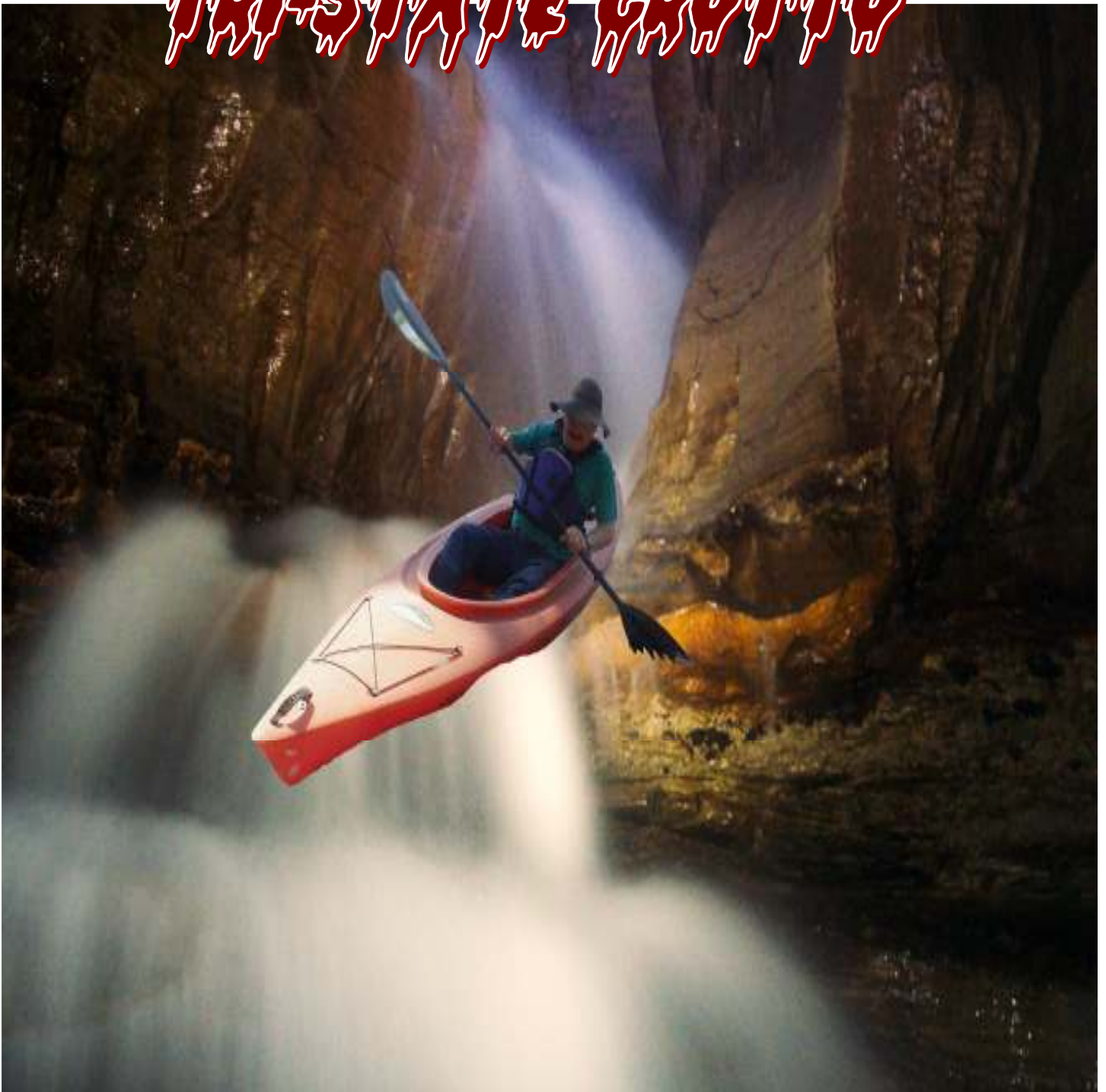


# DEAD DOG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



**GO JOHN!**

**VOL. #29**

**ISS. #8**

**AUG**

**2014**

**#89**



(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:

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E-MAIL: [gimpycaver@comcast.net](mailto:gimpycaver@comcast.net)

\*\*\* The photo on the cover was taken by Art  
Hanson Jr. Not in a cave though. It was taken at the  
recent TSG picnic. Using a little photo enhancement  
John seems to be going over waterfall in a cave.

\*\*\*\* 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!**



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**GROTTTO**.

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.

