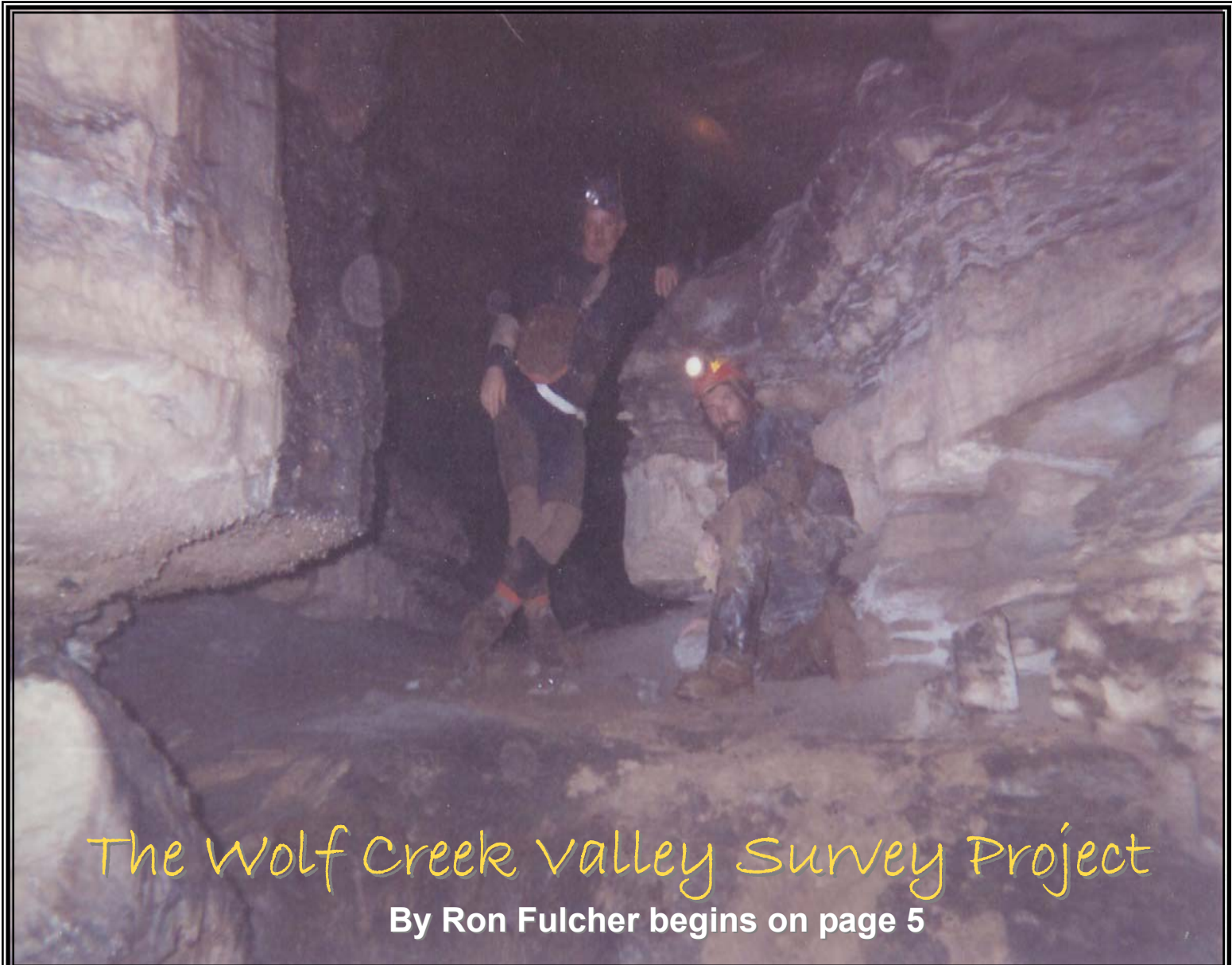




# NEWS

A Quarterly Publication of the  
**Rockcastle Karst Conservancy, Inc.**  
[www.rkci.org](http://www.rkci.org)



*The Wolf Creek valley Survey Project*

By Ron Fulcher begins on page 5

**Volume III, Issue II**

**Spring 2007**

The Rockcastle Karst Conservancy is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation and preservation of caves and karst in Rockcastle County, Kentucky.

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**Photo Credits:**

**Front Cover:** Ron Fulcher and James Odom in Tombstone Cave. Photo © by Scott Sweet.

**Back Cover:** Museum Section of Great Saltpetre Cave. Photo © by Nathan Williams.

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*Give them a brochure!*  
 GET YOUR BROCHURES AT:  
[www.rkci.org/brochure.htm](http://www.rkci.org/brochure.htm)

Volume III, Issue II April 2007

For more information about the Rockcastle Karst Conservancy, please visit our website at [www.rkci.org](http://www.rkci.org). Membership is open to anyone interested in protecting the caves and karst of Rockcastle County, Kentucky. See page 19 of this issue for a membership application and the different membership levels and dues.

The *RKC News* is published quarterly for members and other interested parties. The purpose of this publication is to keep members aware of RKC activities. Articles published in the *RKC News* do not necessarily represent the opinions or policies of the Rockcastle Karst Conservancy or its represented members.

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**RKC has educational material for lending.**  
 See the website:  
<http://rkci.org/library/index.htm>  
 or contact Tammy Otten:  
[tammyotten@yahoo.com](mailto:tammyotten@yahoo.com)



**Rockcastle Karst  
Conservancy**

The RKC News is published during January, April, July and October. Deadline for submissions is the 10th of March, June, September, and December. Send submissions to: mhcover (at) aol (dot) com

## RKC DUES ARE DUE!!

You can renew your dues by sending a check (payable to RKC) to 1515 Cordell Dr., Dayton, OH 45439. You can also renew online with PayPal from the RKC website.

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### RKC Quick News:

- A big "thank you" to Rob Coomer for redesigning the RKC table top display at no expense to RKC. It looks very professional!
- Congratulations to all the officers elected at the annual meeting on March 10th. See page 14 for meeting minutes.
- The RKC has been selected as the 2007 recipient of the SWAYGO packs donation program! See page 14 for more information.
- The RKC and GSP finance reports are now available on the RKC website, in the "Member's Only" section.
- RKC Fund Raising Silent Auction - Saturday, May 19. See page 13 for more details.
- Look for an article about the Rockcastle Karst Conservancy in the May edition of the Kentucky Living magazine

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***From the Editor:***

Hello everyone! This is my third edition of the *RKC News* and I'm having a lot of fun putting your newsletter together. Keep sending me articles! I want to thank Ron Fulcher for the outstanding report on the Wolf Creek survey project. I know you'll enjoy reading it. You can read the entire 49-page report on line at the RKC website. Another note of interest is that the finance reports will no longer be published in the newsletter. RKC members can access the finance reports in the "member's only" section of the RKC website.

The top ten longest caves in Rockcastle County is listed on page 18. I realize this information may be outdated, so send me any updates and the verification source.

Cave softly,

Mike Hood  
RKC News Editor

***From the Chairman:******Annual Meeting Results.***

Greetings fellow RKC members!

We had a successful and productive Rockcastle Karst Conservancy Annual Meeting on March 10. As a result of the meeting we have some board member and officer changes to announce.

Mike Rzesutock is joining the RKC Board and will serve as treasurer for 2007. Please welcome Mike to his important roles. We look forward to having a new face on board.

Mark Moore resigned from the board effective at the end of the annual meeting. Mark joined the board last year to assist with the transition of the Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve to RKC. Mark's work is done and he is stepping down to make way for others to serve on the board. Mark is not going away though. He agreed to head up RKC's newly formed Advisory Committee. Thank you Mark!

Werner Jud will continue to serve on the board but is no longer the treasurer. Werner will assist Mike to ensure a smooth transition of the treasurer duties. Thank you Werner for serving as treasurer since RKC was founded in 2004.

