

THE CENTRAL OHIO GROTTO -- SQUEAKS

APRIL 1984

COVER:

This month's cover is from Len Gibler. It is a map of the cave we know as Sanborn's Cave. Len writes:

The map came to me direct from Larry Matthews that winter of '64. The map carried the unofficial "Wild Man Cave" name, referring to the vigor with which the property owner protected this unique cavern. Indeed, the story goes that trespassers were evicted by force of arms. Not flesh-and-bone arms, either!

At that time, "Pop" Dyer photographed the cave (I got to see a couple of those splendid slides) and Matthews and some other COG/CRF people did the survey. Matthews and I flew over the area in his Cessna, and I photographed it. The pictures are not spectacular, but I still have them. I'd love to see "Pop's" set, though.

At the time of the mapping, the cave was already gated. Shortly thereafter, it was sealed with concrete, and still is, I suppose.

And perhaps that's not all bad, even if it is frustrating to those of us who think of ourselves as responsible cavers. But failing a really bomb-proof system of screening visitors, this very fragile and spectacular Ohio cave might look like the old, utterly vandalized section of Ohio Caverns. For what it's worth, at least we know that there, forbidden, some pristine speleothems are living on.

MEETING NOTICES

APRIL FRIDAY THE 13th! 8:00PM Our host and hostess will be Dale and Sandy Harmon. Please see the map published in the March Squeaks.

MAY FRIDAY THE 11th 8:00PM Our host and hostess will be Bill and Karen Walden.

JUNE FRIDAY THE 15th 8:00PM Our host and hostess will be Dean and Phyllis Redshaw.

JULY 6, 7, and 8th Paul Unger will host a weekend on the Great South Fork Of The Cumberland River in the heart of Kentucky Cave Country!

AUGUST A summer month is traditionally skipped. As of yet no meeting is planned for August. Look for a Grotto caving weekend sometime in August.

SEPT Jake and Kathy Elberfeld will be unable to host this meeting. It will be hosted by Jim Blankenship who is hoping for an outdoor gathering at his home. Date and map will be published in a later Squeaks.

LAST MEETING The March meeting was hosted by Jake and Kathy Elberfeld at their home in Marysville. Because of an anticipated large crowd and expense, no one went skiing. However, people did show up that afternoon for outdoor fun at Jake's. The most fun was getting Jake's Toyota 4 X 4 unstuck. Several of us tried motorcycling on the ice. BMW's handle nicely on ice!

Before the meeting, everyone was hungry, Jake and Kathy put out a spread of roast turkey and gams. The COG members did their usual on the food! YUM-YUM.

After the business meeting Len Gibler showed his slides he had taken from Matthews Cessna many years ago.

TRIP REPORTS

ORGAN CAVE - GREENBRIER by Len Gibler

The weekend of February 17th Dale Loftland and I headed to the Greenbrier for a look at part of the Organ Cave system. We stayed at the Greenbrier Grotto's fieldhouse on Friday night, and George Dasher led a large party of us into the commercial entrance. We did the regular commercial route, looked over the saltpeter works and the old classic "rock organ", but our main destination was the bone room and a bit of photography. The big paleontological feature is the skeleton of a pleistocene porupine, who I'm sure died horribly. I couldn't help reflecting how easily one could get lost in that much cave. You might as well be lost in Mammoth: There's no "lets-try-this-way-out" option. You find THE way. We saw and examined a wide array of beautiful gypsum. A very enjoyable commentary by Dasher greatly enriched our foray.

Sunday we poked around the Friar's Hole system, but didn't do any real caving before heading home. Nice weekend, no?

A CAVE IS NAMED! BREATING SINK CAVE by Greg Erisman

My bother Pat, his wife June, and I returned to Breathing Sink Cave (the cave that was dug open by backhoe as described in the March 1984 Squeaks by Bill Walden) with plans of doing an overland survey to the cave surveyed by the Grotte the previous weekend. But, due to the freezing rain that was falling at the time, we aborted the survey.

After talking the situation over for a while, we decided to go into Breathing Sink and try to take some pictures.

