



Cascade Caver

Newsletter of the Cascade Grotto of the National Speleological Society

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Cascade Caver

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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; P.O. 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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|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| Chairman | Mark Sherman | 206-524-8780 |
| Vice Chairman | Bruce Frank | 425-746-2928 |
| Sec/Treasurer | Lane Holdcroft | 206-783-6534 |

OTHER POSITIONS

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
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| | email: postby@iname.com | |

* Editor of current issue.

MEETINGS

Regular grotto meetings are held monthly at 7:00pm 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 206-745-1010 of any upcoming trips or events.

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 18 | Idaho Bat Working Group Biannual Meeting at Fernan Ranger Station. Brenda Beckley 208-334-2578 |
| June 18-July 30 | Hawaii. Bill Halliday will be working first on sea level karst on the west side of Oahu, then mostly in the caldera of Kilauea. He could use some help. Anyone free to come? William Halliday bnawrh@webtv.net |
| June 19 | Cascade Grotto Meeting 7:00 p.m. |
| June 20-21 | Survey of Gypsum Cave. Val Schmidt GSG 208-322-7518 |
| June 20-21 | Beginners trip to Trout Lake area. Steve Hoefel PSG 253-952-5225 |
| June 20 | Radio location work in Dynamited cave. Brett Cook WVG 503-648-6807 |
| June 21 | Meeting of the 1999 NSS Convention Committee. Volunteers welcome! Val Schmidt valnomo@aol.com |

There are lots of trips scheduled for this summer, too many to list here. See pages 20 & 21 for a more complete list.

COVER: Larry Mc Tighe digging on a promising site East of Arlington, WA. See article by Steve Sprague in this issue. Photo by Steve Sprague.

TRIP REPORT

The Danner Parties

Steve Sprague

This trip report covers a series of trips to limestone deposits in the Arlington area noted in Danner's *Limestone Resources of Western Washington*. They occurred from December 1997 to April 1998. The limestone is scattered in small pods over a large area. Years ago, Mark Sherman, Ben Tomkins and I found a small cave in the area we named Hogwallow. We mapped it at that time so we wouldn't have to go in it again. It had no redeeming features.

Most of the area is below 1500 feet so is open much of the winter. Lacking better low elevation prospects, we went ridge walking here.

Trip 1, December 13, 1997 - Mike Fraley, Larry McTigue, Steve Sprague

We met at the exit 208 Denny's for breakfast and to discuss our plans for the day. Danner devotes almost 7 full pages to the area and there are deposits that don't appear in his book. Our first stop was a small sink that takes water near Seattle City Light Powerlines. Larry dug a little here before we decided to move on to the major deposit noted in Danner's book - an abandoned limestone quarry.

The quarry is on State land and is now covered in forest. According to Danner the product was agricultural grade limestone, and he notes that a small cave was quarried away during operation. There were several large pits and small residual outcrops, but no caves that we could find.

Next, we went East over logging roads to find the deposits Danner shows near Twin Lakes. I stopped the car in a clear cut near to where I thought the first outcrop was should be. I started up my GPS to get a better idea. The trouble was that it had just had a software upgrade and I couldn't figure out how to get the dang thing to tell me where I was standing!!! While I was getting more frustrated by the moment, Larry started off to look around as Mike practiced hitting rocks with a stick, aiming at a large cedar tree in the clear cut. After about 15 minutes - Mike says "That's a limestone outcrop right next to that tree." I never did figure out how to get my current GPS position that day.

The pod was high grade, crystalline limestone that was right next to the road. It was fractured pretty heavily

and Larry poked around until he found a small opening - not really a cave, but an encouraging development. There was more limestone in the clear cut that was found after a quick search. But it was getting late and time to wrap up. We hadn't got to do much of what we had planned so we decided that another trip was needed.

Trip 2, February 7, 1998 - Larry McTigue, Mike Wagner, Steve Sprague

We met at Denny's to reconnoiter our pancakes and our plans. This time we decided to concentrate on the sink near the powerlines. Larry opened it up quite a bit but the water hindered the work. As Larry dug, Mike and I looked for other possible leads. We found a couple and managed to pull Larry away to look at them. He quickly spotted a promising one and commenced digging. Half an hour later he was in a small cave!

Our next stop was a couple of sinks nearby that I had originally spotted on aerial photos years ago. I remembered clearly where they were so I convinced Mike and Larry that after a short bush wack we would be digging in virgin sinks. The intervening vegetation conspired against us. We found some outcrops but no sinks. As we walked back to the car I promised them I would relocate the sinks prior to the next trip.

