



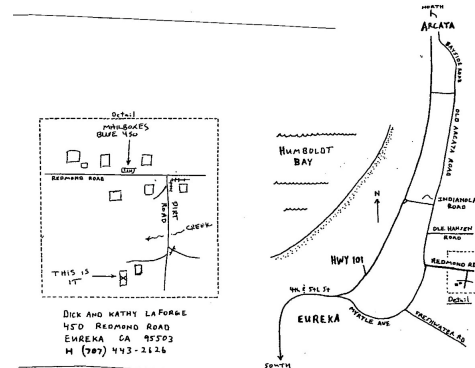
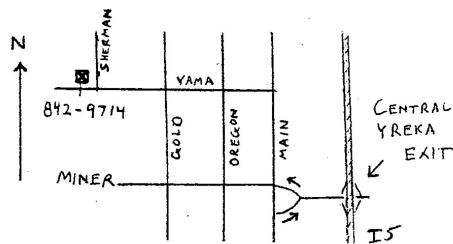
**STOOKEY RANCH CAVE**

The SAG RAG is published by the Shasta Area Grotto of the National Speleological Society, Grotto meetings are held at different locations the fourth Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Meeting locations are announced in the SAG RAG, Membership dues are \$6 dollars per year and include newsletter subscription. Original material not otherwise noted is copyright to the SAG RAG. Such material may be copied with credit given to the author and the SAG RAG. For use outside of the caving community, please seek the permission of the author or editor first. Send material for publication any time to Bighorn Broeckel, 2916 Deer Meadows Road, Yreka, CA 96097. Material intended for the next newsletter is due by the 10th of the even month.

## CAVERS CALENDAR 2000

- Nov 11 Saturday SAG meeting at the LaForge home in Eureka. Call Kathy at (707)443-2626 regarding potluck arrangements.
- Dec 8 Friday SAG meeting 7:30 pm at Melanie Jackson's home in Yreka. Bring some Christmas snacks to share.
- July 23-27, 2001 NSS Convention, Mt. Vernon, Kentucky.
- July 24-28, 2002 NSS Convention, Camden, Maine.

### Maps to the Meetings



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please bring bags of dead alkaline batteries to Jim Wolff. He can recycle them through his workplace, and this is much better than landfilling those metal cylinders of spent chemicals.

Ray Miller prepared all the Stookey Ranch digital images seen in this issue.

[Correction: "Jim Nieland gets the photo credits on all those pictures of the gating of Stookey Ranch Cave that appeared in the last issue. And I thought they all got into Ray Miller's computer by magic." From SAG RAG 19(6), p. 2 – pdf ed.]

Photo by Bill Broeckel on p.11 shows Benj Broeckel in Packsaddle Cave.

**Cover:** COVER: Greg Currie at the newly completed gate on Stookey Ranch Cave.

## SHASTA AREA GROTTO MEMBERSHIP LIST 2000

Bair, John	36128	707-442-2646	1325 Barry Road, Kneeland, CA 95549
Bair, Julie	36129	707-442-2646	1325 Barry Road, Kneeland, CA 95549
Broeckel, Bill	31702	530-842-3917	2916 Deer Meadows Road, Yreka, CA 96097
Broeckel, Judy	31703	530-842-3917	2916 Deer Meadows Road, Yreka, CA 96097
Dagitz, Steve		720-898-4536	7318 W. 57th Ave, Arvada, CO 80002
Everest, Glen	17903		16327 North Street, Redding, CA 96001
Frank, Chuck III	45411	530-841-4535	13741 Old Westside Road, Grenada, CA 96038
Frank, Chuck IV	45412	530-436-2743	13741 Old Westside Road, Grenada, CA 96038
Frank, Scott	45413	530-436-2743	1552 Giuntoli Lane, Arcata, CA 95521
Fritzke, Mark	16064	707-822-8566	565 Upper Creek Road, Bayside, CA 95524
Helton, Pat	36880	510-796-CAVE	37899 Los Arboles Drive, Fremont, CA 94536
Jackson, Mel.	36899	530-842-9714	708 Yama Street, Yreka, CA 96097
Kenney, Bill	33394	541-883-2781	2425 Hope Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603
Kenney, Cheryl	36868	541-883-2781	2425 Hope Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603
Kenney, Zane	36867	541-883-2781	2425 Hope Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603
LaForge, Dick	16560	707-443-2626	450 Redmond Road, Eureka, CA 95501
LaForge, Evan	27121	707-443-2626	450 Redmond Road, Eureka, CA 95501
LaForge, Kathy	32171	707-443-2626	450 Redmond Road, Eureka, CA 95501
LaForge, Seth	22159	707-443-2626	450 Redmond Road, Eureka, CA 95501
Miller, Ray	25724	530-926-2440	POB 475, Mt. Shasta, CA 96067
Molter, Joe		530-275-9545	20568 Bernard Way, Redding, CA 96003
Nicholson, Dave		530-842-8300	
Nixon, Robert		541-883-5436	636 Roseway Drive, Klamath Falls, OR 97601
Rau, Lane			16083 Lower Springs Road, Redding, CA 96001
Rogers, Bruce	6732	510-796-CAVE	37899 Los Arboles Drive, Fremont, CA 94536
Silkwood, Blane	46811	530-894-6042	8 Delaware Drive, Chico, CA 95973
Smith, Niels	23836	916-878-7068	3750 Otto Way, Auburn, CA 95602
Wolff, Jim	7572	530-964-3123	POB 865, McCloud, CA 96057
Wolff, Liz	11701	530-964-3123	POB 865, McCloud, CA 96057
Yoder, Russ	42807	541-312-2948	1000 NE Butler Market Road, Bend, OR 97701