Also for 2007, I will continue to serve as chairman, Pat Hutson will continue to serve as vice-chairman and Lisa Pruitt-Thorner will continue to serve as secretary.

In case you don't know. The RKC Board consists of five members. Each year at the annual meeting in March the board elects four individuals from the board to serve as chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer and secretary. So to serve as an officer of RKC you must be a board member. Starting in 2009, you, the members of RKC, will be electing board members. Any member of RKC is eligible to serve on the board.

Thank you for your continued support of RKC.

Andy Niekamp  
RKC Chairman



*Some of the historic signatures in Great Saltpetre Cave*

# The Wolf Creek Valley Survey Project

By Ron Fulcher



Entrance to Tombstone Cave

Hopefully by publishing this small piece of the puzzle what we learned will not be lost to future generations.

Secondly, there have been a lot of contributors to our study and without their help this would not have been possible. We have worked out of our own wallets on behalf of ourselves and the caves we sought. I figured out that it takes 1000 manhours to produce a sizable map, boy, I sure would have hated to pay you guys! Mostly, to my wife Gina and our 2 cavers, this is what we were up to for the past 10 years.

Thanks to you all!

*Ron Fulcher*

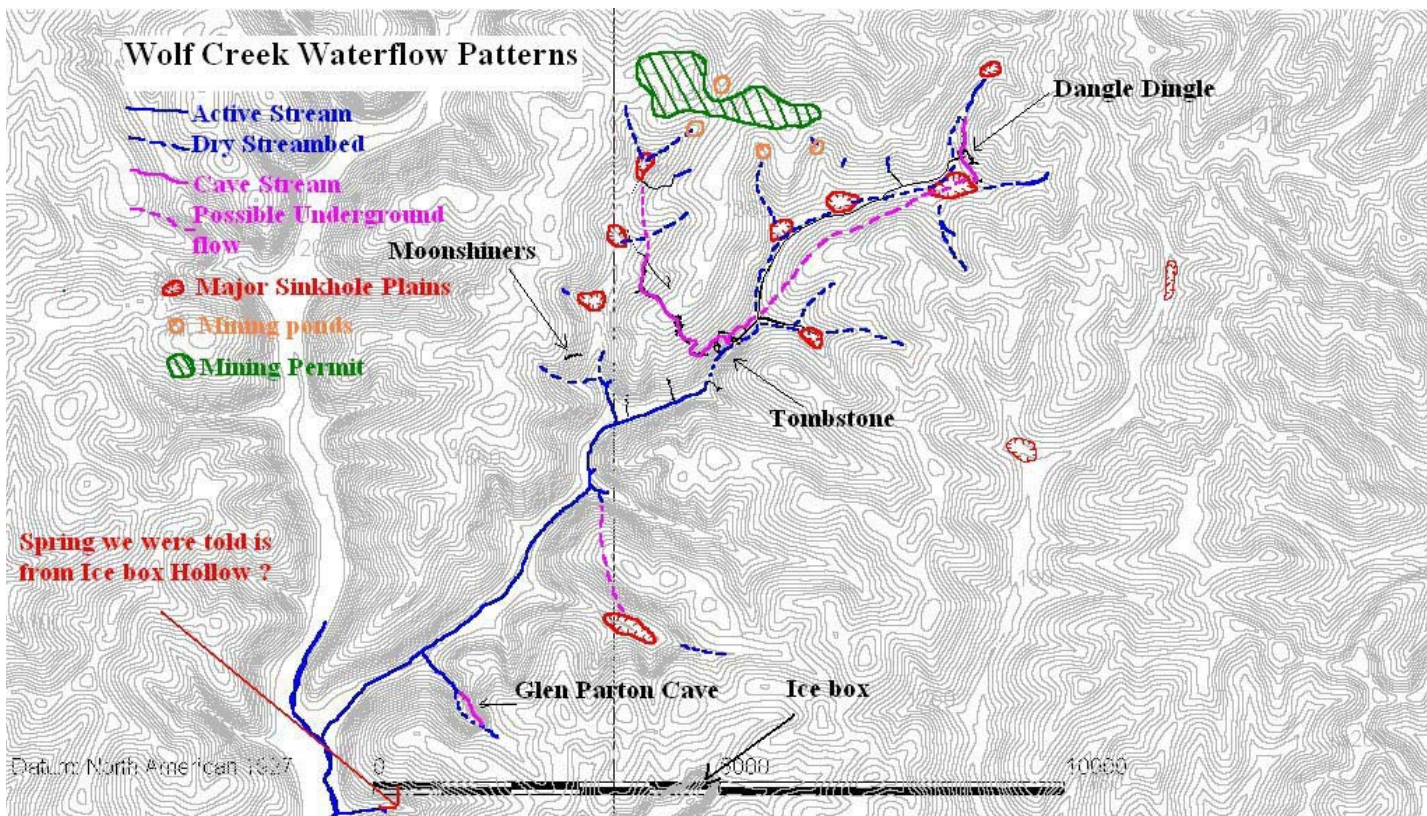
Acknowledgements:

I want to offer a big thanks to Gary A. O'Dell and James R. Rebmann for publishing *The Caves of Rockcastle County*. Our goal was to conduct our study in an area that was not well defined in this original account of the local caves. Their work has served as both a source of invaluable information, and as inspiration when the caves were hiding.

## The Geology and Hydrology of Wolf Creek

The ever-changing landforms of Rockcastle County are represented well in the Wolf Creek Cove or Valley. Even though our small window of time

*(Continued on page 6)*



**The Wolf Creek Valley Survey Project** *(Continued from page 5)*

here may seem stagnant, in reality it is easy to find evidence of change from year to year. There have been several definitive texts authored about the geology of the Rockcastle County and their work has made it easier to understand the Valley. Our goal here is to point out the results of our direct observations over the past ten years.

Economically the Wolf Creek Valley relies on income from outside sources and employment. Historically, coal, limestone and natural gas have all been found with coal and limestone providing quantities suitable for mining. Land use and cover in the area is predominately hardwood forests with cleared farmlands found in the lower stream valleys. Located within the boundary of the Daniel Boone National Forest, private landowners still own the majority of the study area.

Initial visits to the area revealed an elongated cove surrounded by exposed limestone bluffs and centered on the surface drainage of Wolf Creek. Several smaller streams feed Wolf Creek from intersecting smaller valleys and springs. Wolf Creek itself originates as a spring from the St. Louis Limestone and drains approximately one square mile. The sinking stream portion of the valley above this spring is marked by many sinkholes both large and small.

All of this indicated that there were lots of karst influences and a high probability that cave passage of suitable size for study could be found. Several smaller caves (30 to 500 feet in length) were locally known and visited by the indigenous families since at least the 1920s and are developed in mainly the St. Genevieve limestone. Unfortunately these caves did not contain significant stream flows and terminated in silt, gravel and, clay fills.

Cap rock is generally made up of the Pennsylvanian Age sandstones, coal beds and, conglomerates of the Lee Formation. Beneath these more resilient stones lies the Newman Formation of limestones from the Mississippian Age. All of the limestones of this group are capable of producing significant cave development. These limestones are generally flat beds that were formed in a shallow sea on the continent of Laurussia between 300 and 360 million years ago.

The Upper Member of the Newman Formation is noted as having the thickest beds of limestone. These are broken by layers of blue-green and gray shales and laminate layers of varying thickness. Beneath the Upper Member rests the St. Genevieve Member and then the St. Louis Member. The St. Genevieve Member is noted as thinner inter-bedded layers of unconformity. Depending on your location in Rockcastle County either one of the lower members may be missing.

The St. Genevieve and St. Louis members are both represented in thickness as we approach the Wolf Creek Valley Project Area from the West. The strike and dip of these groups trends south by southeast dropping at approximately 5%. The floor of the valley exhibits some large springs and many smaller ones. These are more numerous in the Renfro Member of the Borden Formation, which lies beneath the Newman Formation of limestones.

