

The Southeastern Caver

Newsletter of the Southeast Regional Association of Grottos

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Brian Roebuck - Editor



Photo by Lynn Roebuck

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A Note from the Chair

Welcome to the 2008 SERA Winter Business Meeting!

It has been an honor to serve as Vice Chair and the Chair of SERA for the last two years. It has been a very good experience and I have met some people I probably would not have met otherwise.

The jobs aren't really that hard. Most of the year there isn't anything to do for SERA. As Vice-Chair you don't have many responsibilities. As Chairman you do have to work a little. You have to communicate with the grotto hosting the Winter Business Meeting about facilities.

Another responsibility is to put out a call for nominations for the SERA Awards. Of course you have to remind the people in charge of the Map Salon and the Photo Salon to send out notices to call for maps and pictures. Lastly you have to put together the agenda for the meeting and chair the meeting.

In addition to being a SERA officer being elected to office meant that I was also on the SKTF Board. In the last two years I've learned a lot about the work of the SKTF as well.

The SKTF Board is a nine person board consisting of the 3 SERA officers (Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer) plus 6 appointed members. The appointed members serve 3 year terms. The terms are staggered so each year two members are appointed. Sometimes the person whose term is expiring is reappointed and other times a new person is appointed because the person doesn't desire to serve another term. Did you know that the SERA Chairman makes recommendations to the board for vacancies on the board created as people complete their terms of office? The entire board then votes to approve the appointment.

The SKTF Board has 3 meetings a year. These are usually held on a Sunday at a member's home. The number of clean-ups done per year by the SKTF varies. I can't say I attended all the clean-ups while I was on the board but I know I attended more than I missed.

I would strongly encourage anyone in attendance to volunteer to serve as an officer of SERA. If you are nominated please consider serving.

Martha Mills

SERA Winter Business Meeting 2007

Minutes for the 2007 SERA Winter Business Meeting 2/03/07

Hosted by Chattanooga Grotto

The 2007 SERA Winter Business meeting was held in Chattanooga Tennessee at St. Jude Catholic Church in the Parish Life Center. The Chattanooga Grotto hosted it.

Forty-five cavers attended the event. Chairman Brian Roebuck called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. He began the event with a moment of silence for Tank Gorin who died the day before.

Butch Feldhouse welcomed attendees and familiarized them with the location, the region and parking. The chairman began announcements. He announced the NSS office was set up, they spoke about specials and new arrivals. Next the photo salon was announced and its chair Lynn Roebuck was recognized. Carl Anderson was cited for hosting the map salon. Brian spoke about the SERA awards and the SERA newsletters and the need for SKTF members.

Mark Joop made a presentation on SERA 2008 along with Rich Loundsbury. He showed photos of the site along with maps of the site.

Next Mark reported on the SERA Cave Carnival Enhancement Committee's report. This committee had been formed to flesh out ideas for getting higher attendance and more diverse hosting for the event. The idea of a fixed date in May was put forward along with a listing of past locations for new hosts. Gerald Moni talked about how SERA had worn out welcome in some past locations. Further discussion on this report was tabled until the business meeting that afternoon.

Jim Wilbanks reported on the Right of Refusal lists and which grottos were in line for future events. Bill Stringfellow reported that Dogwood City would host the next SWBM. Some discussion followed consisting of questions on how the process worked.

Michael Gilbert reported on SERA 2006. He said he hoped they put the fun back into the event. He thought sending postcards to every grotto early was part of the reason for the high attendance. He encouraged everyone to lease the site, don't rent. He talked about the tee shirt which one Best of Show at this year's NSS salon. He felt the number of led trips was the biggest improvement they had made since the last SERA they hosted. He recommended earlier promotion as very important.