Main entrance to Stookey Ranch Cave. The port-a-potty was the highest thing for miles and became a temporary landmark. 9-00.

**SHASTA AREA GROTTO MEETING September 8, 2000**

The meeting was called to order at 7:51 PM. at Melanie Jackson's home in Yreka, and adjourned at 9:08 PM. Present were Melanie Jackson, Bill Kenney, Dave Nicholson, Jim & Liz Wolff, and Bill Broeckel. Minutes were accepted as read. Treasurer's Report: Balance as of Sept. 5, 2000 \$804.90.

Old Business: Jim & Liz Wolff will not be going to the Western Regional, however Bill Broeckel will be going as our grotto representative instead. The Wolffs will be attending the Stookey Ranch Cave gating Sept. 23 until finished.

New Business: Sand cave will be impacted by the paving of Hwy A-12. The county doesn't think the drainage pattern needs to be changed because it has been this way for 40 years. Drainage needs to be directed away from the cave by a barrier before the gating takes place for the safety of the cave and the bats. Western Region Training Committee bylaws changes: To rely on e-mail only for communication excludes those without computers. Grotto representative Bill Broeckel was instructed to vote no on the bylaws changes, but to encourage coordinated rescue training in concept without duplication of efforts. James McKeon at Modoc has become discouraged as there is not a lot of support where he works and a very large area to be in charge of. We need to keep in touch and keep him encouraged. Bill Broeckel is writing a SAG poem. Regarding the grotto archive, Broeckel is halfway through the second box. Most of the exchange newsletters have been listed on 25 pages of computer space, with cave names referenced.

Trip Reports: Russ Yoder, Liz Wolff, Bill & Judy Broeckel mapped Deviled Ham Cave.

Next Meeting: October 13, 2000 at 7:30 pm at Ray Miller's home in Mt. Shasta. Nov. at the coast?

Respectfully submitted,  
Melanie Jackson

**MJ**

**SHASTA AREA GROTTO MEETING Oct. 13, 2000**

Present were: Jim Kottinger, Jim & Liz Wolff, Ray Miller, Melanie Jackson, Bill Broeckel and Robert Nixon.

Minutes: were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Oct. 13, balance \$823.25.

Old Business: Sand Cave will have two internal gates (one up flow and one down flow.) The county hasn't put up a drainage or barricade to keep water and traffic out. Juan de la Fuente would like the gate to go in this year if possible. The Wolff's and Bill Kenney went to the Stookey Ranch Cave gating project. The Wolff's received T-shirts from Greg Currie for the National Public Lands Day. The problems that Larry King has had in Bend, OR. regarding climbers bolting cave entrances is also becoming a problem at Natural Bridges and Limestone Bluffs in CA. Since we are going to have to address that problem here we will follow a similar approach as Larry King with some fine tuning as two maternity bat roosts in this area are also affected.

Bill Broeckel attended the Western Regional meeting and had 3 votes for our grotto (which could be split). He was asked to run for WR chairman, but he declined. The field house at Lava Beds NM. needs to raise a specific amount of money by April and may not have it.

