

The Speleograph

Lake Ozarks
Grotto

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Bridal Cave, Camdenton Mo

The Speleograph, a bi-yearly publication, is created by the Lake Ozarks Grotto. All articles and other information is donated by cavers and individuals who have an interest in caving.

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The Speleograph

Goodwin Workday 10/16/20

Gary & I arrived at the sinkhole just before 9 am. Klaus was there already working. There was a mini-excavator, a track hoe and two dump trucks. All had been working on the previous day.

Thirteen loads of dirt had been taken out of the sinkhole and taken to a farmer's field in the neighborhood.

It had been a while since we had been to the farmer's field and picked trash from the dirt piles, so

Gary got instructions from Klaus on how to get there. Well, he said go about two miles – there will be

an open gate – if you come to a T, you went too far. Well, those instructions did not work for us.....

We turned around, thinking we may have passed the open gate. We saw a dump truck coming

toward us. We waited until he passed and turned around and followed him down the road to an

open gate. There we go.....

The dirt piles from the day before, did not have much trash visible. The piles they were bringing

from today, were a different story. So much trash – metal, glass, shop rags, plastic bottles, a small

motor, a fender, and some things that we didn't know what they were! We started filling trash bags.

The dump trucks just kept coming. When they dumped on the lower end of the field, in one single pile, we knew that load probably didn't have very much trash in it. But when they spread their load (as best they could), we knew that there would be a lot of trash. Lucky us!

Some time after noon, we stopped for lunch – Klaus had told us that we needed to bring our own lunch! We thought we would have deserved a free lunch at best.....but that wasn't going to happen.

We got out our sandwiches – Gary had peanut butter & jelly, I had peanut butter (no jelly on that bread for me!). Gary had a Ding Dong, I had none.

Back to work, filling more trash bags. We began to hope the dump trucks would stop but they just kept coming. Too many times, they dumped dirt for us! We started to cheer when they dumped the load away from us. Around 2 pm, Klaus called my cell phone which would not let me answer the call. It just kept ringing..... I called Klaus back. He asked how we were doing and I told him we were "dead." I had told one of the dump truck drivers earlier that Klaus was killing us! Klaus said not to overdo it – but I think we already did. Close to 3 pm, we called it quits, and headed for the sinkhole with all our filled trash bags and metal in the back of our truck.



At the sinkhole, work was winding down. Klaus had been trying to pick out trash as they were loading it on the trucks. He was having trouble keeping up and even enlisted Jean Knoll to come and help him. Klaus and Gary went down to the cave entrance so Gary could get some pictures of what had been done. The guy with the mini excavator was loading it when we were leaving. We left around 4 pm.

When we got home, there was a message on our answering machine from Klaus that the next load

coming had a lot of trash in it!

O.K., I am not even going to comment on that one! – Alberta Zumwalt

Interstate Camping 2001

by Ron Lather

It was Columbus Day Weekend (October 5th – 8th) so on Wednesday after work Lorely and I were on our way to TAG to set up Potters Mud booth on vendors row for the weekend. TAG at that time was averaging around 1100 cavers a year and 25 – 30 vendors. We usually drove about 4 hours to Paducah, KY and a hotel room for the night. We were on I-70 and there was a steady flow of traffic in all lanes as we approached Wentzville. I saw the small car in front of us kind of raise up, do a twist and bump all while doing 55 MPH. I immediately saw before me a “Road Gator” or a semi-truck tire retread that was all balled up and starting to uncoil like a Viper snake. Then this loud explosion and bang sound as it hit the lower front of our 1999 Dodge Dakota pick-up. If it had not uncoiled, we would have been able to clear most of the retread. The truck sounded wounded so I was able to pull over to the side of the road to the clicking and hissing of the poor truck so I shut her off. Popped the hood and water was pouring out the lower AC/Water radiators, bumper ruined, shroud into fan and water pump, we were going nowhere. We had the entire back of the pick up plus the cab of the truck filled with all our camping and vending set-up for the next 4 days of TAG. So what do we do now? No body stops on the Interstate to see if you need help and the sun was starting to set. So we dig out a couple lights and shirts and we head down the Interstate shoulder in the direction we were headed with our lights pointing backward and down towards the traffic so they could see us. Nobody stops until we get to the top of the exit ramp and he takes us to the truck stop across the Interstate a distance about 1/4 mile. We line-up a tow truck from Wentzville to get us and the truck and found out we had walked about 3 1/2 miles to get here, however, there was a truck stop less than a mile back the other way.

