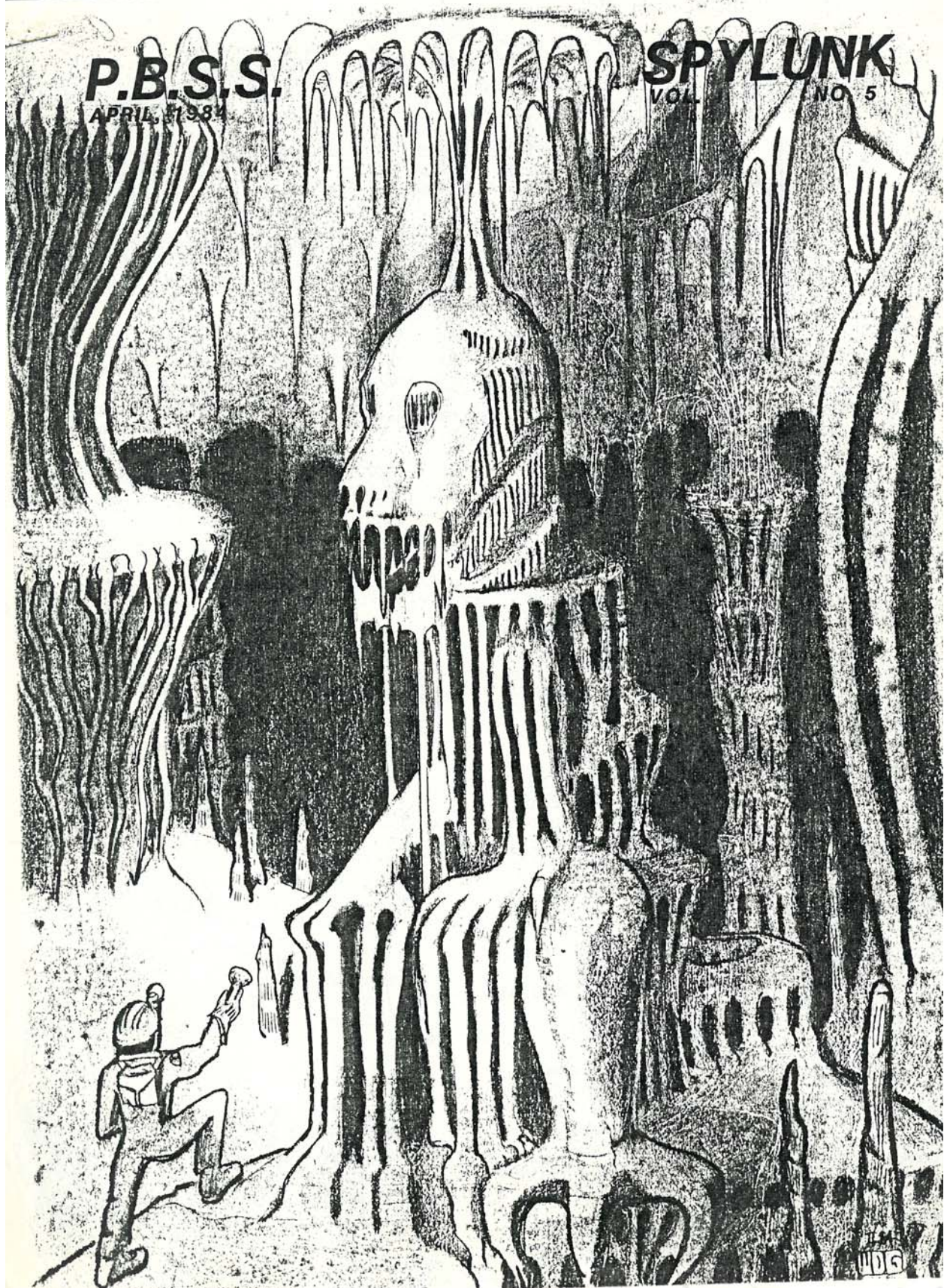


**P.B.S.S.**  
APRIL, 1984

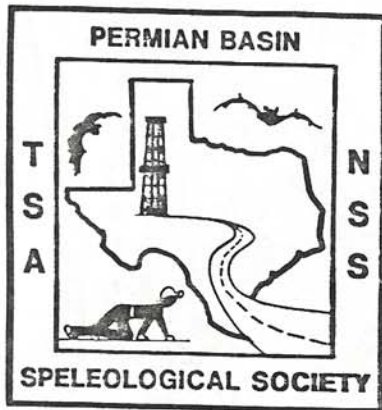
**SPYLUNK**  
VOL. NO. 5





# The P.B.S.S. Monthly Spylunk

April, 1984



BILL BENTLEY - PRESIDENT  
STAR ROUTE A, BOX 31-D  
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79707

**MEETING:** The next meeting of the P.B.S.S. will be held at the palatial estate of the society's Exalted Grand Poobah, Bill Bentley, Thursday, April 19, 1984, 7:30 p.m.. Bill's map is reproduced below, but if that doesn't help, call 563-4178 for further directions. This is a bring-your-own refreshments affair.

