



JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1992

VOLUME 31 NO. 1-2

ISSN 0008-7211

Cascade Caver

Newsletter of the Cascade Grotto of the National Speleological Society



CASCADE CAVER

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Subscriptions, renewals, and address changes should be sent to the Grotto: c/o Greg Hollenbeck, Treasurer, 21307 E Lost Lk Rd, Snohomish, WA 98290

Exchange publications, material for publication, and other correspondence concerning the CASCADE CAVER should be sent to the Editor, Larry McTigue, 2713 Meadow Ave N, Renton, WA 98056

CASCADE GROTTTO - Regular grotto meetings are held monthly at 7:00pm on the third Friday of each month at the University of Washington, Room 6, in the basement of Johnson Hall. Business meetings are held on odd-numbered months immediately following the regular grotto meeting.

Chair Steve Sprague.....(206)652-6489
Vice/Chair Howard Hoyt.....(206)782-4567
Sec/Treas Greg Hollenbeck.....(206)668-7578
Editor Larry McTigue.....(206)850-8614
Mail Addr P.O. Box 75663, Seattle, WA 98125-0663
Dues Regular (incl. subscription): \$10.00
Additional household members each: \$2.00,
Associate memberships: \$10.00, Subscriptions
are also: \$10.00.

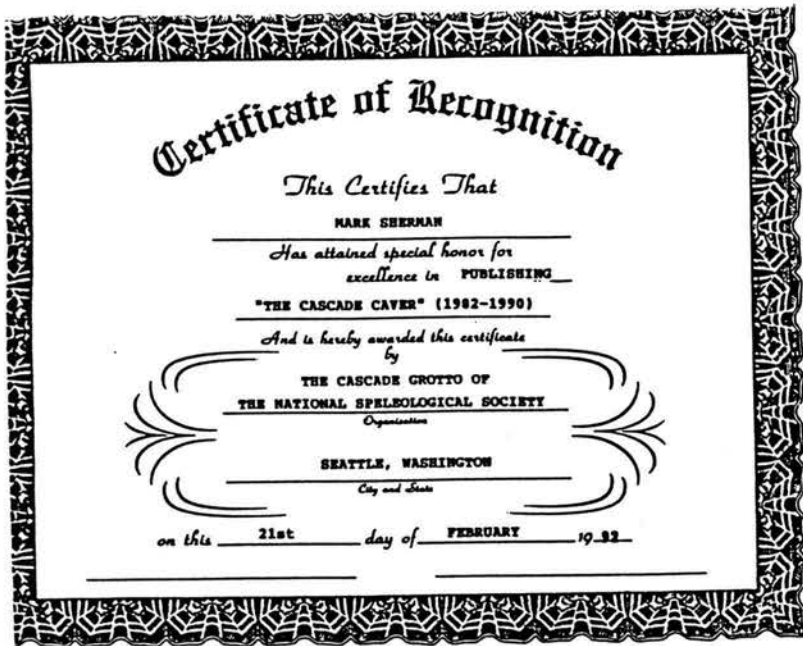
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(Note- As you can see from the new format and degraded appearance, a new editor has taken over the task of publishing this newsletter. He even volunteered. (Sucker!) I guess I'm just a glutton for punishment. But, aren't all cavers masochists?!)

1992 UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE		COORDINATOR
..B (14-17)	-ELY, NEVADA TRIP (GOSCHUTE, WHIPPLE & OTHER DESERT CAVES)	JOHN BENSON
FEB 21	-GROTTO MEETING	
MAR 20	-GROTTO MEETING/BUSINESS MEETING	
MAR 21	-HARP'S TREE (VERTICAL ROPE PRACTISE)	JIM HARP
APR 17	-GROTTO MEETING	
MAY 15	-GROTTO MEETING/BUSINESS MEETING	
MAY (22-25)	-NORTHWEST CAVING REGIONAL CONVENTION HOSTED BY GEM STATE & MAGIC VALLEY GROTTOS MEMORIAL DAY WEEK-END (MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!) (SOUTH-CENTRAL, IDAHO) EASY DRIVE TO SUN VALLEY RESORT & CRATERS OF THE MOON N M (HEART OF IDAHO CAVE COUNTRY) FEATURING PERHAPS THE LONGEST U. S. LAVA TUBE AT 2½ MILES & STILL GOING!! ALSO, IDAHO'S FAMOUS "LIMESTONE" LAVA TUBE / FOR MORE INFO & CAMPGROUND LOCATION, SEE "NEWS & NOTES" ON PG 25 OF THE JAN '92 <u>NSS NEWS</u>	STEVE SPRAGUE (WASH) DAVE KESNER (IDA)
JUN 19	-GROTTO MEETING	
MID-JUL/MID-AUG	-(POWIE VI) PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND EXPEDITION #6 (SOUTHEAST ALASKA) "SEE HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE OF THE <u>CAVER</u> " EL CAPITAN PIT/DEEPEST IN U.S. AT 598ft SNOWHOLE RANKS 3RD IN U.S. AT 448ft EL CAPITAN CAVE HAS 10,190ft OF SURVEYED PASSAGES / 96 NEW CAVES WERE DISCOVERED IN A 6 MONTH PERIOD IN 1991/50 WERE SURVEYED FOR A TOTAL OF 18,000ft CONTACT KEVIN ALLRED, PO BOX 376, HAINES, ALASKA 99827 OR, LOCALLY, CONTACT DAVE KLINGER, LEAVENWORTH, WASH	KEVIN ALLRED (ALASKA) DAVE KLINGER (WASH)
JUL 17	-GROTTO MEETING/BUSINESS MEETING	
END OF JULY	-NCRI PROJECT AT JEWEL CAVE	GENE SMITH (ORE)
1ST WEEK AUG	-NCRI PROJECT IN PRYOR MTNS OF MONTANA	BEN TOMPKINS (WASH)
AUG 3-7	-NSS CONVENTION, SALEM, INDIANA	
AUG 21	-GROTTO MEETING	
SEP 4-7	-PAPOOSE CAVE ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS LABOR DAY WEEK-END (MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!) MINI-REGIONAL (RIGGINS, IDAHO)	JIM HARP



