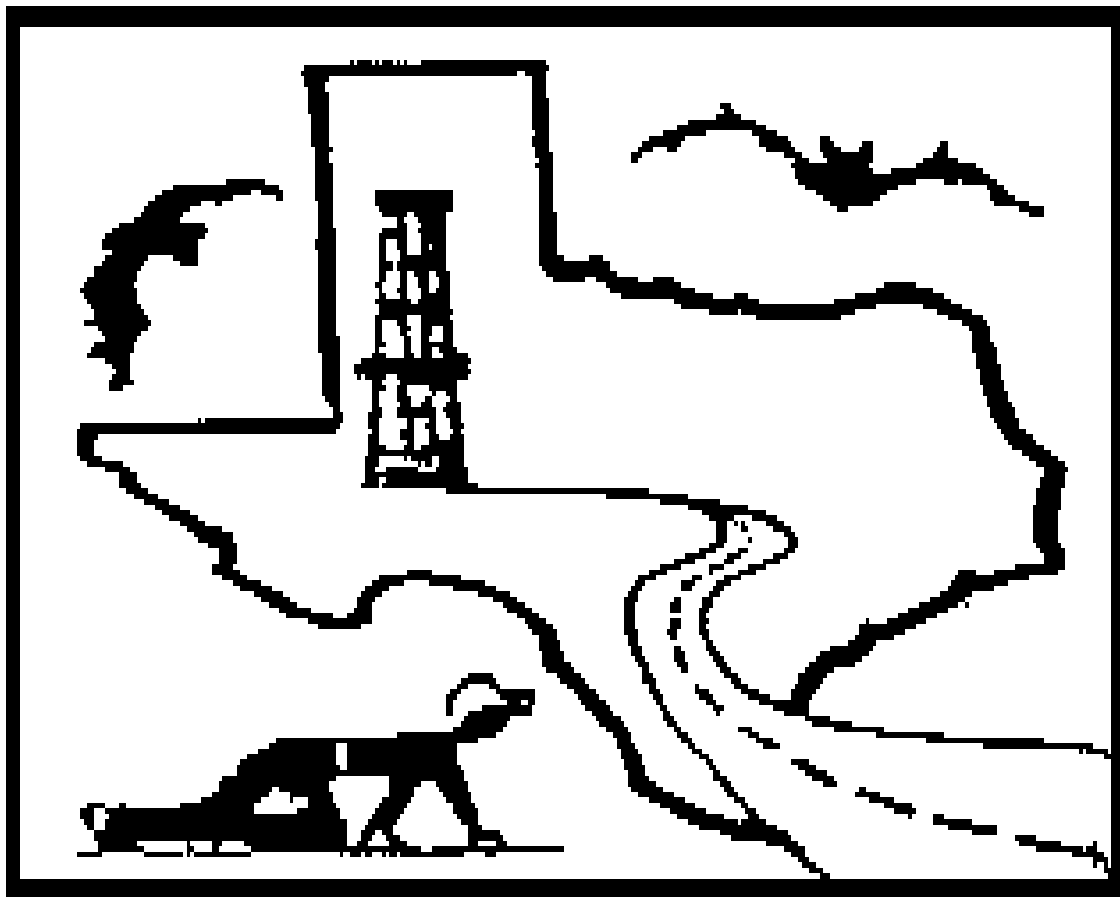


THE HOLE NEWS

APRIL 1995

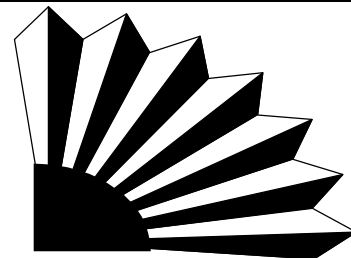
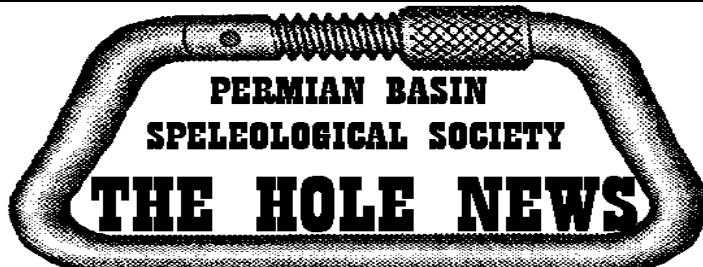
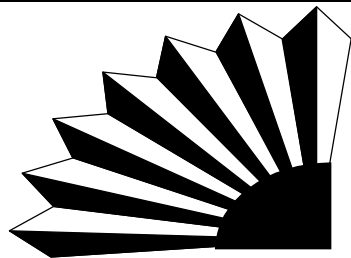
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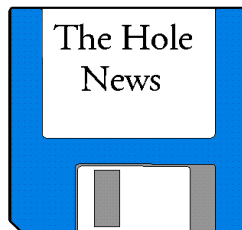


April 1995

Volume 11 Number 4

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"The Hole News" is edited on 80486 40 MHz IBM personal computer utilizing Microsoft Publisher Version 2.0 desktop publishing program. The editors will accept 5 1/4 and 3 1/2 floppy disks with *.txt, .pub, .rtf, .doc, .wps, and .wri formats for trip reports and *.

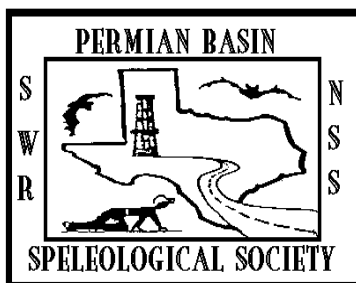


bmp, .pcx, and cdr formats for graphics. However type or handwritten submissions are also welcome. All are greatly appreciated.

"The Hole News" is the monthly publication of the Permian Basin Speleological Society. Articles and cartoons maybe reproduced by cave oriented publications that exchange newsletters with PBSS, as long as proper credit is given to the author. Items for this newsletter can be sent to the Chief Editor, "The Hole News", c/o Bill Bentley, 400 Eastwood Drive, Midland, Texas 79703-5308. Regular membership dues are only \$10.00 and includes one voting right, associate membership is \$ 5.00 and does not include a newsletter. Dues should be sent to PBSS Treasurer /Secretary c/o Walter Feaster, 4307 Harvard, Midland, Texas 79703. If you're interested in caving or even if you think you might like to try it, the contact Noel Pando at (915)-523-9294. Or if you are not from this area and some how through circumstances beyond you're control or ours found a copy of "The Hole News" then you should contact the National Speleological Society at 2813 Cave Avenue, Huntsville Alabama, 35810-4431.

From the Editor:

This months cover art is the logo of the Permian Basin Speleological Society and was designed in 1983 by yours truly and was retouched by a commercial artist friend of Tony Grieco. It has been used in almost all of the PBSS publications and was the foundation for the PBSS t-shirts that were made by Noble Stidham, which were sold in 1990 of which Walter stills has some. And I still have a limited number of patches too!



Next Meeting: PBSS

The next official meeting of the Permian Basin Speleological Society will be on April 11, 1995 at 7:00 PM in the meeting room at Murry's Delicatessen which is located at 3211 West Wadley in Midland, Texas. If you need directions or more information then call Walter Feaster @ 915-699-7049. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM or there about and eating and caver style socializing usually begins at 6:30 PM and is optional. Also remember to try to bring a friend and lets get some new members. Topic of discussion will be the upcoming PBSS and CCCP trips. So don't be a weasel or a Steve Franks and miss this informative meeting!



Food for Thought...or surfing the internet! by Chuck Anderle

Insurance for events dmayer2717@aol.com
Does anyone know if liability insurance is required and/or available to cover a grotto and its members in the event of a caving accident during an event hosted by the grotto? Are grotto members responsible for persons taken on led trips? Is there some way to limit the grotto or grotto member's liability? If anyone has any experience in these areas, please respond. If the Evansville Metropolitan Grotto is chosen to host the 1995 Fall MVOR, we would like to limit our liability in every way possible and still offer everyone a great weekend of Indiana caving. All comments and suggestions appreciated. Thanks. Doug Mayes NSS 35362 EMG President



Future Cave Trips: Also other events from PBSS and other grottos.

