

Cascade Caver

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Cascade Caver

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Additional family membership	\$1.50

Cascade Grotto

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- Mailing Address** Cascade Grotto; P.O. Box 75663; Seattle, WA 98125-0663.
- Monthly Meetings** Regular grotto meetings are held monthly at 7:00 pm on the third Friday of each month at the University of Washington, Room 6, in the basement of Johnson Hall.
- Business meetings** Business meetings are held on the first Monday of even-numbered months at 7:00 p.m. The location varies so contact a grotto officer for specifics.
- Dues** Members and subscribers please note the date on your mailing label that indicates when your dues expire.
- Dropped:** Dan McFeeley, Skip Murray, John Burns, Chuck Crandell, Richard Smith, Boyd Benson, Bob Brown, Dan Montoya
- Overdue:** Jerome Gunsalus, John Dickson, Eugene Kiver, Kevin Bagley, Mark Bagley, Robert Stitt, Dick Garnick, Howard Hoyt.
- Due:** Richard James, Keith Schoonover, Marty Verbarendse, Sue Brenner.
- Coming Up:** John Day, Robert Martin, Mark Sherman, Art Tasker, Scott Williams, John Benson, Phillip Erickson, Dave Klinger, Mike Wagner.

Cover

The cover drawing shows Carol Vesely in Cerro Blanco Cave, Mexico. Drawn by Linda Heslop from a photo by Carol.

Upcoming Events; September Grotto Meeting; October Business Meeting; Materials Received; Northwest Caving Association; Treasurer's Report

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Upcoming Events

Here is our current list of planned and proposed trips. Call the trip leader or Jim Harp, grotto trip coordinator, for more information. Anyone with other trip ideas is also welcome to contact Jim at 745-1010.

OCTOBER

20 GROTTO MEETING

NOVEMBER

17 GROTTO MEETING

18 CRF field trip to Lave Bed National Monument in northern California. Contact Rod Crawford well in advance for details. Nov 18-25.

DECEMBER

15 Grotto Christmas Party - No regular meeting this month.

1990

NSS Convention in Mt. Shasta, CA; NCA Regional in Utah (tentative); Pryor Mountain Caves project (tentative); NCRI Jewel Cave Project

1991

NSS Convention in Cobleskill, NY; NCA Regional in Idaho (tentative).

September Grotto Meeting

The September meeting at the U.W. was sparsely attended but a couple of new faces were there. Dan O'Neil has just moved from the East Coast, Connecticut I think. Chet Hedden has been here a while and is a

veteran of this year's Jewel Cave Project but was attending his first grotto meeting.

Rob Lewis reported on the BC Speleofest which Jerry Thompson also covers in his trip report in this issue.

Mark Wilson noted that the Sept. 23 trip to Newton was scheduled by Mike Wagner and that Mark and several others are also planning to go.

October Business Meeting

The October Business meeting was even more sparsely attended. Only three people showed up. The upcoming elections and the grotto Christmas party were the two items of business reported. \$50.00 was voted to Mark Wilson for Christmas party refreshments.

Materials Received

The following material has been received by the Grotto in addition to the usual exchange publications and NSS material.

Position Statement on the proposed Smoke Timber Sale (1991). Dated 12/27/88. This 5600-acre area near Trout Lake, WA, appears to just miss Deadhorse Cave but contains a number of other caves. From WRH.

Position Statement on the proposed Elf Timber Sale (1992). Dated 12/27/88. This 6640-acre area near Trout Lake, WA, touches on the Peterson Prairie Campground and includes "three major caves including Pickings Cave." The proposal also mentions the opportunity of

developing Big Cave as an interpretive site. From WRH.

Letter to Mount Adams Ranger District from W.R. Halliday about above proposals and the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act. From WRH.

Questionnaire from the NSS Conservation Committee soliciting grotto attitudes about bats.