Altogether the project area has a 350+ foot thick bed of stone capable of producing all of the cave types typical to Rockcastle. Pits and sinkholes are easily found at the contact zone; and slightly above, with the conglomerates found in the Lee Formation just above the Newman Formation. The springs generated in the sandstones of the Lee Formation frequently produce upper level drainages that end with stream piracy and pits.

The Geology of Rockcastle County, Kentucky is simple in some terms and very complex the further you investigate. The Carboniferous group of limestones and sandstones that create the Wolf Creek Valley work hand-in-hand to generate both the hills and the caves beneath. I used to believe that the hills created the caves but it is better to say that the caves work to protect the hills. This is due to driving the natural forces of water below the cap rock and topsoils through conduits and into the caves.

Horizontal caves form generally following three trends. The first is slump faulting caused by the erosion of lower supporting beds as the valley forms. The second is to follow the strike and dip of

*(Continued on page 7)*

**The Wolf Creek Valley Survey Project** *(Continued from page 6)*

the limestone beds. When these two trends are the same then you can expect a greater chance for developing horizontal caves.

The third is surface stream replacement and piracy. The larger caves in the study area have used all three trends to produce miles of underground waterways. The caves are also steered by a more random formation of pits and sinkholes above the horizontal passages.

These projected trends have proven true in the project area so far. As I stated earlier, these cave and springs protect the hillsides from the full effects of natural surface erosion. They also serve to change the surface trends therefore absorbing energy and storing resources for later use. These resources emerge as the springs we find in the Renfro member and the St. Louis member and are likely to be active year-round.

The limestones of the Wolf Creek Valley Survey have hidden their secrets well through the years. As the soils have stabilized during the land use transition from active farmland to forest, the natural cave entrances reveal themselves. With some gentle coaxing and digs we were able to finally enter parts of this karst drainage system.

Active removal of debris from the entrance of Wolf Creek Cave began during Karst-o-Rama in 1994. What they found was a paleo-spring resurgence in a small crumbling bluff of St. Genevieve limestone. By removing a small pile of weathered blocks some 6" and some as large as 1' they were able to quickly clear a human-sized entrance to one of the several blowholes in the cliff face. This quickly led to a wide but low crawlway developed in a shale bed at or near the contact zone with the St. Louis limestone.

The streambed in the cave is active and the majority of the banks are collections of silt, sand, clay and, cobbles. It appears that what is now a streambed in a crawlway was once water filled aquifer. As the surface stream cut deeper into the valley it forced the water table to drop and created the resurgence spring we find now.

The true nature of Wolf Creek Cave would be revealed after the completion of a second dig in a large bluff just west of the resurgence spring. Another group of cavers found a restricted crawlway in the St. Genevieve limestone that led to another streambed perched on the contact The Wolf Creek Valley Survey Project 8 with the St. Louis limestone. Later dye tracing would reveal that Tombstone Cave and Wolf Creek Cave shared the same resurgence spring.

Both caves had 500 to 600 feet of passage but their respective streams approached the spring from opposite directions. Wolf Creek Cave seemed to be directly influenced by the surface drainage in the valley. It originated from the northeast and followed this line to the spring. However, Tombstone Cave's stream flow was from the southwest and completely opposite of the valley.

It would be several years before upstream exploration in Tombstone Cave revealed the secret of its water and a sizable cave system. When the 300-foot crawl in the upstream section opened up into a canyon we were able to follow the stream through walking passage. The cave is formed in the St. Genevieve limestone and the streambed rests at or near the contact zone with the St. Louis limestone. The direction and development of the passages were influenced many different ways.

The streambed flowing opposite the surface drainage is driven by the strike and dip of the limestone beds. This is around 1.5% grade dropping down to the southeast. Past station 18 the cave; now in walking canyon passage, we turn to the northwest and pass through the hill to the other side where we end up following this hillside's contour going upstream. So that leaves us with a major portion of the cave that originates in a tributary valley of Wolf Creek.

At station 65, Tombstone Cave is at its furthest point north and upstream. As the underground passage way approaches a dry surface stream cut, the ceiling slowly sinks to a foot and a half. The probable location for the sink where this stream

*(Continued on page 8)*

**The Wolf Creek Valley Survey Project** *(Continued from page 7)*

originates is the "Forgotten Cave Sink." We have excavated this to a 2-foot high crawlway but have yet to explore. This should account for the origination point for the west branch of the Tombstone Cave System.

Back to the south and downstream, Tombstone Cave encounters a series of domes with a "domey" recessional canyon following its own path to the northeast. This small streamlet is possibly from Colloid's Calamity Cave or Doobie Brothers Drop Cave which are both perched in the Upper Member Newman Limestone, some 150 feet above these passages in Tombstone Cave. These domes and canyon changed the direction of flow through stream piracy into the St. Louis Limestone turning the stream from the outside of the hill. This passage change is what forced the water to flow against the surface influence until it ends up at the mutual spring resurgence.

Tombstone and Wolf Creek Caves were connected through the downstream end of Tombstone and an overflow route from Wolf Creek Cave. Tombstone Cave had also managed to pass beneath the Pennington and Lee Formations that capped the hill separating the Wolf Creek Valley and the tributary valley. This leaves me hopeful that other passages could connect beneath the cap-rocks of the Eastern Pennyroyal Escarpment.

So far our key cave development had been in the Ste. Genevieve exposure but on December 15th, 2001 we found a high-level pit entrance. This is Dangle Dingle Cave and it developed at the contact zone between the Upper Newman Limestone and the Pennington Formation above. We removed some fill from the entrance and began active surveying in 2003. There were striking differences with this cave versus what we had found before.

Dangle Dingle Cave is very typical for an Upper Newman cave and it quickly develops into a maze of passages created and then left behind in the inter-bedded shales. There are 3 larger beds of these shales and they form the floor of the streams between drops. The first one you encounter and it is the thickest at upwards of 7 feet. The entrance room and the furthest point upstream are developed in this

shale. The entire upper level in fact is based on this bed but it took several survey trips to finally see this relationship.

Once the stream cut through the shale it quickly eats a phreatic canyon with small shelves on the sides. Here ceiling collapse from the first level forms a breakdown ceiling over the small stream cut recessional canyon. This pattern of development pirated several sources of water from the first level effectively creating a maze of inter-connections and smaller passages. These passages soon reached the 2nd layer of shale and leveled out for a while and the main stream passage ended at a waterfall into the "Second Sink Domes".

This second level only ranged in thickness up to 2 feet and so our ceiling height on the second level were lower at around 6 feet. Stream piracy through this layer created a much deeper canyon this time with more prominent shelves and fossils. Large crinoid columnals between 0.5 and 1 inch thick litter the walls for the lower half of this bed. This limestone canyon is topped with a ceiling of breakdown form the ceiling of the second shale layer but, has more open spots to access that shale.

Our third bed of shale formed the floor for this limestone canyon and ranges in thickness from 2 feet at Ken's Squeeze to Four feet in thickness before the "Balcony Falls". The active streambed is trapped in the shale passage and the 30 to 35 foot high recessional canyon provides an easy path to the falls. It is here that the water has finally cut through this last layer and ends up forming a series of pool drops in the light gray crystalline limestone.

Several factors went into creating the vast space that waits just beyond the falls but the greatest was recessional canyon development. This lower bed of the Upper Newman Limestone and the upper beds of the Ste. Genevieve Limestones below lack the prominent shale layers. Therefore the water has slowly created a canyon some 300 feet long, 100 feet high, and 40 feet wide. On rope our drop is 52 feet to the rubble pile at the bottom. Ceiling collapse has left the far side of this canyon filled with clean washed limestone debris piled from floor to ceiling at about 45 degrees.