The tow truck driver comes and says he does not have the right stuff to tow a 4-wheel drive pick-up so calls a friend and he says about 1/2 hour to get there. He picks us and the truck up from the Interstate and tells us there is a big hotel right next to their Texaco station in Wentzville. It was a big hotel but NO VACANCY at the hotel so they call some other hotels but no room, so now what. Buy this time it is about 1 AM. The tow truck driver says since you all are campers you can camp in our side yard of the garage which is rough mowed, level and directly under a security street-light that cannot be turned off. So we set-up our tent next to the

hotel parking lot, the Texaco station with a large pile of old tires, behind some old junky cars,

trains very regular and loud about 1/4 mile away and the Interstate about 150 yards away. So the

street-light above our tent, roar of the Interstate and the trains every 15 minutes or sooner is not

ideal for trying to sleep. A night we will never forget. The tow truck driver said he would alert

the local police that we were camping in their lot so they would not think we were vagrants.

To the delight of the entire garage crew the next morning, Lorely shared her applesauce cup cakes before they towed us to the local Dodge dealer to get the truck repaired. We got a rental car and hotel room for the night then on Friday afternoon they had the truck fixed so we headed home as it was not worth it this late in the weekend to drive another 8 hours just to vend for a day. There will be another TAG in 2002. I think we will go another route.



The Speleograph

Cave trivia

1. The landscape around a cave that has flat bare patches, with narrow fissures, dolines, disappearing streams and springs. What is this landscape called?

- a. Dales
- b. Karst
- c. Burren
- d. Gottesackerplateau

2. What percentage of land in the United States is the most prone to having caves?

- a. 10%
- b. 20%
- c. 30%
- d. 40%

3. Caves that are formed in limestone are formed by water gradually dissolving and eroding solid rock. Which gas also plays a role in a cave's formations?

- a. O₂
- b. CO₂
- c. SO₂
- d. Ar

4. When going caving what important chemical compound was used?

- a. H₂O
- b. O₂
- c. CH₃CH₂OH
- d. CaC₂

*Bonus point – What are the names of the chemical compound listed?

5. What is the scientific term for bats that roost and breed in a cave but come out at night to eat?

- a. Troglodytes
- b. Troglophiles
- c. Trogloxenes
- d. Troglobites

6. There are a few different ways that a cave can be formed. How many main forms are there?

- a. 4
- b. 3
- c. 6
- d. 5

*Bonus point if you can name all five ways



The Speleograph

7. A passage in a cave narrows down to the point of having to walk sideways between smooth canyon walls and a stream at the bottom of the passage. This is a fine example of what kind of passage?

- a. Vadose
- b. Littoral
- c. Phreatic
- d. Hanging

8. A stream has entered a pool and the ceiling has come down to meet it. To go any farther in the cave diving gear would be needed. What is this area called?

- a. Spring
- b. Sewer
- c. Sump
- d. Vug

9. When doing a water trace, what should be used that is discreet and won't harm the cave system, environment, or cause issue with locals?

- a. Fluorescein
- b. Lycopodium
- c. Leucophor
- d. Sodium Chloride

*Bonus Point – What country did the longest dye trace occur?

10. According to the Missouri Geological Survey, to date how many sinkholes have been verified in the state of Missouri?

- a. 12,248
- b. 15,981
- c. 17,029
- d. 19,764

They say that many more sinkholes exist, but they have not been reported to or documented by program geologists.

11. What is the maximum depth a cave can reach underground?

- a. 5000 ft
- b. 7500 ft
- c. 9800 ft
- d. 11,115 ft



The Speleograph

12. Cave of the Crystals in Mexico was found in 2000. What makes this cave so dangerous to go inside?

- a. Poisonous gas
- b. Scorpions
- c. High Temperatures
- d. Super sharp crystals



13. El Meson de la Cava is a cave in the Dominican Republic. What inside this cave makes it so unusual?

- a. A restaurant
- b. Ice bergs
- c. A pearl farm
- d. Multi-colored stalactites

14. This famous cave can only be entered by boat. It was used as the private pool for emperor Tiberius. What is the name of the cave located on the Isle of Capri?

- a. The Pompeii Pool
- b. The Grecian Urn
- c. The Blue Grotto
- d. The Cave of Ecstasy

15. The caves in Paradise Glacier on Mt. Ranier in Washington were famous for most of the 20th century. What happened to them?

- a. They melted
- b. They joined to become one large cave
- c. They collapsed killing 3 people
- d. Nothing, they are still there today

16. The Kungur Ice Cave in Russia is one of the most unique caves in the world. What unusual thing are the snowflake formations known for?

- a. Change color
- b. Floating in the water
- c. Spinning
- d. Change in size

17. Actun Tunichil Muknal is the name of a cave in Belize. What is the unusual about the formation called the Crystal Maiden?

