CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GROTTO
OF THE NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,INC

C.O.G.nizance

December, 2005

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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 9, 2005.

Address:
2624 Chaucer Drive, The Village

Telephone:
405-755-3587

Remember that the December meeting is at the Bozeman's and it's the annual grotto Christmas Party. Be sure to bring a goodie to share!

Directions to the Bozeman's: The Bozeman's house can be found by turning east from May Ave. onto NW Britton. Go down to Sunnymeade and turn left, then make a right on Chaucer. You will find them at 2624 Chaucer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Northwest trips are scheduled the third Saturday of every month. Contract Sue or John Bozeman for details.
*Southwest trips are scheduled the first Saturday of every month. Contact Lil Town 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 405-755-3587. Don't forget to bring goodies, it's a Christmas party!

MINUTES

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GROTTO

Minutes of the November 12, 2004 meeting

Members present: Nicole and Roy Diehl; Cassandra Diehl; Mark Miller; John Talbot: John VanDyke; Sue Bozeman; John Bozeman; Jon Woltz; 717 Town; Anne Ault.
Old Business:
C.O.G. needs to finish Cattle Cave.
Submissions to the UNDERGROUND are needed as of yesterday.
New Business:
Ways to recruit new members were discussed.
Treasurer's Report was given by John Talbot.
The 2006 Christmas Party will again be hosted by the Bozeman Team. We are most grateful to them for this gift of fun, food and camaraderie.
Elections were held for the 2006 C.O.G. officers. The 2006 slate of officers is as follows:
Chairman: Roy Diehl
Vice Chairman: Jon Woltz
Recording Secretary: Steve Beleu
Treasurer: John Talbot
Newsletter Editor: 717 Town
Many thanks to Jon Woltz and Duane DelVecchio for their most valuable and appreciated assistance with the newsletter.
The meeting began at 8:32 PM and ended at 9:17 PM. Excellent, if deadly pepper hot, refreshments were provided by the Diehl family.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

INCOME		EXPENSES
DIVIDEND	$ 0.11	None
Publication Sales	$ 9.25	
Dues	24.00	
TOTALS	**$ 33.36**	

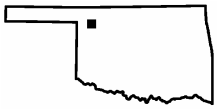
PREPARED BY TREASURER
JOHN TALBOT

CASH ON HAND	$ 56.92
CHECKING	$ 508.93
SAVINGS	$ 2,604.42

TOTAL FUNDS AS OF 11/7/05 $ 3,173.27

TRIP REPORTS

Trip Report: Greene's Cathedral
Date: October 15,2005
Personnel: John Bozeman, Sue Bozeman, Roy Diehl, Jon Woltz
Written by Roy Diehl



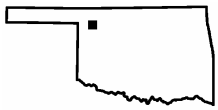
The weather was ideal for terrestrial human activity: sunny, mild, with only a light breeze, so we began our work by surveying overland. We started above the resurgence overlooking the creek. Several 100' shots put us at a sink that we designated Liverwort Seep, the larger of the two that we tied in to the existing survey. Despite draining a rather large surface area, it appeared not to be enterable by humans; detritus, limbs, collapsed rock and fill have sealed it to us for now.

In contrast, the second and smaller sink, named Mossy Banks, was cool and inviting with a virtual train-tunnel for an entrance. Fifteen feet beyond however, the ceiling height lowered, opened up for another 15 feet then, fractionated into a complex 3-dimensional maze. Though we initially intended upon surveying as we went, the complexity was such that we decided to first size-up our survey quarry. Indeed, it took Jon and me a considerable amount of time just to find our way down to the watercourse, despite it being only some 20 linear feet away. At one point, before I had found my own way, Jon was within earshot but I could not seem to find my way to follow, even when the glow of his light was in view. Once we were both down to the water's path (a tight, but going solutional passage beneath breakdown) we decided to push onward. Meanwhile, Sue and John were exploring the upper complex. After awhile they began surveying toward the squeeze through which Jon and I had disappeared.

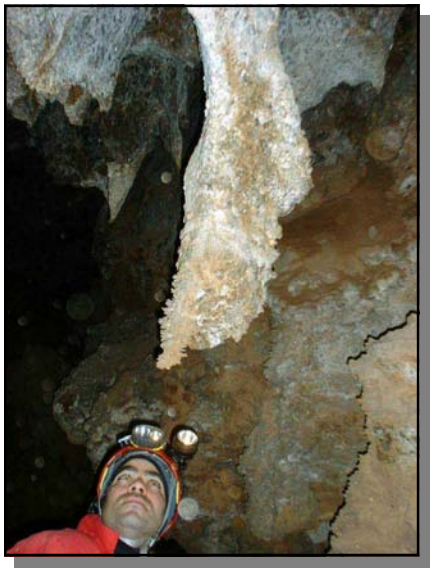
What we found was a difficult passage that leads to a high, dry upper room, with mounds of fill encrusted with stained popcorn. We briefly scrambled around the roughly 15' x 50' irregularly shaped chamber, and then returned to the water's path below. Beyond the small chamber, the path continues as a completely solutional, narrow slot that snakes away toward the deeper bowels of the system. The going is rather difficult and not for the stocky caver, but appears to hold some promise for connecting to the other branches of Greene's.

