

# Trawler hired by Scooby Doo and the gang

By Daniel Savickas

Shortly after the year anniversary issue of *The LowDown* hit the stands, an unsuspecting group of out-of-towner's picked up a copy of the publication at a small coffee shop. After flipping through the first few stories the gang and their dog named Scooby Doo stumbled across a story that grabbed their attention. The headline read, "Trawler's back with another close encounter."

"I was like, zoinks, this guy's run into a Big Foot and the Abominable Snowman; we should like, steer clear of him," said Shaggy, one of the members of the four person gang consisting of himself, Fred, Velma and Daphne; and of course, Shaggy's dog named Scooby Doo.

Shaggy's dog Scooby Doo agreed they should stay away from Trawler, but the two were out numbered by the rest of the gang.

The group drove into Tahoe from Reno where they were attempting to solve the mystery behind the haunted Bunny Ranch. Traveling in Fred's van, which has the words *Mystery Machine* painted across the side, the gang has been driving around the country for over thirty years solving mysteries. Despite the stress they've encountered from solving mysteries with the likes of Dick Vandyke, the *Globe Trotters* and *Batman* and *Robin*, the gang doesn't look a day over 20 years old.

Since the gang has had experiences in the past with the *Abominable Snowman* and a *Big Foot*, they decided to look up Trawler to compare notes and see if he would be interested in

joining them on their quest to solve mysteries.

Upon meeting Trawler and seeing his pictures and hearing his tales of close encounters, Fred asked Trawler if he'd like to join them in the *Mystery Machine*. Trawler accepted the offer after negotiating a small stipend from the group for each week of his services.

"I'm a valuable asset to these kids whether they realize it or not," said Travis Trawler. "I'm the greatest mystery solver since that *Matlock* fellow on Tuesday

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**-Shaggy**

nights or *Colombo* on Thursdays."

With the mystery of the *Bunny Ranch* still hanging in the balance, the gang decided to take Trawler to Reno to see if he could find any leads.

"We're trying to find the ghouls and goblins which are the source of these loud haunting screams and terrifying groans which fill the night air around the *Bunny Ranch*," said Velma.

"We set up a stake-out all day and we didn't hear anything," said Fred. "Then as soon as night fell men and women began to enter the ranch. After hours of hearing the screams and groans coming from inside the ranch, the same people emerge looking completely drained,"

"As far as we can tell the people are being brainwashed or they leave possessed. I'm leaning

towards brainwashed because when the people leave they look like they are in a state of euphoria but at the same time they look like zombies," said Daphne. "Like they don't even know what's going on or why they're happy."

Upon arriving at the *Bunny Ranch* with Trawler the gang learned he had prior experience and knowledge of this haunted ranch.

"Sure I've been here tons of times," said Trawler. "This is were I met my wife *Betty-Joe*."

Trawler decided to enter the *Bunny Ranch* alone to find the answer to the gang's questions. Hours later he emerged from the ranch in the same zombie-like state the gang was questioning.

After hours of in depth questioning Trawler was unable to give the gang any helpful information towards solving the mystery. Night after night Trawler enter the *Bunny Ranch* in search of more information and night after night he emerged in the same zombie-like state without any helpful information.

Nearly a week of this routine had passed before the gang grew upset and frustrated.

"Every night he disappears for hours on end and when he gets back he just smokes cigarettes and says he's too tired to talk," said Fred. "He keeps asking for advances on his paycheck saying he needs to pay from information inside the ranch; but he hasn't provided us with any information."



Top of page: The gang finds out about Trawler in *The LowDown*. Above: Trawler points to what he claims was a ghost at the *Bunny Ranch*.

"I'm sick of this guy," said Velma. "Every night when we demand information he just yells, 'Look over there!' and then he points off into the distance. But there's never anything there."

After a full week of investigating the *Bunny Ranch* the gang decided to fire Trawler and move on.

"Like this is one mystery that will have to go unsolved," said Shaggy.

"Wwwrrrihhhttt," agreed his dog Scooby Doo.

As for having to let Trawler go Shaggy simply replied, "He never did anything accept point. We solve groovy mysteries, we don't make them up."

"He's a fraud," added Fred.

Trawler is now back at home collecting unemployment and trying to decide on his next career. Right now he's considering hunting *Tahoe Tessie* and or investigating mysterious crop circles which he says have been appearing in his front yard.

Responding to the claims that he's a fraud, Trawler said, "I'm a really man of mystery. I've seen all the beasts I've claimed to seen. As for the mystery behind the *Bunny Ranch* I could've solved it in another week or two if it weren't for those damn kids and their dog cuttin' my pay."