

The Carbide Courier

The
Dayton Underground Grotto
of
The National Speleological Society

Volume 18, Issue 1

January 2009

In this issue:

Recap of the Christmas Party

What/Who is the DUG "Borehole?"

Wayne Barton Stories & Pics

Great Saltpetre Preserve Reminders

DUG's Newest Honorary Member

...and more in 16 action-packed pages!



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GROTTO MEETINGS

Grotto meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of each month (except for September, December and month of Wormfest) at 7:00 pm at Roger and Lynn Brucker's house, 1635 Grange Hall Rd., Beavercreek, OH. For directions, see the map on the back cover, or go to the DUG web page:

www.dugcaves.com

MEMBERSHIP INFO

Annual membership is \$15 per individual, or \$20 per family. Membership includes the monthly publication of *The Carbide Courier* in paper or electronic format. Memberships are renewable on October 1st. Dues can be mailed to:

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Front Cover: Andy Niekamp in Pine Hill Cave. Photo © Nathan Williams.

From the Editor...



Hello DUGsters,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great and safe Holiday season.

The annual Christmas party was another success, and if you missed it, you missed a great time! Congratulations to all our award recipients (see the Christmas party recap article, starting on page 6).

DUGsters—be sure you let Alan Leach know if you change address so that he can update the DUG roster. I use this roster to mail out the paper copies of the *Carbide Courier*. I've had Couriers returned to me for insufficient address. This causes the grotto more money in postage. You can view the roster via the "Members' Only" link on the grotto web page.

Lastly—the "Borehole" has made a return to the Courier after a long absence. This may please (or not) many of our long-time members!

Until next time!

Mike Hood
Editor

Volume 18, Issue 1

January 2009

The Carbide Courier is sent electronically the last week of the preceding month and also sent to the printer at the same time. Submissions must be sent to the editor by the Friday preceding the last week of the month at carbidecourier (at) yahoo (dot) com.

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DO YOU GET A PAPER COPY OF THE COURIER? DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET OR E-MAIL?

If so, why not consider switching to electronic means of getting the Courier? You'll get your Courier quicker and save the grotto some money to boot! Contact Alan Leach to change your status.

Calendar of Events

- January 11th 7pm - Grotto General Membership Meeting
Roger & Lynn Brucker's House (See back of Courier for map)
- January 23rd-25th Crawlathon at Carter Caves State Resort Park, Olive Hill, KY
(www.crawlathon.com)
- February 11th 7pm - Grotto General Membership Meeting
Roger & Lynn Brucker's House (See back of Courier for map)
- February 20th-21st Miami Valley Adventure Summit at Wright State University
(www.theadventuresummit.com)
- March 8th 7pm - Grotto General Membership Meeting
Roger & Lynn Brucker's House (See back of Courier for map)
- April 12th 7pm - Grotto General Membership Meeting
Roger & Lynn Brucker's House (See back of Courier for map)
- May 10th 7pm - Grotto General Membership Meeting
Roger & Lynn Brucker's House (See back of Courier for map)

January Birthdays!

Alan Leach – 3rd
 Timothy Bowman – 8th
 Marleina Caldwell – 16th
 Howard Cobb – 17th
 Kenneth Thomas – 18th
 Garth Seehawer – 21st
 Dennis Green – 23rd
 Alexis Conarroe – 25th
 Dana Sutherland – 26th



Jacob Isaac Fearday
 Born November 7th
 Congratulations Alan and Lisa!



From the Chairman:

Hello all,

I would like to thank Traci Fearday, and all who helped her, with the DUG Christmas

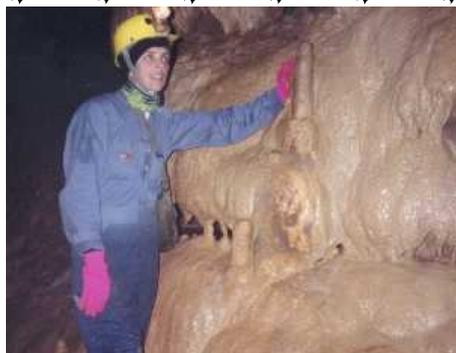
party.

Because of the foul weather the attendance was not as good as we had hoped. But for those of us who did attend, fun was had by all.

Don't forget about Crawl-a-Thon towards the end of the month. It's a great winter event and chance to get underground. There are several guided trips available, or you can cave on your own. If you don't want to cave, there are also several hiking trails.

This year we want to offer monthly grotto cave trips. Because of Crawl-a-Thon, we didn't plan anything for January, and I'm working on a trip for February. This is where YOU come in. We are asking YOU to volunteer to plan a cave trip for the Grotto. You can contact me or any other Executive Committee members about a trip. We are looking forward to see what you come up with.

Dana Sutherland,
Chairman



**Congratulations
Sandy Rice
DUG Honorary Member**



What is and/or Who is the DUG Borehole?

The DUG Borehole has obviously been out of circulation for way too long, as this question has recently been asked time and time again.

Time for some remedial lessons about the Dayton Underground Grotto.

The DUG Borehole has been around since the inception of the Grotto, popping up here and there to offer some humor, insight, or even to make members aware of what's happening in the Grotto.

The VERY FIRST issue of the Carbide Courier saw the introduction to the DUG Borehole. In Volume 1, Issue 1, produced on March 5, 1992, no introduction was given to Yours Truly. However, at the very end of the newsletter was a section of Q/As, in 12 point, Sans Serif Font, obviously produced on a TYPEWRITER (anyone remember those?):

ASK THE BOREHOLE:

Dear Borehole:

My wife and I have a misunderstanding. She thinks that just because we have friends that don't want to go caving, we should be able to relate to them the same way we relate to our caving friends. I say this [is] impossible!

