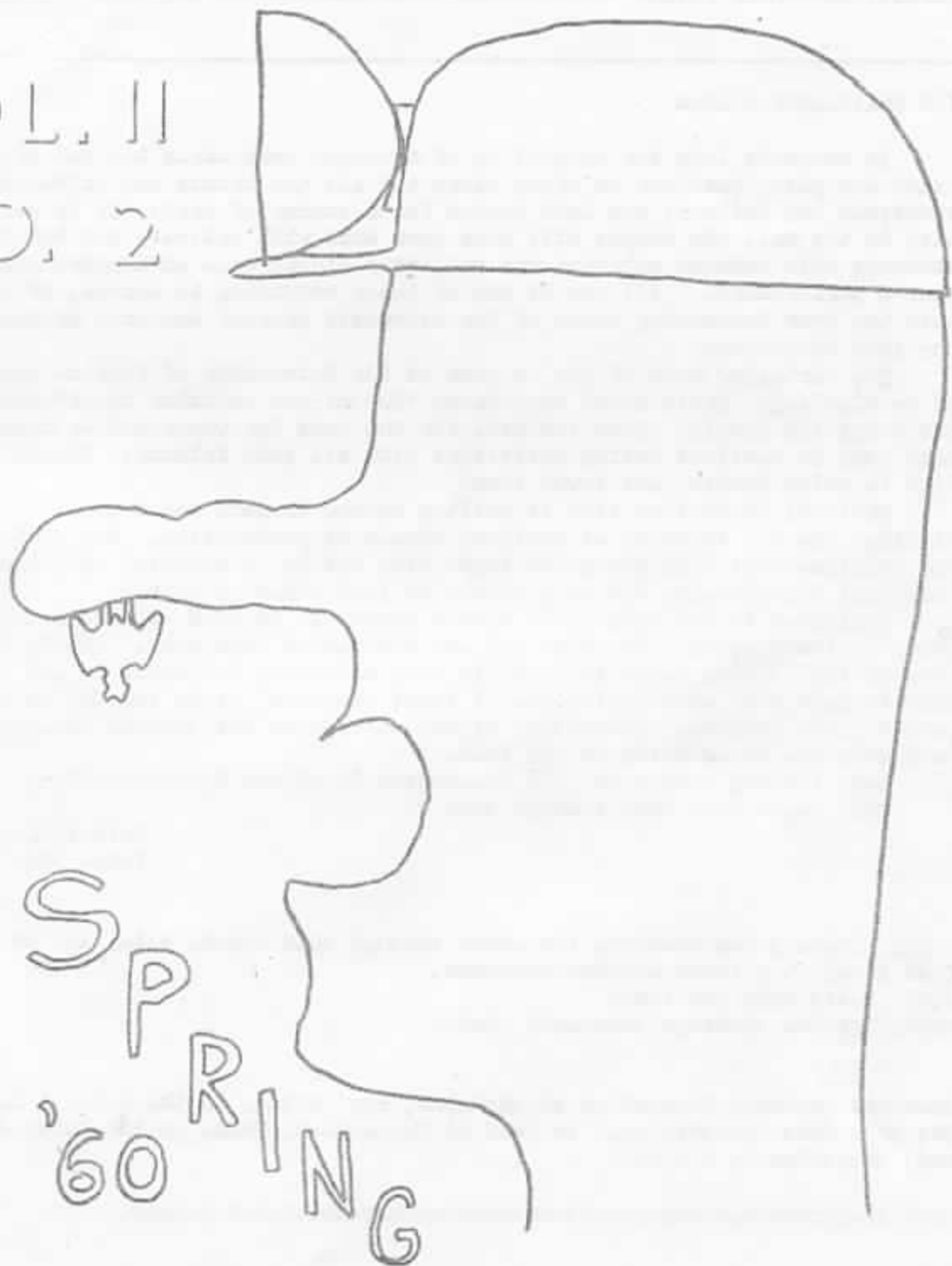


THE
FLORIDA SPELEOLOGIST

VOL. II

NO. 2



S
P
'60 R I N G

The Grod Pile	3
The Chairman's Column—Pete Ricca	2
The Editor's Word—Lou Hippenssler	4
Letter to the Editor—Oz Hawksley	5
Cave Diver Killed, Second Missing, at Tallahassee	4
Nickle Cadaius Lights—Al Higgins	7
The Great Witch Pot Hunt—Bob Ferrins	10
Cave Cookery	11
Climax!	12
Return to Marianna	12
Formations—Omar Khass	?

THE CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

In academic life the completion of a school year marks the end of an era. Exams are past, the slate is wiped clean and all the trials and tribulations, successes and failures are left behind for a summer of rest. It is certain that in the fall the campus will once more buzz with activity and returning students with renewed ambition can set their sights high to improve upon last year's performance. Will you be one of those returning to school, or will you join the ever increasing ranks of the extremely capable who drop or flunk out for lack of purpose.

