

THE CASCADE CAVER

VOLUME III NUMBER 5
MAY 1964
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
CASCADE GROTTO N. S. S.
SEATTLE WASHINGTON

COMING EVENTS

Monday May 11, 1964 Regular Meeting, 8 P.M.
Dr. Halliday's, 1117 - 36th Ave. East
Seattle

LIMESTONE CAVE TEMPERATURES NEEDED

N.S.S. President George Moore is charting limestone cave temperatures in the United States, and has only Gardner and Oregon Caves listed in the Pacific Northwest.

In Washington, he would particularly like to have at least one from the Snoqualmie group, and one of the larger caves on the San Juans. (Allbright Cave might be a particularly interesting one, too - WRH).

SO TAKE A THERMOMETER ALONG WHEN YOU GO CAVING THIS SUMMER. And don't read it with the carbide lamp pointing at it!

CAVES OF VENEZUELA

The program of the May 11th, 1964 meeting of the Grotto will be highlighted by a showing of the N.S.S. slide series Caves of Venezuela. The series of approximately 60 slides has a tape recorded narrative by W. Van York.

BOOK REVIEW

SPELEOLOGY - The Study of Caves
by George W. Moore and Brother Nicholas
D. C. Heath & Co., 1964

First impressions of this long-awaited handbook are deceptive - fortunately. Heath has produced a skinny paperback-illustrated by drawings rather than photographs - which is so flimsy that it appears inferior to many a 25¢ thriller. Speleogenetic portions of the text are badly unbalanced and appear to reflect the personal concepts of one of the writers, whereas a text of this sort should present a consensus with personal views specifically identified.

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Some specific errors are present: the shallow phreatic theory is attributed to W. E. Davies. The accompanying strong inference that "most limestone caves" so originated has been disputed by many recent speleogenetic studies, suggesting that shallow, horizontal, phreatic speleogenesis is only one of many special cases, albeit a relatively common one. The section on migration of heat cycles is based on a very dubious study and should have been omitted. The compound Helmholtz Resonator Theory of breathing caves seems out of place in a short handbook since so many basic matters were skimmed over hurriedly. And so on. I was certainly glad to see that this was not an official work of the Society.

This review would have been considerably easier had I been able to decide for what audience the booklet is designed. To stimulate discussion and argument among speleologists it is ideal. To indoctrinate spelunkers with certain viewpoints, it should be a success. To a non-caving PhD, it would leave a bad taste in the mouth. To a high school student, it would appear hopelessly complex.

And yet there is much that is valuable in this booklet. Don't grumble too much at the excessive price - nor its tendency to disintegrate at the first reading. Every spelunker and speleologist can learn much from its perusal with a properly skeptical eye. Almost every caver will find it opening new windows that will lead him to a better understanding of our complex underground phenomena. Read it and reread it, and then look into different viewpoints on matters that don't seem to fit your particular caves. While disappointing, this little booklet is much more valuable than appears on first glance.

- Bill Halliday -

H U M O R I N H I S T O R Y

(The following article is from THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW, Spokane, Washington Thursday Morning, June 10, 1909.)

IN IRRIGATION BELT
M A K E S S T U D Y O F
T R O U T L A K E C A V E S

Chris Guler, Pioneer of District,
Says Chain Is Over Twenty-Two
Miles in Length.

SOME OPEN; MANY CLOSED

Largest Shows Fine Lava Formations
While Another is Always
Ice Covered

HUSUM, Wash., June 9.-A scientific research of the chain of caves in west Klickitat County will develop wonderful surprises for the tourist and the world of science. Chris Guler, one of the pioneers of the Trout Lake region

has made these caves a study for 20 years and gives out the theory that the lava and ice caves in the vicinity of Trout Lake, commencing eight miles below that point, form a chain of caves over 22 miles in length. Some of these are open, some caved in, while others are still closed.

The largest of these caves accessible to sightseers is the lava cave, two miles south of the Trout Lake Hotel. It is 40 feet deep, three-quarters of a mile long and 30 feet wide. Its walls are of lava and one can easily detect the groves where the streams of molten lava flowed for centuries. The floor looks like a wavy stream of water, frozen.

Seven miles south and west of the hotel, in the Mount Rainier forest reserve
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is one of the more interesting caves on account of its perpetual ice. The theory is that the ice is formed by a cold current of air rising from an underground glacier and coming in contact with the warm air from above, in that way forming a drippage of water. The cold current freezes this, forming ice continually. In bygone days the Indians procured this ice and carried it on pack horses over the mountains to The Dalles.

It is a mistaken theory of tourists that these caves are found near Mount Adams. They form a chain from east to west in the level country, beginning at least 30 miles south of Mount Adams.

This indicates that many years ago another mountain existed from which those streams of lava had been flowing. The mountain is entirely obliterated.

