

Cascade Caver

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All material to be published, subscription requests, renewals, address changes, and exchange publications should be sent to the Grotto address.

GROTTO MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Cascade Grotto is \$10.00 per year. Subscription to the *Cascade Caver* is free to regular members. Membership for each additional family member is \$2.00 per year. Subscription to the *Cascade Caver* is \$10.00 per year.

GROTTO ADDRESS

Cascade Grotto; P.O. Box 75663; Seattle, WA 98125-0663. This post office box should be used for both the grotto and for the *Cascade Caver*.

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MEETINGS

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. Please see the map on the back cover of this issue.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 21	Grotto Meeting	7:00pm
July 19	Grotto Meeting	7:00pm
July 27-28	Vancouver Island Caves	
	Depart from Port Angeles 7/26 at 9:30pm. Contact Scott Davis (206)862-1035.	
August 5-9	NSS Convention - Salida Colorado	
August 16	Grotto Meeting	7:00pm
August 23-25	Cave Ridge, depth push in Newton Cave. Contact Bill Bennett (206)255-1466.	
Aug. 31- Sept 2	Northwest Regional - Ely Nevada.	

COVER

This months cover is a composite of maps of Newton Cave from Jeff Forbes and Deadhorse Cave by Jim Nieland.

LATE GROTTO DUES

The people listed below still have not paid their dues for 1996. This will be their last issue of the *Caver* until they have paid up again. If there are any questions about this please give Bruce Nagata a call.

Bill Bailey	Sean O'Leary
Bob Brown	Don Robertson
Ron Erickson	Rob Stitt
Steve Fogdall	Tom Strong
Jason Haworth	Steve Thatcher
Steve Kadel	Ben Tompkins
Tom Miller	Mike Wagner

Minutes from the May 17th Grotto Meeting

The Grotto received a letter from George Moore, who is with the Department of Geosciences at Oregon State University. In his letter he said that there is a gift shop in Port Townsend, WA that is selling stalagmites. He couldn't remember the name of the store and asked if someone from the Cascade Grotto could check into this. If anyone is going over that way, check around the town and see if you can find this store then notify Paul Ostby.

We also received a letter from Candice Leek of Jacksonville, Florida dealing with the damage that occurred in Floyd Collins Crystal Cave. The vandals that caused the damage pleaded guilty. The sentencing will be May 22nd and Candice was asking that everyone please write the judge, condemning what these people have done and asking him for a stiff sentence. (ed note - for more on this please see the next page).

Scott Davis talked about a couple of upcoming trips: one to a mine in the Olympics on June 1st and one to Gordan River B.C.

Scott also brought in several copies of the Pits and Domes puzzle that Steve printed as the cover to the last Caver. The first three people to solve the puzzle received prizes. Tom Strong won the first prize which was a maglight.

There was a discussion on the grotto meeting time and place. It turns out that after being in Johnson Hall for about 10 years, the Geology department, who runs the building didn't realize that we were having meetings there.

After the business was completed, Steve Sprague talked a bit about surveying and then broke people up into teams and we surveyed around Johnson Hall. The majority of the people at the meeting had never surveyed before so it provided

them with a good introduction. Steve and Paul Ostby had their computers there so that when the survey teams completed their tasks, they could see what their plots looked like.

Twenty-one people showed up for the meeting on this wet miserable night.

Deadhorse Surpasses Ape Cave In Length

From Larry McTigue

Scott Linn of the Willamette Valley Grotto Emailed me to say that Deadhorse Cave has now surpassed Ape Cave in length making it the longest lava tube in the continental US as well as the longest cave in Washington state. The survey length of Ape Cave is 12,810ft (3,904 m) and Deadhorse is currently at 13,450ft (4,100 meters). Scott says they still have several hundred feet to go so, the final figure may surpass 14,000ft.

1997 Cave Management Symposium

The 1997 Karst and Cave Management Symposium, highlighting forest karst ecosystems, will be held in Bellingham, Washington during the week of October 6 -11. This event is being sponsored by Northwest Caving Association, BC Ministry of Forests, British Columbia Speleological Federation, VICEG, and the NSS Conservation and Management Section. Start making your plans to attend this event now.

