

# DEAD DOG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



**JONES QUARRY CAVE**

**VOL. #28**

**ISS. #7**

**AUG**

**2013**

**#83**



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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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\*\*\* Dave Knox in Jones Quarry Cave, Berkeley Co, WV. Photo by Stephen Bowen.

\*\*\*\* 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 IN EVENTS

## 2013

\*\*\*\*\* CAVE BUCKS \*\*\*\*\*

CAVE BUCKS is a voluntary donation for cave purchases. The money is collected at each monthly meeting and sent to the Conservancy of choice. The money **SHOULD NEVER** be kept past the week it is collected.

Month of August ----- **\$10.00**

TOTAL TO DATE: ----- **\$5407.50**

**The money was sent to SCCI!**  
**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/)  
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>

AUG 2-4 ---- Convention Pre-Camp in Williamsport, MD –  
Hosted by Tri-State Grotto

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

AUG 14 ---- TSG Meeting – 7pm

AUG 17 ---- Adam Stephen dig – 9:00 am

AUG 29-31 – OTR

AUG 31 ---- Doo Dah Parade – 10am

AUG 31 ---- Polyester Power Hour – 1:00 pm

SEP 1-2 ---- OTR

SEP 2 ---- LABOR DAY

SEP 8 ---- Grand Parent's Day

SEP 11 ---- TSG Meeting – 7pm

SEP 11 ---- PATRIOT'S DAY

SEP 22 ---- AUTUMNAL EQUIUNOX

SEP 27-29 – Fall MAR – Lincoln Caverns, PA

SEP 29 ---- World heart Day

OCT 9 ---- TSG Meeting – 7pm – Annual Auction

OCT 10-13 – Fall TAG Cave-in – Lookout Mt, GA

OCT 14 ---- COLUMBUS DAY

Oct 19 ---- Bridge Day

OCT 31 ---- ALL HALLOW EVE

NOV 3 ---- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

NOV 9 --- Sadie Hawkins Day

NOV 11 --- Veteran's Day

NOV 13 – TSG meeting - Nominations – 7pm

NOV 25 --- 1<sup>st</sup> Day Deer Season – WV

NOV 28 --- THANKSGIVING DAY

NOV 29 --- BLACK FRIDAY

DEC 11 --- TSG meeting – Elections – 7pm

DEC 14 --- Grotto Christmas celebration – 6 pm – Bob &  
Paulette Bennett's home

DEC 15 --- Christmas caving

DEC 21 --- WINTER SOLSTICE

DEC 24 --- CHRISTMAS EVE

DEC 25 --- CHRISTMAS DAY

DEC 31 --- NEW YEAR'S EVE

## 2014

JAN 1 ---- NEW YEAR'S DAY

JAN 8 --- TSG meeting – 7pm

JAN 20 --- MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

JAN 24 --- TSG birthday



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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)  
Tri-State bulletin Board:----- <http://wobey.net/phpbb2>  
Tri-State Photo Gallery: ----- <http://wobey.net/gallery>  
2013 NSS Convention ----- <http://nss2013.caves.org>

## GROTTO BIRTHDAYS

### MONTH OF JULY

Matthew Amundson, Jerry Bowen, Sally Burnett, Carolyn Carter, Mary Lynn Collis, Jocelyn Davis, John DiCarlo, Ed Kehs, Alan Knowlton, JJ Pate, David Robinson, Jordan Walthers

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## TRIP REPORTS

### The Dig at Crystal Grottoes Caverns June 22, 2013

By John DiCarlo NSS # 25744  
Boonsboro, MD -As we were waiting for people to show up, Zack Floyd was working with three new employees. Bob Edmonds said he hadn't been in the cave before. As the new guides headed down to give a test tour we put Bob on their trip so they would have an actual person to direct their rhetoric to.

A little later Nathan Roser and Greg Jones showed up. We started getting our things together and put

them in the wagons and headed in. I took the "before" pictures of the dig.



**Nathan Roser watches Greg Jones pick up a hunk of clay that Greg just dug out.**

The clay by the pit had collapsed down over the passage. We started digging there so we could get the wagons through. We took three wagonloads out of the collapsed area before we could get to the main dig point.

