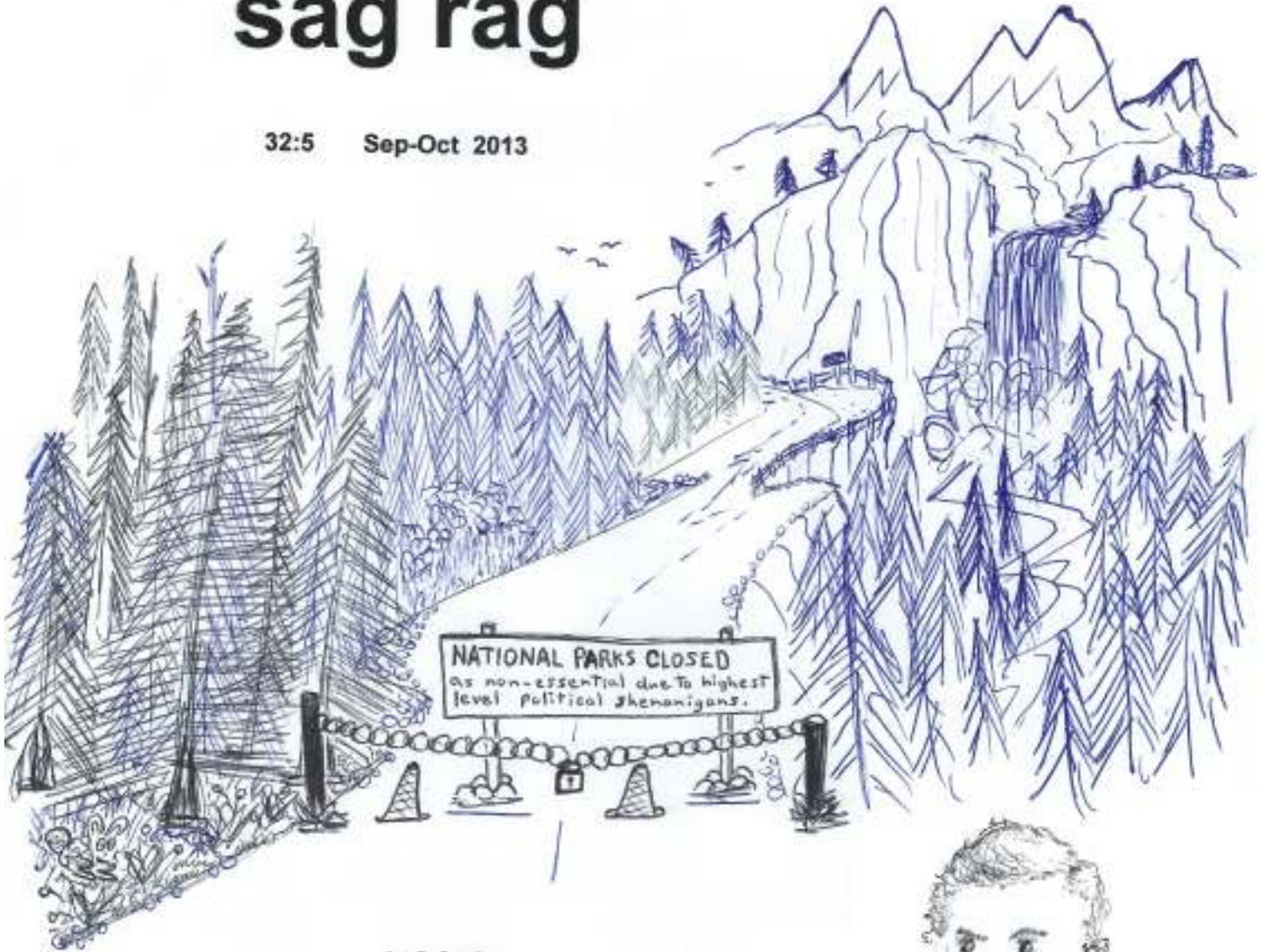


# sag rag

32:5 Sep-Oct 2013



SAG RAG:

"SO, MR. MUIR, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS NOTION THAT NATIONAL PARKS ARE NON-ESSENTIAL?"