We proceeded down the entrance passage, taking pictures as we went, until we came to the side passage that heads to the upper level section that was discovered by Paul Unger and I the previous weekend. Pat, June and I then went into this upper level section to do some poking. We climbed up into the large room Paul discovered, and while Pat and June rested, I tried to climb a verticle flowstone wall to an obvious lead above, but was stopped about 4 feet from the top. I then climbed back down and watched Pat climb the wall by a different route. He soon reached the passage above, and shouted down that there were people tracks up there. I quickly followed Pat's route up the wall and confirmed what he suspected, that we connected to the cave the Grotto had surveyed the weekend before. Deciding that the lake would prevent us from going out the other entrance, we both climbed back down to rejoin June and do some more poking. Pat soon discovered a new room that has some of the best formations in the cave, where we sat down to eat and admire the view. We then proceeded to a level I had noticed earlier, checked it out, and soon found ourselves in the other cave again! Since this second connection route was much easier, we all went through it and toured

some big passage awhile, before heading back for the surface.

NOTICES

GET IN THE SWIM AND COME TO
SPRING VAR -- APRIL 28 - 29
IT'S GOT REEL APPEAL

WHAT'S THE BAIT? A CLEAN-UP ON A MAJOR
SCALE SATURDAY AT THE TROUT ROCKS CAVES.
VISIT THE NSS's NEWEST CAVE PRESERVE.
AND WHEN FIN-ISHED, DINNER AND PARTY AT
THORN CREEK CAMPGROUND, ABOUT 2.5 MILES
SOUTH OF FRANKLIN, W. V. OFF ROUTE 220.

REGISTRATION BEGINS FRIDAY THE 27th AT
6pm. VAR BUSINESS MEETING STARTS
SUNDAY AT 9am IN THE THORN CREEK PAVILLION.

DO YOUR PART FOR CONSERVATION - AND BRING
YOUR UNSCHOOLED CAVING FRIENDS TO FIND OUT
WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!

For further information contact:
Marilyn Templeton
2015 37th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007
202-338-0834

FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

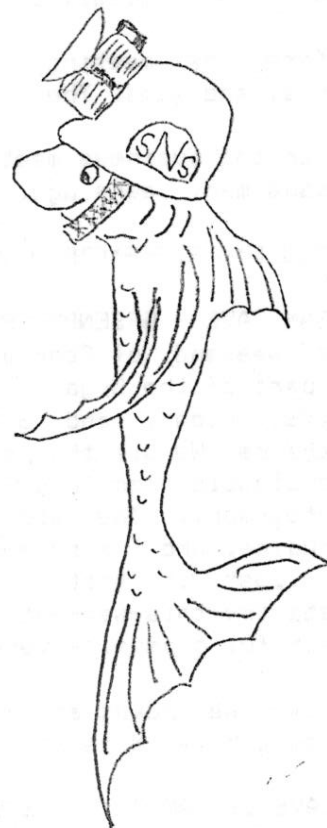
The division of Geological Survey is pleased to announce the 1984 Ohio Geology Slide Contest. Ohio Citizens are invited to submit up to two 35mm color slides dealing with some aspect of Ohio geology. Entries must be postmarked by May 31, 1984 and submitted with an official entry form (enclosed with the Squeaks-Ed.). Winners will be presented with awards at ceremonies to be held during the 1984 Ohio State Fair.

Slides should clearly portray some aspect of Ohio geology, including but not limited to: an outcrop, sedimentary structure, landform, mineral, mineral industry, rock or fossil specimen. Entries will be judged on the basis of both geological significance and artistic merit.

Horace R. Collins
Division Chief and
State Geologist

2nd ANNUAL CAVE RESCUE SEMINAR PRESENTED BY EASTERN REGIONAL COORDINATION AND STAFF OF NATIONAL CAVE RESCUE IN COOPERATION WITH CARTER CAVES STATE RESORT PARK AND COLUMBUS COUNCIL - AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS JUNE 2 & 3, 1984. Please contact Dan Crawford, 6323 Cook Rd, Powell, OH 43065 PH# 614-889-9004 or John Kreitzburg PH# 614-864-5430. There will be a few registration forms at the April meeting of the COG.

