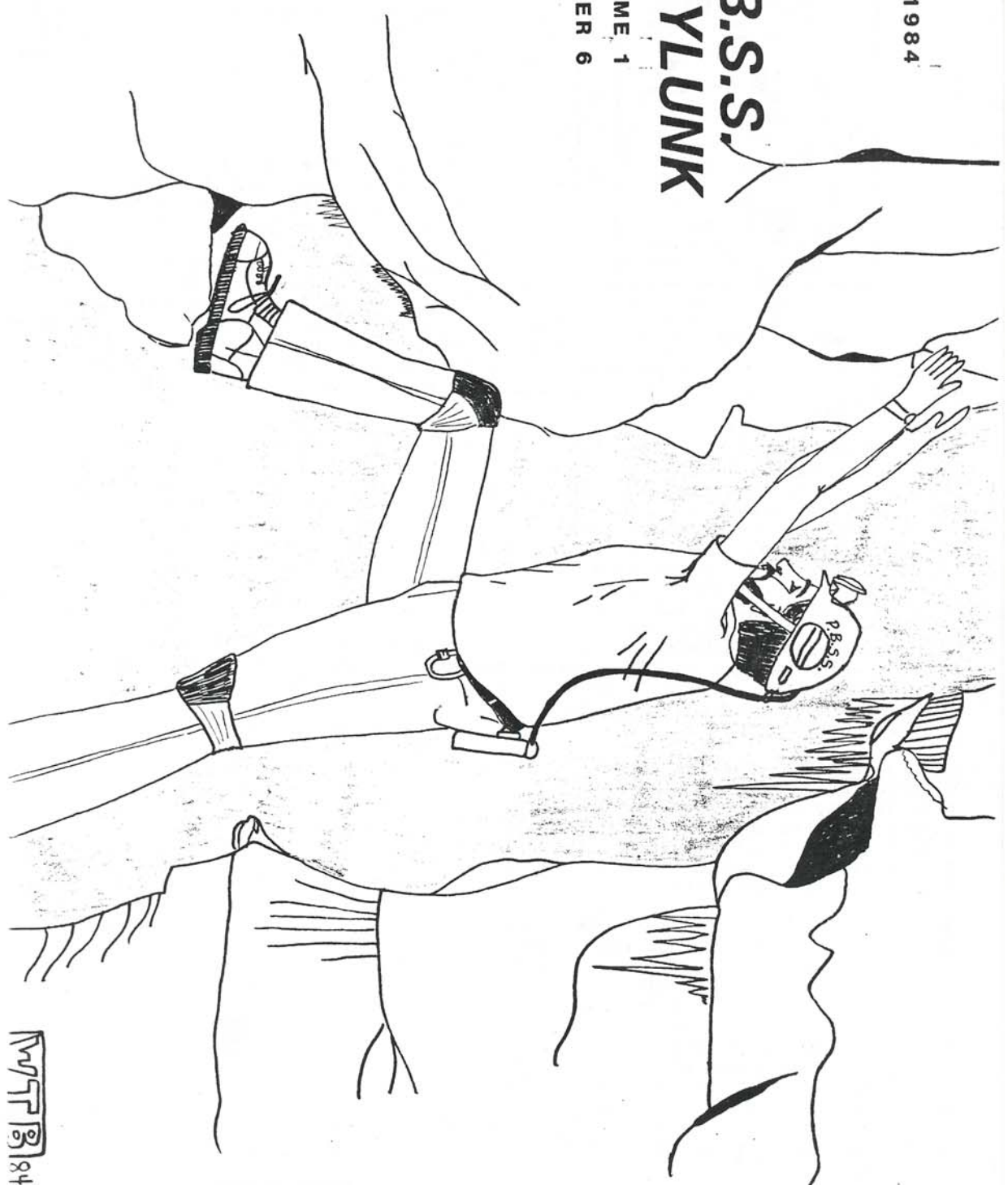


MAY 1984

P.B.S.S. SPYLUNK

VOLUME 1
NUMBER 6

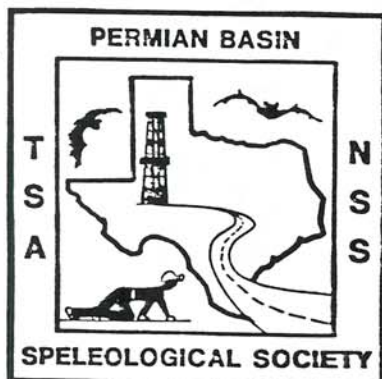
Bill Benley



1984

The P.B.S.S. Monthly Spylunk

May 1984



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

MEETING: The May meeting of the P.B.S.S. will be held May 17, 1984, 7:30 PM at the home of "Wild Bill" Greenlee, 919 N.E. Ave. "F", Andrews, Texas. Call Bill at 523-9550 if you need directions.

