



**CENTRAL
OKLAHOMA
GROTTO**
OF THE NATIONAL
SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC

C.O.G.nizance

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The November meeting will be Friday, November 10, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be at the home of the John and Sue Bozeman.



KNOTS

RLDiesslin © 2003

Caving Anyone?



You Never Know What You'll Find!

REPRINTED FROM: <http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/cartoons/2005jan.asp>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Northwest trips are scheduled the third Saturday of every month. Contact Sue or John Bozeman for details.

*The November meeting will be Friday, November 10, 2017 at the home of John and Sue Bozeman.

WHITE-NOSE SYNDROME DECONTAMINATION PROTOCOL, APRIL 2016

This is the latest formal revision of the national decontamination protocol to prevent spread of the fungus that causes white-nose syndrome. This document is the product of a collaborative effort with multiple federal and state agencies and several non-governmental organizations.

Go to this website to view the detailed suggestions listed to help stop the spreading of WNS.

<https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/news/national-white-nose-syndrome-decontamination-protocol-april-2016>

For the latest information about WNS visit this site:

<https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/>

DUANE SHARED CORRESPONDENCE HE'S HAVING WITH BILL CAIRE AND GLORIA CADDELL ABOUT ACTIVITY IN NW OKLAHOMA. THANKS FOR THE INFORMATION, WHAT CAN WE DO?

Hi Duane,

I don't know if you or the grotto have heard, but there is a large high voltage electrical transmission line being planned across western OK from the panhandle to Tulsa (the Wind Catcher Project?).

As near as we can tell it is planned to go across or very near the southern edge of the Selman Living Lab.

Gloria Caddell (Associate Dean in College of Math & Science at UCO – botanist) , my wife, and very active with the SLL went to one of the pre-routing meetings yesterday and tried to chat with them about the caves, bats, etc. She tried to express that the SLL is concerned about the impact (construction, maintenance, etc.) the transmission lines will have on the caves and all wildlife in the area.

Are there any suggestions/comments you might be able to provide----- i.e. how far from the caves should they be erected, archeological and paleontological concerns, runoff from construction into creeks, runoff into caves, impacts on cave and other invertebrate and vertebrate wildlife, other significant caves/systems in the area that the company should be aware of, etc.?

Any others she should consider contacting???

Thanks, Bill Caire

Duane,

It will be coming across E230, and going along the southern edge of our natural area (not along E210 - the road where our trailer, bunkhouse, saferoom/classroom, and astronomy domes are located). The proposed route would take it along the south property line of the 320-acre natural area, where you have mapped the Selman Cave System and Cattle Cave. Your map shows Cattle Caves extending south of the SLL onto adjacent land. We are very concerned that construction of the transmission line on or near our land could collapse passageways of Cattle Cave or other caves. We know that there are many unmapped caves both on our land and in the surrounding area. We would welcome any feedback or support from your group.

Thanks, Gloria

From Duane: Any thoughts on what we can do?

Awesome Facts About Bats

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR <https://www.doi.gov/>

1. Did you know: There are over 1,300 species of bats worldwide. Bats can be found on nearly every part of the planet except in extreme deserts and polar regions. The difference in size and shape are equally impressive. Bats range in size from the Kitti's hog-nosed bat (also called the Bumblebee Bat) that weighs less than a penny -- making it the world's smallest mammal -- to the flying foxes, which can have a wingspan of up to 6 feet. The U.S. and Canada are home to about 45 species of bats and additional species are found in the U.S. territories in the Pacific and Caribbean.

The little brown bat lives up to its name. It weighs only a 1/4-1/3 of an ounce, is about 2 inches long and has a 6-inch wingspan.

(More facts to come!)



TREASURER'S REPORTS

NOVEMBER, 2017 TREASURERS'S REPORT

INCOME		
Dividends	\$	00.28
TOTAL	\$.28
CASH ON HAND	\$	256.75
CHECKING	\$	128.19
SAVINGS	\$	2,139.68
TOTAL	\$	2,524.62

EXPENSES

Balance as of **10/7/2017**

PREPARED BY TREASURER JOHN TALBOT

MINUTES

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GROTTO

Minutes of meeting of October 13, 2017

Host: the middle of the boonies home of Dale and Carole Town

Attendees: Dale Amlee, Sue and John Bozeman, Carole and Dale Town, John Talbot and wife, John Van Dyke and family, Jon and Kelley Woltz

The most honorable Jon Woltz opened the meeting at 8:47 pm

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

TRIP REPORT:

Jon, Dale and Sue could not find "John's Elusive Cave" opening. The drove around in Kelley's beloved Element, which Jon treated accordingly lest he catch the wrath of Kelley.