JOHN MUIR:

"EVERYBODY NEEDS BEAUTY AS WELL AS BREAD, PLACES TO PLAY IN AND PRAY IN, WHERE NATURE MAY HEAL AND CHEER AND GIVE STRENGTH TO BODY AND SOUL. THIS NATURAL BEAUTY-HUNGER IS DISPLAYED IN ... OUR MAGNIFICENT NATIONAL PARKS." (1907-1908)

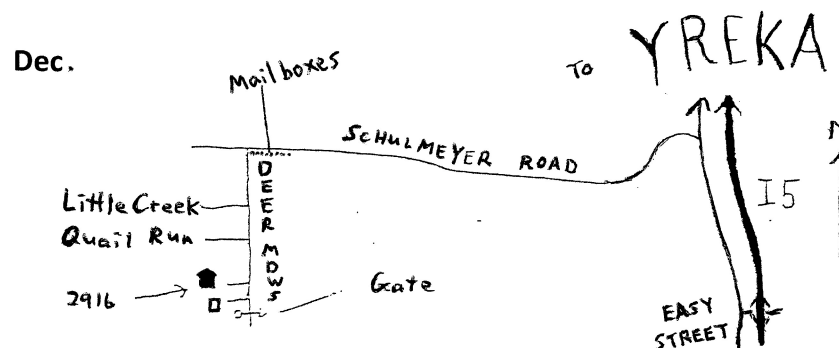


The SAG RAG is published by the Shasta Area Grotto of the National Speleological Society. Grotto meetings are held at different locations on the fourth Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Meeting locations are announced in the SAG RAG. Membership dues are \$6 dollars per year and include newsletter subscription. 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 or <caverbill@live.com>. For more on SAG, check the web site at <<http://www.caves.org/grotto/sag>>.

## CAVER CALENDAR 2013

Dec 6 SAG meeting 7:30 at Broeckels' in Yreka 530-842-3917.

### Map to Meeting



## SAG RAG SUMMARY By Bighorn Broeckel

New maps of old caves, that's what we've got here. Chris Kennedy and Liz Wolff added on two articles that were so good, that they will both go as Part 1 and Part 2. This issue has the first parts, then we all anxiously await the second parts in the grand finale 2013 SAG RAG. Liz Wolff has new improved maps ready here and now for Red Tape and Rediscovery Caves, and the Hall City Cave map may be a novel item. None of us could remember seeing a map of Hall City Cave, but that doesn't mean there isn't one floating around out there somewhere. Check out Dave McCracken's website for a harrowing story of his cave dive into Hall City. Just search for it under "Hall City Cave". He has a photo in there showing Mark Keene and Ivan Jackovich with what looks like some serious gold retrieval equipment inside the cave. Why? Well, we reprinted two versions of the legend about the cave so you can read it for yourself. I guess old legends die hard. Winter should be here soon. Keep warm, try to make a meeting or two, and if we are lucky with the weather, maybe we can do some caving. **BB**

[A 2012 video of the underwater part of the cave, filmed by trained cave divers, is posted at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1s1nD9FLaMU> – eSag ed.]

## **AUGUST 23, 2013 SHASTA AREA GROTTO MEETING**

**Present:** Jim & Liz Wolff, Sam Baxter, Steve Hobson, Bill Broeckel, Dave Smith, Ed & Virginia Bobrow, and new members Mike & Barbara Stufflebeam.

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 pm following introductions of old and new members. Bill Broeckel read the minutes of the Weaverville meeting from July to some consternation. Treasurers report: no report, but no activity either.

**Website:** running fine; some glitches on the registration page from hundreds of spurious registrations of crazy addresses and names.

**SAG Rag** is up to date. Snail mail RAG will be out soon.

### **Correspondence:**

Joel Despain sent LIDAR images of Marbles, Snag Hill and other locations that the Klamath NF had taken.

International Workshop on Ice Caves will be held August 2014.

email from Joel Despain on a proposed Paul Gibson Cave project.

### **Calendar:**

Aug 30-Sept 2 combined regionals at Trout Lake WA.

Sept 27 SAG meeting at Steve's in Redding.

Oct 12 Siskiyou SAR cave rescue training.

Oct 12-13 Geo Graening and Sac State students for bio surveys in caves.

Oct 25 SAG meeting at Chris's in Weaverville.

Dec 6 Nov/Dec SAG meeting at Broeckels' in Yreka; cookie exchange.

**Tomorrow's trip:** cave touring.

### **Old Business:**

Dues reduction from \$6 to \$5 proposed and voted on at July meeting with no officers and only 3 SAG members present. Steve moved to uphold Judy's motion at July meeting. Sam Baxter seconded. Discussion on grotto finances followed. Motion passed.

