CENTRAL
OKLAHOMA
GROTTO
OF THE NATIONAL
SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,INC

C.O.G.nizance

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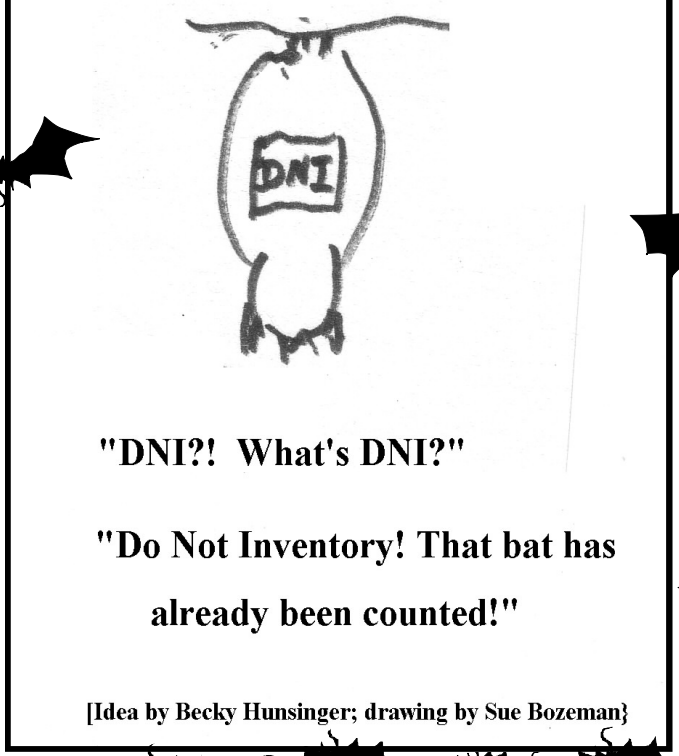
Must have been an interesting bat count !



ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Northwest trips are scheduled the third Saturday of Contract Sue or John Bozeman for details
*There is also a picture of Shawn Thomas as part of a clean up team in Lehman Cave. He is also mentioned in UNDERGROUND UPDATE as a helper in restoration of Ursa Minor Cave .every month.
*The new NSS magazine, March, 2009, has a picture of an infected Indian bat on the back cover that's just awful. It shows signs of Wite Nose Syndrome in Hailes Cave, New York.

MINUTes

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GROTTO

Minutes of the meeting of February 13, 2009

Host: the home of John Van Dyke .
Attendees: Dale Amlee, Anne Ault, John and Sue Bozeman, Duane Del Vecchio, John Talbot, Lil and Dale Town, Jeremiah Van Dyke, Jon and Kelley Woltz.

The Honorable Dale Amlee began the meeting at 8:15.

OLD BUSINESS

We created the workgroups that will head into the field on February 21 to conduct Bat Count 2009 (with the exception of the Washita Bat Count, which will take place on February 28). COG guest and prospective member Dave McDermott will join one of the crews. This is the second year that Dave has helped with Bat Count; after this we will insist that he join COG if he wants to continue working Bat Count.

Jeremiah was formally recognized as a new COG member. Jeremiah has actually been caving since he was five. Welcome!

NEW BUSINESS

After close of business, John Talbot reminded us that postage is soon to be increased. We voted to spend whatever additional funds are necessary to meet COG postage needs.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Talbot gave his report.

We concluded the meeting at 8:45.

Treasurer's rePOrTs

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Dividends	$ 5.95	Postage	$ 5.99
Dues	$ 24.00	Newletter Printing	$ 1.38
TOTALS	**$ 29.95**		**$ 8.18**
CASH ON HAND	**$ 180.32**		
CHECKING	**$ 516.17**		
SAVINGS	**$ 2,690.23**		
TOTAL FUNDS AS OF 2/6/2009	**$ 3,386.72**		

PREPARED BY TREASURER
JOHN TALBOT

Trip reporTs

Bat Count -- Selman Living Lab

Trip: Skunk Eater/Sexit toward Resurgence
Date: February 21, 2009
Personnel: Dale Amlee, Sue Bozeman, Becky Hunsinger and Jon Woltz
Report by: Sue Bozeman

Cold and windy outside with temperatures in the 35 degree range. In the sinks and out of the wind, you 'could' take a sunbath comfortably -- if you were not Anne! Anne says, Cold. Very, very cold!"

