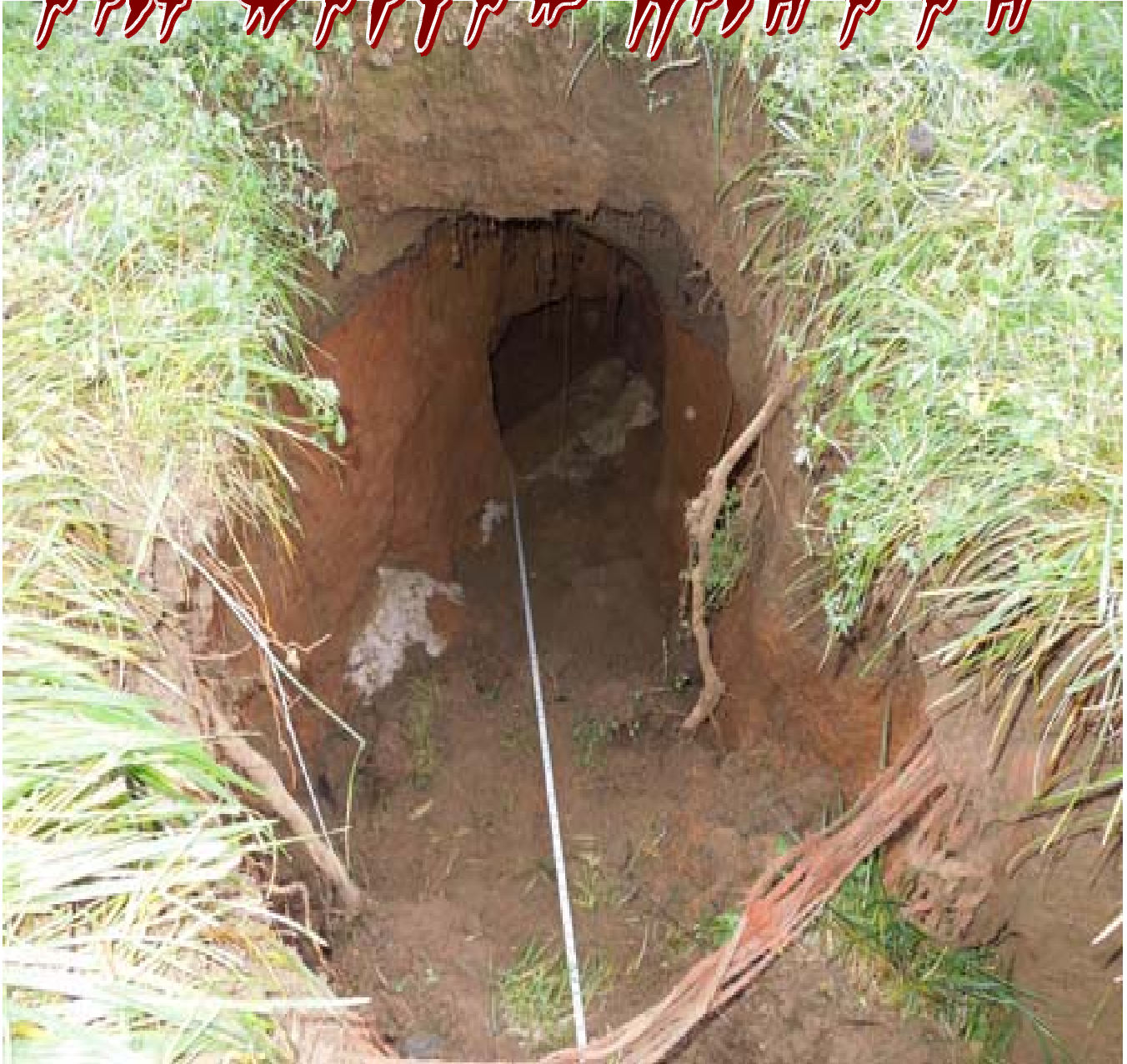


DEAD DOG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



R&H CAVE, WASHINGTON CO, MD

VOL. #27

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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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*** The photo on the cover was taken by Jerry Bowen at the newly opened up R&H Cave, Washington Co, MD.

