

THE CASCADE CAVER
Official publication
of the
Cascade Grotto of the
National Speleological Society

PROPERTY OF
WINDY CITY GROTTOS
LIBRARY

Volume 9 no. 11 (& 12) Editor: Dr. W. R. Halliday November-December 1970

COMING EVENTS

All present, past or potential N.S.S. members are invited.

- October 31-November 1. Mt. Adams area trip. Call Bob Brown, RO 3-9094.
November 2. Grotto executive meeting.
November 7. DECISION DAY: N.S.S. Board meeting in Tucson.
November 7 and/or 8. Paradise Ice Caves. Call C. Anderson, ME 2-4898.
November 14-15. Papoose Cave trip, weather permitting. Alternate: Vancouver Island trip. Call Bob Brown, RO 3-9094.
November 16. Regular Grotto meeting, 8 PM, Hallidays, 1117 36th Ave. E.
November 21 &/or 22. Mt. St. Helens area trip. Call Coughlins, PA5-9127.
Thanksgiving weekend. Hells Canyon trip with Oregon Grotto.
December 5. Practice rescue in mountains near North Bend. Call Frese, CH4-1525.
December 12. Potluck dinner for all Northwest cavers. Charley Larson will bring slides. Hallidays, 6 PM. Call Brown; RO 3-9094.
December 19-20. To be scheduled + November meeting.
December 21. Regular grotto meeting, same time and place as November.
-

A GREAT MONTH!

On October 3, a large grotto party attacked the Paradise Ice Cave system despite the balmy weather and consequent continued high stream flow. No plans had been made for a big push beyond Edith Falls, but the party proved so strong that it was able to advance Bill Zarwell and Ron Pflum clear to the long-sought upper entrance - the first complete penetration of the system known. It's a huge entrance, with several lesser ones along the northwest margin of the glacier nearby. Returning overland along the east flank of the glacier would have been much easier, but the party had to retrace its course to rejoin several members who had stopped at various points. Next morning mapping was begun, but a dense fog rolled up the mountain and into the cave reducing visibility to zilch (just as your editor was ready to take some photos). However one major side passage was mapped first. The Big Room has suffered greatly from collapse and flake-fall very recently.

Another large party drove to Papoose Cave the weekend of October 10-11 and mapped Patterson's Passage; the map is enclosed. Its length was 825 feet; descent was 165 feet. At the October meeting, Bob Brown reported that the old Forest Service Brunton survey was off a bit; the depth at the start of the 70-foot pit is -506 feet. The eastern Washington group also was on hand; they had rigged at the wrong place to avoid the 40-foot waterfall pitch. After a joint rerigging, the eastern group went on into the lower portions of the cave and had some problems - details later, perhaps.

On October 17, a mapping party established permanent stations in Dynamited Cave, as far as the last 15-foot pit; Brunton compasses were used. Charley Larson, your editor and a couple of other Oregon Grotto members got some excellent photos at the same time. More and more Oregon Grotto members kept arriving and the joint group went off in all directions next day, comparing notes on caves not known to the others, photographing, surveying sinks near Dead Horse Creek Cave and the like. Fine time.

The weekend of October 24-25 saw a CSS-Cascade Grotto party revisiting and photographing extensively in Euclataw Cave, then moving south to the Gordon River area for the second descent of Crest Cave, accomplished by Brown, Pflum, Zarwell, Thompson and your editor. The stump in the entrance is deteriorating and made entry much easier. The CSS has a new cave right alongside the Gordon River road - Procrastination Crevice, not yet explored, for more than a few feet. The water in this one is moving parallel to the Gordon River which is a few yards away. Others visited and photographed in the Gordon River area included Wolf Creek Cave, Hourglass Cave, Stream Cave (water too high to enter) and Whiskeyjack Cave. A C.S.S. team pushed Banana Split Cave (main cave in the old Six New Caves area) an additional 25' and think further penetration only theoretically possible. Farther north, only the outer hundred feet of River Bend was penetrable; a new stream entering from the side at that point. Euclataw was comparatively dry, and glistening. Ken Sinkiewicz reports checking out the tremendous-looking sinks west of the Skutz Falls caves; they are choked about 30 feet down. Named Pricklebush Pits now. Because of current logging operations, Easter Cave and Letterbox Cave could not be visited.

On October 7 (Wednesday) Ron Pflum and Claude Smith went back to the Paradise Ice Caves and mapped several side corridors up-glacier from the Rockslide Room. The weather had turned cold and the water in the stream passage was way down. About 2,500 feet was mapped, bringing the total in the main cave to about 10,500'. About half the water entering the water passage was found to be entering from the highest of these side passages.