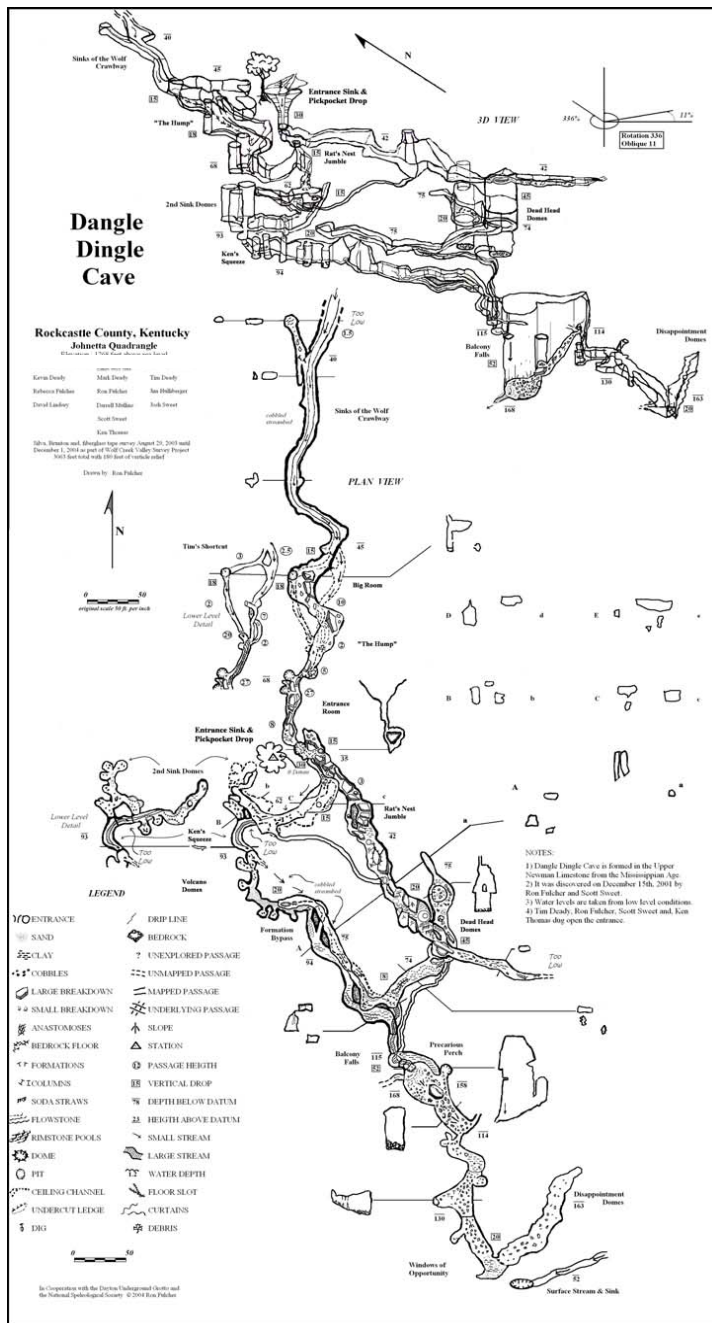
*(Continued on page 9)*

The Wolf Creek Valley Survey Project (Continued from page 8)

By the time the stream finds the falls it has gathered most of the trickles of water from the cave and concentrated them into this display. Our stream then cuts into a low ceiling channel and disappears. It is here in the Ste. Genevieve Limestones that some larger passages should develop before the water reaches a hopeful point close to the upstream section of Wolf Creek Cave.

What we have concluded is that there is still a great deal of untapped cave resources to be found in this valley and those close to it. We have also seen where this extensive potential for cave passage under nearly every limestone valley precludes the development of any permanent, stable, non-polluting water and runoff storage areas. Some of the more readily recognizable karst signatures were hidden by the farming efforts of the past settlers. A reasonable assessment of this underground water conduit system should be concluded before any substantial construction projects are undertaken.

*Editor's note: This article is just an excerpt of Ron's outstanding report. You can read Ron's 49-page report, in its entirety, on the RKC website.*



**RKC CHARTER MEMBERS**

- |                   |                 |                     |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Bill Addington    | Ron Fulcher     | Gary O'Dell         |
| Thor Bahrman, III | Sheila Gallogly | Tammy Otten         |
| Earl Bailey       | Bryan Garness   | Rick Peters         |
| Wayne Barton      | Joe Gibson      | Sheila Peters       |
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| Ken Bonenberger   | Mike Goltzene   | Lisa Pruitt-Thorner |
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| Jerry Brandenburg | Steven Greene   | Dave Rice           |
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| Ron Crawford      | Joetta Hutson   | Brian Sininger      |
| Annette Crosley   | Pat Hutson      | Todd Staten         |
| Delbert Dawson    | Nathan Jud      | Pete Stow           |
| June Dawson       | Neena Jud       | Scott Sweet         |
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| Mike Deitmaring   | Roger June      | Karen Tadsen        |
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| Bob Dobbs         | David Lee       | Kevin Toepke        |
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| Alan Fearday      | Mike Lucas      | Michelle Vaughn     |
| Traci Fearday     | Mark More       |                     |
| Trey Ferris       | Andy Niekamp    |                     |



Entrance to Dangle Dingle Cave

# History of Eastern Kentucky Karst

By Larry Simpson

*Reprinted from the December 2006 COG Squeaks*

~1 billion years BP: Collision of continents produces Grenville Mountains, predating the Appalachians and creation of the super-continent, Rodinia.

~750 my BP: Rodinia pulls apart creating rift valleys where the Mississippi Valley and Cincinnati Arch now lie. New Madrid Fault System is a present day remnant of this rifting. Rome Trough, a graben-like structure, is created beneath what is now the Cumberland Plateau.

~430my BP: The gradual uplift of the Cincinnati Arch begins along a southwest axis in central Kentucky.

~360my BP: Alleghenian Orogeny forms southern Appalachian Mountains as the north African coast of Gondwana drifts into the south coast of Laurasia eventually forming Pangea.

~350my BP: Mississippian limestone that will become future karst is deposited in a shallow inland sea.

~320my BP: Seas are replaced by periodic swamplands and deltaic outwashes of clastics that eventually will form coal beds, shale and sandstone caprock of the Cumberland Plateau.

~5.7my BP: Upper levels of Bone Cave in Tennessee are abandoned.

~3.5my BP: Upper levels of Cumberland Caverns in Tennessee are abandoned.

~2.2my BP: Upper levels of Wolf River Cave are abandoned as the Cumberland River and its tributaries are downcut.

~2my+ BP: Teays River and Valley is formed draining Kentucky and Licking Rivers north into Ohio and possibly westward to Illinois or eastward into Pennsylvania.

~1.8my BP: Upper levels of Zarathustra Cave in Tennessee are abandoned as the Cumberland River and its tributary Obey River downcut.

~1.6my BP: Upper levels of Xanadu Cave are abandoned on the Obey River.

~900,000 years BP, sands, silts and muds are deposited in Great Saltwater and Sloans Valley caves. (Quartz pebbles were later dated by Anthony and Granger.)

~70,000 to 18,000 years BP: a series of Pleistocene glacial advances and retreats destroy the Teays River drainage, damming the Licking River and New River and creating a 7000 square mile lake nearly 900 feet deep in

parts of Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia, most likely including the Carter Caves area. During maximum glaciation and minimum sea level, abundant melt waters allowed the Mississippi River to flow 100 feet deeper than present effecting other rivers of the Cumberland Plateau such as the Cumberland and Kentucky Rivers. The final retreat allows the present path of the Ohio River to form.

~10,000 to 35,000 years BP: Jaguars left tracks and remains in Jaguar Cave, Tennessee.

