UTG

VOL. 4, No. 1

UTG NEWSLETTER
Vol. 4, No. 1

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Scan and OCR, January 2022, by William R. Elliott

THE "STAPH"

Editor-In-Chief	Old Man Wisdom
Assistant Editors	Charlie Loving
	Bill Elliott
	Russ Harmon
	Charlie Jennings in absentia
Photographic Continuity	Squire C. Lewis
Special Consultants	Fritz and Horny [Don Broussard & David Honea]
Spelling Editor	Terry D. Plemons
Typist	Carol Russell
Typist Class B	Bill Elliott
Typist Class C	Russ Harmon
Artist	Charles I. Loving
Art Editor	William R. Elliott
Trip Reports	Those in club who take an occasional trip
Caver Hall of Fame Officers (A dignity to all Cavers)	Charles Igor Loving William David Bell ½ III Charles Z. Lewis Terence D. Plemons Ronald R. Ralph
Trash, Nonsense & other Assorted Humor	Good Ole Nurdoo
Printer	Terry Raines and Company

* * * *

UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ADVISOR AND OFFICERS — FALL SEMESTER 1968

Advisor	Dr. Ernest Lundelius, Dept. of Geology
President	William H. Russell
Vice President	Jonathan O. Davis
Expedition Chairman	John Fish
Equipment Chairman	James Strickland
Treasurer	Jerry Broadus
Secretary	Karen Mitchell
Research Chairman	Carol Russell

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE — if any

The staff would like to reaffirm the guiding principles of this newsletter, primarily for the "benefit of those new cavers who are not already familiar with it. We wish to offer a publication which will be enjoyed by all, which will inform, amuse and edify — in general, one that will be worth reading. With the exception of C.I.L.'s pictorial narrative of incidents in the life of Old Man Wisdom, the bulk of the newsletter must come from the general membership — usually in the form of trip reports and assorted Learned Articles. We will print anything in reason that the membership brings us, however, so bring us something to print — your name maybe?

* * * *

The University Speleological Society (alias U.T.G.) Newsletter is published periodically under the auspices of someone or other way up high in that tower, tower burning bright...

* * * *

Address all complaints, laudatory comments, donations and contributions, etc., to:

Old Man Wisdom
Box 7374 or 7672
University Station
Austin, Texas 78712

EDITORIAL COMMENT

(The views and ideas expressed herein are not necessarily those of the administration, club, or otner responsible people)

Now that all you new people have had your jollies by exploring a Mexican Cave for real, it is time to once again tell you dunderheads how great Texas caving can be.

Sure, everybody likes to cave in Mexico and that is a worthwhile thing to do every now and then, but just realize all that you are missing by not delving into the mysterious niederwelt right here beneath our own Texas soil.

By visiting such really great caves as Cave X, Lost Gold Cave, Ash Hole, Flowstone Falls Rotting Cave, Dead Dog Caves Numbers 1, 2, 5 & 6, and Tarbuttons Showerbath Cave, you can really get the feel of Texas Caving and still have enough money left for that super cave trip to Mexico at Thanksgiving or Easter, so let's get with it and. . . . GO CAVING IN TEXAS!

* * * *

SUPPORT CAVING ORGANIZATIONS BY YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND/OR DUES

1.	National Speleological Society	$10.00	per yr.
2.	Association for Mexican Cave Studies	$5.00	per yr.
3.	The Texas Caver (Texas Speleological Association)	$3.00	per yr.
4.	Texas Speleological Survey	$3.00	per vol.

* * * *

We are happy to note that the club has 72 dues-paid members for the fall sememster (30 qualified and 40 non-qualified) and that all of the club officers have paid their dues, so let’s follow C.L.'s suggestion and have a super-big, ultra-great, hell-of-a-big caver party!

O.M.W

BOOKS ON CAVES AND CAVING IN THE UNDERGRADUATE LIBRARY

For those of you who are interested, the Academic Center/ Undergraduate Library has the following books on caves and caving, all on the second floor and numbered 551.44® They are all worth reading or glancing at to see what strikes your fancy» Also, contact Carol Russell, our Research Chair- man, about books we have in our own club library. Books at the AC are:

Luminous Darkness — Alfred Bogli and Herbert Franke B6331
Fantastic color photos of European caves (Bogli is head of exploration of Holloch, the second longest cave in the world at 62½ miles)

British Caving — an introduction to speleology. Edited by C.H.D. Cullingford C898b
The book on British speleology — extremely interesting, even humorous at times. Has been recognized as important by many speleologists and even used as a text.

Depths of the Earth — William Halliday H155d
Good caving stories and BS from all over the U.S.

The Life of the Cave —- Mohr and Poulson M7261
Beautiful pictures and accurate information on cave biology in the U.S. A good introduction.

Speleology — the study of caves — Mohr and Nicholas M783s
Want to find out accurate and useful information on caves and latest theories say, on formation of speleothems (cave formations)? This book is short and has much that is often skipped over or poorly explained in other books.

The Complete Book of Cave Exploration — Roy Finney P656c
Not really complete but interesting — mentions caves in the Orient and Oceania too.

Beyond Time — Michel Siffre Si21b
About a French speleologist who lived for two months in a vertical ice cave as an experiment. He lived.

Visiting American Caves —• Sloane and Gurnee S152v
A good summary of most all the commercial caves in the U.S. up to 1965 (doesn't include Inner Space). Gives description of each cave, prices, hours, location, and pictures (even the baddies so you can tell which are the groad holes). The authors are both cavers so they knew what to look for. Did you know that there are five "Wonder Caves" in the U.S.? I thought one was too many!

Bill Elliott

REPORT ON THE GREEN

UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY BUDGET — FALL 1968

Carbide	$10.50
Office & News	10.50
Rope	42.00
Electrometer	50.00
Membership Cards	10.00
Tape and Repair	30.00
Adaptor and Tripod.	24.00
Emergency Fund.	30.00
Maps and Photo.	10.00
Training Equipment	7.50
Books and Binding.	40.00
Cable Ladder	35.00
J. Hoover Mackin Fund.	50.00
Ezell's Cave Fund.	15.00
	$364.50

This is a somewhat larger budget than the club has had for several semesters and, I thinx, a rather important one, especially concerning new mapping equipment, which is needed to replace old equipment which seems amazingly difficult to find lately.

The club is much richer than in past years due to a high influx of dues at the last meeting. At the present we have about $50.00 more than needed to cover the budget—yes—a real honest to goodness surplus. I would be interested to hear any suggestions as to how this money could best be spent.

Jerry Broadus
Treasurer

OLD MAN WISDOM

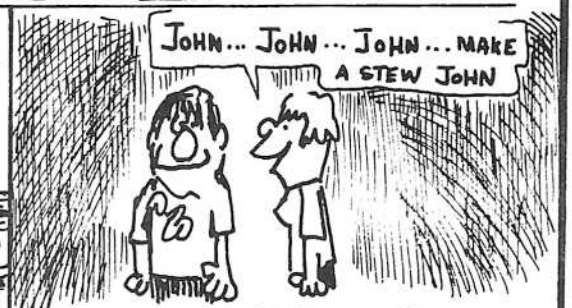
VOL. 1 NUMBER FOUR

IN WHICH FOOD AND METHODS OF FIXING SAME ARE EXPOUNDED UPON.

THIS AD. BY THE BEAN ASOC. OF AMER.

FIRST: AIM FOR VARIETY AND rapid. EASE IN PREPARATION. USE LOTS OF BEANS

Then there is Peanut Butter. A real winner. TEXAS TERRY STYLE



ALSO THERE IS THE COMMUNITY STEW "A LA JOHNNIE FISH" CALLED A JOHNNIE STEW.

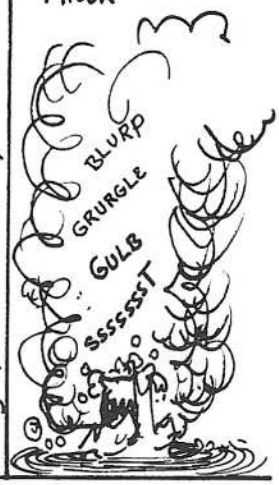
FOR JOHNNIE STEW YOU USE A CLAY POT. ALSO WATER. BOIL WATER.. WITH FIRE 2 Lbs of Noodles

ADD BEANS AND SALT .42 SHAKES

INTREGAL PART MUSHROOM SOUP 2 CANS

NEXT ADD TUNA FISH 1 FISH

THEN SIMMER FOR 1 HOUR



NEXT SUPER BOUNCE FOOD

AND FOR THE MORE EXPERIENCED THERE IS THE SQUIRE STEW

AND SO WE LEAVE THE SQUIRE AND HIS 10 PAGE DISERTATION (sic)* AND JOIN THE GOOD PEOPLE.

*SPELLING CONSULTANT ON THIS WORD SUPER BOUNCE

TRIP REPORTS

NEW TRAVIS COUNTY CAVERN

Date; Sept. 26, 1968
Persons: Orion and Jan Knox, Bill and Carol Russell
Reported By: Orion Knox

After hearing a rumor at work (Texas Parks and Wildlife) about a large cave just outside of town, I made further inquiries and was told that there was a "huge" cave just north of town. After obtaining directions to its location I called Bill and Carol and we made plans to explore the cavern.

With much excitement we packed our gear one afternoon after work and headed north on Lamar past 183 and on to a blue water tower where just beyond we turned right into a new housing development. After a couple of blocks we turned left and started down an as yet unpaved street and headed toward new and as yet unexplored territory. After passing through a baseball game being played in the new road we pulled to a halt and surveyed the new promised land. There was a forested draw just ahead which looked very cavernish so we started up it to the right, as we had been told to do and kept our eyes peeled for the black hole leading to unknown adventure. The draw became deeper and narrower and foliage closed in on us. While carefully moving forward keeping a close watch for the entrance, excitement built until finally there it was, just as it had been described, an opening five feet high and four feet wide in the side of the by now deep, tree-covered canyon. At this point Bill cried, "C-ood grief, it's, it's...it's Stark's Mine!"

For those of you not familiar with Stark's Mine, it is a tunnel, about 200 feet long, north of town where one of the many lost treasures of the area had been sought in vain.

* * * * *

SIEKER'S CAVE

Date: October 1968
Persons: Don (Fritz), Louis and Margie Kremer, Russell Harmon, Dave Honea, Karen Mitchell
Reported by: Dave Honea

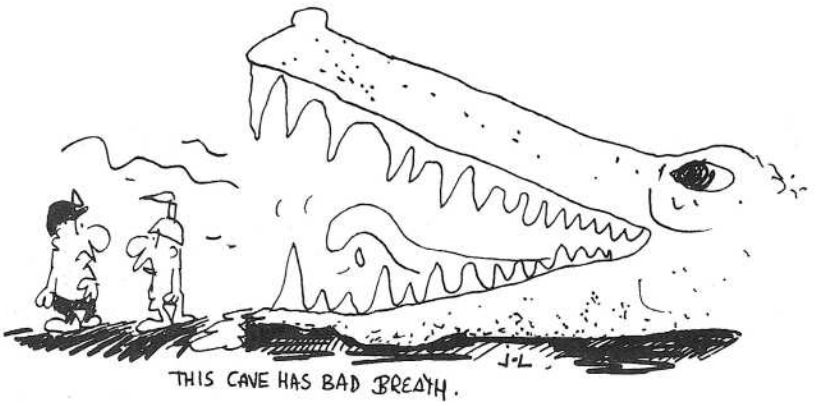
The above people went to Sieker's Cave during the first week in October with the purpose of extending the mapped length of the cave as much as possible. Several new people were checked for rappell and prussick techniques in the entrance drop (45'). The group then proceeded to the last station marker and set up to continue the map. The mapping team of Russell Harmon, sketch; Don Broussard, tape; and Dave Honea, brunton, added about 300 to 500 feet to the map, making the total length about 1800 to 2000 feet.

(cont'd)

SIEKER'S cont'd

While in the cave a number of the bats encountered were carrying parasites in the form of lice about 1/8" long and light cream in color. A rather pale bullfrog was also observed

* * * *



FISCHER'S PIT

Date; Nov.8, 1968
Persons; Bill Elliott, Duane Faith, Joe Sumbera, Dave Honea, Jim MacIntire, Jerry Broadus, Russ Harmon, and Barbara Hershberger
Reported by; Bill Elliott

On Saturday morning, Nov. 8, two carloads of cavers lit out for Fischer's Pit near Fischer's Store, Comal County, about 25 miles west of San Marcos. Accompanying us were two illustrious Southwest Texas Grotto members; Joe Sumbera (Joe Hat or Joelsom Berra) and Jim (The Kid) MacIntire. Our purpose was merely to practice vertical technique (most of us had been there before) including trying out Duane's new whaletail descender he had made in engineering lab. As the day was chilly we were rather apprehensive about going into the usually sopping wet pit and then coming out into the fresh air again.

