CENTRAL
OKLAHOMA
GROTTO
OF THE NATIONAL
SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,INC

C.O.G.nizance

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The June meeting of the Central Oklahoma Grotto will be held Friday, June 21, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be at the home of Duane Del Vecchio.

NOTE: THIS IS ON THE 3RD FRIDAY!

BAT COUNT 2013
Pip room in Jester was warmer the other parts of the cave.

And who is this intrepid caver?????

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*The June meeting of the Central Oklahoma Grotto will be held Friday, June 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m, at the home of Duane Del Vecchio.

National White-Nose Syndrome Decontamination Protocol - Version 06.25.2012

The fungus *Geomyces destructans* (*G.d.*) is the cause of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a disease that has devastated populations of hibernating bats in eastern North America. Since its discovery in New York in 2007, WNS has spread rapidly through northeastern, mid-Atlantic, and Midwest states and eastern Canada. It continues to threaten bat populations across the continent. For the protection of bats and their habitats, comply with all current cave and mine closures, advisories, and regulations on the federal, state, tribal, and private lands you plan to visit. In the absence of cave and mine closure policy, or when planned activities involve close/direct contact with bats, their environments, and/or associated materials, the following decontamination procedures should be implemented to **reduce the risk of transmission** of the fungus to other bats and/or habitats. For the purposes of clarification, the use of the word "decontamination," or any similar root, in this document entails both the 1) cleaning and 2) treatment to disinfect exposed materials.

Under no circumstances should clothing, footwear, or equipment that was used in a confirmed or suspect WNS-affected state or region be used in a WNS-unaffected state or region. Some state/federal regulatory or land management agencies have supplemental documents1 that provide additional requirements or exemptions on lands under their jurisdiction.

I. TREATMENTS TO REDUCE RISK OF TRANSFERRING *GEOMYCES DESTRUCTANS*2:

Applications/Products:

The most universally available option for treatment of submersible gear is:

Submersion in Hot Water: Effective at sustained temperatures ≥50ºC (122ºF) for 20 minutes

Secondary or non-submersible treatment options (for a minimum of 10 min.) include:

PRODUCTS: **Clorox® (6% HOCl) Bleach**
Lysol® IC Quaternary Disinfectant Cleaner
Professional Lysol® Antibacterial All-purpose Clean

MINUTES

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GROTTO

Minutes of the May 10, 2013 meeting

The May 10th meeting of the Central Oklahoma Grotto was hosted by Dale and Carol Town.

It began at 8:30 p.m. after we had all gorged ourselves on brats cooked by Dale on the grill outside. The evening was beautiful and sitting outside was a delight.

Old Business:

The book on Oklahoma Bats was discussed. The Department of Wildlife Conservation had put it out and will be printing another edition of 1,500 copies soon.

Meeting place for June is being moved to the 21st of June as Duane is busy with a student outing.

There will not be a caving trip next Saturday, the 17th of May, because of all the rain and the passage that remains to be done -- the major low watercourse headed for the resurgence! It is not a kindly area in the best of circumstance.

New Business:

Betty Selman has sold her land, but reserved the use of her home and the East House and has graciously cleared the way for us to 1) continue the survey in Greene's Cathedral and 2) encouraged us to come visit her and use East House when we come up to cave. We will continue to count her among our 'bestest' of friends and strongest landowner supporter of safe caving.

Sue mentioned that Steve had directed the library at Tulsa University to inquire about purchasing our Undergrounds -- all of them! She and Steve are working on getting them all together to send. It should fetch us about $90. They may have to pay us in September, when funds become available, but Steve assures one and all that they are stalwart and trustworthy.

Jon Woltz reported on a bat rescue at the Library! He thinks it was a freetail bat and says that he has had several calls for him to come rescue isolated bats from buildings. Way to go, Jon!

Treasurer's Report was given by John Talbot.

Duane enquired == and no one knew the answer == about our exchange publication list. Who is sending us theirs?? Tulsa? Texas? Lil might be able to answer that as she is our mailing address for publications.