## IMPORTANT STUFF:

**Recognition:** After months (and months and months...) of waiting the NSS has finally acknowledged our existence in the March NSS News! It was also revealed that we have the honor of being the 300th grotto chartered by the N.S.S.

**Bat Cave Blowout:** The Bat Cave Blowout is still on for the weekend of June 1st, so mark your calendars now. Maps and directions will be provided in next months SPYLUNK.

## IMPORTANT EVENTS:

- June 25-29: N.S.S. Convention, Sheridan, Wyoming.  
June 16-17: Southwestern Region meeting, Fort Stanton Cave. Contact Dave Belski (505-885-6168) for info.  
May 18-20: TSA Convention, near Kingsland, Tx. Contact Bill Bentley for further information (563-4178)

## CAVE TRIPS:

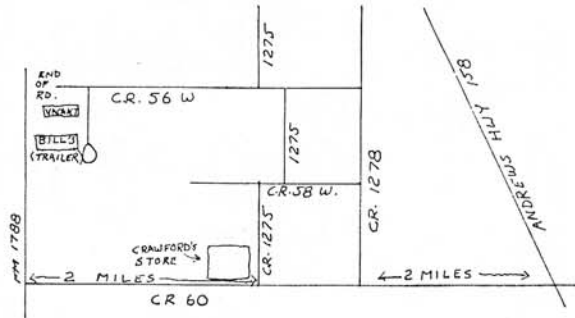
April 14, 15, 1984: Helens Cave, Lake Cave, Wen Cave, Carlsbad Caverns Nat'l Park. Permits have been applied for, sign-up is full. Note that the trip was moved up one week to avoid the Easter holidays. The May trip will be on the 3rd weekend, as is usual.

## RECENT ACTIVITY:

Feb. 25: Bill Bentley, Bill Greenlee and Pat Murphy took a tour of Montgomery Cave and Troll Cave, and all had a good time (at least no one complained to me about the trip).

March 4: Bill Bentley and speleonovice Rosemary Grzasko took a trip to McKenzie Cave. Since both of them showed up at the March meeting, we can assume they didn't get too seriously lost in the cave. Rosemary got an Honorary Spylunk certificate for her efforts!

March 10: Bill Greenlee took speleovnic Gil Beuhler, Tom Hefner and



Rick Webster into Endless Cave, McKittrick Cave and Sand Cave. The group had a good time, and Gil, Tom and Rick are now certified Honorary Spylunks.

March 17: Tony Grieco, Terry Hill and Vance Woolley invaded Montgomery Cave, mainly to give Vance some vertical instructions. All survived, and hopefully we'll see Vance on future vertical trips.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS:

1 March, '84

Tony -- Thanx (?) for copy of latest PBSS Spylunk for review in my NSS News column.

As a member of the erstwhile NSS "hierarchy" who has in fact read Bill Bentley's complaint about our apparent sluggishness, I suppose I should comment. Frankly, grotto charters and membership listings aren't my particular bag (and I'm not in favor of recruiting new members, be they cavers or otherwise). But don't take that wrong. I really don't know what's the normal timeframe for approving a new grotto or making "who's who". This said, I'm passing on the gripe to a few more knowledgeable speleo-bureaucrats. You'll certainly hear soon from Evelyn Bradshaw, as a minimum. Please let me know if response not satisfactory.

Mike Dyas (Various NSS titles)  
6009 Backlick Rd.  
Springfield, VA 22150

27 February, '84

Dear Bill (Bentley)

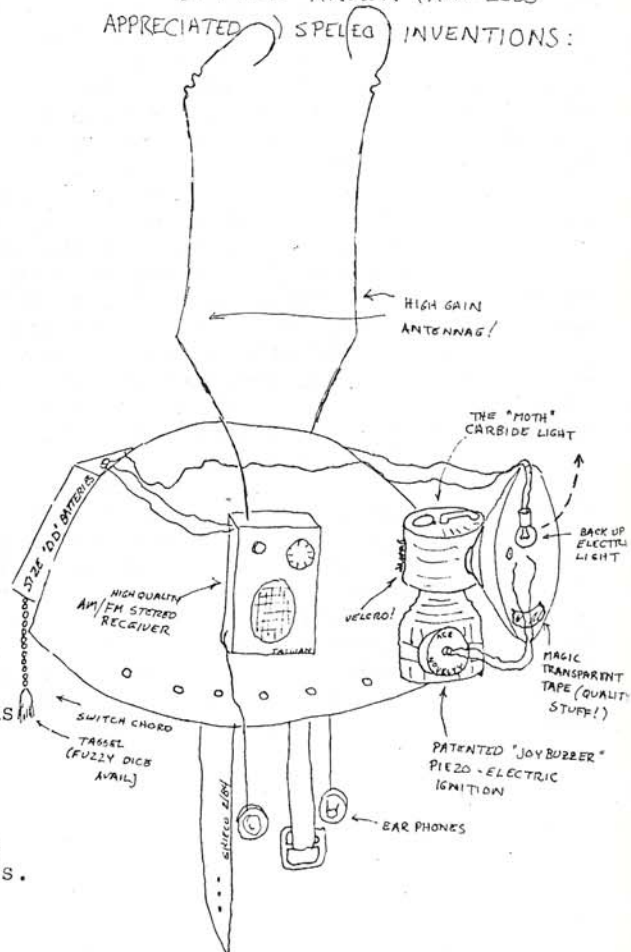
According to my file of NSS office "monthly mailings" your NSS membership expired in April 1983 and was not reinstated until January, 1984. Since the published membership list was prepared in October, it is not surprising that you are not in it.