Luckily, when we got there we found the pit to be completely dry, not even any standing water at the bottom. Obtaining permission from the Calhouns, who own the pit, we found that ownership to the land the pit is on is changing hands next month. Who will own it they weren't sure, because the land will be split among several people. However, I would advise anyone going to the pit to obtain permission from the actual owner since since he may not appreciate people just going there and might close it to everyone if this happens.

All eight of us rappelled the 125′ to the bottom, then prusicked out two at a time on the 7/16″ Goldline we were using. It was interesting to see David Honea scoot

(cont'd)

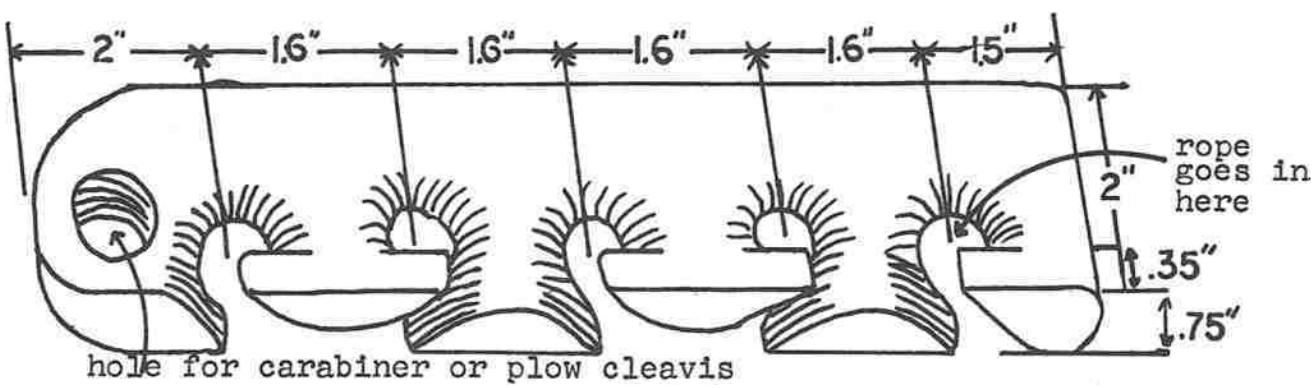
FISCHER'S PIT cont'd

up the rope at a respectable speed on 3 prussick knots made of his favorite canary yellow polypropylene. The pit has some quite beautiful travertine and gours with cave pearls, no less. Also, one may see green leaves cemented in the flowstone. The whaletail worked fine (those of you who do long drops might think about making one of these). The only thing bad about the pit is that one has to squeeze in and out of a slit at the top that is about two feet wide or less.

Nothing unfortunate ocurred except a flat on Harmon's truck on the way there. The group was back in Austin by 3:00.

* * * * *

Build yourself a "whaletail descender". Instructions below. Taken from NSS News¿, Dec. 1967.
Make from 10" *x* 2 1/4" *x* *'S/K"* bar of 606IT6 aluminum



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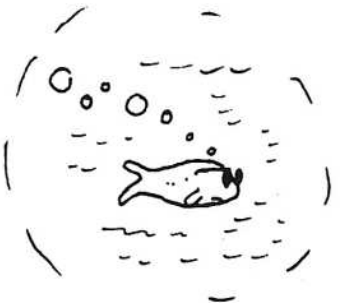
DEL RIO AREA Date; Sept.18-22, 1968
Persons: Jerry Broadus, Bill Russell, Joe Cepeda, Pam Morrison, Karen Mitchell, and Russell Harmon
Reported by: Russell Harmon

We departed Austin about 8:00 pm on the evening of the 18th and arrived without incident at a camping area just above the old Devil's River camping area.

The next morning we arose to find to our astonishment the rising waters from Amistad Dam almost lapping at our feet. Later, when we visited Diablo Cave, we were to find out that the water in the area was rising about a foot a day. After a quick breakfast in Del Rio we headed for Orbit Cave, hoping to map it for TSS. Unfortunately, we found that the cave was more than a match for us, being totally a mazework of small passage, and we decided to leave it to a more dedicated mapping group. From Orbit

(cont'd)

DEL RIO AREA cont'd



Cave we proceeded to Joe Cepeda's house and managed to drag him off on another cave trip. From Joe's we deded to Ceniza Hill Cave where Bill Russell hoped to do some diggin in hope of enlarging the cave. Even wit the help of Joe's wrecking bar the quest ended in failure (so far a really successful cave trip). Before entering the cave Bill Russell had seen a red snake disappear into a small sink and checked it out after we left Ceniza Hill Cave, the result being Red Snake Sink, another 15' deep pothole.

From here we proceeded back to the campground for an evening of rest after we had made a small sortie into Acuna for a little refreshment.

The next day we proceeded to Amistad Dam to talk to the Boundary and water Commission officials and try and get into Diablo Cave. We were successful and spent the morning wading through the mud of Diablo Cave. We did find that the flooding of the water behind the dam was not causing the cave to fill with any additional water, whicn we reported to the dam officials when we left the cave.

That afternoon we left Del Rio and headed towards Langtry where Jerry, Karen, Russ went to Fisher's Fissure while the rest of the group walked down the streambed collecting pebbles. From there we proceeded to Litter Barrel Cave, which we mapped for TSS. (Latest report has it that the cave is now inhabited by a skunk or two.)

After completing the map we departed for Austin, arriving back about 11:00 pm after a real enjoyable caving trip.

*****

MIDNIGHT CAVE

Date; Oct. 19, 1968
Persons: Orion and Jan Knox, Carl Kunath, Ron Bridgeman and two Phoenix cavers
Reported by: Orion Knox

Jan and I left Austin Friday night for Del Rio where we made a quick trip across the border, then on to Carta Valley where we were to camp and meet the rest of the group. The rest arrived shortly after we did and all of us were tired and had no trouble sleeping.

The next morning we headed for the rancher's house, where we discussed, our plans for the day and he gave us his best wishes.

Arriving at the base of the mountain we packed our gear and headed up the side to the 100'entrance

(cont'd)

MIDNIGHT CAVE cont'd

drop. The cave had been partially explored last Labor Day and we planned to finish the survey and exploration, and photograph it on this trip.

We all rappelled in and while Carl and crew continued the survey, Jan and I went to the south end to check out two small leads not checked on the previous trip. Carl had told us where to find them,

I checked the best lead, which required some chipping. While I hammered away Jan went to a small opening on the right hand side of the passage. She reported a breeze and after I finally got into the one I was checking and seeing that it didn't go I went over to help her chip out a small block that prevented entrance.

After hammering for some time it was finally large enough to enter. It was a bad crawl but well worth the effort. It led to a very nice room about 40' in diameter with a coral-like formation almost everywhere. We checked the most obvious lead, which didn't go but another led into a 1000' plus passage filled with all kinds of nice formations. We spent the rest of the day exploring this passage and taking pictures.

With this additional portion the cave now has some 4000 feet of known passage.

That night we showed slides at the owner's home and returned to Austin the next day.

*****

NATURAL BRIDGE CAVERNS

Date: from time to time
Persons: Orion and Jan Knox et al. Reported by: Orion Knox

A number of survey trips have been made to the cave to make a transit survey of the relation of the entrance to the rear exit and two well holes which go into the cave. This will help in insuring the accuracy of the final map.

*****

RINCON GRANDE

Date: November 9-10, 1968
Persons: TR Evans, Bill and Carol Russell, Janie Reddell,and Orion Knox
Reported by: Orion Knox

They heard, they saw, they conquered.

* * * * *

FREE ADVICE ON ROPE... OR DO YOU WANT IT?

THE FIRST THING YOU NEED IN ROPE WORK IS ROPE. THE PROPER ROPE. WHAT IS ROPE? A large stout cord of strands of fibers or wire twisted or braided together...a long slender strip of material used as rope (rawhide) CORD MUST BE DEFINED AS WELL..a moral spiritual or emotional bond. Enough said on this.

TYPES OF ROPE

HEMP OR MANILA

SISSAL OR FUZZY

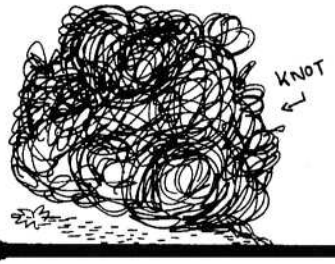
NYLON, DACRON, ORLON

CONDEMNED

THE LENGTH OF THE ROPE IS OF UTMOST IMPORT. BE VERY CAREFUL TO BRING JUST ENOUGH SO AS TO BE FORCED TO COME BACK AGAIN. OR NOT ENOUGH SO AS TO CONTINUE THE TRADITION OF WMN. RUSSELL OF CAVE ENTRANCES I HAVE SEEN.. BRING LOTS OF FOOD.

NOW: THE ROPE MUST BE TIED IN A KNOT SO AS NOT TO LOOSE THE MORAL AND SPIRITUAL OR EMOTIONAL CAVER. THE BOND IS IMPORTANT. GLUE IS NICE BUT KNOTS ARE BETTER. THE GORDIAN KNOT IS THE BEST FOR CAVING. IT HAS NOT FAILED EXCEPT ONCE; IN A MOVIE LONG AGO.

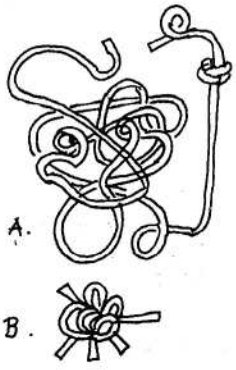
YOU MAY WANT TO THROW THIS KNOT INTO THE CAVE AND JUMP IN ON TOP. BEWARE ROPE IS NOT SOFT AND IT TENDS TO TANGLE UP