IMPORTANT STUFF:

Bat Cave Blowout: The 1st annual Bat Cave Blowout is set for the weekend of June 1st! It appears, contrary to earlier reports, that no live band will be available, so if anyone wants to have music, he or she will have to provide their own piano, accordion, tuba or whatever. Not much actual caving is anticipated (unless you count Bat Cave, but I wouldn't), but a trip to Montgomery Cave could be arranged for any of you that get the "itch". A map to

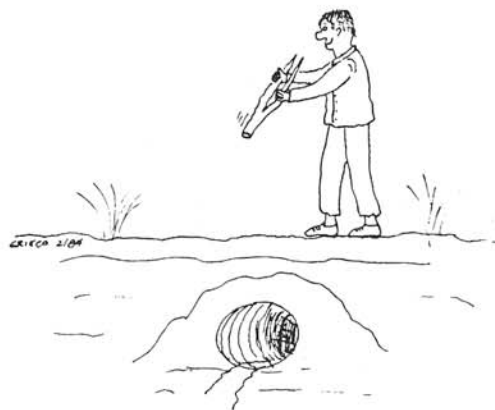
the site of the party is attached. Feel free to bring friends, neighbors, etc., but come prepared to cart out any mess that we (or earlier revelers) will make. See you there!

TSA/SWR "controversy": I have received many letters from people in the TSA that want us to stay, as well as a letter from Dave Belski of SWR indicating that they would not be taken by surprise if we wanted to join. I have also been told by several people that the TSA is essentially a membership organization in which grotto affiliations count for very little, and that a dual TSA/SWR affiliation is not impossible. The idea of a dual affiliation is the most appealing, inasmuch as it would allow each individual spylunk to do pretty much as he or she pleases. I now have a copy of the SWR constitution, which will be available at the May meeting, at which we can decide what final action to take. If we decide to affiliate with SWR, I will have to get the names of people who desire to join and submit our request for membership to the SWR chairman (Dave Belski). Our request would be voted upon at the June 16-17 SWR meeting at Fort Stanton Cave. There is no cost to either the grotto or individual spylunks unless you decide to subscribe to Southwestern Caver

TSA Convention: The TSA convention will be held May 18-20 near Kingsland, TX. Bill Bentley will be heading that way if anyone wants to go. The main issue pertinent to the P.B.S.S. will be the TSA/SWR controversy, but aside from that it ought to be a good party!

Wizzards Well Cave disaster: For reasons which we don't understand, the rancher who owns Wizzards Well Cave and Troll Cave has closed them to all cavers. Although we are fairly sure that a certain individual is responsible for this disaster, we have no direct proof and so no accusations will be made in the SPYLUNK. Bill Bentley and I wrote a final letter of apology to the rancher, hoping that he might decide to restrict access ~~to~~ just the two of us, but have for

LITTLE KNOWN (AND LESS APPRECIATED) SPELEO INVENTIONS:



3: THE SPELEO DIVINING ROD, MADE FROM
A FORKED STALACTITE!

received no reply. In this letter we also promised that we, as a grotto, would not bother him again, so I ask that all P.B.S.S. members abide by this. It appears that the rancher is quite hostile, and it is best to just let things cool off. For those of you who are now ready to lynch either Bill or me, I will say in our defense that as near as we can determine the P.B.S.S. is not directly responsible, which is about all I can say without actually placing the blame where it may or may not belong.



They smell like Hippies, look funny and is got these cans of funny white powder. They claims they's "SPYLUNKS" - SOME MILITANT OUTFIT FO SURE! THEY GOT HELMITS AN ALL...

McKenzie Cave: The name for McKenzie cave has been changed (what, another one?!) to Amazing Maze Cave. There are two reasons for this, the first being that there are already several McKenzie Caves in the area, and the second that at least 2000 additional feet of passage has been discovered. If this keeps up, this may turn out to be the longest (and most complicated) cave in Texas.

