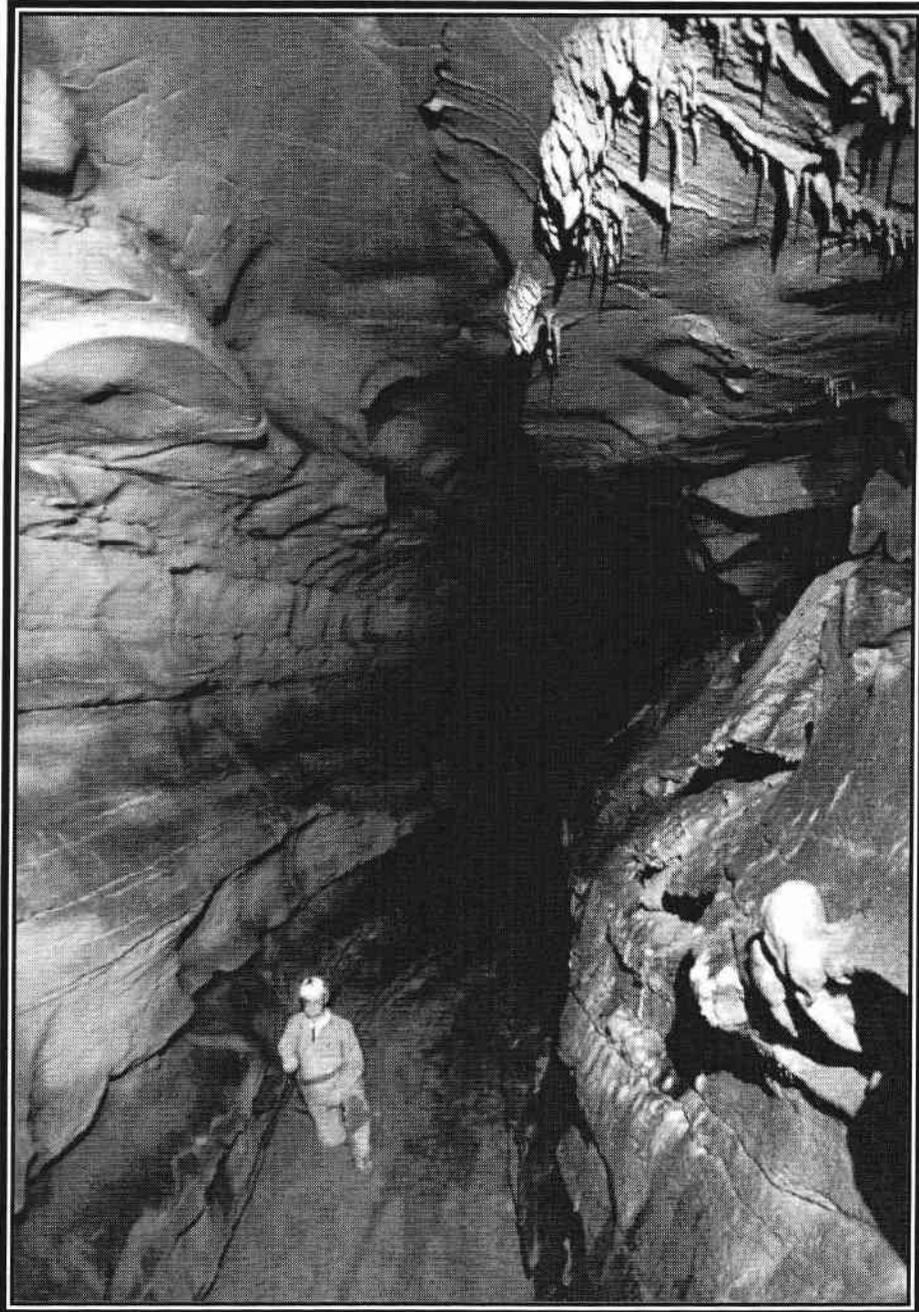




COG SQUEAKS

March 2000



Canyon in Farmers Cave System

Photo by Bill Walden

GROTTO INFORMATION PAGE

THE CENTRAL OHIO GROTTO

The Central Ohio Grotto of the national Speleological Society meets at 8:00 p.m. at the Worthington Presbyterian Church the second Friday of most months. The church is on the northwest corner of the square in Worthington. Parking is available behind the church. Enter the parking lot from the first side street off State Route 161. Please contact a grotto officer to confirm meeting time and place.

