CENTRAL
OKLAHOMA
GROTTO
OF THE NATIONAL
SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,INC

C.O.G.nizance

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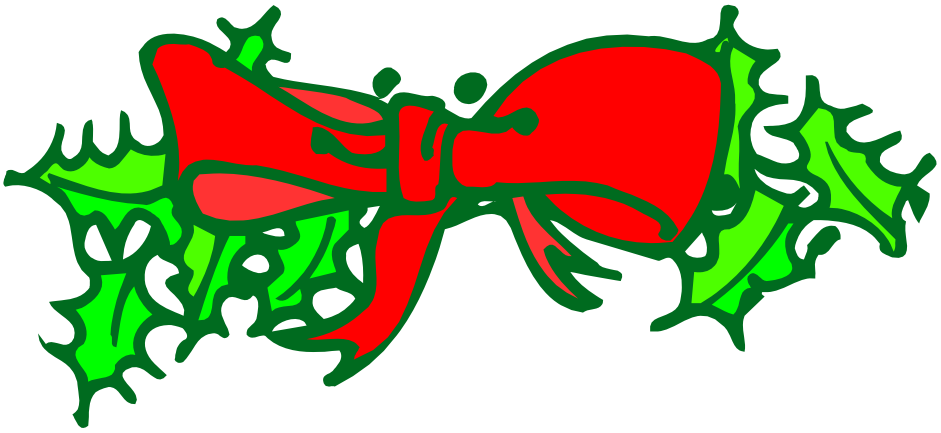
Potpourri ; no articles in this issue

The December meeting of the Central Oklahoma Grotto will be held at the home of Sue and John Bozeman at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, December 10, 2010

Remember to come to the December meeting at the Bozeman's on Friday, December 10th.



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!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Northwest trips are scheduled the third Saturday of every month. Contract Sue or John Bozeman for details.
*The 7:30, December meeting will be at the John and Sue's house, 2624 Chaucer Drive, The Village. Their phone number is 405-843-5292. Don't forget to bring goodies, it's a Christmas party!

Decontamination protocols specific to WNS have been developed and will continue to be revised to incorporate the best available information. All current protocols will be available at the following website: http://www.fws.gov/WhiteNoseSyndrome

Source: DRAFT WNS Plan - v. 10.21.2010 from **A National Plan for Assisting States, Federal Agencies, and Tribes in Managing White-Nose Syndrome in Bats**

Sue

MINUTES

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GROTTO
Minutes of the October 8, 2010 meeting

Host: the home of Art Wallace

Attendees: Dale Amlee, Anne Ault, John Bozeman, Duane Del Vecchio, John Talbot, Dale Town, Jeremiah and John Van Dyke, and S. Beleu. Guest: Mark White.

The Honorable Dale Amlee began the meeting at 8:04..

OLD BUSINESS

Duane reported that Jason Walz is our new NPS contact at Carlsbad Caverns. Mr. Walz told him that COG can pick the date that we journey unto Carlsbad to do our day of annual work there. After discussion we decided to remain true to our traditional date of the first week of June so we won't get a chill and will be warm. But now we may be able to take more than 8 people into the cave to work whereas before we've been limited to no more than eight cavers.

NEW BUSINESS

- Sue asked us if we want to do a "yodeling" trip to Broken Horn Cave to make audio connections in passages that are too small for anything but sound to travel through, particularly in the right Trident Arm.
- Dale Amlee presented an oral trip report about the last trip to Broken Horn Cave. He will be writing a trip report for a future newsletter issue.
- We put forth this slate of officers that we will need to vote on when we next meet in December at the Bozeman's:

Chairman/Most High King - Jon Woltz
(who didn't come to the meeting to protect himself, so there, take that!)
Vice-Chairman/Most High King When the Other One's Not Around– Dale Amlee
Most Regal Treasurer and Master of Numbers– John Talbot
Secretary and Sergeant-at-Underarms –
S. Beleu

- We ain't gonna have us no meetin' in November. When we meet at the Bozeman's in December we'll dispatch the voting and any other minor business we have then.

TREASURER'S REPORT
Treasurer John Talbot gave his report.

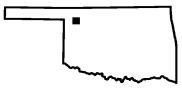
We concluded the meeting at 8:41.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

October's report will be in the next newsletter.

TRIP REPORTS

Date: Saturday, October 16, 2010
Where: Broken Horn Cave
Who Caved: Dale Amlee, Dale Town John and Sue Bozeman, Jon Woltz
Trip Report Author: Jon Woltz



There were two goals on this trip: first, to do additional GPS surveys to tie more surface features into the underground surveys; and second, to map an arm of Broken Horn that leads to the Mesa Pit entrance.

We met up at Betty's old house, where she'd generously left us donuts, Butterfingers, and home-grown apples. After signing the cave register and looking over Dale A.'s survey maps, we piled into the cars and headed to the cave.

When we got to the cave, John and Dale T. began surveying overland, while the other three began the underground survey. Dale A. did foresights and distances, Sue did book, and I did backsights. The first part of the passage was at stream l

The floor of the slot passage reminded me of a ribbon because it rose sharply in places where t he bottom of the passage had filled with breakdown,

level with several long easy survey shots. Soon enough, however, the passage narrowed into a slot. The floor of the slot passage reminded me of a ribbon because it rose sharply in places where the bottom of the passage had filled with breakdown, and then descended steeply back to the stream level.

We surveyed on the cave floor until breakdown forced us to climb into the wider keyhole at the top of the passage. In this section the passage was about 16-feet high from floor to ceiling. The most difficult thing about surveying in the keyhole were the contortions necessary to take measurements while straddling the gap and not dropping an instrument into the inaccessibly narrow passage below.

The passage continued to twist and turn until it got close to the Mesa Pit entrance. Getting out of this entrance was easily the most physically difficult part of the survey.

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From inside, the exit looks easy, but it's quite small and opens into a narrow pit partly filled by a large inverted "V" shaped root (which did make a convenient final survey point, however). It took a lot of wriggling to squeeze out. Larger cavers should consider it a no-go.

This was an usually dry day of surveying. It's rare come out of Broken Horn without wearing a head-to-toe layer of dirt and mud. This passage was at the other extreme. The upper walls and ceiling of the passage were very dry and dusty. Water rarely, if ever, seems to climb very high up the walls or infiltrate in any significant quantity through the ceiling.

There was a lot of popcorn on the walls and ceiling of this passage, particularly in the last section of the passage prior to the exit. One final note -- we only saw a couple of bats (pips, if I recall correctly). ***The bats appeared to be healthy, with no discernible signs of WNS***.