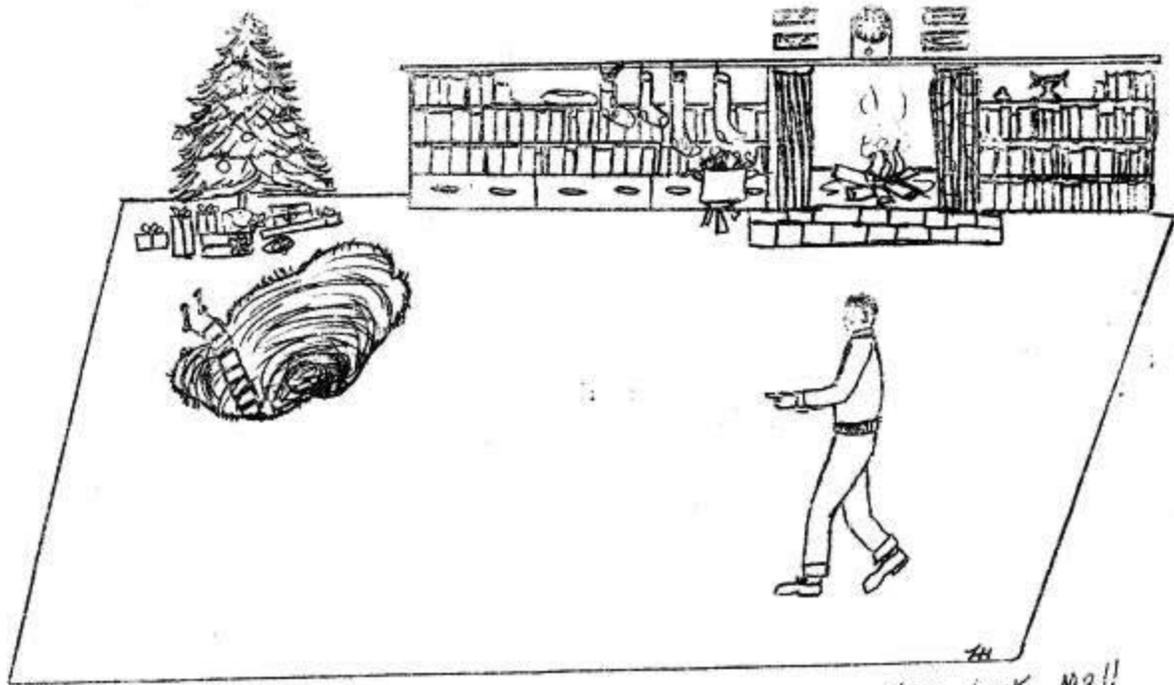




# Cascade Caver

Newsletter of the Cascade Grotto of the National Speleological Society

June 2002, Volume 41 No. 6



THE CASCADE CAVER  
Sends  
Seasonal Greetings

Hey, Look Ma!!  
SANTA did bring me  
a cave for Christmas!

Cascade Caver, Volume 1 Issue 1

# 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. Subscription via email is \$11.00 per year.

## GROTTO ADDRESS

Cascade Grotto; P.O. Box 66623, Seattle, WA 98166. This post office box should be used for both the grotto and for the *Cascade Caver*.

## GROTTO OFFICERS

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## MEETINGS

Regular grotto meetings are held monthly at 7:00 pm on the third Friday of each month at the Shoreline Community Center in the Hamlin room. The Community Center is at 18560 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE in Shoreline. Please see the back cover for directions.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

June 21	Grotto Meeting. 7 p.m. Mountlake Terrace Library
June 24-28	NSS Convention, Camden Maine
June 29	Dynamited Cave – Trip Leader Jon McGinnis
July 4-7	Trout Lake – Peterson Prairie Campground. Contact Dana Poss
July 4-7	Bighorn/Horsethief Contact Jennifer Dorman
July 13	Cave Ridge – Contact Aaron Stavens
July 19	Grotto Meeting. 7 p.m. Shoreline Community Center
July 21	Cave Ridge – Contact Aaron Stavens
August 3-4	Papoose Cave, Gem State Grotto, Contact Jennifer Dorman
August 16	Grotto Meeting, 7 p.m. Shoreline Community Center

**COVER:** To commemorate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this month's cover has a copy of the very first Cascade Caver, which was printed in December of 1961. Prior to the Caver, the Grotto had a publication entitled the Cascade Cave Report, which made its appearance in 1951 and went until 1953.

