emergency places, if you can pack heat. Know what to do with it, if it happens and, you know it, have emergency supplies. And because on dark outdoors, dark outdoors is kind of the thing that goes like, it's like the behind the scenes of everything I do, yeah, it's like, it covers all of it somehow, you know what I mean, yeah. And the idea of someone I.



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Asked me, Hey, Chester, what's the most dangerous thing in the woods? And I'm Wow, that's easy, people. And yeah, that's where it started. I quite literally just posted an article last night, yeah, and almost tagged you in it. Okay, I should have I'll go back inside.



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I typically do whenever it's like, Hey, this is great fodder for your show. But quite literally, it was an investigation that they thought may have been a wild animal or something like that that killed somebody, I believe, in the Olympia woods and Olympia National Forest, and they have come out and said, like, no, no, this person was killed by a person. Wow, this, this person was killed in their campsite. Wow. You know what's interesting about that? I think back before



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people in law enforcement was tuned into some of these serial killers and stuff, yeah, how many? Because, what happens if people are out there for what animals are going to scavenge the body? That's right, how many bodies were actually killed by a person and then an animal gets to blame because it's been scavenged? Yeah? You know, like you gotta because it's been torn open and things like that. Was a strangulation or a knife wound? Yeah? You know, not a bullet wound. Yeah. So I think that's I think people need to know that there are some disturbed,

evil individuals, and I have no problem using the word evil. Had somebody go Chester. That's too strong of language to be assumed. Yes or no, if you're willing to go rape and mutilate a little kid out in the woods. You're freaking evil, yeah, and so I'm gonna just call you out what you are. And we don't want, I don't want you in the woods, but if it takes someone protecting themselves and they walk out and you don't.

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So we want the good people to make it out of the woods, right? And most of the time it just requires a cool head, like I'm feeling a weird I need to go there. Or, yeah, guys are the worst though, yeah, because we're all we have to be strong guys. Someone confronts you on the trail or a weird thing, chicken out is the best thing to do. Yeah, chicken out. Take your ego and chicken out because you don't want to escalate to that point. Yeah, I had to get my dad out of a situation one time

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we had this situation on this hunting property we were on, and there was this really strange guy, and he I was walk off in the off season, we were allowed to access anywhere on the property I'm walking through, and his deer blindness. I got a ground blind open. The entire inside of the blind was covered with pornography, like, on the walls. Yeah, and I'm going, that's real. That's the guy that walks out here. You know, that's really weird. And I'm like, This is not good. Well, my dad ended up having a confrontation with him over something out there. And my dad could, my dad had a hard time coming down de escalating. So I pull up on my dad's in this guy's face. He's like, a foot taller. He's like, almost seven in his buddy. And I'm like, How do I get out of there my dad's and I'm like, How do I de escalate? Yeah,

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I'll make my dad mad at me.

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So I got in there and I made my dad mad at me, kind of, like, taking the other guy's side. And I'm like, and I got and I got able to get my dad, like, get him in the vehicle, yeah, you know what? I mean, yeah. But you got to de escalate, you do. And don't be stupid, you know? And well, even, even the idea of, you know, oh, I can push on further. I can No, no problem. Maybe, maybe you shouldn't. So you shouldn't. I need to man up and go another mile. Randy Minotaur wrote in seven books on deaths and national parks. Was the last episode of dark outdoors and she said in long speaker, we like to go Vanessa spark collar. That's what happens people so I'm just gonna keep pushing Yeah, and they don't, they're not fit, or the weather's bad or whatever, or they're prepared. Don't have enough, that's the most dangerous. So there's a lot of things like that. And you know, you're probably not gonna run to a serial killer, no, but the elements are always there. Well, is serial killer or not? You, you may well run into an encampment of people, depending on where you are, especially in Texas, you know, you, you may well run into a group of people growing things illegally in the National Forest, a group of

people cooking things. My story of what inspired dark outdoors was murder Mountain, which is the Netflix series. We talked about that before, and I didn't ever heard of such a thing. Yeah, it's way before the Netflix series, and the game warden tells me to go watch murder mountains. That's where you were, brother, and I was right by this place called Murder within five miles of the actual murder mountain, yeah, golden chair, the green triangle, emerald triangle. It was unbelievable. But another thing is, my first episode was about Ted Bundy, yeah, because he actually took women into a national forest in one area and killed him. He but clubbed him in the head, yeah. And I'm on Instagram a lot, and I'll see these really beautiful young girls that are like, you know, and Daisy Dukes back, back country, back country piking by themselves, or back country hunting by themselves. And I'm like to one of those people that's like a pit bull to a pork chop, yeah, you know. And so the guy, Steven Michaud, who did.



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It's the Confessions of a you know, he was a guy who sat across some Bundy for six months, interviewed him, yeah? And when I asked him if I ran into Bundy and say he were alive and I'm back country fly fishing, I saw him trying to rape a woman, I'm gonna intervene. You know, how would he respond? He goes, Oh, how tall are you? Six foot. He's like, five, eight, yeah, 10. He ran. But if you're a woman, and then his whole demeanor change, he could not have helped himself, yeah, chances are he saw you and he went to this whole thing. So ladies, if you're listening, be a little extra cautious. Yeah, and don't go alone. Nobody should be going alone. That's right. You may go hunt a different spot a little bit. Go to the journey of somebody else nearby. Have a meeting spot. Have a meeting time, people know, and and be careful out there, because there are predators, you know, and there are real predators. We want you to make it home safe, yeah, and, but I'm not going This chick is the introduction to this, to the Texas Chain Saw Massacre, where they're going, Yeah, I have a friend of mine, Marcy, beautiful lady. And she Marcy, we used to always call the intro to a horror movie, because she would do around, like, wearing daisy dukes, and she collected, like, arrowheads and like, some weird old glass, yeah, and they'd be out in some back country by herself. And she, and I'm like, You are the introduction to every slasher movie.



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Photo this for years, and she's listened to Episode One of dark outdoors on Bundy, and goes, I'm going to get a concealed handgun permit, and we're not take care of myself. That's right. So that's what's right. It's what it's about. And man, too. I mean, like



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young people. I mean, be very cautious with your kids. Yeah, going some easier, you know? I mean, just anywhere. Man, quite literally, we just stay. It was a big point of pride when I heard this from from my wife, about my son. This happened all of a couple weeks ago. They were just at a general store, you know, and he was over looking at some ice cream, and some dude just came up. She was at the counter, wow. He was about 10 steps behind her, yep. And some guy came up and just started talking, oh, you're looking at the ice cream. What are you looking at? Getting things like that. She was just like. She was like, Yeah, a little over friendly. And she was like, I got skied out immediately, you know. And went over to him, and he was obviously trying

to get my boy to talk with him things like that. My boy just kept looking at the ice cream, yeah, and kept himself quiet. And when they got in the car, my wife had the conversation with them, like, hey, you know, did that feel uncomfortable for you? He was like, Yeah, that was really weird, and that's why I didn't talk to him a smart kid. And she was like, right now, pay attention to that. She's like, that is called the creeper, yeah, and if you get that creepy feeling, walk away from it. Go tell somebody. When I was a kid, we played little league. It. Play south west, go little league. And we've been hearing about someone the locals called The Candy Man,

