



DEAR DOG DISPATCH
TRI-STATE GRATTO

NEW PIT IN GRANT CO, WV

VOL. #25

ISS. #2

FEB

2010

#17



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

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

JERRY BOWEN, TREASURER
TRI-STATE GROTTTO of the NSS
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HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
301-790-0476

E-MAIL: bookmaker-jb@myactv.net

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 was taken by an
unknown photographer of an unnamed pit in Grant
Co.

**** 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
POSITIONS:**

**PROGRAM CHAIR
MEMBER at LARGE**

**PLEASE GIVE IT SOME THOUGHT. WE NEED YOUR
SUPPORT!**

**Well, Tri-State has a new member. Everyone
congratulate Bill & Fiord'aliza Vis on the birth
of their new baby boy!!!! He was born exactly
one week before Christmas! Evert Benito Vis, 4
lbs. 12 ozs. Born 12-18-09.**

**What a Christmas present!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Congratulations!!!!!!**

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SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS, and FREE with FULL and
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.

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FULL MEMBERSHIP ----- \$10.00 (Must be NSS)
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FAMILY MEMBERSHIP ----- \$2.00/FAMILY

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CAVING EVENTS

2010

FEB 2 ----- GROUND HOG DAY
FEB 7 ----- SUPER BOWL
FEB 10 ----- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
FEB 14 ----- VALENTINE'S DAY
FEB 15 ----- PRESIDENT'S DAY
FEB 16 ----- FAT TUESDAY (MARDI GRAS)
FEB 27 ----- CRYSTAL GROTTOS DIG – 10AM
FEB 27 ----- MD KARST SURVEY – Contact Corey or Jerry
MAR 10 ----- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
MAR 13-14 - Carter Caves Restoration Camp
MAR 14 ----- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS
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 2 ----- GOOD FRIDAY
APR 2-3 ---- Grand Caverns Restoration – Contact Meredith Hall Weberg
APR 4 ----- EASTER
APR 14 ----- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
APR 15 ----- TAX DAY
APR 22 ----- EARTH DAY
APR 23----- ARBOR DAY
MAY 5 ----- CINCO de MAYO
MAY 6 ----- NATIONAL DAY of PRAYER
MAY 9 ----- MOTHER'S DAY
MAY 12 ---- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
MAY 15 ---- ARMED FORCES DAY
MAY 21-23 - Spring VAR sponsored by Bubble Cave LLC
MAY 31 ---- MEMORIAL DAY
JUN 4-6 ---- BUBBLE CAVE WEEKEND
JUN 9 ----- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
JUN 14 ----- FLAG DAY
JUN 17-20 – SERA Cave Carnival, Monteagle, TN
JUN 20 ---- FATHER'S DAY
JUN 20 ----- WV DAY
JUN 21 ---- SUMMER SOLSTICE
JUL 4 ----- INDEPENDENCE DAY
JUL 17 ---- Annual Grotto Picnic – 12pm
JUL 14 ---- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
JUL 25 ---- PARENT'S DAY
AUG 2-6 -- NSS Convention, Essex Jcnctn, VT
AUG 11 ---- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
SEP 2-6 ---- **QTR**
SEP 6 ----- LABOR DAY
SEP 8 ----- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
SEP 11 ---- PATRIOT'S DAY
SEP 23 ---- AUTUMN EQUINOX
OCT 7-10 – Fall TAG Cave-In, Lookout Mt, TN

OCT 11 ---- COLUMBUS DAY
OCT 13 ---- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
OCT 16 ---- Bridge Day
OCT 31 ---- ALL HALLOW EVE
NOV 2 ----- ELECTION DAY
NOV 7 ----- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS
NOV 10 ---- TSG Grotto Meeting 7pm
NOV 11 ---- VETERAN'S DAY
NOV 13 ---- SADIE HAWKIN'S DAY
NOV 25 ---- THANKSGIVING
NOV 26 ---- BLACK FRIDAY
DEC 8 ----- Wrap Presents for Red Cross 6pm
DEC 11 ---- ALLUAL TSG CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION at Bob & Paulette's home 6pm
DEC 12 ---- Christmas caving
DEC 21 ---- WINTER SOLSTICE
DEC 24 ---- CHRISTMAS EVE
DEC 25 ---- CHRISTMAS DAY
DEC 31 ---- NEW YEAR'S EVE

2011

AUG 2-6 ---- 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 January ----- **\$24.00**

TOTAL TO DATE: ---- \$4623.00

Keep It Coming!