How could I act the same with someone I have never crawled around in 12 inches of mud with, burnt with a flame on my head, slobbered on the same water bottle with, or stared at their butt for hours on end? Your advice would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Tired of stupid questions about caves.

(Continued on Page 14)

DUG's 17th Annual Christmas Party Another Success!

By Mike Hood

The 17th Annual DUG Christmas party has come and gone, and if you missed it, you missed another great party! A big congratulations, and "thank you" to Traci Fearday for chairing the party, and to all the volunteers who helped organize, decorate and cleanup afterwards.

The grotto's two highest awards were presented by Chairman Dana Sutherland at the party to deserving DUG members who have devoted many hours of dedication to the grotto.

The Honorary Member award is the grotto's highest award and confers a lifetime membership to the recipient. Only five members had previously received this award since the grotto's founding in 1992. On December 6th, **Sandy Rice** became DUG's sixth Honorary Member. Unfortunately, Sandy was unable to be at the party due to illness. Sandy has been a member of the grotto since 1992 and has served on the Executive Committee, chaired programs and projects, and has shown continued dedication to the grotto. Congratulations Sandy!

Ken Bonenberger, Debbie Bowers, and Alan Leach received DUG's Distinguished Member award for their service as committee chairs and officers over the past few years. Unfortunately, Ken and Alan were unable to attend the party to receive their awards. They will be presented with their certificates soon. This is Debbie's second Distinguished Member award. Congratulations Ken, Debbie, and Alan!

Of course, where would the Christmas Party be without the traditional Certificates of Merit? Certificates were presented this year to the following deserving DUGsters :

Bob Ausdenmoore— Thanks for the New Boats!
Signed, the Dayton Area Surgery Group
Bob "Shish-ka-Bob" Ausdenmoore—Go Fetch! But not with your leg!
Debbie Bowers— Thanks for the New Boats! Signed,
the Dayton Orthopedic Group

Larry Bowers—Will We Ever Get Him in a Cave?
Sarah Bowers—Cutest Bartender at KOR
Sean Caldwell—Anyone Who Names His Dog Guinness Has to be a Great Guy
Pam Carpenter—For Surveying Her Ass Off in Wayne County
Tama Cassidy—Tortoise-Hare-Tortoise-Hare
Tama Cassidy—For Being Wherever, Whenever You're Needed
Don Conover—Master of the Chinese Bat Puzzle
Traci Fearday—For Another Spectacular Slide Show
Ron Fulcher—Honoring his Chairmanship for 2007-2008
Bonnie Guess—Caver Most "MIA"—Missed in Antics
Chris Hacker—We Know You're Really Just a Big Teddy Bear
Tim Hale—For Doing a Great Job as DUG's Representative to the GSP Committee
Kenny Hedges—Getting the Story Straight
Kim Hedges—Your Turn, My Turn
Kim Hedges—Elsa's Owes You Nothing!! And You Thought You Were Special!
Kim Hedges—Apparently Your Parents Did Something Right!! You Went Back to Pay Your Elsa's Bill
Amy Hill—Now, WHAT am I Supposed to Do as DUG Vice Chair??
Mike Hood—For Being Such an Awesome Carbide Courier Editor
Tracy Hood—For Sending Such Interesting Text Messages to Her Son's Girlfriend
Jay Moore—Welcome Back to DUG
Andy Niekamp—For Doing a Great Job on DUG's Web Page for so Many Years
Jim Perkins—What Did You Do This Time?
Dave Rice—What Will You Feed Me When You Run Out of Old Garage? Love, The Fire Pit
Dave and Sandy Rice—For Hosting a Great GRP Party!
Sandy Rice—The B&B Award
Sandy Rice—For Stepping up to be a DUG Board Member
Dana Sutherland—Best KOR Boy Toy
Dana Sutherland—Joining the Rabid Bat Rescue Society

Dana Sutherland—For Sitting in the Chair
 Dana Sutherland—For Being Such a “HOT” Chair-
 man
 Dana Sutherland—The Master Nut Roaster
 Bill Walden—Re-Surveyor of the Year
 Bob Yuellig—For Doing a Great Job as DUG’s
 Representative to the GSP Committee
 Pat Yuellig—Thanks for the New Boats! Signed,
 Sinking Valley Winery

Several more DUGsters were nominated at the party. Unfortunately, I don’t have a list of who they were (but they know who they are!). DUG’s own infamous Borehole also presented his/her/its (you pick) certificates of distinction to several deserving DUGsters.

Traci Fearday’s slide show wowed the audience, as usual, and began with a very touching tribute to Wayne Barton. Traci also held a silent auction for five CD’s of the show and raised money for the grotto!

The evening’s ceremonies were capped by the annual Richard Stone presentation. The Mistress of Ceremonies was our own Tama Cassidy, assisted by Sergeants at Arms Traci Fearday and Mike Hood. The Richard Stone for this year went to Bob Ausdemoore. First runner-up was Dana Sutherland and second runner-up was Keith Turner.

The evening concluded with the customary apple pie shooters and dancing. Hopefully we won’t have weather problems next year and more DUGsters will show up!

ODE TO RICHARD STONE...

IT’S RICHARD STONE TIME AGAIN, OUR FAVORITE TIME OF THE YEAR. IT’S TIME FOR THAT DREADED, COVETED AWARD TO APPEAR. THE DUG CHRISTMAS PARTY, WILL START THE HOLIDAYS OFF RIGHT. BUT WHO WILL END UP WITH RICHARD STONE TONIGHT?