- April 8th-9th, 1995 Southwestern Regional Parks Ranch, NM contact: Carol Belski @ 505-885-6168.
- April 11th, 1995 PBSS Meeting Murry’s Midland, contact: Walter Feaster @ 915-699-7049 for info.
- April 15th-16th, 1995 Easter on 3 Mile Hill hosted by Maverick, NTSS, and Greater Houston Grotto. Contact any member!
- April 22nd-23rd, 1995 PBSS CCCP Trip contact: Chuck Anderle @ 915-685-3119.
- May 20th-21st, 1995 PBSS CCCP trip contact: Chuck Anderle @ 915-685-3119.
- May 27th-29th, 1995 CACA CRF Expedition contact: Bryan Holcomb @ 505-842-5156.
- July 17th-21st, 1995 NSS Convention, Blacksburg, Virginia, contact: Carol Tideman @ 410-727-2497.
- September 2nd-4th, 1995 CRF Labor Day Expedition. Contact: Brian Holcomb @ 505-266-8485

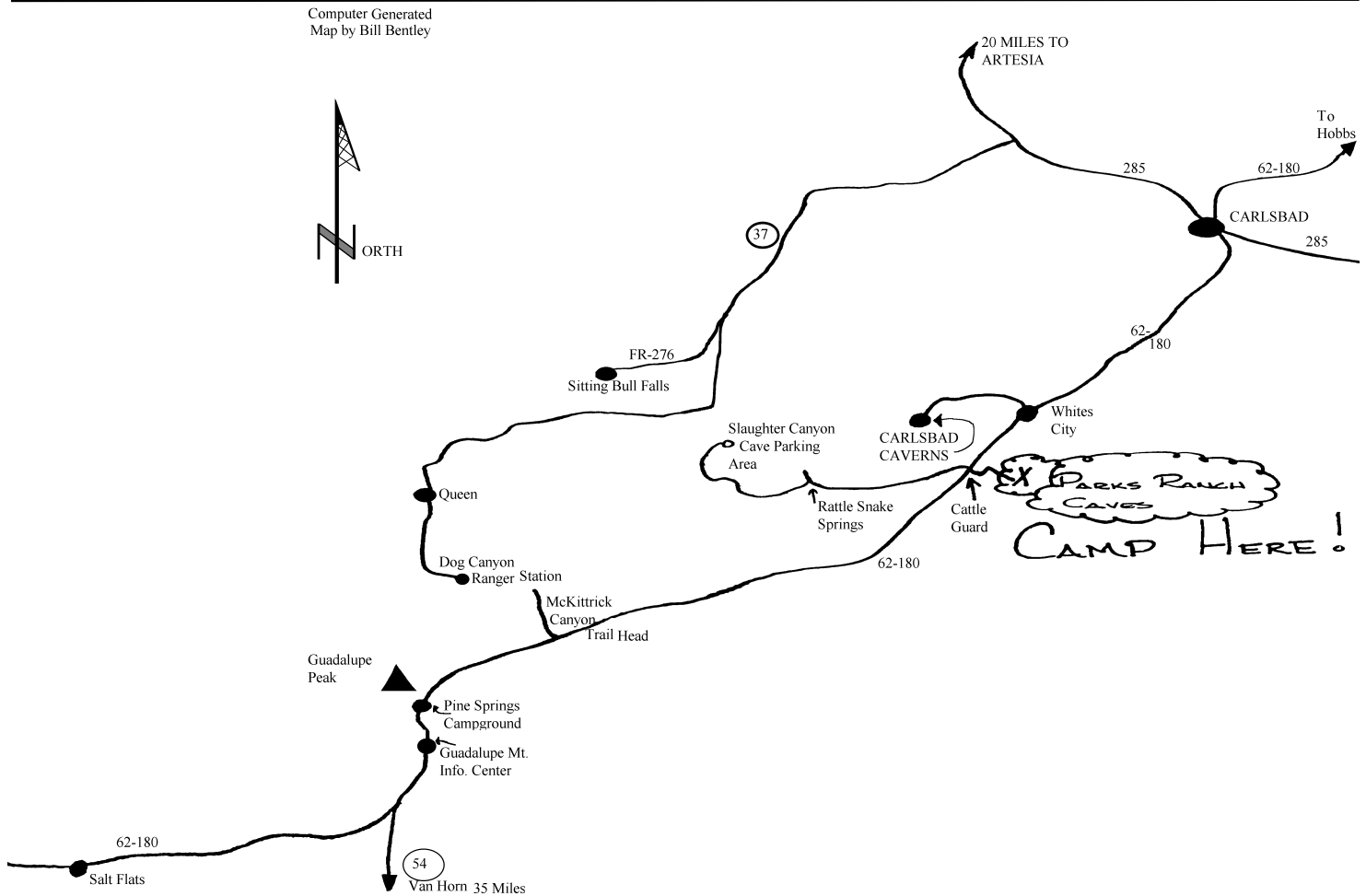
IF YOU HAVE ANY CAVING TRIPS PLANNED, PLEASE LET THE EDITOR KNOW AND HE WILL PUBLISH THEM HERE IN THIS SPACE!.....

