

PHOLEOS

Journal Of The Wittenberg

University Speleological Society

Volume 18 (II)

December 2000



SPECIAL 20TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



PHOLEOS

Pholeos is a biannual journal of the Wittenberg University Speleological Society (WUSS), an internal organization of the National Speleological Society (NSS).

Purpose

The Wittenberg University Speleological Society is a chartered internal organization of the National Speleological Society, Inc. The Grotto received its charter in May 1980 and is dedicated to the advancement of speleology, to cave conservation and preservation, and to the safety of all persons entering the spelean domain.

WUSS web page

http://www4.wittenberg.edu/student_organizations/wuss/

Subscription rates are \$7 a year for two issues of *Pholeos*. Back issues are available at \$3.50 an issue.

Exchanges with other grottoes and caving groups are encouraged. Send all correspondence, subscriptions, and exchanges to the grotto address.

Membership

The Wittenberg University Speleological Society is open to all persons with an interest in caving. Membership is \$16 a year and comes with a subscription to *Pholeos*. Life membership is \$100.

Meetings

Meetings are held every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. when Wittenberg University classes are held. Regular meetings are in Room 319 in the Science building (corner of Plum and Edwards – parking available in the adjacent lot).

Submissions

Members are encouraged to submit articles, trip reports, artwork, photographs, and other material to the Editor. Submissions may be given to the Editor in person or sent to the Editor at the Grotto address. Guidelines for submitting research papers can be found on the inside back cover of this issue.

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PHOLEOS

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CO-EDITOR'S NOTE

After a few difficulties, the special 20th Anniversary issue of *Pholeos* is here. The Wittenberg University Speleological Society (WUSS) has worked hard to bring forth information on caves, fieldwork, and has summarized the past 20-plus years of caving. I hope you find *Pholeos* meeting your speleological interests. Happy reading!

Sara O'Donnell

FRONT COVER: A visit by WUSS's to Ohio Caverns during the 20th Anniversary.
Photo by H. Hobbs

BACK COVER: A group photo of WUSS's at the 20th Anniversary dinner celebration.
Photo by H. Hobbs

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the current president of the Wittenberg University Speleological Society (WUSS) I have experienced many great trips with only a few frustrations. In 1999 we had an enthusiastic group who enjoyed cave exploration, conservation, vertical work, and even surveying (suckers!). During the past fall semester we had several trips including three surveys to Rose Cave, IN, New Property Pit, KY, and to Lost Cavern near New Property Pit; two conservation trips to Sloan's Valley Cave, KY and to Santa Sink sinkhole, KY; and a vertical trip to Gory Hole, IN. We also were busy preparing for the 20th anniversary. The spring semester brought the: Crawl-a-thon, Bat Awareness Week, a trip to Sloan's Valley Cave, KY, a final survey trip to Rose Cave, IN, survey trips to smaller caves in Carter Co., KY, and Speleofest.

Looking ahead beyond this 20th anniversary towards the 25th I see WUSS focusing more on conservation and research. While one of the greatest aspects of caving is seeing unique formations and crawling through tight passages that open up into huge rooms, without strong conservation efforts these beauties can easily be lost forever. This is why WUSS participates in cave cleanup trips. Not only have we helped with the conservation trips mentioned above, in the recent past we also have aided with cleanups at Freeland's Cave sinkhole in Adam's Co., OH, Sullivan's Cave in Lawrence Co., IN, and Santa's



sinkhole in Horse Cave, KY. However, many more karst features still need our help and I would like to see WUSS expand more on these projects.

WUSS also is strongly involved in research and hopefully this will continue into the future. Under the guidance of Horton H Hobbs III, numerous WUSS members have worked on research involving cave systems. Our past president, Matthew Beversdorf,

spent his senior year developing a GIS database for the caves of Ohio. Also, Katie Gogolin and I both studied the biological and physicochemical parameters of Freeland's Cave, OH. This year, Matt Hazelton, is studying salamanders in Coon-In-The-Crack Cave, KY.

I have been a caver for several years, but my understanding and appreciation of the cave ecosystem has been enhanced after caving with WUSS and by taking Cave Ecology, a course offered by Dr. Hobbs at Wittenberg. WUSS members understand that cavers should not only explore the underground, but also we must study, survey, and protect it.

WUSS is an important part of my life here at Wittenberg. I have met many of my closest friends at Wittenberg on club trips and I only hope that the coming years will be as rewarding for everyone. So come join us and see what WUSS is all about.

Beth Hagen, President
WUSS# 0400
NSS# 36267



Members of WUSS at the 15th Annual Reunion, May 1995.

But Isn't It Dark Down There?

by Sara O'Donnell WUSS# 0473 NSS# 48842

Caves hold a special appeal not appreciated by those who have never been underground. One aspect I find exhilarating is being in a completely different and alien environment. It smells different— almost musty and yet earthy. Sounds are strangely muffled and close yet bounce around and reverberate in the enclosed space. You're even dressed differently- usually tough, loose coveralls, kneepads, gloves, sturdy climbing shoes and a hardhat with a lamp. You're carrying supplies, emergency equipment, ropes, and climbing gear. The plant and animal life are almost surreal— bats, weird translucent slime molds, hairy tree roots, albino amphibians with huge eyes and visible internal organs, furry patches of fungus. And forget the straight lines and comfortable Euclidean plane easiness of moving around on the surface. Half the time you're using hands as well as feet, and you might have to throw in a shoulder, elbow, knee, or your butt for support and leverage. You also often have to work in a distinctly three-

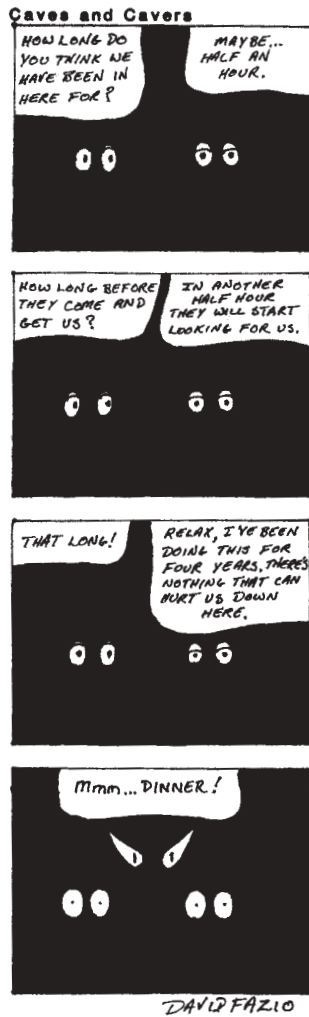
dimensional, multileveled, mazelike space. Tunnels switchback, drop away, lead upwards, only to lead you to a cavern from which the only exit is a "squeezer" up near the cavern's ceiling. Eventually you learn to visualize caves in terms of a three dimensional model that can be viewed from different angles, and rotated to suit the needs of any position you might be in relative to it.

Add to this feeling of navigating in a unique and seldom tread, almost privileged world (in the sense that only a very small percentage of the population caves) the feeling of challenge, of putting yourself to the test. Caving can be demanding, both physically and mentally. Physically, you have to be in decent shape with a good sense of



balance and some upper body strength. Caving is a good workout; inside the cave all muscle groups are used as you climb, scale, repel, reach, twist, bend and pull yourself along through the cave's spaces. Endurance is essential. It does you no good to begin hauling yourself up onto a ledge and feel your arm and shoulder muscles jitter with overexertion. Mentally, you have to be able to remain calm, cool, and collected, no matter what the

circumstance. Panic is the caver's worst enemy. When you're worming along on your stomach through a tunnel so narrow you have to keep your pack and your arms out in front of you and there's not enough room around your ribcage for a deep breath and you're suddenly painfully aware of the immense weight of tons of rocks suspended above you in temporary defiance of gravity and at the very moment your light dies and you realize you're jammed in there tighter than a cork in a bottle the very last thing you want to do is panic. That's when you find out who you really are, how deep within yourself you can dig, exactly what your own personal resources are. And when you manage to wiggle free and inch your way to the end, pull yourself through the impossibly tight exit and crawl gasping out onto the floor of a cavern you've never seen before, it's like being reborn. You appreciate how unique caves are and the special part they play in our natural environment. Because of their slow and gradual formation over many thousands of years, fantastic passages shape and develop, sediments are deposited, beautiful calcite formations build up, and various creatures find a home. To enter such a place is an experience unlikely to be forgotten, but unfortunately one that only a few people will be privileged to enjoy. ■



“How many Ping-Pong balls would it take to fill this up?”

“So what’s in the unexplored part of the cave? Does it ever rain in here?”

“So what is this—just a hole in the ground?”

“How much of the cave is underground?”

– Questions asked of Carlsbad National Park rangers

Through New Eyes: Observations of a non-student member in a student grotto.

Article and illustrations by Rob Payn WUSS# 0362 NSS# 41322

What is the essential difference between a student grotto and a regular grotto of the NSS? Several answers come to mind: youth, experience, enthusiasm. There are probably many more perfectly valid answers to that question, but the first that comes to mind is turnover. It can be both a curse and a blessing.

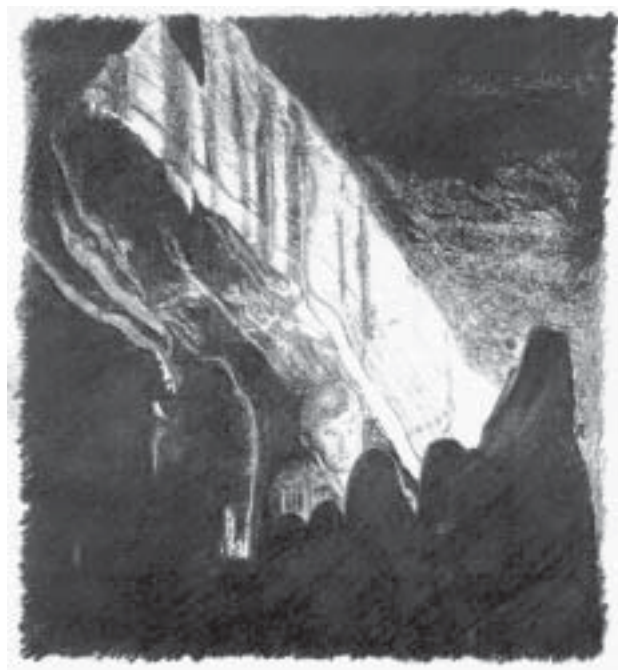
The challenge of dealing with turnover rests primarily in long term projects. Without a stable membership base, it becomes more difficult to manage continuity. It seems that critical tasks are constantly delayed while new cavers are trained in the skills and safety they need to continue a large scale cave survey or similar project.

It is tempting to believe that non-student members should take the leadership role in providing continuity to relieve stability challenges. In certain interpretations of leadership, this is true. But before passing judgement, maybe it's better to contemplate the benefits of student leadership and the goals of a student grotto, frustrations aside.

As many can remember, the years immediately following high school are some of the most developmental in adaptation to the adult world. It is a time when making your own mistakes becomes more influential in life than the constant presence and guidance of parents. More lessons are learned "the hard way," but lessons learned this way are much easier to remember.

What better way to learn responsibility, safety, self-reliance, and confidence than through management of a grotto of the

NSS? A primary goal of the society has always been education, but who is to say that education has to be limited to cave science or conservation. We all know that being a caver is much more than just going underground. A student grotto has the opportunity to produce more than just a safe and soft caver, it has the opportunity to produce a well



rounded adult.

What, then, is the role of the non-student member? Is it just the crew who hangs around in the back at meetings because they have nothing better to do? Far from it. The leadership provided by the "townies" (an affectionate label sometimes applied to non-student members) is less tangible, but very important. It is the vast knowledge base made available to the students week after week. It is the skill and instinct developed from decades of caving that just can't be gleaned in a few years. It is the example of being a responsible caver. The non-student members become the virtual "Encyclopedia of Caving," which is an invaluable resource to the student grotto.

Finally, what benefit does the student grotto present to the non-student member? This is perhaps the hardest to discern, as it is simply the gleam in a young person's eye. Most grottos have their favorite caving areas, and caves to which they have been dozens of times. When caving in a student grotto, however, all caves are virgin. Even the smallest, nastiest hole in the ground becomes a brand new cave when seen through a new caver's eyes.

Author's Note: *As a rookie townie (only 5 years of caving), I do not have much more experience than a senior in WUSS. I am thankful every day that my fellow non-student members have been there.*



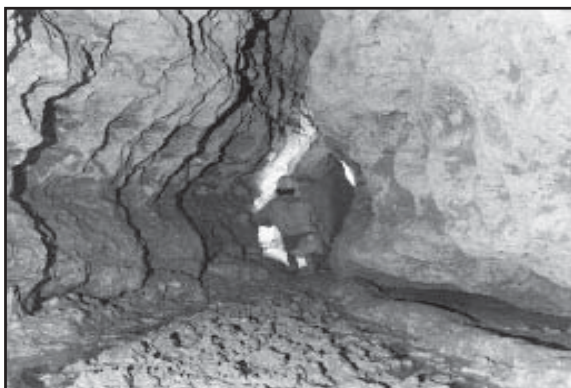
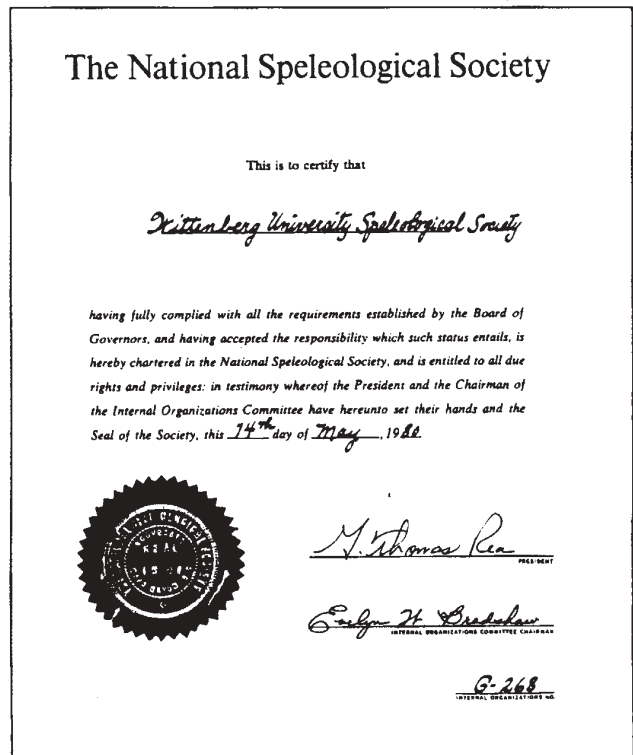


Twenty+ Years of WUSS

Celebrating Twenty-three Years of Caving

by Horton Hobbs III WUSS# 0001 NSS# 12386 RB, HM, CM, FE

It seems appropriate that during this year of celebration of the millennium and our twenty official years of existence, we should look back at the caving accomplishments, attempts, failures, as well as happy and sad times of the WUSSes. I even included when many of you were married although those data are far from complete (addresses mentioned refer to where couple lived after wedding and NOT to current address). In no way is this account a complete history of the club and grotto and, unfortunately, it cannot reflect the incredibly fantastic camaraderie of WUSSes and the great times experienced and friendships made over the past twenty-three years. Twenty-four individuals joined during the first year (officially 1978–1979 even though many of these students caved during the spring of 1977) and the number of WUSSes had grown to 479 by March 2000. Sadly, some are no longer with us but their enthusiasm, their spirit, and



Kessler's Cave, Highland County, Ohio, July 1, 1980.

their memories will always be a part of this organization.

