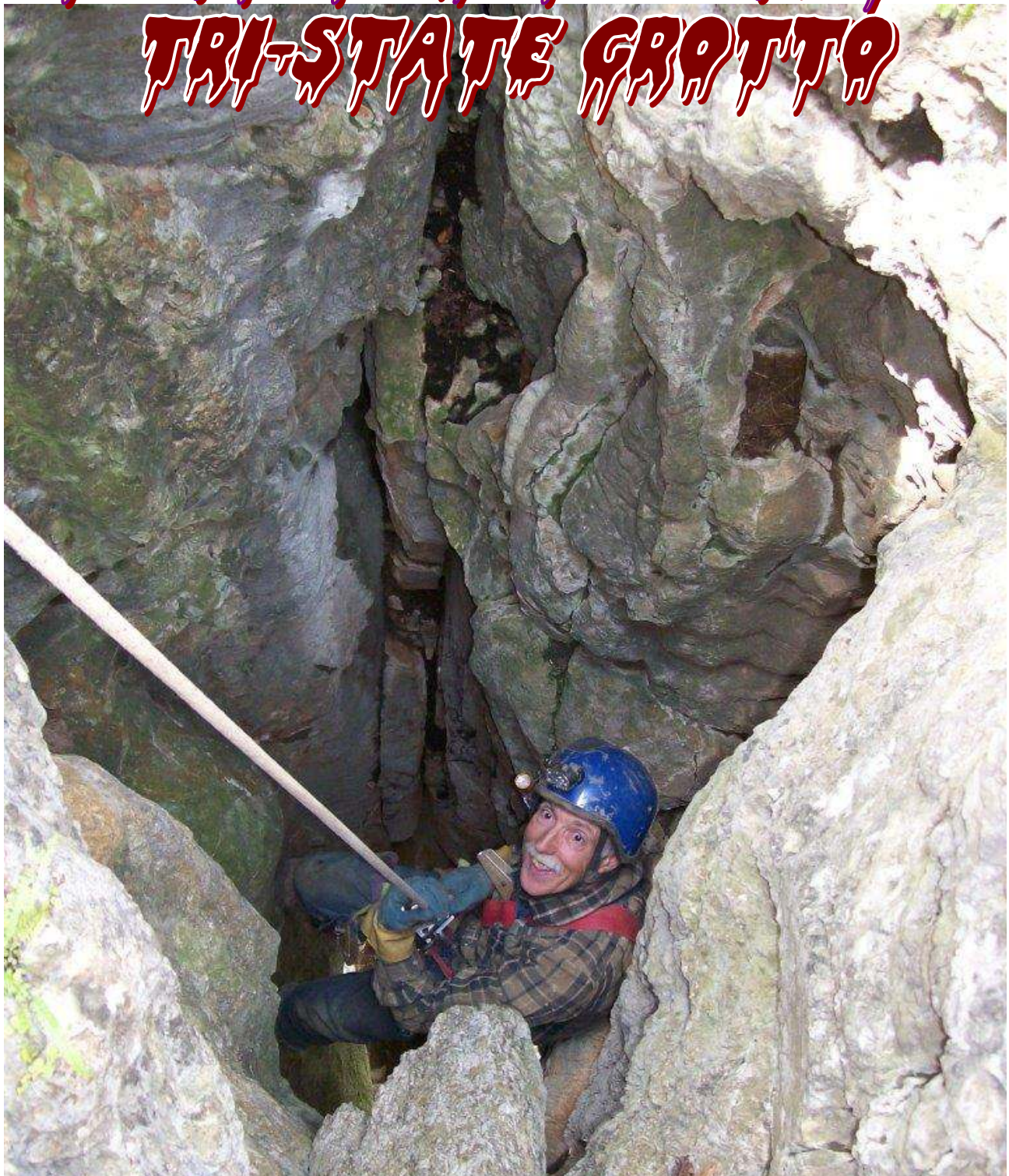


DEAD DOG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



DEVILS CHIMNEY, BERKELEY CO, WV

VOL. #29

ISS. #6

JUN

2014

#65



(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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*** The photo on the cover was taken by Bob Bennett at Devils Chimney in Berkeley Co, WV on the Mini-Monk-A-Thon.

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

DEAD DOG DISPATCH

V.#29

I.#6

JUN

2014

#66

CAVING EVENTS 2016

2014

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 May ----- \$43.00

TOTAL TO DATE: ----- \$5615.50

The money was sent to SCCI!

Keep It Coming!

