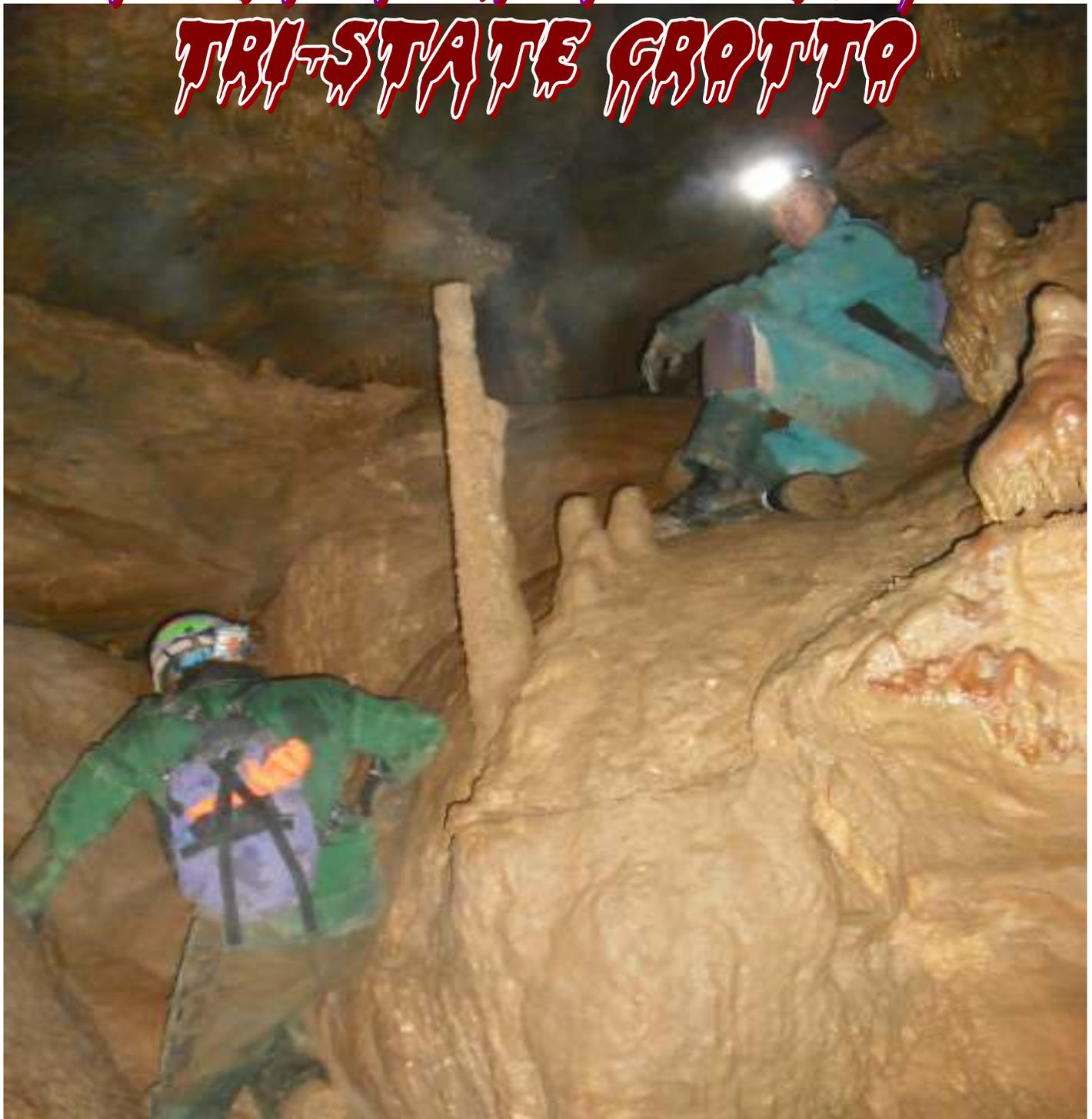


**DEAD DOG DISPATCH**

**TRI-STATE GROTTO**



**NORMAN CAVE**

**VOL. #28**

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**DEC**

**2013**

**#135**



(SUSTAINING-\$50/yr until \$200 total is met)  
 (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:

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For MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION contact:

The **DEAD DOG DISPATCH** is a NON-PROFIT monthly newsletter published by the **TRI-STATE GROTTTO of the NSS**. SUBSCRIPTION RATES are \$12.00 per year to SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS, and **FREE** with FULL and ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS to the **TRI-STATE GROTTTO**.