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**Three diggers, Zack Floyd with a hoe, Greg Jones in a green shirt, and Nathan Roser in the rear.**

Nathan and Greg started digging on the headwall. By the time they had a wagon full, Zack and the May brothers, Brain, Kevin and Scott made their way to us. They hauled the full wagons out.



## **Bob and Bob**

**Bob Bennett, Joe Cool, waits as Bob Edmonds fills a wagon.**

Bob Edmonds started cleaning up the collapsed area. It was still a bumpy road for the wagons to go out.

Bob Bennett showed up and helped with the removal of the wagons. We had wagons flying out of two dig sites.



**Scott May pulls a wagon load of clay out of the exit to the cave. Zack Floyd, in the black shirt and Brian May are pushing the wagon.**

By lunch we had taken out 38 wagonloads of clay.

Lunch was hotdogs, bowls of chili, venison sloppy Joes, a vegetable platter, salsa and chips with drinks. A good spread.

After lunch, I ran a tourist trip for Nathan and Greg through the commercial part of the cave, as Greg had never seen it. Bob Edmonds went back in and started digging at the head wall. Zack and the May brothers were soon pulling the wagons out. Nathan and Greg had to leave to go to jobs.



**A wagon load of clay waits to be taken out**

I helped push a wagon up the back passage and noticed the tires were down on their rims. We looked at another wagon and the tires were low on it too. Jerry told us where the compressor was and we took the wagons to in and pumped the tires up. It wasn't with out hassle. The wagons rolled a lot easier now.

Note for next time. Make sure the tires are pumped up before the next dig.





**Bob Edmands digging at the headwall**

Back on down to the dig we found Bob still filling up wagons and a few ready to haul out. The wagons flowed. We had one being filled and an empty one nearby to swap out as soon as one was filled.



**Two and A Half Wagons**

The wagons were coming out heavy. As you might expect we did break a wagon. Over time we have broken every wagon. Todd Zimmerman has fixed the wagons each time. He put heavier metal on them. They came with little lightweight straps. I don't think we have broken one twice.



**Northern Leopard Frog**

As far as wildlife, we saw two Northern Leopard Frogs, a big spider, and outside of the cave, a four-foot Black Snake. No bats this time. Northern Leopard Frogs are similar to Pickerel Frogs which have two symmetrical rows of spots on their back.

We had 9 helpers: Nathan Roser, Greg Jones, Zack Floyd, Bob Edmonds, Bob Bennett, Kevin May, Scott May, Brian May and John DiCarlo.

There was 54 volunteer hours, worth \$1,080, plus donated equipment.

When we ended the dig we had moved out 61 wagonloads of clay equal to 244 drywall buckets of clay.

**"Tanglefoot is an ongoing project and access is sensitive. The cave is one of the most physically demanding in the east, and hence is not suited for recreational caving. For more information regarding the project, please contact Corey Hackley."**

### **Tanglefoot 12/4/11**

On this trip, we were to be joined by Kirk Taylor, and officially begin the survey of Tanglefoot. Ryan and I had had a very productive ridge walk the day before, locating 5 new caves, but we had managed to reserve our energy, waking up fairly fresh. We met at the parking lot at the reasonable hour of 12, as usual. A very welcome difference on this trip was the lack of steel we were carrying; now, collectively through all the major constrictions to the minimum standard of our largest group member, we could leave the drills, pins, rebar chisels, etc. behind and cave considerably lighter. Replacing our heavy tools were a few sets of Suuntos, flagging tape, survey books, and fiberglass measuring tape. Before we knew it, we were standing at the entrance once again. And, as it came to pass, we continued to stand at the entrance (or just inside it) for a very long time. Our survey strategy for Tanglefoot's cramped, twisting, turning entrance series was not very well considered and slowly developed by trial and error. We gave Dave a crash course in reading instruments, and sent Ryan in to set the second station. Due to instrument fogging, an illegible tape, tape fogging, instrument taping, drifting dials, muddled eye pieces, muddled eyes, high angle shots, close corridors, variety of scales, low mathematical aptitude, and occasional hails of curses, things got off to a slow start. After sitting around in the cold as the three stooges worked, Kirk tried to slip away

and get back to the car. Luckily I was able to clear a space inside the entrance for him just in time, knowing that once he was in, there was no getting back out tactfully.