It is inconceivable to me that more than two decades have passed since our meager beginning as a small group of people who enjoyed caving. It is also amazing to me that so many students and local people (“townies”) from southwestern and central Ohio have taken such strong interests in caves and helped make WUSS what it has been and continues to be today: an incredibly enjoyable, conservation oriented, and productive organization. The

enthusiasm of youth as new members come aboard each fall, the excitement (and a little fear!) of discovery and accomplishment that are a part of each member, the personal confidence that grows, and the appreciation of what caves are is nurtured in every member – these are the intangibles that I have had the joy to watch over the years.

From the first timid steps into the dark cave entrance as a freshman, to the first step over and down the lip of a gaping pit, to the confident fourth year student moving gracefully and with respect and care through a cave – these are the developments into “cavers” that I also have had the privilege to observe year after year. What follows is a summary of those yearly transformations of this energetic, productive, and amiable group of cavers.

1977 – The Cave Club was formed and officers were elected, **Jeff Marion (WUSS#0002) being the first President.** Much caving for fun was initiated with trips to Ohio and Indiana.



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
RESTON, VA. 22092

March 19, 1982

Dr. H. H. Hobbs, III
Department of Biology
Wittenberg University
Springfield, Ohio 45501

Dear Dr. Hobbs:

we wish to acknowledge, with thanks, the arrival of Pholeos, Vol. 1, Nos. 1 and 2, and Vol. 2, No. 1, 1981. Your thoughtfulness in sending this material to the U. S. Geological Survey Library was appreciated.

The basic rate of exchange between the Survey Library and the grottoes of the NSS is one Topographic Quadrangle per issue of a grotto newsletter; however, in recognition of the superior quality of Pholeos, as grotto newsletters go, we are prepared to send two quadrangles per issue, and larger requests will be considered. When requesting quadrangles, please cite them in alphabetical order under the name of the State. Your requests, and any other correspondence concerning our exchange program, may be sent to me at the following address:

U. S. Geological Survey Library
National Center—Mail Stop 950
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, Virginia 22092

Sincerely yours,

Glenn H. Borders
Exchange and Gift Librarian

HOBBS CREATES CLUB TO FURTHER CAVE CRAWLING

Article reprint from the Torch, April 28, 1978

If you are any bit claustrophobic, this article is not for you. Some of the caves which Dr. Horton H. Hobbs III, assistant professor of biology, has explored have been no more than two-and-a-half feet high, making it necessary for him to crawl on his stomach in order to study the caves.

“These are called sucker passages,” Dr. Hobbs said. “Sometimes you follow these for quite a while thinking they will lead to a larger cavern.”

Dr. Hobbs has been in some even tighter squeezes. He recalled one experience in which he climbed down a vertical chute but couldn’t climb back out. “I had the force of gravity with me on the way down, but to get out I had to strip out of my clothes so I could squeeze through the small opening. I was pretty shook,” Dr. Hobbs said.

Sure there is the adventuresome side to the study of caves, but Dr. Hobbs stresses that “systematic study of caves” in the new caving club which he is starting.

The purpose of this club, according to Dr. Hobbs, is simply for people who have an interest in caves to go out and study them. Dr. Hobbs hopes to make trips every weekend to study the caves in surrounding areas.

Already this term, Dr. Hobbs has explored and mapped five different caves in Highland and Miami counties. Caves are found where large deposits of limestone are present. Areas around Lake Erie and Bellefontaine are especially good for studying caves, Dr. Hobbs said.

According to Dr. Hobbs, very little is known about the caves in Ohio for few studies have ever been done. It is his hope that interest in the cave club remains so that after a few years the first major study of Ohio’s caves will have been done.

Dr. Hobbs also plans to take a trip to Indiana or Kentucky to look at some more magnificent caves. The larger of the caves that Dr. Hobbs has studied in Ohio have been approximately 15 feet high and 125 feet in length.

According to Dr. Hobbs there are numerous caves in Ohio, but at least they can be studied on a year round basis.

“Caves stay at 55 degrees all year round,” Dr. Hobbs said, and winter is actually the best time to study them because you can see steam blowing out of the cave openings.”

Hobbs, continued on page 14

HISTORY

1978 – By 1 April the Cave Club was in full swing with its first cave surveyed (Dry Cave, Highland County, Ohio). Members of the survey team were Allen Flickinger (WUSS#0014), R. Gordan, Horton Hobbs, Anne Mackenzie (WUSS#0015), Ray Ann Wessel (WUSS#0006), Kurt Whitford (WUSS#0003), and Dave Zimmerman (WUSS#00018). This was soon followed by the survey of Paint Creek Cave in Miami County on 7 April. Oddly enough, the map to this second cave was never published in *Pholeos*. Thompson Cave, also in Miami County, was surveyed on 15 April (once we caught the bug, we got busy!).

1979 – The Cave Club added 14 new members and in February Spider Cave, Greene County, Ohio was surveyed by Mike Flynn (WUSS#0021), Horton Hobbs, Jim Oris (WUSS#0017), Sally Steele (WUSS#0009), and Dave Zimmerman but the map did not appear in *Pholeos* until volume 3(2) in 1983. Keith's Fracture Cave, Clark County, Ohio was surveyed 10 December by Keith Graham (WUSS#0008) and Horton Hobbs.

1980 – ***Wittenberg University Speleological Society*** received its National Speleological Society (NSS) Charter 14 May 1980 and with it, its Internal Organization Number of G-268. WUSS was now an “official grotto” of the NSS! Boy, have we taken some ribbing for the “WUSS” namesake!! ***The first President of the Wittenberg University Speleological Society Student Grotto was Michael Flynn***, the President of the National Speleological Society at that time was G. Thomas Rea, and the first budget granted by the Wittenberg Student Senate was for \$670.10. Fifteen new members joined that year and a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources helped to support the survey of some 40 Ohio caves during the summer by Mike Flynn and Horton Hobbs (Dave Zimmerman returned to help in the project).

1981 – Laurel Cave, Carter County, Kentucky was the first WUSS collective effort to survey a sizable cave and produce a map. Other caves surveyed (entirely or in part) during the year were Bat and Saltpetre caves in Carter County, Kentucky and Bartlett's, Buck Creek Blowing I and II, Simpson's, Charleston Falls, Crevice, Dry Bone, Freeland's, Hackleshin, Hanna, Hogwaller, and Seven Caves area caves in southern Ohio. This was the first year for publishing our efforts in *Pholeos* and several other research papers by members appeared in other scientific journals. This also was an active year of recruiting new members, with the addition of 23.

1982 – Nineteen new members joined for a productive year of sport caving and surveying and WUSS operated with a budget of \$1500.00. During late 1981 and winter and spring of 1982 much effort was invested in the survey of the Seven Caves area in Highland County, Ohio. Individuals involved with the project were Jane Bush (WUSS#0043), Vic Fazio (WUSS#0045), Fred Gilbert (WUSS#0066), Horton Hobbs, Terry Madigan (WUSS#0039), Rick Parsons (WUSS#0059), and Julia Petot (WUSS#0062). Maps for 21 of these caves appeared in *Pholeos* 3(1) during that year. Bat and Saltpetre caves in Carter County, Kentucky were being worked on by a large number of WUSSes as well as several small caves in southern Ohio. Rae Ann Wessle married Stephen Scholle in June and they are living in Fort Myers, FL and Jeff Marion married Susie Lungstrom in August of this year and they are living in St. Paul, MN.

1983 – Freeland's, Hawk, Hole-in-the-Wall, Fools Rappell caves in Ohio and the Saltpetre-Moon Cave System, Bat and X caves in Kentucky were in various stages of completion. Eleven students joined the grotto and were involved in caving, giving plasma at a nearby center to raise funds for

HISTORY

WUSS, and sponsoring a “Gifted and Talented Workshop” for area children, the latter event organized and run by Vic Fazio. A new species of aquatic isopod was described from Fern Cave in Adams County, Ohio by Tom Bowman of the Smithsonian Institution and Horton Hobbs. Keith Graham and Yolanda Adams were married in July as were Terry Madigan and Mary Sue Stevens (WUSS#0086) who live in Springfield, and Simon Poulter (WUSS#0019) married Karen and they are living in Philadelphia, PA. During September Dave Zimmerman and Susan Reiger were married as were Mark Kieser (WUSS#0046) and Julie who are living in Michigan. Anne Dolphin (WUSS#0078) made an unplanned slide down a rope while practicing at the bridge abutment next to Buck Creek (grabbed knots at the top of the climb).

While shaken and having spent the night in Mercy Medical Center for observation, Anne was fine.

1984 – This was not the active period demonstrated in previous years but even with a scant five new members, the surveys of Cedar Fork, X, and Lost Comb caves were completed [*Pholeos* 4(2)] and work continued on Bat Cave. The long-awaited description and map for Saltpetre Cave in Carter County, Kentucky appeared in *Pholeos* 4(1), co-authored by Vic Fazio and Donna D’Angelo (WUSS#0054). Jim Oris and Lori were married in September and live in East Lansing, MI where Jim is completing his doctorate degree.

1985 – This fifth year of the grotto’s existence saw a renewal of enthusiasm with 28 new members. Work began on the drafting of the Ohio Cave Protection bill and several Ohio and Kentucky caves were surveyed [see *Pholeos* 5(2) and 6 (1 & 2)]. Included in this was the map and description of Freeland’s Cave in Adams County, Ohio, the longest surveyed cave in the state.

1986 – Eleven students joined and much effort was put into the Ohio Cave Protection bill. A long-term effort was initiated in April to study the fauna of Shelta Cave in Huntsville, Alabama. During the summer and with the financial aid of a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Naomi Mitchell (WUSS#0116), Todd Zimmerman, and Horton Hobbs surveyed 11 caves in six counties in Ohio. Several of those maps appeared in the 1986 *Pholeos* 7(1). Teresa Keenan (WUSS#0114) and others surveyed several caves found along the north shore of Smokey Lake in Carter County, Kentucky, the maps for these appearing in *Pholeos* 7(2). During December, several members traveled south and had a grand time bouncing pits in TAG (Tennessee–Alabama–Georgia),

continued on page 12
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NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

*affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science
Dedicated to the exploration, study, and conservation of caves*

660 Green Hedge Dr.
Fenton, MO 63026
July 8, 1987

H.H. Hobbs III, Ph.D.
Wittenberg Univ. Speleological Society
Wittenberg Univ./Dept. of Biology
P.O. Box 720
Springfield, OH 45501

Dear Beep,

In case there is a Miracle, and somebody else bids for a BOG meeting, I still feel Wittenberg should make a bid, and I would prefer Springfield over Indianapolis for the following reasons:

- 1) CIG hosted a BOG mtg. in 3/82 and WUSS never has.
- 2) It was in Indiana in 1982 and in Ohio in 1972.
- 3) CIG has a stable caver population, and yours is a changing student population. If the BOG mtg. is postponed at WUSS, a new batch might not want to host it.
- 4) CIG probably wouldn't shed a tear if they didn't get the bid, but your bright-eyed, bushy-tailed enthusiastic students would be disappointed. And we don't want to disappoint our replacements, unless you plan on caving, mappin', and photo-ing in your wheelchair.

Therefore, let the Board decide where the BOG meeting should be. MAKE the bid. By the way, I did send more inquiry letters to: N.J., Texas, Nevada, Utah, and Florida(again).

Don't worry about nitty-gritty plans this summer; let your students do the leg-work this fall.

Sincerely,

Lois
Lois Bronnert
NSS BOG Arrangements

P.S. Surely you don't think I'm going to let you off the hook, do you?



Cave Avenue

Huntsville, Alabama 35810

AC 205 852-1300

CAVING CLUB OFFERS VARIETY OF EXPERIENCES

Article reprinted from the Torch, February 4, 1983

by Chris Engle WUSS# 0079

On a cool morning during eighth week last fall term, I, along with seven members of the Wittenberg Caving Club, began slowly edging my way into a two foot wide crevice in the side of a heavily forested hill. This was definitely not the sort of wide cave entrance popularized by Hollywood, and reinforced by the tourist sections of giant caverns Such as Mammoth Cave in Kentucky. As I stopped to allow the others to proceed (a move intended to buy time while I gathered some courage), I reflected on the chain of events that led me to this first caving experience.

During the early weeks of fall term, I began hearing rumors that someone named Vic was looking for a TORCH reporter to write a story on the Caving Club. About three weeks later I finally managed to make it to a club meeting (arriving five minutes late), where I gained a wealth of information.

The club is officially a local chapter of the National Speleological Society (the official term for caving is "spelunking"), and has existed at Wittenberg since the fall of 1979, according to the club's vice president, Vic Fazio. The club not only explores caves, but maps and writes descriptions of them which are then published in the club's journal. This journal is, in turn, mailed out to other local chapters around the country.

Deciding that the best way to write a story would be to experience spelunking for myself, I agreed to accompany the club on an upcoming one-day trio to various small caves in the area of Pike county, Ohio. Two weeks later, I found myself at the entrance of "Dry Bone Cave," fighting back feelings of claustrophobia.

This temporary apprehension dissipated quickly, however, as I began working my way into the narrow cave entrance. The pace was slow, as the passage became increasingly cramped: the walls became narrower, while the descending height of the ceiling forced us into a crawl. Because the floor was littered with small rocks, I thanked God for my kneepads.

When the entrance disappeared behind us, the only light available was from the carbide lamps attached to our helmets in coal miner fashion. Stopping for a rest and

noticing my surroundings, I saw another world. From the ceiling hung a bat, which only complemented the dark, musty atmosphere. This was a world of total darkness and quiet in which we, with our loud voices and harsh lamps, were invaders.

I had little time for too much reflecting, however. Someone called back, "How's Chris doing?" "Great," I responded. I lied. Actually, I was trying to struggle my way through a section which made life very difficult for an overweight history major turned TORCH reporter. Unhooking my cave pack, I managed to squirm through on my back - only to run into another surprise.

