

Winter 3-11-1983

## On Viewing A Stalagmite, In A Deep Cavern

Charlie Kostelnick  
*College of DuPage*

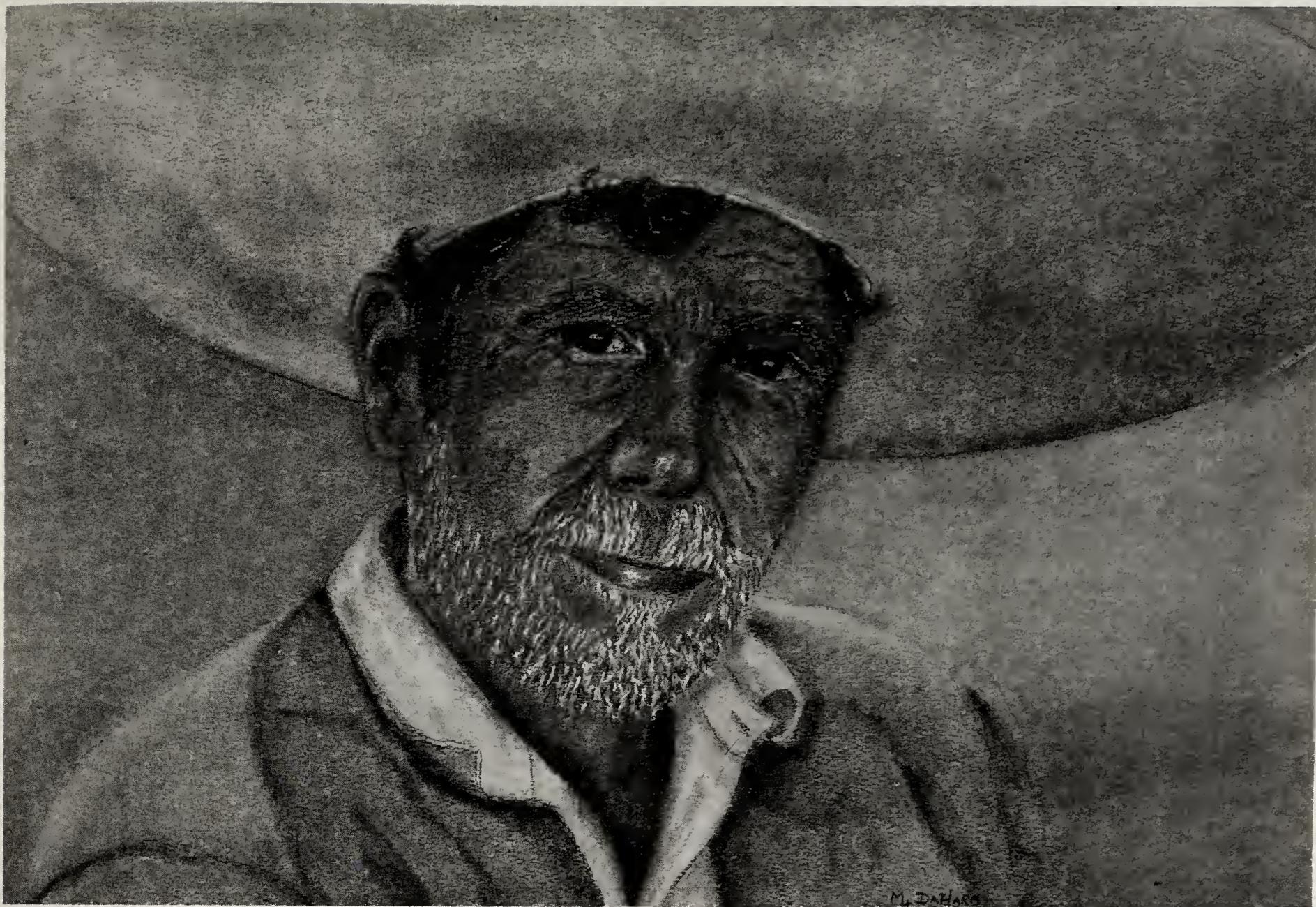
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#### ART WORK OF MARIE DAHARB

Marie retired from the College of DuPage in August, 1981. She has been painting since age 11 and studied art at the University of Texas. Her preferred media is water color and pastel.

#### PRAIRIE TIDE

*Before the billboards, neon lights,  
Before the asphalt, gaseous fumes,  
Rose the prairie tide. . .  
Coarse grass that lay in the wind,  
Changing waves upon a stalky sea,  
Blowing freely, tall as horses, marching miles. . .  
A green ocean of primeaval territory.  
Here and there a prairie grove  
With wagon, home and cemetery  
Raises shadows from the depths  
And helps a man on his way home  
Set his sights on waving treetops,  
By dead reckoning navigating,  
On horseback traveling steady.  
This night, he will not battle fight  
Alone at sunset midst the grasses,  
For lamplight dispels the massive prairie  
Rising behind his back.  
The asphalt strand secures the course  
Where once the lonely void enforced  
The rigorous pace of anxious man  
Within the prairie tide.*

— Marianne Preston golden

#### ON VIEWING A STALAGMITE, IN A DEEP CAVERN

*Living rock, glazed with the oil of time,  
In the solitary dark you toil unknown,  
Potter of centuries, no worldly affairs  
Distract you from your silent throne.  
Dumb and vegetable is your gaze,  
Next to my lamp how dull your glor;  
I'm amused by your torpid ways—  
Solemnly, you stare at me and grow.*

— Charlie Kostelnick