

June 2002

Intercom, Volume 38, No. 3, May-June 2002

Scott Dankof

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INTERCOM

Published Semi-spasmodically By
The Iowa Grotto



May - June 2002
Volume XXXVIII Issue 3

I N T E R C O M

Volume 38, Issue 3

May - June, 2002

Iowa Grotto

P.O. Box 228

Iowa City, IA 52244

Membership Dues: due January 1, \$15.00 per year, includes INTERCOM and Hot-Line subscriptions. INTERCOM subscriptions only are \$13.00 per year. The Iowa Grotto reserves the right to decline membership during or after a probationary period.

Due Dates: for submission of material for publication in the INTERCOM are July 1 and September 1. Send material for publication, e-mail, disk or hard copy, to:

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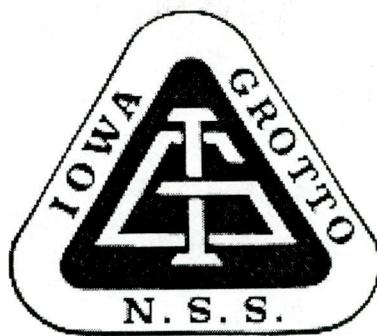
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Coordinate photographs for publication in the INTERCOM with Scott Dankof, the INTERCOM photo and cover editor.

Cave Rescue: Contact the Kentucky Disaster and Emergency Services Central Dispatch at 502-564-7815 for cave emergencies only in the NCRC Central Region of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Iowa Grotto Meetings: are the fourth Wednesday of each month, third Wednesday in December at 7:30 p.m. in room 125 or thereabouts of Trowbridge Hall on the campus of the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.

Cover Photo: Delicate lava formation in Hawaiian lava tube. Photo by: Chris Beck



IOWA GROTTO
National Speleological Society
P. O. Box 228
Iowa City, Iowa 52244

Chairman - - - - - Mike Lace
Vice Chairman - - - - Ed Klausner
Secretary Treasurer - Phil LaRue

Volume 38

Issue 3

C O N T E N T S

Iowa Grotto Meeting Minutes - - - - - 29

Trip reports:

Mammoth Cave Work Weekend - - - - -	30
Over The Line - - - - -	30
Wet Hike - - - - -	32
Spring MVOR - - - - -	32
Digging In Style - - - - -	33
Pint Of Blood - - - - -	34
Cave Lecture - - - - -	34
Diggers Wanted - - - - -	35
Eastward - - - - -	35
NSS Convention - - - - -	36

Cave Maps:

Shooting Star Cave - - - - -	38
Sacrificial Alter Cave - - - - -	38
Variations In Travertine Cave - - - - -	39
Two Nest Cave - - - - -	39

IOWA GROTTO MINUTES
May 22, 2002
Regular Meeting

The meeting of the Iowa Grotto was called to order by Chairman Mike Lace at 7:30 p.m., with five members present. Minutes from the April 24, 2002, meeting were read and approved. A treasurers report was given which showed balances of \$747.68 in the Coldwater fund; \$541.68 in the General fund; and \$133.72 in petty cash. TRIP REPORTS: Phil LaRue reported on his trip to Werden Cave with the Manchester Girl Scouts. Mike Lace reported on the April trip to Arkansas with Scott Dankof and Ed Klausner. He then reported on the trip to Coldwater Cave where dye tracing bugs were collected in and out of the cave. Jim Roberts and Larry Welch did some digging at Sand Canyon, while Chris Beck and Bill Mulder took a group of instructors from the Redwing Learning Center on a trip downstream. He reported that also that same weekend Chris B., Bill M. and Larry W. did some digging at Lester's Spring. He concluded his report on a trip to Jackson Co. where one small cave was surveyed while mushroom hunting. Elizabeth Miller reported on a trip to Illinois with Chris B. and Ed K. where two small caves were surveyed. Ed K. reported on trips to Dubuque Co. with Chris B., Mike L. and Phil L. where six caves were surveyed and two others visited. He concluded his report on a trip to Jones Co. with Gary Engh and Elizabeth M.. FUTURE TRIPS: See the May Hotline and the N.S.S. News for details. There will be trips to Illinois for lead checking and surveying. Contact Mike L. or Ed K. for details. The Grotto Picnic is August 3rd and 4th, at Matsell Bridge County Park, Linn Co.. OLD BUSINESS: Volume III of the Cave Map Book is available for \$25.00. Republished back issues of the Intercom are still available. "Amazing Caves" is showing at the IMAX theatre, Putnam Museum, Davenport, Iowa, until July 12th. Call (563) 324-1933 for more information. The Grotto Library is still looking for library materials. New Business : Mike L. read a letter from Lowell Burkhead's mother, in which she wrote that the family appreciated the issue of the Intercom dedicated to Lowell. The Intercom deadline is July 1st. With no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 7:57p.m..