That money would then go to the LBNM history Museum. The WR wanted to change the donations to a pledge. It was voted down. We as a grotto feel alright with the money going to the LBNM History Museum. The WR Vice President will be in charge of doing the Website or getting someone else to run it. The 2003 NSS Cave Convention is in the design phase now and needs logos et. The Cal Caver Mailing list goes to Jim Lakner and Peri Frantz. Jan. 1 the Cal Caver dues need to be in, but April is the actual final deadline for dues. Information, articles and pictures for the Cal Caver should be submitted in WORD and JPEG. The WR Committee Bylaws changes have been tabled until next year' meeting in 2001. Officer elections are as follows for the WR. Chairman – Lynn Fielding, Vice Chairman – Larry O'Brien, Sec/Treas – Peri Frantz. The Web list will have a moderated (censored) site and there will be another sign up for the Open (discussion) site. Next year the Stanislaus Grotto is in charge of the WR. Our grotto has voted that we agree that a WR executive officer shouldn't be allowed to chair a subcommittee.

New Business: Robert Nixon joined the SAG. Melanie will get information about the possibility of SAG becoming a member of the Siskiyou Central Credit Union to get free checking. Liz has looked into Washington Mutual for a free checking account, but will have to be a personal acct. Ray Miller says that the sensor in Bent Skylight Cave that takes the ambient temperature and humidity in the roost and the sensor at Bat Cave that monitors light intrusion and temperature need to be downloaded and the service batteries replaced. A woman who works for the Fox Family Cable that produces a program called "Real Scary Stories" wants to do a piece about the Mt. Shasta area. This will be made into a TV program. She wants the Wolff's to lead a guide or scout into a few caves in the area, e.g. Jot Dean, Pluto, Barnum. Russ Yoder will be on the North side of Snag Hill looking up flow of the Freudian Complex for new caves.

Cave Trips: Bill and Benj Broeckel went to Pack Saddle Cave and Deep Creek Cave which are easy while at the WR. They also mapped a cave in the Hat Creek area after the WR. It was 350 feet of Momma's Cave. Ray Miller and Liz Wolff have been checking in the Cassel Area – Cinder Pit Cave. They hunted down flow through thick brush and found lots of interesting stuff that needs checking out (they GPS a lot. When do we go?)

Meetings:

Coastal at LaForge's Saturday, Nov. 11 – call Kathy if you are coming regarding food. There will be a New Borneo Slide Show.

Dec. 8 at Melanie Jackson's in Yreka.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melanie Jackson

**MJ**



## STOOKEY RANCH CAVE GATING By Jim Wolff

A Townsend's Big-eared bat's hibernaculum, Stookey Ranch Cave, was gated during the weekend of September 22nd - 25th. There were volunteers present from Shasta Area, Oregon High Desert, Southern Oregon and Willamette Valley grottos. It was explained to me by Jim Nieland of the USFS, who was there directing the construction of the gate, that the cave will be closed year-round until more is known about the use of the cave by the bats.

There we sat, high up on a knee-high grass and sparsely sage-covered ridge, burnt-over in the Skeleton Fire 3 or 4 years ago. There were in camp Nieland's trailer, our PU truck and one or more other vehicles each night – kinda like a little wagon train of old. The second night there were 5. The first night was in the mid teens. One report from Bend said it was 17 degrees and another report from Silver Lake, OR at 15 degrees (!), and THAT'S COLD! We sat in a windy g-gap too, (shiver) we gladly kept active during those days! The BLM folks set us up with all our meals (we didn't hear about that until we had the coffee poured and breakfast eaten already), but we sure didn't want to miss the rest of their great-tasting, and abundant food!

Luckily, the entrance faces SW, and we kept warm in the low-angled sun. It kept half the entrance chamber lit and warm for most of the day. The rest of the room had a plywood-covered floor and big electric lights for the entire time. We kept tools and other things in good order; kept a pathway clear for safety and communication open. Eye protection was a problem with two welders going at a time. It was intense sometimes, including a cutting torch, band saw and grinder a-goin at the same time, at different locations in the room. Not quite sure which was worse, the steep breakdown areas or the gate building itself!



Two welders working simultaneously on the Stookey Ranch Cave gate. 9-00.