Some geologists think an immense lode of coal became ignited and caused such a tremendous heat that the surrounding region melted, forming the streams of lava and gases which, being confined under the surface, formed the caves.

(Caver Ed. note: You will have to admit that this IS an unusual theory of lava tube formation.)

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

From Jim Nieland, Canby, Oregon

I wrote to Steve Knutson about his projected trip to Southern Oregon. He called me and invited me to go along---which I did. We left on a Friday night and drove as far as Grants Pass before we bedded down. The next morning we set out to locate No-Name Cave in the Marble Mountain area. I helped pay my way by being the one who found the cave. It was at the base of a cliff.

The entrance is about fifteen feet wide and about eight feet high. At the back there is a crawlway about forty feet long that took us into the two main rooms. From these rooms there were several crawlways that led nowhere. There are some wonderful formations. There were two columns, one about eight feet in height and the other between fifteen and twenty feet. Both were about two feet in diameter. Also, there is a large stalagmite about five feet high and four feet in diameter. There are many wonderful examples of bacon rind. We found small stalactites throughout the cave. There were also draperies, flowstone, rimstone pools, and gour. Personally, I thought it was more beautiful than the Oregon Caves.

At the back of the second room there is a terminal complex of crawlways. There are several vertical pitches and chimneys. We found gravel fill in several places.

The approximate length was about four hundred feet. The ceilings of the rooms varied from about fifteen feet to twenty-five feet.

We also visited another small cave just down the slope from the entrance. It had two crawlway entrances, one about twenty feet above the other. These were connected by a chimney a few feet inside the entrances. About twenty feet inside the cave, there were two rooms connected by a low, broad, passageway. The floors of the rooms were almost entirely pits which led down to water.

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CORRESPONDENCE (continued)

Jim Nieland, Canby, Oregon

The only formations were a few stalactites over one of the pits. However, we did find five bats in this cave. One of them fought with me for the right-of-way in one of the crawlways. About thirty feet down the slope from the lower entrance there is a spring which we thought might drain the water from the pools in the pits.

We also went into Northern California, looking for a supposedly bottomless pit. But when we arrived in the general area we found eight inches of snow on the ground---and it was wet! We hunted for several hours, but not successfully. I hope I'll have a chance to try it again when the weather is a little better.

It looks as tho' the Oregon Grotto is going to get started. At least I signed a copy of the constitution a week or so ago. I'm very happy to have a chance to be a charter member.

* * * * *

From Jim Papadakis Crystal Ice Caves, American Falls, Idaho

I strongly suspect that the Brunton and steel tape will shrink our 800-foot South Grotto. The water table should not be that deep. However, the same boys underestimated the depth of Crystal Ice Cave.

* * * * *

From Steve Knutson somewhere in Oregon

A photographic party went to No-Name Cave weekend before last and brought back some nice slides. If you are interested in seeing them, I'll send them up.

Something about sharing the Cascade Caver was mentioned before. If this were possible, it would solve one of the problems I am faced with--namely that of getting information on known caves and information on new leads distributed to the potentially interested and active groups and individuals in the State of Oregon. Please elaborate.

More thoughts on the Quarry. I don't know for sure that it was the foreman. Also, that the Superintendent is in total charge, not the Foreman. Hope things work out O.K.

* * * * *

CAVES OF VIRGINIA to be published in June

As you read this, the long awaited Virginia Cave Survey book is rolling off the presses. . . . we plan to have copies available at the 1964 NSS Convention in New Braunfels, Texas.

Systematic work on the Virginia Cave Survey began in the summer of 1954 and continued until November 1960. Early publication was then anticipated, but since this did not take place, the manuscript was brought up to date as of the summer of 1962. Thus, the cloth bound 500 page book contains all that was known of 1790 caves in the 26 limestone counties of Virginia up to that time, with numerous photographs and cave maps as well as reproductions of all the quadrangles having limestone and caves. The book will also include special articles on the limestone geology of the state and on the biology of Virginia caves.

"Caves of Virginia" is being published through the joint efforts of Econo-Print (represented by Henry H. Douglas and June O. Bonnell) and George E. Titcomb, Chairman of the D. C. Grotto.