Next came the grotto activity reports:

Mark Joop reported on the SCCI and said while no purchases had been made Valhalla and Snail Shell had been paid off. Carl Bishop reported that the Southport Chronic Cavers had many new members involved in cleanups and exploration on the western highland rim of Tennessee. They are in their eleventh year. John Attaway reported the Sewanee Grotto was three years old and working on cleanup activities with the SKTF. He said sixteen tons of trash had been removed from Orme Mtn Rd. They were exploring new caves in Payne Cove, helped with last year's SWBM, and hosted their own event Pupfest. They also operate recycling at SERA and TAG. Marty Abercrombie reported for Chattanooga Grotto that over fifty members are attending meetings and the grotto celebrated their fiftieth anniversary. Chris Hulbert reported for the Nashville Grotto. She said the grotto was still involved with the Spencer issue and that the grotto was now backing Spencer in court trying to get all the money the state promised. Nashville was still busy with conservation activities and doing surveying in Big Bear Cave. They have also been mentoring new Clarkesville members. John Hoffelt reported on the Tennessee Central Basin Grotto, which now has fifty members. They now have monthly trips are surveying several caves. They are managing Snail Shell Cave for the SCCI, which recently had a rescue of trespassers. She said they are being prosecuted. He stated Marbry Hardin had found two and a half miles of cave in Snail Shell Cave. Gerald Moni reported for the TCS that now counts nine thousand caves. They are updating locations. Avis Moni reported Huntsville was celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. Mike Hopkins reported that Pigeon Mtn. Grotto was cleaning up Pigeon Mtn. campsites and donating to the SCCI. Bill Stringfellow reported the Dogwood City Grotto's TAG Fall Cave In had shrunk a bit. A number of DCG members had attended NCRC, rappelled the Black Canyon and rebuilt the Frick's Cave Gazebo. Chris Kerr reported Smoky Mountain Grotto had been involved in two rescues and gave \$1000 to Great Expectations. Rich Loundsbury reported for East Tennessee Grotto and spoke about the upcoming SERA and its fiftieth anniversary. They were working on a fiftieth anniversary publication. They have ten new members and have been working on Cumberland Gap. Nikky LaBranche reported the Birmingham Grotto's fiftieth anniversary was coming up and the grotto had been busy hosting the SWBM and SERA. Carl Anderson reported the Georgia Speleological Survey would be meeting April 21st and had been busy on the resurvey of Fricks Cave. Anne Elmore reported the Spencer Grotto was still eating well. She reported Roy Davis had sold his interest in Cumberland Caverns and that Bill Walters was turning seventy. She had a large card for the attendees to sign. Daniel Gauthier from Quebec introduced himself and reported Lake Cumberland had been lowered for two years opening a lot of cave entrances.

Host Butch Feldhaus reported on eating locations and the meeting adjourned at 11:45 for Lunch.

The afternoon Business meeting was called to order at 1:30PM. Jim Wilbanks called the roll of grottos. Representing their grotto were:

Birmingham Grotto - Nikky Labranche

Central Alabama Grotto -Greg Green

Chattanooga Grotto -Marty Abercrombie

Clock Tower Grotto - Ron Miller

Dogwood City Grotto - Bill Stringfellow

East Tennessee Grotto -Rich Loundsbury

Gadsden Grotto - Sharon Brewer

Georgia Speleological Survey - Carl Anderson

Huntsville Grotto - Avis Moni

Nashville Grotto - Chrys Hulbert

Pigeon Mountain Grotto - Mike Hopkins

Sewanee Mountain Grotto - John Attaway

Smoky Mountain Grotto - Chris Kerr

Southport Chronic Cavers - Carl Bishop

Spencer Grotto - Anne Elmore

Tennessee Cave Survey - Gerald Moni

Tennessee Central Basin Grotto - John Hoffelt

The 2006 minutes were read and approved with one typographical correction by Wilbanks

The treasurers report was read and approved and is attached.

Brian Roebuck reported on the awards committees and the new procedures.

The floor was opened for new business:

First were officer's elections:

John Attaway was unanimously elected SERA vice chair.

Jim Wilbanks was unanimously elected secretary/treasurer after vowing this would be his last term.

Jim Wilbanks presented the SKTF report which is attached.

SERA Merit Awards were next and a number were voted on. This year's SERA Merit awards are:

Don Hunter for his continuing support of SERA and the SERA photo Salon

Brent Aulenbach for founding and running the SERA map salon.

Dan Barnick for founding the SERA Photo Salon.

