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Curvin Metzler

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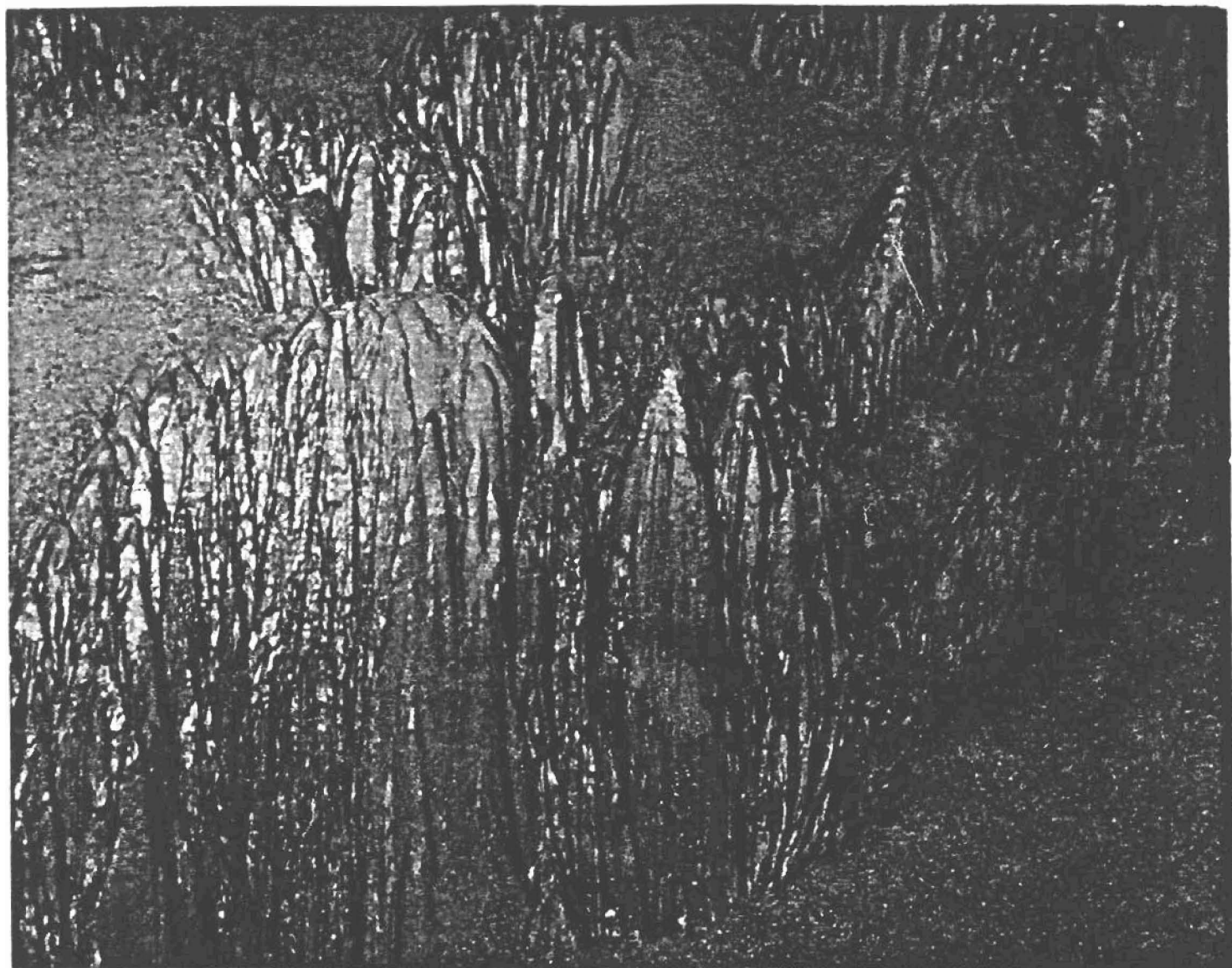
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The **ALASKAN CAVER**

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Membership is open to all interested in Alaskan cave discovery, exploration, description, survey, mapping, photography, hydrology, morphology, biology, geology, history, speleogenesis and other speleanean processes, conservation, management, adventures, and the fellowship of Alaskan cavers. Dues are \$7.50 per year for the first member of a mailing address and \$1.00 for additional persons at the same address. Overseas air mail requires an additional \$10.00.

Dues are due on January 1 and are sent to the Treasurer (see below) with the application/renewal form. Those paying for the first time after October 1 will be considered paid up for the following year. The year through which each member is paid is indicated on the mailing label. Meetings are called to plan and report on trips or other special events; anyone wanting to have a meeting for any reason should notify the President, Vice President or a Member-at-Large.

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* Messages may be announced to Kevin daily via radio station KHNS at (907) 766-2020

† The area code for Dave Klinger in Leavenworth, Washington is (509) (both numbers)

Cover: Hoodoos in The Alaska Room of El Capitan Cave, Prince of Wales Island, Alaska. Photo by Curvin Metzler, August 1989; more photos pages 6 through 8.

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President's Corner--POWIE IV Overview
(Figures and future plans still tentative)

It was a good season even though not many people showed. Kevin and Carlene Allred camped with their children at the neck of the spit (before you get to El Capitan Work Camp) for the whole time; the children liked the play places there. Steve Lewis and Susan DeLisa came for the first week or so, and did some hard-core caving with the Allreds. Then, the Allreds caved at Calder for several days. Dave Klinger arrived on July 27th; I came a day later, and we both stayed until the end. Bob Bastasz and Kathy Tonnessen were there from August 6th to the 13th; Lyle and Dalene Perrigo came for the last two days. Some Forest Service personnel, including the new camp manager, stepped in and gave us a hand now and then, especially during the filming.

