



C.O.G.nizance

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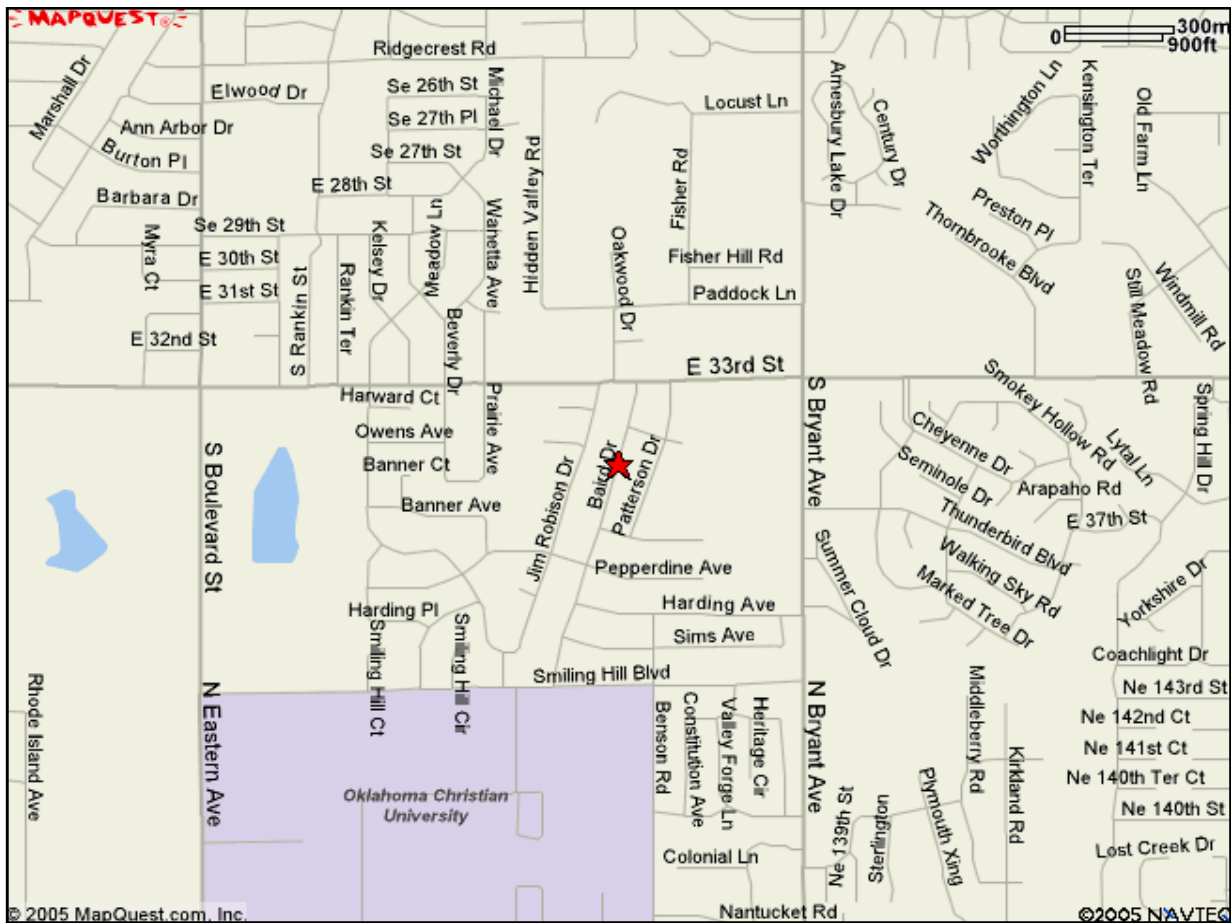
The November meeting of the Central Oklahoma Grotto will be held at the home of Roy and Nicole Diehl at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, November 10, 2006.

Address: 3437 Baird Dr., Edmond, OK

Telephone: 405-755-3587



November's Meeting is at Roy and Nicole's House



Directions to Roy's Place: Go N to 33rd then E. Continue past Boulevard approx. 3/4 mile. Look for Baird on the S side of the road. (If you reach Bryant, you have gone about 200 yards too far.) Go S on Bryant for about 2 blocks. We are on the W side of the street with a white Nissan pickup parked in the street.