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and they said they would have a van. They all have a they'll have a van, don't they? And and they would try to pick up girls, yeah, well, me and like, three or four kids from my team, our game was over. We went to the park next door, and we're on the Get on the merry go round, and there's two little girls pull up on a bike, and there's a white van parked there, and the guy opens the door and has a bag of candy. I kid you, we saw this happen. You girls like to have some candy or whatever. And I remember we were, like, in maybe sixth grade, we got our bats and stuff. We grabbed our bats,

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you know, we went over there and, like, we're running, and the guy speeds off, yeah, but we saw that, yeah, and like that. That really ingrained in my mind that that was a real thing. It wasn't like a myth anymore, yeah, you know. So I'm glad you're bringing that up about, like, child safety, because in the outdoors part, Little People are also targets of animal. Animals more likely. So your kid is more likely to be on a hiking trip hit by a mountain lion or something like that. You are mountain lion bear something like sure and be very cautious and how you know not too far behind you stick closely on trails, yeah, that kind of stuff. And also that, that creeper awareness, the fact that, like, I feel uncomfortable right now, like when something is stalking you in the woods, yeah, you will feel it, yeah, feel those eyes on you. But if you brought up something cool, like, it's a good thing, because, like, when you said about the creeper feeling and all that. You took it from being like a mysterious wilderness into like Walmart or store, yeah, and people need to know it's in the backyard and that's parked around. Dark outdoors is I got a book coming out my first Dark outdoors. Oh, I can't wait next year. The books called phantom legacy, and it's about what I believe is a legacy and a pattern of killing started by the Texarkana Phantom, and it goes into today, and it literally, I get chills thinking about my first click went, oh my god, he started it all, and it continued. So you got two kind of people when they think of like getting creeped out in locations inner city.

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Yeah, a lot of gangs and, you know, just derelicts and stuff like that. That happens. Could get dangerous at night. Yeah, then you got people get creeped up well, like we're way off in the middle of the National Forest. The most dangerous places I found, statistically, are the little urban forests and parks slightly out of the city where the two meet. It's where that boundary between the tests where the Phantom did his stuff, that's where the Zodiac Killer did his stuff, who was the first acolyte of the Phantom. And I got a whole thing talking about this, these patterns. But what's interesting, Chris is, and I respect the fact that you're always putting

things out there and you're connecting dots and all kind of stories that the media doesn't connect. Yeah, you know. Thank you. Like, I appreciate that. And then in the realm, you'll see these crimes reported. But when you go look at them on Google Earth, you go, Oh, that explains it, yeah. How did that happen? Sit, oh. And so that's what the book phantom legacy is going to be about. And fantastic. And I'll give a little teaser. This has never been mentioned. You get some exclusive stuff. So I had metal bands for a long time. Yeah, and I am releasing a song to go with the Phantom legacy book. Awesome. Yeah. It's a song that was written a long time ago, and my band freak 13 played it live for the last six months of our existence on tour. And so we never recorded it, but it is being recorded cool, and it's called the Talmud Dreaded Sundown, all right? And it's gonna go with the Phantom legacy books. There's gonna be some fun package stuff with it, too. Great. Yeah, maybe some physical media with it, too. So I cannot wait. Chester, thank you so much for the time. It's always great seeing you here on site. It's always great seeing you share your ministry. Thank you, ma'am. And call with other people. Let everybody know where they can go to find out more about higher calling wildlife, where they can go to find out more about Gulf Coast, great whites and dark outdoors. So there's a lot of creep, creepy. I got creepy websites, ministry websites, so go to higher calling.net and there's links to everything there. But at the Chester. More Instagram, Gulf Great whites.com is the Gulf Great Whites blog. I have Chester. More wildlife journalists and investigator YouTube, and I launched yesterday the global Bigfoot YouTube. Oh, awesome. So a lot of places, and dark outdoors is available on every podcasting platform, whether you're on Spotify radio or Apple podcast, whatever we're on there, and I've had fun that's that's a really challenging project to do. Yeah, it's the hardest media project I've ever done in my life. But we've had some really cool things happen, and next year, it's entering the book realm. So excited about that. Yeah, well, congratulations. Thanks for always being here, man, you bet while you are online checking out all the amazing work of Chester. More. Everybody, make sure to stop on by curious realm. Curious realm.com is where you can like, follow, subscribe. That is where you can also get your copy of the field observation and encounter log. If you are an investigator out in the woods looking for Sasquatch, if you're a paranormal investigator, you can now begin getting your data ready to shake the hands with science when we come back from this quick break, we will continue with our coverage of the 2024 Texas Bigfoot festival right here in Jefferson, Texas, right after this, you



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the key to good science is good research. At the heart of good research is a good data set with the field observation and encounter log from curious research, you can easily keep track of your investigative information all in one place, making it easier to review cases and readily see comparisons and contrasts between them, whether out in the woods, squatting in a back room, gathering EVPs or using high tech gear to track UFO, UAP, activity this easy to carry, pocket size, scientific data log is the perfect companion for any field researcher. You can find your copy of the curious research field observation and encounter log@amazon.com



29:08

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You.

 29:44

Well, hello everybody, and welcome back to the curious realm continuing coverage of the 2024 Texas Bigfoot festival. Here in Jefferson, Texas, we have the great pleasure of being joined by a friend and guest of the podcast, Ryan Edwards. He is the author of the brand new book beyond.

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Belief with forward by Lauren Coleman, welcome back to the show, brother. Oh, it's good to be on Chris. It is always great seeing you. You've been over at your table, work in the crowd, things like that, selling books, television. Let's get into your new book Beyond Bigfoot a little bit. And what brought that book about? Well, really, what brought it about was pretty much what most of my books get brought about by lack of research into a specific topic. Recently, you've probably seen it, the whole like, type chart of Bigfoot, yeah, the 10 types of Bigfoot. And I'm like, I look at that, and I'm like, okay, lot of that logically doesn't make any sense. So I'm like, okay, no one's written about this. Why not me be the guy that writes about it, yeah. So I talk about, like, the type charter Bigfoot, and also the other type of creature seen here in North America that primates, but on Bigfoot, sure. And since I bring up the devil monkey phenomena, okay, the double monkey phenomenon that's been talked about since the 60s. Mark Hall and I and Coleman talked about this, yeah, about these giant baboon like creatures being seen in North America and in recent top and in recent years, the whole gugwe phenomenon has come about. Gugliel is seen as more like a more vicious looking Bigfoot, mandrel like snout, sharp claws, three, three toed feet. I'm like, Okay, this is something that also not a lot of people have talked about, and also doesn't really have the research that Bigfoot does, sure. Of course, Sasquatch is like the Grand editable of all cryptids. It has a lot of research put into it, especially scientific research. So me, I try to look at these other cryptids, and due to the amount of scientific data that we have with Bigfoot, try to do this with other cryptids in North America, like the devil monkey and also the napes phenomena. I was actually able to talk to Lauren Coleman about these whole napes phenomena occurring around North America, these more chimpanzee like creatures being seen. And I talk about the divergent big toe and how these creatures are being seen around, especially here in the south, yeah. And then I bring up, like, Okay, so let's break this down logically. Are there three or four different types of unknown primates in North America, likability, most likely, no. But then we have to bring in like misidentifications and like probability, not just possibility. Well, and when you start talking probability, not possibility, I mean, I'm I'm going on 50 this year.