The original certificates (printed on parchment paper) of the above photocopies are being presented to Mark Sherman and Ben Tompkins for their nearly 10 yrs. of service as editors of the "CASCADE CAVER". Although they were critized from time to time for editorial decisions as to what to print and not to print, I think we all have to agree, they put a lot of time and effort into making it a high quality and professional-looking publication. The following is a short, incomplete history of some of their accomplishments:

-Mark's reign as editor began in 1982, a period famous for the Jerry Thornton cartoons he included in the "CAVER". Jerry continued to supply Mark with cartoons until early 1985.

-Ben was Mark's temporary assistant editor when he helped with the publication of the Sept.-Dec. 1983 newsletter. This was the first issue they printed using "footers" at the bottom of each page with the name of the newsletter, issue date and page#. In early 1984, Ben became permanent assistant editor and full-fledged co-editor with Mark in late 1986. Together Mark and Ben worked as a team, until retiring in 1990 and 1991, respectively.

-In Oct. 1984, they started using double-column pages giving the "CAVER" a more professional-look. Also, about this time or, shortly thereafter, they were using a laser-printer which helped to enhance the quality. I hope to be using double columns eventually, myself.

-The Jan.-Feb. 1985 issue marked another milestone and step-forward when Ben included a 3 yr. index to the (1982-1984) issues. Indexing the "CAVER" has continued, since then, facilitating reference and research work.

-The cover of the May 1985 newsletter was the first to have a drawing by Linda Heslop, a Canadian caver from Vancouver Island. This began a long association with Linda which has continued to the present.

Many of her illustrations have won awards and world-wide recognition, among the caving community.

-In Nov. 1986, they began a series of experimentation using different font sizes and styles for the cover title logo. I am sure there are other significant changes Mark and Ben made over the years to improve the appearance of our newsletter which I have failed to make note of here.

In addition to these certificates, Jim Harp, on behalf of the Cascade Grotto, presented Mark and Ben with a pair of T-shirts at the Grotto Christmas Party in December, as a token of our appreciation. On the front of each was printed Linda Heslop's beautiful color drawing of the Gypsum Chandeliers in Lechuguilla Cave (a black & white copy of which is on our front cover this month).

After struggling the last few weeks trying to put out my first issue of the "CAVER", I can testify it is no small under-taking. Especially since, I've had two separate computers and two separate electronic typewriter/wordprocessors break down on me during that time. Thanks again, Mark and Ben, from all of us, for a job well done!!!

GROTTO NOTES

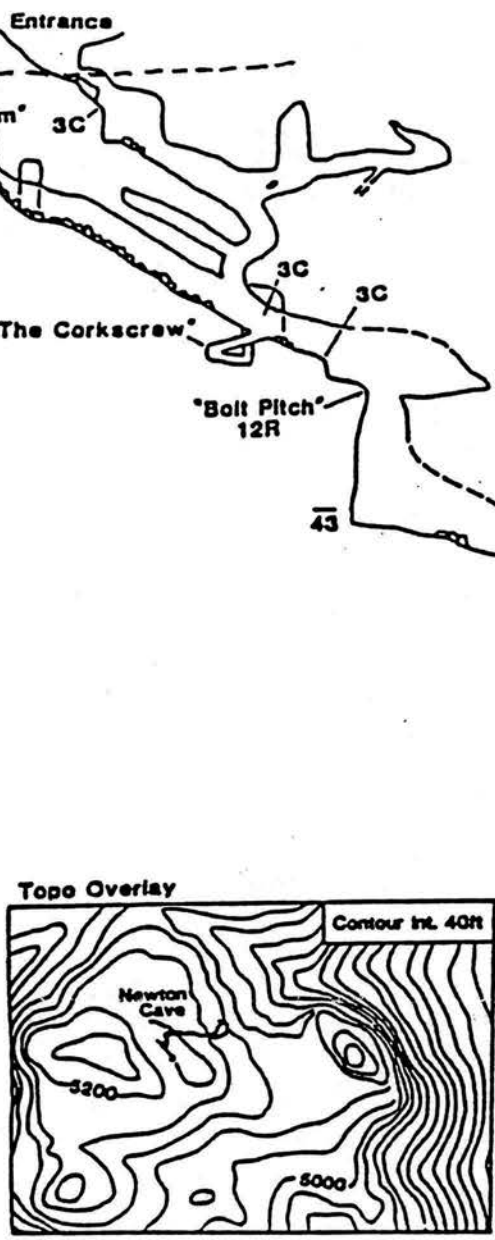
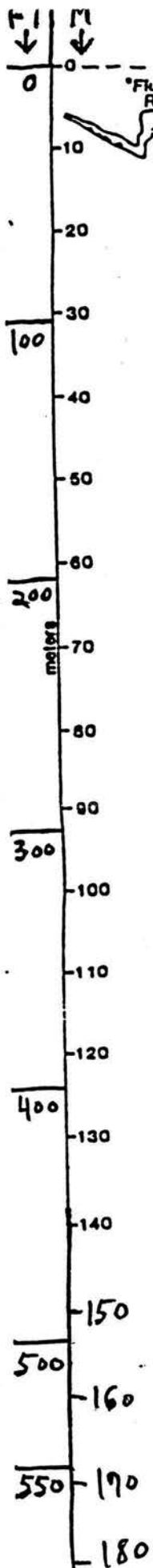
January Grotto Meeting

