



Cascade Caver

Newsletter of the Cascade Grotto of the National Speleological Society

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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 \$15.00 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 \$15.00 per year.

GROTTO ADDRESS

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

GROTTO OFFICERS

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Vice Chairman Mike Fraley (206) 934-7890
Sec/Treasurer Lane Holdcroft (206) 783-6534

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MEETINGS

Regular grotto meetings are held monthly at 7:00 p.m. on the third Friday of each month at the University of Washington, Room 119, in Johnson Hall. Please see the map on the back cover of this issue.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please notify Jim Harp at (425) 745-1010 of any upcoming trips.

Oct. 17 Grotto Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Nov. 21 Grotto Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Dec. ?? Grotto Christmas Party. Date and location still to be determined.
Jan 16 Grotto Meeting
Jan 16-19 Oregon Caves work party.
Contact Jim Harp (425)745-1010 for further details.

COVER: The trip to Cave Ridge can be as hard on equipment as it is the body. This photo, taken by Dave Hopf, of Lane Holdcroft's boot shows the results of one such trip. Now, will Lane go out and buy another set of boots or will he try and fix them up for next year?

Nominations for Grotto Officers

Nominations for the 1998 grotto officers will be taken at the November meeting. If you wish to run for Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary/Treasurer or if you wish to nominate someone else (preferably with their approval) please come to the meeting on November 21 at 7:00 in room 119 of Johnson Hall.

It's Time To Pay Your Dues

October is the time to pay your dues for the next year. The dues for the year is \$15 for a regular member and \$17 for a family membership. Please send your check to the Grotto PO Box or better yet, bring it to the November meeting.

If you have any questions please contact Lane Holdcroft at (206) 783-6534.

Oregon Caves Work Party

by Jim Harp

Cascade Grotto has been invited by John Roth of Oregon Caves National Monument to participate in a conservation work party the weekend of Friday, January 16th through Monday the 19th. a long weekend in honor of Rev. King's birthday.

We will be pulling rubble out of the Last Natural Room either to haul it to the exit or run the buckets up a pulley system to the outside.

The Monument will supply bunks and cafeteria style food to the volunteers and there will be an off the tourist trail trip in the evening. The age is seventeen or older with 13 year olds allowed if they are accompanied by a parent.

This trip is limited to 20 people and is being offered to Cascade Grottoites on a first come basis. If the trip doesn't fill up then in 2 weeks it will be opened up to Puget Sound Grotto members.

The Arts and Letters Section of the NSS

To all NSS members,

I am happy to announce the forming of a new section within the NSS called "The Arts and Letters Section of the NSS". The goal of this section will be to put out a bi-annual publications (provided sufficient material) that will focus on CAVE- fiction, non-fiction, humor, drawing, poetry, cartoons, song writing, etc., for the purpose of bringing together people who enjoy writing and drawing, with CAVES as the focal point. We hope to spotlight individual talent within the caving community, and to help with writing, editing, and publishing skills, with the hopes of getting peoples works published. Also, we hope this section could be a place where newsletter editors around the world could get material and ideas for their own grotto newsletters.

Like any publication, we will need material. If you are a writer, editor, publisher, artist, etc., send us your stories, drawings, writing and publishing tips, old or new material, it doesn't matter. As with anything new, we want and welcome all ideas you have to make this the very best section for everybody.

The anticipated cost will be \$5.00 a year. We are not asking for money yet. We NEED to gather as many names (required by the NSS) as possible for the present time. If your are interested, please send your name, address, email address and NSS number to the address listed below. Feel free to call me with questions.

Thank you for your help and support.

Paul Steward and John Tudek

Return to: Paul Steward
277 Clamer Rd.
Trenton, NJ. 08628
609-530-9743
pddb@juno.com

Death of Warren Callahan

For those that went to the 3-D slide show on Lechequilla a few months back, Warren Callahan, the man who presented the show as a favor to Steve Sprague, died this last month. Lane Holdcroft received the following note from John Bercovitz of the Puget Sound Stereo Camera Club

Warren Callahan, one of the legends in the world of stereoscopy, died on the morning of October 21, 1997, from brain cancer. He is survived by two sisters and his intimate friend of 27 years, Caryl Chaplin (415 - 18th NW, Puyallup, WA 98371).