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I remember Every Which Way But Loose and it being hugely popular when I was a kid. And the fact that, like, yes, there was, for a long time, a pretty decent movement of people having home primates, people having, like, a pet chimpanzee, you know, a pet orangutan, that kind of stuff. And and the idea of a breeding pair getting out. The idea of, even from a research laboratory, you know, any anything like a storm, a hurricane, something like that, comes along

and blows an enclosure down, you know, something gets out into the wild. Like, for instance, we've talked to Chester more about this, the ideas of, like, there is a actual population of wild monkeys in South Texas, of macaques, macaques. So we do know that there are wild primates in North America. That's right. And now let's think these are non Indigenous primates. Could there also be indigenous primates, like the Sasquatch phenomenon as well? And that's like one thing I'm bringing up with, of devil monkey phenomena. Lot of these devil monkeys are described as baboon like pretty much, if you think of the baboons from like After Earth that one movie Will Smith and his son, sure, giant baboons the human size of humans. That's pretty much what these devil wonkeys a scene ass. But baboon doesn't get that big. So what are people referencing with these large baboon like creatures? Some people have even speculated recently, all day, maybe something to do with the dog man phenomena. But then we have the same phenomena of mixing cryptids, like recently, due to the dog man phenomena becoming popular, people going back at Bigfoot signs like, Oh, could I have been a dog man? It's like, well, no, we didn't describe it as that. But because you have this new name of dog man phenomena. Yeah, you stop inserting it into previous research, yeah, which kind of just muddies the whole water in general. Yeah, yeah. And there's a, there's a concept in remote viewing called analytic overlay, the fact that you are overlaying a past experience or overlaying another realm of knowledge that you have on top of what's happening right now. Yeah, you know. And even even the idea of analytic overlay existing in this where you know, you you may be

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a over analyzing an experience, but also trying to overlay something else on top of it. Yes, it's everyone. I always tell people this your perspective is your reality. Route. Reality is different to every other person. Yeah, think about someone who's color blind. They might not see the color green doesn't mean the green. Color Green doesn't exist. No. But to their reality, it doesn't Yeah. So your past experiences, your past reality changes what you expect to see in your you.

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Modern reality. Like, I try to talk to people about their own like, belief sets, like, the ideas of like, okay, if you're really a strong believer in Bigfoot, soon enough, everything in the woods becomes Bigfoot. If you're a strong believer in the paranormal, everything that's weird goes on is the paranormal. We need to take away the idea of belief and go towards science. That's why, for instance, I love liquid you, because your journals and all that you go to the science aspect, not just, Oh, I saw something. I believe in it. No, well, it's about knowing well, and it's also about realizing that you saw something awesome. That's called observation. Science has begun, whether you choose it or not, yes, whether you choose to follow the path of the science into what your experience was, what you saw,

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that's the big question, because the science has begun. The first step in the scientific process is observation. You have seen something you even if you're, you know, making water out of hydrogen and oxygen. You you see something happen. You see the condensation form. Science has begun now. Now the question is, do you follow that path? Do you? Do you begin gathering

the data? Do you begin experimenting after that, you know? So, yeah, that that's really the question, like observation is the first episode, it's key. It's key. And and, you know, one of the things that I it's been funny since I started curious research and began all of this. One of the one of the battle cries i have had is more red circles. I want more red circles, because when we get more red circles we now, and unfortunately, people with red circles, here's here's the thing. You also have to be ready for an explanation of what's in your red circle. And when that explanation comes along, understand that you have still contributed to science. You've contributed to the science of the known quantitative which means now we're only left with anomaly. Yes, now we have a better definition of the anomaly, because we have a broader definition of known quantity because of the data that you have added to the data says, when you're identifying something, you need to identify what it is, and also everything it's not That's right, like with like the crypto zoology and Paramount one, the first place you only identify what it is and also what's all the other phenomenons. It can't be. You have to explain that out first. Like when I tell people that do field research,



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like with Sasquatch or anything like that, any type of cryptos that should be a last option, yeah, choose everything else that logically makes sense first, and then choose dismiss it. And dismiss it. Yes, yeah. Like, try to choose all the like, kind of like, logical standpoints, and then pick something paranormal. Yeah, something's cryptologro, because that's honestly what you're honestly looking for. And yeah, with me, I believe the best studies and data is the stuff that you're not looking for, or you go against, against your own beliefs. That's right, that's right. That's one of the things that I have regularly been talking on, not only on other podcasts, but at conferences, even whenever I just spoke at the remote viewing conference. You know, that is especially with certain things like ERV, extended remote viewing and, you know, associative remote viewing, that many people in those fields do not work with a monitor, and the monitor is somebody that can kind of bring you back on track. They know how you think that kind of stuff. It's the idea of having a writer die when it comes to research, somebody that you can bring this research to, like a Lauren Coleman and be like, Hey, I have this hypothesis. What do you think? Yes, and you value their own opinions so much that when they go, Hey, I think this part of your hypothesis may be flawed, you're willing to get rid of that part of your hypothesis. Yes, because, well, you know, it seems flawed. They're right. I had my blinders up, because it's my hypothesis. I bring up people like the idea of, like peer reviewed journals. Yes, you go to peer review what they don't like, they send back. That's something that you can defend or subtract. At that point, you say, okay, and if you have an argument, you should have the logic to back it up. Well, well, and it's also the fact of, you know, and we've spoken about this before. I've spoken about it on my show. When you're going



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to gather your data, when you're going out on an investigation, how are you preparing yourself? You know, usually, because, for me, you should have a cold and calculated checklist, and when you are done, you sit down and watch mash or or Simpsons, and you do not think about your investigation. Yeah, you should be walking in as much blank slate as possible. You shouldn't be spending all night with your buddies talking about what happened at the location or stories you've heard, yeah, things like that, because at that point you're literally polishing the lens of the filter and you're getting ready. You're looking through, yeah, you know, like you.



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Aren't looking at it from a scientific point of view. You're now looking at it through the lens of those experiences, ideas, especially within paranormal research, the ideas of like, okay, you have a psychic bring them into a new location, totally cold. Yeah, they don't know anything about it. They don't know any of the stories. That means whatever data they collect is even more likely because they have no preconceived notion. Yeah, yeah. They aren't front loaded in any kind of way. They haven't been told about the location. And those things are important. Those things are important when you're talking about, once again, preparing your data for science, yeah, you know, and the idea of being okay with your darlings being killed. You know, that's okay to like, that's one thing that I always tell people nowadays. Like, the word skeptics kind of become a bad word in this research. I wear my s, like, Superman brother. Like, I always tell people this, there's a reason why the X Files worked. You had Dana, yeah, motor, that's right, had a skeptic and a believer well, and they balance each other out. That's just everyone's a believer, then that's no longer science. That becomes religion well and Yes, precisely, and even, even with science, we have to be careful, and we have to understand that science changes. It changes regularly. If it doesn't, it's called doctrine. Yes, you know, we stay away from the dogma and go towards the science. Yeah, it's like, it changes throughout time, like, thing of Bigfoot. It's the ideas of Bigfoots change throughout the year. That's right. At one point it was very much. Okay, cool. We have this one thing now we it's a human, like, ancestor, oh, it's gigantum. In recent years, the Jack antbiother is trying to die it out because the evidence doesn't support what we think. Yeah, so if the hypothesis is faulty, you go back and change the hypothesis. That's right, that's right. And you're allowed to change the hypothesis. You're allowed to recalculate things in science. I think people very much forget that, you know, they get on this path of I'm doing this research, I can't share it with science, because science is going to look at it differently.