BUSINESS-(New Officers for 1992) Steve Sprague was elected Grotto Chair, Howard Hoyt, Vice/Chair and Greg Hollenbeck is the new Sec./Treas. As the new Chair, Steve Sprague spent some time discussing future programs and activities the members would like to have organized for this new year. He solicited feedback from those in attendance. New Editor for the "CASCADE CAVER" is (guess who?) Larry McTigue. (No one else would volunteer, including me!) When asked, they all took a step backwards leaving me out in front. Ha!

TRIP REPORTS-Mention was made of an ill-fated trip to Dynamited Cave by Mike Compton and two new cavers who came to the Grotto Mtg. The three of them had the unfortunate luck of running into a group from Charlie Anderson's Puget Sound Grotto who were vertically-inexperienced. A suggestion was made to invite Charlie's group to our meetings and some rope practises to help get them vertically-proficient. Good idea! Mike Compton said he would invite them.

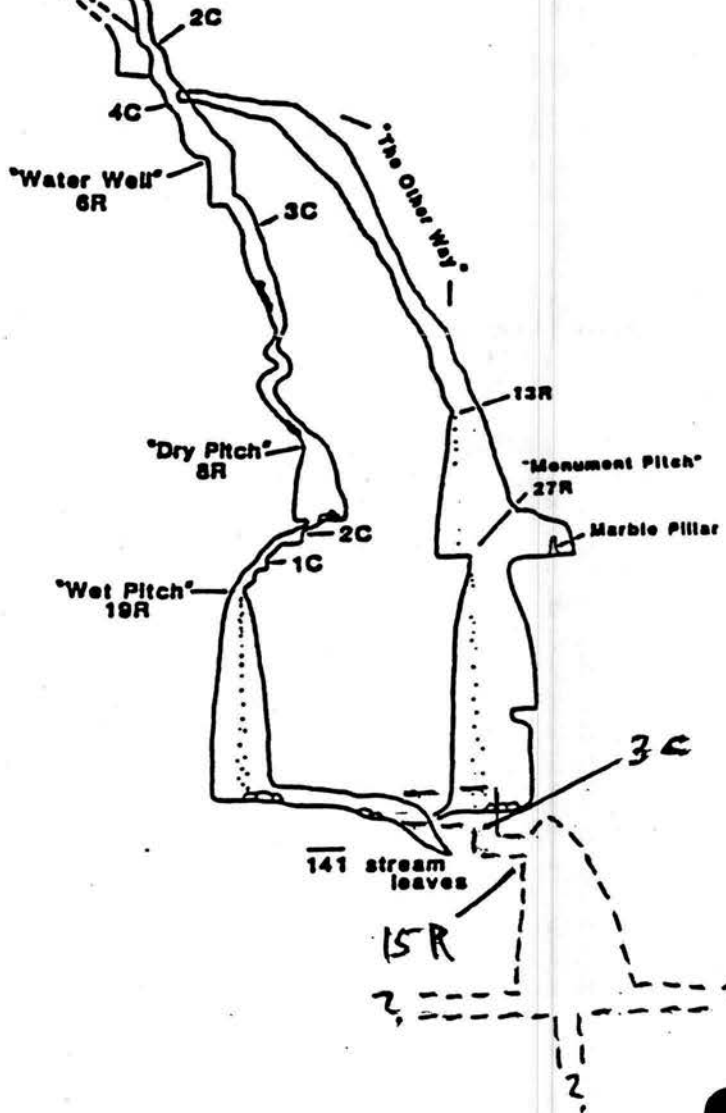
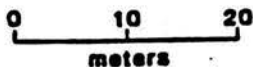
TRIP PLANNING-Jim Harp wasn't at the Jan. mtg. because he decided to goof off and have some fun exploring the lava tube caves at Mt. St. Helens after resigning as Sec./Treas. Also, he asked me to announce a trip to the limestone caves near Ely, Nevada. He and John Benson planned to go "THERE" on Feb.14-17 instead of coming to the Feb. Grotto Mtg! (What low-lives!!) AS soon as I get this darn newsletter printed, I'm going caving too! (So there!!) Chuck Crandell wasn't able to make the Jan. mtg. either but, asked me to mention a rope practise he planned to have the following day (Sat. Jan.18th) at the Ravenna Bridge. Jim Harp will have another rope practise on March 21st in the big Douglas Fir tree he has in his front yard. It has a tree-house and he usually rigs several ropes at various heights on different branches around the tree. It's great for practising new climbing systems and technics. I know, I've tried it. Trust me!!