Most all of this material was stolen from various and sometimes reliable caving newsletters in the Southwestern Region and surrounding area, including the Escabrosa Grotto Newsletter “The Desert Caver “

***** Denotes a PBSS club Trip...

- Madonna Survey Trips, contact: Mike Huber @ 505-887-6065
- Carlsbat Cavers, contact Phyllis Weston @ 505-887-6790 for restoration educational programs, off trail trips.
- Honey Creek, contact: Mark Minton @ 512-847-3829

SWR Parks Ranch Caves New Mexico April 8-9th, 1995



Carlsbad's History according to the back of the menu from Lucy's Mexicali Restaraunt

Geologists say that 200 million years ago the area that is now Carlsbad was a portion of the Permian Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. The oil, potash and the Carlsbad Caverns , along with the mountains cleft to the West were then being formed. Age-worn documents suggest that Cabeza De Vaca followed the Pecos River in 1536. Coronado's route was Northeast of the area in 1541, and Espejo traveled North and South along the Pecos in 1583. The trail of the Wells-Fargo-Butterfield Stagecoach lines was to the West of Carlsbad, and the Goodnight-Loving Trail and the Chisum Trail of 1866-1868 traversed the Carlsbad of today.

In 1881, the Eddy-Bissell Cattle Company had a vast cattle ranch embracing the area now occupied by the City of Carlsbad. Charles V. Eddy, a native of New York State, was the manager of the cattle company, which had its headquarters in what is now La Huerta, a suburb to the North of the city. Irrigation was the moving force which caused this area to be settled, with the organization of the Pecos

Valley Land and Ditch Company of which Patrick E. Garrett, famed sheriff of the Billy the Kid story, was the president.

The town of Eddy named after Charles Eddy, was christened in champagne on the South bank of the Pecos River, at what is now the Northern End of Guadalupe Street, on September 15, 1888. In March of 1889, the townsite of Eddy was laid out.

The town was organized as a municipal corporation in 1893, and the name was changed to Town of Carlsbad on May 23, 1889. Mineral springs on the Pecos River with valuable medicinal qualities had been discovered, and the new name was chosen because of the famous European spa Karlsbad. Carlsbad was proclaimed a city on March 25, 1918. Arthur Unknown.



PBSS Treasurer reports that we have \$401.00 in the treasury!