IOWA GROTTO MINUTES
June 26, 2002
Regular Meeting

The meeting of the Iowa Grotto was called to order by chairman Mike Lace at 7:25 p.m., with six members present. Minutes from the May 22, 2002, meeting were read and approved. A treasurers report was given which showed balances of \$747.68 in the Coldwater fund; \$541.68 in the General fund; and \$133.72 in petty cash. TRIP REPORTS: Mike Lace reported that he and John Lovaas dug at Lester's Spring Coldwater weekend. Ed Klausner reported that he, Larry Welch and six instructors from the Redwing Learning Center did some digging downstream near Guardian Fangs while at Coldwater. He continued with a report on a digging trip to Gerta's dig in Dubuque Co. with Chris Beck, Gary Engh, Gerta Hartman and Phil LaRue. On another trip, he, Gary E. and Phil L. did some lead checking in Jones Co. and surveyed three small caves. He concluded his report on a lead checking trip via canoe in Winnesheik Co. with Chris B., Pat Kambesis, John L., Elizabeth Miller and Mike Nelson. FUTURE TRIPS: See the June Hotline and the N.S.S. News for details. There will be trips to Illinois for lead checking and surveying. Contact Mike L. or Ed K. for details. The Grotto Picnic is August 3rd and 4th, at Matsell Bridge County Park, Linn Co.. OLD BUSINESS: Volume III of the Cave Map Book is available for \$25.00. Republished back issues of the Intercom are still available. "Amazing Caves" is showing at the IMAX theatre, Putnam Museum, Davenport, Iowa, until July 12th. Call (563) 324-1933 for more information. The Grotto Library is still looking for library materials. The upcoming picnic was discussed. New Business :

The Intercom deadline is July 1st. With no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47p.m..

MAMMOTH CAVE WORK WEEKEND

Mammoth Cave National Park

May 3-5, 2002

Bard Smith, Liz Robinson and 35 other people

By Liz Robinson

Liz Robinson had a conference in Nashville so Brad and I (Liz) drove to the conference since, we were scheduled to participate in the Mammoth Cave work weekend. We arrived Friday night at the Maple Spring Research Center. The next day we gathered at the ranger station for the usual sign in and instruction session. This time they were out of grant money, so we did not get reimbursed for our travel expenses, but that is not the main reason why most of us attend these work weekends. We entered the cave at the Historic Entrance and traveled to the usual spot near the Vanderbilt Room. Our job for this weekend was to haul trash that had been bagged to the Firetower, up the tower and out of the cave to the dump truck. Since the number of participants this work weekend was relatively small we had to haul the trash up in several parts. First, on Saturday morning we hauled trash to the foot of the firetower. After lunch we did a bucket brigade style haul up the first part of the stairs to the main landing by the Ruins of Karnak. From there we did another bucket brigade up the firetower. After that they used individuals and wheelbarrows to haul the trash to the Historic Entrance. There, a couple of us stacked the bags in a relatively neat pile so that we could haul it out the next day. Sunday we hauled the remaining trash out and there was a reward trip for those who helped haul the bags back into Vanderbilt Hall. They went on a free Historic Tour. While the others were gone I took a walk over to the Dixon Cave entrance just down the road from the Historic Entrance. Brad said that he had a good time on the reward trip although they had to carry the bags, full of bags, for quite a distance before dropping them off on the Vanderbilt Room. It was a shame that there were so few participants, as we could have gotten the bucket brigade work done completely the first day. We could have gone on to some more interesting things to do, had we more people. The next Mammoth Cave restoration will be the weeklong restoration camp that we unfortunately will not be able to attend, due to the demands of work for me.

OVER THE (STATE) LINE

Lucky Day Cave, Shooting Star Cave, Jo Daviess County, IL

May 4, 2002

Chris Beck, Ed Klausner, and Elizabeth Miller

By Ed Klausner

Chris Beck had several leads in northwest Illinois that seemed like a good idea to explore on this beautiful spring day. We met in Dubuque and drove to Jo Daviess County to investigate the first lead. The stretch of bluff was impressive, but with leaves coming out on the trees, it was a bit hard to see openings in the rock face. We found one of the described leads. It took a short climb to get in. This solutional cave was named Lucky Day Cave because of the morels that Chris found at the base of the cliff.

Lucky Day Cave was about 71 feet long. Chris did book while Elizabeth read instrument and I did lead tape. The first shot was almost 50 feet of easy crawling passage. The last shot, a bit over 20 feet, was a belly crawl. I could see an additional few feet, but it was too tight for me to get through, even after some digging.

The second cave was higher up on the cliff face, about 40 feet up. This involved a climb to an area to the right of the entrance and then we had to follow a horizontal ledge to the entrance. This solutional cave was named Shooting Star Cave due to the flowers below the entrance.

I sketched Shooting Star Cave while Chris did lead tape and Elizabeth again did instrument. This cave required five shots. The entrance was 12 feet high, but the ceiling quickly dropped to a few feet for the rest of the passage. We surveyed 132 feet before the passage ended. Towards the back, there was a small upper level

passage. The floor was created by breakdown and there were small decorations on the ceiling and walls. There were small decorations in the back of the cave, many of which were broken.

On the way back to the trucks, we searched for more caves. There were several openings high on the cliff face that Chris climbed up to as neither Elizabeth nor I could reach them. None were long enough to qualify as caves, so they remain unmapped.