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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.

\*\*\* The photo on the cover was taken by Mason Griffin in Norman Cave, Greenbrier Co, WV

**TRI-STATE GROTTTO OFFICERS**

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- Equip. Chair ----Bob Bennett ----- 304-579-4304
- Youth Chair ---- Eric Berge ----- 703-323-4528

\*\*\*\* 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))

**TRI-STATE GROTTTO MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

- FULL MEMBERSHIP -----**\$10.00** (Must be NSS)
- ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP---**\$12.00** (Non-NSS)
- SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP-**\$12.00** (Non-Voting)
- FAMILY MEMBERSHIP -----**\$2.00/FAMILY**
- LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP ---- **\$200.00**
- SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP ---- **\$50/YEAR**

**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!**



# CAVING EVENTS

## 2013

- DEC 7 --- Hamilton Cave – see Cheryl Suitor
- DEC 11 --- TSG meeting – Elections – 7pm
- DEC 14 --- Grotto Christmas celebration – 6 pm – Bob & Paulette Bennett's home
- DEC 15 --- Grotto cave trip
- DEC 21 --- WINTER SOLSTICE
- DEC 24 --- CHRISTMAS EVE
- DEC 25 --- CHRISTMAS DAY
- DEC 31 --- FRG Holidays celebration – Earl & Cheryl Suitor's home
- 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
- JAN 24-26 --- Winter Adventure Weekend, Carter Caves State Park, KY
- FEB 2 ---- GROUND HOG DAY
- FEB 14 --- VALENTINE'S DAY
- FEB 17 --- PRESIDENT'S DAY
- MAR 12 --- TSG meeting – 7pm
- MAR 17 --- ST PATRICK'S DAY
- APR 9 --- TSG meeting – 7pm
- APR 11-13 --- Spring VAR – RASS
- APR 15 --- TAX DAY
- APR 18 --- GOOD FRIDAY
- APR 20 --- EASTER
- MAY 10 --- HERITAGE DAY
- MAY 10 --- ADAM STEPHEN DAY
- MAY 11 --- MOTHER'S DAY
- MAY 14 --- TSG meeting – 7pm
- MAY 16-18 --- Spring MAR – OTR site
- MAY 23-26 – Ky Speleofest
- MAY 30-JUN 1 – SERA – NSS Hdqtrs
- JUL 14-18 – NSS Conv – NSS Hdqtrs
- OCT 10-12 – Fall TAG Cave-In
- OCT 18 ---- Bridge Day

## 2015

- JUL 13-17 --- NSS Conv – Waynesville, MO

## 2016

- JUL 17-23 --- NSS Conv – Ely, NV

### \*\*\*\*\* 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 December ----- \$29.00

TOTAL TO DATE: ----- \$5498.50

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 2014 ----- <http://nss2014.caves.org/>
- 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/>
- 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)  
Tri-State bulletin Board:----- <http://wobey.net/phpbb2>  
Tri-State Photo Gallery: ----- <http://wobey.net/gallery>

## GROTTO BIRTHDAYS

### MONTH OF DECEMBER

Corey Hackley, Janey Pate, James Scrivener, Evert  
Bonito Vis

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## TRIP REPORTS

### Sinnett Cave

On September 27, 2013, Tri-State Grotto member Eric Berge organized a trip into Sinnett Cave. Those who signed up were Jerry Bowen, Stephen Bowen, Emily Ford, Doug Duncan, Roxanne Shively, Dave Knox, Alex and Greg. All nine participants proceeded directly to the waterfall room. There, it was decided that six of our number would travel on to the DC Grotto Room.