Grotto Officers

Chairman	Steve Aspery	38931	614-841-1846
Vice Chair	Dick Maxey	28034	614-888-2285
Secretary	Katie Walden	25894	740-965-2942
Treasurer	Karen Walden	15678	740-965-2942

Executive Committee Members Officers plus:

Don Conover	20386	937-372-7581
Darrell Adkins	29048	740-392-6382
Doug Burke	41817	614-983-9336

Squeaks Editor

Bill Walden 740-965-2942
 bwalden@infinet.com

Grotto Address

C/O Bill Walden, 1672 South Galena Road, Galena, Ohio 43021
 740-965-2942. E-mail bwalden@infinet.com **CHANGED**

List servers

Cog@ontosystems.com – Central Ohio Grotto
KCS@ontosystems.com – Kentucky Cave Survey
 Please join by sending e-mail with the subject **subscribe**.

Grotto Membership Dues \$15 per individual or \$20 per family.

The C.O.G. Squeaks

The C.O.G. Squeaks is the official newsletter of the Central Ohio Grotto. Articles on cave exploration and study, cave trips reports, cave fiction, cave poetry, cave-related cartoons, cave-related art or photographs are encouraged. Please send material to Bill Walden via mail, e-mail, disk, fax, or even dictation. Bill usually has disks available at meetings.

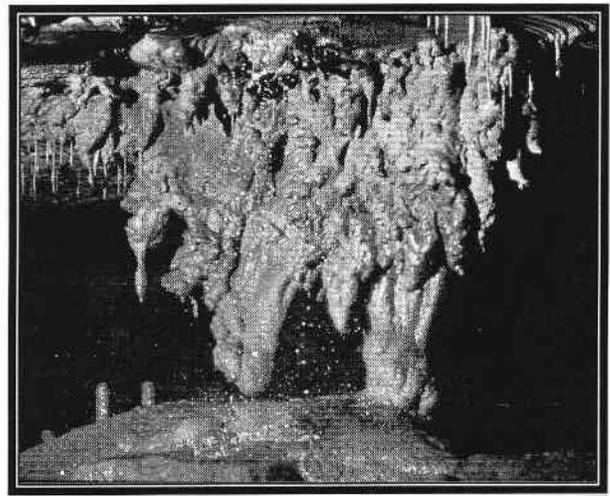
NSS organizations may reprint information from the C.O.G. Squeaks so long as the author and Squeaks are given credit unless stated otherwise.

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KARST CALENDAR

Mar. 10, 2000	Grotto meeting.
March 17, 18, 19	Grotto Cave Trips Redmond and Farmers
Apr. 1, 2000	Next Kentucky Speleological Survey Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky.
Apr. 14, 2000	Grotto meeting
Apr. 22, 2000	Grotto Cave Trip
May 5-7, 2000	Wormfest 2000, Levi Jackson SP, KY
May 12, 2000	Grotto meeting
May 27-29	Speleofest, Camp Carlson, Kentucky
June 9	Grotto Meeting
June 9-11	Karst-O-Rama at Great Salt Petre Preserve
June 26 – 30 2000	NSS Convention , Elkins, WV
Sept. 8-10	Karst Encounters, Muscatatuck County Park in North Vernon
July 23 – 27, 2001	2001: a Cave Odyssey. The NSS Convention at Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve.
June 24-28, 2002	NSS Convention, Camden, Maine
August 4-8, 2003	NSS Convention, Poterville, Cal.



Where is this?? Photo by Bill Walden

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February Minutes

By Katie Walden

Executive Committee meeting:

The first thing discussed was how to change the constitution. Article XI says that the by laws can be amended or revised at any regular grotto meeting by a majority providing a formal announcement of proposed amendment prior to the meeting.