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## Cascade Grotto 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party

Come To Our Party  
50th Anniversary Celebration  
Peterson Prairie Campground near Trout Lake,  
WA July 4-7 (Campground open after 2:00 PM  
July 3.)

All Members, Former Members, and Friends  
Are Invited (No FORMER Friends)

Cost: \$10/campsite - the Whole Weekend!!  
Breakfast and Dinners!! Cheap!!

Cave trips!! Fun and Games!! Tee Shirts!!

We are reprinting "Caves of Washington" \$15!!

This is gonna be a blast, get yourself to Trout  
Lake!

Contact: Glennis Monson, 425-271-2258 or  
Monsonglenn@cs.com

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## Cascade Grotto Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2002

By Aaron Stavens, Secretary-Treasurer

### Attendance:

Aaron Stavens, Eve Proper, Julie McGinnis, Erin Robert, Cameron McGinnis, Jon McGinnis, Jim Harp, Doug Knapp, Michael McCormack (new member), Nikki McCormack (new member), Trapper Robbins, Mark Sherman, Van Bergen, Dana Poss, Chris Wittenbrink, Rod Winget, Paul Lindgren, Tish Korbly, Stuart Monson, Glennis Monson

### Old Business:

1. We have more information on 501(c)3 status but not quite enough to proceed with getting the status. Aaron Stavens will continue his research and present final findings to the grotto. We can make a decision at that time.
2. To apply for 501(c)3 status the grotto needs to provide current copies of its Constitution and Bylaws. There are several different versions floating around and we are unsure which is current. Jim Harp will contact Evelyn Bradshaw at the NSS for the official version.
3. The grotto would still like Bill Halliday to come out for a visit. Mark Sherman will attempt to contact Bill. If that fails, Van

Bergen will see him at the NSS Convention this year.

4. The grotto still needs to produce tee-shirts for the 50<sup>th</sup>. Jim Harp is taking over the task. Julie McGinnis will check with Jennifer Dorman of the Gem State Grotto to see if the GSG's tee-shirt source is worth pursuing.
5. The Monson's passed around the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary registration form. We also discussed serving meals at the event. Julie McGinnis will take on that task and will send out more complete information soon.

### New Business:

1. Should the grotto maintain a cache of basic loaner gear? The general feeling was that there is enough spare gear distributed among the membership that the grotto does not need to buy it's own loaner gear. Jon McGinnis will organize loaner gear resources to make it more easily accessible. Also, loaner gear should be limited to non-vertical equipment.
2. We are outgrowing the current meeting location. Jim has been searching for a one. He's found the Shoreline Senior Center for \$35/meeting and the Shoreline Community Center for \$28/meeting. The larger meeting room at the Mountlake Terrace Library would cost us \$50/meeting. Mark Sherman will check out the Shoreline Senior Center and the Shoreline Community Center for suitability.
3. We should update the grotto handbook. Van Bergen will see what he can do.
4. Tish Korbly made a motion that the grotto reprint 75 copies of *Caves of Washington* and sell them for \$15/copy. The motion was seconded and passed. (Ed Note: Bill Halliday has approved 50 copies to be printed.)
5. To reduce costs, the grotto decided to provide exchange copies of the *Cascade Caver* via email only. Aaron Stavens will send out the notices to our exchange partners.
6. Jim Harp announced that he would like to distance himself from commitments to the grotto. He is pursuing other interests and has less time for caving/grotto activities. Aaron Stavens will contact the NSS to change the grotto contact information. Aaron Stavens (primary) and Van Bergen (secondary) will be the new grotto contacts.
7. Because of Dana's departure, the grotto is in need of a trip coordinator. Eve Proper, if she could shed the mantle of Conservation Chair, was willing to do it. Tish Korbly volunteered

to take on the duties of Conservation Chair and Eve Proper is our new Trip Coordinator.

