

THE PARTY'S OVER!

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We, the above-mentioned, having been members of the SIMMER (Simmons-Mingo Elk River) Expedition, being at times of sound mind and at other times of sound body, do hereby bequeath the following thoughts:

- (1) The Expedition, having been composed of approximately 118 individuals, is now over. Any person still remaining in the cave or in the Elk River area shall take note.
- (2) We, having let ourselves in for it, have been the recipients of several comments concerning this Expedition. Not all of them were full of praise. (Those who do not recognize the perfect nature of the Expedition are, of course, out of their minds.) We, therefore, pulling upon the resources of our astoundingly sound minds, humbly resolve to profit from our mistakes and not to forget those things we did right. We, do, however, in our moments of sanity, recognize that, because of and in spite of, the planning and organization of the Expedition, one Hell of a lot of people did a fantastic job, shared and gave in a large team effort and have learned a great deal about the efforts required to accomplish anything on a large scale.
- (3) It is our observation, which we were forced to use, that individuals who have been known to don coveralls, place funny hats and flames upon their heads and jump into holes in the ground, are, on the whole, rather weird, highly opinionated, strongly considerate, remarkably patient, and can be relied upon to be extremely intelligent, stupid, patient, obdurate, understanding, pigheaded, emotional, rational, defensive, quiet, aggressive [sic], having great foresight and none at all -- in short, rather strongly exhibiting all the characteristics called human and we might consider that next time.
- (4) Let, all participants and observers be advised that we will not share in the planning or execution of another expedition ... well-l-l, at least not for the next two weeks, please?!
- (5) It was great!
- (6) It was awful!
- (7) We were glad to be there.

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