PROGRAM-We had an N.S.S. slide show on Honey Creek Cave, Texas. At over 20 miles in length, it is Texas' longest cave. A very long and wet stream cave. You need a wet-suit and swim fins for this one.



**Newton Cave
King Co., Washington**

Profile Looking North



NEWTON CAVE OVER 500 FT DEEP, "AGAIN" !!!
by Larry McTigue

"I suppose it's every cave surveyor's nightmare....After the cold, miserable mapping trips, and long hours of manipulating data, drafting, and lettering, you finally publish your finished cave map. A map you can really be proud of! Then the phone rings. Rob Lewis is on the other end, calmly informing you that you've overlooked a major cave passage, one that leads to a deep shaft, and quite possibly deepens the cave."

The above quote is from the opening paragraph of an article written by Jeff Forbes in the March 1989 Cascade Caver. In it, he reported the discovery of another series of pits in Newton Cave. The new route was found "after" he had already gone to the trouble of exploring and surveying the "old" cave. He titled his original article, "NEWTON CAVE- The Definitive Survey", which was published in the October 1986 Cascade Caver. His intended purpose was not only to provide us with an accurate map but, also to verify or disprove the claimed depth of 500 ft shown on the U.S. Deep Caves List. Jeff's original 1986 survey showed Newton to be less than 500 ft thus dropping it off the list.

With the discovery of additional cave, a new survey trip and map were needed. He dutifully joined Rob and others on another trudge up Cave Ridge to explore and map the new route. Subsequently, he wrote a report with the new map, along with the first paragraph quoted above, in his March 1989 article. He titled it, "Newton Cave - The More Definitive Survey". Although no new depth record was attained, the new series of pits were parallel to and nearly connected at the bottom with the old pit series. (See Jeff's map included with this article.) After all this, Jeff finally felt he had finished off Newton once and for all. So, he promptly moved to New Mexico and forgot all about it.

He even made the following statements in his 1986 article: "The prospects for extending the depth at the bottom are not good. The water leaves via a narrow gravel-choked canyon which shows no sign of opening up. This point may well be near the contact of the marble with the surrounding volcanic rocks. And so the glory days of Newton are gone. With a depth of 141 meters it will no longer qualify for the List of Deep Caves, the cut off being 150 meters. Crossing caves off the Deep Caves List is a thankless job, but someone has to do it." Little did he know that Rob Lewis would once again visit the cave and make a startling new discovery....

On Oct. 12, 1991, Rob and I decided to do a bottoming trip into Newton. This was my first trip down Newton's pits, though I had been in the upper passageways on several previous occasions. Since I had never seen them before, we decided to go down the old series of pits. At the top of the last drop, we spent some time digging open a crawlway into the base of a dome which Rob's brother, Ron had noticed on a previous trip. A vertical wedge-shaped slab of rock was in the way but, I was able to push it over and roll it out of the crawl. The passage opened up into the bottom of a dome about 10 ft. in diameter and 15-20 ft. high. Rob climbed up 10 ft. or so but, it didn't appear to go anywhere.

It should be noted at this point, since it hasn't been mentioned before, that it was also Rob's brother, Ron, who rediscovered the 2nd series of pits going to the bottom of Newton that required Jeff to re-do his "DEFINITIVE" survey. Ron's find was not virgin as evidenced

by a piece of carpet which was obviously used as a rope pad. This new route confirmed old claims made by members of the now defunct Xanadu Grotto that they had pioneered this new way to the bottom of Newton back in the '70's. No one in the Cascade Grotto took them seriously, at the time, considering it merely a wild rumor or tall tale.

Retreating back to the main passage, Rob rigged the final pit, so we could descend. Upon reaching the bottom of the pit, we both commented on the fact that it seemed a much deeper drop than the 60 ft (or 19 meters) Jeff used on his map. It felt like the 80 ft listed on older, less accurate (?) maps made by previous Grotto members whose survey data is now lost or unavailable. We plan to re-measure it to see for ourselves that it's only 60 ft. Perhaps, it's a bit more.

It was at this point, I realized Rob, himself, had never been down this last drop. "Haven't you ever been down this pit before?", I asked. "No" was his reply. He and his brothers had explored every other nook and cranny even finding new passages no one else had reported. But, like a lot of other people, he had been told the cave ended at the base of this pit. So, he never bothered to go to the extra trouble and weight of packing another 100 foot rope up Cave Ridge and dragging it down nearly 500 ft vertically just to see the end of the cave. Besides, we trusted Jeff's expert opinion! He said any extension of the cave at the bottom looked hopeless!! After such a dismal prediction by Jeff, I hadn't planned on more than a quick look around and then heading right back up and out of the cave. I did bring some small digging tools in the unlikely event the tight gravel-choked crawl at the bottom wasn't as hopeless as everyone said.