For those wishing to make memorials, the following were organizations people might consider sending a donation to, though Warren said any organization that someone felt close to would be just as good:

Associated Health Services-Hospice
c/o Multicare Health Foundation
PO Box 5296
Tacoma, WA 98415-0296

Puget Sound Stereo Camera Club
Gordon Nelson, Treasurer
1909 NE Naomi Place
Seattle, WA 98115

Or, NSA, ISU, PSA, or any Environmental Organization

Seasonal Bat Cave Closure List

This list of Washington caves was extracted from the Bat Conservation Web page which lists closures on a national level (www.batcon.org)

The caves on this list are considered CLOSED during critical times of the year in order to protect the important bat colonies within. Many have access physically restricted by a locked gate or fence, and some are overseen by local management agencies. Many others have no such gates or signs, and the period of non-visitation is voluntarily enforced. Please cooperate with these seasonal closures. Entry at certain times may be extremely harmful to the bats therein, and may be in violation of state and federal laws. The information on this list was provided to Bat Conservation International by Jim Neiland. Please send additions or corrections to jkennedy@batcon.org.

The following caves are closed from November 15 through April 15. This list was last updated August 27, 1997

County	Cave
Klickitat	Christmas Tree Cave
Klickitat	David's Den Annex Cave
Klickitat	Madison's Fence Cave
Klickitat	Poachers Cave
Klickitat	Red Cave System
Skamania	Back Bone Cave
Skamania	Big Trench Cave
Skamania	Blue Ribbon Cave
Skamania	COG Cave
Skamania	Dollar and a Dime Cave
Skamania	Goose Cave
Skamania	Ice Rink Cave
Skamania	Ice Rink Annex Cave
Skamania	Jug Cave
Skamania	Little Peoples Cave
Skamania	Ole's Cave
Skamania	Prince Albert Cave
Skamania	Spider Cave
Whatcom	Bat Cave
Yakima	Boulder Cave

Hellhole Trip

by Lane Holdcroft

Dave Hopf and I had been talking about the possibility of going to Cave Ridge for a while and at the last minute everything came together and we were both able to arrange a day last October.

We decided to visit Hellhole because I had never been there and we had our vertical equipment. Dave had been there before a couple of times. The main opening looked way too tight so we entered the "back door". It was tight and my sides were scraped as I squeezed through but I just made it. Therefore I had some apprehension about getting out of the cave during the entire time I was inside.

The 50 foot free drop into the large main room was quite spectacular. I was also impressed by the red splotches on the walls. It looked like someone had swung from a rope into the walls leaving behind a bloodstain like a smashed engorged mosquito. Apparently they are actually some kind of mineral deposit. Also Dave pointed out to me that there are some neat textures on the ceiling of some of the crawlways. They sort of look like the ant trails on those plastic "ant farms" that were popular when I was a kid. He took some photographs that he was planning on manipulating into wallpaper or background texture for MS-Windows.

When we finally headed out the back door, I was having great difficulty squeezing through the exit opening. That is when I realized that if I just went sideways there was plenty of room on all sides and I climbed through with no difficulty at all. We had some nice soup at the exit (Dave never travels without hot food!). Just as we were finishing up, it started raining.

By the time we got down to the Hanging Valley, it was starting to get dark. At that point

the tip of my boot caught on a rock and the sole peeled back so that I was walking on my sock! I was rather concerned since we still had about 3/4 of the trip to go in the dark and one of my boots was totally non-functional.

Fortunately Dave was very well prepared and had some vinyl electrical tape. We taped the sole of the boot back together and he made a cradle out of 3 wire ties and we were able to walk the rest of the 2000 foot vertical drop back to the parking lot. I now also carry a roll of tape in my cave pack!

Apparently my over-enthusiastic grease application to the seams over the years softened the glue holding the boot together and the stitches pulled through the leather after 10 years of use.

It was very dark and somewhat wet most of the way down the long trail so we wore our caving helmets with lights. All in all, it was a memorable trip!