Since we require all grotto officers to be NSS members, the lapse in your membership may also have contributed to the length of time it took to get your grotto's charter.

While I admit it may not be very much related to the "real meaning of cavers" the NSS does expect its members to have paid their dues. Most organizations in this world have similar bureaucrat bull.

Since you do so much caving in the Guads, it would certainly be reasonable for you to participate in SWR activities. I don't know of any reason you can't regard yourselves as affiliated with both SWR and TSA. Certainly the NSS has no rule against it.

LITTLE KNOWN (AND LESS APPRECIATED) SPELEO INVENTIONS:



#2: THE PRETZL COMBINATION CARBIDE - ELECTRIC - AM-FM STEREO COMPLETE CAVING HEAD GEAR!



Actually, the TSA is a membership organization anyway, governed by dues paying members who vote at TSA functions. So grotto affiliations are not a very meaningful concept in the TSA. I don't know how the SWR works.

Good Caving,  
Bill Mixon, NSS5728  
7413 Grover Ave.  
Austin, Texas 78757

6 March '84

Dear P.B.S.S. Editor:

As I have been a member of the T.S.A. (Texas Speleological Association) and it's activities for many years, I felt compelled to write expressing my views on the P.B.S.S. retaining it's T.S.A. affiliation status. I feel it is vitally important to keep the P.B.S.S. a functional branch organization of the T.S.A. and separate from the "Southwestern Region of the N.S.S." I am familiar with the P.B.S.S. caving areas and the likely problems the organization may find. In the past, communications between state grotto representatives and those of the West Texas area have been poor and infrequent at best. There are (have been) numerous reasons and contributing factors for this; however most of it has been due to the separation by distance alone. Things are changing fortunately, but its still slow as the Texas caving scene trends toward the West. Efforts are being made to fill in the gap of communications to further unite central and West Texas cavers and their organizations. I for one complained about this problem for years. The annual Texas "Old Timers Reunion" has done alot to help, but it has still been a long distance for West Texas cavers to attend. It has not been an easy, or by any means a successful task getting the bulk of caving people to meet or hold meetings in the West Texas area. What is important however is to let you know that these problems have been realized, and greater efforts in communications are underway. On May 18, 19, 20/84 the annual T.S.A. convention will be held on the Llano river near Kingsland, Texas. This is further westward than it has been in a long time. I urge the attendance of as many P.B.S.S. cavers as possible. This meeting would be very important for the grotto as there will be alot to offer. If some representatives can attend, I will make arrangements to set up and hold a meeting designed to discuss (with T.S.A. reps.) T.S.A. benefits and any problems etc. the P.B.S.S. may have. I have contacted T.S.A. V-P George Love to extend you a personal invitation and information on the convention as well as some info. on organization structure (which might be of possible use).

From this point in time, organized caving groups in West Texas will undoubtedly be making the greater contributions to Texas speleology, as there is such a vast amount of potential to work with. I can speak in behalf of T.S.A. in saying that we dearly want to see the work that the West Texas Cavers do (mapping etc.) go toward benifitting the T.S.S. (Texas Speleological Survey) of which we hope to better acquaint the P.B.S.S. with the people, projects, etc. The T.S.S. is there for all state T.S.A. grottos to use. On that note, I will close by saying "Stay T.S.A."!!! We really need your attendance at convention 84. Sure hope to see you there. RSVP please.

Very sincerely yours,  
and Good Caving,  
Mike L. Warton T.S.A. #44  
P. O. Box 607  
LaGrange, Texas 78945

I would like to thank all of you who took the time to write the SPYLUNK and express your views. Comments, criticisms and suggestions (if they are in at least marginal good taste) are always welcome, though I do ask that contributions be reasonably brief.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Kudos once again to Lety Hernandez for typing the SPYLUNK. We're really going to have to get this woman into a cave, or maybe make her an Honorary SPYLUNK.

Thanks to Bill Greenlee for the drawing that graces the cover of the SPYLUNK. Bill's high-quality drawings add greatly to this newsletter.

The newsletter wants to hear from you! Send a cartoon, a cover-quality drawing, a trip report, a letter-anything cave related is fine with me! Mail your contributions to: Tony Grieco, 4723 W. Illinois, Midland, Texas 79703. And remember, the more of your stuff I get, the less of my stuff (ie cartoons) you have to endure!