And the October 3-4 trip was Charley's 100th to the Paradise Ice Caves!

Claude Smith reports that Samwel Cave (California) currently has three entrances; he visited it the weekend of 10-1-70. Nobody else from the grotto went on that one. Besides the main entrance and a smaller one beneath it, there is a still smaller entrance which intermittently plugs.

Too bad we have to go to press before the Oct. 31 Mt. Adams trip. There may have been some greater months in our history, but darn few! One of these days I'll get around to the grotto history - just too much important new material recently.

NOW AVAILABLE:

The long-awaited WSS report on the July 4 Summit Steam Caves expedition. Includes 12 photos.

Because of the high production costs, it is necessary to charge \$1.00 for this report - available from your editor.

GUEST EDITORIAL:

About one year in the life of the Cascade Grotto - by Bob Brown.

After being a member of the Cascade Grotto for almost seven years, I think it is about time we stop for a moment and take a look at where we have been and where we are going. If we were to look at the entire 20 years of the grotto's existence, this would be a whole book. So let's look at the past year.

After two years of improvements by eastern cavers, the grotto was on the point of collapse at the beginning of 1970. For many reasons, the grotto had lost many members, our publication was not worth the paper it was printed on, there were no funds in the treasury and a need for a new constitution was evident.

The first sign of improvement was the adoption of a new grotto constitution which returned the power of decision-making to the grotto members. Also, non-NSS members were welcomed without having to pay the outrageous NSS dues, thus cutting down on the loss of non-NSS cavers. Next, the grotto publication under a new editor was improved to the point where people were once again subscribing to it. The grotto returned to being a caving group instead of a debating society. One improvement not achieved is the empty grotto treasury.

Of the grotto's many projects the most important probably was the Summit Steam Caves trip of July 4. Not only did it lay the groundwork for future trips but it was the first even partial photographic and surface reconnaissance in addition to the subsurface exploration and mapping. The Paradise Ice Caves were penetrated to the far end for the first time. A new section of Papoose Cave was discovered and mapped and future work planned. Dynamited Cave was remapped to a point less than 500 feet from the far end, cleaned of litter and survey markers placed. Although gating on Cave Ridge did not advance, new signs were placed.

In the year to come, it is not only important that progress be continued in these and other grotto projects, but that we continue to improve the Caver, increase membership, improve programs and increase the treasury. These can be done if we work together and take proper pride in the grotto.

VULCANOSPELEOLOGICAL NOTE - by Russell Harter

The confusion of names on Pisgah caves comes out something like this: Tom Rohrer's #21 (not 17 and 18 as stated on Bill Stewart's sketch maps) is the same as Harold Morehead's and Bill Stewart's #1, and "the #1" and "#2" in the additions to Caves of California, and also the same as our Glove Cave. The lower portion of the cave contains a mountain sheep skeleton. Harold Morehead's "4 O'Clock Cave" which is apparently the "4 O'Clock Cave" reported in the additions to Caves of California, is our B System, or simply B. Bill Stewart's "bowl cave" is our Vent. Bill Stewart's "4 O'Clock Cave" is Tom Rohrer's #2 and our #2. Bill Stewart's "Double Loop Cave #1" is our Finis. The "pit" and 55' passage marked on Stewart's sketch map of "Double Loop Cave #1" is the closest cave to Rohrer's #1, so we call it C1.

On Stewart's sketch map of "Double Loop Cave #1", there is a third small cave marked as having a blue flashbulb in it. This cave is our TK. (On the same page Stewart has: "'Pier' is 160 feet S.W." I don't know what that means. There are no caves in that area. On his sketch map of "4 O'Clock Cave", there is also shown "Rimbach's Cave" and two others. I expect the magnetic compass bearings are completely sour. I've found local magnetic declinations to vary considerably from one part of the flow to another. So, the locations are probably poor. The area where these caves would be is near the SE side of the cinder cone. It is one of the areas we have not swept carefully yet, and I don't recognize Rimbach's or either of the others as being ones I've been in.

1970 is the centennial of the first recorded climb of Mount Rainier, and a fancy Centennial climb was held in August. The weekend of October 3-4 saw a different kind of centennial trip to the Paradise Ice Caves - Charley Anderson's 100th trip, not counting those turned back by bad weather or other factors. The trip was properly notable.