We did well for our 152 person days. We found and surveyed seventeen new caves, about 8900 feet (as against 9586 feet last year). We spent four days helping Juneau's KTOO public TV crew document our work. They took quite an interest and spent more than their planned two days. It will appear in "Rain Country" in November. We will try to get a tape for those who want one.

Other items were: (1) a new second-longest cave, Dimple Cave, at 2715.1 feet, (2) a new most-beautiful cave, Captain Soup Cave, at 1152.7 feet, (3) a contender for the second largest room, Troll's Bowling Alley, was found in 1495.9-foot Slate Cave (260 feet long by 25 to 50 feet wide and 20 to 60 feet high), (4) the Slate Cave Complex (consisting of Slate Cave, Skunk Cabbage Cave, and Cloister Cave)

may be the second most interesting cave (the three appear to be hydrologically connected to each other and possibly to El Capitan Cave), (5) El Capitan Cave was extended to 10,033.8 feet--and still has a dozen going leads (high water limited surveying), (6) Forest Service and other Island personnel are becoming involved--finding seven and four caves, respectively, against our six, (7) no accidents or near misses, and (8) food, quarters, weather, and help provided by the Forest Service were great.

One Island couple took us to a cave on Flicker Ridge. They were disappointed at the length (65 feet), but wanted to go back and dig it out, because of the air coming out of the cracks between logs and loose rocks at the end. They later joined the Grotto and she said that we could use their home in Naukati as a base. Mike Matelski and Nettie Phelan are getting married in December. Kevin Allred is buying some land in Whale Pass, and a new member in Anchorage, Mike Padden, has property in Coffman Cove.

The agreement with the Forest Service, without the financial page and without the work plan, is still in effect. There will be a new work plan for POWIE V, and it will include provision for looking into the alpine karst areas, and our limited use of their vehicles. By the end of our stay there, I was authorized to drive one of their vehicles, and they saw no problem with my going down to pick up people at the ferry. I would rather not do this every day, of course, but a workable schedule could be planned.

On my way out I talked with the Ketchikan Area people and they said that what we had was a Challenge Agreement in which we worked with the USFS but not for them, and that we were not volunteers. As it turned out, POWIE IV was an entirely different operation from POWIE III (and what the work plan indicated), and POWIE V will be different again.

The safety situation is more complicated. There are two quite different danger areas: the caves and the woods. In POWIE III, we were okay in the caves but our "in the woods" record was not so good. Our new members, Nettie Phelan, who grew up on the Island, said that she had seen things like that happen many times to outsiders who "did not know how to behave in the woods". Kevin held "tailgate" sessions once a week, and whenever a Forest Service employee was to join us for a day or so. We are on our own as far as medical insurance goes. They supplied some radio equipment and it worked much of the time. We used no flying machines, and thus were not weather-dependent for emergency evacuation. Boat transportation to and from Calder was on demand, but only the trips over and back were required. We hope to have the next year's work plan finalized by Christmas.

Last year the emphasis was on the alpine karst. This year it was on "caves at risk", a cave conservation project, because we had found that the engineers and loggers were filling the entrances with slash and road material. To recruit cavers of lesser experience we offered them the opportunity to "work with the experts" and name any caves they found and reported. This resulted in our spending more of our time surveying, etc., rather than looking for caves.

The logging units (areas) we were supposed to examine were those containing the best forests; the best forests were on the limestone, and the best caves were along the interface between the limestone and the non-carbonate rock, and thus at the boundary of the areas to be cut. Thus, the road surveyors and timber cruisers would find the caves first while they were flagging the units. After looking at the cave, we would recommend moving the boundary slightly to get them out of the clear-cutting altogether. This was done because everyone wanted to protect the significant caves.

Next season, we plan to survey all caves that are shown to us, but we will also return to finish surveying half-surveyed caves in the alpine karst. In 1989, the helicopter time was used up well before the season was over, but Steve Lewis, Kevin Allred, and Curvin Metzler climbed Perue Peak by car and foot and reported on some interesting caves there. This year we had no helicopter time, and no in-depth backup, so we left the alpine karst for another year.

The two trailers had working showers and toilets most of the time. The Allreds used the one closest to the road to cook their dinners. I had the further one all to myself, until Bob Bastasz and Kathy Tonnessen paddled rented kayaks up from New Token on El Capitan Island. Dave Klinger camped on the spit with the Allreds. North of the trailers was a tent with a washer and a dryer set up for the cavers. North of this, where the Allreds parked last year, was a "boonie barn". It was a large, plywood-floored tent. It had three cots end to end on each side, and a big kerosene heater. We used it

as a gear and drying shed. We laid our gear on the cots, which was very handy.

We met at seven each morning and planned the day and signed out in the log with appropriate information about objective, destination, and expected return time. Cavers would choose from a list of things to do; often we planned the night before if there were enough of us there. Dave and the Bastasz's took several kayak trips (Point Baker does have the best hamburgers on the Island), but they did not get to Hole in the Wall. Most of our trips were short, so we generally had returned by seven in the evening. Weekends? Yes, one of us arranged to be in the office on the weekends in case any Islanders came by. They were a big help in building up a network. At the very end, Mike Schaefer, a forester, told us of a cave we had found by the sound, a large stream falling into a "deep" pit. It is on next year's list.