Liz and I helped move steel into the cave. We moved it 20-30 ft vertically and 60 or 70 feet into the cave. Once the generators stopped at the end of the day, we had to turn on our headlights, as we had run out of gas, literally! Yep, we had run out of gasoline and "steam" as well! We had been busting our (blank) all day and had FINALLY the chance to stop, drop to our chairs and eat a scrumptious meal of BBQ chicken and beans, salad, fruit baskets, sodas, hot tea and coffee (good too, all day long. ) We had 15 gal of a super cold citrus drink from McDonalds and big ol coolers of ice water in three locations. Nice camp, complete with a porta-potty, which by the way, was the tallest thing out there for a mile or more! The contract welder, Al and his family, wife Kim and son Nick had set up a comfy camp. Nick is in late teens and is a caver at heart. I suggested to Vern Clift, an officer of the Oregon High Desert Grotto to keep in touch with that kid! Kim worked hard all day moving steel and then doing three meals. Al, most loveable of the group, was constantly jovial, and skilled at his work.

In the cave the steel crew never let our "straw boss" Libby Nieland down. We didn't have any accidents moving that metal, all the way in the cave to the gate site. We had this 4" angle iron that was twenty feet long and (easily) a couple hundred pounds each. With a gate over 60 ft wide and 18 ft high in one place, it was going to take a lot of steel to build. Took us a day and a half to do the job of moving all that metal.

Bill Kenney, who was one of the welders, stayed until both entrances were gated, finishing about 2 pm Monday.

Everyone worked together and was very happy doing the work. All in all, a great and tiring weekend.

Jimmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm

**JW**



Scaffolding was needed to work on the upper portion of the gate. 9-00.

### SELECTED STOOKEY RANCH CAVE REFERENCES

Ronald Greeley, 1972, *Geology of Selected Lava Tubes in the Bend Area, Oregon*, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, Bulletin 71.

"Stookey Ranch Cave is the last known uncollapsed element of the Arnold Lava Tube System." Includes map of the Arnold Lava Tube System (p. 13 and plate 3), aerial view of surface features (p. 26), cave description (p. 27), and a profile cave map (plate 1).

Charles V. Larson, editor, 1982, *An Introduction to Caves of the Bend Area: Guidebook of the 1982 NSS Convention*, National Speleological Society, Huntsville, Alabama.

"Signs of animal habitation are abundant, a common circumstance in seldom-visited caves of this area." Includes cave description (p. 29), and plan and profile map (p. 26).

Charlie & Jo Larson, 1987, *Central Oregon Caves*, ABC Printing and Publishing, Vancouver, Washington, 98685.

Includes a description of cave (p. 21), and a map of the Arnold Lavatube System (p. 12). Stookey Ranch Cave was "reported to have another level" in 1975 (p. 12) and to have "about 4,000 feet of passage" (p. 21).

Patty Silver, editor, 1997, Bat Cave Closure List, *The Speleograph*, 33/5, September/ October 1997.

Stookey Ranch Cave is listed for voluntary closure to visits during winter bat hibernation (p. 56).



Jim Nieland and the gating crew at Stookey Ranch Cave. 9-00.





Staging the gate materials at the entrance to Stookey Ranch cave. 9-00.