You thought it was quiet, Not a peep did we hear.
 There won’t be a Richard Stoner this year.

You have gotten better at stealth, but there is still
 QUITE, a wealth, ...of blunder.
 Lets make it known, YOU CANT HIDE FROM
 THE STONE.

It was a gathering of cavers at Elsa’s one night
 They had met to eat ,and drink, and delight
 They had eaten their fill
 But Kim Hedges had.... skipped out on her bill!

A benignly malignant remark made in the midst
 of an email debate,
 Had this sweet caver caught up in fate.
 He hastily typed and pressed send.
 And that’s something we cannot defend.
 Cavers and cancer? why they just don’t blend.

Ausdemoore , We have heard that name before,
 We think that’s Scottish for
 Don’t let the rope touch the cave floor!
 He has a new claim to fame
 Collecting fire wood.is now his game.

Reuse, reduce, recycle !
 That’s the current trend
 How to take something
 And give it a different end!
 It was mountain dew can crafts with the scouts
 that got this caver a case of the outs.

At KOR , silliness abounds
 Our next hero’s antics were on those very grounds
 Smiley man Keith with his head full of booze
 Got half into his tent and started to snooze!
 Its an optimist thing
 He had met his goal
 The tent wasn’t half empty ,
 It was half full.

For this last stanza we must depart
 A song comes to mind straight from the heart.
(sing it with feeling)
 Chestnuts roasting on an open fire.
 Rabid bats nipping at your nose
 Chubby Bunny being sung by the fire
 And brown goo from thigh to toes
 Everybody knows we are talking about Dana!!!

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Wayne Barton Stories

Editor's Note: Wayne Barton passed away in September, and even though he wasn't a member of DUG, he was loved by many DUGsters. I received 23 pages of stories about Wayne. Unfortunately, I can't publish all of them, but here are a few of them for your enjoyment. We all miss you, Wayne!

Picking gravel out of my teeth

Grouse Pit comes to a Jackson County End –

I sat in a small hole digging like a dog. Water was dripping over a ledge above me running into every opening it could find in my cave suit. For every handful of gravel I dug out, approximately half of it rolled right back into the hole. And even worse, Wayne 'Woody' Barton was standing at the top, offering encouragement and advice at every moment – “It looks wet down there”

“No shit Wayne”

“Can you see more passage?”

“Why else would I be digging Wayne?”

“It would help if you got more of the gravel OUT of the hole”

“Thanks Wayne”

But all in all I was having a great time – I could see passage on the other side of the constriction, and it was just muddy gravel.

John Neack had stopped at this point just almost a year earlier on our first trip into Grouse Pit. We had found it on an earlier ridge walk, but it wasn't until our first trip that we were able to drop the 50 foot pit to keep going. During that trip John, Lacie Braley and I had mapped 400 feet through a canyon complex, only to be stopped at this gravel constriction. John had stated that he thought he could get through it in a few minutes, but I never trust digs. It always seems that you have 1 inch of gravel over 5 inches of the hardest rock known to mankind. We had turned around at that point and vowed to return.

And then the return got delayed, and then delayed and then put off. Grouse pit is in a valley north of Horselick Cemetery Cave, and off the Horselick Creek. There aint NO good way to get to it. The closest parking is a mile and a half away, and you

either have to cross the Horselick 7 times (no kidding) or up and over a ridge.

And summertime caving is pretty much out of the question with brambles enough to deflesh your average hippo strategically scattered in front of you regardless of which direction you turn.

SO even though John and I talked about it for a year and a half, we never returned. We always had better plans, or even better excuses: my dog threw up, my toenail fell off, the phase of the moon isn't right. Whatever, we didn't get back forever.

Well John and I planned for a Christmas trip. I set about getting a survey crew together. As soon as I mentioned Grouse Pit and told folks about the distance to the cave, suddenly every one had a better place to be. Wayne was the only one brain-dama.... uhh.. game enough. So we planned on it. The night before the trip, John had to pull out because of family problems. After that I tentatively planned on bagging to. But the next morning I grew a pair and talked Wayne into it.

So off we set, walked the mile and a half with rope, digging gear and packs. We were at the dig in no more then an hour after getting into the cave. Which brings me back to the gravel and water and Waynes comments.

After a few minutes of digging, I pivoted around and started kicking. I was able to push the rest of the gravel into the passage and cleared a small path through. I squirmed through getting the last dry spot on my body wet. I was in hands and knees passage now, following a stream.

“Come on through Wayne”

“Does it open?”

“Uhh.. Gee no it gets smaller – that's why I want you to come through. YES IT GETS BIGGER!”

The passage started getting bigger. Soon we were following the stream on a solid rock floor. We were walking now (well, running in my case).

The passage was dropping rapidly, and it felt like a TAG cave with small waterfalls.

We entered a small room with formations. The stream fell down a small 4 foot waterfall. We stopped to look at the formations and then ran on. A few hundred feet later we entered another small room. At this point the stream ran under a ledge. I ducked to look under. 6" high 2 feet wide as far as I could see. We pushed around the room for other leads. Nothing doing. This was it then. The bitter end in the most classic of Jackson County ways, a small water crawlway that goes on forever. Wayne and I started out looking for leads, but there were no good ones. I found one that lead off from the first room you hit, but it was over the water and soon got to be wide and 40 foot high. I backed off leaving it for better days (or better cavers).

