

The Speleograph

Lake Ozarks
Grotto

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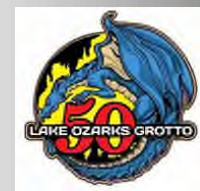


Looking out of Goodwin Sinkhole, Laclede County

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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Goodwin Workdays – October 22nd & 23rd, 2021

Oct. 22nd, Gary & I headed for Goodwin with our trailer loaded with cedar poles. We made a quick stop at Casey's in Osage Beach for gas and something for breakfast. We met Klaus Leidenfrost on the road not far from Goodwin. He was going to check if the neighbor was home.

At Goodwin, those in attendance were: Klaus, Jean Knoll, Elizabeth Sutherland (MST student), Gary & me. After a lot of measuring, Gary got the area marked off where the shed would be. Klaus had concrete blocks and cement mix in his truck which had to be unloaded and transported to the pavilion area. Klaus and Gary made a trip to the neighbor's house to pick up some tin that Larry had offered to give Klaus. Jean & Elizabeth leveled off the area where the fire pit had been. They positioned concrete blocks for a new fire pit and added oven grates so Jean would have a place to cook when volunteers were on site.



Elizabeth, Klaus, and standing is Gary



New fire pit-grill

Klaus and Gary returned and the tin was unloaded. They started to work on four post holes for a shed to store firewood, the lawnmower and other items. Elizabeth took one of the post hole diggers and attempted to dig on one of the holes. After all four holes were dug, cement was tamped in each hole. We couldn't do any more since we didn't have everything we needed to finish the project.

We were ready to head for home but Elizabeth wanted to go into the cave and scrape off some kind of mound.... She said it would only take her thirty minutes and we all said we would wait. She came out muddy. Gary & I decided we would come back the next day to try to finish the project and we left.

Oct. 23rd – Gary & I left home earlier than we had intended. The forecast was for rain but it wasn't raining at home. As we passed Eldon, it was sprinkling. We stopped at Casey's at Osage Beach for gas and donuts and it was raining hard! As we neared Camdenton, the rain had lessened and Klaus called. He said it wasn't raining in Rolla and he would meet us at the sinkhole. As we got closer to Goodwin, we had hopes that it wouldn't be raining there. It was only a sprinkle. I called Klaus to tell him that we were there. Soon after, it started a downpour....



Gary, Ken and Klaus standing in the rain

We sat in the truck for a while, then finally donned rain ponchos and headed for the pavilion area.

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Gary ran a string level on the four posts.

It was still raining when Ken Long, Klaus, Jean & Elizabeth came. We almost decided to call it quits. The rain would let up a little and then start again. Ken & Klaus headed over to the other side of the sinkhole with Ken witching for cave passage. Elizabeth wanted to go back to the cave so Jean went with her. Gary & I continued to work on the shed. Gary notched some poles for the roof.



Area for new shelter

Ken & Klaus came back with news of lots of cave passage witched. Elizabeth and Jean came back from the cave. The task at hand was to get the poles and tin up for the roof. Since Gary only had one step-ladder, he screwed the tin on the roof. I was the screw lady, handing him the screws with washers on.



Klaus and Ken discussing the cave passage

The rain had stopped and we were hoping that it wouldn't come back anytime soon. It was decided to put tin on the back of the structure and Ken did most of the screwing there. He also used his reciprocating saw to cut off tin that was too long. A black mat had been put down on the ground under the shed. Klaus, Jean, Ken & Elizabeth worked on hauling chat to put on top of it.

Elizabeth and Jean went back down to the cave. They were headed back up when Klaus, Ken & Gary were looking down at the waterfall. It had rained enough that it had water coming down which was splitting twice as it came down. That had them entertained for quite a while.....

We all ate lunch, sat and talked for a while, then headed for home.

This project was done but we wondered just what would be our next project.....- Alberta Zumwalt



Finished Shelter



Gary, Elizabeth, Jean, Klaus & Ken

Gate to Toby Cave

Toby Cave, a cave in Camden County is home to a large bat population and histoplasmosis. Trespassers continue to sneak into the cave and the decision was made to gate the cave. The gate will be funded by Fish & Wildlife. The entrance is 35' wide and 25' tall. Jim Cooley, KCAG, was commissioned to design the gate and be head of operations.

