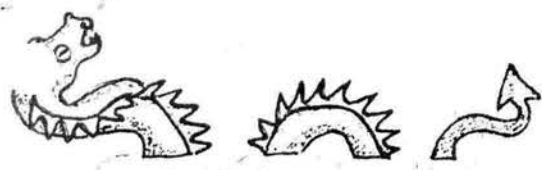
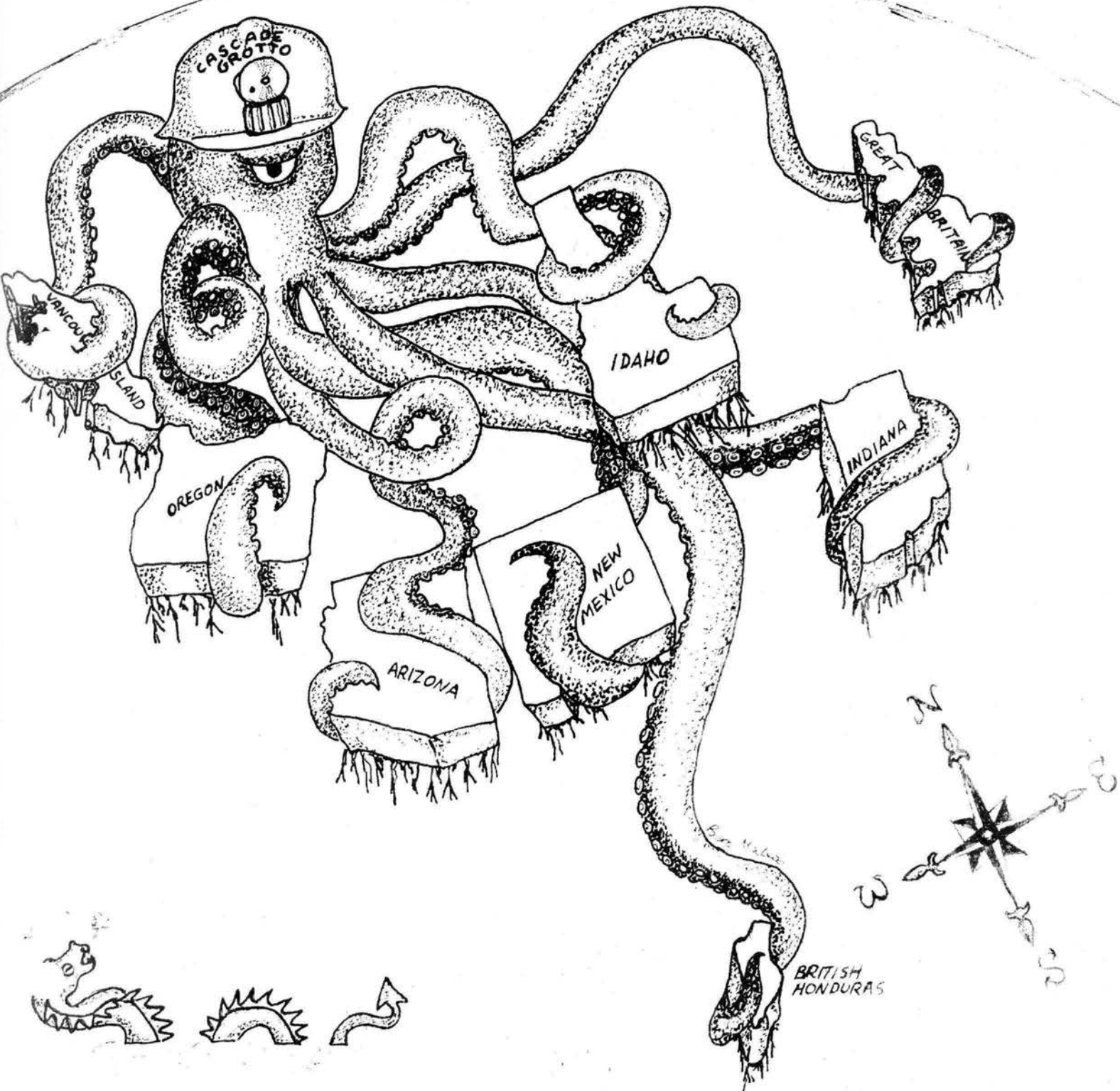


