



CASCADE
Grotto

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Cascade Caver

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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. Members can save \$4.00 per year by subscribing to the e-mail version of the caver

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 Kari Doller (253) 797-1606
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
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Editor Michael McCormack (425) 377-1978
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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

2/3 Next Mt. Si Hike 9:00 at trailhead.

2/16-2/19 Oregon Caves Conservation Trip. Cleaning of the upper cave. Stay in the chalet. Ruth Stickney will be food coordinator. Work Saturday and Sunday – Sunday night there's a party. \$35/person for the food.

Senger's Talus – Michael McCormack will be leading – doesn't know when yet.

COVER

A "floating" mushroom takes advantage of the light from Hell Hole's Front Door. This small mushroom (the cap is less than 1cm) was nearly a hundred feet straight down from the triangular opening. Photo and Cover design by Michael McCormack.

Because of the delayed publication of the Cascade Caver, information on this page is current as of 1/19/2007. – ed.

In our continuing effort to catch up with publication, all the available minutes from 2006 are presented here. – ed.

Dave Decker, Chairman
Robert Mitchell, Vice-Chairman
Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

**Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2006**

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Van Bergen, Dave Decker, Dick Garnick, Hester Malloneé, Robert Mitchell, Loran Payne, Marla A. Pelowski, Hubert Shen, Aaron Stavens, and guests Lane Holcroft, Kerry Doller.

Old Business:

Treasurer’s Report: \$2,342.49 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 12/31/05.

Pacific Science Center has paid the grotto \$450.00 for reimbursement for the on rope demonstration last summer at the Festival of Fountains for reimbursement of our expenses. The liability insurance cost \$409.60. An email was sent to Jon McGinnis to see if he needed reimbursement for the rope protectors and miscellaneous items he provided but not response was received. Marla A. Pelowski will send another email to Jon. If no response, we will assume he donated the items.

Dave Decker has had contact with Mark Sherman regarding publication of the *Cascade Caver*. Mark has asked for some assistance. Please let us know if you would like to assist with publication/editing the *Cascade Caver*. For the time being, please send all trip reports to Dave Decker and he will work on publication until we can find some assistance.

New Business:

The votes are in and new officers as of January 10, 2006, are as follows:

Congratulations to all!! For the record, 15 ballots were returned with 15 votes given to each of the candidates.

In 2005, the grotto approved on a yearly basis payment of regularly occurring budget expenses and Marla A. Pelowski moves to approve automatic payment of the following expenses up to the amounts indicated for 2006. Any expenses above and beyond the amounts indicated and expenses not listed below will be brought up for approval by the membership at a regularly occurring meeting:

cascade_grotto@caves.org	\$10.00
Shoreline Conference Center meeting room \$38/month for 11 months	\$418.00
PO Box Fee	\$58.00
Postage (other than for <i>Cascade Caver</i>)	\$39.00
<i>Cascade Caver</i> copying/printing/postage expenses	\$150.00
<hr/> <i>Total</i>	<hr/> <hr/> \$675.00

Hester Malloneé seconded. All in favor.

Dave Decker brought up the topic of having grotto patches made and what interest there may be. Dick Garnick has an old one. He’ll try to bring one in to a future meeting. Van might have a picture of it from a past Convention contest. More discussion to come. Dave Decker recently made some Cascade Grotto bumper stickers and handed them out at the holiday gathering. He will bring some more in.

Trip Reports:

Dave Decker went to Thurston Lava Tube in Hawaii. The first part is a tourist cave, though he also explored in the non-tourist section. He had some fun discouraging some tag-a-long tourists who had no lights or caving equipment of their own. Dave and company decided to turn off their lights and wait out the retreat of the unprepared tourists who thought Dave wasn't being very "aloha". Dave also hit another lava tube in Hawaii while driving around which was located just off-road.

Dave Decker and several others recently went to Cypress Island which is northwest of Anacortes. There they found a small cave at the bottom of a crevice. After moving rubble through several holes, the cave seemed to continue to have potential but the group had to leave it for another day due to approaching night.