The mortality rate of FSC members at the University of Florida continues to be alarming. Let's throw away those "End of the semester blues" and hit the books for finals. Give 'em hell for the next few weeks and be around next year to continue caving activities with all your friends. Finals are a time to raise grades, not lower them.

National Convention time is rolling around in June and fros all advance billings the get-together at Carlsbad should be provocative. The meetings and politics that will transpire there will not be as colorful as national political conventions, but they should be just about as heated.

Apologies to the SERA slide circle program. As SERA members probably realize, the Florida slide show has not circulated this year. Due to the loss of the 1950-51 slide tape it has been extremely difficult to get members to part with even duplicates of their precious slides for use in this year's slide program. Therefore, expect to receive our beloved program either into this summer or early in the fall.

Look for big doings in this summer issue of the Speleologist.
Till September, have a happy summer.

Pete (Pogo) Ricca
Pres. FSC

PETE: There I was crawling for miles through this tight, slimy little passage. Then finally, I found another entrance.
JOE: Where were you then?
PETE: At the sewerage treatment plant.

Remember National Convention at Carlsbad, New Mexico, on the 9, 10, & 11 of June. The SERA Cave Carnival will be held at Cumberland, Tenn. on two labor day week-ends, September 3, 4, & 5.

It still says you can't grow eggplant in a cave, get that one out of the corner.

The Florida Speleologist

Volume XX, number 2, Spring, 1960

Published by the FLORIDA SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, BOX 2581, Univ. Stat., Gainesville

Editor: Louis A. Hippenheimer

Assistants: Alton Higgins, Tony Kambicor, Pete Ricks, and Gary Shann.

THE GOOD PILE

THE CALLING IS COMING. BOB IS DUE TO ARRIVE AT THE INTERNATIONAL ON THE 25. HE LEFT BOLIVIA BY AIR APRIL 22. THE TIME LAG IS DUE TO STOPS ON WAYS TO PICK UP SPECIALISTS.***ALSO RECENT REFUGEES: WAYNE PIERCE AND BOB JAMES, BIDDING BIG UNCLE ADIEU; JOE PYLEA, DECIDING TO PAD HERE INSTEAD OF FLA I; JEF. GARDNER, AFTER ILNESS.***THE CLUB HAS JUST GAINED A NEW MEMBER, ONE WITH SPECIAL TALENTS. HE IS KING KONG, A 10 OUNCE SPIDER MOWLEY. HE WAS MADE IT BY MRS. DON ADDIS, THE EDITOR OF THE ORANGE PEEL. THE KING SHOULD BE A GREAT HELP IN WIGWAG PAGES AWAY.***LATEST FSS TELEMASTER IS SWINGING ON THE ROPE ON THE OAR IN FRONT OF JAKE'S PAD. THERE IS A HURDLE CHAMPIONSHIP TO SEE WHO CAN SWING THE FURTEST DISTANCE WITHOUT HAVING TO BE SCRAPED UP.***AFTER TEN YEARS OF DIGGING, SEVERAL CREWS FROM THE FSS HAVE TRACED OUT THE WIND TUNNEL IN WARREN'S CAVE. IT OPENS UP INTO A FABULOUS NEW SECTION WHICH MAKES WARREN'S THE LARGEST CAVE IN FLORIDA. FULL DETAILS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE SPECIAL WARREN'S CAVE ISSUE OF THE SPELEOLOGIST COMING OUT THIS SUMMER.***PARTY NEWS: THE CAVE COTILLION WAS A FABULOUS SUCCESS. MOST OF THE PEOPLE AND ALIENOS, SO THE ORIENTAL ATMOSPHERE WAS COMPLETE. HIGHLIGHT OF THE AFFAIR WAS PETE'S "BEACON BEANIE," A LITTLE WHITE HELMET WITH A FLASHING RED LIGHT ON TOP.***A WELCOME-BACK-TO-CIVILIAN-LIFE PARTY WAS HELD FOR WAYNE AND BOB. THE FIRST NIGHT WAS A NO BIRD/ AND POOL SONGS GET-TOGETHER AT PETE'S PAD. THE NEXT DAY AND NIGHT WAS A CAVE DIVING AND WITCHPOY STEW COOKOUT AT JUG SPRINGS. AFTER AN AFTERNOON OF SWIMMING AND DIVING, WE HAD BOB PERRINE'S HEAT CHICKEN STEW AND SOME OF HIS DELICIOUS HOME-CAUGHT FROGEGGS. THE WEEKEND WAS LIVED UP EVEN MORE BY HAVING JAY TALL IN TOWN. HE HAD COME UP FOR THE WEEKEND FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF FLA II.***MAY 8 WAS THE DATE OF THE UNBIRTHDAY PARTY WE HELD FOR JAKE HOFFMAN. WHAT NONE OF US KNEW WAS THAT HIS BIRTHDAY WAS MAY 9. THIS DIDN'T SPOIL THE FESTIVITIES, HOWEVER. THE CLUB GAVE HIM THE NEWLY RECOVERED WITCHPOY, A NEW LICENSE PLATE FOR HIS TRAILER, AND A COPY OF THE ORGANIZATION LAD. IT WAS AT THIS PARTY THAT WE DISCOVERED A NEW AND BETTER USE FOR PETE'S HORRIBLE THAN DRINKING IT. THAT NEW WAY IS TO MERELY POUR IT OVER THE HEAD OF ANYONE IN SIGHT. THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED. AMONG THE DOUSED WERE TWO SEVEN YEAR OLD BOYS WHO HAPPENED TO BE PASSING BY. (NOTE: PETE'S BEAR SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER A DOSSING BEGINS. HIGH CLASS STUFF LIKE QUIGG'S PALE SLAB ALE SHOULD ALWAYS BE DRUNKEN.)* **NSS CONVENTION TIME AGAIN. YOUR EDITOR WILL BE OUT THERE, ALONG WITH DOC AND DARLIS JACKSON. A FEW OTHER FSSers MAY MAKE THE SCENE, NOTHING DEVELOPED.***PEOPLE AROUND GAINESBURG TRYING TO GET UP A SCOOTER COTILLION TO BUZZ UP TO TENNESSEE FOR THE CAVE CARNIVAL. LILE CRAZ. MAN.***COPIES OF VOLUME XX OF "THE BOOK" ARE AVAILABLE BY MAIL FROM BOX 2581, UNIVERSITY STATION FOR \$2.20 EA. PLUS FIVE CENTS POSTAGE CHARGE PER COPY.***THE FSS HAS PARTIALLY RECOGNIZED A NEW SECTION OF THE CLUB. IT IS THE RAZORBACK SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND IT HOLDS ITS MEETINGS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT FAYETT SVILER. THE CLUB IS PROUD TO WELCOME ITS FIRST OUT OF STATE SECTION AND WISHES THE RAZORBACKS ALL THE SUCCESS IN THE WORLD.***ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS WILL PROBABLY BE HELD THIS SUMMER TO FORM A NEW TAMPA BAY SECTION OF THE FSS. ALL OF THE SUN COAST CAVERS WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND.***COMING EVENTS: BE SURE TO ATTEND THE FSS TUBING PARTY ON THE WITCHPOY RUN THE WEEKEND OF MAY 7.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 12 — SPELEOLOGIST staff writer — The body of a Florida State University skindiver was recovered from a cave near Tallahassee today. One of his diving companions is still missing and is presumed drowned. Members of the FSU diving club pulled to the surface the body of Larry Townsend, 21, of Darien, Georgia. They were not able to find the body of Roy Akins, 21, of Savannah, Georgia. The light Akins was carrying was found, however.

