



# The Cascade Caver

Official Publication of the  
CASCADE GROTTOS N. S. S.



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Volume 10 #12      Editor: Dr. William R. Halliday      December 1971

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## COMING EVENTS

November 14-December 2. Cueva de Los Verdes.

November 25-28. Oregon Grotto trip to Papoose Cave. Larson, 695-4143.

December 4-10. Irish tentacle. Call HELP!

December 18. Grotto Invitational Potluck @ Hallidays, 1117 36th Ave. E.  
Call Nancy Pflum, EA5-2629. Bring \$1 for a slice of the roast.  
**ALL NORTHWEST NSS MEMBERS AND MEMBERS OF THE VICEG  
AND UVIC CC INVITED.**

Dec. 20. The regular grotto meeting will be held **ONLY** if the Neville  
movies do not arrive in time for the Potluck.

January 17. Next regular meeting. Report from Lanzarote tentacle.

June 12. Pre-convention field trips begin.

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## BELIZE SPELEOLOGICAL SURVEY PROGRESSING

- by Dave Albert

The southern extension of the Cascade Grotto is alive and well. We have been shifted to the Department of Archaeology (veddy britishh - ed.). We are working for the tourist board and at present are developing a national park site at the Blue Hole, a large sink that has a resurgence that wells up, flows about 200' and vanishes into a cave on the opposite side of the sink - which, alas, promptly vanishes and siphons out after one chamber. Have 100 sacks of cement and a crew of four.

We have a little Carlsbad located. It is rather nice taken on an international scale. Several large rooms, large formations and a wide variety of speleothems. The outer chambers were full of Mayan artifacts, almost all of which were salvaged as the cave was discovered only four years ago while surveying the boundaries of the proposed St. Herman's Cave National Park.

We discovered more than 3,000 feet of virgin, well decorated passage in St. Herman's and estimate about 3 miles of known passage, mostly stream but with two upper levels which have rooms several hundred feet long.

Last weekend we visited two streams that vanish at the contact of a phyllite & shale series and limestone. If in the NW, I could have 3 grottoes fighting for the honor of digging one out as it surely goes. But with all two of us plus the fact that it is several miles thru dense rain forest make it unlikely that we will work on it. However there are logs 5' in diameter hundreds of feet inside. On occasion it must take a heckuva lot of water.

## THE GEM CAVER IS ALIVE AND WELL TOO

Most pleasant to see Volume 4 #2 of The Gem Caver, now edited by Verne Blalack. Nice article on Crystal Ice Cave, north of St. Anthony, Idaho. Maybe this ought to be listed as a vulcanospeleological abstract, but the hell with it.

There is a rumor that the Speleonews of the Shining Mountains Grotto has been revived, but no verification at yet. And the way cavers' rumors go, well.....

## NEW VICEG PUBLICATION

The Vancouver Island Cave Exploration Group has published its Bulletin #1, entitled: A History of Vancouver Island Caving, 1962-1971, by P.R. Whitfield. The cover is an artistic photo reproduction of Clarence Hronek, and quite properly so. The content is the carefully researched, vigorously written report one would expect from its well-known author, from November 1962 to the present. Maybe this ought to be listed as a calcareospeleological abstract, but the hell with it. On second thought, cancel that. It's time the worm turned. If the noble enthusiasts of magnificent lava tube caves are stuck with the term vulcanospeleologists, and the intrepid explorers of glacier caves have the term glaciospeleologists inflicted upon them, what's wrong with calcareospeleologist for people who poke around in those grungy old limestone caves?

(Other editors note: anyone quoting the above noble sentiments please note that almost certainly, they're doing so out of context. And see what you can make out of that assertion!)