Description of proposed 4,114-acre Lobo timber sale (1991). Area contains several caves with possibility of bat populations, according to the report, but none are within the actual cutting areas. The plan area consists of a bunch of little patches southwest of Trout Lake, WA and southeast of the Peterson Prairie Campground.

- From the Mt. Adams Ranger District.

Treasurer's Report

The following is the Treasurer's report for the period beginning January 1 and ending September 30, 1989.

Activity has been typical of the last few years with the exception of the income from selling the unused mimeograph and liquidating the Grotto stores.

Note that the NCRI donation shown below has not been approved yet.

INCOME	
Dues	303.50
Interest on savings account	12.91
Sale of Grotto property	154.12
Total Income	470.53
EXPENSES	
Cascade Caver	122.00
Checking account fees	8.90
Library	15.00
Post Office box	28.00
Programs	40.00
Total Expenses	213.90
GAIN	256.63
Beginning balance Jan 1,1989	531.66
Ending Balance Sept 30,1989	788.29
OUTSTANDING INCOME	
Unpaid dues as of 9/30/89	120.00
Total	120.00
OUTSTANDING DEBTS	
Cascade Caver	0.00
Jewel Cave Project donation	50.00
Christmas Party	50.00
Total	100.00

Northwest Caving Association

The NCA held an executive board meeting at its regional gathering last May. Business included admitting the Willamette Valley Grotto, the NCRI Jewel Cave Project, election of new officers, and the location of the 1990 regional meeting.

The meeting was held on May 29, 1989, with Dave Klinger acting as chairman. All grottos except Wasatch were represented but none of the elected NCA officers were present.

The Willamette Valley Grotto had previously submitted a request to join the NCA. This request was unanimously approved. The board also approved the donation of \$100 to the NCRI 1989 Jewel Cave Project.

Dale Green offered on behalf of the joint Utah grottos to host the 1990 regional meeting in their general area subject to finding a suitable camping area.

Officers were elected for the 1989-1990 year and included Ben Tompkins, Chairman; Dave Klinger, Vice Chairman; John Baz-Dresch, Secretary; and Phil Whitfield, Treasurer.

The board closed by expressing its thanks to the Oregon Grotto for hosting the regional meet, to Bob Brown and Steve Sprague for providing meals from the NCRI chuck wagon, and to the outgoing officers.

FREE! Grotto Library to Good Home

Larry McTigue is moving out of state! In addition to losing Larry and all his contributions to the Grotto, we now have one homeless grotto book and newsletter library. Chuck Crandell is boarding the library temporarily. If you have a little free space, please contact Mark Wilson or Chuck Crandell.

Grotto Christmas Party

The Grotto Christmas party is in the planning. It will be held at Howard Hoyt's house on December 15, replacing the December regular Grotto meeting. Contact Mark Wilson for details.

Grotto Elections Coming Up

The November Grotto Meeting is probably the most important meeting of the year because it is there that nominations are made for the grotto officers for the next year. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary-Treasurer are elected by the members and then all other Grotto offices are appointed by the Chairman.

These people shape the grotto. Think about what you'd like to see happen in the next year and look around for people who will actively guide the grotto in that direction.

Newton Cave location update

Jeff Forbes' maps of Newton Cave were mentioned in Ray's Review in the September *NSS News*. The cave seems to be located a little to the east of its previously established location, now being in West Virginia instead of Washington. The next Grotto trip to the Ridge should verify this discrepancy.

The Clayoquot Plateau Speleofest

Jerry Thompson

August 5-12; Participants: Brian Bischoff, Dale Chase, Steve Grundy, Ron Kozan, Olivia Whitwell, Chris Robson, Weza Gleave, Jim Jacek, Mike Tremblay (came up for one day only), Angus Shand, Martin Davis, Art Peters and Dave Pichard, both from Calgary, Norman Flux (from Sheffield, England), and two Yankees, Rob Lewis and Jerry Thompson.