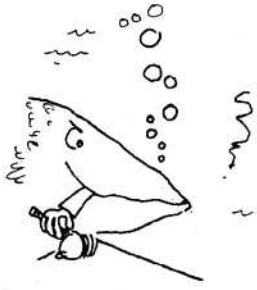
BOWLINE

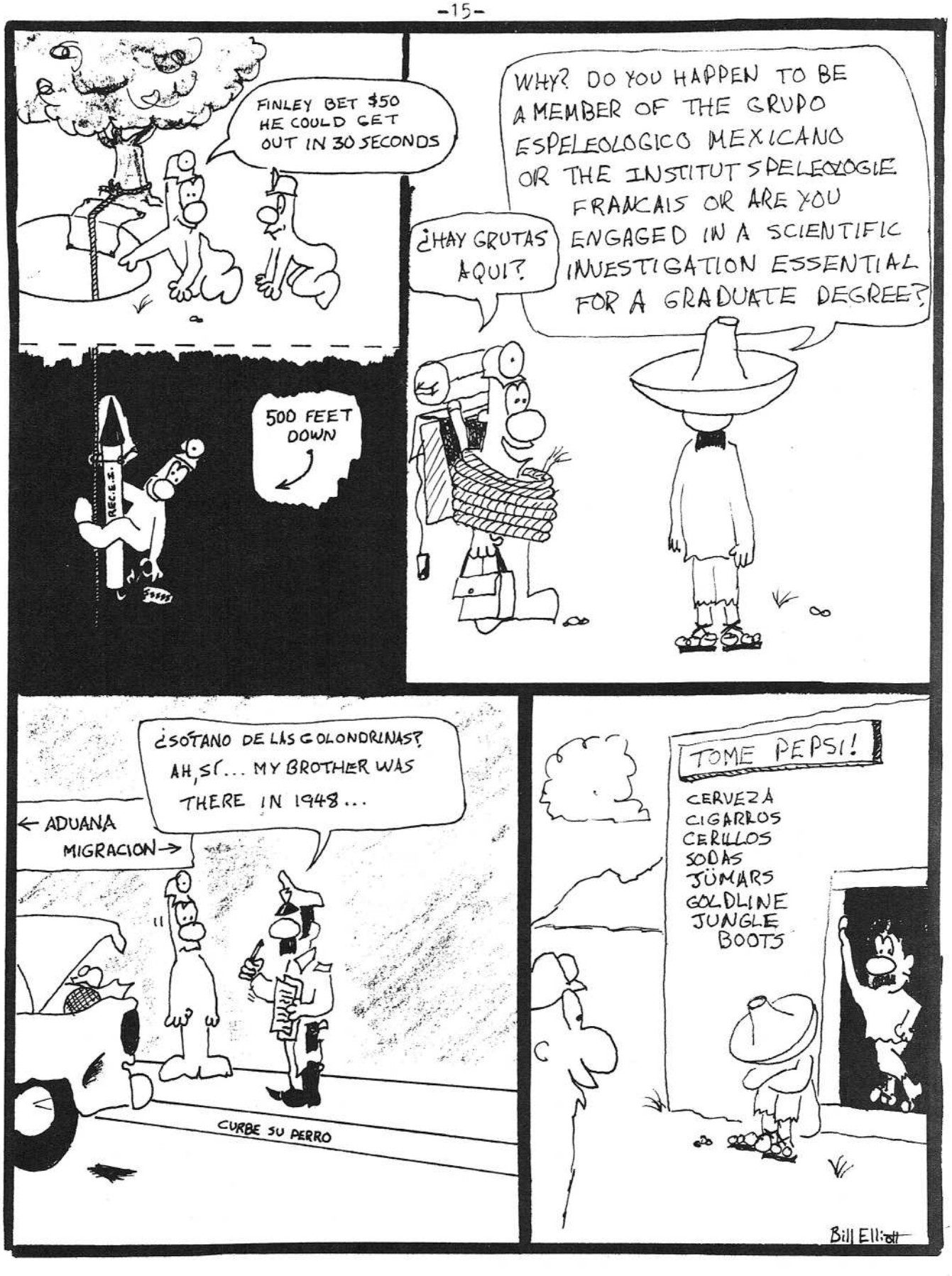
SHEEP SHANK

BLUM KNOT



FISHERMAN'S




FINLEY BET $50 HE COULD GET OUT IN 30 SECONDS
500 FEET DOWN
REC.E.X.
¿HAY GRUTAS AQUI?
WHY? DO YOU HAPPEN TO BE A MEMBER OF THE GRUPO ESPELEOLOGICO MEXICANO OR THE INSTITUT SPELEOLOGIE FRANCAIS OR ARE YOU ENGAGED IN A SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION ESSENTIAL FOR A GRADUATE DEGREE?
¿SOTANO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS? AH, SI... MY BROTHER WAS THERE IN 1948...
← ADUANA
MIGRACION →
CURBE SU PERRO
TOME PEPSI!
CERVEZA
CIGARROS
CERILLOS
SODAS
JÜMARS
GOLDLINE
JUNGLE BOOTS
Bill Elliott

Matehuala (Mex.)

Date: 30 Aug- 5 Sept 68
Persons: Ed Fombie, Martha Burk, Sharon Cathey, Davia and Velvet Jackson, Joe Sumbera, Jim Maclntire, and Duane Faith
Reported: Duane Faith

Our primary goal was to map Cueva de Matehuala which we had found about 5 miles north of Matehuala about a year earlier. We had some usual trouble before leaving so we got to Laredo just at the height of tne tourist vacation time. Thus witu this late start we camped at a campsite south of Saltillo on a running river. We were ready for caving after the delay and were up early the next morning to get to Matehuala. We left one of the cars at the police station north of Matehuala while some of us went into town to ask permission of the local cavers to enter the cave again. We told them we had come to map the cave and he was very happy and said we would need no other permission than his knowing. However he was very glad we did ask him. That morning we started mapping the cave, which is 5 miles north of Matehuala on a dirt road running by the police station. When we arrived at tne entrance we noticed the wind was not coming out of as fast as it had been the trip before. The entrance is a small round hole about 3 feet in diameter which drops approximately 10 feet to the floor of the passage. The cave is very convenient to get to but might be hard to find because the entrance is so small and not very obvious. It is located on a small limestone outcrop about 2 miles off the main road. We mapped on down to the main drop of the cave and retired for a good night's rest. The next morning we went down the drop while several of our group went scouting around for more caves or maybe even another entrance to this cave. The drop went down a slope for about 150 feet vertically and then hit another small walking passage that was quick to end in another 200 foot drop down a slope. The passage sloped on down finally into the only real room of the cave. It was an old guano filled room with fairly large breakdown. This seemed to be it so we wrapped it up and began to climb out.

On getting out we decided to head on down to the Valle de los Fantasmos [Fantasmas] where Joe had heard of the good karst and had wanted to see if we could find anything. So we were off to San Luis Potosi to find the land of enchantment. At S.L.P. we turned east to Valles. ABOUT AN HOUR OUT OF TOWN WE HIT THE KARST AREA. We inquired at the town of Valle de los Fantasmas. We found impressive leads so we went on over the hill to the village of San Francisco. We asked around about sotanos and were taken to Sotano de San Francisco, a short distance south of town. This was the pit we had heard of that made us interested in the area (350' deep). We also found a small pit that was unchecked up the dirt road to the south and were planning to check it the next morning. However as we were walking around late that afternoon we met a wood cutter who said he would be glad to show us caves farther down the dirt road (possibly traveled by auto). The

Cont'd

Matehuala cont'd.

next day we spent checking down the road, but because time was growing short and it was late we headed tack and on the way went in a small cave, Cueva de Sierra Blanca. Then 3/4 of a mile from the paved main road our guide told us of a sotano close ty. We walked down to it and started dropping rocks into it and were amazed at the seeming depth. We tnought we saw a ledge about 250 feet down, so the next mor- ning I went down to see how deep it looked from that point.The ledge only turned out to te a slope but I saw another ledge below that turned out to be 1 to 3 feet wide. So since I was at the end of my rope I stopped and clipped on my jumars. I could find only two small rocks to drop from this point. I estimated the depthe below me to be about the same as that above. So we returned home home to come back to our new pit the next weekend to check the depth and stop wondering.

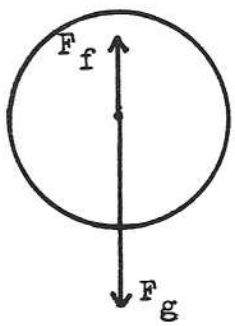
(Editor's note: See report on Sotano de Puerto de los Lobos.)

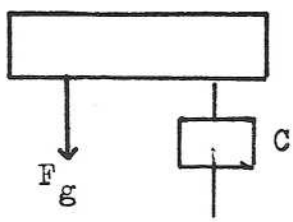
* * * * *

The formulation of a curve that would correlate rock drop times to depth by Duane Faith

I had been thinking of such a calculation ever since I became acquainted with Mimic memory language which solves differential equations by the use of Runge-Kutta methods of taking small bits of a curve to solve a differential equation on a digital computer. Then as I was simply sitting in class one day I had the idea, "Why go caving and not even use something I had learned in college for the purpose of bene- fitting the art of Mexican sotano caving, even if some people such as in the article in the last NSS News said that a pit such as the Big G should not be counted as a cave." I would like to mention that I got the idea from John Fish's graph based on experimental data of timing rock drops. I wondered if an equation could be set up that would fit his data. My questions have been partly answered, but to this point I have not done enough work to correlate everything mathematically as yet. So here is the general outline:

Let us look at a rock falling and sum all of the forces acting on it. We see that they consist of a downward force of $F = MG$ and an upward force F_f, the friction or in better terms, viscous force:





Formulation of a curve... (cont'd)

Now, if we assume the rock to be instantaneously stopped we can sum all of the forces. If we look at it in this manner the air will act as continuous shock absorber or "damper".

Thus:

$$F_t = F_f - F_g$$

where force F_t will now be the new acceleration. By Newton and Dalembert's equation we get:

$$MA + C\ dy/dt - MG$$

where damping constant $C = lb_f$ - sec/ft, so:

$$A = C/M\ dy/dt - M/M\ G$$

Now let $K = C/M = lb_f$ - sec/ft/ lb_f/ft/sec^2 = 1/sec

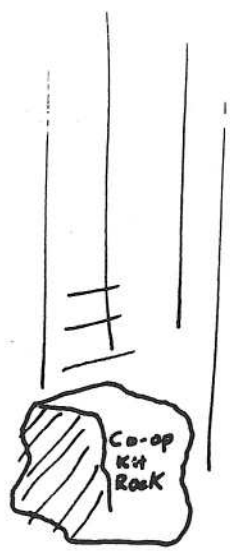
$$D^2y/dt^2 = K\ dy/dt - G$$

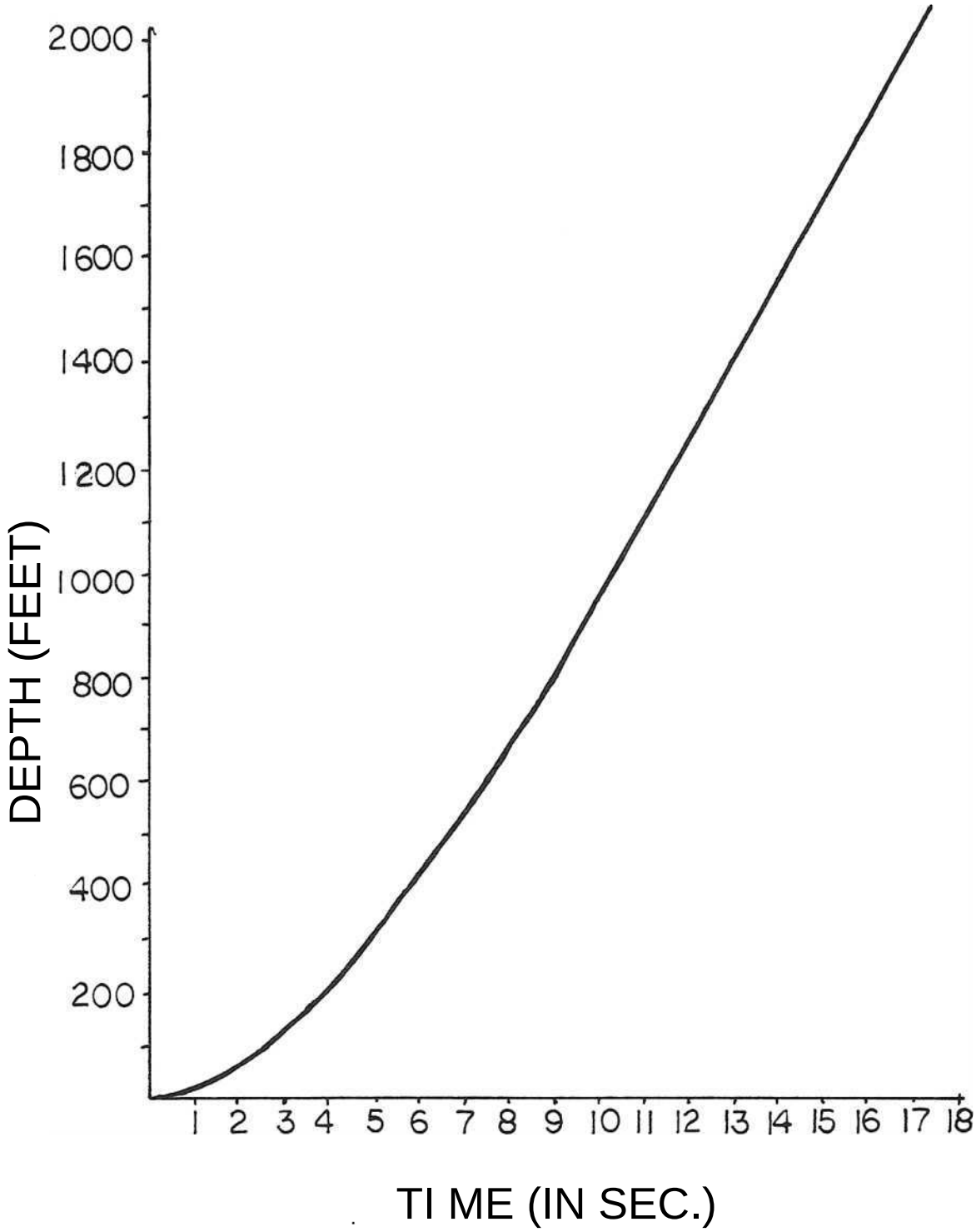
At this point I went to John Fish for help. I used his values of rocx times to determine the of G and with the previously mentioned programming device had the data plotted.