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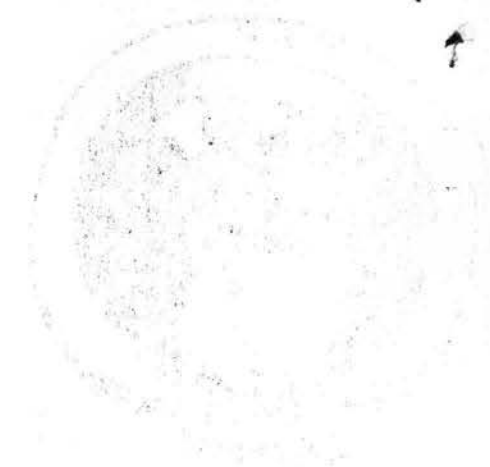
The Cascade Cavern

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF WORLD CONTROL UNDERGROUND 10¢



Vol. 10 #3

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The Cascade Caver

Official Publication of the
CASCADE GROTTTO N. S. S.

Volume 10 no. 3

Editor: Dr. William R. Halliday March 1971

COMING EVENTS

February 20. NW Cave Rescue Assn. training session 10 AM @ Frese's;
17021 1st Avenue S., Seattle. RO 2-8681.

February 21. Jackman Creek Cave etc. Call Coughlin, PA5-9127.

February 23. Grotto executive meeting; Pflum's home 7:30 PM.

February 28. Fish Hatchery Cave. Call Brown RO 3-9094.

March 5-7. Vancouver Island trip. Call Pflum, ME 2-4898.

March 6. NSS Board meeting, Huntsville.

March 13-14. Not yet scheduled. Maybe Ape Cave. Call me. EA4-7474.

March 15. Regular grotto meeting 8 PM Hallidays; 1117 36th Avenue E.

Weekends beginning Mid-May: high elevation conditioning climbs for Summit
Steam Caves group.

Memorial Day weekend. Papoose Cave.

July 4 weekend. Summit Steam Caves.

Labor Day weekend. NW Regional Meeting, Bear Lake area, Idaho-Utah.

Thanksgiving weekend. Possibly Shasta Lake area, with California Region.

Address changes

Charley Anderson 815 N. Dexter, Seattle.

Tom Miller 308 Streeter Hall, EWSC, Cheney, Wash.

Dave Brannon 726 Pasadena, Tacoma. LO 4-8209.

Claude Smith PO Box 1292, Carlsbad, N. Mex. 88220

"Northwest Caving" rides again!

Jim and Beth Wolff and Jim and Libby Nieland are publishing NW Caving and urgently request articles, news and ideas of interest to two or more grottoes of the NW region. Send material to the Nielands at 3413 SE Yamhill (Apt. 6), Portland 97214. Good luck, Wolffs and Nielands!

RECENT FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Sometime during the New Years weekend, several members of the grotto managed to arise blearily from their sacks at the Larsons in Vancouver and accompany equally bleary members of the Oregon Grotto and two members of the VICE Group to Red Cave and Pillar of Fire. Sounds like a real misery trip, but seasonal ice speleothems were dramatic.

The Coughlins scouted farther south at about the same time. At Lake Shasta Caverns, they found a new room being prepared for inclusion on the tourist route. As they were the only people present for the tour and were pleasant and presentable, they had a great time with the staff. At Oregon Cave they were the only tourists also. Also visited Sea Lion Cave. At Lava Beds National Monument they visited only Skull Cave and Catacombs because of snow conditions. They were disappointed that the former had only a minor ice floor.