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And it really goes back to what you were saying a minute ago, Ryan, the idea that



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when you're gathering data, when you're gathering pictures, when you're gathering trail cam video, things like that, let's start with the known quantitative. Let's start with what it could be right now, what we know lives in the woods. Let's start there, yeah. Is it that? Yeah? And go through the checklist, and then go to the point of, you know, well, let's talk about what it isn't. Yeah, I've had now we know for a fact it's not a bear, it's not a wolf, it's, you know, it's not a badger climbing a tree, yeah, that kind of stuff. And once you know it's not that, well, now you're left with the anomaly, yeah. Like, for instance, I've had people like, submit to me photos of, like, trail cameras and like, Oh, look at this thing. It's so weird. I'm like, Cool. What lives in the area? Like, I don't know. I'm like, if you don't know what lives and is indigenous to the environment, how can you say that something that's not indigenous or not recognized? Yeah, like, okay, that could be a wolf, that could be a bear, but if you don't know bears are in the area, of course you're gonna misidentify something. Yeah, precisely, and that that's something. That's one of the many reasons that I love. Ken Gerhard, Lyle, Blackburn, people like that. There's Shelley coming to Montana, the idea that, like no, no, you should become very familiar

with tracks of your localized fauna. You know you should. You should become very familiarized with what your what your local animals and indigenous critters sound like the ecology? Yeah? Like, that's one thing that I bring into my research that, like I only see like Ken and Lyle do, is crypto ecology. I like to do it. What is the ecology of these creatures? Yeah, like these animals living out in there in the wild, they interact with other species. They interact with both antibiotic and biotic factors. What do they do? Yeah, there's their niche. Are they a major predator? Are they a major omnivore? Are they where are they on a trophic level? Like, that's something we don't really bring up, because, first of all, we really don't have the data. But I like to say cryptozoology is a science of speculation. What can we speculate using known data sets? Well, that's beyond Yeah, yeah. And that's just it. I mean, even talking with Adam Davies on the show, whenever he's been here before,



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about the idea of, like, what do you do? What are your steps to prepare for an expedition? And he's like, do we have enough stories from local indigenous people to support the idea? Do the stories go back far enough? Yes, you know, are they credible stories? We start there, and from there we we move into the ecology of the animal and of the area. Could, could this animal, given what the locals say it eats and how it lives, will the localized area support it? Does it have enough food?



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Water in the localized area, would the localized area support a breeding population of this animal, even if a long lived, long span breeding population, you know, we just had tester moron talking about great white sharks. You're talking about a decade long creature before it's ready to breed, you know. And there are animals out there that, like, are not ready to breed in their first 510, years of life, yeah? And I bring that up, like, well, for instance, like, with Sasquatch, like, do some data sets, we have an idea that they probably live maybe 60 to 70 years, yeah. And it's funny, because it's right between humans and non human primates, yeah. But okay, using that data, will an environment hold a Sasquatch? Like, one thing I bring up, like, especially here in Texas, is ecology. Ecosystems have what we call a carrying capacity, how many animals they can carry, like, in the area and still survive. So Will an environment small enough have a carrying capacity for Sasquatch? Because, like, one thing I bring up, especially in the second book is like, okay, looking at the morphology looking like, how much like? What's the caloric need for Bigfoot



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before? Yeah, but usually the caloric need speculating, we say, is more probably around, like, grizzly bear or black bear, yeah, which, it's funny, because what's an indicator species for Sasquatch, black and Grizzlies, that's right. So, huh? Funny that it's ecology is similar to a grizzly or black bear, yeah? And they're also seeing the same environment as grizzlies and black Yeah. Well, in a because it's, it's almost the same ecology that it would take for us to be there. You know, when you, when you go back to, not necessarily modern humanity, but Neanderthals, Neanderthals, like, yeah. I mean, even whenever you look at modern diets, things like that, it's taking us back to the idea of, no, we were hunters and grazers. You need to

be eating, like, every 3045, minutes, throwing something in your mouth, not not eating a salmon to last you a day and a half. Yeah? You know, things like that. So the idea of, yes, are there enough nuts, berries, plants that can be foraged on? Because an animal of that size would most definitely be an omnivore, not a lockdown carnival. It's

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exactly and like one thing, like, for instance, I've noticed this. Like, I think one research that's always brought up is David Pilates, the reference to collation between Barry fields and Bigfoot, yeah. Like, look at a lot of, like, the old Canadian Alaska stories of Bigfoot. Lot of them correlate to, like, I was very picking or I was out hunting. I was out fishing salmon. That I saw one why, you know, why you seeing a Sasquatch while fishing salmon? It's because it's fishing for salmon too. That's right. Like, that's right. So that correlation between, like, what were you doing? It was probably doing the same thing. Like, for instance, like, oddly enough, it knows that it's blueberry season too. Like, people bring up, like, okay, yeah, the pop of Bigfoot signs going, like, hunting seasons. Well, yes, that could be because more people in the woods. But also, could it be because there's more deer in the woods too? That's right. Like, is it because they know it's also hunting season? Yep. So they're like, Okay, let me go out there and get and get this, get this meat while I can. Yeah? Well, and even if there's even more people in the woods, if it's a necessary risk, it's a necessary risk, yeah, yeah. And I have always held the fact of Yes, I believe Bigfoot is an omnivore. I think it would

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much like a bear now. Now, is a bear GOOD? Because, you know, you have to take into consideration the the risk versus reward of food, especially for an intelligent animal. Yeah, you know, even a bear isn't gonna try to take down an elk, yeah, as a food item because, because there is a large there, well, not just that, but there's a large chance of being injured. Yeah, you know, that's why you go for prey smaller than you. So would a Bigfoot, like snatch up a rabbit out of a hole? Darn tootin. Would a Bigfoot snatch a squirrel off a tree absolutely all day long, the mobile snack? You know, there's something that's low risk, high reward for it as a food item, like, uh, watch any like, survivalist, that's right, les drought. He says, Yeah. And also, with food, how many calories are you putting in since reading that food? Like, if you're out there chasing rabbits all day, yeah, you're gonna be tired at the end of day, because you're gonna, you're gonna try to chase down three, try to chase down three elk a day so you can maybe land one. That is, that is a big expenditure of energy and a chance, once again, of you hurting yourself, injuring yourself. Yeah,

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what a lot of people get a misnomer, is that they watch wildlife documentaries, and, of course, a lot of life documentaries, a lot of it's hunting, uh, getting straight upon and all that, because that's the that's spectacle, that's every day, but they don't realize a lot of animals, 80% of their day is sleeping or just laying around or just walking around, because, well, they don't want to go and use those calories to go. That's right, because it's a expenditure. Yeah, it's not worth it at the end. Yes, even, even a hunt for a wolf pack is not a daily thing. That's like a.