Dave Decker also visited Jackman Creek, Cave What Cave, and No Cave where he found many subtle changes due to recent water flow. Lots of trash was found in Jackman Creek and taken out. He also noted that several pendants in the entrance area have been knocked off. The register canister was opened and pencils gone, though Michael McCormack has the original register.

Upcoming Trips:

February 17, 18, 19, and 20, 2006 The Oregon Caves restoration/clean up trip, over Presidents' Day weekend. Contact Hester Mallonee to reserve a space. Hester needs to know now if you plan on going so she can begin finalizing plans.

March 18. The Willamette Valley Grotto, WVG, is putting on its annual Vertical Practice. It will be held in Troutdale, Oregon, at the Glenn Otto Park in the Sam Cox building on March 18th, Saturday, from 9 am to 9 pm. Set-up starts at 9

am and the dinner will be about 5 pm. Contact Robert Johnson from the WVG.

Program:

There was no program at this meeting though the majority of attendees had a great time at the meeting after the meeting at Spiros.

Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes February 17, 2006

By Robert Mitchell, Vice-Chairman

Attendance:

Robert Mitchell

VP Robert Mitchell presiding

of members present 1*

of guests present 0*

Old Business

Introductions made, no treasurers report, no previous meeting minutes read, no trip reports given.

Call for old business:

None given.

New Business

Call for new business:

Motion made to amend grotto bylaws by requiring membership at monthly meetings to stand and sing: "Good Evening Mr./Mrs. Chairman" at the start of each meeting. Motion died for lack of second.

Motion made to spend \$1.00 of grotto funds to

buy a Powerball ticket for the \$350 million drawing. Motion died for lack of second.

Call for adjournment, no objections. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Program:

The custodian stopped by and gave a demonstration of mopping techniques. Meeting members then staged a raid on the Ballinger Room next door and scored some cold Starbucks from a meeting held earlier that afternoon.

Post Meeting Minutes:

As I was leaving the parking lot, Lane pulled in. We went back inside and talked until about 8:15 PM. As we were leaving, three people from WA U came in looking for the grotto meeting. They had found the website and decided to attend. I assured them that they were in the right place and a meeting would occur at the same place next month. They stated that they had gone caving once before at Horsethief near scenic Armpit, WY. Everyone left at 8:30 PM.

**Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2006**

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Dave Decker, Jeff Dwyer, Arthur Hill, Paul Hill, Lane Holdcroft, Hester Mallonée, Michael McCormack, Nikki McCormack, Robert Mitchell, Marla A. Pelowski, and Ron Zuber.

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$2,283.65 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 2/28/6.

Conservation Chair Report: Oregon Caves Management Plan summary by Hester Mallonée. Basically, Plan A maintains the status quo, Plan B increases the proportional amount of resources below ground, Plan C reduces the money spent underground, and Plan D increase types of scientific testing underground. Hester would like to see support of a combination of Options B and D, as they don't seem to be in conflict with each other and both appear to be necessary. If a combination cannot be done, Option D should be emphasized first. She feels the public is overall well served by existing conditions even though equipment may be aging. Paul Hill motions that Hester makes a reasonable statement about Plan B and D to Oregon Caves. Robert Mitchell seconds. All in favor.

Convention Chair: Register for convention!! The earlier the better. We still need volunteers.

The next *Cascade Caver* is coming soon. Michael McCormack will have it out shortly.

Buy a Lexan *Cascade Caver* bottle. Ask Michael McCormack to get you one today.

New Business:

Grotto website revision should be coming soon with photo galleries with Michael McCormack's help.

Dave Decker brought in an old Cascade Grotto patch which Dick Garnick owns and passed it around for comments. The grotto will consider at a future meeting if we should obtain new patches for sale. Comments were suggested that the colors be modified a bit to better reflect the NW flair, i.e. perhaps forest green instead of lime green.