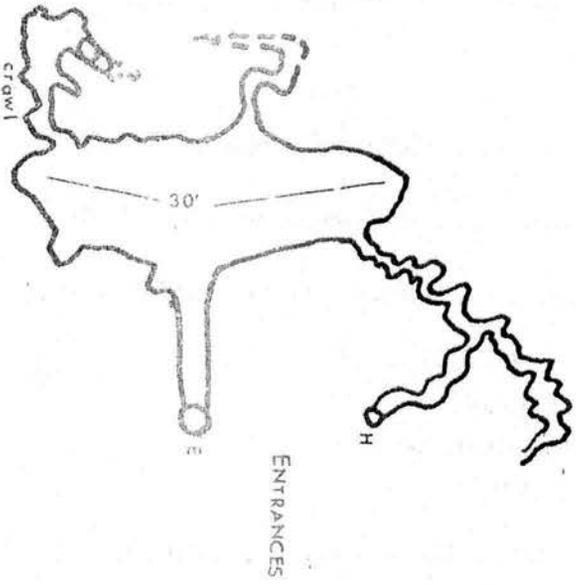
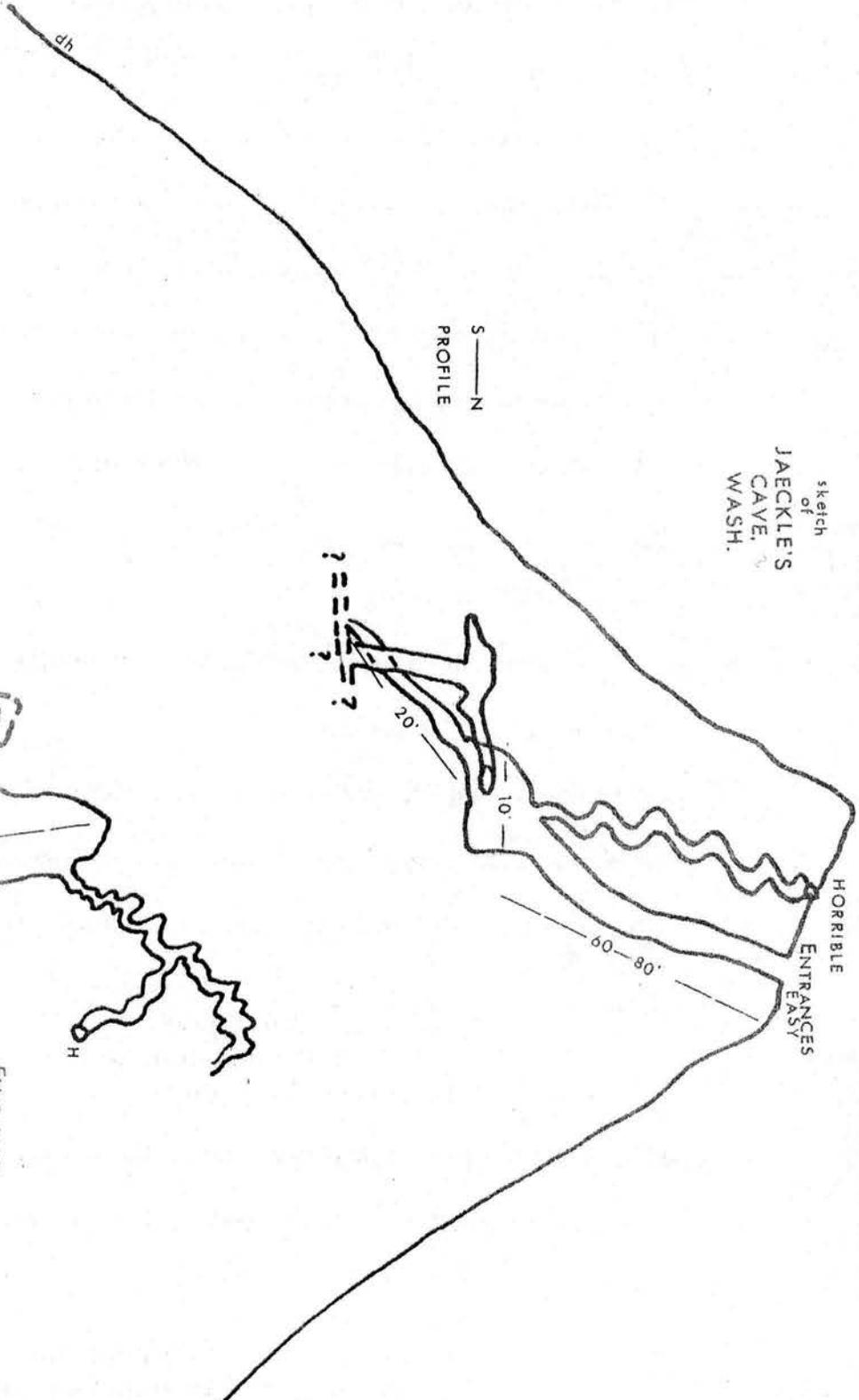
The book is now being offered at the pre-publication price of \$5.25 postpaid to N. S. S. members only. After publication the price will be \$6.00. If you wish to be sure of obtaining a copy mail your check, money order or cash now to:

VIRGINIA CAVE SURVEY
626 South Washington Street
Falls Church, Virginia

Indicate your N. S. S. number on your order. You will receive a receipt by return mail and your copy will be mailed to you as fast as the books come from the bindery.