IMPORTANT EVENTS:

- May 18-20: TSA Convention - Call Bill Bentley for info (563-4178)
- June 1-3: Bat Cave Blowout - Call Bill Bentley (563-4178) or Tony Grieco (697-0323) for further info.
- June 16-17: SWR regional meeting, Fort Stanton Cave. Call Dave Belski (505-885-6168) for further info.
- June 25-29: NSS Convention, Sheridan, Wyoming
- Aug. 11-12: SWR Goat Roast, 3-Mile Hill. Call Dave Belski for info.

CAVE TRIPS:

May 26-27: Hell Below Cave, Gunsight (Big Door) Cave, Guadalupe National Forest. We have the permits for these caves, plenty of open spaces. We will try to get a "native guide" to show us the locations so we won't have to spend the whole day looking. Call Tony Grieco (697-0323) if you want to go. Note that this trip is the 4th weekend, having been moved back because of the TSA convention. Hopefully the June trip will be on schedule (3rd weekend), but no promises are made!

Sorcerers Cave: We are trying to get up a trip to Sorcerers Cave, but this depends on the benevolence of the San Antonio Grotto, which controls access. Any trips planned will be noted in the SPYLUNK, so everyone has a chance to sign up.

RECENT ACTIVITY:

Mar. 26: Bill Bentley, Dennis Haynes and Glen Haynes took a trip to Amazing Maze Cave and discovered a whole new section in this cave, along with an incredible number of leads. They also "improved" the entrance a bit so that it is easier to handle, though still hidden.

March 31: Bill Bentley, Art Carr, Joe Collins, Lloyd Goldwire and Tony Grieco took the 13 hour "quick tour" of Wizzards Well Cave, and set a cave register. This was a truly enjoyable trip to a beautiful, unspoiled cave, as well as being a true vertical challenge.

April 7-8: Bill Bentley, Dennis Haynes, Glen Haynes and one other caver set out to Amazing Maze Cave to explore what they had discovered in March. They estimate that 2000 feet have been added to this cave, though as yet no real attempt has been made at mapping it.

April 14-15: Terry Bolger, Bruce Erratt, Tammi Erratt, Bill Greenlee and Tony Grieco set out to visit Lake Cave, Wen Cave and Helens Cave. It was a truly enjoyable trip for all, and it was a good introduction to New Mexico caves for Terry, who has previously caved mostly in Kentucky. It was also nice to see Bruce and Tammi on a cave trip again - their move to the more easterly parts of Texas has made it a real sacrifice for them to participate in P.B.S.S. activities.

April 21: Bill Bentley and Pat Hill did the drop at Terlingua Sinkhole, and by all reports had a real nice time and no problems. Afterward they trucked on down to Big Bend - but that's another story entirely.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS:

Below you will find the last letter on the TSA/SWR controversy I am going to print - essentially I think that all the arguments have been made. I have had a letter from Evelyn Bradshaw indicating that the NSS will not consider issuing guidelines for regional affiliation, preferring (rightly) to allow grottos to have flexibility.

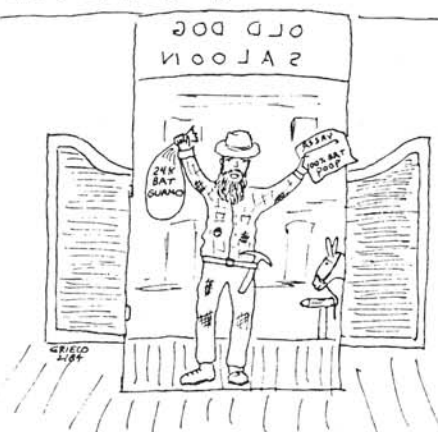
April 5, 1984

Dear Bill (Bentley):

I am writing you to provide some input you requested in the Texas Caver February issue. I feel there are a number of reasons that the Permian Basin Speleological Society should remain in the Texas Speleological Association, but, because it seems to me that the whole Policy on Internal Organizations of the NSS is unclear on the point of region membership, I have requested a clarification through an issue to be presented to the 1984 Congress of Grottos at the national convention in Sheridan, Wyoming. Copies were sent to the COG issues representatives, of which I am one, and to board member Evelyn Bradshaw, chairperson of the Internal Organizations Committee.

