

## 47. Annual conference of the Association of German Cave and Karst explorers e.V. in Iserlohn-Letmathe May 17<sup>th</sup> – May 20<sup>th</sup> 2007

The Speläogruppe Letmathe –organization for speleology in Westfalen (SGL) e.V.- kindly invites all cave and karst explorers to Iserlohn-Letmathe (Northern Sauerland).

### Current Conference agenda

#### Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup> (Ascension Day – Public holiday in NRW)

Conference office and conference centre (Saatschule) opened from **3 pm**

Relaxed get-together at the conference centre with barbecue, slide shows and socializing from **7 pm**

**7 pm:** Fader N. (Secretary General UIS): The UIS work and its commissions (free talk)

**8:15 pm:** Brooks S.: Cave Exploration in Pakistan 1990-2006 (free talk).

**8:45 pm:** Brooks S.: Caving in Abode of the Clouds (Meghalaya, India) 1992 to 2007 (free talk).

#### Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

### Excursions:

**Excursion A:** Excursion on the surface of the „Grüner Tal“ (topics: karst geology and geomorphology, regional cave systems) - max. 30 participants

Guidance: Grebe W. / Marks S., Speläogruppe Letmathe

Meeting point: conference office at 9 am, return at 2pm

**Excursion B:** Geological guided tour through the Dechenhöhle, the German cave museum Iserlohn and surroundings

Guidance: Richter D.K. (Ruhr-University Bochum), Niggemann S. (Dechenhöhle and German cave museum Iserlohn) - max. 30 participants

Meeting point: Dechenhöhle at 2pm, length: about 3 hours (Entrance fee for the Dechenhöhle has to be paid!)

**Excursion C:** Excursion on the surface of the Hönnetal (topics: karst geology and geomorphology, regional cave systems) - max. 30 participants

Guidance: Loewe S., Speläogruppe Letmathe, 30 participants max.

Departure with private cars at the conference centre at 9 am, return at 3pm

### Cave tours:

Insurance cover is required for participation in cave trips (insurer: rescue funds, for example the solidary fund of the VdHK or likewise insurers). Please declare when registering! Participation at your own risk! Approach if necessary with private cars. Just electric lights, no carbide.

**H1: Bunkerhöhle** (3200m in length), degree of difficulty: medium, narrow passages, collapsed rocks, Devonian limestone, Grüner Tal

Meeting point: Conference office at 9 am

Guidance: Speläogruppe Letmathe, max. 12 participants, length: 4-5 hours

**H2: B7-Höhle** (5300m in length), degree of difficulty: high, narrow passages, rope ladder, dripstones, Devonian limestone, Grüner Tal

Meeting point: Conference office at 9 am

Guidance: Speläogruppe Letmathe, max. 10 participants, length: about 5 hours

equipment: seat harness, cowstail

**H3: Friedrichshöhle** (1500m in length), degree of difficulty: medium, rope ladder, Devonian limestone, Hönnetal

Departure with private cars at the conference centre at 9 am

Guidance: Speläogruppe Letmathe, participants 12 max.

Length: about 5-6 hours (journey incl.)

**H4: Hüttenbläser** (4600m in length), degree of difficulty: medium, rope ladder, dripstones, Devonian limestone, Grüner Tal

Meeting point: Conference office at 9 am

Guidance: Speläogruppe Letmathe, max. 12 participants, length: about 5 hours

**H5: Knitterhöhle** (800m in length), degree of difficulty: low, possibly rope ladder, Devonian limestone, Grüner Tal

Meeting point: Conference office at 9 am

Guidance: Speläogruppe Letmathe, max. 20 participants, length: about 2 hours

**H6: Zwergen- and Rosperhöhle** (600m in length), degree of difficulty: medium, rope ladder, dripstones, reef limestone, Bergisches Land,

Departure with private cars at the conference centre at 9 am

Guidance: Arbeitskreis Kluterthöhle, max. 8 participants, length: about 5-6 hours (journey incl.)

**H7: Kückelhauser Klutert** (350m in length, 40m in height), degree of difficulty: low – medium, geologically and historico-culturally interesting, Honseler layer, Western Sauerland

Departure with private cars at the conference centre at 9 am

Guidance: Arbeitskreis Kluterthöhle, max. 12 participants, length: about 6 hours (journey incl.)