WEBSITE & CAVING LINKS

Tri-State Grotto ----- www.tristategrotto.net/
VAR ----- www.varegion.org/
NSS ----- www.caves.org/
NSS Convention 2010 ----- <http://www.ics2009.us/>

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OTR ----- www.otr.org/
 MAR ----- www.caves.org/region/mar/
 WVCC ----- www.wvcc.net/
 Andy Celmer ----- www.tristategrotto.net/Andy/
 Bob's Web Site ----- www.tristategrotto.net/Bob/
 Ehren Gieske ----- www.tristategrotto.net/Ehren/
 Jerry's Cave Web Site ----- <http://www.caves.org/member/jerry/>
 Vitas Eidukevicius ---- www.tristategrotto.net/Vitas/
 David Hackley's Web Site ----- <http://s180.photobucket.com/albums/x307/clearsig/>
 Todd Roberts ----- http://s63.photobucket.com/albums/h143/Todd_05/
 Bob Gulden ----- www.caverbob.com/home.htm/
 Nikki Fox ----- <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/
 WNS ----- <http://www.caves.org/WNS/WNS%20Info.htm/>
 Containment Procedures ----- <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/whitenosemessage.html/>

Here are a few links the read up on WNS and keep up on the developing news:

NSS Page
<http://www.caves.org/WNS/index.htm>
 WNS Donation Page
http://www.caves.org/WNS/Rapid_Response.shtml
 US Forest Caves Closure
http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/docs/apr_2009_caves_closure/closure_order.pdf
 US Fish & Wildlife Advisory
http://www.caves.org/WNS/USFWS-WNS_cave_advisory_news_rls_2009-03-26_final-1.pdf
 WNS Research
<http://www.caves.org/WNS/WNS2009research.pdf>
 D-Con Procedures
<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/whitenosemessage.html>
 The testimony on WNS before the joint sub-committee video
http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/index.php?option=com_jcalpro&Itemid=27&extmode=view&extid=259
 Subcommittee on WNS hearing NSS web page
<http://caves.org/WNS/Hearing%20on%20WNS.htm>
 Geomyces in cave sediments
<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/whitenose/PDF/WHB2009-03WNSFinal.pdf>
 Geomyces in France
http://www.fws.gov/northeast/white_nose.html



MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Daniel Amundson, Paulette Bennett,
 Susan Brandenburg, Barry Duncan, Vitas
 Eidukevicius, J D Hicks, Dillon
 Humphrey, Carrie Marcum, Tyler
 Wootten

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Tri-State Grotto **Meeting** Jan 13, 2010

Chair Bernie Wootten started the meeting at 7 pm.

Jerry Bowen gave the treasurer's report. Jerry talked about the Tri-State Grotto Mini-Mag lights that we still have for sale.

Jeff Marcum moved to accept the report. It was seconded and passed.

There was a discussion about WV Highlands Conservatory. Should we send them money? It was tabled.

Old business

Bernie Wootten talked about WNS. Jerry Bowen added some more information. A discussion followed.

Web site. Access to Jerry Bowen's site was fixed.

There was a fire at Smokehole Caverns. The gift shop was torched.

Crystal Grottoes Caverns has a new web site. www.crystalgrottoescaverns.com

Tri-State Grotto t-shirts will again be ordered.

Cory Hackley talked about a trip to Scott Hollow Cave.

John Di Carlo talked about a Jones Quarry Trip.

Bob Bennett talked about the WVCC Banquet. There was a great report about Hell Hole and other caves near it.

Terry talked about a 201 ft. drop in Memorial Day Cave. He had a 41-hour trip there. There were 4 other domes that were over 100 ft.

At the WVCC banquet Bob Bennett went to Hearn's Mill cave. They didn't do the cave but only went to the entrance. The water was knee deep to chest deep.

Cory talked about a Jones Quarry trip, and a lead to the west.

We had 54 members at the Tri-State Christmas Party at the Bennett's house. The squeezebox was a great hit.

John Di Carlo gave a report on the results of the Grotto's Red Cross gift-wrapping. Our night was the highest weeknight so far.

Bob Bennett talked about going to Crystal Grottoes Caverns and taking pictures.