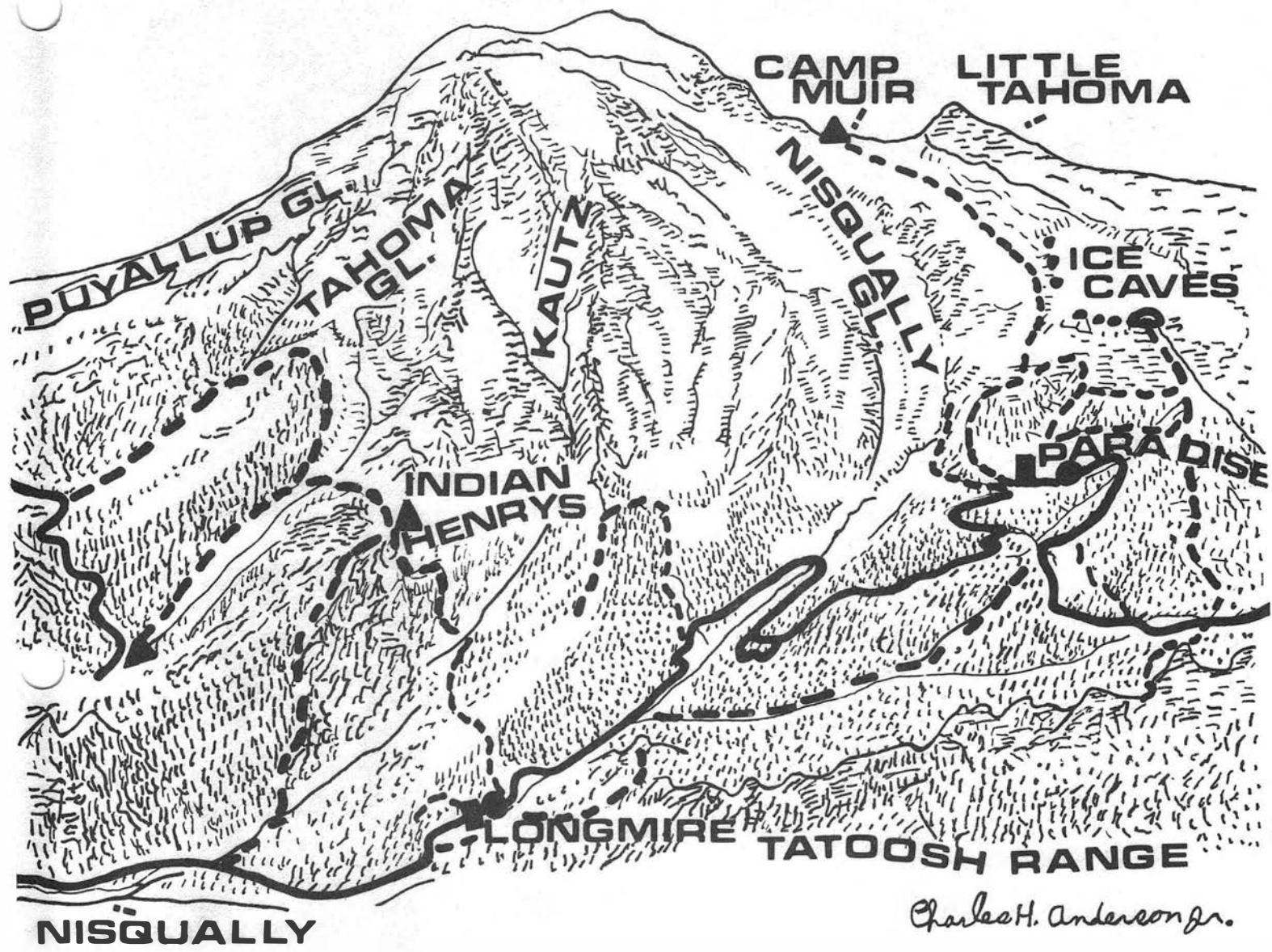
## FUND- (sob) RAISING CAMPAIGN

The NSS Board has authorized a fund-raising campaign to pay off the mortgage on the new Huntsville office building as fast as possible and thus save as much interest as possible on the loan. This was strongly recommended by the Congress of Grottoes, which represents the grass-roots of the NSS. Nobody likes fund-raising campaigns, but when you hear more about this one, think about the special links-between the Cascade Grotto and Huntsville. (Much as yr editor hates to admit it, he's contributed already)

## RECENT CORRESPONDANCE

Dear Mr. Coughlin:

We received your letter dated 10/19/71 concerning the gate in Dynamited Cave. We will get a reply back to you about your proposal as soon as possible but probably not be in your hand before the first part of next week. Sincerely yours,  
Neil R. Paulson, District Ranger, USFS, Trout Lake, Wash.