Jim set the date for installation of the gate for March 30th – April 10th. Before the project could happen, there would have to be a gate installed in the farmer's fence to provide access for equipment to get to the cave. Jim put out a request for help from cavers and from our grotto. Long-time LOG member, Don Toole, volunteered to help since the cave is only a short distance from where he lives at Climax Springs.

Don worked with Jim on getting the gate put in the fence. A work day was scheduled for Monday, October 18th. Gary & I met at Don's house and was soon joined by Jim Lehr, a friend of Don's. With tools in two trucks, we headed for the location and met up with Jim, who was already there.

The landowner put flags where he wanted the gate to go and had provided the gate. One large tree was leaning precariously against another tree and we decided that they would have to come down before we did anything else. Armed with a chainsaw, Don got the trees down with a little help from Jim L. and Gary. We all worked to clear the wood pieces from the immediate area.

Gary pulled the barbed wire fence back away from where the gate would go. Don and Gary worked on digging one post hole and Jim L. worked on the second one. The first hole was a few rocks, dirt and clay but the second hole was a rock bonanza! When the holes were finally deep enough, the first post was set into the hole, cement mix tamped around it. Don had jugs of water to add to the cement mix.



Gary Zumwalt, Don Toole and Jim Lehr



Jim Cooley, Gary Zumwalt and Jim Lehr



Gary Zumwalt and Don Toole

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Finally satisfied with the first hole, they proceeded to set the second post. Jim L. had worked twice as long on his hole and we tried to be sympathetic..... The post was set in the hole and the process was repeated with cement, tamping and water. With both posts set, it was time to drill the holes in the first post for the gate attachment. Don & Gary did the drilling. The hardware was attached and the gate was mounted.

We didn't take any breaks. Don, Jim C. & Jim L. tried to grab a bite of lunch in between work. We were making great time. The grand finale was cutting the barbed wire and wrapping it around each post. We all had to stand back and admire the gate. It looked pretty darn good..... And you ask what I did during all this? Well, I took pictures, of course – 128 of them!

With the daily task completed, the four guys led by Jim Cooley, walked farther into the woods to check out the cave since he had been the only one

to the cave. I stayed at the gate site and continued to look for a glove that Don had lost. Well, that was my excuse for not going with them.... It was downhill through brushy woods and would be uphill coming back. I didn't want to slow them down.

After their short visit to the cave, we all headed for home. It had been a good day and we had got the job done! – Alberta Zumwalt



Gary, Don and Jim L.



New Gate

Toby Cave Entrance



The Speleograph

Sunday morning, 8/22/21, I arrived at Goodwin sink hole at 7:30 am. I expected to see Klaus and Jean there but I was the first to arrive. I walked to the pavilion with my weed eater and fuel. My plan was to weed eat the property around the sink. I started cutting weeds about 7:45. I worked up top for a while heading back toward the gate when a car pulled up. It was Brandon Schroeder, a student from MST in Rolla, MO. We talked for a while then he headed toward the pavilion to get ready for the workday. I continued down the hill to the sink weed eating the road. Once at the bottom, I looked at the path to the sink and just shook my head. The weeds were at least 3-4 feet tall! So carefully I walked down the steep path weed eating as I went down. I managed to get a wide path cut and then headed back up the hill. Klaus and Jean had just arrived. The plan was to pump out the cave entrance so it could dry out a little. Klaus and Brandon went down to the entrance and set up the pump. There was about 2-3 feet of water in the sink so a hose was ran up the hill and the pumping began. I stayed up top with Jean and finished weed eating. Then I grabbed the mower and started mowing. Jean was picking up sticks and small tree limbs and burning them on the fire she had started. I mowed the front half of the property, taking several breaks as it was already 90 degrees and climbing. I finally finished mowing around 11:00. The heat was really bad so none of us were moving too fast. We stopped for a lunch break about 11:30. Jean had brought out peanut butter and jelly sandwiches with a few sides for all of us. After lunch Klaus and Brandon went back down the sink and I collected all my things and put them in my truck. I expressed to everyone I was leaving as it was too hot to continue. Klaus and Brandon did manage to get most of the water out of the sink. If we don't get a lot of rain in the future the next trip will be to continue working in the sump trying to enlarge it.



Goodwin Sump

Submitted by Ken Long

Aurora Cave

Eldon Advertiser, July 6, 1933

The recent opening of Flanders Cave 7 miles south of Eldon, Mo, serves as a reminder of the days of 1885 to 1895 when Aurora cave, just 3/4 miles NE of Flanders Cave, was a popular place for cave parties for visitors coming from Washington D.C., New York, St Louis or from anywhere to the Ozarks.