WET HIKE

Orchid Cave and Two Nest Cave, Jones County, IA
May 12, 2002
Gary Engh, Ed Klausner, and Elizabeth Miller

By Ed Klausner

We almost didn't make it out on this gloomy Sunday because the forecast was for more rain and it had rained the entire previous day. We finally decided to visit some landowners in Jones County and give them completed maps. If the weather improved, we could ridgewalk.

Fortunately, it had stopped raining by the time we left Iowa City and we didn't get rained on the rest of the day. We did get wet, however, as we walked through the wet woods.

We gave maps to the first landowner and he showed us a map of the land along one stretch of a creek that had several caves. He told us of a few additional caves and told us how to contact the neighboring landowners.

We headed along a creek and located Teaser and Flicker Caves, mapped previously. This gave us a landmark and we continued along the same creek. From there on, any caves we found would be new. We found no caves in the main valley and searched the next side valley. Orchid Cave was named for the wild orchid we found near the entrance. The 21 foot cave had active flowstone and stalactites in the back, along with one bat. This was the only cave we found in the side valley, although there was plenty of exposed rock.

The next cave was found about 15 feet up the cliff face along the main valley. There was a short crawl into a room with a 10 foot joint enlarged dome. We took one survey shot in each direction for a total of 28.6 feet of survey. We named this cave Two Nest Cave for the two nests made of moss found just inside the entrance.

We were quite wet and decided to call it a day. Two Nest Cave was on a point and would be easy to find again. We need to continue along the creek and then ridgewalk the opposite side of the creek.

SPRING MVOR

Somewhere near HaHaTonka State Park, MO
May 17-19 2002
Brad Smith and Liz Robinson

I (Liz) had asked for the afternoon off so that we could get a decent early start. However, there was a meeting I had to attend that I could not get out of, so we left Friday night. We arrived at the campground around 3:00 a.m. and were unable to get in. It had rained so much that it was impossible to get the truck into the campground. It had been closed since 5:00 p.m. Friday night due to ankle deep mud. So we found a place to park along the road after registering and picking up our banquet and door prize tickets and guidebooks and went to sleep. The next day we got up, got some boots on, and went to registration to look up cave trips for the day. I signed up for a trip to Island Cave. Island Cave is a small cave in the middle of an island in HaHaTonka State Park. The idea was that the cave is small but there are some really neat things to look at in the park including some springs and an abandoned ruin of a mansion called "the castle" that burned down when it was turned into a restaurant and there was a kitchen fire that went out of control. The walk to the cave was pleasant. The trail was well marked up and down some hills. The cave itself is a dying cave. Normally it is dry but due to the recent rains it was dripping and the formations were quite active. I had my usual fogging

up of my glasses, so I had to get some guidance going through the cave. They were too fogged up to see the handholds and footholds. Basically all I could see was light and dark. I have since had my opthamologist examination and have ordered contact lenses that I will pick up before the Grotto picnic. Once I get completely used to them they should offer some major relief from the fogging. After we left the cave we walked around and explored the area of the castle. My knees were killing me so I did not walk the 300 odd steps down and 300 steps back to the springs but I did enjoy the trails. The banquet and night were nice. They ran late, due to logistics problems with getting the caterer into the campground. Even four wheel drive vehicles were having their problems. I estimate that most of the people attending the MVOR were camped on the road. The police made us space our vehicles enough to allow vehicles to pass each other as well as the parked cavers. Several people had pitched tents on the road, it was a dirt and gravel road, and one family even slept in their boat that was parked on the road. After the banquet there was a guest speaker on the subject of dye tracings. The talk was very interesting as it went into the early history of dye tracing, using particulate tracers and other things besides fluorescene dye. He also talked about the use of dye to verify toxic waste movements and other forms of unpleasantness that gets into the water table. Basically flourescene dye is good because it can be detected at very low levels, is not toxic and it works. You need to make sure that the state knows when you are using it before it is released so that they can make sure you are not messing up another person's dye tracing, but other than that permits are not really needed. Interestingly enough it is also used in medicine and as a food coloring too. After the guest speaker they had the door prizes. I did not get anything but Brad won a video and a gift certificate for \$10 and he got some small items. The next day we stopped back at HaHaTonka State Park again where Brad showed me the entrance to River Cave. River Cave is closed most of the year due to a population of Gray Bats that live there. They do have an annual visit there with a ranger, after the bats have left. It was a very impressive entrance. The cave is nicely gated to allow the bats to go in and out and keep trespassers out. It was a very large and impressive gate. I showed Brad the ruins of the castle and we visited the spring. That was extremely impressive. There was a heavy flow of water out of the springs. We stopped and enjoyed looking at it for a while. The fall MVOR will be the third weekend in October in Shannon County, MO. The Spring 2003 MVOR will be the last weekend in April.

DIGGING IN STYLE

Gerda's Dig, Preston's Mine, Dubuque County, IA
June 2, 2002

By Ed Klausner

Chris Beck, Gary Engh, Gerda Hartman, Ed Klausner, and Phil La Rue

It was still raining when we met at the south side of Dubuque, so Chris suggested that we buy a tarp to keep us dry as we worked on Gerda's Dig. Phil and I were the only two that had not worked on the dig before, so we didn't know what to expect. Gerda had found the site and started digging in 1981. Over the years, she and many others had periodically worked on it. It was mapped by Mike Lace, Marc Ohms and Pat Kambesis and the map can be found in volume III of the Iowa Cave Map Book. Gerda thought that the cave needed more digging as she was hopeful that it would open up to some good sized passage.