Special Presentation: Dana Poss has done an excellent job as the grotto trip coordinator, but she is leaving us for Alabama. To get her off on the right foot, Aaron Stavens presented her with a map of Alabama. In appreciation of Dana's efforts, the grotto presented Dana with the "Caving Lie #1: It's just off the road." tee-shirt.

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## **Dr. William R. Halliday** **Caver Extraordinaire**

By Roger Cole

Bill Halliday has led an extremely full life as a caver, founding the Cascade Grotto as well as four other grottoes, serving on the NSS Board of Governors off and on for over 50 years and caving all over the world. He lived in Seattle for most of his life and has influenced countless cavers. He literally wrote the book on caving in Washington. The following is his story.

Bill was born in 1926 in the town of Emory University, Georgia, which is now a part of Atlanta. His parents took him on vacations to places like Luray Caverns, Va. and Carlsbad Caverns, NM. At the age of 15, he entered his first wild cave. When he was 20, he started caving seriously in the limestone of Virginia. Graduating from Swarthmore College, he entered med school at George Washington University in Washington, DC, where he joined the NSS and met Bill Stephenson, the founder. He joined the NSS in 1947 and shortly thereafter the nascent DC Grotto. He finished med school in 1948 and headed west. He had five years of residency to become a surgeon.

Bill Stephenson told him to spread the gospel of the NSS in the west and he did exactly that. There were just 2 grottoes west of the Mississippi at the time and he founded 5 more in the years to come. His first stop was Pasadena, CA, where he began his internship. He founded the Southern California Grotto and led many caving trips to the Sierras and to the Mojave Desert.

The Navy called him first to Long Beach and he was later sent to the Far East during the Korean conflict. Of course he checked out the caves of Okinawa, etc. After one year at Long Beach, he

did his first year of residency at Harborview Hospital in Seattle.

The next order of business was to found the Cascade Grotto in 1951. The founding document laments the dearth of caves in Washington. One of the first caves the grotto explored was Boulder Cave near Yakima. He also remembers going to the Trout Lake Ice Cave. During the summer of '51 they went to see some "good" caves in the Bend area. Also in '51, they found the first limestone cave in Western Washington, Three Mile Creek Cave near Concrete.

Then he drove to Denver to continue his residency, checking out caves along the way. Naturally, he founded a grotto there, as well. The Colorado Grotto is still going strong. From there, he went to Salt Lake City for more training, this time founding the Salt Lake Grotto. He and Dale Green did lots of caving in Utah and Nevada, often going out in the evening after work. They checked out mines and tunnels as well as caves like Neff Canyon, Crystal Ball, and Lehman.

In 1957, he returned to Seattle. Cascade Grotto was lethargic because it had run out of caves to explore. They had exhausted all leads. Bill went right to work to revive the group. Tom Steinburn and others had started to explore Cave Ridge and Halliday started leading trips up there. He was the first one into Hellhole. From there, they shifted their emphasis to the more remote parts of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. They soon joined forces with the St. Helens Apes led by Harry Reese of Cougar. The Apes led them to such caves as Ape and Ole's. Over the years, the grotto made a point of patronizing Reese's Store in Cougar, which building still stands.

Later, our founder developed an interest in exploring Vancouver Island for caves. He found Dave Dunnet and some other Canadian cavers from the island and formed the Vancouver Island Speleological Survey, which later became part of VICEG. They kept busy checking out the limestone of the island.

While visiting Salt Lake City, one of his patients there, "Moki Mac" Ellingson, offered him a free raft trip down the Colorado River in Glen Canyon. Our hero was in awe of the natural beauty there, and formed the Utah Committee for National Parks to fight the Bureau of Reclamation's plans to build Glen Canyon Dam, which would flood the canyon. He and others worked feverishly for 18

months to derail the BoR, practicing tactics exaggerated and glorified in Edward Abbey's treatment of ecoterrorism; The Monkey Wrench Gang. Halliday sees himself and some cavers in the characters in this novel. The BoR played hardball and in the end defeated their efforts, and of course, the dam was built. This was really the beginning of Dr. Halliday's conservation activities.

Back in Seattle, he organized the Commission on Volcanic Caves in the International Union of Speleology, and served as its first chairman. He was also the first chairman of the Western Speleological Survey. Bill was a prolific organizer and joiner of groups. He was a trustee of the Mountaineers, vice president of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, a member of the AMA and Washington State Medical Assn, honorary member and fellow of the NSS, co-founder of the Northwest Cave Rescue Assn, fellow of the Explorer's Club, and so on.

