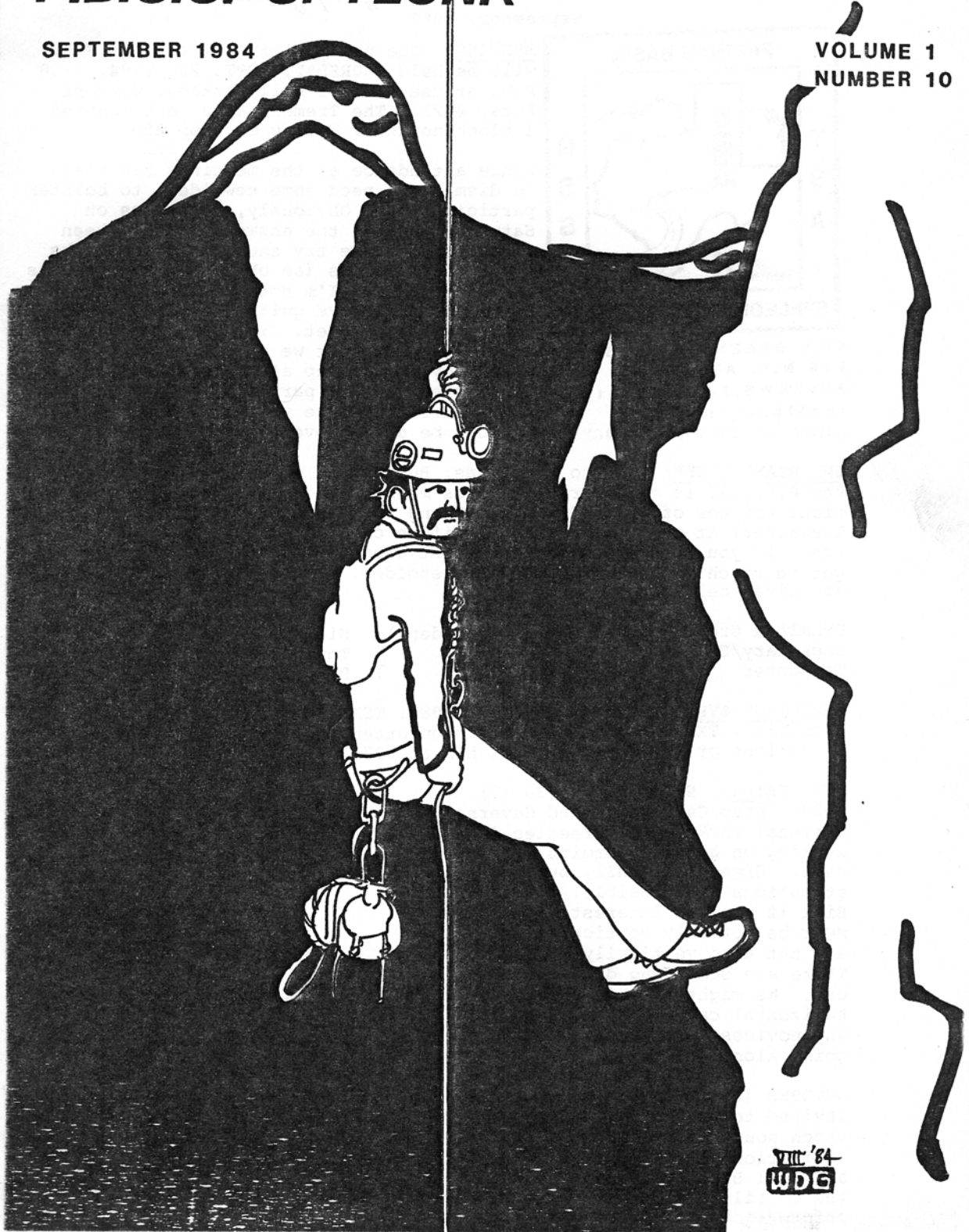


P.B.S.S. SPYLUNK

SEPTEMBER 1984

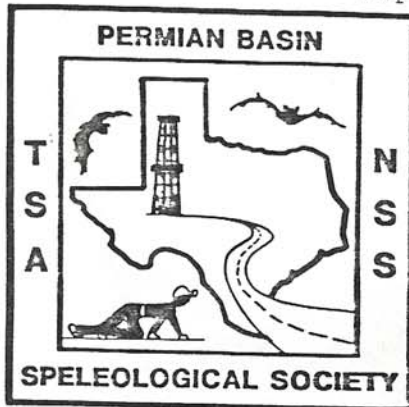
VOLUME 1
NUMBER 10



YIT '84
WDG

The P.B.S.S. Monthly Spylunk

September, 1984



BILL GREENLEE-PRESIDENT
919 N.E. AV. 'F'
ANDREWS, TEXAS 79714
(915)523-9550

MEETING: The next meeting of the P.B.S.S. will be held THURSDAY, SEPT. 20, 1984, 7:30 P.M. at the home of Bill Bentley, Tremont Apts. #621. The Tremont Apts. are located 1 block north of Wadley on Loop 250.

Since attendance at the meetings has been so dismal, we need some new ideas to bolster participation. Obviously, barbecues on Saturday are not the answer! It has been suggested that we try showing porno flicks after the meetings (an obvious joke presents itself here, but I'm not that crude), however, I don't think we've quite reached that level of desperation---yet. You, of course, can help see to it that we never sink that low, merely by showing up at the meetings! You don't even have to participate-just sit in the corner and smile vacantly if you want, since at this point anything would be an improvement over what we've had!

IMPORTANT STUFF: Grotto elections: Believe it or not, as of Sept. 2 the P.B.S.S. is one year old. This means that we will be having elections for new officers (Exhalted Grand Poobah, Secretary/Editor and Treasurer) at the October meeting-if we can find anyone that wants to run. If you have any questions about a particular office, you should get in touch with the current officeholder. Present office holders are given below:

Exhalted Grand Poobah (a.k.a. President): Bill Greenlee