We split off from the rest of the group, who were headed for Ooh-Aah. Once they finished that piece of the cave, they'd follow us in the Don't Know Entrance and start surveying from the Sexit under Skunk Eater upstream toward the Spring Bat Room.

We began by entering at Don't Know and walking to the down-slither of Sexit. In case our readership is new to this cave, the name comes from our survey point "S" plus the delightful ability to EXIT the cave here without
having to go back downstream and out either the Resurgence or climb up a scary mudbank cliff skylight called Cedar Shaft Entrance.

The Sexit slither takes you down to stream level via a thin-person breakdown squeeze. Relatively easy going down, we all gathered below and began counting and taking temperatures. Air was 38 degrees; water was 44; time = 12:25 p.m.

Our first cluster was found just downstream of the entrance. It is the same place that we have seen frozen bats in the past. All were alive and fine. Dr. Caire had asked us to be watchful for the nasty 'white mouth' fungus that is currently descimating bats in the eastern part of the U.S. We found no evidence of this awful disease here among our western gypsum cave's pipistrelle's or velifer.

The packing rate of the first cluster of Myotis veifer was 170. We had very few large clusters. Most were groups of 30 to 120 or tiny groups of 3 and a bunch of singles.

Becky was trying out a new camera case for her digital unit -- one that was supposed to be waterproof and mostly caveproof. She took photos of bats, us, and crystals, later showing them to us at Pizza Hut in Woodward on her portable computer! Neat. She got a couple good shots which are on the COG website.

Jon Woltz came up with lyrics for a little ditty called "(sung to the tune of "These Boots are Made for Walkin')

Sucky Boots"
These boots are made for cavin'
And that's just what they'll do
One of these days this mud
Will suck these boots right off of you!

The hottest air temperature in our section was high in the Maze area just before the Root Room: 58 degrees! Back down at stream level, however, we were at 45 again.

We finished up at 4:01 p.m. and were out of the cave at 4:30.

Selman Bat Count 09

Date: Sat. Feb. 21, 2009
Participants: Dale Amlee, Anne Ault, John & Sue Bozeman, Duane Del Vecchio, Becky Hunsinger, Dave McDermott, Jon Woltz
Report by: Duane
Epilog by: Dave

Time for our annual bat count! The 2nd and 3rd Saturday's are typically (by climate records) the coldest weekends of the winter. Hence, our hardy group enters the caves and goes about counting noses to see how many residents have taken up hibernating on the ceiling of Selman Cave Complex. It was a cold 28 degrees with a wind chill but we are dressed for underground and besides, the caves would probably be warmer!

We all met at Betty's house by the 10:30 a.m. meeting but one… Jon finally arrived an hour later and we could head to the caves. When we got there as we didn't have enough for three teams, we made two teams of four. Anne, Becky, Dale, and Sue headed for the lower end while our group, Anne, Dave (the new guy and our newest member), Duane, and John head off for Square Sink entrance.