If you're interested in helping with this symposium or need further information, please contact Rob Stitt at (206) 283-2283 or Email at rstitt@halcyon.com. You can also find more information on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.halcyon.com/samara/ncms97/>

Floyd Collins Crystal Cave Sentencing by Candice Leek

(Ed note - last month we printed the article entitled: 3 Plead Guilty to Destroying Crystal Cave in Theft Spree. This month's article, from Candice Leek was taken from the Caver's Digest, #5323.)

For those of you who took time to write letters to the Judge in the Floyd Collins Crystal Cave vandalism case, you might be happy to know that they may have had a positive influence on the Judge's sentencing decision.

Many people with Mammoth Cave National Park and the US Attorneys Office worked long and hard to investigate and prosecute this case and they deserve the credit for pushing this cave vandalism case through to the end. I am sure your backing, provided by all of the letters you sent to the judge, added an important point of view for the judge to consider, i.e., this was a major crime and the citizens of the United States will not tolerate the type of mean-spirited destruction of resources within our National Parks that these crimes represented.

The sentences handed down by the judge were:
Perpetrator 1: 33 months in federal prison followed by 3 years probation and 550 hours of community service work.

Perpetrators 2 & 3: 21 months each in federal prison followed by 3 years probation and 500 hours of community service work.

The sentences were much harsher than requested by the US Attorneys Office. In other words, the judge threw the proverbial book at them. His decision now stands as a legal precedent which will send a clear message to other courts across the country about how the federal court views this type of criminal activity.

Thank you for your show of support in this case!

Cavernas de Vernado, Costa Rica by David Thomas

Kristin and I just returned from 2 weeks in Costa Rica. We thought it would be a nice change of temperature and climate from February in Seattle. We were right. While backpacking in the rain forest, we saw scarlet macaws, 4 species of monkeys, toucans, parrots, hummingbirds, Jesus Christ birds (they walk on water), butterflies, even jaguar tracks. On a river trip, we saw lots of iguanas, caiman (mini-crocodiles), sloths, more monkeys, and birds.

On February 23, 1996, we had a very geologic day. We were about 3 hours north of San Jose, (Costa Rica), near the Nicaraguan border. After some midnight searching for a volcanic hot spring, we found it at 1 a.m. Actually a hot river a few feet deep and 20 feet wide, it was 101°F. It's headwaters were a kilometer away in a lava field on the slopes of Arenal, an active volcano that continuously vents visible steam, smoke, and lava. While driving around, we could see the lava pouring down the upper slopes of the volcano, glowing red-orange. Kristin was off playing in a (hot) waterfall and I was peacefully, buoyantly soaking when Arenal started to rumble very loudly. It made me jump and for a second or two, I wondered if this was another large eruption (the last large eruption having killed 57 people). But it died down in a few seconds and kept happening each 10-15 minutes. So we soaked and floated and then headed back to our hotel to sleep.

Later that morning, we headed off to a private cave in the area, located on a farm which offered guided tours. It was hard for me to recognize the area as being karst because everything was covered with green plants. Even vertical cliffs had very little bare rock for all the moss and epiphytes growing on them.

In almost every way it was better than commercial caves in the U.S. It was cheap, - \$2.00 per person including guide and optional bump cap and rubber boot rental. There were no colored lights (no lighting at all) and no comparison of cave formations to humans, animals, or muppets (with the exception of one 'Papaya column'). Other than a bat-friendly gate, there was no construction or modification to the cave. No walkways, stairs, or handrails. The guide also let the group choose easy or hard route options - we always choose the hard way.

Anyway, about the cave: its total explored length is 3 kilometers, with tourists being lead through 600 meters of passage. The entrance was not subtle, being the resurgence of a large stream out of a 8 by 10 foot opening. The main active passage was about 4 feet wide and 10 feet high with about 6 inches of water running over a pebble streambed. Various side passages and tributaries came into the main passage and we looped around several of these more sporting sections. At the trickier down climbs, the guide's hands and feet served as additional footholds. The only muddy crawl was followed by enough stream passage to clean up the cavers again. I was glad for the flowing water because at about 75°F, it would have otherwise been a sweaty two hours.

Critters consisted of a few buzzy insects, spiders and sleeping long-nosed fruit bats. Many of the clusters of 6-10 bats seemed to be hanging from one foot. Maybe the first one there hangs on to the rock and everyone else hangs onto the first bat.