- a. It formed over a real skeleton
- b. It is made of amethyst crystal
- c. It is completely translucent
- d. It is the largest stalagmite in the world



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The Speleograph

18. Krubera Cave located in Georgia (the country, not the state) is the deepest cave on Earth. What is its depth?

- a. 6820 ft
- b. 7208 ft
- c. 8742 ft
- d. 9035 ft

19. There is a cave featuring the world's only Stalacpipe Organ. What cave is the Stalacpipe Organ found in?

- a. Jewel Cave
- b. Luray Caverns
- c. Warren's Cave
- d. Moaning Caverns

20. What cave is considered the most beautiful cave in the world?

- a. Fingal's Cave
- b. Skocjan Caves
- c. The Cave of the Crystals
- d. Eisriesenwelt Cave

Submitted by Christen Easter



The Speleograph

Protecting Twin Cave
Disney, Oklahoma

Nov & Dec, 1994 - Feb & Mar, 1995
by Ron Lather – Kansas City Area Grotto (KCAG)
Revision of stories I wrote in 94-95 for KCAG's monthly newsletter



Barry Carpenter of the Oklahoma Nature Conservancy (ONC) and Bill Howard of Tulsa Regional Oklahoma Grotto (TROG) were co-leaders on this project. ONC now owned the property and our teams first goal was to find a second entrance which had been dug to build a restaurant in the huge room of Twin Cave. The restaurant had failed and the hillside later collapsed, blocking that entrance to the cave. Next we needed to remove the huge wooden platform and lighting from the restaurant, then place an airlock culvert in that entrance for emergency access only. Our second goal was to create two bat grid gates on the other side of the hill in the natural entrance for the Gray bat population who had resided there before human disturbance. About 1000 Gray bats had used the cave as a maternity colony.

Bob Parks, Paul Green and I from KCAG went on the November trip along with about 15 others from TROG, ONC and Lorely McGee from LOG. We arrived late Friday night to hear they had been digging with a backhoe most of the day trying to find the restaurant entrance. Saturday after breakfast we dug for 1/2 hour before we found the entrance. We then put a 36 inch diameter culvert 20 feet long in the hole and rebuilt the hillside. The next project was to tear apart the platform, lights and wiring and get it out of the cave. We managed to accomplish this by hooking up piles of wood, pulling them up the culvert and out of the cave. On Sunday Bill and others from TROG finished installing the airlocks on the culvert.

The December trip with 15-18 people started with Bill and Barry getting the concrete supplies and equipment to the top of the hill on Friday. On Saturday we rigged a pulley system in the trees down a hill about 75 feet to the natural entrance and with the help of geology students from Oologah, OK and TROG members, we mixed concrete at the top of the hill then put it in buckets and sent them down the pulley system to the bucket brigade who got them into the cave to pour the upper gate footer (approximately 3000 pounds of concrete). On Sunday a few of us got the lower area ready for its concrete footer on a later trip.

In February we had 15-18 people from TROG, ONC and Lorely McGee. Bill and I laid and filled concrete blocks on the upper footer poured in December and got it ready for the bat grid while others poured the lower footer, using the pulley system and bucket brigade again.

Still others staged the concrete block (down a 50 foot slope) in the cave for the lower gate. March found us really short handed with only 8 people but we got the lower block wall built and ready for the bat grid. We also plastered the upper gate wall we built last month and got some of the excess materials and supplies back up the hill.

Two weeks later on the final trip they got both bat grids welded in place, all the remaining supplies up the hill and took down the pulley system. Within a month gray bats were sited in the cave so our work was a success.



As a thank you for the volunteer work, the Oklahoma Nature Conservancy provided excellent food and drinks on all of the trips.

The Speleograph

Cave Trivia Answers

1. The landscape around a cave that has flat bare patches, with narrow fissures, dolines, disappearing streams and springs. What is this landscape called?

- a. Dales (Yorkshire)
- b. Karst***
- c. Burren (County Claire, Ireland)
- d. Gottesackerplateau (German)

2. What percentage of land in the United States is the most prone to having caves?

- a. 10%
- b. 20%*** According to the NCA, about 20% of the US qualifies as karst
- c. 30%
- d. 40%

3. Caves that are formed in limestone are formed by water gradually dissolving and eroding solid rock. Which gas also plays a role in a cave's formations?

- a. O₂
- b. CO₂***
- c. SO₂
- d. Ar

4. When going caving what important chemical compound was used?

- a. H₂O (Water)
- b. O₂ (Oxygen)
- c. CH₃CH₂OH (Alcohol)
- d. CaC₂*** (Calcium Carbide)

***Bonus point – What are the names of the chemical compound listed?**

5. What is the scientific term for bats that roost and breed in a cave but come out at night to eat?

- a. Troglodytes (Originally a cave dweller but term no longer used. Non-specific)
- b. Troglophiles (Can venture out of the cave but can live and feed entirely inside)
- c. Trogloxenes*** (are just visitors, never complete their lifecycle in the cave)
- d. Troglobites (live permanently in a cave)

6. There are a few different ways that a cave can be formed. How many main forms are there?

- a. 4
- b. 3
- c. 6
- d. 5***

***Bonus point if you can name all five ways – Solutional, Corrosional, Faults, Glaciers, and Sea caves**

The Speleograph

7. A passage in a cave narrows down to the point of having to walk sideways between smooth canyon walls and a stream at the bottom of the passage. This is a fine example of what kind of passage?