Tom and Georgia Patterson were managing El Capitan Work Camp. He is a retired research chemist from Delaware and she is a school teacher. The trailer cupboards and refrigerators were loaded. I am not much of a cook, but could visualize tacos. I

asked Carlene if she could make them. She said she could. I offered to clean up before and after. So we all had tacos for supper--that is, except Flint, who had eaten one too many candy bars while watching TV at the camp manager's house. But they had to leave, as Georgia had to get back to work. They were replaced by Steve and Peggy Hopkins. He is a retired computer engineer; they were looking for a place to live on Prince of Wales Island. He was a good westerner and readily took to caving, being a big help in making the documentary. Peggy loaned us her coffee pot when she found we did not have one (since they ate in the cook house). There were no Forest Service guests there our last night in camp, so we left our copious supplies of food with the Hopkins, and Dalene Perrigo made a feast for all, to use up the Cornish game hens and all the trimmings.

POWIE V will be from July 15 until August 15, 1991, somewhere on the north end of Prince of Wales Island, except we may have another deep one on Dall Island. Bastasz is interested in a kayaking contingent; write him for details. □

Regular Monthly Meetings

During the last meeting of the Glacier Grotto, on October 4, interest was shown in returning to regular monthly meetings. It was decided by vote of the members present that these meetings be scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month, commencing with the November meeting. For the time being meetings will be held in the home of Jay Rockwell, president.

Grotto Announcements

Check the back page of the newsletter for announcements of upcoming meetings and expeditions, or other time-critical notices. Also, please inform the editor, Curvin Metzler, of any news items or announcements which may be of interest to Grotto members. And, of course, keep sending in those articles, trip reports, surveys, cartoons, drawings, and photos!

Log of POWIE III Events (1989)
by Kevin Allred

The following people were participants of POWIE III (1989); abbreviations to the left of the names appear throughout this log and indicate which individuals were involved in each event:

?? unknown
all everyone
ch all children
CA Carlene Allred
KA Kevin Allred
BB Bob Bastasz
HB Harvey Bowers
SB Sandy Bowers
RB Rick Bridges
EG Evan Gehring
MH Miles Hecker
PH Patti Hecker
KK Kelly Kellstedt
BL Buddy Lane
SL Steve Lewis
SM Steve Meier
NM Neeld Messler
CM Curvin Metzler
DM Dave Modisette
HM Hank Moon
LM Linda Morgan
JN Jim Nicholls
JR Jay Rockwell
LR Liz Rockwell
AS Anne Strait
DS Doug Strait
NT Norm Thompson
KT Kathy Tonnessen
MVN Mike Van Note
WW Win Wright

7/25 Rumbling Pit rig and dye trace, Mud Maze survey (El Capitan Cave)
KK BB KT CA

7/26 Kid Cave visit
CA PH ch

7/26 El Capitan Peak karst (El Capitan Pit, Blowing in the Wind Cave)
KA JN SM KK MH
WW AS DS RB EG

7/26 Dye appears in El Capitan resurgence at 3:30pm; traps collected 7-8pm
BB JR

7/27 Survey El Capitan Pit
KA MH

7/27 Survey Alaska Room (El Capitan Cave)
BB KT CA

7/27 Recon. (discovery of Snow Hole and Blowing in the Wind Cave); broken ankle rescue
KA JN SM KK MH
WW AS DS RB EG

7/28 Medivac
DS AS

7/28 Continued karst exploration
KA JN SM KK MH
WW RB EG

7/29 Blowing in the Wind Cave survey
RB WW SM KA MH



Pebbles and Hoodoos in the the Alaska Room, El Capitan Cave, Prince of Wales Island, Alaska.
Photo by Curvin Metzler.

7/29 Measure water in El Capitan
Creek for conductivity and
temperature
JR

7/30 Blowing in the Wind Cave
survey
KA WW KK MH RB
EG

7/30 Recon. area
KK MH

7/30 Recon. to northeast of camp
on karst
KK RB EG

7/30 Search on Mount Calder
access for copter landing
space
JR LR CA PH ch

7/31 Leave El Capitan Peak
KA WW KK MH RB
EG SM JN

8/1 Measure ceiling height in
Alaska Room and complete
survey (El Capitan Cave)
CA NT KK

8/1 Glacier Grotto meeting
all

8/2 Survey stream passage in El
Capitan Cave
KA MH KK

8/2 Re-establish lost survey
points in El Capitan Cave
CA KA

8/2 Heceta Island and survey of
to Deer Creek Sinks and Mint
8/6 Lake Cave (Alice Cave)
CA DM RB AS

8/3 Continued survey of El
Capitan Cave stream passage
KA MVN MH

8/4 Drive to Calder Bay to
check stream and approach
HB SB KA



Hot Fudge Sundae, El Capitan Cave,
Prince of Wales Island, Alaska.
Photo by Curvin Metzler.

8/5 Survey Frost Pocket Cave
HB KA

8/5 Recon. clearcut near Whale
Pass
NT MH

8/6 Recon. Mount Calder to summit
KA

8/6 Attempt to climb to high
leads in the Alaska Room;
photograph (El Capitan Cave)
MVN MH

8/6 Recon. north end of island
to (Prince of Wales)
8/7 HB SB

8/7 Overland survey from El
Capitan Cave to resurgence
KA MVN

8/8 Load computer data
KA RB CA

Continue stream passage
survey in El Capitan Cave

AS EG MVN

8/8 Search for unnamed cave at
Exchange Cove

NM DM HM

8/9 Second time up El Capitan
to Peak; additional surveys

8/11 RB KA BL MVN HM
NM EG AS NT DM
LM CA

8/11 More additional surveys and
to de-rigging of caves

8/14 RB BL MVN HM NM
EG AS NT DM

8/12 Recon. to Exchange Cove

KA ch

8/14 Safety meeting presentation
at Thorne Bay Ranger Station

RB KA

8/15 Survey of Cavern Lake Cave

CM KA SL

8/15 Recovery of helicopter drop
(gear fell 1200 feet)

??...??