Trip Reports:

10 people made it to Oregon Caves. Most of the same areas as in past years were maintained and cleaned. The approach to Paradise Lost had lots of lint and debris, though Paradise Lost itself was in good condition. Hester and kids stayed a few days over and worked on their continued project in the rim-stone room.

Hester and kids also visited Lake Shasta Caverns, which they recommend as a good show cave for all.

Arthur Hill told a story about a past visit to Crystal Ball Cave on the Utah/Nevada border. Arthur went on a cave tour and an unexpected arm came out of hole in the rock behind him and frightened him. He related how he would have ran right for the entrance if it wasn't for his parents' quick thinking (or perhaps their knowledge of the set up). He thought there was some interesting cave life which at the time scared the willies out of him and his friend, though he now relates it with a smile.

Upcoming Trips:

March 18. The Willamette Valley Grotto, WVG, is putting on its annual Vertical Practice. It will be held in Troutdale, Oregon, at the Glenn Otto Park in the Sam Cox building on March 18th, Saturday, from 9 am to 9 pm. Set-up starts at 9 am and the dinner will be about 5 pm. Contact Robert Johnson from the WVG.

April 9, 2006, save the date for a potential outdoor vertical practice at the Tacoma Mountaineers. More information to come if the date is secured.

April 28, 29, 30, 2006, Succor Creek. Contact Jennifer Dorman.

May 6, 2006.— Jackman Creek Cleanup Trip. Contact Dave Decker.

May 14, 2006.— Three Mile Creek Digging Trip. Contact Dave Decker.

June 11, 2006.— Spiderman. Contact Dave Decker.

July 8, 2006.— Big 4 Ice Caves. Contact Dave Decker.

July 15, 2006. — Cypress Island. Contact Dave Decker.

July 22-23, 2006.— Cave Ridge weekend. Contact Hester Mallonée.

August 7-11, 2006. NSS 2006 Convention in Bellingham, Washington, hosted by the Cascade Grotto.

Program:

Dave Decker brought in a video of *Wild Kingdom's Cave Elephants*. The elephants and other animals in the area will walk quite a distance into a very large cave to obtain much needed salt from the rocks.

Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes April 21, 2006

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Van Bergen, Dan Crape, Dave Decker, Arthur Hill, Paul Hill, Richard Hill, Lane Holdcroft, Michael McCormack, Robert Mitchell, Stuart Monson, Renato Dalle Mule, Hester Mallonée, Marla A. Pelowski, Hubert Shen, Ron Zuber and Guests: Beth Rand, Vincent Larouche, AJ

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$2,202.73 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 3/31/6.

New Business:

Iron Curtain located in BC just north of the border in the Chilliwack Mountains was broken into – this was discovered this past Thursday. The cave gate was completely destroyed. The concrete gate was smashed – steel gate was not locked (which was normal). Can't say when it happened due to lack of cave activity over the winter. Doesn't appear cave itself has been damaged. To combat this situation, they locked the steel gate and buried the cave. Michael McCormack motioned that we officially contact the group in charge of access and offer

financial and volunteer assistance to re-gate the cave. Renato Dalle Mule and Hester Mallonée seconded. All in favor. Though not in Washington, it is one of our most precious resources in the Northwest, since it is a limestone cave with a large amount of formations – soda straws, drapery, etc. We will check with Dick Garnick as to whom to make the initial contact. May also want to discuss access issues with the Canadians and education.

The Tacoma Mountaineers recently allowed us to use their climbing wall for one day for vertical practice. We are looking into the prospect of perhaps a mutually beneficial relationship. Some of the Mountaineers were hesitant to allow the free use of their wall. We would like to give something back such as the fixing the door to the inside of the climbing wall, giving a caving presentation – vertically oriented, or offering caving field trips. Thoughts were thrown around today. We may also want to look into the future use of the wall periodically or on a regular basis. We can benefit from their Mountaineering skills to get to Baker and Rainier caves, for example. Hubert Shen has volunteered to keep talking to them as he has taken courses through them. We also need someone to give a presentation – Renato Dalle Mule will take charge of this. Need to stress this is not instruction. Dave Decker motioned that Hubert Shen act as liaison and we attempt to set up a caving and/or vertical presentation for the Tacoma Mountaineers and that Renato Dalle Mule be in charge of organization. Michael McCormack seconded. All in favor.