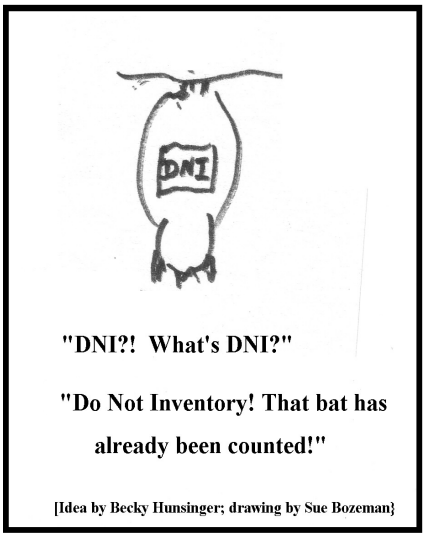
We chose Square Sink Entrance as Duane said he can't crawl out of it anymore! <grin> So that being so, we slid into the pit and entered the cave and got used to the dark. Dave was a participant in last year's Jester Bat Count but wanted a review before proceeding. We had a mini-review session and headed down the tunnel toward White Mountain. John took a side passage stating that was where the Big Browns typically hide out and found one right away. Dave got educated on the difference of Big Browns and Myotis

(Continued on page 4)

and we all took pictures of this not so common bat. Then continued and arrived at White Mountain where the typical big mats of bats could be found. The mats seemed smaller and less dense. (though official counts will be published later, we all agreed that they seemed to be less population this year than past years).

We headed up the arm toward Betty's chair finding only scattered clusters and individuals. While coming back down the breakdown toward White Mountain again, Duane decided to do a face first dive down the breakdown… nothing hurt but a camera and embarrassment. From White Mountain to Skylight, almost NO bats! This in an area that commonly has lots of mats near the entrance but not today! It was 60 degrees in the area…no wonder!

We then made the mud crawl into Oooh Ahhh and exited the cave about 2:45 p.m. As we were one team short, the others went into Don't Know entrance to cover that arm of the cave but the day was over for Duane as he is too fat to fit though that entrance. So he went to the parking lot and kept Mark Hunsinger company for about an hour until the teams started returning. By 5:00 p.m. we were done and heading to Betty's and eventually to the required trip to Woodward for Pizza at the local Pizza Hut.



Side Note from Dave:

Okay, I am not an experienced caver at all, in fact, this is only the second time I had been in a cave other than on a guided tour. Since the entrance to "Don't Know" has been shrinking in recent years, Duane had to head to the car, while we headed to our new destination. Now I have never been one to even think that I was claustrophobic, but by the time we arrived at "Don't Know" they almost had me convinced that I was. It is weird what the mind does when you start to "think" about something instead of just doing it. Well with John in the lead and watching him shimmy through the hole, I knew that I would not have any problems at all. So with my pack in front of me, I inched along like a little wiggle worm until I came to the other end of that tiny passage. I really don't know if I am claustrophobic or not, but at least I know that the hole has not shrank enough for me to fit through it, at least this year… <grin>

Selman Cave

Date: Feb. 21, 2009:
Trip participants Anne Ault, David McDermot and John Bozeman
Report by John Bozeman

. . . This crew, along with Duane Del Vecchio, had earlier completed the bat count from Square Sink past White Mountain to Betty's Chair – White Mountain past the Window and out through the OOH AAH section. Duane peeled off, literally I am sure, from the three of us, having decided he would become a permanent passage impediment in the crawlway beyond the Don't Know Entrance. The three of us however passed the tightest spot without the loss of any skin, I think.

When we reached the main passage, we saw the largest mats of bats we had seen all day. At this point I suggested that we boogie to the end of our bat count area to, to lessen the stress on the bats. Usually, by the time we finished the count in the large passage segment beyond the Spring Bat Room. This experiment worked as the bats weren't flying when we reached that section. The bats were mostly singles, doubles and triples. There were some small groupings I wouldn't call mats. The same was true in spring Bat Room where this is the norm. From Spring Bat Room, we continued counting, downstream, through Overflow Corridor. David was surprised to being walking, from time to time, in such soft, dry sand. As we neared Don't Know passage intersection, we began to encounter more "real" mats of bats – nice to see. The packing-rate for this area was 240 bats per square foot, much tighter that we had earlier seen in the Square Sink to OOH AAH count. The packing rate there was 156 bats per square foot.