Mottled Forms, El Capitan Cave,
Prince of Wales Island, Alaska.

Photo by Curvin Metzler.

Continued drop recovery
??...??

8/16 Survey Belittled Pit

KA CM SL

8/17 Survey maze in lower El
Capitan Cave

KA SL

8/17 Photograph El Capitan Cave

CM NT

8/18 Perue Peak backpack trip;
to survey of Macho Peekaboo

8/21 Cave and Drip Drop

SL CM KA

8/21 Survey overland at Cavern
Lake Cave

CA CM SL

8/22 Survey stream maze in El
Capitan Cave

CM SL KA

8/23 Survey into Shelob's Lair;
photograph in the Alaska
Room (El Capitan Cave)

CA SL

8/23 Search for Malagtitte Cave
(unsuccessful)

KA CM ch

8/24 Collect dye traps

KA

8/24 Survey the Coffee Passage
and other leads (El Capitan
Cave)

KA SL CM

8/24 Survey to upper Rockwell
River (El Capitan Cave)

KA SL

8/25 Clean camp and pack up

CM SL CA KA

8/?? Another search for unnamed
cave at Exchange Cove (this
trip was successful)

??...??

□

Discovery and Exploration of Blowing in the Wind Cave
(Near El Capitan Peak, Prince of Wales Island, Alaska)
by Winfield G. Wright (NSS 20655)

Introduction

The discovery and exploration of Blowing in the Wind Cave was a small portion of the numerous tasks accomplished at the 1989 Prince of Wales Island expedition. Other products from the 1989 POWIE include exploration and survey of El Capitan Pit (deepest pit in the United States), continued survey of El Capitan Cave, reconnaissance of the karst of Heceta Island, reconnaissance and cave-location documentation of the karst of the Perue Peak and El Capitan Peak areas, and preliminary hydrologic and biologic data collection of the karst of the El Capitan Peak area. Results of the hydrologic and biologic studies will probably be published at a later date following additional data collection.

The El Capitan Peak Area

Accomplishment of numerous tasks was necessary in order to prepare for the exploration of the karst on El Capitan Peak. Dye traps were placed in springs and surge streams surrounding the mountain; food was inventoried and packs were organized; the most efficient hiking route up the mountain was reconned; and we had a planning meeting with the Forest Service to discuss scheduling arrangements and communications protocol. On Wednesday, July 26, 1989, after a short course on helicopter safety, a scout team flew around El Capitan Peak to locate a suitable mountain-top base camp. This reconnaissance took about twenty minutes. Then the helicopter made several trips with cavers and equipment to the established base

camp; these trips took about seven minutes. Half of the ten cavers comprising the "karst assault team" were lifted to base camp and the other half hiked to the top. The team consisted of Kevin Allred, Rick Bridges, Evan Gehring, Miles Hecker, Kelly Kelstedt, Steve Meier, Jim Nichols, Ann Strait, Doug Strait, and Win Wright.

Let Your Fingers Do the Ridgewalking

The first morning in base camp, we awoke to clear and sunny weather. We gathered for a meeting to establish areas where we should scout for caves. Color aerial photographs and topographic maps were used to ridgewalk by stereoscope. Several areas were identified which showed potential for cave development. One area in particular was visible where two linear features indicating faults in the limestone were evident on aerial photos. These linear features (also called fracture traces or lineaments) formed an X-pattern on the aerial photos where they intersected. Bare limestone was exposed at the surface in this area; therefore, there could be less possibility of cave entrances being plugged in the exposed area. This area was selected as one focus for reconnaissance. The recon. team headed for the hills and a "pit team" headed to El Capitan Pit to survey and push the bottom of the pit.

Since base camp (which we named "karst central") was in a basin to the north of El Capitan Peak, we hiked straight up the mountain through thick underbrush, choosing the route that obviously

was not preferred by the local animal population because there were no animal trails. We reached the top in time to eat a quick lunch, look down upon our tents in karst central, and watch the clouds roll in from the south. We did not see the sun for the remainder of our stay in karst central.

We poked in and down numerous sinkholes which looked really inviting to alpine-karst neophytes, but few of them went anywhere. Evan and I broke away from the crowd and headed toward the area with the intersecting lineaments. By that time, the cloud ceiling had lowered such that we were hiking in the clouds. Orienteering in the clouds is difficult, at best, but we trudged ahead following the topo map and compass. The clouds lifted briefly and we noticed that we were too far north and had lost considerable elevation; but, noticing a small lake, we were re-oriented and we again headed for the lineament-intersection area.

Success Measured in Seconds

Once at the lineament-intersection area, we looked no longer than ten minutes and there it was--a cave entrance. We began surveying immediately to stake our claim and to see where it went. Sixty feet into the entrance, the floor dropped into a pit; rocks thrown down the pit bounced for six to ten seconds! We thought we had another record pit. [This pit has not been explored as of the writing of this article.] We quit surveying; Evan explored a high lead and came back with tales of a big cave. It was late, so we exited the cave. At the entrance, the clouds, fog and wind were blowing and wisping around us like we were suspended in the thoughts of a great philos-

opher's cogitations. We named it Blowing in the Wind Cave.