A discussion was had about future caving on Cypress Island, use of the caves found for the NSS 2006 National Convention, and the relationship that Ron Zuber has been creating with local American Indians and the history of the caves. We don't want to insult any cultures, but the caves are on public land and a convention trip would be a pull for attendees. We will move forward cautiously and with due care.

Trip Reports:

Renato Dalle Mule, Hubert Shen, Paul Hill, Van Bergen, and Jeff Dwyer, went to the vertical practice at the Tacoma Mountaineers. A fun time was had by all and the Mountaineers present seemed very interested in the vertical skills used that day.

Upcoming Trips:

CANCELLED April 28, 29, 30, 2006. Succor Creek.

Contact Jennifer Dorman.

May 6, 2006. – Jackman Creek Cleanup Trip. Contact Dave Decker.

May 14, 2006. – Three Mile Creek Digging Trip. Contact Dave Decker.

June 11, 2006. Spiderman. Contact Dave Decker.

July 8, 2006. – Big 4 Ice Caves. Contact Dave Decker.

July 15, 2006. Cypress Island. Contact Dave Decker.

July 22-23, 2006. – Cave Ridge weekend. Contact Hester Mallonée.

August 7-11, 2006. NSS 2006 Convention in Bellingham, Washington, hosted by the Cascade Grotto.

Program:

The program was an impromptu recruitment of volunteers (OK, those present) to stuff envelopes for the NSS 2006 Convention video/promotional mailing. Thank you to all that helped. It was great to go from video, envelopes, letters, stamps to just drop about 250 envelopes in a mail box in about a half hour.

Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes May 19, 2006

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Dan Crape, Dave Decker, Jeff Dwyer, Paul Hill, Hester Mallonée, Robert Mitchell, Stuart Monson, Marla A.

Pelowski, Hubert Shen, Aaron Stavens, Ron Zuber, and Guest Kari Doller

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$2,213.81 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 4/30/6.

We still need convention volunteers and will need them through convention. Please contact Michael McCormack if you're interested.

We might hold a presentation for the Tacoma Mountaineers the third weekend in June, but we are waiting for their response. Will try a dry run beforehand. Contact Renato Dalle Mule or Hubert Shen if you're interested. If you recall, we were planning to do this as a thank you to the Mountaineers for them allowing us the use of their climbing wall for vertical practice.

Cypress Island. We would like to run a trip to Cypress Island for convention. Ron Zuber is our main contact with the native tribe on Cypress Island. He will contact the tribe when a date is arranged and let them know what we're doing. Ron will respectfully request if the tribe would want to come along on the trip.

New Business:

Hester Mallonée has suggested the grotto make a banner for the entrance to registration and Fairhaven Complex for Convention. She believes supplies will cost approximately \$200.00. The sign could potentially be reused for other events. Dave Decker moved that Hester Mallonée buys equipment and supplies and coordinates the effort. The grotto will reimburse her up to \$200.00. This is intended to be completed at our July meeting. Ron Zuber seconded. All in favor.

There was a fatality at Deception Pass where a young boy fell to his death while trying to get to the cave.

Ron Zuber spoke with the park manager for Deception Pass and also went to the memorial service. Ron wrote a letter to the family which was read at our meeting. The letter was extraordinary and very moving – great job Ron! The park is aware of the bat population in the cave--Pacific Townsend Big Eared bats use the cave. Dave Hopf provided a lot of historical information for Ron to discuss the situation with the Park. Dave Decker will do a bit more research and see how to best contact Friends of Blanchard Mountain to see what assistance we can provide.