On reaching the intersection, we had a brief discussion about whether we thought the crew for the SEXit to Cedar Shaft count had counted. We decided, wisely, to count them ourselves (the normal case anyway). The mats continued through this section from the intersection to the beginning of the collapsed area in which the SEXit squeeze is located.

We had a good crew and everything went well, except for having extremely hard lead in the pencil we were using. With my apologies, Anne that situation has been remedied.

Dumb but Tough

The Librarian and Archivist Bat Count Crew Count Bats in 10° Weather

Personnel: At-Fault Ault, Hot- Tub Harrington, Rip Van Woltz, S. Beleu, The Skillful Ogre
Date: February 28, 2009
Written by Steve Beleu

We had hoped to have good weather for our bat count, which means this: after approximately five hours in the three Washita Bat Caves—or if you prefer, one Washita Bat Cave with two sections of major collapse—we could wander off down the creek and do some sport caving. But a major cold weather front came in on Friday and together with the usual Okie winds reduced the temperature to around 10°.

One thing I noticed that we all did was to do everything we could to keep from immersing ourselves in the waters of these caves--even me, and I usually wade down the middle of cave streams. As usual, we entered the North Cave first, Central Cave second, and South Cave last. All three caves were littered worse than usual with beer cans and beer bottles. Since there were four of us, Hot-Tub and At-Fault went down the west passage of the South Cave, and Rip Van Woltz and I went down the east passage. After finishing the west passage by himself, Hot-Tub rejoined At-Fault, who was waiting for him within the west passage but was tired and cold, and we all exited the cave via the east passage. The South Cave has one section which is impossible to not wade through, and it's on the way out of the cave back into the world outside, so we all got wet at the very end of the day and our overalls froze on us as we walked back to our cars. Are we sure that someone uses this data?

North Cave – 127 myotis, 1 pip
Central Cave – 1,102 myotis, 4 pips
South Cave – 691 myotis, 2 pips
TOTAL 1,920 myotis, 7 pips

SW bat count will have their trip reports in the next issue.

PotPourri

Family fears losing suburban cave home

Copied from the Lawton Constitution
Feb. 28, 2009; Section: Nation, page 10

FESTUS, Mo. (AP) — A lot of people are struggling to keep their homes in these tough economic times. One suburban St. Louis family is trying to keep its cave.

That is, a cave that's also a home. Curt and Deborah Sleeper of Festus bought 3 acres of property and a cave in Festus in 2004, after they spotted it online. They fell in love with the unique geography of the old mining cave and figured out how to build a house inside of it.

But they've got a big payment coming due on the property and don't think they can afford it. If they can't secure new financing, they've got a backup plan — auctioning their cave home through eBay. Bidding starts at $300,000.

"I get the financing, or I sell the property, or I lose everything," Curt Sleeper, a self-employed Web designer and small business consultant, said Thursday while giving a tour of the home.

Missouri has its share of homes built into the geography — houses built into the ground or in a hillside. The Sleepers' home is unique even among them. In the late 1800s, limestone mining created their bowl-shaped yard at the base of a hill. The 17,000 square foot cave where they live was hollowed out by sandstone mining through the 1930s.

Festus resident Sue Morris bought the cave in 1958. In 1960, she opened a roller rink there and hosted concerts, including shows by Ted Nugent and Bob Seger. The rink closed in 1985. A glass recycling center moved in until 1990, when the property switched hands between a private owner and then a realty team.

The Sleepers enlisted friends to help build the unique structure. A gray timber frame exterior was constructed in the 37-foot-tall opening of the cave.

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Thirty-seven sliding glass doors also are used as windows throughout the three-story, three-bedroom home, allowing natural light throughout the finished sections of the home.

Inside, the walls and ceiling are comprised of the natural cave stone. A huge umbrella is positioned above the living room furniture to catch grit that falls from the rock. Three large dehumidifiers keep the interior from getting too damp or musty. The family ran several tests to make sure the air quality was OK before moving in.

