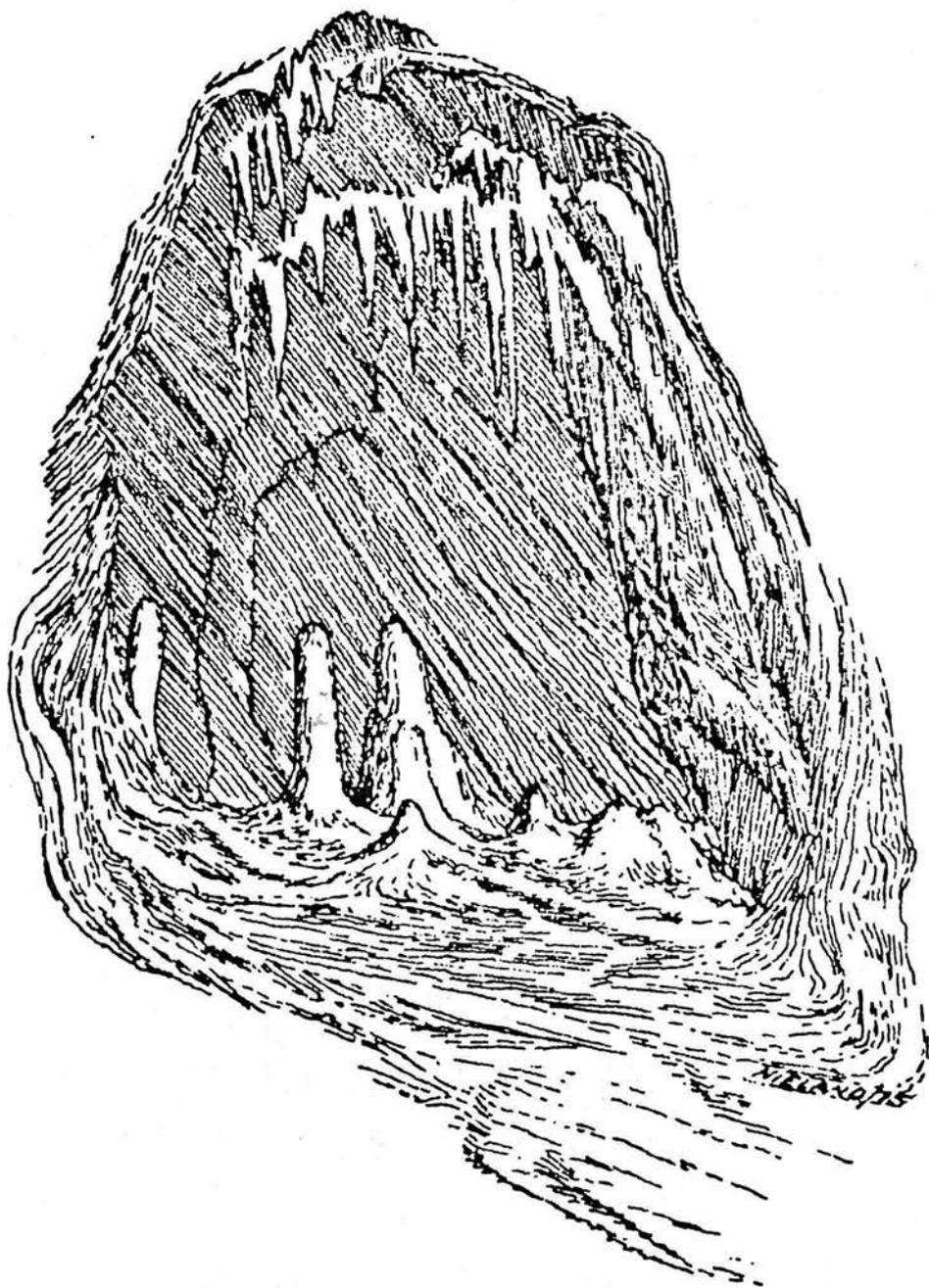


The Cascade Caver



Volume 27, No. 4 May 1988



CASCADE CAVER

The *Cascade Caver* is published 10 times a year by the Cascade Grotto, a member of the National Speleological Society. All correspondence should be sent to: The Cascade Grotto, P.O. Box 75663, Seattle, WA 98125-0663.

Meetings: 7:00 pm on the third Friday of each month at the University of Washington, Room 6, in the basement of Johnson Hall.