### **DEVILED HAM CAVE**

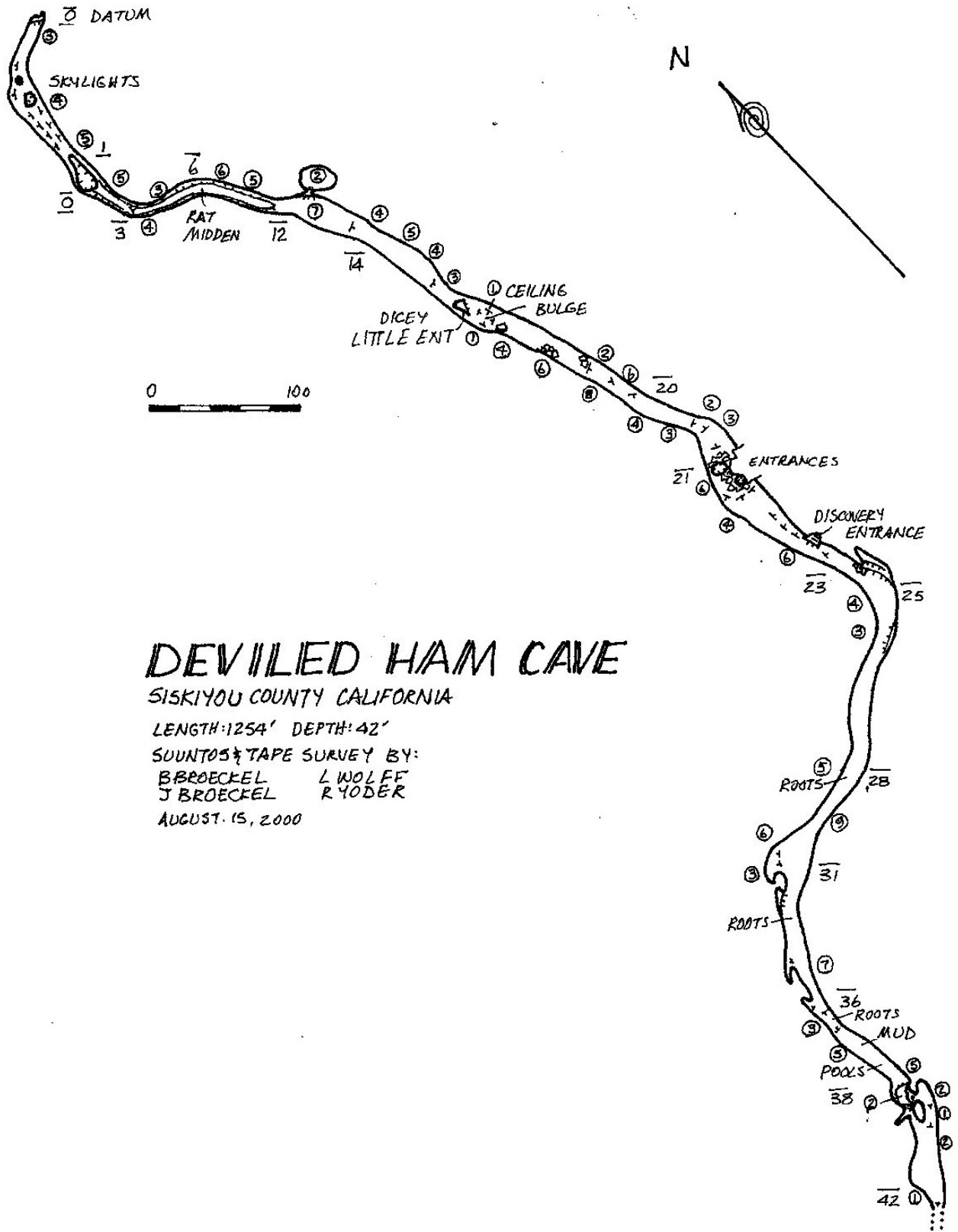
By Judy Broeckel

It was definitely time for me to get out caving and this looked like a good opportunity. Star lava-tube sleuther, Russ Yoder, was coming up, so off we went. The cave was more decorated than many. Toward the end of the cave, close to 1000 feet in, I was surprised to see big rafted in boulders. I am always amazed at the roots that can go through a five foot passage. It seems like a testimony to the determined persistence of the surface vegetation. Russ and Bill were pretty persistent, too, crawling around at the end, looking into a tiny passageway too small to fit into. Then we had to check the upflow end of the skylight. It looked pretty good, and even had a resident *Corynorhinus townsendii* bat, which we inadvertently awakened. The passage size was pretty big, but not much air movement warned of the lavaseal that came too soon. So we just had to go home early, oh me oh my, poor us, with only a thousand feet or so of new survey.... **JB**

### **DEVILED HAM CAVE**

By Liz Wolff

On August 15 Russ Yoder was again in the area to cave, and Bill & Judy Broeckel and I met him at his camping spot alongside the Water Caves lava flow. Our objective of the day was to survey a cave paralleling (a better known) Cave, but further east. On the hike out to the cave Russ pointed out Underwood Cave a small entrance underneath a fallen tree and another short cave that is blocked with lava. So thinking along the lines of food Judy suggested Deviled Ham as a good cave name, going along with Underwood ... Russ had estimated this cave at a little over 1,000 feet, and the survey totaled 1129 for the south end with 125 in the north for 1254 total length. Other small caves are in the area. **LW**



# DEVILED HAM CAVE

SISKIYOU COUNTY CALIFORNIA

LENGTH: 1254' DEPTH: 42'