~10,000 to 12,000 years BP: Clovis point deposited near Cumberland River northeast of Nashville, Tennessee. Chert was mined in western Kentucky for Clovis points. Cumberland fluted points were made and distributed along the escarpment of the Cumberland Plateau, one later found in Sloans Valley Cave Entrance. Fire was used at a rock shelter in Jackson County. Flat head Peccaries, leave remains in caves of Rockcastle and Wayne Counties, Vero Tapir in Rockcastle County Cave.

~4500 years BP: Explorers using cane torches leave bare footprints in Jaguar Cave, Tennessee.

~3000 years BP: Woodland period peoples domesticate native Kentucky plants.

~2200 years before present: Peoples of Adena Culture build mounds in Kentucky. Caves used for water, habitation, burial, possibly for minerals and ritual.

~1750 Dr. Thomas Walker crosses "Cave Gap" later called Cumberland Gap along an Indian and buffalo path into Kentucky that would become Wilderness Road. He describes the entrance to Cudjo's Cave found near the gap.

~1754-1763: French and Indian War. Chicamauga Cherokee settled around the upper Cumberland in and around Burnside Kentucky, hold a war Counsel at the sacred Doublehead Cave vowing to hold their land against French and their Native allies from north of the Ohio. The French are defeated, but the celebrated War Woman, She-Who-Carries-The-Sun is killed in Battle.

~1775: In the Watonga Treaty (1774) and the Overhill Cherokee Treaty (Sycamore Shoals, 1775), the Cherokee sell all of eastern and central Kentucky north of the Cumberland to the Transylvania Land Company (Henderson Purchase). Daniel Boone cuts Boone's Trace through Rockcastle County and founds Fort Boonsboro on the banks of the Kentucky River.

*(Continued on page 11)*

**History of Eastern Kentucky Karst (Continued from page 10)**

~1775-1781: American Revolutionary War.

~1789 Big Jake Troxell marries Corn Blossom, daughter of Chief Doublehead at Doublehead Cave.

~1790: US Congress Declares war on Cherokee and other indigenous peoples of southeastern Kentucky. Treaties signed in 1791 & 1795.

~1792: Kentucky becomes the 15th state admitted to the Union.

~1793: Fight between Indian raiding party from Ohio and settlers near Murder Cave, which is named for hostages killed.

~ 1798, John Baker discovers Great Saltpeter Cave and becomes lost exploring it.

~19th Century, Pioneers use caves for water, food storage, camping, saltpeter: Saltpeter Cave, Carter County; Great Saltpeter Cave and Teemer's Cave in Rockcastle County; Sloans Valley and Peter Pit caves in Pulaski County, and numerous others on a smaller scale, reaching pinnacle of production during the war of 1812. Whiskey brewed from springs along the Cumberland.

~1801: mining begins in Great Saltpeter Cave.

~1805: Dr. Samuel Brown, Saltpeter entrepreneur, buys Great Saltpeter Cave. The following year he writes of several peter caves in Jackson and Rockcastle Counties including Kinkaid's Cave, later called Great Saltpeter.

~1806: Doublehead (Chuquilatague) cedes the final of ten million acres of Cherokee land in Wayne and McCreary Counties outraging many of the Cherokee, possibly resulting in his assassination as a traitor by the faction led by Kahunngdatlageh.

~1810: Massacre of Cherokee women and children at Yahoo Falls in McCreary County (near Eureka Cave) marks the final dispersal of Cherokee in Kentucky. Corn Blossom mortally wounded. Big Jake Troxell thought dead but escapes.

~1811-1812: New Madrid, several earthquakes occur near the westernmost tip of Kentucky. Thought to be greater than a magnitude of 8, they are said to have caused the Mississippi to flow backwards.

~1818: Luke Munsell produces the first official map of the state of Kentucky showing caves and karst features.

~1832: Naturalist Constantine Rafinesque catalogues and describes Kentucky caves and their fauna including two from Rockcastle County.

~Mid-1800's to mid-1900's Short Creek Spring is location several grist mills over the years. Settlers begin exploring caves for pleasure.

~1870-1910: Timber boom strips most old growth forest from Kentucky causing sediment influx and increased flooding in many caves.

~1873: Cholera epidemics in Kentucky likely due to contaminated water (and cave springs).

~1877: USGS geologist C. J. Norwood first describes geologic strata in Rockcastle County.

~1888: A.L. Packard Jr. investigates fauna of Carter County caves.

~1896: Oligonuk Caverns overlooking Carter City may have been the first tourist cave in the region. A spur rail line ran from Garrison to Carter, Kentucky. On weekends tourists could take an excursion train into Carter City and the Oligonuk Caves. (*Ghost Railroads of Kentucky.*)

~1930's: attempt made to commercialize Stab Cave (AKA Taylor Saltpeter).

~1937: Daniel Boone Forest is created (originally called Cumberland forest.)

~1940-1942 Clyde A. Mallott & Floyd C. Mallott survey more than 7.5 miles Sloans Valley Cave connecting Minton Hollow Cave to the commercial section then called Cumberland Caverns. This map is later published by the KGS as Malott, C.A., and McGrain, P., 1977, *A Geologic Profile of Sloans Valley, Pulaski County, Kentucky*. Renfro Valley Barn Dance is broadcast from Great Saltpeter Cave on WHAS radio in 1940.

~1941: Construction begins on Wolf Creek Dam, which will contain waters of the Cumberland River flooding many caves including parts of Sloans Valley, Cave Creek, Coral and Wells Cave as well as the old city of Burnside, once a trading center of the Cherokees. Construction halted for three years in World War II.

~1949: Alabama biologist, J. Manson Valentine visits a number of caves in Pulaski & Wayne Counties with Pulaski County Geologist, Woodson Diamond, and publishes a paper on cave beetles (1952).

~1950: W. R. Jillson and students from Transylvania College in Lexington, survey lower levels of Sloans Valley (the commercial section then called Crystal Cave). Jillson privately publishes *Geology of Crystal Cave* in 1952.

(Continued on page 12)

**History of Eastern Kentucky Karst (Continued from page 11)**

~1952: Wolf Creek Dam fully operational. Lake Cumberland filled.

~1957: Charles Fort surveys Blowing Cave in Wayne County possibly the first cave survey in that County. Ralph Ewers, Tom Klekamp, Paul Howeler, Al Geiser and others form the Cincinnati Speleological Society, exploring caves in Carter County among others. Ralph Ewers at the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History creates a 16mm on cave life in Bat Cave and other caves in Carter County. Thomas C. Barr Jr. begins investigation of cave fauna of Eastern Kentucky.

~1959: Eureka Cave in McCreary County makes national news when explorers claim the cave is bigger than Mammoth. Roy Davis maps Eureka, reporting its length of just over a mile in NSS News. In Carter County, Joe Voigt and COG members survey Jarvie Roark's Cave and others of Tygarts Valley in the 50's and early 60's.

~1961: Greater Cincinnati Grotto (GCG) chartered by the NSS. The Grotto initiates the Kentucky Cave Survey as an on-going project, publishing a list of over 35 caves in Franklin County, Kentucky. First annual meeting is held at Bat Cave, Carter Caves State Park. (Later to be known as Karst-O-Rama).

~1962: Al Geiser, aided by members of the GCG begins his mapping of Sloan's Valley Cave, also known to the locals as Tater Cave. University of Texas Grotto Members, Thomas Costello and William Russell visit Rockcastle, and Pulaski Counties surveying Great Saltpeter, Sinks of Roundstone and Pine Hill Caves and exploring many more. They also visit Sinking Valley caves in Pulaski County. Tom Barr and others found the Blue Grass Grotto (BGG). GCG holds second annual meeting at Sinking Creek, Pulaski Co.

~1966: Great Saltpeter Cave commercialized. A group of Boy Scouts from Cincinnati, Ohio begins the first survey of Wells Cave, mapping 15,000 feet. Philly Grotto cavers explore several caves and in Pulaski County including Slavey Pit.

1967: Wayne White publishes *Speleography of Great Saltpetre Cave*.