Simultaneous to our discovery of Blowing in the Wind Cave, the pit crew pushed to the bottom of El Capitan Pit, finding the deepest pit in the United States. Unfortunately, there were no going leads at the bottom of the pit; therefore, the best lead known at the time was Blowing in the Wind Cave.

Rugged Terrain Causes Mishap

In an effort to negotiate the rugged terrain, Doug Strait apparently fell down a sinkhole and had injured his ankle. Evan and I caught up to the rest of the group soon after the mishap; he and I went back to camp to recruit the assistance of the pit crew. A quick, yet effective, splint using stays from an internal-frame backpack and flagging tape gave Doug enough mobility to crawl off of the mountain, which took until midnight. A full-scale rescue involving a stretcher would have been impossible because the terrain is difficult enough to walk across as is, much less carrying a stretcher. Doug showed incredible determination and ability to crawl through rugged karst with a broken ankle. The next day was mostly unproductive as we waited for the helicopter to fly in through the fog and carry Doug to the hospital; Ann also departed with the helicopter.

After the helicopter departed on Thursday evening, Rick and Kelly dropped El Capitan Pit to push leads at the bottom of the pit but were mostly unsuccessful--the leads are too small.

Potential for Deep Cave System

On Friday, one survey crew and an exploration crew headed

over to begin pushing Blowing in the Wind Cave. The upper levels of the cave consist of a few relatively large chambers that may have formed as a result of dissolution of limestone and breakdown associated with basalt dikes. (The basalt dikes are composed of once-molten rock that was intruded into fractures in the limestone.) A breathing phenomenon was observed in wind movements near the entrance and in the upper levels of the cave, possibly because of warm outside air (about 55°F) infiltrating the fractured-limestone massif comprising the mountain and mixing with colder air in the cave (about 37°F); the occurrence of condensation and evidence of condensation rillenkarren in the cave supports this notion.

We surveyed through the upper levels to the top of a pit where cascading water could be heard down the fissure-type pit. Rick set a bolt at the top of the fissure and we rappelled the first two pitches of the pit series. Since the elevation of the cave entrance is about 2210 feet above sea level and the springs resurge on the east slope of El Capitan Peak at about 800 feet above sea level, we were optimistic about the potential for Blowing in the Wind to be a 1400-foot-deep cave system. We then exited the cave with about 400 feet of cave surveyed.

The next day, several people decided to rest because of tired knees--knees take a severe beating walking across the rugged karst. Kevin Allred and I hiked over to push the stream canyon in Blowing in the Wind Cave. The canyon consists of numerous small, yet challenging, pitches of about ten to forty feet deep with a small stream trickling down the pits. The width of the canyon ranges from about five to ten feet and

the height ranges from forty to sixty feet (see map of cave). We used up about 450 feet of rope and were left standing at the lip of another small pit when Kevin's pack opened by mistake and portions of its contents careened down the last pitch. We did not have any more rope to retrieve the lost pack contents, so Kevin added to the excitement of the trip by rappelling and climbing a piece of webbing to retrieve his pack contents. At this downstream penetration of our effort, I dumped some Rhodamine WT dye in the cave stream with little hope of ever seeing it again because of the slow flow rates and expected long residence times. We exited and derigged the stream canyon because we were not sure when the next opportunity would be to return to the cave.

Neeld Messler and Mike Van Note returned to the cave later in the expedition. They pushed the cave depth an additional sixty feet but consumed a lot of time rigging the drops.

The Rhodamine WT dye which was dumped in the stream canyon was tentatively identified in one of the dye-recovery traps placed on the main stream draining the east side of El Capitan Peak and surrounding vicinity. Dye travel time was probably one or two weeks. Dye did not show up in the springs which had been located and trapped on the east side of the El Capitan Peak area; therefore, additional reconnaissance is needed to locate other springs in the area.

Don't Rely on the Weather
When Flying in Alaska

On Sunday, July 30, the half of the group that flew up the mountain hiked down, and several of us stood around in the fog

waiting for the helicopter to come to our rescue. On several occasions, we had radio contact with the helicopter as they attempted to find us in the fog, and we had occasional contact with El Capitan Work Camp (the Forest Service logging camp). By five o'clock that afternoon, we were wondering whether we were going to stay a fifth night in the rain-soaked base camp. Our spirits waned with the thought of another wet night in karst central, so I pulled out my trusty mountain guitar and played a few tunes, the fog magically lifted, and the helicopter pilot came over the air waves saying, "we're on our way."

Observations on Cave Development

Several observations of the development of Blowing in the Wind Cave may be noteworthy, and these observations may be applicable to other caves in the El Capitan Peak area as well. The upper-level cave passages in Blowing in the Wind Cave are most notably developed in association with the presence of basalt dikes.

Many sinkholes and shafts on the surface were also observed to be associated with basalt dikes, and basalt dikes were observed in El Capitan Pit. Further documentation is needed to more fully understand the relationship between occurrence of basalt dikes and cave development on Prince of Wales Island.

Passages in Blowing in the Wind Cave are developed in limestone breccia (or a matrix of broken limestone fragments created by faulting and fracturing of the limestone). As seen from the cave map, the pit series is developed in breccia and the ceiling of the pit series looked to be comprised of non-brecciated limestone; in other words, the pit series may be following a fault.