As COG issues representative, I was asked to identify issues for the Congress. The consideration of whether to uproot affiliation in TSA is, I feel, one of them. There are arguments against such an action: (a) The Southwestern Region

THE OLD PROSPECTOR:



SET 'EM UP, BARKEEP! I STRUCK IT BIG!
THERE'S SHIT IN THEM THAR HILLS!

is based in Albuquerque, which is, I believe, as far or further from Midland/Odessa as Austin is, (b) the Permian Basin still sits squarely within Texas borders, as does Lubbock and Amarillo, and is not considered a fringe area of the state at all, (c) there is no problem articulated with the Permian Basin group belonging within TSA, unless it has not yet come to light, (d) one could argue that cavers in New Mexico might not represent the interests of Texans as well as TSA could, and (e) TSA, which is in the process of rebuilding itself after a few years of apathy and neglect, needs all the help it can get at this point. Your support is welcomed; it would be sad to see the grotto look elsewhere for its needs.

I feel the issue should be talked out at the TSA board of governors' meeting, since I don't think there has ever been a problem described. It seems more logical for your grotto to belong in TSA. I also think there should be national grot

guidelines for such decisions. You also might consider retaining affiliation with both TSA and the other region if a change simply must be made. There's nothing now to stop you from doing that.

I hope these observations help you in your decision. The TSA needs your support.

Sincerely,

Jay Jorden
1518 Devon Circle
Dallas, TX 75217

LITERARY CORNER:

TRANS-FORMATIONS

"I feel totally lost within my Self-stumbling around in the glare of my all-seeing light reflected off the myriads of pin-point facets and the endless liquid surface convolutions within the LABYRINTHINE grottoes of circuitously wrought thought-gloss of my heart-mind dwelt cavern: where am I at; where am I coming-from; where am I going-it all seems for naught in my monochromatic lair; I once lived within a living hologram of rainbow hues refracting amidst a mist of ambien and fresh air and a living ecology of meaning-because there was the sweet perfuming allure of another's light seeking me out, albeit on a different frequency... but the interactive spectra of all this was a mirage of my ownself deceit and in the place of rainbow mist there is now an opaque smudgey grey, monochromatic haze-not a beautiful monochrome ink-wash painting, this, but, rather, the corroded vistas, mangled, distorted, of an acid rain."
"The WHITE light of pain...and anguish!"
"(The slug slithers back under its rock)"

Carl Bryson, Oct. 1983

MISCELLANEOUS:

Cave Forms: Attached to this month's SPYLUNK you will find a copy of the form used to request a cave permit for Carlsbad Caverns. Several people have asked about getting permits. The names of all participants in a planned cave trip must be submitted with the request, and there must be at least one week between the date the park receives the application and the date of the planned trip.

Wheat Lamp Charger: Attached are plans which were sent to me by Ira Sasowsky, currently in Pennsylvania, for a Wheat lamp charger, both for in-the-car and in-the-home use. Bill Bentley has actually constructed the car-charger, so ask him for details if you want to try to build one yourself. Bill Greenlee has told me that Ira's version of this charger got fairly hot, so please be aware of this and make allowances. The SPYLUNK is not responsible if anyone burns up their house or car, or electrocutes themselves!

Pat Murphy asks that anyone sending money to him (in the form of personal checks) to please make the check out to him and not to P.B.S.S.-they are hard to cash otherwise. Of course, if you're donating money to send grotto officers on a field trip to Tahiti, then make the check out to Bill Bentley or Tony Griec

T-Shirts: If you want a shirt, but missed your chance to order, call Bill Bentley and he maybe able to arrange something. Shirts ordered now may be a bit

more expensive since there will be a screening charge for a new batch of shirts.

