

THE MAVERICK BULL
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF THE MAVERICK GROTTO

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 4

PRODUCED BY CHARLIE C

APRIL 1992

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 1992, GRUTA DEL PALMITO, Bustamante, Mexico. Delayed since January but is rescheduled for sometime in April. Linda Palit will be leading this trip for her Explorer Scouts. Needs help from the caving community. Contact Linda Palit at 512-699-1388.

APRIL 4-5, Monthly expedition to Mystic Cave area. Contact Woodrow Thomas 903-395-4431 or Greg Mooty.

APRIL 10-13, COLORADO BEND STATE PARK. This should be a back to normal weekend of finding and exploring new caves. Contact Butch Fralia.

APRIL 11, Pooch Amy is a member of Maverick Grotto and his wife, Teresa once was our Grotto Treasurer, well Poochs' band will be performing at Skippy's Mistake, 900 W. Division in Arlington, Texas. Go by and cheer-on a caver! They are, QUAZI & THE MOTOS. (No cover before 9 PM)

APRIL 14, MAVERICK GROTTO MEETING.

APRIL 17, SMITTLE CAVE AND OTHERS IN THE AREA. Southwestern, Missouri. A permit has been obtained for Friday, April 17. Contact Arlene Heintz 817-473-0463.

APRIL 25, PARTY. Rights of Spring at the M&W Ranch. Contact Dave "Cave" McClung 214-258-8505 for information.

APRIL 24-26, Spring MVOR, (Missouri Valley Ozarks Region) hosted by Little Egypt Grotto, St. Genevieve County, Missouri. Contact Kay Bittle, RR 5 Box 402, Marion, IL 62959 (618)995-2856.

MAY 1-3, TSA SPRING CONVENTION will be held at Bee's Campground near Concan (about twenty miles north of Uvalde) on the Frio River. The camping fee will be \$2.50 per person per night. Convention fees will be \$10.00 per person. This will include a catered meal. Volunteers are needed for registration. This is a delightful site offering seclusion and tubing trips on the river. Cave access is being planned for those who aren't interested in the technical session. There will be a photo salon and map display, bring your photo's and maps. Firewood is scarce so bring some.

MAY 8-10, COLORADO BEND STATE PARK, monthly work trip.

MAY 12, MAVERICK GROTTO MEETING.

JUNE 9, MAVERICK GROTTO MEETING.

JUNE 12-14, COLORADO BEND STATE PARK, monthly work trip. This will be the last work trip until October.

JUNE 21-27, CARLSBAD CAVERNS RESTORATIONS. Contact Dick Venters, 410 Stallion Road, Rio Rancho, NM 87124. (505)-892-7370.

JULY 14, MAVERICK GROTTO MEETING.

AUGUST 3-7, NSS CONVENTION, Salem, Indiana, Delaney Creek Park. Contact Scott Fee C/O 1992 Convention, P.O. Box 2262, Clarksville, IN, 46206.(317)291-7807. All fees are fully refundable.

OCTOBER 9-11, COLORADO BEND STATE PARK, monthly work resumes.

NOVEMBER 10, MAVERICK GROTTO MEETING, annual election of officers.

DECEMBER, MAVERICK GROTTO MEETING will not be held in favor of a Christmas Party.

COVER: This issue is primarily focused on the Boy Scouts and the BSA topic was carried to the front cover. Plans were made several months ago that this cover would be the first known 3-D cover with scanned "pop-ups" that jump out when the Maverick Bull is opened up. Three different production models failed due to the thinness and flexibility of the copy paper used in the generation of this newsletter. A small gesture of 3-D is included in this BULL. As materials are tested so will the 3-D effects. Because one person or two people compile, type, scan, arrange, print, make copies, arrange by page numbers, staple, fold, stamp, print labels and install, ...the amount and complexity of the cuts needed to make paper stand up and color the graphic, ...well, it must be simple and easy to duplicate. Issues are hand made.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

BY
 ERNEST THOMPSON
 SETON
 WITH
 A FOREWORD BY
 ROBERT B. POWELL
 AND
 A PREFACE BY
 THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION

Ernest Thompson Seton's classic book, *The Boy Scouts of America*, was first published in 1910. It was a landmark work that introduced the concept of the Boy Scouts to the American public. The book was written in a simple, accessible style that made it popular with both children and adults. It was the first of many books that Seton wrote about the outdoors and the life of the Boy Scouts.