Once we found the entrance and set up the tarp, we spent an hour or so removing sediment that had washed in since the last digging trip. We were digging towards the upstream end of the joint. The top two feet are narrow and then it widens out to a wet sediment fill lower area of the passage. I was small enough to sit up while digging and I would pass the sediment back to Chris who filled buckets. These were hauled up and emptied by Gary and Phil. When Chris and I needed a break, We switched places with Gary and Phil.

The tarp worked nicely and we were relatively dry while emptying the bucket on top. That is not to say that we were dry while working in the mud below. At noon, or so, Gerda showed up. Lo and behold, she brought us sandwiches, chips, and lemonade. This was definitely the way to dig. Unfortunately, the joint got narrower and the sediment on the bottom wetter. We were finally able to see over a

hole in the sediment, but all we were able to see was that 6 or so feet ahead, the sediment sloped up to the ceiling. After a few hours, we called it quits and went to find the Preston Mine.

Gerda had said that a tree had fallen over and was on top of the mine entrance. The mine was worked in 1944, but no lead was found. The dead tree needed to be removed so it wouldn't fall in and block the entrance. It was too wet to get much traction and we were tired from digging, so we will come back to remove the tree trunk when it is dryer. It will also give some of us the opportunity to see the mine.

PINT OF BLOOD

Bellowing Bovine, Pint of Blood and Sacrificial Altar Caves, Jones County, IA

June 8, 2002

By Ed Klausner

Gary Engh, Ed Klausner, and Phil La Rue

Our first stop of the day was to a landowner's house to drop off some maps of caves on their property. On our way out, the owner mentioned some rock behind their house that had small holes. We decided to take a look and found one 16 foot solutional tube with some flowstone at the back. While we were taking our survey gear out, a cow came over to investigate. I've always been suspicious of cows since one ate a 10 foot section out of the middle of a perfectly good tape while I was doing some surface surveys. In any case, this cow seemed to take some exception to our surveying technique and started to bellow loudly. Perhaps the sketching was not up to her standards.

The next stop was to a landowner, who had not been home on our three previous attempts. This time we were lucky and got permission to walk his land. He and his son told us where the exposed limestone was located. There was lots of ground to cover and we walked less than half the property before we quit for the day. We did manage to find and survey two caves, however.

The first was a 33 foot solutionally enlarged joint with flowstone and some small formations. It took two shots as the passage made a sharp bend. We had to wade through a mass of multiflora roses to reach the entrance of this cave. We were all scratched by the thorns and named the cave Pint of Blood Cave for the price we had to pay to reach the cave.

The second cave on this property was located below Pint of Blood Cave. Several joints were solutionally enlarged and there were small formations in the cave. There were also 6 little brown bats clumped together and a solitary pipistrelle. It took several survey shots for this 44 foot cave. Just inside the entrance was a flat piece of breakdown with a raccoon skull on it. Sacrificial Altar Cave seemed like a fitting name.

We never crossed the stream to the opposite side of this property to look for caves in the exposed rock that was easily visible. That will have to wait for another trip.

CAVE LECTURE AT THE PUTNAM SCIENCE MUSEUM

Putnam Museum, Davenport, IA

Brad Smith, Liz Robinson, Sue Sarlette and Dr. Gerald Pearson

June 9, 2002

The Thursday before this event I read in the things to do section of the paper that one Sherman Lundry, a geologist from Iowa, was going to give a lecture on caves at the Putnam Museum in Davenport. I called our friends Sue and Gerry and suggested that they might like to attend also. They had not seen the Journey to Amazing Caves movie so we decided to make it a double feature. Since I have already discussed the movie in a previous trip report, I will not repeat that now. The lecture was nicely done on an elementary level. He explained how caves form and had an experiment that the kids could take home with a piece of chalk, a plastic cup and some mild vinegar to dissolve the chalk. There were a few slides of caves as well and there was a discussion of how formations form. The audience was small

but receptive. After the lecture and the cookies and lemonade we went to the movie. (The movie has since moved on and we now have the space station movie.)

DIGGERS WANTED

Coldwater Cave, Winneshiek County, IA
June 15, 2002

By Ed Klausner

Ed Klausner, Larry Welch and 6 people from Red Wing Environmental Learning Center

Having been on the wrong end of many cons, it felt good to sucker, I mean, talk some other people into doing some work that Larry and I wanted to see get done. On the picnic weekend at Coldwater, six able bodied people from the Red Wing Environmental Learning Center showed up and wanted to help with one of our projects. Larry and I saw the opportunity to help them and provided tools and even escorted them to a sediment filled passage a few hundred feet upstream from Guardian Fangs Passage.

We had intended on continuing on to the Sinus passage, but after making very good progress on the dig site, and feeling good air movement, we decided to scrap the original plan and spend some time digging. Besides, the water level was a bit high for the Sinus. At 0.88 feet at the platform, it was unlikely we could have gotten in anyway.