Kristin and I used our Petzl headlamps and taped them onto the bump caps. From the looks we got, we may have been the first people to use headlamps in that cave. Almost everyone else, including the guide, had handheld flashlights. A few people forewent the expense of renting a

light (30 cents) and traveled between those with lights.

Another equipment-related thought occurred to me in the cave each time we waded through 2-foot deep water and filled up our rubber boots with water. This necessitated lifting each leg to drain the water from each boot. What if one had self-bailing boots? There are self-bailing white water rafts and there are low-profile, high-flow check valves used in, for instance, rafting and sailing manual purge pumps. Installing such a valve in the bottom of one's boots would keep the water out, but would allow water in the boot to drain out whenever the water level was lower outside.

The other semi-cave-related -activity we did was in a nature preserve, Rara Avis. Don Perry, who has gotten into National Geographic with his 3 dimensional traveling platform for exploring the rainforest canopy is continuing to experiment with other vertical adventures, particularly those which might be profitable. He scrapped his original 3-D equipment and set up a new system based on a refurbished ski-lift closer to San Jose. Back at Rara Avis, his minions are in the process of constructing tree top lodging in the form of a 2-story 8 by 10-foot treehouse. They use SRT to ascend 100-feet to the canopy and a pulley/Gibbs haul system to bring supplies up.

To finance the construction of this platform, they charge \$30 to ascend up their ropes into the canopy. Ultimately they plan to rent out the platforms at night for lodging but this beg the question of toilet facilities and who is going to empty them. I suggested a sliding price scale: \$75 for a night in the canopy. \$100 if you take a dump. One nice thing about their ascending rigs (frog system with two Gibbs') is that they used construction harnesses with 4-inch webbing (like a utility worker's). It's a lot more comfortable to hang around in and fit a very wide variety of sizes. (But is heavy, bulky, and

cost \$100). The bad news is that they wouldn't let us rappel down, but rather, we had to down climb 100 feet with the frog systems. It was a pretty cool view on top at sunrise. We got buzzed by some parrots, could see distant mountain ranges on all sides, and could see over into the tops of other trees. It certainly gave a different perspective on the vines, epiphytes, orchids, and vines in the canopy to be able to look down at them for a change.

Long and Deep Caves List of the Western United States

by Leonard Slack NSS #41014

How many caves over 1 mile in length are in the western United States (Mountain and Pacific time zones plus Alaska and Hawaii)? How many western US caves are at least 400 feet deep?

Bob Gulden maintains the National Speleological Society Geo2 Committee long and deep caves list which currently (6/96) lists 802 caves to 1 mile long and 127 caves to 400 feet deep in the US

I have created a subset of these lists for the western US which includes 93 long caves and 47 deep caves. The western states account for 20 of the 25 deepest caves. Ellison's cave in Georgia (#7 on the list) is the only non-west deep cave in the top 15. Out of the 25 longest caves in the US only 5 are in the western states. Is anyone surprised by these figures?

The long and deep listings provided with this issue of the Cascade Caver (by permission from Bob Gulden) have been edited from Bob's April 1996 list. Some spelling corrections have been made and counties have been identified where possible. Paiute (Black Abyss) Cave in Arizona was deleted from Bob's deep list since it is unavailable on Indian land and has not been documented well. Additions to Bob's deep list include Little Red River Cave in Washington and Hurricane Cave in Colorado.

One cave that is currently not on Bob's list is Deadhorse Cave near Mt. Adams. Recent survey work by Scott Linn et al from the Willamette Valley Grotto shows a length greater than Ape Cave. Hopefully Scott will finish the survey in the near future so that Deadhorse Cave can be added to its rightful place on the list (ed. note - please see the note on page 41 of this issue).

Labyrinth Cave at Lava Beds Ntl. Mon. in California is listed at 4.139 miles. The source of this length is the October 1987 Cascade Caver list of "Long Lava Tubes in the World". This cave, or more properly cave system, is highly segmented with some sources listing the longest unsegmented cave passage at about 0.74 miles (3900 feet). Does anyone know the surveyed unsegmented length of this cave system?

Other corrections and deletions are probably required and I ask all of our members to review this data and provide updates to the author (E-mail: lslack@wolfenet.com or phone: 226-6597) and Bob Gulden (E-mail: caverbob@aol.com).