Small nonsense under the
direction of
Duane W. Faith

(Editor's note: See the graph plotted on this data on the next page. You people who go looking for deep pits way back in the sticks may find this information of some value.)

* * * * *





Note: This graph was plotted, using data on rocks approx. 4 inches in diameter. Remember that the biggest error is probably the human error in timing, so use a good watch if you want real accuracy, and be sure to take an average of the times you get.

SOTANO DE PUERTO DE LOS LOBOS
Date; Sept. 12-15, 1968
People; Duane Faith, Bill Elliott, (UT) Joe Sumbera and Jim Maclntire (Southwest Texas)
Reported by: Bill Elliott

On the week just before this trip took place Duane Faith had accompanied a trip of the Southwest Texas Grotto (SWSTC) the purpose of which was to hunt caves in little known areas in Mexico on the west side of the Sierra Madre Oriental from Matehuala south to the city of San Luis Poto- si. The group was very lucky and succeeded in discovering a new deep pit plus getting some very promising cave leads. Lack of time and the fact that they had to get back and re- gister for school forced them to leave before they could explore the pit (they didn't have enough rope anyway) but Duane did descend the almost free drop to a ledge about 250' down and time rocks from there. He was getting 5 and 6 second times — enough to really make them want to come back with more rope and see how deep the thing really was.

Three of the original group plus Bill Elliott returned the next week, just a couple of days before SWT classes be- gan, for the express purpose of mapping the pit, making a biological collection, and getting the hell back to Texas. The pit is located about 25 miles east of S.L.P. near the small village of San Francisco, which is right on the S.L.P. Valles highway. This is a small, high karst area (8000 or 9000 feet elevation) with numerous sinks and solutional features. A few sotanos had been checked out there several including Sotano de San San Francisco, 300'+ deep (John Fish).

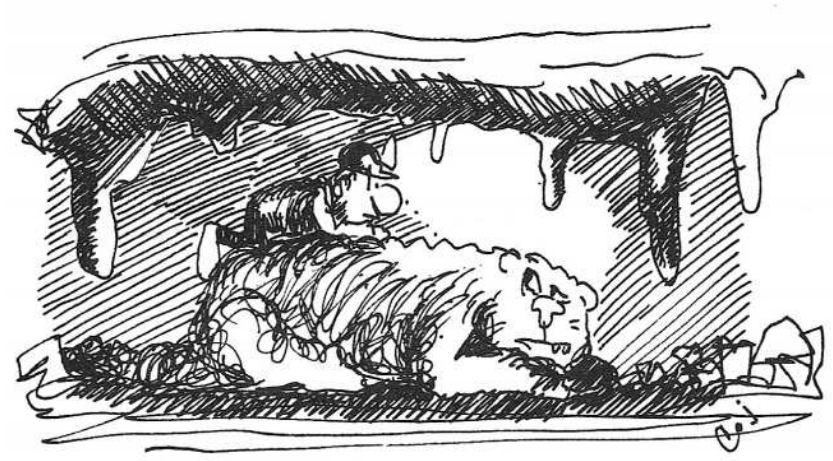
Driving all night in Duane's LeMans(the only way go), we made it through several washouts west of Valles. We had brought with us the 1200' Samson 2-in-1 rope that had been used on the Sotano de las Golondrinas, and sitting on it for 13 hours straight made my rump sore. When we got there we hired a kid to haul the damn thing up to the pit (about one mile from the village). Just walking up there with a light pack was hard on the lung (at least my lungs).

The pit is about 30' in diameter and is overgrown with trees and dense vegetation. Since it rains every afternoon in this area things were quite green and cool. Since Duane had been the first man in the pit we gave him the honor of going all the way to the bottom first, while keeping an eye on the end of the measuring wire as we lowered it so it wouldn't get hung up. It took him about 45 minutes to get down doing this and finally we heard a faintly audible shriek that meant he was on bottom. We had walkie-talkies but unfortunately they didn't work in this type of narrow

(cont'd)

pit. One could be heard from as much as 400′ down just shouting, but no more. Joe Sumbera (a former UT caver) went down, taking about 15 minutes. Jim and 1 stayed on top to do the measuring and keep an eye on the weather and other things such as the rope (we had visitors, friend- ly "types, but we didn't want another Guaguas fiasco). Several measurements were made and we found that the pit had a free drop of 620' which makes it the third deepest in the Western Hemisphere (the two deepest are in the samp state in Mexico, San Luis Potosi). Joe and Duane spent some time taking pictures and checking the fissure passage at the bottom and making a preliminary survey. During this time we had interesting conversations with the local people about nearby caves and found out the full true name of the pit, which is "Sotano Hondo de [La] Sierra de]Los Arboles de Puerto de Lobos" — a fitting name for such a mutha sotano. It rained and by the time Joe and Duane got out it was dark and cold and very wet (the pit took only a little runoff).

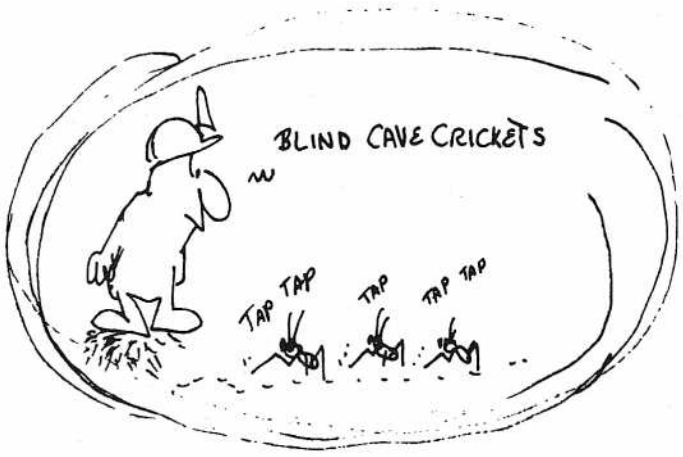
We hiked back to the car and got a good night's sleep (quite warm with all four of us in there), being lulled into repose by the sounds of Simon & Garfunkel on the stereo tape deck...



Next day it cleared off so we obtained some blanquillas(little eggs) for breakfast and hoofed back up to the pit where we had left the gear. After a scrumptious repast Jim descended, then I went down. The pit narrows from 30' to about 20' gradually, then at 150' down it bells out to 50' or more on the north-south axis and becomes a long curved fissure on the east-west axis. One can see only part of the length of the fissure because of big flanges or projections sticking out of the wall forming a huge groove that the rope lies in. The only ledge (Duane's) is about 2' wide and slopes sharply; the last 350' of the drop is a perfectly sheer wall that is quite slick. Using a whaletail descender (if you ever get a chance to try one out, do so) I experienced a great buildup of mud on the device and a spray of water in my face from the rope which was quite wet, having been rigged all night. At the bottom the floor slants steeply down to the west and there is an 18' drop below in which the fissure becomes very narrow and slopes down to a mud floor at a total depth of 650'. To the east the fissure slants sharply up a narrow flowstone floored passage to a 30' diameter lakeroom which has

(cont′d)

LOS LOBOS cont'd



a 50′ ceiling, a small waterfall, and some nice formations; the water is 1/2' deep and flows out of the room down the flowstone slope and seeps into breakdown.

Jim and I immediately began collecting animals, most of them living on the walls and floor at the bottom of the drop. We collected spiders, beetles, crickets, roundworms, one frog, one tiger salamander, and several small bug-eyed salamanders, The small salamanders are likely a new species of the genus Pseudoeurycea and some of the beetles were blind and likely a new species of the cave beetle Mexisphodrus. The animals are currently under study by James Reddell of Texas Tech and Dr. Tom Barr of the Institute of Speleology, University of Kentucky.

Jim and I then made a complete survey of the passage (less than 200' long) and climbed out tandem. Time on the rope for most of us was an hour and a half, but it took me two and a half because I'm fat and I smoke...near the top of the belled part of the pit one can see massive stalactites 50' long or more.

Gathering up our gear and heading back to the car, Duane was confronted by a man who wanted to buy his machete.
In the ensuing BS that occurred the man told Duane of a deep pit two hours walk from where we were. He said he had timed rocks in it himself at 15 seconds but didn't say how big the rocks were or whether they bounced on the way down. If he was right about the time and if the rocks were 4" in diameter, then the pit would be as much as 1700' deep, gronk! This is according to a computer-drawn graph Duane has made up since we got back. Needless to say, we are going back at Thanksgiving to find this sotano, if it exists. Perhaps it's the home of the Great Cave Element...

* * * * *

DEVIL'S SINKHOLE

Date: October 18, 1968
Persons: Don Erickson, Richard M. Smith, Jonathan Davis, Joe Cepeda, Russell Harmon, David Honea, Mark Lerner, and Don Broussard [Fritz]
Reported by: Fritz

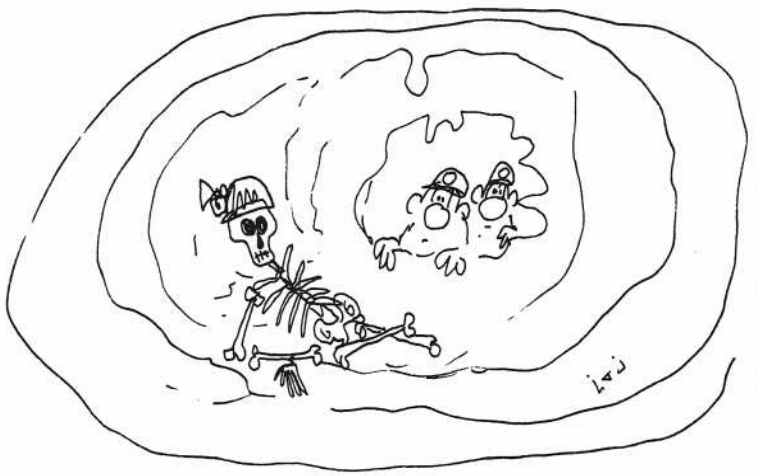
A group from U.S.S. (named above) left late on Oct. 18 [1968] to go to the Devil's Sinkhole (136' to 154') with the A&I Grotto to make training movies on rappelling and prus-

(cont'd)

DEVIL'S SINKHOLE cont'd
sicking. After a late start from a roadside park Saturday morning, we arrived at the Sinkhole. Davis, as cameraman on Harmon's 8mm movie camera, attempted to follow script-writer Fish's script and started to film people going over the edge. Then Davis got on rappell himself and filmed people rappelling. (Note: always attach camera equipment to the climbing rope. If dropped, perhaps it will magic-ally tangle itself in the rope before it hits bottom.)

While brushing cavers out of the way, prussicking by various methods was photographed. When prussicking out on someone else's rope, always make sure that it is securely tied at the top. (Look Jonathan, a bowline weakens a rope at the knot by about 60%, so that the rope you prussicked on was much, much stronger!)

The in-shape cavers prussicked out while the others rode the parachute harness rigged by A&I. Running-in-the-woods and other worthwhile scenes were photographed before the U.S.S. people departed, leaving A&I to spend the night there at the Sinkhole.



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INNER SPACE

Date: Nov. 2, 1968
Persons: Bill Elliott, David Honea, Don Broussard, Brian Peterson, Russ Harmon, Dr.Ernest Lundelius, Dan Woodard
Reported by: Bill Elliott

Actually there were several reasons for this all-day foray into THE CAVE. Ostensibly we were going to finish up the map in the southernmost part of this large commercial cave which was discovered only 5 years ago by a drilling crew of the highway department. Bill Elliott and Brian

(cont'd)

INNER SPACE cont'd

Peterson have been working on a revision and extension of the old map made back in '63. At the time of this writing there has been a total of 10,200' mapped and some leads on possible other passages.

Inner Space is noted for its abundance of Pleistocene fossils. Quite a bit of the work on them has been done by-Dr. Lundelius, head of vertebrate palaeontology and also the official sponsor of our grotto. We had found some more bones over the last year of caving there and knew that "Ernie" would like to get them out so he and one of his grad students went with us for that purpose.

The bones were located in the Reef Room (which is south of the Mud Room in case you wanted to know) and consisted of half a mandible, an axis bone, a scapula, several limb fragments, all from the extinct peccary Platygonus compressus. Unfortunately the bones were in thick red clay and were also cemented to the floor with calcite. A pick had to be used to get the mandible out. David scouted around back and found some bat wing bones which were collected. We came back out at noon and ate lunch in town at the L & M Cafe (being asked by the waitresses if we had been "working hard". We nodded our heads in assurance.)