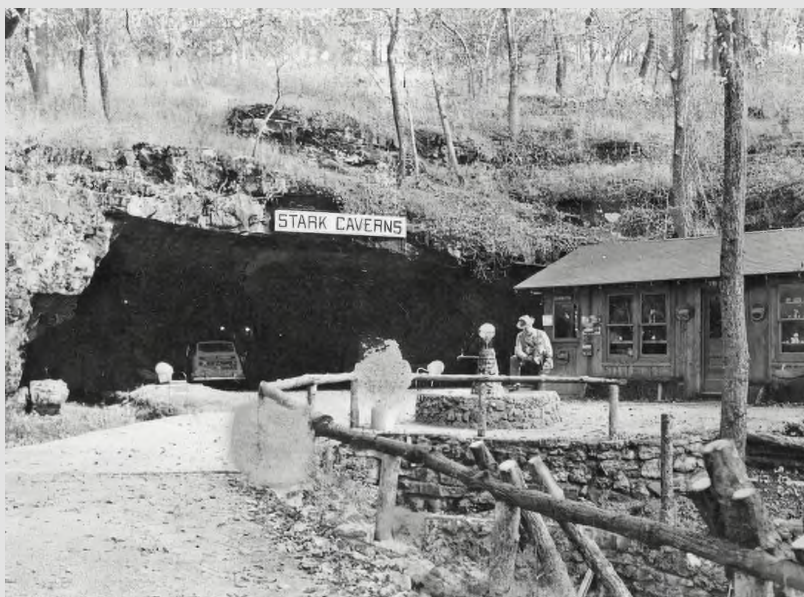
A cave party was planned and an early morning start in a big hack or farm wagon would ensure the arrival of the party at Aurora Cave by 11:00 just in time to spread a basket dinner in the wide entrance of the cave where the temperature was practically the same winter or summer.

Dinner over, the party donned exploring clothes for a full afternoon of climbing, sliding and crawling in the many subterranean passage ways under the great hill in which the cave opening is found. Torches glared in the weird darkness and soon all fear was dispelled by screams or laughter as some young women from the city, unaccustomed to adventure, would find herself unable to release her rubber boots from the clay after she had ventured too far or trusted the mischievous, gallant young guide too confidently.

Sometimes when the party would gather for a rest, the conversation would be lively and all would be engrossed in interest when suddenly all light would go out. The darkness is so intense that it hurts. A white handkerchief held before the eyes cannot be detected in the absolute absence of a ray of light to reflect on the retina. But think of the joy that would come when it was learned that one member of the party had slipped away with a light and appeared again just before someone died of fright. And what a consolation it was to find after crawling through a low passage to make sure of seeing some wonderful sight that would be missed if the ordeal was not experienced, that a wide open overhead route leading directly back without the short press and discomforts. There was just one kind of argument that might cause a rift in the fun and that was when one member of the party completely balked, fainted of heart failure and could not be persuaded. Someone must volunteer to return to the entrance as a safe guide. This would likely prove to be a uncertain and unappreciated sacrifice because once one is overtaken with fright he will not believe there is a possibility of getting out and will not be convinced that he is retracing for certain even when he has reached the place he can almost see daylight. It is all in the experience of adventure and can be expected in a day of pleasure when they party in the cave.

Cave parties for the enjoyment of a large dancing floor or skating rink a few hundred feet back from the entrance were made up mostly of young married people. The place furnished an ideal summer day outing but it was difficult to keep a wood floor in condition because of dampness and the floor was later removed.

Sometimes the same cave party would visit Klinger Cave southeast of Eldon. This cave was not as popular because it required greater bravery to explore it with the kind of lights that were used then. However, the thrill of boat riding on the small lake that is found under the hill there is a real adventure. The danger of an upset into the cold water in the dark when all the lights would be extinguished. The possibility of ramming a protruding island or rock or scraping someone off while rounding a sharp turn did not awaken the fancy of all explorers. Even older people who went on cave exploring parties for the safety of the young folks had to admit they enjoyed the pleasure and experience. It was, after all, something different and lacking in monotony.



Flanders Cave

Eldon Advertiser, November 17th, 1932

Flanders Cave will soon be ready for visitors

W.L. Cox of Chillicothe and James Pruitt are preparing to open Flanders Cave to the public within the next few weeks and will be ready to make the announcement next week.