It took Jon and me some 30-plus minutes to make our way back 100' (approximately) to where the Bozemans were working, and we were tired when we reached them. Sue and John had continued the survey a ways further beyond the drip-line, and moved some rock and fill to facilitate surveying on future trips. Speaking of future trips, who is up for surveying some virginal cave passage?

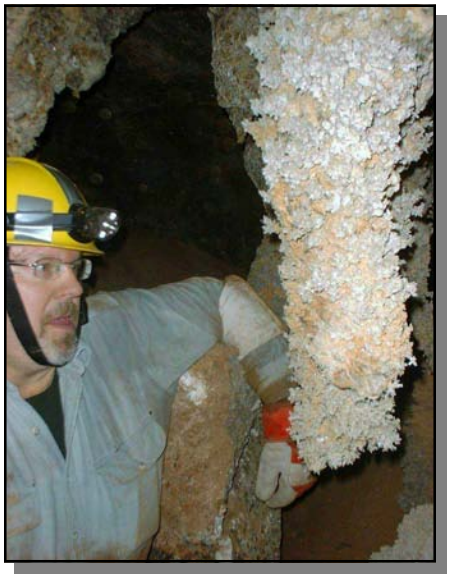
Trip Report: Greene's Cathedral
Date: Saturday, November 19, 2005
Personnel: Ann Alt, Lil Towne, Roy Diehl, Dale Amlee, Mark Miller
Report by Mark Miller



Roy had hoped to achieve one of two objectives, smoking a connection between Crystal Chamber and Cattle Cave or continuing the survey of Cattle Cave. But when Roy was unable to get formal permission to smoke from UCO, and when the Bozemans were unable to accompany us, we decided to do a fun tour of Greene's Cathedral instead.

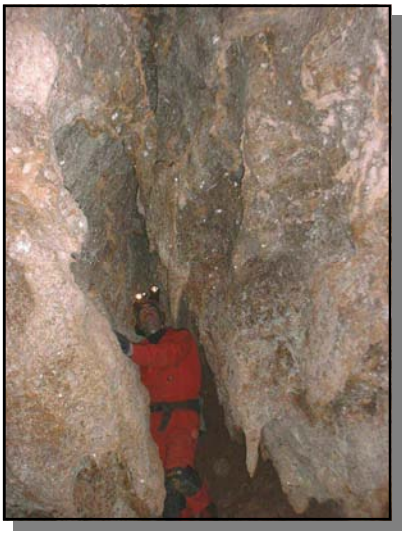


Our group entered via the Narthex entrance and proceeded as far as the vertical slot connecting the upper section of the cave to the lower section of the cave. Roy and Dale negotiated the slot and pushed into the infamous "Linguini Crawl." Along the way we encountered many large clusters of Cave Myotis and a few individual Pips.



After exiting the cave, we did some surface reconnais-sance. Dale, Lil, and Mark attempted to enter the Mossy Bank entrance, but a rock fall blocked the passage. Fortunately, no one was hurt and the plan is to re-excavate the passage at some future visit.

We also discovered a second resurgence along the Trader Creek escarpment, northeast of the known Greene's resurgence. There is a small cave at the resurgence and based on the locations of the various sinks and cave entrances nearby, it may be a separate cave from Greene's. There was some discussion about investigating this further in the future.



Our day was concluded with a nice visit with Mrs. Selman and pizza and libation in Woodward. All in all, a very enjoyable trip.

POTPOURRI

Poetry written by Steve Beleu

Carlsbad

Here beneath this desert sand
Sprawls a vast wonderland
As ancient as we are recent,
Eons to our seconds.

The movement up the sulphuric acid
And movement down of Night
Created a vast abyss
That expands ever faster out.

Even as we continue to map
Its farthest, deepest grottoes.
As it slowly grows away from us
Our surveys follow where it goes.

Dead Cave

Driving up the "Northwest Passage"
To caves beneath the gypsum hills
Only the cedar trees are green—
The harvested fields are dry, brown;
The other trees, bare branches.

Seasons come and go, hot, cold;
People come and go, happy, sad.
These caves seem always the same,
Temperatures always the same,
Growing wider and deeper,
Filling with mud and gravel,
Collapsing into breakdown.

But where there was once a cave
Now there's a shallow valley.
We stand in it and speculate—
What was it like to cave here?

Sunrise in Winter Above Cattle Cave
This sun must rise
Through snow and ice.
Piano
Adagio
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F
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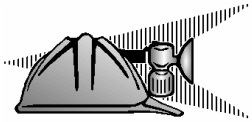
Steve Boleu, January 11, 2005
Accidentals in effect for measure
only but some marks shown for
ease of playing

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!*

Don't forget to come to the December meeting at the Bozeman's house, Friday, December 9.



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C/O 3208 Gettysburg Drive
Altus, Oklahoma 73521