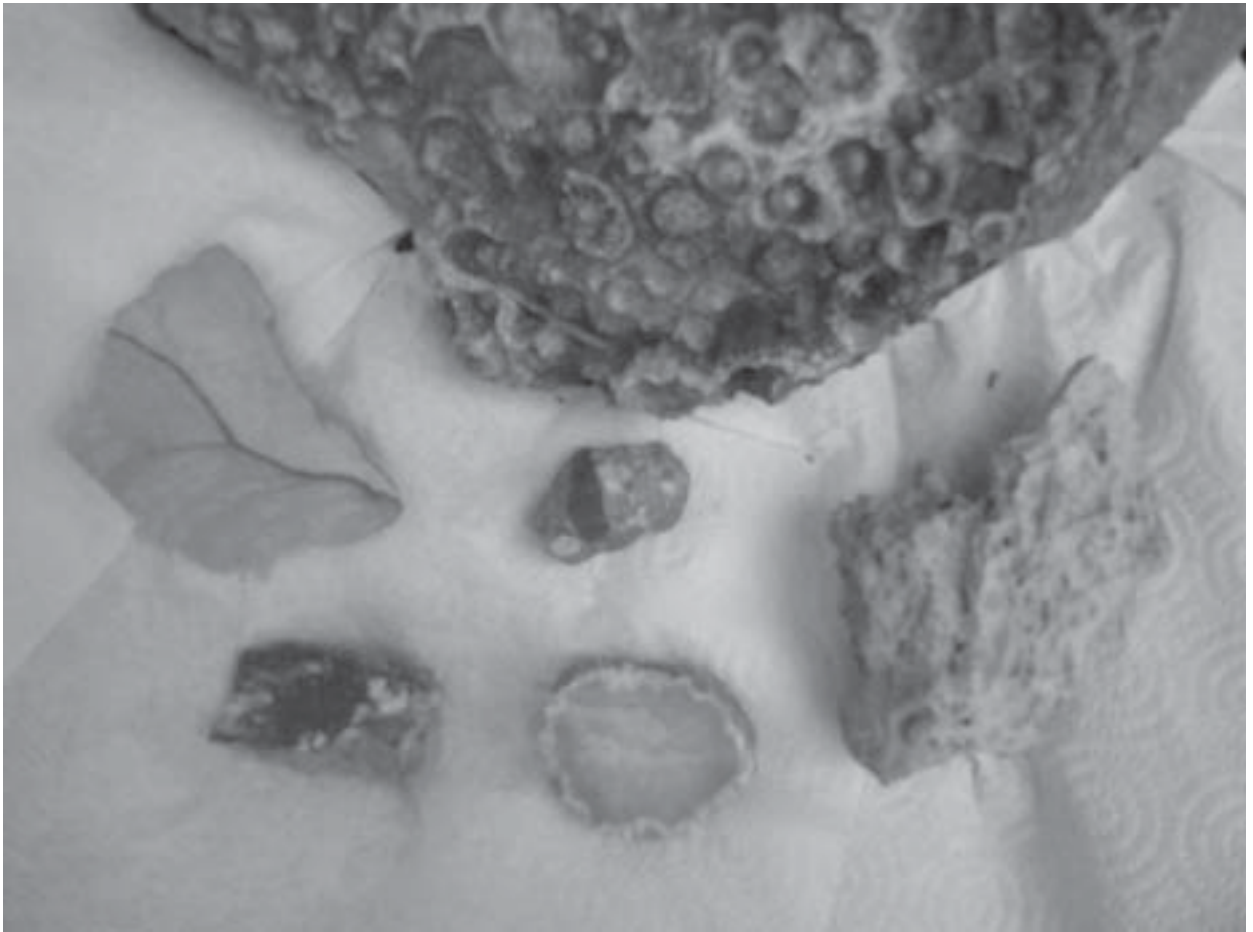


COG SQUEAKS

October 2006



Rocks and Fossils from Wayne County, Kentucky

Geology 171 Field Trip

The Central Ohio Grotto (COG)

The Central Ohio Grotto (COG) of the National Speleological Society meets at 7:00 p.m. at the Worthington Presbyterian Church on the fourth Tuesday of most months. The church is on the northwest corner of the intersection of High St. and Rt. 161 in Worthington. Parking is available behind the church. Enter the parking lot from the first side street on the right off Rt. 161. Please contact a grotto member to confirm meeting time and place. The December meeting is not held at the church.

COG Web page:www.tuningoracle.com/cog

**Grotto Membership Dues:
\$15 per individual or \$20 per family**

Grotto Officers	Name	Telephone
Chairman	Dale Andreatta	614 890-3269
Vice-chair	Bruce Warthman	614 459-8345
Secretary	Saundra Sklaar	
Treasurer	JoeGibson	614 855-7948
Exec. Committee	Lacie Braley	614 895-1732
Exec. Committee	Bill Walden	740 965-2942

Squeaks Editor -Lacie Braley LKcaver@cs.com
Webmaster - Kevin Toepke ktoepke@tuningoracle.com
List Server - cog@ontosystems.com

The COG Squeaks

The COG Squeaks is the official newsletter of the Central Ohio . Articles regarding cave exploration and study, cave trips, cave fiction, cave poetry, cave-related cartoons, cave art or photographs are always welcome. Material may be submitted via mail or e-mail to the editor.

Lacie Braley
332 E Park St.
Westerville, OH 43081

The COG Squeaks is mailed to dues paying members and to grottos with which the COG exchanges newsletters.

Karst Calendar

- Oct. 28, 2006 KSS Meeting , Bill Walden's Kentucky house. Caving Saturday, meeting Sunday.
- Nov. 28, 2006 COG Meeting
- December, 2006: Christmas Party date and location to be announced.
- May 31-June 3, 2007 Southeastern Regional Association (SERA) Summer Cave Carnival at Camp Nakanawa, hosted by East Tennessee Grotto.
- June 22-24, 2007 KOR 2007 at GSP
- July 23 - 27, 2007 NSS Convention in Marengo, IN. See the convention website at www.nss2007.com for online registration.

Contents

Karst Calendar	2
Rocks and Fossils and Caves, Oh My...	3
From the Editor	5
Meeting Minutes	5
Photos from Washington	6

Fall is the time for falling leaves and closing caves. When caving this time of year, check if the cave you plan to visit closes for hibernating bats for the winter.

Copyrights

All submissions remain the property of the author, and may not be reproduced without their permission.

Rocks and Fossils and Caves, Oh My...

by Lacie Braley

It wasn't a yellow brick road I found myself walking on Saturday, October 7th, but it was close. I very much had a feeling of "not being in Kansas anymore." My caver friends, Eric Weaver and Janeen Sharpshair had arranged a field trip with the University of Cincinnati (UC) Geology Department. The UC group was on multi-day trip around Kentucky, looking at various geologic features. For two-thirds of the group, it was their first foray into the real world of rocks and fossils, for many are freshman students at UC.



UC Vans near Triple S Cave

Our job as cavers was to lead most of the older students into Triple S Cave for a short look at our world and to take the freshman and the remaining older students on a tour of Redmond Creek Sink. Bill Walden had volunteered to lead the Redmond Creek trip.

We met the UC gang at the Grider Hill Boat Dock, ten miles north of Albany, Kentucky. While Eric, Janeen, Aeron Horton, and Nick Addington got the UC group sorted, I went on down to meet Bill Walden near Triple S cave and to pick up liability releases for the trip.

Eric, Janeen, Nick, and Aeron prepared the caving group for the walk to the cave. Their plan was to take people into the upper entrance of Triple S and show them the many formations in that area. Bill led the "non-caving" part of the group on to park at Pyles Cemetery while I dropped off the liability releases at the landowner's place. He made a quick

visit to the house above the parking area then joined us for the intro to the day's tour.

This is where my "Land of Oz" feelings began... Sandi Dowell, a UC employee interested in geology, helped me by listing names of the over twenty students and teachers in our group.

I know just a little about geology to date. I know there's good cave potential in St. Genevieve limestone and I've heard names of other types of limestone over the years. I found it fascinating to match names to features.

Carl Brett, a geologist from UC, told us a bit about the layers of limestone in the area. The physiographic diagram of Kentucky divides the state into several regions, including Blue Grass, Eastern Kentucky Coal Field, Western Kentucky Coal Field, Mississippi Embayment, and Mississippian Plateaus. The Mississippian Plateaus are the features revealed in Wayne County, Kentucky.

Within the Mississippian layer of limestone of the area are the Pennington, Bangor, Hartsell, Kidder, and St. Genevieve formations. The St. Genevieve layer is at the bottom.

Bill explained the route our hike would take and we traipsed off through the woods to the large entrance area of Peter Cave. After a short talk from Bill and from Carl we walked (and slid) down the hill to the bottom of Redmond Sink. Here Bill pointed out where the water sinks underground over one hundred feet below the Peter Cave entrance.



Carl Brett and Bill Walden pointing out features on a geologic map

While the story of historical floods to the high and dry Peter Cave met with skepticism, I was able to verify Bill's account of the valley where we stood flooding up to ten feet deep. (Photos of flood in the February, 2004 Squeaks.)

We all walked on through the valley and down the dirt road toward the landowner's barns. Carl stopped us on the way to discuss the composition of the road below our feet. He talked of sand and quartz and rocks forming, wearing away, and reforming again.

Once we reached the creekbed portion of the road to Redmond Creek Cave, I could feel the interest increase in the people around me. I think we all walked with our heads down the rest of the way to the cave. Yes, we did have to watch out for the cow pies (patties or paddies, etc.), but we were all really looking for various types of rocks and fossils.

We talked of sandstone forming in marine and terrestrial environments and of conglomerate rock and trace fossils.

One student spotted a fossil with the impression of leaves from a lycopod. A lycopod is a plant with the leaves forming on a single strand, no branches. Eventually we all arrived at the main entrance to Redmond Creek Cave. Bill and I loaned lights to those who hadn't brought their own and then most of us clambered over the rocks and down into the cave.



Students in Redmond Creek Cave

Bill pointed out a few features and Carl stopped the group in a few places to point out details in the limestone walls. Carl showed us where the rock was smooth and fine down low and more coarse in a higher layer. He talked of the narrow bands between layers and how they had once been thicker but had been compressed. He had us look very closely at a rougher layer to see if we could spot the tiny circles called ooids. And the look even more closely at the dot in the center of the minute circle.

Bill and I actually managed to show Carl something new to him in the cave. We passed by flowstone and rimstone formations during our short trek underground.

After travelling a few hundred feet into the cave, it was time to turn around. We were running late and would not meet up with Eric and the caving UC group on time. So we began the long walk back to the vehicles. I found out later we walked about four miles on our Redmond Creek Sink tour. It was a beautiful, warm, sunny fall day so that was no problem.

I really enjoyed meeting the UC faculty and students. I learned a lot in just a few hours. We talked of huge geologic features all the way down to near-microscopic components of rock.

I'll think of this trip the next time I'm sitting in a passage, sketching it, and finding a moment or two to just look closely at the walls. There is quite a bit of beauty to be found when you take the time to look.



The Entrance Area of Peter Cave



Congratulations Katie Walden and Aron Schmid!

Katie and Aron were married on September 30, 2006 in Pennsylvania, where they reside.

From the Editor...

Hi all,

It's baaaaack! The Squeaks is back after a "bit of a break." This is my first issue and my first newsletter. Yes, I know I have edited some guidebooks, but I haven't had to produce a regular publication before. You'll notice I've actually written all of this newsletter. That's just because I happened to be on an interesting trip a couple of weeks ago. But, as you all know, a newsletter needs input from many people. So please send me trip reports and photos and art or...

Okay, that's my "send me stuff" plea.

In the past we have had a near-monthly publication. Right now, I will produce the Squeaks on a bi-monthly basis. So that means six issues a year. Since we have a smaller grotto we have fewer sources for articles. I'd rather send out a larger issue every other month than just a couple monthly pages.

And I want to go caving as much as possible, of course!

So happy caving and send me stuff!

Lacie

LKcaver@cs.com

Meeting Minutes

September 26, 2006

Attending six members, one visitor (Ryan Simon).

Chris Debney, chairman of the NSS Annual Report Committee, sent a request for a list of caves the grotto is working on. Bill will send the list.

Bill gave details on the OVR cleanup planned at Redmond Creek October 21. Also of the KSS meeting/caving weekend at the Walden southern house the last weekend in October.

Jack Hissong sent Bill info for a letter writing campaign to protect Great Basin National Park in Nevada.

Lacie requested help on a karst/cave tour for UC geology students being planned by Eric Weaver. Bill offered to lead a tour of Redmond creek sink.

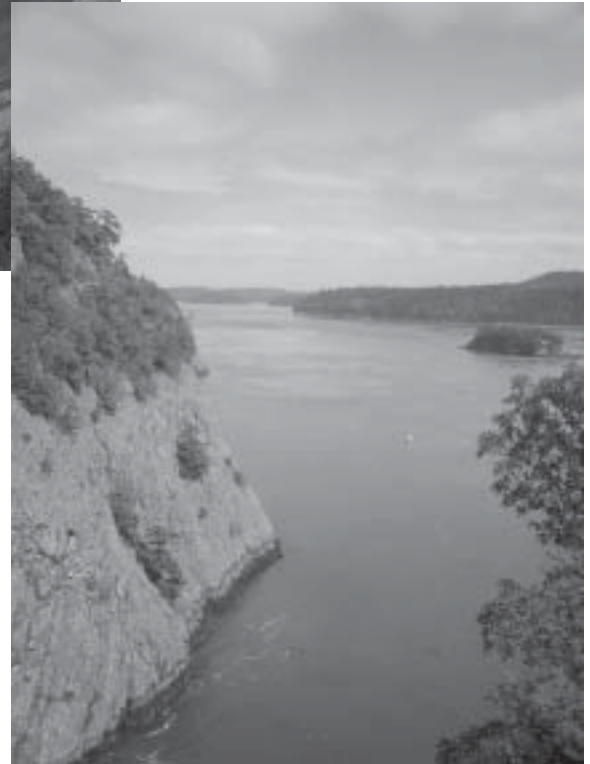
Bank Balance \$760.15. Joe will send notices next year to send dues. He hasn't been collecting dues because we haven't had a newsletter published lately. Lacie will edit the Squeaks for now.

The grotto election is coming up in November. Dale, Bruce, and Joe are willing to retain their offices for a second year.

It's time to plan the grotto Christmas party. A repeat of last year's party at Iaconno's on Sawmill Rd. was discussed. Nothing finalized.



From top to bottom:
Mount Rainier
Deception Pass
Hoh Rainforest "little" tree
Pacific Ocean campsite view



Photos from Washington

My trip to the 2006 NSS Convention in Bellingham, Washington, was my first time on the west coast. I met some friends a few days before Convention and we went to the Olympic Peninsula and camped by the Pacific Ocean and hiked in the Hoh Rainforest. During the convention week I also visited Deception Pass on Whidbey Island and on my last day in Washington I spent several hours hiking around on Mt. Rainier. So much to see, so little time...