And so, we surveyed. Usually behind the book, instead of the instruments, I took joy in sending Ryan down each miserable infeasible to shoot back sights for the sake of science. Somewhere along the line, we cleared the way and let Kirk mosey on down to the big stuff to get in some real cave for the day. I don't think we timed ourselves, but I would say we surveyed for 2 hours before calling it quits. We netted a whopping 144' of survey in 15 shots (for those who don't want to do the math, that is a cringe-worthy 9.6' average shot length) and attained a depth of 34'. We stopped because a) Kirk had been gone awhile and we wanted to make sure he was alright, and b) we were sick of it. Mostly I think it was the second. The infeasible complex has some nice rooms, and is really interesting in general, but not much fun to lay around in. I can't wait to get down cave and start racking up our length and depth in 40' shots. For now, we'll probably be stuck in the entrance series for 1-2 more trips.

At the main stream, and still with no sign of Kirk, Dave graciously agreed to wait at the intersection while Ryan and I made the upstream push we had been dreaming about for the last month. Things started out low and miserable, though albeit somewhat scenic, at the stream level. We gradually climbed as we progressed southward through about 150 feet of passage with typically Tanglefoot cross section: wide and low. The right (West) wall was fairly consistent, but wide variations in the East wall, updip, made for passage widths of 5-30'. The floor is always bedrock, and occasional water can be seen entering from the East. As the stream became ever more grim, we were greeted by a welcome sight: a window updip into an apparently spacious passage above. Sure enough, we were promptly in nice cave. The best way to describe this passage might sound something like this: It would be wonderful trunk if you were about 3.5' tall and had suction

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cups on your feet. Passage section is somewhat rectangular, a condition in the MSRQ caves that seems prevalent mainly in old phreatic conduits, but the floor maintained its irritating slope. The trunk was mostly of stooping height for us, running north and south past our point of entry. We turned south, (upstream) over some breakdown. Passing a couple infeeders, and enjoying a reprieve from belly crawling, we were soon greeted by a major canyon entering from the left, up dip, east. Though it didn't look like much, I noticed the tell-tale cross bedding of the Loyalhanna member in the wall and knew we had found ourselves another gorge. Ryan and I excitedly stemmed up the canyon, cautious of the crumbling, virgin surfaces upon which we had to rely. Within 70', the passage broke out into a series of very impressive rooms. We actually had to climb down to get into them, coming out of the top of the Keyhole, vadose canyon we were in, and emerging into more dome-like, vertically oriented structures. Above us yawned an enormous space, which we were able to climb into only upon finding a key slot up through some huge boulders. In this room, which challenges any area in the cave for height, the entire thickness of the lower Greenbrier formation is exposed at once. The ceiling is in savage dam member, the walls in Deer Valley and Loyalhanna, and the floor, occasionally showing through the breakdown, appears to be Pocono sandstone. We couldn't find a way on, as the inlets to the room were either too high to safely access or blocked with breakdown. I expect that there is a joint maze, much like the entry series, somehow hidden in this area, perched at the base of the dv.

High off our find, we turned back to see if we could make progress further southward along the main stream. Ryan wisely let me investigate before following. 150 helmet-scraping feet later, I was beginning to understand why he would pass up going passage. I turned around in more of the same, the 9" by 10', inclined passage relentlessly continuing as far as the eye could see. Air was still flowing strongly. I was able to turn around and, somehow, crawl back out the wrong hole, which, as I approached appeared too small.

This was a heart wrenching thought, as it would have required backing out through about 100' of misery and bogus. Here I am going to pause to do this particular kind of passage a little justice. This section of Tanglefoot is very similar to the hell-halls in the lowest levels of Porters Cave. The floor and ceiling are both bedrock. The passage, in cross section, is inclined at 15-25 degrees. While very wide, there are very few areas of this width in the passage that are actually high enough to permit traverse, and these areas are found in the form of long, discontinuous ceiling channels.