Ernest Thompson Seton

THE BOY SCOUTS

An American Adventure

By Robert W. Peterson

This definitive history of the Boy Scouts of America has been written for their 75th anniversary (1985). The story begins on Brownsea Island in England, where Robert Baden-Powell is testing the then unconventional idea that camping can be fun and that outdoor life builds character. The subjects of his experiment are 21 boys of various backgrounds. The overwhelming success of his venture gave impetus to like-minded youth leaders across the ocean to found the Boy Scouts of America in 1910. The fledgling group answered a definite need: in less than a decade it had grown into a national organization, and by 1984 some 70,000,000 people had been members.

Part of the secret is that Scouts are very much involved in the lives of their communities. During periods of war, they sold Bonds, collected scrap metals, assisted ration and civilian boards. Today they organize conservation efforts, inner-city troops, and single-parent weekends. The nature of their involvement throughout the 75 years has reflected changes in American society.



Boy Scouts, Terry Doversberger and Daniel Torres

As the nation grew increasingly urbanized, many youngsters could no longer roam freely, ride a horse, swim, or learn how to handle tools and manage domestic

animals. Observers who remembered America's rural past worried that boys circa 1900 were no longer physically strong, self-reliant, and resourceful as their pioneer ancestors had been. So two special men, Ernest Thompson Seton (photo on previous page) and Daniel Carter Beard, resolved to address the disturbing and unequal situation of American boys. These two men played critically important roles in the foundation of Scouting within the existing structure of early 20th-century life in America. Earnest T. Seton was already famous as a naturalist, wildlife artist, author and lecturer when he determined to devote his energies to the looming problem of American youth. His initial contribution to the cause was the establishment of the Woodcraft Indians, which he founded in 1902. When Seton was 26 years old he published *Mammals of Manitoba*, the first of 46 books. When he moved into a striking house he had designed, neighborhood boys decided to test this 6-foot, bespectacled newcomer by defacing his fence and perpetrating other mischief. Instead of calling the law, Seton invited the boys to camp on his property. Out of Seton's first camp for boys grew the Woodcraft Indians.

In his autobiography, Dan Beard wrote that he first became interested in helping boys when he saw New York City newsboys sleeping on stones under a statue of Benjamin Franklin. In June 1905 he founded the Society of the Sons of Daniel Boone through the pages of *Recreation* magazine. Like Earnest T. Seton, he was a prolific correspondent, and he promoted the new organization as much by letters to boys as by his magazine writings.

It is not known how many boys were enrolled in the Woodcraft Indians or the Sons of Daniel Boone, but probably neither had more than 2,000. Both groups were the products of artists—men of vision and imagination with little interest in administration or record-keeping. While American boys with a taste for outdoor life were following Seton and Beard, another youth organization was taking shape in the mind of an English war hero named Robert S.S. Braden-Powell. His design would form the foundation of the Boy Scouts of America.

In 1903 Baden-Powell returned to England and was astonished to find that an Army manual he had written was being used by boys for outdoor fun.

Later, Seton had sent Baden-Powell a copy of *The Birch Bark Roll*, his manual for the Woodcraft Indians, which the old soldier evidently found interesting because later Seton said Baden-Powell had acknowledged the gift by writing.

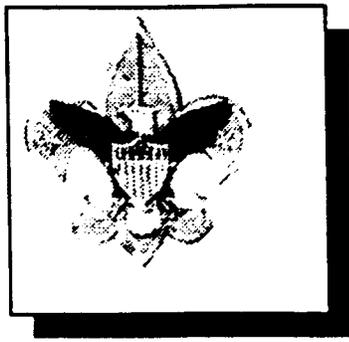
In 1907 Baden-Powell recruited 12 boys from the upper class and 9 workingmen's sons from England's southern coast and took them camping. Nobody went camping—not boys. The only camping that was done was by the Army.

The campout was successful from Baden-Powell's viewpoint, and so he set about putting his ideas into written form. The result was the first Boy Scout manual, called *Scouting for Boys*, published in March 1908. It was a 182-page pocket-size book with drawings by Baden-Powell.

August 1910 the first American Scout handbook, called *Boy Scouts of America: A Handbook of Woodcraft, Scouting and Life-craft*, came off the press. It was the hasty work of Ernest Thompson Seton, now named Chief Scout, who combined parts of his own *Birch Bark Roll* and Baden-Powell's *Scouting for Boys*. In the preface, Seton claimed credit for starting Boy Scouting with his Indians, saying that Baden-Powell had incorporated "the principles of the Indians with other ethical features...as well as by giving it a partly military organization, and carefully compiled a fascinating handbook." Seton didn't mention Dan Beard and his Boy Pioneers.

