



DEAR DAG DISPATCH

TRI-STATE CRATTA

TERRY MCCLANATHAN
EAGLES CHASM

VOL. #24

ISS. #1

JAN

2009

#1



(FAMILY ASSOCIATE-non NSS)(Voting over 16)

Payment of DUES can be made at MONTHLY MEETINGS
or can be SENT TO:

CHUCK STANLEY, TREASURER
TRI-STATE GROTTTO of the NSS
56 LACK MEMORIAL BLVD.
GERRARDSTOWN, WV 25420
304-229-0583

E-MAIL: CaveSpiderHog@wmconnect.com

For MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION contact:

BOB BENNETT, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
TRI-STATE GROTTTO of the NSS
464 HUCKLEBERRY DR.
GERRARDSTOWN, WV 25420-0211
304-579-4304

E-MAIL: gimpycaver@comcast.net

*** The photo on the cover shows Terry
McClanathan climbing out of Cagles Chasm. It was
taken by Nikki Fox at the Fall Cave In.

**** Don't forget, the JONES QUARRY BOOKLET is
STILL available at a reasonable price \$6.00. If you don't
have it in your library, then YOU MUST GET IT. It is
PACKED with info about the QUARRY, the CAVE, the
INDIAN BONES, and of course the MAP! If you are
interested in purchasing the BOOKLET, contact BOB
BENNETT [304-579-4304(H) or 304-725-3481 ext
491(W)](E-MAIL at gimpycaver@comcast.net or JUDY
FISHER [304-258-4974(H) or 304-258-1822(W)](E-MAIL
at jcf@access.mountain.net)

WE NEED EVERYONE TO KEEP THINKING ABOUT
VOLUNTEERING FOR AN OPEN POSITION. WE
STILL NEED SOMEONE FOR THE FOLLOWING
POSITION:
PROGRAM CHAIR
PLEASE GIVE IT SOME THOUGHT. WE NEED YOUR
SUPPORT!



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ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS to the TRI-STATE
GROTTTO.

All material for inclusion in the DEAD DOG
DISPATCH must be sent to the EDITOR NO LATER
THAN THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH.

TRI-STATE GROTTTO OFFICERS

CHAIR ----- Bernie Wootten ----- 301-254-1055
V-CHAIR ----- Bob Bennett ----- 304-579-4304
TREASURER--- Chuck Stanley ----- 304-229-0583
SECRETARY ---- John DiCarlo ----- 301-432-2323
Member At Large --- Jerry Bowen --- 301-790-0496
Membership Chair --- Bob Bennett ---304-579-4304
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FOLLOWS:

FULL MEMBERSHIP ----- \$10.00 (Must be NSS)
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SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP- \$12.00 (Non-Voting)
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP ----- \$2.00/FAMILY

(FULL FAMILY-must be NSS)(Voting rights if over 16)

DEAD DOG DISPATCH

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CAVE IN EVENTS

2009

JAN 1 ----- NEW YEAR'S DAY
JAN 14 ----- Grotto Meeting 7PM
JAN 17 ----- Adam Stephen dig - 9am
JAN 19 ----- MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
JAN 23-25 --- Carter Caves Crawl-A-Thon
FEB 2 ----- GROUND HOG DAY
FEB 11 ----- Grotto Meeting 7PM
FEB 14 ----- VALENTINE'S DAY
FEB 24 ----- FAT TUESDAY
MAR 11 ----- Grotto Meeting 7PM
MAR 17 ----- ST PATRICK'S DAY
MAR 20 ----- SPRING EQUINOX
MAR 22 ----- WORLD WATER DAY
MAR 25 ----- MD DAY
APR 1 ----- ALL FOOL'S DAY
APR 8 ----- Grotto Meeting 7PM
APR 10 ----- GOOD FRIDAY
APR 12 ----- EASTER
APR 15 ----- TAX DAY
APR 22 ----- EARTH DAY
APR 24 ----- ARBOR DAY
APR 24-26 --- SPRING VAR - Sponsored by Tri-State
Grotto
MAY 10 ----- MOTHER'S DAY
MAY 13 ----- Grotto meeting 7pm
MAY 25 ----- MEMORIAL DAY
JUN 5-7 ----- Bubble Weekend
JUN 14 ----- FLAG DAY
JUN 21 ----- FATHER'S DAY
JUL 4 ----- INDEPENDENCE DAY
JUL 19-26 --- NSS Convention, Kerryville, TX

2010

JUL 12-17 ----- NSS Convention, Essex Jnctn, VT

2011

AUG 1-5 ----- NSS Convention, Glenwood Springs, CO

2012

JUN 25-30 ----- NSS Convention, Lewisburg, WV

***** CAVE BUCKS *****

CAVE BUCKS is a voluntary donation for cave purchases. The money is collected at each monthly meeting and sent to the

organization of choice. The money SHOULD NEVER be kept past the week it is collected.