WEBSITE & CAVING LINKS

Tri-State Grotto ----- www.tristategrotto.net/
 VAR ----- www.varegion.org/
 NSS ----- www.caves.org/
 NSS Convention 2014 ----- <http://nss2014.caves.org/>
 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/>
 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>

MAY 30-JUN 1 -- SERA – NSS Hdqtrs
 JUN 1 ----- Last day for NSS Convention discount
 JUN 6-8 ---- Bubble weekend
 JUN 11 ---- TSG meeting – 7pm
 JUN 14 ---- FLAG DAY
 JUN 14 ---- Repair gate to Donaldson Cave – 10 am
 JUN 15 ---- FATHER'S DAY
 JUN 20 ---- WV DAY
 JUN 20-22 --- Karst-O-Rama - KY
 JUN 21 --- SUMMER SOLSTICE
 JUL 4 ---- INDEPENDENCE DAY
 JUL 9 ---- TSG meeting – 7pm
 JUL 12 -- TSG PICNIC
 JUL 14-18 – NSS Conv – NSS Hdqtrs, Huntsville, AL
 JUL 27 ---- PARENT'S DAY
 AUG 8-10 ----- Indiana Cave Capers
 AUG 13 --- TSG meeting – 7pm
 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

DEAD DOG DISPATCH

V.#29

I.#6

JUN

2014

#67

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 JUNE

Bob Bennett, Gordon Birkhimer, Anya Crane, Mike
Eppley, Jennifer Kysar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

TRIP REPORTS

Spring VAR 2014

By John DiCarlo, NSS# 25744

Bath County, VA-For the Saturday Caving trip,
Jerry Bowen, Todd Zimmerman and I signed up for
Blowing Cave.

Arriving at the Blowing Cave, we parked across the
road from the pump house.



Pump house by Blowing Cave that we parked near

Photos by John DiCarlo

Suiting up, we headed to Blowing Cave.



Entrance to Blowing Cave

As soon as you start in, you are headed down into
the cave. It drops 30-40 feet before you hit the tight
constriction in the cave. Lying on your back, you
go headfirst. I kind of walked with my shoulders
and went in fairly easy. Of course it was slightly
down hill.



Squeezing through the first
constriction.

As I reached the other side, there was a wall and I had to sit up with my legs still in the constriction. Now, I had to try and stand.



Pretty-in-pink squeezing through a low ceiling pinch.



Turning around in the first room and photoing some more of our group.

We followed the passage to the first large room. Here we waited for everyone in the group. Everyone turned out their lights so we could have total darkness. We did a sound-off headcount and had 24 people on the trip.

We climbed a clay bank, then slid down a rock to follow the passage. There is another low spot that dropped down to the main passage.



Part of our group in the first room



Todd Zimmerman up close and Jerry Bowen in the back ground.

Continuing on from here, we went over and through mud, rock and clay. At times you did go across areas of water. The clay was slick and the water was deep in spots.

It wasn't long before we were covered in mud.



Sally Chappel covered in mud.

We caved down the passage going from room to small passage to another room. We eventually came to the river in the back of Blowing Cave. This was our turnaround spot. We rested here before turning back.



John DiCarlo in Blowing Cave

Of course this meant going back through all the mud and tight squeezes. As the group oozed back through the cave it stretched the line of cavers. This helped as it kept the wait time down at the tight squeezes.



Jerry Bowen exits Blowing Cave

As we came out, we ran into Bob Bennett, Tom and Terry Griffin. They turned around and went to investigate a series of caves in the next hillside cut. Bob called them the Three Sisters Caves. They went in a little ways. One was about 50 feet long.

Boy Scout Rappel trip Eric Berge

For years I have been helping Boy Scout Troop 671 out of Nokesville, Virginia go caving and doing a special rappel trip off the cliffs in Elizabeth Furnace outside of Front Royal. The cliffs are on the right as



you enter the park before the first parking lot. The cliffs have become a popular spot with rock climbers (you can tell from all the

bolts in the rock faces). Well I sent out an e-mail looking for help and help comes from all different locations. The people that came out to help were Tom Griffin, Mark Bishop, Justin Bishop, Adam Nelson, Me (Eric) and Earl and Cheryl Suitor, and Greg Jones. We arrived at the cliffs at 8am or so and the Scouts showed up a few minutes later. They were camping at Elizabeth Furnace so they wanted to make a Friday and Saturday (Mother's Day was Sunday so after the rappel trip they went home). At the bottom of the cliffs myself and Tom Griffin made our way to the top of the cliffs and started rigging the drops. Well you might think we were rigging just one or two drops but actually we rigged eight different spots. You see the cliffs are a great spot to teach people how to rappel. There are four drops in all. A 20 foot drop which we rig twice. The reason why is this the first spot the Scouts will start on. In the past we have had them rappel down the 20 footer by themselves with someone at the top coaching and a person at the bottom coaching. Well I rethought this several months ago and realized we need someone rappelling next to them. Now I forgot to tell you all the scout are put on a top belay, that way no one can accidentally let go of a rope and go into an uncontrollable rappel. All the scouts accept the ones who have been rappelling with me for the past several years have to go down the twenty foot rappel.