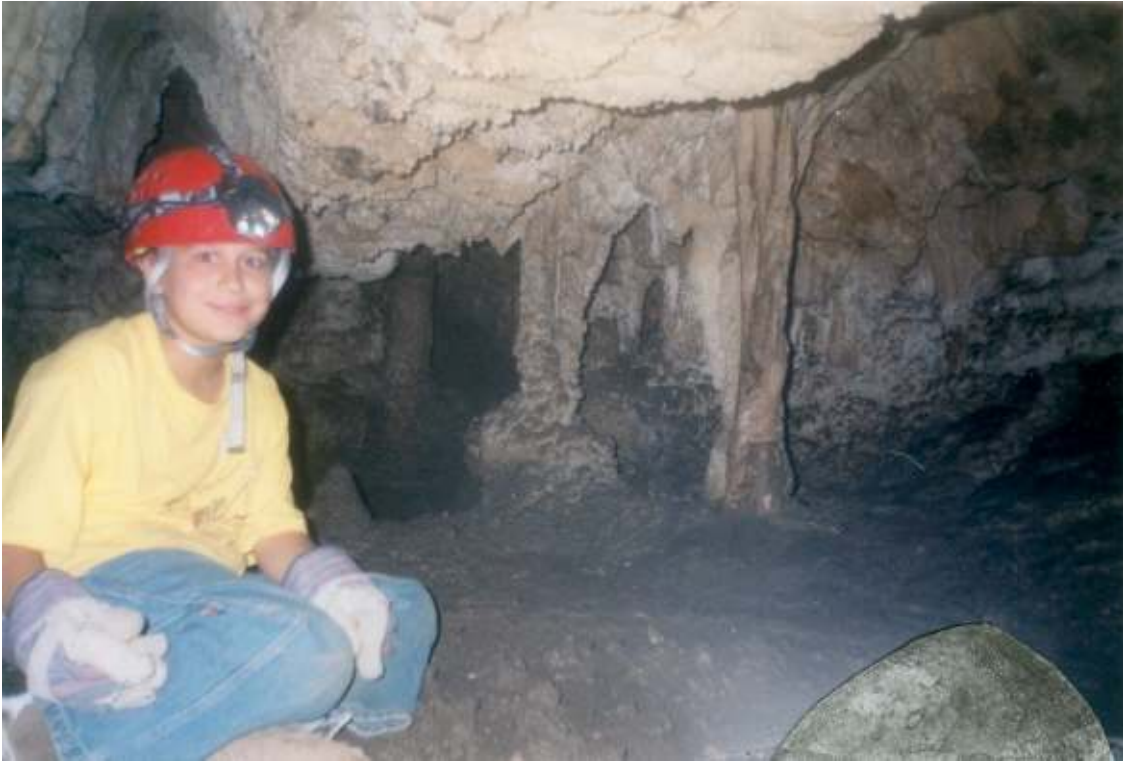
SONTOS & TAPE SURVEY BY:

B BROECKEL L WOLFF

J BROECKEL R YODER

AUGUST 15, 2000

Map: Deviled Ham Cave



Benj Broeckel in Packsaddle Cave.

**THE CAVE KID** By Bill Broeckel

My Mommy is a caver, my Dad's a caver too.  
I know how cavers think, and I know what cavers do.

My Mommy, she once nursed me, in a room called "Pleistocene".  
I was carried in a snugli, through places seldom seen.

My first words were "On Rope!" when I began to talk.  
Mom and Dad would crawl along in places I could walk!

Caving and conventions are what vacation's for.  
Whenever I was out of school, we headed out the door.

I've seen some strange locations, from the mountains to the shore,  
And I've met some of the cavers, who were stranger even more.

I can set the stations, and pull the survey tapes,  
Avoiding cave formations, broken bones, and scrapes.

I saw my first big pit, when I was still a kid.  
I tried my best to do just what the other cavers did.

My Mom and Dad are cavers, so I know what to do.  
When I grow up, you will find, that I'm a caver too.



Bill Kenney stabilizes a ladder as the ceiling is prepped for the uprights. 9-00.

**SAG RAG**  
 2916 Deer Mdws Rd  
 Yreka CA 96097

**STAMP**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**TO:**

Page 2 Cave Calendar and maps to meetings  
 Page 3 Shasta Area Grotto Membership List  
 Page 4 September meeting notes – Melanie Jackson  
 Page 4 October meeting notes – Melanie Jackson  
 Page 6 Stookey Ranch Cave Gating – Jim Wolff  
 Page 8 Stookey Ranch references – B. Broeckel  
 Page 9 Deviled Ham Cave – Judy Broeckel  
 Page 9 Deviled Ham Cave – Liz Wolff  
 Page 10 Deviled Ham Cave map – Liz Wolff  
 Page 11 The Cave Kid – B. Broeckel

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