No word from Dane Wigington about confirmation to cave hunt on his property. We'll invite him to the September meeting.

### **New Business:**

Matole Charter School of Mt Shasta proposes to do a science project in/on Pluto's Cave. They want to tour the cave and have some rope instruction. If SAG is going to help them with the project we would need to know how many children and exactly what the teacher wants from us. We would need to have a liability waiver and insurance. Sam will follow up on it.

Oct 12 SAR training: patient packaging and travel. We need a refresher before the training; location to be determined. Meet there at 8:30.

NSS's White Nose Syndrome pamphlets from the KNF for distribution.

Geo Graening cave bugs & students: Adam's Homestead Cave, Harris Mtn Cave.

Maps are available for open and closed roads on the Shasta NF.

(continued)

**Trip Reports:**

Jim & Liz at Lava Beds Aug 10 Shark's Mouth, Balcony and Big Painted caves.

Jim & Liz and Bill Devereaux Aug 17 survey in Labyrinth Cave.

Liz Wolff and Ray Miller at Barnum Cave for FS and F&W annual nocturnal animal (bat) talk and cave tour. About 40 attendees including Bill and Becky Broeckel.

Mike reported on SAG at Manzanita Cave following July meeting.

Bill & Judy found Looney Tubes Cave; surveyed 240 feet, scooped 150 to a 3-way divide.

Bill B led a church group to Railroad Ballast Cave.

Bill B found a cave in the Giant Crater trench with a blast of cold air and a rebar cage in the back holding back the crumbly cinders blocking the cave. It's probably one of Russ Yoder's digs.

Ed gave a "Magnetic Sun" program at Lava Beds.

Dave moved, Sam seconded the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 9pm.

Respectfully submitted, Virginia Bobrow, acting secretary

**VB**

**SEPTEMBER 23, 2013 SHASTA AREA GROTTO MEETING**

**Present:** Steve Hobson, Dave Smith, Hans Stein, Dallas Carlon, April Pryor & Trenton, Ed & Virginia Bobrow, Jim & Liz Wolff.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm at Steve's place in Redding.

**No minutes** were available.

**Treasurer's report:** previous balance was \$893.46. Deposits of \$58.54 bring the balance to \$952.00.

**Website, eRAG and SAG RAG:**

There is still some phishing going on on the website, but "they" can't get into the site.

The eRAG is on schedule.

Bill Broeckel emailed that the next RAG will be out in October, articles should be sent to him soon.

**Correspondence:**

Invoice from the NSS for website.

Copies of letters from Chris Wiley, WVG chair and Steve Knutson, KMCTF, to Rogue River NF protesting the proposed use of expanding foam to seal the entrance to the Cave Next Door. Questions of the environmental impacts were raised. Cave Next Door has been declared a significant cave by the FCRPA.

Call from Golden Eagle Charter School for a caving presentation and cave trip. Liz arranged for both events.

Note from Ernie Coffman about NSS dues going up to \$45 from \$40 Oct 1.

(continued)



**Calendar:**

Oct 12 Siskiyou SAR annual cave rescue training; SAG training Oct 5 in McCloud at Steve's.  
Oct 12-13 Dr Geo Graening & Sac State students in McCloud area to hunt for cave bugs.  
Oct 25 SAG meeting at Chris's in Weaverville.  
Dec 6 SAG meeting at Broeckels' in Yreka; nominations.

Tomorrow's trip: APC.

**Old Business:** There was no old business.

**New Business:**

Dallas Carlon has arranged for 3D mapping equipment to survey APC. The device to be used is a Trimble TX5 laser scanner, size 9.5"X8"X4", 11 pounds + tripod, 120 meter line of sight range. It could be used for a map and/or video of the cave. Questions about battery life, extra batteries, insurance fees, water/mud/impact proof, chargers need to be answered. Dallas estimated he could get the device for a 3 day block of time; Thanksgiving weekend was proposed by Steve. Dallas invited his boss Tom Cardenas to come on the trips, no response yet from him. Concern was voiced about confidentiality of the data and the restrictions on location of the cave; outside photos should show no landmarks.

Jim Wolff moved that all winter meetings be cancelled. No second, motion withdrawn.