Jay Clark for legal advice and assistance to NSS Cavers

Sewanee Mountain Grotto for conservation and recycling efforts

Bill Torode for tireless support of the NSS

Chrys Hulbert for conservation efforts with the Nashville Grotto

Next the floor was opened for discussion on the report of the SERA Cave Carnival Enhancement Committee. John Hoffelt (TCBG) spoke in opposition stating he preferred summer for good weather and wants SERA to move around more. Bill Stringfellow (DCG) talked about TAG's chairman notebook that is passed to each chairman with personal additions and insight. Chris Kerr (SMG) said SERA's don't need to be big. He felt bigger SERA's would chase smaller grottos away. He felt home grottos should be consulted first when another grotto wants to host in their area. He felt attendance was also dependent of weather. Michael Gilbert (CAG) spoke about the difficulty of getting smaller grottos to host. Chrys Hulbert (Nashville) spoke of the importance of early notification and the importance of paper information. She also said SERA should advertise the non-caving attractions. Carl Anderson (GSS) said smaller grottos don't know how to succeed. He felt the committee needs to mentor the prospective host. Jim Wilbanks moved and Gerald Moni seconded that the committee be expanded to include John Hoffelt and Michael Gilbert. Other members are Bill Stringfellow, Mark Joop, Eric Crisp and Jim Wilbanks. The committee was charged with coming up with a survey to be completed, sent to all grottos in SERA and the results tabulated by the next SWBM.

Michael Gilbert (CAG) announced CAG was giving the SKTF \$300.

The business meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Awards Committees met and during the interim Jim Whidby presented a power point presentation on Nickajack Cave.

Francis Mckinney members: Marty Aberchrombie, Gerald Moni, and Carl Bishop

Winner: Ken Oeser

Larry Adams members: Avis Moni, Myrna Attaway, Anne Elmore

Winner: John Pharris for Pharris Pit

The Schreiber and conservation awards were not made.

SERA Photo Salon

Judges: Nikky Labranche, Mark Joop & Lynn Roebuck

People or Animals Category:

1st Place: "Snowball Pip" by Jim Whidby

2nd Place: "Self Portrait" by Butch Feldhaus

3rd Place: "Frosty Pip" by Jim Whidby

Cave Category:

1st Place: "Cuylers Pool" by Cheryl Pratt

2nd Place: "Under the Breakdown" (Gap Cave) by Cheryl Pratt

3rd Place: "Floating Pool" by Steve Attaway

Honorable Mention: "Composite" by Steve Attaway

SERA Art Salon

Best of Show: "A Cave" by Glenn Mills

Honorable Mention: "Architectural Bat" by Glenn Mills

SERA Map Salon

Judges: Jim Wilbanks, Carl Anderson and John Attaway

First place in the novice Cartography category was Sharon Brewer for a map of New Cave AL2301.

Chattanooga hosted a banquet for the attendees. Larry Mathews gave a presentation on Big Bone Cave and caves of Chattanooga.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Wilbanks.

Gating Caves – Is it a good idea or not?

Miscellaneous thoughts and ramblings by **Martha Mills**

This essay is not meant to provide an answer to the question in the title. The intent of my rambling is to provoke thought. Lately there has been some controversy in the T.A.G. caving community about gates. There have been arguments presented on both sides of the issue. Each caver, of course, has an opinion of the issue.

What are some reasons given for gating caves?

1. Protection of artifacts, historical signatures or glyphs, paleontology sites, etc.
2. Protection of endangered species
3. Protection of pristine/fragile formation areas
4. Protection against cave closure (because the owner fears liability)
5. Prevention of overuse and monitoring of visitation to the cave.
6. Protection of people who aren't cavers against the dangers of the cave.

These reasons are by no means all of the reasons for gating caves but some of the more common reasons. I'd like to make some comments about these reasons stated above.

1. Do gates provide protection of artifacts, historical signatures or glyphs, paleontology sites, etc.? Probably, since people can't get in without a key unless they break into the gate. If they are required to check out a key it is unlikely they would steal or intentionally damage anything in the cave.
2. Do gates provide protection of endangered species? If the species are in the water of the cave the answer is probably a yes. With bats however, the issue has been hotly debated through the years. With newer gate designs the answer is probably yes, but with older gates some of those gates have possibly caused the bats to move elsewhere.
3. Do gates provide protection of pristine/fragile formation areas? Same as number 1 above.