Wayne and I started the long, cold walk back. I am sure it was twice as long on the way back as it was on the way there. There has to be a big cave in this valley, I know it. But this isn't the way

Howard Kalnitz

One December evening (07) a group of friends/cavers who got together for a "Christmas Party." This was a very small gathering of approximately 20 people. One of the people there that evening was Wayne. He looked a little thinner than I seen him at KOR. But he was still the same old Wayne.

As the night went on we all drank, laughed, and told stories of days gone by. At one point during the evening Wayne and I stood in the basement talking about music. Wayne told me how his son down loaded the band Green Day into his Ipod. This helped him pass the time during his treatments. I told Wayne about some new and upcoming bands that he may want to check prior to his upcoming surgery. Wayne was very concerned about this surgery,

and the slim chance of survival. I remember telling Wayne that things were going to be fine, and could not wait till KOR for the next "lightening bug hunting safari." Wayne laughed at me, and we went up stairs to rejoin the party.

Toward the end of the night the party started to slow down. When Wayne was ready to leave, he made a point to visit with each and everyone of us. He said a few kind words, gave us a hug and said goodbye. We have all said, and heard the word "goodbye." But when Wayne said goodbye this time it was different. In my opinion he wasn't saying goodbye, I'll see you later, but goodbye friend....



I was lucky enough to see Wayne two more times. Once the day he was released from the hospital, and the other at Jerry and Lisa's wedding.

Dana Sutherland

I was relatively new to the grotto and working my way through some of the caves that had been described in KOR guides. With the help of Kent Fasick and Wayne Barton I found my way to Miller's Cave; it had been closed for a long time to all but a few people who knew the owner. The re-opening of the cave was exciting to the grotto and I introduced many members to it. Wayne knew the cave well and he and I shared our findings over the course of a year until he first became sick. So my thoughts about Wayne are this. He didn't know me at first. But he was open-minded and friendly with me and our relationship turned into a trusting one. Wayne and I were in the cave at the same time just once but we weren't together. He was leading one KOR trip and I was leading another. We never did explore the cave together as we had planned. But I still have his e-mailed notes and I'll use them to find some parts of the cave that I still haven't seen. And when I do, I'll remember Wayne.

Bob Ausdenmoore

Great Saltpetre Preserve Refreshers and Reminders

By Werner Jud

The GSP committee wants to make sure that grotto members can always stay informed on the discussions, business, and decisions that manage the preserve.

The secretary keeps minutes at each meeting. Once they are completed and proofed, the standard distribution list includes GSP committee people and the GSP caretaker, however they are available to view by any grotto members---but you have to ask for them. Meeting minutes are frequently sent to other grotto board and committee members. If you've attended the meeting, you would also receive a copy. For any grotto member who is unable to attend a meeting but would still like to know what's going on, they need only contact a GSP rep and a copy will be provided. And if you'd like to get more involved in the future, requesting to be on the distribution list is one way to ramp into it. You'll be informed and better prepared when you come to a meeting.

Over a year ago (Sept 07), I wrote an article for the Executive Committee highlighting some of past efforts at GSP. It bears some repeating with a bit of editing to bring it up-to-date.

Great Saltpetre Preserve is financially independent from the grotto and must sustain itself through donations and camping revenues. We invest all of those dollars back in to GSP. Some of those costs have not been minor but they have been within our operating funds. The kitchen has received much attention because it is heavily relied on. With so many different people using the kitchen, heavy use means diligent care and maintenance. This means kitchen users need to be fully aware of the routines of "opening up and closing down" the kitchen. This is especially important during the winter months.

For example, the water supply for the kitchen sink is protected from freezing by use of heat tape on the pipes and heat lamps, all under the sink. Electric power for these devices is supplied by an outlet under the sink. This outlet has a small light on it to show it is on. Do not turn off the breaker at the

main panel that feeds this outlet, otherwise we lose freeze protection. When closing down the kitchen make sure the water shut off valves are closed and the faucet handles are open. Our propane stove uses pilot lights for the top burners. When turning on the gas supply, these pilots must be lit. There are three of them. If you are unfamiliar with the procedure, please let someone else do it. GSP will be putting up small instruction signs to remind designated and authorized users of the kitchen how to deal with these chores. More discussions and plans are in the works to keep the kitchen fully functional. Future upgrades include the manner in which waste water is handled and eliminating the wooden floor platforms in the process, to improve hygiene.

Other projects are in the works. Bob Dobbs has recently updated the list. Frequently a new one is suggested but each one gets filtered for compliance with the conservation principals we stand for and long term practical benefits as stated in the GSP management plan.

A reminder for those who drop money in the pipe for camping or donations: put your first and last name on the payment envelope if you want your contribution logged other than "unidentified"; and write your grotto affiliation. If you want a receipt, provide an address. Print legibly. There are many donations with no identification written on them at all, and if there is but I can't read it.....that's the same as no identification. If you pay by check, make it out to GSP. And please remember to sign the register book.

When visiting the preserve, treat it with respect. Clean up your messes and avoid leaving debris under the shelter. If you and your guests are there on a regular weekend, and there are other people in the camping area, be mindful of them. Quiet hours start around 11:00 PM. That doesn't mean go to bed....that just means music volume should be reduced and maniacal screaming and cacophonous laughter at jokes funny only to you, should be diminished. Sound travels very well in that valley in front of the shelter.

So, I don't mean to be waving the GSP committee finger in everyone's face. There have just been a variety of different incidences over the last several months that suggested all these things needed mentioning again. Remember, Great Saltpeter Preserve provides a wonderful benefit for the grotto(s). New members, guests and visitors are inevitable and if we want to maintain what we have, we need to educate them all about our vision and management policies. Refer them to our website www.caves.org/conservancy/gsp/ for information, requirements, and to read the management plan. Thank you for your support.