**** 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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CAVE IN EVENTS 2012

OCT 4-7 ----- Fall TAG Cave-In
 OCT 8 ----- COLUMBUS DAY
 OCT 10 ----- TSG meeting – 7pm
 OCT 20 ----- Bridge Day
 OCT 20 ----- Crystal Grottoes dig – 10am
OCT 31 ----- ALL HALLOW EVE (HALLOWEEN)
NOV 4 ----- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS
 NOV 6 ----- Election Day
 NOV 10 ----- Sadie Hawkin's Day
 NOV 10 ----- WVCC Banquet, Quality Inn Motel,
 Lewisburg, WV – 7pm
 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 ----- Christmas 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 September ----- **\$33.00**

TOTAL TO DATE: ---- **\$5274.00**

The money was sent to WVCC!

Keep It Coming!

WEBSITE & CAVING LINKS

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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 OCTOBER

Ken Carter, Bob Denton, Sonny Floyd, Zack Haney, Margaret Hanson, Craig Stihler

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Tri-State Grotto of the NSS Meeting: September 12, 2012

John called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
Jerry gave the treasurer's report.

OLD BUSINESS: Bob gave a report on OTR – 1499 in attendance. The Polyester Power Hour was resurrected. We saw several big eared bats in the cave (probably males).

Fall VAR is in 2 weeks.

JC asked if Whittings Neck needed cleaned up. No it doesn't.

Spring VAR 2013 – Jeff gave a report as to where it is and how much it will be. It will be the weekend of Apr 26-28, 2013. We need people to lead trips.

JC will check with Jep about ramps.

The WVCC Banquet will be Sat, Nov 10, 2012. The drinks start at 6pm & the meal is at 7pm.

NEW BUSINESS: Bob talked to Keith and he said no Adam Stephen digs until at least Nov. Feb would be better.

Crystal grottoes dig - Sat, Oct 20 at 10:00 am.

Terry went on a survey trip with Corey.

TRIPS: Jerry is going to Sinnett Cave.
John is going to Jones Quarry Cave on Thursday.

CAVE BUCKS: \$33.00 to the WVCC.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted;
Paulette Bennett
Recording Secretary
Tri-State Grotto of the NSS

From: Kenneth Tayman
[ktayman@embarqmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2012 6:08 PM
Subject: Fwd: Carnegie Cave Parking has changed!!!

To All Carnegie Cave Users,

Franklin County Grotto recently received information that the new owner (new business manager) of the property where we have been parking does not want any cavers parking in the gravel lot.

This gravel lot, 1/10 mile west of the cave, has been the approved parking area for Carnegie Cave visitors for the last couple of years. We sent two grotto representatives out to discuss it with the owner and manager, with hopes of re-negotiating a corner of his lot for caver parking. He was not interested and does NOT want anyone parking there. Apparently he is anxious to have anyone parked there TOWED. We agreed to put out this new information to cavers as wide as possible.

We informed the Township of the change in parking. We will try and get permission to park in the Township Park's gravel lot just east of the cave. They had previously said it was OK to park there, but the gate was frequently closed. If you find the parks gravel lot gate is not locked you should be able to park there and walk down to the cave. We will promptly inform you of any updates in the parking situation.

So, effective IMMEDIATELY "Do Not Park in the gravel lot 1/10 mile west of the cave".
If you do, you may be towed!!--

All grottos and organizations, please forward this to your members. Note: Sorry if you receive multiple emails on this. I sent it to: FCG List, Carnegie User List, MAR Grottos and FCG_Friends List
I just want to make sure everyone is informed and hope no one gets towed!

Ken Tayman
Chair, Franklin County Grotto

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TRIP REPORTS

Sinnett Cave Trip Report
September 18, 2012

An advertisement was reposted on the Tri-State Grotto list about Sinnett Cave being open for ten days this fall. Two grotto members requested we pursue an opportunity here, and maybe get in a weekday trip. So after almost eight weeks of planning, signing waivers, mailing and biting nails the day finally arrived with rain, and lots of it. Four determined drivers defended against the rain, running wipers fast and slow. They pushed on in spite of the grim expectations of being drenched while getting ready for the trip.

In Franklin, West Virginia where we were to meet, we counted twelve participants. All cavers with a variety of experience entering this expedition. We had Tom and Teri Griffin with Eddie and Jared in their car. The Griffin's were members of Seven Valley's Grotto in Pennsylvania before moving to WV. Tom had been in Sinnett before when he was a teenager and had done the connection to Thorn before the gates were added. This trip with his family was like déjà vu for him.