4. Do gates provide protection against cave closure (because the owner fears liability)? Maybe, and maybe not. This is a questionable claim in the mind of many cavers. Some cavers feel that sometimes a group of cavers will talk the landowner into gating the cave so they can have exclusive visitation rights. In theory any "responsible caver" can get access but sometimes it is very difficult to arrange a trip. In some cases only trips led by certain people are allowed. Some gated caves have a fairly open access and gaining a key isn't a big deal. Does it provide liability protection to the owner? Since I'm not an attorney I can't say. I've heard it does and I've heard it doesn't.
5. Do gates provide prevention of overuse and monitoring of visitation to the cave? That depends on the cave. If access to the key is difficult and there is a lot of red tape to get the key monitoring of visitation is done and overuse is probably not a problem because cavers don't go to the trouble to get a key. However, I know of some gated caves where getting the key is easy and no records are kept of visitation.
6. Do gates provide protection of people who aren't cavers against the dangers of the cave? In Birmingham and Huntsville for example there are caves in residential neighborhoods. As our expanding population moves out of cities and into area that were once rural this is becoming a more frequent concern. The gate may keep some people out but it may become a challenge to others try to get in to see what is being kept from them.

There are no easy answers. I know that there are some cavers who think no cave should be gated and others think we aren't gating enough caves. My personal opinion is that "most" gating should be considered a "last resort" when other means of accomplishing the goal are not effective. Of course that could be like "locking the barn door after the horse is out" if formations are broken or artifacts are destroyed. Another option for protecting special caves is "secret caves". If we don't let others know about the cave then we are protecting it, right? . . . but that is a topic of another essay that I can write someday.

Triple Tandem Rappel of el Sotano de las Golindrinas **December 28th, 2006**

By Nikky "Princess Butterfly" LaBranche

We got up early to head to up the road to Golindrinas from Mike Walsh's house where we were staying. We had originally planned to head up the night before to save us some time in the morning, but things didn't work out that way.

When we got up to Golindrinas we found Santos and contracted with him to carry our rope to the pit and he took off on the trail with it. They always beat us to the pit with the rope, even if all we are carrying is a water bottle. The group that day consisted of TinY, Ben Kim, and Lance and Robin Mitchell and myself. We rigged the 1150' high side with a pulley redirect off a large tree limb that overhung the pit and a progress capture for a Georgia haul on the line. This way the pit is pre-rigged for a rescue and we can enlist the aid of the locals for a Georgia haul, as well as pre-rigged for the hauling at the end of the day.



©2007 Benedict Kim www.ins2trovion.com
Nikky and TinY tandem rappelling Cepillos (413') Photo Credit: Ben Kim

We can enlist the aid of the locals for a Georgia haul, as well as pre-rigged for the hauling at the end of the day.

The first rappel that day was our world record setting triple rappel performed by Mike "TinY" Manke, myself and Lance Mitchell. TinY and I had over 8000' of tandem rappel experience leading up to this rappel. The 8000' included the first

tandem rappels by a male-female team of Golindrinas (1150'), Guaguas (~700') and Bridge Day (876'). We had also rappelled Whitesides with simulated rope weight in preparation for our trip to El Capitan in June. Several days earlier we had tandem rappelled Cepillos with me as the top "tandem-er" just to make sure our methods and procedures were sound.

Lance got on rope first and hung out below the lip so I could rig in. Rigging-in gets to be much tougher when you're dealing with such large amounts of rope weight. I am not strong enough to bend the rope around the rack and now have to bend the rack around the rope. After I had rigged in I rappelled down a little ways so TinY could rig in above us, TinY's rigging in was more challenging because he now had Lance and myself below him, but he seemed to manage with little effort. And that's how we performed the world record triple rappel at Golindrinas, with TinY on the top, me in the middle and Lance on the bottom. There were many subsequent Nikky sandwich jokes for the rest of the trip.



