Missouri MUFON  
Mutual UFO Network

1136 S Pearl Street, Independence, MO 64052  
Debbie Ziegelmeyer, State Director Margie Kay, Assistant State Director  
[www.missourimufon.org](http://www.missourimufon.org) 816-365-9492

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Missouri MUFON is co-sponsoring the Piedmont UFO Festival April 21 – 22, 2023 in Piedmont, Missouri. The Piedmont Chamber is holding the festival. Missouri MUFON is providing the speakers for the event and is holding an official MUFON meeting.

On Saturday, April 22, Missouri MUFON will hold an official meeting which is open to the public. MUFON officers will introduce MUFON to the attendees and local residents and explain how UFOs/UAPs are investigated using scientific methods. Investigation equipment will be displayed.

Speakers on Saturday:

**Debbie Ziegelmeye**r, State Director for Missouri MUFON. Topic:**50th Anniversary of the SE Missouri OZARKS UFO Flap**. Find out what happened in Piedmont and surrounding areas beginning in 1973 over a period of several years, and how this made national news and was investigated by Dr. Harley Rutledge, J Allen Hynek, and others.

**Mel Van Vickle**, Chief Investigator for Missouri MUFON. Topic: **Still Crazy after 50 Years:** Mel will examine the most puzzling cases that were submitted to Missouri MUFON in 2022, and take a look back at the last 50 years of sightings in southeast Missouri.  Mel will also provide some tips for collecting video and/or still images of your future UFO sightings.

**Forest Crawford**, researcher, podcaster, and hypnotherapist. Topic: "Just Look Up!" If you live in Missouri and want to see a UFO, just look up. Missouri has always been high on the list of states with the most UFO sightings reported. I will share a number of personal experiences/sightings that have shaped my interest in UFO’s. Forest will also discuss some theories and patterns that offer explanations as to why this area has been a hotbed of UFO activity for decades.

**Margie Kay**, Assistant State Director for Missouri MUFON. Topic: **The 70th Anniversary of Buck Nelson's first encounter with spacemen from Venus:** and his book “My Trip to the Moon, Mars, and Venus”. Also included in this talk are crash landings and close encounters with UFOs in Missouri, including the 1941 UFO crash in Cape Girardeau and others.

Missouri is consistently in the top ten states nationwide for UFO sightings and is a UFO hot spot. Sightings have been reported since the 1800’s. During the 1970’s southeast Missouri experienced a UFO Flap with over 500 sightings reported to local and county law enforcement. This gained the attention of Dr. Harley Rutledge, a scientist who was skeptical at first, but after several years of investigating with high-quality equipment, concluded that much of what was being reported remained unexplained.

Debbie Ziegelmeyer and Margie Kay will have their new book “50th Anniversary of the SE Missouri Ozarks UFO Flap: Piedmont, Clearwater Lake, Farmington, Wayne County” available for purchase. The book covers the 1970’s flap in detail and covers several more recent sightings and local resident’s and investigator’s experiences and close encounters.

Contact:

Margie Kay: 816-365-9492 [momufonasd@gmail.com](mailto:momufonasd@gmail.com)

Debbie Ziegelmeyer: mufondiver@gmail.com