Imagine our surprize when, instead of a gravel-choked crawl, we found a flat horizontal passage heading off the base of the pit into uncharted territory!! Hopeless indeed!! And to think Jeff called this his "MOST" Definitive Survey!?! I wonder if he mapped any caves back in his home state of Indiana? Hmm?? Indiana cavers take note. You may want to double check any caves mapped by one Jeff Forbes. Rob and I consider Jeff to be a good friend and caving companion but, we couldn't resist this opportunity to do a little ribbing and roast him on this one slight over-sight!!

As soon as Rob saw "going passage", he took off like a bat out of hell. While he was gone, I investigated the vertical rift that bisects this passage. There are leads going both up and down in the rift. Since I like to dig and there were rocks and dirt clogging some of the leads going down, I decided to go in that direction first. After moving a lot of rock and seeing still more ahead, I decided to leave this for later and try my luck on the climbs in the ceiling of the rift. Just as I was beginning to climb up in a promising looking one, I could hear Rob coming back. As soon as we made voice contact, he began hootin' and hollerin' about a big new deep pit he came across up ahead. From the sound and excitement in his voice, I could tell it was a significant find. Rob "never" gets excited, unless it's a major discovery!! (Note- Needless to say, I wasn't able to check the lead in the upper rift but, Rob returned a week later and entered the base of a large dome there. Other leads remain to be checked in this area.)

With Rob's insistant urging, I climbed back down to the horizontal crawl that follows the rift and began inching my way toward him on my belly. I wouldn't be totally fair with Jeff, if I didn't admit "the way on" looked like it narrowed, up ahead, and seemed too tight to

negotiate even for me. But, Rob got thru and with a little coaxing from him, so did I. It turns out to be an optical illusion!! The distance is great enough to make the parallel walls at the far end appear to converge together. But, they really don't!! It was necessary, once out of the crawl, to negotiate a 3 meter climb-down to access the next squeezeway leading to the big pit.

I lost track of direction, as we followed the meandering stream-passage which brings you to the pit. Once there, Rob warned me not to touch a large meter-square slab of limestone setting precariously at the edge of the drop. Though only about 6 inches thick, it stood nearly 3 ft. tall blocking the lower half of the karst window thru which we could view this good-sized pit. Rob had determined earlier, by tossing rocks, that there was a smaller pit in the center of the floor of the big one. So, he was worried, if the slab broke loose, it might block further exploration. We estimated the pit to be 40-60 ft. deep. At that point, we knew we would surpass even the 500 ft. depth "originally" claimed for Newton on the U.S. Deep Cave List which Jeff had so gleefully removed with his re-survey.

(I sketched in the new pit with dashed lines on Jeff's map showing its approximate location "as yet unsurveyed" and added a foot scale next to his meter scale. But, I left all his original map notations in meters including the ones I placed by the new pit.) Since we had no more rope, we had to turn back and head up and out of the cave, de-rigging the other pits as we went.

Rob returned, the following week-end, Oct. 20th with his brother, Mike, and Chuck Crandell, a former Arizona caver. (If we find anything really big, he knows how to keep secrets!!) They rigged the cave and dropped down to the new pit. After rigging it, Rob slowly rappelled down finding, as he did so, large pieces of the crumbly wall breaking away each time his boots touched them. He also took a hit on the top of his helmet from some that the rope loosened above him. The wall of the pit consists of a rotten metamorphic rock (perhaps mica-schist?) with large shattered slabs of it covering the floor of the pit as well. He guessed the drop to be 50 ft which is close to our previous estimate. On the bottom, he found more solid limestone in several leads going off in different directions!! The small pit in the center of the floor will have to have its lip gardened to remove the loose, crumbly slabs surrounding it, before exploration can continue in that lead.

Surveying the new pit and passages going off of it will require more effort and planning. Just getting there is a challenge. The survey and push trip will have to wait until next summer. Newton is at an elevation of about 5200 ft above sea level. Deep snows seal it shut during the winter. Even under the best of conditions, it rarely melts open before about July.

And so we wait.... wondering what one Jeff Forbes in Albuquerque, N.M. thought recently when the phone rang and the voice on the other end said, "Hi, this is Rob Lewis."

"I suppose it's every cave surveyor's nightmare...." (Jeff Forbes, you are now entering the "TWILIGHT ZONE".)

P.S. - On a more serious note, we do need to start organizing volunteers to help out on what will certainly be the deepest push trip ever attempted in the State of Washington. A lot of ropes, rigging,

extra food, emergency rescue gear and first-aid equipment, not to mention the surveying instruments, will have to be hauled up the ridge and then brought back down. Rob and I can't do it alone. In order to push the cave to its limits and use our time and energy most efficiently, we need your help. Anyone in good physical condition who would like to be a part of this project is encouraged to volunteer. We can use people both on the surface and down in the cave. Vertical experience will only be needed if you plan to help out deep within the cave.