They saw hunters who asked if they had seen any deer. They also saw Betty and gave her the photo. She was happy to receive it, even if she couldn't remember who everyone was.

Dale A., Jon W., Sue and Steve will go caving next weekend. It was decided that they would explore Steve's "Roadside Cave" and see how extensive it really is.

Sue will call Justin Vote on the south side of Selman to see about the cave that he had found.

They will then say goodbye to Betty and see Rutledge to check out the ADJ cave SE of Betty's and north of Quinlan.

Dale Amlee has not done anymore on his map. He is using Inkscape software program. It converts coordinates from Compass program. There was discussion on having a Saturday mapmaking session.

(It was suggested that Kelley draw a map from her imagination along with a story about it)

November meeting will be held at the Bozeman's. They will also host the December meeting as well.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Per John Talbot.

John Talbot commented that the tribute to Anne Ault was very nice.

Meeting was closed at 9:30 pm



Submitted by Carole Tc

Next fact:

2. Not all bats hibernate. Even though bears and bats are the two most well-known hibernators, not all bats spend their winter in caves. Some bat species like the spotted bat survive by migrating in search of food to warmer areas when it gets chilly. The Northern long-eared bat spends winter hibernating in caves and mines.

TRIP REPORT

Steve's 'Roadside Cave'

October 21, 2017

Dale Amlee, Steve Beleu, Sue Bozeman and Jon Woltz

The first photo that Jon Woltz took was at the entrance of Steve's target for us yesterday: Roadside Cave near Selman Bat.

A huge rattler lazed on the entrance rock and we chose NOT to enter.

About 4 feet long and 3 inches thick (maybe 4!). Impressive.

Steve did bring and haul with us his huge bag of digging tools we call his Weapons of War. That was his exercise for the day. We had intended to see if we could push this remnant water-accepting sink. Other pits and sinks in the area drop about 15 feet and devolve into 2 inch bedding planes. The runoff seeps down into the gypsum collapse, hits an impermeable clay or dolomite and seeps into the subsoil.

The rest of the time, we spent trying to find land-owners at home -- unsuccessfully. So no caving this trip ... again. boo

The only good thing was that everyone got home before the nasty storms and tornados hit. 🌩️

SUE



POTPOURRI

Indiana man 'glad to be alive' after being forgotten and locked in cave for 60 hours

Associated Press

September 22, 2017 — 12:56pm

<http://www.startribune.com/indiana-man-locked-in-cave-for-60-hours-forgotten-by-group/446809663/>

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — A 19-year-old man who spent 60 hours locked alone inside a gated southern Indiana cave says he feels lucky to be alive.

Indiana University freshman Lukas Cavar was on a spelunking trip to Sullivan Cave about 10 miles (16 kilometers) south of Bloomington when he became separated Sunday afternoon from 12 other members of the university's Caving Club.

When he eventually reached the cave entrance, Cavar found club members had padlocked its gate, unaware that he remained inside. He couldn't get a cellphone signal and screamed for hours, hoping motorists passing on a nearby road might hear him.

"It took me a little while to wrangle my emotions and sort of approach things analytically, sensibly, to come up with a game plan to survive," Cavar said Thursday, two days after his rescue.

The Bloomington man, whose parents are Indiana University linguistics professors, tried picking the padlock with a paper clip to no avail.

Dressed in light clothes, hiking boots and a helmet, Cavar had a plastic bag, two energy bar wrappers,

two empty water bottles, a cellphone and a wallet. He used the energy bar wrappers to collect moisture and the water bottles to collect rainfall and puddled cave water.

Cavar also licked the cave's damp walls to quench his thirst. Hunger drove him to consider foraging for cave crickets, although he didn't eat any of the small insects.

After his parents filed a missing person report with university police, a high school friend informed the Caving Club's president that Cavar was missing.

Two club leaders immediately returned to the cave late Tuesday after finding a pile of clothing in a vehicle club members used to travel Sunday to the cave. They discovered Cavar uninjured and asleep behind the locked gate.

"I'm really glad to be alive. It feels like I've been given a second chance," said Cavar, who returned to classes Thursday and has no plans for another spelunking trip.

