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**A CHALLENGE TO SIGHTINGS**  
**AT PINE BUSH, NEW YORK**

By P. M. H. Atwater. L.H.D.

Thank you *FATE Magazine* for being back in business. We all missed you! Your first issue featured an article on “Pine Bush UFOs.” What a surprise. Spent hours there with Ellen Crystall and two other friends of mine about a decade and a half ago. My version of what I saw and experienced, the others too, is a little different from Thomas Quakenbush’s story (the author of your article). My report follows.

It was late Fall. The three of us met Ellen at a local diner. She showed us the book she was working on plus extra photos she had taken of UFOs in the area, as well as of alien beings who had appeared outside their ships. She was very excited that we had agreed to visit the site where most of the phenomena had occurred and to view her material.

The night was perfect for this. We parked our cars along a ridge to our right. Open fields of harvested corn lay to our left, several houses far ahead, and a line of trees above and beyond the houses, as if fencing off farmland from higher ground beyond. We looked around, exploring as we went, when suddenly huge light balls appeared around the trees, setting off dogs in the area to howling.

The balls of light seemed to emerge from soil around the trees, moved up tree trunks, and then rolled across tree tops as if performing on some type of stage. They rose red, then turned bright white, going back and forth, until flying off into the night sky where each ball turned into a dark green triangle. “Ships,” Ellen declared. “There they are, the ships, aliens.” About the same moment the light balls mysteriously turned into green triangles, airplanes would fly-over from a nearby base - appearing as if competitors or companions to what Ellen called UFOs. They were somewhat the same shape, yet different.

The light balls really were quite large, appearing to be maybe  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the tree size. They drove the dogs crazy. Can't explain the dark green triangles, except that they *responded to consciousness*. I say that because, while walking in what was left of corn fields, one came to where I was standing and hovered high above. I heard the whisper of a high-speed something, like an engine. Still, there was nothing to indicate an actual ship of some kind was hovering above me. Soon it left and joined the others, moving slowly to the right, then disappearing over the ridge. I was left with the question: did the four of us "create" those balls and triangles with our own consciousness, our own desire to see something special? Ellen loudly proclaimed all of it was UFO activity, and the dogs made it quite plain that what had happened was very real - not anyone's imagination. I agree. It was all quite real. . . but not because of alien beings or UFOs flying around. Those balls and triangles I recognized as piezoelectric effects from underground movements, shifts, rubs of some kind, fault lines, maybe the effect this had on human consciousness. I've had a lot of experience with this, so hear me out.

Each part of our country seems to have its own version of how piezoelectric effects form - especially balls of light or zig-zags like "snakes" of high energy. I've seen this in North Carolina, Idaho, and Nevada. One place in North Carolina is famous for the "Brown Mountain Lights," where lights as if from a miner's lantern flash up and down Brown Mountain - not always - but when conditions are right. Various types of light balls and highly charged "zigzags" or bolts of light are common in Idaho and Nevada, especially in areas where mining once occurred or there still are rich deposits of certain metallic ores. Even around high tension cables, if the atmosphere and moisture are right, you can see balls of light rolling along the wires. The current craze of snapping photos when folks are really happy and sending out great "vibes" is another example. As far as I am concerned, at least based on decades of experience with thousands of people, is that there is very little difference from the effects the Earth can produce when energy movements are supercharged, and what can happen if people are really "turned on," especially in a spiritual way, and are exhibiting higher states of consciousness. You see this often with those who have had a near-

death experience. In my research, 70% came back with electrical sensitivity. I'm one of them.

There is nothing about the Pine Bush experience, or even Ellen's many photos, that convinces me UFOs were present. Ellen's photos, by the way, were not clearly defined and could easily have been caused by camera and lighting variances. None of her claims held up either, nor did those from others who tried to back her up. What did hold up and strongly is that we were all treated to a magnificent array of piezoelectric effects. A soil and metals analysis of the area might have helped, plus a map of fault lines. This type of research could have explained more about Pine Bush than Ellen's photos.

I have been on many investigations of UFO sightings, landings, Geiger counter readings, burned plants, soil prints, and the kind of night lights that baffle and scare. You won't find anything like that at Pine Bush. I like Ellen very much, and I'm glad she wrote her book. We need reportings, whether they hold up to scrutiny or not. We learn that way, especially when we're challenged. Thank you *FATE Magazine* for keeping us informed. We love the wonderful way you do things.

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P. M. H. Atwater, L.H.D., had three near-death experiences within three months in 1977. One of the original researchers in the field of near-death studies, she began her examination of the phenomenon in 1978 and has completed 18 books on the subject. Some of her findings have been verified in clinical settings, among them the prospective study done in Holland and published in *Lancet* (12-15-01). To date, her work covers nearly 5,000 adult and child experiencers. *The Forever Angels*, a ground-breaking study of babes and toddlers, comes out in September, 2019.