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That's a weak situation, yeah? Like, I bring up with people, like wolves, for instance. Like, I think Yellowstone packs, they're hunting. Doesn't happen all the time. And also, it's right, their hunting rates, they're only usually, like, 40% actually successful. That's right. So think about how many times they're not successful. Sasquatch is probably the same way, yeah. Like, which is why they scavenge, which is why they'll gladly eat food that's laying on the ground. Yeah, you know, they'll gladly come up and finish off a salmon that a bear only ate the belly of, yeah? Because it only wants the fat. Yeah, you know, like, I bring up, like, wildlife is not some dinosaur documentary. They're not out there fighting each other to hold Yes, thank you. It's like, you don't see deer. Like, No, I'm just gonna fight you out. No, we're not. No, no, yeah, animals don't work like that. That's right. One thing I one evidence I type, I bring up, is the famous video from the Yellowstone of, like, it's a hurt. It's a herd of bison. Do you see like, four or five different, like, weird bipedal figures coming out of the woods? And if you look, if you measure it, these bipedal figures are like, eight to nine feet tall, yeah? And there's like four or five of them. And I'm like, okay, that large weight makes sense, because what you see is, this is hunting behavior from a group, yeah? So if you're going after something bigger, like a bison, not just, not just that, but you're also looking at a primate, yeah, and if you're talking about primate culture, you know, even even gorillas are normally in a group of two or three. They're they're rarely by themselves. We are a social animal primates. So we, we travel in family groups, we hunt in family groups, things like that. So the idea of seeing one, you've probably got another one in close proximity, much like a bear, yeah? Like, don't Jack with the bear, because there's probably another one near it, yeah? Like, I've brought up Dr Melton brings up with his research, the family groups of big Bigfoot, probably what we call an



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oils.



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Orangutans live in DC, one large male and multiple groups of female. That's right. What's also interesting with Noy owls, every nocturnal primate like I eyes Bush babies also live in Noy owls. So interesting fact that a Noy owl, all nocturnal primates have it and a large grade eight, yeah, it is Bigfoot, believed to be nocturnal large grade eight, and it lives in exact same family groups. That's what I really look for in this research, is the correlation between the threat crypto zoology and zoology, because cryptozoology, to me, is the first step of Zoology. It's not exactly a paranormal field. It's just a zoological research that just hasn't gotten to really treatment it should have by now well, and it's the understanding that cryptozoology is a step to zoology? Yes, absolutely, because I quote you regularly, and I want you to know that I quote you regularly about the time to discovery. Yes, with lowland gorillas, because it's the idea of like, yeah, the the following the myth of the localized people that it took 70 years for Anglos to find this critter. Yes, but it changed zoology. It changed the ology at the end the study, the actual science of zoology was changed because of cryptozoology. Yes, oh, I bring up things like, they'll copy the coelacanth, all these other creatures that will consider cryptids, but are now discovered, yeah, yeah. One thing that I have not heard a lot of people bring up is there was a cryptid in, uh, in Africa, called a Kula comba. The Kula comba was believed to be a mix between gorillas and chimpanzees, pretty much as a giant chimpanzee. Interesting. What was

discovered in the early 2000s the Billy Yeah, the Billy ape was believed to be a lion, killer, giant Chimp, and it's a known species. The Kula combo was referenced in the exact same area. Wow. So that's literally a cryptid that was discovered. But for some weird reason, people don't bring it up, because not a lot of people know of that old tradition in the first place. Yeah, that's also one thing I bring up. Crypto zoology is all indigenous traditions. It really they reference these cryptids, and then we'll discover them later. It really is very much a marriage of cultural sociology and zoology. Crypto zoology because, yeah, you do, and it's something that you and I brought up on the show regularly, the idea of like, I'm a Bigfoot expert. Well, you may be an expert in the stories of Bigfoot, you may be an expert in the myth, the lore, but until we find a Bigfoot or prove it, yeah, it's not like you can say like, I'm a I'm a feline expert. Yeah, you know, or, or, yeah, what I tell people is, I'm not a Bigfoot expert. I have my discipline in Bigfoot, but I do not know I know a little bit about everything. Because one thing I tell people with cryptozoology, especially, it is a mix of different sciences, right? What you just said, folklore, anthropology, psychology, like, how does the human psyche affect? Yeah?



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Different monsters, yeah, zoology, biology, primatology, all these other different things. So how do all these other subjects affect one? That's right, zoology, that's right. Absolutely. Man. Thank you so much. It's always a number one great to sit and talk with you at these shows, but it's also great to see just such a Verve come out of you for the science, science behind this. There are so many people out there that talk the legend, the lore, the stories, and to see somebody who is embracing the science of it, bringing the science aspect into it. It's so great. I hold so much future for the upcoming generations of people, even behind you, Ryan, for exposing some of this concept to younger people, to people in a different age bracket. So thank you for all your work, everything you do, especially with Symposium of the strange. We have a symposium of the strange coming up. We've got the king of brothers, September 20, yes, 6pm at mine shaft, November, November 20, mine shaft saloon. That's past. We we don't do time travel, that's right, not yet. We're not yet. We're working on it. Curious, Rome, ventures time travel, that's right. November 20, the mine shaft saloon down San Antonio, Texas, and one local to Austin, San Antonio, old as little towns of South Texas, bringing in Brad and Barry cling, if you want a night that's truly a kind of a mystery. If you love spookiness, if you love that, love the paranormal, but bringing in Brad and berry cling, it's gonna be a night to remember absolutely. Thank you so much for everything you do. Always let everybody know where they can go to follow your work, where they can go, to keep up, where they can go to get their copy of beyond Bigfoot, of course. Well, I know for sure, shop Charis realm, you can find my books there. Also on Amazon, you'll find my first my first three books, if you look up area lights publishing, that's a publishing company owned by David Weatherly. My second book, Sasquatch, pre history, and my third book Beyond Bigfoot were published by Erie lights. They're on their website. You'll find a affiliate link to go to Amazon. They're available there. You guys can find me on my Facebook and my Instagram. Just look up. Ryan Edwards, I am always open to discussion. Always want people like, hey, my DMs are open. Come in, talk to me, and we can discuss whatever you want. Absolutely. Thank you so much, as always, for the time while you were online checking out everything from Erie lights publishing as well as Ryan Edwards, make sure to stop on by curious realm. Curious realm is where you can like, follow, subscribe. That is where you can share all the episodes and find the channels of all of our guests. That is also where you can get your copy of the curious research field observation and encounter log. If you are a researcher in the field, researching Sasquatch, researching paranormal, stop on by and

get this. This is what is there to help you get your data ready to shake hands with science. When we come back from this quick commercial break, we will continue with our on site live coverage of the 2024 Texas Bigfoot festival right here in Jefferson, Texas, right after this, folks,

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the key to good science is good Research. At the heart of good research is a good data set with the field observation and encounter log from curious research, you can easily keep track of your investigative information all in one place, making it easier to review cases and readily see comparisons and contrasts between them, whether out in the woods, squatting in a back room gathering EVPs or using high tech gear to track UFO, UAP activity. This easy to carry, pocket sized scientific data log is the perfect companion for any field researcher. You can find your copy of the curious research field observation and encounter log@amazon.com

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Well, hello everybody, and welcome back To the curious realms continuing coverage of the 2024 Texas Bigfoot conference here in Jefferson, Texas, we have the great pleasure of being joined once again by Mitch Whittington. Welcome back to the show, Chris. Thank you so much for having me back. I always enjoy it. You just came out with the book Marion County monsters. You were just presenting on a recent case that you have been invested.