Secretary/Editor : Tony Grieco
Treasurer : Pat Murphy

IMPORTANT EVENTS: SEPTEMBER 21-3, 1984: TSA Old Timers Reunion, Wimberley, TX. Bill Bentley plans on attending, so if you need any directions or information, call him at 697-3079.

CAVE TRIPS: SEPTEMBER 29-30 (?) 1984: Deep Cave, Carlsbad Caverns National Park. Bill Greenlee is working on getting permits for this cave. Sign up is full, but substitutions are possible. Call Bill if you are interested. You **MUST** be not only vertically trained, but also vertically proficient. There are some long drops in this one. We might also do some easy horizontal caves that weekend, if any novices are interested in going along.

OCTOBER (?) 1984: We have been invited to push some leads on a ranch south of Midland. This invitation comes from Tom Metter, and Bill Bentley is working out the details. Hopefully more information will be available at



OH, I'VE BEEN A CARBIDE CAVER FOR MANY YEARS, AND I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE FUMES ARE PERFECTLY HARMLESS...

the September meeting as to possible dates, arrangements, etc.

RECENT ACTIVITY: SEPTEMBER 1-3, 1984: Southwest Region Regional Meeting/PVG Goat Roast - Several P.B.S.S. members showed up at the SWR meeting, and by all reports a good time was had by all. The Goat Roast was rescheduled to coincide with the regional because of torrential rains and flooding during the original weekend. P.B.S.S. members who participated in the festivities were Bill Bentley, Terry Bolger, Bill Greenlee, Pat Hill and Terry Hill.