The replacement for Seton's hastily written manual was published August 31, 1911. It was named *Handbook for Boys*. Like today's *Official Boy Scout Handbook*, the *Handbook for Boys* also covered Woodcraft and nature lore, camping skills, athletics, health, first aid and lifesaving, patriotism and citizenship. Sections were contributed by 16 experts in various fields, including Earnest Thompson Seton, the National Association of Audubon Societies, the U.S. Bureau of Entomology and the Geological Survey.

By the spring of 1916 memberships in the BSA was approaching 200,000, and Congress recognized the movement's value and growing strength by granting it a federal charter on June 15. The charter gave formal protection to the name, insignia and terminology of the young organization.



MAVERICK HOSTS TROOP 144 INTO THE
"RIVER OF HELL!"

◊ Achilles by chance had seen Polyxena, daughter of King Priam, perhaps on the occasion of the truce which was allowed the Trojans for the burial of Hector. He was captivated with her charms, and to win her in marriage agreed to use his influence with the Greeks to grant peace to Troy. While in the temple of Apollo, negotiating the marriage, Paris discharged at him a poisoned arrow, which, guided by Apollo, wounded Achilles in the heel, the only vulnerable part about him. For Thetis his mother had dipped him when an infant in the river Styx, which made every part of him invulnerable except the heel by which she held him.

Bacchus was the son of Jupiter and Semele. Juno, to gratify her resentment against Semele, contrived a plan for her destruction. Assuming the form of Beroë, her aged nurse, she insinuated doubts whether it was indeed Jove himself who came as a lover. Heaving a sigh, she said, "I hope it will turn out so, but I can't help being afraid. People are not always what they pretend to be. If he is indeed Jove, make him give some proof of it. Ask him to come arrayed in all his splendors, such as he wears in heaven. That will put the matter beyond a doubt." Semele was persuaded to try the experiment. She asked a favor, without naming what it is. Jove gives his promise, and confirms it with the irrevocable oath, attesting the river Styx, terrible to the gods themselves. Then she made known her request. The god would have stopped her as she spoke, but she was too quick for him. The words escaped, and he could neither unsay his promise nor her request. In deep distress he left her and

returned to the upper regions. There he clothed himself in his splendors, not putting on all his terrors, as when he overthrew the giants, but what is known among the gods as his lesser panoply. Arrayed in this, he entered the chamber of Semele. Her mortal frame could not endure the splendors of the immortal radiance. She was consumed to ashes.

In Mythology, Styx, is defined as the river of Hate (Greek)-that flowed nine times round the infernal regions. The five rivers of hell are the Styx, Acheron, Cocytus, Phlegethon and Lethe. For this occasion, it doesn't matter if you believe in ancient Greek Mythology. This particular Friday evening bore three terra firma gentlemen from the Arlington, Garland and Weatherford metroplex with a goal of leading an expedition into River Styx. Then, to return and tell about it. This River Styx Cave system, is in King County Texas.

Boy Scouts of America, Troop 144 is trained in the art of safe caving.

Master caver Mark Porter and Dale Ellison made contact with these skilled pioneers of the underworld in an area that has been made famous for claiming many innocent motorists of the freeway. Veteran caver Jimmy Thomas contrived a plan for a daring rescue from the sheer boggy grasp of the slimy sucking mud. A successful rescue permitted the students of Hercules to engage in erecting their camp site in the sheer madness of strobing lights.

A mighty Greek hero, Hercules, son of Jupiter and Alcmena, who took part in the expedition of the Argonauts, and won immortality by accomplishing twelve feats which are known as the Labors of Hercules.

Saturday morning greeted the explorers with very clear skies and very cold temperatures. This act of the gods made the scouts feisty in spirit-they broke out all their banner award flags and flew them proudly in the crisp breeze. Alas, the perfect setting for a goodly portion of golden roasted ram meat, bread and strong hot black coffee. (Editors' note to moms and/or dads: Some of the guys had milk and orange juice!)