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 November meeting will be at the home of Roy and Nicole Diehl, Friday, November 11, at 7:30 in the evening.

*Mark Miller became a new member at the Oct. meeting. His address is 14029 Apache Dr. , Edmond, OK 73013. Welcome to COG!

MINUTES

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GROTTO

Minutes of the October 13, 2006 meeting

Host: Art Wallace and family

Members present: Dale Amlee, Anne Ault, Sue Bozeman, John Talbot, John Van Dyke, and Steve Belev

Guests present: Mr. Jeremiah Van Dyke, future caver

Treasurer Talbot began the meeting at 8:25

OLD BUSINESS

Dale reported on the Carlsbad project. He didn't do anything this past month, but promised on his Scout's Honor, and he also crossed himself, that he would do something this month.

Dale reported that our Boy Scout troop now wants to go caving at Alabaster Caverns State Park next spring, not this fall. They want both to take the Alabaster tour and scamper through the wild caves.

Sue noted that she would check on COG's receiving a gratis copy of the new Oklahoma amphibian guide that we helped to pay for and were promised a copy of by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. We never received even a notice of its publication.

Anne proposed that COG make another contribution to the NSS for their buying of Great X Cave. We voted to send them \$50.00.

NEW BUSINESS

Sue noted that John Bozeman, COG Equipment Czar, is missing a laser pointer that we need for surveying. Can you please check your cave gear to see if you have Description: silver, shaped like a pencil.

Sue proposed that we should consider making our COG Summer of 2007 fun caving trip to Great X Cave in Wyoming. Anne volunteered to be the Lead Officer for this potential trip. Here's the NSS website about Great X Cave— <http://www.caves.org/greatx/>

TREASURER'S REPORT

John read his report, which is included in this newsletter.

TRIP REPORT

We talked about our previous month's surveying trip to Broken Horn Cave.

Treasurer Talbot concluded the meeting at 9:04.

Minutes by your most dishonorable secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

| INCOME | | EXPENSES | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Dividend | \$ 6.74 | Postage | 11.31 |
| Publication Sales | 13.75 | | |
| TOTALS | \$ 20.49 | TOTAL: | \$11.31 |
| CASH ON HAND | \$ 42.49 | | |
| CHECKING | \$ 614.02 | | |
| SAVINGS | \$ 2,634.07 | | |
| TOTALS FUNDS AS OF 9/7/05 | \$3,290.58 | | |

PREPARED BY TREASURER
JOHN TALBOT

TRIP REPORT

**Trip Report: Broken Horn Cave
May 20, 2006**

Team: Amlee, Ault, Belev, Diehl.

This trip was to continue the survey that had begun January 22, 2006. Barely a week after that trip, we were all at the hospital in Oklahoma City, chewing the walls, waiting for the neurosurgeon to tell us how the brain surgery he performed on Lil

Town had gone.

We all now know it went well and Lil is almost back to 'normal' (remember, she is a blonde!).

Many other events took place during the three months it has taken to return to this cave; such as Nicole and Roy Diehl having a baby boy who will grow up to be a world class caver with his sister, Cassandra.

(continued on page 3)

Anyway! Broken Horn was a bit neglected until now. Seven cavers separated into two groups. Jon Woltz, Sue and John Bozeman returned to where they had stopped their survey in January. Dale Amlee, Anne Ault, Steve Beleu and Roy Diehl scuttled into their passage to continue that survey. Dale was doing book, Roy and Steve doing compass and Anne was in charge of the tape.

There had been several rain storms in the weeks preceding this survey. This part of the country is suffering from a fairly severe drought, so the rain had been most welcome. Although our arm of this cave is a water passage, the water mainly stays in center passage and we can slug and slide on the side mud banks. Thanks to the previous rain, we all realized that we had no interest in being here during a storm. From seeing all the debris still stuck on the ceiling, we know this passage floods from top to bottom.

The survey went quite well. We passed the cave's name-sake and patted it solid, unbreakable little head for luck. Dale was doing an excellent job as "Bookman". Roy and Steve were usually within a degree or right on mark with the compasses. Steve was shooting the back sights. Absolutely no fighting or heated arguments occurred between them. Honestly!