On Saturday Feb 27, Tri-State Grotto will dig again dig at Crystal Grottoes Caverns.

This Saturday is the Adam Stephen Dig.

We reopened discussion and voted not to send money to WVHC.

Bob Bennett announced that Tri-State Grotto is 25 years old this month. Paulette Bennett brought a cake to celebrate.

Bob Bennett displayed a new Tri-State Grotto Banner. Bob donated it to the grotto.

Tri-State Grotto collected \$24 in Cave Bucks. It will be sent to WVCC.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Jerry Bowen gave a program about Mt Aetna Cave after the meeting.

Submitted by
John P. Di Carlo, Jr.
Secretary
Tri-State Grotto



From: varlist Discussion List
[VARLIST@listserv.vt.edu] on behalf of Wil Orndorff [dyetracer@GMAIL.COM]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 2:28 PM
To: VARLIST@LISTSERV.VT.EDU
Subject: **Dead bats on landscape in Skydusky Hollow**

More bad news from the world of WNS.

DGIF received reports yesterday of significant bat activity and the discovery of dead bats on the Landscape in Skydusky Hollow, Bland County, Virginia. Specimens are being collected and sent to appropriate labs for verification of pathology. This is the area where Newberry-Bane Cave is located, which was discovered to be positive for WNS last April. It should be noted that a year ago at this time bats in Newberry-Bane showed no signs of WNS, which did not become evident until late April.

Please report any sightings of bats on the landscape this winter (day or night, alive or dead) to either me (Wil.Orndorff@dcr.virginia.gov) or Rick Reynolds of VA-DGIF (Rick.Reynolds@dgif.virginia.gov). Note that the later in the year, especially in newly affected caves, the more likely you are to observe anomalous behavior at WNS positive sites. Last year in Virginia, the entrance queuing behavior was only observed at Clover Hollow Cave, not in the other WNS positive Virginia Caves. Clover Hollow was also the only place where bats had been reported on the landscape in Virginia last year. Of course, please also report and photograph any anomalous bat behavior or signs of WNS you observe if you are caving. So far we have seen no evidence of further southern expansion of the WNS range this winter. Please keep observing the protocols for decontamination and regionalization of caving.

Sincerely,

Wil Orndorff
DCR Karst Protection Coordinator

From: varlist Discussion List
[VARLIST@listserv.vt.edu] on behalf of Cheryl Jones [cheryl.caver@VERIZON.NET]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 1:59 PM
To: VARLIST@LISTSERV.VT.EDU
Subject: **WNS Monitoring in WV -- looking for volunteers**

To anyone wishing to assist with White-Nose Syndrome monitoring:

This winter, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are looking to the caving community to help monitor the distribution of White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) in West Virginia by conducting entrance surveys at caves to look for unusual bat behavior. Bats affected by WNS often fly out of the caves during the day, and dead bats can sometimes be found on the ground, or on rock faces, buildings, etc. near the cave entrance. This behavior is most evident later in the winter, so we suggest surveys be done between February 13 and March 14. If you would be willing to conduct surveys, please complete and submit the attached data sheet for each survey.

We are asking people not to go into the caves, but to observe the cave entrance from the outside for at least 30 minutes. Stay far enough back from the entrance that your presence will not discourage bats from exiting the cave. Biologists in Pennsylvania have noted that activity at cave entrances is greatest on warm days, especially following a cold spell, so when your schedule permits, try to pick a warm day.

When possible, it would also be best to select caves known to have a good number of bats in the winter. If you can see into the cave a ways without going into the cave, check the entrance area before you leave the site and note the number of bats near the entrance and whether or not the bats appear to be active, show any signs of WNS, etc.

Please look for dead and dying bats on the ground near the cave entrance. Photographs of the bats would be good for documenting the situation, but, at this time, we are not asking for any of these bats to be collected. Please do not touch or handle any dead or dying bats.

Please complete the table at the bottom of the data sheet indicating the time spent (including travel time to get to the caves) and miles driven

to conduct these surveys. The WVDNR will be able to use the time and miles to help match a federal White-Nose Syndrome grant the state received. The grant requires that 25% of the project costs come from non-federal sources, so we need to come up with a match in order to spend the federal monies. Volunteer time can be used as part of the match.