After lunch Dr. Lundelius and Dan had to get back to Austin so the rest of us went back in, collected bat bones for study, and took pictures of some of the fantastic helictites near Bone Sink. We will probably put together a slide show on Inner Space sometime in the near future.

* * * * *

BUSTAMANTE AREA etc.

Date: Aug.30-Sept. 7, 1968
Persons: Don Broussard, David Honea,Jim McLane
Reported by: Fritz

The first three days were spent in the Rio Sabinas canyon west of Bustamante with two other Houston cavers who left on the third day. Locals were asked about the Volcan de Bustamante, and after two unnecessary climbs through lechuguilla, the entrance was located just before we left the area on the third day.

The entrance to Sotano de Huitzmolotitla was rigged by David and Don (after wandering, lost for two hours much lower down in the valley). This was about 6 miles north of Xilitla. IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: You can buy new donkey saddles in Xilitla for only 100 pesos, or used for 80.

In Xilitla we ran into some Pennsylvania cavers down from the NSS Convention who claimed to have a MAD (Mechanical Ascender Device) using a gasoline motor. I hear that

(cont'd)

BUSTAMANTE AREA ETC. coat'd.
It actually worked in Golondrinas where someone[Nevin Davis] came out on it in 22 minutes.

While on the way to Xilitla we drove to Cueva de la Boca near Monterrey. As we started up, miners were coming down. They said it was raining in the cave. A hundred feet or so past the goats we found small areas in the ceiling that did not have water pouring from them and tried to take pictures from there of the 100' x 100' entrance. Then back outside in the rain to the VW bus. So far a night had not passed in which it did not rain at some time or the other, and our luck continued throughout the trip.

We tried not to bother the miners of guano in Taninul No. 4. They have added more passage in the dirt floor, so someone else needs to map it. Most of the natural light pictures taken were too dark,so you need to leave your shutter open a little longer than you think.

Cueva de El Abra was slowly entered between photographic stops and the 60' drop was negotiated. It was found that one should try to lasso the stake driven about one-third of the way up in the big pas- sage- blocking stalagmite for a handline otherwise the climb up to see the rest of the cave on the other side can be rather difficult. After two 25' toboggan slides back down, we let the rest of the cave wait and left for Houston and dry clothes.

* * * * *

POZO DE GAVILAN

Date: July 4, 1968
Persons: Don Broussard, Dave Honea
Reported by: Dave Honea

On the weekend of the Fourth of July, 1968, Don Brous- sard and Dave Honea, after a marathon drive from the states, arrived at Pozo de Gavilan, just ahead of the daily rain- storm. While perusing the drop, a large group of Mexicans gathered around the pit shouting "abajo" and questioning us

(cont'd)

POZO DE GAVILAN cont'd

as to whether we were from Life magazine, a point which seemed, rather obvious to them due to the photography going on. In addition it became necessary to convince one of the Mexicans to refrain from shooting into the pit while the rope and the cavers were in it.

With such inspiring preliminaries negotiated and the rope secured to what appeared to be the sturdiest thornbush in the area,the drop was descended amid a cloud of gypsite dust which obscured the rappeller so thoroughly that moving pictures were impossible. The lake appeared to be somewhat higher due to the recent rains.

On a side trip to Bustamante an attempt was made to re-examine the fissures on top of the anticline across from Gruta del Palmito. After an exhilarating climb the group discovered with some certainty that the area is essentially uninhabitable during the intermittent rains and descended the mountain in record time.

A sylvan interlude at Dead Man's Hole and the trip was complete.

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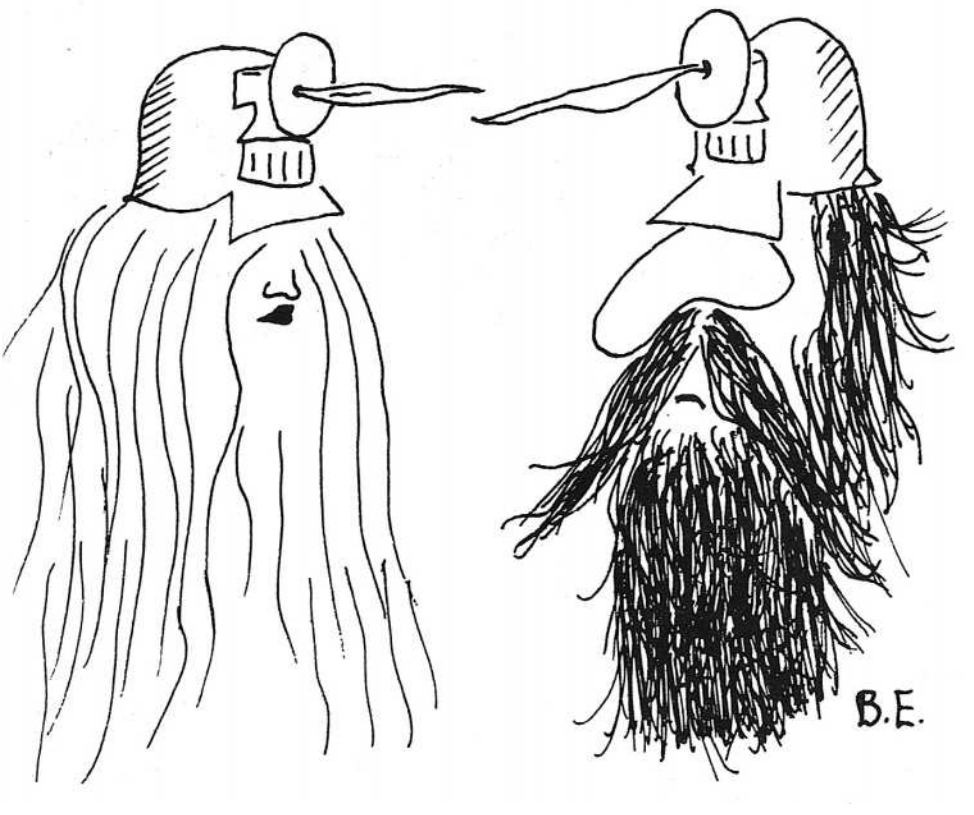


TRIP REPORTS

LA GRUTA DEL PALMITO

Persons: Michael A. Sanborn, John White, Mike Roark
Date: sometime this summer
Destination: La Gruta del Palmito
Reported by: Michael A. Sanborn

First, a slight preface. Last spring vacation, I was invited to go to Mexico by a group of non—cavers, one of whom was Mike Roark. Since we were to pass through the country, I suggested that we might visit a cave or two, specifically Palmito. The rest of the group agreed, and we did, and never got to Monterrey. During this trip, I crawled into a hole in about the middle of the breakdown slope, and found some bones, which greatly excited all of us, although we assumed that they were the remains of Pedro's Burro, and didn't pay them much mind, or take very good care of them, with the result that we arrived back in Austin with a plastic baggie of white powder, and a nondescript hunk of bone. I took the aforementioned detritus to Dr. Lundelius, who figured I had something from the late Pleistocene, but could not make any kind of identification beyond that.

This summer, then, John, Mike, and myself decided to return to the cave to see if we could find anything else. We had planned to leave Austin by one o'clock Friday afternoon, and with our usual promptness left the city limits about 7:50 that evening. It took us only a case of Lone Star to reach the border. I was well rested, having slept since San Antonio. No border incidents to speak of...

We got to Bustamante in the wee small hours of the morning with dawn just beginning to break, ate some sort of typical caver breakfast, rested a few hours, and began the trek to the cave. This was John's first trip to a Mexican cave and he was truly amazed at the ease and facility with which we reached the entrance. After resting for about an hour or so, we managed to muster enough energy to enter the cave.

We fell and rolled down the entrance slope, went along the left wall to the travertine dams, continued to the spring which was at that time a tiny trickle, and filled our canteens. Needless to say, we had not thought to bring water, and had only one full canteen to get us into the cave and to the spring. Once that chore was done, we stumbled about, and the Good—Lord—Being-Gracious found our way to the burial site of Pedro's Burro. We crawled into the hole and began to find bones and fragments so numerous that we were able to pick them off the floor. Mike Collins had lent us a short hammer and two chisels (and a brief lesson on how to chisel flowstone from around bone thousands of years old), one of which we promptly lost. It didn't hinder us much and we were able to gather some 86 bones and fragments including several long bones, several tarsal bones, a splint bone and a mandible fragment with 3 1/2 teeth. We stashed them in a hole in the travertine dams, and proceeded into the maw of the cave. We went to the bottom of the cave without incident, our passage being echoed with exclamations of awe at what are surely

PALMITO cont'd.

some of the most beautiful formations in any cave.

As we came out, carrying the bones in our hard hats, wrapped in T—shirts, we found the remains of someone's nylon jacket or sleeping bag, which we used to wrap the bones in. We broke camp, drove like hell for the plaza and drank a cerveza or 5. Being then somewhat refreshed, we drove to la Gruta de Carrizal (carry—sal?/Kerri—sel?), ran through that cave and spent the rest of the evening swimming, bathing and drinking. The trip back to Austin was uneventful. By the way, while we were sitting on the Plaza, we met a man named Ray Gonzales who told us that the following weekend was the fiesta of the patron saint of Bustamante...but that's another trip report.

+ + +

Caver Folksong culled from an Anonymous Source

As I walked out in the streets of Laredo,
As I walked out in Laredo one day,
I spied a young caver all wrapped in white nylon
Wrapped up in white nylon and cold as the clay.

—I see by your outfit that you are a caver—
These words he did say as I slowly walked by,
—Come sit down beside me and hear my sad story;
For I fell on my head and I know I must die.

(variant of the same verse:)
—I see by your outfit that you are a caver.
—I see by your outfit that you're a caver, too.
—We see by our outfits that we are all cavers.
Buy yourself an outfit and you can be a caver too.

—It was once in my seatsling I used to go dashing,
Once in my seatsling used to go gay;
First down to Valles and later to Huautla,
Put my breakbars on backwards and I know I must die.

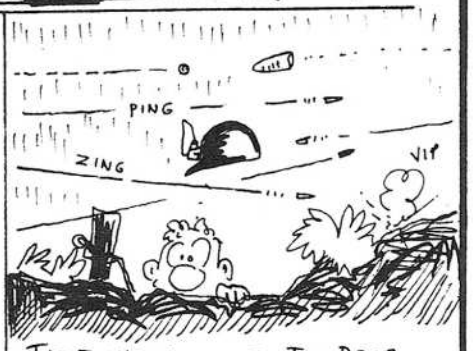
—Get six jolly cavers to carry my coffin,
Get six pretty females to sing a crude song;
Take me back to Austin and give my body to science,
For I'm a young caver and I know I've done wrong.