~1968-1970: Emergency grouting of Wolf Creek Dam is credited with saving the dam, but does not solve the problem, cavernous limestone bedrock below the dam.

~1969: Dave Beiter begins the fourth survey of Sloans Valley Cave and is joined by Lou Simpson who spearheads efforts by Columbus Ohio Grotto (COG) and the Blue Grass Grotto (BGG) surveying more than 24 miles, the longest in the Cumberland Plateau. Cavers from GCG explore multiple entrances in Hound Hollow that will eventually be surveyed as Coral System, the second longest cave survey of the Cumberland Plateau.

The Coral Cavers will eventually be joined by DASS surveying the cave with additional help of COG & Cleve-O Grotto. Sinkholes for in embankment of Wolf Creek Dam on Lake Cumberland "due to the karst geology of the site characterized by an extensive interconnected network of solution channels in the limestone foundation."

~1970-1980: COG surveying in Pulaski & Wayne counties, DASS surveying Pulaski, Buck Creek; GCG surveying in Rockcastle, BGG surveying in Rockcastle Jackson, Pulaski & Wayne counties. Ken Tankersley surveys caves of Jackson County.

~1972: G. Odell & J. Rebmann publish *Caves of Rockcastle County*. Beiter & Cooper report discovery of blind cave fish in Sloans Valley Cave. Coral/DASS cavers begin second survey of Wells Cave that will eventually exceed eleven miles. Ewers completes geology master's thesis for the University of Cincinnati using data and photos from Coral, Wells and Sloans Valley caves.

~1973: SWORCA (South West Ohio Regional Caving Association) discover the Miracle Mile in Goochland beginning a survey that will add five miles to the two previously mapped in the longest cave surveyed in Rockcastle County. Werner Jud and SWORCA Cavers discover blind cave fish in Coral.

~1974: Cave Run Lake is completed by Army Corps of Engineers. Miami Valley Grotto forms.

~1975-77: A concrete diaphragm wall is constructed at Wolf Creek Dam to prevent undermining by bedrock karst features. Feb. 9, 1977, Lake Cumberland reaches low level during construction (677.85 ft), opening many submerged passages previously below the lake.

~1979: Thomas Barr and Donald Harker Jr. publish *Caves and Associated Fauna of Eastern Kentucky*.

~1980s-90 Cavers fight to prevent a proposed garbage landfill draining into Sloans Valley. Cavers, speleologists and local groups testify at hearings. BGG & MVG begin surveying in Long Hollow and Sinking Valley systems.

~1981: Lake Cumberland reaches (675.1ft.) allowing Mike Johnson to make previously sumped Coral and Dave's Cave connection solo.

~1983: Jon Thompson & cavers from Pulaski County and Cumberland College form the Lake Cumberland Speleological Society. They resurvey (Pulaski County) Wind Cave finding new passage. A flash flood in Rockcastle County traps GCG cavers in Precinct 11 Cave. Dr. Horton Hobbs & WUSS survey Saltpeter-Moon System and other caves in Carter County.

(Continued on page 13)

**History of Eastern Kentucky Karst (Continued from page 12)**

~1984: (5/13) Big Flood in Pulaski & Wayne Counties, eight-inch rain raises Lake Cumberland to highest level ever (751.7), flooding Coral & Wells Caves and many others to new heights. Doc Daugherty and MVG surveying Ranch Cave and Big Sink in Sinking Valley.

~1985: Percy (Doc) Dougherty edits *Caves and Karst of Kentucky*.

~1986 Attempt made to get permit to strip mine Long Hollow, permit withdrawn 1987. Strip mines are initiated above Hail Cave and Pourover Cave on east and west sides of Buck Creek.

~1989: Great Saltpeter Preserve is formed.

~1990-2000: GCG surveying Rockcastle County Caves. COG, GCG, MVG, DUG, & others survey Black House Mountain caves.

~1998: Plans announced to build I-66. The proposed preferred route would take the interstate through prime karst including Wells and Coral Caves. Lee Florea alerts cavers and a loose coalition of cavers and environmentalists are formed to challenge the proposed route (Kick-66). Cavers and hydrologists critique karst aspect of the plans.

~1999-2000: Partly in response to I-66 and other ecological threats, regional Grottos, project cavers and the Kentucky Geological Survey form the Kentucky Speleological Survey to house maps and GIS data and to inform state planners of karst locations. Lee Florea and others begin surveying other caves in the possible alignment including Kneeshredder, forming the Shreddites survey group.

~June, 2000: the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet scraps plans for the southern alignment over Wells and Coral Caves and initiates a new study of possible alignments to the north.

~August 2001: NSS Convention is held at Great Saltpeter Cave. Hydrologic field trip tours Sinking Valley. Jason Gully begins series of sump dives and surveys in Short Creek, Sinking Valley and Coral Cave along with Sam Freshour, Steve Keene and Sue Sharples.

~2002: Planning stage for the Northern Bypass of I-66 around Somerset begins. Business and political leaders convince the KYTC to move I-66 further north, possibly threatening the Sinking Valley System. Lee Florea, Jason Gully and others begin surveying caves of Sinking Valley with a grant from the NSS.

~2003: Jim Helmbold, a DASS Caver, donates land including two entrances to Wells Cave to the NSS for a preserve. Chris Johns and Larry Simpson film *The Caves of Sinking Valley* to document caves in the I-66 corridor.

~2004: Preliminary Karst identification for the I-66 proposed corridors between Somerset and consultant, Gannett-Fleming, begins London. Geologists identify karst features. Biological survey of caves by Dr. Julian Lewis begins. Bat survey by Price Sewell is begun.

~2005: Jim Currens and the Kentucky Geological Survey begin a dye trace study of karst in the proposed I-66 corridors for the KYTC. KGS surveys Light Hole Cave.

~2006: Preliminary phase for plans to pour a new grout curtain into bedrock 25 feet below Cumberland Dam to prevent failure of dam. The new waterpark in Somerset is damaged by sinkhole collapse shortly after the park is opened.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: E-mail Andy Niekamp additions and corrections to this history. He will make changes to the copy located in the on-line library on the RKC website.*

**NEW RKC MEMBERS**

**As of this Publication  
(RKC Membership Number in Parenthesis)**

Rob Thurber (16), (Upgrade to Life Member)  
Bryan Garness (51), (Upgrade to Life Member)  
Patricia Forman (134), Flint, MI (Individual)  
Kevin Betz (135), Albion, IN (Individual)

**The RKC now has  
129 Individual Members  
And  
6 Organization Members  
Welcome!**

**RKC SILENT AUCTION**

RKC Fund Raising Silent Auction - Saturday, May 19, under the picnic shelter at the Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve round 6pm. Have an item to donate to the auction? Please bring it. Donations are welcome. Come prepared to bid! If you have any items to donate or would like to help out please contact Jo Hutson at: joettarn2000 (at) aol (dot) com



## Minutes of the RKC Annual Meeting, March 10, 2007

March 10, 2007 11:10 am – 1:30 pm EST  
Boone County Public Library – Florence Branch  
Florence, Kentucky

### In Attendance:

Board Members: Pat Hutson, Andy Niekamp, Werner Jud, Mark Moore. Others present: Joetta Hutson, Jerry Brandenburg, Emily Brandenburg, Leslie Moore, Bob Dobbs, Bill Addington, Neena Jud.

Meeting started with a Roll Call of Board Members – a quorum was present.

### Officer and Board Member Reports:

#### **Andy Niekamp – Chairman**

A silent auction fundraiser was held at the Caver Appreciation Weekend. Amount raised was \$209.00. Thanks to June Delbert for all her efforts in this event.

RKC entered into a Volunteer Agreement with Daniel Boone National Forest to be the key keepers for Goochland and Waterfall Caves. There are four volunteers who will lock or unlock the caves at the agreed times on behalf of the National Forest. Mark recommended that the insurance policy be reviewed for appropriate liability coverage of the Board, and be amended as necessary. Mark wondered if the board is liable for problems in Goochland or Waterfall caves when unlocked. Legal input (Lisa) is needed regarding board insurance. Werner only knows of a Property Liability Policy for GSP.

