



COG SQUEAKS

GROTTO INFORMATION

The Central Ohio Grotto of the National Speleological Society meets the second Friday of each month at the Worthington Presbyterian Church. The Church is on the north west corner of the square in Worthington, Ohio (intersection of High Street and SR 161). Meetings are held in the Woodrow Room at 8:00 p.m. Please contact a grotto officer or committee person for information and caving trips.

OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN	Darrell Adkins	614-392-6382
SECRETARY	Alice Woznick	614-392-6382
TREASURER	Karen Walden	614-965-2942

COORDINATOR

YOUTH	Pat Kelly	614-885-1270
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The official grotto address is:

Central Ohio Grotto
C/O Bill Walden
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Galena, Ohio 43021
614-965-2942

The COG Squeaks is the official newsletter of the Central Ohio Grotto. Subscription is \$10.00 per year per address. The Central Ohio Grotto publishes the COG Squeaks ten times per year. The club welcomes articles on cave exploration and study, cave trip reports, cave fiction, cave poetry, cave related cartoons, or cave related art. Please send to Bill Walden. Free disks and mailers are available from Bill at the meetings. Contact Bill for information on modem or fax transmission. Articles may be sent to Bill by E-mail. The address is dz716@cleveland.freenet.edu.

NSS organizations may reprint information from the COG Squeaks. Please give credit to the author and the COG Squeaks.

KARST CALENDAR

December 11 Grotto Christmas party. Yes, time to start planning now! How devious can you be? There will be a gift exchange. The philosophy of the gift exchange is humor. The Christmas party is hosted by Bill and Karen Walden at their home in Galena, Ohio.

Introduction of proposed amended By-Laws.

December 31 Possible Farmer Cave trip. Call Andy Franklin for information.

January 14 Grotto meeting at the Presbyterian Church in Worthington. This is an important meeting 1) Election of officers and 2) vote on amended By-Laws.

June 20, '94 NSS Convention June 20 through June 24, 1994 at Fort Clark Springs, Brackettville, Texas. Do plan to attend!

COG MEETING

The December meeting of the Central Ohio Grotto be hosted by Bill and Karen Walden on **Saturday, December 12, 1993**. This is the annual Christmas party. Please see Christmas Party below.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The COG Christmas party and gift exchange is a time for fun, humor, fellowship, food, and the gift exchange. The original philosophy of the gift exchange is that the recipient of a gift must use that gift on his next cave trip. The emphasis has always been on humor. Monies spent on the gift should be kept to a minimum. Don't be timid, some best remembered gifts have come from newcomers in the grotto. The Christmas party is **Saturday, December 11, 1993** at the Walden's home. Please plan to attend.

Schedule

(Approximate at best)

6:00 p.m.	Social period
6:30 p.m.	Dinner
7:45 p.m.	Meeting
8:00 p.m.	Gift exchange

Please bring a gift for the gift exchange. The gift should not have your name on it but please identify it as for an adult or youth. Youth is a little difficult to pin a definite age to, but as a guideline, ask if your child can understand and appreciate subtle adult humor. If not then consider your child to be a youth.

When you arrive, place your gift under the Christmas tree.

The primary idea of the gift exchange is humor and often the humor is the instructions provided with the gift. Please don't feel at a disadvantage if you are new to the grotto. In the past some of the funniest gifts have come from new cavers. If you can't think of anything, straight gifts are always appreciated. Please don't spend too much money on the gift.

If you have any questions regarding the Christmas Party or the gift exchange, please call me, Bill Walden, or any grotto member or officer.

See you at the grotto Christmas party.

Directions: From Columbus take I-71 north to the Polaris exit. Exit at Polaris and turn right on to Polaris Parkway. Stay in the left lane. Polaris Pkw. will turn to the left and become Worthington Road. Follow Worthington Road north to the end. Turn right then left on to State route 3. Follow State route 3 north to South Galena Road. Turn left on to South Galena Road. The Waldens' house is about 0.4 mile from SR 3 on the left side of the road. (Galena Road is the first cross road north of Little Walnut Creek which is in an obvious stream valley, the only stream you'll cross on SR 3. To the right is Walnut Street which goes into the village of Galena and to the left is South Galena Road. If you get to the stoplight in Sunbury, you have passed Galena Road, Galena Road is the first cross road south of the stoplight.)