**H8: Heilenbecker Höhle** (3980m in length), degree of difficulty: medium, spacious, narrow entrance, Honseler layer, Western Sauerland,

Departure with private cars at the conference centre at 9 am

Guidance: Arbeitskreis Kluterthöhle, max. 12 participants, length: about 6 hours (journey incl.)

**H9: Flußhöhlensystem Felsenmeer**

Meeting point: Conference office at 14 pm (Friday and Sunday)

Guidance: Hänisch W. / Wegen B. (Speläo-Gruppe Sauerland); max. 5 participants, necessary equipment for SRT can be lent, length: 2-3 hours

**H10: Alte Höhle** (Perickhöhlensystem, 3100 m GGL, degree of difficulty: low, dripstones, historico-culturally interesting)

Meeting point: Conference office (presumably Friday or Sunday)

Guidance: Arbeitsgemeinschaft Höhle und Karst Sauerland/Hemer, max. 12 participants, length: 3 hours

Conference members have free entrance to the Heinrichshöhle in Hemer.

Relaxed get-together at the conference centre with barbecue, slide shows and socializing from **6 pm**

It's also possible to give free talks (please make an appointment for)

**7 pm:** Kube O.: Kreuzhöhle - Exceptionally things in the Loferer Mountains, Austria (free talk)

**8 pm:** VdHK committee meeting at the conference centre (Saatschule), exact meeting point will be signposted at the conference office.

**Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**

**8 am – 1 pm:** Annual general meeting of Association of German Cave and Karst explorers e.V. at the conference centre (Saatschule)

**noon – 2 pm:** lunch (registration at conference office)

**1 pm – 6 pm:** Office meeting FSUE Federation Speleologique de l'Union Europeenne

**Sessions of lectures (all in German, updated March 7<sup>th</sup> 2007)**

**Session A: Scientific Speleology**

**2:00 pm:** **Pflitsch, A.** „Jewel Cave and Wind Cave – two single caves or a cave system?“ basic research in the barometric caves of the Blackhills, South Dakota (USA)

**2.40 pm:** **Ringeis, J.** „Air pressure and current conditions of barometric caves“ – research studies at Wind Cave and Jewel Cave, South Dakota (USA)

**3.20 pm:** **Dreybrodt, W.** „Karst and caves in the lime-sandstone of the Bahamas“ – speleogenesis by mixing corrosion with seawater

**4.00 pm:** **Kempe, S.** „Lava and limestone caves in Jordan“

**4.40 pm:** **Döppes D.** Late glacial up to early holocene brown bear relics from caves of the Alps – Conception of a new research beginning (EuroSpeleo Project ECP 2007-03)

**5:20 pm:** **Gustafsson, T.** Informations for the Baltic Speleological Congress 2007

**Session B: Regional Speleology**

**2.00 pm:** **Mügge, V.** Rosendahl D. & Wrede, V. „The relevance of cave and karst concerning the Geo Park Ruhrgebiet“

**2.40 pm:** **Voigt, S.** (AKKH) „Blätterhöhle – one of the most important places of discovery with remnants of the Stone Age in NRW during the last decades“

**3.20 pm:** **Voigt, S.** (AKKH) „Phreatic genesis of the caves in Bergisch Land“

**4.00 pm:** **Grebe, W.** (SGL) „Caves at the Grüner Tal – just one gigantic cave?“

**4.40 pm:** **Hammerschmidt, E.** (SGL) „One century of Attahöhle“

**5.10 pm:** **Scheller K. (SVNW)** „Read chalk colorings und score paintings in the Velda-Höhle at Velmede (Sauerland)“

**5.40 pm:** **Hammerschmidt, E.** (SGL) „The Dechenhöhle and and the German Speleology“

**Series C: National Speleology and various topics**

**2.00 pm:** **Harries, D.** (ArGeKH) „The Iberg (Harz) – latest findings concerning geology and state of quarrying“

**2.40 pm:** **Kempe, S.** „Early cave descriptions by women, Lady Elisabeth Craven and Johanna Schopenhauer“

**3.20 pm:** **Dorsten, I.** (SAH) „Cave protection by tourism? Efforts to preserve the Herbstlabyrinth –

Adventhöhlen – System and state of planning concerning the exploration of the Knöpfchenhalle“