We also discussed the two types of membership – regular and associate. A regular member with voting privileges must submit an NSS number and attend at least two meetings a year. An associate member is any grotto member that does not meet these qualifications. The NSS doesn't approve of associate members but we have decided that NSS membership shouldn't be required.

Doug's COG website is gone. He said that he could make a new one, but where would be a good place to put it? Maybe we should get a space from the NSS.

The email addresses of the grotto contacts and the website address should be included on the business cards with the COG logo from the patches.

We think the executive committee should meet every other month before the regular meeting.

Regular meeting:

Treasurer's report: \$572.58 in bank

Squeaks report: This Squeaks was not merely a Walden effort this time. Kevin provided most of the articles.

Toy committee: Kevin Toepke brought a Suunto inclinometer with a built in light. It is easy to read and cost \$170. Don Conover brought a laser show light and some pictures he had taken using the laser as a light source.

Conservation Committee: Lacie Braley has agreed to continue being chair of this committee and plans to work with Eric Weaver, the chair of the GCG conservation committee.

Chairman's note: Move meeting to third Friday of each month. This would cause a problem with Thanksgiving weekend in November. Any comments?

Trip reports:

Don Conover and Kevin Toepke went to Crawathon. They say it was fun even though an ice storm Saturday night chased many people away. There was a good presentation on Jewel Cave one night. George's daughter, Beth, set the squeeze box record at 5.5"!

Dick Maxey is banned from caving now because of a cardiac episode. He was tested after that and they found evidence that he has had a heart attack in the past seven years.

We finished the business part of the meeting by 8:30 so that we would have time to watch a video, "Caves of Europe". The video was interesting.

The website for the 2001 NSS convention is www.nss2001.com.

Kentucky Cave Survey Minutes

By Lee Florea

Hello everyone:

I finally had a chance to sit down and write out these notes from the last meeting. They are quite scattered, but should indicate the highlights. We had a good turn out and had some excellent discussion. Thanks again to the Authoring Committee for all of their hard work. I hope that our next meeting on April 1st can be just as productive.

Third Organizational Meeting

Kentucky Cave Survey

February 26th, 2000 @ 7:00 PM EST

University of Kentucky Campus, Room 102 Mines and Minerals Building

Minutes

Lee Florea called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

Introductions were made by those present:

Lee Florea, Kevin Toepke, Darrell Adkins, Walter Johnson, Don Coons, Lacie Braley, Rick Toomey, Pat Kambesis, Steve Aspery, Randy Paylor, Bill Walden, Katie Walden, Jim Currens, Duke Hopper, Jim Greer, Eric Weaver.

A summary of the prior meeting on January 15th was given by Lee Florea. The authoring committee was introduced consisting of Steve Aspery, Randy Paylor, and Eric Weaver. They commented on the current draft of the Constitution and Bylaws and presented this draft to those present.

Moderated review of the draft Constitution and Bylaws

Below are a few notes that summarize the major points and decisions made in the discussion. Refer to drafts of the Constitution and Bylaws for original language.

Need to Check with Sec of State for KY for legal wording
Bill Walden moved Pat Kambesis 2nd to change the name to KY Speleological Survey. Motion passed COG members will look into changing the list server from KCS@ontosystems.com to KSS@ontosystems.com.

Article III E

Kevin Toepke moved to strike E and incorporate the aspects of NSS purposes not already covered. Motion passed
In addition, Article III will be restructured to be more compact and efficient

Article IV

It was agreed to change Board of Directors to Board of Representatives.

It was agreed to tie at large representatives to the number of organization representatives such that one at large Representative would serve for every 10 organization Representatives.

Need to add reference to an Executive Committee.

Officers do not have to be Representatives, except for President, who must not be a Representative

Article VIII

It was agreed to return data to submitters (Individual or Organization). If not available, then KGS

Need to add section regarding existence of bylaws.