Alternate Directions: From Columbus take I-71 north to the Sunbury exit, routes 36 and 37. Turn right on to US 36. Follow US 36 east to the first cross road, which is South Galena Road. Turn right on to Galena Road. Follow it south to the first stop sign. At this intersection, South Galena Road does not go straight but bears to the left. Continue south on Galena Road. It will cross Little Walnut Creek. After crossing the creek, the Waldens' house is the third house on the right.

November Meeting

The November meeting was at the Presbyterian Church in Worthington, Ohio. Darrell Adkins conducted the meeting. Topics discussed were:

- 1) Election of officers to be held at the January meeting.
- 2) Updating the grotto bylaws. The executive committee was charged with the responsibility of presenting updated bylaws to the grotto membership for the January meeting. These should be ready to publish in the January Squeaks.

3) Rating of cavers. This is a controversial and even an emotional topic. No conclusions were reached but several points of view were expressed. More on this later.

4) The grotto Christmas party and gift exchange was discussed. Several newer members were concerned about the gifts.

5) Don Conover showed the autumn safety gear -- a red vest. One should be concerned with deer hunters mistaking a caver for a deer! It was also mentioned not to wear a white hat or white gloves because hunters might mistake those items for a deer's tail. Think this is far fetched! Not at all. Several years ago hunters shot and killed a housewife in New England who was wearing a white hat as she hung her laundry outside to dry. The offending hunter got off because "everyone knows that a white hat can be mistaken for the tail of a deer."

6) For a program Darrell had several cavers bring their cave pack for a "show and tell." It was entertaining. Everyone had the basic two spare sources of light, water, and spare parts for lamps whether carbide or electric. Andy Franklin had the least gear in his pack. His equipment included water for his lamp and himself, polypropylene hood for warmth, spare lamp parts, carbide, a trowel for digging, several compasses and clinometers, note paper for surveying, and a spare lamp. Alice Woznick had the most gear in her pack. Her equipment included water and food, separate water for her carbide lamp, spare helmet mounted electric light with batteries, minimag lamp, repair kits for everything imaginable, spare sweater for warmth, plastic bags for waste carbide and garbage bag for warmth, spare batteries, and . . . It was obvious that the pack is a personal thing. Everyone seemed to have the basic three sources of light, water, food, plastic bags for spent carbide or warmth, and some piece of clothing for additional warmth.

Cheryl Best commented that none of the packs had first aid kits. Bill Walden commented that one should not allow himself to be injured in a cave. Meaning that an injury, which occurs in a cave, can be a very serious and life threatening event. Safety and conscienceness of the environment is all important inside a cave. One must be aware of his capabilities, limitations and cave conditions. Don't get hurt! Others piped in and said that many items carried such as duct tape and minimag lamps could be called into service should a minor injury occur. Obviously, one could not carry a first aid kit for a significant injury that would immobilize a caver. Bottom line -- don't get hurt. If one is injured and that injury is minor, he should first decide whether the injury is such that the trip may be continued or should be aborted so that the injury may be treated. Many cavers did say that they carry aspirin or the equivalent to aspirin. (To date the Central Ohio Grotto has had an

excellent safety record. No grotto member has ever had a serious injury in a cave. Only minor injuries have occurred and very few of these minor injuries have caused a cave trip to be aborted.)

There were 26 adults and 5 youths present. Almost all went to Franco's for pizza, beer, and soda following the meeting. The group broke up sometime after midnight.

TRIP REPORTS

OTR - Daily, WV

September 3 through 6, 1993

by Bobbie Lou Bates

This was my first OTR and my name tag with one red dot let everyone know that I was a 'virgin'. I went with several cavers from the NIG, Steve Vaughn, Mark Deebel, and Jim Vaughn (Steve's nephew). We arrived at about 5:00 p.m. Friday and set up camp on a slightly higher ground in 'overflow camping'. It proceeded to rain or pour off and on (more on than off) until Saturday afternoon when it cleared. The weather was cooperative after that.