Because these surveys will not detect all affected caves, you should assume that all caves, and the soil outside the cave entrance, are potentially affected by WNS and clean and disinfect your footwear before wearing them to another cave entrance. One option we plan to explore is the use disposable footwear covers to keep boots from getting contaminated. The most recent decontamination protocols can be found at:

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/wnsresearchmonitoring.html>

To maximize the number of sites visited, I would encourage people to coordinate within your grotto and between grottos if possible. However, there is no harm in visiting a site more than once during the season if two groups chose to monitor the same cave. It is probably more important to get out there and survey than to spend too much time coordinating and not getting surveys done. Most of you are probably aware that Hellhole in Pendleton County appears to be affected by WNS. The WVDNR will be monitoring this cave, so please focus your efforts on other caves.

If you suspect a site is affected by WNS, please report this information ASAP to craigstihler@wvdnr.gov rather than waiting until all surveys have been completed to turn in your forms. Please return forms for all the surveys that you complete to Craig at the address provided no later than March 31.

Note that it is not unusual to see an occasional bat flying on a warm day in the winter; these are usually red bats or big brown bats, so not every bat flying in winter is an indication of WNS. Many of these bats probably roost in buildings or other sites where temperatures are less stable

than in caves. However, if you see a number of bats flying and feel something is "just not right," please report those sightings.

Thank you in advance to all who plan to help in the 2010 survey.

Sincerely,

Craig Stihler
Wildlife Biologist
WV Division of Natural Resources
PO Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241

Barbara Douglas
Endangered Species Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
West Virginia Field Office

Texting in Caves

The following link pertains to an article about a new radio frequency that works underground:
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=123110656>

Furnished by Ehren Gieske

From: MAR-NSS@yahoogroups.com on behalf of John Chenger
[jchenger@batmanagement.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 1:19 PM
To: Northeast Bat Working Group; Batline; Southeastern Bat Diversity Network; TN Bat Working Group Working Group
Cc: MAR YahooGroup
Subject: [MAR-NSS] New WNS videos

There are two new WNS videos available of a major PA hibernacula unknown to anyone other than locals until they reported it to the state in January. One is "homemade" by me, and another professionally produced for a show called Pennsylvania Outdoor Life. The OL life is well worth the watch and is a good overview of what is going on; the "homemade" version is much

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higher resolution. Below is the relevant section of a larger trip report.

Both videos are side-by-side under "Tresckow Mine" 3/4 down this page:

<http://www.batmanagement.com/wns/wns.html>

Carbon County, PA: Tresckow Mine: Visited at 10 AM with temperatures in single digits. There was a constant stream of bats in and out of the mine, up to 3 at a time. Bats were on the ground around blowholes in the rubble and around small holes in the outcrop where warm air was emerging. I videotaped a bat crawling in the snow and a minute later it was frozen dead. Birds are starting to remove carcasses. At the base of one tree in front of the entrance there were at least 20 carcasses, dozens, if not hundreds scattered around the rocks. Bats that emerged seemed to fly around for a minute, crash to the ground, crawl around a bit, and die.

A 5.5 minute video of this visit is available here under the "Tresckow Mine" section. What I found interesting is that I visited the site about a week or more after the WNEP Outdoor Life crew and I did not see nearly the number of carcasses that is in the Outdoor Life segment (also now linked to the web page below). But there was more snow when the OL crew shot their segment. There was also significantly more bats flying in the OL segment. It seems as if you only have a small window of opportunity to witness obvious mortality going on. Maybe the cold had everything depressed. Maybe there are no bats left (I visited 8 other entrances this day and saw very little activity).

John Chenger
Bat Conservation and Management, Inc.
220 Old Stone House Road
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17015
(717) 241-2228 (office and fax)
(814) 442-4246 (mobile)
www.batmanagement.com

From: varlist Discussion List
[VARLIST@listserv.vt.edu] on behalf of Wil Orndorff [dyetracer@GMAIL.COM]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2010 8:41 AM
To: VARLIST@LISTSERV.VT.EDU
Subject: **Caver Assistance Needed for VA WNS Monitoring**

Following West Virginia's lead on this, Virginia's agency coalition (DGIF, DCR Natural Heritage, and US-FWS) will be issuing a request similar to that which went out from Craig Stihler of WV-DNR for help with cave entrance surveys for bat activity during late February and March.

We've been working on this off and on since last week, and we should have the paperwork ready to go out tomorrow or Monday.

Survey protocols will be essentially the same as those in WV, except the forms will go to a different person.

