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WINDY CITY
CAVE
EDITION

NORTHWEST SPELEOLOGICAL CONVENTION
To be held at Papoose Cave
May 30 - June 2

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ATTENTION

You are cordially invited by the Cascade Grotto to attend the First Northwest Speleological Convention to be held at Papoose Cave over the memorial day weekend. Papoose Cave is located near the small town of Riggins, Idaho.

The purpose of this convention will hopefully be to start an annual meeting of western caving groups, so that we might get to know one another better. Hopefully each year after this one, a Grotto of the northwest area will sponsor the convention; next years sponsor will be decided at this years meet. REMEMBER THIS EVENT CAN NOT SUCCEED * UNLESS YOU ATTEND !!!!

For further information, contact;

Bob Brown
8849 35th Ave. S.W.
Seattle, Wash. 98146

Phone 425-2451

Schedule of Events
N.S.S.C.

Thursday
May 30

- 10:30 am Meet in Riggins City Park.
- 11:15 am Leave city park for cave.
- 12:00 pm (noon) Official start of N.S.S.C.
Have lunch at cave entrance.
- 1:00 pm Photographic trip into cave.
- 7:00 pm Slide show at camp area.
- 7:30 pm Longest and deepest caves of the U.S. By Bill Halliday
- 7:45 pm Slide show cont.
- 8:30 pm Form into photographic, exploratory and survey teams.
- 9:45 pm Campfire session; bring guitars, banjos, bagpipes, etc.

Friday
May 31

- 8:30 am Teams meet at cave.
 - 6:00 pm Bar B.Q. location to be decided later.
 - 7:15 pm Cave Rescue meeting of all grottos. Bill Halliday chairman of N.C.R.A. will run this meeting
- Following cave rescue meeting a meeting on forming a region will be held. (cont. on next page)

Saturday

June 1

8:30 am Teams meet at cave.

7:30 pm General meeting and slide show.

12:00 am (midnight) OFFICIAL END OF N.W.S.C.

The Northwest Cave Rescue Association

On February 28, 1968, The Northwest Cave Rescue Association was formally chartered by the state of Washington but to date, the Association exists largely on paper, although the rudiments of a rescue network and initial training sessions have been initiated in the Seattle area. However, the existence of the association as a non-profit corporation provides both a foundation for building whatever structure Northwest cavers feel desirable, and freedom from bankruptcy by lawsuit against Association members.

It seems generally agreed that in the Northwest, rescues will have to be done rapidly to be successful, and therefore by the cavers closest to the rescue, in cooperation with mountain rescue and related groups. However, very rare situations may make it necessary for others to come from longer distances to help.

For this reason, we have been tentatively thinking of a series of units based on each grotto and each unit of the Canadian Speleological Society, each assuming the responsibility for a specific area. Each such unit would have a fool-proof telephone arrangement whereby someone will always be available to accept calls and to pass the word to others in the unit, and to alert the other units, which will stay on alert until the word comes definitely that they will not be needed.

As stated above, however, this is all tentative and is to be discussed and details worked out at the N.C.R.A meeting at Papoose Cave over the Memorial Day weekend, probably Friday night. Think about it and come prepared to make constructive suggestions.

We hope also to have Hal Foss, Washington State Director of Search and Rescue, at this meeting. Hal has been of great assistance in preliminary stages of getting the association underway. From him we have learned about working with local rescue and civil defense teams and obtaining state accident coverage during rescues and practices and much more. It seems that radio communications and some transportation are available under some circumstances, details at the Idaho meeting.

And what about, all northwest cavers walkie-talkies being on the same frequency? If you or your group have walkie-talkies, please drop us a line stating the channels.

By
Bill Halliday

Information concerning cave rescue write;

Bill Halliday
1117 36th Ave E.
Seattle, Washington 98102

How to get there

Riggins, Idaho is located midway between Lewiston and Boise on route 95. From Riggins to Papoose Cave proceed one mile south of town, taking dirt road to Seven Devils Camp. As you proceed up this road you will come to a fork, take the road to the left (Seven Devils Camp Road), do not take Papoose Saddle Road. We hope to have signs showing the way, they will read N.W.S.C. this way. The town of Riggins has many gas stations, stores and motels.