After a rendezvous at the West Winds Pub at Port Alberni late in the evening of August fourth most participants made their way to a remote logging road to the southwest where the group was to meet the helicopter the next morning. On waking to clouds and fog a party went out to request that the flight be delayed until noon. The fly-in went smoothly taking only a little longer than expected.

Day one was spent setting up camp and casing the area near camp. On day two, groups were organized to scout several different areas. The efforts on day three were concentrated on three caves discovered the second day. They would be called Gusting Cave, Ice Follies Cave and The Gaborator.

On day four, a group linked a cave found by Jeff Forbes to Cold Rock To Go Cave. A cave near the western resurgence was relocated. On the fifth day rains started in the morning and only one group ventured underground. They worked on extending Gusting Cave.

The sixth day saw 250 meters added to Phreatic Follies. Ice Follies and No Hike Mike Caves were also extended. There was nice weather for the flight out and a fine dinner at the West Winds Pub capped off a productive week of caving.

The Big Island, Hawaii

William R. Halliday, M.D.

On Friday March 17, 1989, I flew to Honolulu, then on to Hilo early the next morning. Initially we missed connections with Marlin Spike Werner, of Flint Ridge fame, but he caught up with Fred Stone and myself just as we were about to enter Pahoa Cave. This is a particularly important cave relatively little of it appears vulnerable to the increasing urbanization of the Hilo subdivisions and there is a good chance of protecting it

in its underground wilderness state. The protection of this cave is a priority of the Hawaii Caves Conservation Task Force of the NSS.

The next day we made the "death march" to Apua Cave, visited by Kevin Allred ten years ago and well described in the *Cascade Caver*. We were pleased to find it entirely free of vandalism and even the accidental breakage was clearly trivial. The "death March", however, was all that it was rumored to be, in part because I insisted in looking for the cave in the wrong place. We covered some 15 miles and hiked in the dark for the last hour.

Monday was recovery day but I drove over to Kona and photographed the marvelous assortment of surface tube forms exposed in road cuts south of Kialua. On the 21st, Fred was unable to get out of teaching but Spike and I met with NPS staff about implementation of the new federal cave act. They will be revising their cave management plan accordingly. In the afternoon we visited the tiny but pretty Uilana cave in one of the threatening subdivisions.

On Wednesday Spike and I relocated Ainahou Ranch Cave for the National Park Service. They knew where it was all right, but they just can't find it. We checked out the first 15 minutes down-tube from the upper entrance and found mostly walking cave with good flow features and red granular lava - maybe ash - exposed by lateral breakdown as in Ape Cave. The part we saw would make a good wild caving experience if the considerable biological values of the cave permit. Jim and Libby Nieland of the Oregon Grotto have seen the rest of the cave and report many interesting features.

We then visited a tube that was sort of anti-climactic, even though it was still steaming vigorously. It is in a comparatively recent steam vent area near the Chain of Craters road and may be explorable to some degree. It was late in the day and we didn't try.

On our last day, Spike and I flew over the Puu Ol flows again for comparative documentation photos. Flowing lava was seen at one new window in mid-flow, as well as on the surface farther down flow. Much more needed to be done but I had to get to Honolulu for some Continuing Medical Education. There is always another time for Hawaii!

Silver Lake Deposit #2

Larry McTigue

Rob Lewis and I decided to check out the Silver Lake Deposit #2, one of the rumors on my list that was published in the August 1989 issue of the *Cascade Caver*.

On August 26, after several false starts, we finally found a logging road that would bring us close to the deposit without having to trespass on private property. We parked at the end of a spur road and eventually found a horse trail going in the right direction, avoiding

a cross-country bush-whack through nettles, sticker bushes, and devil's club.

The trail lead to a stream which we could then follow down the canyon to the deposit. We crossed over the stream and stayed above it to avoid the sticker bushes. After hiking through the woods for quite a while we finally came upon the deposit.

