MARCH 15, 1988

FRIEND OF NATURAL ARCHES AND BRIDGES:

BOB VREELAND SENT ME YOUR NAME AS SOMEONE INTERESTED IN FORMING
A SOCIETY OF NATURAL ARCH AND BRIDGE LOVERS. I HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO
GET SUCH AN ORGANIZATION STARTED, AND THIS LETTER WITH THE ENCLOSED
QUESTIONNAIRE IS THE FIRST STEP IN THAT DIRECTION.

FIRST, LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF. I HAVE BEEN INTERESTED IN ARCHES
AND BRIDGES FOR NEARLY 11 YEARS. LIKE MOST OF YOU, I HAVE BENEFIT-
TED FROM THE PIONEERING WORK OF BOB VREELAND, WHOM I HAVE KNOWN FOR
OVER 10 YEARS. I AM A GEOLOGIST WITH EXXON IN HOUSTON, AND IT IS
LARGELY THROUGH FIELD WORK CONDUCTED DURING EMPLOYMENT THAT I HAVE
BEEN EXPOSED TO THESE MARVELOUS FEATURES. I HAVE VISITED 249 ARCHES
AND BRIDGES (YOU COUNT THEM TOO, DON'T YOU?) IN 20 STATES, MOST OF
THEM OBVIOUSLY IN UTAH. I ENJOY PHOTOGRAPHING THESE FEATURES AND
HAVE A COLLECTION OF MY FAVORITES HANGING ON THE WALL OF MY STUDY.
I AM ALSO INTERESTED IN UNDERSTANDING HOW THEY FORM; PERHAPS ONE DAY
I SHALL BE ABLE TO MODEL THEIR FORMATION WITH COMPUTER GRAPHICS!

THE IDEA OF ESTABLISHING THIS SOCIETY ENTERED MY MIND SEVERAL
TIMES BEFORE I FINALLY WROTE TO BOB LAST FALL WITH THE SUGGESTION.
I YEARNED TO KNOW HOW MANY OTHERS HAD THIS OFFBEAT FASCINATION AND
ENVISIONED THE MANY BENEFITS SUCH A SOCIETY COULD OFFER, E.G., A
LIST OF POTENTIAL HIKING PARTNERS, A COLLECTIVE EFFORT TO IMPROVE
OUR KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THESE NATURAL FEATURES, ETC.
ON THE SUBJECT OF FELLOW HOBBYISTS, IMAGINE MY SURPRISE WHEN ANOTHER
HOUSTONIAN, WHO LIVES LESS THAN A MILE FROM ME, POPPED UP ON THE
LIST BOB VREELAND SENT ME. I AND MY NEW ARCH-LOVER FRIEND, ROBERT
KENISTON, HAVE ALREADY BENEFITTED FROM THIS EFFORT. OUR HOPE IS
THAT YOU WILL TOO.

I WOULD ASK YOU TO RETURN THE ENCLOSED QUESTIONNAIRE TO HELP ME
FORMULATE THE GOALS AND STRUCTURE OF A NATURAL ARCH AND BRIDGE
LOVER'S SOCIETY. INITIALLY I WILL ASSUME THE TASK OF ESTABLISHING
THE SOCIETY. IF WE ARE A HAPPY, FUNCTIONAL GROUP NEXT YEAR, WE MAY
WISH TO ELECT A CHAIRPERSON AND SET UP A CHARTER.

SINCERELY YOURS,

DANNY HOROWITZ