A large contingent hiked up Saturday, several to camp overnight at the caves. The day could hardly have been finer, but the caves showed rather dismaying recent changes. The outer part of the Big Room area had collapsed back to a point level with the western side passages. Further, a melange of collapse and ablation of recently opened stress joints rendered most of the right rear portion of the Big Room a 3-dimensional maze of largely unstable ice. The two domed rooms once opening on the right hand wall of the Big Room now open to the surface; just up-cave from the second is a new double moulin - the lower one classically vertical, the upper one slanting. This entire area is enlarging rapidly. In the Stream Passage, the tortuous little waterfall slot on the left at the entrance of the first room is now a full-fledged moulin of moderate size. The Pillar Passage pillar moulin is even larger than early this year, and the ceiling is so thin that this part of the cave soon will be merely a memory. A new passage is opening on the left of the stream passage at the far end of the first room; it may connect to the rolling rock area at the rear of the Suicide Passage offset.

Although the Water Passage stream was at its usual height, several of the group felt challenged. Charley Anderson's long-frostbitten feet soon forced him to retreat. Van Work made it to Edith Falls, but Ron Pflum and Bill Zarwell slogged onward and came to the far end of the glacier at a point about 200 feet past farthest past penetration. The upper entrance is large and beautiful, framing a waterfall which feeds the Water Passage stream. Quite an accomplishment considering the diurnal rise in the water level each midafternoon, and the cavers' repeated immersions in 34 degree water.

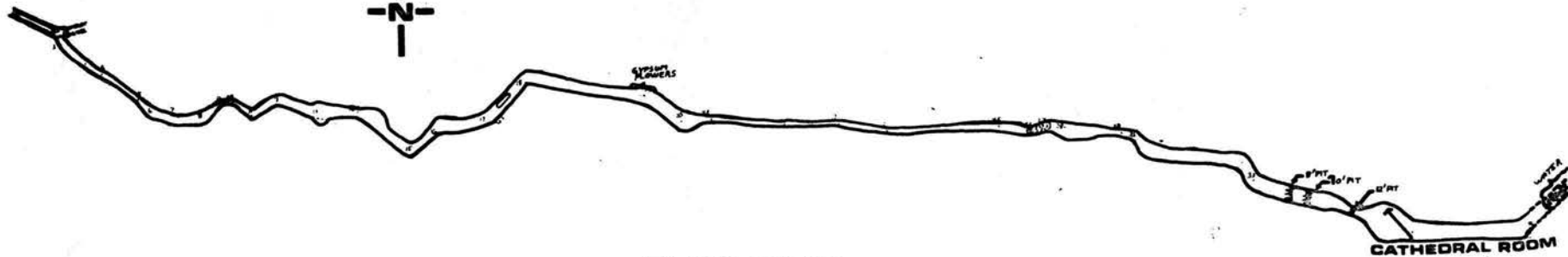
Next morning the doughty polar bear team headed back to map the new additions to the cave. About the same time yr editor started up from the visitor center with 40 pounds or so of cameras. While the mappers were working the major side passage down cave from Edith Falls (some 1200 feet of new passage), and as I approached the caves, the fog rolled in. Visibility was about 25 feet inside and 5 feet outside - Charley reports it was the first time he's ever seen fog inside. The Andersons and I broke camp, trying to discourage the dozens of hikers seeking the caves in the fog, and the mappers soon joined us at the round-house. Quite a weekend.

GLACIOSPELEOLOGICAL ABSTRACT:

Vallot, J., Delebecque, A. & DuParc, L. 1892. Sur la catastrophe de St.-Gervais. Arch. des Sci. Phys. et Nat. (Geneva), Vol. 28, pp. 179-201/
Gervais