Explorers of the Unknown

Robert Zimmerman ponders the similarities between caving and amateur astronomy.

From the November 1997 issue of *Sky and Telescope* magazine.

"Don't worry," said Tom. "you'll definitely fit." At that moment he and I stood at the entrance of a cave discovered only days before. The small 2-foot opening was the beginning of a 70-foot-long crawl that twisted and turned until it finally broke out into a large room supposedly festooned with beautiful formations. Unfortunately, the crawlspace became tightest at its very end, and at no point was the passage wide enough for me to turn around. If I couldn't get my body through that last keyhole, I would have to back out, feeling

my way with my feet. "Oh well," I thought as I dived in headfirst. "I've done stupider things."

Now, I realize this strange desire to crawl through wet and miserable underground passages seems to have absolutely nothing to do with stargazing. In one pastime the participants burrow downward, out of sight of the sky. In the other they gaze heavenward, unable to visit firsthand the objects of their interest.

And yet these hobbies are really two aspects of the same human desire, a greater vision that never leaves us as we spend our spare time shivering in the dark. You see, both cavers and astronomers strive to discover that untouched, unknown place never seen by human eyes. And while we might look in different directions, one up and the other down, we both dream of a time when humans will finally make that leap upward to the stars.

These similarities occurred to me the very first time I opened *Sky & Telescope* and read the calendar listing of regional star parties. Cavers do exactly the same thing. The annual Old Timers Reunion in West Virginia routinely hosts more than 2,000 cavers, who can buy equipment, show off new techniques, and meet old friends while visiting new subterranean haunts.

We cavers also like to show off our discoveries. For example, about a 90-minute drive from New York City is a cave passage named "I-leaven." In it the flowstone glitters with tiny droplets of water, its numerous white baconrind formations streaked with red and brown. Each time I bring beginners here I am delighted by their expressions of joy.

Is this not identical to the pleasure experienced by amateur astronomers who set up their telescopes so that perfect strangers can take turns looking through the eyepiece? You want others to see the majestic beauty of the sky,

knowing it will make them coo with delight and amazement.

Consider our mutual willingness to spend vacations at far-off places to see things few people ever witness. Several years ago I toured the wild caves in the Guadalupe Mountains of New Mexico. I reached one indescribably beautiful cavern by driving two hours on a hardly passable four-wheel-drive road, then hiking two hours more across rough mountain terrain.

Is this any different from the desire of amateur astronomers to travel to such far-flung destinations as Siberia to see an eclipse? As Alan Dyer of the Calgary Science Centre recently said, "You don't really see it; you experience it: the rapid descent into darkness, the unearthly twilight all around the horizon, the black Sun in a deep blue sky, stars and planets suddenly appearing during daylight hours."

What drives this passionate devotion is the lure of new discovery. We dream of serendipitously stumbling upon a new find, a supernova that happens to burst at the moment we photograph it, or a new passage unnoticed before but revealed by moving that one rock. Nor are our dreams unrealistic, though we live at a time when the discovery of new lands is rare. Any one of us could be the next Yuji Hyakutake, who had searched for comets since 1989 before discovering two of them in rapid succession. Or we could be the next Chuck Moon and Tim Fronk, weekend cavers who together in 1988 discovered extensive untouched passageways in a Pennsylvania cave called Alexanders.

As we approach the dawn of a new century - nay, a new millennium - the human race will finally embark on its journey to the stars. Very soon, cave explorer and astronomical observer alike will finally be able to walk together on new worlds. We shall climb the peak of Olympus Mons, wander amid the billions of ice

rocks of Saturn's rings, or stand in silent awe at Tranquillity Base and a small plaque that reads "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the Moon".

For now, however, we satisfy ourselves with what we can find on terra firma. You look up; I look down.

After 20 minutes of crawling, Tom and I finally came to that keyhole, and with grunts and desperate pulls I squeezed my body through it. Looming above me was a stalagmite column more than 60 feet high, surrounded by white calcite and coated with the gleam of a gentle waterfall splashing down its side. Beside this was a stream, disappearing into passages not yet entered by human beings.

How could I, or you, not go forward?