Steve moved that all "elderly" members after 30 years in the grotto be declared "members for life" and be exempted from paying dues. Very few would be eligible now: Ray Miller, Neils Smith, Don Quinton, and charter members Arley Kisling, Jim & Liz Wolff would be eligible Jan 1, 2014. Hans seconded the motion. Passed. Steve will make certificates for the honorees.

**Trip Reports:**

Aug 24 Steve Hobson, Dave Smith, Jim & Liz Wolff, Mike & Barbara Stuffiebeam went to Red Tape, Harris Mtn and Rediscovery caves. Steve and Liz relocated Green Tape Cave.

Sept 19 Liz Wolff did a classroom presentation for Golden Eagle Charter School jr high and high schoolers.

Sept 26 Ray Miller, Sam Baxter, Jim & Liz Wolff led 20 students & 2 teachers, 5 chaperones into Barnum Cave.

Steve moved, Dave seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Virginia Bobrow, acting secretary

**VB**

**CAVING IN THE “OLD ZONE” - Part 1:**

By Liz Wolff

The caves had been mapped years ago when the grotto was young. Red Tape, Harris Mtn and Rediscovery Caves are all located in the heavily forested area that hadn't been visited on an official grotto trip since the 1990's. Red Tape is actually in a USFS archaeological site with five sinks spread through the site. Red Tape Cave had been pointed out to Jim Wolff by Julie Krieger, Shasta-Trinity National Forest archaeologist, in the mid 1980's. Ray Miller, Jim & Liz Wolff went to map the cave in May 1987, finding all kinds of things of interest to cavers, including white bugs in the bottom of a very damp cave. The survey totaled 350 feet, and a copy of the map and findings was turned over to the FS at the time.

It was the first trip into the lavas for new SAG members Mike & Barbara Stuffbeam. They had gone on a SAG trip in July with Chris Kennedy and some of his past students, and enjoyed themselves greatly. This time they were with an entirely different group and area: Steve Hobson, Dave Smith, and Jim & Liz Wolff. The group was directed by the GPS right to the Red Tape entrance; pretty good for locations taken about 20 years ago. In fact, all the caves that day were easily found by GPS from 20 year old locations. Barbara kept maintaining that she was just supporting Mike in his caving interest, but she was the first to poke into holes in the large sink near Red Tape, and find small voids with no going cave, and the first into Red Tape to explore all the options. For a non-caver-type, she was pretty curious.

From Red Tape, Steve and Liz wandered down slope to try and find any other openings. A streamer of neon green tape indicated that “something” was down there; it marked the entrance to a small cave that hadn't been surveyed in 1987: we should call it Green Tape Cave?

The next cave was Harris Mtn Cave. A near vertical climb-down leads to a sand castle covered cave floor, a nice display. A large mold-covered bear poo was in the center of the passage just before the sand ended and the breakdown floor started. The cave was much as I remembered it, very drippy with walking sized passage, sand or breakdown floors, and two breakdown blocked leads. Harris Mtn Cave was surveyed September 1982 to a length of 591 feet by Don Quinton and Jim & Liz Wolff.

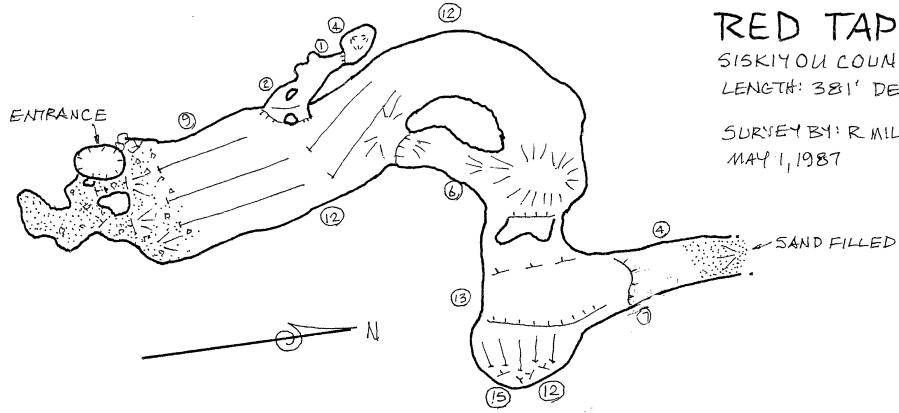
From there it was a bushwhack out to Rediscovery Cave that a pair of Jim's (Kottinger & Wolff) had found, lost, rediscovered and surveyed in 1985. And again the GPS led us right to the entrance. This is the only cave of the day that I had never been to. It had felt strange all day to not survey *something*, and I hadn't believed the old map draft and decided to resurvey the cave. After the easy climb-down the cave abruptly doubled back under itself, so that we corkscrewed down to the real floor. It was big walking passage with a breakdown floor leading to a mud filled side passage and a crawl around a breakdown pillar, then that impossible right angle to the end of the cave. Barbara scouted with Dave as far as the crawl while Mike helped Steve and Liz resurvey the cave to a new length of 239 feet from 158 feet.