GREAT SALTPETRE PRESERVE VISITOR RULES

The following are rules for visitation of the preserve. Please read them carefully before planning a visit.

Visitation Eligibility:

The Preserve is governed by a management plan. All visitors are expected to adhere to the management plan. All visitors must either belong to the Greater Cincinnati Grotto, Dayton Underground Grotto, or the Blue Grass Grotto, or have a sponsor from a grotto.

Others may visit or camp at the Preserve provided they are sponsored by a member of GCG, DUG, or BGG. The sponsor must be onsite during the visit.

The front gate to the Preserve is gated and locked with a combination lock. The gate must be locked at all times. Only members of GCG, DUG or BGG are given the combination to the lock.

The Great Saltpetre Cave is gated and locked with a key lock. The cave must remain locked even while visiting the cave. Members of GCG, DUG and BGG may request to borrow a key from their GSP Committee Representative or a GCG Executive Committee Member. Please review the cave rules before visiting the cave.

The onsite caretaker is not responsible for giving out the front gate combination or a key to the cave.

Liability Waiver:

All adults and minor children of GCG, DUG, and BGG members that camp at the Preserve are required to sign a liability waiver. These people only need to sign the

waiver once and it will remain in effect until further notice. Parents must sign for minor children.

All youth group members under the age of 18 are required to have a signed liability waiver for each visit to the preserve whether they camp or not. No exceptions. Parents must sign for minor children. These waivers are available on line or at the kiosk on site and are to be collected and retained by the sponsoring grotto member.

Fees and Regulations:

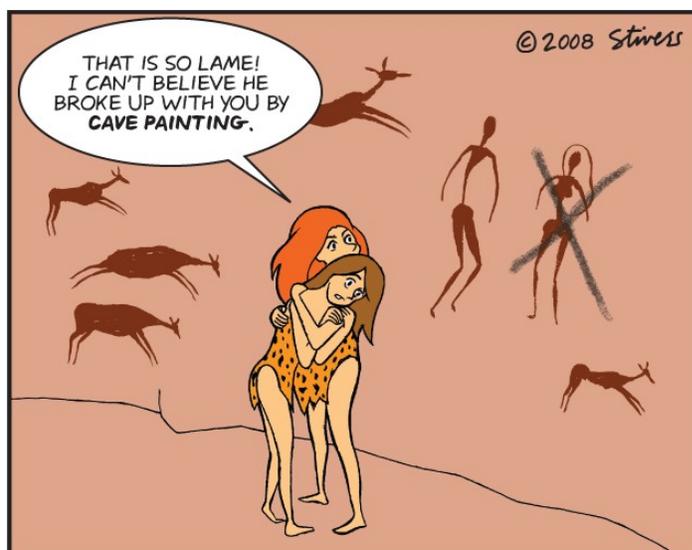
Camping fees are \$5 per person per night for youth groups. Camping fees are \$4 per person per night for everyone else. There is a fee collection box at the Preserve at the kiosk. Electric sites are \$4 per night in addition to the per person camping fee. DUG, GCG, and BGG members may purchase an annual camping pass. The cost of an annual pass is \$30 for an individual pass and \$50 for a family pass. Stays for more than three nights must be approved by the GSP Committee.

Camping and sleeping cabins are on a first-come first-serve basis. The first person occupying a cabin has sole discretion of allowing additional occupants. No pets are allowed in the sleeping cabins. Sleeping Cabins are not for use by Youth Organizations. Youth Groups must stay in the area reserved for them at the far end of the main camping field.

Visitors are asked to sign in to the registration book at the kiosk upon arrival at the preserve.

No firearms, horses, ATV's, fireworks, or collecting are allowed at the preserve.

GSP waivers can be found at www.dugcaves.com/gsp.htm.





INFORMATION REGARDING BUCKNER CAVE!!

DUGsters,

Here's some information you should be aware of if you plan to visit Buckner Cave in Indiana (from the Richard Blenz Nature Conservancy website):

November 2008 VITALLY-IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Not all sections of Buckner Cave are under RBNC property. Please observe ALL No Trespassing signs encountered while visiting the cave. You do NOT have permission to be in areas beyond any posted signs, which belong to other private landowners.

The RBNC CAN NOT grant permission for accessing parts of the cave not under conservancy management, including and especially the following areas: Keens Grotto, The Airforce Room, and everything between the Monument Passage and the Volcano Passage.



DUG AWARD RECIPIENTS

DUG HONORARY MEMBER AWARD

(Confers a lifetime membership):

Louis Simpson	1992
Dan Flynn	1994
Colin Gatland	1994
Andy Niekamp	2002
Mike Hood	2007
Sandy Rice	2008

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD

(Confers a three-year membership):

Andy Niekamp	1999-2002
Clay Abernathy	1999-2002
Kenny Hedges	2000-2003
Kim Hedges	2000-2003
Alan Fearday	2000-2003
Traci Fearday	2000-2003
Sandy Rice	2000-2003
Sheila Gallogly	2001-2004

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD (Continued):

John Cassidy	2002-2005
Tama Cassidy	2002-2005
Lacie Braley	2004-2007
Keith Turner	2004-2007
Bob Yuellig	2005-2008
Pat Yuellig	2005-2008
Debbie Bowers	2005-2008
Janine Brown	2005-2008
John Cassidy	2005-2008
Tama Cassidy	2005-2008
Roger Brucker	2006-2009
Lynn Brucker	2006-2009
Sandy Rice	2007-2010
Ken Bonenberger	2008-2011
Debbie Bowers	2008-2011
Alan Leach	2008-2011

