

poured in the cave, but is no longer used for anything.

I jumped out of the cave & went ridge-walking, because I was sure that the crawling passage went under the floor of the valley, & after I left them (matter of fact, around the very next corner), they would drop into huge borehole on the other side. I thought I'd meet them coming across the field.

So, Neack's Nightmare is still there, plenty of passage to survey a lot of virgin (well, only used once) passage, and a good project cave for someone (sucker). Don't ever say we ain't nice.

Howard Kalnitz

CLIMBING FUN WITH THE FABULOUS UNDERGROUND ORCHESTRA

*roses are red,
the thorns, they draw blood.
me, i go caving,
to crawl in the mud*

It looked good for the weekend of annual meeting. The first annual underground combination spelo-orchestra and wrecking crew. We had a full contingent of macho, hardy cavers, (well I was there at least) John Neack, Jeff Streba, Don 'Captain Vidio' Mauney, Paul Goosman, Mark Guddadaro, Mark Suer,

Brent Flory, and I decided to bite the bullet and haul a climbing pole into Horselick Cemetery cave and ascend a dome John and I had found about a year earlier.

We called it the haunted dome cause it spooked Wisner and I one time last year. We were sleeping (of course, get two wimps together and they sleep and make up stories) and were both woken up by rockfall where there should not have been any. This dome complex has literally no ceiling and we've been thinking about climbing for a year. At the top could be (should be, better damn well be) huge passage.

Many of you no doubt will recall the first grand attempt at this dome. The combination pole vault, sling shot, and climbing pole has earned a permanent place in our hearts. And that's where it will stay. PVC piping, while indestructible and light, does not have the lateral strength to hold up a climber.

The pole we used was inch O.D. steel pipe. Pretty to look at, hell to carry. But we had little difficulty getting back to the dome complex. The worst thing that could have happened was losing a pole in the 600ft water crawl in the beginning of the cave (we would have been

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mucking around in the water and mud for hours). I taped a piece of webbing to mine and slung it over my shoulder during walking sections (which are not all that many). After a long shortcut -Thanks for the exercise John- we set up the pole

The pole was screwed into metal sleeves. Unfortunately the tape to protect the threads did not hold up, so there was a little repair work done (its wonders what a tip cleaner will accomplish with imagination). We guyed it up with 5mm rope through two holes and attached a ladder to a carabiner attached on the end.

And then the fun began John jumped up the ladder and zoomed up the climb (I didn't see his feet touch the rungs) But this was a no go. John couldn't get to the other side to check for passage.

So he came down and we tried again. This time the

ladder was too short. You could see over the top but if you tried to climb over it you would pivot off the wall and smear yourself on the opposite wall (or floor or rock or whatever you hit). Many People took this time to earn their Underground climber medal (touch the top rung and you pass the course).

The trip out was a little longer, a little harder and a little wetter. It was then that the first underground orchestra played. But folks, if you missed this performance you ain't gonna see another.

Howard Kalnitz
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MANY THANKS TO HOWARD KALNITZ FOR THIS, THE FIRST PUBLISHED MAP OF THE HORSE LICK CEMETERY CAVE... SCALE IS 1" TO HOWEVER BIG YOU THINK IT IS... HOPE TO SEE A REAL MAP SOON!!!!

EDITOR