In between cave trips, ROBERT ZIMMERMAN writes about space anti astronomy for major science magazines. He fully expects human beings to live and work on other planets in his lifetime.

Room Without a View

by Jon Marmor

Taken from "A Lighter Look at Life at the "U"" in the June 1997 issue of *Columns*, for alumni of the UW. This article was sent to us by Bill Halliday.

Going underground has taken on a new meaning on campus, as a number of transients have made makeshift homes in the bowels of various buildings. In early March, campus police found an area underneath the steps of Suzzallo Library that was inhabited by three men. It was no ramshackle hangout, either - it had CD players, coffee makers and electrical cords. The three used a rope to climb through

an air shaft in the Central Plaza Parking Garage.

Later in the month, police found an elaborate home in the basement of the Music Building created by a 46-year old "self employed mathematician". Officials say it had been used on and off for more than a decade. Living in such arrangements can be tough. First, you always have to sneak in and out, and avoid being caught. Then there is that stagnant, musty air. But the Suzzallo freeloaders knew what they were doing: They left behind a spray can of harvest spice air freshener.

editor's note: This article didn't mention anything about a certain grotto that had taken up residence in the basement of Johnson Hall for about 10 years before being discovered and made to pay for the use of the room they use.

Papoose Cave is Now Open!

The following was taken from a message on nwcavers by David Kesner

I am pleased to announce that the Management Plan for Papoose Cave is done, signed, and in effect as of October 1, 1997. Papoose is now open to recreational caving!

There will be a copy put on the Gem State Grotto's web page. The URL is:
<http://members.aol.com/sideways/gsg/grotto.html>.

If you have any questions you may contact Bruce Anderson or Jack Carlson at the Slate Creek Ranger Station, HC01, Box 70, White Bird, Idaho 83554 (208)839-2211.

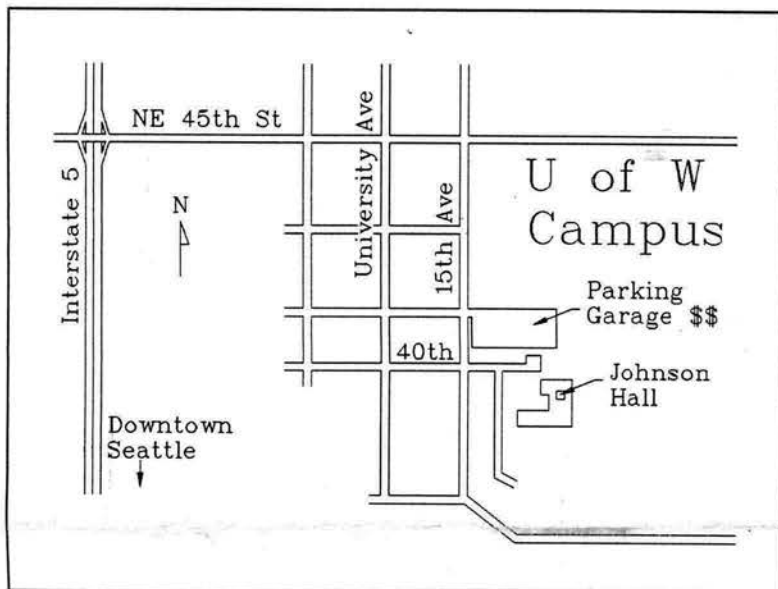
I would also be more than happy to discuss the plan with anyone that wants. There are still areas that need to be changed or modified. The plan provides a means to do this, but it would be best to wait a while before deluging the USFS with changes. It might also be better

to send them to the USFS all at one time rather than spread out individually over time.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks and gratitude to the Papoose Cave Project, especially Pete Crecelius, for all the work they have done surveying and mapping the cave. If it was not for this work, the management plan might not have ever been

completed. I was able to see a draft of the completed map and it is truly amazing. I believe they have surveyed over three miles. Perhaps the PCP could make a post with all the pertinent information. Anyway, thanks to everyone for being so patient while this process was being completed.

Anyone want to go caving?



The Cascade Grotto meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Friday of each month. **We are now meeting in room 119** in Johnson Hall on the University of Washington campus.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings

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