Discontinuous is the key word here. Just because you are in one, doesn't mean you will be able to escape from one. This can be maddening, because you may be able to see a viable ceiling channel running along parallel to your course, within a foot or two of your position, but only be able to slide over into it at some arbitrary, chance point the cave has chosen to connect the two. These points may be hundreds of feet apart, or, if you are particularly lucky, just not exist at all. The result follows: if you get in the wrong ceiling channel, you might follow it for hundreds of feet, passing numerous 7" constrictions, never once having the chance to so much as flip over, only to find yourself stymied by a spot that is simply too tight. Inches from your face, the passage continues, open, into the darkness. Now you have to back out, blind... this, I imagine, is much like trying to back an 18 wheeler down a long, winding, one lane country road. If your back end gets in the wrong hole, and you don't realize it, you might go 100', only to find you are one ceiling channel too far east. Bummer! Belly crawl another gut wrenching 100' back forward and start over. As long as you don't over-extend yourself or panic, this doesn't pose a very serious physical danger, but is very psychologically taxing. It's like being a mole trying to make your way through a bunch of parallel, buried pvc pipes, 70% of which are capped at one end or another.

So naturally, hearing Ryan's muffled voice from down the corridor saying something like "Rurgunacome owadifferenhole!" (You're going to come out a different hole) made me feel a little

frustrated and weary with my situation. I saw the ceiling and floor in front of me close to about 5 inches, but... providence showed itself again, and this appeared to be the only spot in the passage where the floor was mud and not rock. I clawed myself a ditch to squirm through, and was soon back with Ryan on open space. Now where did I leave my pack... After some irked crawling around looking for it, and another trip up the big canyon, we were entrance bound. There was one small infeasible I wanted to check. I had a sneaking suspicion it might open up, and, sure enough, I was again in the big stuff. This one ended, like the other, in a large room, but not being so deeply entrenched, the Deer Valley was accessible in the walls. I saw a few of what I thought may have been leads, but, short for time and energy, retreated.

Now for one final trick. As described earlier, Ryan and I had popped up from the true stream passage into a much more accommodating paleo-trunk. We had followed the passage southwards, into the mountain, but it also continued northwards, back towards the entrance complex and a blowing lead I remembered. There was a chance we could bypass the wet misery of the stream crawl, and I set about convincing an ambivalent Ryan that he would not regret it if it worked. Luckily for us it did, and we enjoyed a much easier trip back to familiar territory.

Taking Irony Alley, we found our way back to the head of the #4 infeasible, abandoned. If Dave and Kirk were still at the stream, they would have heard us, but there was no sign of life... except for a piece of tin and some pieces of my coverall patches in the distance. Two rocks, placed neatly on the trash, pointed the way towards the entrance. Ryan muttered something about littering or something and put the debris in his pack. I furrowed my brow and tried to interpret the enigmatic symbol. Around several turns and climbs, another apparition: Two staggered gloves, middle fingers extended, mystically showed us the way on. Surely this was not the work of the nymphs of Tanglefoot... Dave and Kirk had only been outside the cave a few minutes when we popped out, but reported waiting on us for a long time. Kirk seemed favorably

impressed with the cave, now jetting fog up into the air as on our last trip. The trip back was icy, but I was able to enjoy a complimentary swigger, courtesy of Mr. Carns. We parted ways at the park-and-bike, and Ryan and I went off to Sheetz, a now well-established, Mono-Sodium Glutamate oriented ritual.

Here are a couple miscellaneous observations from the trip:

-Tanglefoot has a number of features I have never seen before in virgin cave, but the most striking are occasional "Mud-canos": mysterious, conical soft mounds of fill projecting upwards from the floor to a height of 6-12 inches. They clearly formed from above, yet the ceiling above often seems fairly unchanged; perhaps some of these features were paired with small holes on the ceiling, but there were plenty of similar holes nearby without accompanying mud-canos. Any thoughts of the origin of these? Guano-mites, perhaps?