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Investigating things like that. Let's get into the case you were investigating a little bit, okay? And it actually is not a recent one. It actually goes back a few years, but it's probably the most famous one that's ever occurred in Marion County, okay? And it's been talked about a lot, but only the first little part, only the tagline for it. And when you're reading books about Marion County and Bigfoot and things they'll always say yes. Back in 1965 there was a 13 year old boy named Johnny Maples that was chased by Bigfoot, and that's where the story ends. Well, I got to do a little bit

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deeper dive into it, and I found it has a lot of really interesting things. One thing that just is completely freaky to me, and it doesn't involve Bigfoot at all. Okay. How often have you heard a Bigfoot story? And the weirdest thing in the story isn't about Bigfoot, right? Yeah. Well, as it turns out, it all started one Friday, about 430 in the afternoon, a young boy named Johnny Maples was walking down one of our farm to market roads, okay? And just north of Jefferson, I

mean, literally, this took place three or four miles from where we're sitting right now, which interested me a lot, because I can go there, you know, yeah, it's getting your car, and you can go check it out, which I have done any number of times. And anyway, he's walking down the road, and as he crosses SCOTTS CREEK bridge over in the underbrush, he sees it shaking, and kind of tells it there's an animal out there, obviously. So he's a 13 year old boy. What do you do? You get rocks? Yeah, first thing you do. So he picked up a rock and he threw it into the bushes, and it still kept moving, like something was still out there. So he picked up another rock, and he didn't know if he was going to see a deer or a turkey or a wild hog or something like that,



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out steps what he described as a seven foot tall being monster, whatever you want to call it, covered in black hair. So I've got, you know, I've got friends who are investigators, and they would immediately say the first thing you want to do is just remain calm. Hold your hands up, show that you're not, you know, holding anything dangerous, try to see if there's any way to establish communication. That's what my friends would do. I would run like hell. Same, Yeah, same, which is what young Johnny Maples did. He took off running down the road, and as he was going down, and in fact, I have a quote from him I wanted to release. He gave to he gave to the local newspaper. He said quote. I ran as hard and fast as I could toward highway 59 but after I'd run a long ways, one of the soles of my shoes came loose, and I had to stop and take them off so I could run faster. Oh, man. So when he's pulling his shoes off, He glances back and he doesn't see the creature anymore. But that's not good enough, you know? Yeah, he's not taking a chance. So he continues running barefoot down the road to his house, and his mother, Miss John maples, said that when he came bursting through the door, the boy was hysterical, wow, yeah, you know, crying, screaming, yelling, everything. And the other thing was that the soles of his feet were blistered and bleeding, you know, from running on the concrete that hard and that fast, which, that's not lost on me. To me, that's kind of an important part. A lot of people looking back on this case have questioned, you know, was he looking for attention? Did he make this up? And as it turns out, I don't think that he would harm himself like that, because obviously he's not gonna be able to walk for a couple of days. Well, I bet



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you grew up in Texas. I grew up in Texas. Are you prone in the middle of summer to taking your shoes off and running down the road? You know, only if big footage? Yeah. I mean, I'm not even prone to doing it at the swimming pool, you know, because, like, you're gonna destroy the bottoms of your feet as soon as it hits hot concrete, yep, you know. And he did, and he did, and that's, to me, one of the more important things about this case. But anyway, they called the local sheriff's office, and they sent a deputy out, and they came out rather quickly, and they were very interested in it, because it turns out, just a few months before, they had gotten a similar report, somebody said that they saw this big black haired creature out in that same area. So they were anxious to take a look. So they come out and they start looking around the area where he said he saw it, don't find anything, and the creek bed, most of the time is just a dry creek bed under the roof. It's fed by a stream. If we get any rain, it's going to have but at that time, it was dry like it was when I went out there a few days ago. But they decided, since they couldn't see anything there, they'd look under the bridge. And they went under the bridge, and they actually found a large footprint that they said looked human, but it was way too big,

you know, it was certainly what, you know, bear, coyote or stuff, sure it was a human footprint. And then, and this is the weird part, and I, in my presentation, I almost hesitated saying this, because it is so weird. You make it. You have to think, oh.



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This guy's making this up. Yeah, what they found was laundry. They found stacks of blue jeans, couple of stacks of blue jeans, neatly pressed and folded and stacked under the bridge.



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Now, to me, that's weirder than the whole Bigfoot thing. People see Bigfoot all the time, sure, but it's like, what is this about? And they even, they even ran it down. I think they said that there were four pairs of men's work pants that were well worn but clean, size 32 to 34 and five pairs of little boys jeans, size five to six and three men's hats. And



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then they just leave that. They just move on. I had to stop and go. Wait a minute. Why is the bridge, if a whole certainly it has nothing to do with Bigfoot. But if there's a hobo or something living out of the bridge, she's not going to keep it, you know. Well, why the children's Yeah, two sizes, yeah, yeah. So to me, that was one of the funniest parts of the story, because that makes zero sense to me, but the sheriff's deputy, and I'll give you another quote. He, he said to the newspaper, quote, The clothing looked as though someone had just finished ironing it and neatly stacked them together for storing in a dresser drawer. So, wow, wow. That's, that's all there was about the clothing. But to me, that was something I couldn't let go of. I had to keep going well, and even whenever you get into the idea of how the clothes ended up there. Because, yes, you could say, like, Sure, perhaps a homeless person, perhaps a vagabond, or, you know, something like that. There is a rail line nearby, right? So you know the idea of a hobo or something like that, during that point of time, a tramp coming through town. But once again, the freshly pressed, the folded, that's weird. And I was also a pretty remote area, oh yes, to hop off a line. It's not like it's a city or something like that. You're, you're way out here in the middle of the country, exactly in the roads. It's, there is one nearby, but it's not that close. But of course, when I was giving my presentation while ago, I couldn't help but say, you know, my first thought was that they had secretly discovered the legendary Bigfoot laundry service. Yeah, yeah, exactly, exactly. That's the end of the laundry part. But to me, that was the most curious thing about it. But to get back to the story, please,



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they didn't find any more tracks. And so the whole thing kind of died down for a week. A week later, the Jefferson Jim lecute, our local newspaper, the fifth oldest one in the in the state. And fortunately, they're all archived, so you can go back and read the original source of material. But it said that more tracks had been seen. They found them about 150 yards east of the bridge. There was a sandy road that went across the Farm to Market Road, and the track started on the south side. We went to the north side and went, you know, further up the road,

for about 300 feet, and then veered off into the woods. So again, more tracks were seen. Yeah, more people saw it. At that point, a lot of people got interested. There's hunters went out looking for it, got their dogs, got their guys, yeah, and, well, they weren't successful. The newspaper reported that another man did see the creature who, you know, he happened to be armed, so he took a couple of shots and didn't hit it. For better or worse, for me, I don't want to see Bigfoot, sure, but he didn't hit it. But these reports kept coming in, and people who lived in that area said they were hearing howls and growls that weren't consistent with where they lived. And you know, these people live out in the country, they hear everything. They know exactly what's all around it, but yet these were very foreign to them. So if you fast forward another week or so, a lady from that area had gone to a cemetery called the old foundry cemetery, and she had taken her 14 year old daughter and a friend of hers, and they went to pay respects to the grave of a family member. And while they were there, out in the woods surrounding the cemetery, they heard a howling, and she said, it didn't sound agitated, it sounded surprised. So she you know, when she got home, she told her husband. Her husband said, let's go check it out. Yeah, again, much braver than me, but he got a sack of pears and outside the fence. Now, the cemetery has a fence around it. Nothing has ever happened inside the fence. It's always on the outside perimeter, which is surrounded by Woods. And they put right outside the fence a sack of pairs. They checked it for a few days, and I think on the second day, the pairs were gone and there were more tracks. So



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again, time went by another week or so, and everybody's talking about, everybody's looking at it, well, the Cemetery Association had their annual lunch meeting out there, and they have a big pavilion where, you know, because they have a little chapel where you can hold a funeral and Okay, and this is the south so the first thing you do after the burial is feed the family.