Trip 3, March 21, 1998 - Pete Dickman, Jim Harp, Lane Holdcroft, Paul Ostby, Jerry Thompson, Steve Sprague

Denny's again to fill everyone up, and to fill everyone in on what we had learned so far. Our first stop was the phantom sinks which I located using 1983 aerial photos. We decided one looked promising but since Larry wasn't there no actual digging was accomplished. We next made a quick stop at the site near the powerlines, then continued on to the area near Twin Lakes.

We first did a thorough search of the area we located at the end of the first trip. We had enough people this time to do area searches so we did one in the clear cut and one in the forest adjacent to the outcrop. The searches were unsuccessful, we found a little more limestone but no real digging potential.

Farther down the road Danner noted 3 more pods. I couldn't find the first, even though the landmarks for it were the best of the bunch. We found the second without too much trouble and the third was much larger than Danner noted on his map. This one was on steep side hill and was partially explored before we called it quits due to the steadily increasing rain.

Trip 4, April 4, 1998 - Mike Fraley, Larry McTigue, Steve Sprague

At Denny's they greeted me by my first name this time.

The first stop was the two sinks we had found on trip 3. Larry started digging immediately, I even helped a little. After about an hours work we came to the conclusion that if there was anything here it would have to be totally excavated. Oh well.

When we got back to the cars we spent some non caving time plinking with my pistol. Larry was way too good a shot for his first time. Mike kept shaking his head over both his performance and Larry's.

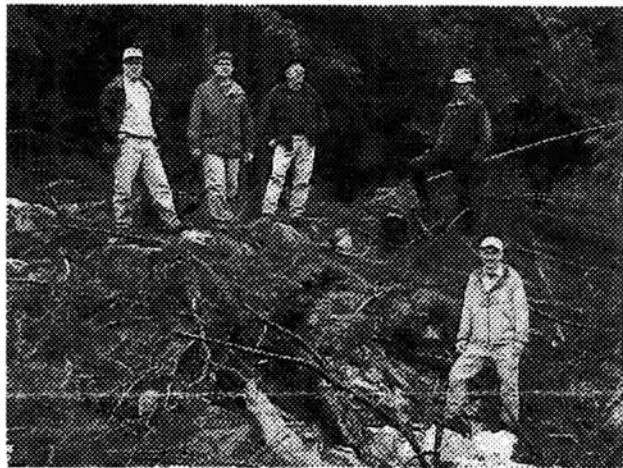
Next it was off to the large pod on the hill we had partially explored the previous trip. There is a stream on the north side of the pod that disappeared part way up! We poked around but the resurgence (if that is what it is) was too dispersed to dig on. We started back, intending to swing by Hogwallow before heading for home. I was leading, keeping Larry's car in my rear view mirror. All of a sudden, Larry's car isn't there. I back up and there is Mike and Larry out of the car pointing at the ground. Turns out the road had been constructed over a limestone pod!

Larry gets out his shovel and starts digging on the side of the road. Mike and I look around for more limestone and when we get bored of that, Mike starts swinging at rocks with a stick while I spy the perfect walking stick in the top of a small tree. Meanwhile Larry is still digging. I look over from my walking stick in progress and Larry is saying from his hole "you got a rope?" We rig a hand line from a nearby stump and Larry continues. Turns out there is a dome under the road. Larry later names it Middle of the Road Cave, although it never really achieves total darkness, it is in really nice limestone.

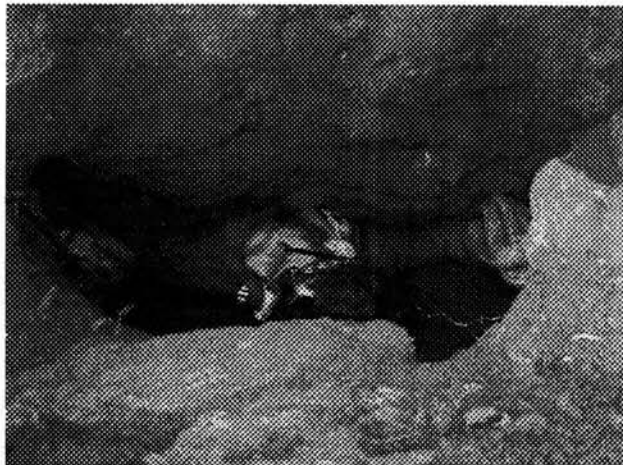
Well, that's it so far. Summer is coming and greener pastures are beckoning. But maybe next year, when the snow is low in the foothills...