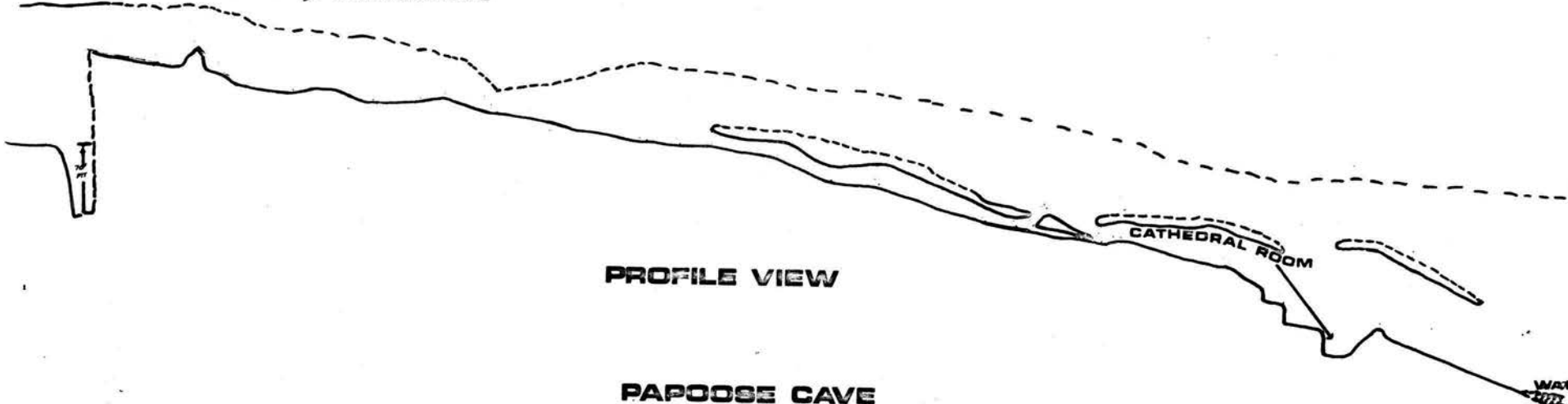
On the night of July 12, 1892, some 150 villagers were killed in a sudden flood which burst out of the Tete-Rousse Glacier. This is a small, almost horizontal plateau-like glacier at an elevation of about 10,00 feet. An abstract of this paper was published in Nature, Vol. 46, #192, p. 420, Sept. 1, 1892:

At the end of the glacier, on a steep face of rock, (the authors) found an enormous arching cavity, filled recently (it would appear) with ice which had been shot out by some internal force. They entered the cavern and observed traces of an interior lake. A passage, strewn and overhung with blocks of ice, led up to an open space, a sort of a huge crater, with walls of white ice, absolutely vertical. It was about 270 feet long and 133 feet broad and deep (the adjoining cave was about 175 feet long - WRH). Their opinion was that a lake had been formed..through obstruction of the orifice of outflow (and)..burst the glacier. 67