Trip Reports:

Aaron Stavens and Hester Mallonée attended the Level III NCRC in Puerto Rico. There was so much information that the group did not get through it, but they understand this is often the case. The next Level III NCRC will be held in West Virginia.

Hester Mallonée and Dave Decker went to Jackman Creek where their primary goal was a cleanup trip. They cleaned up all the graffiti and retextured those specific areas. They couldn't find much of the broken pendants which Hester is intending to fix. She found all the pieces to only one.

Aaron Stavens and Kari Doller had a mini-vertical practice the last couple of weekends at Gasworks Park where much fun was had.

Dave Decker, Aaron Stavens, Kari Doller, John ?, and Ron Zuber went to Three Mile Creek. While there they moved a lot of earth and made lots of progress horizontally. They uncovered what looks like some sort of formation. They think they maybe dug the floor down a foot or two. They then noticed an arch which they hope might be the top of a fairly large passage. So it appears they're digging out the roof area first and digging down into the cave.

Upcoming Trips:

May 20, 2006. Three Mile Creek – Continued Dig.
Contact Dave Decker.

May 27, 28, 2006. Memorial Day weekend – Horn
Lake rescue training on Vancouver Island.

June 11, 2006. Spiderman. Contact Dave Decker.

Moved to July 1 from July 8, 2006. Big 4 Ice Caves.
Contact Dave Decker.

July 15, 2006. Cypress Island. Contact Dave Decker.

July 21, 22, 23, 2006. Cave Ridge weekend. Contact
Hester Mallonée.

July 31 – August 4, 2006 (Exact Dates Unknown)
Kamloops – Canadian rescue training – week before
convention.

August 7-11, 2006. NSS 2006 Convention in
Bellingham, Washington. Hosted by the Cascade
Grotto.

September 1, 2006. Western Regional

Program:

McBride's Cave Rescue video

Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2006

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Dan Crape, Dave Decker, Kari Doller, Jeff Dwyer,
Robert Mitchell, Stuart Monson, Marla A. Pelowski,
Hubert Shen, Aaron Stavens, Ron Zuber; and Guests
Tish Korbly, Beth Rand, and Lindsey

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$2,213.81 combined savings,
checking, and petty cash as of 5/31/6.

Renato Dalle Mule has received many pictures for the
Tacoma Mountaineers presentation. Let him know if
you would like to assist. This presentation is being

made as a thank you to the Tacoma Mountaineers for
them letting us use their climbing wall for vertical
practice.

We still intend to create the banner for the
convention registration entrance at the July meeting.
Watch the message board for any updates.

Ron Zuber provided an update on Deception Pass and
the fatality there. It appears Ranger Hart already has
preconceived notions on what he should do with the
cave – mainly destroy it. The services of the Cascade
Grotto and resources of the NSS were offered to the
Ranger. Ron passed on a packet of information to
the Ranger. The Manager of the park was educated
that he had some constraints of Federal and State
law such as the cave resources protection act,
endangered species act, habitat priority protection,
etc. Ron used Dave Hopf's historical information on
the history of the area as part of the packet of
information. He also gave the Ranger information
regarding how to gate the cave in a bat friendly
manner. Ron met with Jim Nieland, a retired cave
management specialist. Ron hasn't heard anything
since he passed on the information to the park. He
has heard that they intend to start something by mid-
July or early August.

New Business:

We have heard that there will be potential logging of
the area directly around the Senger's Talus Cave on
Blanchard Mountain. It was discussed that perhaps
the logging company could trade forest land for
somewhere else where there isn't such a big effect.
This is second growth forest and the Townsend Big
Eared Bat uses Senger's Talus Cave. Dave Decker will
look into it further to see what assistance could be
provided.

Trip Reports:

Another dig trip was made to Three Mile Creek. Dave
Decker, Kari Doller, Aaron Stavens, and others were

in Attendance. The layering in the dirt/clay is very interesting. Dave Decker believes it may be glacial outwash – perhaps this cave has been buried for thousands of years. Kari Doller described the layer she found on the ceiling which had hundreds of basically frozen in time mosquitoes.