Officers:	Chairman:	Mark Wilson	(206) 285-5724
	Vice Chairman:	Dick Garnick	(206) 671-1066
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Dues: Membership in the Cascade Grotto including subscription to the *Cascade Caver* is \$7.50 per year. Dues for additional family members is \$1.50. Subscription to the *Cascade Caver* only is \$7.50 per year.

Please note the date on your mailing label that indicates when your dues expire.

Overdue:	Bruce Donohue 3/88	Thad Hahn 3/88,	Mark Wilson 3/88	
Due:	Richard Smith 4/88,	Randy Vance 4/88,	Bob Brown 5/88,	Dede Brown 5/8
	Peter Carter 5/88			
Coming Up:	Diane Coburn 6/88,	Ed Crawford 6/88,	Mary Crawford 6/88,	Rod Crawford 6/88,
	J. Gunsalus 6/88,	Larry McTigue 6/88,	Eugene Kiver 7/88,	Eckart Schmidt 7/88,
	Wolfie Schmidt 7/88			

Change of Address: W. R. Halliday 6530 Cornwall Court, Nashville, TN 37205

Corrections: Gerry Thompson zip code is 98275

Cover: Drawing by Jim Nieland.

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Upcoming Events

Current trip list, planned and proposed. Anyone with other trip ideas or who would like to organize one of the proposed trips is welcome to contact Jim Harp, grotto trip coordinator, at 745-1010.

May 20	May Grotto Meeting.	Jun 18	Proposed trip to Windy Creek Cave. Anybody interested?
May 27-30	Northwest Caving Association Regional meet on Vancouver Island.	Jun 27-Jul 1	NSS Convention at Hot Springs, South Dakota.
Jun 10-12	Gerry Thompson wants to get into the new stuff in Dynamited Cave near Trout Lake. This trip would be for experienced vertical cavers only but there are other caves in the area if other people want to go along. Contact Gerry Thompson at the grotto meetings or via Jim Harp for details.	Jul 2-9	Northwest Cave Research Institute work week at Jewel Cave in South Dakota. Project Coordinator: Steve Sprague, 652-6489.
Jun 17	June Grotto Meeting	Jul 8-10	Mt. St. Helens upper south-side caves and northern pyroclastic deposits. This access permit includes going to the top of the glaciers. You will need to sign a permit form well in advance if you were

not on a previous permit. Trip leader: Dr. Halliday.

- Jul 15** **July Grotto Meeting.**
Jul 16-17 For something different, here is a proposed over-nighter to McLaughlin Canyon in eastern Washington. This is a fun block-fault system and not limestone or lava. Trip leader: Gerry Thompson.
- Aug 5-7 Proposed trip to Vancouver Island led by Mark Wilson. Vertical experience will probably be necessary.
- Aug 12-14 Backpack, ridge walk, and cave hunt on Monument 48 near the Canadian border. Trip leader: Dick Garnick, 671-1066.
- Aug 19** **August Grotto Meeting.**
Aug 20-21 Proposed trip to Cave Ridge. Some of us haven't been there in a while.
- Aug 27 Proposed day trip to caves in the Concrete area.
- Sep 2-5 (Labor Day) Papoose Cave in Idaho, in conjunction with Gem State Grotto outing there. Experienced vertical cavers only. Contact Jim Harp or Gerry Thompson.
- Sep 2-5 Proposed trip to Gardiner Cave in the northeastern corner of Washington and to Cody Cave near Nelson, B.C. These are pretty but fairly easy caves for those not interested in Papoose.
- Sep 16** **September Grotto Meeting.**
Sep 24-25 Overnighter to Monument 48 led by Dick Garnick.
- Oct 1 Day trip to Windy Creek with special invite to Oregon Grotto members, organized by Jim Harp.
- Oct 14-16 Trout Lake area. Mark Wilson will lead a trip to Dynamited Cave in particular which will require vertical experience.
- Oct 21** **October Grotto Meeting.**
Oct 22 Proposed day trip to Cave Ridge, weather permitting.
- Oct 29 Anyone for a grotto Halloween party?
- Nov 18** **November Grotto Meeting.** Nomination of 1989 officers.
- Nov 19 Day trip to Lizard Lake Talus Cave. Trip leader: Rod Crawford, 543-9853.
- Nov 24-27 Anybody interested in a Thanksgiving Holiday cave trip???

