

CAVERS INVADE!

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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

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS 2006

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 & Nikki McCormack, Photo by Michael & Nikki McCormack of an unknown caver overlooking the 38th Annual Festival of the Fountains, an annual fundraiser at the Pacific Science Center.

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

In our continuing effort to catch up with publication, the remaining minutes from 2005 that are available are printed here. –ed.

**Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2005**

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Van Bergen, Dan Crape, Paul Hill, Emily Ingram, Jon McGinnis, Julie McGinnis, Robert Mitchell, Loran Payne, Marla A. Pelowski, Steve Sprague

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$1,990.66 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 5/31/5.

New Business:

Bruce Bannerman (runs slide shows at convention) is trying to get people signed up for a Cavers' Cruise February 2006. Van will post link on list serve.

The convention staff is looking for those going to Huntsville to help volunteer at the 2006 Convention booth. Contact Michael McCormack or Van Bergen.

Steve Sprague has been discussing grotto programs with Mark Sherman. They suggest doing the 2nd half of cave survey training--map drawing--in a cave, perhaps Jackman Creek. They could possibly do it at Trout Lake also at the upcoming July party, perhaps J&R Cave. They will keep us posted.

Rod Crawford has old gear he wants to donate – no vertical gear. Paul Hill suggested having it donated to the grotto and then auction it off. We will get a more detailed list as to what he has, and go from there as to what to do with the gear.

Trip Reports:

49 Cascade Caver October, November 2005

Van Bergen and Emily Ingram visited Hell's Canyon at the NCA Regional. It was hot or cold, depending upon who you talk to. Bears were seen and unknown animals were sniffing humans through the tents. Dave Kesner basically hosted the regional though it was officially hosted by the Cascade Grotto. Thanks Dave for all of the work coordinating and the web site, in addition to the meal plan. Unfortunately, only two Cascade grotto members were able to go. There was no quorum for a meeting though a meeting was conducted anyway. Email follow up has been sent for the missing grotto votes. There will most likely not be a separate Regional next year. Instead, a meeting will be held at the 2006 Convention in Bellingham.

Van Bergen visited Red Fish cave at the Regional which cave has been gated for about 10 years due to vandalism and bat hibernaculum. There is a salmon pictograph outside the cave entrance lending to the cave name.

Paul Hill went with Hester Mallonée and Aaron Stavens to Cave Ridge and saw Newton's Cave – mainly crawled around in the upper level. It was a very cold and wet trip.

Upcoming Trips:

6/25/5 Van Bergen going to Albright Cave.

Fourth of July weekend. Contact Jon McGinnis for a Trout Lake trip and Hood Canal fireworks.

7/23/5-7/24/5 – Trout Lake Party. Contact Jon McGinnis.

Program:

Steve Sprague gave an informative hands on lesson and tour of GPS units.

**Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2005**

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Van Bergen, Dick Garnick, Jim Harp, Paul Hill and Family, Dave Hopf, Michael McCormack, Nikki McCormack, Jon McGinnis, Julie McGinnis, Robert Mitchell, Kate Nestor, John Nestor, Loran Payne, Marla A. Pelowski, Mark Sherman, and Aaron Stavens

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$1,434.83 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 6/30/5.

Rod Crawford has old gear he wants to donate – no vertical gear. Paul Hill suggested having it donated to the grotto and then auctioned off. We will get a more detailed list as to what he has and go from there as to what to do with the gear.

The Cascade Caver water bottles are in. They are \$10.00 a piece and proceeds will be used for cave conservation. The grotto previously approved an expenditure of \$450.00. The bottles cost in total \$469.06. Marla A. Pelowski moves that the additional \$19.06 over the original \$450.00 be approved and paid for by the grotto. Marla A. Pelowski moved and Robert Mitchell seconded. All approved.

Jon McGinnis received the insurance policy for the Pacific Science Center event. Jon McGinnis motioned for payment of the insurance policy which may be approximately \$350.00, but exact figure is unknown at this time. The Pacific Science Center has offered reimbursement for the grotto expenses up to \$400. Jon has asked for \$450.00. Jon would like a blank check in order to pay the insurance premium. Michael McCormack seconded. All in favor.

New Business:

The Karst Conservancy sent a letter to the grotto requesting donations for a national conservancy organization. The grotto decided by consensus that it would like to keep its money local.

Marla A. Pelowski and Michael McCormack pointed out that our current domain name registration will expire in September. Marla A. Pelowski would like to change the domain name registration to GoDaddy.com which tends to be fairly inexpensive. Five years of registration should cost around \$41.00. Marla A. Pelowski motioned to register the cascdegrotto.org domain with GoDaddy.com for five years. Dick Garnick seconded. All in favor.

