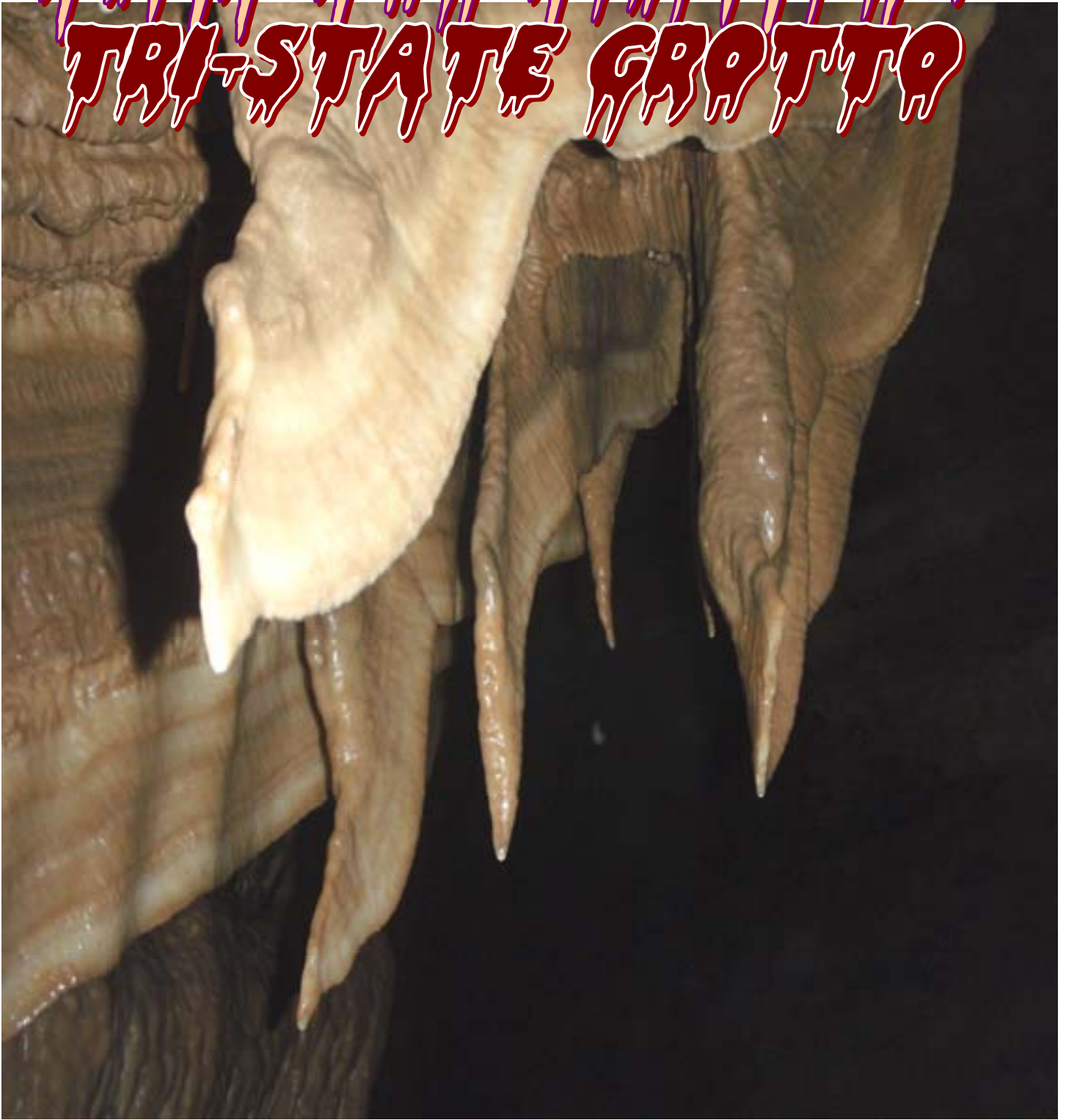


# DEAD DOG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



**NORMAN CAVE**

**VOL. #27**

**ISS. #5**

**MAY**

**2012**

**#61**



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

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**SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP-\$12.00** (Non-Voting)  
**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP -----**\$2.00/FAMILY  
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 (FULL FAMILY-must be NSS)(Voting rights if over 16)  
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Payment of DUES can be made at MONTHLY MEETINGS  
 or can be SENT TO:

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\*\*\* The photo on the cover was taken by Jeff Jahn  
 in Norman Cave, 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](mailto:gimpycaver@comcast.net) or **JUDY FISHER** [304-258-4974(H) or 304-258-1822(W)](E-MAIL at [jcf@access.mountain.net](mailto: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!**



# CAVE EVENTS

## 2012

MAY 1 ----- NSS Convention pre-registration discount ends  
 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 19 ----- Melrose Cavern cleanup  
 MAY 25-28 --- KY Speleofest – Lone Star Preserve  
**MAY 28 ----- MEMORIAL DAY**  
 JUN 4 ----- NSS Convention pre-registration ends  
 JUN 8-10 ----- Bubble Weekend  
 JUN 13 ----- TSG meeting – 7pm  
**JUN 14 ----- FLAG DAY**  
 JUN 16 ----- Adam Stephen Dig-9am  
**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 Saltwater Preserve, KY  
 JUL 22 ----- Parent's Day  
 JUL 31 ----- TRA Deadline  
 AUG 8 ----- TSG meeting – 7pm  
 AUG 10-12 --- 50<sup>TH</sup> 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 April ----- **\$12.00**

TOTAL TO DATE: ---- **\$5146.00**

**Keep It Coming!**



## WEBSITE & CAVING LINKS

Tri-State Grotto ----- [www.tristategrotto.net/](http://www.tristategrotto.net/)  
 VAR ----- [www.varegion.org/](http://www.varegion.org/)  
 NSS ----- [www.caves.org/](http://www.caves.org/)

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NSS Convention 2010 ----- <http://www.ics2009.us/>  
 OTR ----- [www.otr.org/](http://www.otr.org/)  
 MAR ----- [www.caves.org/region/mar/](http://www.caves.org/region/mar/)  
 WVCC ----- [www.wvcc.net/](http://www.wvcc.net/)  
 Andy Celmer ----- [www.tristategrotto.net/Andy/](http://www.tristategrotto.net/Andy/)  
 Bob's Web Site ----- [www.tristategrotto.net/Bob/](http://www.tristategrotto.net/Bob/)  
 Ehren Gieske ----- [www.tristategrotto.net/Ehren/](http://www.tristategrotto.net/Ehren/)  
 Jerry's Cave Web Site ----- <http://www.caves.org/member/jerry/>  
 Vitas Eidukevicius ----- [www.tristategrotto.net/Vitas/](http://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/](http://s63.photobucket.com/albums/h143/Todd_05/)  
 Bob Gulden ----- [www.caverbob.com/home.htm/](http://www.caverbob.com/home.htm/)  
 Rock Climbing Knots Friction ----- [www.chockstone.org/TechTips/prusik.htm#Bachman/](http://www.chockstone.org/TechTips/prusik.htm#Bachman/)  
 Tri-State Grotto MySpace ----- [www.myspace.com/tristategrotto/](http://www.myspace.com/tristategrotto/)  
 Animated Knots by Grog ----- [www.animatedknots.com/](http://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](http://www.crystalgrottoescaverns.com)



## MONTH OF MAY

Eric Berge, Mary Eidukevicius, JC Fisher, Chase Griffin, Matthew Jefferson, Zoe Kehs, Zuri Kehs, Jeff Marcum, Steve Rexford, Trevor Ward, Chris Wootten

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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## Tri-State Grotto of the NSS Meeting: Apr 11, 2012

John called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.  
MAKC dues are due.

**Old Business:** 147 are pre-registered for VAR at this time.

1 vender dropped out.

15 vegetarians.

Listed jobs needed to be done at VAR.

**New Business:** A sinkhole opened up at Rebecca Brown's home in Martinsburg.

Crystal Grottoes dig – Sat, Apr 17 @ 10am.

Heritage Day – Adam Stephen Day – Sat, May 12 @ 9am.

Trips: Tom Griffin went to Whittings neck.

Jerry Bowen went to Maxwellton Sink.

**Cave Bucks:** \$12

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Paulette Bennett

Recording Secretary

Tri-State Grotto of the NSS





# TRIP REPORT

## Tri-State Grotto Digs at Crystal Grottoes Caverns

By John DiCarlo, NSS# 25744

Boonsboro, MD-Tri-State Grotto returned to Crystal Grottoes Caverns to continue their dig in the Tri-State Grotto Passage.



As the group walked into the cave and into the Tri-State Grotto passage, it was noted that there were pools of water in the passageway and the formations were dripping water. That was a big topic during the morning session.

It hadn't had rained for a while. Maybe the creek water was finding its way into the cave. But the formations were dripping. Back and forth it went trying to advance theories for each scenario.