PBSS TEN YEARS



April 1985 found the PBSSer's meeting at Bill Greenlee's home in Andrews, Texas. They had just returned from a trip to Montgomery, Spider, and Amazing Maze Caves and were planning a trip to the Pink ridge caves. The intrepid band of Spylunks were busy in the early stages, planning for the combined Bat Cave Blowout and Summer Southwestern Regional. Many "skippers" were being collected. The cover art for the PBSS "Spylunk" was drawn by Bill Greenlee of Tony "Mr. Carbide" Grieco depicted in the awe and wonder of Spider Cave in New Mexico. Editor note: "Yep we used carbide back in those days!"

Mining History Conference '95

alt.caving NAMHO 95 scmc@lake22.demon.co.uk The National Association of Mining History Organisations Conference '95 will be held on July 14-17th 1995 at the Lilleshall National Sports Centre, Newport, Shropshire, England. Hosted by the Shropshire Caving and Mining Club, the conference as in previous years will have a variety of activities to suit all tastes. For those who have attended a NAMHO Conference before, this one will need little introduction. For those who haven't, you can choose between:- Talks, Seminars, Trade Stands, Club Displays, Surface Field Trips, Caving Field Trips, Social Event on Sat. evening. The weekend will start on Fri. afternoon for those who come early, with the chance to attend a field trip. You can relax in the bar in the evening. The main events will be on Sat. and Sun., with an additional field trip on Mon. for those who want to stay an extra day. The centre has full catering facilities plus single and twin rooms on site. Camping is also allowed on site. Further details and a booking form will be available in Feb. If you want to be sure of getting them in time, send an A4 self-addressed envelope NOW to Adrian Pearce Hon. Sec. SCMC 72 Hopkins Heath Shawbirch Telford Shropshire TF5 OLZ ENGLAND Shropshire Caving & Mining Club "leave no hole unexplored" Members of: Midland Cave Rescue Organisation, BCRA, & NAMHO

SWR Meeting April 8-9, 1995

Parks Ranch Cave Area SW of Carlsbad
Take HWY 62-180 to mile marker 10 go through the cattle guard and follow the well traveled road to fenced sinks!

Tour Washington Ranch, do the Gyp Caves, hiking and fun!

The Spring 1995 Southwestern Regional will be held at Parks Ranch Cave. The meeting will be Saturday morning, April 8, at the campsite right next to several of the cave entrances. That afternoon you will have the choice:

1. A historical tour of the Washington Ranch (beginning at 1 PM) for the nominal donation of \$1.00 per person.
2. gypsum caving in Parks Ranch Cave System and the area (some Survey projects will be available - bring your Suntos and tapes.)
3. Hiking in Carlsbad Cavern National Park (if you wish to cave, you Must get your own permits from Dale or Jason at 785-2232.)

Sunday is open for hiking caving or just relaxing (See map on Page 2).....

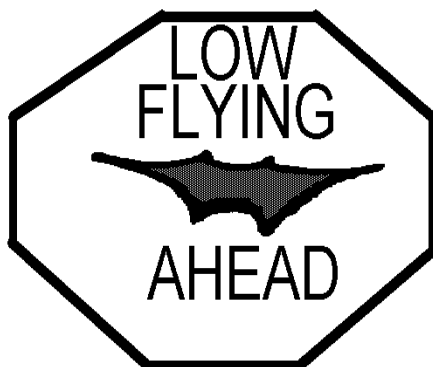
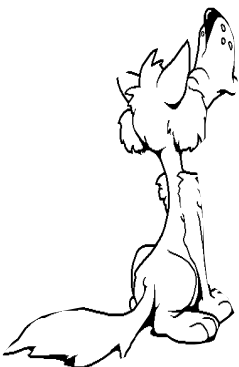
PBSS Officers 1995