Thanks to all for your continued commitment to addressing the unfortunate and tragic situation of WNS. Volunteer support and thoughtful comments and suggestions continue to help shape and improve the way the caving and conservation communities are responding.

So far this year, all reports we have received in Virginia have been from areas and caves very close to sites that were documented with WNS last year. However, first year sites may only exhibit signs of WNS very late in the winter or in early spring, and I suspect that is when we'll see signs of at least some southern and western range expansion.

Thanks again to everyone. And special thanks to Craig Stihler and Barb Douglass for developing the formwork and protocols for the entrance surveys, and for letting us jump on board.

Wil Orndorff
VA DCR Karst Protection Coordinator

Maryland Cave Survey Is Back

This story really starts last year in March 2009. Jerry received an email from Billy Gibberson asking if he had seen Speleobooks' web page lately. Billy had noticed Emily was advertising a fresh supply of older, out of print cave books, and wanted him to know. Jerry did want to know, and thanked Billy for the tip.

After looking at the site, Jerry called Emily and told her he wanted two titles for sure, and three other titles to look at. Since the Virginia Area Region spring meet was coming, Mike Warner would bring these and other books to vend. One of the titles Jerry wanted for sure was a PSC newsletter with a sub-title, Maryland Caves Supplement (1974). It came as a pleasant surprise, that this had been Dennis Slifer's very own newsletter. Dennis Slifer and Richard Franz did their first Caves of Maryland book in 1971, and a re-print of the work showed up with some additions in 1976. Jerry happily bought the PSC newsletter not knowing what it contained. Carefully comparing the 1971 and 1976 versions, with the 1974 supplement, he discovered the supplemental material never did make the 1976 additions.

Jerry knew there were some Maryland cave lookers on the scene, and realized the need to have this material reproduced. After a call to Dennis Slifer for permission to reproduce 15 or 20 copies, the supplemental re-print took shape. The cover was designed to resemble the original Caves of Maryland book, except smaller. The 1974 re-print is five-and-a-half inches wide by eight-and-a-half inches high. With maps and descriptions, it is sixteen pages.

A little while after the work was finished; Jerry mailed a copy to Dennis. End of story, right?

During 2009, it was discovered there are many people looking to expand the Maryland Cave Survey. For example, Jerry was on a field trip with the Baltimore Grotto in April of 2009 and it was learned that Jim McConkey was collecting new cave data on three Maryland counties around Baltimore. In the Tri-State Grotto, younger members have been quietly ridge walking, digging and surveying in Washington County. Cory Hackley and Sean Wooten have been coordinating efforts throughout 2009 and earlier years. Over the last five years, Cory and company have uncovered as many as 70 karst features, sinks, digs and a handful of significant cave passages. And who knows how long Ryan Boyce from the Western Maryland Grotto has been collecting data. Ryan has just stepped forward offering his collection of findings in the form of a Google map with stick pins. Maryland is ripe with new information. And what ever happened to the old Maryland Cave Survey information?

In January of 2010, Jerry received a letter from Dennis in the mail with an offer to own the historical Maryland Cave Survey. The letter outlined quite a number of marked topo maps, original (and duplicate copies of) hand drawn cave maps, photographs, letters, newsletters, handwritten notes and so on. Jerry was thrilled, and arranged a trip to Virginia to meet Dennis in person. On short notice he called Cory and Sean to see if they wanted to meet Dennis and ask him questions. They dropped everything and lunged at the opportunity.

On January 29, 2010 the three took the day off, met Dennis for a 2.5 hour lunch, and participated in a lot of show-and-tell. To show, Jerry had library collections for Mt. Aetna Cave, Cumberland Bone Cave, Bushey Cavern and others. Cory brought actual excavated artifacts in a cigar box, plus documentation on

his recent finds in Washington County. Jerry also gave Dennis a copy of the history of Mt. Aetna Cave that included pictures of his trip inside. Dennis was kind enough to autograph copies of books. It was a great lunch and no one wanted it to end. The deal was consummated and grudgingly the three made their way home, but not before they stopped and field checked two karst features.