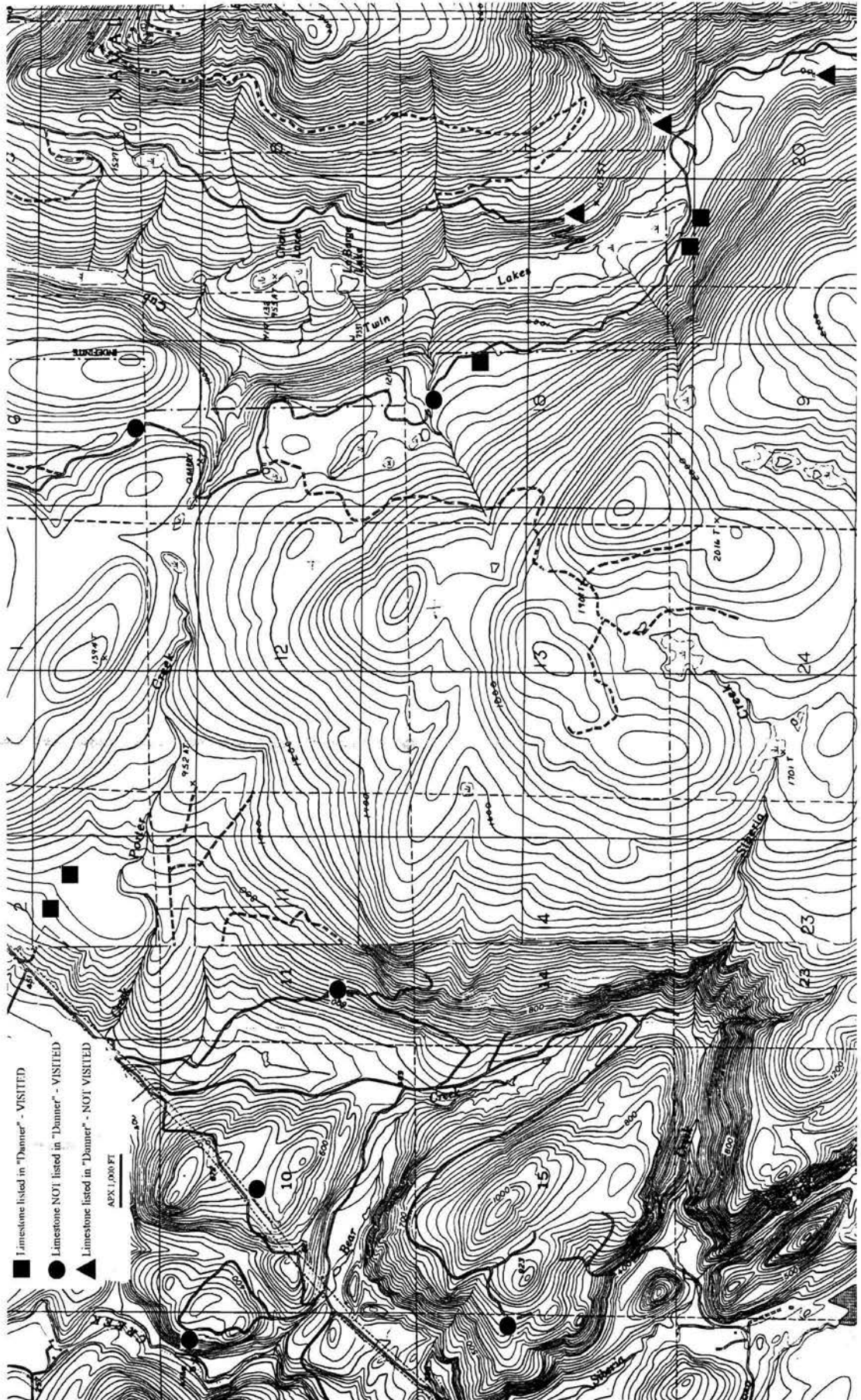
Larry McTigue and Mike Wagner at the entrance to a small cave. Trip #2.



Pete Dickman, Lane Holdcroft, Jim Harp, Jerry Thompson, and Paul Ostby at a not-very-promising outcrop of limestone. Trip #3.



Larry McTigue crawls out from under a rock. Trip #4.



Summer Trips and Events

Compiled by Jim Harp

June 18 Brenda Beckley 208-334-2578
Idaho Bat Working Group Biannual Meeting at Fernan Ranger Station just off the Sherman Street exit of I 90 in Coeur d'Alene. The main objectives of the meeting are to share information, discuss species identification, understand the processes, procedures and required environmental work for closing mines, and to establish a plan or strategy for getting involvement during the west-wide "bat week".

June 18-July 30 William Halliday bnawrh@webtv.net
I'll be in Hawaii June 18-July 30, working first on sea level karst on the west side of Oahu, then mostly in the caldera of Kilauea. I could use some help. Anyone free to come help? I was 72 this week and this is likely to be my last field season in Hawaii. Aloha, Bill H.

June 20-21 Val Schmidt GSG 208-322-7518
Survey of Gypsum Cave.

June 20-21 Steve Hoefel PSG 253-952-5225
Beginners trip to Trout Lake area.

June 20 Brett Cook WVG 503-648-6807
Radio location work in Dynamited cave.