### TRI-STATE GROTTTO OFFICERS

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**TRI-STATE GROTTTO MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE AS  
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**FULL MEMBERSHIP ----- \$10.00 (Must be NSS)**  
**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP--- \$12.00 (Non-NSS)**  
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**(SUSTAINING- \$50/yr until \$200 total is met)**

**DEAD DOG DISPATCH**

**V.#29**

**I.#8**

**AUG**

**2014**

**#90**

# CAVIN EVENTS

## 2014

AUG 4 ---- OTR Pre-Registration starts  
AUG 8-10 ----- Indiana Cave Capers  
**AUG 13 --- TSG meeting – 7pm**  
AUG 16 ---- Adam Stephen Dig – 9am  
AUG 22 ---- OTR Pre-Registration Ends  
**AUG 28-SEP 1 --- OTR**  
**AUG 30 --- DOO DAH PARADE – 10 AM**  
**AUG 30 --- POLYESTER POWER HOUR – 1PM**  
**SEP 1 ---- LABOR DAY**  
SEP 7 ---- GRAND PARENT'S DAY  
**SEP 10 --- TSG meeting – 7pm**  
SEP 11 --- PATRIOT'S DAY  
**SEP 23 --- AUTUMINAL EQUINOX**  
**OCT 8 --- TSG meeting – 7pm – Annual Auction**  
OCT 10-13 -- Fall VAR – Rich Mt Battlefield near Beverly,  
WV – Hosted by Monongahela Grotto  
OCT 11-13 – Fall MAR – Rupert Cave – 7 Valleys Grotto  
OCT 9-13 – Fall TAG Cave-In  
OCT 13 --- Columbus Day  
OCT 18 ---- Bridge Day  
OCT 31 --- ALL HALLOWS EVE  
**NOV 2 ---- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS**  
NOV 4 --- Election Day  
NOV 9 ---- SADIE HAWKINS DAY  
NOV 11 -- VETERAN'S DAY  
**NOV 12 -- TSG meeting – Nominations – 7pm**  
**NOV 27 -- THANKSGIVING**  
**NOV 28 -- BLACK FRIDAY**  
**DEC 10 -- TSG meeting – Elections – 7pm**  
**DEC 13 -- Annual Christmas Celebration at Bob &  
Paulette Bennett's home – 6:30 pm**  
DEC 14 -- TSG caving – set trip up at party!  
**DEC 21 -- WINTER SOLSTICE**  
**DEC 24 -- CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**DEC 25 -- CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**DEC 31 -- NEW YEAR'S EVE**

## 2015

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

## 2016

JUL 17-23 --- NSS Convention – 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 July ----- **\$15.00**

TOTAL TO DATE: ----- **\$5652.50**

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)

**DEAD DOG DISPATCH**

**V.#29**

**I.#8**

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**2014**

**#91**

# GROTTO BIRTHDAYS

## MONTH OF AUGUST

Matt Amundson, Jerry Bowen, Mary Lynn Collis,  
John DiCarlo, Shannon Griffin, Davis Robinson,  
Jordan Walthers

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## TRIP REPORTS

### Adam Stephen Dig March 15, 2014

By John DiCarlo, NSS# 25744

**Martinsburg, WV** - After arriving we got busy setting up the equipment. Extension cords were run down the hole to the dig site, and tools were lowered down.



Russell Linton and Thomas Story untie the air hose so it can be run down to the dig site.

A 6 in flex pipe was unrolled, stretched out and drug through four rooms, and down the shaft to above the dig sit. A fan was connected and in no time was pushing fresh air to the dig site.



This fan pushes air through the air pipe to our dig site. It has made a big difference.



The air hose threads it's way through several rooms to reach the dig site.

Jeff Marcum, Bob Edmonds and Sarah Scrivener slid down into the hole to the dig site. It wasn't long before they were sending full buckets up.



Tom Griffin unhooks a bucket that he just pulled up.

Tom Griffin was on top of the hole pulling the buckets up. It is a lot easier with a second pulley.



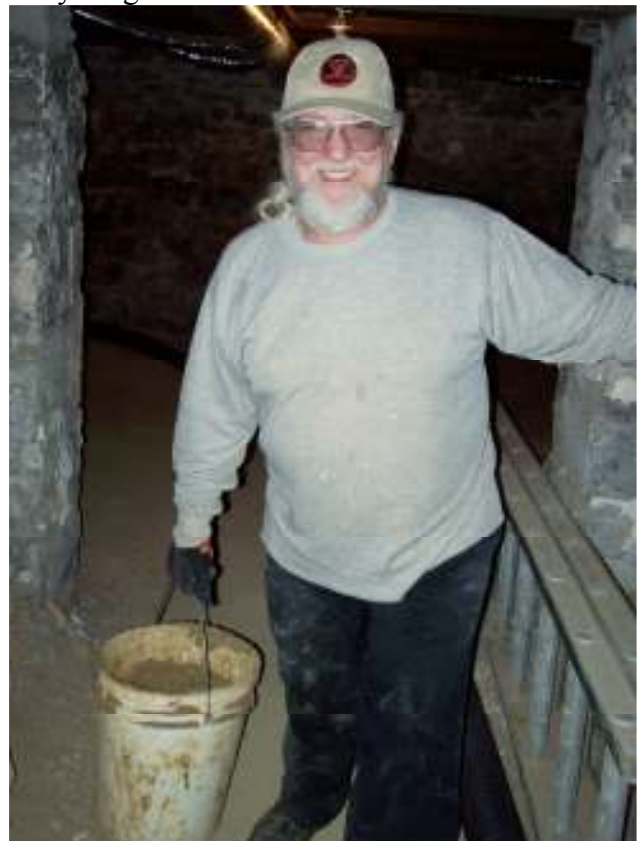
Russell Linton carries out a bucket of dirt.