On January 24, Bill Zarwell led a brave crew toward Jackman Creek Cave. Too much snow. Couldn't get within three miles of it. And that's a low elevation cave.

The Carlsbad division of the grotto convened Jan. 22 and 23. Claude sends his best to all. With Tom Meador, historian of the Texas Speleological Survey, we checked out the three major caves of McKittrick Hill (endless, McKittrick and Dry Caves), then mapped Nicholson's Lost Pit leading down from the Lower Cave in Carlsbad Cavern. No, it didn't break the old record - as anticipated. Next day we were too tired to join the Abilene Grotto as invited (a New Cave project) but took it easy photographing the Big Room and scenic rooms on a fine photo tour, then had a quick look at Parks Ranch Cave system, the biggest known gypsum cave in the U.S. This was interrupted when we found a coiled rattlesnake about 500 feet inside - the first one any of us had ever seen in total darkness. He and we were about equally bothered, but we knew something he didn't - that passage floods completely with the spring floods.

Slides indicate that the January McLaughlin Canyon Caves trip was a real misery trip. Unless some masochists protest, I won't even mention any names. (At least there weren't any rattlesnakes - anonymous). Five feet of snow???

Vancouver Island was again invaded Feb. 13-14; Brown, Pflum, Albert, McCloud, and Thompson journeyed to the new, still nameless cave south of Horne Lake. A considerable argument rages as to whether it is possible to stay dry above mid-thigh and still see major parts of the cave. 39° water, too. The spectacular waterfalls make it worthwhile, they report. Apparently the bottom of the cave has been reached, at a siphon about 50' below a 30-foot waterfall drop. Current activities are centering on pushing upstream on the Thunder Pit stream. They were underground 7 hours this time. Talk of chest-deep water before Thunder Pit. The Canadians are referring to this cave as P89-1, following a British system. The lower levels were discovered 3 weeks earlier.

VANCOUVER ISLAND GROUP BEGINS NEWSLETTER

Hearty congratulations to the Vancouver Island Cave Exploration Group for the first issue of VICEG News! A nice 10-pager, full especially of information on recent field trips to P89-1. Address: 707 Catherine St., Victoria, B.C. All exchange grottos might want to send the VICE Group (come to think of it, that isn't quite the right way to put it) a sample copy at least.

* * * * *

1972 Convention planning

At a recent planning meeting at Charley Larson's, it was decided that the 1972 convention will be August 12-20, 1972. In addition to the usual sessions, there will be a special symposium on vulcanospeleology - inevitably with special emphasis on its lunar applications. Several noted authorities already have expressed particular interest in participating. More information anon.

* * * * *

1972 Canadian Rockies speleological field trip

Only minimal information is yet at hand, but it has been announced that Derek Ford of McMaster University is leading a week-long field trip in the major karst areas of the Canadian Rockies beginning August 1, 1972, in association with an International Geographic Congress to be held in Canada at approximately the same time as the NSS convention at White Salmon. Details will be reported as available.

* * * * *

Steve Knutson has been appointed Conservation Chairman for the NW Region by regional chairman Charley Larson. He requests your comments and suggestions regarding conservation especially as it relates to government agencies. Wonder if he can get snowmobiles banned west of Forest Service road N83. Yr editor was almost run down a half dozen times last time we hiked into Ape Cave in the winter.

On the subject of conservation, if the Forest Service maintains the boundaries of the proposed Mt. St. Helens Recreation Area as presently drawn in the lava caves area, it will be a pleasant surprise to NW cavers and other conservationists alike. No comment here on the proposed boundaries farther north.

* * * * *

Rumor has it that the Gem State Grotto has a special use permit for Redfish Cave, on the Idaho side of Hells Canyon and has installed a temporary gate. Hope it works.

* * * * *

New figure for the length of the main passage of Ape Cave is 3,400 meters, according to Ron Greeley of NASA. This calculates out at 11,155 feet; dunno how far he went down the crawl at the lower end. His map also is missing the side passage we overlooked on the first big mapping expedition.