- a. **Vadose*** (the area above the water table is called a vadose zone, this is called a vadose
- b. Littoral passage. It is formed by a downwards stream that carries pebbles and sand and
- c. Phreatic erodes by abrasion and solution only at the bottom which makes a tall narrow
- d. Hanging passage)

8. A stream has entered a pool and the ceiling has come down to meet it. To go any farther in the cave diving gear would be needed. What is this area called?

- a. Spring (water from a spring run out and away)
- b. Sewer
- c. **Sump** (water in a sump could flow in, out, or be stagnant)
- d. Vug

9. When doing a water trace, what should be used that is discreet and won't harm the cave system, environment, or cause issue with locals?

- a. Fluorescein (use to be widely used but the color can be upsetting to locals)
- b. **Lycopodium*** (most benign but most bothersome. Must be filtered by a net and identified under a microscope)
- c. Leucophor (uv fluorescence but must use a very large amount could be harmful to aquatic life before it is diluted)
- d. Sodium Chloride

*Bonus Point – What country did the longest dye trace occur?

The Manavgat Spring in Beysehir, Turkey. Distance was 130kg and it reappeared 366 days later.



10. According to the Missouri Geological Survey, to date how many sinkholes have been verified in the state of Missouri?

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11. What is the maximum depth a cave can reach underground?

- a. 5000 ft
- b. 7500 ft
- c. **9800 ft*** Beyond this the pressure is too much on the rocks and the cave would collapse
- d. 11,115 ft

The Speleograph

12. Cave of the Crystals in Mexico was found in 2000. What makes this cave so dangerous to go inside?

- a. Poisonous gas
- b. Scorpions
- c. High Temperatures* (cave maintains 136 degrees and even the most experienced cavers with the proper equipment can only stay in for 15 mins at a time)
- d. Super sharp crystals

13. El Meson de la Cava is a cave in the Dominican Republic. What inside this cave makes it so unusual?

- a. A restaurant* (this is really not all that unusual...)
- b. Icebergs
- c. A pearl farm
- d. Multi-colored stalactites

14. This famous cave can only be entered by boat. It was used as the private pool for emperor Tiberius. What is the name of the cave located on the Isle of Capri?

- a. The Pompeii Pool
- b. The Grecian Urn
- c. The Blue Grotto* (Blue from the reflections of the sun it was originally avoided by locals who thought it was haunted by evil spirits. It is a single room sea cave)
- d. The Cave of Ecstasy



15. The caves in Paradise Glacier on Mt. Rainier in Washington were famous for most of the 20th century. What happened to them?

- a. They melted*
- b. They joined to become one large cave
- c. They collapsed killing 3 people
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16. The Kungur Ice Cave in Russia is one of the most unique caves in the world. What unusual thing are the snowflake formations known for?

- a. Change color
- b. Floating in the water
- c. Spinning
- d. Change in size* (snowflakes change in size with the season. Some can be as large as grapefruits. Spelunkers become very dizzy in the cave due to the very high O₂ levels)



The Speleograph

17. Actun Tunichil Muknal is the name of a cave in Belize. What is the unusual about the formation called the Crystal Maiden?

- a. It formed over a real skeleton* (Scientist found several other artifacts in the cave and believe that the cave was used for religious rituals)
- b. It is made of amethyst crystal
- c. It is completely translucent
- d. It is the largest stalagmite in the world

18. Krubera Cave located in Georgia (the country, not the state) is the deepest cave on Earth. What is its depth?

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19. There is a cave featuring the world's only Stalacpipe Organ. What cave is the Stalacpipe Organ found in?

- a. Jewel Cave
- b. Luray Caverns*
- c. Warren's Cave
- d. Moaning Caverns

The organ is played by striking rubber tipped mallets on different formations to create the different pitches.

20. What cave is considered the most beautiful cave in the world?

- a. Fingal's Cave
- b. Skocjan Caves
- c. The Cave of the Crystals
- d. Eisriesenwelt Cave*

Located not far from Salzburg in Austria is one of the most famous caves in the world visited by more than 200,000 tourists every year. Eisriesenwelt has the distinction of being the largest ice cave in the world, extending up to 42 kilometers or 26 miles into the earth.



The Speleograph

In Memory of H. Dwight Weaver

Dwight was born May 29th, 1938 in Centralia, Illinois. He discovered his love for caves when the family moved to Hannibal, MO. He was nine when he and his father got permission to explore passages not on the Mark Twain Cave commercial tour, using flashlights and a Coleman lantern. More exposure to wild caves came when his family moved to Ashland, Missouri when he was eleven. Dwight and his friends made their own lights with 6-volt batteries and sealed beams.

At the age of thirteen, Dwight mapped 600 ft. of Hunters Cave, Boone County. He went back in 1959 and mapped it for real. One of the first big caves that he explored was Devil's Icebox. Since he didn't have a boat, Dwight got a bunch of empty paint cans from a house painter. He burned them out and soldered the lids back on. He made a wooden frame with partitions and secured the cans under it. The homemade raft weighed 100 pounds with door handles on each end to carry it. Dwight and his Dad went about 1 1/2 miles back into the cave. On the way out, they started losing cans which showed up later on other trips into the cave. Later, Dwight used 6 inner tubes and put a plywood sheet on top and secured them with rope.