As Tom would pull the buckets up, there was a line of people helping to carry them out.



Keith Hammersla shows John Scrivener the report on the tunnels. John used his metal detector to look for the hillside opening.

John Scrivener brought his metal detector. Keith Hammersla showed him where he thinks the hillside entrance, with the bars, is. John went back and forth, and up and down the hillside. He did not hit on anything.



Bob Bennett carrying out a bucket.

Bob Bennett was back to full duty. He was carrying the buckets out with the rest of us.



Here is the food spread Keith Hammersla prepared for us. Notice the chair in the background looks like a flying bat.

We broke for lunch and headed to the Triple Brick Building. Keith had quite a lunch spread set up for us; lots of food and drinks. We had to eat up on the second floor because the first floor power was out.



Bob Edmonds, right, and Tom Griffin helping themselves to lunch

As we found a seat people headed for the food and a line started. There was plenty to eat and drink.



Waiting in line for food, Sarah Scrivener, Bob Bennett, and John Roche, listen to Jeff Marcum's, (yellow shirt) story. You can see Jeff's face in the mirror.

As we got our food we sat down and started eating. We had hauled out 81 buckets of dirt. We talked about the direction of the dig. Jeff now had us going horizontal. We're still following the dirt.



Bob Bennett talks about the dig to Tom Griffin as John Roche eats his lunch.

After lunch we headed back to the dig. It wasn't long before Jeff, Sarah and Bob Edmonds slid back down to the dig site. The buckets started coming up and were hauled out.



John Scrivener hauling out a bucket.



Russell Linton is our inspiration. He works us into the ground.

Our helpers today were: Russell Linton, Bob Bennett, Bob Edmonds, Jeff Marcum, John Scrivener, Sarah Scrivener, Stephen Story, Thomas Story, John Roche, Dale Parker, Keith Hammersla, and John DiCarlo.

By the end of the day we had broken loose, filled buckets, hauled up and carried out 201 buckets of dirt. We also had a horizontal passage six feet long.

Pictures from the 2014 TSG picnic!



EB



AJ



JB



AJ



JB



JB



JB



JB



JB



JB



EB



JB



JB



JB



JB



JB



JB



JB



JB

## White Nose Syndrome Update April 2014

White Nose Syndrome (WNS) first appeared in New York in 2006 and was first observed in West Virginia in 2009; in that year it was documented in four caves in Pendleton County. Since that time, it has been found in additional counties and by 2012 was present throughout the major karst regions of the state. On a continental scale, WNS has now been confirmed as far west as western Missouri, south to northern Alabama and Mississippi, and north to southern Canada (see attached map).

WNS, a disease which affects bats during hibernation, is caused by the fungus *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*. This fungus is not native to North America. The fungus is cold-loving and grows on the bats' skin while they hibernate. The skin of an active bat is too warm for the fungus to grow on it, but the fungus thrives on hibernating bats which are cooled to cave temperatures. Unlike most fungi that attack skin, this fungus does not just colonize the skin surface, but grows into and erodes the skin. This leads to tissue damage, especially to the wings. The damage affects a bats ability to fly, but it also results in water balance problems (such as dehydration) and changes in electrolyte balance. Bats with WNS also arouse from hibernation more frequently than do non-affected bats resulting in early depletion of fat stores they need to survive the winter. Mortality rates from WNS often exceed 90%.

The impact of WNS varies with bat species (See Table 1). The species which appear to be hit the hardest are: little brown bats, northern long-eared bats, and tricolored bats (formerly eastern pipistrelles). These were among the most common bats in the state prior to the arrival of WNS. However, northern long-eared bats were never abundant in caves in West Virginia, so we have little winter data on which to base population trends. Endangered Indiana bats are declining almost as dramatically as little brown bats.