The dig site was about 10 feet across and who knows how deep as it was almost completely sediment choked. We made good progress removing a mound and were then able to get to a channel that probably carries water at times. This channel was a few inches lower than the rest of the sediment and with minimal digging, Larry and I could inch forward and dig with a trowel. The Red Wing people were under the impression that digging was accomplished in a vertical position, not in a belly crawl while scooping mud towards yourself. I guess that's why it is a learning center, if they already knew that, they would probably have spent the day somewhere else.

It was clear that the passage continued, probably to a dome as the passage is landlocked. Dead Coon Passage encircles the continuation of this passage. There was no evidence of the other side of this passage anywhere in Dead Coon Passage, so a dome somewhere in the middle seems like the source of water that created this tube.

We should be able to make good progress since the sediment on the top is soft and the passage is wide enough to push sediment to the side. The nice part of this dig is that it is so close to the entrance shaft. Anyone with only a few hours to spend in the cave can easily make some progress.

Mike Lace, Chris Beck, Mike Nelson, and Gary Engh had been working on the compound and lane. The grass was cut, cabin cleaned out and rock added to the lane. That evening, we had a picnic with the Flatlands and other cavers. We all ate too much, but the food was good and that's what picnics are for. Beth Welch had a birthday cake for Larry and we, once again, realized how really old many of the grotto members have become. Chris Beck did his magic on the brush pile and we had a huge blaze that could probably be seen from space.

EASTWARD HO

Asgard Cave, Little Princess Mine, Jo Daviess County, IL
June 23, 2002
Chris Beck, Ed Klausner and Mike Lace

By Ed Klausner

Our original plan for a hot summer day was to take a long hike through some fields carrying vertical gear so we could survey some vertical caves. Chris Beck thought we should go to two caves to which you could park a few feet from the entrances. He won.

The first stop was at a landowner's house that Chris knew. Their house was high on a hill overlooking the Mississippi and the view was spectacular. Asgard Cave, (Asgard is the mountain in Norse mythology on which Valhalla was built), seemed like a fitting name to the landowner. The cave was a 30 foot crevice that was "V"

shaped. After telling the owner what we found (and surveyed), we drove to a parking spot about 10 feet from the entrance to Little Princess Mine.

First of all, I didn't name this mine. It was named in the 1850's. I was too embarrassed to tell my wife, Elizabeth, the name of the mine when we came home that night. When she finds out, I'm sure we will get teased about the cutesy poo name and will have to put up with endless ridicule.

The mine was surveyed in the 1947's by the geological survey, but they didn't survey the wet section. Since they left no recoverable survey stations and we did not have their survey notes, we started the resurvey of the entire cave.

The cave itself was quite nice. The passages were stoop walking sized and relatively straight. I was sketching and the surveying went fairly quickly, at least for me. There was little floor detail except for several pits that went down to water, about 12-15 feet down. We will eventually get to the wet section and survey those wet passages using wetsuits.

We decided to survey the side passages as we came to them. Most weren't too long, 130 feet for the long one and two that were 37 and 60 feet long. All in all, we surveyed 713 feet before setting a recoverable station and calling it a day. At that point, we decided to see more of the cave. Both Mike and Chris had been there before. We soon came to a fairly large room and then to another room that had a pool at the bottom. Chris went down and retrieved a 5-D cell Mag light that looks as if it will still work. He got wet doing so, but thinks it was worth it.

We saw two little brown bats in the cave and also came across several chunks of Galena lead in the sediment. Fortunately, raccoons did not appear to use this cave and we didn't have to put up with their calling cards.