Dale Amlee indicated that we are still on for July 20th at Nescatunga. (If it stops raining, ok -- if not, that is the worst cave to visit!)

Entertainment: We played with a laser and the towncat ... again. Doesn't take much to make us giggle.

Meeting ended at 9:15 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT

INCOME			EXPENSES		
Dividends	$	0.01			
TOTAL	**$**	**0.01**	**TOTAL**	**$**	**0.00**
CASH ON HAND	**$**	**148.10**			
CHECKING	**$**	**342.98**	**TOTAL FUNDS AS OF 5/11/2013**		
SAVINGS	**$**	**2,134.69**	*PREPARED BY TREASURER JOHN TALBOT NSS #30254RE*		
TOTAL	**$**	**2,625.77**			

TRIP REPORT

No reports submitted for this issue.

POTPOURRI

Significant Deposit of Ice Age Bones Found in Southern Indiana Cave

Reprinted from Discovery

http://cavingnews.com/20130507-significant-deposit-ice-age-bones-southern-indiana-caverns-binkley-caveMay 7, 2013

Besides facilitating easy access to visitors of the soon to open Indiana Caverns, the creation of a new entrance into Indiana's Binkley Cave has for the first time allowed a paleontologist to visit Big Bone Mountain.

Initially discovered in October 2010, Big Bone Mountain, as it was soon dubbed, was found when members of the Indiana Speleological Survey climbed up a nearly vertical slot into a room littered with bones.

As it was a strenuous 10-12 hour expedition to reach the room, the cavers couldn't get a paleontologist to the site and for the time being had to suffice with sending photos to Ron Richards, Chief Curator of Science and Technology at the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis. From his initial impression of the photos they sent, he thought the bones may be from either Bison or Musk Ox.

With the drilling of a new entrance in early June 2012, the developers of Indiana Caverns created an easy to access route to the area and Ron Richards was finally able to come down to do a paleontological survey of the site on July 7th, 2012.

Richards had been only been in the cave some 20 minutes when he realized that Big Bone Mountain was a truly significant site for Pleistocene animal bones.

During that first visit he recorded the remains of the "extinct Flat-headed peccary (Platygonus compressus), an ancient pig-like animal. Skulls are exposed at the surface, and the deposit in the room may contain 20- 40 individuals at minimum." Besides the peccary bones, the remains of black bear, fisher, owl, other birds, a bison and even two snakes were visible on the surface.

Numerous bear beds were also found along the river passage, some with peccary bones inside.

Lacking any evidence of modern visitation, it is suspected that the natural entrance to Big Bone Mountain, once apparently used for shelter by herds of peccary, closed up sometime near the end of the last ice age, some 12,000 to 14,000 years ago .With enough bones at the site to keep several paleontologists excavating for years. It appears there remains much more to discover below the surface.

Thankfully, the developers of Indiana Caverns are making an effort to ensure the site is protected and available for future research.

Vandals Remove Stalactites at Popular Sequoia National Forest Cave

June 7, 2013

http://cavingnews.com/20130607-new-vandalism-sequoia-national-forest-packsaddle-cave

Recently vandalized stalactites inside Sequoia National Forest's Packsaddle Cave.

A visitor has discovered evidence of recent vandalism inside California's Sequoia National Forest's Packsaddle Cave.

Located in the Kern River Ranger District of the Sequoia National Forest, Packsaddle Cave is a popular hiking destination.

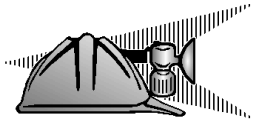
Although most of the cave's stalactites are already missing from earlier vandalism, the U.S. Forest Service confirmed on Wednesday that recently more stalactites have been removed from the cave. District Ranger Al Watson is asking anyone with information on incident to contact the Forest Service by calling (760) 376-3781 or 379-5646.

If apprehended, the vandals can face fines up to $5,000.

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 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.com

NOTE: THIS IS ON THE THIRD FRIDAY!

The June meeting will be At Duane's house, Friday, June 21, 2013.



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