Fluorescein testing at Papoose Cave, Idaho.
(Of interest to the explorer)

On Sept. 4, 1966, fluorescein dye introduced into the stream at the bottom of the 64-foot pit inside the upper entrance guided an ascending group to meet the descending pair not far below the pit.

Another packet of dye was dropped in the creek just outside the main entrance which it passes. This water goes underground a few hundred feet downstream. It is suspected that this water enter the cave but this is not verified as yet.

A small party went by jeep to a spring shown on the USGS Bessler Creek Quadrangle near the west central edge of section 36, on the far side of the ridge, and spring-sat til dark. No dye appeared.

However, during the jaunt, they talked with ranch owned Bill DeVony who became quite interested in the project and promised to watch for green water.

Subsequently he notified the grottos that the dye appeared from a resurgence in the bed of Shingle Creek, about 1/2 mile farther south, at 7 AM on Sept. 7, 1966.

The dye therefore travelled a minimum distance of about 10,000 feet, descending about 2,100 feet in about two days, 20 hours. Remember the bottom of Papoose Cave has not been reached yet.

Don't be left out!!!!

As of May first members of the Gem State Grotto, Oregon Grotto, Cascade Grotto, Salt Lake Grotto and the Canadian Speleological Society are planning on attending.

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July 1966 Report on Papoose Cave, Idaho County, Idaho

For approximately one year, the Cascade Grotto of the N.S.S. intermittently has been probing Papoose Cave, located at an elevation of about 5,000 feet on Seven Devils Mountain between the Salmon and Snake Rivers. On July 11, 1966 a joint Convention-bound party from the Cascade Grotto, Salt Lake Grotto, and Shining Mountain Grotto reached two siphons which apparently represent the bottom of the cave (there is a parallel passage around the second siphon and the end of this passage has not been reached). Although an exact figure cannot be given at this time, the methodology given below appears to promise a considerably more accurate estimate than is customary in preliminary reports of this type, for caves of this type.

Because of its pattern of proceeding down the dip of an impurity-containing limestone dipping about 40 degrees, Papoose Cave somewhat resembles Neff Canyon Cave. However, differences are major. On the route employed, the longest single pit is about 70 feet deep. The cave is much more complex than Neff Canyon Cave, and to a large degree consists of sinuous vadose canyons often about 100 feet in height. Many abandoned channels are present at higher levels, and side passages open at multiple levels. Speleothem development is more like Soldiers Cave, California, than Neff Canyon Cave. Also the present dendritic stream pattern is unlike Neff.

Papoose Cave has two entrances along Papoose Creek, with a differential elevation of about 50 feet in spillover points. Both are large cavernous grottosinks sloping back into the canyon side. The upper entrance has been connected with the main portion of the cave.

On the weekend of May 30, 1966, the Cascade Grotto employed two temperature corrected altimeter. One was observed periodically at base camp in a large nearby shelter cave. Since it did not shift perceptibly during the period of observations, it is believed that barometric changes do not have to be allowed for.

The lowest point of altimetry on that trip was a resting point just above the entrance of the Hillrace Room, a reading of 740- feet was obtained. The altimeter was then coaxed at a point about 50 feet deeper, judged by guesstimate, or minus 790 feet.

In the interim, altimetry figures were checked against a map in USFS files, said to have been made by Brunton compass. Three common points could be compared; the lowest at minus 420 altimetrically. Divergence was 10 feet at one point, 5 feet at the others; two of these were minus, one plus. On the new trip, the altimeter was found reading minus 950. This is tentatively corrected to minus 790, presuming barometric change. Altimetry was continued to an additional depth of 70 feet minus the last point or minus 860, at the bottom of another major pit. The passage continues sloping downward several hundred feet to a siphon in shale. This siphon can be bypassed by a parallel passage, a tentative depth of 910 minus feet is reached.