Bylaws

Chapter X

Investigate secondary repository. Possibilities include CRF or Hoffman Research Institute at Western KY Univ. (Old Central KY Cave Survey)

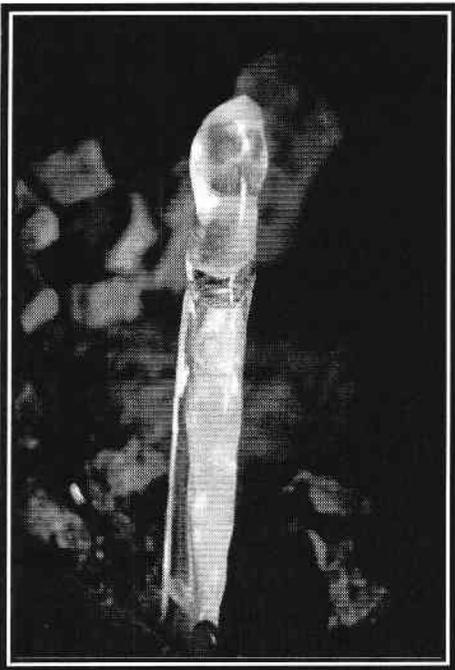
It was agreed to have individual Memorandum of Understanding with submitters with regard to proprietary data.

It was agreed that we should investigate "metadata" in which indexes would be in KSS but actual data would be elsewhere.

By the next meeting, the authoring committee will address these issues and clean up the legal language to develop a Constitution draft to present for ratification. At this next meeting, a continued discussion of the Bylaws will take place.

The next meeting is set for April 1st at 7:00 PM in the same location

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45PM



Ice stalagmite in Columbus, Ohio cave

TRIP REPORTS

To Redmond, KSS Meeting & Home in One Day

By Bill Walden

Katie and I had planned to drive to the COG field house Friday evening February 25th. However, I was held up with work at the office and then by traffic on I-270. I gave up on I-270 at US 33 and headed north toward Marysville then east on US 42 to Delaware and home from there. That detour adds 15 miles. I got home at 7:30 and decided that we wouldn't get to the field house before 1:30 a.m.

We got up early Saturday morning and drove south stopping for breakfast at the Hardys in Monticello.

Once in the Redmond Creek valley, we noted that Mr. Koger was on the property so we visited a spell. He is building a dam across the unnamed hollow near his cabin. He seems very interested in our exploration of caves on his property. We wanted to start cleaning trash from a small cave near South End Cave. He gave us permission and offered to help haul some of the bags away.

Mr. Koger asked if we had seen a small cave on the east side of the dry creek bed where the side valley that intersects the pasture is. We had not.

After the conversation Katie and I drove south across the pasture and stopped at the intersecting valley. On the opposite side of the dry streambed we quickly located the cave entrance. I had walked by that entrance at least 6 times but had never noticed it. It was blowing air and one could see that lots of water flows from that entrance.

We continued to our target cave to survey. We surveyed from South End Cave to what we now call Trash Cave. Once at Trash Cave we removed two bags full of trash. That hardly made a dent but we didn't have much time. We surveyed to the end of the cave. The end of the main passage is filled to the ceiling with collapse. Katie and I both noticed a considerable breeze coming from the end of the passage – dig project! Next we started a survey into a small side lead to a small dome. Here too we noted air movement.

The most exciting lead is at the entrance to Trash Cave. At the entrance is a trash filled pit that was sucking air this warm February Saturday.

We set the two trash bags near the fence either for Mr. Kroger to pick up or for us to pick up on our next trip.

Next we went to the "newly" discovered cave and went in to it. The passage drops from the entrance and it is a comfortable hands and knees crawl. It turns to the right and becomes an easy belly crawl. Katie followed it for perhaps 70 feet. Where it turns to the left and into a large junction room with a 30 to 40 foot high ceiling. Enticing! But it was getting late and we had to

attend the Kentucky Cave Survey Meeting in Lexington about three hour's north.

Later I learned that Pat and Greg Erisman had visited our "newly" discovered cave two years ago. They didn't spend much time in it either.

Once home I plugged our survey data into the Redmond Creek Survey. Trash Cave should connect with both South End Cave

and Redmond Creek Cave. That may take some effort but an entrance above the flood level in Redmond Creek would be wonderful indeed.