Rescue operations were temporarily called to a halt this afternoon as skindivers waited for the mud they had stirred up to settle. The sheriff's office said it has requested navy divers to assist in operations.

Townsend, Akins, and Joseph McLaughlin, 18, of Hialeah, Florida, were diving yesterday in the sink which is located in Dismal Swamp. According to McLaughlin, they were exploring an underwater cave about thirty feet wide and four hundred and fifty feet long at a depth of sixty-five feet. McLaughlin had returned to the surface and became alarmed when his two companions failed to surface.

Townsend's body was found in one of the numerous small rooms which branch off the side of the cave. His lung contained only fifty pounds of air and the intake valve of his regulator was jammed.

It was believed that Townsend, a relatively inexperienced diver, had gotten into trouble and Akins, who had more than two hundred descents to his credit, had gone to his assistance.

None of the divers involved were cavers or had knowledge of the special techniques developed for cave diving. Cave diving is one of the most dangerous fields in speleology and should be undertaken only by those versed in those specialized skills. As is likely in this case, a minor malfunction which would be no cause for alarm in open water can be a serious or even fatal matter within the confines of an underwater cave. FSU divers should always remember to follow the FSU Diving Code and should always take extra precautions against accident.

THE EDITOR'S WORD

In the April NSS EMS Brother Nicholas brings up the interesting idea of amalgamating all the grotto's publications into one magazine for each region. The individual grotto would publish only a single sheet monthly listing the time and place of the next meeting and proposed field trips. He argues that there is much waste and duplication because different newsletters often publish similar articles. Under the proposed plan all articles would be sent to a regional editor who would condense them should overlapping occur. The regional newsletter would be financed on a "per capita per grotto" basis.

Several flaws in this thesis may be pointed out. First, the management of such a regional newsletter would be extremely difficult. The editor would have no contact with his contributors and would be unable to prod them into turning out manuscripts. It would end up as most regional publications are now, containing primarily news of the area in which it is edited. Secondly, a monthly list of meeting and trip times would be of practically no use to a grotto such as the FSS which meets weekly at the same time and place. Field trips are usually planned only a day or two ahead of time at lunch or supper at our table in the Cafeteria. The single sheet is used by some grottoes, Colorado is an example, with some success. However all grottoes which use it meet very seldom and take very few trips. With one meeting and about three caving trips per week, this would be an absurdity for the FSS. Thirdly, the newsletter is a symbol of the grotto's prestige. A good newsletter usually means an active grotto, with a few notable exceptions. The newsletter lets other grottoes around the country know exactly what the group is doing and how successful it is in its projects. Lastly, a newsletter should publish speleological information of lasting value to its readers and should provide entertainment as well. The SPELEOLOGIST has never published the minutes of the club's meetings and will doubtless never do so. Its prime purpose is to serve its readers in the best way it can. This it will strive to do. -Jou

Dear Mr. Hippencoefer:

....I read your editorial by Rice and would like to make a few comments which might be helpful. First let me say that I am no longer an officer of NSS and that I will no longer be on the board after the new elections, so this does not represent any official opinion—just my own.

Associate membership in NSS has never included voting or office holding. This is nothing new at all. It is also in line with the policies of any similar organization. Instead of being penalized, students are given a privilege on this item. Only students may remain associate membership for more than a year. Others must pay the full membership after the first year. Since I was one of the persons who fought for this some years ago, I am a bit disgruntled at the very careless interpretation the author of the editorial made. It must be remembered that financially, an Associate member does not pull his own weight in the society. Therefore, each student who is an Associate member is getting a gift of part of his subscription etc. from the rest of us who are Regular or higher paying members!

I have never been able to see why so many grottos and people in the NSS spend so damn much time trying to pick a fight. It just isn't worth it and it has obtained for cavers the reputation of being some of the ornierest persons going. If a student grotto feels picked upon then why be a student grotto?? Why not become a regular chapter? You probably have enough NSS members to do it in a big club anyway. When we formed a chapter here about 1953 or 1954, we refused to organize a student grotto because we could see the disadvantages of it. Mainly we wanted the stability and permanency of a regular grotto which would include local residents and keep the group going in spite of the large student turnover. We have had a rather stable group as a result and we continue to grow without any effort to recruit people, even though most of our members are undergrad or grad students. Recently, Chouteau Grotto became a regular grotto at the University of Missouri for the same reason. They wanted people outside the university and the university said no, as is usually the case at colleges and the main reason for the NSS rule!

Of course, you always have a way around such of this and that is to have "Associate members" of your grotto. These people, who according to the bylaws or constitution have no official voice in the chapter government, may actually influence the group a great deal and be as active as anyone else. It gives you a loophole for your student members who would not be NSS members, in a regular grotto.

I have just served as a member of the nominating committee for the new ...Board of the NSS and I think you can think of NSS "Ole Reliable" members as non-cavers. The new Board will probably be made up of over half students. Of course, these students are NSS Regular members and have shown leadership and have made many valuable contributions to speleology and to NSS....

As a college prof., I would like to remind you that when students "act like adults" they are usually treated as adults. Next time someone writes an editorial, they might at least be adult enough to be sure of their facts before they pop off!

Dr. Oscar Hawksley
Director
Missouri Speleological Survey

Editor's Note:

Dr. Hawksley's note is printed primarily because it is the only letter we received opposing the PSS stand as stated in the last Speleologist.

We apologize for the one inaccuracy in the editorial, namely stating that the associate member has been reduced to a non-voting, non-office holding member. The associate member has always been a second class citizen.

Dr. Hawksley does not seem to recognize the fact that if people are bitch-

ing about a situation there is likely to be something fundamentally wrong with it. While the FSS is recognized by the University of Florida as a student organization, it is by no means composed entirely of students. The U of F is not so sticky as to require that the members of a student be students or even be connected with the University at all. Therefore, the club has within its ranks students, faculty members, staff members, and townspeople. Our various sections include students at four other universities, but are primarily composed of persons who are connected in no way to any college or university. NSS regulations make no provision for such membership, therefore, we choose to follow our own constitution and ignore the National's rules and regulations. Dr. Hawksley suggests our becoming a regular grotto. This would serve no useful end for the FSS. The basic problem remains, viz: The National has no right to meddle with the internal affairs of the individual grottos. The grottos are autonomous, self-sustaining caving organizations who can and should regulate themselves. National's sole purpose is to tie these clubs together in a confederation of similarly oriented groups. It should only circulate information and conduct nation-wide projects.

Hawksley claims that more than one half of the next Board will be made up of students. This is odd since my copy, at least, of the ballot did not read that way at all.

He closes by telling us to act like adults. It seems that adults are the ones that agree closely with the "goody-good" group in National and children are those who see fit to speak their minds. It also seems to us that mistaking a fact or two is not just the prerogative of children.

FOUR LINES — OUR HERO

There once was a caver named Pell

Who could prussik before he could spell.

But, alas for posterity

'Fore he reached maturity,

He completed too fast a rappel.

A young levitator named Dave

Would try out his art in a cave.

Without ladder or ropes

He'd float over the slopes

That even the bats would n't brave.

Famous quotations-

"No, you won't find climax very muddy. Not this time of year at least."

— Anonymous (If they ever found out, they'd kill me.)

[In a News article about several hundred dollars of Federal property missing]—

"It would be unfortunate to incur the ill will of the Office of Naval Research through such a slight matter."

So as not to be left behind in a cloud of dust in the advancement of science, the age old art of spelunking has been continuously searching for more and better light sources. The latest endeavor in this field is the use of Nickel Cadmium or Ni-Cad cells (used in guided missiles) in conjunction with standard head lights of the type used with 6 volt lantern batteries, as well as with some variations of "Monster" or high output lights.

These cells consist of a plastic case about 2x3/8x5 inches with intermixed nickel and cadmium plates, separated by fiberglass cloth and filled with potassium hydroxide (KOH) electrolyte instead of the sulphuric acid (H_2SO_4) used in lead-acid wet cells.

Although wet cells themselves, the Ni-Cad cases are sealed with a removable vent screw in the top for adding electrolyte and releasing gas when charging. In use, this screw vent is closed so that the cells are spill proof and may be used in any position.

The Ni-Cad cells are conservatively rated at 6 ampere hours, which means that they should operate a standard 6 volt bulb (PR 13 @ 1/2 amp) for twelve hours (6 Ni-Cad cells in series.) Each Ni-Cad cell has a full charge voltage of 1.2 volts.

Connections are made to two sealed feed-thru screws on the top of the cell, the positive terminal indicated as $+$ on the case.

The advantages of these cells over dry cells or lead-acid cells are; rechargeable, long life, durability, and spill proof. The only known disadvantage is that for reasons unknown, the cells in two cases have split from internal gas pressure when discharged. Since these cells outgas heavily only when charging and absorb gas when discharging, it is thought that these instances may have been caused by defective cells or nonuniformly charged cells, wired in parallel. Future tests to determine the cause of such damage and the reliability of Ni-Cads under adverse conditions have been planned and the results will be published as soon as they are conclusive.

In general, however, the author has found Ni-Cads to be the answer for a dependable long life cave light source. The cells have been tested in numerous cave trips under varying conditions from complete submersion under water to severe impacts while working in difficult passages. The system in which the cells were used is described later in this article.

When first obtained, the cells should all be connected in parallel, (all positive terminals connected together and all negative terminals connected together) and the resulting battery charged to 1.2 volts to equalize the cells. A reliable volt and amp meter should be used and charging current should never exceed 2 amperes per cell, i.e., with 6 cells in parallel, maximum charging current is 12 amperes for the battery - with 6 cells in series, 2 amperes. CAUTION: The vent caps should be thoroughly loosened while charging and remain so for one hour after charging to permit all gas generated to escape. Using a voltmeter, allow a maximum charging voltage of 2 volts per cell (multiply by the number of cells if in a series battery). Slight overcharging is allowable, (1.4 volts per cell with slight load such as a PR-13 bulb) but excessive overcharging will evaporate the electrolyte and possibly damage the cells, as well as shorten the light bulb life.

If the electrolyte should come in contact with your skin, wash the area with soap and water. When the vent caps have been tightened after charging, the cells should be rinsed with cool water to wash away any spilled electrolyte. While not seriously dangerous, sufficient quantities of the electrolyte will damage skin and clothing.

One half hour after charging the electrolyte level should be as high as the red line near the top of the cell. The level drops as the cell discharges. If the level is low, distilled water may be added, or the cells may be drained by inverting them over a container and forcing air through the vent hole with a small tube or eyedropper. Refill the cells with a saturated solution of KOH.

A unique difference from dry cells or wet lead-acid cells and the Ni-cads is that the Ni-Cad voltage output drops in steps when discharging instead of in a slow curve. The first step is hardly noticeable in light output and occurs shortly after charging, depending upon the amount of load. The second step is more noticeable and should serve as a "time to exit" warning. With the third step, the cells become unusable with any normal light bulb load and must be recharged.

The system in which the author used the Ni-Cads consisted of a home-made canvas belt with a pocket for each cell, similar to a military cartridge belt. The belt was the same width as the height of the cells, narrowing down in the front to a military uniform belt with the "slip-lock" buckle. Six cells were used with a switching arrangement for connecting all the cells in series to deliver 7.2 volts @ 0.6 amperes to a PR-13 six volt bulb, or for connecting two parallel banks of three cells each in series to deliver 3.6 volts @ 0.4 amperes to the bulb. This gives a bright and dim beam, the dim beam being about as bright as the average 6 volt lantern battery light and sufficient light for average caving while the bright beam equals the "Monster" lights.

The slight over-volting of the PR-13 bulb does not seriously cut down on its life time.

With the system operating on low beam, the battery life was tested to be over 20 hours of strong light. This time is cut in half when operating continuously on bright beam. In addition to the six pockets for the cells, the belt has a pocket for the switch box and one for spare bulbs, spare jumpers, and a small wrench for the terminal bolts.

The lamp used is a commercial Ray-O-Vac headlamp with a stronger home-made bracket, mounted on a fiberglass hard hat. The system wiring diagram is shown in Figure 1, the belt in Figure 2, and a car charger diagram in Figure 3.

The belt is made from double thickness 10 ounce canvas and the flap is held closed with snaps. The canvas material should be washed in hot water first to prevent shrinking after construction.

The belt is worn high, and has been worn through some very tight places, underwater, and over rocks with no discomfort or noticeable wear on the belt.

The car charger is handy on long weekend trips where commercial power and chargers are not available. It is designed specifically to charge this system from a 12 volt (beam switch on the belt on Bright) or 6 volt (beam switch on Dim) car battery by plugging it into the cigarette lighter socket. Two meters are on the unit, one for the Ni-Cad charging voltage, the other for the charging current. A rheostat provides an adjustable charging rate, the meters being "red lined" to indicate maximum values. The two meters are 1 inch military surplus 0 to 1 millampere meters, recalibrated with a multimeter for the values used with this system. The charger is housed in a small Bud "Mini-box". The ammeter shunt is three turns 1/2 inch diameter of #20 insulated hook-up wire. The voltmeter resistor is a one watt carbon 1800 ohm resistor, and the rheostat is a 25 ohm 25 watt unit.

Although a reliable system with spare jumpers and bulbs, in the

interest of safe caving, a spare light source should be carried. This same system has also been used to power sealed beam "Monster" lights and electronic flash units drawing several amperes of current. Although somewhat large in initial expense, this system will, if properly constructed and cared for, prove to be less expensive and more reliable over a period of time for the active caver than conventional electric light sources. Of course for the old fashioned, there are always candles!

Alton Higgins

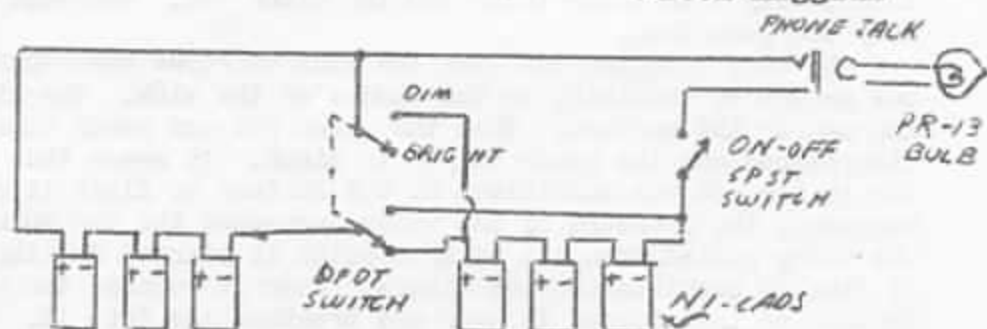


Figure 1 Belt Wiring Diagram

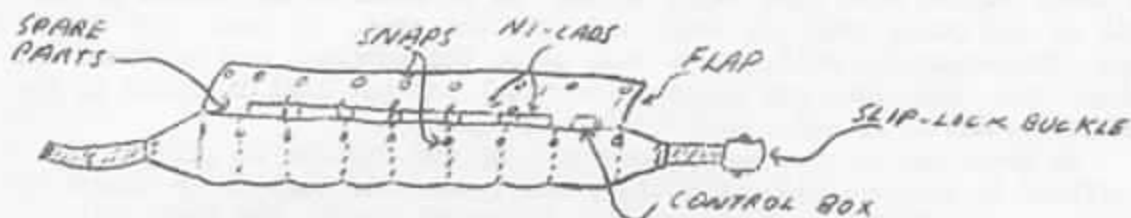


Figure 2 Belt Layout

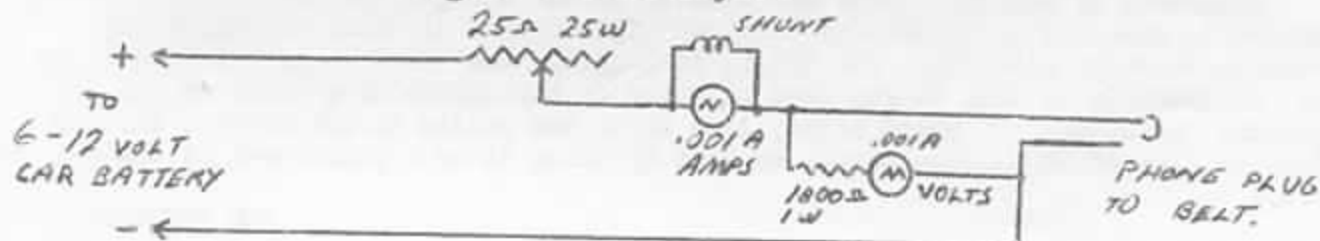


Figure 3 Car Charger

HARDHATS: New and extremely durable hardhats made of fiberglass material and with adjustable headbands may be obtained in limited number from Grossman's scrap yard at their cost of \$5.40 each. Also presently available there are some used metal and fiber hardhats.

The new fiber hardhat have undergone some severe workouts and been found to be well worth the investment.

A fiberglass hardhat may also be obtained from Gerry, Ward, Colorado. The Gerry hardhat lists for \$5.75 ppd. It is identical to the one above except that it has universal type lamp bracket added.

For those who use army helmets, the treasurer, Lou Hippenheimer, has a number of them in the club goodies shoppe. These are navy surplus, practically new, and come complete with steel "pot." Price is \$1.20 ea.

Also be sure to have spare bulbs and batteries, if you use them. PR-13 bulbs are \$.13 ea. and six volt batteries are \$1.00 ea. Also available from the goodies shoppe are Ray-o-Vac Night Hawk headlamps at \$2.50 ea.

(Ex. note: For you nonFSS peopl., a witch pot is a huge cast iron laundry pot. The FSS uses witch pots as stew pots, punch bowls, etc.)

Jake was wondering if a witch pot could be used as a diving bell, (mainly he was looking for an excuse not to study for a night,) so we decided to have a nighttime swimming and diving party at Milliston Blue Sink. There were seven of us and three had diving lungs. So off we went. It was a cold night so Joe, Vernal, and I built a huge roaring fire before going in. Jake and Jeff, however, went immediately with their tanks and the witch pot. The rest of us went in after they had gone down.

We were swinging out over the sink on ropes when there was suddenly a tremendous amount of bubbling in the middle of the sink. The lights were getting nearer and nearer the surface. Then the witch pot and heads appeared, the witch pot disappeared and the heads stayed in sight. It seems that although the volume of air in the pot was sufficient at the surface to float it or at least give it neutral buoyancy, the pressure of the water decreased the the volume of air rapidly as it was being pulled down and after a point it started falling faster and faster until it finally outdistanced the divers. When it reached the bottom it was sitting upright so they turned it over and breathed air into it. It started rising and as it neared the surface it pulled away from the divers, popped up to the surface, turned over, and instantly sank. As soon as Jake saw it sink he started following it down, but he soon lost sight of it. As he reached the bottom he spotted a trail of mud going over the ledge and into the cave. He went down and found nothing. The water was cold, so he came up to the surface, and switched off with John. John went down and spotted the witch pot but lost it again in the mud which had been stirred up and couldn't find it again.

As their tanks were empty they came up and decided to give up the search. I offered to go down with my outfit, but I was told that if we didn't get it, we would have an excuse to go back out. So we sat around the fire until it died and then headed back to Gainesburg.

Time went by and Jake never had time to go out and get the pot, so when we decided to give him an unbrithday party we figured that it would be one of the presents we would give him. Joe Pyla, Al Higgins, and myself went out to get it. We found it in only thirty feet of water in the middle of a bunch of old ladders. We hooked nylon safety line to it and pulled it out with no further ado. We cleaned it out and surprised Jake by using it as a punch bowl at the party.

DOB PETTIE

LOOK AHEAD

LOOK AHEAD

LOOK AHEAD

KNOW YE THEREFORE THAT YE OLDE FLORIDA SPELEOLOGIST WILL HEABY PUBLISH A

SPECIAL ISSUE

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO WARREN'S CAVE INCLUDING *** MAPS *** HISTORY *** STORIES *** AND *** DROLLERIES *** DEVOTED TO WARREN'S CAVE INCLUDING THE *** NEW SECTION *** KNOWN AS *** JAKE'S FOLLY. SEE ALL THIS IN THE SUMMER ISSUE OF THE FLORIDA SPELEOLOGIST.

Most of us have been using candy bars and other similar goodies as quick energy foods while underground. Too many Baby Ruths has led to a study of caving type food and its improvement. This has lead to a number of good recipes which have proved their worth in field trials. For immediate quick energy, Jake Hoffman recommends pure orange blossom honey. This can be carried into the cave in a polyethylene baby bottle and should be used at the first sign of exhaustion. For a complete balanced energy food underground moles the best food the club has tried is Gorp. According to Pete Ricca, the case across the recipe in New England, Gorp delivers three different stages of energy. The first stage is the energy derived from the simple fruit sugars in the raisins, the more complex sugars in the chocolate form the second energy level, and the oils in the nuts are the last to be broken down and used. Here, then, is the recipe for Gorp,

GORP

- 3 parts Raisins
- 2 to 3 parts Nuts (Peanuts and or Cashews best)
- 1 part Chocolate chips

The penultimate energy food has been devised by Jay Tual. It is guaranteed to give the highest energy level. The "Tual Cocktail" consists of half and half Honey and Rais. The two are mixed and the honey is allowed to settle out.