President: Noel Pando

Vice-president: Gralin Coffin

Secretary/Treasurer: Walter Feaster

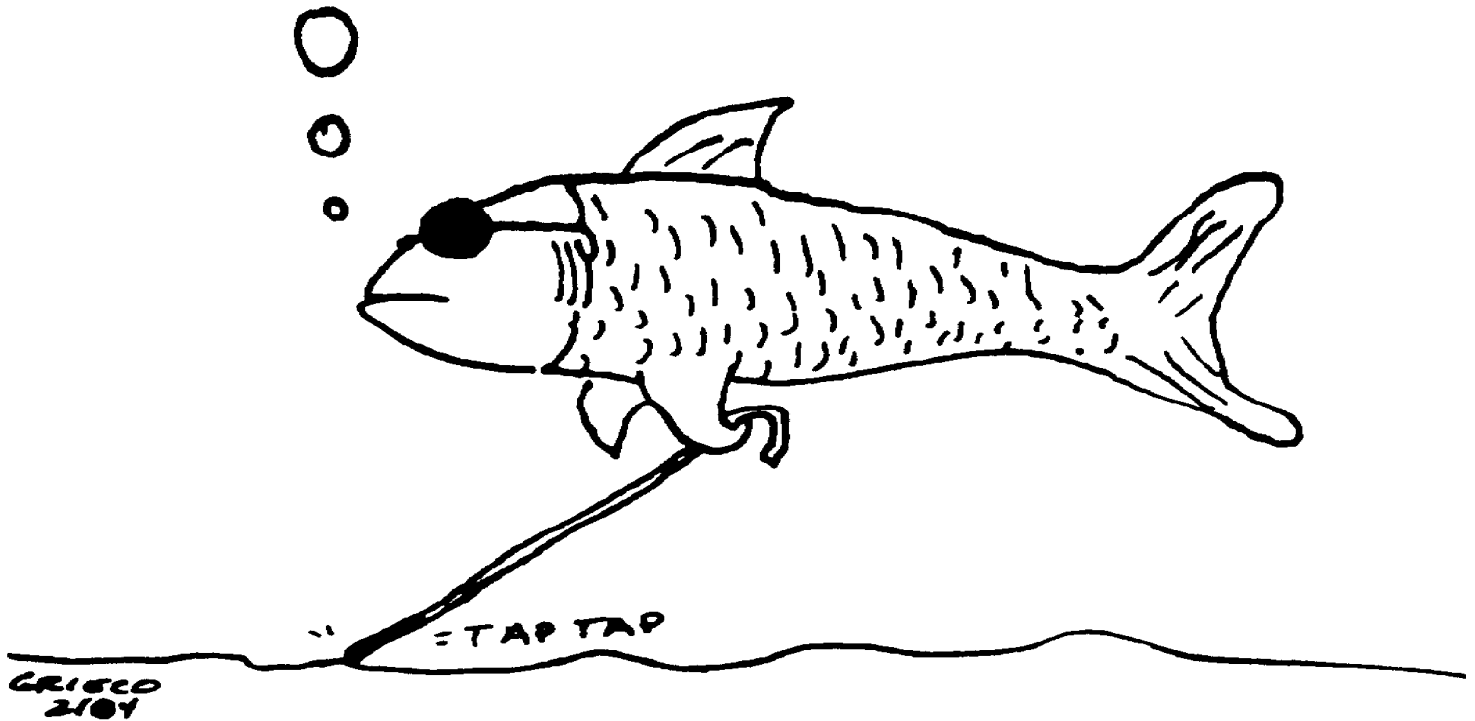
Newsletter: Bill Bentley



More Internet stuff ... alt.caving Cave Digging Web Pages ... mark@netheaven.com This was publicly posted to the Caver's Forum some time ago, so I'll re-produce it here. Maybe this will help those who like to extend caves! **HAMMERING** By Lou Simpson (Originally published in the February, 1981 Cave Cricket Gazette) Sometimes it becomes necessary to intentionally vandalize a cave in order to pursue its possibilities. A purist might prefer to follow the path of least resistance, permitting the cave to remain unexplored where alteration would be necessary. Most of us, however, find the more obscure leads challenging. If one were to allow unlimited technology in the pursuit of unexplored passage, what is to stop wholesale dynamiting where the actual creation of new passage is the objective? I submit that the rationale for using such devices as hammers, chisels, and chemical hammers lies in the caver's exploration objective of connecting parts of a cave or extending the cave in useful or interesting directions. It would serve little purpose to break down cave walls between parallel passages, for example. But such projects as the Firestone-Humongous connection or the Humongous- Hyden connection, both artificial routes in Cave Creek which were created courtesy of caving hardware, have proven enlightening and useful. Such projects have led to the integration of cave systems and the discovery of much that would not have been seen any other way. My purpose here is to discuss a particular form of cavern extension. Hammering and its occasional partner chiseling are an intermediate means between digging and blasting. Most people consider digging not to be passage modification, since the fill is a foreign material in the cave. Hammering is an art, as those who have taken a turn at it with little experience have learned. Most people don't realize certain things at first and are ineffective. It is important to hit the rock as hard as possible. Shouting like a karate expert sometimes helps. A rock may eventually crack under less robust tapping, but the real effectiveness comes from sharp blows. Another point is that it is important to know where to strike a rock. The best example of this was a surface dig that Ralph Ewers and I did on the farm of an elderly couple named Price. After futilely pounding on a large rock that was in our way, we asked the owner if he could provide a better tool than our small hand sledge. He brought out a long-handled sledge. Its handle, however, looked like a cornstalk. We hesitated to use it for fear of breaking the handle. When we had given up, the feeble 70-year-old Mr. Price raised the sledge with the cornstalk in his trembling hands and delivered a telling blow at just the right place. The rock split neatly in two. There is sometimes no good way to tell whether hammering on a rock will do much good. In some cases, when it seems hopeless, a breakthrough occurs. I can think of several examples. I was hammering on a ceiling rock ahead of me in a crawlway near the end of Macho Crawl in Wolf River. A very thin person had explored beyond this point on a prior trip, but there was no way most people of average size could get through the seven-inch rock-to-rock space. I tapped the edge of the ceiling block and it fell! I was able to pull it out and go on.