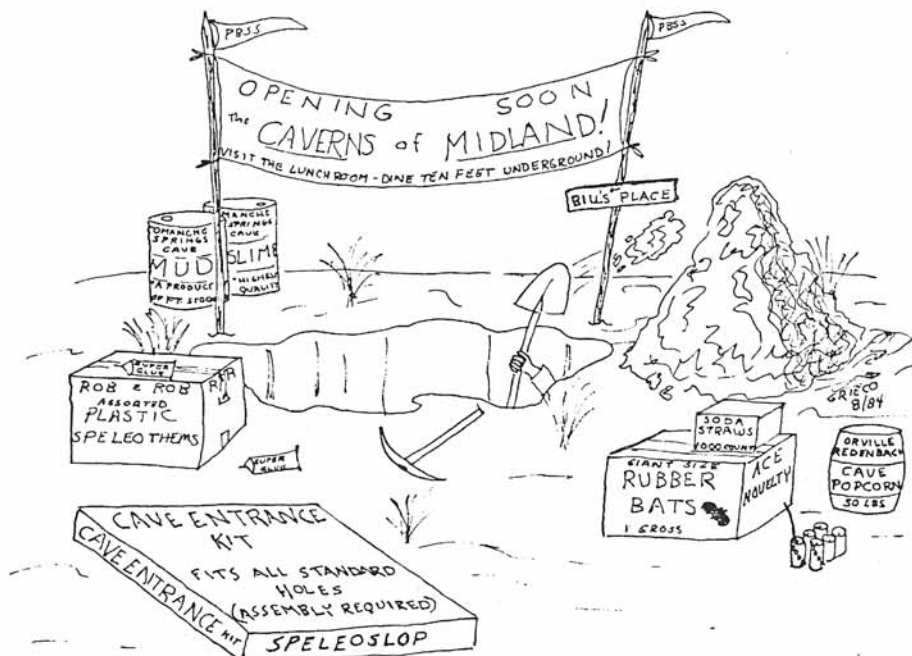
AUGUST 13-16, 1984: Minnetonka Cave, Lake County, Utah and Timpanooga Cave, Utah County, Utah (report by Bill Bentley).

While on a week of vacation Bill Bentley and Teresha Hardin visited these two show caves and got to see many delicate formations. The temperature in these high altitude caves was 41⁰.