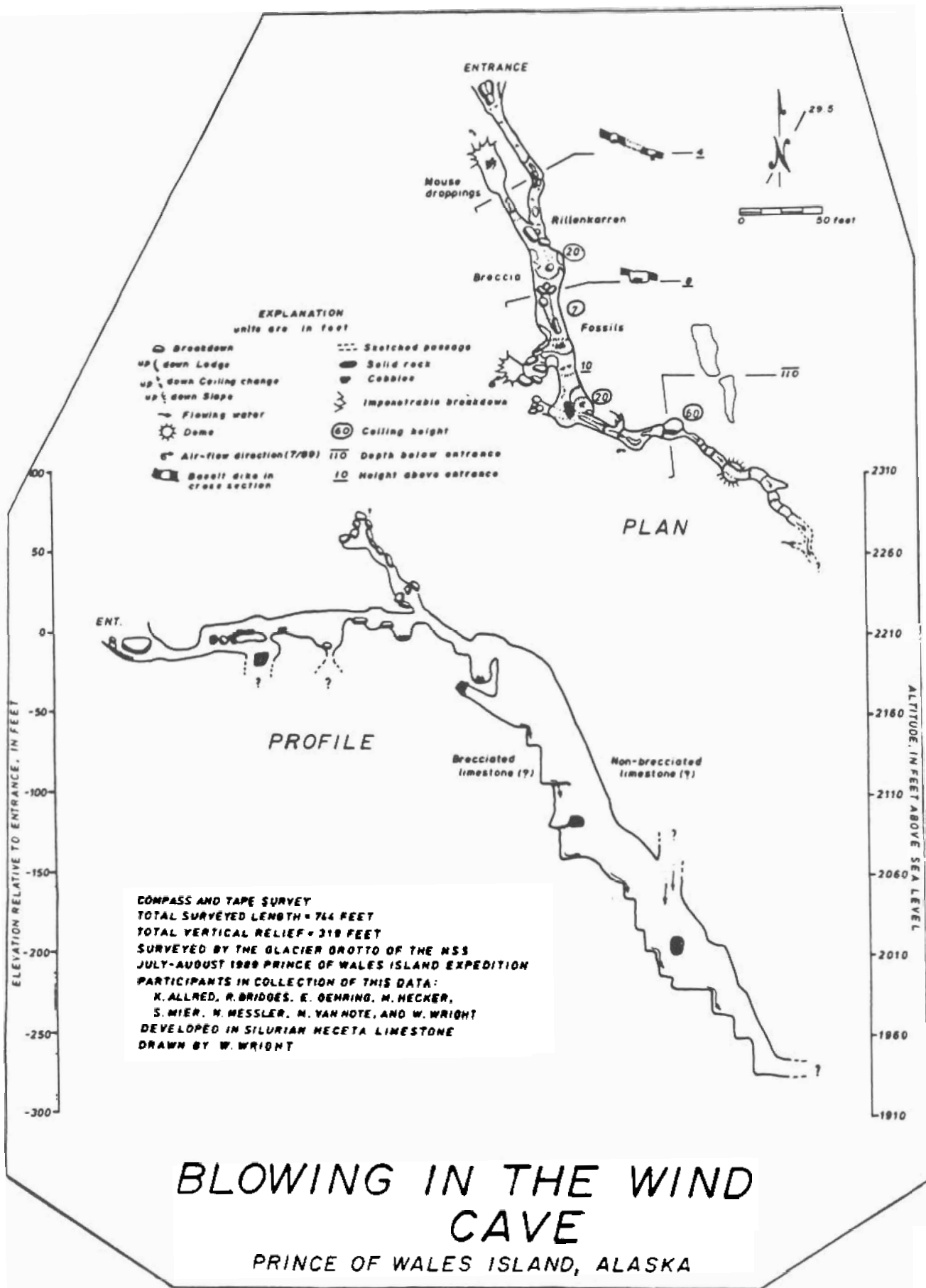
Potential for deep cave systems exists in the El Capitan Peak area because of the vertical relief of the terrain, the geologic structural setting, and the nature of the Silurian-age Heceta Limestone in which the caves of the area are formed. So, where is potentially the deepest cave in Alaska? You guessed it--the answer is Blowing in the Wind. □

Prince of What?

Even though Prince of Wales Island in Alaska is the third largest island in the United States, its existence is apparently not common knowledge--not that much is known about Alaska in the first place. By world standards, the United States does not really have any "large" islands anyway, so third largest is really nothing to brag about. Besides, Canada has a much larger Prince of Wales Island in its Northern Territories. But it is both amusing and annoying that

our island containing the deepest known natural pit in the United States has been the victim of so many mistakes.

In "Ray's Review", from the February 1990 NSS News 48(2):47, the name of the island is spelled "Prince of Whales Island". The May-June 1990 Cascade Caver 29(5-6):13 refers to the island as "Prince of Edwards Island". And in the August 1990 issue of The Explorer, page 123, the island has been given the name of "Prince of William Island".



Minutes of Grotto Meeting

June 14, 1990

by Sam Dunaway

The meeting was held at the home of Jay and Liz Rockwell. Ten members and friends were present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:51pm. Jay Rockwell read the minutes from the previous meeting.

Old Business

The agreement with the United States Forest Service (USFS) in regards to 1990 activities on Prince of Wales Island was discussed at length. Questions were solicited regarding the POWIE member application, the 1990 work plan, and the USFS/Glacier Grotto agreement. It was stated by several members that the objective is to get a good cave protection plan and movement underway in Southeast Alaska. If this goal can be attained by working within the confines of the agreement, then we should work with the USFS.