National Speleological Society Convention

Camden, Maine and Union County Fairground, Union, Main

Week of 23-28 June 2002

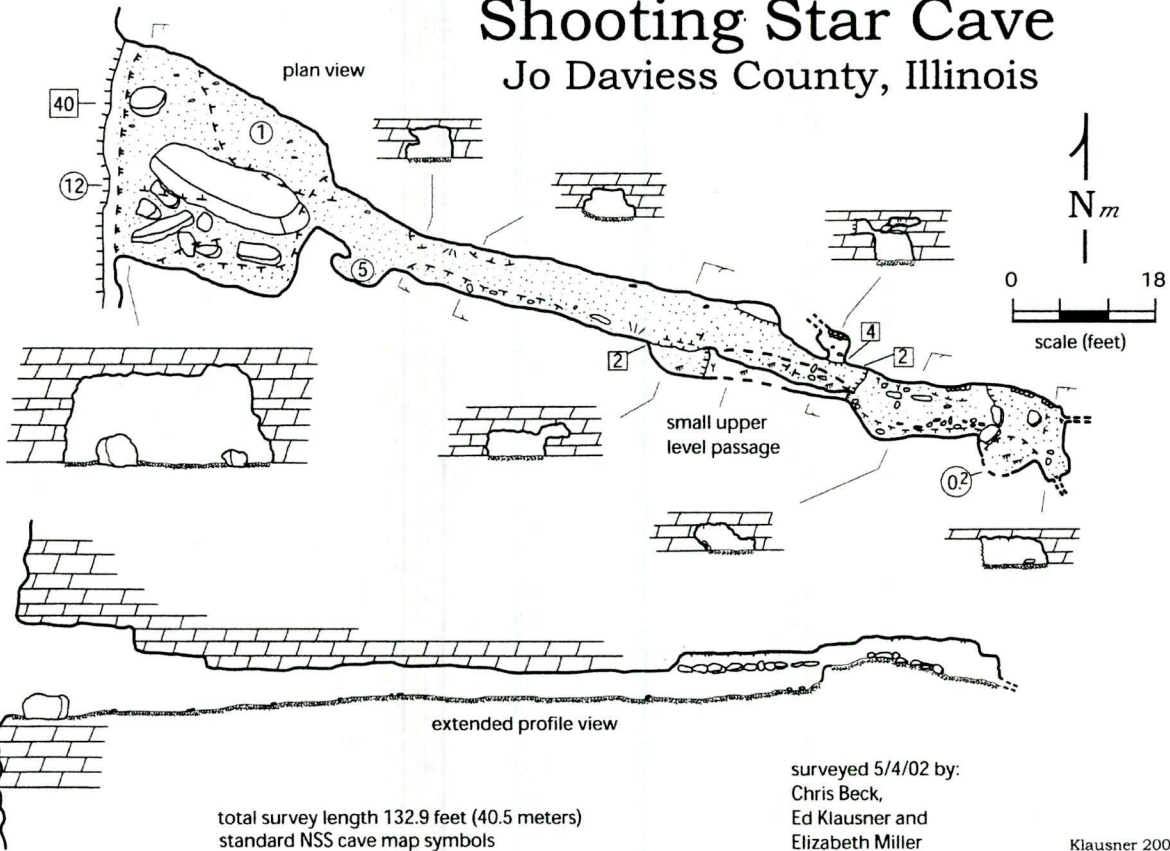
Brad Smith, Liz Robinson, and a little over 1000 other people

Brad and I had been preparing for Convention for a couple of years since we were on the staff for the hot tub area. Originally the Northern New Jersey Grotto was going to bring Hotsy, their hot tub, as well as some sauna stuff. Wednesday 10, June, the day before we were planning to leave Brad got an e-mail from the Northern New Jersey people saying that they would be unable to bring their equipment due to vehicle problems. There was no one else in the Grotto who could haul the equipment that weighed some 3,000 pounds and rental vehicle strong enough to haul it would have cost some \$1200. Brad got on the phone and called a friend of ours, Steve Gaines, who is a caver who works for a pool and spa company in North Syracuse, NY. Steve was able to provide us with a 24 foot in diameter pool siding that the company could not sell because of dents and scratches. We changed our packing plans overnight so that Brad could bring his hot tub heater, plumbing supplies, tubing, etc. That left out cooking stuff, so we ate at local places. We left late Thursday night and picked up the pool Friday night. We got into camp Saturday night after a rainy trip along the Mass turnpike, I-95 and the Maine Turnpike. The first thing we did was to drop off the hot tub stuff and look for volunteers to help us. Members of the B.A.T.S Grotto immediately volunteered and agreed to meet us at 8 a.m. the next morning. Unfortunately, we missed the geology field tour to Acadia National Park. There were several small caves that we were supposed to visit there but never got to, due to the hot tub problems. We worked all day and got the system set up and ready to heat by that night. Fortunately Michel Gagnon, a Quebec caver, stayed up all night watching the tub and feeding it. We did get to the Howdy Party, which featured a New England Clam Bake with optional lobsters or chicken, corn on the cob, clams and salad. There was a chairlift ride to the Camden Snow Bowl. Several of us walked the rest of the way up the Camden Snow Bowl. There were some complaints that the vegetarians who took the ride first did not get food because the carnivores ate it. Our lobsters were cold. Instead of having a loud band they had a local folksinger with a guitar which I found rather pleasant. You could actually hear a conversation over the music and the music was not loud shrieking stuff. We also got into town for the digging section. The meeting featured two videos on microblasting. One was last year's featured video at the section meeting and the other was a new one demonstrating a microblasting kit that

can be bought by cavers. Those in attendance also had an opportunity to share information about their current digs. An election of officers was held and dues were collected from those owing them. The other thing I got to was the History Section meeting. Several papers were presented and an election of officers was also held during the luncheon portion of the meeting. I also attended the Convention debriefing meeting and Brad attended a slide show on caving in Cuba. One of the things that came with convention registration was a 2-hour schooner ride in the harbor at Rockland. We did get our ride and it was very enjoyable. We were delayed in getting off because there was a limit on the number of passengers that could be on the boat for any trip regardless of size or age, and we were one person over limit. Finally someone volunteered to take a later trip. We did not get to any other Convention events other than the banquet and the Photo Salon. I did pick up the Iowa Grotto medal (third year in a row for the medal) which I will bring to the July meeting. The banquet was better for food than the Howdy Party. There were separate lines for grilled steak, grilled chicken and vegetarian. The guest speaker was the director of photography for the Journey to Amazing Caves. The speech was presented before the awards were given out so that helped to hold the attention of the audience. We spent all day Saturday cleaning up the hot tub area and taking down everything. Two people helped us for a while in the afternoon, which made it possible for us to get everything taken care of in the one day. There had been portable commercial showers in the campground which were rented, (since no one had volunteered to build campground showers) and these were being closed up, so we had one last chance Saturday afternoon to take a shower. Both of us did. Sunday we packed up our campsite and were ready to leave by noon, after saying farewells to others in the campground. We never did get to Acadia, however on our way back we did visit the Seashore Trolley Museum in Kennebunkport, the Mount Washington Cog Railway up Mount Washington New Hampshire. It goes to the weather station where they recorded the 241mph winds (highest winds on the planet). We also went to Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream factory tour, and Ausable Chasm. We got back about midnight on 5 July.