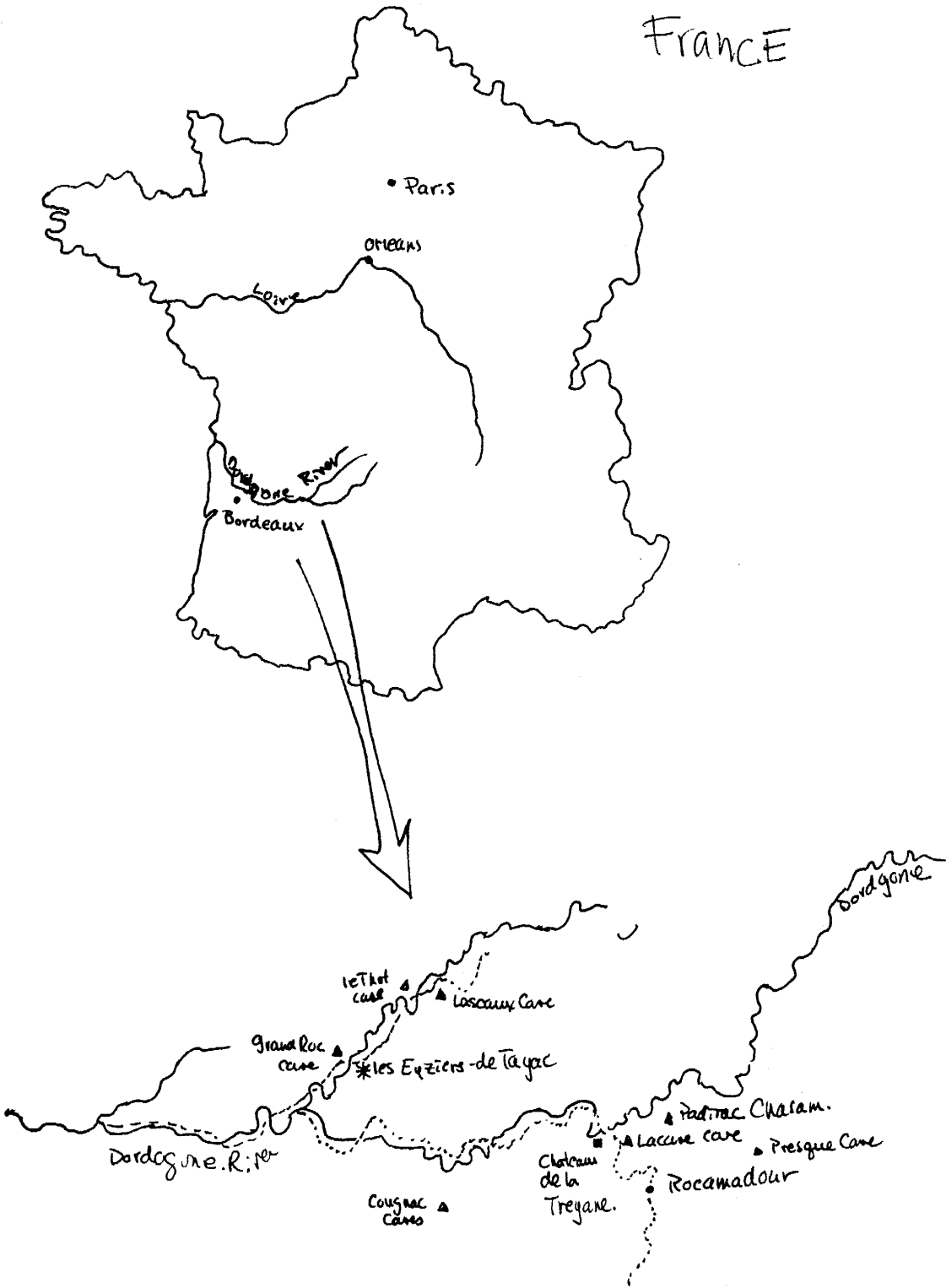
AUGUST 18, 1984: Ridge walking, Terrell County, TX. Participants: Terry Hill, Pat Hill, Bill Bentley (report by Bill Bentley):

Eight hours were spent by the three searchers in the blistering 95⁰ heat looking for a cave on some ranches south of Bakersfield, TX. This was a second try for this particular lead. Two porcupines and two copperhead snakes were encountered, but no cave was found. Other leads were located and are in need of further investigation before more ridge walking trips are planned.

ARTICLE: Below is a report by Emily Ulmschneider describing her recent foray to France, and some of the caves she and her husband got to see. Now the SPYLUNK can truly be called an international journal of caving...



THE REAL REASON BILL BENTLEY RESIGNED
AS PRESIDENT OF P.B.S.S....



FRANCE

• Paris

Orléans

Loire

Dordogne River

Bordeaux

Dordogne

le Tôt cave

Loscaux Cave

Grand Roc creuse

* Les Eyzies-de-Tayac

Dordogne R. Riv.

Cougnac Caves

Chateau de la Trepane

Pèlerinac Chalam.