Harvey Bowers expressed concern about the restrictive nature of the agreement and stated that he would not want to devote two weeks of his vacation time to working for the USFS, just to meet their agenda, and not be able to explore the area more broadly and on a schedule acceptable to other cavers. It was agreed that those who want to stay in the USFS camp and use their facilities should be official members of 1990 POWIE and those who do not would be free to camp elsewhere and act autonomously.

New Business

Various means of transportation to and from POWIE were

discussed. It was suggested by Kevin Allred that it may be possible to use a USFS vehicle to operate a shuttle service between camp and Hollis. Air connections via Temsco from Ketchikan and Wrangell to Whale Pass were mentioned by Jay Rockwell. He further stated that vehicles can be rented in Ketchikan and ferried to Hollis, it being a definite advantage to have transportation on the island. Vehicles can be rented at Klawock on Prince of Wales Island, which is served by Temsco. He further reported that he has been discussing air transportation with the Air National Guard, but has nothing concrete at this time.

Harvey Bowers stated that travel time could be lessened by taking the ferry from Hyder directly to Hollis.

Liz Rockwell alerted participants in the 1990 POWIE that there is little food, fresh or canned, to be had locally and that all should come fully stocked. Food orders for those participating in the USFS/GG project will be arranged and handled by the USFS.

Kevin Allred informed the meeting that the USFS communications office at Thorne Bay is open from 7:00am to 5:00pm. Those needing to relay messages to camp at El Capitan can do so through this office. The phone number is (907) 828-3304. Ask for Bruce Campbell or Charlie Struli.

Jay Rockwell read a letter from Kelly Kelstedt. In the letter, he had expressed concerns about the involvement with the USFS, the minimal level of support and the availability of

first aid and rescue equipment. Following a general discussion of the letter, Kevin Allred stated that some of last year's participants from the Lower 48 had cleaned out much of the USFS camp food and had taken much of the camp gasoline allotment. Kevin had offered to pay for the gasoline. The USFS subsequently wrote to the NSS, but the Glacier Grotto was neither copied nor contacted. Jay Rockwell stated that he had talked to Bruce Campbell and asked why we were not contacted. No follow-up was proposed at this evening's meeting.

Buddy Lane made a generous offer to the Grotto for a good-for-one-time discount for caving supplied, to be shipped to one location.

Kevin Allred made a motion to dispose of some of the surveyor's flagging that was purchased for the 1989 POWIE project. The motion was seconded and carried that he should sell an amount of flagging at his discretion, the proceeds of which will be deposited into the Grotto account.

Kevin Allred stated that POWIE rope is currently being stored in his attic and that he wanted to get it moved to a more convenient site, for his benefit and other cavers who may wish to use it. There was some consideration given to having 250 feet of rope sent to Anchorage for use in Southcentral and the Interior. Jay Rockwell emphasized that there should be one person at one location in possession and control of the rope. This was generally agreed to and it was concluded that the rope should be stored near the POWIE project area. Harvey Bowers suggested storing it in barrels with lids and lock-rims at the USFS warehouse. No vote was taken.

Jay Rockwell and Kevin Allred discussed appropriate clothing for POWIE caves. Wet suits, dry suits, or one-half wet suit and wool is needed due to wet, cold cave conditions. For out-of-doors, polypropylene and wool and a good set of rain gear is a must. Gortex should not be used. If anyone has gear for forcing siphons, bring it, as there is ample opportunity to use it.

Field Trips

Kevin Allred reported that he participated in a biological survey in El Capitan and on the surface stream above the cave. He found a new lead beyond the Hot Fudge Sundae Room which went 160 feet to a small constriction with a strong breeze, then opened into a large room with leads. They also got past the Coffee Constriction and it is still going. They mapped 250 feet of cave. On the surface, he found ten new caves and entered the resurgence to El Capitan for the first time.

Philip King and Rachel Mays reported on a trip to the Chitina area with Jim and Mary Anne Clippard. They only made it as far as Strelna Creek. They did some ridge walking and checked out leads that amounted to frost pockets.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm. □

Election Results

Ballots have been counted and the new officers have been instated (see list on page two). The by-laws changes have passed; a complete copy of the by-laws will appear in the next issue.

Members in the News (Contributions invited)

The following items all appeared in the 1990 Current Titles in Speleology, Number 22 --the Literature of 1989. (The page number of the citation is noted with each item.)

- Carlene Allred's article, "Caving through a stereoscope", from The Alaskan Caver 9(1):6-9, February 1989, was cited on page 41.
- Kevin Allred's article, "Kid Cave, Prince of Wales Island, Technical Preliminary Report Number 1", from The Alaskan Caver 9(3):5, June 1989, was cited on page 32.
- Kevin Allred's article, "Carcass Cave, Prince of Wales Island, Technical Preliminary Report Number 2", from The Alaskan Caver 9(3):6-7, June 1989, was cited on page 32.
- Kevin Allred's article, "Salmon Fry Cave, Prince of Wales Island, Technical Preliminary Report Number 3", from The Alaskan Caver 9(3):8-9, June 1989, was cited on page 32.
- Kevin Allred's article, "El Capitan Pit, Prince of Wales Island, Technical Preliminary Report Number 4", from The Alaskan Caver 9(3):10, June 1989, was cited on page 32.
- Kevin Allred's article, "Starlight Cave, Prince of Wales Island, Technical Preliminary Report Number 5", from The Alaskan Caver 9(3):11, June 1989, was cited on page 32.
- Kevin Allred's "Report on the results of the 1988 Glacier Grotto Expedition to Prince of Wales Island, Alaska" and "Excerpts from the Glacier Grotto Prince of Wales Expedition", from The Alaskan Caver 9(1):4-5 and 9(2):7-9, February and April 1989, were cited on page 32.
- Kevin and Carlene Allred's article, "Some tidbits on Solo Surveying", from the 1988/89 (Winter) Compass & Tape 6(3):14-16, figs, was cited on page 14.
- Kevin and Carlene Allred's article, "Kicking Horse Glacier Cave", from The Alaskan Caver 9(2):0,10-11, April 1989, was cited on page 32.
- Richard A. Bridges' 1986 article, "The Breakthrough in Lechuguilla Cave", from the summer issue of Rocky

Cartoon by Carlene Allred



Mountain Caving 3(3):39-45 was cited on page 35.