Coming up on the person ahead of me (who asked not to be identified), the beam from my lamp shined on his left leg: which is how we simultaneously discovered a small bat which had decided to take up residence on his thigh. Hoping for advice from more experienced members, he shouted ahead:

"Folks, there is a bat on my leg. WHAT do I do?!"

"Well, brush it off," came the reply.

The bat rolled onto the floor, seemingly unconcerned with the entire event.

We spent approximately 45 minutes in this first cave. Upon re-emerging outside, I experienced a

jubilant quelled only by my near exhaustion. I was surrounded again by light rather than darkness, fresh air rather than cave must, openness rather than crawl spaces; in other words, by the "real world." My "gung-ho" was at a peak. I had survived my first cave.

We explored three more caves that day, each with its own unique character. The various sights included works of nature, such as small stalactites, buttresses, crystalline formations, and an underground pool of water complete with fish. Other sights were man-made, such as cave art ("John loves Suzy") and a pair of jockey undershorts. Later, I became an official member of the 'club'.

Spelunking offers something for virtually everyone. For the scientist, it offers a largely unspoiled environment for study. For the adventurer, it offers a world totally different from our own, and plenty of opportunities to explore areas where humans have yet to invade. For the athletically inclined, caving offers a physical challenge more interesting than plodding countless times around a track. Anyone can become a spelunker, regardless of interests, major or previous experience. ■

Down Under

Reprinted from Pholeos 5 (1) Author unknown

How can I explain

Why I am driven underground

Where my body shares secrets with the damp or dusty earth

When I could be hiking in the sunshine or going for a country drive.

What primordial chord has been struck?

DEEP IN THE DARK RECESSES.... CAVING CLUB ENJOYS DIVERSITY

Article reprinted from the Torch, May 10, 1985

by Ban Hillerich

I wonder how many Wittenberg students, along with myself, assumed that the Caving Club was strictly for Geology majors who loved exploring the cold, damp caves within the area? After a very informative and enjoyable interview with Dr. Hobbs and Marc Pender, the club's new president, I can assure you that this isn't so.

The Wittenberg Caving Club gets itself involved in much more than the deep, dark abyss. Some of the other activities that the club participates in range from backpacking and camping to the publication and production of the *Pholeos*. "In fact, Dr. Horton H. Hobbs, professor of biology, said, "I don't think we have a Geology major among us. We're just a group of people with wide interests who enjoy having a chance to work and develop these interests."

The publication, called *Pholeos*, is a bi-annual newspaper recording the club's activities and findings during their research. It is sent out internationally to geologists and surveyors or anyone who is interested in the work they've done. Both Marc Pender, union political science major and

president of the club, and Dr. Hobbs agree that *Pholeos* is the common bond of the club because it gives everyone a chance to report on their specific interests and discoveries. It must be noted that to produce and publish such a newspaper does require funding and for that the club extends its sincere gratitude and thanks to Student Government for their support. Without their help, *Pholeos* would not exist and many students as a result would lose a good opportunity to expand and broaden their horizons.

Still another area that the club has become involved in is state politics. It seems that today with the ever expanding suburbia of the cities, caves are amongst the endangered list. To combat this destruction of nature and wildlife the club has written and presented to the state legislature "Cave Laws" which would protect and preserve anything involved with and including the cave. Many other states already have such laws preventing the filling in or destruction of existing caves. Using these already established laws, the club refined and modified their legislature before submitting it to the state of Ohio. As Dr. Hobbs put it, "Caves are a natural, beautiful part of nature worthy of preserving." Both Marc and Dr. Hobbs feel that when their legislature comes up for a vote some time in the summer, positive things will begin to happen. ■

CAVERS SUPPORT OHIO CAVE PROTECTION ACT

Article reprinted from the Torch, November 7, 1986

by Jenny Adams

The Wittenberg University Speleological Society, better known as the Caving Club, in its seventh year of existence, has begun another eventful year. Among its activities planned for this year is the pushing for a piece of legislation designed to protect Ohio caves from abuse. The legislation is known as the Ohio Protection Act.

There's an honest need for it, states Dr. Horton H. Hobbs III, associate professor of biology and Caving Club advisor. Presently, there are roughly 10-15 states in the nation with cave protection laws, he reported. Ohio is not one of them.

Because so few states, including Ohio, have no law, people are free to use caves as garbage dumps, sewage drains, and graffiti collectors. Hobbs says that people are "ignorant" of what they are doing and that they are unaware of the serious consequences that could result.

Not only do caves lose their natural beauty, Hobbs said, but rare species or animals which cannot survive anywhere else are killed. Garbage is also absorbed into the earth contaminating the groundwater supply. He further adds that the damage is often too difficult to repair.

Marc Pender, president of Caving Club, says that the purpose of the law would be to "make people aware that

what they are doing is not only wrong from a legal standpoint, but is not beneficial to them because of the groundwater pollution."

According to Dr. Hobbs, the club began working on the law roughly five years ago. All existing cave protection laws in the few states that already had them were examined and the club drew up a bill catering to the caves of Ohio.

The bill had roughly "five or six revamps" before it was suitable for submission to the Ohio state legislature, Dr. Hobbs adds. The punishment for cave abuse was originally a bit too strict so it had to be lessened considerably. But, Hobbs says, "Once there's a law we can hopefully have amendments for the law" which would both strengthen it and increase the severity of punishment.

When the Ohio senate reassembles on Nov. 12, the fate of the Ohio Cave Protection Act will be determined.

"We have to be ready to move," says Hobbs. "We want to be there when the bill is introduced."

"We care about caves," echoes Marc Pender. Pender believes that is the sole purpose of supporting the bill - to

Pender advises people who visit caves to leave them as they were found. He believes caves should be preserved. "When you find things such as arrowheads or broken formations, leave them there," he says.

The motto of both the Wittenberg Caving Club and the National Speleological Society best sums up how caves should be treated everywhere, according to Pender. "Take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints, kill nothing but time." ■

HISTORY

Twenty Years continued from page 9

including the 404' drop in Fern Cave. Mark Butler (WUSS#0023) married Rita Raney in May and they live in Tallahassee, FL and Jim Cotner (WUSS#0044) and Jenny Ward were married in June and are living in Lansing, MI.

1987 – The enthusiasm of 22 new members flowed through the group. A register was placed in an upper level passage in Laurel Cave, Carter County, Kentucky on 30 January. Only 44 visitors signed it before the register was destroyed. A similar fate was met by the register installed in Rimstone Cave. During the December break, a crew headed back to TAG to visit Ellisons Cave in Walker County, Georgia. This was an enjoyable trip with two deep pits (440' and 510'). However, due to a rock collapse which blocked the only way through the cave, not everyone was able to make the through trip but all successfully did one or more of the big drops. Ohio caves continued to be surveyed with one completed in Perry and another in Wyandot counties [see *Pholeos* 8(1)].


Gretchen Bonfert (WUSS#0051) and Stan Yonkauski were married in February and reside in Springfield, IL and Lilly Popovich (WUSS#0139) and Gregory True were married in August and live in Dayton, OH.

1988 – Eleven new members joined in the fall. The survey of Bat Cave continued as well as the initiation of the survey of Zane Caverns in Logan County, Ohio and selected caves in Boone National Forest in Kentucky. A treatment of some caves in northeastern Ohio was presented by Warren Luther (WUSS#0113) in *Pholeos* 9(1)

as was an informative discussion of the bats of Ohio by Teresa Keenan. In February, WUSS hosted the National Speleological Society Board of Governors and the National Speleological Foundation meetings in the Shoumlin Center on campus. Also in February, Chris Cooke (WUSS#0134), Horton Hobbs, Teresa Keenan, Charles Kronk (WUSS#0131), Howard Kronk (WUSS#0133), and Bill Stitzel (WUSS#0132) accompanied Ronald Reagan, Jr. to northern Alabama to do a spot for ABC's *Good Morning America* which was aired 16 February. Two former members, Daland Juberg (WUSS#0075) and Lisa Strong (WUSS#0076), were married and live in Ann Arbor, MI. In November, Ohio SB#177 was passed resulting in the Ohio Cave Protection Act. A lot of very hard work went into writing and getting the bill passed in both the Ohio House and the Senate and was spearheaded by Chip Freund (WUSS#0081), Teresa Keenan, and Horton Hobbs. Without the support and effort put forth by senators David Hobson and Lee


continued on page 14

John Y. Brown, Jr.
Governor



Lou Karibe
Commissioner

KENTUCKY
Carter Caves STATE RESORT PARK
Olive Hill, Kentucky 41164 Phone (606) 286-4411

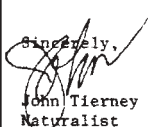


H. H. Hobbs III
Assistant Professor of Biology
Wittenberg University
Springfield Ohio 45501

Dear Horton;

I wanted to acknowledge receiving the map of Laurel Cave. I am quite pleased with it. I hope your people gain something from the experience--I know we did.

Sorry I didn't get to see you during your visit, but look forward to seeing you at a future date. When and if you come back down, just let me know.

Sincerely,

John Tierney
Naturalist

Cave Protection Act Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1517, Sections 1517.21 to 1517.26 for the Protection of Cave Resources

Section 1

That section 1517.99 be amended and sections 1517.21, 1517.22, 1517.23, 1517.24, 1517.25, and 1517.26 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Section 1517.21 Definitions.

As used in sections 1517.21 to 1517.26 of the Revised Code:

- (A) "Cave" means a naturally occurring void, cavity, recess, or system of interconnecting passages beneath the surface of the earth or within a cliff or ledge, including, without limitation, a grotto, rock shelter, sinkhole, cavern, pit, natural well, pothole, or subsurface water and drainage system.
- (B) "Cave life" means any life form that normally occurs in, uses, visits, or inhabits any cave, except those animals that are included under Chapter 1531. or 1533. of the Revised Code.
- (C) "Material" means:
 - (1) Any speleothem, whether attached or broken, found in a cave;
 - (2) Any clay or mud formation or concretion or sedimentary deposit found in a cave;
 - (3) Any scallop, rill, or other corrosional or corrasional feature of a cave;
 - (4) Any wall or ceiling of a cave.
- (D) "Owner" means any person having title to land in which a cave is located.
- (E) "Speleothem" means any stalactite, stalagmite, or other natural mineral formation or deposit occurring in a cave.
- (F) "Speleogen" means the surrounding material or bedrock in which a cave is formed, including walls, floors, ceilings, and similar related structural and geological components.
- (G) "Sinkhole" means a closed topographic depression or basin generally draining underground, including, without limitation, a blind valley, swallowhole, or sink.
- (H) "Gate" means any structure or device that is located in such a manner as to limit, control, or prohibit access to or entry into a cave.

Section 1517.22 Declaration of Policy to Protect Caves.

The General Assembly hereby finds that caves are uncommon geologic phenomena and that the minerals deposited in them may be rare and occur in unique forms of great beauty that are irreplaceable if destroyed. Also irreplaceable are the archaeological resources in caves, which are of great scientific and historic value. It is further found that the organisms that live in caves are unusual and of limited numbers; that many are rare, threatened, or endangered species; and that caves are a natural conduit for groundwater flow and are highly subject to water pollution, thus having far-reaching effects transcending man's property boundaries. It is therefore declared to be the policy of the General Assembly to protect these unique natural and cultural resources.

Section 1517.23 Responsibilities of the Chief of the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves.

With the advice of the Ohio Natural Areas Council created under section 1517.03 of the Revised Code, the chief of the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves shall:

- (A) Formulate policies and plans and establish a program incorporating them for the identification and protection of the state's cave resources and adopt, amend, or rescind rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement that program;
- (B) Provide technical assistance and management advice to owners upon request.

Section 1517.24 Prohibitions.

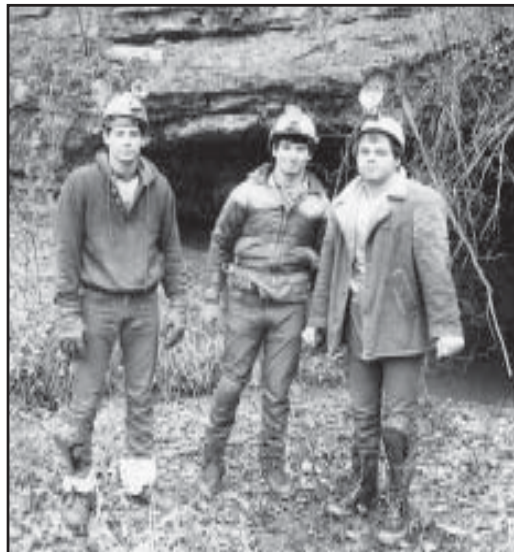
Without the express written permission of the owner and, if the owner has leased the land, without express written permission of the lessee, no person shall:

- (A) Willfully or knowingly break, break off, crack, carve on, write on, mark on, burn, remove, or in any other manner destroy, deface, mark, or disturb the surfaces of any cave or any natural material that may be found in any cave, whether attached or broken, including, without limitation, speleothems, speleogens, and sedimentary deposits;
- (B) Break, force, tamper with, or otherwise disturb any lock, door, gate, or other device designed to control or prevent access to a cave;
- (C) Remove, deface, or tamper with any posted sign giving notice against unauthorized access to or presence in a cave or citing any of the provisions of sections 1517.21 to 1517.26 or division (B) of section 1517.99 of the Revised Code;
- (D) Place refuse, garbage, dead animals, sewage, or toxic substances harmful to cave life or humans in a cave or sinkhole;

- (E) Burn within a cave or sinkhole any substance that produces smoke or gas that is harmful to any naturally occurring organism in the cave or sinkhole other than acetylene gas emission created by carbide lamps;
- (F) Use any door, gate, or other device designed to control or prevent access to a cave that does not allow free and unimpeded passage of air, water, and naturally occurring cave life;
- (G) Excavate or remove historic or prehistoric ruins, burial grounds, or archaeological or paleontological sites found in a cave, including, without limitation, saltpeter workings, relics, inscription, fossilized footprints, and bones;
- (H) Destroy, injure, or deface historic or prehistoric ruins, burial grounds, or archaeological or paleontological sites found in a cave, including, without limitation, saltpeter workings, relics, inscriptions, fossilized footprints, and bones. Violation of this division is desecration under section 2927.11 of the Revised Code.
- (I) Remove, kill, harm, or disturb any cave life found within a cave.

Section 1517.25 Unlawful sale of speleothems.

No person shall sell or offer for sale speleothems collected from caves in this state.



Freeland's Cave, Adam's County, 1986.

Section 1517.26 Limits of liability of cave owners.