Rob Coomer printed special versions of his Hidden Worlds Calendars for 2007 for RKC. Sales of these calendars raised \$217.00.

Rob Coomer redesigned the Table Top display to include more images of GSP. Mark suggested the Board write an official thank you letter to Rob recognizing his efforts on behalf of RKC.

Andy received copies of published articles and photos from Renfro Valley about GSP. He is passing copies of these on to the Editor for inclusion in the Newsletters. Once republished, they will be additionally archived on line at the library page.

There was an article in the NSS News about GSP.

There will be an article about GSP in the Kentucky Living Magazine. Andy has not been notified as to when this will be published.

SWAYGO has a program to donate a percentage of annual pack sales for a year to a cave or karst conservation organization. Andy has applied for this on behalf of RKC in December of 2006. The application was approved in January of 2007.

A request for change in the property insurance was made to name RKC as the policy holder and GCG as additional insured. There will be no cost for this change. It will take 3-6 weeks to process.

The filing to Kentucky Secretary of State is almost due. Andy will file after this meeting to reflect the Board and Officers for 2007.

#### **Pat Hutson - Vice Chairman:**

No particular items to report

*(Continued on page 15)*



### SWAYGO DONATION PROGRAM

Each year, SWAYGO donates a percentage of annual pack sales to an organization that is dedicated to the conservation of cave and karst resources. SWAYGO believes that this is necessary to continue with the positive impacts that the current organizations have had with the protection and conservation of karst. Cave and karst resources provide each of us an abundance of joy, excitement, wonder and exploration, and it's always a good time to give back so that future generations can receive the same unforgettable experience.

***THE ROCKCASTLE KARST CONSERVANCY IS THE 2007 PROGRAM RECIPIENT!***

Previous program recipients:

2005 -- West Virginia Cave Conservancy

2006 -- Southeastern Cave Conservancy

[www.swaygogear.com](http://www.swaygogear.com)

## GREAT SALTPETRE CAVE PRESERVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Chairman - Mary Gratsch  
 Treasurer - Werner Jud  
 GCG Representative - Jerry Brandenburg  
 GCG Representative - Matt Keller  
 BGG Representative - Jerry Dixon  
 BGG Representative - Pat Hutson  
 DUG Representative - Bob Yuellig  
 DUG Representative - Tim Hale  
 Caretaker - Bill Carr

A large portion of the GSP maintenance fund is going to pay for port-a-potties. We feel this money could be better spent so this year we would like to complete at least one of several proposed 'outhouses'. Neena Jud and Deb Bledsoe are researching sustainable, environment friendly designs.

We would also like to either expand the tractor barn or add a new storage 'shed' (perhaps behind the shelter house) so we can obtain a riding, zero turn mower. A place to store the new cache of rescue equipment, where it will be secure but accessible, also needs to be found.

Werner Jud has completed installing a new water heater in the kitchen and reworked the water line so it will not freeze. Water is now available in the kitchen year round! Please be sure to follow the instructions Werner has posted and NO SHOWERING in the sink. Other approved upgrades to the kitchen include the purchase of a six burner stove with two ovens. Jim Perkins is scouring the auctions looking for a suitable stove and hood.

New 'NO HUNTING' signs will soon appear along 1004. This is in response to a couple of recent incidents of 'locals' hunting on the property not realizing that we are a preserve and there are hiking trails.

Once again Stacy Doose is scheduling the Scout cave trips. He is always in need of folks to help!!! If you don't want to lead them, be a tail gunner... It is a great way to learn new caves, build friendships with other cavers plus have a lot of fun! Can't get away to drive down to GSP?, please offer to do the preparatory presentations to the troops. Stacy his working on a prepared presentation so just bring it and some gear to the troop meeting and be ready to answer questions.

We have tentative dates for Work Weekends at GSP:

April 7-8 - Spring clean up  
 May 5-6 - Prepare for Open House  
 June 9-10 - Prepare for KOR

There is a wide range of jobs; from cleaning the kitchen and shower house to mowing and trimming. Something for everyone!

Dinner will be provided on Saturday evening. If you enjoy camping at GSP please come help us maintain the property!

Scheduled events:

School Tours - May 10 & 11 - **volunteers needed!!!**  
 Madison Co - May 9? Sponsor, Wayne Barton; Japanese visitors will have a catered dinner in the cave \*\*\* tentative\*\*\*  
 Open House - May 19-20 - **Chairperson, cook and volunteers** to help with cave tours and in the kitchen are needed  
 KOR - June 21-24 - Tammy Otten, Chairperson - **volunteers still needed**

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### RKC ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES *(Continued from page 14)*

#### **Werner Jud – Treasurer's report:**

See attached Balance Sheet Report from January 1, 2007 to date.

See Attached Income & Expenses Report for the year 2006.

See attached GSP Committee Balance Sheet Report as of end of 2006 – provided as additional information.

Werner stated that the Treasurer will need to figure out how to properly integrate the GSP Committee finances into the RKC finances for reporting purposes.

Mark questioned the value of GSP Real Estate listed under Equity. It looks like too large of a donation for this year and listed as such will may require us to pay taxes on this income. Recommended listing it as the \$10.00 price of acquisition. Consult with legal counsel.

GCG still splits the proceeds from the annual auction with GSP Committee.

Motion made & approved to accept Treasurer's Report as amended to reflect the price of acquisition, not the value of GSP property.

#### **Lisa Pruitt-Thorner – Secretary *(not in attendance)***

No report submitted.

#### **Mark Moore – Board Member**

We need to stay aware of Federal Government regulations that apply to non-profit organizations. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act that was established for publicly traded companies is being studied by Governmental Entities as to how it can be applied to Non-Profits. The web site for Independent Sector, a group of charitable organizations, has suggestions of policies and procedures to minimize unethical behaviors in Non-Profit Organizations. See [www.independentsector.org](http://www.independentsector.org). Motion was made and

*(Continued on page 16)*

**RKC ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES** (Continued from page 15)

approved to create an advisory committee to the board, and amended to appoint Mark Moore as the acting chair, review these suggested policies, determine a procedure for audits, and in general advise the Board on various matters. Mark will prepare a preliminary draft charter to form the advisory committee and circulate it among the Board Members. When applying for grants, volunteer time can be given an equivalent dollar value. Independent Sector has published the 2007 rates, and one general volunteer hour is worth \$18.04. Mark suggested forming a committee to track volunteer hours. No decision or action taken. Suggestion – Consider adding two more board members – one to chair the advisory committee previously mentioned, and one to be a liaison to the grottos.

**Board Member Change:**

Mark Moore verbally submitted his resignation from the Board. Resignation was accepted effective when this meeting is adjourned. Mike Rzesutock was elected to the Board. Mike submitted his resume to Andy via email. In summary, he is a caver, is an engineer, with his own firm, located in Fayetteville, Ohio, and a member of the Dayton Underground Grotto. He has volunteered for the Treasurer Office for this coming year.

**Election of Officers:**

Officer elections for 2007 were held. The following officers were elected:

Andy Niekamp - Chairman  
Pat Hutson - Vice-Chairman  
Mike Rzesutock - Treasurer  
Lisa Pruitt-Thorner - Secretary

**Other Appointment Confirmed:**

Mike Hood as Newsletter Editor

**Committee Reports:**

GSP Committee: Report submitted in writing from Mary Gratsch.