The home has electric, water and sewer, a decked-out kitchen and a whirlpool tub. It also has a goldfish pond.

Behind the living quarters sits a large cave chamber that serves mainly as storage.

Curt Sleeper said there are no bats in the cave, and no bugs beyond the normal stuff. “Nothing a cat or two won’t handle,” he wrote on a Web site.

One plus to living in a cave is climate control. The cave is at a constant 62 degrees. In fact, the home doesn’t even include a furnace or air conditioner.

Sleeper said he’d never want to own a traditional house after his time in the cave home.

“I’d never live in a box again,” he said.

The cave home sits alongside a working class neighborhood just a few minutes away from the shopping centers and gas stations of Festus’ business district. The community of 11,000 residents is about 30 miles south of St. Louis.

After buying the cave, the Sleepers lived in tents inside of it as they spent about four years on the construction. The home was completed last year.

Sleeper said the family paid about half of the $160,000 purchase price for the cave up front. The seller agreed to allow them to pay the rest of the property costs after five years. They’ve also invested another $150,000 to build the home, he said. But the balance of the purchase price is due in May, and the family doesn’t have the money.

AP The home of Curt and Deborah Sleeper that was built in a cave, is seen Thursday in Festus, Mo. The Sleepers have put the house on eBay as a backup in case they can't meet a large payment due on the property.

Wind farms' biggest victims: bats

Submitted by Sue Bozeman

Researchers say a pressure drop created by turbines can cause bats' lungs to burst By Gerry Smith | Tribune reporter March 1, 2009 The mystery was alarming to wildlife experts: large numbers of dead bats appearing at wind farms, often with no visible signs of injury.

Researchers now think they know one reason: Wind turbines cause bats' lungs to explode. More specifically, a sudden drop in air pressure created by the blades can cause fatal internal hemorrhaging, researchers at the University of Calgary said in a study.

The toll taken on bats highlights a delicate balance facing the wind industryâ?"how to be "green" without causing other unintended environmental consequences.

Some of the best sources of windâ?" coastlines and mountaintopsâ?" also happen to be in the path of migratory birds. Wind farms installed on mountain ridges also have triggered fears over soil erosion, and some environmental groupsâ?"citing land use laws designed to keep Mother Nature unspoiledâ?" have fought proposed wind farms.

Related links Report shines light on solar waste Putting a plug on the drain gang: The electricity slurpers in your techno home With the deaths causing a stir among wildlife advocates, an unusual partnership called the Bats and Wind Energy Cooperative is seeking ways to strike a delicate balance between protecting the bat population and meeting the nation's growing demand for renewable energy.

"We support the development of clean energy, but to make it 'green' we have to do everything we can to minimize the environmental impacts," said Ed Arnett, project coordinator for the cooperative.

Some wind experts dismiss fears over turbines' impact on wildlife. They point to a 2007 study by the National Academy of Sciences that concluded far more birds and bats have been killed in collisions with vehicles and buildings than in collisions with turbines.

But wildlife experts are particularly protec-

(Continued on page 7)

tive of bats because the mammals have low reproductive rates, meaning even small numbers of fatalities can affect their populations.

"Once you start taking a small number of bats out of the general population, the risk of endangerment or extinction vastly increases," said Joseph Kath, the endangered species project manager for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Thus far, there have been no reports of endangered or threatened bat species being killed at wind farms in North America. Most bats felled by turbines have been migrating species like hoary bats, eastern red bats and silver-haired bats.

The concern over bats is fairly recent. Since the 1980s, when wind farms were in their infancy, wildlife biologists have been more worried about protecting birds from spinning turbines. Bat deaths at wind farms largely went unnoticed.

Then in 2003, researchers stumbled upon an estimated 1,400 to 4,000 bat carcasses at the Mountaineer Wind Energy Center in West Virginia and recorded extensive bat fatalities at wind farms in Pennsylvania and Tennessee.