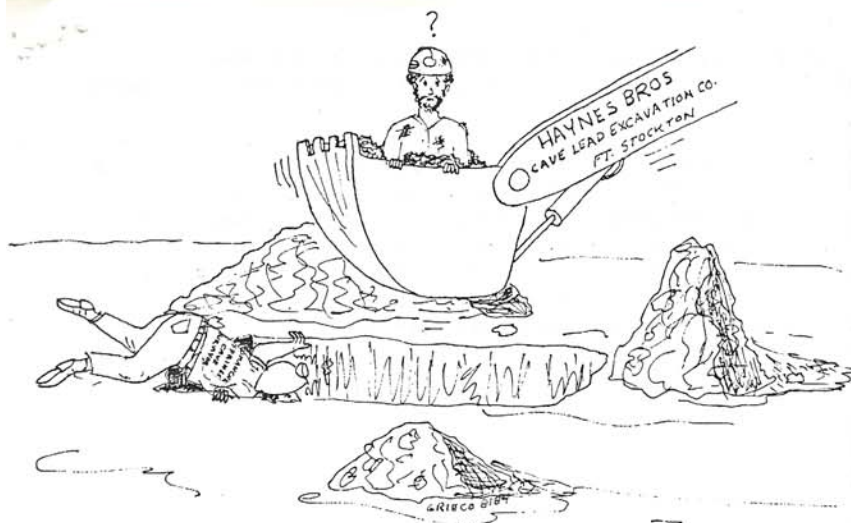
Laccue cave

Presque Cave

Rocamadour

..... Roads
 — Dordogne River

The Dordogne River Valley



HEY, DENNIS - STOP DIGGING! I THINK WE'VE FOUND
A LEAD THAT GOES!

* Any similarity of characters in this cartoon to persons living, dead or otherwise is purely accidental, though probably intentional (I'm just not a very good artist).

The Dordgone River Valley in France is strikingly beautiful. The Dordgone River winds through forested valleys and cliffs dominated by 12th and 13th century castles. This is the home of truffles and pate' de foise gras so good eating abounds. The real attraction of this area, however is much older: the prehistoric paintings (+ 40,000 yrs. old) and the natural formations of the caves, "les grottes" in French. Perhaps the most famous is Lascaux, now closed to the public due to carbon dioxide damage to the paintings. Many other caves with prehistoric paintings remain open, however, and are worth seeing. In

addition to the caves with paintings there are also many other tourist (and wild) caves throughout the area. Of these, perhaps the most famous is Gouffre de Padirac, a series of spectacular underground galleries traversed by boat.

We stayed overnight at Chateau de la Treyne, a private 5th century castle overlooking the Dordgone-an absolutely delightful place. Due to our limited time schedule, we compromised and visited two caves (probably one) in Les grottes de Cougnac which have both paintings and formations. The paintings were few in number but the quality was quite good. There were ibex (a horned goat), mammoth, bison and lion animal figures depicted, as well as a few human figures. The human figures, which were rare, were shown climbing on a mammoth to wound it. The formations in the cave were quite spectacular and delicate, with lots of colored flowstone, soda straws, and drapery.

If you are thinking of visiting this area, get a Michelin Green Guide (in english, available here) which gives a synopsis of area history, geography, commerce, architecture and places of interest. It suggests places to visit and describes the items of interest in each town. Start at the Musee' National de Prehistoire in les Eyziers de Tayac for a background on prehistoric caves in the area.

The Dordgone Valley is truly a beautiful area of France and well worth a visit.

MISCELLANEOUS: Cover: This months cover is by Bill Greenlee, and depicts Bill Bentley doing the drop in Ogle Cave.

Newsletter Exchanges: We are now exchanging newsletters with the Dallas Grotto and the new Abilene Grotto, and these newsletters will be available at future meetings. I have yet to see the Dallas Newsletter, but the Abilene Area Grotto's CAVER'S SCUTTLEBUTT is quite good, even though the cartoons are even more crudely drawn than those in the SPYLUNK (I didn't think that was possible...).

Birthdays: Happy birthday to Bill Bentley (Aug. 30th) and Vicki Grieco (Sept. 3rd). No one else will tell me when they have birthdays...

Kudos: Our thanks this month go to Irmalee Ingrham for typing the SPYLUNK, as well as to Emily Ulmschneider, Bill Bentley and Bill Greenlee for their contributions-the newsletter would never make it if it weren't for the outstanding contributions. If you would like to contribute any cave related stuff to the "international journal of West Texas caving", just write it down and send it to Tony Grieco, 4723 W. Illinois, Midland, TX 79703.