Owners of land and, if the owner has leased the land, the lessee, are not liable for injuries, mental harm, or death sustained by persons using their land, including but not limited to cave resources, for recreational educational, or scientific purposes if no charge has been made. By granting permission for entry or use, the owner or lessee does not:

- (A) Extend any assurance that the premises are safe for such purposes;
- (B) Constitute to the permittee the legal status of an invitee or licensee to whom a duty of care is owed;
- (C) Assume responsibility for or incur liability for any injury to person or property caused by an act or omission of a permittee except as provided in this section.
- (D) This section does not limit the liability which otherwise exists for:
 - (1) Willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, or natural structure;
 - (2) Failure to guard or warn against a dangerous man-made structure, fixture, or activity.

Section 1517.99 Penalties.

- (A) Whoever violates section 1517.021 or 1517.051 of the Revised Code shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than five hundred dollars for a first offense; for each subsequent offense the person shall be fined not less than two hundred nor more than one thousand dollars.
- (B) Whoever violates section 1517.24 or 1517.25 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

Section 2

That existing section 1517.99 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.

HISTORY

Twenty Years continued from page 12

Fisher, the bill would never have passed.

1989 – The replacement of graduates was made with the addition of 23 cavers to the group. The survey of Bat Cave in Kentucky was completed (finally!) and the map and description appeared in *Pholeos* 9(2). The Zane Caverns survey also was finished and appeared later in *Pholeos* 10(1). All were saddened by the untimely death of Scott Baille (WUSS#0168), a charismatic individual who was a lover of the outdoors and was one of the students who founded the Wittenberg Outdoor Club. WUSS received the NSS Conservation Award for its outstanding contributions to cave conservation at the NSS annual meeting in Sewanee, Tennessee. The first of three caving expeditions to Costa Rica by various WUSSes occurred in late December 1988 and January 1989 and continued through 1991. Marc Pender and Lori Brockhuis were married in April and reside in Willoughby, OH.

1990 – This year brought 17 new members to the group and much caving for fun occurred during the year. In spite of the trips “just to cave,” the surveys of Cool James Cave in Carter County, Kentucky by Jon Proctor (WUSS#0171) and Ace Bowen Cave in Powell County, Kentucky and Well Cave in Menifee County, Kentucky by Bill Stitzel were completed. Student Cathy Pederson (now Dr. Pederson in the Department of Biology at Wittenberg) conducted a study on the drift of benthic macroinvertebrates in the stream flowing through Bat Cave, Carter County, Kentucky and published her results in *Pholeos* 11(1). In September, Allen Flickinger married Michelle and they live in Minnesota.

1991 – The onslaught of the second decade of WUSS began with the addition of 25 new cavers to the club who enjoyed many caving trips throughout the year. Survey work began in February on the large, privately owned Canyon Cave in Carter County, Kentucky. Also outside of the park and on

Hobbs, continued from page 7

It also makes no difference whether caves are studied in the day or night since there is no light in caves anyway, Dr. Hobbs pointed out. According to Dr. Hobbs, caves are fairly easy to locate by the use of geological maps, looking for springs and sinkholes, or the easy way out—asking the locals.

Once a cave is found, study begins. “A cave is a very specialized ecosystem,” Dr. Hobbs said. “One has to be very careful not to disturb the biological balance within the cave.”

Cave study involves both biological and geological techniques. Caves are mapped, photographed, their composition is analyzed, and organisms within each cave are studied.

Dr. Hobbs specializes in the study of organisms. At the University of Indiana he did his doctorate studies on anthropogenic organisms within caves. This study involved extensive population surveys, environmental adaptation studies, and life histories.

Just a couple of weeks ago, Dr. Hobbs’ club made an exciting discovery. “We think we have found a new organism never before described. We have preserved a few of the specimens and have sent them to the Smithsonian in Washington to be analyzed.” This organism is a type of wingless insect, according to Dr. Hobbs.

Interest in this caving club has been enthusiastic this spring. Over 20 students have shown interest in participating.

These students range from geology and biology majors, to those who just have an interest in the excitement surrounding the study of caves.

Caving does have its exciting moments, though Dr. Hobbs stresses the safety aspect of exploration. Safety techniques are taught thoroughly before any exploration begins.

To point out some of the dangers in caving, Dr. Hobbs said that just two weeks ago the cave being studied was built on a major fracture, and any wrong movements could have caused the cave floor to dislodge.

Once caving techniques are learned, students can go out and study caves on their own, Dr. Hobbs said.

So, if any of you get tired of life on the outside world, see you underground. ■

HISTORY

private property was Adams Creek Cave which was surveyed by Scott Engel (WUSS#0186) and others; the map and description were published in *Pholeos* 12(1). Manuscripts summarizing anthropogenic impacts on karst systems were published by Kevin Simon (WUSS#0221) and Scott Engel. Lynn Morrill (WUSS#0058) married Calvin Collins in December and they live in Phoenix, AR.



1992 – Much work continued on the survey of Canyon Cave in Kentucky and 22 new students committed to crawling in the mud for a period of their lives. A two year study, funded by the National Park Service, was initiated to assess the ecological resources of caves in the Russell Cave National Monunment, Alabama and within the National Park Service property boundaries at Lookout Mountain in Georgia and Tennessee. Nine members of WUSS played key roles in completing this study with many horizontal and vertical caves visited (including 85m deep Mystery Falls Pit). A three year study was funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to examine the biota and general ecological resources of twenty-eight caves within the boundaries of the Hoosier National Forest in southern Indiana. Eleven grotto members were very active in this project. Members Bob Davenport (WUSS#0100) and Therese Herp (WUSS#0108) were married in May and live in Gaithersburg, MD.

1993 – Although 40 people joined WUSS, the untimely death of David Zimmerman (WUSS#0018), biology/philosophy major

and 1979 graduate of Wittenberg and one of the early, very active members of the Caving Club during 1978 and 1979 made this a tough year. Dave was the “author” of numerous songs and witty sayings and had produced the verbiage for the first WUSS t-shirt: “Speleologists make a science of going down” – gold lettering on a dark blue shirt. Articles by Megan Porter (WUSS#0262) and Annette Summers (WUSS#0244) appeared in *Pholeos* 13(2) and represented the beginnings of much to come! Jeff Lapp (WUSS#0227) published his study on amphipods in Bat Cave, Carter County, Kentucky. Dawn Fuller (WUSS#0269) became the first *Life Member* of Wittenberg University Speleological Society.

1994 – This was a year of excellent recruitment with 43 new people joining the grotto (the most of any year). Seventeen members of the grotto helped in a variety of ways with a two year study of five species of cave-adapted organisms known from five caves in southern Ohio. One of the highlights of the year was the annual meeting of the National

AFTER HOURS: STATOMAT-GLOBE SPELUNKER SURFACES ON GOOD MORNING AMERICA

Article reprint from *Inside Ransburg*, April 1988

Inside Ransburg 4/88

When the producers of ABC's Good Morning America asked the Wittenberg University Speleological Society to lead a prime-time expedition into Alabama cave country, the answer, says Statomat-Globe, Inc.'s Charles Kronk, was an emphatic "No."

Within a few weeks, however, Kronk and his fellow Society members found themselves rappelling through a waterfall into a 140-foot pit with ABC correspondent and presidential offspring Ron Reagan.

Says Kronk, "It's beautiful down there, but it's not a playground."

Having devoted much of his spare time to studying and preserving the fragile ecology of America's underground wonderlands, the 45-year-old manufacturing engineering manager from Dayton was less than anxious to introduce caving to millions of unpredictable TV viewers.

When practiced by experts, caving can be dangerous, says Kronk, who considers a several-hundred foot climb "about average," and has himself climbed almost 600 feet in and out of the deepest pit in the U.S.

When practiced by novices, caving can be disastrous, adds Kronk, and almost always leads to an upset of the natural balance of the cave's ecosystem. When the Wittenberg University Speleological Society (known affectionately among members as the WUSSes) did finally agree to the expedition, it was with the hope that their credo would be stressed: Kill only time; take only pictures; leave only footprints.

In a subsequent Springfield News-Sun article, Kronk described the odyssey into some of Alabama's most breathtaking caves: "You can see this stuff in picture books, but you just have to see it for yourself," Kronk told a reporter.

The five-minute segment, which aired on Tuesday, February 16, took three days -and a lot of patience - to shoot, says Kronk.

It also had some tense moments, including an episode with novice-caver Reagan suspended in mid-air while the camera crew pondered their next shot.

Though TV stardom may have its advantages, says Kronk, it also has its drawbacks. It wasn't until the camera crew left, he reveals with a laugh, that the real caving got started. ■

Speleological Society held in Bracketville, Texas and a good overview of the week was presented in *Pholeos* 14(1 & 2) by Susan Hobbs (WUSS#0297). The survey of Canyon Cave in Carter County, Kentucky continued and Anne Huddle (WUSS#0229) presented the results of her research in Cobble Crawl Cave at the Second International Conference on Ground Water Ecology. Kevin Simon received *The James Mitchell Award* for Best Student Paper presented at the National Speleological Society Convention. Naomi Mitchell and Antonio Bentivoglio were married and reside in Thousand Oaks, CA and Chip Freund (WUSS#0081) married Susie in June and they live in the Cleveland, OH area.

1995 – Twenty-six new members came aboard this year. Along with several research projects conducted by students and the seemingly

never ending continued survey of Canyon Cave, the celebration of the 15th anniversary of WUSS highlighted the year.

Approximately 60 people attended the gala that was held in Shouplin Center on Wittenberg's campus. Carbide lamp center pieces for each table, a large flower arrangement with climbing ropes and gear on the punch and hors d'oeuvres table, and lots of maps and t-shirts on display were viewed by all. Awards were presented and Howard Kronk, Terry Madigan, and Bill Stitzel were presented the Distinguished Service Award and Horton Hobbs was given the Lifetime Achievement Award. A slide show put to music brought back lots of memories of past trips and times shared by WUSSes. The year was marred by the untimely death of Steven Kronk who first joined WUSS in 1985 at the age of 11 (WUSS#0136 and NSS#27645). In his 10

HISTORY

years of caving “Stevie” entered over 200 caves and helped in the survey of many of those as well as aided various students and faculty with cave research projects.

November saw the marriage of members Scott Engel and Annette Summers. Kevin Simon again was the recipient of *The James Mitchell Award* for Best Student Paper presented at the National Speleological Society Convention. Dawn Fuller and Joe Kronk were married in December and live in Springfield, OH.

1996 – In addition to much caving for sheer enjoyment as well as conducting research projects and surveying in Canyon Cave, Sean Crossman (WUSS#0154) and Maureen Kramer were married in April and Toby Dogwiller (WUSS#0255) and Katie Ramsey were married in July. This year saw a renewal of enthusiasm with the addition of 16 new members. Omohundro and Silvermine caves in Bath and Carter counties, Kentucky, respectively, were surveyed and their descriptions and maps appeared in *Pholeos* 16(1 & 2). Annette Summers Engel received *The James Mitchell Award* for Best Student Paper presented at the National Speleological Society Convention.

1997 – Anne Huddle and Steve Wright were married in April and live in Albuquerque, NM and Horton Hobbs IV (WUSS#0068) and Lori Brake were married in July and reside in Springfield, OH. Jeff Lapp and Lori



Deep in an Ohio cave, 1986.

Ducharme also were married in July and live in Rochester, MN. Thirty new members joined the WUSSes and the last survey trips to Canyon Cave occurred, with ownership of the cave changing hands in July. The following WUSSes presented research papers at the Karst Waters Institute Conference: Conservation and Protection of the Biota of Karst in Nashville, TN: Horton Hobbs, Megan Porter, and Kevin Simon. Also, during August Annette Summers Engel, Scott Engel, Horton Hobbs, and Megan Porter gave papers summarizing their research in caves at the 12th International Congress of Speleology in La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland.

1998 – Megan Porter received *The James Mitchell Award* for Best Student Paper presented at the National Speleological Society Convention. This is the third graduate of Wittenberg to receive this award (go WUSSes!!). Thirty-two active individuals joined the club this year and many of them participated in the Ohio Valley Region of the National Speleological Society sponsored karst conservation project. This project involved the cooperative efforts of 60+ cavers removing trash from the Freeland's Cave sinkhole in Adams County, Ohio. In May, Matt Beversdorf (WUSS#0358), Brian Bowen (WUSS#0277), Beth Hagen (WUSS#400), and Horton Hobbs accompanied Katie Gogolin (WUSS#0448) to Andros Island, Bahamas to help her with research on selected blue holes [results published in *Pholeos* 18(1)]. Small caves in Carter County State Resort Park continued to be surveyed [see *Pholeos* 18(1)]. Elisa Shepland (WUSS#0110) married Charles in June and they reside in Dougals, GA. Former president Andrew Burrow (WUSS#0338) married Melanie Nehls in July.

1999 – Seventeen new members were added to WUSS this year and the Rose Cave project

HISTORY

was continued in Indiana by many of them. Vertical and survey clinics were popular events this year with much interest shown by all. In April WUSSes joined other grottoes in Adams County, OH to complete the task of cleaning the sinkhole above Freeland's Cave as part of the Ohio Valley Region's continued project. The grotto joined others in Horse Cave, KY to pull several tons of garbage from Santa's Sink as part of the ACCA's (American Cave Conservation Association) fall sinkhole cleanup. This was a productive year for WUSS with several funded research projects being conducted in caves and many WUSSes helping in the work. Matt Heiss (WUSS#0367) married Diana West in July and they live in Powell, OH. Former president Dave Effron (WUSS#0344) married Michael Ann Doran (WUSS#0405); they live in Worthington, OH.

2000 – The 20th anniversary of WUSS took place in March on Wittenberg's campus. Some 60+ past and present WUSSes showed up for an enjoyable weekend (see photos and articles herein). In addition, a resurvey of Saltpetre Cave in Carter County, Kentucky was initiated during the summer (more of this project will appear in subsequent issues of *Pholeos*). Donna D'Angelo married Stephen Morrall in April and Kevin Simon and Mary

Alice Woodburn were married in June and are living in New Zealand where he is working on a Post Doc. Andy Roberts (WUSS#0429) and Kelly Cahill were married in October and reside in Cincinnati where he is working on his doctorate. A new WUSS banner appeared at OTR, thanks to Howard and Carla Kronk.

I apologize to all of those whose accomplishments are not recorded above but hope that all of you will read this and send me your memories of when you were caving while at Wittenberg as well as updates on your activities after leaving Witt World. I would really like to add your post-Witt degrees to this running summary. Perhaps we will publish the WUSS list of members in a future issue of *Pholeos* and it would be nice to have current addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses, degrees earned, etc. Thinking down the line but probably not too far, it would be novel to have some second generation cavers at Witt!

Keep up the good work, WUSSes! You've surveyed approximately 13 miles of cave passages and conducted 65 scientific studies associated with caves. Who knows what you will accomplish during the next millennium!!