# PARADISE ICE CAVES MT. RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

TRAIL -- SHELTER ▲  
 ROAD — RANGER STATION ●  
 VISITOR CENTER ■





## ANNOUNCING THE FIRST NSS CAVE BALLAD COMPETITION

Anyone who has attended a NSS Convention or regional caving activity has sooner or later encountered the friendship of cavers at a campground gathered around a fire under the stars (or rain) while listening to and singing their favorite cave ballads. With so many excellent artists and composers around, it's about time that we capture these unusual songs and start a living collection for the NSS with a little competition.

The awards will be for best solo, best group, best original ballad, best rendition of an old ballad (that's for yr ed. - an impassioned rendition of the VPI song that's so old the VPI Grotto has forgotten it), with first, second and honorable mention. Awards will be presented at the 1972 NSS convention in White Salmon. Winners may be asked to perform if present.

Judging will be done prior to the convention via tape recording. Judges will be selected from as many areas of the country as possible. Anyone who wishes to help judge, please send me your qualifications, if any. (Deaf need not apply.)

Please make your recordings on reel type tape recorders, preferably 7 1/2 IPS stereo although 3 1/4 IPS and monaural are acceptable. If it is an original ballad, enclose a copy of the words and where the tune comes from. If it is an old rendition, name the author if known (and admitted - WRH). Include the categories into which your ballad falls. If there is a true story behind the song, please describe. Enter as many songs as you wish and feel free to include non-contest cave ballads and copies of old records for the NSS collection. Indicate if you want the tape returned (BOO. HISS!) and if you know whether you'll be present at the convention (But everybody's coming. Ed.)

Send your entries and questions to:

Chuck Coughlin  
4751 Mountain View Drive So.  
Seattle, Washington 98108.

The deadline will be June 20, 1972.

Good Luck  
William F. Zarwell, D.D.S.  
N.S.S. 8476  
398-40-2315  
38th Dental Detachment  
APO, San Francisco 96491

Editor's note: Ah, so. The principal principle of the Cascade Grotto: volunteer somebody else. SERIOUSLY: other grotto publications please copy.

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The fine map-diagram-sketch-what have you on the preceding page is again through the courtesy of Charlie Anderson. MANY THANKS, Charlie!

## GLACIOSPELEOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS

Tyndall, John. The glaciers of the Alps, and, Mountaineering in 1861. J.M. Dent & Sons, N.Y., 1906. (previously published separately) 274 pp.

This noted pioneer glaciologist eventually reached the point of studying the snout of the Mer de Glace, from which emerges the Arveyron River.

"In former times the whole volume of the Arveiron escaped from beneath the end of the glacier, forming a fine arch...". At that particular time, a lateral resurgence was dominant. "The vault at the end of the glacier was nevertheless respectable, and rather tempting to a traveller in search of information regarding the structure of the ice...while speculating as to the wisdom of entering the cavern, it suddenly gave way, and, with a crash that rivalled thunder, the roof strewed itself in ruins upon the floor."

Nevertheless, Tyndall was undaunted. On the Riffelhorn, he performed what may have been the first scientific exploration of a glacier cave:

"On one of the slopes an archway was formed which appeared to lead into the body of the glacier. We entered it, and explored the cavern to its end. The walls were of transparent blue ice, singularly free from air-bubbles; but where the roof of the cavern was thin enough to allow the sun to shine feebly through it, the transmitted light was of a pink color. My guide expressed himself surprised..." Unfortunately, no further description of the cave was given. At another time, he explored a smaller cave on the Finsteraarhorn, with notable speleothems.

Cascade Grotto of the  
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