Understand that no one had been to the DCG Room since 1996. The six that went on had to endure exposed climbs, and several low, tight crawls. Success was met at the end where Stephen described a tube-like passage laying at a 70 degree angle. Proceeding upward, with arms stretched before them, they all found purchase through wiggling, wedging and winging. All six made it!

While that was going on, three made a decision to go to the Big Room. Eric, Alex and Jerry took pictures of interesting formations, clusters of bats on the ceiling, and shells plastered to the ceiling as a result of an ancient sea. At the connection area, there was water and wind.

The wind was blowing so hard (from Thorn to Sinnett) that it was leaving ripples on the water! Jerry sat eight feet in front of the water to take a picture of the ripples and he described the wind hitting him, "it was like wind coming from my truck air conditioner". These three down-climbed the Silo and waited twenty minutes for the others to return.

It was a nice trip. The weather was sunny and warm. Afterwards most of our number headed off to VAR for more caving on the weekend.  
your friend,  
Jerry

### Nestle Quarry Cave

November 1, 2013

I took John Scrivener caving last night to Nestle Quarry Cave. He said he sent dues to Chuck because that was the info on the web site. I wanted to let you know to look out for it. Good trip. John Scrivener and his daughter Sara, Jerry Bowen, Mary, Steven, Melissa and her two sons, Jerry's grandsons, Todd Zimmerman and myself. We were in about 1 1/2 hours. John DiCarlo

### Subject: Baker Quarry: Gating Repairs

2-gates;  
Upper: sealing the hole with concrete over metal deck (I have the metal deck & just need laborers to carry bags of concrete up the hill to mix & pour over the deck). Some minor welding may be necessary to secure the deck prior to pouring concrete over it.

Lower gate: Weld shut (temporarily for about 1-2 years) or provide a secure lock box. If we are going to go through the effort to get a welder (Doug Duncan has offered) on-site, then a lock box may be appropriate.

I would like to get the Grotto's support to do the work for Feb/March 2015?

Thanks, Brent

## Whitings Neck Cave

November 24, 2013

We had a pretty good day at Whitings Neck. Shannon my daughter, it was her first trip in Whitings Neck and on rope. I took her to the second entrance so she could drop on rope twice. Vitas arrived shortly after we arrived. I had Eddie also. We were in about 4 hours.  
Tom Griffin

Subject: **He died caving**

Source: Pine Mountain Grotto List

Yesterday there was a call-out for a rescue in Blinkeys Cave in Indiana. A fellow had a heart attack two miles in. Today it was announced that the rescue turned into a body recovery. The following from PMG list:

"Unfortunately, the rescue yesterday turned into a body recovery. Tim McClain was with other cavers two miles back in the Blowing Hole entrance to Binkley's Cave in Corydon, IN. Tim had a heart attack and died, I'm not sure when. His body has been brought to the surface already.

Sad news, indeed. (Jerry Bowen)

## Sinnett-Thorn Cave

It is pretty amazing how things work out if you just allow them to do it. I was starting to think about VAR and what trip I could do on Friday and who would want to go on a Friday trip? Well as things go Pat Bingham offered to have Sinnet-Thorn Cave open for two weeks. Well I stated the process of getting permission to get the Friday of VAR. Well what luck no one else got it so I was locked in for Friday he 27<sup>th</sup> of September.

I sent out the email listing the cave trip to Sinnet-Thorn Cave and that we were going to look for the DCG room which is above the waterfall in the rear of the cave. Now the DCG room apparently has not been visited in quite awhile and Pat wanted someone to find it. The group of cavers going on

the Friday trip was as follows: Eric Berge, Doug Duncan, Roxanne Shivley, Jerry Bowen, Stephen Bowen, Emily Ford, Greg Jones, Dave Knox, and Alexis Morano. What a crew we had.