When a couple of days underground have made caving type people slightly hungry, it is best for the support party to have a huge monster meal waiting. The FSS traditionally has a witchpot stew going. There are several that are prepared around these parts. One of the best is the following:

MONSTER STEW

(Our thanks to Doc Jackson for passing this recipe on to us. It was originally prepared by Slim Spuling of the old Corpus Christi Grotto.)

- 50 pounds Heavy Beef
- 11 pounds Spuds
- 10 pounds Onions
- 12 pounds Carrots
- 1 case Canned Tomatoes
- 1 case Canned Corn
- 1 case Canned Green Beans
- 1 case Canned Peas
- 12 stalks Celery

Cook till done and serve all weekend. Serves 60 Texans.

FITZKINGS by OMAR KHASH

There was a caveman with a beard	At Gilmax our boy Jake
Who said, "It is just as I feared,	In the Tee Room made a mistake
If I showered and shaved,	He tried to get out,
I'd look just as depraved.	But he took the wrong route.

It's myself, not my getup, that's weird." And now we're still looking for Jake.

We left Gainesville in good time for one of our expeditions, only four hours late. There were thirteen in the Gainesville party and we were met at the cave by Doc Jackson and a friend from Pensacola and four fellows from Tallahassee. The whole group camped out the remainder of the night and prepared to enter the cave the next morning. It had been arranged in advance that there would be three parties, a maximum penetration effort, a mapping party, and a photographic party. By seven o'clock that morning the mapping and maximum penetration parties had merged. The photographic party went to the town of Clixax, Ga. to pick up supplies and found they couldn't even get the right kind of flashbulbs, much less the 4x5 color plates they needed.

With the 4x5 camera useless, the photo party then proceeded to enter the cave with two 35s and a twin lens reflex. For lighting they were carrying a large studio type stobe unit plus flashbulbs as fill in.

They encountered only one thing--mud. The sand passages were filled with waist deep muddy water. The water level had risen so high that it was impossible to keep the equipment perfectly dry and free of coral and corrosion. This was evident when the stobe shorted out. The photographers were forced to use only multiple flash and hope that the cameras weren't ruined.

Meanwhile, the first party had given up any hope of reaching the cave and had broken up into groups of three or four who wandered aimlessly around the Clixax Cave. One of these groups came across a colony of *Chiobates* miller and was able to capture two specimens.

The photo party was still valiantly trying to get a few pictures at least. They had to stop for a while and look for Lou who had gotten lost when all three of his sources of light had given out simultaneously.

When the grid finally got too much to bear, the various people waded back to the surface. Times underground had ranged from fourteen to twenty hours.

After scraping off as much mud as possible, we sat down for one of Bob Perrine's delicious wotch pot stews and then sacked out. Sunday morning we awoke to find our boots frozen to the ground. We didn't particularly care to do any more caving, so we packed up our grid and headed back to Gainesburg.

The camel's back was broken when a small town cop decided that the Petemobile was a likely prospect for enriching the town treasury. We split the fine among us and vowed never again (until the next time, that is.)

RETURN TO FLORIDA

It was a fine April night when we pitched camp at Florida Caverns State Park. There were thirteen of us and plenty of insect repellent to go around. Jim Quigg led us in a few rounds of bawdy songs and then we all hit the sack. We were planning to get an early start, so some people got up at six and started rousing the rest. We finished breakfast at 8 o'clock and headed off to Chipley and Falling Waters Sinks. We clambered through the Sinks' cave system and then ate lunch by the waterfall. That afternoon he decided to do some cave survey work in the area. We had a lead on a cave near Cottontale, so we ended up wasting the whole afternoon searching for it. We finally found it but it turned out to be a disappointment. It was only a small cave and all of the speleothems had been ruined by blasting in the adjacent quarry.

That night eight of us went out to Milton's Cave. After getting ourselves lost several times, we finally found it. The water table was up and we found that in order to get from one entrance to the other, we would have to wade. Therefore, we used the surface route. Milton's red and white formations were well worth the trip, however.

The next day we scared the tourists by taking a guided tour through the Park's commercialized cave. Our guide couldn't understand why anyone would want to be a speleologist. We pattered around a few of the other caves on the park grounds and then ended the weekend by holding a backfiring contest between the Quiggobile and Nicca's Necemobile all the way back to Gainesville.

THE FLORIDA

SPELEOLOGIS

THE FLORIDA SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

STAMP HERE

THE FLORIDA SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BOX 2582, UNIV. CENTER
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

'0:

MEMBER SUBSCRIBER EXCHANGE PUBLICATION GIFT



FSS

EX LUCE IN TENEBRAS