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That's right, first thing you do is eat, yes, you get the fried chicken and fried okra. Yeah, you know, mashed potatoes. You know, they had had it. They have a pavilion there for that, and they had had their dinner in the pavilion. And afterwards, they were talking about this, you know, supposed monster around. They said, Well, I tell you what, instead of throwing away our, our, you know, leftovers and things. Let's put them all together and put them outside the fence and see what happens. And four days later, they kept checking, and it was there, it was there, and four days later it was gone, and more tracks. So a deputy sheriff came out, and he had been trying to calm everybody down. He was trying to say, look, we have these occasional brushes with he called them a honey bear, but a small black bear. And he said, That's all this is. Come on. Well, he got assigned to go, you know, check the tracks out. And when he looked at him, he changed his mind immediately. He said, This is not a bear. He said, I don't know what this is. So from that point on,



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it just kind of died down. But, you know, here in Marion County, every every year, there's a siding of Bigfoot somewhere in the area. Now, if you, if you draw a line between the bridge and the cemetery, it's just a little over four miles as the crow flies, or as the Bigfoot walks. Yeah. So

it's not, you know, unrealistic to think that maybe it could be the same creature. Or maybe part of, you know, some people think that they have packs and things like that, but it really put Marion County on a national stage, because so many people saw the tracks, yeah, so many people heard the, you know, the howls and the growls and things like that. And I think that kind of cemented Marion County's place in Bigfoot lore. Yeah, well, and you know, we are just a few years ago, Jefferson was labeled the Texas Bigfoot capital. That's right. More sightings go on here in the Big Thicket than anywhere else in the state. And it is interesting to see the very long history of those sightings, it is, and the fact that we continue to have them, yeah, interests me. And so that one, that's what makes me, if I'm in that area, go, Well, yes, cruise by, take a look well into the to the point that you know, it is now a protected Bigfoot refuge. Yes, the county, county commission voted it as such, yeah. But you know, the thing that interests me



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aren't just the stories that you find, you know, looking back through the history of the of the area, yeah, but it's to people that I talk to, who I just run across and accidentally the subject comes up, and they're not really anxious to tell people about it. Yeah. I have a good friend of mine, and she and her husband are probably some of the most respected people in Jefferson, you know, very, you know,



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respectable, sober, like pillars of the community. And my wife and I were out with them one time, and we were cutting through one of they had some land, and they were cutting through a pasture, and said, man, we're out in the middle of nowhere. We ought to watch for Bigfoot. Silence. And I said, Did I say something wrong? I didn't mean to make you guys. Finally, she turned around. She said, We saw one. And I said, you're kidding? And she said, No, if we were driving across one of our pastures just like this on the far side, it walked like a man, arms swinging, you know? She said, we've seen all kind of animals that it wasn't like anything we've ever seen. Yeah. And she said, If you ever tell this story, don't use my name with it. And you know, that is something that we talk about on the show in numerous communities, is that stigma that comes along with an observation? Yes, you know, and even the fact of so many scientists that don't want to be involved with the research because of the stigmatization that comes along with it. You know, we have, we have great doctors like Jeffrey Meldrum speaking here today,



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things like that, even, even Haskell Hart getting up and talking about the DNA tracking, things like that, like there, there is a wealth of scientific data to be garnered out there. The question is whether or not a scientist is willing to look at it right. And, you know, we kind of have the same thing going on with the UFO world. You know, it's been just as stigmatized. That's right, if you were an airline pilot and you saw something, you didn't dare report it because it ruined your career. Yeah, well, now they're coming out, and they're letting the they're letting the fighter pilots talk about it openly, and it's that stick is kind of going away. So who knows, maybe someday it will into Bigfoot well, and we literally just met and had on the show after move on. UAP, PD, they're, they're a group of police officers from the Phoenix, Arizona area that are quite

literally looking at creating a nationwide arrow type program for first responders where, yeah, you know, like they they go out, they're out near reservations. Man, they're like, some of the stories that we respond to on reservation



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are way different. And.



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And, and we can't come back and and say that, right? You know, like, if we came back, if that, if we reported that, the next thing that would happen when a defense attorney is standing there and you're up on the stand is they're gonna be like, you know, a few months ago, you submitted a report for a Sasquatch.



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Let's talk about that. Pay attention, jury, yeah, you know, like you're talking about cases going back years that may have to have new evidence looked at, may have to have witness statements looked at, because the police officer that took this also took these other statements regarding this. So yeah, you know the fact that that is stigmatized, the fact that their experiences are stigmatized, and to the point that they cannot share that without loss of career, without loss of badge. Even now, I'm sure that there are cases here locally that they respond to that they probably don't really tell a whole lot about, because they've asked the police please don't share this information, right? You know, outside of the system.



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And yeah, there is a large stigma with that, and even within families, you know, there is. And I, you know, but I just love those stories where somebody is willing, just for a second, yeah, come out and say, here's what I saw. Yeah, and have you been able to track down any of Billy's family or anything like that, talk about it anymore.



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I have a friend who talked to his wife and he said, Could I speak to is this? Is this the guy who say she Yeah, that's my husband. And of course, He's much older now. She said he does, yeah, he's put that behind him. He won't talk about it anymore. Yeah, so, but Lord only knows how much had been ridiculed



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exactly, you know, how many, how many kids made fun of him at school? How many? I mean, it gets to the point of jobs, stuff like that, you know, depending on what you're going for, as to

where they go in the community, for stories about you, things like that. So, yeah, being a banker, and you have a Bigfoot report, and people go, I don't want you handling my money. It's one of those. It's something that we talk about regularly whenever we have Lyle Blackburn on, who's right over my shoulder about the Falcon monster. You know, you get into a small community. My family's from Mama Louisiana, like there. It's one red light, man. Everybody knows everybody. Everybody knows everybody's business.



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And yeah, it can, it can get community thick real quick when, when you're talking about sharing your story with somebody, because it gets shared at the Piggly Wiggly, and the next thing you know, you're hearing about it at church, yep, you know. And it got back to you, your story, you know, it happens really, really. It's not like you live in Houston, where, if you told somebody, the odds of it making back to you may be pretty slim, yeah, you know, you know, in today's world, I think it's different. If he were willing to talk about it, he would probably have been a presenter today, absolutely. But if you look back all through his life, he had to have caught a lot of stuff about that well. And when you start looking at like you've been here at Texas UFO con, whenever our friend has presented on the Pascagoula case, things like that, when you start looking at people like Calvin Parker, who just recently passed, you know Michael had, Michael had a great opportunity to chat with him and with other people who were witnesses, and many people did not come forward with that case for many, many years, Calvin didn't come forward with it for many years because he didn't want that kind of attention in his life. He was a young man. He He wanted opportunities in his life not to not to be shut down or shot down because of 10 minutes of his life. Oh, yeah. And, you know, we see the same thing with ghosts in the supernatural. We have a hotel here in Jefferson that has a good bit of supernatural activity that they won't talk about. And I knew the manager of the hotel, and he was such a nice guy. And every time I would ask him, Hey, I know this happens. I've had experiences there. What's the real story? Oh, nothing happens here. Nothing happens here. Well, he retired, and on his last day, I went just to shake his hand. He and his wife were moving north. I knew I'd never see him again, so I went just to shake his hand and tell him I really enjoyed knowing him, you know. And when I walked in, he goes, Oh, I was hoping you'd come by now I can tell you. And he spent the next 30 minutes taking me around the hotel. Wow. I said,



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Why aren't you making this better known? And he said, We don't want that reputation. We don't want people to freak out if they say, well, and that's just it. There's one of two ways that either businesses or homeowners or communities see it, it's, it's either something that they embrace, yep, like Roswell has, you know where, yeah, well yes and no, because there's still a good contingent of people in Falcon who are like, I wish the lookie lose would go away. You.