The dynamics of the triple rappel require that the bottom rappeller deal only with the 91 pound rope weight of the 1150' drop. My position as the middle rappeller forced me to rappel with an effective rope weight of Lance with 200 pounds with gear totaling a belaying force of 290 pounds below me. This meant that TinY had to rig in and rappel the weight of me, Lance and the rope at approximately 460 pounds of weight below him. This is what that type of weight does to a 3/8" diameter frame 24" long rappelling rack.

*Left: TinY's rack on the Golindrinas triple tandem rappel
Photo Credit: Ben Kim*

Previously when discussing triple tandem rappelling with Bruce Smith, he had voiced concerns about the deflection of the rack frame and its potential for negatively impacting the control of the rappel. Having practiced with these extreme weights starting with a tree and progressively working up to Whitesides, even though we could see the distortion it had not had a negative impact on the rappel to date. TinY was able to hold his body weight of 4 bars and still had difficulty beginning his rappel, but found that the window of controllability had narrowed to an almost full stop or free fall condition. I performed the rappel on 5 bars and it was a challenge at times to keep the spacing for a smooth ride. All three of us are highly trained and experienced in the use of the French wrap self belay rappel technique. On a previous tandem rappel with TinY, I had been able to effectively stop both of us using my French wrap so we knew we had this under control.

Twice during this triple tandem rappel TinY experienced rappel speeds greater than he was comfortable with and due to the rack frame distortion was unable to quickly slow the rappel down jamming all four bars. But after calling for

me to stop below him as a backup he was able to correct the rate of decent by application of his French wrap.

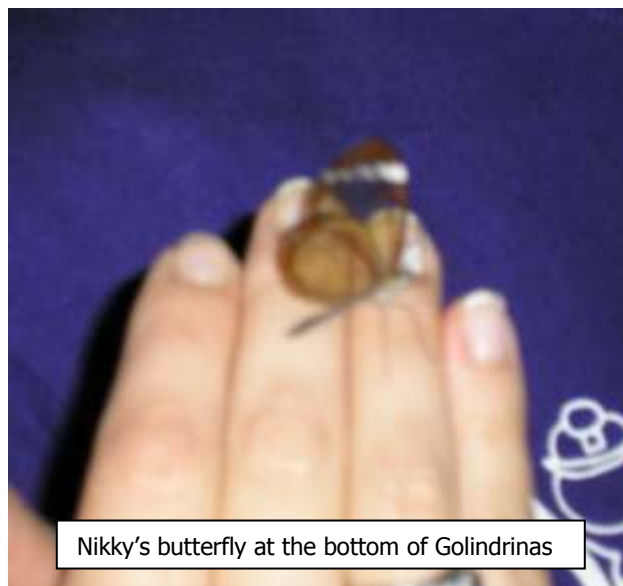
Right: TinY, Nikky and Lance on the triple tandem rappel at Golindrinas
Photo Credit: Ben Kim

Please note that this is an extreme rappel technique and we were able to successfully complete this because of years of development and practice and no attempt should be made to duplicate these efforts. TinY feels that with the current rappelling equipment and technology that this rappel has defined the outer limits of rope loads and rack loads that can be safely controlled, therefore giving us an idea of the maximum safe single rappel distance possible based on physics.