We caved on Sunday in the Trout Rock Caves just south of Franklin, WV. We were in Hamilton Cave from about 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and took marking tape as it is a maze cave with parallel and perpendicular passages. 'Intersections' were every 10 to 20 feet. We mostly stayed in passages where we were able to walk. It took a lot of time to proceed through this cave. Two went ahead to check out the various passages while the other two marked the path with tape so we knew how to exit the cave. I was very confused almost immediately and very glad we marked our way. Formations I saw consisted of a few areas with flowstone, and a few areas where the ceiling was covered with hundreds of dark charcoal colored stalactites about 4 to 8 inches long and one to two inches wide. We entered Hamilton Cave, ate, and then went into New Trout Cave which is not a maze cave like Hamilton. The beginning passageway "floor" is at an angle. you go through two very large rooms with breakdown and end in a dusty crawl passageway. Beyond the crawl was an unstable breakdown area. I had my first experience with flying bats in this cave. I was told they were Indiana Brown Bats and Long Eared Bats. Initially I froze and covered my face with my heart racing but by the end of this trip, I was able to stay fairly calm and keep moving slowly. We were in this cave from about 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The Trout Rock caves are three caves (2 mentioned above and Trout Cave) up a very steep, rocky hill. I was tired just by the climb up to the cave entrances. Our departure from OTR Sunday to go caving was delayed by an hour as we

sat in a traffic jam as an ice truck was blocking the way while unloading.

I enjoyed OTR and met many new people. I spent time with Don Conover, and NIG members, Pat Kelly, Michelle Cassady, and John Gardner were also there from COG. I watched the Doo-Dah Parade Saturday morning, went to the auction Saturday afternoon, and went to the party Saturday night. The showers were reportedly much improved. I didn't make it to Burr City to listen to their band.

Overall I had a relaxing weekend even with the cool, wet, muddy beginning and delayed departure to go caving on Sunday. OTR is a very organized event considering the number of people. (2177 people attended.)

Steve and I continued to camp with two other NIG cavers, and on Wednesday went to Sharps Cave which is just South of Mingo off US route 219. We attempted to go to the waterfall but did not find it. A map would have been helpful. The parts of Sharps we were in were large passages with large pieces of breakdown and at the stream we occasionally crawled under rocks. We were in this cave for about two hours.

When asked how to describe OTR, I haven't decided on a consistent response. It is a very large get together with the purpose for most being a constant party and social time. Everyone does their own thing and people don't bother you. I was in the minority as I caved and this was pointed out numerous times to me. I was amazed at the number of tents and setups of some grottos.

Cave Rescue - Somerset, KY

August 21 through 22, 1993

by Bobbie Lou Bates

Darrell Adkins, Alice Woznick, and I drove down on Friday afternoon for my first cave rescue seminar. Joe Gibson, Pat Kelly, Michelle Cassady, and Don Conover also attended from our Grotto.

On Saturday we spent the day until about 4:00 being lectured on various cave rescue subjects including: first aid, communication, documentation, logistics, management and operations, and patient packaging and transportation of the patient. The NCRC instructors were extremely knowledgeable. At the end of the day we divided into four groups and learned hands on packaging of patients in different litter, and various techniques that might be used to move a stretcher and patient through a cave. After this we were in two groups and moved a 'patient' in a stretcher through a

marked course above ground, including through a drainage tube about 2 feet in diameter. The marking were for formations, walls, and ceilings at times. This was my only handling of a litter.

On Sunday we met at Sloans -- Garbage Pit Entrance for the mock rescue. The NCRC instructors assigned the underground commander (UC) and the incident coordinator (IC) who is above ground. From there these two people assigned various positions to the rest of us. I was assigned to logistics and reported to the operations person. I was in charge of all the details above ground dealing with the physical set up including (would have included) equipment, food and water, transportation, and toilet facilities. I learned a lot from my job but did not enjoy it. Each caver was suppose to have a list of their equipment (such as rope, first aid kits, tarps, etc.) to be turned in upon arrival to the scene. If needed the equipment could be accessed and used. Only two cavers listed their equipment, and Don Conover's minivan full of equipment came in extremely helpful. Throughout the morning I sat up above ground areas for food, water, shade, rest, toilets, and press. At times it was mass confusion.