Gearing up and last minute instructions from Tom Torres and Dale Ellison were the last event before the march of anticipation

to the entrances of River Styx. The '63 and the '91 entrances were used to penetrate the zone of absolute darkness. Some areas on the way to the Junction room were used for resting, allowing the troop to regroup.

Often times when new cavers are led into a cave by more experienced cavers, their movement is too fast; the sheer enjoyment and newness of the experience is diluted.

At the Junctionroom, individuals were encouraged to fan out and explore different areas adjacent to the immediate area. They climbed, crawled and twisted their little and big bodies into every nook and subterranean cranny. After thirty minutes of intense exploration, everyone calmed and accepted the new environment. A numerical countdown was created to insure each person was accounted for prior to relocation deeper into River Styx. We ventured passed the "Window" and enjoyed a belly crawl into a large breakdown room where rose gypsum was appreciated. Up the breakdown slopes into the "Dome" room; here again, nature's artistry was explored. Discussion of how sink holes are formed, this time, it was discussed from the bottom side of a sink potential while it is still a room.

Our trek led us to the infamous "Racing Stripe Room" (see Figure 1) where we took a long welcome break. Here, perhaps for the first time in their lives, the experience of total darkness was experienced. While all lights were terminated, we discussed the asset of illumination and the reasons behind three or more reliable light sources. The topic took on a serious aspect when the suggestion was made that all light sources be taken up and the same route to the exit be made without their illuminating benefits. We sat in silence trying to hear any sounds that the River Styx cave system might emit. The sound of a drop of water landing somewhere in the darkness amplified our awareness of deep dark emotions inside each of us. That's the distorted fear of darkness and of close places. Both emotions were thumped squarely on the nose.

Whether you believe in the tales of mythology or not, each of our personal Achilles heels were exposed which we faced together. All scouts that entered the River Styx cave system that day did so with a bit of apprehension as any new undertaking contains. We all exited with new sense of

awareness, smell, sight, and pride in ourselves. We successfully accomplished something most people will never attempt let alone complete.

The next time you hear the word Styx, think of what the American College Dictionary says, "a river of the lower world, over which the souls of the dead were ferried by Charon, and by which the gods swore their most solemn oaths". Just smile and say with pride, "I've been there!"



Boy Scout Troop 144 Awards Ceremony, ...April 1991

In the section containing memorable dates in U.S. history in the 1984 World Almanac and Book of Facts, there's only one listing for the year 1910. The seven word entry reads, "Boy Scouts of America founded Feb. 8." Surely something else of significance occurred in 1910, but the truth is that whatever happened could not have affected life in these United States more than Scouting has.

The period before World War I was a transitional time wavering between the old and the new. In 1909, for example—the year before William Boyce and his friends incorporated the BSA—Admiral Robert Peary went by dogsled to the North Pole. In 1911—the year after Scouting began, pioneer aviator C.P. Rodgers startled the nation by flying from New York to Pasadena in 82 hours and 4 minutes. His flight was a remarkable feat, even though he left New York on September 17 and arrived in Pasadena on November 5.

The world was really different in 1910. The words "Boy Scout" were not common then. Recognition came later. Scouting was famous

enough in 1915 to induce the most famous American band leader ever, John Philip Sousa, write a march dedicated to the Boy Scouts of America. The public came to recognize that Scouts always were ready to help others and always were prepared for whatever happened.

The year 1928 demonstrated that our motto, "Be Prepared," was not idle words. Three Eagle Scouts accompanied explorers Martin and Asa Johnson on their rugged safari to Tanganyika. A fourth Eagle sailed with Commodore Richard Byrd to Antarctica, an experience that today would be comparable to recruiting a Scout to spend time on a space satellite.

No one has asked a Scout to fly into space, but former Scouts made our first thrusts away from the earth—and some of them walked on the moon. Two Boy Scouts became President of the United States. The Boy Scouts of America has been woven into the fabric of America. We are part of the tapestry of history, because millions of Americans have made us so.

F.L. Tarr, Chief Scout Executive, BSA, 1984

This essay used portions of a very good book written for the Scouts 75th anniversary which was in 1984. I can recommend it for a lot of detail deep into the history of the Boy Scouts. You should be able to find it at your local library. Look for: The Boy Scouts, An American Adventure. The author is Robert W. Peterson, published by Heritage Publishing Corporation, 1984.



Terry Doversberger exiting River Styx's' entrance.