LIFE MEMBERS OF WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY:

1. Dawn Fuller Kronk (WUSS#0269)
2. Victor Fazio (WUSS#0045)
3. Don Conover (WUSS#0356)
4. Bill Stitzel (WUSS#0132)
5. Rob Payn (WUSS#0362)

by Matthew Beversdorf WUSS# 0358 NSS# 42333

The last five years for WUSS... have been filled with many things in which Wittenberg University Speleological Society (WUSS) members, past and present can be proud. WUSS has continued strongly, through many obstacles, in its mission of exploration, conservation, education, and research. WUSS has continued working on exploring new caves, cave surveys, cave conservation projects, and cave research. WUSS also has stepped into the 21st century by updating equipment, creating a Web page, and enhancing *Pholeos*. Some of the proudest moments in WUSS history can be seen in the work of members and alumni who have taken their caving experience to another level.

For WUSS, cave exploration and cave surveying go hand in hand. As we explore, so do the survey tape, compass, and clinometer. One of the major highlights of the last five years was finishing the survey to Canyon Cave. This cave, with over two miles of passages, is the largest project that WUSS has tried to undertake. Unfortunately a change of ownership caused the cave to be closed, keeping the final touches on the cave map from completion. From that project WUSS surveyed Silvermine Cave (which has a voice connection to Canyon Cave) and Omohundro Cave (Hobbs and Porter, 1997). Work also began on the Rose Cave, IN survey. This current project is hopefully near completion with over 1180 meters (3,900 feet) of low-crawl passage already surveyed. Even more recently Carter Caves, KY, has asked WUSS to survey a couple caves on their newly acquired land. New Property Pit and Lost Cavern will be coming soon to upcoming issues of *Pholeos*.

Also in the last five years, WUSS has propelled itself toward a more perfect future by tackling some conservation projects and creating opportunities for people to learn about conservation issues. The biggest project in the last five years was cleaning up the Freeland's Cave sinkhole (Athy, 1999). This was done through the Ohio Valley Region (OVR), a project that removed 15.4 tons of trash. In November 1999, WUSS also went *en mass* to Horse Cave, KY and provided a large force to clean up Santa Sink sinkhole. In addition to projects, WUSS still educates the public during its Bat Awareness week every February. Jackie Bellwood, Ohio's bat biologist, has been the guest speaker every year for the last 5 years, providing new information on her research on bats in Ohio. Another conservation achievement in the last 5 years was Dr. Hobbs' addition of a Cave Ecology Course at Wittenberg. This class helps promote better cave conservation through education about the cave ecosystem. This class is not only a favorite of WUSS members, but a good source of new cavers to the grotto.

Some members of WUSS also have integrated their caving experience into their studies through independent research. Fortunately, Wittenberg University provides funding for undergraduate research and has awarded research grants for

several cave related projects. Katie Gogolin was funded in 1998 to study inland blue holes on Andros Island, Bahamas (Gogolin, 1999). Later, both Katie Gogolin and Beth Hagen were awarded grants to research the water chemistry and biota of Freeland's Cave, Ohio. In 1999, Dr. Margaret Goodman and Jason Moon worked on isolating DNA from crayfish in order to find species identifying markers that may be helpful later in cave crayfish studies. Also in 1999, Matt Beversdorf worked on developing a GIS database for the caves in Ohio.

Many past graduates, who started cave research as undergraduates, have continued scientific studies in the cave environment after graduation. Some have even gone on to win NSS awards for their research. In 1994 and 1995, Kevin Simon was awarded the James G. Mitchel Award. The following year, Annette Summers was also awarded the same award. In 1998, WUSS was proud to have two alumni recognized at the NSS convention when Megan Porter was awarded the Mitchell Award and Toby Dogwiler was awarded the best paper on a show cave. Research for these WUSS alumni has since taken them to other countries such as Romania, Italy, the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, and Switzerland where some presented their research at the 12th International Congress of Speleology.

After twenty years, WUSS members have good reason to boast about all the accomplishments of the grotto. However, these things would not have been possible if it were not for the man who introduced the first WUSSes to caving. We must all thank Dr. Horton H. Hobbs III for his dedication in keeping the organization together through all of its ups and downs. ■

Literature Cited

- Athy, Erin. 1999. Freeland's cleanup. Member of W.U.S.S. clean up Freeland's Sinkhole. *Pholeos*, 18 (1) :2-3.
- Gogolin, Kathryn A. 1999. A baseline study of the physicochemical characteristics of five inland blue holes on Andros Island, Bahamas. *Pholeos*. 18(1):4-16.
- Hobbs III, Horton H. and Megan Porter. 1997. A description of two small caves from northeastern Kentucky (Bath and Carter Counties). *Pholeos* 16(1&2):4-8.

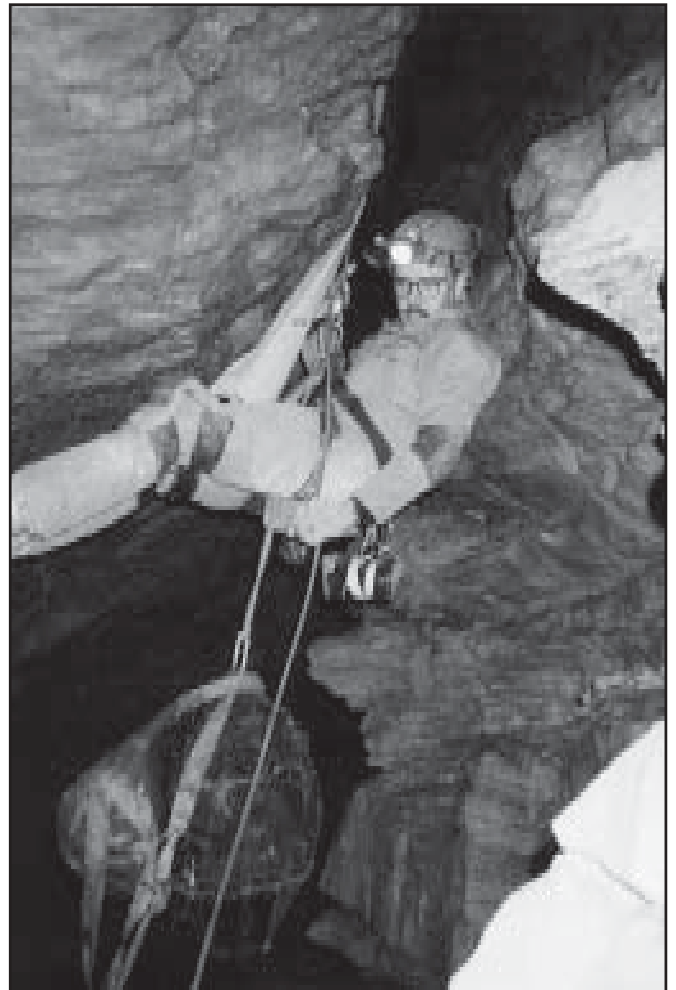
HISTORY



Pall Mall Pit, Tennessee 1989.



Dawn Fuller changing her carbide in Canyon Cave, Kentucky, January 1993.

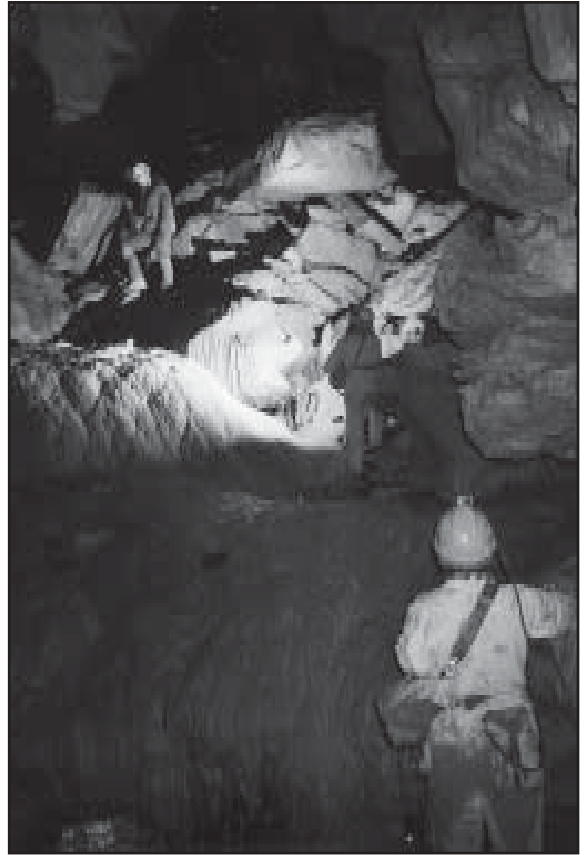


Dr. Hobbs rappelling in Canyon Cave, Kentucky, January 1993.

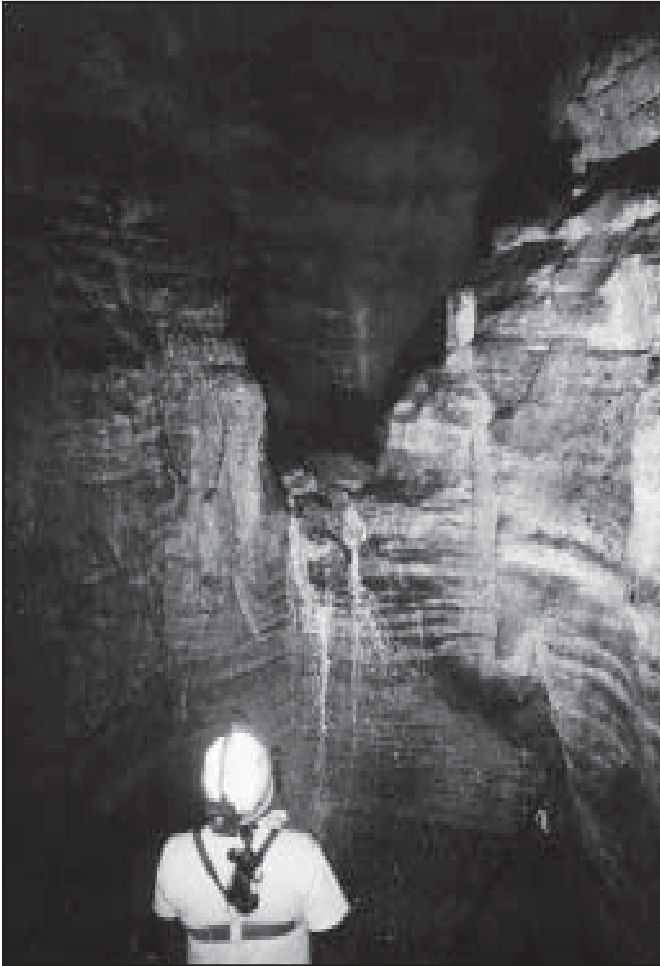
HISTORY



Freeland's Cave, Adams County, Ohio, 1995.



Hidden Dome, Canyon Cave, Kentucky, 1993.



You want me to go where?!?



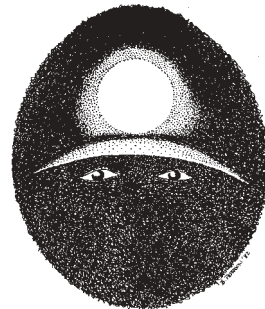
Climbing in an Alaban

HISTORY



View from The Overlook, Omohundro Cave, Kentucky, 1996.

(below) Mikey and Dave Efron, fall 1997.



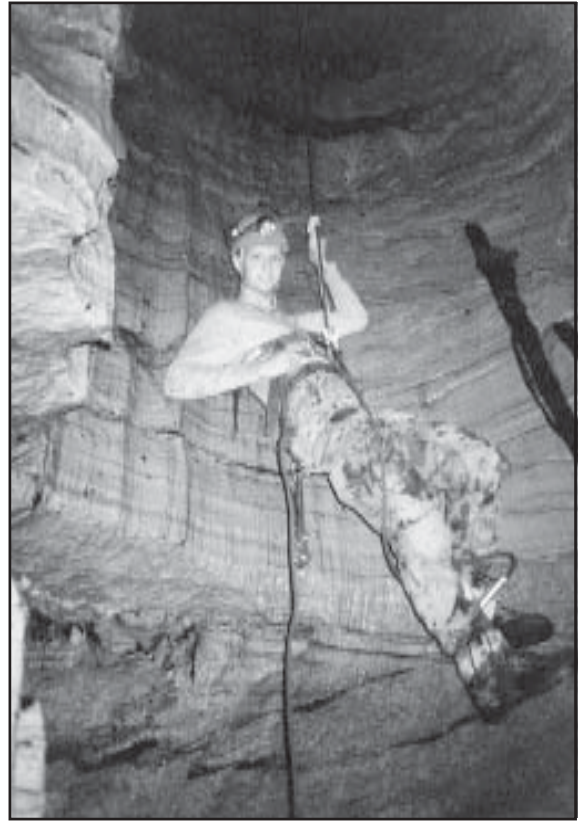
Survey crew: Megan Porter, H.H. Hobbs III, Annette Summers, Scott Engel, 1997.

na pit, 1995.

HISTORY



Matthew Beversdorf meditating, 1998.



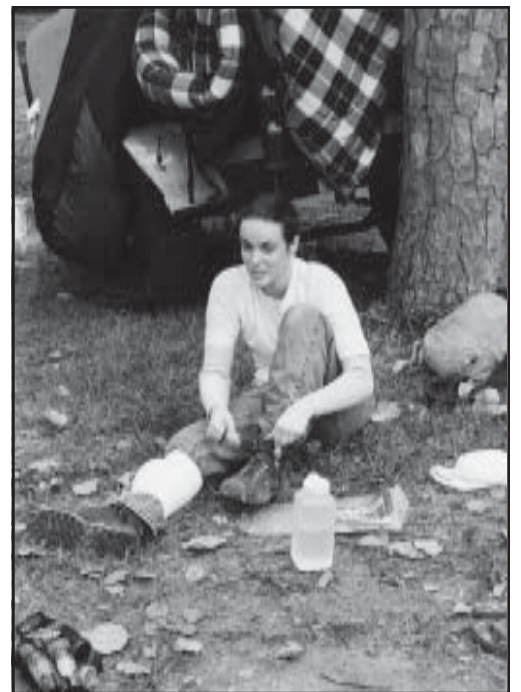
Goin' up? Yuriy Fedkiw ascending Green Trail Chasm.



Bill Simpson looking at a column in Pine Hill Cave.



Hey guys, is this ecologically sound?



Getting ready... Lisa Etling puts on her boots.