He became a prolific caving writer, first contributing to Celebrated American Caves, then writing his own book; Adventure is Underground. The publisher liked it so well, he asked him to write another book. So along came Depths of the Earth. Still later came American Caves and Caving. All three are classics in this country. The first book was published in Russia without permission but Seattle Congressman Bill Stinson eventually persuaded them to pay the author a royalty. Halliday is well known in Russian caving circles thanks to this book. Since then, he has written a number of booklets on various caves.

Bill was caving frequently when not working. Often his first wife, Len, and their three children would accompany him. He bought the Pantages mansion in Seattle's Washington Park neighborhood so he could be close to work. This was an imposing home built during vaudeville's heyday and Bill was most gracious in entertaining various cavers, housing his vast library of caving literature, and hosting the grotto meetings. This lovely home was headquarters to the Cascade Grotto for many years. The Hallidays often hosted Christmas parties for cavers in the region. Jim Nieland remembers one time they had a crawling contest to see who could squeeze through the smallest space. Bill's daughter Marcia won at least one such contest. She squeezed through 5 7/8 inches. Dr. Halliday says they quit having these contests because they compressed some people's hearts too much.

Bill has visited the steam caves on the summit of Mt. Rainier but admits to not being in good enough shape to make the climb more than once. He was a frequent visitor to the former ice caves above Paradise. He and Charley Anderson made many trips there to survey them. Larry McTigue remembers the breathtaking beauty of the ice columns. He recalls Dr. Halliday having everyone douse their lights on one visit while he set off a strobe flash from his camera into the blue ice column in the middle of the room. After the strobe went out, there was a long deep green glow emanating from the pillar for several seconds. Everyone gasped at the beauty of it. Once in an ice cave, Halliday's coveralls froze solid to the ice-covered boulder he was sitting on. He was trapped. A carbide lamp saved the day. Halliday especially loves the summit crater geothermal caves of Mt. Baker.

In 1963, he wrote the book on caves of Washington, receiving \$100 for expenses from the state. Countless people were introduced to caving through this book. It can still be obtained at Shorey's Books.

In 1964, he helped elect three-term governor Dan Evans to his first term. Evans eventually appointed him medical director of the Dept. of Labor and Industries. That was the beginning of a 17-year career in state government, in which he commuted to Olympia from Seattle. Evans also appointed him to an influential panel studying the North Cascades. Out of it came the North Cascades National Park.

Dr. Halliday has had a close connection with Mt. St. Helens. He explored many of its lava tubes in the 50's and 60's but took a keen interest in the area after the volcano erupted in 1980. The forest service wanted to keep everyone out except for USGS scientists. Halliday wanted to get in to see if the eruption had damaged or closed any of the caves. The forest service, in an effort to discourage the public from going in, required radio teams to maintain contact with the outside. Halliday worked diligently to gain access. He lined up radio support from the Clark County Amateur Radio Club through Don Krehbiel. Grotto member Rod Crawford of the UW's Burke Museum provided additional scientific credibility by writing articles for the Western Speleological Survey bulletin. Halliday himself witnessed the

eruption from 1,000 feet above Paradise on Mt. Rainier.

Following the eruption, Halliday led a party of cavers including Ben Tompkins and Mark Sherman into the closed red zone to examine the caves on the south side of the mountain as well as the pseudokarst on the north side by Spirit Lake. There were a number of trips to the red zone and according to Mark Sherman, grotto membership grew because we had earned access to the red zone. This writer visited the red zone on a hot July day in 1985 with Bill and his two daughters. Halliday fought hard for inclusion of the lava tubes in the national monument for protection. Rod Crawford has in his possession a small mountain of correspondence between Halliday and the federal government.

Bill has made the 12-mile hike to Canada's famous Castleguard Cave, site of some major expeditions. With Dale Green, he even has a tiny cave named after him in Hell's Canyon.

After retiring, he moved to Nashville, where he practiced rehab and vocational medicine before retiring a second time. There he now lives with his second wife, Louise.