Meeting Notes and Short Subjects

April Meeting. Mark Wilson called the meeting to order with 14 people present, including John Dickson whom we haven't seen in a while. Mark discussed the survey that appeared last month and emphasized that he would like them returned by the May grotto meeting.

Bill Halliday discussed the new management proposals for the Mount Baker and Snoqualmie National Forests. These documents mentioned caves only once in a stack about a foot high. Mark Wilson will be writing a letter expressing the grotto's concerns.

Bob Brown called attention to the voter's pamphlet recently mailed out by the NSS and urged all NSS members to read it and vote. He also noted that Bill Halliday is running for a position on the board of directors.

Jim Harp and Gerry Thompson reported on a trip to McLaughlin Canyon and Albright Caves.

Dr. Halliday highlighted recent caving in Trinidad.

Steve Sprague and Ben Tompkins reported on a trip in Jewel Cave, SD, as part of the preparations for the upcoming NCRI project there.

Larry McTigue and Rob Lewis told of their trip to the Jackman Creek area. They did some digging in a resurgence in a limestone area not mentioned in Danner's book.

The show for the night was an NSS show about Sinnit-Thorn Mountain cave system in West Virginia.

NSS Issues Donated. The Grotto would like to thank long-time member Ed Tupper for donating his collection of NSS News and NSS Bulletins to the Grotto Library. This collection goes back to 1961 with all editions of the 60's and early 70's hard-bound.

50th Issue. This issue marks the 50th roll of the presses for Ben and I, although it seems like at least twice that many. We certainly thank all of you who have contributed during this time. The cover of this issue was resurrected from our first issue back in January, 1982. - Mark.

Trip Reports and Stuff. The backlog of material for upcoming issues is getting a little low. Those of you who don't come to the meetings must be too busy caving so please let us know what you've been up to. Brag a little.

Convention Course. A 1-day course entitled "Speleology For Cavers" will be offered on Friday, July

1, 1988 at Convention. Experts will lecture on each of the following topics: Geology, Hydrology, Formations & Sediments, Meteorology, Biology, and Archaeology. Participants will receive printed course material. Lunch will be provided.

The course will cost \$25. Registration will be limited to 40 people. To register, send a check or money order to: NSS Educational Opportunities in Speleology Committee (NSS EOSC), c/o J.C. Evans, Treasurer, 9 Pine Street, Maynard Mass. 01754.

Ape Cave gets Basic Face-Lift

from the *Portland Oregonian*,
May 3, 1988

COUGAR, Wash. -- Visitors to Ape Cave, on the south flank of Mount St. Helens, will find a whole new look to the area this summer.

The old paved logging road which used to run within 100 feet of the cave entrance and the parking lot across the road are being torn up and restored to forest. A new parking lot is being built about 1,000 feet south of the cave entrance and a rustic trail will lead to the cave entrance.

Doug Kessler, the Forest Service official in charge of the \$409,493 contract, said he expected to finish the job -- except for the landscaping -- by the end of the month.

Forest Road 83303, the paved logging road leading to the cave, has been closed about 1,500 feet south of the cave and is being rerouted about 500 feet west of the cave entrance. A new parking lot to accommodate 30 cars, two handicapped spaces, four larger recreational vehicles, and one bus will be built as soon as the ground dries out.

Two restroom buildings are under construction at the parking lot site. Also a stone building 14-by-30 feet in size is nearing completion. It will be used for sale of maps and literature and rental of flashlights and lanterns to visitors who want to explore the popular cave.

The U.S. Forest Service is considering the possibility of keeping a concessionaire there year-round. Plans call for a small unattended kiosk to be built at the cave entrance to display information. The rustic rail fence protecting visitors from falling into the cave entrance will be rebuilt further from the lip of the cave.

While construction is under way, visitors may have

to park alongside the old 8303 road and walk 1,000 feet or more to reach the cave.

Ape Cave, 12,833 feet long, is the longest lava tube in the continental United States. It was formed 1,900 years ago by molten lava flowing like water out of the volcano. The lower half of the cave is up to 20 feet in diameter most of the way. About 60,000 visitors parked at the cave entrance last year, according to Jim Nieland, recreation specialist for the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument.

The cave was threatened by volcanic debris swept down the south side of Mount St. Helens following the May 18, 1980 eruption. Volcanic ash covered the low-lying parking lot. Sand bags prevented the flood water from pouring into the cave. The road was partly blocked by volcanic debris by winter floods this spring.

Pair Rescued From Cave After Lights Fail

From the *Vancouver, WA Columbian*,
April 6, 1988

Two Vancouver men whose flashlight batteries ran dry were rescued Tuesday night from Ape Cave, a lava tube about 10 miles northeast of Cougar. Paul Wolfe, 18, 5118 N.E. 40th Ave., and Ryan Jones, 20, 1905 E. 11th St. were found uninjured about 10 p.m. Tuesday. They had been missing since the late afternoon.

They were found by rescue personnel from the North Country Emergency Service. According to a spokesman for the Skamania County Sheriff's Office, the two were at Ape Cave with six others. Wolfe and Jones were the lead pair, and they climbed out through the Skylight, an exit south of the main upper-end exit. When they got back into the cave, the other six in their party had passed them. Wolfe and Jones then tried to walk south to the point at which they had entered the cave, the sheriff's spokesman said. En route, their batteries died, so they stopped in total darkness about 300 yards north of the entrance.

Mount St. Helens Trip Report

Mark Wilson

The evening of April 22 saw me winging my way down to Cougar with Chuck Crandall and another friend. We arrived in Cougar around 9:30 and my car was suddenly possessed by the urge to sit in a tavern parking lot. Now I've been around my car before when it gets in these moods and there's just no dealing with

it. Knowing it would take awhile for it to return to normal we headed inside to enjoy the local culture. It was 11:30 or so when we were finally able to continue our journey but the adventure wasn't over yet.

On our way up to Lava Cast to camp we were overtaken by the urge of the Cave God. He appeared before us and commanded us to go to Ape Cave. This seemed reasonable so we complied, however, the adventure wasn't over yet...

The road to Ape was under construction and the signs told us to park an interminable way from the cave. Since the Cave God said nothing about hiking we ignored the signs and drove on up to the cave. At the old (note the tense) parking lot (see previous article-ed.) we came upon an encampment of sorts and as we drove up a powerful spotlight (you know, the kind you use to paralyze innocent deer so you can kill them for sport) was directed into our eyes. Before I knew it a large bearded Cave Troll was standing beside the car wanting to know what the !xz#! we were doing there. He wasn't impressed with the answer. Since my mother told me never to argue with Cave Trolls, especially those carrying pistols, we decided to save Ape Cave for another time and went off to set up camp.

Saturday dawned sunny and immediately turned to rain and snow drizzles. No one had shown up by 9:30 so we headed off into Lake Cave. What can I say, it's still the same old tube. I must admit though I now know where it got it's name. The previous four times I've been in Lake, I've been down on my belly crawling trying to find the lake (was your car as stubborn about taverns each time? -ed.). We exited into a drizzle and were promptly met by a lantern toting Oregon Caver. Back at camp we found Mike and Sue O'Neal, John Clardy and his son and Roger Cole in various stages of combing the lava beds looking for the cave. I could have sworn I said to meet at 9:30 not 10:00. My apologies to everyone.

As the weather was full of NW sunshine and the prospect of traipsing all over the lava fields looking for two caves I've never located, in that sunshine was not very appealing, we caravanned up the road to Little Red River. We managed to circumvent the gate (I always forget to bring the key) and had a great trek down to the end of the tube. Did you know there's a lake at the end of this tube also? Maybe we should change the name to Little Red River Lake Cave.

Back at the car we enjoyed lunch and decided to split up for the remainder of the afternoon. Part of our group headed off to do Lake Cave and part decided to posthole their way up to Gremlin. After all it's just up around that bend in the road up yonder. Can't be

more than 1/4 mile at most. First rule of caving; Always trust your trip leader. After our 45 minute posthole (I told ya I could find this cave with no problem even in the snow) we explored to the nether reaches of Gremlin.

Back at Lava Cast we met up with the Lake Cave group who had a good time exploring that tube. As the weather showed little chance of improving the trip leader elected to abandon his search for Prince Albert and Dollar and a Dime Caves and headed home to Seattle. Roger and his friend from Oregon also left, John Clardy and his son had already gone off to sleep somewhere and Mike and Sue went off to crash also. The latter two groups were going to explore Ape on Sunday; Beware the Cave Troll he said as he drove out of sight.