Wildlife experts were taken by surprise. "These are unforeseen circumstances," Arnett said. "Most of us didn't anticipate this being a problem."

Since then, the chorus of voices calling for greater protection for bats at wind farms has grown louder. Last summer, the American Society of Mammalogists called for wind farms to avoid "bat hibernation, breeding and maternity colonies."

Still, the explanation for why bats with no external signs of injury were being found dead at wind farms was largely a mystery until August.

That's when researchers at the University of Calgary reported that 90 percent of bats felled near one wind farm showed signs of barotrauma, or fatal internal hemorrhaging, of the lungs that occurred because of drops in air pressure near the spinning blades. The condition affects bats more than birds because bird lungs are more rigid and can withstand sudden changes in air pressure, according to the study, which was published in the journal Current Biology.

The study may explain why bat fatalities often outnumber bird fatalities at wind farms. In Illinois, it is estimated three times as many bats (93) as birds (31) died during a year at the 33-turbine Crescent Ridge Wind Farm in Bureau County, a consulting firm reported last year.

The firm, Curry & Kerlinger, deemed the findings "small and not likely to be biologically significant."

But given a decline in several bat species in the eastern United States, "the possibility of population effects, especially with increased numbers of turbines, is significant," the National Academy of Sciences study stated.

Illinois is expected to increase the number of wind farms dramatically in coming years. The state has mandated that 25 percent of its electricity be generated by renewable resources by 2025, with about 75 percent of that renewable energy coming from wind. Illinois has 915 megawatts of capacity installed with the capacity to build 9,000 megawatts.

Arnett said the cooperative doesn't discount the Calgary study but has conducted studies of its own, using night-vision cameras, that found bats also have been killed by collisions with turbine blades.

There are several theories as to why bats might be flying close to turbines. Some think bats might confuse turbines with large, dead trees because many species found dead use such trees to roost. Others hypothesize that turbines may attract insects, which attract hungry bats.

The cooperative has been looking for ways to bring down the death toll, including studies of the effectiveness of ultrasonic sounds that would deter bats and curtailing the spinning of turbines until it's too windy for bats to fly.

Arnett said the latter step may have some economic consequences. But he expressed confidence that the wind industry can continue to grow without harming bat populations.

"It's not choosing one or the other," Arnett said. "It's finding a balance, and I'm convinced we can solve this problem."

BAT COUNT
2003-2009
CENTRAL OKLLAHOMA GROTTO

MYOTIS VELIFER (Cave Bat)

CAVE NAME	CAVE NUMBER	2/8&16 2003	2/5 2004	2/12 2005	2/11 2006	2/17 2007	2/9,23&3/1 2008	2/21&3/1 2009
Jester	GR-011	17844	25970	17839	15572	15660	8729	10236
Selman: C.O.G.*	WD-041	12118	9207	64882	72695	100380	60196	56947
Selman: U.C.O.	WD-041	52565	68103	45296				
Washita Bat: North	WA-039	173	83	369	196	9377	120	127
Washita Bat: Center	WA-038	2304	6322	1113	2798	198	610	1102
Washita Bat: South	WA-040	7420	1460	546	416	101	6057	691
TOTALS		92424	111145	130045	91677	125716	75712	69103

* Combined cave section count from 2006 forward

CORYNORHINUS TOWNSENDII PALESCENS (Big-eared)

CAVE NAME	CAVE NUMBER	2/8&16 2003	2/5 2004	2/12 2005	2/11 2006	2/17 2007	2/9,23&3/1 2008	2/21&3/1 2009
Jester	GR-011	13	9	17	2	4	4	0
Selman: C.O.G.	WD-041	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Selman: U.C.O.	WD-041	0	0	0	0		0	0
Washita Bat: North	WA-039	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Washita Bat: Center	WA-038	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washita Bat: South	WA-040	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		13	10	17	2	4	4	0

PIPISTRELLUS SUBFLAVUS (Pipistrel)