Kevin Toepke and I plan to return to Redmond Creek Friday, March 17th to remove more trash, perhaps do some digging and hopefully survey more of Trash Cave. There is much more to explore and survey. Care to help?

Advertisement

IT'S SPRING MATING SEASON AGAIN!

Visit

Chef Caver Pierre's Café

And

Clyde's Leather, Boots, & Fur Crafts

Located just south on US Route 27

Every year about this time our small nocturnal Mustelidae forest friends go mad with love. So mad they ignore vehicular traffic on ribbons of asphalt and concrete in search of love mates.

Pierre says:

"Let your nose be your guide as you travel south on US Route 27. Bag the fresh black and white road kill and bring it to our café and craft shop. We are open 24 hours every day except Christmas. Contents of your bag must be fresh -- after all we must pass USDA inspections."

For every three fresh pressed polecats in good, useable condition Chef Caver Pierre offers:

One free breakfast

Rudolph sausage.
½ Canada goose egg (Do your part to help control the population explosion!)
Steamed cattail root.
Chicory coffee.

Or one free dinner

Bambiburger w/fresh wild garlic garnish.
Fresh salad of young dandelion greens and raw young cattail root.
Baked sweet potato.
Frog egg pudding for desert.
Sassafras tea.

For every twenty fresh, good, useable pressed polecat pelts, Clyde offers:

One pair of Vixen gloves. These soft but tough gloves from tiny reindeer are really great for caving. Or one fur lined caver helmet with earflaps. The soft black and white fur offers superior impact protection for horizontal cavers. These are really wonderful for exploring caves in the northern states and Canadian wilds. Warm!

As always, free meals for FDA inspectors and their families.

TRIP REPORTS CONTINUED

Farmers Trip Report - Dig, Dig, Dig! February 19-20, 2000

By Steve Aspery

Darrell Adkins and Alice Woznack continued their comeback from caving retirement and joined Pat Erisman and Steve Aspery for yet another trip to the Farmer System. Our original intent was to work in the Hagen's Room area via the S-Trail, but excessive rainfall and a rising lake convinced us to work in higher and dryer passage.

We headed out Highline with a plan to check for side leads along the way and eventually look at the connection dig towards Trash Cave. Although we didn't find anything exciting in the way of side leads, we did note a couple of leads off of Eastern Avenue that have yet to be surveyed or fully pushed, including one near Rest Stop 2 that was blowing air. The area at the end of Eastern still has plenty of unsurveyed passage as well and there's always the hope of finding a walking connection to Trash Cave!

Since on this particular day we didn't find the walking connection to Trash, we went down to the dig. I hadn't been out here before and was anxious to see what we have been digging towards from the Trash side. The dig showed a lot of previous effort and progress, but another lead to the left caught our attention and we began to work on this. After a couple of hours we had gained about 6 feet of progress and could see that there was passage ahead. A persistent drip in the back combined with a rock in our path (no hammer) sapped our enthusiasm, so we made an inventory of tools needed for the next trip and began to head out.

The trip out seemed awfully long with far too much crawling, but the plans for our next trip to the dig and thoughts of Sonny's Barbecue kept our spirits up. We emerged from Overlook in the dark after about 8 hours in the cave. Alice and I headed for the cars while Pat and Darrell derigged the hand line. Pat had been providing blazing light all day with his new Taglite, and on the way back to the cars, in the dark, he and Darrell found a new sink in the woods. A "cave airflow indicator" (most people call them cigarettes) showed that the sink was taking air and then a moment later it was blowing air. Pretty weird.

While doing serious damage to the all-you-can-eat pork at Sonny's, our excitement grew about the new sink and Darrell, Alice, and I decided to return Sunday morning and investigate further. Armed with mattock, trowel, and the world's smallest trenching tool, we began work to transform the breathing hole into an entrance. After removing 2 or 3 feet of dirt, rock, and debris, the challenge became digging in the hole while head down. We rigged some webbing from nearby trees to make a digger's sling which solved the challenge of supporting yourself in the hole, but made for an interesting photo opportunity (sorry, no camera) as the digger's torso disappeared in the hole while their legs seemed to reach for the sky. The sling dramatically

improved our cognitive powers as the blood rushed to our brains and we decided that this wasn't all that much fun and that we should head home to Ohio. On the way back to the cars we checked the progress of another sink in the area and found that it had enlarged since our last check. We made plans to return next weekend to pursue both digs.

Farmers Trip Report - More Digging, Of Course! February 26, 2000

By Steve Aspery

What a glorious weekend! Darrell and I drove to Pulaski Friday night and stayed at the Fieldhouse. The temperature at 10:00 PM had to be pushing 60 and the clear sky provided a view of more stars than I have seen in years. Kevin Toepke and Lacie Braley arrived later in the night, but early enough that everyone was up and out of the cabin by 7:30 the next morning.

We headed to Somerset with the hope of meeting Rick Toomey at Jerry's for breakfast. I was a little concerned because Rick and I hadn't talked before I left and I wasn't sure he had received my last email. We arrived at Jerry's at the appointed hour of 8:00 and Rick pulled in 5 minutes later. While enjoying a hearty breakfast we learned that Rick had in fact not received my last message and had guessed that we might be at Jerry's at 8:00. We are either becoming far too predictable or Rick is a darn good guesser.

After breakfast we drove to Farmers, stopping at the 192 Market to pick up sandwiches for later. By 9:30 it was already warm enough to justify shorts.... my kind of February weekend! We marched to dig with high hopes (they always start that way) and broad grins. Being safety minded and certain that we would soon drop into serious passage, we rigged a safety line for the diggers to clip into while in the pit. Rick, Darrell, and I began hoisting buckets of trash, leaves, dirt and more trash from the pit while Lacie and Kevin began a surface survey for the two digs. Bucket after bucket appeared from the hole, each getting heavier as the composition changed from leaves to trash to dirt. Darrell played the naturalist finding several different varieties of salamander during his shifts. Rick and I saw nothing but trash during our stints. Darrell topped off his biology list when he uttered "what the.. uh, oh" or something to that effect (there may have been expletives involved). Next thing I know, the shovel comes out of the pit bearing an 18" Copperhead who's beginning to wake up in the warm temperatures. I didn't stop to measure the actual length. We set him in the sun, well away from the hole that we were now claiming as ours. Based on this find, we have named this soon to be cave "Little Copperhead". We also named the other dig/soon to be cave "Found in the Dark". We were tired of calling them "that one dig and the other dig".

To make a long story short, Kevin and Lacie completed the surface survey, we all worked on the dig and made big progress. We dropped the floor of the pit at least 6 feet but alas never

really needed the safety line and have yet to find passage. We decided to let the weather work on it for a while and took Rick over to Overlook for a short trip. He verified that the impressions near the connection are most likely bear dens and we exited. It was a day to be outside anyway as the temperature reached 78 in Somerset.

We made a quick stop at Franklin's Doom to find that the water has been doing its job. There is now a four-foot deep channel running alongside the old rock dam and the entrance is exposed, solid rock. Darrell looked inside and found that it is larger but there is a new plug of branches, logs, etc. Maybe on a dry day?

We all moved on to the Kentucky Speleological Survey meeting in Lexington. Once again the COG was well represented making up one half of all attendees.

Diversion

By Bill Walden

[This has absolutely nothing to do with caving.]

I was thinking about numbers and why we ended up with base 10. The Roman numerals were horrid to work with. I can't keep them straight anyhow. But, why ten?

Supposedly we work in base ten because most of us have ten fingers. Count the fingers one through ten. Seems so simple but we can only count to ten.

I thought "We really have four fingers and a thumb on each hand. Why didn't people count the fingers and use their thumbs as place keepers? In that manner one can count to eight, raise the right thumb and count to eight again, then raise the left thumb and count to eight a third time. One's counting ability is increased from 10 to 24. This represents an improvement of 240%!"

"But, why stop there? Using the same logic one could count to five on his right hand using all four fingers and the thumb. Once arriving at 5, raise a finger on the left hand and begin counting to five a second time with the fingers and thumb on the right hand. In this way one can count to 30. This represents a 300% improvement over 10!"

"Can one do even better?" Well, using the right hand to count to five, then raise the left thumb. Let the thumb represent 5. Count to five again using the right hand fingers and thumb. Drop the left thumb that represents five and raise the first finger and let it represent 10. Count to five again using the fingers and thumb on the right hand. Raise the left thumb on the left hand. $5 + 10 = 15$. So, holding the left thumb and first finger gets one to 15. Start counting on the right hand again to five. Once there drop the thumb and first finger on the left hand and raise the middle finger to represent 20. Using this logic the thumb on the left hand represents 5, the first finger 10, the middle finger 20, the third finger 40 and the fourth finger 80 plus one can count to five on the right hand. This is $5 + 5 + 10 + 20 + 40 + 80$ or 160. Wow!

This represents an improvement of 1600% over counting to 10 using all eight fingers and the two thumbs.

"But wait." I thought. "Can one do even better?"

Using the logic of the fives in the last example, what if one uses that same logic of place keepers with all ten digits of his hands?

On the right hand let the thumb represent 1, the first finger represent 2, the second finger represent 4, the third finger represent 8 and the fourth finger represent 16. In this manner one can count to 31 on the right hand.

Extend this to the left hand such that the thumb represents 32, the first finger 64, the middle finger 128, the third finger 256 and the fourth finger 512.

In this manner one can count $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + 32 + 64 + 128 + 256 + 512$ or 1023 representing an improvement of 10230% over counting to 10.

Why are we using base ten? Surely an ancient must have thought of this too? But I suppose someone said, "God didn't give you 1023 fingers!" so we lumber along with limited counting ability even though our ten fingers can be used to count to the decimal equivalent of 1023. Too bad.

If we all had learned to count as in this last example we wouldn't even think in decimal terms but in terms of fingers up or down or ones and zeros (1 for finger up, 0 for finger down.) 1, 10, 11, 100, 101, 110, 111, 1000, 1001, 1010, 1011, 1100, 1101, 1110, 1111, 10000, etc. This is the logical basis of our computers!

Wormfest

The Dayton Underground Grotto's ninth annual caving event in the field May 5 – 7, 2000 at Levi Jackson Wilderness Road State Park, 998 Levi Jackson Mill Road, London, KY 40744, 606-878-8000.

Pre-registration and onsite registration: A mail in form is on the last page of this Squeaks. Mail the form to: Alan Ferday, 2250 Coral Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45420. The pre-registration deadline is March 20th. On site registration is \$5 additional.

Accommodations: Primitive tent camping is included with registration. Beds in bunkhouse-style cabins available for \$5 extra per person. Contact Van Bergen at 937-885-7725 or van.bergen@lexis-nexis.com for rental information.

Wormfest: Saturday night pizza, salad and soda pop. Side dishes and desserts are welcome!

Raffle: The more tickets you buy the better the chance.

Additional Information: Visit www.caves.org/grotto/dug/wf2000/info.html

The Dayton Underground Grotto's
9th Annual Wormfest - May 5-7, 2000
Pre-Registration Form
Pre-Registration Deadline is March 24, 2000

Name - Please print clearly

Street

City, State & ZIP

Phone

Grotto(s)

Email id

NSS #

Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number

Item	Cost	#	Amount
First Adult Registration with guidebook	\$15	1	\$15
Additional Adults Age 16 & up (no guidebook)	\$10		\$
Kids Age 4-15 (no guidebook)	\$8		\$
Pets	\$5		\$
Adult Wormfeast Meal Kids under age 16 eat free.			
# vegetarian meals:	\$5		\$
Extra Guidebook	\$5		\$
Wormfest 2000 T-Shirt Available ONLY via pre-registration. T-Shirts cannot be ordered after March 24, 2000.			
Small	\$10		\$
Medium	\$10		\$
Large	\$10		\$
X-Large	\$10		\$
XX-Large	\$12		\$
Raffle Tickets - \$1 each or six for \$5			\$
Register <u>by</u> March 24 and get 2 free raffle tickets. On-site registration is \$5 more per adult.		Total	\$