Secret Cave to be State Park

from the *Seattle Times*,

April 28, 1988

The state that's home to the Grand Canyon and the Petrified Forest will soon acquire another natural wonder - a spectacular 2.5 mile cavern kept secret for years for fear it would be vandalized.

The Legislature and Gov. Rose Mofford yesterday rushed to enact legislation allowing the state to acquire the cavern, discovered 14 years ago near Benson in southeast Arizona.

The cave's existence had been a closely held secret since it was discovered in 1974, because its owners feared vandals would destroy its beauty. The state acted this week after word of the cavern leaked out.

"It's fabulous," said Kenneth Travous, state Park Board director, who has twice squeezed through the tiny opening to view the cavern. "Walt Disney couldn't have done any better for the state of Arizona. Your imagination goes crazy when you get down there."

The cavern is about 13,000 feet long with rooms the size of football fields and ceilings from 50 to 100 feet high. Thousands of still-growing stalagmites and stalactites ranging from a few inches to 60 feet are found throughout. It's also home to a colony of 700 bats.

In about three years, Travous says, about 100,000 to 150,000 people a year will get to travel by elevator to see the cave. Officials plan to use state park revenues to acquire the site for \$1.6 million within a year from the Arizona Nature Conservancy, which soon

will buy the site from the family of the late James Kartchner, a Cochise County rancher and educator.

Last Friday, the state sent park rangers to guard the site on an emergency basis as word of the cavern's existence began to leak out. The bill was quickly enacted to allow the state to continue to oversee the land.

The cavern's co-discoverer, Randy Tufts, 39, said that finding it along with Gary Tenen, 37, was "a once-in-a-lifetime discovery for the caver."

Tufts said he and Tenen wanted the cavern turned into a park to protect it from vandals.

Constitution of the Cascade Grotto

I. The name of this organization shall be the Cascade Grotto of the National Speleological Society.

II. The purposes of this grotto shall be: to promote interest in and to advance in any and all ways the study and science of speleology, the protection of caves and their natural contents, and to promote fellowship among those interested therein. This grotto shall have the additional object of organizing the members of the National Speleological Society in the Pacific Northwest into a group to better promote these purposes.

Section 2. This organization is organized exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

III. The entire management and government of this grotto except as otherwise expressly provided shall be vested with the membership.

Section 2. The officers of the grotto shall be: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary-Treasurer, elected yearly by the membership. Their duties shall be those usually associated with each office.

Section 3. The membership shall have complete power to manage the grotto, to make rules relating to subsequent elections, to formulate

by-laws, to appoint chairmen of special committees, to raise funds in any manner not inconsistent with the policies of the Board of Governors of the NSS, and to perform all other necessary functions.

IV. General meetings of the grotto shall be held at such times and places as are determined by the membership. The chairman of the grotto shall have the power to call special business meetings whenever necessary but first must obtain the consent of a majority of the voting members.

V. Membership is open to all persons in the Pacific Northwest interested in the grotto's purposes, who have complied with conditions of membership set forth in the By-laws.

Section 2. Only members with their grotto dues paid shall have voting rights in the election of officers or at meetings.

VI. The constitution and by-laws of the NSS shall be binding on this grotto. Any action inconsistent therewith shall be null and void.

VII. Any property held by this grotto shall revert to the NSS in the event of dissolution of the grotto.

Bylaws of the Cascade Grotto

Article I.

The Cascade Grotto shall have five classes of membership:

Section 1. Regular members shall be those persons who have signified their desire to become members, have paid current dues, live in the Pacific Northwest, and are

not voting members of other grottos of the NSS in the Pacific Northwest or other units of the Northwest Regional Association. Regular members receive all Grotto publications and are entitled to vote on all pertinent matters.

Section 2. Family members are relatives of a regular member, live at the same address, and have paid current dues. Family members receive no publications but those over 15 years of age are entitled to vote on all pertinent matters.

Section 3. Subscribing members are persons who have paid the current subscription rate for Grotto publications but who do not desire to be active participants in Grotto activities. Subscribing members receive all Grotto publications but are not entitled to vote on any Grotto matter.

Section 4. Associate members shall be those persons who have signified their desire to participate in Grotto activities but either live outside the Pacific Northwest, or are voting members of other grottos of the NSS in the Pacific Northwest, or other units of the Northwest Regional Association. Upon payment of current dues, associate members receive all Grotto publications, are encouraged to attend all Grotto activities, but are not entitled to vote.