- Richard A. Bridges and Patricia Kambesis' 1988 article, "The Legend Lives. More on the January 1988 Lechuguilla Expedition", from the Jan/Feb issue of Southwestern Cavers 26(1): 6-9 was cited on page 35.
- Harvey Bower's article, "Sheep Cave, Bold Peak, Chugach Mountains", from The Alaskan Caver 9(3):16, June 1989, was cited on page 32.
- William R. Halliday's "1988 Report of the Mount St. Helens Cave Conservation Task Force--Part II", from the May 1989 Speleograph 25(5):61 was cited on page 40.
- William R. Halliday's article, "July 1989 Mount St. Helens pseudokarst studies", from the July 1989 Speleograph 25(7):79-81 was cited on page 40.
- William R. Halliday's "Field Trip Report--The Big Island of Hawaii in June 1989. Malama Cave", from the June 1989 Speleograph 25(6): 74-75, was cited on page 33.
- Steve Lewis' memo, "Caves on Coronation Island", from The Alaskan Caver 9(3):12, June 1989, was cited on page 32.
- Michael W. Mauser's article, "Tidewater Sea Cave, Blackstone Bay, Prince William Sound", from The Alaskan Caver 9(3):1,3, June 1989, was cited on page 32.
- Steve Sims' 1985 article, "A New Discovery in the Manitou Grand Cavern", from

the autumn issue of Rocky Mountain Caving 2(4):24-25, was cited on page 33.

- Steve Sims' 1986 article, "The 'Lost Horizons' Section of Groaning Discovered", from the summer issue of Rocky Mountain Caving 3(3):14-16 was cited on page 33.
- Steve Sims' 1988 article, "Pushing the Sumps: The 1987 Spring Cave Expedition", from the winter issue of Rocky Mountain Caving 5(1): 27-28, was cited on page 33.
- Steve Sims' 1988 article, "Twenty Pound Tick Cave: The Exploration Continues", from the winter issue of Rocky Mountain Caving 5(1): 29-30, was cited on page 33.
- Steve Sims' 1988 article, "Into the Bore Hole: New Explorations in Colorado's Twenty Pound Tick Cave", from the spring issue of Rocky Mountain Caving 5(2): 22-23 was cited on page 33.
- Marion Smith's 1982 article, "Peter Hauer Bibliography", in a 1988 Journal of Spelean History 16(2/3):25-26, was cited on page 30.

Exchange News

- From Ronna Chezmen's "A View of the Convention", in the August 1990 issue of The Explorer (p. 123): "There are so many pits that need to be explored on Prince of William [sic] Island in Alaska! Maybe there's one even deeper than El Capitan Pit." [Could be. (J.R.)]

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• G r o t t o M e e t i n g •
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at 7:30pm Wednesday, November 14
at the home of Julius Rockwell, Jr
2944 Emory Street, Anchorage, Alaska

refreshments; brief business meeting
slides of caves in Czechoslovakia
video of explorations in Poland

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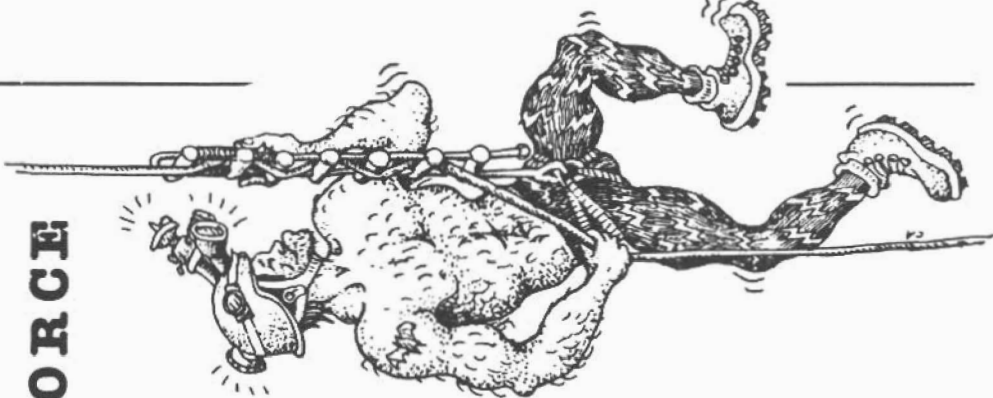
If you're ready for a challenge,
here's one that can prepare you for
anything, anywhere.

You'll test yourself among the
best there is. Discover strengths
you didn't know you had. And work
with the kind of stuff that crackles
with adventure. All in your own
Alaska.

Be an important part of the
Tongass Caves Project.

There may be easier ways to
spend a month, but none of them will
tell you as quickly just what you're
made of.

Discover how good you really are;
Join **POWIE** V July 15 - August 15, 1991.



Glacier Grotto
2944 Emory Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4466

Address Correction Requested