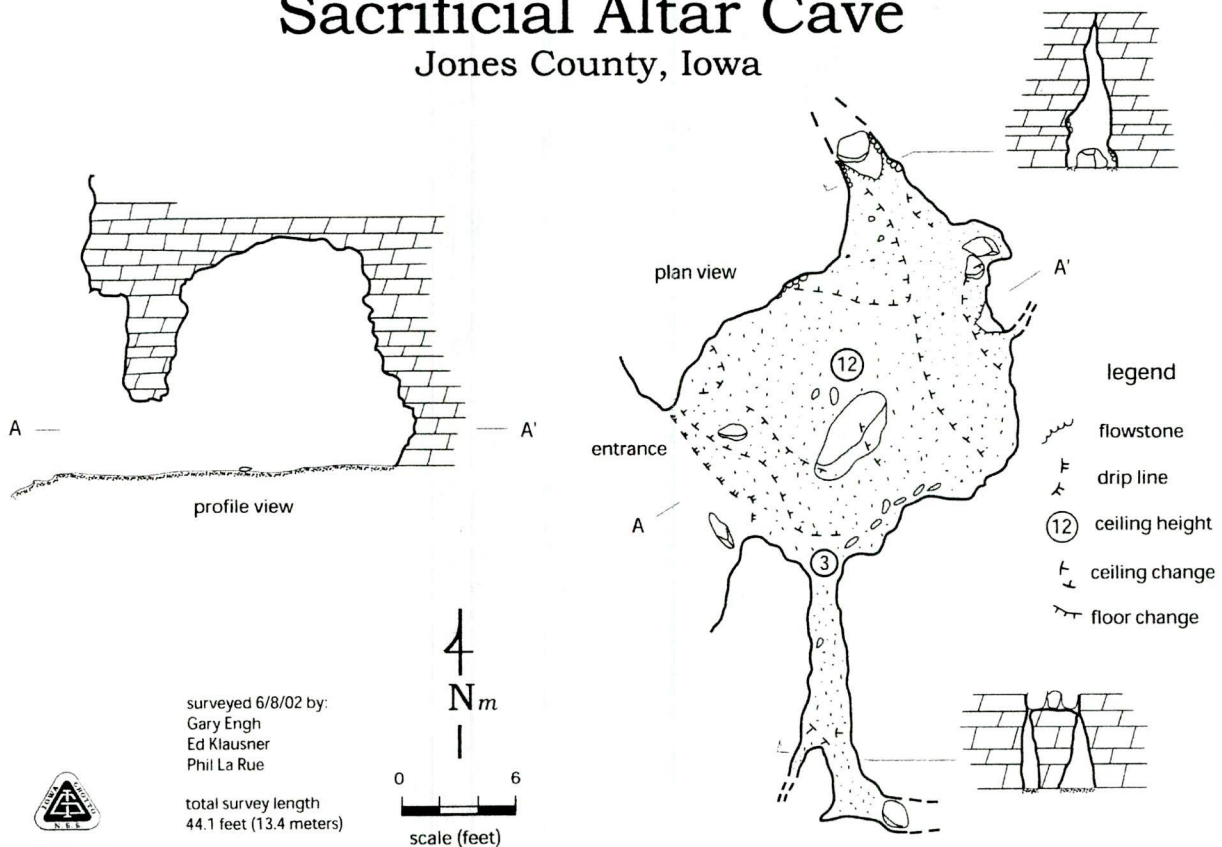
Shooting Star Cave

Jo Daviess County, Illinois



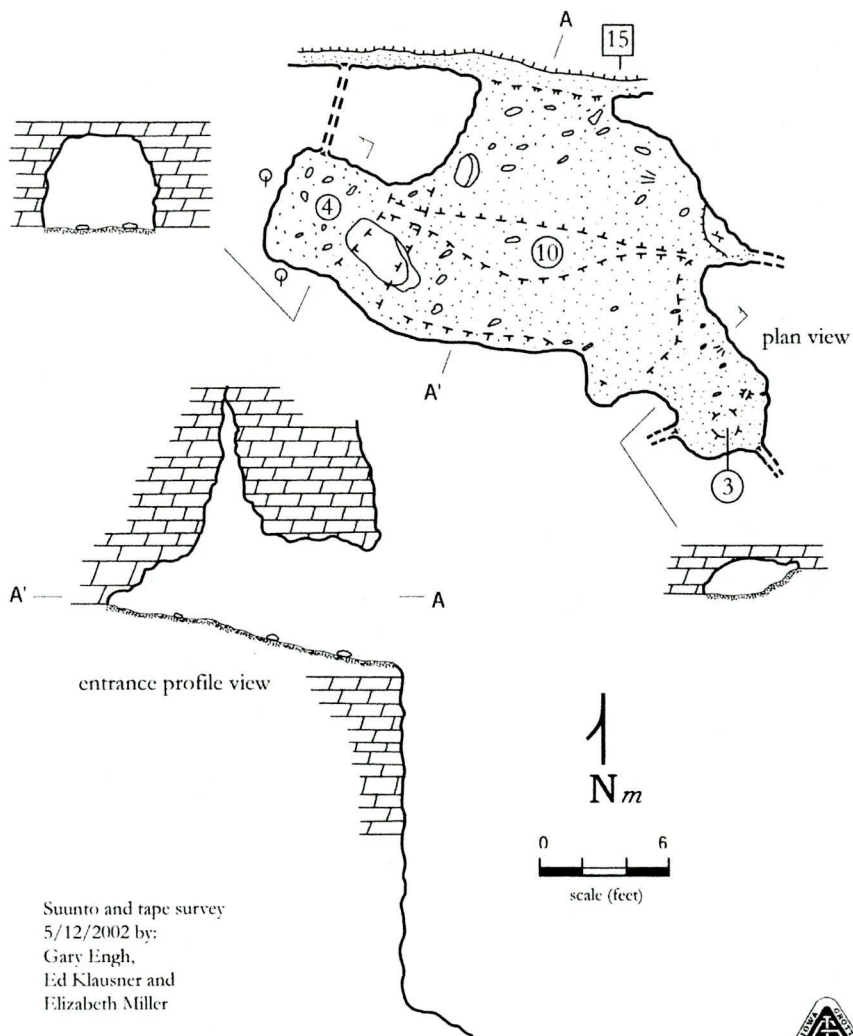
Sacrificial Altar Cave

Jones County, Iowa



Two Nest Cave

Jones County, Iowa



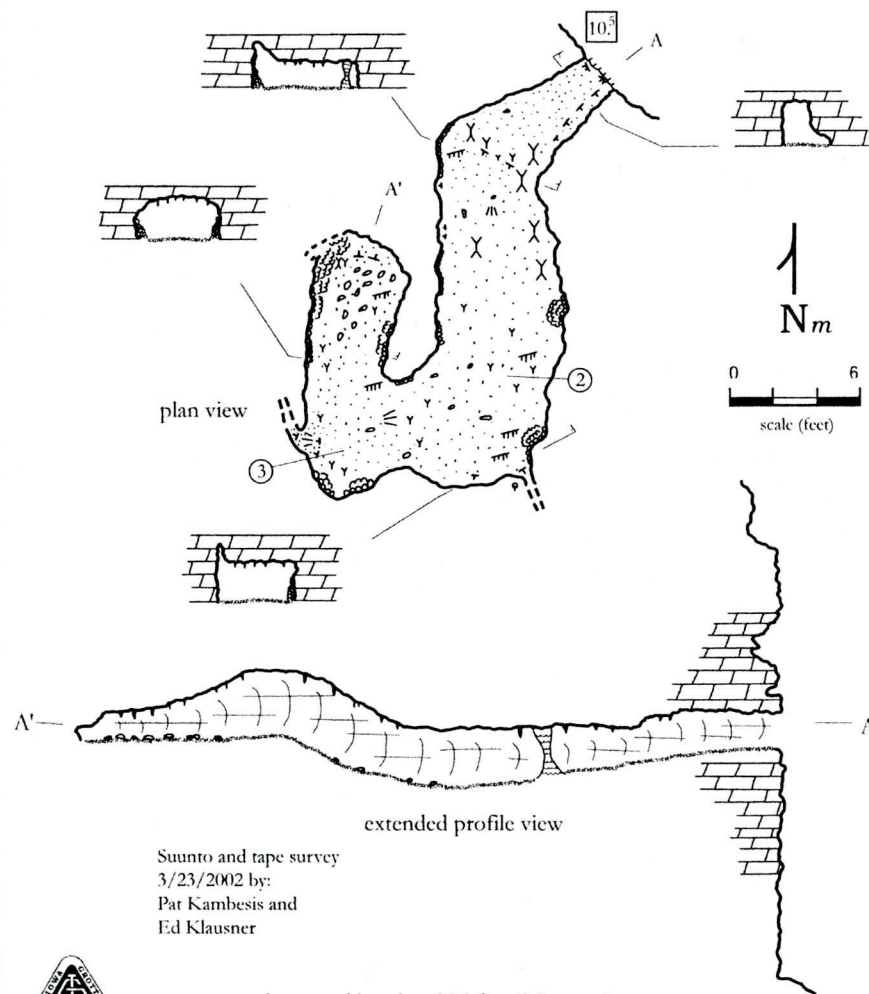
total surveyed length = 28.6 feet (8.7 meters)



Klausner 2002

Variations In Travertine Cave

Jackson County, Iowa



total surveyed length = 30.3 feet (9.2 meters)
formed in the Hopkinton Dolomite



Klausner 2002