For those with internet access, Bob Gulden has a home page where he keeps the US long and deep list and World long and deep list. These lists were last updated on June 4, 1996 and can be found at URL:

<http://pages.prodigy.com/GMGC18A/longdeep.html>

Sources of the length and depth data are included in the listings. A short list of Bob's data is included at the back of the NSS 1996 Member Manual. Another internet page that contains world cave database listings of >1700 caves from 81 countries and last update in June 1996 is at the following French URL:

<http://www.inria.fr/agossophia/sis/sis.html>

I'm attempting to develop a similar listing for caves of western Canada and hope to publish it soon. I would like to thank Larry McTigue for his advice and help in preparing these lists.

DEEP CAVE LIST - WESTERN UNITED STATES

Caves over 400 feet deep as of 6/96

Created by Leonard Slack (NSS#41014) from Bob Gulden (NSS#13188) NSS long/deep cave list

Depth in feet and length in miles

CAVE NAME	STATE	COUNTY	DEPTH	LENGTH
Kazumura - Oloo Cave System (Lava Tube)	Hawaii	Hawaii	3609	37.282
Lechuguilla Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	1568	88.036
Columbine Crawl Cave	Wyoming	Teton	1550	2.301
Great EX(pectations) Cave	Wyoming	Washakie	1408	7.854
Bigfoot Cave	California	Siskiyou	1205	12.400
Neffs Canyon Cave	Utah	Salt Lake	1165	.781
Silvertip Cave System	Montana	Flathead	1052	3.166
Carlsbad Cavern	New Mexico	Eddy	1037	30.870
Nielsons Well (Cave)	Utah	Cache	880	.924
Na One Pit (Pit 6083, Pelee's Abyss) (Lava)	Hawaii	Hawaii	862	?
Big Brush Cave	Utah	Uintah	858	4.837
Papoose Cave	Idaho	Idaho	825	1.406
MeanderBelt Cave	Montana	Flathead	807	.723
Sunray Cave	Montana	Flathead	804	?
Lost Creek Siphon	Montana	Park	730	.189
Virgin Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	723	?
Spanish Cave	Colorado	Custer	711	.682
Ape Cave (Lava Tube)	Washington	Skamania	689	2.426
Wind Cave	South Dakota	Custer	649	78.190
Fossil Mt. Ice Cave - Wind Cave System	Wyoming	Teton	644	2.900
El Capitan Pit	Alaska	Prince of W.I.	625	.211
Keala Cave (Lava Tube)	Hawaii	Hawaii	600	5.410
Newton Cave	Washington	King	600	?
Jewel Cave	South Dakota	Custer	588	105.820
Three Fingers Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	581	3.700
Cody Borehole (Lava Tube)	Oregon	Deschutes	580	?
Blowing in the Wind Cave	Alaska	Prince of W.I.	578	1.073
Lewis and Clark Caverns	Montana	Jefferson	577	1.906
Hurricane Cave (Granite Boulder/Talus Cave)	Colorado	Teller	553	?
Hells Below Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	550	?
Little Brush Creek Cave	Utah	Uintah	512	4.700
Rendezvous Peak Cave	Wyoming	Teton	512	.258
Lilburn Cave	California	Tulare	508	14.841
Sipapu Caverns	Arizona	Coconino	504	?
Greenhorn System (Boulder Cave)	California	Kern	497	.594
Ram's Horn Cave	Montana	Meagher	496	?
Moon Robe Cave	Alaska	Dall Island	493	?
P-Bar (PeBar) Cave	Wyoming	Big Horn	486	1.851
Church Cave	California	Tulare	480	2.120
Twenty Pound Tick Cave	Colorado	?	469	1.080
Hummel's Cave	California	Tulare	447	?
Triple Engle Pit (Gypsum)	New Mexico	De Baca	441	1.084
French Creek Cave	Montana	Beaverhead	434	1.831
Falls (Panther) Creek (Lava) Cave (Lava Tube)	Washington	Skamania	413	1.738
Little Red River Cave (Lava Tube)	Washington	Skamania	406	.733
Oregon Caves	Oregon	Josephine	400	3.030
Blue Marble Cave	Alaska	Prince of W.I.	392	.579