Fig. 1 Jason Timmermann, Josh Elliott, Mark Emerson

Depending upon what happens between now and then, Next month may contain information about how to eat like a King/Queen or whatever, using the "Boiling Water-Full Meal Deal For Camp Food Technology," or better known by its acronym, "Lazy Cooking."

Staff

March Maverick Grotto Meeting

Chairman Butch Fralia opened the March Grotto meeting at precisely 7:30 P.M. Butch recognized several visitors. There was Jim and John (didn't get last names), Cathy Tompkins and Martin. Another visitor to grace the halls of Smokey's Ribs and for the first time at a cave club meeting was Bryan Martin. (Editor Dale Ellison was interviewed by a writer for the Star Telegram Newspaper the Thursday prior to the meeting and the article on caving was published the Sunday prior to the meeting. Dale's phone number was listed for further information and Bryan Martin made contact with cavers.) Tom Torres and Cindy Hamner attended.

Butch Fralia announced that Bruce Anderson is no longer toting the Grottos' carbide around. If you're a member of Maverick, the carbide is FREE, if you're not a member, the carbide is \$0.50 a pound. You must furnish your own container.

Announcements: Pay your dues to Treasurer Jimmy Thomas or any of the Officers of Maverick Grotto. Your time for the Newsletter to expire is at hand if you continue to delay this important payment. Russell Hill telephoned and stated that he will be attending the meeting but would be a little late. He wanted to thank everybody for the thoughtful and welcomed support during a difficult time. It was announced that the gate to Gorman Cave is now complete and this coming weekend will be project as usual. There were no other announcements.

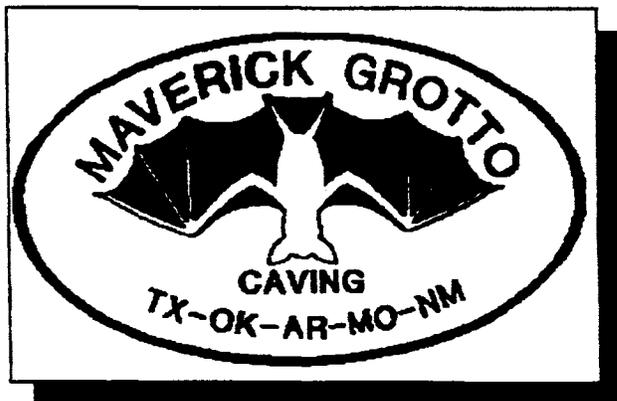
As discussed and agreed upon in the February meeting, the vote to update bylaw number six of our Constitution took place this evening. Butch Fralia announced that all of the requirements have been met as per our Constitution. The change has been read to the Grotto at the previous meeting and was published in the newsletter prior to this meeting. As you recall, the change to the Constitution only changed the dollar amount for the dues. The initial change for the dues increase took place by Grotto vote roughly three years ago when Dale Ellison became Chairman of the Grotto. This vote will change the Constitution to reflect the dues increase. The vote was had and the measure passed for the change in wording of

the Constitution to bylaw number 6.

We had a report from the party committee which consists of Steve Fritts and Dave McClung. DFW Grotto has discussed this event and it was finally agreed upon that the date for this year's party will be April 25th-26th at the M & W Ranch on the Brazos River. (By the way, this party is a joint venture of Maverick and DFW Grotto's but all cavers are welcome. It's like a mini OTR.) DFW will be cooking this year and Maverick will be furnishing the keg.

It was announced that the possibility of the 1994 NSS Convention in Texas is very strong and a LOGO for the convention along with a catchy slogan must be invented very soon. So accept this portion of the newsletter your personal invitation to design, draw, collate, staple and mutilate the slogan and logo for the '94 NSS Convention in Texas. The last time the convention was here in Texas, the slogan was, "Deep in the Karst of Texas!" Please give the logo stuff serious thought. Everybody that won't give it serious thought thanks you.

With no other business to discuss the meeting moved into the entertainment portion with an excellent video of cave diving in Florida. Ed Young has already earned his salary for the excellent production of programs this year. He has promised to surpass your wildest expectations in months to come.



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THE MAVERICK BULL is the monthly newsletter of THE MAVERICK GROTTTO, an internal organization of THE NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (NSS G-322). The editor invites all individuals and other Grottoes to submit articles, news, maps, cartoons, art and photographs. If the material is to be returned, a self-address stamped envelope should accompany it.