July 2-5 Leonard Slack CG 425-226-6597
Camping at Elk Meadows RV park near Trout Lake. See the fireworks display at Hood River and get to do some caving to boot. Please bring the kids along.

July 2-5 Steve Knutsen WVG 503-695-2659
A weekend of caving in the Marble Mountains.

July 3-5 Jennifer Dorman 208-321-1239
French Creek and Argenta Cave, Montana.

July 12 Larry McTigue CG 253-850-8614
Cave Ridge to do surface and underground surveying and just plain caving for those who don't want to survey. Bring vertical and survey gear if you have it.

July 18 - Aug 15 Kris Esterson <kae7077@garnet.acns.fsu.edu
Ketchicave 1998. The expedition will be held on Kosciusko Island, Southeast Alaska,

July 18-19 Wendel Pound PSG 253-863-1649
Three Sinks and Falls Creek. Camping and caving.

Aug 8-9 Wendel Pound PSG 253-863-1649
Ape cave clean up and general caving.

Summer Trips and Events

Compiled by Jim Harp

Labor Day Jennifer Dorman GSG 208-321-1239

Papoose Cave. There will be four zone 2 trips and 6 zone 1 trips scheduled per demand over the Labor Day weekend to Papoose Cave. Anyone interested needs to contact me for sign-up. It will be based on a first come first served basis. The trips are listed below:

SATURDAY:

Trip One: Clearwater, Valhalla, Astle, Gargoyle

Trip Two: Lower & Upper Satori, Bluewater Extension, Formation Room

Two Zone 1 trips (one entering from the lower entrance and one from the upper entrance)

SUNDAY:

Trip One: Lower & Upper Satori, Bluewater Proper, Atlantis

Trip Two: Lower Satori, Puberty Pit, Great White Way, Lightning Passage

Two Zone 1 trips (one entering from the lower entrance and one from the upper entrance)

MONDAY:

Two Zone 1 trips (one entering from the lower entrance and one from the upper entrance)

If you are interested, contact me ASAP, the trips will fill fast, especially to the Zone 2 areas. If there is a large demand for these areas, cavers will be limited to one Zone 2 trip for the weekend so everyone has the opportunity. I will keep alternate lists in case people back out of a trip though.

Sept 4-7 Steve Knutsen WVG 503-695-2659

Labor day weekend in the Marble Mountains.

Sept 19 Jerry Thompson CG 360-653-7390

Windy Creek Cave. Date subject to change depending on weather and access.

Oct. 9-12 Steve Knutsen WVG 503-695-2659

Columbus day weekend in the Marble Mountains.

Oct 9-11 Carl Diaz SDG 619-561-3815

Western Regional at Camp Marston hosted by the San Diego Grotto.

Oct 10-11 Scott Davis PSG 206-862-1035

Cave ridge. Surveying or just having a good time caving. Beginners encouraged to come.

NSS members and members of recognized caving clubs are welcome to participate. Others may participate by invitation only. Please don't post this list to your web site as it would invite non-cavers to contact our trip leaders.

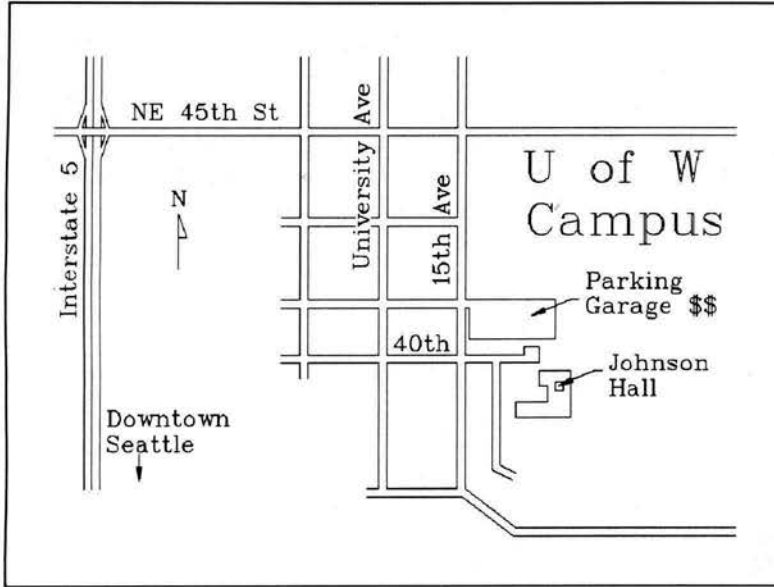
Trip coordinators:

WVG Tom Kline 503-786-0592

PSG Wendel Pound 253-863-1649

CG Jim Harp 425-745-1010

GSG Jen Dorman 208-321-1239



The Cascade Grotto meets at 7:00 pm on the third Friday of each month 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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