+ + +

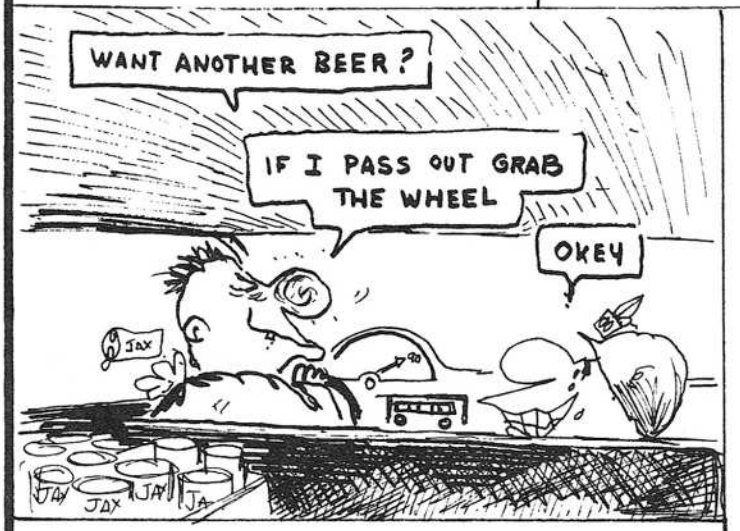
OLD MAN WISDOM

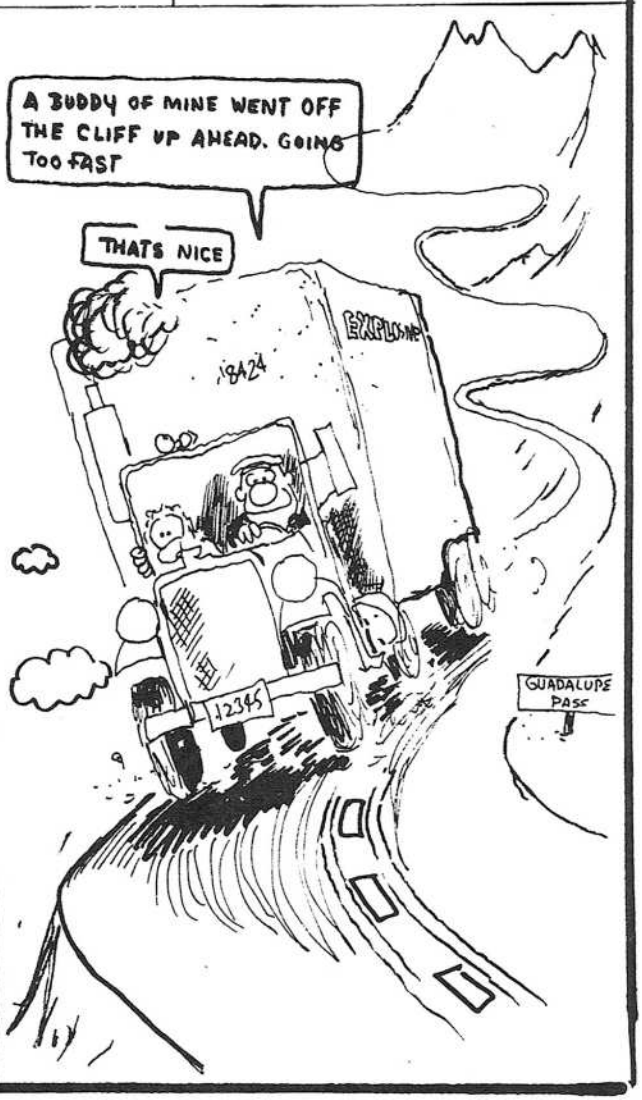
SPEAKS OUT ON A MUCH FORGOTTEN SUBJECT. TECHNICAL AST. FOR THIS ARTICLE ARE Charles LOVING AND RICHARD M. SMITH

AND SO NOW WE GO INTO THE MEAT OF THIS SERIES

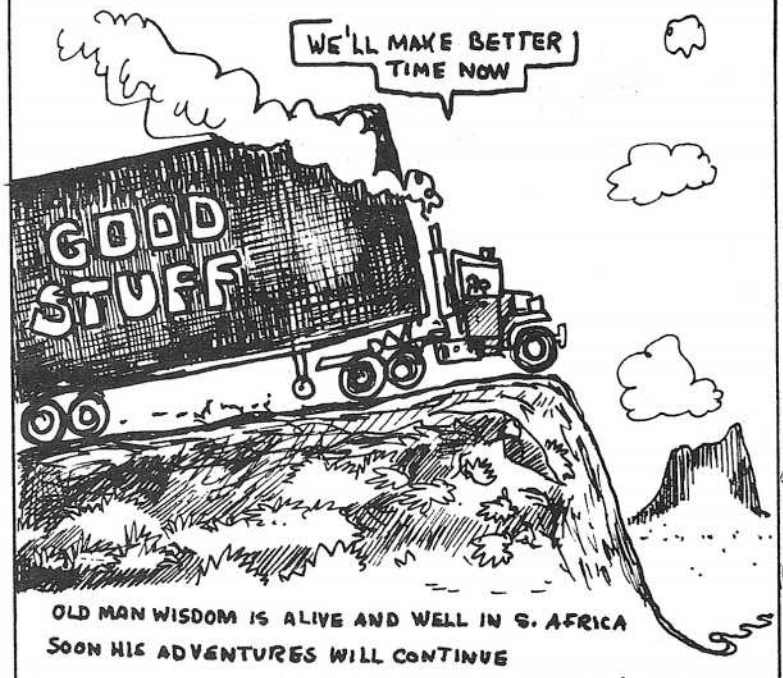


FIRST ONE COMMENT. ITS DEER SEASON AS WE All KNOW OR do we?



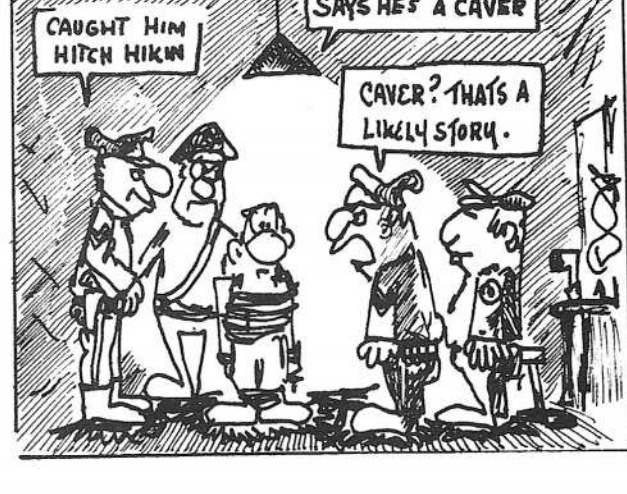


AND I CONTINUE ON THE SUBJECT OF HITCHHIKING



OLD MAN WISDOM IS ALIVE AND WELL IN S. AFRICA
SOON HIS ADVENTURES WILL CONTINUE

THE COLD NIGHT ON HWY 7805 IN S. DAK.



AND THEN THERES FLECHA AZUL de COYCATLAN
THE ES UPER AUTO BUS METHOD OF TRAVEL.

THE FIRST OF MANY PARTS OF A TRIP REPORT……..Sometime in the last part of the indian-summer 1968.

Purpose: The quest of the great cave Element.
Participants: Nine of the most devoted cavers in all of the Greater Guano Grotto.

Trip Report:

This was no ordinary bunch of pseudo-hippie, SDS card carrying, groadosthis was a selected group of ultra-specialists of the Greater Guano Grotto. In order of the amount of dirt sdraped from their faces during identification, our group consisted of Furface, the lame Lemming, the Reverend,. Suziecreamcheeze, the Fascist, Empti the mini-mod, J.F.T.,
good, ole* Nur do, and me. .

It was another one of those beautiful spring days when a young man's fancy turns once again to thoughts of bat guano. (?) Yes that's right caving - and as we pointed the the '31 Dodge fower Wagon south by south-west out of Austin visions of kerryjane danced in our heads. The first 9e minutes of the trip passed without incident (a new UTNSSAHCSTSATSSGGGSS record breaking the 1913 standard established by the legendary .RT. on his 999th trip to Gave./..) until Suziecreamcheeze calmly announced with a screaching howl that we had forgotten the Gerry can. Three six-pacs and who knows how many minutes later we..... hic.....burp..... belch.....BARF######### the Lemming did a wheelie out of my front yard and once again the pink Power .Wagon and 13i kilos of dirt and grass (that's right . grass) moved as a wave toeard the border c ur hopeful destination the legendary .Longest Gave in all of Léxico - Senorl. the last home of the great cave Element.
Hole des Todes.

With the lame one's putrid pink Power Wagon:strokin' full bore (1027 British horse power & 5693 revolutions per minute) and making *36.*mph we arrived, at the border just before the sun rose for the third time. Furface crossed three palms and then
paid the border-band!to five pesos and we were off and coastin' once again.

At this point those of us suffering from a bad case of . powerless, putrid, pink, Power Wagonomia decided it would be to our benefit began to vicariously prepare ourselves for the gruelling days of caving which lie ahead. And thus we purposofy.lly attacked the Gerry can full of Gallo that I had inherited when
that great institution known to all cavers as 6ll was turned bacxi to the establishment last .summer. This Gallo was a special brew[7] concocted by the earliest inhabitant of 6ll (whoever that might have been), and I was having a very difficult tine trying to keep good ole' Nurdo from drooling into the Gerry can. Three gours

and one hallen (hie!) later i was throughly potted, our one and only heroine Suziecreamcheeze was planted, and Furface was still trying to find his mouth anidst the great quantity of facial foliage which wasn't all that bad considering the fact that it spared us the agony of having to behold, such a face as

that which Furface was privileged, to posess.

Just as he broke through and was beginning to osmosis his share of the Gallo, Empti, our trusted bearer of the mod-mini, asked JFT if she could casually announce that we had arrived at our destination.

However, before she could get an answer out of JFT he was already disappearing from the innards of the Power Wagon with the Fascist and the Reverend at his heels, By the time I had managed to get good ole' Nurdo get off of my foot the three of our pseudo-scientists were flat on the bellies at the pit peering into the bowels of the earth. Now to measure the depth of the pit by the new scientific method that CMAS had just developed. JFT selected a rock from his CO-OP kit. Now this was not just an ordinary rock, it was-one especially engineered so that the ballistics and areodynamics would be conclusive to use at an altitude of 8751 feet at a temperature of 85 degrees with the humidity being 95 percent.

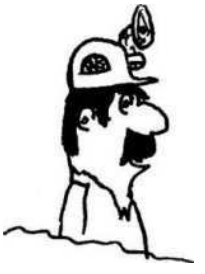
Meanwhile, the Reverend was frantically delving into the 1000 page .Quick Caver Conversion Table. provided by CMAS to correct for wind direction and velocity, longitude and latitude, time of sunset, the vernal equinox, body temperature, and the amount of ammonia present at various levels in the pit due to the differential deposition of bat guano. (This was measured by the now standard technique of using the .Super Guano Sniffer Meter. that Furface had designed three years ago during his first year in Stratigraphy.

Finally, the Fascist had managed to get our miniature IBM Model 9637453656 .PAL. computor reading out properly and they were ready to undertake the measurement to the nearest Angstrom of the depth of the legendary entrance drop at Höle des Todes.

Carefully releasing the most delicate rock the trio waited eagerly for the impact of the projectile on the cave floor while they continued To peer into the murky depths of the netherworld. Then.....IMPACT! Eagerly the time was fed into into the computor and we all waited with bated breath 47 ½ seconds while the .bitty brain. digested, computed, calculated, and finally burped, and there it was....the depth of the fabled entrance drop.....13.48694 feet.....and just think, the whole process took just 48 minutes(another new speed and efficiency record for the UT chapter of the GGG).

Well, this trip report is going to take at least six more issues to relate in its most intresting entirety so sit back and relax and maybe you'll get the next issue before you happen to screw-up and graduate.

the nameless gnome [Russell Harmon]



(a very distant relative
of OLD MAN WISDOM)

MORE TRIP REPORTS - LANGTRY

Date; Oct 4-6, 1968
Persons: Joe Cepeda, James Broadus, Jerry Broadus
Reported by Jerry Broadus

We left Austin in a cold, wretched rain in hopes of finding the owners of the ranches north of Humphrey's ranch at Langtry. We spent a rather damp night under the tables in a roadside park near Shumla, during which we were awakened by assorted bums who seemed to wonder what we were doing on the road in a place like West Texas on a night like this.

Saturday morning was cold but not too wet, so I decided to go on an early morning adventure across the fence beside which we were presently stationed. I adventured into a real neat canyon, but no caves, so I returned and our party, now aroused, proceeded to Langtry and north.

One important thing about this country is that the ranchers don't live on the ranches themselves. We were hoping to find a foreman or other body who could give us some information. After doing bad things to the bottom of Butch's Valiant on the road to .Pat Rose Ranch., (which had a locked gate) we finally found a Spanish-speaking person mending a fence - the first soul we encountered. He was foreman of a ranch owned by a Walter Davenport, and knew of some caves but needed a written permit from the owner to let us in. So we pushed on toward Pandale.

The country right around Pandale is really beautiful, with lots of large canyons and creeks and even some green trees. Pandale itself consists of a post-office, and is reached by crossing the Pecos over a small ford about 20 miles north of Langtry. The guy in the post office told us of some springs and possible caves on another road, so we tried driving on it for a while, checking out a few shelters.

We then decided to drive to Del Rio to talk to Mr. Davenport, and so we started back south. On the way, we drove down a road into a really nice, very cavey-looking ranch a few miles south of the ford - but found no people. On the highway to Del Rio we stopped shortly at Litter Barrel Cave (which is nice, with natural bridges, crawlways with cold wind, cave pearls, and friendly skunks) and then proceeded to Del Rio and got permission to go cave-hunting the next day.

