

THE CASCADE CAVER

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COMING EVENTS

(NOTE) There will be no regular meeting in June. See you at the Convention.

July 4 weekend Papoose Cave trip, or Nakimu Caves, B.C.

July 11, 1966 (Monday) Regular Meeting 8 P.M.
Dr. Halliday's
1117 - 36th Ave East, Seattle

Late July Lava Tube trip

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CAVE MEMO COMES TO LIGHT

A 1952 memorandum on file here describes a cave opening in the Cottage Area which had been sealed off for safety purposes. According to the memo, the opening "drops almost stright down (ropes are necessary) for 50 feet or more. It then opens into a large chamber, the roof and walls of which are lined with large loose rocks."

Yesterday, this cavern was located. It was not sealed off, as someone had removed a large pile of rocks which had blocked the opening. There was a rotten manila rope leading into the cave, with evidence of visitation probably as recent as 1960. We have blocked it off again with timbers and rocks.

This memorandum will serve to record its location and to set it up as an item to be inspected each year. A note will be put in the operations manual for the Monument. At some future date it may be desired to open the cavern for further exploration, as it possibly could lead to other caverns.

Location: on a true azimuth of 58°NE from the opening of the 110' cave exit, across the valley on an elevation about 50' higher than 110' (or an elevation of 4,160 feet). The opening lies at the base of a nearly vertical, moss-covered marble outcrop about 10 feet high and 20 feet wide. Perhaps 150 yards NE of the Cottage Trail, the site is concealed and hard to find, so that only those with previous knowledge would ever be likely to find it.

Roger J. Contor
Management Assistant
Oregon Caves National Monument

CORRESPONDENCE

from Jim Nieland, 12/29/65

I got back to Trout Lake sooner than I expected to. Maurice Magee came down to be with his family for Christmas. His brother Bill called me and said they were going to try to get into Trout Lake---and would I like to go along. You can just bet I said "Yes".

We went up yesterday, 12/28, a fellow I think was their brother-in-law, his two sons, the Magee's and I. We wanted to go to the caves that are out past the sawmill, but the road had been plowed only a few hundred feet beyond the mill, so we had to give that up. The snow was about waist deep, so we couldn't go on any very long treks.

So-----we went to the caves that I told you about earlier, the ones that are south of Trout Lake and east of the highway. To get to it, we had to wait for the snow plow to carve out a spot big enough for us to park the car. We only had to hike about 600 feet, but it took us an hour and a half to do it!! But we did get there and did the main section of the cave, about 1,000 feet. Maurice can now show you where it is.

from Clyde Senger, 6/8/65, Bellingham, Wn.

I went back up the the Lily-Lizard lake area last weekend and was surprised at how much I had forgotten. We went to the main cave and I went to the lowest end but didn't find much in the way of more passage. In the meantime, David Senger was looking around and disappeared into a small hole and soon we heard him behind a wall of broken rock. He had gone to the surface and then back down into a small room that I didn't remember at all. I told him to wait and I started to leave, but he met me at the entrance. As you might guess, he couldn't find the right hole when we returned. I then started looking for the entrance to the back rooms from the outside or above ground area, and couldn't remember or find it. We did find some other ones, including the one that you found above the chimney the last time. I also found a good looking hole behind a rock in a small pit. I started down and it really looked good. It opened out but dropped at a good slant for 15 or 20 feet. At the bottom was a flat area and when I flashed the light around I saw a drop of about 10 feet to a large room. About that time, I realized that I was back in the main cave in a passage I had used to leave the cave at one time. It was really rather of a disappointment. We looked around on the cliff above Lizard lake, but saw no sign of an opening. I did find a fault area, but no opening above or below it. There are still two other cliff areas that I have not been to, north and west of the cave area. Will let you know if I find anything there.

CORRESPONDENCE (continued)

from Clyde Senger

We have been back to the cave area nearer town several times and have found a easier way into the area. We also found some more caves in an area which we know looked good. Just as I was leaving the cave on the first trip, I looked in a small crack and at the back I saw a small opening. It looked rather good with a drop of about 15 feet so I tossed in a rock and it rattled on for another second or two for a total of 2-3 seconds. I didnt want to go down without a rope and alone, but on the next trip that was the first place we looked. It was just wide enough to enter, but widened out and we could stand-up at the 15 foot level. A fair sized room opened to the north with some small side passages. Below the ledge was another drop of 15-20 feet with a steep slope to another floor of broken rock. Some passages, to narrow to enter, lead off and down. While I was looking there, Bobby found another small hole going down from the room and we spent the next 30 minutes trying to get into or through it. There seemed to be a fair sized room beyond, but we finally gave up for then. In checking the bat caves I found another small opening behind a big rock, which looked good and then, as I was sat down to rest, the rock I put my hand on rolled over tearing the moss, and there was another pit with a passage leading off. I was soaked by then, so we left those for the future. I have heard of another cave which is nearly as big as the big one near Lily Lake, and if I can believe the student, (which I doubt). However, I will certainly do some looking when I go back there next time.

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