The 27<sup>th</sup> approached and at the parking area we all changed and crossed over the creek to the entrance. Once inside we got through the gate and Doug took the lead and I stayed in the sweep position (rear). Made really good progress to the Waterfall Room which involves a little bit of crawling and climbing. The week end before John Harman was in the cave and stated he would leave markers to show where the passage to the DCG room was. He and his group were going to look for the room also. We all climbed above the waterfall going along the left side of the waterfall room and then climbed up a small wall into another passageway that leads to a very nice spacious room. In this room there is a climb on the right wall and Dug said it was not a very friendly climb. Well as we were looking at his climb Dave and Greg went into the ceiling and found a small but passable passageway unless you are a little large. This passageway consists of a nine inch pinch. Well actually from what I saw the whole thing was nine inches. Well Dave and Greg went through the crawl and yelled down that the passageway opens up and keeps going. Into the ceiling went Stephen and Emily, next went Roxanne and Greg and I followed Greg. Well I watched Greg go through and I figured I would try and the minute I slid in the passage I knew I was too large. We worked a plan where I would go to the big room above the silo and look around with Jerry and Alexis.



The story ends here about finding the DCG room, Doug or another person that was along with him will have to fill in the blocks on the DCG room. But Alexis has never been in Sinnett-Thorn before and Jerry and I want to show him the big room and take a look at the connection to Thorn cave.

I went up the silo first and to be honest I was tired and each foot and hand hold I found was chore, I just took my time and grunted with each foot up. I told the two guys behind me that I would throw down a piece of webbing to make it easier. Well they were actually right behind me as I went up and the webbing was not much use for the climb up but would be handy for the climb down. Through the breakdown we went into the big room and it always amazes me the size of the room. The weather outside was still warm and there were plenty of insects for the bats to eat so there were not that many bats roosting in the ceiling, maybe 100 or so. We went to the right and took a look at the few formations at that end of the room, and then moved to the middle of the room and went up into the wall and took a look at the connection. The connection crawl had about 5 inches of water in it and the air was flowing so fast out of the connection that the water had a ripple on it.

After a few photos we to the left side of the large room and looked around. It had been 2 hours since we had split the group and we started making our way back to the silo and I brought up the rear. If you have never seen the silo it is pretty cool but so many people have climbed it is very smooth. So when I started climbing down I just doubled over the webbing (it is 70 feet in length) and used it to make it to a secure place to land. Once there we all went down. Well one part of the climb down you actually have to sit on a slanted slab of stone slowly slide down the slab. Well that is when I got a Charlie hoarse in both legs, and shoulders. Well I just sat there till the cramps ended and climbed on down.

Once in the passageway we knew the other group had not been there yet because of the gear we left was still there. We decided to wait for a while and see if they come out so we waited for about 20 minutes and then decide to make our way to the

waterfall. Well as soon as I got about 30 feet into the passageway I hear them coming. I turned around and we all meet in the passageway going out. After a few minutes of talking it was determined that they had been through quit and ordeal and were tired and ready to head out. Out we went. And I'll tell you it is amazing how fast we made it out. Once outside a few photos were taken and what I heard that really impressed me about the DCG room since I did not get to see it was that it was very beautiful but very hard to get to and everyone was happy to have seen it but it would not bother anyone if they did not go back. We all had a great time. The one question I have is what happened to all the pretty coveralls?



## 2014 Membership Dues

At the beginning of 2014, it will be time to pay the TSG membership dues. The fees are as follows:

Full Membership (NSS member): \$10.00

Associate Membership (NON-NSS): \$12.00

Family Membership (Per Family): \$2.00

Life Membership: \$200.00

Sustaining Membership (Until Life Membership fee is fulfilled): \$50.00 per year

Won't you rejoin now & avoid the rush later?



# CAVIN CALENDAR

## DECEMBER 8TH - JANUARY 18TH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 8	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11  Meeting 7pm Elections	Dec 12	Dec 13	Dec 14  ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION 6PM UNTIL?
Dec 15 GROTTO CAVE TRIP	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 20	Dec 21  SOLSTICE
Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24  CHRISTMAS EVE	Dec 25  CHRISTMAS DAY	Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28
Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31 FRG Holiday Celebration at Earl & Cheryl Sultor's home NEW YEAR'S EVE	Jan 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4
Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8  Meeting 7pm Elections	Jan 9	Jan 10	Jan 11
Jan 12	Jan 13	Jan 14	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 17	Jan 18

# DEAD DOG DISPATCH



Norman Cave (Mason Griffin)

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