See Rock Split continued next month in "The Hole News"

Cave Humor by Tony Grieco



More on seeing in the dark from the internet.....

alt.caving Re: Seeing hands in total blackness holtk@ucs.orst.edu

The question of "seeing" your hand in total darkness is not as silly as it sounds. Most of the authors that have responded have mentioned the mind's ability to construct an image of the hand from body awareness. From long experience of leading informal expeditions into the caves in and around St. Louis, I have two experiments to suggest for your next trip. First, hold your hand in front of your face until you can swear that you see your hand (about 6 inches), then wave it rapidly. You will still "see" your hand but your mind is telling you that the image should be moving. The second experiment requires a group of disparate ages. Start with the youngest doing the same experiment as above. The young are less body-aware and many will not be able to visualize their hands. I'll leave you with one last thought; some people do see in the dark. While testing vision of inductees during WWII, it was discovered that approximately 1 in 50,000 male can see into the infrared. It is my understanding that these men were singled out for sniper training for use in the european theater. Kris. StephenTNG (stephentng@aol.com) wrote: Hi, I am an amatuer caver in Virginia, and recently a friend of mine told me that he read somewhere that some cavers, even in total blackness, could actually see an image of their hands if they stared at them long enough. He said it had something to do with the infrared heat emmitted.

Has anyone heard of such a phenomena or was my friend pulling my leg? STEPHEN COX . If you look at the black body radiation curve for an object at body temperature, you will notice that it has a finite, but really, really, really small emission of light in the visible spectrum. This is due to the fact that the temperature of an object is an average of the molecular kinetic energy, and statistically, a few atoms and molecules will be moving fast enough to emit light. Does all this physics mean that you cansee this light? Not a chance in hell. The image you see is probably due to information supplied by nerves that sense the tension on various musclesand tendons in your body and send your brain an image of your body even if you have your eyes closed. Blind people also have a demonstrated ability to "see" large objects and terrain features 6+ feet in front of them in a silent room. This has been attributed to a sort of echolocation sense using the sound of a heart beat. matthentry@aol.com .