The cave is located about 3/4 of a mile from the Aurora Cave near the Missouri Pacific underpass on old Bagnell Road. It is in its natural state within and the management will have the beautiful display of stalagmites and stalactites protected so that they cannot be broken off and carried away as has been done in Aurora Cave. The opening is being enlarged so visitors may enter without the inconvenience of crawling or walking in the cave. Only recently was the cave named Flanders from the resemblance of the first elevation inside has to Flanders cemetery hillside in France.

While digging out the passageway Saturday, Mr. Pruitt opened a vein of glass barytes or spar crystals containing a showing of lead and zinc. He discovered the cave about 30 years ago less than 100 yards from the house when his father owned the farm and he knows the history of the farm since it was entered by John Davenport in 1853.

Jacobs Cave Trip 9/18/21



I arrived at the cave around 8:00am. I waited outside for a while not knowing if anyone was up yet. Frank's outside cat came over to greet me and I started playing with him. That was a mistake! Once I showed attention to him I couldn't get him away from me. After several minutes of paying attention to him he decided that the roof of my truck was a great place to lay down and rest!

Frank came out about 8:30am and invited me in to have some coffee. We chatted for a while and then others

started showing up. First there was Gary and Alberta Zumwalt then Christen and Burke Easter. The last one to get there was Darrin Donley. We gathered in the gift shop to get prepared for the trip. The focus today was to go to the end of the tour passage and push the cave beyond that point. None of us had any idea what we were getting into. Our hope was to find new passage in the cave. As we entered the cave, Frank sat down in a wheel chair and Alberta started pushing him. As we went deeper in the passage, we stopped several times so Frank could describe the formations we were looking at. Alberta was having a hard time keeping Frank and his chair under control so a few of us helped with Frank. We headed toward the end of the tour passage checking out places that might go somewhere.



Christen Easter behind the fence

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When we arrived at the end of the tour passage Christen, Darrin and I slid under the make shift fence and proceeded to explore a couple of passages. One lead to a dead end so we came back and started down the next one. This passage had lots of potential as we went forward but soon got really small and extremely muddy. Christen moved forward as she was the smallest person in our group. The passage soon proved that it went forward but was really small and the rest of us would have to struggle to get through it. We decided to regroup and come back at a later date and try to push the passage.

We slowly made our way back to the fence we had went under. All of us were covered in mud so before heading out we took some time to get some of the mud off of us. We didn't want to spread the mud on the tour route.



Ken cleaning off mud

After cleaning up a little, we slowly made our way back to the entrance. We talked about how much bigger the cave system actually is. Because of the location and layout of the system there is the potential of the cave having much more passage than what you see on the tour route. Future exploration will determine how to make that a reality.

Submitted by Ken Long



Darrin Donley cleaning off mud.



Christen smiling looking at the mud

My Version of the Jacob's Cave Exploration Trip

On the morning of September 18th, Gary & I headed for Jacob's Cave at Versailles. It was our Anniversary. What better way to spend the day than with our caving friends in a cave! We were met at the gift shop entrance by Purple Pants Ken Long..... Gary was quick to point out that Frank's cat had made itself at home on top of Ken's truck.

Burke & Christen Easter arrived. We were all standing outside talking to Frank, wondering where Darren Donley was. Everyone was supposed to meet at the cave at 9. Ken said he should have told him 8..... It was around 9:30 when Darren arrived. Ken, Christen and Darren got ready to enter the cave. I was shocked to see that Darren wasn't wearing his knee-high boots! When I asked him why he wasn't wearing them, he said, "I thought I better wear something that stuck to my feet!"

Burke got out a long rod which was identified as "his daughter's selfie stick." Well, it was pink..... He said that he thought it could be used with the camera on his phone to check out holes, etc. in the cave. Sounded like a good idea.....



Burke Easter and his camera stick



Frank Hurley

Frank wanted to lead everyone into the cave to point out some areas of the cave. He got in a wheelchair and I got behind the wheels to navigate it. I soon realized that was not an easy task. The incline into the cave was a challenge to hold the chair back. The first uphill section proved to be more than I could handle with Burke coming to aid in getting the chair to the top. Frank had me wheel him over to flip the lights but Burke eventually took over the lights. Whenever Frank said to stop, I stopped and he would point out something to everyone. Burke even used the selfie stick to check out a few places.

We finally made it to the back of the cave where the tourist trail ends. Ken, Christen and Darren started checking out the area on one side to see if it would go on. But no luck there. Burke even used the selfie stick to check out some of the places. It was time to brave the area ahead.... It was going to be muddy and they knew it. They disappeared for a while. The rest of us waited. Burke and Gary were taking pictures. I took pictures until my camera battery ran down.

One by one, they returned to say that there was a place that looked promising but it was some real sloppy mud. Christen could have gone on but they decided that it would be better to come back when they had someone her size to go with her. Safety is always a priority. Besides that, if they went any further, they would have been so muddy that they couldn't check out any other places in the cave.

Back on the commercial trail, I continued to push Frank under drips, and barely missing the walls where there was narrow passages. He was insisting that he would get out and walk when it came to steep places. I think I scared him when I leaned over and told him that I drive like I push a wheelchair!

Frank Hurley & Christen Easter at the tour end



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Gary said he would help push on the way out. The three cave explorers checked out a few more places on the way out. We also had a few tours coming in while we were in the cave. Two large tours were Boy Scouts on an outing. There were also two more tours – one with a couple and another with three people.

At the entrance, we pulled Frank out of the wheelchair. He complained that the wheelchair was a child's wheelchair. That explained a lot..... Ken, Christen and Darren went to change clothes. After changing clothes, Darren looked clean all but his face which had cave mud all over it. Or maybe that was a facial treatment?

We talked for a while. Frank wanted us to dig on one of the nearby caves but we told him that it was too hot. We vowed to come back. While we were there, we discussed how handy the selfie stick

was but commented that it could be longer. Christen looked on her phone at selfie sticks and found one that was much longer. The price was good and next thing we had decided that LOG needed a selfie stick! So, Christen ordered it, to be reimbursed with grotto funds.

It was time to head home. It turned out to be a good day and a good group of people. We will be back! –Alberta Zumwalt



Darren Donley



Christen Easter



Small rim stone dam in Jacob's Cave



Nice little small stream passage

Watermelons and Caves

This story begins in the early 1920's. In the book "The Whole Seed Catalog" from the 2018 edition of Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds, pages 266-271, one can read of an amazing discovery by a man by the name of Art Combe. Mr. Combe was teaching horticulture to Navajo Indian students in White River, Arizona. One day, Art and his students decided to explore an abandoned sandstone cave. Deep in the cave, safely nestled on a natural rock ledge and covered in a thick deposit of bat guano and sand, Art found an ancient Native American artifact: a small bottle. The container was a woven basket made of strips of yucca. The bottle was stopped with a cork and dipped in pine pitch to make a protective seal. Much to Art's delight, the vessel was filled with brilliant red watermelon seeds." Mr. Combe's discovery came years before major effects towards conservation of artifacts in the United States had started. Art Combe took these watermelon seeds, some 200 or so, and planted them in his garden. Only twelve or so germinated. The story goes that as the vines grew, so did the excitement.

As the fruits began to develop, Art was astounded at the unusual shape of the melons.... The fruits were crookneck, a round watermelon that tapered at the end into a perfect handle.... Art excitedly cracked open the oddly shaped fruit and was delighted to find a pleasantly sweet and juicy flesh."

On page 271, one can read of just how old these seeds may be. It is believed they may be anywhere from 800-2000 years old. The vessel that they were stored in is believed to be of Anasazi origin. The location of the cave in which they were found is in the Mogollon Rim, Arizona.

The writer of this article grew this ancient watermelon in the 2021 growing season. The version available was the more traditional oblong watermelon, although the end attached to the vine was a bit curved. It is hoped that the seeds to the crookneck may be obtained for next year. The seeds were obtained from Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds near Mansfield, MO.

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The Speleograph

LOG Minutes

July 13th, 2021

The July 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 June meeting were read and approved.

Grotto website. Chairman Long said that he changed the dragon from red to blue which he said was not easy.

Grotto t-shirts & sweatshirts. Kelsie Johnson asked about the dragon to use. Discussion on using the original art or an updated one. It was decided that Kelsie should do several sketches, including old logo, and send them to Ken & Christen to circulate to members for comments, hopefully within a week or so.

MVOR. Kelsie said that Roubidoux Grotto, who is hosting the Spring 2022 MVOR, could use help from our grotto. Location is planned for the Shriners Club in Waynesville. She said the Fall MVOR will be Oct. 22-24th in McDonald Co., hosted by Kirsten Alvey.

Memorial park bench. Chairman Long reported in Chaz' absence, that Chaz should have some info in the next week.

Grotto Treasury. As decided at the June meeting, Rosie Weaver cashed in the grotto cd and deposited the money in the checking account. The grotto secretary-treasurer asked if some of the funds should be put in a savings account or another CD. The consensus was that we need to wait and see how much the park bench will cost.

Flanders Cave. Chairman Long is still working on finding Flanders Cave and owner. Karen Weaver brought one of her Dad's topos with the Flanders Cave location marked on it. It is on the Eldon 71/2'. Buzz Caldwell said that instead of Mount Carmel, it is now Flat Wood Road.

Chairman Long read a response from MSS President, Dan Lamping, in regard to a letter that he wrote about preserving the names of people that did the old cave maps. Dan had said that it was all saved in the cave files. The secretary said she would contact Ken Grush and ask if this is being done.

Jacob's Cave. Chairman Long asked Frank Hurley if he was still in favor of exploration beyond the tourist tour in the cave and he was. Chairman Long said he is gathering a list which he added Christen Easter and Kelsie Johnson. He asked if there was anyone else at the meeting who would go. The Zumwalts said they would be there for support.

Goodwin. Chairman Long said that the past weekend work trip had been canceled because of the rain. He said that Klaus and Jean would be travelling and there wouldn't be any work trips for a while.

Meeting adjourned. – respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt, Secretary

Aug. 10th, 2021

The August 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 July meeting were read and approved.

T-shirts & Sweatshirts. Chaz Jesiolowski showed three sketches for the artwork. Discussion with decision to use parts of two sketches and rework with colors. Plans to make a decision at the next meeting.

Memorial Bench. Chaz said that they will buy the supplies needed and build it. Discussion on the wording of the plaque to be put on the bench. Will discuss at next meeting.

Flanders Cave. Chairman Long asked Buzz if the name of the road was changed to Flat Wood Road. Buzz said only the name of the church had been changed from Mt. Carmel Church and not Mt. Carmel Road.

Goodwin. The next work trip will be Aug. 20th & 21st. Discussion on Goodwin. Chairman Long said there was no longer a working camera at Goodwin. Question raised – should we buy one? Chairman Long said he would ask Klaus. There are no pictures of the sinkhole from long ago. Buzz suggested checking to see if Laclede Co. has a historical society. Chairman Long will check on it. Buzz said that a person can obtain well logs from the Geological Survey for that area to see if any voids have been hit, etc.

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Jacob's Cave. Chairman Long would like to have one more person for an exploration trip beyond the commercial tour. He has added Darren Donley to the list which makes five people.

Stark Caverns. The July issue of *NSS News* has an article on the cave. Copies of the article were circulated. Discussion on the cave. Discussion on a grotto trip into the cave on a meeting night.

Program. We were not able to do the program because we didn't have a computer with a disc drive. Chairman Long will take the DVD home and try to copy on a jump drive.

Meeting adjourned. Respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt, Secretary.

Sept. 14th, 2021

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

Roll Call. Six members present.

The minutes of the August meeting were read and approved.

Memorial bench. Chaz Jesiolowski will have an update at the next meeting.

Goodwin. The next work trip is set for Sept. 25th & 26th.

Jacob's Cave exploration trip. Trip on for Saturday, Sept. 18th.

MSS meeting at Bennett Springs on Sept. 19th, 10 am.

Meeting adjourned. – respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt, Secretary

Oct. 12th, 2021

The October meeting of Lake Ozarks Grotto was called to order by Ken Long, Chairman, on the porch of the gift shop at Stark Caverns, Eldon, MO.

Roll Call. Five members present plus Craig Smith, a guest.

The minutes of the September meeting were read and approved.

New grotto purchase. Gary Zumwalt reported on the purchase of a selfie stick to be used in caves. He told about Burke Easter's use of one on the Jacob's Cave exploration trip.

Flanders Cave. Chairman Long said that he knows where the cave is and the owner is Dave Pruitt. He said that someone told him that the owner has not changed his policy of not letting anyone in the cave. Chairman Long will try to talk to him to see if he would let grotto members go in.

MSS. Gary reported on the meeting which was held at Bennett Springs on Sept. 19th. He said there will now be two meetings a year instead of three. Long-time caver, Dave Hoffman, wanted to will his land of approx. 200 acres to the MSS but after discussion and a vote, the MSS determined that it would be better if he offered the land to the MCKC. Don Dunham was re-appointed as MSS Treasurer for another three years. MCKC now owns Roubidoux Cave which has had a vandalism problem and has bats. They have set up cameras which have already caught trespassers. There is a sign there with a contact on it. If they are unable to stop people from going in without permission, they will install a gate. There is a possibility that the CCC will turn Carroll Cave over to the MCKC and end the CCC organization. The next MSS meeting will be in March at Perryville, MO.

Goodwin - Chairman Long announced a workday the Saturday, the 16th. He said they are really close to breaking into the cave.

Mapping trip announcements: Bill Gee needs skinny cavers for a mapping trip into Stark Caverns on Nov. 20th. Volunteers are also needed on Nov. 21st for mapping in Geronimo Springs which has a very low watercrawl.

Jacob's Cave project. Chairman Long reported on the exploration trip on Sept. 18th. Ken, Darren Donley and Christen Easter braved the mud and checked out the area at the end of the commercial tour. Support was Burke Easter, Frank Hurley, Gary & Alberta Zumwalt. There was a small place in back with a slime bath – to be continued. They also checked out a few more places on the way out.

Memorial Park bench – tabled until next meeting.

Grotto t-shirts & sweatshirts – tabled until next meeting.

Election of officers will be held at the November meeting.

Grotto Xmas party needs to be set. Chaz Jesiolowski had volunteered his house.

Meeting adjourned. – Respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt

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Nov. 9th, 2021

The November 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 October meeting were read and approved.

Grotto shirts & sweatshirts. Nothing to report.

Flanders Cave. Chaz Jesiolowski volunteered to go with Chairman Long when he goes to talk to the owner.

Carroll Cave. It doesn't look like the CCC will turn Carroll Cave over to the MCKC at this time.

Memorial bench. Chaz reported that it is scheduled to be built this week. Christen Easter volunteered to purchase the plaques for the bench. After much discussion, it was decided to have a plaque on the bench with: "Lake Ozarks Grotto" and below that: "Memory Bench." Then individual name plates with: H. Dwight Weaver, Kerry Rowland, and Wm. (Bill) Pfantz. A motion was made and seconded that Christen should take care of the plaques. (Will actually be: In Loving Memory – Lake Ozarks Grotto – Memorial Bench. Name plates will be: H. Dwight Weaver, Kerry D. Rowland, Wm. (Bill) Pfantz.)

Election of officers: The current officers were re-elected. Chaz was made the Program Chairman, a new grotto position.

Chairman Long congratulated Linda Marg for winning 2nd place in a Hawaiian dress contest where she lives in Eldon.

Grotto Christmas Party. Chaz will host the party at his Eldon home. A food signup sheet was passed around. The party will be Dec. 5th, starting at 1 pm, eat at 2 pm, with games to follow.

Goodwin. Chairman Long reported on a work weekend Oct. 23rd & 24th. It was attended by Klaus Leidenfrost, Jean Knoll, Elizabeth Sutherland, G & A Zumwalt and Ken. A storage shed was built.

Kiesewetter Cave. Chairman Long said that there have been trips going into the cave and one is scheduled to go in January.

Toby Cave. The Zumwalts reported on a workday, installing a gate in a fence to allow an entry to Toby Cave for gating purposes. It was attended by Don Toole & friend, Jim Lehr, G & A Zumwalt and Jim Cooley (KCAG).

Speleograph. Chairman Long wants more articles. Buzz Caldwell said he will do one. Chairman Long thanked Rosie for all of her submissions.

A meeting time change was suggested – to meet at 6 or 6:30 instead of 7. The secretary will send out emails and get everyone's response. A vote will be taken at the Christmas party.

Chaz reported on the MCA meeting and the NCA meeting.

A trip into Stark Caverns was suggested as the program after the meeting in April with a cost of \$5 per person.

Meeting adjourned.- Respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt

Dec. 5th, 2021

Short meeting at LOG Christmas party. Vote taken to change meeting time to 6:00 pm beginning April 2022. Motion made by Gary Zumwalt. Seconded by Buzz Caldwell. Passed. – Respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt



Tour passage in Jacob's Cave



Rimstone in Jacob's Cave

The Speleograph

BREAKDOWN:

Alberta Zumwalt: The dragon looked Chinese.....

Buzz Caldwell: The dragon looks like he's got boots on....

Ken Long on an exploration trip into the back of Jacob's Cave: Are you going?

Alberta Zumwalt: No, my knees won't make it, but I will be there for support...

Ken – So, if I need water, you'll bring it to me?

Alberta – I will tie a string on your foot when you go in, tie a bottle of water to the end, and you can pull it to you when you need it.....

Christen Easter on measuring depth in a cave: 3 Abby's deep.....

In reviewing the LOG emblem to be put on the t-shirts and sweatshirts:

Chaz Jesiolowski: Is that a log?

Ken Long: It's a log for Lake Ozarks Grotto....

Chaz Jesiolowski on the blue dragon: Make it brown so it will match the lake.....

From Jacob's Cave exploration trip:

Gary Zumwalt – You got a cat on your truck.....

Ken Long – We've had a relationship for a long time.....

Frank Hurley – Where's the guy with the camera & pogo stick.....

Darren Donley – If you go this way, you're going to need a shovel.....

Christen Easter – Burke says I can ski without skis....

Burke Easter – Her feet are as big as skis....

Alberta Zumwalt – Don't be flashing us, Ken....

Christen Easter – No one wants to see that!

Ken Long – Where are my socks..... Oh, they're in my pocket!

From Goodwin workday:

Ken Long – This is a smart phone – but there's a dumbass using it!

Ken Long – If I get wet, I might melt – sugar, you know.....

Ken Long – Last time I did it in the rain, it worked.....

Ken Long – I think I just grew two inches!

Gary Zumwalt – Let go.....



LOG Xmas Party – 2021

A change of plans for the location of the Grotto Xmas Party brought the party back to the home of Burke and Christen Easter. The party has been held at their house since 2009 – that's 12 years! We have seen many changes over the years – two daughters no longer living at home, no resident dog, and the cats even hid from us! None the less, it was a great party and lots of Christmas spirit....



We had 19 people in attendance: Buzz Caldwell, Burke & Christen, Bob & JoAnne Gitchell, Frank Hurley & friend, Don, Ron & Lorely Lather, Ken Long, Linda Marg, Rosie & Karen Weaver, Travis, Kathy, Derek & Brandon Zumwalt, Gary & Alberta Zumwalt. Monica Long was babysitting for family and was unable to attend so we had to babysit Ken.....need I say more....

We had a feast of food with the turkey baked by Ken – and I could tell that he was very proud of his turkey..... I have to admit that he really did a good job. Of course, JoAnne brought her famous salad and she

did bring Bob. Frank had a gift that he passed around for people to guess what it was – and no one was able to guess correctly.

After everyone was done eating, Ken thanked Christen and Burke for having the party at their house. We had a short meeting to discuss starting time of our meetings. A motion was made, seconded and passed to begin our meetings at 6 pm, beginning with the April 2022 meeting.

Each person was given a playing card and asked to stand up. Cards from another deck were read off and people holding those cards had to sit down. The last one standing was Ron Lather and he won the attendance prize – a bat coffee mug.



The Speleograph

In lieu of the dice game, small gifts were passed out to each person. A letter was read that included the words, "right" and "left." As each of these words were read, gifts were passed the designated way. At the end of the story, everyone was able to open the gift they had when the story ended. The game seemed to be a hit and will replace the dice game again next year. The dice game is kind of hard on some of us old people.....just saying....

The next game was CAVE-O, our traditional Xmas party game for many, many years. When I read "barite," I missed Dwight Weaver because he always corrected my pronunciation of that word and some others..... "Sea Caves" reminded me of Kerry Rowland, another recent loss to our grotto. And then there was "canopy," which was Steve Atteberry's word. He is still with us but no longer a grotto member. Prize winners were: Kathy (2), Christen (2), Ken (2), Buzz (2 – who says he never wins), Gary, Linda, Brandon & Rosie. Some indicated that certain people won more than once since the word caller was standing very close to them – but in my defense, I have to say that was not the case.... Rosie & Karen donated two really nice prizes. Frank donated the prize he brought. These 3 prizes were saved back for a blackout game. Derek won a copy of Dwight's *Caves of Missouri* book. Linda won a hand-drawn picture. Gary won Frank's mystery gift which turned out to be divining (or dowsing) rods. Everyone was given a bat pencil.



Thanks to everyone that attended, for the delicious food that was brought and for the chance to visit with so many wonderful people. To all a good night – and Merry Christmas! – Alberta Zumwalt