LONG CAVE LIST - WESTERN UNITED STATES

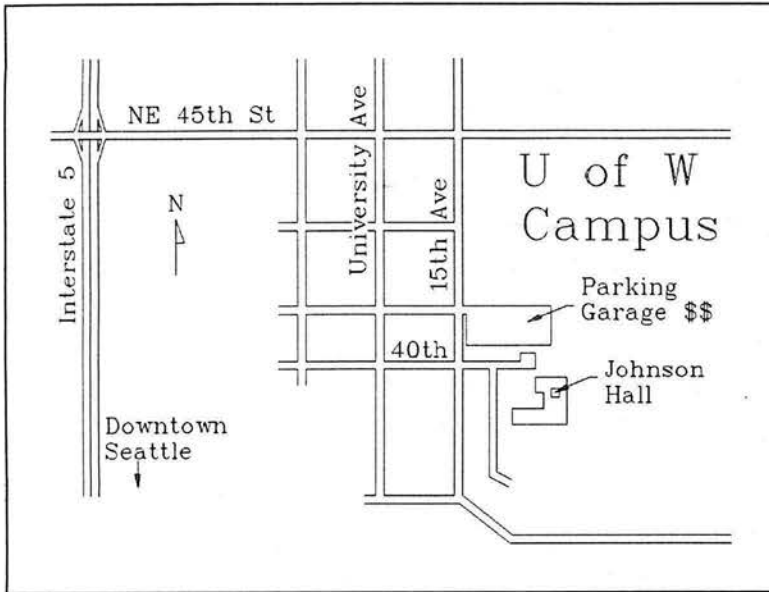
Caves over 1 mile long as of 6/96

Created by Leonard Slack NSS #41014 from Bob Gulden (NSS#13188) NSS long/deep cave list

Length in miles and depth in feet

CAVE NAME	STATE	COUNTY	LENGTH	DEPTH
Jewel Cave	South Dakota	Custer	105.820	588
Lechuguilla Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	88.036	1568
Wind Cave	South Dakota	Custer	78.190	649
Kazumura - Oiaa Cave System (Lava Tube)	Hawaii	Hawaii	37.282	3609
Carlsbad Cavern	New Mexico	Eddy	30.870	1037
Lilburn Cave	California	Tulare	14.841	508
Bigfoot Cave	California	Siskiyou	12.400	1205
Big Horn - Horsethief Cave System	Wyoming/Mont.	Bighorn	10.180	171
Fort Stanton Cave	New Mexico	Lincoln	8.000	?
Great EX(pectations) Cave	Wyoming	Washakie	7.854	1408
Groaning Cave	Colorado	Garfield	7.040	13
Keala Cave (Lava Tube)	Hawaii	Hawaii	5.410	600
Stage Barn Crystal Cave	South Dakota	Meade	5.140	326
Dry (Pot) Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	4.928	207
Big Brush Cave	Utah	Uintah	4.837	858
Little Brush Creek Cave	Utah	Uintah	4.700	512
Labyrinth Cave (Lava Tube)	California	Siskiyou	4.139	?
Park Ranch Cave (Gypsum)	New Mexico	Eddy	3.895	?
John Martin Cave (Lava Tube)	Hawaii	Hawaii	3.892	?
Green Fork Falls Cave - Kathys Icebox Cave	Montana	Lewis & Clark	3.853	?
Three Fingers Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	3.700	581
Sp(o)ider Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	3.430	?
Bethlehem Cave	South Dakota	Meade	3.380	170
Silvertip Cave System	Montana	Flathead	3.166	1052
Fixen'-to-Die Cave	Colorado	Garfield	3.160	190
Reed's Cave	South Dakota	Custer	3.120	207
Edgewood Caverns	New Mexico	Santa Fe	3.045	?
Oregon Caves	Oregon	Josephine	3.030	400
Falls Cave	Arizona	Coconino	3.030	?
Fossil Mt. Ice Cave - Wind Cave System	Wyoming	Teton	2.900	644
New Cave (Slaughter Canyon Cave)	New Mexico	Eddy	2.555	?
Kartchner Caverns	Arizona	Cochise	2.500	100
Crystal (Sequoia) Cave	California	Tulare	2.433	200
Ape Cave (Lava Tube)	Washington	Skamania	2.426	689
Crystal Caverns (Gypsum)	New Mexico	DeBaca	2.355	319
Colossal Cave	Arizona	Pima	2.348	?
Double Barrel Shotgun Cave (Gypsum)	New Mexico	?	2.314	?
Columbine Crawl Cave	Wyoming	Teton	2.301	1550
Duck Creek Lava Tube (Lava Tube)	Utah	Kane	2.283	300
Roaring Springs Cave	Arizona	Coconino	2.216	?
Cave of the Winds	Colorado	El Paso	2.170	266
Scrooge Cave (Gypsum)	New Mexico	Lincoln	2.152	?
Church Cave	California	Tulare	2.120	480
Offal Cave (Unmapped)(Lava Tube)	Hawaii	Maui	2.113	?