Dennis wanted to say something in his own words about why he selected Jerry to own the historical Maryland Cave survey. Here is what he said:

“Having stored too many boxes of stuff for too many decades, I decided last year it was time to divest myself of this ancient history. My interest in caving waned long ago, to be replaced with other pursuits. The first round of purging was my cave library, which went to Speleobooks as Jerry mentioned. That left my collection of archived Maryland Cave Survey material still gathering dust and mold after forty years. Jerry's initial contact with me about reprinting the supplement was courteous and professional. Several months later he sent me a copy. I liked the job he did on that, and appreciated that he followed up on it. It was obvious he had a keen interest in Maryland caves and their history, and I suspected he'd be a good steward of the archives I possessed. I offered the collection to him, and the rest, as they say, is history. I'm glad to see interest from him, Cory, Sean, and others in a revision to the Caves of Maryland. I've offered to assist in this; my original photos are available for use and I'd be glad to write a foreword or preface to whatever type of publication results. I'll even go underground again if you find something spectacular.

Dennis Slifer, NSS 6960F”

Mold!? Jerry looked thoroughly through all the material and didn't find any mold, sorry.

As exciting as this is, it is just the beginning of sorrows! There is going to be a lot of work coordinating ideas from at least four or more contributors. The talk is about printing a new book to include the new findings—yes this should be done. When Davies did the Caves of Maryland book in the 1950s, he published what he found. When Franz and Slifer did their book, they added their findings to Davies to make one complete book. Two other states did it differently, Tennessee and Virginia. Tennessee came out with the Barr book and later Matthews added a supplement. In Virginia it was Douglas with Holsinger adding a supplement. It was evident in Mathews and Holsingers work that only new caves were described. They only covered a previously mentioned cave if they were making corrections or adding a significant amount of new information. These questions and others will need to be answered in upcoming meetings.

So how come all this new information is streaming in and the old survey information just shows up? Perhaps it was just meant to be. Though not officially announced or organized, one contributor has expressed the Maryland Cave Survey is up and running. So reader, if you are interested in Maryland caves, stay tuned. Watch the email lists for time and place where some of these things can be discussed, and maybe you'll want to become a charter member of the Maryland Cave Survey, revisited.



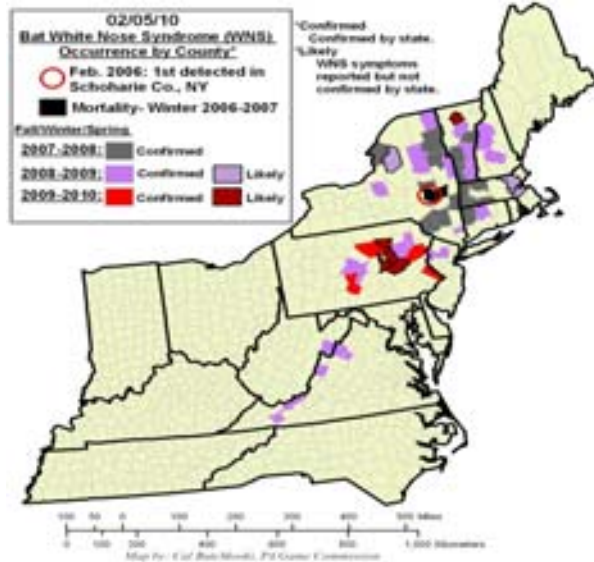
CAVIN CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 7TH - MARCH 20TH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 7 Super Bowl	Feb 8	Feb 9	Feb 10  Grotto meeting 7pm	Feb 11	Feb 12	Feb 13
Feb 14  VALENTINE'S DAY	Feb 15 PRESIDENT'S DAY	Feb 16 FAT TUESDAY	Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19	Feb 20
Feb 21	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26	Feb 27 Crystal Grottoes Dig 10am MD Karst Survey - contact Corey
Feb 28	Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3	Mar 4	Mar 5	Mar 6
Mar 7	Mar 8	Mar 9	Mar 10  Meeting 7pm	Mar 11	Mar 12	Mar 13 Carter Caves Restoration Camp
Mar 14 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS Carter Caves Restoration Camp	Mar 15	Mar 16	Mar 17  ST. PATRICK'S DAY	Mar 18	Mar 19	Mar 20  EQUINOX

DEAD DOG DISPATCH



Updated WNS Map 2/5/10

1- IT'S ALIVE! IT'S ALIVE! THE ND CAVE SURVEY IS BACK!
2- WV & VA NEED HELP MONITORING ENTRANCES FOR WNS

DEAD DOG DISPATCH

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