Now while Tom and I are rigging the cliffs Mark



Bishop, Justin Bishop, and Adam Nelson were at the bottom giving a lesson on how to use a rappel rack, how to get into a seat harness, getting into knee pads, and everyone

had to have a helmet on. While they were giving the lesson Tom & I were still rigging the cliffs. The next riggings we did were a 60 foot rappel and two 35 foot rappels. The 35 foot rappels are a corner rappel and the next one is a under cut lip. Both of these rappels have a different challenge. After that Tom and I went and rigged two 80 foot rappels. Well it took us three hours to rig the drops and most of the scouts had done the 20 footer and were over at the 60 footer. Tom started working with the scouts at the 80 footer and it was around 11am. Well Mark bishop was running the 60 footer and Adam and Justin were still working with the scouts on the 20 and Tom was at the 80 footer and I was running the 35 footer. Well Greg showed up and he was telling us all about how he had hike all over Elizabeth Furnace looking for us and he finally found us. He said he went everywhere. He started helping out where he was needed. The rock climbers showed up and were climbing all over the place. They like to climb but we had control of the cliffs and I was hoping we would stay out of each other's way. Now the weather was a little iffy when we arrived in the morning and it was clearing but by the afternoon the weather had started turning. You could hear the thunder coming down the valley and the clouds were starting to come in. Well the scouts had been rappelling all morning and Tom checked his phone and you could see the storm coming in.

Well I started pulling rope and gathering up gear. As the scouts finished up each area I pulled rope. With most of the rope pulled I started working the other 80 foot rappel and there was one scout that I had known for 8 years. Each year that he showed up for the rappel trip he would do a different drop. You see he was afraid of heights. Well he showed up and told me this was going to be his last year in Scouts since he was going to be 18 and going to college, well there he stood and he said well this is the last



challenge, he said he did not do it last year but this year I'm going to do it. Well we hooked him in to the belay and he was on rope and he was nervous. But to the edge he went and after stepping off, I watched him go. Well I guess each scout has his reason for showing up and this was his and I'm happy to have been a part of it. I hope he continues to grow in a personal way and I do hope he never forgets he has the power to do a lot different things. Well Earl and Cheryl showed up and the weather was turning fast and the scouts had just called everyone down for lunch. Well after lunch we decided to shut it down. We go all the gear down to the bottom of the cliff and we started to sort it out and no sooner had we gotten everything packed up and all the scouts had gear to carry back to the cars it started raining. We made it off the cliffs just in time. All the scouts and leaders had a great time. I do want to thank Judy and JC Fisher for the harness and racks and everyone else who brought gear. Having that gear really made things easier.



The last 4 photos were taken by Tom Griffin



Devils Chimney



Devils Chimney – by Tom



Find-It-If-You-Can



Devils Chimney



FIIYC



Myers Bridge – by Tom



I am posting this to let you know that Ken Tayman, a longtime member of Tri-State Grotto, has passed away! Some of you may not know or remember him. He not only was a member of TSG but he also was a member of Franklin Co Grotto. He, along with a couple of others, came down to the Atha dig last October. I personally will miss you greatly! You not only were passionate about caving but you were a well liked person!
 God bless you Ken!
 Rest in peace!
 I'll cave with you again one day in that great cave in heaven!!!!!!!
 Bob



Myers Bridge – by Tom



CAVIN CALENDAR

JUNE 8TH - JULY 19TH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jun 8 Bubble weekend	Jun 9	Jun 10	Jun 11 Meeting 7pm	Jun 12	Jun 13	Jun 14 FLAG DAY Repair Gate on Donaldson 10am
Jun 15 FATHER'S DAY	Jun 16	Jun 17	Jun 18	Jun 19	Jun 20 WV DAY Karst-O-Rama - KY	Jun 21 Karst-O-Rama - KY SOLSTICE
Jun 22 Karst-O-Rama - KY	Jun 23	Jun 24	Jun 25	Jun 26	Jun 27	Jun 28
Jun 29	Jun 30	Jul 1	Jul 2	Jul 3	Jul 4 	Jul 5
Jul 6	Jul 7	Jul 8	Jul 9 Meeting 7pm	Jul 10	Jul 11	Jul 12 TSG PICNIC
Jul 13	Jul 14 NSS Convntion - Huntsville, AL	Jul 15 NSS Convntion - Huntsville, AL	Jul 16 NSS Convntion - Huntsville, AL	Jul 17 NSS Convntion - Huntsville, AL	Jul 18 NSS Convntion - Huntsville, AL	Jul 19

DEAD DOG DISPATCH



Designed by Cheryl Sutor



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