Since the cave isn't gated, leaving the ropes rigged in the pits for the following week-end, if needed, may not be a good idea. Ron Haralson, a California caver, who moved here recently, was at the entrance to Newton the same day Rob and I were down inside making new discoveries. Mark Sherman met him there on the way back from leading a group into Hellhole Cave. A short time after Mark and his group left, Ron was joined by some Ft. Lewis soldiers who knew about the cave. Ron entered the cave with them but, when they reached the first pit he warned them not to attempt climbing down on the rope there since, they had no vertical gear. Rob had rigged my new 60 ft PMI on the drop which is 40 ft. The apparent leader of the group, a Green Beret, said it was no problem and began backing over the lip of the pit going hand over hand. Within seconds there was the sound of the rope moving at high speed thru his hands as he did a near free-fall. Then, there was a thud and moaning coming from below. Some how he survived and was able to climb back up the rope hand over hand so, no rescue was needed. But, this incident points up the need to remove the ropes when we leave the cave, even if we plan on returning the very next week-end.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS: (DUES RENEWAL DATE CHANGED)

This year is going to be a weird year to pay your dues. As you may or may not know, the Grotto decided to consolidate all dues paying to one month. Starting November 1st, 1992, everyone will owe either the full amount (\$10/yr plus \$2/additional household member), a prorated amount if your current renewal date is in a month other than November, or nothing if you're a lifer.

Anyone whose due date falls later this year needs to do the following: figure how many months between your due date and 11/1/92. Multiply that figure by \$0.833 (83.3¢) if you are a regular member plus \$0.167 (16.7¢)/month for each additional household membership renewal.

If you're confused and need a better explanation, call me evenings at (206)668-7578 and I'll really confuse you!

Thanks. Your humble Sec./Treas., Greg Hollenbeck

(Greg's original wording of the above notice and explanation was slightly corrupted by your editor to add to the confusion!!)

Who knows, maybe people will get careless in all this confusion and pay too much and we'll end up with a substantial profit! Greg and I have already planned for the windfall we expect. We've made plans for a secret caving expedition and reservations for a private jet to.....

*(PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND EXPEDITION) S.E. ALASKA

James F. Baichtal, Forest Geologist, Tongass Nat. For., Ketchikan, Alaska presented a paper on Karst Management in the Ketchikan Area (which includes Prince of Wales Island) at the Oct. 1991 Cave Management Symposium in Bowling Green, Kentucky. (1) -see footnote

- (96) new caves were discovered in a 6 month period
- (50) were mapped giving a total of 18,000ft. of survey
- (2) large pits were found:
 - Yukon's Pit - 150ft. deep, over 65ft. in diameter
 - Bear's Plunge - 142ft. deep, over 30ft. in diameter

DISCOVERIES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS:

- El Capitan Pit - Deepest in U.S. at 598ft.
- Snowhole - 3RD Deepest in U.S. at 448ft.
- El Capitan Cave - 10,190ft. surveyed so far
- salmon seen swimming thru some caves to spawn upstream
- sinkholes over 200ft. in diameter
- closed depressions covering several square miles
- large areas receiving in excess of 180 inches of rain/year that have surface streams any where to be seen
- some areas have densities estimated at 3,200 sinkholes/sq.mile!!!
- in addition to Prince of Wales Island, winter flights over Dall Island have found hundreds of melted openings in the deep snow
- marine invertebrate fossils are visible on the walls of many caves
- glacial sediments in passageways indicate the caves pre-date the last glacial period
- carbon-14 dating of logs within the caves have found them to be up to 6,500 yrs. old
- speleothems include:
 - soda straws nearly 3ft. long
 - large columnar moonmilk crystals over 16 inches thick
 - passages encrusted with 8 inch calcite crystals
 - a pool lined with rounded clusters of "underwater moonmilk"
- the remains of bats have been found but, no living specimens have been seen during the summer - bat trapping & tagging this winter (1991/1992) is planned by the University of Alaska
- the caves & pits also include the remains of black bear, Sitka blacktail deer, birds, beaver, etc.

POWIE DISCOVERIES CONT'D

-the possible remains of a Giant Short-faced Bear (*Arctodus simus*) and a Pleistocene wolverine have been found

Grants to properly excavate these remains have been requested. Excavation would be under the direction of the National Geographic Society, Smithsonian, Forest Service as well as the National Speleological Society.

-besides the inland caves & pits, many interesting sea caves are known. one such cave, situated above the current high-tide mark, is inhabited by a pack of wolves.

-Humans have also used these sea caves. One has incredible paintings using the folds in the walls & speleothems for highlighting.

-carbon-14 dating of beach logs stacked on the floors indicate these sea caves are over 4,200 yrs. old

-for further information, see Mr. Baichtal's complete report mentioned below, a copy of which is in the Grotto Library

Reference-

(1) Baichtal, James F., "Management of the Karst Areas within the Ketchikan Area of the Tongass National Forest, Southeastern Alaska"

NOTES FROM THE MEDIA

*Mention was made at the January Grotto Meeting of the report in the local media of an avalanche, earlier in the month, at Big Four Ice Caves. According to the report- I heard on the radio, a pregnant woman was tossed 300ft. Several men who she was with had gone into one of the caves while she waited outside and were trapped there by the cascading snow. They had to dig their way out with only a pocket knife to use as a tool. The caves are located in Snohomish County, Washington on the Mt. Baker/Snoqualmie National Forest and are quite popular with tourists as well as local residents.

*The February 1992 National Geographic Magazine contains a short note on a cave related subject. In the "Geographica" section in the front of the issue is shown a picture of an archaeological dig in a sinkhole east of Sundance, Wyoming. It is filled with the bones of bison stampeded into it by Plains Indians between A.D. 1500 and 1800. It is known as the Vore Buffalo Jump and was discovered in 1969 by an interstate highway survey crew. The sink is over 55ft deep and the bones of some 20,000 bison are believed to be there.

*The Nov. 3, 1991 Seattle Times tells of a Klickitat County man infected by a tick-borne disease referred to as Texas fever sometime in August. It is thought to be the first case here in Washington. Caver's beware!! Also, in the same issue on pg. G-2 is a photo of a bat and an article on bats and rabies in Washington and a copy of a letter sent to the paper from Bat Conservation International.

29 November, 1991

MEMORANDUM TO: Member Grottos of The
Northwest Caving Association.

SUBJECT: Various Items.

1. The 1991 Cave Management Symposium: The Cave Management Symposium held in Bowling Green, Kentucky last month was an excellent opportunity for cavers and Federal Cave Managers to meet each other, to exchange ideas and problems and to better understand each other. Most Grottos have made contact with the Federal Managers in the areas where they cave. It is important that these contacts be made prior to the publication of the draft federal regulations concerning the cave protection law. There will be a 90 day comment period. Cavers and Federal Cave Managers should work closely together to resolve as many conflicts as possible before each organization sends in their comments. As of this writing the draft regulation is still tied up in the bureaucracy of Washington, D.C. If any of you desire assistance in learning who to contact in one of the federal agencies, let me know.

2. The 1992 Regional Meet: Dave Kesner, Chairman of Gem State Grotto, has asked that each grotto give him an estimated number of people who will attend the Regional Meet in Idaho. They would like to have some idea of attendance for planning purposes. Send the count to Dave at: 12576 Demeyer Court, Boise, ID. 83704. The phone number is (208) 939-0979.

3. Prince of Wales Island Expedition (P.O.W.I.E.): A total of 57 caves had been discovered and mapped in Southeast Alaska thru 1990. The final figures reported for P.O.W.I.E. V were 96 caves discovered with 50 of them mapped and 18,000 feet of passage surveyed. There are still 46 caves to be explored. James F. Baichtal, The Forest Geologist for the Ketchikan Area of the Tongass National Forest provided the final figures in a paper presented at the Cave Management Symposium. The paper provides a great deal of information about caving in the area. A copy is enclosed for your information. It is "must" reading for those interested in Alaska. P.O.W.I.E. VI is scheduled from mid July to mid August, 1992. For application forms or more information contact Kevin Allred, P.O. Box 376, Haines, AK 99827. I can also provide information.

4. The Northwest Cave Research Institute 1992 Projects: The N.C.R.I. projects for 1992 will be in Jewell Cave, South Dakota and in The Pryor Mountains of Montana. The projects will take place at Jewell during the last week of July and in the priors during the first week of August. For information contact Bob Brown, Chairman, N.C.R.I., P.O. Box 2, Elbe, WA, 98330, or Ben Tompkins at 18002 1st Avenue N.W., Seattle, WA 98177. Write now to get on the mailing list since attendance is on a first come, first serve basis. It is a great way to spend a summer vacation.


5. The 1993 NSS Convention: Bill Devereaux, Chairman of the 1993 NSS Convention, has received the name of the convention points of contact from Gem State and Cascade Grottos. How about the rest of you out there? Bill needs the names as soon as possible. He would also like for you consider which caves you would like to include as pre or post convention trips. Each grotto should plan on leading trips to appropriate caves. Look for Bill's letter on the 1993 Convention soon.

6. A Rope Litter: Two articles in the October, 1991 issue of the "Cascade Caver" discussed use and construction of a rope litter. The information on the litter comes for the book, "Mountaineering, Freedom of The Hills" published by the Seattle Mountaineers. Copies should be available in most libraries. Each grotto should practice search and rescue techniques. You should also have at least one active member who has been through a National Cave Rescue Commission Course. Rick Rigg is the coordinator in the Northwest for N.C.R.C. His address is: 169 East 25th Street, Idaho Falls, ID 83401. His phone number is Home(208) 524-5688, Work(208) 526-7816.

7. Grotto Officers: Many of you will elect new officers during the next few months. I would appreciate it if you would let me know the name and address of your new chairman and NCA representative, if designated.

8. You will all soon be receiving the forms for the annual NSS I/O Report which is due on 15 February, 1992. I would appreciate a copy of the roster that accompanies the report as required by the NCA Constitution and By-Laws. If you publish your roster in your grotto news letter then there is no requirement for a separate roster.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Good Caving to all,

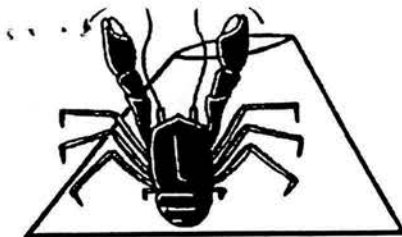


David M. Klinger
Chairman, Northwest Caving Association,
P.O. Box 537
Leavenworth, WA 98826
(509) 548-5480

1 Encl: A/S.

Copies To:

N.C.A. Officers.
Jim Baichtal.
Bill & Roechelle Devereaux.