The tape would get so muddy, Anne couldn't read it. Trying to wipe it off was ridiculous, because she had nothing unmuddy to use on it. So she and the tape would have to go for a dunking in the water.

Steve set most of the points for Roy. Only a few required Roy to suspend himself over a ten foot drop into the stream, or lie in sucky-mud. Good times!

We reached a junction in the passage just as it was getting close to time to return to the surface. So we had a really good place to set a permanent marker.

After cleaning up, we went to visit with Betty and Barbara Selman. Betty had made for us, one of the best Angel Food cakes I've ever tasted. It was a big cake, but we ate every crumb!

Even with our appetites slightly appeased by the cake, by the time we got to the Fairview Pizza Hut, astonishing amounts of pizza were consumed.

To be continued with the next trip to Broken Horn.

POTPOURRI

Death marks Indiana's first case of rabies in nearly 50 years

10-year-old girl dies of rabies after bat bite
Updated: 8:10 p.m. CT Nov 2, 2006

INDIANAPOLIS - A 10-year-old girl who was diagnosed with Indiana's first confirmed case of rabies in nearly half a century died Thursday, a hospital spokeswoman said. Shannon Carroll had been bitten by a rabid bat in June and had been hospitalized since early October, said Riley Hospital for Children spokeswoman Jo Ann Klooz said.

More than 30 of the girl's relatives, friends and class-

mates were offered injections to prevent the spread of the disease. Some parents whose children attend the girl's school in Bourbon, 25 miles south of South Bend, worried about possible exposure since rabies can stay dormant for more than a year.

Rabies is a viral disease transmitted to humans and other animals through saliva, usually in a bite. It attacks the brain and nervous system and typically leads to death once symptoms appear. Human-to-human transmission of rabies is possible through direct contact with saliva, health officials said.

State records show Indiana's last human rabies case was in 1959.

The Cave of Grim Return

By Steve Beleu

There were three cavers who drove out west
To crawl into a cave down a sinkhole
But as they left the world of light behind
None of them knew how distant they'd go.

Down through the sinkhole they crawled
Until they could stand up like a man
Inside that cave and stare at rooms
Of white gypsum and measure their span.

But as they looked they gasped, mouths agape:
Every wall, ceiling, and floor was moonless-black—
But gypsum is not black, and the cave
Swallowed their light in its angry grasp

And fell away at their feet and fell deep
And more sprawling than they could make out.
So they turned around to find their way back
But recognized nothing and no escape out.

Hours they searched, then three days, and then
Down they sank in despair to sleep and rest.

"We may never leave this unending cave—
If a cave at all and not an unblessed

Hall of Hell; may our souls find mercy."

"We'd know if we had crossed over

The unforgiving underground river Styx

That separates death from life—this is some other

Being neither death nor life nor between.

I feel no hunger or thirst, but know

We ran out of food and water our 1st day

And haven't slept since, but aren't sleepy, so no,

This isn't the world beneath sweet life

But a suspension of every state of being,

The negation of both cave and non-cave.

Here everything is Not—this is Nothing."

Suddenly a weak beam of sunlight lit

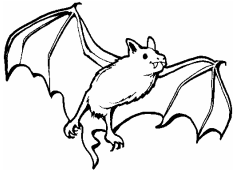
A tortured crawl winding up and out

And rejoicing they hurried to it and through it

And came out at sunset to look about.



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!*

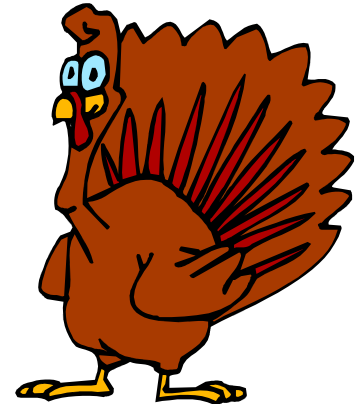


Don't forget to come to the



November meeting at the Diehl's house,

Friday, November 10.



Central Oklahoma Grotto
C/O 3208 Gettysburg Drive
Altus, Oklahoma 73521