So, Sunday morning we arrived at the ranch and were led by the friendly foreman to the caves. Only one of these was worth mentioning - a vertical thing with a big entrance room and one drop (17'). It ended rapidly in silt. Butch and I ran a pseudo-survey on the cave, named it Fred, and then we started back. Wandering around on this ranch was nice, lots of rocks and long walks. It was fairly late when we left.

On this trip we did manage to get the names and addresses to practically all the ranchers on this road - we just didn't have enough time to talk to many. Many of the ranches have excellent potential, and we did get some actual cave leads. All this information is now in the hands of A. Richard [Smith] - I think that anyone interested could have a good trip if they went back and talked to these ranchers.

* * * * *

On October 13, 1968, in Burtea Texas, at the White Stallion Cafe, on of the last strongholds of 20¢ beer in Texas (the price just went up from 18¢), a meeting was called of the Greater Guano Grotto. Members present were William David Bell, III, Charles I. Loving, Ronald W. Ralph, and T. Delancy Piemons. It was discussed at this meeting that a Caver Hall of Fame should be established.

The officers were duly elected. Presiding Official, Presider of Presiding, Assisstant Presider of Presiding, Marshall of Holes, Official Presider at Diplomatic Ambassadore.

There was also a discussion as to what the qualifications for this office should be; i.e., what constitutes a famous caver. This presented a problem. Could one way that the Hondo Rescue was a group of famous cavers? Surely everyone knows of them, therefore they are famous. Is 8424---or is it 6482--- well, anyhow is 3299 a famous caver? It was decided that it is quite possible that even Dan Gurney is a famous caver and Terry Raines as well.

The the question aroee as to how famous should a caver be. Should he be nationally famous, locally famous, or internationally famous? Also, is there such a thing as being too famous; this would eliminate such people as Peter .the Priest. Kacalus [Kokalis], and Kenny Laidlaw and of course Dan Gurney, James Reddell and A. R. Smith, and perhaps even old man Wisdom.

After hours of debate, Charles .Squire. Lewis VIII was called in for consultation. It was decided that for sure, anyone who goes caving is famous. Anyone who goes into the bowls...bouels (sic) tummy of Mother Earth is bound to be famous for one reason or another if it be only for quelling the natural fear of the dark, or even more startling the fear of confined places, such as Carlsbad, Mammoth, Golondrinas, ad.infin.

So then T.R. Evans was called in to make a speech to the committee. Not being available to speak, he was elected to a high post. Next Kenny Laidlaw was telephoned; it was found that Laidlaw does not live in Elke, Nevada, and the only Laidlaw in Elko is a Bertram. Direct distance dialing is a pain when yeu can't read numbers.

Final conclusions were drawn and a set of Articles decided upon.

CONSTITUTION

Article I: ALL CAVERS can be members of the Hall of Fame; there will be no set requirements other than that of being a Caver who has Caved.

Article II: ALL TRULY famous cavers, i.e., those who have contributed to the science of speleology will be Associate Members of tne Hall of Fame. This will be considered the highest honor the Caver Hall of Fame can bestow.

Article III: CAVER HALL of Fame Committee will meet once a year in Burton, Texas, to decide upon new members.

A. Clause 1. Meetings may be held in suitable substitute towns if they meet the requirements of having populations less than 4,OOO; preferably 2,000 or less.

B. Clause 2. No females will be admitted to the Caver Hall of Fame until the full present membership votes by a 3/4 majority to admit them. At that time Clause 2 will be deleted.

Article IV: ANY MEMBER may submit a name to the list of famous cavers at any time. Cavers admitted will not be full-fledged members, however, until voted on by at least one member of the Committee, and the Committee cannot cast a nay vote against any caver that qualifies.

Article V: ASSOCIATE MEMBER. To be an Associate Member, the Committee must approve and it must be shown that the caver in question has added or contributed to the science and art of speleology. To be admitted to this status the Committee will vote and a majority will carry.

A. Clause 1. A majority in this case will consist of six aye votes.

Article VI: THE COMMITTEE. The Committee will consist of the original six members until such time as a member resigns his position; at this time he shall appoint a new member to the post, taking into careful consideration the qualifications of the appointee. Upon resignation the Committee member is automatically placed on an advisory staff position which shall be started as soon as one of the Committee members resigns his post.

Article VII: PURPOSE. The purpose of the Caver Hall of Fame is to in some way honor the members of all the Caving clubs.

Article VIII: (will be involved with the inception of a Caver Hall of Fame Museum to be established someplace,in someone's house, or some such)

Article IX: (withheld)[1]

Article X I: OPEN (There are ten articles because it was decided that there should be at least ten articles)

[1] Article VIII is withheld because it concerns trivia and at times becomes a little too .blue. to be included in such a fine document as this. Copies of Article VIII may be obtained for 25¢ and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Mail the request tc Article VIII, Post Office Box 7672, U.T. Station, Austin, Texas.

ANOTHER JERRY BROADUS CAVE REPORT

HEY LOOK A BLIND CAVE SALAMANDER

Name of Cave: Model T Cave Owner:
Cameron County County: Cameron
Quadrangle: La Feria

Description: Model T Cave is a rather interesting cave in that it is formed entirely in dirt and Model T parts. Water running off of a nearby field has cut the passage of Model T Cave through an old rusty trash pile and the dirt under it, the lower entrance being in the side of a drainage ditch. The upper entrance consists of 3 small holes through which one can squeeze into the most interesting room of the cave — the car hood room. This room is about 6′ long, 5′ wide, and ten inches high, with dirt floor and walls, but one part of the ceiling is formed by the hood of the Model T. Further on, the passage enlarges, makes two right turns, forms a neat alcove, and exits into the side of the drainage ditch, about ten feet below the top of the ditch. The lower entrance is about 6′ in diameter, the total passage length being about 25.

Location: Cave can be reached by driving 1½ miles south from Santa Rosa on Parker Road to the Broadus residence. From here, walk straight east across the cotton fields to the first north-south running drainage ditch (about 1/4 mile) and proceed south along the drainage ditch for about 3000 yards until the lower entrance is visible on the opposite side (the ditch is easily crossed).

Biology: On a trip to the cave in 1958 raccoon tracks (probably not troglophylic) were found in the lower entrance. Also several robber flies were observed; no collections have yet been made.

Palaeontology: On another trip in 1958 two dog skeletons (probably recent) were found in the upper entrance. No collections have yet been made.

Speleogenesis: This cave goes far in demonstrating the remarkable speleological potential of Valley dirt and the intrepid Model T. All of the water which formed the cave was irrigation runoff - so here we have a rare example of an entirely vadose cave.

History: Local Mexican youths have known about the cave for a long time. The first recorded exploration was performed by Jerry Broadus, James Broadus (U.T. Grotto) and Bill Bieker (independent) in 1957. Burning cattails were used for illumination . Several subsequent trips were made for several years by these explorers and their friends. Unfortunately, the cave was collapsed in 1960 by a bulldozer which was clearing brush off the bank of the drainage ditch, much to the surprise and dismay of the driver. The cave, however, appears to be rapidly reforming, as irrigation continues on the neighboring field.

Archaeology: Rudimentary archaeological investigations in 1957 turned up three rusty screens, one spark-plug, two bolts, and a steering wheel and a Grapette bottle.

A DICTIONARY OF CAVER TERMS

(revised from Appendix B, British Caving, 1962)

aquifer - a belt of water-logged permeable rocks.

aragonite - a crystalline form of calcium carbonate; the unstable, less common form.

bed - a layer of sedimentary rocks

bedding plane - the plane separating two beds of rocks.

belay - (n) the attachment of a man (e.g. life line man) or a ladder, etc;
(v) to attach as above.

belay point - the fixed object used for the belay.

blow hole - a surface hole from which air escapes.

breccia - a rock formed of angular rock fragments

breccia cave - angular fragments of limestone or calcite formation.

bridge - in a cave, rock in its natural position, spanning a passage from wall to wall and inclined to the horizontal at an angle less than 45 degrees.

calcite - a crystalline form of calcium carbonate ($CaCO_3$); the most common form assuming many crystal habits.

calcite bubble - a hollow sphere formed by the deposition of calcite around a gas bubble.

capillary fringe - the zone above the water table where water is held in the joints by capillary action.

carbide lamp - a miner's lamp using calcium carbide and water to from acetyene gas.

cave - any natural cavity in rock underground or leading underground.

cave deposit - a deposit on the floor of a cave, other than flowstone formations.

cave pearl - a small, polished, unattached concretion, formed by successive coats of calcite deposited around a nucleus.

cave system - the whole known extent of a series of interconnected cavities underground.

cavern - an extensive cave system with large chambers and passages.

cavern breakdown (breakdown) - enlargement of a passage or chamber by collapse of roof or wall.

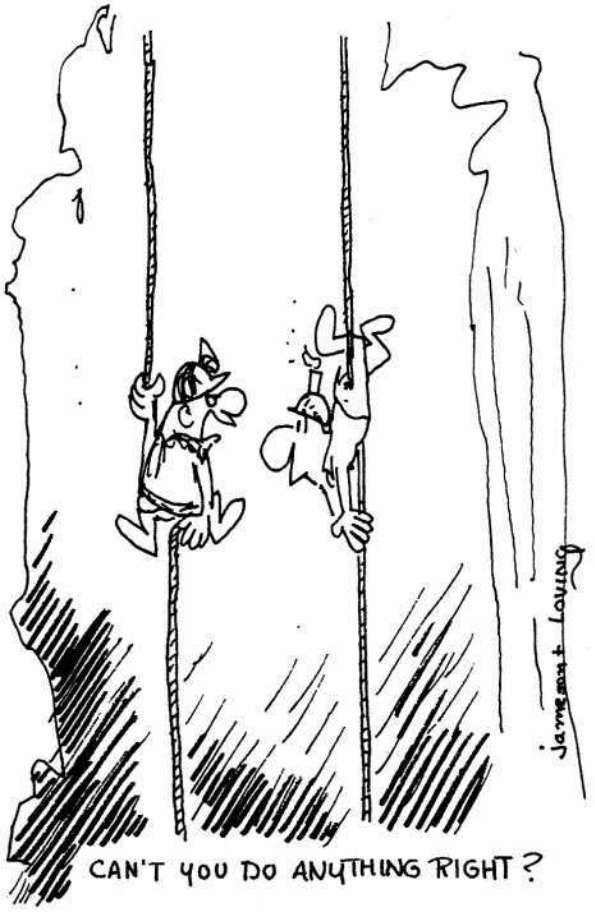
chamber - any noticeable larger cavity in a cave system.

column - a formation joining roof and floor, and separate from the wall, due to the junction of a stalactite with a stalagmite.

coral (cave coral, popcorn) - a small stalked formation in the floor, wall, or ceiling of a cave.

crawl - a passage, which at best can be traversed on hands and knees.

curtain - a thin sheet of dripstone formation, hanging from the roof or projecting from the wall of a cave.



decoration - (see formation)
dip - the slope of a bed, expressed as the angle made by a straight line along the bed with a horizontal line in the same direction»
dogtooth spar ~ *a* pointed, calcite crystal known also as a scalenohedral crystal.
dolina - a natural depression on the surface of a limestone region»
dolomite - 1) a mineral similar to calcite, but composed of a double carbonate of magnesium and calcium [$MgCa\cdot(CO_3)_2$]
2) a rock formed from dolomite» drapery - a wavy or folded curtain formation.
dripstone - a general term for those formations due to falling drops of water.
fault - a fracture in the earth's crust along which movement has taken place fissure - strictly, a narrow opening due to the moving apart of the containing walls.
flowstone - a continuous sheet on floor or wall, formed by precipitation from a thin sheet of slowing water.
flute - 1) a parallel longitudinal shallow channel down a nearly vertical surface of rock.
formation - any bulk concretion found in a cave.
gypsum- the mineral hydrated calcium sulphate ($CaSO_4\cdot 2H_2O$)
gypsum flower - radiating gypsum crystals simulating outward-curving flower petals.
helictite - a stalactite which projects from the roof, wall, or a stalactite at an angle other than the vertical .
joint - a natural division, other than a fault, crossing a bed vertically to the bedding plane.
jumar - a mechanic ascending device used for prussicking.
karabiner - a link of steel or aluminum with one side forming a gate or spring clip; used for the quick attachment of a rope or for rappelling on a rope.
karst - an area of limestone with well-developed surface features such as caves, sinkholes, etc.
limestone - a rock composed of at least 50% calcium carbonate by weight.
network - intersecting mesh of cave passages or joints .
pendant formation - any formation hanging vertically from the ceiling of a cave.
phreatic zone - the zone of water below the water table.
pillar - a thin, tall stalagmite, not reaching the roof of the cave .
pitch - a vertical of nearly vertical descent.
piton - a steel spike which is driven into a joint in a rock to make a hold fast or a belay .
pocket - a rounded, hollow place in a cave wall or roof.
pool deposit - crystalline or other deposits formed in an isolated pool.
rappell - the act of descending into a pit on a rope»
resurgence. the emergence of an underground stream at the surface,
rimstone dam - a formation making the rim of a basin, deposited from water slowly overflowing therefrom.
scallop - a current marking on the wall, roof, or floor of a cave.
sinkhole - a marked surface depression due to collapse.
siphon - a water trap followed downstream of the trap by a passage; an inverted U-form which will deliver a flow of water whenever the head of the water at the trap rises above the top of the siphon passage,
speleology - the science of caves» spelunker - one who caves, i.e., a caver.
spongework - an intricate mass of interconnected tubular channels of various sizes developed at random in the limestone.

