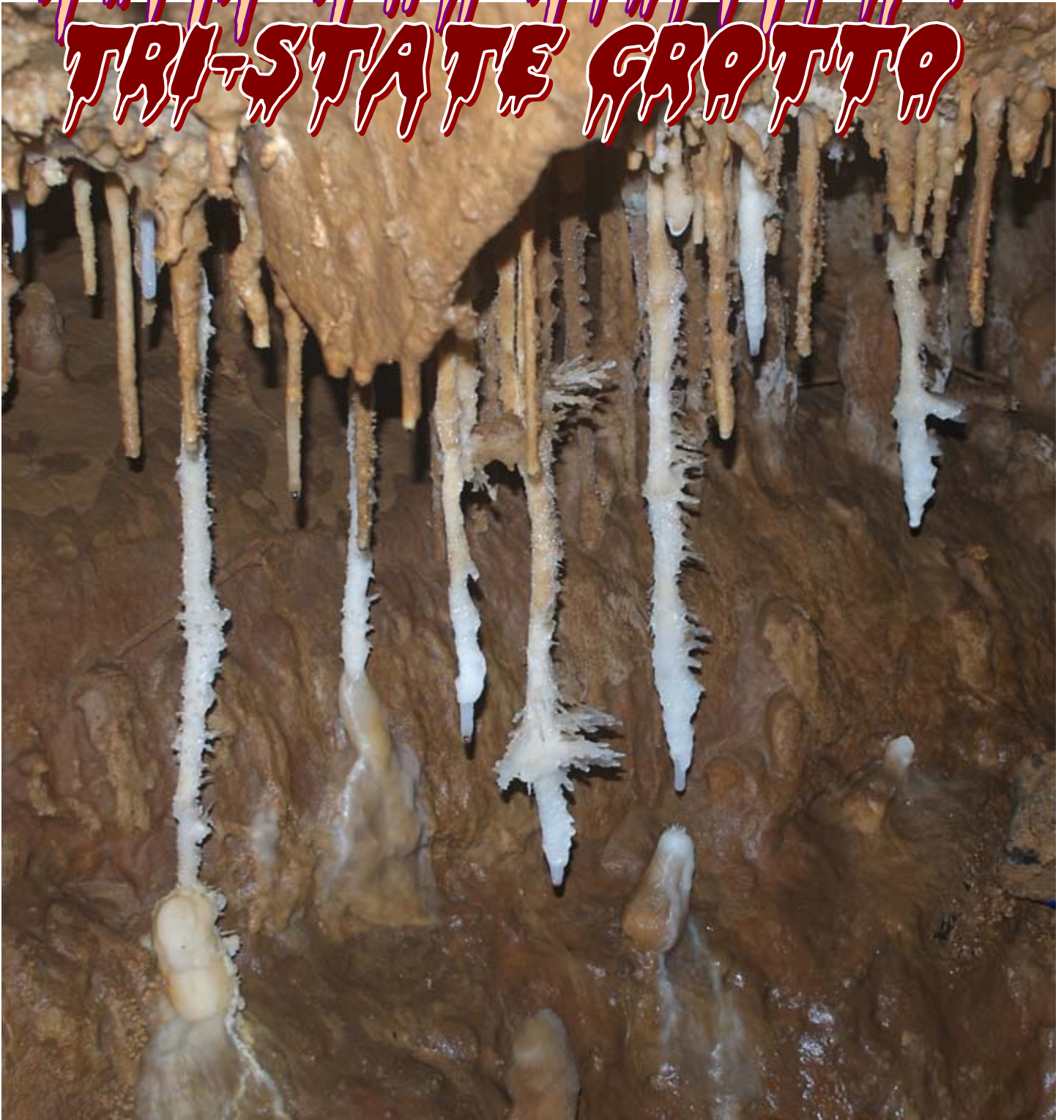


DEAD DOG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



MAXWELTON SINK

VOL. #27

ISS. #4

APR

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#53



FAMILY MEMBERSHIP -----\$2.00/FAMILY
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP ---- \$200.00
SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP ---- \$50/YEAR
 (SUSTAINING-\$50/yr until \$200 total is met)
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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@mvactv.net

For MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION contact:

BOB BENNETT, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
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 304-579-4304

E-MAIL: gimpycaver@comcast.net

*** The photo on the cover was taken by Jerry Bowen in Maxwelton Sink, Greenbrier Co, WV.

**** 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!



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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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 SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP-\$12.00 (Non-Voting)