Month of October ----- \$15.00

Month of November ----- \$15.00

TOTAL TO DATE: --- \$4358.00
(Correction to Dec's newsletter)

Keep It Coming!

GROTTO LINKS

Tri-State Grotto website ----- www.wobey.net/TSG
VAR website ----- www.varegion.org
NSS website ----- www.caves.org
NSS Convention 2009 ----- <http://www.ics2009.us/>
OTR Website ----- www.otr.org
MAR Website ----- www.caves.org/region/mar/
WVCC ----- www.wvcc.net
Andy Celmer's Web Site ---- www.wobey.net/TSG/Andy/
Art Jr's Web Site ----- <http://photos.arthanson.net/>
Art Jr's 2nd Web Site ----- <http://www.tristategrotto.org/>
Bob's Web Site ----- www.wobey.net/TSG/Bob/
Earl Suitor's Web Site -----
----- <http://mysite.verizon.net/wvcaver/>
Ehren Gieske's Web Site --- www.wobey.net/TSG/Ehren
Jerry's Cave Web Site ----- www.wobey.net/TSG/Jerry/
Vitas's Web Site ----- www.wobey.net/TSG/Vitas/
Tina Blaik's Web Site ----- www.kayakdream.com/
David Hackley's Web Site -----
---- <http://s180.photobucket.com/albums/x307/clearsig/>
Todd Robert's Web Site -----
-- http://s63.photobucket.com/albums/h143/Todd_05/
Bob Gulden's Web Page - www.caverbob.com/home.htm
Nikki Fox's Web Site -----
----- <http://s231.photobucket.com/albums/ee8/cavefox1/>
Rock Climbing Knots Friction -----
-- www.chockstone.org/TechTips/prusik.htm#Bachman
Tri-State Grotto MySpace -----
----- www.myspace.com/tristategrotto
Animated Knots by Grog ----- www.animatedknots.com/
White Nose Syndrome -----
<http://www.caves.org/grotto/dcg/wns-notice-to-cavers.pdf>
NSS Online Cavers ----- www.onlinecavers.com

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COTTO BIRTHDAYS

MONTH OF JANUARY

Eric Armer, Twila Carr, Danny Cumbo,
Judy Fisher, Sonny Floyd, Bob Gray,
Stacey Hajenga, Samantha Hicks,
Jonathan Hutzell, Tim McDougle, Van
Pell, Elijah Reeder, Todd Roberts, Johnny
Robinson Jr, Earl Suitor, Fiord'aliza Viz,
Trish Walthers

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

CAVING NEWS

Hungary: Underground Thermal Lake
Discovered Below Turkish Bath Could Be One
Of Biggest In World | World News | Sky
NewsNewsSportsShowbizEmail
News 7:40am UK, Friday January 02, 2009

Greg Milam, Europe correspondent

**An underground thermal lake, discovered
below a Turkish bath in Hungary, could be
one of the biggest in the world**

Ministers in Hungary are considering opening
the underground lake to the public

The lake was discovered in an 86-metre long, 15-
metre high subterranean cave when explorers
delved beneath the baths in Budapest.

The Hungarian capital is built above a labyrinth
of caves filled with warm thermal water and
many have only partially been explored. Work
has been continuing to build a tunnel to give

access to the lake and the Hungarian government
says it is considering opening it to the public.
Divers have spent the last few weeks exploring
the depths of the lake and the limited lighting
available in the cave gives it an eerie feel.

Cave expert Szabolcs Leel-Oessy said: "Since
we found the room, we have opened the tunnel
with our hands, hammers and electronic drills, so
now not only 10 divers can go inside, but
practically everybody."

Hungary was part of the Ottoman Empire in the
17th century and has a legacy of Turkish baths
which remain extremely popular with local
residents as well as millions of tourists who
flood the city.

Officials in Hungary are now planning to apply
to UNESCO to have the cave system declared as
a World Heritage Site. Mayor Zsolt Lang said: "I
will be lobbying ministers and the government,
to preserve this whole cave system with its lakes
under Buda. I think this is an extraordinary,
natural beauty of its kind in the world."

The future of the cave system has even been
discussed in the Hungarian courts as ministers
seek to give researchers all the time they need to
explore the site before public access is discussed.

Another Proposal of Marriage!!!!

Recently, Pete Bracken asked Twila Neeld for
her hand in marriage! They will be getting
hitched in early February!



Congratulations!