With the sun nearing the horizon on that Saturday August 24, we adjourned to Floyd's Frosty in McCloud to regain all our expended calories with milkshakes and burgers.

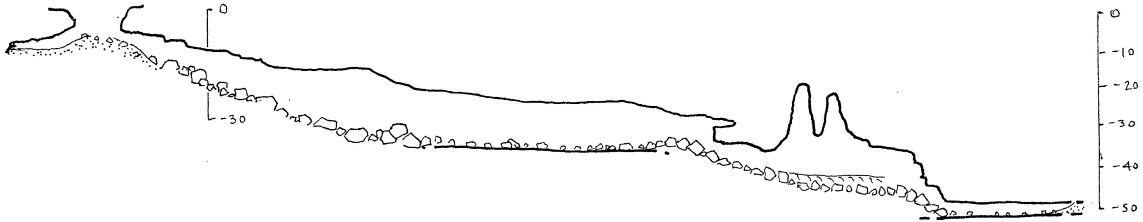
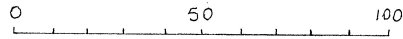
*Part 2 in the next SAG RAG: Sugarpine Butte Ice Cave*

LW

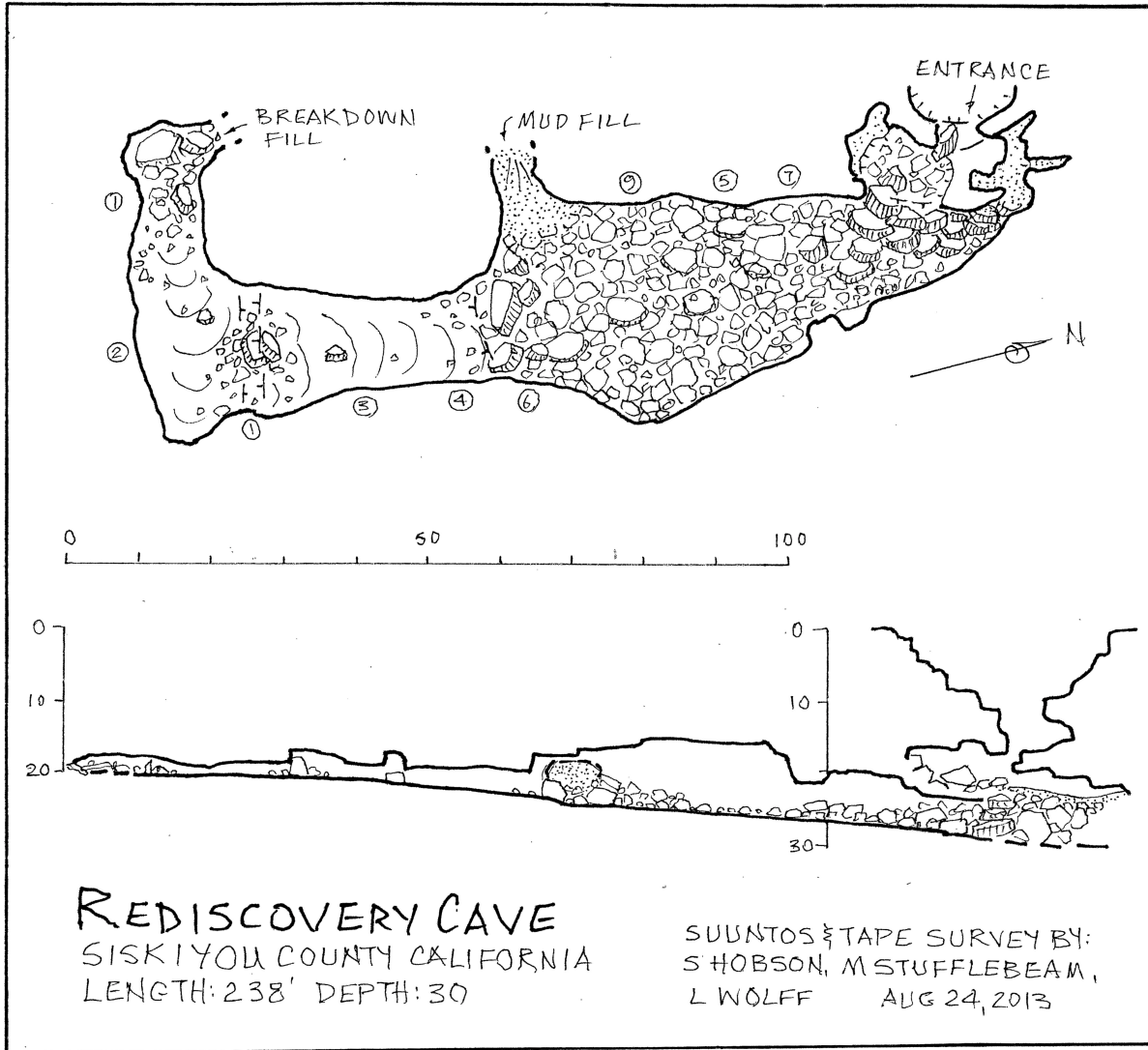
BREAKDOWN THROUGHOUT UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED



**RED TAPE CAVE**  
SISKIYOU COUNTY CALIFORNIA  
LENGTH: 381' DEPTH: 52'  
SURVEY BY: R. MILLER & L. WOLFF  
MAY 1, 1987



Map: Red Tape Cave



Map: Rediscovery Cave

**TRINITY COUNTY CAVING – Part 1: HALL CITY CAVE**

By Chris Kennedy

*October 26, 2013, the day after the SAG meeting in Weaverville, a grotto group set out rather early to see some Trinity County caves. The seven cavers were Chris Kennedy, Jed Medin, Joel Despain, Mike and Barbara Stufflebeam, and Bill and Judy Broeckel.*

Our day of caving started out like most other days of caving when I wind up being the trip leader, that is, having no idea how to get to where we wanted to go. We had directions furnished by Bill, a book called "Underground Adventures", with a full write-up on it, and several sets of road signs indicating its location, but that still didn't mean we could get right there. Luckily the mindset of most cavers is that the search is part of the trip. This day the search paid off again. Finding Hall City Cave actually went pretty smooth, we enjoyed the easy access to the cave, and found the water beautiful and clear. Jed also found the water to be quite cold. The cave had one bat hanging from the ceiling, and even though Hall City is known publicly, it's still in good shape and was a pleasure to visit, even though it makes a short trip.

*Part 2 in the next SAG RAG: Joel spots a micro-karst.*

**CK****TWO VERSIONS OF THE HALL CITY CAVE LEGEND**

"Not many miles from Del Loma Cave is one of the smallest limestone caves of the region, Hall City Cave. The entrance is spacious, and the visitor can walk erect along the passage, but the cave ends within a hundred feet. At its end a small side passage is seen, but it is two-thirds filled with water. On the left is a water-filled shaft whose bottom is lost in the crystal-clear sapphire depths.

"This pit is the source of the chief interest of the cave. It is said that two miners from the placers at Hayfork were waylaid by two Indians and murdered near Shield's Ranch. The miners were carrying gold worth \$40,000. Its weight hampered the Indians so much that a posse was able to capture them near Hall City Cave. Their captors, however, found that the Indians had thrown the gold away in a last-ditch attempt to escape. Promised their lives if they would tell the posse where to find the gold, the Indians said that they had dumped it down the pit in the cave. They were promptly hanged, and the gold has never been recovered." Halliday, William 1959. *Adventure is Underground*, pp.170-171.

"As the story goes, some time during the late 1800s a few renegade Indians attacked and killed the miners of a small hydraulic mining operation near the town of Hayfork, in Trinity County, in northern California. While the mining operation might have been small, they were doing very well. The Indians apparently stole about one hundred pounds of mostly nugget-gold from the dead miners.

