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SALON
MERIT
AWARD

CASCADE Caver

Published by the Cascade Grotto of the NSS

July-September 2005, Volume 44, No. 7-9

CASCAD
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WANT YOU CHAIRMAN!

RECRUITING STATION

Grotto of the National Speleological Society

44, Volume 43, No. 6b

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Cascade Caver

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Opinions expressed in the *Cascade Caver* are not necessarily those of the Cascade Grotto, the editors, or the NSS. Unsigned articles may be attributed to one of the editors.

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

Chairman: Dave Decker (360) 675-3791
Vice Chairman: Robert Mitchell (360) 802-5131
Sec/Treasurer: Marla Pelowski (253) 835-7404

OTHER POSITIONS

Trip Coordinator: Open Position
Librarian: Stuart Monson (425) 271-2258
Regional Rep. : Dave Decker (360) 675-3791
Program Chair: Robert Mitchell (360) 802-5131
Conservation: Hester Mallonée (253) 838-6464
Safety: Dave McElmurry (253) 951-1995
Editor: Mark Sherman (206) 365-5386
Email: mark.sherman@flukenetworks.com

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 1st Ave NE in Shoreline. Please see the back cover for directions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 18	Grotto Meeting. 7 p.m. Shoreline Community Center
August 18	Descent, Movie Night Immediately following the meeting.
August 20	Windy Creek Cave Trip
September 2-4	Bighorn Cave Trip Contact Jennifer Babione
September 15	Grotto Meeting. 7 p.m. Shoreline Community Center

COVER

This month's cover was created by Michael McCormack, and honors the Cascade Grotto Merit Award winners from the 2005 convention. Top, In Paradise, Even the Stones Sing by Hester Mallonée. Left, I Want YOU for Chairman by Michael McCormack. Bottom, Leads in No Cave, Washington by Nikki McCormack.

Because of the delayed publication of the *Cascade Caver*, information on this page is current as of 8/16/2006. – ed.

The spotty publication of the caver has lead to many meeting minutes failing to be published. To rectify this, all available minutes will be published in the following two issues. –ed.

**Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes -
January 21, 2005**

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Van Bergen, Paul Hill, Emily Ingram, Cameron McGinnis, Jon McGinnis, Julie McGinnis, Jon Nestor, Loran Payne, Marla A. Pelowski, Mark Sherman, John Williams, Chris Wittenbrink, and Mike Wittenbrink.

Old Business

Treasurer's Report: As of December 31, 2004, the Cascade Grotto has \$2,085.86 combined in savings, checking, and petty cash.

The pledge made by the Cascade Grotto to The Western Cave Conservancy in the amount of \$600.00 for The Campaign to Save Oregon's Marble Mountain Cave expired as of January 1, 2005, without being enforced.

The Cascade Grotto's new notebook computer has arrived. It's a Gateway M320X, Intel Pentium M Processor 710 (1.4 Ghz), 60 GB hard drive, 512 MB RAM, 15" Ultrabright XGA TFT Active Matrix Screen, High Capacity Battery, Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition, 8x Multi-Format DVD Writer, to name a few items it came with. The grotto approved \$1,100 for a new computer, which \$1,100 was to include a \$200.00 anonymous donation and another \$200.00 donation from Marla A. Pelowski. The total computer cost before rebate was \$1,252.99. After rebate of \$200.00, the computer cost \$1,052.99. After the \$400.00 in donations, the grotto paid net \$652.99.

New Business:

The votes are in and new officers as of January 11, 2005, are as follows:

John McGinnis, Chairman
Emily Ingram, Vice-Chairman
Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer
Larry King, Honorary Member

Congratulations to all!! For the record, 15 ballots were returned with the following tally: Chairman: Jon McGinnis-13, Michael McCormack-1; Vice-Chairman: Emily Ingram-8, Mark Sherman-6; Secretary-Treasurer: Marla A. Pelowski-15; Honorary Member: Larry King: Yes-14, No-1.

The Cascade Grotto needs a representative to the NCA. Dave Decker has been suggested and he may have already signed up. Jon McGinnis will check with Dave Decker to confirm.