Ron Zuber and Dave Decker went to Fidalgo Quarry Cave (Deception Pass) for photo documentation and measurements for a bat gate. They did a bit of clean up and took out a rigged rope that was not safe. There were no bats in the cave at that time but some bat guano was found.

Stuart Monson went to Trout Lake. He said there was still snow on some of the upper roads. He went to New Cave and took his four year old granddaughter. His daughter Rita and he went to Deadhorse where the water was to the ceiling at the bottom passage.

While on a business related trip, Hubert and his group got to go on a work sponsored caving trip.

Several members (Michael McCormack, Nikki McCormack, Dave Decker, Ron Zuber, Jeff Dwyer, Marla A. Pelowski, Renato Dalle Mule, Aaron Stavens, and others) went on a trip to survey Spiderman cave. The cave entrance was still covered in snow. The trip was cut short when a storm front moved in and everyone high-tailed it off the mountain due to lightning and hail. What fun!

Upcoming Trips:

June 17, 2006. Vertical practice CANCELLED.

June 23-25, 2006. Trout Lake Trip. Contact Aaron Stavens. Dynamited – beginner vertical. Trout Lake Creek Campground

July 1, 2006. Big 4 Ice Caves. Contact Dave Decker.

July 15, 2006. Cypress Island. Contact Dave Decker.

July 21, 22, 23, 2006. Cave Ridge weekend. Contact Hester Mallonée – Cascade area. Two trips – Another being coordinated possibly to Newton.

July 31 – August 4, 2006. Kamloops – Canadian rescue training – week before convention.

August 7-11, 2006. NSS 2006 Convention in Bellingham, Washington, hosted by the Cascade Grotto.

September 1, 2006. Western Regional

Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes August 18, 2006

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Eileen Bergen, Van Bergen, Jansen Cardy, Dan Crape, Kari Doller, Jeff Dwyer, Mark Heinzen, Paul Hill, Lane Holdcroft, Hester Mallonée, Michael McCormack, Nikki McCormack, Robert Mitchell, Marla A. Pelowski, Aaron Stavens, Ron Zuber, and a Guest Rose.

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$2,111.05 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 7/31/6.

Convention Update. Slanderous remarks were published about Oregon Caves in the Convention Guidebook in the section about the Cascade Grotto's history (page 5). This article was submitted to the guidebook editor by Larry McTigue. These ARE NOT the remarks or feelings of the Cascade Grotto or the NSS 2006 Convention. Hester Mallonee motioned that we send an apology to the park service and an addendum to the recipients of the guidebook. This motion also includes the language that the Cascade Grotto will pay for the expense to send the addendum. Nikki McCormack seconded. All in favor.

New Business:

Membership subscriptions are up in September for the majority of members. Please renew promptly when you receive your notification.

The *Cascade Caver* is on line again. Michael McCormack has been appointed editor by Dave

Decker. The next couple of issues will be strictly minutes and financial reports. Michael is also anticipating a Forgotten Trip Reports issue and a Convention issue. Please get your articles to Michael as soon as possible.

Note, members of the grotto act on behalf of themselves, not the grotto. There are officers who act on behalf of the grotto and give permission to others to act on behalf of the grotto. There are also appointed Chairs of committees who can act on behalf of the grotto in specific areas. Please do not perform acts or set up trips that are sponsored by the grotto without the instruction and on behalf of the grotto unless you have been given the authority to do so. But, you may feel free to post trips you are coordinating on the grotto web site, but note that the grotto does not sponsor these trips in any official capacity.

Michael and Nikki McCormack will hold this year's annual grotto holiday party on December 16, 2006. Hester moved that up to \$50 be given to the McCormack's for the party beast (that is the meat which will be served). Kari Doller seconded. Opposed: Michael McCormack as to location – what a card. The party will be a pot luck except for the main dish, so please begin pulling out your recipes now.

Hot deal – we have lowered the price on the Cascade Caver Nalgene bottles. They are now \$8. Get yours before they're gone.