MEMBERS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NAME:	ADDRESS:	PHONE:	NSS #:
Abernathy, Tony	4415 Parkdale, Midland, Tx. 79703	694-7919	38776
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Anderle, Jan	5707 County Road 57 East, Midland, Tx. 79705	685-3119	31478
Benson Mr & Mrs.	P.O. Drawer 553, Midland, Texas 79702-0553	684-5886	Applied For
Bentley, Bill	400 Eastwood Dr., Midland, Tx. 79703-5308	697-3079-357	21977
Bentley, Donnie	400 Eastwood Dr., Midland, Tx. 79703-5308	697-3079-357	37549
Carlton, Don	1301 Davenport, Midland, Tx 79705	687-4352	30417
Carouth, Dutch	6300 East County Rd. 55, Midland, Texas 79705	none	Applied For
Coffin, Gralin	910 W. Kansas, Midland, Tx. 79701	682-1904	33471
Coffin, Kari	910 W. Kansas, Midland, Tx. 79701	682-1904	33472
Copeland, Pat	103 Lori Lane, Brownwood, Tx. 76801	643-2952	22361
Day, Kevin	2100 Grayson Drive, Grapevine, Tx. 76051	817-421-2925	Applied For
Feaster, Walter	4307 Harvard, Midland, Tx. 79703	699-7049	31624
Fincher, J.D.	P. O. Box 472, Crane, Tx. 79731	558-7248	31859
Fincher, Richard	P. O. Box 472, Crane, Tx. 79731	558-7248	Applied For
Franks, Steve	422 W. Pecan Apt D, Midland, Tx. 79705	683-3305	35245
Glasson, Larry	1101 N. W. 7th Street, Andrews, Texas 79714	523-9772	Applied For
Gray, Larry	31 East 33rd Street, San Angelo, Tx. 76903	653-3823	19588
Gray, Steve*	106 Canyon, Big Spring 79720	none	Applied For
Grieco, Tony	1221 East Llano, Hobbs, NM. 88240	505-393-5604	Expired
Hill, Tom	P.O. Box 60633, Midland, Tx. 79711	none	27888
Hogan, Felder	P.O. Box 341, Andrews, Tx. 79714	524-6327	Applied For
Kamon, Ken	4400 Andrews Hwy # 801, Midland, Tx. 79703	699-7192	34637
Kirby, Chris	P.O. Box 1177, Van Horn, Texas 79855	915-828-3211	Applied For
Lowery, Kerry*	P.O. Box 39, Cahoma, Texas 79511	none	Applied For
Mahan, Sheree	5230 Woodhaven, Wichita Falls, Tx. 76302	817-723-8910	Applied For
McArthur, Martha	5209 Stillwood, Wichita Falls, Tx. 76302	817-723-9890	35327
Pando, Noel D.	1204 Alpine, Andrews, Tx. 79714	523-9294	39037
Pando, Noel M.	1204 Alpine, Andrews, Tx. 79714	523-9294	Applied For
Parent, Larence	P.O. Box 849, Manchaca, Tx. 78652	512-280-2843	Applied For
Slut, Guad	1221 East Llano, Hobbs, NM. 88240	505-393-5604	Denied
Terrett, Tiffeny	5707 County Road 57 East, Midland, Tx. 79705	685-3119	32792

* denotes new members

Please send all exchanges, corrections and updates for this list to Bill Bentley 400 Eastwood Drive , Midland, Tx., 79703-5308 , 915-697-3079, E- Mail is PBSS1Bill@AOL. COM. I will try to update and reprint with every issue depending on space available. Use of this list is for members and cave related functions only and should not be used for commercial purposes.

Texas and Mexico Cave Rescue

Call Collect 210-686-0234

This is Kriedler Funeral Home's 24 Hour number
Ask for "Cave Rescue" and "John Kriedler"

In New Mexico Dial

911

PBSS Club News!

We are looking for donations up to a total of \$180 for blasting material purchases. Chuck wants someone to take over with coordination of the popular restoration project at CACA. Last meeting we had a surprise guest Bob Montgomery from the NSS! And last but not least PBSS would like to welcome new members Kerry Lowery and Steve Gray....