**4.00 pm:** **Pflitsch, A.** „Climate in German caves – The setting up of the cave climate database by VdHK“

**4.40 pm:** **Plewnia, K.** (SVNW) „German cave exploration and National Socialism“

**5.20 pm:** **ARGE Höhle und Karst Grabenstetten** The Vetterhöhle - research report from the “Blauhöhlensystem” (with movie screening and book presentation)

**8.00 pm:** Award ceremony for the Benno-Wolf-Award at the conference centre (Saatschule)

**8.30 pm:** Festive lecture at the conference centre „Caves, Gods and Guns – 25 years of SAGA in the caves of the world“

Relaxed get-together at the conference centre.

**Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> 2007**

**9.30 am – 1 pm:** Public meeting FSUE – Federation Speleologique de l'Union  
Européenne (Public introduction of the FSUE with discussion)

Miscellaneous activities (for example meetings of various internal workgroups etc)  
End of conference, closure of the conference centre 1 pm

### **General Information**

#### Journey

If you come by car please see the added map. If you come by train you arrive either at Letmathe Station (15 minutes on foot) or at Letmathe Dechenhöhle Station (10 minutes on foot)

#### Conference rooms

The annual conference takes place in the conference centre:

Saatschule, Saatweg 31, 58644 Iserlohn – Letmathe (see map below)

The awarding of the Benno Wolf prize and the festive lecture take place in the conference centre Saatschule. You find private rooms, hostels or hotels at the tourist information centre Iserlohn

([http://www.iserlohn.de/Freizeit\\_und\\_Tourismus/zs\\_index.php](http://www.iserlohn.de/Freizeit_und_Tourismus/zs_index.php))

Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> 2007 is a holiday in NRW. For the communal bunks a sports hall with sanitary rooms is at your disposal.

You can camp with tents on two asphalted schoolyards (please register at the conference office).

Further information about camp grounds in Iserlohn in the internet.

**NO SMOKING AT THE CONFERENCE CENTRE!**

#### Parking

You find car parks around the school building and in nearby streets. Please observe the StVO and neighbourhood. Camping caravans can be parked on the schoolyard, the school car park and a turning area in front of the school building.

#### Trading stands, exhibitions and posters

For the trading stands as well as for the presentation of posters you are asked to register in good time. Please tell space and number of tables you need when registering.

#### Catering

At the conference centre „Grundschule Saatschule“ you find non-alcoholic and alcoholic drinks even late in the evening. You can have breakfast on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Additional offer on excursion days: Lunchpacks or a small lunch on Saturday. Every evening there is barbecue at the schoolyard. In Letmathe there are also different restaurants (good food/low prices). Please take a look at the announcement at conference office.

#### Registration

The organizers of the conference ask you to register early! (Registration of lectures or the needed number of sleeping places)

Only registered participants can be sure to get a sleeping place in the communal bunks. Please register in writing to the contact address you find below. The allocation for the excursions takes place after the entry in the registration list.

#### Conference transcript

A conference transcript will be published. Deadline for submission of lecture scripts is March 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### Conference fee

15,00 € before April 30<sup>th</sup>

22,50 € afterwards

One accompanying person: 10,00 €

Children younger than 15 years: no fee

Payment of conference fee to conference bank account of Speläogruppe Letmathe: Sparkasse Iserlohn, BLZ 445 500 45, Kto-Nr. 180 618 46; Reason of payment: conference fee Letmathe 2007.

**IBAN DE71445500450018061846, BIC SWIFT WELA DE D1 ISL, Sparkasse Iserlohn.**

A registration receipt will be e-mailed to you after full payment.