HISTORY OF OFFICERS 1978-2000

History of Officers 1978-2000

Year	President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Editor	Asst. Editor
1978-1979	Jefferey L. Marion	Kurt Whitford	Teresa Tuel	Barb Bohn		
1980-1981	Michael Flynn	Steven Campbell	Helen Armstrong	Jane Bush	Steven Campbell	
1981-1982	Jane Bush	Lynn Morrill	Terry Madigan	William Simpson	Lynn Morrill	
1982-1983	Laura Tarulli	Victor Fazio	Marilyn Matevia Kathy Crowley	Terrence Madigan	Donna J. D'Angelo	
1983-1984	Donna D'Angelo	Terrence Madigan	Trish Simon	William Freund III	Victor Fazio	(PR) John Carter
1984-1985	William Freund III	Thomas Keller	Anne Dolphin	Robert Davenport	Laura Tarulli	
1985-1986	Marc Pender	Therese Herp	Trish Simon	Robert Davenport	John Fray	
1986-1987	Marc Pender	Robert Davenport	Trish Simon	Robert Davenport	William Freund III	
1987-1988	Martin Trent	Teresa Keenan	Teresa Keenan	Therese Herp	Martin Trent	Patrick McCarthy
1988-1989	Teresa Keenan	Timothy Hopkin	Heidi Murry	Monika Palunas	Timothy Hopkin	Terri Ruben
1989-1990	Monika Palunas	Timothy Hopkin	Celise Sternecker	Monika Palunas	Jonathan Proctor	Sheryl Rowold
1990-1991	Scott Engel	Jeff Luoma	Deborah Keiser	Jeffrey Luoma	Jonathan Proctor	
1991-1992	Scott Engel	Chris Frost	Rachel Beverly	Clarie Sandt	Julie Thorp	Tracy Pollard
1992-1993	Julie Thorp	Annette Summers	Jessica Hoane	Kristin Ferry	Julie Thorp	Claire Sandt
1993-1994	Annette Summers	Toby Dogwiler	Anne Huddle	Jessica Hoane	Jason Bauserman	
1994-1995	Annette Summers	Toby Dogwiler	Anne Huddle	Anne Huddle	Ellen Divoky	
1995-1996	Toby Dogwiler	Megan Porter	Jillian Benjamin	Megan Porter	Toby Dogwiler	
1996-1997	Dave Effron	Sarah Maurer	Sarah Maurer	Dave Effron	Jason Bauserman	
1997-1998	Andrew Burow	Erin Athy	Andy Scherer	Yuriy Fedkiw	Gregg Savage	
1998-1999	Matt Beversdorf	Beth Hagen	Sara Anderson	Scott Maurer	Jillian Benjamin	Lee Ott
1999-2000	Beth Hagen	Erin Athy	Jared Embree	Jay Cross	Jason Moon	Dave Effron
			Kristian Baughman	Matt Hazelton	Jason Moon	
					Jason Moon	Amy Larson
					Jay Cross	Laura Davis

Weekend Festivities Mark WUSS Anniversary Celebration

by Kristen Baughman WUSS# 0464 NSS# 48494

March 25, 2000 saw the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Wittenberg University Speleological Society. This event re-united many W.U.S.S. alumni and introduced them to new members. The weekend-long event provided plenty of opportunities for reminiscing, kicking off Friday evening, March 24th, with an informal gathering at current President, Beth Hagen's house.

The main event of the weekend was Saturday night's dinner. Tables filled with club memorabilia lined the walls of the banquet room. Photos, maps, t-shirts, and many other items collected over the years gave attendants a wide view of the club's accomplishments as well as how it has evolved over the years. After many old hellos, introductions, and a few re-introductions, guests were seated and welcomed by Hagen. A slide show then followed, presenting captivating images of the club's endeavors through the past twenty years. The club was then honored by a few words from the President of the National Speleological Society, Mike Hood, as he presented to them a framed letter from the N.S.S (see photo above). The letter states their appreciation for Wittenberg's outstanding work in the field of cave exploration, conservation, and research over the years.

Addresses were then given by some of the club's past



presidents including, (Scott, Annette, Toby and Matt). Many stories, both humorous and touching, were shared, highlighting some of their favorite memories of the caving club while they were at Wittenberg. One sentiment that ran through the speeches and proved to be a theme realized throughout the entire weekend, was the fact that this group of people has remained like a family to one another over the years.

Dr. Horton H. Hobbs III, the man responsible for founding and acting as advisor to the caving club for its entire twenty years, was honored at this event. Appreciation was expressed for his role in shaping and solidifying the group into something that is well known and respected throughout the caving community nationwide. Awards also were given to



CELEBRATION

members of the club who have been outstandingly involved in the organization. Mathew Beversdorf and Robert Payn both received plaques honoring their Outstanding Dedication and Service. Don Conover and Bill Stitzel were given Lifetime Membership in honor of their dedication to



Mike Hood, NSS President and Howard Kronk at 20th Anniversary Celebration

WUSS and Horton Hobbs was presented a plaque "For Twenty Years of Cave Exploration, Research, and Conservation." One last tribute was made as Vice-President Erin Athy stated the club's appreciation for all the hard work done by Hagen in organizing the Anniversary. The success of the event was definitely a reflection of her continued commitment to the club.

Following the dinner, guests retreated to Hobbs' house where a good time was enjoyed by all. The laughter and recollections of the past twenty years that were shared left everyone looking forward to another twenty years with W.U.S.S. On Sunday morning, as a final farewell to end the weekend, a group headed over to tour the Ohio Caverns. After all, how can you have a group of cavers get together without at least one underground adventure? ■



THE BAT

by Ogden Nash



Myself, I rather like the bat.
It's not a mouse, it's not a rat.
It has no feathers, yet, has wings,
It's quite inaudible when it sings.
It zigs and zags through evening air,
And never lands on ladies's hair.
A fact of which men spend their lives
Attempting to convince their wives.

BATS, BATS, BATS.

Article reprint from the Torch, March 3, 1992

by Annette Summer WUSS# 0244

Bats are innocent, harmless creatures, despite what storybooks and Hollywood have told you. Their little wings carry them long distances in search of insects...NOT blood.

There are only three vampire bat species in the world. Fortunately, they are confined to warm, tropical areas in Central and South America. So, unless you are scared of real vampires, put the garlic necklace away. There are no vampire bats here that are going to get you!

Bats do not have rabies. Less than one half of one percent of all bats have contracted rabies. In the past four decades, there have been four fatalities due to bat rabies. More people die annually from food poisoning at church picnics! The odds of someone being bitten from a bat and contracting rabies are one in a billion.

As a matter of fact, a bat's mouth is no bigger than your pinky-finger nail, and imagine how small the teeth are. The possibility of being bitten by a bat, and actually feeling it, is very unlikely.

There is also a rumor that bats get tangled in people's hair. WRONG!

Bats fly by using a sophisticated system of echolocation. Echolocation allows a bat to emit high-frequency sounds that bounce back to its ears, enabling it to detect objects as fine as human hair in the dark.

Although, since the bat depends on the return of sound waves, arms flying randomly in the air out of fear might cause a bat to loose direction. So, don't swat at a bat and it won't run into you. ■

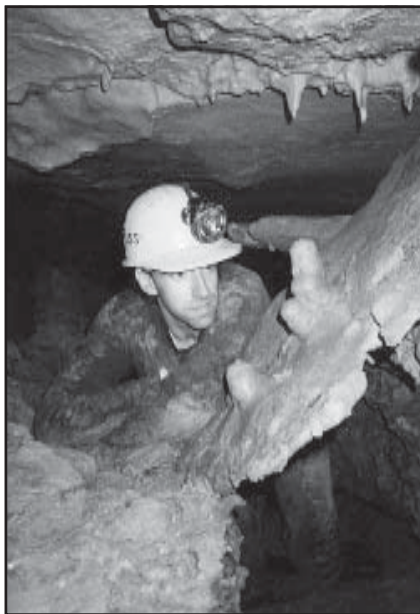
To Survey or Not to Survey

by Tom Stitzel [reprinted from 1990 *Pholeos* 11(1)]

There it was! In the darkness, just beyond the dim camp light, its oval, fluorescent-green eyes peered at me. They taunted me. They whispered laughingly, "Catch me if you can!" The phantom culprit. The mysterious bandit. The thief!

It was October 13, 1990. It was a cool, overcast Saturday morning that promised no delight in any other outdoor activity except one, caving, or so I believed. I was on my way to Red River Gorge, KY, where I would assist my brother, Bill Stitzel, in surveying a cave. Bill, a member of the Wittenberg University Speleological Society, invited me along to help out. This was going to be my second experience in a cave, and I knew I would love it! My first trip to Sloans's Valley Cave, KY proved to be an exhilarating time. It was basically a walk-through cave that presented many fascinating sights. Little did I know that it was no training for what I would be forced to endure at the Gorge.

The first offense, albeit only a slight discomfort, was the three mile hike to the actual sight with a pack strapped to my back. (It must have weighed two hundred pounds, although Bill still contends it was far less than that.) I was willing to overlook this when, upon my arrival at the cave, I stood in awe of the entrance, whose jaws opened into a whale-sized yawn. This pleased me to no end. We stepped inside. This was to be our camp sight. I accepted this fact with my usual grace. (Easy enough since its wide mouth afforded me ample room in the event of the need for a fast escape!) We first made a pot



of coffee and lazily drank a couple of cups. I thought this was very civilized. I now realize that it had been a nasty trick to lull me into a false sense of security. However, after the coffee break, I found myself foolishly looking forward to the adventure as I eagerly put on my caving gear. (Part of the fun is dressing

Adams Creek Cave, Carter County, Kentucky, 1991.



Rose Cave, Martin Co., Indiana, 2000.

the part, isn't it?) Bill gave me a couple of surveying tools, which seemed harmless enough at the time. I was equipped with a compass (to do back shots, whatever that meant) and a measuring tape. I soon discovered that these innocent looking devices would turn out to be the lethal weapons that would be used against me. (If you can't trust your own brother, who can you trust?) We were now dressed, geared and ready to go, and we were off. I felt quixotic. Descending deep into the blackness with nothing but measly little light attached to the hard hat on my head, I became a man with a mission. Under that helmet should have been my thinking cap, which I carelessly left behind when I arose early that morning. (A sad, sad lesson.)

Crawl! Webster defines it as: "1. to move on hands and knees or by drawing the body along the ground; 2. to advance slowly or feebly; 3. to be or feel overrun by creeping things." I would say all of those definitions are true, but let me add one thing: crawl is hell! Dragging my body feebly along the ground and crawling through water, I tried not to think of the many unimaginable creeping things overrunning my body. I crawled through mud and I know that I crawled through bat do-do, but Bill emphatically denied that. (Of course, now I know that he would lie to me!) I was tortured, humiliated, angry and on the verge of strangling him with the damn measuring tape! I came close a couple of times before I thought twice. He was, after all, my only way out of this hell hole. (The final degradation) So I suffered, but not in quiet! (Ha!) Bill said that I whined, moaned and groaned so much that he thought I was having a conversation with someone. (I suppose he thought that was funny!) I won't go into any details because they're actually too painful to remember. It will suffice to say that when, after four hours, we emerged from the bowels of the earth I collapsed. (A snivelling, broken man.)

I may have been broken, but at least I was safe. Or so I dared to think. A new nightmare was about to begin. I was so shattered I didn't even have the strength to remove my caving gear. I just sat there in full regalia, smoking one cigarette after another while Bill prepared coffee for us. I considered refusing any coffee out of principle, but I was desperate! I

SURVEY

needed it to calm my nerves. So, I humbled myself further and drank several cups. As I drank and smoked, Bill began complaining that something was missing. It was a little blue bag. (“Serves him right!”, I thought.) In spite of his alarm, I calmly reassured him that he had simply misplaced it and that it would show up. I felt pretty smug alright and continued to feel that way all through dinner, coffee, and dessert. But, it wasn’t long until I noticed something very important of mine missing also. My virgin wool stocking cap was not where I had left it. I’d always worn it to keep my head heated and the cold off my bald spot. Now, I became alarmed too. I needed my cap! The heat from the day’s work was gone, and it was becoming quite cold. It wasn’t until Bill discovered that his seat pad was missing that we began a search. (I guess his delicate butt was more important than my vulnerable bald spot.) Off we went to search the borders of the camp sight, which was now shadowed by the lamp light. Daylight had abandoned us long ago. A short way away, in the area where we had laid our sleeping bags, was a large pile of the rocks. Our search took us into that area. Peeking out from under the rocks was Bill’s seat pad. “Aha!” he said, “Pack rats”, he added. (A little too casually if you ask me.) Bill continued, “Strange, they’ve never bothered us before.” (Lucky me! The one time I decide to come along, they decide to attack!) It was then that I began seeing the eyes of darkness. They were everywhere. (I’m sure that I was seeing them a couple of times.) They were awful: menacing and malevolent. It was with great bravado with which I continued the search for my stocking cap. (Good things come to those who persevere.) In the blackness, just a few feet from the head of my sleeping bag, my beloved cap lay, abandoned and abused. I quickly picked it up and scrambled back to the light of the camp. “Ha!” I jeered into the darkness, “He who laughs last.” All was well until I prepared to crawl (Oh, how I hated that word.) into my sleeping bag. Then I realized that I was lying right next to the very pile of rocks where those villainous creatures had hidden. They were probably there now, watching me, laughing at me and just waiting for me to fall asleep. I laid awake. To further my humiliation, I was being persecuted by pack rats. I pulled the sleeping bag up tight around my neck and then gave a final tug on the stocking cap, now safely warming my head. Shortly

Rob Payn surveying in Rose Cave, IN, 2000.



there after, fear gave way to exhaustion and I fell asleep.

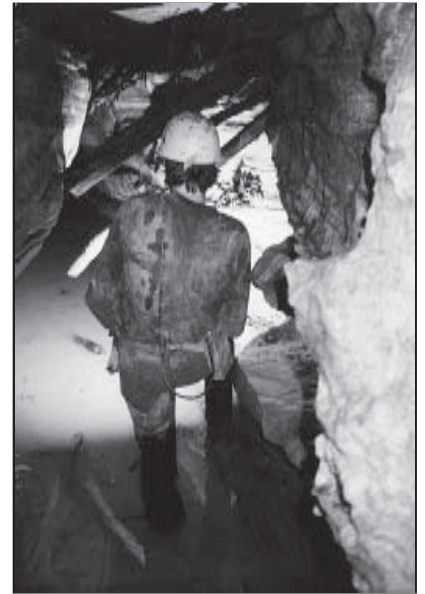
As my mind was surfacing to consciousness, I grabbed my head with confusion and fear. “How could this be,” my mind screamed! Here in the pitchblack of a cave, I was in a fight for what? My life? No. My hat. Someone. Something. A rat! A pack rat trying to steal the hat right off my head! I held on for dear life and possibly limb as it tugged and pulled ferociously.

“WHOOOOAAAAAAAAA!”