We found the limestone talus mentioned by W. R. Danner in his *Limestone Resources of Western Washington*, but never did find his tufa-depositing stream. We didn't have any luck finding a cave either. Oh, well, we enjoyed the sunshine.

Newton Cave

Mark Sherman

On September 30, I meet Chuck Crandell, Jim Nelson, Mike Wagoner, and Mark Wilson at Factoria for the drive up to Snoqualmie Pass. We got to the Alpental parking lot at 7:30 and spent the next hour and a half making the long trudge up to Cave Ridge.

When we got to the Newton Cave entrance we meet up with four people from the Bremerton area who were looking for Hellhole cave. One of them had just recently moved out here from the East Coast where he had done a fair amount of caving.

We were in Newton by 10:00, headed for the bottom of the "Other Way" which is a series of drops mapped by Jeff Forbes and Rob and Mike Lewis last year (see *Cascade Caver* Vol. 28 No. 3). I hadn't been in Newton for probably 6 years so I had forgotten that it only takes about 15 or 20 minutes to get to the 40-ft. Bolt Pitch, it always seemed so much farther. The fifty foot rope which we used on this pitch made it down to a ledge about four feet off of the floor. This wouldn't have been any big deal except that there was still some water flowing over the drop, hitting right on the ledge where the rope ended. Everybody made a quick descent and then got off the ledge in a hurry.

We then started down the passage towards the Water Well, looking for the side passage that went to the Other Way. We found the tight little crack that Rob Lewis had told us about and proceeded to wiggle through. Mark Wilson got stuck going through and had to try a second time. He finally made it through after exhaling. Chuck got a good laugh over this because Mark's eyes were bulging out of his head and it looked like he was going to explode.

From this point on the cave passage got extremely muddy and it started dropping like a rock, in more ways than one. Every time someone moved they kicked lots of loose rock down on those in front. This made it really slow going because safe places to hide while the cavers behind were moving got few and far between. The second drop, another 40' pitch was rigged and

everyone descended it, then traversing a rotten ledge over to the top of the 88 foot Monument Drop.

The Monument Drop is a real nice rappel except for a couple things; the first third is up against a wall with lots of loose rock, this ends on a small ledge with lots more rock. From this point on it is a free rappel in the water. The bottom of the drop is the bottom of the cave and there is barely enough room for 3 people to hide out of the way of falling rocks. Unfortunately, there were five of us and Mark Wilson took a direct hit on the helmet by one boulder. Luckily he didn't sustain any new damage.

From this point there was only one way out so up we went without any further incidents. At the Water Well we met up with two other people who were on their way in, using our ropes. Luckily for them they didn't go down the Water Well, which had been rigged by someone previously and left in place, or we probably would have gone right past them and pulled our rope without realizing that they were still in the cave.

Back at the Bolt Pitch we paid the price for using the short rope. We had to stand on the ledge under the waterfall to rig our ascending gear onto the rope. We were just lucky that there wasn't much water flowing.

Once back on the surface we pointed out to the people who used our rope their error and then headed down the mountain. We got back to our car just at dark and head to North Bend for pizza and beer.

"... In the mountains I used to flee the deep valleys for the passes and plateaus; I was the man of the mesas at least. If fate had forced me to choose between work at a lathe or as a roofer, don't worry, I'd have chosen the roofs and become acquainted with dizziness. Coalbins, ships' holds, undergrounds, grottoes, pits were repulsive to me.. I had even developed a special loathing for speleologists, who had the nerve to fill the front page of our newspapers, and whose records nauseated me. striving to reach elevations minus eight hundred at the risk of getting one's head caught in a rocky funnel (a siphon, as those fools say!) seemed to me the exploit of perverted or traumatized characters. There was something criminal underlying it.

"A natural balcony fifteen hundred feet above a sea still visible bathed in sunlight, on the other hand, was the place where I could breathe most freely, especially if I were alone, well above the human ants..." - from *The Fall* by Albert Camus, out of the *Cascade Caver*, v14 p43.