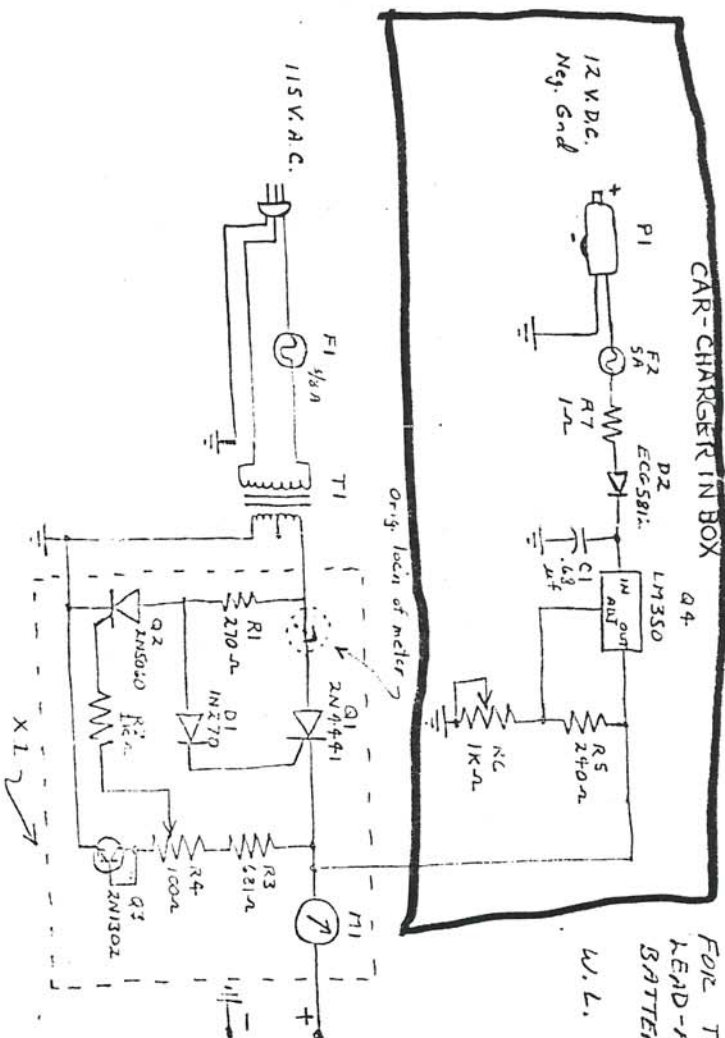
Kudos to Irmalee Ingrham for typing the SPYLUNK. Lety Hernandez and Barb Rider (who drafted up our logo) have been given free T-shirts to thank them for their efforts on our behalf. Thanks also to Bill Bentley for the cover of this months SPYLUNK - there may be more artistic talent in him than we ever realized!

The newsletter needs your input! Think of how this poor editor's pride would suffer if he were forced to beg on bended knee for your trip reports, cartoons, letters, etc...Don't let that happen! Send your cave related stuff to Tony Grieco, 4723 W. Illinois, Midland, TX 79703.



OH YEAH, I FORGOT TO TELL YOU - THAT
NEW RACK IS A LITTLE FAST.

CAR-CHARGER IN BOX



DUAL VOLTAGE CHARGER
FOR TWO CELL (4V)
LEAD-ACID CAP LAMP
BATTERY (M5A or WHEAT)

W. L. HALBERSTADT, 6/2/81

Note: Adj. R₄ for 4.95V at
lamp connection with
battery hooked up and
fully charged, using
12V input. Adj. R₄
for same, using 115V
input.

R₄ - Potentiometer, 1K Ω , Radio
Shack 271-227, \$1.59

Q4 - Adjustable Regulator,
Nat. Semiconductor LM350,
\$7.95 (or LM317 if
2A max. o.k.). Use heat
sink. Radio Shack 276-1264,
\$1.39.

R7 - Resistor, 10 Ω , 10 watt (min),
\$1.57

R5 - Resistor, 220 Ω (to 270 Ω),
1/2W (or 1/8 or 1/4W), \$1.19

D2 - Diode, silicon ECG5812,
\$1.53, or any I \geq 5A,
V \geq 20V diode.
(6V 100A GE#GE5016
2 μ F), Tantalum, Radio
Shack, \$1.39

F2 - Fuse holder, in-line, Radio Shack
270-1251, \$59 (mount in above cover)

P1 - Plug, 12V C₉ lighter, with cord,
Radio Shack 270-021, \$1.29

X1 - M5A Module, 457561, (451945 for M2-R
charger same except length of meter
mounting tabs). M5A-527.15

T1 - Transformer, 110V to 6.3V, M5A 461945,
\$11.50, or Thorlabs 110-110-21F10,
\$9.16. (or any 6.3V, 3A or more).