"Since the Indians were on foot, and also carrying a very heavy load, it did not take long for the posse to catch up with them. In fact, in a last ditch effort to get away, the Indians stashed the gold somewhere so they could move faster. When the posse caught up with the Indians, only the Indians knew where the gold was. The men in the posse told the Indians that they would not be hung for their crimes if they would tell where they hid the gold. The Indians told the posse that they had hidden the gold in Hall City Cave. Then they were promptly hung right on the spot." McCracken, Dave. *The New 49'ers* (website).

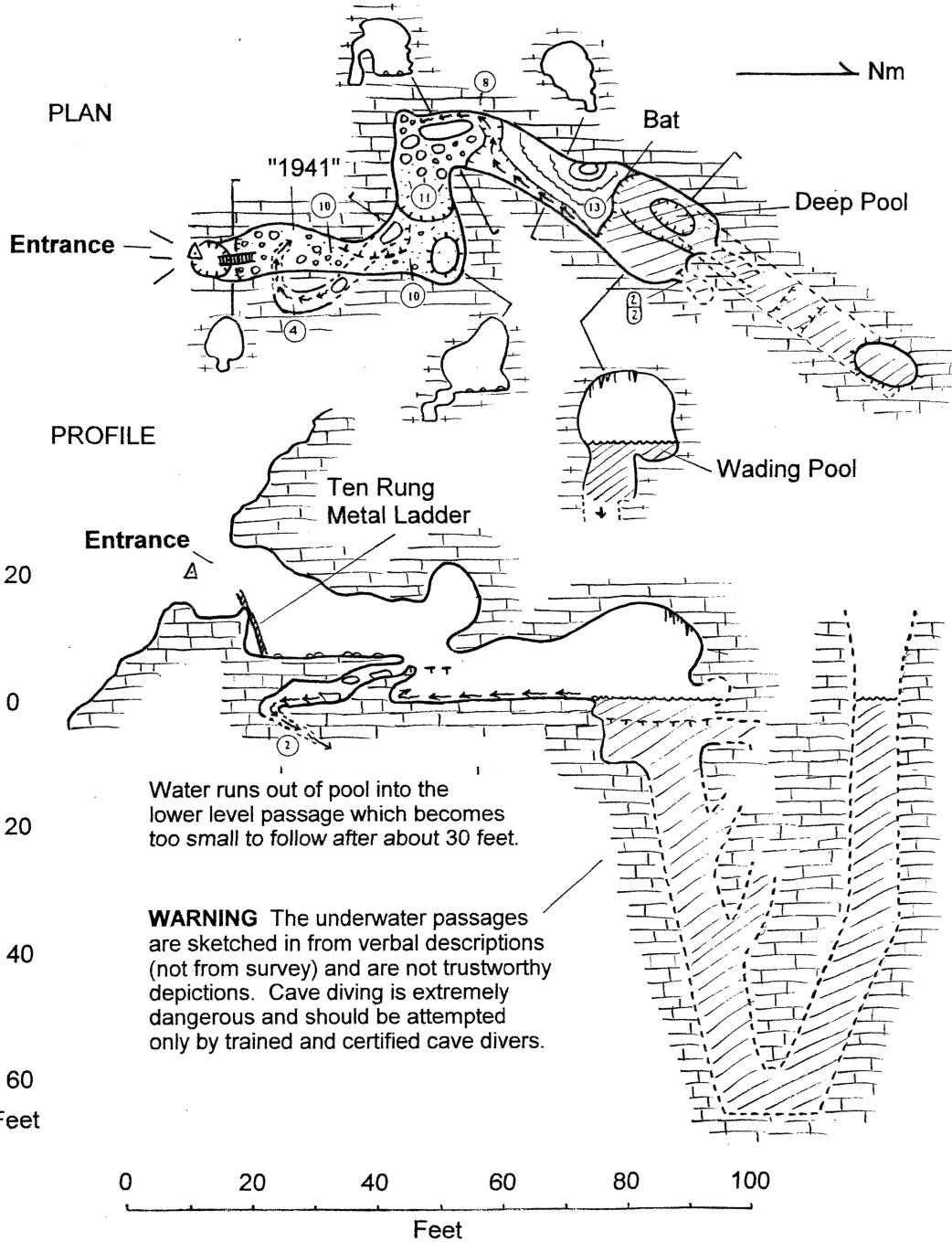


# Hall City Cave

Trinity County CA

Length 119+ ft  
Depth 22+ ft

TRINITY #008



Tape and Instrument Survey 10-26-13 and 10-28-13. Shasta Area Grotto.  
National Speleological Society. Cartography/Copyright 2013: Bill Broeckel.