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF BIOSPELEOLOGY

Tenerife - Canary Islands

7-12 september 1992

FIRST CIRCULAR

The annual meeting of the Société de Biospéologie will be held in Tenerife, Canary Islands, from 7th to 12th September 1992. In this circular we provide preliminary information about the meeting and enclose an application form that should be completed and returned before 1st February 1992.

The symposium will take place in Puerto de la Cruz, on the north coast of Tenerife. The town is a tourist resort, but quiet and with a pleasant climate and good communications; it is situated only about 30 km from the capital of the island, Santa Cruz de Tenerife.

Access to Tenerife is most convenient by air. The international airport is connected to many European cities by scheduled services and many charter flights. The flight time from Madrid is 2 hours 20 minutes and from Barcelona 3 hours.

Most of the international flights arrive at "Tenerife Sur" airport, about 60 km from Santa Cruz and 90 km from Puerto de la Cruz. The airport of Los Rodeos (used only for inter-island flights and one flight daily from Madrid) is about 20 km from Puerto de la Cruz.

Accommodation will be in hotels, a list of which will be provided in a later circular. In spite of being in a tourist zone, prices will not be unduly high.

From Tenerife it is easy to visit any of the other six islands, either by boat or by plain. For those who wish to make a short visit to another island, outside the symposium programme, Lanzarote and La Gomera are particularly recommended: one-day excursions to these islands are regularly arranged by travel agencies.

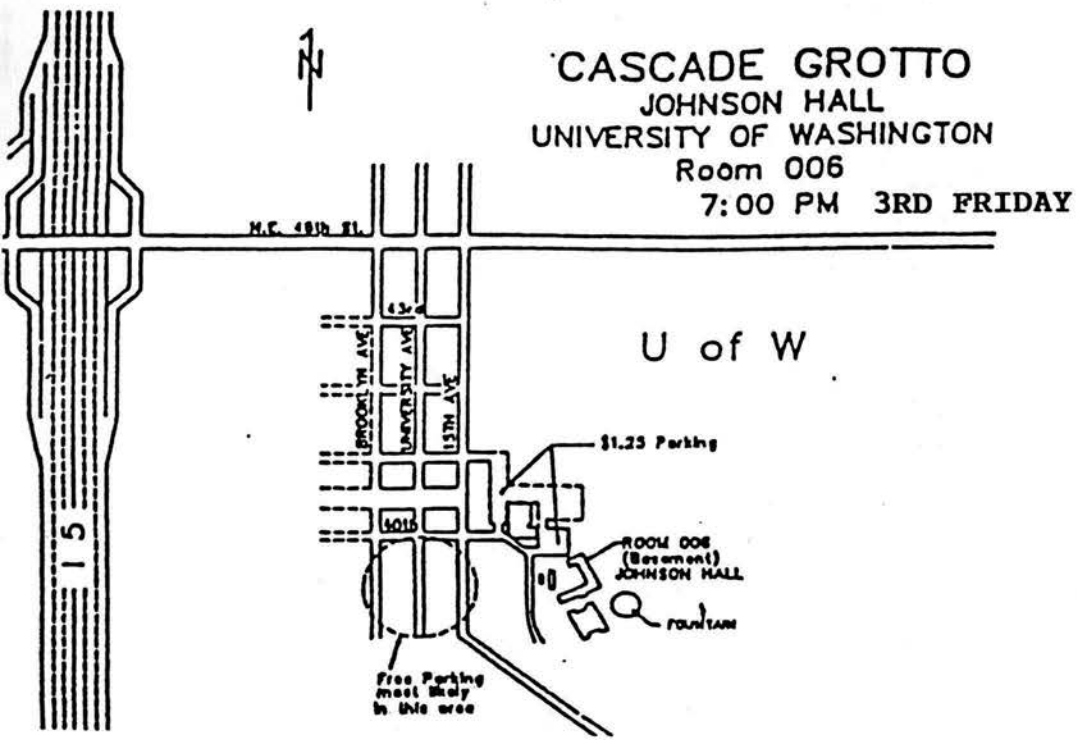
Unless a change is indicated in the next circular, the symposium will occupy five days in addition to the day of arrival. Two excursions will be arranged on Tenerife, probably on the third and fifth days. At least one of these will be to a lava tube.

As was decided at the last general meeting in Liège, the principal themes of the contributions will be one dealing to the underground biota in islands (taking advantage of the context in which the meeting will develop) and a second one about monitoring the quality of underground environments (with the aim of introducing an applied theme to the meetings of the Société). In addition there are proposals for the holding of two round-table discussions, as follows, which will take place if sufficient interest is expressed in advance:

a) Conservation in caves. We are proposing again this topic, since there was not enough time to discuss it in Liège. New participants in Tenerife could make a contribution in this discussion if the topic is considered to be of interest.

b) New terminology for hypogean species. The detailed study of new subterranean environments has improved understanding of the different morphological, physiological and ecological adaptations of animal species to the underground life. It is suggested that there should be a discussion on the desirability of adopting a more precise terminology for the different biotypes

Please send all correspondence to: International Symposium of Biospeleology, Dr. Pedro Oromí, Depto. Biología Animal, Universidad de La Laguna, 38205 La Laguna, Canary Islands, Spain. tel. (22) 60 37 48 fax (22) 25 33 44



Cascade Cover
 P.O BOX 75663
 SEATTLE WA 98125-0663