stalactite - a cave formation hanging from the roof of a cave.
stalactite straw (soda straw) - a hollow, thin-walled stalactite, of uniform diameter throughout its length.
stalagmite - a cave formation projecting up from the floor of a cave
strike - a horizontal line on a bedding plane the direction of which is at right angles to the direction of maximum dip at that point.
sump - a pool of water with a submerged extension.
trap - a place where the roof of a passage or chamber dips underwater, but lifts above the water level further on.
troglobite - an organism completely adapted to cave life
troglodyte - a human cave dweller.
troglophile - an animal living permanently in the dark zone of a cave, but also living permanently as an epigean in the same region. trogloxene - an organism entering a cave for various reasons, but not living there permanently.
tube - a cave passage of nearly circular or elliptical cross-section.
vadose zone - the permeable zone of water movement above the water table.
water table - the top surface of a saturated zone.
whaletail - a mechanical descending device used for rappelling into very deep pits.

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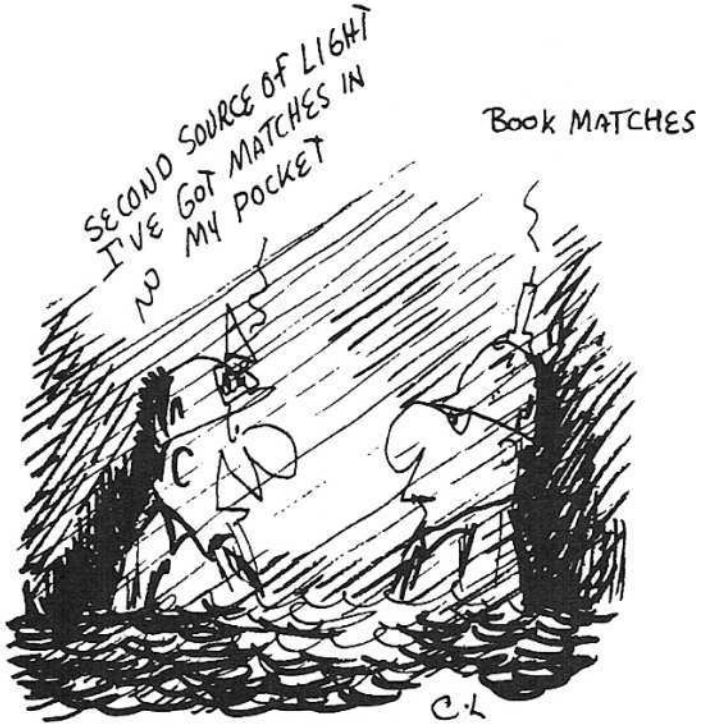
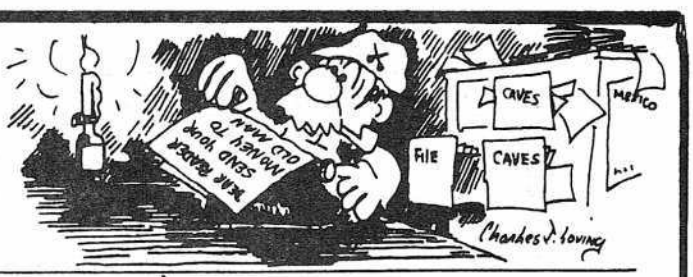
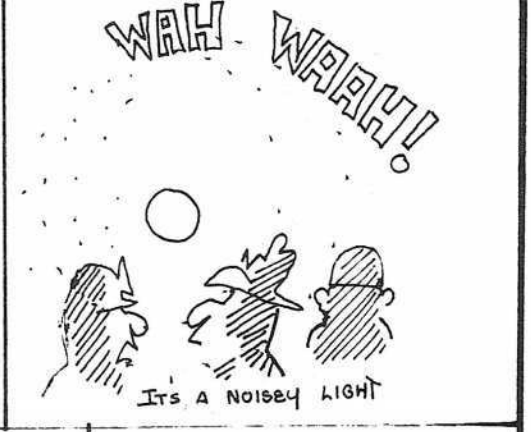


OLD MAN WISDOM

IT'S HARD TO REMEMBER what happened in the past few issues; but this may refresh you. O.M.W. is searching for the Holy CARBIDE LIGHT.



OUR HERO AND HIS COMPANIONS ARE FACED WITH A DELIMA.



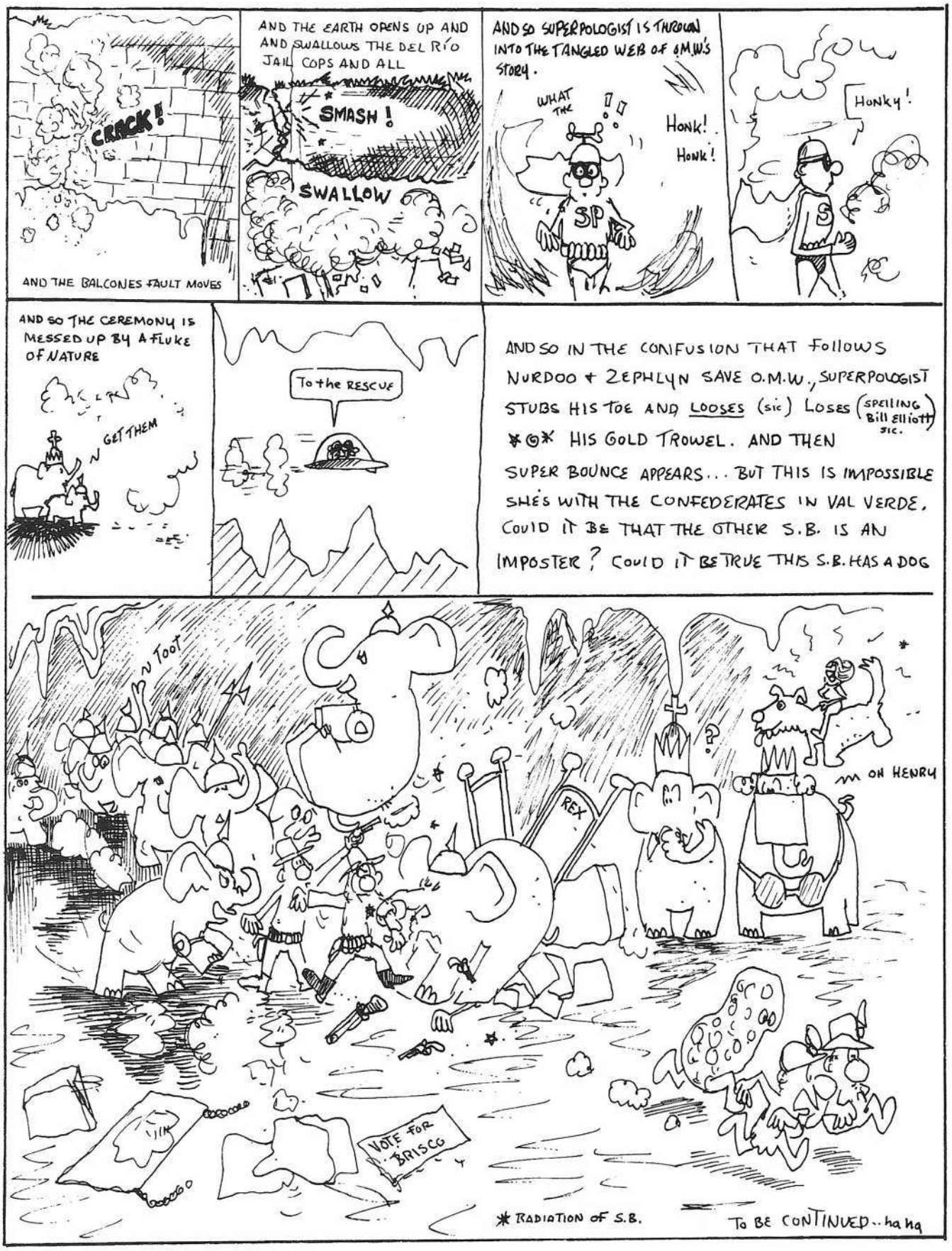
AND SO WITH THAT WE ARE NOW UP TO DATE AND ONCE AGAIN A BLAST TOWARD THAT WHICH IS MOST IMPORTANT. WE RE-JION OR IS IT RE JOIN. OR RÉ JOIN OUR STORY SOMEWHERE SOUTH of Piedras Negras. (ARTISTIC LISCENCE)*

* LYE SENCE ... LIESENCE ... IICENCE ...

AND ALSO MEANWHILE WHAT OF THE GUYS LOST IN THE WILDS OF BIG BEND?

LANGSDORFS SAYS "WHEN IN PIT. PIT."

THE KING'S MEN TAKE O.M.W. to the special room to prepare him
MARRY AN ELEPHANT.
CLANK
GOOD GOD, WHAT DO I DO NOW?
WEDDING SUIT
SAKES ALIVE. THIS THING SMELLS TO HIGH PEANUT. LORD IT'S A..
WEDDIN SUIT
PEANUT SUIT. WHAT WILL BE MY FATE? TO BE MADE INTO OF ALL THINGS A GIANT PEANUT?
MEANWHILE BACK WITH NURDOO AND ZEPHLIN. HAVING BEEN TRAMPLED INTO THE ELEPHANT GUANO
NOW WHAT DO WE DO?
TRY TO SAVE O.M.W. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. THE ELEPHANTS TOOK HIM AWAY.
RUMBLE
what the..?
CAVE IN?
SURPRISE YOU ALL; ITS THOSE TWO CAVERS FROM THE LAST ISSUE. NOW WE SEE THE COMMUNICATIONS..
PEACE. WE'RE FRIENDLY.
LETS KICK THE .... OUT OF THEM
PROBLEM HANDLED BY TWO DIFFERENT LOGICS.
LETS USE THE LANGUAGE TRANSLATORS .. GLI... HELLO WE'RE SPELUNKERS FROM
SPELUNKERS?
O.M.W. IS IN TROUBLE CAN YOU HELP US?
How?
MEANWHILE IN DEL RIO
SP
POLICE


CRACK!
AND THE BALCONES FAULT MOVES
AND THE EARTH OPENS UP AND AND SWALLOWS THE DEL RÍO JAIL COPS AND ALL
SMASH!
SWALLOW
AND SO SUPERPOLOGIST IS THROWN INTO THE TANGLED WEB OF O.M.W.'S STORY.
WHAT THE
HONK! HONK!
SP
HONKY!
S
AND SO THE CEREMONY IS MESSED UP BY A FLUKE OF NATURE
GET THEM
To the RESCUE
AND SO IN THE CONFUSION THAT FOLLOWS NURDOO + ZEPHLYN SAVE O.M.W., SUPERPOLOGIST STUBS HIS TOE AND LOOSES (sic) LOSES (SPELLING Bill Elliott sic.) ✱⊙✱ HIS GOLD TROWEL. AND THEN SUPER BOUNCE APPEARS... BUT THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE SHE'S WITH THE CONFEDERATES IN VAL VERDE. COULD IT BE THAT THE OTHER S.B. IS AN IMPOSTER? COULD IT BE TRUE THIS S.B. HAS A DOG
TOOT
REX
OH HENRY
VOTE FOR BRISCO
✱ RADIATION OF S.B.
TO BE CONTINUED.. ha ha