2006 Convention summary. Three merit awards were received by people from the Cascade Grotto. Nikki McCormack received one for a print salon photo award, Leads at No Cave Washington. Hester Mallonée's painting of Even in Paradise the Stones Sing won one, and Michael McCormack's Cascade Caver cover "I want you for chairman" won another.

Dick Garnick brings up that if anyone has cave maps to donate to Western Washington University, it would help with our convention planning.

Trip Reports:

There were several. A brief summary is:

Van Bergen showed his Vice-Chair ceremonial hat he received for Vice Chair for the 2006 NSS Convention. Very interesting.

Michael McCormack went to Tumbling Rock cave in TAG which has a 400+ foot dome.

Van Bergen went to Steven's Gap.

Mark Sherman went to Boulder Cave in Eastern Washington.

Aaron Stavens went to Fossil Mountain Ice Cave on the Wyoming/Idaho Border. It was a through trip with pull down ropes.

Aaron Stavens went to Papoose on a Clearwater trip.

And of course there was 4th of July caving by several grotto members in the Trout Lake area. Skinmites and Dynamited were visited. A new caver, Bryan, had a close call in Dynamited when he pulled a loose rock and then caused several rocks to come tumbling down narrowly missing Emily Ingram and bruising Bryan. No one was seriously hurt, but be careful when crossing the loose rock "wall" shortly after the 15 foot drop.

Upcoming Trips:

7/23/5-7/24/5 – Trout Lake Party. Contact Jon McGinnis.

Labor Day – Papoose Trip. Contact Jennifer Dorman.

Program:

Robert Mitchell gave a talk about what to carry in your cave pack for Caving First Aid. Thanks Robert for the great information!

Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes October 21, 2005

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Bryan Belmont, Van Bergen, Roger Cole, Dan Crape, Jeff Dwyer, Ed Friant, Dick Garnick, Rose Garnick, Jim Harp, Paul Hill, Hester Mallonée, Robert Mitchell, Stuart Monson, Doug Knapp, Loran Payne, Marla A. Pelowski, Hubert Shen, Aaron Stavens, and Visitors: Paul Cooper, Sherry Cooper

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$1,356.50 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 09/30/05.

A reminder that the Cascade Grotto is hosting the NSS 2006 Convention in Bellingham, Washington, August 7-11, 2006. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Michael McCormack. Monthly meetings are currently held by telephone conference the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

New Business

The Shoreline Conference Room contract expired as of the September meeting. The new contract was signed to expedite the process and insure a room for October. A calendar reminder has been set for the future. The room price has increased \$4.00 per month to \$38.00. There is no room reservation for December as the grotto traditionally holds a holiday party at a residence in lieu of a meeting. The total yearly cost for the conference room for 11 months is \$418. Marla A. Pelowski moves to approve the increase and approve the contract, in addition to changing the previously approved budget expense for bill paying. Van Bergen seconded. All in favor.

The Cascade Grotto will be accepting nominations for grotto officers at the November meeting. Please consider if you would like to run or nominate someone else (with their approval and acceptance, of course). Grotto officers must be members in good standing of the NSS and the Cascade Grotto. Nominations can only be made by members with voting rights. Ballots will be mailed by December 10, 2005, and must be received by the Secretary-Treasurer no later than December 31, 2005. Newly elected officers take office on January 10, 2006.

It has been suggested that the Cascade Grotto set up a PayPal account to accept membership dues via credit card or other on-line means. On-line research through PayPal indicates that they take 2.9% plus an

additional \$0.30 of every transaction. For example a \$15.00 membership would bring the grotto \$14.26 and an \$11.00 membership would bring the grotto \$10.38. To offset this, it is suggested that a \$1.00 surcharge be added for every person wishing to renew their membership through PayPal. It appears there are no other fees, but we can't be positive until an account is active and used. This suggestion was discussed and not favorably received. A suggestion was made that if members wish to make on-line payments, that most banks have the option of setting up automatic bill pay. It was also thought, that in order to add a surcharge to cover the additional cost, the bylaws may need to be changed. The discussion was tabled and proponents of PayPal may bring up the subject and argue the point in the future.