Map: Hall City Cave



Bat in Hall City Cave.

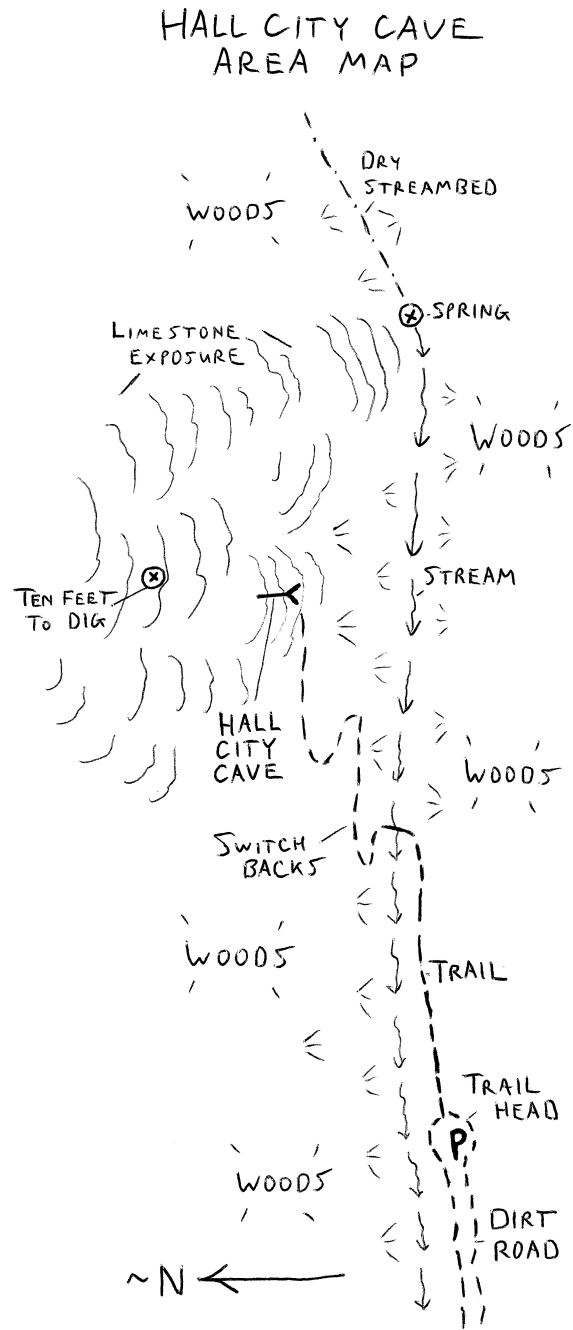


Jed Medin checks side passage.

Photos by Chris Kennedy



Judy Broeckel at Hall City Cave.



Map: Hall City Cave Area



Ladder at the entrance to Hall City Cave. 10-26-13



Forest sign along the way, in good shape. Note the plural. 10-26-13



A moth trio on blue limestone in Hall City Cave. 10-26-13

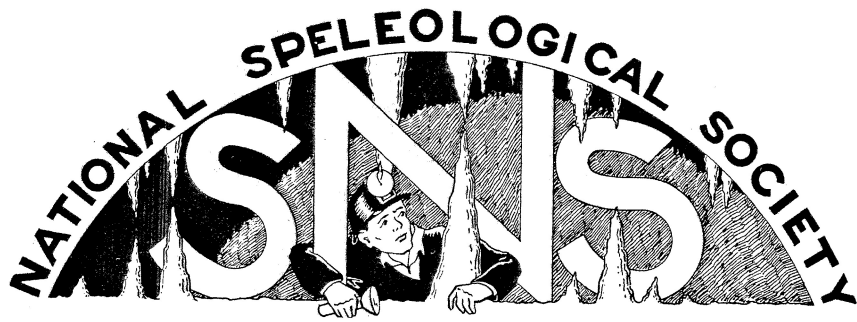


Forest sign along the way, falling down. Note the singular. 10-26-13





From a cave in Trinity County



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

**STAMP**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**TO:**

Pages 1-2	Cover & Summary – B. Broeckel
Pages 3-5	Meeting Minutes – V. Bobrow
Pages 6-8	Old Zone Caving – L. Wolff
Pages 9-12	Hall City Cave – C. Kennedy