Congratulations Ron Zuber, who was appointed Fellow of the NSS at the 2006 Convention!

Trip Reports:

Jansen Cardy went on the Three Mile Creek convention cartography workshop – he was surprised to note that there were eleven no shows.

Upcoming Trips:

August 20, 2006. Windy Creek trip. Contact Michael McCormack.

September 16, 2006 Three Mile Creek dig. Contact Kari Doller.

September 24, 2006 Ape Cave clean up. Contact Garry Petrie.

September 24, 2006. NCRC Instructor Weekend Rescue Training.

Labor Day Weekend – Big Horn/Horse Thief – Contact Jennifer Babione.

Labor Day Weekend – Lava Beds National Monument – Mapping and Surveying Event. Contact Hester Mallonee – CRF is hosting this.

October 22, 2006 Lake Cave.

November 11-12, 2006. Deadhorse 11th and Dynamited 12th. Contact Michael or Nikki McCormack.

December 2, 2006. Senger's Talus.

Program:

The grotto membership went to the Descent movie.

Cascade Grotto Business/Regular Meeting Minutes September 15, 2006

By Marla A. Pelowski, Secretary-Treasurer

Attendance:

Kari Doller, Jeff Dwyer, Paul Hill, Richard Hill, Robert Mitchell, Glennis Monson, Stuart Monson, Marla A. Pelowski, Aaron Stavens, Ron Zuber; and Guests Paul Seagull, Dennis Rector, Loretta Green, Mike Hopcroft, Tom Evans, Beth Rand, Drew, and Julianne

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: \$2,189.63 combined savings, checking, and petty cash as of 8/31/6.

Convention Update. Most things are wrapped up except for the Treasury which is still waiting for finalization of the WWU statement, so we don't know

if we're in the black or red (but most likely the red as the budget has projected). Several attendees who stayed in the dorms, stayed longer than their registration information indicated, so there will be follow up with them to collect the additional money. Also, the auditing requests have started.

New Business:

The general membership is brainstorming and proposing a potential change to the meeting location and/or day. The Shoreline Conference Center contract expires as of our October meeting. It appears the membership (at least active members attending meetings) is sliding south. It used to be the majority of members attending meetings were on the north end. It may be time to consider a location change.

The grotto will accept official proposals at the October meeting for vote on meeting location change and potential day change. When putting together a proposal for a new location, please consider access, minors must be allowed, meeting after meeting location which minors must also be allowed, parking (preferably free and a parking lot), access for all without submitting list of names, VCR/DVD available, screen for slide shows, years worth of set meetings in advance, a room to hold up to 30 people, etc.

Comments heard at this month's meeting regarding moving the day were such as: Most people have to go to work the next day, early, which makes attending mid-week meetings difficult. Most said that they would definitely not attend a meeting after the meeting due to this if there were a mid-week meeting, if attending the mid-week meeting at all. Fighting traffic after a mid-week meeting also makes it difficult for Attendance considering several people drive in from an hour away to an hour and 50 minutes, if not more. Those with the longer drives would not attend at all. Most people attending this meeting drove approximately an hour to get here.

People are generally thinking Friday night is a good night for this particular group, though it is unheard of for many other grottos around the country. Others will miss a Friday meeting for weekend events but still seem to attend a majority of the meetings during a year.

Deception Pass Update. The decision as to what to do about the cave and potential destruction or gating is in the hands of the lawyers who seem to be dragging their feet. Nothing is being done, but Ron Zuber reports that they are losing their construction window for the area. This being the case, the next opportunity for doing any construction at the cave would probably be next summer.

Ron Zuber mentions that Mt. Eerie (near Anacortes) is a good place for vertical practice. It's already a popular place for climbers and has many bolted routes. One side has a significant cliff with some areas for free hanging rope. You can drive to the top too. It would be ideal to simulate a 1500 foot cave with several drops, rebelay, whatever you can imagine (of course you would be swinging out of a cave but it would be possible to rig several routes as if you were dropping several pits within one deep cave).