DEAD DOG DISPATCH

V.#27

1.43

APR

2012

#54

CAVING EVENTS

2012

APR 1 ----- NCRC Orientation
APR 1 ----- ALL FOOL'S DAY
APR 6 ----- GOOD FRIDAY
APR 6-8 ----- Grand Caverns Conservation Weekend
APR 8 ----- EASTER
APR 11 ----- TSG meeting – 7pm
APR 14 ----- Crystal Grottoes dig – 10am – see John
APR 16 ----- TAX DAY
APR 22 ----- EARTH DAY
APR 27 ----- ARBOR DAY
**APR 27-29 --- SPRING VAR – Hosted by TSG in
Greenbrier Co, WV at the Poor Farm
Festival Grounds**
MAY 3-6 ----- SERA Cave Carnival -
MAY 5 ----- CINCO de MAYO
MAY 9 ----- TSG meeting – 7PM
MAY 10 ----- DAY of PRAYER
MAY 12 ----- Heritage Day (Adam Stephen Day)
MAY 13 ----- MOTHER'S DAY
MAY 19 ----- ARMED FORCES DAY
MAY 25-28 --- KY Speleofest – Lone Star Preserve
MAY 28 ----- MEMORIAL DAY
JUN 8-10 ----- Bubble Weekend
JUN 13 ----- TSG meeting – 7pm
JUN 14 ----- FLAG DAY
JUN 17 ----- FATHER'S DAY
JUN 20 ----- WV DAY
JUN 20 ----- SUMMER SOLSTICE
JUN 25-29 --- NSS Convention, Lewisburg, WV
JUL 1 ----- OTR Pre-registration begins
JUL 4 ----- INDEPENDENCE DAY
JUL 11 ----- TSG meeting – 7pm
JUL 14 ----- TSG picnic
JUL 20-22 --- Karst-O-Rama, Great Saltpeter
Preserve, KY
JUL 22 ----- Parent's Day
JUL 31 ----- TRA Deadline
AUG 8 ----- TSG meeting – 7pm
AUG 10-12 --- 50TH Annual Cave Capers – Camp
Rivervale, Mitchell, IN
AUG 30-31 – SEP 1-3 --- OTR
SEP 1 ----- Doo Dah Parade – 10am
SEP 3 ----- LABOR DAY
SEP 9 ----- GRAND PARENT'S DAY
SEP 11 ----- PATRIOT'S DAY
SEP 12 ----- TSG meeting – 7PM
SEP 22 ----- AUTUMNAL EQUINOX
OCT 8 ----- COLUMBUS DAY
OCT 10 ----- TSG meeting – 7pm
OCT 20 ----- Bridge Day
OCT 31 ----- ALL HALLOW EVE (HALLOWEEN)

NOV 4 ----- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS
NOV 10 ----- Sadie Hawkin's Day
NOV 11 ----- VETERAN'S DAY
NOV 14 ----- TSG meeting – 7pm
NOV 22 ----- THANKS GIVING
NOV 23 ----- BLACK FRIDAY
DEC 12 ----- Grotto meeting – 7pm
DEC 15 ----- Annual Grotto Christmas Celebration
DEC 16 ----- Caving!
DEC 21 ----- WINTER SOLSTICE
DEC 24 ----- CHRISTMAS EVE
DEC 26 ----- CHRISTMAS DAY
DEC 31 ----- NEW YEAR'S EVE

2013

AUG 5-9 ----- NSS Convention, Shippensburg, PA

***** **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 March ----- **\$12.00**

TOTAL TO DATE: --- \$5134.00

Keep It Coming!



DEAD DOG DISPATCH

V.#27

I.#4

APR

2012

#55

WEBSITE & GIVING LINKS

Tri-State Grotto ----- www.tristategrotto.net/
VAR ----- www.varegion.org/
NSS ----- www.caves.org/
NSS Convention 2010 ----- <http://www.ics2009.us/>
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/
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>
WV Caver ----- <http://wvcaver.speleo.us>
WNS ----- <http://www.caves.org/WNS/WNS%20Info.htm/>
Containment Procedures ----- <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/whitenosemessage.html/>
Crystal Grottoes Caverns ----- www.crystalgrottoescaverns.com

GROTTO BIRTHDAYS

MONTH OF APRIL

Jeff Hajenga, Conner Haney, Jeff Jahn,
Ann Shepherd, Michael Ward, Sarah
Ward

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DEAD DOG DISPATCH

V.#27

I.#4

APR

2012

#56

GROTTO NEWS

Spring VAR

Poor Farm Festival Grounds
Williamsport, WV
April 27th, 28th, & 29th, 2012

Have you registered for VAR yet? Why, do you ask? Because starting now, you can go to our website "http://tristategrotto.net/SpringVAR2012/VARTrips.pdf" and sign up for trips. We have a lot of trips, horizontal, vertical, easy and some a little harder. George Dasher is leading a kids' trip. We'll save a few spots for Friday night sign up, but why wait? Then there is food. Did you pre-register? Hopefully you did and your meal ticket will be waiting.

Spring VAR will be held at Poor Farm Festival Grounds in Greenbrier County, WV. To get there, go to the Lewisburg, WV exit on I-64. Turn north on Rt. 219 to the little town of Frankford (about 8.5 miles). Turn left onto Williamsburg Road and follow the signs to the Festival Grounds (about 6.3 miles). Please note! This not a campground. Camping will be primitive. There will be water and porta-pottys, but no bathhouse or showers. Lots of open pasture to camp. Vendors, registration, food, wine tasting, information and trip signups will be near the stage area.