Let Jon McGinnis know if you are a current committee head or if you would like to be one. The known committees and committee heads are as follows:

Hester Malloneé - Conservation Chair
Web Master - ? - Jon McGinnis, Marla A. Pelowski, and Michael McCormack are Administrators
Trip Coordinator – Needed
Vertical Coordinator – Needed
Program Coordinator – Emily Ingram
Cascade Caver Editor - Mark Sherman

One of Jon McGinnis's missions as Chairman is to fill the calendar with trips. The Cascade Grotto is looking for knowledgeable and experienced trip leaders. If you would like to lead trips, please let Jon McGinnis know. The grotto would then like the experienced trip leaders to take new trip leaders under their wing.

Dave McElmurry is trying to get Cave Rescue classes from Jon Panches in Roseburg this year. Dave is also trying to secure Camp Long as a vertical practice sight, which is owned by the Mountaineers in West Seattle.

It is the Cascade Grotto's turn to host the NCA Regional and we need to decide where and when. Trout Lake and Hells Canyon are in the running. Memorial Day is the traditional date, but the grotto is considering a non-holiday weekend in attempt to bring a different crowd of attendees. It has been noted that holiday weekends are usually reserved for family events (most with non-caving family members). An email requesting opinions from the list serve will be sent.

Michael has donated over \$100.00 in software for the new computer. Since the grotto has allowed \$1,110.00 for the computer purchase and \$1,052.99 was spent, Marla A. Pelowski moves that the remaining \$47.01 be paid to Michael McCormack as reimbursement. The move was seconded by many and approved by those in attendance.

Program:

Paul Hill brought in several cave maps and gave a presentation of longest and deepest caves in the United States. Thanks Paul!

**Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes -
March 18, 2005**

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Van Bergen, Dan Crape, Josh Fedora, Jim Harp, Dave Hopf, Emily Ingram, Hester Mallonée, Michael McCormack, Nikki McCormack, Cameron McGinnis, Jon McGinnis, Julie McGinnis, Robert Mitchell, Loran Payne, Marla A. Pelowski, Mark Sherman, Aaron

Stavens, Chris Wittenbrink, and Visitors: Jon Garlow, Samantha Martin, Davie Neehof, Mary Pratt

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Treasurer's report: The grotto has \$2,152.10 in combined accounts as of 2/28/05.

Michael McCormack brought special editions of past editions of the Cascade Caver. The special editions have full color prints of the cover art.

Michael McCormack proposed the idea of placing the Cascade Caver logo on Nalgene or similar bottles for a fundraiser for the 2006 NSS Convention. He would also like to submit the logo to the NSS Symbols Salon in Huntsville this year. He hopes to get the bottles for approximately \$5 a piece and perhaps sell for \$9, but needs additional research regarding actual cost. Jon McGinnis motioned for Michael McCormack to be allowed to purchase the bottles at a cost of up to \$6 per bottle or \$75 maximum. Michael McCormack seconded. All were in favor.

Michael McCormack asked for additional volunteers for the 2006 NSS Convention in Bellingham. Remember, the Cascade Grotto is hosting Convention that year. The Convention subcommittee meets every 2nd Sunday of the month, usually in Snohomish at the McCormacks'. We need more help. Volunteers can also participate in the meetings remotely. Volunteers are needed for positions such as trip coordinators, conservation coordinators, and many other positions.

Marla A. Pelowski moved that the 2nd quarter payment for the Shoreline Conference Center rental fee in the amount of \$102 be approved. Aaron Stavens seconded. All approved.

Next meeting Marla A. Pelowski will put together a yearly list of regular occurring expenses incurred by the grotto for approval once a year, in order to better facilitate payment of operating expenses.

For the program, Emily Ingram purchased small door prizes for all those contributing pictures. Jon McGinnis moved to reimburse Emily Ingram for no more than \$20 for the prizes. Michael McCormack seconded. All approved.

If you have caving pictures suitable for the cover of the Cascade Caver, please submit them to Mark Sherman. We could use more.

Jon McGinnis will not be at the next meeting; hence, Emily Ingram will be running the meeting.

Trip Reports:

Van Bergen and others attended the Trout Lake trip. There was good ice in the caves. Not much snow on the ground though the road was still closed. The trip didn't turn into a ski trip as originally planned but fun was had by all.

Mark Sherman went to Carlsbad for three days of caving. He toured the lower cave and met up with Tom Strawn who took him to Christmas Tree cave. He also explored Slaughter Canyon cave the next day.

The Oregon Caves conservation trip this year was a success. Eight people were able to make it for the weekend. It was obvious the cleaning is helping—areas cleaned last year were only mildly dirty this year. The off trail trips were interesting and in reality still work trips as the park had a pda with a map of the entire cave in it. The group would go from survey point to survey point rating the cave as to fragility and difficulty. The rating system will be used to rate future guides and their experience level to determine where they can go in cave.

The McGinnis's held a vertical practice with approximately 27 people in attendance. There was lots of on rope activity and everyone had a good time.

A trip was held to Senger's Talus cave to take some caving video for the 2006 NSS Convention promo. Due to the time it takes for video, only the Daylit area pool was visited. One bat was found near the entrance of the pool.

Several cavers went to Mt. St. Helens to check out Christmas Canyon and do some vertical work in the crack and over the edge. Kurt had a good accident while free climbing. He in essence pulled a boulder on top of himself which then basically bounced off of him. Luckily he sustained very little in injury. The crack is about 20 feet deep and a bat was found deep in the crack. What makes this area interesting is a tree cast coming out of the face of the cliff which is about three feet in diameter and goes back about 40 feet through the back wall of the crack. Very awesome.

Upcoming Trips:

4/2/5, Saturday. Jackman Creek Conservation Trip to get the spray paint off the wall of the cave. Possibly Elderbery if someone comes who has location and we can get landowner permission. Contact Hester Mallonée.

Possible Red Barn vertical practice 4/9/5 or 4/10/5. Wendel Pound is working on it.

Depending upon snow, Cascade Cave 4/16/5 to place foot loops on the bottom of the ropes. Contact Hester Mallonée.

Succor creek 4/23/5.

Labor Day weekend – possible Papoose Trip.

Program:

Several members brought in various cave photos for our enjoyment. Bribes obviously weren't big enough, as the Oregon Caves pictures for 2004 and 2005 were viewed by all.

Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2005

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Dan Crape, Dave Decker, Paul Hill and Family, Emily Ingram, Hester Mallonée, Robert Mitchell, Loran Payne, Marla A. Pelowski, Diane Pierce, Mary Pratt, Aaron Stavens, Justin Toney, and Visitor: Howard Tiburon.

Old Business:

In regard to discussing promotional items for the grotto, Dave Decker brought in several examples of patches that range in cost from \$0.50 to \$5.00.

At the last meeting, we discussed approving on a yearly basis payment of regularly occurring budget expenses for the Cascade Grotto but needed the figures. The following expenses have been approved for payment:

- cascade_grotto@caves.org Email Account Through the NSS \$10.00
- Shoreline Conference Center Meeting Room at \$34/Month for 11 Months \$374.00
- PO Box Fee \$58.00
- Postage (Other Than for Cascade Caver) \$37
- Cascade Caver Copying/Printing/Postage Expenses \$150.00

Total \$629.00

These expenses can be paid without further approval by the membership. If the expenses should become more than what is listed, the Secretary-Treasurer will bring up the new expenses for approval by the membership at a meeting. Any other expenses will be brought up for approval by the membership on an as needed basis. Marla A. Pelowski moved for approval. Aaron Stavens seconded. All were in favor.

New Business:

Hester Mallonée believes we may be able to secure the Red Barn for vertical practice two times a year. She spoke to the owner at the last practice and will keep us posted.

Pacific Science Center RISK program has contacted Jon McGinnis and Van Bergen requesting the Cascade Grotto help out with a summer program. We would be asked to give demonstrations of vertical gear and rope work as it is used in caving. We will be kept posted when the time nears as to what our specific role would be and as to what educational materials we will be able to present.