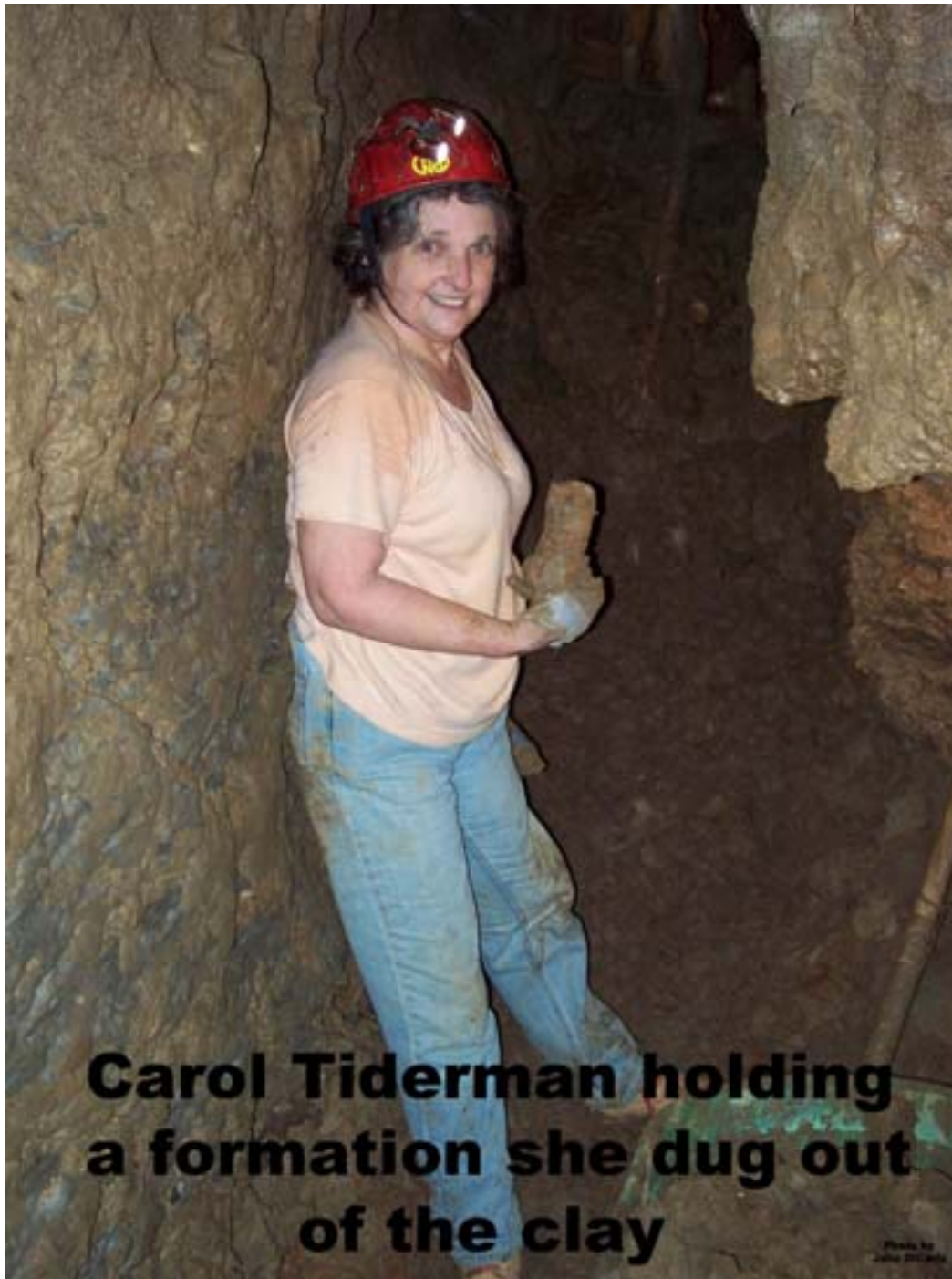
Later we found out that Jerry Downs had pumped water into a sinkhole to see where it came out. He found that it did come out into the Tri-State Grotto passage. He was surprised that it was still wet, as he had pumped the water two weeks ago. Mystery solved.



As the dig started, it was noted that at the end of the passage, instead of running into a wall, there was a slope from the floor heading up. We knew that we had to dig out the slope before we busted through the clay wall to the other side.

In talking to Jerry Downs, Owner of Crystal Grottoes Caverns, he said he would like to wait until next time to bust through. He wanted to get the newspaper and TV down for it.

We spent most of the day digging out the slope and pushing the wall back until there was only about two feet left to reach the other side.





When the slope was dug out and the wall was squared off, the work shifted to the floor. Starting at the headwall, the floor was lowered by a foot. As the wagons came, they stopped at the edge and they were filled. The edge was taken back and the wagons rolled right up to the new edge and were filled again.

While waiting for the clay to be broken loose into hunks, Carol worked on a side passage that was filled with clay. We wanted to take that down so it wouldn't collapse onto the passage. We had another clay bank fall into a passage a few digs back. Today in the same area as the first slide we saw another small one. It wasn't across the passage and we left it for a future time.



**Large formation partially  
buried in the clay**



At one point a large formation was found imbedded in the clay. It stuck out a foot and a half and was two feet in the clay. Carol was told to take her guarding tools and dig around it. When it was loose, it was pulled out and placed in an empty wagon. Some other large pieces were added and it was pulled out and taken to Jerry Downs. He said later that he was going to have it repositioned in another spot in the cave.