At lunchtime above ground people switched with below ground people, although the UC did not go above ground. I was heading down the passage and at the first underground communications station, where Don Conover was operating the phone, Chuck (the main NCRC instructor) informed me that Don hurt his ankle (not for real) and needed first aid and assistance out of the cave. I had no splinting materials and it took quite awhile to get a SAM splint located and to Don. Two people assisted Don out of the cave as he was instructed by those two that he did not need a litter.

I was then told to take over the phones at the first communication station, with little instruction I started, and my first call above ground to inform them of the second patient. Unfortunately I scared Darrell because I paused before I said it wasn't for real. Below ground was very frustrating for me as the UC only ordered people around and did not delegate out duties. He at one point assumed I could not splice into the phone line closer to the entrance and tried to insist on doing it. I easily spliced into the line at two different points and manned the phone the rest of the 'rescue'. It was very interesting sitting there and listening to and watching the dynamics. Too many people (of those with the litter and patient) wanted to be leaders, and the UC continued to not delegate out responsibilities.

The experience was good for me, especially since I had two non-physical jobs which if in a real rescue I most likely would not handle the litter. Everyone appeared

to learn a lot and I am now even more aware of the need to be safe.

Thanks Bill for the use of a helmet and light.

1993 Karst - O - Rama

Great Saltpetre Cave

July 16 through 18, 1993

by Wayne Fowler

Never having been to an N.S.S. function before, going to the 1993 Karst - O - Rama at Great Saltpetre Cave was something of an adventure into the great unknown. It turned out to be even more of an adventure than I anticipated since I naively assumed that I could follow signs or get directions to the site once I hit Mount Vernon. Actually, I was able to get directions, but only after the first set had me taking the grand tour of the back country. Incidentally, if anyone needs a job, I would suggest looking into road construction, especially in southern Ohio where they would seem to need lots of help! Grand tours and road construction conspired to get me to the site by about midnight, in time to set up camp and enjoy a 1:00 a.m. dinner. The good news was that the host grotto, Greater Cincinnati, had the foresight to provide a separate "party camp" for all the dedicated revelers. The bad news was that my late arrival meant that the only available tent sites were down near the party camp. Of course, after eight hours on the road, I was actually too tired to really notice the revelers. Besides, there is a certain satisfaction to imagining them crawling through caves the next morning! The party group wasn't too wild even though some enterprising party goer did blow up (literally) the party camp sign. Saturday, I was able to join a group of nine cavers under the leadership of Dave McMonigle for a trip into Wells Cave which was located about an hour from GSP. Wells was rated a medium +, horizontal cave and turned out to be quite enjoyable. It was a pleasant surprise to discover that six of the nine of us were in the "more Mature" bracket. (One of the remaining three was the daughter of one of the mature types -- about fourteen years old and a real game caver -- kept up with the group, no complaints, etc. I understand that her dad is planning to take her skydiving one of these days!) The section of Wells that we did only involved a little crawling and that was mostly near the entrance. Of course, that good news was offset by the fact that the crawl was through mud. According to Dave, the mud section usually wasn't too bad, but of course, this trip was the worst he had seen it in 50 to 100 visits. Worst meant a nice gooey, soupy mud that flowed nicely into your gloves and sleeves from the wrist. Ah, the joys of cavorting in the depths of the earth! While most of the several hour trip was

walking, there was some scrambling through some slick breakdown and a couple of short but tricky climbs that we negotiated with group effort. Going out, 3 or 4 of the more agile members of the group elected to use an alternate entrance that had a more difficult climb while the rest returned by way of the easier mud crawl. According to the guidebook, Wells is a network of mostly dry phreatic tubes and canyons. To date, nearly twelve miles of passage have been surveyed. More good news was that the torrential downpour held off until we were in the cars on the way back, ended before we got back to camp, and someone else was driving. A major cleanup effort was required back at camp but was accomplished in time for the potluck dinner. It looked as if there were several hundred cavers and family members present. I didn't run into anyone from COG but that could have been because the crowd was too large or I'm still too new to know very many people yet. I skipped out on the guest speaker, Dr. Chris Groves, but he was apparently well received. Incidentally, as a Scouter, I believe in being prepared, but I wonder if it was really necessary to include the local funeral home in the list of emergency numbers in the guide! Saturday evening, there was an adult hog hunt in Great Saltpetre Cave. The lights were on and a good part of the cave could be strolled through. I especially enjoyed the historical artifacts and the large main room. Other items on tap over the weekend for those interested included a Howdy Party, Hydrology Road trip, Vertical Contest, G.C.G. meeting, Photo Trip, Boone Karst Meeting, a beer tap, and lots of visiting and general "kibitzing." Early Sunday morning I headed out to begin a week's vacation in Shenandoah National Park -- along with several pounds of Wells Cave mud still attached to various items of gear. While vacationing, I managed to visit Luray Caverns and Endless Caverns, two commercial caves, both beautiful. Endless was especially enjoyable since the tour consisted of the guide, myself, and one other tourist who turned out to be a former N.S.S. member and a caver from out west. I think the young girl who was our guide may have been a little nervous about expounding on caves to us!

ALTERNATE ROUTE FROM COLUMBUS TO LEXINGTON by Bill Walden

The frequent and seemingly continuous construction encountered on I-71 and I-75 within 30 miles of Cincinnati can slow one's trip to or from Kentucky. If you expect slow downs try following US 62 from Grove City to the Ohio river and then US 68 to Lexington. I returned via that route Thanksgiving weekend. With a stop for lunch in Hillsboro, I made it home to Galena, Oh. from Burnside, Ky. in just under 5½ hours.

LEST WE FORGET by Kathy Franklin

On November 21, a good friend nearly died. His survival is due to a combination of a good helmet, a fair amount of good luck, and a lot of hard work by good friends and dedicated cavers with training in vertical rescue techniques.

I don't know all the details of the accident, but early information suggests that he fell prey to an all too common phenomenon: that of being too comfortable underground. He was in a cave that he had visited many times before. He was at the top of a pit that he had dropped many times before. This time, he fell. He did not drop the full 100 feet; he was stopped by a ledge at 30 feet. His Joe Brown helmet is reported to have "shattered". It took 16 hours to get him out, and he spent a week in the hospital in Louisville. He is now at home, with pins in his broken pelvis, but apparently no permanent neurological damage.

There are several lessons to be learned here. How often have we all failed to "clip in", because we felt there was no "real" danger? Familiarity does, indeed, breed contempt. How often do we take our equipment for granted? The "standard" MSA helmet would probably not have been sufficient to prevent significant brain damage, if not death. How many times have we put off the available rescue training, because "there just isn't time", or "something else" came up? Without a crew of trained, dedicated rescue volunteers, it would have taken a lot more than 16 hours to get him out. Maybe too many hours.

If we are going to be serious about our commitment to caves and caving, we need to remember all of the risks involved. Caving is a rewarding and satisfying form of recreation. There is a lot to be learned, and a lot of work involved in the learning. But we need to be sure to keep the basic safety requirements in the foreground, not the background. We need to be sure we use the best possible equipment. And we need to be responsible for seeking out and maintaining the highest level of training possible, especially in technical areas - be it rescue or vertical, or both. We are "our brother's keepers", as well as our own. We dare not forget.

A FURTHER NOTE by Andy Franklin

Kenny had just been laid off from his job. He and his 'other', Nancy Baker, earlier this year started a company to create and sell stained glass suncatchers. Nancy had left her job to work this full time. I propose we take up a collection at our Christmas party to help the two of them defray expenses.

**Proposed Changes To The By-Laws
Of The Central Ohio Grotto**

November 20, 1993 the Executive Committee of the Grotto met to discuss changes in the By-Laws of the Grotto. The existing By-Laws were last amended in June 1964 and are obsolete. The COG Constitution, existing By-Laws, and proposed amended By-Laws are printed below. The membership of the Grotto will vote on the proposed By-Laws during the January meeting. No changes are proposed to the Constitution.

**The Constitution of the Central Ohio Grotto
of the
National Speleological Society**

As amended June 1964.

- I. The name of this organization shall be the Central Ohio Grotto of the National Speleological Society.
- II. The purpose of the Central Ohio Grotto shall be the same as those of the National Speleological Society with the additional purpose of organizing NSS members in central Ohio and the surrounding area to better promote the objectives of the Society.
- III. The Central Ohio Grotto shall be governed by an Executive Committee, the decisions of which shall be subject to approval by the Grotto, by means, if called for, of a majority vote of the Grotto members present at any regular meeting at which the decision(s) is (are) announced.
- IV. The Executive Committee shall manage the business of the Grotto, formulate by-laws, raise funds in any manner not inconsistent with the policies of the National Speleological Society, and perform all other duties necessary to maintain a healthy grotto organization and to investigate the several pertinent aspects of Speleology.
- V. General meetings shall be held as determined by the Grotto. Executive committee meetings shall be held as determined by the Committee.
- VI. Decisions made by a majority of the Grotto members present at a regularly announced meeting shall be binding to the entire Grotto.
- VII. Membership in the Central Ohio Grotto shall be open to persons interested in Speleology who have complied with conditions of membership set forth in the By-Laws.

**The By-Laws of the Central Ohio Grotto
of the
National Speleological Society.**

As amended June 1964.

I. MEMBERSHIP

- A. Application for Regular Grotto membership shall be made to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Grotto, shall include the applicant's National Speleological Society serial number, shall be accompanied by payment of dues, and shall be accepted from any NSS member in central Ohio or the surrounding area.
- B. Members are classified as follows: Regular or Associate.
 1. Regular Members have the right to vote, hold office, serve as committee chairman, and have access to all the Grotto's records and data; and shall receive a copy of currently issued publications, except that only one copy of publications will be sent to each family regardless of the number of Grotto members in the family.
 2. Associate members have all privileges of the Grotto except the right to vote and hold office. Associate membership is awarded by the Executive Committee.

II. DUES -- ASSESSMENT OR GIFTS

- A. Dues for each Regular member of the Grotto shall be \$2.00 per year.
- B. Dues shall be payable at the January Grotto meeting, and the membership year will run concurrently with the calendar year.
 1. An applicant for membership during the period January 1 through June 30 shall be assessed \$2.00 dues for the remainder of the calendar year.
 2. An applicant for membership during the period July 1 through December 31 shall be assessed \$1.00 dues for the remainder of the calendar year.
- C. Grotto members who join or are called into service in the Armed Forces shall continue to have full membership privileges but shall not be assessed any dues during their time in service so long as this time does not exceed two years. If time in service does exceed two years they will again be assessed dues in order to maintain their Grotto membership.
- D. No special assessments may be made against the members of the Grotto. Voluntary contributions may be solicited by the Executive Committee for specific purposes. A charge may be made for the Grotto's special publications and extra copies of regular publications, and fees may be collected for the use of the Grotto's property when approved by the Executive Committee.
- E. Gifts and bequests may be made to the Grotto in any amount for any use compatible with the purposes of the Grotto. If special designations are not made by

donors, monetary gifts shall become a part of the General Fund

III. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

- A. The Executive Committee shall be composed of:
 - 1. The Officers of the Grotto which are:
 - a. the Grotto Chairman
 - b. the Grotto Secretary-Treasurer
 - 2. The immediate Past-Chairman of the Grotto.
 - 3. Two members elected from the Grotto membership.

IV. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE OFFICERS

- A. The Executive Committee primarily discusses Grotto business matters in a separate meeting, and then makes its recommendations to the membership at a regular Grotto meeting.
- B. the Officers shall carry out the duties of their respective offices so as to be in keeping with Articles III and IV of the Constitution.
 - 1. The Grotto Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Grotto and of the Executive Committee, shall have general supervision of its work, and shall maintain proper liaison with the officers and committees of the National Speleological Society.
 - 2. The Grotto Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain Grotto files and financial records and shall take care of all Grotto correspondence, including the filing of annual and other necessary reports to NSS officials.
- C. Other elective officers or appointive positions may be established by the Grotto at its discretion.

V. ELECTIONS

- A. Officers and Executive Committee members shall be elected annually by ballot at the regular meeting in January.
- B. The Grotto Chairman shall appoint a nominating committee of three Grotto members no later than the regular meeting in November. This committee shall present three lists of candidates for the elected offices, as described in Article V, Section C of these By-Laws, at the regular meeting in January.
- C. The balloting for Officers and Executive Committee member shall consist of three separate ballots:
 - 1. The first ballot shall be for the Grotto Chairman.
 - 2. The second ballot shall be for the Grotto Secretary-Treasurer.
 - 3. The third ballot shall be for the two Executive Committee members to be elected from the Grotto membership.
- D. Nominations from the floor will be open before each of the three separate ballots.
- E. The newly-elected Officers and Executive Committee members will take office immediately following the conclusion of all the balloting at the regular meeting

in January. Their terms of office will extend through the period of balloting at the regular meeting the following January.

VI. MEETINGS

- A. Regular Grotto meetings ordinarily will be held monthly.
- B. The business of the regular January meeting of the Grotto shall include, in addition of the election of officers and payment of dues, a review of the financial standing of the Grotto.
- C. Special meetings of the Grotto may be called at such times and places as approved by the Executive Committee. The membership shall be sent notices as to the date, place, and purpose of any such meetings.
- D. Regular meetings of the Executive Committee ordinarily will be held prior to the Grotto meetings.
- E. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Grotto Chairman.

VII. COMMITTEES

- A. Committees may be established to execute the work of the Grotto. Committee chairman shall be appointed by the Grotto Chairman with the approval of the Executive Committee. Each Committee Chairman shall elect the personnel and promote the activities of his Committee.

VIII. PROPERTIES

- A. The Grotto may acquire real and personal property for use by and behalf of the membership.
- B. In the event of dissolution, the Grotto shall return to the original donors and equipment loaned to the grotto, and Grotto records, data, and property shall revert to the National Speleological Society as provided in Article IX of the Constitution.

IX. PUBLICATIONS

- A. The Grotto will issue and distribute a regular publication to all Grotto Members. The publication will also be distributed to prospective members and to friends of the Grotto, subject to approval of the Executive Committee.
- B. Required copies of Grotto publications shall be forwarded to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Grotto for distribution to Society offices.

X. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

- A. Members may be dropped or expelled from the Grotto for the following reasons: (1) non-payment of dues; (2) willful disregard of his own or the safety of others on trips; (3) willful misuse of the Grotto's property; (4) conduct detrimental to the Grotto.
- B. Members shall be dropped or expelled from the Grotto automatically if they are dropped or expelled from the National Speleological Society.

- C. Any member subject to expulsion from the Grotto may obtain a personal hearing before the Executive Committee: except that, in the case of automatic expulsion as stated in Article X, Section B of these By-Laws, hearing will be granted unless and until the individual has been reinstated as a member of the NSS.

XI. AMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS

- A. These By-Laws may be amended or revised at any regular Grotto meeting by a majority vote of the Grotto members present, providing a formal announcement of the proposed amendment has been made prior to that meeting at which it is to be considered.

Proposed By-Laws November 1993

The By-Laws of the Central Ohio Grotto of the National Speleological Society.

As proposed November 20, 1993

I. MEMBERSHIP

- A. Application for Regular Grotto membership shall be made to the Treasurer of the Grotto, shall include the applicant's National Speleological Society membership number, shall be accompanied by payment of dues, and shall be accepted from any NSS member in central Ohio or the surrounding area.
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 2. Associate members have all privileges of the Grotto except the right to vote and hold office. Associate membership is awarded by the Executive Committee.

II. DUES -- ASSESSMENT OR GIFTS

- A. Dues for each Regular member of the Grotto shall be set by the Executive Committee and confirmed by the members present at the next regular meeting.
- B. Members who have not renewed their dues within three months of their renewal date will be dropped from the roster.
- C. Grotto members who join or are called into service in the Armed Forces shall continue to have full membership privileges but shall not be assessed any dues during their time in service so long as this time

does not exceed two years. If time in service does exceed two years they will again be assessed dues in order to maintain their Grotto membership.

- D. No special assessments may be made against the members of the Grotto. Voluntary contributions may be solicited by the Executive Committee for specific purposes. A charge may be made for the Grotto's special publications and extra copies of regular publications, and fees may be collected for the use of the Grotto's property when approved by the Executive Committee.
- E. Gifts and bequests may be made to the Grotto in any amount for any use compatible with the purposes of the Grotto. If special designations are not made by donors, monetary gifts shall become a part of the General Fund

III. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

- A. The Executive Committee shall be composed of:
1. The Officers of the Grotto which are:
 - a. the Grotto Chairman
 - b. the Grotto Vice-Chairman
 - c. the Grotto Secretary
 - d. the Grotto Treasurer
 2. The immediate Past-Chairman of the Grotto.
 3. Two members elected from the Grotto membership.
 4. There must be a minimum of three individuals holding the four offices. The Chairman may not hold any other office.

IV. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE OFFICERS

- A. The Executive Committee primarily discusses Grotto business matters in a separate meeting, and then makes its recommendations to the membership at a regular Grotto meeting.
- B. The Officers shall carry out the duties of their respective offices so as to be in keeping with Articles III and IV of the Constitution.
1. The Grotto Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Grotto and of the Executive Committee, shall have general supervision of its work, and shall maintain proper liaison with the officers and committees of the National Speleological Society.
 2. The Grotto Vice-Chairman shall preside in the absence of the Chairman, and will succeed to the office of Grotto Chairman in the event that the Grotto Chairman resigns or is otherwise unable to complete his/her term.
 3. The Grotto Secretary shall take minutes at all meetings of the Grotto and of the Executive Committee, and shall take care of all Grotto correspondence, including the filing of annual and other necessary reports to NSS officials.
 4. The Grotto Treasurer shall maintain all Grotto membership files and financial records. Payment of

bills other than normal operating expenses must be approved by a majority of the Executive Committee.

- C. Other elective officers or appointive positions may be established by the Grotto at its discretion.

V. ELECTIONS

- A. Officers and Executive Committee members shall be elected annually by ballot at the regular meeting in January.
- B. The Grotto Chairman shall appoint a nominating committee of three Grotto members no later than the regular meeting in November. This committee shall present a list of one or more candidates for each of the elected offices, as described in Article V, Section C of these By-Laws, at the regular meeting in January.
- C. The office of Grotto Chairman may not be held by the same person for more than two terms in succession.
- D. The balloting for Officers and Executive Committee members shall consist of separate ballots, beginning with the ballot for the Grotto Chairman. The final ballot shall be for the two Executive Committee members.
- E. Nominations from the floor will be open before each ballot.
- F. The newly-elected Officers and Executive Committee members will take office immediately following the conclusion of all the balloting at the regular meeting in January. Their terms of office will extend through the period of balloting at the regular meeting the following January.

VI. MEETINGS

- A. Regular Grotto meetings will be held monthly.
- B. The business of the regular January meeting of the Grotto shall include, in addition of the election of officers, a review of the financial standing of the Grotto.
- C. Special meetings of the Grotto may be called at such times and places as approved by the Executive Committee. The membership shall be sent notices as to the date, place, and purpose of any such meetings.
- D. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Grotto Chairman. There shall be a minimum of two such meetings each year.

VII. COMMITTEES

- A. Committees may be established to execute the work of the Grotto. Committee chairmen shall be appointed by the Grotto Chairman with the approval of the Executive Committee. Each Committee Chairman shall elect the personnel and promote the activities of his Committee.

VIII. PROPERTIES

- A. The Grotto may acquire real and personal property for use by and on behalf of the membership.
- B. In the event of dissolution, the Grotto shall return to the original donors any equipment loaned to the grotto; and Grotto records, data, and property shall revert to the National Speleological Society as provided in Article IX of the Constitution.

IX. PUBLICATIONS

- A. The Grotto will issue and distribute a regular publication to all Grotto Members. The publication will also be distributed to prospective members and to friends of the Grotto, subject to approval of the Executive Committee.
- B. Required copies of Grotto publications shall be forwarded to the Society office.

X. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

- A. Members may be dropped or expelled from the Grotto for the following reasons: (1) non-payment of dues; (2) willful disregard of his own or the safety of others on trips; (3) willful misuse of the Grotto's property; (4) conduct detrimental to the Grotto.
- B. Members shall be expelled from the Grotto automatically if they are expelled from the National Speleological Society.
- C. Members who are dropped from the National Speleological Society for non-payment of dues will be converted to Associate Membership.
- D. Any member subject to expulsion from the Grotto may obtain a personal hearing before the Executive Committee; except that, in the case of automatic expulsion as stated in Article X, Section B of these By-Laws, no hearing will be granted unless and until the individual has been reinstated as a member of the NSS.

XI. AMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS

- A. These By-Laws may be amended or revised at any regular Grotto meeting by a majority vote of the Grotto members present, providing a formal announcement of the proposed amendment has been made prior to that meeting at which it is to be considered.