TRIP REPORTS

Kooken Cave

Eric Berge

Danny Cumbo sent out an e-mail inviting people to go to Kooken Cave, which is located in the central part of Pennsylvania. Well I had never caved with Danny but this cave sounded inviting and it is always nice to get to cave with different people.



Well the trip was set for November 1 and I meet Danny at the commuter lot at I-81 near Martinsburg, W.V. Well I hopped into Danny's car and off to the cave we went. I realized as we traveled to the cave that it was just as close to Central Pa as it is to Franklin, WV. As we made our way to the cave we picked up the other two members of our group. The other members were Jeff Jahn, and Joe Reeves. Once at the cave we meet our trip leader Tim, and LB. Well we got geared up and went to the entrance of the cave, which happens to be in the middle of a field.

Now the entrance is covered and once uncovered you are looking down a large pipe with a ladder. Down the ladder we went. Did I forget to mention to get to the main entrance of the cave you do a 65 foot rappel. Well down the pipe we went and you end up on a steel platform. I took a look at the platform and what a job it must have been putting the platform together. Well once you rappel down the drop you jump off rope and jump on another rope and do another 30-foot drop but that is against a nice sloping wall. Once down you are in a large room that is muddy but it is not a deep or sticky mud, just mud. We climbed up a slope and started down into the cave. Now one of the most essential pieces of equipment you were required to bring was a hand ascender and a cow's tail. Why you might ask, well this cave has some of the most unique mud pits that you have to climb around.

It seems the conservancy that runs the cave gets or buys some of the ropes used for bridge day and they rig almost all the pits. The way the pits are rigged is the ropes are strung on the outside of the rim. Well the pits are anywhere from 10 to 25 feet deep. Most of the pits have a stream running through them at the bottom. Well as you hook on to the rope you just follow the rope and step in the steps that the leader (Tim) cuts into the sides of the pits. Well the cave is just a very cool cave it has a few formations but has a lot of mud, mud, and more mud. The cave has one spot that you have to make a step of faith. You have to stand on one edge of a crack that is about 3 feet across to the other side and the fissure crack is about 30 feet deep and the crack has a nice very old piece of

timber you can use as a handrail. Well you hook into the line with a hand ascender and over the fissure you go but with caution.



After about an hour and half of going thru the cave you have to make another rappel. This rappel is rather interesting. In the distance past someone has rigged an old boat ladder thru the drop. Now this is a really old ladder it is the type you see in the old WWII movies. This poor ladder is rusted up and not safe to use, at least I would not use it. The problem with the ladder is as you rappel you almost get hung up on the ladder. Well once you get down to the bottom and jump off rope the adventure continues. Pass some more pits and more mud. Well we all stopped in what they call the lunchroom and we took a breather. Well we traveled another 30 or 40 minutes and we came to the last leg of the trip. This is the real demanding part

and yet the most fun. To get out of the cave you have two choices you can go back the way you came or you can climb a passage that is 160 feet long at a very steep angle tube type passage. You have three lengths of rope 50 feet each that you attach your hand ascender to and you start to climb. The first 50 feet is climbing up the tube that is loaded with mud. The second length of rope you climb thru loose rocks and the third leg of the climb is up a slick rock face. The climb takes about 30 to 45 minutes.

Once you get to the top you climb out another tube that is has a ladder inside it. But what is so funny is you come out in the middle of a greenhouse. Tim told us to watch out for a fan that sits on top of the opening. It seems the people that own the greenhouse use the cave to heat the greenhouse by sucking out the warm air during the winter into the greenhouse with the fan.

Well the trip was great and the climb out was one of the hardest things I have done but I keep thinking about the cave and plan on going back.



TRIP LOG

AUG 2 -- **STILLHOUSE CAVE**, Rand Co, WV -----
Nuch Songsasen, Bob Gray, Twila Neeld, Pete Bracken,
Mary, Glen, George, Sarah – Sarah's 1st caving trip – Fun
& Muddy

----- **SINKS of GANDY**, Rand Co, WV -----
Water was high! – Finally found dry exit

AUG 30 --- **RED RUN CAVE**, Rand Co, WV -----

Ellie, Ann, Twila, Pete, Rosie, Ben, & others from OTR

OCT 8 -- **GENERAL DAVIS CAVE**, Greenbr Co, WV --
Jeff Hajenga, Amy Cimarolli, & others – Collect data on
salamander species – 7 hr

OCT 14 --- **CLEVERSBURG SINK**, PA -----

Jonathan Peterson, Tina Blaik, Ryan Keefe, & Frankie
Brooks – Checked water – Up to 7th rung of ladder

----- **CARNEGIE CAVE**, PA -----

Jon, Tina, Ryan, & Frankie – Very muddy

OCT 18 --- **TYTOONA CAVE**, PA -----

Jerry & his mon – Went in about 300' – Mom is almost 80
years old with knee & hip operations – A real experience
for her!