In 1955, Dwight joined the National Speleological Society (NSS 3753FE). The NSS sent him a list of members. From that list, he became acquainted with Dr. Oscar Hawksley of Warrensburg State Teachers College and Jerry Vineyard, a graduate geology student, who were in the process of forming the Missouri Speleological Survey (MSS), along with Frank Dahlgren from St. Louis. While at Hannibal in 1962, Dwight met and talked with Dr. J Harlen Bretz who wrote *Caves of Missouri*. That's when he realized that he had seen him years earlier at Cameron Cave when Dr. Bretz was doing his research.

Dwight joined the Missouri Speleological Survey (MSS) when it was founded in 1956. He served as MSS Vice-President from 1978-1979 and President from 1979-1985. He was also past Editor of *Missouri Speleology* and *MSS Liaison* and the MSS Historian. In 1980, he received the Lester B. Dill Award for significant contributions to Missouri speleology. In 1985, the MSS was awarded the President's Volunteer Action Award and Dwight (MSS President) and Tex Yokum (MSS Board member) went to Washington, D.C. to accept the award from Pres. Ronald Reagan. Before their trip to Washington, Jerry Vineyard (a close friend of Dwight's) told Dwight that he couldn't go to Washington with a beard and mustache so he shaved it off. As a result, no one recognized him in the pictures without the beard. He had been pranked by Jerry! The two often played tricks on each other.....

In 1967, Frank Hurley (owner of Jacob's Cave) and Dwight organized the Lake of the Ozarks Caving Club which later became Lake Ozarks Grotto. In the beginning, Dwight was Program and Projects Director. An early project was an archaeological dig at Dry Cave in Camden County under the direction of Kent Buehler. Project Auglaize was a search for caves in karst areas west of Carroll Cave, directed by Dwight. The April 1970 issue of *Missouri Speleology* (Vol. 11 No. 2) contains "A History of the Caves of Camden County, Missouri," written by Dwight. Dwight Weaver, along with Tex Yokum and Leonard Butts of MMV Grotto, completed an MSS project to develop a new interpretive tour for the guides at Fishers Cave in Meramec State Park. Dwight was also a past Editor of LOG's publication, *Ozark Speleograph*. When the grotto joined the MSS, he was our first MSS Representative, serving from 1973-1979.



Dwight was involved when LOG began serious excavation of the Jefferies sinkhole in 1977 to try to connect the sink-hole with Carroll Cave. Fluorescein dye came out at Toronto Spring, proving a connection with Thunder River in Carroll Cave. The same year found cavers involved in the Meramec Dam controversy. Dwight, along with other cavers, made a trip to Nameless Cave in Crawford County to do a commercial appraisal of the cave which was threatened by the dam project. Supporting cave protection bills, Dwight testified in support of the bills. He and Jerry Vineyard took a bus load of legislative representatives on a trip through Mark Twain and Cameron Caves at Hannibal, MO to show why a protection bill was needed. In 1980-1981, Dwight was instrumental in grotto members doing work past the tourist route in Bridal Cave.

Trips were taken beyond the Frozen Niagara to two underground lakes, Mystery Lake and Spirit Lake. As a result, more cave was opened up on the tourist route. Between 1974-1991, LOG hosted five MVOR's which Dwight did the guidebooks and was the speaker on many occasions.

The Speleograph

In 1992, Dwight was one of the seven members of Lake Ozarks Grotto that founded the Missouri Caves and Karst Conservancy (MCKC) and served as the organization's first Secretary. It all began when a cave owner wanted to sell his cave to LOG but we did not have funding for such a purchase nor the legal framework for owning the property. In the beginning, many planning meetings were held at the home of Dwight & Rosie. After the founding of the MCKC, he was editor of the MCKC Digest. When the MCKC had the Lloyd & Ethel Hoff Underground Nature Preserve dedication of Berome Moore Cave on July 9th 2011, Dwight was one of the speakers. Dwight continued to be a dedicated LOG member, never missing a grotto meeting or function. He had been a former member of Western Missouri Grotto of the NSS, one of the state's first grotto's and Chouteau Grotto.

Finding a lack of books published on Missouri caves in the early days, Dwight vowed in 1956, that he would write a book on the history of Missouri caves. That didn't happen until 1972 with a book on Mark Twain Cave. He and a caver friend, Paul Johnson, were mapping the cave when he was asked to write a book on the cave's history and *Adventures at Mark Twain Cave* was born. Dwight was then asked by Lester B. Dill, the owner of Onondaga Cave, to write a book about the cave's history that he could use to get the cave on the National Register of Historic Sites. Dwight wrote *Onondaga – the Mammoth Cave of Missouri* in 1973. Between the years of 1972-2012, Dwight also wrote: *Meramec Caverns in Legend & History; Missouri – The Cave State; Wilderness Underground, Caves of the Ozark Plateau; Missouri Caves in History & Legend; Lake of the Ozarks: The Early Years; History & Geography of Lake of the Ozarks, Vol. 1 & Vol. 2; Lake of the Ozarks: Vintage Vacation Paradise; Historic Bagnell Dam Boulevard, Past & Present; A Pictorial Guide to HahaTonka State Park; and Images of America: Osage Beach, MO.*

From 1964-1984, Dwight was associated with Missouri show caves: Ozark Caverns, Stark Caverns (which was renamed Enchanted Caverns, then Fantasy World Caverns and back to Stark Caverns), Meramec Caverns, Mark Twain Cave, and Bridal Cave. He was a former editor of the *Cave State Courier*, newsletter of the Missouri caves Assn., and editor of *Down Under*, the newsletter of the National Caves Assn. While active members of the Missouri Caves Assn., he and Frank Hurley worked on a cave protection act to be proposed by the show cave operators of Missouri. In 1977, Dwight gave testimony before the legislative committee on behalf of the Missouri Cave Protection Bills in the House and the Senate. He and Jerry Vineyard took a bus load of legislative representatives on a trip through Mark Twain Cave and Cameron Cave in Hannibal and several other caves in the state, in order to acquaint the legislators with Missouri cave resources and show them why a cave protection act was needed.

Dwight's family moved a lot because his father was a pastor and also worked at other jobs on the side. Dwight was in the 8th grade at Ashland. His family moved to Jefferson City in 1952 and Dwight graduated from high school in 1956. He attended one year of college at University of Missouri Columbia as a music major. He had played 3rd chair trombone and played in JC Symphony Orchestra, sang in a church choir and played piano. He transferred to Kansas City Art Institute and School of Design for one year. He returned home to work as an occupational therapy assistant at the Fulton State Hospital, creating a caving program for patients. He married Rosetta "Rosie" Martin of Ashland, MO on May 29th, 1959 (on his birthday). Dwight had known Rosie since he was 11 years old but they didn't get together until after his second year of college. He also worked a short time as a painter for Osage Outdoor Advertising.

In 1985, he went to work for Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) as a public information specialist, winning national and regional awards for his articles and documents about caves and karst in Missouri. He retired from the Division of Geology in Rolla in 2000.

In 2006 he received a Historic Preservation Award from the Eldon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and awards from the Bagnell Dam Strip Association and the Lake Ozark Betterment Committee for contributions to local history.

Dwight was a charter member of the American Speleal History Assn. He was presented the Peter M. Hauer Speleal History Award, an award for outstanding contributions in the field of Speleal history, at the 2015 NSS Convention held in Waynesville, MO. That same year, he received the Exemplary Community Achievement Award from the Missouri Humanities Council.

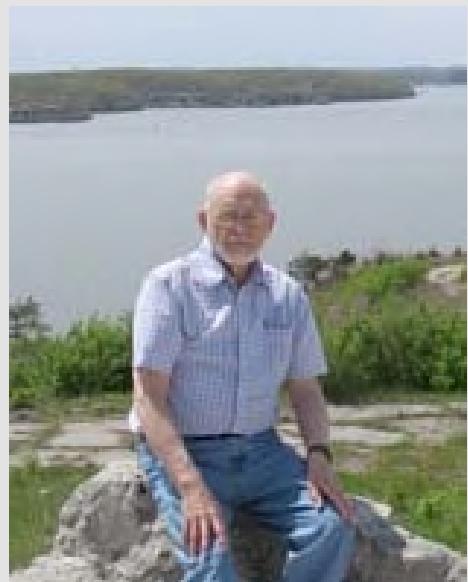
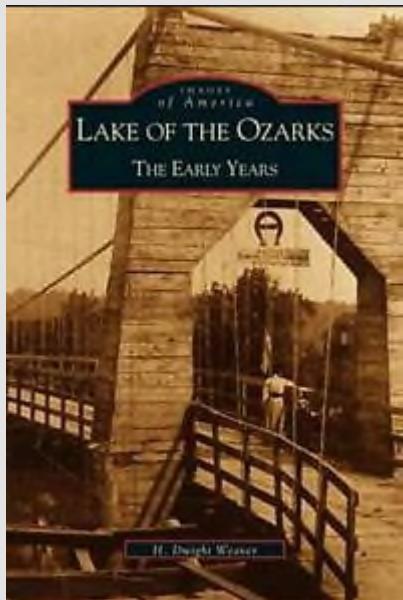
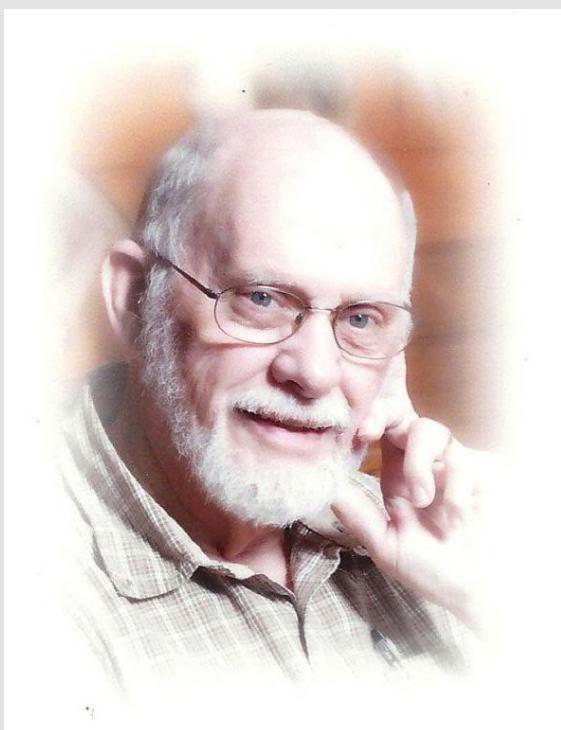


The Speleograph

He served on the Missouri Board of Geographic Names as a governor appointee representing Lake of the Ozarks. He was a member of the Missouri Writer's Guild and the Ozarks Writer's Guild. He was a member of the Camden County Historical Society, the Miller County Historical Society and a columnist for Lake of the Ozarks Business Journal. He was a contributing member of the Ozark Mountain Pepsi Collectors Club. Pepsi was his beverage of choice! His favorite candy bar was Pay Day which made its debut the same year he was born. His favorite cave (at least, when he was young) was Hunters Cave at Ashland. He didn't like Wendy's hamburgers because they were square. He liked his salad plain. He was a collector of many things and a recognized authority on Missouri caves.

Dwight passed away on November 27th, 2020 while he was home recuperating from triple bypass surgery. He leaves behind his loving wife of 61 years, Rosie and daughter, Karen.

Dwight touched the lives of so many people. He was a walking history book with a wealth of knowledge on caves and had many great stories to tell. He will be truly missed. —Alberta Zumwalt



The Speleograph

Minutes from the Grotto meetings

April 13th , 2021

The April meeting of Lake Ozarks Grotto was called to order by Ken Long, Chairman, in the meeting room at Stark Caverns, Eldon, MO.

Roll Call. Eleven members present.

The October 8th , 2019 minutes were read and approved.

Grotto t-shirts.

Discussion on what logo to use and color of shirts. Chaz Jesiolowski and Christen Easter will be working on the project. Members with ideas should contact them.

Richard Raber, a long-time caver from Effingham, Illinois, had patches made for us with the 50th Anniversary logo and gave them to us at no cost. Everyone attending this meeting was given a patch and one of the 50th Anniversary can koozies.

National Caves Assn.

Chaz reported the convention was electronic.

Goodwin.

Chairman Long reported that he and Klaus, along with MST students, Elizabeth Sutherlin, Samantha and one other worked on top at Goodwin on Apr. 11th . He said that there was 10-12 gallons of water coming over the waterfall from all the rain. They burned brush piles, did some mowing and weed eating. Work days scheduled include: April 17th -18th for pumping the cave, mowing, etc. May 1st – 2nd – for possible work in the cave and “Baby Cave,” another small opening.

Buzz Caldwell asked Chaz about the mapping project in Stark Caverns. Chaz said that Bill Gee will resume mapping on June 12th and is recruiting people now. Chaz said it is about 85% done. It is getting down to the tight sections which are hard to get into. Chaz said they did boardwalk repairs that will be good for 100 years. There was some discussion on some caves close to Stark. This discussion ended in Chairman Long’s story of a collapsed entrance that he had gone down into, singing “Like a virgin.”

Kiesewetter Cave.

Chairman Long reported that Chouteau Grotto made a trip into the cave on March 6th . On that trip were: Martin Carmichael, Rita Worden, Boden Matlock, Krista Bartel, Brenda Boyles, John Drenon, Kohl Mitchell, BJ and Dave Seidel. They stated in their report that the lock took some time to open & close.

Discussion on Jacob’s Cave.

Past history with a cave radio, witching by Chairman Long and stories from the past that confirm there is more cave there. Frank Hurley would like to see more exploration done. There was also discussion on Morris Hall Cave for a grotto trip, possibly in August since it has to be in dry weather.

Discussion on a memorial picnic table.

Chaz suggested a bench that could be placed overlooking the lake. We would do a metal plaque in memory of the three members who we lost within a year of each other: Kerry Rowland, Bill Pfantz and Dwight Weaver. Members are asked to think about it and it will be discussed at the May meeting.

Program for the May meeting.

Rosie and Karen Weaver offered for showing, the DVD on the Lloyd & Ethel Hoff Underground Nature Preserve – Berome Moore Cave dedication which had Dwight Weaver as a speaker.

Meeting adjourned. -Respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt, Secretary

The Speleograph

May 11th, 2021

The May meeting of Lake Ozarks Grotto was called to order by Ken Long, Chairman, in the meeting room at Stark Caverns, Eldon, MO.

Roll Call. Eight members present.

The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved.

Chairman Long announced that Bill Heim, long-time caver from Springfield, had passed away. He was an MSS Director for OHG (Ozark Highlands Grotto) and on the MCKC Board. Chaz Jesiolowski announced that the National Cave Association convention would be hosted by

Stark Caverns, Bridal Cave & Jacob's Cave.

They will feature tours of the caves and then be at Old Kinderhook Resort.

Memorial bench.

Chairman Long showed pictures of several benches that he printed off Ebay.

Chaz said they have a nook close to the cave entrance to put the bench. It needs to be wood and blend in with their theme. Chaz will work on the project. Chairman Long said that a plaque would not be a big expense. There are several places online to get a plaque. Christen Easter said she knew a place locally.

Grotto funds are getting low. The secretary said we could close the savings account and put the money in checking. Gary Zumwalt said we should do that. He suggested that when the cd came due in July, that we could take out what was added as interest to the initial \$3,000 and maybe just do a cd for \$2500. A guest, Kelsie (Miller) Johnson made a suggestion. Rosie Weaver will look into our best options.

Goodwin.

Chairman Long said that the work trips were cancelled and didn't know when the next one would be. He said they are making progress on getting into the cave.

Kelsie Johnson announced that Roubidoux Grotto is going to host the Spring 2022 MVOR. She said that LOG could help with the MVOR and maybe get some funds for helping.

MSS Weekend will be June 4th – 6th at Lake Ozark State Park. The project will be the remapping of Ozark Caverns. The meeting will be on Sunday, the 6th, at 10am.

More discussion on grotto finances. Gary Zumwalt made a motion to close out the savings account and put it in checking. Seconded by Buzz. Motion passed.

Buzz Caldwell said he had talked to someone that had a sinkhole on BB. Chairman Long said that Offutt Pit had been dye-traced to Goodwin. More discussion on the area.

Karen Weaver brought entrance pictures and information on Flanders Cave, which had been discussed at the last meeting. The cave had been owned by David Pruitt and is very close to Stark Caverns property.

Grotto t-shirts.

Kelsie Johnson showed a logo design, said she could do shirts and sweatshirts in colors that we wanted. She will bring examples to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned. – Respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt, Secretary

The Speleograph

June 8th , 2021

The June meeting of Lake Ozarks Grotto was called to order by Ken Long, Chairman, in the meeting room at Stark Caverns, Eldon, MO.

Roll Call. Nine members present.

The minutes of the May meeting were read and approved.

Grotto sweatshirts and t-shirts.

Chairman Long explained that there was some confusion about which design was going to be used – the 50th logo or the design without the 50 in it. He had polled members and it was split in the middle. After much discussion, a motion was made by Karen Weaver to update our old patch and use it. Seconded by Gary Zumwalt. Passed. Christen said that Kelsie thought she could do that. Chairman Long is already taking requests for the sweatshirts and t-shirts.

Flanders Cave.

Chairman Long said he drove to the area but wasn't sure who owns the cave. Will have to get more information on it.

Grotto website.

Chairman Long asked what color the dragon was supposed to be. The answer was blue instead of red so he will try to change it.

Park bench.

Chaz Jesiolowski was absent so the matter was tabled until the next meeting.

MSS meeting.

Gary Zumwalt did a report on the meeting held at Lake Ozarks State Park on June 6th . He reported an amendment will be worked on to go from the requirement of 3 meetings per year to 2 meetings per year. He reported that 2700 feet were mapped in Ozark Caverns. Next meeting will be Sept. 19th in an area where work can be done in Mary Lawson Cave.

Goodwin.

Chairman Long said that there have been no work trips but Klaus and Jean have been camping there, cleaning up, etc.

Grotto treasury.

As instructed at the last meeting, Rosie Weaver closed out the savings account and put the money in the checking account. Discussion. Gary Zumwalt made a motion to cash in the CD when it matures on July 14 th and put the money into checking. Seconded by Linda. Passed. Later, the money can be taken out of checking and put into another CD or something.

Chairman Long said that Bob Gitchell had surgery and was recovering.

Jacob's Cave.

Much discussion on exploring farther into the cave past the tour and about witching done on top. Frank Hurley said he would like to see several people involved. Much discussion.

Chairman Long is making a list of who would be interested. Hattie Bartlett said she wants to go.

Meeting adjourned. – respectfully submitted by Alberta Zumwalt

The Speleograph

BREAKDOWN:

Ken Long – Shorten the workday to a half day & then nap.....

Ken Long – Like a virgin.....

Christen Easter – We are long winded.....

Buzz Caldwell to christen Easter – Were you one of the kids or an adult????

Ken Long – I'm too sexy for my purse!

Frank Hurley – We're all old goats sitting here.....



Betta Cave



Stubblefield Cave



Stubblefield Cave



Ennis Cave