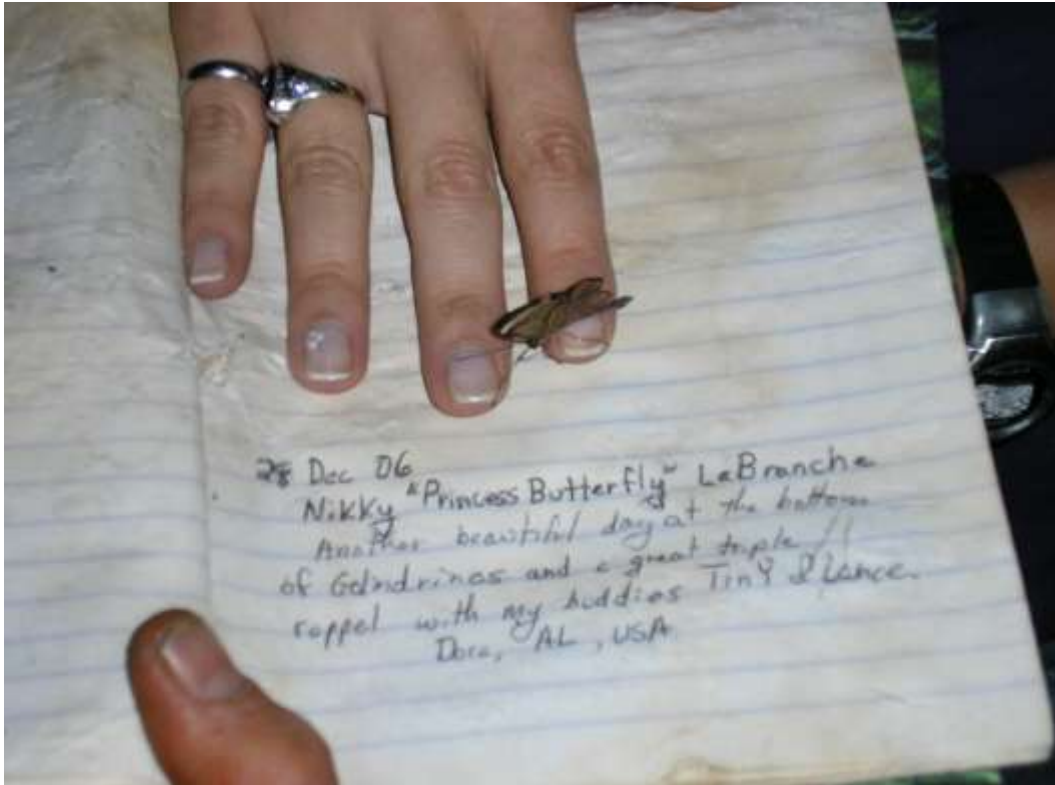
Robin was the next to rappel down, having a great ride and anxious to visit a world she had not seen in over a year. This was her third visit to Golindrinas with good friends and the previous year her and her husband had left kind loving words in the log book for someone they had no idea would be reading them until this year.

Ben was the last into the pit after doing an excellent job photographing and documenting this world record triple tandem rappel. I made sure to capture a few good shots of him rappelling at the bottom of the pit since he so many good pictures of us through the rest of the trip.

I picked up a butterfly at the bottom of the pit who hung out on my hand for a while. I've had butterfly's land on me at Stevens Gap, Neversink, Sinking Cove, and in Colombia. I'm not sure why they land on me, but once they do they stay for a while. He landed on me while I was at the bottom of the rope and stayed with me through the walk over to the register and the signing of it. The register is a book that's kept in a Tupperware tub on a rock that everyone who visits the cave can sign. There are messages, notes and signatures from cavers from all over the world. So we got some pictures of him with the book. I guess they don't call me "Princess Butterfly" for nothing. This was the first one I actually had land on me **IN** the cave and I'd never seen this type before. His wings were clear except for around the edges, notice how you can see my fingers through him in the closeup. We took another look through the book to see some of the other entries that had been written since we had been there last. More pages were used than last time since the book is wet now and you can only write on the bottom third of the pages.



Nikky's butterfly at the bottom of Golindrinas



*Above: Nikky and her Butterfly at the bottom of Golindrinas (1150')
Photo Credit: Mike "TinY" Manke*

Lance, Robin and Ben climbed out first on a triple climb so TinY and I had to keep ourselves occupied at the bottom of the pit for an hour and a half. Watching these three climb together and listening to their cheerful banter and singing helped pass the time while TinY and I photographed many of the beautiful formations at the bottom of the cave. Then TinY and I climbed out tandem with me on top and him underneath. We took a leisurely 55 minutes to climb out that time, and TinY was complaining his knees were weak on the last few cycles. So I actually beat him climbing fair and square. When we got to the top the lady who owns the cooking hut was there with fresh coffee to sell to us and some pan dulce (sweet bread). We are always very appreciative when she shows up and always very thirsty. Golindrinas has to be one of my all-time favorite pits.

How can you tell you are caving with a Geezer?

by **Martha Mills**

Geezers like nice "cushie" knee and elbow pads.

Geezers often ask a lot of questions about the distance and difficulty of the hike to the cave and prefer an uphill hike to the cave so they can coast back to the vehicles.

Geezers don't like to be in water in cold weather (even when wearing a wetsuit).

Geezers often use antique lights like Wheat Lamps and Carbide.

Geezers sometimes have "funny looking" vertical gear.

Geezers may be seen taking prophylactic aspirin or ibuprofen before going caving.

And last but not least, if you smell "Ben-Gay" in a crawlway you are probably caving with a geezer!

Note: This is written in honor of my husband Glenn Mills' 60th birthday (02/15/08). Instead of spending the weekend celebrating he is here at the SERA WBM so I can complete my duties of chairing the meeting.

Happy Birthday Glenn!

The Continuing Exploration and Survey of Blue Spring Cave

Bill Walter & Anne Elmore

Tennessee's Blue Spring Cave has been known as the state's longest cave for many years. Many cavers who visit this vast system have little idea continued exploration and survey trips occur on a regular basis. Bill Walter has been there since the beginning and has surveyed many miles of this cave as he continues to push the boundaries with his ambitious survey team. Bill keeps track of all the survey notes since the first survey trip and has been called the "keeper" of Blue Springs Cave by fellow cavers. Bill's survey team continues to push the length of the cave. Further a group of adventurous cave divers have recently penetrated even deeper into the submerged portion of the cave system as they survey their way into unknown passage. This is a short account of their accomplishments and the ongoing efforts to extend Blue Spring Cave (Ed).

In October of 2007 the following TAG-Net post was sent out by Bill Walter concerning Blue Spring Cave:

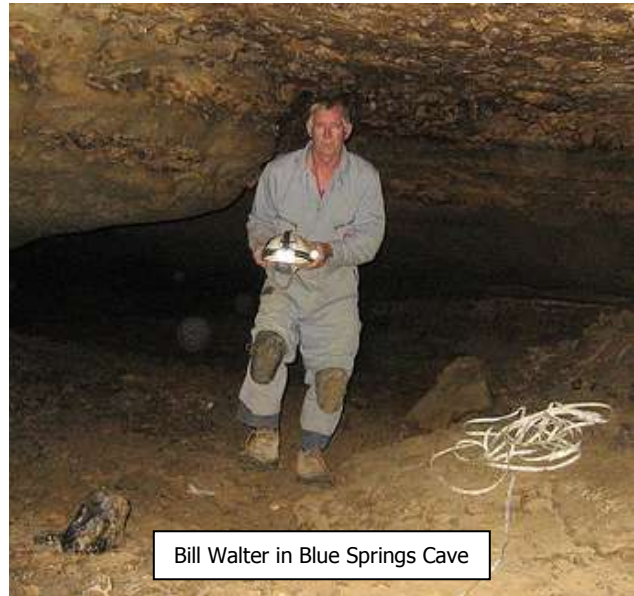
Just wanted to let everyone know that the Blue Spring Survey finally reached 34 miles.

The survey reached 33 miles in October of 1999. The last 8 years produced 15 surveys. The most significant addition was the Joop Loop with 1650 ft plus. Most trips only netted a few hundred feet with a lot of expended energy. Thanks to all who persevered.

Yesterdays trip netted 289 ft in the FH survey . Those on the survey team were Cheryl Pratt , Anne Elmore , Clinton Elmore , and myself.

Not sure how long BSC will stay at 34 miles as Jason and Chrissie Richards have a diving project going at the Blue Spring. But that is their story. Stay tuned.

Bill



Bill Walter in Blue Springs Cave



Cheryl, Bill, Anne, and Clinton celebrating 34 miles of survey!

Photos by <http://www.flickr.com/photos/flcs/>

As Bill suggested in his email - here is "the rest of the story":

Continued Exploration at Blue Spring Cave Resurgence, Tennessee

Jason Richards

January 2008

The resurgence of Blue Spring Cave, the longest cave in Tennessee, has been a lingering question for almost 15 years. The first recorded dive into the spring was made in the early 90s, netting a total of 200 feet to what Tom Morris and John Schweyen reported as a dead end. Late in 1994 Woody Jasper and Lamar Hires made two more dives, where they found a fissure entrance in the spring leading to the main passage. Lamar and Woody surveyed 1900 feet in two passages, approximately 1600 feet up the main passage. After that, the spring exploration languished for many years. In the last few years both Marbry Hardin and myself had approached the landowner, Lonnie Carr, to get permission to dive the spring. Finally, in the summer of 2007, Lonnie relented, and allowed Marby, Chrissy Richards and myself to dive the spring.