Backlog of reports from Tom Miller in eastern Washington

On Christmas day, Tom plus Bruce Ainslie, Chris Beckman, Gary Till and Larry Garner snowshoed to Papoose Cave, spending a little less than three days in the cave. They had planned a week's stay, but were overloaded and had to rest and reorganize on the first effort to reach the cave. They followed the road, rappelling the cliff rather than following the summer route. The first night was spent in Dung-ho Cave but it was around zero and subsequently they camped in the large room above the 15-foot pit. They observed that at this point, there was a fluctuation of several degrees close to the freezing point, with freezing of the cave earth each night and thawing with daylight. Some small seasonal ice speleothems were noted closer to the entrance; condensed water on the walls and ceiling by the entrance had created a "snowball" effect.

Despite the surface conditions, a stream was encountered just below the 15-foot (Tom calls it 20-foot) pit and in the usual places thereafter; oddly enough it seemed larger than on other trips. A strong breeze emerged from the entrance at all times. (Where is the lower entrance???? - ed) The trip was cut short by the illness of one of the party; access to the main part of the cave was by the "dry 50" and no problems were encountered.

Tom has a good lead on some caves near Colville; one is said to be in the Old Dominion Mine west of Colville, "at least" 2-300 feet long. The other is at stream level near the Columbia River.

Last summer Tom visited several caves worth recording so that no one will have to check them out in the future. One is a large cavity in metamorphics of the Challis volcanics, located in section 26, T21N, R12E, marked on the Vinegar Hill Quadrangle. The entrance is about 40 feet by 30 feet wide, and the cave enlarged inside to a height and width of about 50 feet. The bedrock is a very crumbly green material with compression folds. Just west of the entrance are caves about 20 and 30 feet long; the former contained remains of a large animal. These caves are in the Idaho Primitive Area, near the point where Cave DCreek joins Big Creek.

Two other caves which he visited are also in the Challis volcanics. These are on the south side of the Salmon River two or three miles downstream from Salmon Falls and about 300 yards upstream from Barth Hot Springs. The larger one is visible from the river and the other is a bit farther upstream; the larger one is about 40 feet wide at the entrance and 60 or 70 feet high throughout.

Tom visited Albright Cave last summer and attempted to check a rumor one mile NE of that cave but was refused access. Can't blame that on poor land-owner relations; first time anyone from organized caving has ever been there. Heard rumors of pits near Toroda Creek and Curlew; dog supposedly lost in one. Also a rumor of a mine with "lots" of caves in it. They had quite a time in the lower reaches of Papoose on their Labor Day trip; emerged only minutes before their support team was to leave to get a rescue party organized.

* * * * *

For sale - 60' length of 7/16" goldline. Contact yr editor. EA 47474.



VULCANOSPELEOLOGICAL ABSTRACT

Collapse features of the Jornada Lava Field, New Mexico. 67th annual meeting of the Cordilleran Section, Geological Society of America, Mar. 24-27, 1971.

About 400 km² of Holocene olivine basalts were erupted from vents at and around Jornada Crater, lying about 50 km south of Socorro, New Mexico. Most of the lavas are equally disposed for about 10 km surrounding a small founder volcano of the Masaya type. The primal Jornada volcano, about 2 km in diameter, suffered a two-stage collapse with attendant loss of about 2/3 of its height. An oval outcrop of flank eruptives is suggestive of ring fracturing. Linears on the surface of the lava field indicate that controlling volcano-tectonic features are present in the basement. Associated with the crater are four exogenous domes, a small volcanic subsidende pit, and three lava tubes. One of the tubes, exposed for about 2 km, is at least 9 km long, with an original width as large as 13-20 meters.

Major lava flows, made up of individual flow units, are distinguished by the presence of absence of collapse depressions, and by relative surface roughness. The smooth-surfaced units, bearing collapse depressions, are characteristically crystal-damaged and porphyritic to a greater degree than their more viscous counterparts.

-- Allen W. Hatheway.

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