PLAN VIEW

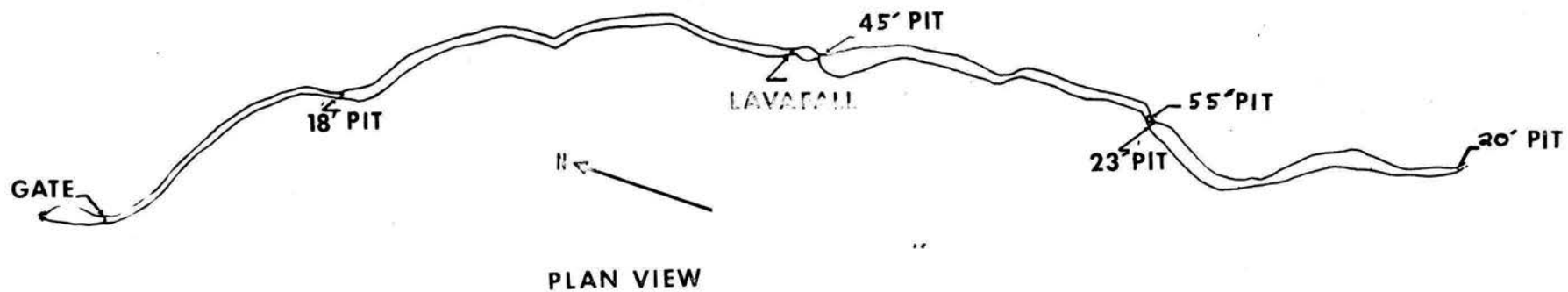
→ HORIZON



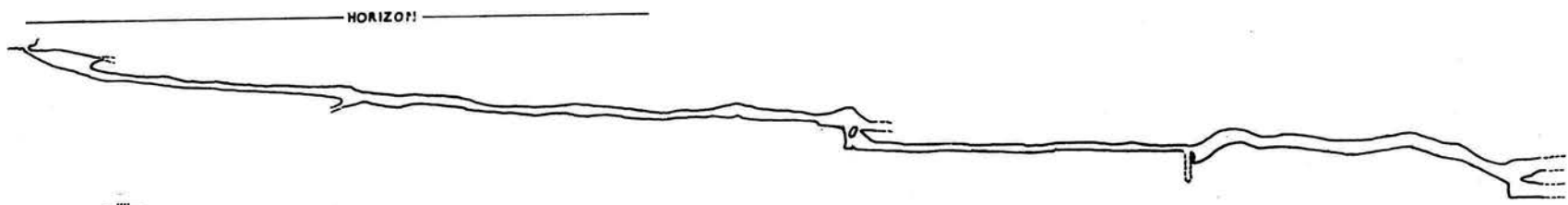
PROFILE VIEW

**PAPOOSE CAVE
PATTERSON PASSAGE**
SURVEY BY CASCADE GROTTOS, N.S.S.
GRADE 5
MAP BY BOB BROWN, CHUCK COUGHLIN,
RON PLUM





PLAN VIEW



PROFILE VIEW

DYNAMITED CAVE
GRADE 5
MAP BY CARSCAPE GROTTO

Papoose Cave field trip, Oct. 10, 1970 - Chuck Coughlin

After a ten hour drive from Seattle in Claude's truck we arrived at Papoose Cave about 5 AM Saturday. Tom Miller and two other members of the eastern Washington group were already at the campground, asleep. By noon when we awoke they had already rigged the upper pit in preparation for making the loop trip. We got going in time to help them map the "dry 60". Mary made her first rappel here without too much difficulty despite her high friction-to-ballast ratio. From here the eastern bunch proceeded toward the bottom and our group started mapping Patterson's Passage. After sitting for nearly a half hour in the last large room of the passage, meditating under the light of Greg Thompson's candles placed strategically in flowstone niches, we suggest that the hall be called The Cathedral Room. It was really impressive.

On the way out we met George Huppert coming in. We promised an exchange of survey notes. His thesis on the cave is due in January. It should make interesting reading. We straggled out at midnight, exhausted after 12 hours in the cave.

OBSERVATIONS ON STREAMFLOW AND FLAKEFALL AT THE EXIT OF THE WATER PASSAGE OF THE PARADISE ICE CAVES DURING THE SUMMER OF 1970.

- National Park Service staff notes.

7-4-70. River a torrent (B. Hall).

7-5-70. River in cave much wider (than in past) (F. Witt).

7-11-70. About the same as last week. (B. Hall)

7-26-70. River in cave is much larger and beginning to undercut left side of ice in cave...Fog, rain and high wind all day..frequent sleet. (F. Witt)

8-16-70. Clear, warm...ice fall heard. (F. Witt)

8-16-70. Hot, clear..Flash flood (and some mud) occurred at 3 PM - river rose 6"-9" in 5 minutes. Stream now extends entire width of main cave. (B. Hall)

8-23-70. The entrance to Pillar Passage started to creak and settle. It held just long enough to get everyone out of the caves and back a safe distance, then it collapsed..also heard loud noises in the Blue Room...62° at noon. (F. Witt)

(Conversations with the staff indicate that at other times, stream flow was considered to be approximately as usual - W.R.H.)

Somebody out there reads this rag Department.

Dear Dr. Halliday:

This Library would like to obtain two copies of the multilithed publication by Ronald Greeley entitled GEOLOGY AND MORPHOLOGY OF SELECTED LAVA TUBES IN THE VICINITY OF BEND, OREGON. 1970. 51 pp. Space Sciences, N.A.S.A (listed in The Cascade Caver, V. 9 No.6: June 1970, p. 37. We would appreciate information as to where we should write for two copies of this publication.

Sincerely yours,
George H. Goodwin, Jr.
Chief Librarian
U.S. Geological Survey

Recent historical correspondance:

(From W.R.H. to Samuel E. Albright, discoverer about 1900 of Albright ~~Cave~~)

Dear Mr. Albright:

It was a real pleasure meeting and talking with you recently. Here are copies of the photos...and also was delighted to find an extra copy of the old article about the cave. I wish we had known about your existance at that time; we would have gotten the name spelled right!

If you find any more caves, please let us know.

Dear Dr. Halliday:

Thanks very much for the pictures and the paper about the cave. If I find any more caves, will surely let you know.

/s/

(The Wenatchee World on 9-3-69 had a nice article featuring Mr. Albright and his discovery - when space permits, we'll run it.)

(We also have a fine report by Tom Miller on small caves near Papoose Cave that will have to wait, also one by Jan Roberts on Ted Danner's cave near Soda Springs. Send in your subscription to The Cascade Caver, for 1971, now!)

Cascade Grotto of the
National Speleological Society
1117 36th Avenue East
Seattle, Wash., 98102