On the first dive, Marbry, Chrissy and I found the crack entrance and laid a permanent line to open water through the restriction.

Unfortunately, Marbry was a little too large, and was not able to fit through the restriction, even with both of his tanks removed. Chrissy and I continued on, laying line through the first 13 inch high room-



The Blue Hole Spring

moving rocks out of the way to make a channel in which we could travel. After about 300 feet, with Chrissy following in the zero visibility behind the rock moving operation, I came across Woody's old exploration line laying on the floor. Once our line was connected, we were able to swim to the end of their line, despite the visibility in

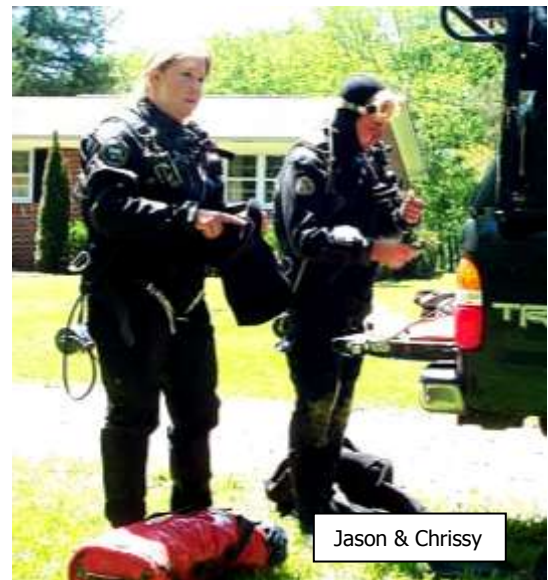
the cave being less than 8 feet.

Over the next few months and eight dives, Chrissy and I managed to push the exploration out past 3700 feet from the entrance spring. Despite finding two dry rooms where the underwater passage temporarily comes out of the water and immediately goes back underwater, we have not reached any extensive dry passage, nor have we emerged in the sump room in the known dry cave where we expect the sump to end. Exploration and survey continue, and we have two and possibly a third going passage that we are continuing to explore.

Currently dives are stretching to three hours in 52 degree water, a feat of endurance for the warm-blooded Chrissy. With argon gas filled drysuits and chemical heaters on our feet, we hope to eventually connect the spring with the rest of the now 34 mile long dry cave.



Marbry Hardin



Jason & Chrissy

Editors Blurb

All submissions to "*The Southeastern Caver*" are gladly accepted in the following forms, written text, MS Word, plain text files, jpeg, tiff, scanner size prints (8.5" x 11" max), photo slides (I have a slide scanner), pdf, Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator native, and many others (please contact me if you have any doubt). Please send all submissions, photos, etc to the editor by the last day of January for possible inclusion into the next "*The Southeastern Caver*" electronically to: solow@charter.net (broadband) or via snail mail to the following address:

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Normandy, TN 37360

Please visit our website at <http://www.caves.org/region/sera/> for the latest information and to view older newsletters etc.

Caving related discussion forums and websites of interest to SERA members can be found here:

http://uscaversforum.org	US Cavers Forum
http://www.caves.org/phpBB2/	NSS Cavers Forum
http://www.hiddenworld.net/tag-net/	TAG – Net
http://www.webwhisper.com/tcs/default.html	Tennessee Cave Survey
http://www.caves.org/survey/fcs/	Florida Cave Survey
http://ourworld.cs.com/alabamacaves/	Alabama Cave Survey
http://www.caves.org/survey/gss/	Georgia Speleological Survey

"Every Caver is some other Caver's weirdo"
Dr Beaner

The Southeastern Caver ***Volume 13 February 2008***

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Martha Mills – Chairman John Attaway -- Vice Chairman Jim Wilbanks – Secretary/Treasurer