I screamed as I sat upright. I frantically searched around for the flashlight that I had left conveniently beside me. There! Finally I found it. I flicked it on, half-turned and threw the flashlight beam in the area behind me. I expected to see it there, bearing its fangs and ready to pounce on my hat. But, there was nothing there. There was no sign of a rat, just the lifeless cave ground and wall. I waited, but nothing appeared. My panic began to abate, and suddenly I started to laugh. A rat had just tried to steal the cap right off my head. (The nerve!) I had been in a battle with a rat for my cap, and I had won. I laughed. It was suddenly all very funny to me. I turned off the flashlight and put it down before lying down again. I pulled the sleeping bag up around my neck. (This time to keep out the cold.) Reaching up to my head I gave my cap a triumphant tug down over my ears. Mentally, I dared that rat to try again. Try again and lose! I then fell asleep.

I had one more battle that night with that rat. Yes, I awoke later to find that bugger pulling away on my cap again. Holding onto my cap, I challenged it in the darkness, “You can’t have my cap!” The tension on the cap then released. I smiled, turned over and went back to sleep.

The next day’s survey was rather much like the first. Although I whined, moaned and groaned and had been stiff, sore and bruised for days afterwards, the memory of my surveying trip makes me smile today. But that rat, makes me laugh now! ■

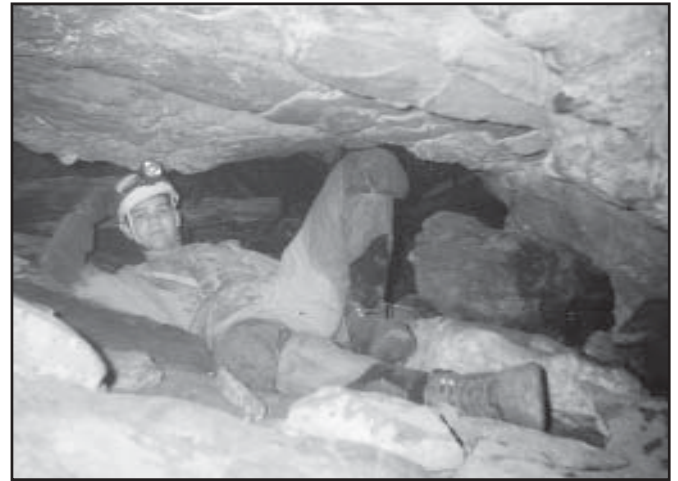


Scott Engle in Adams Creek Cave, Carter County, Kentucky, 1991.

SURVEY



Surveying Rose Cave; map coming soon to a Pholeos near you.



Strike a pose! Jay Cross in Bat Cave.

Caves Surveyed by WUSS 1978-2000

(THC: Total Horizontal Cave TVC: Total Vertical Cave)

Cave	Issue published	County	State	Date surveyed	THC (m)	TVC (m)
Ace Bowen Cave	Vol. 10(2)	Powell Co.	Ky.	21 Oct. 1989	300.7	
Adams Creek Cave	Vol. 12(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	1991	513	
Alpha Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 April 1982	10	
Alpha Pit	Vol. 5(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	5 Aug. 1984		6.5
Bartlett's Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Adams Co.	Oh.	1 March 1981	25	
Bat Cave	Vol. 9(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	1983-1989	3,681	
Bear Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	27 April 1982	61	
Bell Cave	Vol. 7(1)	Seneca Co.	Oh.	12 Aug. 1986	35	
Black Crystal Cave	Vol. 7(1)	Erie Co.	Oh.	14 Aug. 1986	10	
Black Run Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Adams Co.	Oh.	3 July 1980	120	
Buck Creek Blowing Cave I	Vol. 3(2)	Clark Co.	Oh.	21 Feb. 1981	7.5	
Buck Creek Blowing Cave II	Vol. 3(2)	Clark Co.	Oh.	21 Feb. 1981	6	
Buckskin Cave I	Vol. 1(1&2)	Ross Co.	Oh.	26 June 1980	83	
Buckskin Cave II	Vol. 2(2)	Ross Co.	Oh.	26 June 1980	45	
Carcass Pit	Vol. 5(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	5 Aug. 1984		5
Card's Cave	Vol. 9(1)	Geauga Co.	Oh.		42.7	
Cave of the Springs	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	30 Dec. 1981	246	
Cedar Fork Cave	Vol. 4(2)	Adams Co.	Oh.	15 Jan. 1984	210	
Charelston Falls Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Miami Co.	Oh.	10 Jan 1981	25	
Charlie-Charlie Cave	Vol. 7(1)	Brown Co.	Oh.	23 July 1986	5	
Chesterland Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Geauga Co.	Oh.	1982	28	
Chicken Cave	Vol. 6(2)	Hamilton Co.	Oh.	9 Feb. 1986	13.2	
Cliff Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 April 1982	11	
Constipation Cave	Vol. 18(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	12 Sept. 1998	22.6	
Cool James Cave	Vol. 10(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	June 1990	743	
Coon-in-the-Crack Cave I	Vol. 8(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	Aug. 1987	212	
Coon-in-the-Crack Cave II	Vol. 8(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	Aug. 1987	127.4	
Crevice Cave	Vol. 15(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	22 Feb. 1994	22.1	

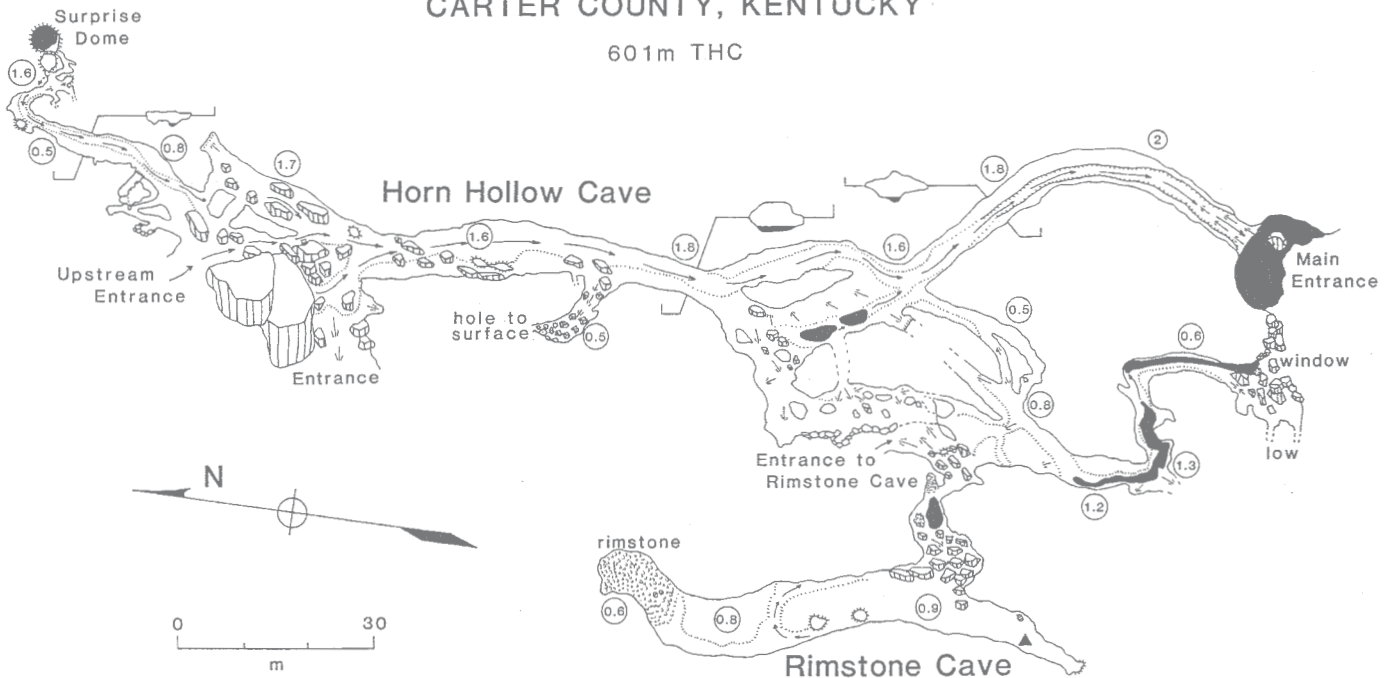
SURVEY

Cave	Issue published	County	State	Date surveyed	THC (m)	TVC (m)
Crevice Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Clark Co.	Oh.	21 Feb. 1981	9.2	
Crystal Rock Cave	Vol. 7(1)	Erie Co.	Oh.	14 Aug. 1986	94	
Dancing Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	27 Feb. 1982	66	
Dare Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	4 May 1982	18	
Dead Cat Cave	Vol. 7(1)	Erie Co.	Oh.	14 Aug. 1986	5	
Devil's Den Cave	Vol. 2(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	10 June 1980	130	
Devil's Ice Box	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 May 1982	9	
Doan Brook Cave	Vol. 9(1)	Cuyahoga Co.	Oh.		15.2	
Dry Bone Cave	Vol. 4(1)	Pike Co.	Oh.	14 May 1982	42	
Dry Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Highland Co.	Oh.	1 April 1978	70	
Ellison's Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	9 May 1982	9	
Extension Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Geauga Co.	Oh.	1982	29	
Fairy Grotto	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	27 Jan. 1982	9	
Fern Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Adams Co.	Oh.	6 June 1980	18	
Ferncliff Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Clark Co.	Oh.	6 June 1980	11	
Fool's Rappell Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Highland Co.	Oh.	24 April 1983	7	
Fox Den	Vol. 7(1)	Erie Co.	Oh.	14 Aug. 1986	7	
Fredritz Pit	Vol. 1(1&2)	Wyandot Co.	Oh.	10 July 1980	10	10
Freeland's Cave	Vol. 6(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	Nov. 1985	708	
Frost Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Pike Co.	Oh.	24 June 1980	180	
Funnel Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	9 May 1982	31	
Fuzzy Coon Cave	Vol. 9(2)	Menifee Co.	Ky.	5 Nov. 1988	118	
Gator Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 April 1982	14	
Giant Cricket Cavern	Vol. 7(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	6 Aug. 1986	9.5	
Great Cheddar Cave	Vol. 9(1)	Portage Co.	Oh.		30	
Green Trail Cave	Vol. 18(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	12 Sept. 1998	20.8	
Green Trail Chasm	Vol. 6(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	4 Oct. 1985	10	
Hackleshin Cave	Vol. 4(1)	Pike Co.	Oh.	15 May 1982	83	
Hannah Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Pike Co.	Oh.	8 May 1982	33.2	
Harassment Cave	Vol. 15(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	19 Feb. 1994	32.3	
Hawk Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Adams Co.	Oh.	13 Feb. 1982	15	
Hendricks Cave	Vol. 8(1)	Wyandot Co.	Oh.	11 April 1987	56.6	6.3
Hidden Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 April 1982	4	

HORN HOLLOW CAVE SYSTEM

CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

601m THC



SURVEY

Cave	Issue published	County	State	Date surveyed	THC (m)	TVC (m)
Hogwaller Cave	Vol. 4(1)	Pike Co.	Oh.	16 May 1982	82.7	
Hole-In-The-Wall Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Highland Co.	Oh.	24 April 1983	2.3	
Horn Hollow Cave System	Vol. 5(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	Jan. 1985	601	
Hot Dog Cave	Vol. 9(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	16 July 1988	45.3	
Ice Box Cave	Vol. 9(1)	Summit Co.	Oh.		22.9	
Indian Trail Caverns	Vol. 2(2)	Wyandot Co.	Oh.	11 July 1980	182	
Keith's Fracture Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Clark Co.	Oh.	10 Dec. 1979	12	
Kessler's Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Highland Co.	Oh.	1 July 1980	128	
Kindt's I Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Ottawa Co.	Oh.	14 July 1980	164	
Lake Cave	Vol. 7(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	1986	180	
Laurel Cave	Vol. 2(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	23 Jan. 1981	1,091	
Leaning Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Geauga Co.	Oh.	1982	9.3	
Lion's Den	Vol. 7(1)	Pike Co.	Oh.	7 Aug. 1986	5.7	
Liverwurst Cave	Vol. 7(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	5 Aug. 1986	6.5	
Long Rockhouse Cave	Vol. 14(1&2)	Cumberland Co.	TN	26 March 1992	55	
Loop Cave	Vol. 7(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	1986	12.6	
Loop Cave	Vol. 15(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	8 Aug. 1994	15.9	
Lost Comb Cave	Vol. 4(2)	Adams Co.	Oh.	8 Jan. 1984	41	
Lost Pack Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Adams Co.	Oh.	12 June 1980	10	
Marble Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 April 1982	33	
McKimie Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	27 Feb. 1982	70.8	
Mcousta Cave	Vol. 6(2)	Preble Co.	Oh.	26 Aug. 1985	8.5	
Merrit Hollow Cave	Vol. 5(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	4 Aug. 1984	10	
Miami River Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Shelby Co.	Oh.	10 Jan. 1981	54	
Morrison's Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Adams Co.	Oh.	2 July 1980	110	
Natural Bridge Cave	Vol. 10(1)	Powell Co.	Ky.			
Omohundro Cave	Vol. 16(1&2)	Bath County	Ky.	10 Feb. 1996	375	9.3
One-Shot Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	9 May 1982	6	
Oscar Hole	Vol. 15(1)	Ross Co.	Oh.	8 August 1994	16.1	
Panther Cave	Vol. 9(1)	Medina Co.	Oh.		58	
Peewee Cave	Vol. 7(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	1986	6.1	
Phantom Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 Dec. 1981	74	
Pillar Cave	Vol. 6(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	1986	23	