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Yeah, you know. And that's just it. It's very much a dividing line in communities, these experiences, and even even now, are there, are there regular experiences and sightings here in the Jefferson area? Yes. I mean, from what I understand, statistically, maybe one out of every

10 even gets reported. So I think the last one I saw was last year that there was a mention of in a newspaper, which would mean, okay, for that one, there's 10 more that didn't get reported, yeah, statistically, yep. And I think it's gaining a little bit more



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credibility, if you will. In



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my book, I wrote a chapter called embracing Bigfoot, and I talk about how parts of the community are now actually kind of getting on the bandwagon. We have like, three different restaurants with a Bigfoot burger, Bigfoot cigar company, Bigfoot cigar company was there yesterday, a Bigfoot cigar but yeah, they there's also the Jefferson hotel has a Bigfoot room you can stay in cool



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you know? There's just all these little things that start. People are starting to kind of say, Okay, this is okay. We'll get on board with this. Yeah. And so I think that's a good thing, you know? I think so as well, especially things like the protective order, you know, because if we don't start, this is something that I have hopped on the bandwagon of many years ago. You know, I think



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many more events such as this probably need to team up with Texas Parks and Wildlife. Yep, give Texas, Texas Parks and Wildlife a booth, because if we don't protect those natural areas, if we don't protect these habitats. The next apartment complex that goes up over here, you're gonna have Bigfoot rooting through the trash. You have now encroached on his area, you know. So we need to start these conservancy efforts before we find Bigfoot. Once you find the Panda, it's almost too late to start protecting its habitat, right? I saw a t shirt on somebody here just while ago, and it was a Texas Parks and Wildlife t shirt. That's right, it was Bigfoot over. And I thought, Well, okay, maybe they're coming around now. Well, well, and it's the thing, you know, I say it regularly whenever I speak on shows stuff like that. If you are a researcher, I will look at the camera. If you're a researcher, if you're out there squatching, if you have trail cams, if you have microphones, set up things like that, contact your local wildlife department, give them those pictures, give them that footage. Just Just give it to them. Let them know I have eight acres of property that I have cameras out on. I would like to give you this data they cannot afford to put trail cameras out for black bear counting. They cannot afford to put cameras out in that area for deer counting. Have things like that. So if you can begin that handshake and say, I'm here as a citizen scientist to help you in what you're doing, you'd be surprised where you get when you come to them and say, Hey, remember those trail cams? I got something really weird here. What's this? You know? Because now you've been handing them data, right? You've been contributing to that data pool for them. So now you're a research partner. You're not somebody who's competing with them. You are helping them. That's an amazing idea. And

yeah, I would encourage people to do that, yeah, yeah. It's one of those, like, we, we need to be ready to, as a community, reach out to science. We need to, we need to start getting that ready. And even, even in the paranormal world, you know, the idea that, yeah, we, we should,

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science is rapidly catching up, and it's really interesting to see that. And once something gains momentum, it's hard to stop. That's right, that's right. And you know, it's been really interesting just over the last five, six years to see nationally the number of shows like this that pop up right, the number of events, the number of podcasts, things like that. It is obviously a very community driven thing, whether it's paranormal, Bigfoot, UFO, UAPs,

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these are all community driven things. They're all things that come experientially. And we're all, we're all looking for that tie together of experience. It's why we go to church together. You know? It's being in a room of people with common belief and common mindset. So, yeah, yeah, finding those things. And when you find them in your community, encourage them, you know, because it's, it's a rare and beautiful thing. Even the even the paranormal events that happen here in Jefferson, it's great to see the one just coming up in November, right? Yeah, that's, that's going to be a really good one. I'm looking forward to that. But, yeah, you are absolutely right. And it's, you know, it's not just restricted to paranormal things. If you, if you're, if you're a duck hunter, you join Ducks Unlimited, that's right. So, yeah, you join the coastal Conservation

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Association. That's right. That's right. I think these conferences are really good.

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Things. Well, it's one of those, like, I normally tell people I could probably put my money behind a political candidate if I believed in that as much as I do this community, you know, like, I'm a monetary sponsor at events like this, because I believe in this, yeah, this exchange of ideas, this exchange of experiences, that's what brings us to the next level. That's true, you know, and and we as communities need to support that. We as individuals who look to these communities need to support those events. I completely agree. So Mitch, thank you so time, so much for taking the time. It's always great chatting with you. I enjoy it every time I'm on, and I thank you so much Absolutely. Let everybody know where they can go to get, not only their copy of Marion County monsters, but, man, you got like, a table full of books over there every time I see you, you've got a new publication about Texas tombstones, about, you know, hauntings, things like that. I'm, I'm really blessed in the I get to, I have a job that I really love, you know, I get to investigate things that catch my fancy. Yeah, and Marion County monsters. That is hot off the press. I'm surprised it didn't burn your fingers. I know it's not even on Amazon yet. I love it, so one of the first copies, I can't wait to dig into it on the way home, man, while you are online on Amazon, checking out all of the great work from Mitchell Whittington. Make sure to stop on by curious realm. Curious realm.com is where you can like, follow,

subscribe. Curious realm.com forward slash store is where you can find all of the books, movies, classes from our guests, as well as your copy of the field observation and encounter guide. If you are a paranormal researcher, if you're a Bigfoot researcher, UFO researcher. This is an easy way to gather your data in the field and get it ready to shake the hands of science. When we come back from this quick break, we will get into our waning coverage of the 2024 Texas Bigfoot conference right here in Jefferson, Texas, by the way, I have one. Oh, good job, man, thank you. Thank you. We'll be back right after this. Thanks.



1:27:15

The key to good science is good research. At the heart of good research is a good data set with the field observation and encounter log from curious research, you can easily keep track of your investigative information all in one place, making it easier to review cases and readily see comparisons and contrasts between them, whether out in the woods, squatting in a back room Gathering EVPs or using high tech gear to track UFO, UAP activity, this easy to carry, pocket size, scientific data log is the perfect companion for any field researcher. You can find your copy of the curious research field observation and encounter log@amazon.com



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music.



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Well, hello everybody, and welcome back to the curious realms continuing coverage of the 2024



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Texas Bigfoot conference right here,



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right here in Jefferson, Texas. We have the great pleasure of being joined by researcher and host of Texas front porch, Texas West and welcome back to the show. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Last time I saw you was actually Bigfoot, Michigan. Rob Correct. Were we on there together? I believe Yeah. And you know, you have a very popular show, tons of stories, you do tons of in the field investigation. You're actively getting ready to go out on investigation soon. I

don't want you to give away too much, but give us a little bit about what that upcoming investigations about and what you're trying to get into. Wes, well, I'm going next weekend. I'm letting everybody know what this one because if they want to join the can, you know,



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but I'm going to brown springs next Sunday, Monday and and just bump around there for, you know, a night or two.



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But the big one is in November.



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It's at an undisclosed location, and it's a dog man investigation that we got



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requested to do, and people came to us for help, and it's been a long time in the making.