Big brown bats appear to be less affected than the other species, and numbers are staying at near pre-WNS levels. The number of eastern small-footed bats has increased in recent years. While this is encouraging, it is based on a small number of bats seen in winter surveys. The one bit of good news is that endangered Virginia big-eared bats appear not to be affected by the fungus, and their numbers have actually increased significantly since 2009 (the increase in winter numbers indicates an increase of 39%, but for this species, our summer counts are believed to be more accurate and put the increase at around 25%). To date, no Virginia big-eared bat has been observed with the fungus or the associated wing damage. Migratory bats species, such as the red bat and hoary bat, move south in winter and do not hibernate, so they not affected by WNS.

WV Division of Natural Resources biologists and others have been monitoring bats in caves for decades. Prior to WNS, the little brown bat was the most abundant bat hibernating in caves in West Virginia. Declines of little brown bats at most sites have been over 90% and sometimes over 99%. Overall mortality rate for this bat in West Virginia is 96.3%. Of all our sites that had 100 or more little brown bats prior WNS, our sites with the "best" survival still exhibited a decline of 91.2%. Tricolored bats have declined nearly 90%. Our "best" site for tricolored bats had a decline of "only" 77%. Declines for Indiana bats have been around 80%, but populations of this species were quite low before WNS appeared, so the total number of this species is quite low. At most sites, the number of remaining Indiana bats is lower than counts in the early 1980s when most of these surveys began. As bad as these numbers are, at this time we do not know if the remaining bats are likely to be survivors or if declines will continue. At least there are a few bats remaining, and these bats show little or no visible fungus during hibernation. Hopefully, there are bats that can survive this disease and live to reproduce and pass on those traits.

For more information on White Nose Syndrome visit [www.whitenosesyndrome.org](http://www.whitenosesyndrome.org).  
 Craig Stihler, WVDNR

Table 1. Percent change in numbers of hibernating bats in 40 caves in West Virginia pre and post arrival of White Nose Syndrome (WNS). Changes are based on bat numbers during the last survey before White Nose Syndrome (WNS) was confirmed or suspected to have arrived at the site compared to post-WNS surveys conducted two to five years after WNS arrived. If more than one post-WNS survey was conducted, the most recent survey data were used.

Common Name	Scientific Name	% Change
Little brown bat	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	-96.3
Indiana bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	-80.1
Northern long-eared bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	-90.7
Eastern small-footed bat	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	+8.3
Tricolored bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	-87.2
Big brown bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>	-8.2
Virginia big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus</i>	+39.2



AM



JH



AM



TG  
 Sauta Cave, AL  
 250,000 grey bats



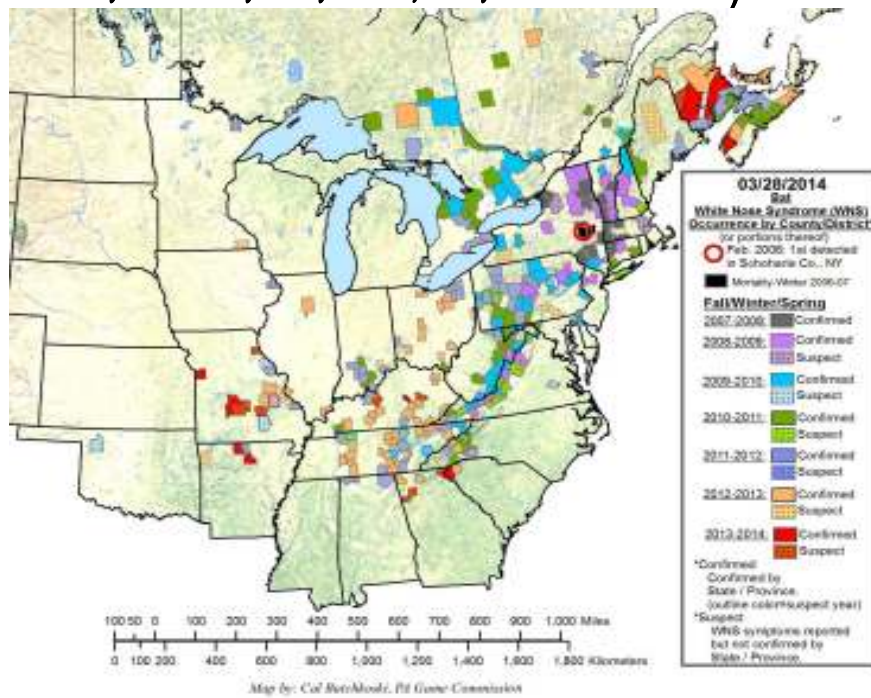
# CAVIN CALENDAR

## AUGUST 10TH - SEPTEMBER 20TH



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

# DEAD DOG DISPATCH



Updated WNS Map



## DEAD DOG DISPATCH

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**TD:**