### Contact

Registration for conference to:  
Christiane Grebe, Vor dem Nücksberg 45, D-58644 Iserlohn  
e-mail: [c.miertzsch@gmx.de](mailto:c.miertzsch@gmx.de)

Registration of lectures, summary for the covering book to:  
Witold Grebe, Vor dem Nücksberg 45, D-58644 Iserlohn  
e-mail: [wgrebe@gmx.de](mailto:wgrebe@gmx.de)  
Stephan Marks, Dauvemühle 49, D-48159 Münster  
e-mail: [mmsmrks1@aol.com](mailto:mmsmrks1@aol.com)

Registration for trading stands, posters, exhibitions and general information to:  
Stephan Marks, adress above

For general information please contact the organizer (Infos, changes, etc.)

- Speläogruppe Letmathe – Verein für Höhlenkunde in Westfalen e.V.  
[www.dechenhoehle.de/sgl/start.htm](http://www.dechenhoehle.de/sgl/start.htm)
- Association of German cave and karst explorers  
[www.vdhk.de](http://www.vdhk.de)
- Current changes always in the internet: [www.dechenhoehle.de/sgl/start.htm](http://www.dechenhoehle.de/sgl/start.htm)

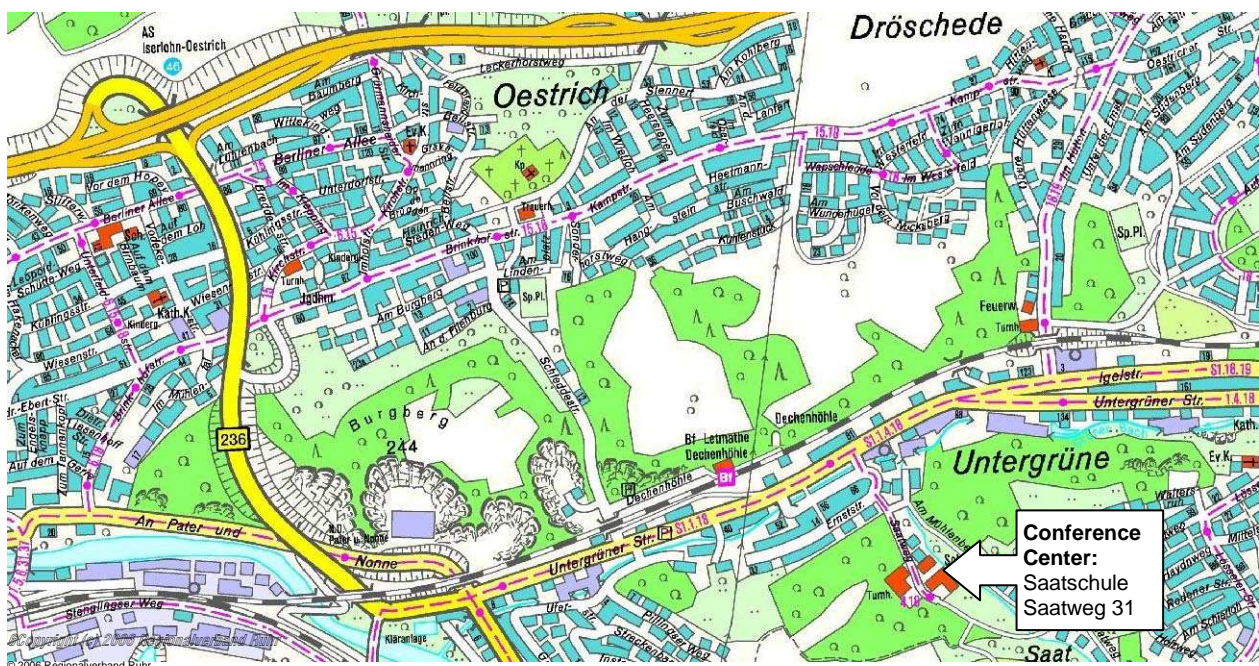
### Journey by car:

Take the A 45 up to motorway intersection Hagen, direction Iserlohn. After 7 km take motorway exit Iserlohn-Oestrich and follow the signs to the Dechenhöhle.

Follow the B 236 for about 2 km straight ahead up to „Untergrüner Straße“.

Do not take the approach road to the Dechenhöhle lefthand but go on for 500m.

Righthand you find „Saatweg“. Turn right into „Saatweg“. After 300 m lefthand you find the „Saatschule“, the conference place.



### Nearby:

The Dechenhöhle (distance:700 m) and numerous caves of excursions are on walking distance (distance: 1 km)