F1 - Fuse - 3/8A, 510-B10, or 1/2A 510-B10

Carlsbad Caverns and Guadalupe Mountains National Parks
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

PERMIT APPLICATION TO ENTER CLASS 2 OR 3 CAVE

Permission is requested to enter the following cave located in Carlsbad Caverns National Park or Guadalupe Mountains National Park: _____

_____ for the purpose of _____

RETURN THIS PERMIT TO THE APPROPRIATE PARK UPON COMPLETION OF THE TRIP.

The following individuals will be members of the group included in this request, and additions or substitutions will not be made without prior approval of the National Park Service official approving this application:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Name and Address of Person to be Notified in Case of Emergency</u>
(1)	_____	_____	_____
(2)	_____	_____	_____
(3)	_____	_____	_____
(4)	_____	_____	_____
(5)	_____	_____	_____
(6)	_____	_____	_____

On trips into areas where larger groups are permitted, attach a separate sheet with the additional names. However, do not exceed limits which have been established for the area being applied for, as applications exceeding the limits will be denied.

The party will enter the applied for cave area at approximately _____ a.m. or p.m. on _____ 19____, and plans to leave the cave at approximately _____ a.m. or p.m. on _____ 19____.

No rock, mineral formation, stalactites, stalagmites, phenomenon of crystallization, or other natural, historical, or archeological specimen of any kind shall be damaged or removed from the cave. All equipment, supplies and other materials taken into the cave by said party will also be removed from the cave at the completion of the trip.

It is also agreed that there will be no publicity regarding the specific location of any park caves without permission from the Park Superintendent and it is fully understood that this application, when approved, covers only one cave trip on the date and to the place or places indicated above, and that subsequent trips will require a new application.

Requested by: _____

Address: _____

APPROVED _____ DISAPPROVED _____

_____ (Name)

_____ (Title)

_____ (Date)

WAIVER signed this day of 19 .

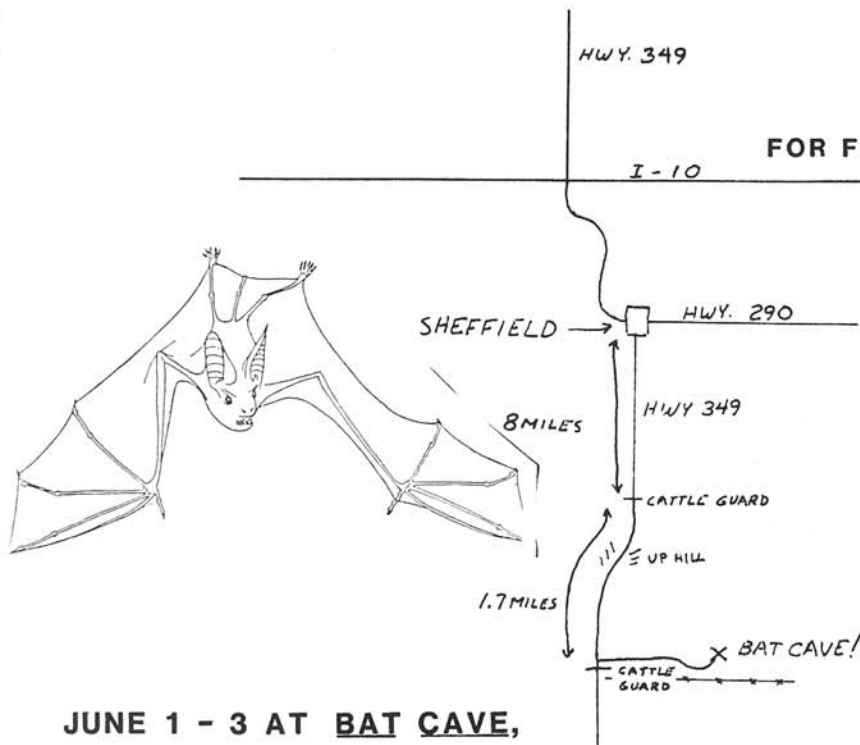
Vehicle Type and License Number:

COMMENTS:

The Permian Basin Speleological Society

presents

THE BAT CAVE BLOW OUT



**JUNE 1 - 3 AT BAT CAVE,
SOUTH OF SHEFFIELD, TEXAS.**

**PLENTY OF EATING, DRINKING,
SOCIALIZING AND (MAYBE A LITTLE)
CAVING. EVERYONE IS WELCOME,
CAVERS AND NON-CAVERS ALIKE !**