Joe Reeves and his son Joey were in car number two. In years past, Joe has been connected to caving through Tri-State. In car number three there was Josh Prusha, Joe Dellutro and friend Adam Fredrickson. It was Joe and Josh who requested this trip and got the ball rolling.

And behind door number four is yours truly, Jerry and Mary Bowen. We were accompanied by Jennifer Kysor, world class traveler.

While assembling in Franklin we noticed the rain was light. By the time we parked for caving, the precipitation was very light, so there was no need to scramble. The stream was running brown and angry

looking. When I suggested we needed to wade through the boiling brook, Jennifer asked why we couldn't just walk across the bridge.

We climbed a hill with lots of ferns and moss on the rocks. We were met at the entrance with cool air blowing a breeze on our faces. We all tried to dodge dripping water while scrambling up to the gate. The gate is constructed with angle-iron in such a way as to allow a flying bat with outstretched wings to glide between the horizontal slats. This gate has a removable link that one would slide to the left and lift. It is locked in such a way that it won't slide. Once the link is removed there is approximately an 18 inch window for people to fit through. After all were safely in, we locked ourselves in.

The passage goes down and then left. Pretty much typical walking passage awaits the explorer all the way to the saltpeter bridge. We all gathered around this historic spot telling about this and other saltpeter caves, why they existed, how they looked when being worked and the condition of the cave when they were done. Traveling through this cave we saw faggots laying around and it was evident in many places that the walls and ceiling were still blackened from activity long ago.



Typical passage (Kysar)

From the saltpeter bridge, the cave gets interesting with different ways to go; upper and lower levels going in the same direction. The main thing was walking on the canyon walls. Small ledges existed at various levels from the floor, twenty or so feet to

the ceiling. The canyon was narrow enough to straddle in most places. There were several over-under places. Some of us were traveling the canyon way up high, while others were on the floor.



3 foot waterfall (Kysar)

Our main objective for the day was the 'Big Room'. To reach that destination it was necessary to climb the 'Silo'. Without much ado, we found the silo and started up. From the canyon with the ledges, we climbed up to the right, and found ourselves entering a room through the floor. The floor was flat and sandy. From that room, we found a hidden crack behind a wall. The passage kind of corkscrews from here up to a spot where we needed to rig a hand-line. We were warned in an email that the group prior to our visit had left a hand-line in the silo, but it was not safe. They had attempted to do a "pull-down", that did not work as intended. We sent up a young fellow with lots of ability, to free the existing handline and re-rig ours. Some of the younger guys reached the big room first, and I warned them not to have a heart attack when they

saw the size of the cavern. Like the captain of the ship, I stayed at the bottom of the handline climb spotting folks and giving what they needed to get going.

One of our young fellows was shooting video with a helmet camera, and others were flashing pictures. We saw several groups of endangered roosting bats, some flying around. We looked for and found maritime (sea shell) fossils embedded in the ceiling, giving the realization that this huge room had at one time been filled with salt water. We climbed the wall and found the high passage going left that goes over to a low connection route to Thorn. We did not attempt going there. Back in the big room, we saw the saltpeter pits, and the formations at the front end. I explained the value of keeping this experience in our minds, as a secret place. After we got an eyeful of big passage we said goodbye to the bats and slid back down the silo to the canyon below.

Six or seven of our group decided on extending their trip in the canyon to the waterfall room. There was a low crawl at the very bottom of the canyon that continued on. Our thirteen-year-old boy, enjoyed the thrill of standing in the falling water, in a cave, and came back drenched to tell his dad. Others came back with pictures and talking excitedly about their memories. On the way out, we missed a turn and found ourselves under the saltpeter bridge. We quickly 'recalculated' and made good our escape.

Back at the vehicles, it was clear from the smiles and conversation that every person was re-energized with confidence. Jennifer said, "The whole trip was great! I was so sore the next morning! I don't think there was a muscle in my body that was not hurting!"

Let's do it again!" I guess that about sums it up.

Thursday, October 04, 2012

John DiCarlo, Vitas, a guy named Gary (sorry I don't remember his last name) and I went to Jones

Quarry. It was really cool, great formations and just the right amount of challenge for a beginner like me. This was my third cave and I had a great time. If you are on Facebook my name there is Jennifer Tintinger Kysar and I put some pics up. I will include a couple here too.