Fundraising Committee: Joetta Hutson: Requesting donations for the Silent Auction at Karst-O-Rama. In addition to previous donors, she has approached Kings Island and Great Wolf Lodge for weekend packages. She plans to have all offerings itemized and on line by mid-April. Bluegrass Armory has offered two 50 caliber guns (assault rifles) as a fundraiser (RKC would need to cover the cost of materials). There was much discussion about the benefits of raising funds, and questioning this product in light of our conservation intent and rules against hunting on the property. JH to submit a written proposal outlining all details of the offer and transaction method so all Board Members can review and consider this.

Membership Committee: Andy Niekamp: Currently have 129 members. Membership renewal is due for about half the members. More life Member t-shirts (green) are needed. Andy will have more printed. Donations – Our newest Board Member – Mike Rzesutock is the largest individual donor in this past year. Thank you Mike.

**Outstanding Items since acquisition of GSP:**

Revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding: Pete Stow, Chairman of GCG will convene an internal meeting to discuss the issues and get back to Andy. Andy & Werner remain committed to re-visiting the MOU to tweak it to reflect the importance of the commitment of time and effort of the people in GCG.

GCG equipment lease: Werner is in the process of compiling the list of items, values, and dates of acquisition.

Caretaker lease: Werner volunteered to lead the effort to create a new lease between RKC and Bill Carr (GSP Caretaker). Bill's old lease with GCG is no longer in effect.

**Future Fund Raising Ideas:**

Silent Auctions at GSP Open House and Caver Appreciation weekend. Andy looking for volunteers to run these. Joetta Hutson will run the silent auction at GSP Open House.

In discussions with Rob Coomer for a calendar for 2008 in which all the images will be GSP.

Bob Dobbs suggested approaching Wildwood Inn for a donation for raffle at KOR or silent auction since they have a Cave theme room.

(Continued on page 17)

**RKC ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES** (Continued from page 16)**Cave Clean-Up Project for 2007:**

Pat Hutson volunteered to coordinate this project including identifying a cave. Werner will assist. Deb Bledsoe should be involved considering her connections with PRIDE.

**IRS 501c3 Status:**

We currently have advance ruling status though 12/31/08. We will receive instructions to update paperwork 90 days prior to this.

**NSS Conservancy Status:**

GSP is currently listed as an NSS Cave Conservancy through GCG. RKC is listed as a non-NSS Cave Conservancy. Question was posed: should RKC apply as an NSS Cave Conservancy and delete the separate listing for GSP? Discussion included concerns about Felburn Foundation's thoughts, previous discussions with representatives of NSS on behalf of Conservancy Committee, rights and responsibilities to NSS, and implication on fundraising from NSS members. Werner will contact John Wilson (Chair of NSS Conservancies Committee) for clarification of information. Suggestion to caucus all the members of RKC No decision made on this issue. Discussion will resume through open emails.

**RKC Board Terms and timing of First Elections:**

Andy requested consensus on start date of terms of Board Members as outlined in Bylaws. The decision was that 2005 is the starting year. Therefore first elections for two Board Members will be March 2009. Motion made and accepted on Andy's interpretation of initial board terms. Which Board Members shall have which length terms will be discussed with new Board Member, and decision shall be made at next annual board meeting.

*The approved interpretation is in parentheses:*

The Initial Board of Directors (Andy, Werner, Pat) shall be the three incorporating Directors and they shall appoint two additional Directors (Lisa & Mark) to have a total of 5. Their term shall be three years (2005, 2006 & 2007). At the end of that time (annual meeting in 2008) two Directors shall continue for a second three year term (2008, 2009 & 2010), one shall continue for a two year term (2008 & 2009) and the remaining two shall continue for a one year term (2008).

Therefore:

At the annual meeting in 2009 two directors will be elected for a three year term.

At the annual meeting in 2010 one director will be elected for a three year term.

At the annual meeting in 2011 two directors will be elected for a three year term.

**Other Cave Properties to Consider:**

Corn Hole Cave – Mary Gratsch has offered to discuss a lease.

Other properties were discussed.

Motion made and approved to appoint Bill Addington as the chairman of a new committee for Karst Acquisition. Responsibilities include preparing procedures for: evaluating properties, talking with landowners, and raising funds for purchases.

**Next Annual Meeting Date set for March 22, 2008.**

Meeting Minutes prepared & submitted by Bill Addington, Jerry Brandenburg, and Neena Jud. Lisa Pruitt-Thorner, Board Secretary was unable to attend the meeting but asked several members to take notes.

*Reviewed and Approved*

Lisa Pruitt-Thorner

RKC Director, Secretary



## THE NEXT GREAT SALTPETRE PRESERVE OPEN HOUSE IS:

Saturday, May 19, 2007 - 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday, May 20, 2007 - Noon to 4 pm

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Free cave tours are offered. The tours last 30 to 45 minutes. The cave has electric lights. The cave floor is generally flat. Dress for the cave environment - comfortable shoes and a sweat shirt. The cave is 57 degrees. Bring a flashlight if you wish. Volunteers are also needed to staff the RKC booth information table.

### Other Activities:

- Free soup beans and corn bread.
- Live music on Saturday. *Bring an instrument and join in!*
- Food concession stand operated by the Livingston Fire Department.
- Souvenir concession stand.
- Miles of hiking trails.
- Bring a picnic lunch.



## ROCKCASTLE COUNTY'S TOP 10 LONGEST CAVES

As of February 2005

RANK	NAME	MILES	SOURCE
1	Goochland-Poplar Cave Complex	11.180	Kentucky Speleofest Guidebook, 1981
2	Precinct 11 Cave	5.593	List of Mapped Caves of Kentucky, 01/86
3	Pine Hill Cave	4.834	List of Mapped Caves of Kentucky, 01/86
4	Sinks of the Roundstone Cave	2.628	List of Mapped Caves of Kentucky, 1982
5	Miller's Cave	2.083	List of Mapped Caves of Kentucky
6	Mullen Spring Cave	1.988	List of Mapped Caves of Kentucky, 01/82
7	Smokehole Cave	1.890	Blue Grass Grotto - Ref. Gary O'Dell, 08/86
8	Climax Cave	1.554	List of Mapped Caves of Kentucky, 01/82
9	Crooked Creek Ice Cave	1.162	List of Mapped Caves of Kentucky, 01/82
10	Tombstone Cave	1.120	Wolf Creek Valley Survey Project

# Become a Member of RKC!

*Join RKC and help preserve caves and cave access in the Rockcastle County, Kentucky region! Your membership dues go directly to efforts to purchase and manage caves.*

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name - Please print clearly

\_\_\_\_\_

Street

\_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone

**MEMBERSHIP FOR INDIVIDUALS - VOTING**

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual Member \$15/year

\_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining Member \$75/year (After five consecutive years a sustaining member becomes a Life Member (along with a special T-shirt)

\_\_\_\_\_ Life Member \$300/one time

**MEMBERSHIPS FOR ORGANIZATIONS OR INDIVIDUALS - NON-VOTING**

\_\_\_\_\_ Supporting Member - Non-profit, grottos, and youth organizations \$25/year

\_\_\_\_\_ Supporting Member - All other organizations \$50/year

\_\_\_\_\_ Benefactor Member - \$1,000/one time



*Dues expire on January 1 of each year. Individual and Supporting Member dues are half the amount after June 30.*

Membership Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to the Rockcastle Karst Conservancy.**

Mail completed form and payment to:

Rockcastle Karst Conservancy  
1515 Cordell Drive  
Dayton, Ohio 45439



## RKC T-Shirts!

Price: \$15.00, RKC member price \$10.00

100% Pre-shrunk Heavy Weight Cotton, Navy Blue / Gold  
Designed by Robert Coomer

Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL (sorry no S). Quantities are limited.

All proceeds benefit The RKC. Order on line:  
<http://www.rkci.org/tshirt.htm>



## RKC Life Member T-Shirt

Green with RKC logo

See membership details for more information.



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**Rockcastle Karst Conservancy, Inc.**  
1515 Cordell Dr  
Dayton, Ohio 45439

# FIRST CLASS

**Deliver To:**