Brought up for discussion was the amount of publications of the *Cascade Caver*. There have only been two issues this year with the January and February combined into one issue. Members have voiced their concerns that they would like see more of the *Cascade Caver*, as for those that don't attend regular meetings it's an important means of keeping up on news, business, and caving in the area. Marla A. Pelowski will contact Mark Sherman to see if he may need assistance to publish the *Cascade Caver* in a timely manner or if he simply does not have enough submitted articles. The grotto can then look into ways to improve the number of publications once we find out from Mark what the issues may be.

Trip Reports:

Dan Crape brought in pictures of a potential cave which can be seen from Highway 20 toward Winthrop. It does look very interesting, but may need someone with rock climbing abilities to get up there.

Hester Mallonée attended the Derrick Cave work project for National Public Lands Day southeast of

Bend, Oregon. There were several volunteers, from cavers to Nature Conservancy members to those who just wanted to help. There were three teams that had projects in three different caves. Projects that were worked on above and below ground were cave surveying, wall building, and inventorying delicate areas and bats, to name a few. In the future, the BLM intends to gate Bat Cave #5.

Several members of the grotto attended the NCRC weekend in Trout Lake. While there, they learned how to package a patient in a liter, had an in cave rescue exercise, tuned vertical systems, and learned pick offs. All in all, it was a fun and very educational weekend.

Several members of the grotto attended the Trout Lake Cascade Grotto Party and had a great time visiting several caves in the area.

Dick Garnick has been doing some looking into potential caves in the Marble Range in BC. He found a nice pinnacle karst area and is looking for those who may be interested next year for a visit and perhaps some ridge walking.

Upcoming Trips:

10/29/5 Hester Mallonée is leading a trip to Cave Ridge to Cascade Cave. In addition to exploring the cave, she wishes to replace a rope in the entrance climb down in order to provide an additional leg loop for the step up to get out of the cave.

Van Bergen mentioned the upcoming Vancouver Island Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 11/19/5. It's a great get together with great caving. Dangerous Dick and the Duckbusters may be doing a CD release party. They won best ballad at the last two NSS Conventions. Van is not sure where it is exactly, but he will post more information on the list serve.

Program:

There was a short discussion of the pros and cons of the microrack and Petzl Stop, in addition to doing an Australian on a Figure 8. Van Bergen demonstrated the French Wrap – a safety stopping system for descending. Thanks Van and everyone who participated, it was very informative.

**Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2005**

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Dave Decker, Ed Friant, Robert Mitchell, Stuart Monson, Loran Payne, Marla A. Pelowski, and guest Ron Zuber

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$1,709.34 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 10/31/05.

Pacific Science Center still owes the grotto reimbursement for the on rope demonstration this summer. Marla A. Pelowski has been unable to get further information from Jon McGinnis. She will attempt to contact the Pacific Science Center directly.

The grotto is still trying to find out if Mark Sherman needs assistance regarding publication of the *Cascade Caver* or if he perhaps no longer wishes to be Editor. Dave Decker will call Mark Sherman personally to try to obtain more information.

New Business:

It is that time of year for nominations of the Cascade Grotto officers for 2006. The positions are Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary-Treasurer. Jon McGinnis and Emily Ingram will not be running

again. Via e-mail Michael McCormack nominated Dave Decker as Chairman and Marla A. Pelowski as Secretary-Treasurer. Robert Mitchell and Stuart Monson seconded. Dave Decker nominated Van Bergen as Vice-Chairman and Marla A. Pelowski seconded. Marla will contact Van to see if he is interested in the position. Two others have tentatively nominated themselves as Vice-Chairman if no one else is available and will be contacted to confirm if Van Bergen declines. Ballots will be mailed by December 10, 2005, and must be received by the Secretary-Treasurer no later than December 31, 2005. Newly elected officers take office on January 10, 2006.

It is unknown at this time as to exact details of the Grotto holiday party. Robert Mitchell mentioned that Jim Harp in the past has helped with organization and obtaining use of a community center to host the party. Marla will check with Jim to see if he has any interest. If we cannot find a suitable host or location, Dave Decker moved and Robert Mitchell seconded that we use Spiros as a back up plan on December 16, 2005, for a gathering. Marla will reserve the back room.

Trip Reports:

Dave Decker hit several caves in Guam where he saw fido-karst (spelling?) formed with biological material. He explained how he witnessed an approximately six foot long Cave Racer snake eat a fruit bat. His party also saw a wild dog in the dark zone which startled them in one of the caves. Locals indicated that wild dogs are often seen deep in the cave scavenging for food. The floor of one cave was covered with guano and hence a variety of small to large insects.

Dave also has been caving in Perth, Australia, where calcified sand helped create caves. He also ventured into sea caves in Hawaii and got to see albatross close up in the dunes.

Ron Zuber went to Bob Marshall Wilderness this past August where he was working with others on a proposal for the Forest Service to gain access to a snow filled/glacier cave. He has plenty of trips planned in the future.

Ron also mentions that those interested should look into *Alpine Karst Magazine*.

Upcoming Trips:

Aaron Stavens will be leading a hike up Mt. Si on New Year's Day.

The Oregon Caves restoration/clean up trip will be held this February 17, 18, 19, and 20th over Presidents' Day weekend. Contact Hester Mallonee to reserve a space.

Program:

Due to the small number of attendees, we decided to forego the program and headed straight to Spiro's for pizza and the meeting after the meeting.

Cascade Grotto 2005 2nd Half Income and Expense

7/1/2005 through 12/31/2005

	Jul-05	Aug-05	Sep-05	Oct-05	Nov-05	Dec-05	Total
Income							
Cascade Caver Bottles	200.00	60.00		\$30.00	\$10.00		\$300.00
Donations							
Donations - Events	90.00						\$90.00
Donations - Unassigned					\$10.00		\$10.00
Investment Income							
Interest	0.09	0.10		\$0.09	\$0.06	\$0.09	\$0.43
Membership Dues							
Household E-mail					\$2.00		\$2.00
Regular E-mail					\$22.00		\$22.00
Regular U.S. Mail						\$15.00	\$15.00
Membership Dues - Other		44.00		\$456.75	\$45.00	\$11.00	\$556.75
T-Shirts		15.00					\$15.00
Reimbursement			41.00		\$450.00		\$491.00
Total Income	290.09	119.10	41.00	486.84	539.06	26.09	1,502.18
Expenses							
Meeting Room				\$76.00			\$76.00
PO Box				\$58.00			\$58.00
Computer							
Web/Email Account			41.00	41.00			82.00
Events							
Insurance	409.60			409.60			819.20
Office							
Postage			37.00	37.00			74.00
Total Expenses	409.60	0.00	78.00	621.60	0.00	0.00	\$1,109.20
Income less Expenses	(119.51)	\$119.10	(37.00)	(134.76)	\$539.06	\$26.09	\$392.98

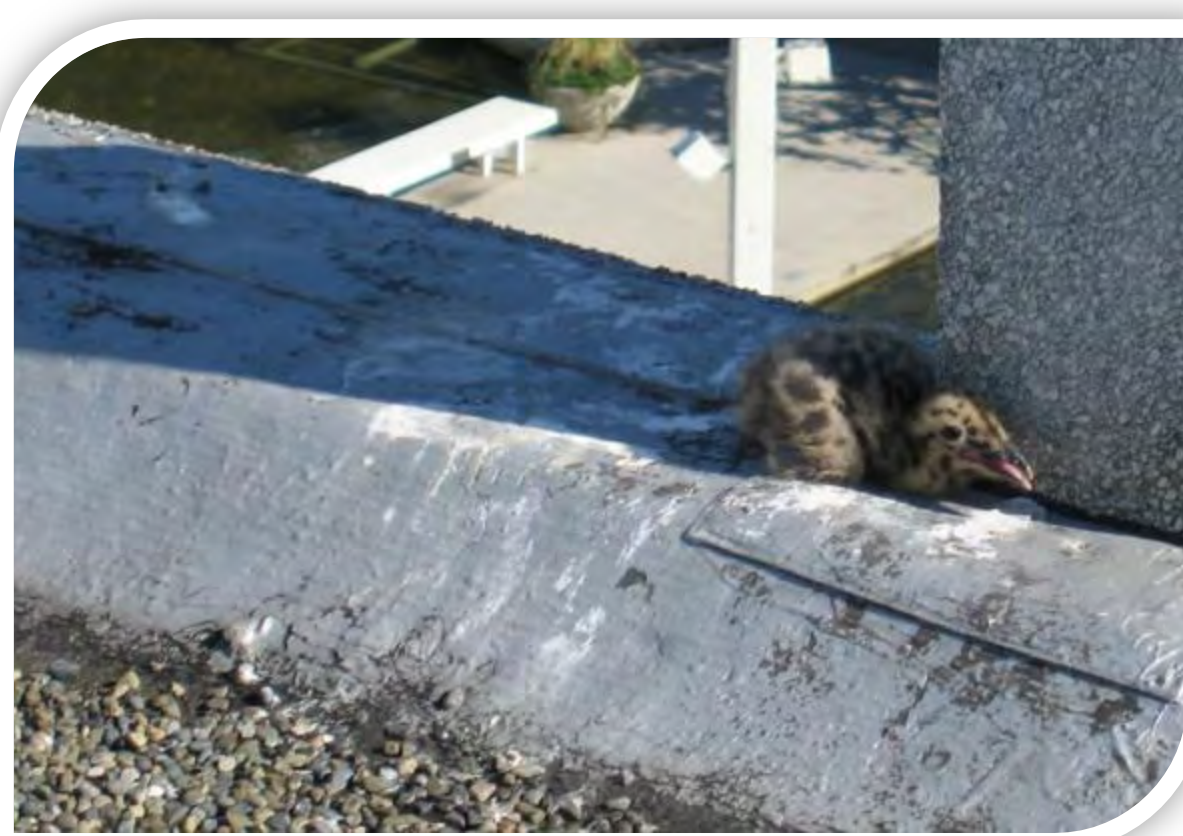
Pacific Science Center Festival of the Fountains

Photos by Michael & Nikki McCormack and Viki Selca

Once again the Cascade Grotto was invited to do a community outreach at the Pacific Science Center. Although this time it was for a decidedly more upscale crowd.

The Festival of the Fountains is an annual fundraising event put on by the Pacific Science Center to support the center's education programs for children. In 2005, the program's focus was "Risk". It appears they think that caving is a risky endeavor.

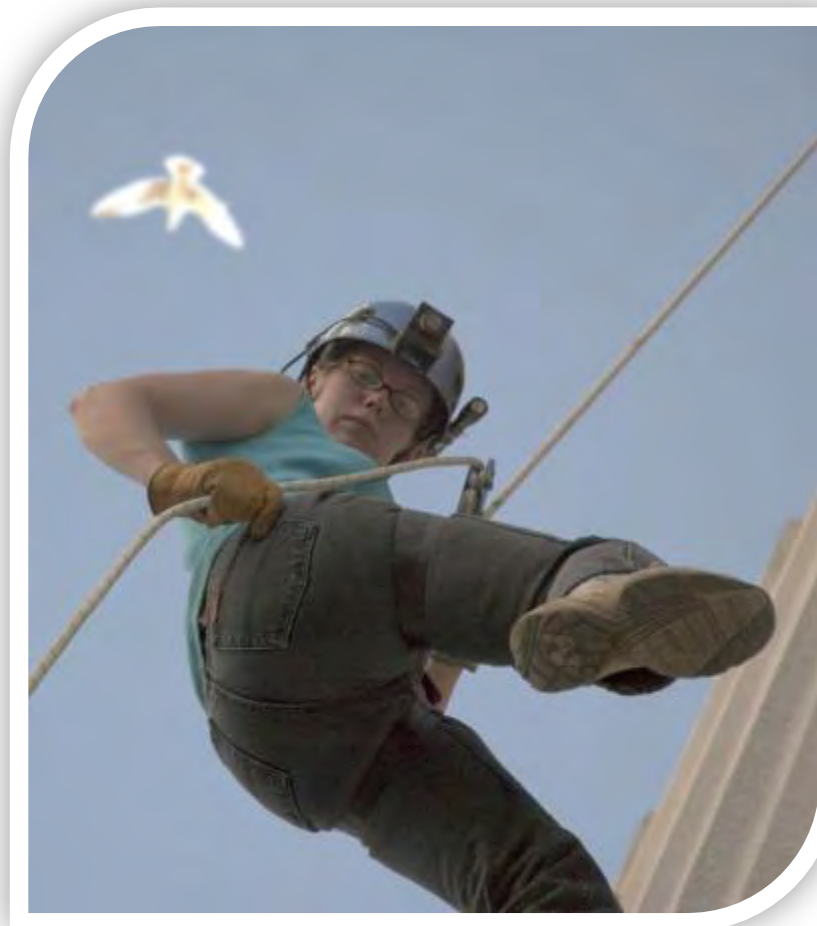




After climbing and descending the multitude of ladders to establish the rig-point into the ponds below, we began the rappel.

Constantly bombarded by seagulls protecting their young, getting off the roof was a high priority.

Some members of the grotto chose to ascend rather than do the grueling ladder climb to the top.





Since the intent of this was entertainment, grotto members got quite adventuresome in their rappelling methodology.

Upside down and Australian rappels were a matter of course.

A truly unique experience, the grotto has now done twice. As we've found out, there is only one place to get this photo of the space needle and that is the roof of the center.

Perhaps next time, we can rappel off of the needle!



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
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