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BASE CAMP

CULVERWELL PAINTING PRESENTED TO PATC

At PATC's 60th Annual Dinner in October, former MS Chairmen Stuart Pregnall and Arnold Wexler, and former member John Meenehan, presented the club with a painting by Tom Culverwell. Other MS members present included Sam Moore. Don Hubbard, Jane Showacre, Ted and Kay Schad, Tom Marshall, Chuck Wettling and Karen Pregnall.

MS members will recall that we collected donations for the restoration and framing work on the painting. Under the watchful eye of John Meenehan, the painting has been restored to its original elegance. It depicts several of the MS members in caricature, en route to who knows where. The painting will be displayed in a prominent place at PATC HQ. Anyone who hasn't yet seen this masterpiece should make a trip downtown to view it.

We plan to have a presentation of both the painting and the two films that are presently being restored later in the year, or early next year. We'll keep you posted with developments.

GENDARME MISSING, MARKWELL SUSPECTED

In a startling mystery case in West Virginia, longtime MS member John Markwell has been arrested and detained in the case of the missing Gendarme.

The Gendarme disappeared Thursday, October 22, at approximately 3:27 P.M. Witness Tony Barnes said he saw "a huge cloud of dust and flying debris," when he heard an incredible noise while climbing nearby. West Virginia State Police and the FBI, who are jointly investigating the case, theorize that Markwell's Subaru Brat caused the dust and debris as he gunned his truck down the trail to escape detection. As to how he managed to get the 20-ton slab of quartzite onto the Brat, local law enforcement officer Web Hayes said, "We ain't too sure how he done it, but that Markwell's been a strange 'un ever since he moved into this valley."

The FBI has further theorized that Markwell planned to sell fragments of the Gendarme for use as climbing wall holds and souvenirs. FBI Director Sessions was quoted as saying, "We thought he might try to make T-shirts out of the pieces."

cont. pg. 2