Pics by Kysar

Jennifer Kysar
tintinger@aol.com

Oct 5,6,7

Corey went with me to TAG Fall Cave-in. On Friday we went with Alan Cressler, Marion O. Smith, the Aulenbachs (Brent, Nancy, and daughter Scout) and a few others to a cluster of Sandstone talus caves in North Georgia. Mapping, exploration, and touring were all on the agenda, and of course Corey found a couple of new ones.

On Sat Corey and I visited Neversink and checked out a few Alabama karst features that would all count as caves up here. Later that day we joined about fifty others in SEC aquistioned Tumbling Rock. The fifty were parts of at least half a dozen other groups. We toured a little over a mile.

Sunday I took Corey to two of my favorite TAG classics, South Pittsburg Pit and Cagles Chasm. We were alone at South Pittsburg (160'). Corey explored the cave while I yo-yoed the pit four times. At Cagles (184') there were a couple of other groups so we just bounced the pit and then headed back home. We had a very nice three day trip.
Terry McClanathan



South Pittsburg Pit (Corey)

Name of cave: Cumberland Bone Cave

Date of trip: October 5, 2012

State & County the cave is in: MD Allegheny

Who was on the trip: Jerry Bowen, Bob Williams, Jim Johnson

Purpose of the trip: Locate entrance. Jerry has been assembling information on Cumberland Bone Cave for over a decade. It was time to go out and find it.



Cumberland Bone Cave (Bowen)



R&H Cave (Bowen)



Name of cave: NEW Cave

Date of trip: September 26 and October 3, 2012

State & County the cave is in: MD Washington

Who was on the trip: Jerry & Stephen Bowen, Tom & Terry Griffin, Eddie

Pifer, Bob & Paulette Bennett, John DiCarlo, Cory Hackley, Terry

McClanathan.

Purpose of the trip: A swallow hole opened up large enough to map, photograph and dig which we all did in the evening two weeks in a row. Cave not expected to be a draw.





Photos by Bowen

Digging at Crystal Grottoes

By John DiCarlo, NSS 25744

Boonsboro, MD-On Saturday July 28, 2012, Tri-State Grotto returned to Crystal Grottoes Caverns to continue on their dig.



The digging started on the floor in front of the last clay choke. We worked our way back to the spot

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where we originally started our dig; back to where we had placed a piece of plywood in the floor because of how wet and tacky the floor was. Working back toward the starting spot gave us somewhere to stand while filling the wagons. We were behind the wagons throwing into them. Most of the previous digs, we had to stand beside the wagons to fill them.



When we broke for lunch we had almost 50 wagonloads pulled out.

Jerry Downs had hotdogs on the grill, sour kraut, chili, and beans for lunch. There was plenty to eat. Jerry had ice tea available all day.



After lunch the plywood was removed and the dig went back over the floor again.

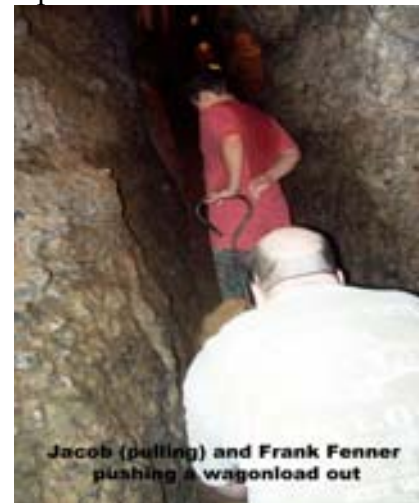


Around 2 pm Jerry Downs made his way down to the dig site. Many pictures were taken by many people. With Jerry pushing and Bob Bennett and John DiCarlo pulling, the plug was soon knocked down. Now someone can walk down the passage. The floor still needs to be dropped, but now it is a walking passage.

As we dug down into the clay we found pieces of stalactites. Some were three inches across. There were pieces six inches long. We discussed how they got there; whether they were part of the fill dirt that was dug out of another spot in the cave when it was being developed, or natural forces of the earth. After looking around at the dig site and the walls, we determined that it was a natural process. The evidence that tipped the scales was that, from the top of the clay floor down, the walls did not show any sign of speleothems.