CAVE NAME	CAVE NUMBER	2/8&16 2003	2/5 2004	2/12 2005	2/11 2006	2/17 2007	2/9,23&3/1 2008	2/21&3/1 2009
Jester	GR-011	44	52	203	100	167	53	197
Selman: C.O.G. (area)	WD-041	22	47	35	62	33	37	
Selman: U.C.O. (area)	WD-041	46	39	89				
Washita Bat: North	WA-039	39	42	0	1	0	0	1
Washita Bat: Center	WA-038	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
Washita Bat: South	WA-040	0	66	0	0	0	0	2
TOTALS		151	184	327	163	200	90	202

EPTESICUS FUSCUS (Big Brown)

CAVE NAME	CAVE NUMBER	2/8&16 2003	2/5 2004	2/12 2005	2/11 2006	2/17 2007	2/9,23&3/1 2008	2/21&3/1 2009
Jester	GR-011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Selman: C.O.G.	WD-041	0	1	1	1	2	0	1
Selman: U.C.O.	WD-041	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Washita Bat: North	WA-039	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washita Bat: Center	WA-038	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washita Bat: South	WA-040	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		0	2	1	1	2	0	1

Liberationg Lehman of Lint

Written by Shawn Thomas
Copied from the March, 2009, NSS, Page 22

In March 2009, Great Basin National Park hosted a two-day "Lint Camp" at Lehman Cave, the first such event since the year 2000. A total of 10 volunteers from Nevada, California, and Utah traveled to the park to participate. This event was organized based on the need to address significant accumulations of lint throughout the cave.

Lint is introduced to the cave environment by the thousands of visitors and rangers who enter the cave each year. Composed of fibers, hairs, skin cells, dust, and other foreign particles, lint can become cemented into cave formations, causing discoloration or even dissolution of natural cave surfaces. Lint also acts as an artificial food source, potentially causing disturbances to cave biota communities.

Nearly 50 hours of incave volunteer time yielded just over 8 pounds of material that was collected and removed from the cave. A few interesting finds included rusty hairpins, pieces of old glass bottles, a deteriorated rubber bouncy ball (which still bounces!), and of course a couple of pennies.

In addition to liberating the cave of lint, participants worked to remove foreign debris such as concrete, rock, and sand that had been introduced during trail and lighting projects.

A different kind of restoration activity was conducted near the constructed exit tunnel, where volunteers worked to clean bits of hardened mud and sand off the ceiling.
When the floor of this area was blasted in the early 1970s to create a walking passage, the impacts of the explosions were contained by stacking sandbags over the blast area. Much of the sand and finer sediments were projected onto the ceiling, where some of it has remained to this day. A few hours of work in this area using spray bottles and brushes made a remarkable difference to the appearance of the cave ceiling surface and formations.

The final evening of the Lehman Cave restoration was spent using a tall ladder to reach high ceiling areas in the Gothic Palace. This was the site of some of the most concentrated lint accumulations in the entire cave, indicating the presence of air currents that cause lint deposition 20

Unfortunately lint has become cemented onto some of the cave formations in this area, because drip water has deposited calcite over old lint deposits.

to 30 feet off the ground. Some of the soda straws and stalactites in this area were liter-ally shrouded in lint. Unfortunately lint has become cemented onto some of the cave formations in this area, because drip water has deposited calcite over old lint deposits. This made the cleaning process extremely difficult and in some cases impossible. Still, enough lint was removed to make a striking visual difference, and I suspect visitors have stopped pointing up and asking, "Are those cobwebs?"

Everyone seemed to have a great time over the weekend cleaning the cave and socializing with fellow cavers. It is always a pleasure to find people who are willing to drive hours to spend their free time stooped over next to cave formations searching for lint. For their efforts, the park

It is always a pleasure to find people who are willing to drive hours to spend their free time stooped over next to cave formations searching for lint.

rewarded the volunteers with the opportunity to visit off-trail portions of Lehman Cave on staff-led trips. The Lint Camp was successful, and hopefully there will be future opportunities to continue with the cave cleaning project. Our efforts over the weekend certainly improved the condition of the cave, but there is still an endless supply of restoration work that needs to be done in Lehman Cave.