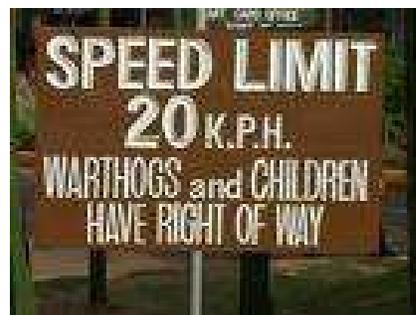
JOE WINDOWS CAVE FELLOWSHIP AWARD:

Bill Simpson	2006
Andy Niekamp	2007
Scott Sweet	2008

RICHARD STONE AWARD

(Awarded for "spelunker" type behavior and receiving this award is undesirable):

Dan Flynn	1992
Scott Sweet	1993
Lester Purvis	1994
Kim Good (Hedges)	1995
Mike Hood	1996
Clay Abernathy	1997
Vic Ayers	1998
Joe Windows	1999
Steve Lugannani	2000
Pat Yuellig	2001
Tama Cassidy	2002
Mike Wuerth	2003
Kenny & Kim Hedges	2004
Traci Fearday	2005
Mike Wuerth	2006
Dana Sutherland	2007
Bob Ausdenmoore	2008



...I don't know about you, but I was getting worried!

High School Field Trip to Ohio Caverns

By Mike Hood

Some of you may know that I teach Air Force Junior ROTC at Walter E. Stebbins High School. One of the things I try to do to make my classes more interesting is to take my students on field trips. However, I try to make my field trips more “offbeat” than the typical trip to a museum, zoo, and such.

On December 3, I took 23 of my junior and senior cadets to Ohio Caverns in West Liberty. This was the first time many of them had ever been in a cave before. They were amazed that caves even existed this close to Dayton (I won’t tell them about Joe Windows Kettering Cave).

We were the only group there that day and we had the caves to ourselves, along with our wonderful guides. The kids even got to see a Big Brown bat flying in the cave and some even got a bit freaked out when it landed on my arm, just for a moment, before flying off. After the tour, the kids descended on the gift shop and, as teenagers do, bought lots of candy, pop, and souvenirs.

My cadets know that I cave and have seen some of my photos, videos, and heard my stories. Now, after this trip, many want me to take them on a wild cave trip. So far, I have resisted this request!

If you’ve never been to Ohio Caverns, I highly recommend you see this Ohio treasure. DUG’s very own Tim Grissom is the general manager and his staff is highly professional and courteous. Visit their website at <http://www.ohiocaverns.com>. You won’t be disappointed!



Ohio Caverns’ Palace of the Gods



(Continued from Page 7)

And So without further Ado, The second runner up Half witt, Keith Turner

Our first runner up, Naw that bat wont bite!
Dana Sutherland

And our new Richard Stone winner, Shiska Bob,
Bob Ausdenmoore!

The 28th Annual
Carter Caves State Resort Park
Crawlathon
<http://www.crawlathon.com>

(Continued from Page 5)

Dear Tired:

You can't. Divorce her. She will only interfere with your weekend trips [and will] have to go to the bathroom all the time. She will make you stay home one weekend and clean the house (shudder), get away quickly.

Dear Borehole:

I really want to order some caving supplies from Bob and Bob's; the problem is, I have to pay the mortgage this month and will be unable to (do) so if I place my order. Any advice?

[Signed,] In a quandary.

Dear quandary:

You neglect to mention if you have any kids. If you do, place your order with Bob and Bob's, and then peddle your kids to the neighbors for yard work. In a short time they should be able to earn enough money to pay the bill that you have put off.

Dear Borehole:

Every time my husband and I get into bed, he proceeds to crawl around under the covers and act like he's in a cave. It wouldn't be so bad except for when he lights up his carbide lamp and stinks the room up. Can you help me?

[Signed,] Blister legs

Dear Blister legs:

Dump this bozo. Any guy who thinks that a bed lead will go needs to have his head examined. If he were really a great caver, he'd do some vertical work and push the floor lead under the bed.

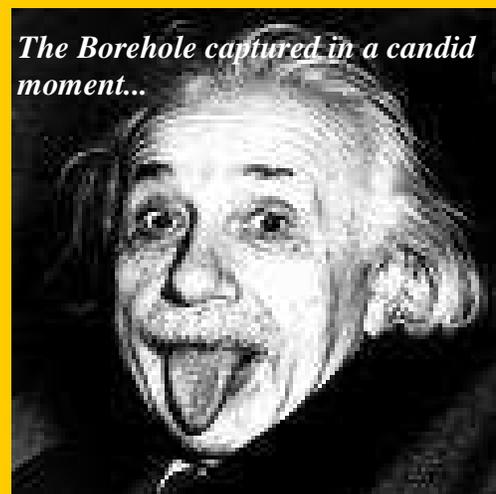
Since then, The Borehole has appeared in several more Q/A sessions in the Carbide Courier. He has made direct fun of some people, and indirect fun of others through more newsletter articles, emails, and award presentations. He has waxed poetic about nothing at all, pissed some people off, endeared others, and has been a general source of entertainment/grief/

information since the very start of this great Grotto.