Bill says he has never been seriously hurt in over 50 years of caving, although he has banged up his shins countless times. He says he is very cautious and doesn't like to take undue risks. He isn't much of a vertical caver, and says a 185' drop into Lechuguilla is his maximum. Getting out of there really taxed him.

Dr. Halliday has caved in all over the U.S. Along the way he founded the Hawaii Grotto and the Hawaii Speleological Survey. He has surveyed over 100 lava caves at Kilauea Volcano. He and his wife spend four months of the year in Hawaii now and sometimes swing over to Thailand from there. In addition to the U.S., he has caved in Canada, Mexico, Belize, many of the island nations of the Caribbean, Venezuela, Great Britain, Ireland, Iceland, Canary Islands, Belgium, Germany, France, Switzerland, Portugal, Italy, Croatia, Slovenia, The Czech Republic, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, Kenya, Tanzania, Mauritius, Zanzibar, Malaysia, China, Japan, New Zealand, and Australia, to name some....

He is known worldwide in caving circles. He is currently in touch with Egyptian National Park geologists developing a database of significant caves in Egypt. Anyone speak Arabic? He is having difficulty communicating with them. This fall he is planning to attend the International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology in Iceland. Closer to home, he was involved with successful efforts to protect the Spencer Mountain cave system in Tennessee. He is keeping up with the current controversy at Oregon Caves and also with a problem involving the forest service illegally gating Mowich Cave in southern Oregon.

Despite his many accomplishments, Dr. Halliday is a modest man, indeed. He complained of the "embarrassing praise" in this article. Virtually every person I spoke to spoke highly of him and it was hard to miss that enthusiasm and sense of respect they conveyed when speaking of him. He is more than just the founder of our grotto. He is a role model. He has freely given of himself in guiding others into the adventure of caving. He has led countless caving trips. He has generously shared his knowledge and enthusiasm of caving. For all you have done for the Cascade Grotto and cavers throughout the Northwest, thank you Dr. William R. Halliday.

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## Lake Cave Clean-Up Trip May 11, 2002

By Dana Poss

Trip Leader: Eve Proper

Attendees: Dana Poss; Skyla, Dan, Roger Cole, Van Bergen, Jon, Julie and Cameron McGinnis; Erin Robert; Wendell and Faye Pound; Susan Armbruster; Meghan Graham; Caleb Schaber; Lisa Danielski; Risa; Brandon; Xandon Frogget; David; Bethany; Kim Luper.

I have NO idea why I'm even writing a trip report, considering the fact that almost the entire grotto showed up for the trip! You would have thought it was a Trout Lake weekender. Way to go, Eve! Apparently we had a lot of cavers interested in getting underground after a long winter of being snowed in.

As luck would have it, I was the second person to show up on the scene that morning. This made me a prime target. Eve didn't waste much time asking me to write the trip report. I can only assume that the first person to show up, Roger, somehow got

out of it. Apparently, I'm the bigger sucker. Also, she was able to successfully deploy a guilt trip on me since it's probably my last trip with the grotto. So now we know WHY I'm writing it. Maybe I should actually do it.

My crew and I--my teenage daughter, Skyla and her boyfriend, Dan, set out at the wonderful hour of 6:00 am from Everett. We drove along, eating doughnuts, and making up our trip song. It went something like: "We're going caving. We're up too early. We're eating doughnuts. Then we're eating breakfast." No, don't try to sing it. It doesn't sound good in ANY key.

So we're cruising through Tacoma around 7 am when this little red car whizzes by us. I realized it looked like Eve, so we sped up and got next to the car, and sure enough, it was! Now what were the odds of meeting our illustrious trip leader on the freeway?! So we roll down the windows and honk and wave and basically make general nuisances of ourselves, not to mention a traffic hazard. And you know what? She never even glanced in our direction. After about 5 minutes of this nonsense, we gave up and let her cruise off on her way to beat us to Jack's.

