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# WILLIAMS CANYON PROJECT

THE NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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## Autumn Meeting

### *The Cave of the Winds, Manitou Springs*

October 7, 1995

9:00 a.m. -- 3:30 p.m.

## D I S C U S S I O N T O P I C S

### 1995-96 PROJECTS

#### **Narrows Cave Dig:** Walt Rubeck + Dan Sullivan

It is proposed that the lower level dig be continued to the south, following the ancient watercourse. Geologists believe the cave's upper level is an indication of extensive passageways yet to be discovered south of the known system, perhaps linking to the Deepwater section of Manitou Cave. An analysis of the sediment at the chimney to the cave's upper levels suggest a breakthrough to open passageways may soon be forthcoming.

The dig will use wheelbarrows, the USAFA chute system and dump trucks for removal of the flood debris, much like in 1994-95. The chute will be removed and stored following the end of the digging season in April 1996 with the site restored for summer use.

#### **Manitou Cave Dig:** Jon Barker + Chas Lindsey

Jon and Chas propose continuing dig projects within Manitou Cave, specifically the southern-leading digs in the Deepwater section. The C Survey digs, past the Friday the 13th Room, are particularly promising.

Other digs, in the Pedro's and Centipede section, may also see some work during the season. There are several possibilities of extensions within this system.

#### **Hackleman's Dig:** Tom Dotter

The search continues for the legendary Hackleman's Cave. Assumed to lie between the Centipede section of Manitou Cave and Huccacove Cave, this cave may have extensive passageways leading to the east. Stories from the 1950s and early 1960s (the last time the cave was apparently open for visitation) suggest it is a complex cave with good potential for extension both east and south. Tom Dotter and others have been working throughout the spring and summer in a dig site at the Leadville/Manitou limestone contact east of Manitou Cave. This dig, originally identified by Hackleman to Gene Dover in 1979, may lead down into the system. Other possibilities exist.

## **Breezeway Cave Project: Rick Rhinehart, Randy Reck + Fred Luiszer**

Thanks to the installation of the Holy Waters Bridge, inner Breezeway is now more easily accessible with less impact on the cave through routine caver travel. It can be expected that exploration will increase in 1995-96 in anticipation of the NSS convention.

There are various current and possible digs within the system. These include the southern end of Cowboy Heaven, the Gemini Crawl at the south end of the Never-Ending Crawl and digs in the Little Mountain Room, the San Andreas breakdown and the lower levels. Through the use of various teams of cavers concentrating on particular dig projects, it is hoped that multiple breakthroughs into extensive new regions can be accomplished this season.

A connection to Huccacove is also a possibility through the excavation of a shaft in Breezeway's entrance series. This is low priority for this season, however.

Other Breezeway projects include restoration of impacted areas (ie, Holy Waters, the Never-Ending Crawl), further photodocumentation of the cave and its features by qualified photographers, cave inventory and scientific study. It is not expected that the cave will be opened to significant sightseeing during the 1995-96 season.

## **Cave of the Winds Resurvey Project: Paul Burger + Steve Reames**

Much work was accomplished during the 1994-95 season on the Cave of the Winds resurvey. Survey teams have surveyed much of the main portions of the system to current NSS standards. It is expected the cave will be completed by early 1996, with a map to follow by summer. Survey data should be made available to those cavers with Larry Fish's Compass computer program.

## **LUNCH**

### **Project Policies: Tom Dotter + Paul Burger**

In January, 1995, Tom Dotter proposed a series of policies for the members of the project. These were considered at the April 1995 meeting and generally accepted. In May, Paul Burger, on behalf of the Cartography section of the project, submitted to Grant Carey a more extensive list of policies for the section. Should Paul's policies be considered for the project as a whole?

Another topic for discussion is the establishment of guidelines for commercial sales of project materials, including maps, images, etc.

### **WCP Trip Leader Update/Changes: Rick Rhinehart**

Canyon Total: 25 leaders

Breezeway Total: 15 leaders

The project can consider changes, updates, deletions and the like for trip leaders in Williams Canyon during the 1995-96 season.

### **1996 NSS Convention: Rick Rhinehart**

Consideration of the upcoming NSS convention in Salida. Should the project submit materials, including maps, for the official *NSS Convention Guidebook*? Also, should the project host a post-convention weekend in Williams Canyon with trips to area caves and camping along the Williams Canyon road between the Narrows and Manitou Cave (if so, what about trips into Breezeway, sanitation, water and campground security)?

### **Open Topics for Discussion**

Other Proposed Dig Projects

Gates + Locks (Grand Caverns barrel gates, Huccacove lock, etc.)

Report on Current Scientific Studies

### **Next Meeting Date?**