Henry H. Douglas, Director,
Virginia Cave Survey

Sketch
of
JAECKLE'S
CAVE,
WASH.



Crystal ICE CAVES

American Falls, Idaho

A New Development of a Group of Little-Known Wild Caves

FIRST OPENED JUNE 27, 1964

Tours begin at frequent intervals every day from 7 a. m. until sundown. Season: May 1 to Nov. 1.

DISCOVERY

Crystal Ice Cave was discovered in 1956 by David Fortsch of Pocatello and Perry Fenstermaker, then a school teacher at Aberdeen. They named it Liar's Cave because no one would believe them when they described the fantastic ice formations.

GEOLOGICAL SETTING

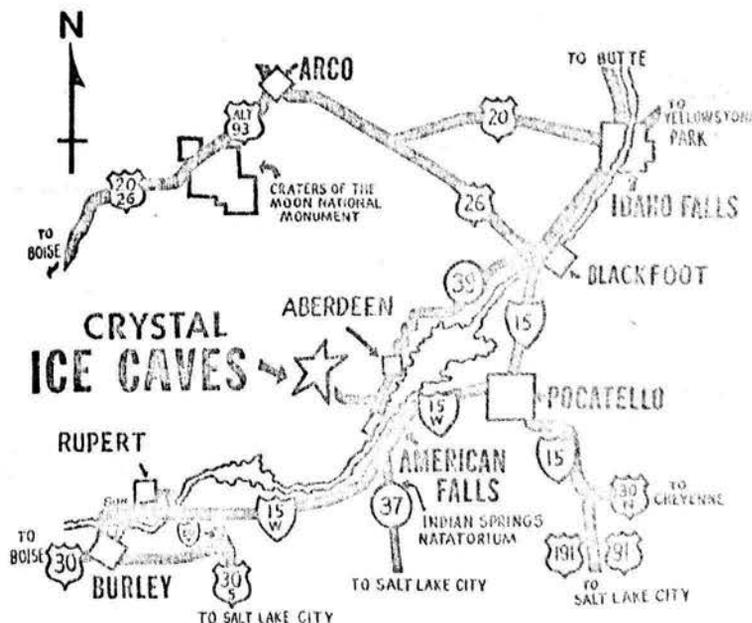
The following information will give the visitor a few facts about the area.

The Crystal Ice Caves are on southeastern Idaho's vast Snake River plain, the product of a long succession of lava flows. South of the Caves is the large and little-known Wapi lava flow covering 160 square miles. The source of this flow is the lava dome called Pillar Butte, which was built up by successive non-violent eruptions of fluid lava. Lava domes usually cover a large area, but, unlike volcanoes, do not rise very high above the surrounding country. The summit of Pillar Butte contains several craters. Northward from the Wapi flow, a volcanic rift extends for several miles. A volcanic rift is a fissure, or split, in the earth's crust through which lava and other volcanic material are ejected. A smaller flow is associated with this rift and many spatter cones occur along its length. An excellent view of the Wapi flow and Cave area can be seen from the road to the Caves as it passes near the summit of Grandview Crater. Also, the Craters of the Moon can be seen to the northwest with the jagged peaks of the Sawtooth and other mountain ranges in the distance.

It should be emphasized that the Crystal Ice Caves are fissure caves occurring in the volcanic rift north of the Wapi flow and are not the more common lava tubes. Large fissure caves, such as these, are rare and the Crystal Ice Caves are the only ones open to the public in America and probably

in the world. This combined with the fact that the Caves are extraordinarily beautiful and spectacular and expose in a relatively tiny area a varied exhibit of seldom seen volcanic features make them a must on every Idaho visitor's itinerary.

The entrance to the Crystal Ice Caves is the King's Bowl, a greatly enlarged portion of the rift. Well informed guides lead you into this crater-like opening and throughout the Caves on wide, easy trails (no steps). Beyond the King's Bowl is the realm of perpetual ice.



HOW TO REACH THE CAVES

Turn off Interstate 15W at either the east or west interchanges at American Falls. Follow highway 39 north across the dam and 6 miles from American Falls turn west onto the North Pleasant Valley Road to the Caves.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ★ A sweater or jacket should be worn for the trip through the Caves.
- ★ Bring your camera for some unique photographic opportunities. Flash is recommended in the Caves.
- ★ Free Picnic and Campground.
- ★ Admission charge: Adults \$1.00, Children (6-12) 50¢ Children under 6 admitted free if accompanied by an adult. Special rates to all organized groups and family reunions. No reservations necessary. Groups of children must be accompanied by an adult.
- ★ For more information write:

Crystal Ice Caves
North Pleasant Valley Road
American Falls, Idaho

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