Trip Reports:

Aaron Stavens visited Fern Pit when he flew to Boise to meet up with Jennifer Dorman. Fern pit is basically a hole in the middle of black lava on BLM land. The pit is bolted. He didn't see any of the infamous frogs on this trip.

Many grotto members attended the vertical practice at the Red Barn. It was determined that descenders work real well on 8 mm when all you're concerned about is descending, not necessarily stopping - though it can be done. 8 mm may have its applications if used very carefully. Several ropes were set in addition to some rebelays. Participants got to try their skills on 8-11 mm static rope and 9 mm dynamic rope. Hester Mallonée offers the suggestion that chatting with beginners about topics

other than the one at hand should be kept to a minimum while a beginner is on rope. In this way their focus can be kept where it's needed.

Hester Mallonée, Hester Katherine Mallonée, and Rosemary Mallonée did some more Oregon Caves restoration in the Rimstone room. They soon found that the old cave workers seemed to have a thing for pink as they located and removed lots of an old epoxy concrete mixture which appeared to have turned pink while it aged (or perhaps started that color).

Upcoming Trips:

4/16/5 and Memorial Day trip up Cave Ridge is **cancelled** due to the snow pack.

4/22/5 - 4/24/5 is the Gem State Succor Creek Trip where you can visit Fern Pit and play on a tyrolean.

Dave Decker mentioned a possible trip 4/23/5 to Vancouver Island.

5/21/5-5/22/5 is the Gem State Grotto project cave Tac Wees Survey.

A Papoose trip over Labor Day weekend is being considered. Papoose is a limestone cave in Idaho where you must be vertically proficient.

Program:

Emily Ingram brought in video from a TAG weekend. The grotto also watched another of the vertical practice videos created in the UK, of which I forgot the name (check with Emily – I believe it was checked out through the NSS).

Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes May 20, 2005

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Van Bergen, Josh Fedora, Emily Ingram, Hester Mallonée, Jon McGinnis, Julie McGinnis, Robert Mitchell, Loran Payne, Marla A. Pelowski, Mark Sherman, Steve Sprague, and Aaron Stavens.

Old Business:

Treasurer's report: There is a combined \$1,957.66 in checking and savings as of April 30, 2005.

The minutes from the March 2005 meeting were incorrect as to Michael McCormack's proposal on Nalgene type bottles with the Cascade Grotto logo. It was stated that \$6 per bottle would be allowed up to \$75. The \$75 should have been 75 in quantity. To clarify, Michael will be allowed a maximum of \$450 to spend on the project. Marla A. Pelowski moved, Hester Mallonée seconded, and all approved.

New Business:

The Cascade Grotto needs a representative for the NCA Regional on June 10/11/12. Dave Decker was originally appointed but he may not be in the country. Marla A. Pelowski was volunteered as the representative. Jon McGinnis moved, Van Bergen seconded, and the majority in favor.

The Pacific Science Center has asked the grotto to put on a performance for their RISK conference July 29, 2005. They want the grotto strictly for entertainment purposes at a coat and tails dinner with approximately 800 guests. They would like us to rappel and climb for approximately 1 ½ hours at a cocktail party. Full details are to be worked out, but preliminaries are: up to \$450 in expenses will be reimbursed, dinner will be provided, the grotto needs to obtain a 1 million dollar insurance policy, two ropes will be used. Jon McGinnis will look into the insurance policy and try to see if we can get what was used the previous time. Contact Jon if you want to rappel.

Trip Reports:

Mark Sherman went to Lake Cave on a boy scout troop trip.

Hester Mallonée went to Succor Creek and saw Fern Pit and got to see the infamous frogs. The pit is approximately 150 ft across from the inside. There was a boy scout troop climbing on knots. Since they didn't have any chest attachment points, they were in reality climbing mainly on their own strength. The cavers had to assist a couple of the scouts with the climb and proper gear set up.

Upcoming Trips:

5/22/5 Sunday - Hester Mallonée and Aaron Stavens to Issaquah Cliffs for rescue rigging.

6/11/5 Newton Light--1 or 2 drops. Contact Aaron Stavens.

6/10/5-6/12/5 NCA Regional.

6/25/5 Cave Ridge. Contact Aaron Stavens.

Program:

Mark Sherman gave a very information hands on lesson on surveying.

Cascade Grotto 2005 1st Half Income and Expense

1/1/2005 through 6/30/2005

	Jan-05	Feb-05	Mar-05	Apr-05	May-05	Jun-05	Total
Income							
Caves of Washington Donations				\$30.00			\$30.00
Donations - Unassigned				\$9.00			\$9.00
Investment Income							
Interest	\$0.13	\$0.11	\$0.13	\$0.13	\$0.13		\$0.63
Membership Dues	\$27.00	\$20.00	\$32.00	\$18.00			\$97.00
T-Shirts				\$15.00		\$15.00	\$30.00
Not an Expense	\$112.00						\$112.00
Total Income	\$139.13	\$20.11	\$32.13	\$72.13	\$0.13	\$15.00	\$278.63

Expenses

Inventory							
Water Bottles						\$496.06	\$496.06
Cascade Cover			\$34.82				\$34.82
Computer							
Software		\$47.01					\$47.01
Web/Email Account		\$20.00					\$20.00
Events	\$36.00						\$36.00
Meeting Room	\$102.00		\$102.00			\$102.00	\$306.00
Miscellaneous			\$13.87				\$13.87
Refunds							
Membership Dues							
Proration	\$3.00						\$3.00
Total Expenses	\$141.00	\$67.01	\$150.69			\$598.06	\$956.76

Income less Expenses	(\$1.87)	(\$46.90)	(\$118.56)	\$72.13	\$0.13	(\$583.06)	(\$678.13)
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Membership Application or Renewal
Cascade Grotto
of the National Speleological Society

Name _____ Date _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Work (_____) _____ Cell (_____) _____

E-mail Address _____

The Cascade Grotto prefers to send all business correspondence to individuals via e-mail. This results in reduced cost to the grotto and keeps dues low. If you would like to opt out of e-mail notifications and would instead prefer to receive notification of official business via U.S. mail, please check here:

NSS membership: NSS No. _____ Are your NSS dues currently paid? _____

Do you belong to any other grottos? If yes, please list: _____

You can have only one primary grotto listed with the NSS. Is the Cascade Grotto your primary grotto? _____

Please select and indicate one of the following types of grotto membership.

Regular Members live in the Pacific Northwest and are not voting members of other grottos of the NSS. They receive all grotto publications and may vote on all pertinent grotto matters. \$15.00 _____

Associate Members participate in grotto activities and receive all grotto publications, but either live outside the Pacific Northwest or are voting members of other grottos. \$15.00 _____

Household Members live at the same address as regular members. They receive no publications, but those over 15 years of age may vote on all pertinent grotto matters. If including household members in this application, then please list their names and e-mail addresses if different than above.

Name _____ NSS No. _____ Over 15? Y N
E-mail Address _____ \$2.00 _____

Name _____ NSS No. _____ Over 15? Y N
E-mail Address _____ \$2.00 _____

Subscription Members receive all published issues of the Cascade Caver, but do not receive other grotto publications and are not entitled to vote. \$15.00 _____

If you would like to receive the Cascade Caver by e-mail, subtract \$4.00 from membership. -\$4.00 _____

Note: Grotto dues and subscriptions are payable on the 1st day of October of each year. New members and subscribers shall pay a prorated amount to the next October rounded to the nearest month and the nearest dollar. Please contact the Secretary-Treasurer for your total amount due if requesting new membership mid-year. Total _____

Would you like to be added to the Cascade Grotto E-Group? Y N
Would you like to be added to the Nwcaver Regional list server? Y N

Please make checks payable to the:
Cascade Grotto
P.O. Box 66623
Seattle, WA 98166

Signature: _____ Date _____

The Cascade Grotto meets at 7:00pm on the third Friday of each month at the Shoreline Community Center. The Community Center is located at 18560, 1st Ave NE in Shoreline. To get to the Community Center from Seattle, take Exit 176 on Interstate 5 (175th 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 185th St. N (the next light). Turn left on 1st 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.



Cascade Caver
P.O. Box 66623
Seattle, WA 98166