Above the floor, the walls were covered with flowstone and stalactites. There were stalagmites on top of the clay. Some went several feet into the clay. We were surprised that the pieces were still whole and not eaten away. They did feel crystalline not smooth like normal formations. This leads us to think that they were somehow knocked down way before the cave was discovered and covered over with clay deposits.



The real stars of the dig were the ones pulling the wagons out. Without them, the dig would not have happened. There was stand-around time, but with having a good number of people, no one wore out. When we have had only a few, they would be dragging by the end of the dig.



Jessica pulling a wagon out

Now that we have made this a walking passage, we need to go back and lower the floor. The idea is to make the stalactites on the ceiling out of reach by anyone touring down the passage.

We had 21 helpers on our work crew, donating 147 hours at a value of \$2,940.00. Eighty-One wagonloads were taken out which equals 324 drywall buckets. Eleven big rocks were taken out. Also, several drywall buckets of formations/calcite that were found in the clay were saved.



**Jackson and Frank Fenner
not so clean now**

Our helpers were: Bob Bennett, Paulette Bennett, John DiCarlo, Lena Batchan, Cory Hackley, Frank Fenner, Jackson Fenner, Kristi Fenner, Jacob Fenner, Shianna Fenner, Zack Floyd, Carolyn Carter, Ken Carter, Jerry Bowen, Stephen Bowen, Nathan Roser, Ali Crosby, Rachael Knill, Shannan Sauter, Tim Hough, and Jessica Arbergast.



R&H Cave (Bowen)

West Virginia Cave Conservancy

Annual Banquet

Saturday, November 10, 2012

at

Quality Inn Motel (Formerly the Brier Inn)
Lewisburg, West Virginia

Happy Hour (cash bar) starts at 6:00 PM
Dinner is at 7:00 PM



Menu: Chicken Breast Marsala, Prime Rib at a carving station, and Vegetable Lasagna. Vegetables will be Roasted Red Potatoes, Vegetable Medley and Garlic Mashed Potatoes. Choice of two salads, Garden and Pasta. For dessert: Cheesecake and Chocolate Mousse. Beverages will be coffee, ice tea, water and sodas.

Program: Bruce Fries will be doing a presentation on several recent cave finds in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. The two main caves Bruce will talk about are Burntwood, with significant new discoveries, and Savannah Lane Sink Cave, recently dug open with over 500 feet of going passage with huge potential to get into the alleged Greenbrier Master Trunk draining out at Davis Spring.

There will also be a silent auction of a number of significant cave-related publications that were recently donated to the Conservancy. A list of the books will be posted on the WVCC Web site (www.wvcc.net) by October 1.

Directions: Take I-64 to Exit 169 (US 219 and Lewisburg). Head south toward Lewisburg and turn left at the first traffic light at Shoney's. The Quality Inn is on the right after one block.

Yes, I will attend the West Virginia Cave Conservancy's Annual Banquet:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Number of meals @ \$30 per person _____ Total Amount Enclosed _____

- Sorry, WVCC no longer accepts credit cards (they became too expensive).
- The \$30 price is valid through November 4. After that the price is \$35. Reservations are required so we know how much food to order.
- Make checks payable to WVCC and mail to: WVCC Banquet, c/o Bob Hoke, 6304 Kaybro St., Laurel, MD 20707



CAVIN CALENDAR

OCTOBER 7TH - NOVEMBER 17TH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct 7 Fall TAG Cave-In	Oct 8 COLUMBUS DAY	Oct 9	Oct 10  MEETING 7pm Auction	Oct 11	Oct 12	Oct 13
Oct 14	Oct 15	Oct 16	Oct 17	Oct 18	Oct 19	Oct 20 BRIDGE DAY CRYSTAL GROTTOES DIG 10AM
Oct 21	Oct 22	Oct 23	Oct 24	Oct 25	Oct 26	Oct 27
Oct 28	Oct 29	Oct 30	Oct 31  ALL HALLOW EVE	Nov 1	Nov 2	Nov 3
Nov 4 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS	Nov 5	Nov 6 ELECTION DAY	Nov 7	Nov 8	Nov 9	Nov 10 SADIE HAWKIN'S DAY WVCC BANQUET 6PM
Nov 11  VETERAN'S DAY	Nov 12	Nov 13	Nov 14  MEETING 7pm Nominations	Nov 15	Nov 16	Nov 17

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Tom surveying R&H Cave (Bowen)

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