Section 5. Honorary members shall be those persons elected to lifetime memberships in recognition of outstanding services or achievements. No more than one Honorary member may be elected in any one year. Honorary members pay no dues, receive all Grotto publications free for one year, and are entitled to vote on all pertinent matters.

Article II.

All Grotto dues shall be paid at the time of beginning membership and shall be renewable one year later. Dues for regular and associate members shall be \$7.50 per year. Subscription rate for Grotto publications shall be \$7.50 for one year's issues. Dues for family members shall be \$1.00 per year.

Article III.

Nominations for Grotto officers shall be made at the November general meeting; such nominations must be made by a Grotto member with voting rights. The Secretary-Treasurer will mail to each member with voting

rights a ballot prior to the 10th day of December. The ballot must be returned to the Secretary-Treasurer no later than December 31st. The Secretary-Treasurer will tally the vote and notify both present and newly elected officers of the results. Newly elected Grotto officers shall take office on the tenth day of January following the election.

Article IV.

A simple majority of voting members present shall prevail at general or special Grotto meetings. Approval of amendments to the bylaws or the Grotto constitution, or expulsion of a member shall require a 2/3 favorable vote of those voting after due notification to the Grotto membership; due notification being 30 days written notice. For the purpose of a 2/3 vote, those voting shall include members present, mail and proxy ballots received by the first meeting after due notice.

Operating Policy of the Cascade Grotto

- A. Duties and responsibilities of the Chairman:
 - a. Appoints all committee chairmen and Cascade Caver Editor.
 - b. Chairs Grotto and special business meetings. Rules on points of order and in case of tie votes, casts deciding vote. Chairman has the right to vote on all money matters and on any matter requiring a 2/3 vote.
- B. Duties and responsibilities of the Vice-Chairman:
 - a. Assumes Chairman's duties when he is absent.
 - b. Represents the Grotto, or ensures that the Grotto is represented at the Congress of Grottos.
 - c. Conducts all other duties usually associated with this office.
- C. Duties and responsibilities of the Secretary-Treasurer:
 - a. Maintains Grotto Financial records.
 - b. Collects Grotto dues as per Article 2 of the bylaws.
 - c. Maintains Grotto funds in an interest-bearing account.
 - d. Maintains current membership records.

- e. Provides the Cascade Caver editor with a current membership list by April 15 of each year for printing in the May Cascade Caver.
 - f. Submits a financial report to the Grotto four times per year, in January, April, July, and October.
 - g. Dispenses Grotto funds at the direction of the Chairman after approval of the membership. Approval of the membership in the case of fund dispersal only requires a simple majority of those present and voting at any regular Grotto meeting.
 - h. Conducts duties as outlined in Article 3 of the bylaws.
 - i. Prepares the Annual Report of the Grotto and submits it to the NSS.
 - j. Assumes Chairman's and Vice-chairman's duties when both are absent.
- D. Duties and responsibilities of the Cascade Caver editor:
- a. Publish a good quality Grotto publication (at least six pages) ten times per year. This publication should contain but is not limited to the following: field trip reports, all new members as they join the Grotto (names, addresses, and phone numbers), all business acted upon at Grotto, special business, or unit meetings, and other articles or information of interest to the membership.
 - b. It shall be the responsibility of the Editor to see that the Cascade Caver is mailed by the Wednesday before the regular monthly meeting.
 - c. A current membership list must be printed in the May issue of the Cascade Caver and must be current as of April 15 of that year.
 - d. All Grotto printing supplies and equipment are the responsibility of the editor.
 - e. The Editor must provide the Secretary-Treasurer with a record of Cascade Caver expenses in January and September of each year.
 - f. It shall be Grotto policy and the Editor's responsibility to make sure that no sensitive wild cave locations are printed in the Cascade Caver
 - g. It shall be Grotto policy and the Editor's responsibility to make sure that no material of a speleo-political nature is printed in the Cascade Caver without approval of the Grotto membership.
- h. The Editor has the authority to make minor changes and deletions in any material submitted, or to refuse publication, for reasons of quality or Grotto policy. The Editor has final authority over the contents of the Cascade Caver, subject only to his removal by the Grotto membership.
- E. It is understood that the officers of the Grotto and the Editor of the Cascade Caver, in order to fulfill their duties and responsibilities, need the support and cooperation of the membership. It shall be their responsibility to delegate such duties as they are unable to fulfill personally.
- F. The Program Committee chairman shall be allotted 45 minutes of the Grotto meeting time. It will be his responsibility to provide a good quality program of at least NSS visual aid quality. The 8:15 to 9:00 time period will be scheduled to the program chairman.
- G. It shall be Grotto policy to operate a Grotto Store, the purpose of which shall be the sale and rental of caving equipment. The Grotto store shall be managed by a storekeeper appointed by the Grotto membership. The Storekeeper has complete authority to manage the store subject only to his removal by the Grotto membership. Any net profit from the sale or rental of equipment shall be distributed as per item H.
- H. In order to raise funds for the purchase of merchandise for the store, the storekeeper is authorized to sell "Store Certificates." Only Cascade Grotto members may be certificate holders. Net profit from the store shall be distributed in the following manner:
- 20% to certificate holder dividends
 - 40% reinvestment in the store
 - 20% to certificate buy-back fund
 - 20% to Grotto treasury
- In addition, the storekeeper shall sell "Game Certificates" to finance the production of "The Caving Game." Only Cascade Grotto members may be Game Certificate holders. Net profit from the sale of games after paying costs shall be distributed as follows:

50% to Carlene Allred
25% to Grotto treasury
25% to Game Certificate holder dividends

- I. The Grotto shall have a Cave Resources Committee. Its duties shall be to maintain a file of Washington unchecked cave rumors and topographic maps for the use of Grotto members. Policies for the loan of topographic maps shall be set by the committee.
- J. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman to ensure that the duties usually associated with the following committee positions are accomplished. Normally in order to achieve this the Chairman will appoint committee chairmen:
- a. Membership Committee
 - b. Equipment Rental Committee
 - c. Grotto Storekeeper
 - d. Program Committee
 - e. Cave Resources Committee
 - f. Field Trip Coordinator
 - g. Conservation Committee
 - h. Safety Committee
 - i. Cave Register and Information Program
 - j. NRA Regional Representative
 - k. Visual Aids Committee
 - l. Fund raising Committee
 - m. Cascade Caver Editor
- K. It shall be Grotto policy to supply Dr. W. R. Halliday with forty (40) copies of each issue of the Cascade Caver for exchange purposes and for non-paid NSS and USGS distribution. Grotto members shall have access to the resulting exchange library.
- L. It shall be Grotto policy to maintain a regular membership of 40 cavers in order to provide a level of activity and finances for a healthy Grotto. In order to achieve and maintain this number of regular members, the Grotto will actively seek out NSS members and active non-NSS cavers living in the state of Washington, who do not belong to another NSS grotto.
- M. Realizing that at present NSS cavers only represent at most 30% of those caving, it shall be Grotto policy to have one or two invitational meetings per year while Grotto membership is less than 40 members. This is intended to make

persons interested in cave explorations aware of our Grotto's goals and objectives.

- N. Grotto meetings will be held at the University of Washington campus in Room 6 of Johnson Hall, on the third Friday of each month, and will start at 7:00 PM. Grotto meetings will normally follow the format listed below:
- 7:00 to 7:15 Introductions and old business
 - 7:15 to 8:00 Scheduled program
 - 8:00 to 8:20 Field trip reports
 - 8:20 to 8:40 New business and committee reports
 - 8:40 to adjournment Field trip planning
- The above format is not intended to be inflexible but is meant as a guideline. This format is intended to ensure time for a good quality program and time to discuss business, field trip planning, and field trip reports.
- O. All NSS members and non-NSS cavers are welcome at Grotto meetings as long as they are not and have not been disruptive or defamatory toward caving, cavers, or speleological organizations.
- P. To encourage activity among widely separated members while ensuring Grotto unity, Grotto members outside the Seattle area shall be authorized to form local units within the State of Washington, when chartered by the Grotto membership. Local unit meetings shall be chaired by a Unit Coordinator elected by those Grotto members participating in that unit's activities. Local units shall be authorized to conduct any business on behalf of the Grotto, so long as they comply with the Grotto constitution, By-laws, and Operating Policy. However, business affecting the entire Grotto may only be acted on at a regular Grotto meeting as per Item N above.
- Q. Changes in these Operating Policies may be enacted by majority vote at any regular Grotto meeting.