REPRINTING ARTICLES: Internal organizations of the NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY may reprint any item (unless copyrights belong to the author, as will be stated in the byline) first appearing in THE MAVERICK BULL, if proper credit is given and complete copy of the publication is delivered to the editor of THE MAVERICK BULL at the time of publication. Other organizations should contact the editor at the address herein.

EXCHANGES: THE MAVERICK GROTTTO, will exchange newsletters with other grottoes. Contact the editor.

COMPLEMENTARY NEWSLETTERS: THE MAVERICK GROTTTO will provide complementary newsletters to persons or organizations who provide cave access (i.e. landowners) or otherwise provide assistance to cavers. THE MAVERICK GROTTTO will provide one free issue to persons interested in becoming members.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Subscription rates are \$10.00 per year for members and non-members.

MEMBERSHIP POLICY: Any individual with interest, beliefs and actions consistent with the purposes of THE MAVERICK GROTTTO and THE NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY is eligible for membership. Acceptance of new members is based on payment of dues and a mandatory three trip requirement with at least three different grotto members. These three members shall act as sponsors. At least one sponsor must attend the meeting at which the membership vote is taken. A two-thirds majority vote of the members present will be required for acceptance.

MEETINGS: Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at Smokey's Ribs, 5300 E. Lancaster, Fort Worth. It is a little less than one mile west of Loop 820 and next door to K-Mart. The time is 7:00 P.M. and the food is good.

CARBIDE: Grotto carbide is available at the meeting on even numbered months. The carbide is free to all members and is sold to others at the price of fifty-cents per pound. Anyone needing carbide at other times should contact Butch Fralia (817/346-2039) to arrange for pickup.

LIBRARY: Support your Grotto Library. Russell Hill will be accepting books, magazines articles on cave related topics, copies of homemade cave videos, etc. for our library. We wish to thank Russell for his efforts each month to bring and set up the Grotto Library.

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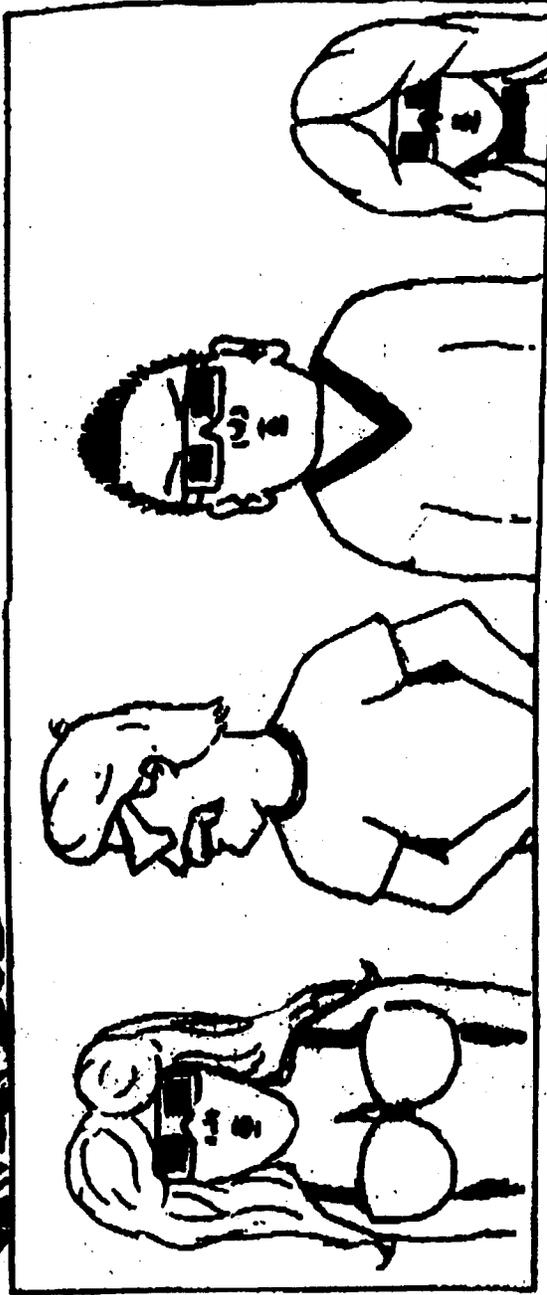
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CAVE RESCUE: CALL COLLECT (512)686-0234



COVER BOB



THE 3-D PRESENTATION AT THE GROTTO MEETING HELD EVERY-BODY SPELLBOUND, ESPECIALLY BOB.

by mark porter