CAVE NAME	STATE	COUNTY	LENGTH	DEPTH
El Capitan Cave	Alaska	Prince of W.I.	1.942	68
Lewis and Clark Caverns	Montana	Jefferson	1.906	577
Endless Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	1.894	102
P-Bar (PeBar) Cave	Wyoming	Big Horn	1.851	486
Martin Cave System (Gypsum)	New Mexico	Chaves	1.838	?
French Creek Cave	Montana	Beaverhead	1.831	434
Carcass Cave (Gypsum)	New Mexico	De Baca	1.813	?
Lower Uilani Cave (Lava Tube)	Hawaii	Hawaii	1.742	?
Falls (Panther) Creek (Lava) Cave (Lava Tube)	Washington	Skamania	1.738	413
Baker Creek Cave System	Nevada	White Pine	1.705	?
Spring Cave	Colorado	Rio Blanco	1.660	113
Hurricane Crawl Cave	California	Tulare	1.598	234
Jansill/Driftwood Cave System(Gypsum)	New Mexico	Chaves	1.592	?
Kaumana Cave (Lava Tube)	Hawaii	Hawaii	1.581	?
Mammoth Cave (Lava Tube)	California	Modoc	1.559	?
Blood Cave	Montana	?	1.541	?
Lehman Cave	Nevada	White Pine	1.515	?
Gaping Holes Caves (Lava Tube)	California	Siskiyou	1.504	?
Dynamited(Blasted)(Lemei Road)Cave(Lava Tube)	Washington	Skamania	1.484	354
Fairy Cave	Colorado	Garfield	1.477	200
Post Office Cave (Lava Tube)	California	Siskiyou	1.465	?
Sand Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	1.456	106
Cave City (California) Caverns	California	Calaveras	1.452	125
Coffee Cave (Gypsum)	New Mexico	Eddy	1.442	?
Catacombs Cave (Lava Tube)	California	Siskiyou	1.417	?
Papoose Cave	Idaho	Idaho	1.406	825
Pot O' Gold (Lava Tube)	Idaho	Lincoln	1.396	?
Glory Cave	California	Santa Cruz	1.374	160
Whispering Cave	Alaska	P.E.I.	1.369	327
Gypsum Cave (Lava Tube)	Idaho	Lincoln	1.330	?
Peppersauce Cave	Arizona	?	1.326	?
Tapeats Cave	Arizona	?	1.326	?
McKittrick Cave	New Mexico	Eddy	1.312	91
Bad Medicine Cave	Wyoming	Big Horn	1.257	329
Allen Springs Cave	Arizona	?	1.250	?
Tongue River Cave	Wyoming	Sheridan	1.231	106
Catwalk Cave (Lava Tube)	California	Shasta	1.212	?
Premonition Cave	Colorado	Garfield	1.190	179
Lava River Cave (Lava Tube)	Oregon	Deschutes	1.171	?
Vanished River Cave	California	Santa Cruz	1.103	200
Triple Engle Pit (Gypsum)	New Mexico	De Baca	1.084	441
Twenty Pound Tick Cave	Colorado	?	1.080	469
Blowing in the Wind Cave	Alaska	Prince of W.I.	1.073	578
Ole's Cave (Lava Tube)	Washington	Skamania	1.065	?
Dry Stream Cave	California	Siskiyou	1.054	?
Apogee Cave	California	Siskiyou	1.023	80
Thanks Cave (Lava Tube)	Washington	Skamania	1.008	?
Fulford's Cave	Colorado	Eagle	1.000	?
Nielsons Well (Cave)	Utah	Cache	0.924	880



The Cascade Grotto meets at 7:00 pm on the third Friday of each month in room 006 in the basement of Johnson Hall on the University of Washington campus.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings

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