



Arizona Rocks 78

Text and photos by Ray Grant

In one of my geology classes I was describing how sinkholes form from the collapse of rocks over caves in limestone. After the class, one of the students came up and told me a story about a sinkhole near Snowflake, Arizona. There are many sinkholes about 10 miles west of Snowflake and they can be seen on a topographic map or satellite photograph. The story was that the high school senior class would hold a performance at graduation in one of these sinkholes and everyone in town would come to see it. I had to go and find this sinkhole. It was easy from the map to get in the area, but there were many sinkholes, which one? Fortunately there was a ranch house there and the lady who answered the door told me which sinkhole it was. Once you climb down, there is lots of evidence; the years and titles of each year's performance have been scratched on the rocks. The plays were held from 1933 to 1939 and 1945 to 1947, so ten performances. It has been over 35 years since I was there and it would probably take me a while to find the right one, but I have not forgotten this interesting story. It would be great to get a photograph of the people in the sinkhole. Maybe somebody who has some contacts in Snowflake could find one.



Sinkhole where pageants were held



Years that the senior class from Snowflake High held pageants in the sinkhole



Sinkholes about 10 west of Snowflake, AZ



Fairie Queen was performed in 1938
 An English poem by Edmund Spenser in 1590