Duane, what's all that stuff in your pockets?

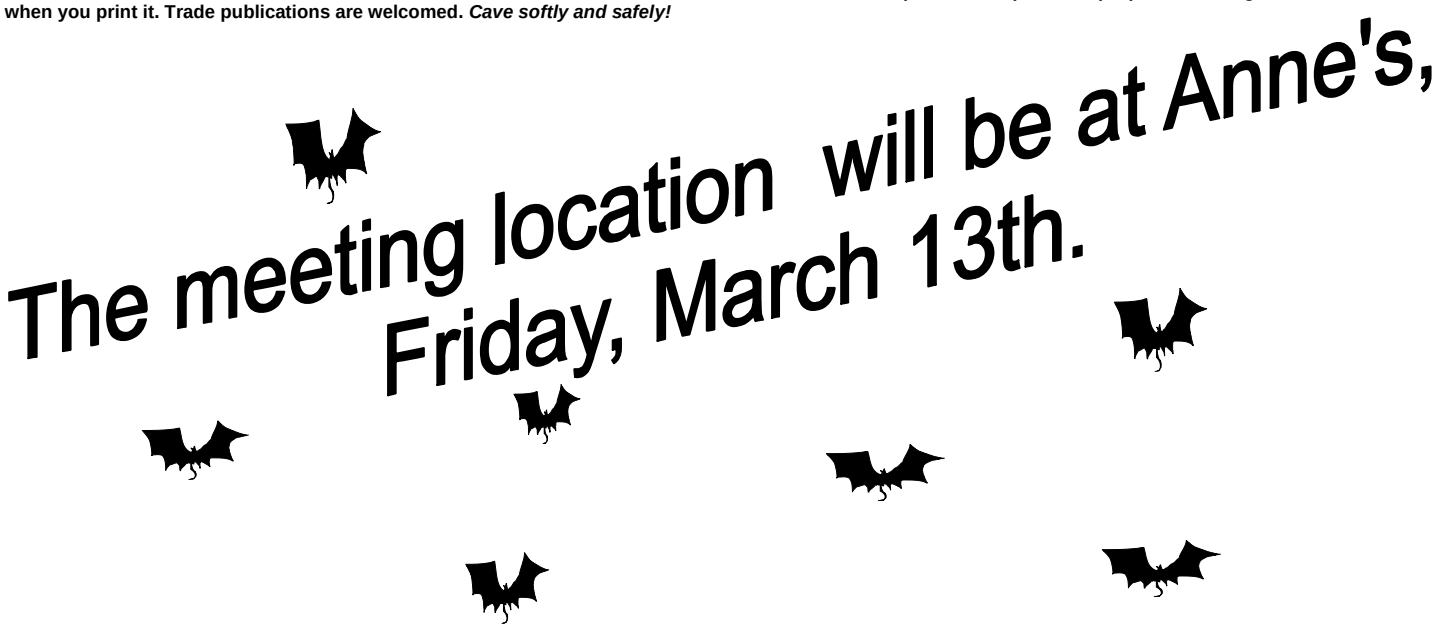
Uh, notebooks, pencils, thermometers, extra gloves, food ...

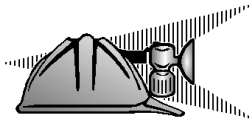
So then what's in your pack?

Beer!

Drawn by Sue Bozeman

Central Oklahoma Grotto is a non-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 3208 Gettysburg Dr., Altus, Oklahoma, 73521. All submissions to the newsletter should be sent to the editor: Lil or Dale Town, 3208 Gettysburg Dr., Altus, OK 73521: Telephone: (580)477-4027: E-mail: oklmt@cableone.net. 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!*





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