Trip Reports:

Dennis Rector and Loretta Green went to Trout Lake and just checked out the entrance to Ice Caves.

Ron Zuber went to Salt Spring Island to the Explorer's Club which was founded approximately 102 years ago. Jim Pollack and Ron made a presentation on general cave exploration emphasizing alpine karst. The presentation was very well received especially considering the caliber of the events the people in Attendance have done – dove at the north pole, checking out salt deposits in the Sahara Dessert, and other phenomenal presentations/actions by the members.

Aaron Stavens, Kari Doller, Marla Pelowski, Ron Zuber and others went to Windy Creek, the longest limestone cave in the state of Washington. They visited the lake room, saw typical Washington type speleothemes, and went through the nice muddy, tight entrance crawlway.

Upcoming Trips:

September 16, 2006. Three Mile Creek dig. Contact Kari Doller.

September 24, 2006. Ape Cave clean up. Contact Garry Petrie.

September 24, 2006. NCRC Instructor Weekend Rescue Training

September 30, 2006. Survey Trip to Scott's Cave (west of Lake Cave). Contact Garry Petrie.

September 31, 2006. Ape Cave Kids Trip (and Adults). Contact Paul Hill.

October 7-8, 2006. Trout Lake. Contact Bob Brown.

October 29, 2006 Cave Ridge. Newton Trip. Contact Jeff Dwyer.

November 11-12, 2006. Deadhorse 11th and Dynamited 12th, Contact Michael and Nikki McCormack.

December 2, 2006. Senger's Talus.

12/16 Grotto Holiday Party at the McCormack's.

Possibly August 2007. Virgil the Turtle's Great House Cave discovered this year in Montana. Only bottomed by 4 people. Ron Zuber wants to be the 5th.. 2nd deepest cave in the United States (limestone), 18 ft short of Lechiguilla. Contact Ron if you're interested.

Around August 15, 2007: Trip to Lagufer Gieser (sp?) in Bob Marshall Wilderness area – 70 ft deep pit filled with snow. Will be attempting to open it up. Looking at 7 days at the cave, one day in, one day out. Expedition. Horses in. Excavate and melt snow. Contact Ron Zuber if you're interested.

Unknown. Ron Zuber brought up that Skeleton Cave near Bend, OR, is a hibernaculum for Townsend Big Eared Bats which is a Species of Concern (one level below endangered species). Ron Zuber will be participating in a gating project at the cave. The gate will be state of art and designed by Jim Nieland. He doesn't have a date yet, but contact Ron and let him know you're interested and he will keep you posted.

Program:

None.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2006
<u>Income</u>					
Investment Income					
Interest	\$0.24	\$0.24	\$0.16	\$0.24	\$0.88
Donations					
Donations - Unassigned			27.60		27.60
Inventory Sales					
Cascade Caver Bottles			56.00		56.00
Membership Dues					
Associate E-mail				66.00	66.00
Associate U.S. Mail				15.00	15.00
Household E-mail	22.00	11.00	8.00	17.00	58.00
Household US Mail			6.00		6.00
Regular E-mail	25.00	11.00	128.00	163.00	327.00
Regular U.S. Mail	41.00		90.00	105.00	236.00
Subscription U.S. Mail				15.00	15.00
Other Income					
Postage Reimbursement				15.21	15.21
Total Income	\$88.24	\$22.24	\$315.76	\$396.45	\$822.69
<u>Expenses</u>					
Cascade Caver				\$78.79	\$78.79
Charitable Donations				100.00	100.00
Cost of Goods					
Patches				191.00	191.00
Events					
Events - Unassigned				50.00	50.00
Meeting Room	\$228.00		\$152.00	46.00	426.00
PO Box				62.00	62.00
Total Expenses	\$228.00		\$152.00	\$527.79	\$907.79
Income less Expenses	\$(139.76)	\$22.24	\$163.76	\$(131.34)	\$(85.10)

**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