OCT 18 -- **CRYSTAL GROTTOS**, Wash Co, MD -----

Bob Bennett, Jerry Downs, & about 60 Girl scouts &
leaders – Jerry took the scouts & leaders on tours while I
talked to the remaining groups about caving, -
Experiences, do's, don'ts, safety, how caves are formed,
formations, etc – About 3 hrs

NOV 15 --- **FAIRVIEW CAVE**, Hampshire Co, WV ----

Bob Bennett, Todd Roberts, Tim McDougale – Small cave
on Mr McDonald's farm – Todd pushed small crack – ¾ hr

NOV 15 ----- Hampshire Co, WV -----

JC Fisher, Mr McDonald, Tim McDougale, Todd Roberts,
& Bob Bennett – Dug 2 places in large sinkhole – Maybe
found something – 5 hr

NOV 15 ---- WVCC Banquet, Lewisburg, WV -----

Jep, Larry Fisher, Ben Doan, & JoBeth Wisecarver – Ben
announced at the banquet that he & JoBeth are getting
married

DEC 10 ---- Wrap Presents for Red Cross -----

6 Woottens, Chuck & Kim Stanley, John DiCarlo, Ben
Doan, JoBeth Wisecarver, JC Fisher, & Bob & Paulette
Bennett – Took in the most money for the day

DEC 13 ---- Grotto Christmas Celebration -----

Carry Hart, Jodiann, Dana, Joseph, & Patrick Fabbicino,
Tracey Miller, James Bennett, Madison, Jesse, & (Lucy),
Priscilla & Eric Armer, Bernie, Sean, Chris, Tyler, Johnny,
& Abby Wootten, Steve Rexford, Tina Blaik & Samantha
Hicks, Jeff & Carrie Marcum, Jennifer Pinto, Carter,
Logan, Ere & Sidney Bennett, Sonny Floyd, Jerry
Downs, Lynn & John DiCarlo, Ben Doan, JoBeth
Wisecarver, Vitas & Mary Eidukevicius, Nikki Fox, Chris
Coates, Kayla Flannagan, Derek, Connie, Karlie, DJ, &
Justan Bennett, Todd Roberts, JC & Judy Fisher, & Bob &
Paulette Bennett

DEC 14 ----- After Christmas Party Caving -----

Nikki Fox, Chris Coates, Sean Wootten, & Bob Bennett –
3 caves & 1 pit – Nice Sunday Afternoon

DEC 18 -- **MARK TWAINS CAVE**, Hannibal, MO -----

Jerry, Mary & Stephen Bowen

DEC 20 ---- **MARENGO CAVE**, IN -----

Jerry, Mary, & Stephen

DEC 21 ---- **CLEVERSBURG SINK**, PA -----

Jon Peterson & Ken Tayman – Checked water level – Only
top 3 rocks are above water – Approximately 28' of water



OTR 2007



OTR 2008



Enjoying ice cream at OTR



Jones Quarry Cave



Our very own mermaid in the pirate ship



JC at Fall Bash



Volcano?



Water Fall at Paxtons Cave



CAVIN CALENDAR

JANUARY 11TH - FEBRUARY 21ST



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan 11	Jan 12	Jan 13	Jan 14 Grotto Meeting 7pm	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 17 Adam Stephen Dig 9am
Jan 18	Jan 19 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY	Jan 20	Jan 21	Jan 22	Jan 23 CARTER CAVES CRAWLATHON	Jan 24 CARTER CAVES
Jan 25 CARTER CAVES	Jan 26	Jan 27	Jan 28	Jan 29	Jan 30	Jan 31
Feb 1	Feb 2 GROUND HOG DAY	Feb 3	Feb 4	Feb 5	Feb 6	Feb 7
Feb 8	Feb 9	Feb 10	Feb 11 GROTTO MEETING 7PM	Feb 12	Feb 13	Feb 14 VALENTINE'S DAY
Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19	Feb 20	Feb 21

DEAD DOG DISPATCH



Gypsum flower in Cave Mt Cave

1- KOOKEN CAVE

2- WORLD'S LARGEST UNDERGROUND THERMAL LAKE

3- WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT!

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TRI-STATE GROTTO OF THE NSS

BOB BENNETT, EDITOR

464 HUCKLEBERRY DR

GERRARDSTOWN, WV 25420-0344

304-579-4304

gimpycaver@comcast.net



TO:

