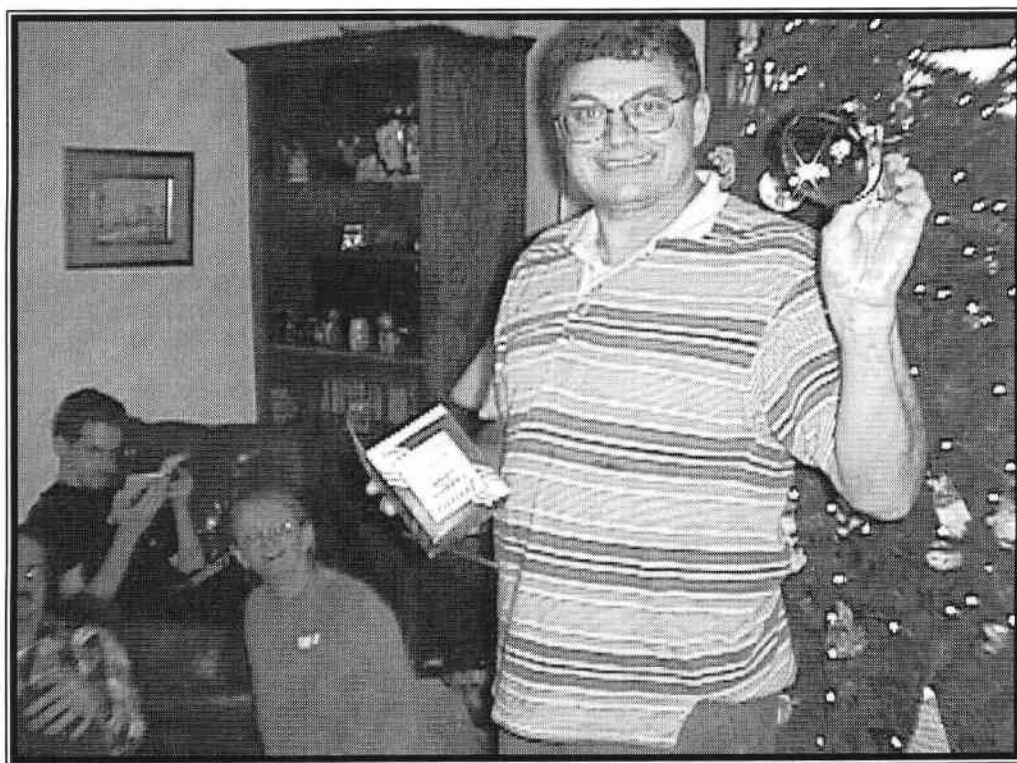




COG SQUEAKS

January 1999



Bill Walden Receives a Virgin Justrite Carbide Lamp

Complete with the Original Box and Instructions

at the C.O.G. Christmas Party 1998

GROTTO INFORMATION

The Central Ohio Grotto of the National Speleological Society meets at 8:00 p.m. 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). Parking is available behind the church. Please contact a grotto officer or committee chairman for information and caving trips.

COG OFFICERS

		NSS#	Telephone#
Chairman	Steve Aspery	38931	614-841-1846
Vice Chair	Doug Davis	44171	614-792-8270
Secretary	Lacie Braley	44099	614-895-1732
Treasurer	Karen Walden	15678	740-965-2942

Executive Committee:

Don Conover	20386	937-372-7581
George Hagen	36266	614-263-8681
Doug Burke	41817	614-983-9336

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

BOONE KARST SQUEAKS Dick Maxey (28034) 614-888-2285
 Bill Walden (11573) -- editor
 bwalden@infonet.com 740-965-2942
 Karen Walden -- Staff
 Karen_walden@hotmail.com

The official grotto address is:

Central Ohio Grotto, C/O Bill Walden
 1672 South Galena Road, Galena, Ohio 43021
 740-965-2942
 E-mail address dz716@cleveland.freenet.edu

Note: Area code 740 is new and required. The Waldens' telephone number -- 740-965-2942 -- remains a local Columbus call.

Internet list server -- cg@ontosystems.com

Send E-mail with subject *subscribe* to join.

Dues: \$15 per year individual or \$20 per year per household. Membership includes the C.O.G. Squeaks.

The COG Squeaks is the official newsletter of the Central Ohio Grotto. Subscription is \$15.00 per year per address. The Central Ohio Grotto publishes the COG Squeaks ten times per year.

Articles on cave exploration and study, cave trip reports, cave fiction, cave poetry, cave related cartoons, or cave related art are encouraged. Please send to Bill Walden via mail, disk, E-mail, or fax. Free disks and mailers are available from Bill at the meetings. Contact Bill for information on modem or fax transmission.

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

Please Welcome the

C.O.G. 1999 Officers.

Chairman	Steve Aspery
Vice Chairman	Doug Davis
Secretary	Lacie Braley
Treasurer	Karen Walden

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Doug Burke
 George Hagen
 Don Conover

KARST CALENDAR

Jan. 8	COG Meeting at the Presbyterian Church on the Square in Worthington, Ohio, 8 p.m.
Jan. 30-31	Crawl-a-thon at Carter Caves State Park, Kentucky.
Jan. 31	Ohio Valley Region Meeting 9 a.m. at Crawl-a-thon.
Feb. 12	COG Meeting.
Mar. 12	COG Meeting
Apr. 9	COG Meeting
May 14	COG Meeting (Do we want to change this?)
May 15 & 16	Great Saltpetre Preserve Open House.
May 28-31	Speleofest. Hart County Fairgrounds between Munfordville and Horse Cave, KY Contact Alex Hicks 502-499-0768 or indiancave@juno.com
June 11	COG Meeting
July 11 -16	NSS Convention, Filer, ID
June 2000	NSS Convention, Elkins, WV

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COG Meeting Minutes November 13, 1998

Meeting called to order at 8:05 PM

Treasurer's Report

Postage Aug. - Nov. \$89.11 Xerox
Aug. - Nov. \$80.00 Dues received
\$140.00 Balance \$550.61. Rick
Zimmerman asked when was last time
COG paid church for room use. Karen
Walden reported we gave \$100.00 in
June.

Squeaks

Bill Walden brought examples of how
the new digital printer at work will
improve the appearance of the Squeaks.

Toy Committee (Part 1)

Lacie Braley showed the "Speleo-
Barbie" she purchased at the recent
GCG auction. It came complete with a
helmet, boots, and knee and elbow pads
attached with duct tape.

Youth

Bill Walden is taking the Boy Scouts
caving on November 21st. Also during
the last week of December Jan
Campbell is taking church youth group
on a trip.

Survey

Doug Davis and Bill Walden extended
the Redmond Creek survey 600 feet.
Members also discussed the possible
upper entrance. Rick Zimmerman
brought a Black House Mountain
system map. Bill Walden has the Jarvie
Roarke's map on CD and has copies
available for purchase.

Toy Committee (Part 2)

Don Conover arrived with a toy(let).
He brought a couple of the "facilities"
to be used at the Freelands Sinkhole
cleanup.

Trip Report

Rick Zimmerman made his first cave
trip in several months. He went into
Redbud (Black House Mountain) with
Harry Goeppel and Bruce Warthman.
They crawled...and crawled...and
crawled. Did some survey and dig.
Rick decided to leave before the others.
Had some difficulty locating the way
out. Figures crawled about 3 miles
before the others directed him out.

Upcoming Trips

Saturday/Sunday Nov. 14-15--Cleanup
at Freelands Sinkhole. Don Conover
brought "before" pictures of the
sinkhole. Bill Walden mentioned some
of the costs of the cleanup including a
Rumpke landfill fee of \$350. The fee
included on site drop off and pick up of
a box. Steve Aspery moved the COG
contribute \$50 of the NSS Group
Conservation award and pass the hat for
contributions to defray cleanup costs.
Cheryl Early seconded the motion.
Dick Maxey suggested if there was a
surplus of funds that the remainder goes
into the Jay Kessel fund. The motion
was passed. After the hat pass Karen
Walden reported received \$101 cash,
\$150 in checks. Total including \$50
from Conservation award: \$301.

Other New Business

Lacie Braley mentioned the GCG is
putting together a proposal to host the
2001 NSS Convention at Great
Saltpetre Cave Preserve. She also
brought copies of the Closed Bat Cave
list obtained from the Nashville Grotto
website. Don Conover said there
would be nurse available at the
Freelands cleanup. Rick Zimmerman
entered 10 photos at convention. Nine
were selected for exhibition and one
received an honorable mention.
Ed Herel attended a Mammoth Cave
Restoration field camp and showed
photos. Mentioned there are frequent
field camps and grottos are asked to
help. Some 1999 field camp dates:
Weekend camps on Jan 23-24, Apr 24-
25, and Oct 2-3. Weeklong camp
August 8-15. Dick Maxey said need to
reconnect with the Daniel Boone
conservation task force. Used to meet
with forest service once a year.

Election of 1999 Officers

Candidates were contacted before
meeting. Voting was done by written
ballot(not retained) and vote counts
were not announced.

Chair- Steve Aspery

Vice-Chair- Doug Davis

Secretary- Lacie Braley

Treasurer- Karen Walden (by
acclamation, no written vote)

Executive Committee (2 elected)-
George Hagan and Don Conover

Steve Aspery moved to adjourn (for
pizza). Cheryl Early seconded,
9:30PM.

Disappearing Passages: Caving in the Blind Spot

By Seymour Dean Lewis
Department of Psychiatry
University of Cincinnati Medical Center

The phenomenon of disappearing cave passages is well documented. The speleological literature contains numerous references to "lost" passages and "secret" caves and parts of caves that can no longer be found, or that reappear periodically. A remote cavern in Floyd Collins Crystal Cave was named "Floyd's Lost Passage," but the unsolved mystery remains: where did Floyd spend a day and a half in Sand Cave before the cave seemingly responded to his intrusion with a terminal entrapment?

My paternal uncle, Martin Seymour Lewis, disappeared in Stykes Cave, Kentucky in 1977, on the day of the second full moon in November, only to reappear some 18 years later, telling of fantastic subterranean dwarves with whom he spent an apparent few weeks in their underground city. One is reminded of the fable of Rip Van Winkle in New York State. Like Van Winkle, my uncle seems to have experienced a time anomaly such as a trans-light-speed traveler would experience. Could the phenomenon involve relativistic effects? Could the introduction of light into a region where light has never existed initiate quantum effects, essentially triggering molecular transitions, which have queued up over eons but lacked the radiation to become actualized?

Do caves exhibit unconventional geometry? I'm reminded of H.P. Lovecraft's fanciful references to "odd angles" and "non-Euclidean corners" found in rooms in certain moldy

mansions. Do other dimensions co-exist, as science fiction writers have imagined? Recent theories about superstrings suggest that there are in fact ten dimensions, although dimensions beyond the fourth are "degenerate" ones that are "rolled up" and it would require a large amount of energy, more than is readily available on earth, to expand these hidden dimensions and explore them.

Then, of course, there are black holes, which may exist not only in remote regions of space, but within the earth. A black hole is not necessarily large. A really small one could be microscopic. Once again, the amount of energy required to do anything constructive with a black hole might exceed current capacity. Anyway, black holes are associated with the concept of wormholes, which are routes that connect places that are otherwise remote in conventional geometry. A cave could conceivably connect to anyplace in the universe via a wormhole.

Or does the mind play tricks with reality, since perception and reality are indistinguishable anyway? If there is a cave passage and no one can perceive it, does it exist? Consider what happens to equipment that is left in a cave to be retrieved later and used for further exploration. Perhaps it is no coincidence that the abandoned gear is often never retrieved. The passages seemed to exist when the explorers were there, but could not be found later. Much effort in cave

exploration goes into the creation of elaborate maps. Often, these maps seem to disappear or become unavailable, or at least curiously incomplete.

Older cavers often have a similar tale: they vaguely remember a cave feature that is undocumented and can't be found. My cousin Les Samson told me of a strongly blowing dome in Jaguar Cave, near the end of the dreaded Macho Crawl. It's not on Les's map, nor on the survey notes, nor is it mentioned in a trip report, and Les always wrote trip reports about Jaguar Cave.

A compelling game that some cave explorers play involves connecting caves into a system. Geologists have tried in vain to explain the origin of these systems. Perhaps their problem is that the caves developed in another way, a nonphysical way. Les says he often discovered places to go in a cave just by sitting in the cave and imagining where he wanted the cave to go. Can a person create a space where none existed?

I often dream that I'm exploring a cave. It's usually the same cave that I dreamed about previously, but the strange thing is that this dream cave exists only in my dreams. I even experience a kind of somnolent déjà vu when I'm exploring this dream cave. I keep wondering whether I'll find the same cave in a waking state someday, or perhaps even discover the survey notes that I dream I was taking.

Disappointment in Redmond Creek Cave

By Bill Walden

Katie and I returned to Redmond Creek Cave Thanksgiving weekend with high hopes of continuing west. We heard that Doug Davis attempted going beyond our previous survey but was halted by breakdown. That was disappointing news but we decided to look for ourselves.

We continued west past the point Doug and I had quit surveying back in October and sure enough we encountered very loose breakdown. We poked around and I climbed up as high as I dared until loose breakdown was falling around me gradually filling up the hole through which I had climbed. That bothered me so I returned to the floor of the canyon and we retreated to the area of the dome. We climbed up and searched for leads but found none going in a direction that might take us around the breakdown.

Surely the passage continues on the other side of the breakdown.

Greg and Pat Erisman found an entrance just off the dry streambed that we suspect is the cause of the breakdown that intersects the west lead, but they didn't venture too far in as they lacked vertical equipment. Perhaps we'll take a look there New Years weekend. Pat says that a hand line should be sufficient.

The Following day we returned to Redmond Creek with Andy and Sam Franklin and Eric Weaver to survey downstream. No one had gone beyond the drops about 200 feet from the entrance.

The downstream lead splits a short distance from the entrance. Each passage goes to a drop. Sam and I went to the left with Greg's cable ladder while Andy and Eric went to the right. I rigged the cable ladder from the lip of the drop. Sam descended on the cable ladder and I was nervous about the descent. Sam quickly encountered Andy and Eric and I decided to try the other passage. The free climb down was easy. The passages below the drops have cobblestone floors. I quickly discovered that my insert kneepads were of little use on the cobblestones and my knees became very sore.

These down stream passages have very small scallops on the walls. This indicates rapidly flowing water. We all had the impression that water really roars through this section of the cave.

I suspect the cave downstream from the entrance is, for all practical purposes, totally filled with cobblestones, gravel and sand. This explains why the resurgence is such a good spring. The cave must be capable of holding a tremendous quantity of water and slowly releasing it from the resurgence.

With the New Year comes new hope. The hands and knees crawl, which I discovered Labor Day weekend, has not yet been checked. There are lots of small pieces of charcoal on the passage floor. The walls of this crawlway are covered with gypsum. It will be interesting to learn the source of this charcoal. Hopefully, we can still get into the cave.

Curses — Foiled Again!

by Lacie Braley

It was, as usual, late when Eric Weaver and I arrived at the field house, or I guess you could say it was early, 12:30 AM, November 28th. We were joining Bill and Katie Walden, Kevin Toepke and Andy and Sam Franklin for a push trip at Redmond Creek. Turns out the lead had already been checked out, twice, and ended shortly after the end of Bill and Doug Davis' survey. Bummer!

The next morning, after a pancake breakfast, Pat and Chris Erisman, Don Conover, Jon Gardner and others joined us. The mandatory "where are we going today?" discussion followed. I headed out with Pat and Chris leaving Eric to go to Redmond. The others planned to check out some downstream leads. You see, I had promised Eric a long cave trip, oops. We picked up Greg at the cabin and set off for breakfast number 2 at Hardee's in Monticello. Pat had hoped to drop a pit but the idea was vetoed. We went instead to a cave near Redmond. Pat and Chris had been there the day before. After avoiding both cow patties and the resident bull we came to the cave entrance. It was low in a streambed and nearly choked with debris. Lots of debris. Lots and lots of debris. Definitely a cave to avoid in wet weather.

The inside of the cave was rather neat. Lots of arches and swirls carved by the flowing water. Lots of sand, too. Did I mention debris? Pat pointed out the way to the entrance he and Chris had used the day before. We quickly reached a stream passage choke and while Chris dug at the muck looked for other leads. No luck in either department. Another disappointment. Back outside the cave Pat pointed out the other two known entrances.

(Curses continued from page 4)

It was still early so we drove on over past the Redmond Creek entrance to check out a hole Greg and Pat had found. After some hard work by Greg and Pat (while Chris and I relaxed), Pat climbed down in. He was soon back. Only about 25 feet of crawling passage. This disappointment was enough for Pat. He decided to pack up and head for home. They drove

me to the Redmond Creek entrance and Pat and I geared up to see if we could find the others. Just as we approached the entrance Bill and Andy came out for the survey equipment and said, yes, I could ride back to the field house with them. Pat asked me a couple of times if I was sure I hadn't forgotten anything. (I did anyway).

Then Pat, Greg and Chris left for

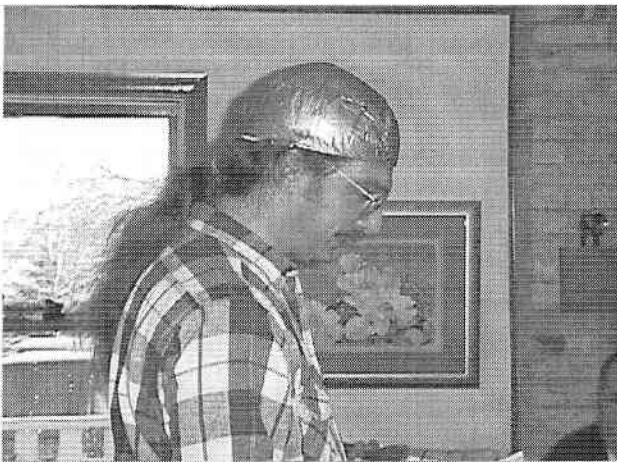
home. I stayed and helped survey until it was time to clean up for Thanksgiving dinner at Tom Crockett's. (Good Food)

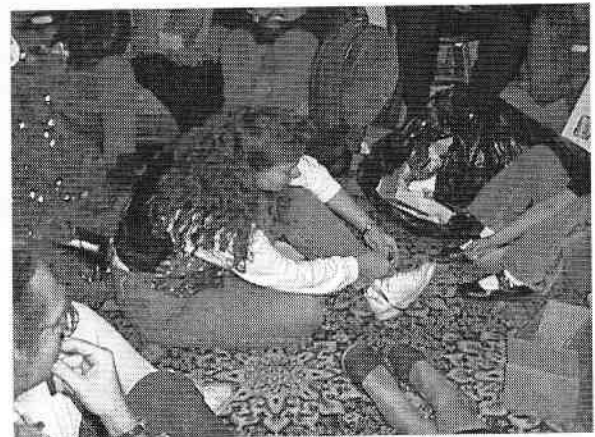
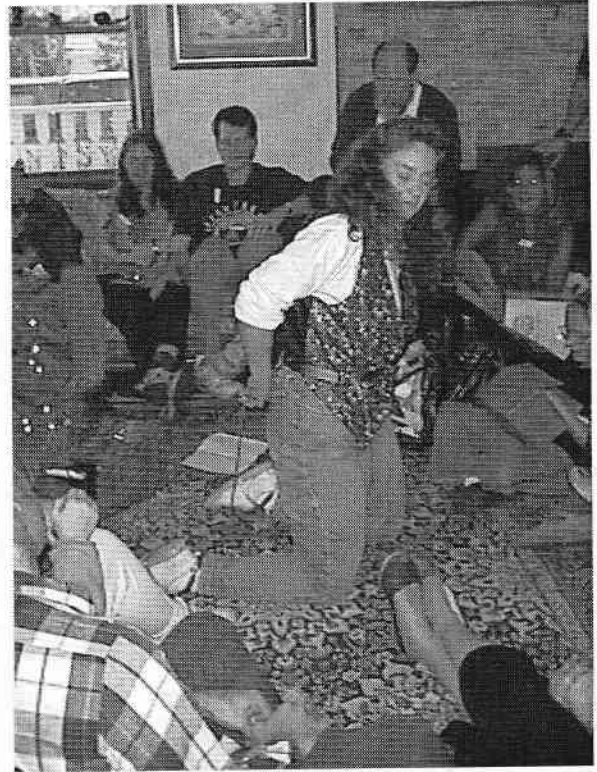
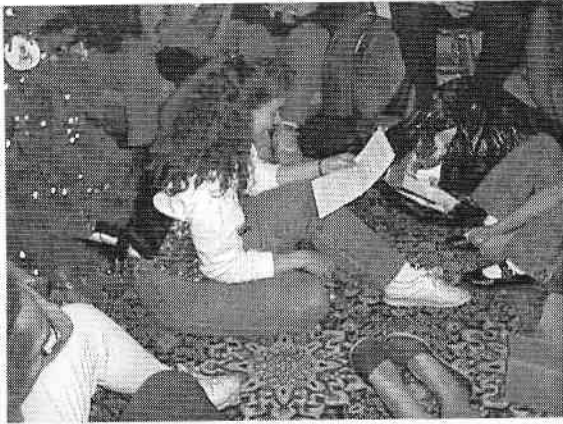
The Redmond Creek gang had struck out, too. They hadn't gone far downstream before they hit apparent dead ends. I don't know, maybe I haven't been on enough "No luck" trips yet to earn an "it goes and goes" trip. Maybe next time....

THE COG CHRISTMAS PARTY

A Photo Review

All Pictures by Don Conover







The Long National Park System Monopoly Game.