When it was time to break for lunch, Tri-State Grotto found two pots of chili, one with meat and one without. Also there were two large pizzas, sodas and bottled water, which were available all day long.

After lunch Tri-State Grotto returned to the dig. Soon wagons of clay were rolling up to the surface.

While we were digging I heard Carol say," Hi Bat."

I turned to look and she said it flew in, turned around and flew out the way it came. We could track it through the cave by the screams that we could hear as it passed by each tour group.



Todd Zimmerman had taken two broken wagons home with him last dig. He returned with them fixed and brought with him a repair kit in case another one breaks. So far, he has had to fix all four wagons. After Tri-State Grotto stopped digging we took a tour of Crystal Grottoes Caverns, both above and below the ground.

The pavilion has been rebuilt with a nice stone wall added. A grill will be going in next to it. We checked out the new stairs and porch. The grills are attached to the stone wall and the steps are going through solid rock.

In the cave we did a reverse tour so we wouldn't get in the way of the paid tours.

In the Blanket Room the stone wall was finished around the Blankets. In the Lake Room a stone wall replaced the plastic chain by the lake. This will make it safer.



In the lake we saw baby salamanders. It was loaded with them.

Our volunteers were: Russell Linton, John DiCarlo, Bob Bennett, Todd Zimmerman, Carol Tiderman, Joe Clemens and Eric Ropp.

We had 49 volunteer hours. We took out 44 wagonloads that equaled to 176 drywall buckets. The donated cost of our project this day is \$1,050.00.

Tri-State Grotto will be back again to push through the final wall.



# CAVIN CALENDAR

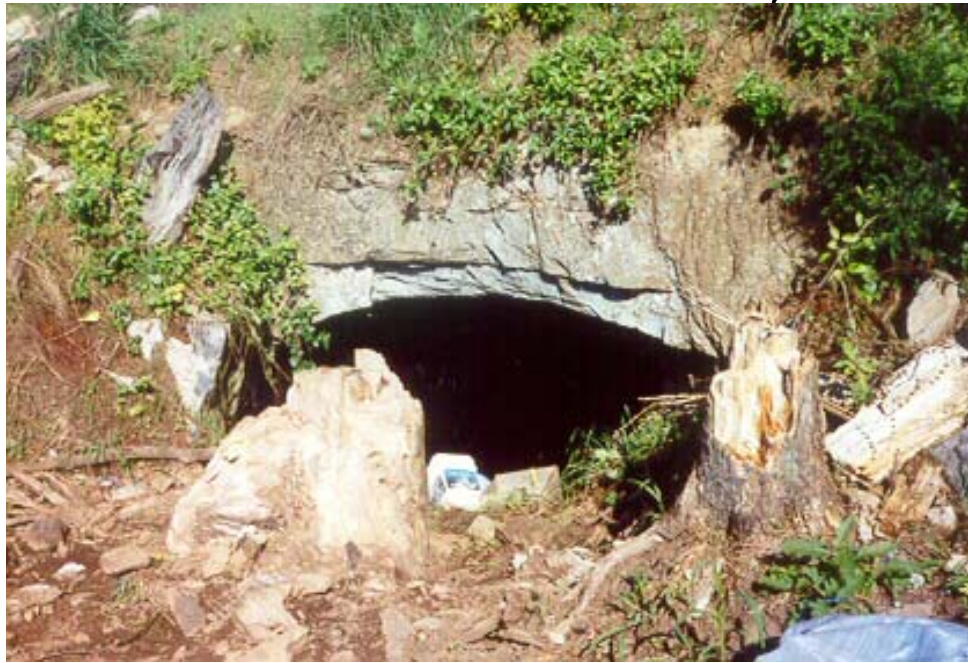
MAY 6TH - JUNE 16TH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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 Melrose Cavern cleanup  ARMED FORCES DAY
May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23	May 24	May 25 KY Speleofest - Lone Star Preserve	May 26 KY Speleofest - Lone Star Preserve
May 27 KY Speleofest - Lone Star Preserve	May 28 KY Speleofest - Lone Star Preserve  MEMORIAL DAY	May 29	May 30	May 31	Jun 1	Jun 2
Jun 3	Jun 4 NSS Conv Pre - Registration ends	Jun 5	Jun 6	Jun 7	Jun 8 BUBBLE WEEKEND	Jun 9 BUBBLE WEEKEND
Jun 10 BUBBLE WEEKEND	Jun 11	Jun 12	Jun 13  MEETING 7 PM	Jun 14  FLAG DAY	Jun 15	Jun 16 Adam Stephen Dig 9am



# DEAD DOG DISPATCH



Blue Bottle Cave, Washington Co, MD (Dave Hackley)



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**TO:**