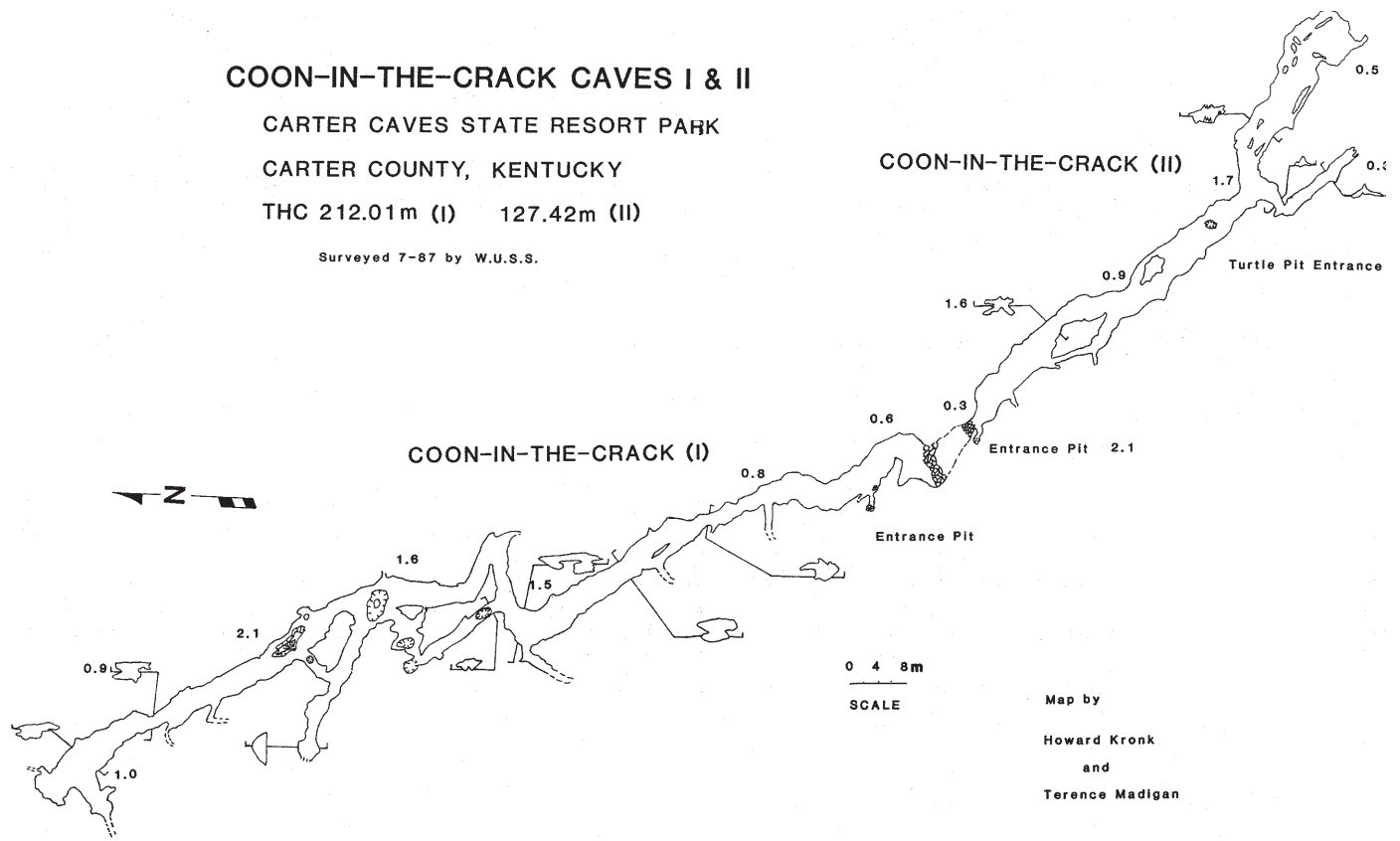
COON-IN-THE-CRACK CAVES I & II

CARTER CAVES STATE RESORT PARK

CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

THC 212.01m (I) 127.42m (II)

Surveyed 7-87 by W.U.S.S.



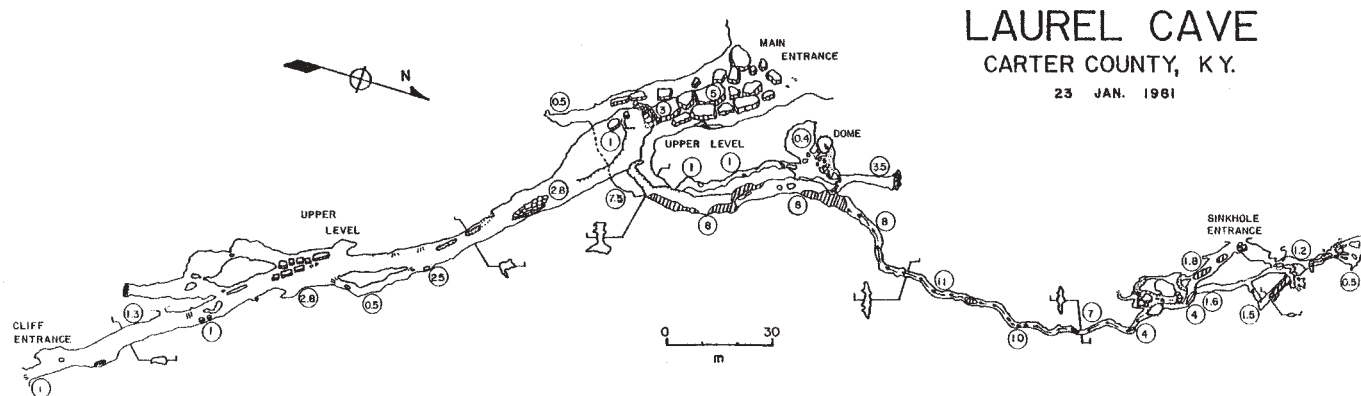
SURVEY

Cave	Issue published	County	State	Date surveyed	THC (m)	TVC (m)
Preston Cave I	Vol. 2(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	11 June 1980	14	
Preston Cave II	Vol. 2(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	11 June 1980	15	
Preston Cave III	Vol. 2(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	11 June 1980	43	
Pseudo Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 April 1982	13	
Raccoon Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 April 1982	9	
Rat Cave	Vol. 6(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	1986	126.7	
Reif's Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Ross Co.	Oh.	27 June 1980	145	
Rhododendron Pit	Vol. 5(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	5 Feb. 1984	15	
Roadside Cave	Vol. 15(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	8 Aug. 1994	10.7	
Robber's Cave	Vol. 9(1)	Geauga Co.	Oh.		30.5	
Robinson's Cave	Vol. 8(1)	Perry Co.	Oh.	9 July 1987	18.3	
Saltpetre-Moon Cave System	Vol. 4(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	Jan 1983	3,005	
Scott Hollow Cave	Vol. 15(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	19 Feb. 1994	77	
Silvermine Cave	Vol. 16(1&2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	24 Feb. 1996	253	8.9
Simpson's Cave	Vol. 2(2)	Clark Co.	Oh.	14 Feb. 1981	16.5	
Skull Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Ross Co.	Oh.	21 July 1980	54	
South Gorge Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Geauga Co.	Oh.	1982	8.8	
Spider Cave	Vol. 3(2)	Greene Co.	Oh.	3 Feb. 1979	9.9	
Spider Cave	Vol. 7(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	6 Aug. 1986	7	
Spider Hole	Vol. 15(1)	Carter Co.	Ky.	22 Feb. 1994	18.6	
Sullivant's Cave	Vol. 15(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	8 Aug. 1994	6.8	
Tanglewood Cave	Vol. 7(1)	Brown Co.	Oh.	23 July 1986	34	
Tepee Grotto	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 April 1982	10	
The Devil's Den Fracture System	Vol. 9(1)	Portage Co.	Oh.		352	
Thirty-Foot Pit	Vol. 5(1)	Adams Co.	Oh.	4 Aug. 1984	15	
Thompson Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Miami Co.	Oh.	16 April 1978	15	
Tinker's Cave	Vol. 6(1)	Hocking Co.	Oh.	1986	20	
Trimmer's Cave	Vol. 2(1)	Ross Co.	Oh.	21 July 1980	38	
Tunnel Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	4 May 1982	6	
Underground River Cave	Vol. 1(1&2)	Wyandot Co.	Oh.	10 July 1980	31	19
Via Cave	Vol. 2(2)	Miami Co.	Oh.	7 April 1978	25	
Well Cave	Vol. 11(2)	Meniffee Co.	Ky.	19 Aug. 1990	894	
Witches Cave	Vol. 3(1)	Highland Co.	Oh.	10 Dec. 1981	55.5	
X Cave	Vol. 4(2)	Carter Co.	Ky.	10 Feb. 1984	343.4	
Zane Caverns	Vol. 10(1)	Logan Co.	Oh.	Dec. 1989	466	

Total: 18,214.4m*

* This number does not reflect Canyon Cave, Carter Co., KY, which has 3,258 meters of surveyed cave passage to date. Hopefully, the map will appear in a future issue of Pholeos. Also, it does not include Rose Cave in Indiana (1180m) and Lost Cavern (22.6m), New Property Pit (71m), and Surprise Dome Pit (16.1m) from Kentucky which have been surveyed during the past few years.

Grand total: 22,762 m (74,660 ft. or 14.14 miles).



Wittenberg University Speleological Society

RESEARCH

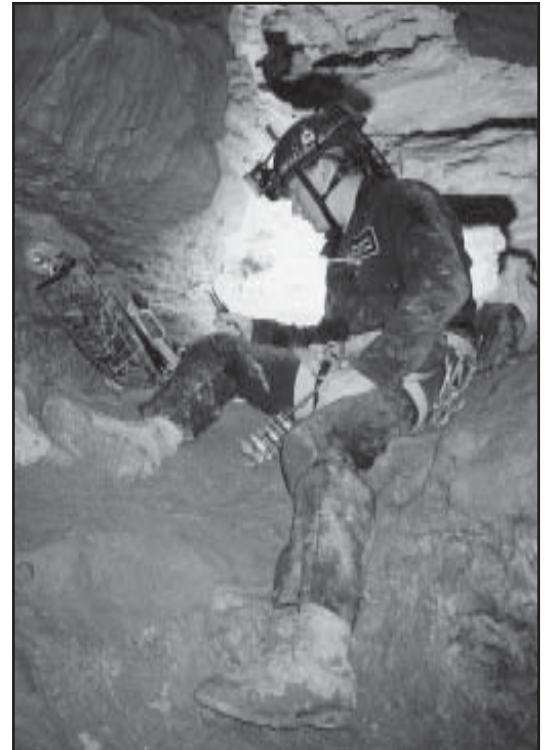
A SUMMARY OF WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY STUDENT RESEARCH RESULTING IN PUBLICATIONS (1980 - 2000)

by Horton H. Hobbs III WUSS# 0001 NSS# 12386 RL, HM, CM, FE

Since the early efforts of student members of the Wittenberg University Speleological Society to conduct research on caves and karst features, 66 manuscripts have been published, 23 additional ones since the 15th anniversary of this caving group. The first article appeared in 1980 and these efforts have continued to the present with 41 students having been involved in various projects. For those who are interested in statistics, this averages to 3.3 publications each year for the past twenty years by student members of WUSS. These "3.3 publications" are not merely trip reports or "my first cave trip," but represent either literature review articles or long term studies in which data were gathered, analyzed, and presented concerning various topics in speleology.

Many students have written grant proposals and have been funded from various sources to conduct the studies and these efforts continue into the 2000-2001 academic year. Students have been supported by grants from the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, U. S. Fish and Wildlife, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the National Speleological Society, and the Biology and Geology departments as well as the Faculty Research Fund Board, Wittenberg University. To all of these sources we extend a gracious "thank you," for without their financial assistance, many of these research projects could not have been conducted. It is hoped that future WUSSes will continue this tradition.

Presented below is an alphabetical list of the citations for all research published by students since 1980. [**indicates research paper presented by student(s) at scientific meeting]



Toby Dogwiler in Canyon Cave, Kentucky, 1995.

-
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- ** Cotner, James B. and Mark J. Butler IV. 1981. Community structure, drift, and upstream migration of the crustaceans *Synurella dentata* Hubricht and *Lirceus fontinalis* Raf. in a temperate spring. *Ohio J. Sci.*, 81:97.
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Some Unmentioned Awards for W.U.S.S.

We wanted to acknowledge some of the work that past Wittenberg University Speleological Society members have contributed toward the recognition of the grotto by outside sources. Below is a list of awards. Although we cannot name all those involved, we want to print the awards and thank all those who helped make these awards possible. We would also like to put together a list of any NSS Photo Salon awards by WUSS members over the years. Unfortunately, we have not kept record of all these awards. So, if you know of any please send that information to: wuss@wittenberg.edu, or to address posted on the inside front cover.

NSS Graphic Arts Awards

Pholeos Covers:

Volume 7(2) 1988	Merit Award
Volume 8(1) 1988	Merit Award
Volume 9(1) 1990	Honorable Mention
Volume 10(1) 1991	Honorable Mention
Volume 10(2) 1991	Honorable Mention
Volume 11(1) 1991	Merit Award
Volume 14(1,2) 1994	Honorable Mention

NSS Conservation Award: 1989

Wittenberg University Organization of the Year Award: 1995

INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS

EDITORIAL POLICY: Manuscripts treating basic research in any aspect of speleology will be considered for publication. They must not have been previously published, accepted for publication, or be under consideration elsewhere.

All manuscripts are to be in English. Metric and Celsius units must be used, and SI units are preferred. The CBE Style Manual, the Handbook for Authors of Papers of the American Chemical Society, and Webster's Ninth Collegiate Dictionary are useful guides for matters of form and spelling.

The original of the manuscript must be typed double-spaced on one side of white bond paper approximately 8.5 X 11 inches, leaving margins of one inch. Use triple space above headings. Submit four copies for prompt review. Number pages consecutively at the top right-hand corner. Underline scientific names of genera and lower categories. Acknowledgments should be on a separate, double-spaced page. Each figure and table must be referred to in the text. Text references are by author, followed by year of publication. The sequence of material in the manuscript should be as follows.

1. The *title* page should include the title, author's name, affiliation, and mailing address.
2. The *abstract* should not exceed one double-spaced page. It should contain a summary of significant findings and note the implications of these findings.
3. The *introduction*.
4. *Methods and materials*.
5. *Results*.
6. *Discussion*.
7. *Literature Cited*. List all publications referred to in the manuscript alphabetically by first author on a separate sheet of paper (double-spaced). Each citation must be complete, according to the following examples:

Article: Peck, S.B. 1974. The food of the salamanders *Eurycea lucifuga* and *Plethodon glutinosus* in caves. *NSS Bulletin*, 36(4): 7-10.

Book: Moore, G.W., and N. Sullivan. 1997. *Speleology: Caves and the cave environment*. St. Louis, Missouri: Cave Books.

Chapter: Hobbs, H.H. 1992. Caves and springs. In, C.T. Hackney, S.M. Adams, and W.A. Martin (eds.), *Biodiversity of Southeastern United States/Aquatic Communities*. John Wiley & Sons, pp. 59-131.

8. *Figures and Tables*. Should be self-explanatory, with caption. Each table should start on a separate sheet. Headings and format should be consistent.



At the Filer, Idaho 1999 NSS Convention, Horton H. Hobbs III was awarded one of the highest honors granted by the National Speleological Society (NSS), The Honorary Life Membership Award. Hobbs was recognized for his work on the study of caves and cave biology. Hobbs has been an NSS member since 1970 and in that time he has visited 1,125 caves (2,296 separate caving trips). Hobbs has explored, conducted biological research, and surveyed caves in the Bahamas, Belgium, Bermuda, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Germany, the West Indies, Mexico, Switzerland, and 30 states within the United States. Other honors that he has received by the NSS include being elected Fellow of the Society in 1986 and The Certificate of Merit in 1993. ■

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