CAVE RESCUE OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT AT WILD CAVE NATIONAL PARK Hot Springs, South Dakota June 17 through June 23, 1984. This seminar will be composed of extensive class



and field work in all phases of cave and underground rescue. The course is designed to provide that most current and competent techniques to those agencies, groups and individuals with a serious interest in underground rescue. Subjects to be covered include The Underground Environment, Organization and Management, Communications Systems, Medical Management, Hauling Systems, Extrication, plus much more. The class size will be strictly limited to 60 students to ensure maximum learning opportunity and hands-on experience with the foremost technical equipment available. A special session will provide review and instruction in Basic Vertical Techniques for those who wish to learn or polish up old skills. Basic caving skills are a minimum requirement for the course.

For additional information please come to the April meeting or call Bill Walden 614-268-5865.

1984 NSS CONVENTION -- -- SHERIDAN WYOMING

Registration forms for the convention can be found in the NSS NEWS and at the April COG meeting. Hopefully there will be a good turn out for the COG!

35th ANNUAL OLD TIMERS' REUNION 1984

Pre-registration forms are included with this month's Squeaks. If additional forms are needed (or you lost the one sent with the Squeaks!) call Bill Walden for one.

FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE OTR:

Category	Arriving		
	Thurs	Friday	Sat
Adults	14.50	12.50	10.50
6 to 17	10.50	8.50	6.50
3 to 5	5.00	4.00	3.00

The OTR is held at Camp Alpine Shores, Rt. 33 east of Elkins WV. Persons attending the Old Timers Reunion MUST be members of the TRA (The Robertson Association) All NSS and COG members automatically qualify for TRA membership. Write to Bonnie Lutz for your membership.

Bonnie Lutz
8902 LaGrange St.
Lorton VA 22079
Phone#: 703-339-6829

Ed. Comments: The Old Timers Reunion is perhaps the best NSS get together. Persons attending will have a good time. Please see the details from Evelyn Bradshaw, B.W.

MINUTES MARCH 1984 MEETING

The March 10, 1984 meeting of the COG was held at the home of Jake and Kathy Elberfeld.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Unger.

The Treasurer, Karen Walden, reported \$318.07 in the treasury. A total off \$55 was collected in dues in February and \$15 more was collected before the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Squeaks Committee: Bill Walden requested cover material for the Squeaks. Anything submitted must be easy to Xerox. He also asked for articles and asked that everyone check the date on the mailing label to be sure their dues have been recorded. He is planning a surprise for the April cover. The subject of selling the press was brought up again. After discussion it was decided to keep it because if it is needed again it would cost too much to replace. (A working used offset press would cost in excess of \$2,000. We paid \$150 in an incredible bargain 12 years ago. The COG press is an AB Dick 320 offset. It does require repair and a willing operator. This press is capable of excellent quality reproduction. Any operators out there? Ed.)

Membership Committee: Jim Blankenship had nothing to report. The April Squeaks will have a list of paid up members. Paul Unger suggested keeping a ledger of membership dues paid.

Safety Committee: There was nothing to report.

Old Business: There was none brought up.

New Business: Mike Gray brought up the issue of where the cave vandalism signs should be posted. Bill Walden read the article accompanying the picture of the sign which stated the purpose of it is to post them in the lobby of commercial caves. It was suggested the COG contact the owners of Ohio Caverns and Olentangy Indian Caverns about posting the signs.

Trip Reports: Bruce Warthman told of his trip with Doc Docherty's group to a cave in the Big Sink area. The cave was discovered in November 1983. They found many nice formations and surveyed to a lower level ending in a waterfall and water passage. They suggest pushing it in wetsuits to connect to Big Sink Cave upstream.

Paul Unger told more about the cave he and Greg Erisman were in. They reported it is a big cave with lots of formations. Bill is sending the owner complimentary copies of the Squeaks.

Len Gibbler told about his trip to the Organ Hendrick system. The editor of the West Virginia Caver, George Dasher, led the trip. It had everything from canyons to belly crawls. There were many gypsum needles and flowers.

Paul Unger brought up the possibility of exchange visits with other grottos. He suggested a weekend of caving in Kentucky and hopefully they would reciprocate. After a discussion, the consensus was that it is a good idea. Bill made a motion to do it, Chuck Daehnke seconded the motion. Paul will start contacting the other grottoes.

It was also brought up that Greg Erisman is the member in charge of keeping the Suunto Compass and level.

The meeting was then adjourned. The April meeting will be at home of Dale and Sandy Harmon on Friday, April 13.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Mahoney.