-On a similar note, while sketching in the entrance series, I noticed that the ceiling was actually dripping mud. Not water, but a viscous, fine, mud, periodically splattering onto my suit or book without disruption (really.)

-The compass shows that the orientation of the main joint set in the cave actually deviates from the strike a remarkable 25 degrees or so. Joints in Tangle run 0-180 degrees, due north-south.

Fun facts for the trip:

Big canyon added: @ 250'

Strike passage added: @700'

Depth added (positive) @100'

Total new cave on this trip: 800-1000'

Total estimates to date:

Length: 2500-4500'

Depth: 300-500'

We've almost certainly broken the depth record for the state, set at Twiggs cave, and now are only contending with Crystal Grottoes and Crabtree for the length record. I have little doubt that Tanglefoot will be the first cave in Maryland to break the mile threshold. Special thanks to Ryan, for backing me up unfailingly in some of Maryland's toughest passage. There aren't many people nuts enough to

pursue a going passage that hard, and when I meet one I am really endlessly appreciative and much safer. Also, Thanks to Dave for tolerating the pitfalls of cave surveying. He took a 10 minute course on Suunto operation and was baptized by fire for the next several hours in very poor survey conditions. Admirable!

Last but not least, thanks to Kirk for not jumping in his truck and driving off when he had the chance! We'll leave the upstream areas untouched from now until we have exhausted our other, bigger going leads downstream. Next trip will almost surely see both new data and new cave.  
~Corey

### Pre-camp 8-3-2013

During pre-camp trips were setup to Whittings Neck, Jones Quarry and Donaldson's caves.

The Whittings Neck trip consisted of Mike ?, Terri , Tom and Mason Griffin. We spent about 3.5 hours in the cave. We made entry from the second entrance and came out the first entrance. We did the 45 foot drop going thru the duck under to the left and thru the canyon to the back of the cave. No standing water was in the cave. The geo-cache at the back of the cave was gone. The other small cache is still there. No rescues this time. No spelunkers while we were there.

After exiting the cave I called Bob Bennett to let them know we were out. Paulette said the others were still in Jones Quarry. We headed to get something to eat and wait for the others. Bob called shortly after. We all met at the Sheetz in Spring Mills then headed to Donaldson's with Joshua ? , Larry Spangler, Dave Knotts, Mike ?, Jerry Bowen and Tom Griffin. We spent about 2 hours in the cave. Only a few puddles in the cave. We were able to go in a lower passage that normally is not there due to the water. We also found a couple of signatures one dated May 6th 1855.

Pre-camp at the KOA in Williamsport was a good time sitting around talking, nice fire and for the most part good weather.

Tom



Pre-Camp (Photo by J Bowen)



Signature in Donaldson Cave (Photo by T Griffin)







Bob & Jeff in Baker Cavern



Stephen in Conodoguinet Cave



Stephen won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in 30 m climb



Stephen in Carnegie Cave



Sinkhole near Jefferson High School (Photo by Lena)



Camper at convention (5 photos by J Bowen)



# CAYIN CALENDAR

## AUGUST 11TH - SEPTEMBER 21ST



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 11	Aug 12	Aug 13	Aug 14 Meeting 7pm	Aug 15	Aug 16	Aug 17 Adam Stephen dig 9am
Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20	Aug 21	Aug 22	Aug 23	Aug 24
Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28	Aug 29 <b>OTR</b>	Aug 30 <b>OTR</b>	Aug 31 <b>OTR</b> DOO DAH PARADE 10AM POLYESTER POWER HOUR 1PM
Sep 1 <b>OTR</b>	Sep 2 <b>OTR</b> LABOR DAY	Sep 3	Sep 4	Sep 5	Sep 6	Sep 7
Sep 8 GRAND PARENT'S DAY	Sep 9	Sep 10	Sep 11 PATRIOT'S DAY Meeting 7pm	Sep 12	Sep 13	Sep 14
Sep 15	Sep 16	Sep 17	Sep 18	Sep 19	Sep 20	Sep 21







# DEAD DOG DISPATCH



Civil War dates in Donaldson Cave (J Bowen)



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