A message posted by the Caving Club's president on a website for Indiana University student organizations says the club's "rigorous protocols" for accounting for members during cave excursions had failed.

"We had a failure in our leadership to closely follow all these safety procedures," the message states.

CAVES OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE, *HOMO FLORESIENS***1 The Wee Cave**

"As I wandered in the northwest counties
Over and down hills of shining white stone
I saw a cave opening under a hill
No more than two feet high and one wide
And felt an icy wind as I walked alone

Past it in ever quickening strides,
Hearing faint hissing becoming growls.
As dust rise up out of that cave
I began to run, not looking back
But hearing low grunts and howls.

I heard the grass behind me swirling
Softly as currents in the deepest sea
But the scurry of many running feet
Told me something was close behind
On my left, my right, then beside me.

As I ran I felt sharp pains pierce me
Like nails being driven into each foot.
Then I saw on my left and my right
Black blades lifted high that were
Knives stabbing into each boot.

Another ten feet and I staggered slowly
But at last could see what attacked me--
Not more than 3 feet tall they whirled knives
Shaped from rock black as moonless night
And their unhuman brutality.

Their faces when they stared into mine
As I lay helpless looking up at the sky
Were scored with furrows of a long past age
Deeper and wider than any human face,
Only human enough to horrify".

As his life bled out they slashed and stabbed
And cut him apart, rejoicing in great mirth
And carrying him back to their wee cave
From where they'd long hunted lone walkers
To feed to their hungry babes from birth

Until they too got the taste for human meat
And appeared not young but already old
Carrying sharp knives of their own
That their sires from blackest rock
Made in earth's depths where the cold
Miles below the unsuspecting surface
Is brutal as the desolation of space.
So when you cavers think to explore
Apart from one another, know that
A wee cave may be close, its ancient race
Ready to hunt, harvest, and eat,
Quiet and close to your feet.

2 They Are There

As you push through deep squeezes,
Ceilings a few inches above your head,

Cave walls 20, 30 feet either side of you,
You feel you're being watched.
You are. You hope that almost inaudible
Growling and hissing is the wind.
It's not. Something is watching you,
Calculating how difficult it would be to
Take you. Held in gnarled hands are
Blades of black rock, but they take few
Of us and not often, and perhaps they're
Not that hungry today and content
To wait until you next cave.

As your survey grows you're sure
You know the cave, but not the small ways
No caver can squeeze through. But those
That watch you leap silently through them
Swiftly as bats when you wake them
And are hunters efficient as bats
That rarely miss their prey.

3 "We Hunted Them"

"As we hunted them for sport
They retreated deeper into their caves
Until one morning none remained
Where our spears could gig them.

Far below they'd crawled, miles deep
Until they felt safe from our searching
So we forgot about them down there
And slowly became fearful of them.

In time they became bold and came back
Onto the human earth and they saw how
We'd changed everything and despaired
Because they no longer belonged.

They returned to their caves and now
Rarely return here and when they do rage
Against the sons and daughters of the race
That forced them into black depths

To never again walk the green fields of life
They'd loved, or swim in the blue streams
They'd frolicked in, or bathe in the sunshine,
Their lives spent in darkness cold as space."

(c) 2017 Steve Beleu



Central Oklahoma Grotto is a no-profit organization and a chapter of the NSS (National Speleological Society), Cave Avenue, Huntsville, AL., 35810. Dedicated to cave conservation and safety, C.O.G. published general information in a monthly newsletter (\$6.00/year) and detailed cave surveys and related Speleological items in a yearly publication, The Oklahoma Underground (\$3-\$8/issue) Membership is by sponsor and is \$12 per year for adults, \$6 for spouses and students, and \$3 if under 18. Central Oklahoma Grotto meets once a month on the second Friday of each month. For information, write Lil Town, 25692 Mosier Circle, Conifer, CO 80433: All submissions to the newsletter should be sent to the editor: Lil Town, 25692 Mosier Circle, Conifer, CO 80433: Telephone: (580)471-1238: E-mail: cavemoose@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions for any particular month's issue is the 20th day of the previous month. If you wish material returned. Please include a SASE with submission. All materials in this newsletter is available for reproduction, provided proper credit is given with the article when you print it. Trade publications are welcomed. *Cave softly and safely!* Website: <http://www.okcavers.co>

The November meeting will be
At the home of John and Sue Bozeman
Friday, November 10, 2017



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Dark Grotto Printing Presses
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