Registration will open Friday at 12:00 noon. IMO has sent in their registration and Barry Duncan and B&C Wonderwear have said they are coming. NCRC vertical module training will also start Friday afternoon. Tri-State Chair John DiCarlo will host a wine tasting Friday night beginning 7pm on the stage. Please bring a bottle to share. Your

bottle should be a berry wine or have a berry on the label. Try to keep the cost to \$10.00/ bottle. Trip sign up will open at 9pm. Registration will close at mid-night.

Registration will reopen at 7am Saturday. Trips will leave at their scheduled times. John Pearson will have a conservation project (rebuilding some steps) on site at Poor Farm Cave entrance. Greenbrier County has many non-caving activities such as biking on the Greenbrier River Trail, floating on the Greenbrier River, Bear Town State Park, Greenbrier State Forest, the towns of White Sulphur Spring, and Lewisburg. Two commercial caves and the list goes on. If you need help, ask at registration. Registration will close at 5:00pm The Festival ground owner's will cater a Bar-B-Q dinner at 6:30pm at the stage. 8:00pm will feature our speaker followed by our DJ John Fox and beer and soft drinks until midnight.

Sunday has Front Royal Grotto doing their super breakfast (extra fee), several trips are scheduled, and the VAR Meeting at 9am.

Tri-State Grotto of the NSS Meeting: Mar 14, 2012

John called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Jerry gave the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business: JC gave a report on VAR. He stated how many had pre-registered and that we had 4 vendors coming.

Janet is supposed to let Bob know about how many VAR direction signs she has. If not Paulette will make them. Jep will need help bringing the decon items to VAR. We still need donations of drinks, and large coolers. JC is working on the guest speaker.

New Business: John asked Jeff Marcum about Scouts to help at the Crystal Grotto digs

The next Crystal Grottos dig will be Sat, Apr 14th at 10am.

Cave trips: Trip to Whittings Neck – 12 on the trip

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Paulette Bennett
Recording Secretary



Maxwelton Sink (Jerry B)

TRIP REPORT

Baker Quarry Trip Report March 10, 2012

On a bright, sunny Saturday morning an amazing total of 29 people showed up to visit and explore Baker Quarry. Some were seasoned cavers, others were first-timers, and more in between, too. The majority were from the DC Grotto but a large contingent came from the Terrapin Trail Club of the University of Maryland, and one from Tri-State Grotto. The parking area was swarmed with cars and trucks and even a utility trailer to haul in the people and boats.

There were several canoes, two inflatable kayaks, a sit-on-top kayak, and at least 4 other kayaks. I never did get a good count of all the boats amidst collecting waivers, assuring everybody had life vests, and handing out the loaner DC Grotto helmets and lights to a few of the newer cavers. Meanwhile, there was a steady stream of boats and people heading up the slope to the gate. There, a fantastic group of folks from the Terrapin Trail Club set up an organized hauling and lowering system with able bodies and lengths of webbing. Still, it took at least half an hour to maneuver all the boats inside. Eventually everyone was in and all headed off to the pools.

It was an unforgettable sight to see boats disappearing into the dark, highlighted by headlamps, the boom of paddles on boats reverberating through the chambers. Everybody who wanted to was able to get into a boat and explore the two larger pools and explore the back reaches of the mine. It is

definitely the best way to visit the mine and see all of it. One unforgettable site was standing in one corridor and looking through a “window” into the adjoining flooded corridor and seeing boats gliding by.

Overall, it was a highly successful trip that was high on the “memorable” scale. Many thanks to Tri-State Grotto for granting permission for the trip. I expect that I will be scheduling a repeat trip in a couple of years so that others can experience it too.

Doug Duncan



Old Crystal Grottoes sign near
Cumberland, MD (Don Cams)



CAVIN CALENDAR

APRIL 8TH - MAY 19TH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Apr 8 EASTER Grand Caverns Conservation Weeknd	Apr 9	Apr 10	Apr 11 MEETING	Apr 12	Apr 13	Apr 14 Crystal Grottoes dig - 10am
Apr 15	Apr 16 TAX DAY	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 19	Apr 20	Apr 21
Apr 22 EARTH DAY	Apr 23	Apr 24	Apr 25	Apr 26	Apr 27 ARBOR DAY SPRING VAR POOR FARM FESTIVAL GEOUNDS	Apr 28 SPRING VAR
Apr 29 SPRING VAR	Apr 30	May 1	May 2	May 3 SERA CAVE CARNIVAL	May 4 SERA CAVE CARNIVAL	May 5 SERA CAVE CARNIVAL CINCO de MAYO
May 6 SERA CAVE CARNIVAL	May 7	May 8	May 9 MEETING	May 10 DAY of PRAYER	May 11	May 12 ADAM STEPHEN DAY 9AM
May 13 MOTHER'S DAY	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18	May 19 ARMED FORCES DAY