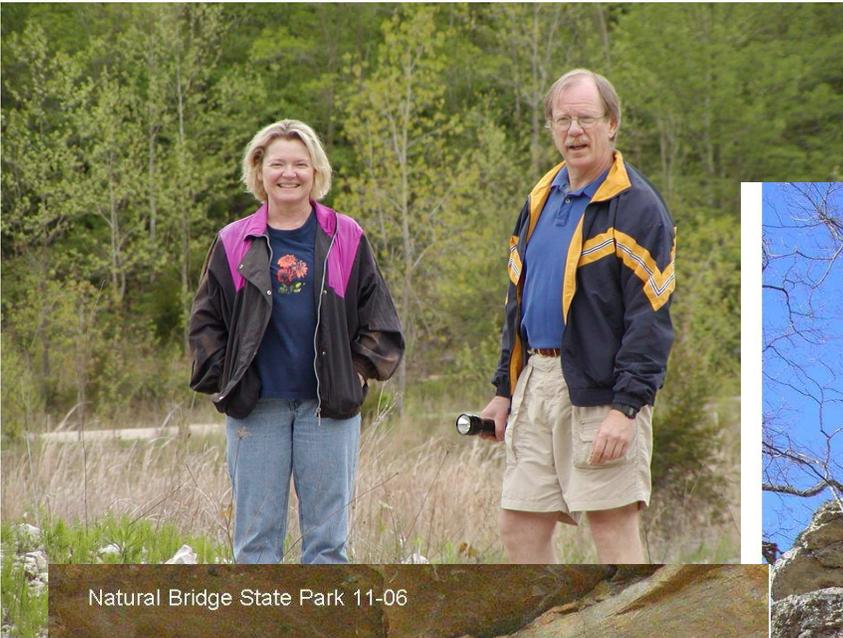
The Borehole has been given life by a number of different voices. This Borehole knows of at least six different voices that have filled my role throughout the years! Sometimes it has been obvious who spoke for the Borehole. Other times, it was harder to tell. The general consensus of Those-Of-Us-Who-Are-And-Have-Been-The-Borehole is that The Borehole shouldn't be any one person. The Borehole should be the voice of one, another, many, or sometimes the majority of the Grotto.

Suffice it to say that The Borehole has been passed from one voice to the next since 1992. When one Borehole finds him or herself unable to take the needed time to fill the role, another has been asked to take his place. This is usually accomplished deep in a cave, in a suitably decorated area, with deep solemnity. It is a moment to cherish, because if YOU are ever selected, you will join a secret order that holds the collective conscience of the grotto. It can be an arduous task, but a deeply rewarding one as well.

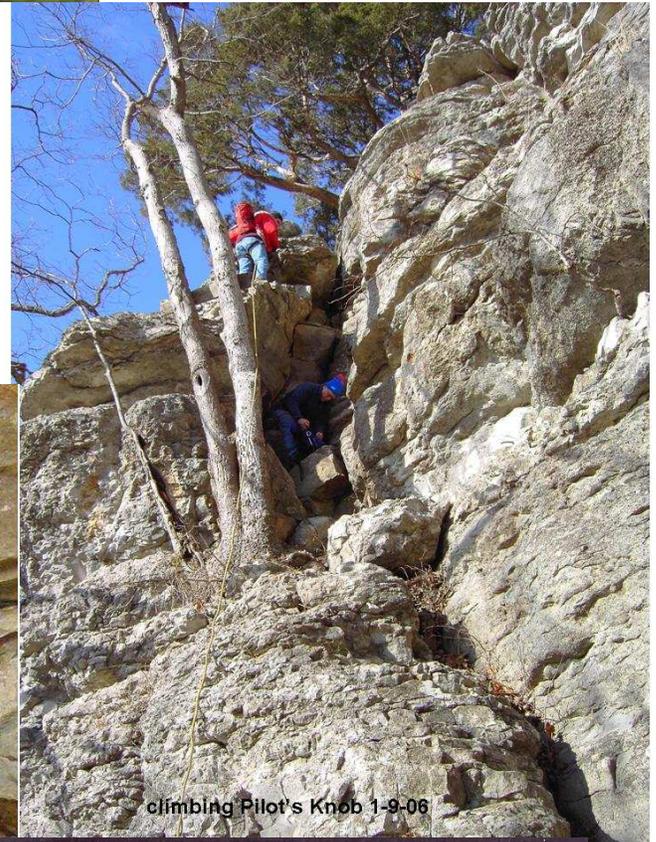
And so we come to the present day of The Borehole. Whether you all have enjoyed or hated what I have done lately, understand that The Borehole simply IS, and will live on in mostly-anonymity for as long as DUG is in existence.



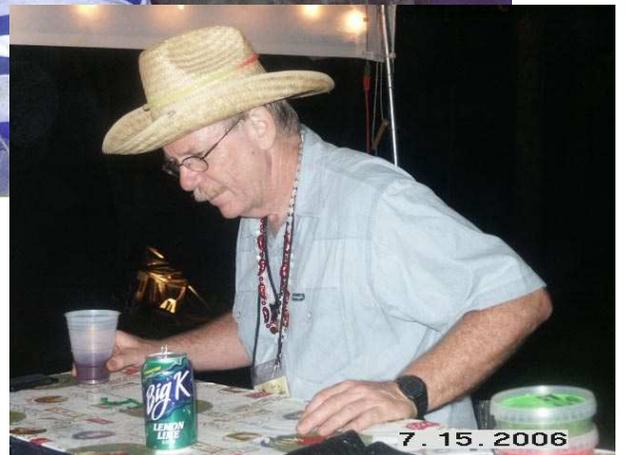
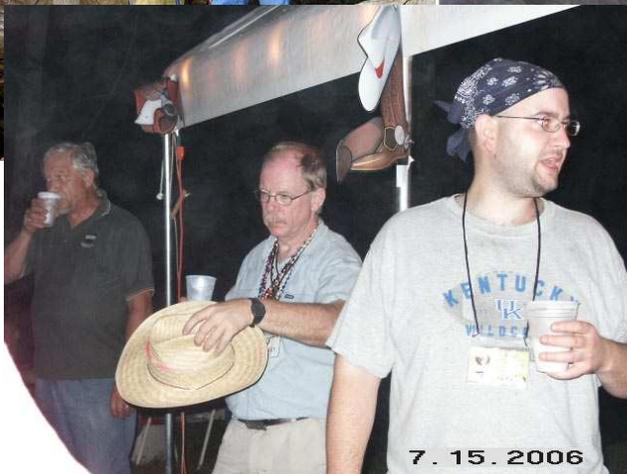
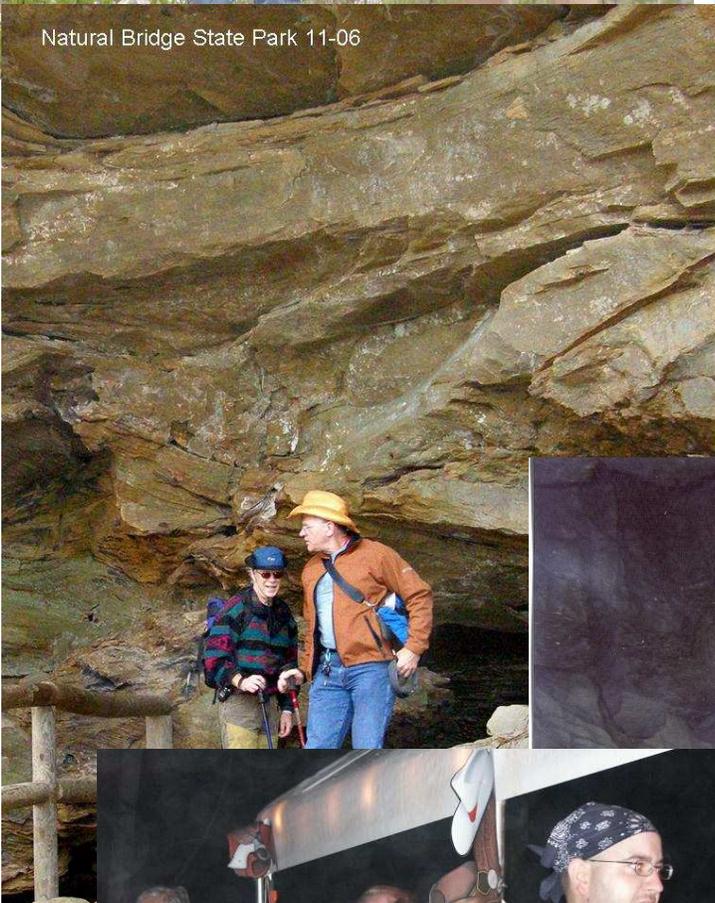
More Wayne Barton Pictures.
Thank you to the photographers who sent these to Amy Hill.

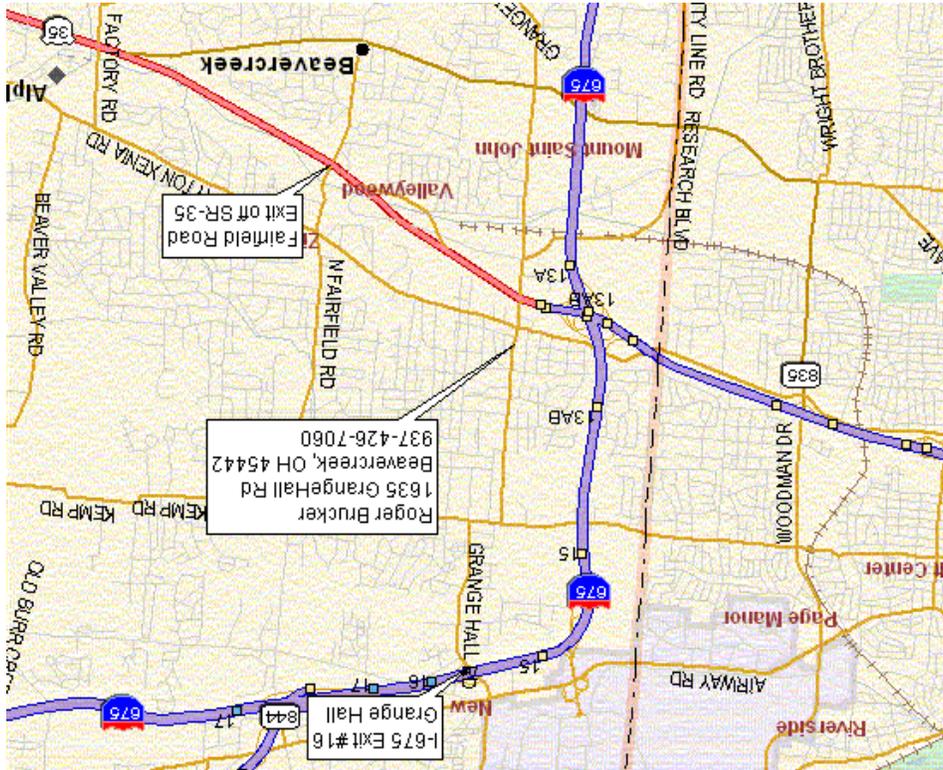


Natural Bridge State Park 11-06



climbing Pilot's Knob 1-9-06





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FIRST CLASS

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