The next thing we noticed (or rather I noticed seeing as how the teenagers were too busy making out in the backseat) were the huge concentrations of police cruisers just on the other side of Tacoma. We'd see four or five cars pulled over all within a half mile of one another. I made a mental note to myself that 80 mph probably wasn't prudent and I should keep it at 70. Five minutes later I look into my rearview mirror, and, you guessed it, lights and sirens. And I have NO idea what for! This state trooper walks over, leans down into my window, and after the usual pleasantries, says he pulled me over for not signaling as I changed lanes. But he was so apologetic about it, even calling himself "chippy" for doing so, that I decided to forgive him. The fact that he was cute didn't hurt too much, either.

So we finally arrived at Jack's just before 10 and met up with Roger and Eve. Eve showed me the list of folks who said they're coming. She has about 18 people down. We talked about how most of them probably won't show up. Well, what DID we know?! We ended up with a whooping 22 people and only one no-show! Hey, next time you guys want to clean something that bad, I've got a nice big house you might be interested in.

As you can imagine, with this big of a group, we spent a LOT of time getting ready. It also didn't help that the world's slowest man was there, Van himself. But we spent a lot of time standing outside talking about what a beautiful day it was...as we simultaneously prepared our gear to spend most of it underground.

We finally all caravanned to the parking lot at the trailhead. Again, waiting on everyone to get ready. Especially Van. Well, there was that other thing, too. Brandon and his friends decided to drop their things at the campsite on the way to the cave and proceeded to get their car irretrievably stuck in the mud. But no problem. Wendell and Jon make quick work of getting them out and on the road again. Way to go, guys! So finally we made it out to the cave at, and I'm not kidding you, 1 in the afternoon. Told you it takes a lot of impetus to get a big group of cavers moving!

We all made it in and down the ladder and everyone proceeded to the end of the passage, with my kids, and Kim and I in the lead. Somehow, every single one of us managed to miss the side passage. Probably because the cave was so much drier than it was back in March. The stream that usually flows from the side passage into the main passage was completely gone. But Eve managed to spot it on the way back out as we were picking up trash. So a bunch of the new folks and I went in to check it out and crawl around in the tree cast and the passages in the far back. We spent a lot of time back there, and still, no one found an end to those belly crawls.

We finally came back out into the main passage again and started aggressively doing what we really came to do, pick up trash. Eventually, Van, Eve, and myself ended up at the rear of the pack. I used my special "mommy" skills to find hidden garbage. I think I've developed a penchant for finding all the cracks and crevices where people try to hide that stuff because my kids are so good at it, as well.

We found the belly crawl that Eve and I had gone into in March, the one that was so filthy that it had prompted her to lead this trip. Van and I went in with his handy-dandy dustpan and itty-bitty broom and managed to sweep up lots of glass and pick up lots of cans and other really disgusting things.

We emerged from the cave around 4:00 p.m. All told, our garbage plus that of the other cavers,

probably weighed about 10 pounds. And even better than all that junk we pulled out of there. The ground support was waiting for us when we got back to the parking lot. Wendell “Just-Call-Me-The-Cooking-Bitch” Pound had hot dogs waiting and it only took a moderate amount of begging to get a beer out of someone. So we ate and sat around and enjoyed the sunshine that I can just never get enough of.

All in all, it was an outstanding trip. I want to thank everyone who showed up to make it such a huge success. And thanks, ground support for doing that really difficult job of laying out in the

sun, drinking beer, making us dinner, and making sure everyone had crawled back out and into the daylight again. But most importantly, good job, Eve! I wish you much luck with your position as conservation chair in the coming months. I’m going to miss you all and every time I hear the words lava tube, I’m sure my eyes will fill with tears.

And by the way, Van, you DO have a nice chest. I saw it in the back of your van!

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### **Starting in July, we are moving to a new meeting location!!**

We are still meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month at 7:00, but we will no longer be meeting in the Mountlake Terrace Library, instead will meet at the Shoreline Community Center. The Community Center is located at 18560, 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE in Shoreline. To get to the Community Center from Seattle, take Exit 176 on Interstate 5 (175<sup>th</sup> St. N) and turn left at the light at the bottom of the off ramp. At the next traffic light (Meridian Ave. N) turn right. Turn right at 185<sup>th</sup> St. N (the next light). Turn left on 1<sup>st</sup> NE, which again is the next light. The Community Center is on the right. Don’t get confused with the Senior Center, which is on the end of the building. Enter the building on the southwest corner and find the Hamlin Room.

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Cascade Caver  
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