

# DEAD DOG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



**JONES QUARRY CAVE**

**VOL. #30**

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**FEB**

**2015**

**#25**



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All material for inclusion in the **DEAD DOG DISPATCH** must be sent to the EDITOR NO BY THE **25<sup>TH</sup>** OF EACH MONTH.

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\*\*\* The photo on the cover was taken by John DiCarlo in Jones Quarry 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 304-821-4621(H)** or **304-671-0344(C)** 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

## 2015

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 January ----- \$19.00

Month of February ----- \$30.00

TOTAL TO DATE: ----- \$5758.50

**The money was sent to SCCI!**  
**Keep It Coming!**

## WEBSITE & GIVING 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>

FEB 11 ----- TSG meeting 7pm  
FEB 14 ----- VALENTINE'S DAY  
FEB 14 ----- Adam Stephen dig - 9am  
FEB 16 ----- PRESIDENT'S DAY  
FEB 17 ----- FAT TUESDAY  
FEB 18 ----- Meeting with Venture Crew 66 at Adam Stephen 7pm  
MAR 8 ----- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS  
MAR 11 ----- TSG meeting 7pm  
MAR 14 ----- Karst Water Institute Banquet - Honoring Biologist Dave Culver 6pm  
MAR 17 ----- ST PATRICK'S DAY  
MAR 20 ----- VERNAL EQUINOX  
MAR 21 ----- Whittings Neck 9am - Venture Crew 66  
MAR 22 ----- WORLD WATER DAY  
MAR 25 ----- MD Day  
APR 1 ----- ALL FOOL'S DAY  
APR 2 ----- PB&J DAY  
APR 3 ----- GOOD FRIDAY  
APR 3-5 ----- Grand Caverns Restoration Weekend  
APR 5 ----- EASTER  
APR 8 ----- TSG meeting 7pm  
APR 11 ----- Baker Quarry gate repair 9am  
APR 15 ----- TAX DAY  
APR 22 ----- EARTH DAY  
APR 24 ----- ARBOR DAY  
APR 24-26 -- Spring VAR - Natural Bridge Caverns hosted by BATS  
MAY 1 ----- DAY of PRAYER  
MAY 5 ----- CINCO de MAYO  
MAY 8-10 -- SERA Cave Carnival  
MAY 9 ----- Adam Stephen Day - Natural Heritage Day 9am  
MAY 10 ----- MOTHER'S DAY  
MAY 13 ----- TSG meeting 7pm  
MAY 16 ----- ARMED FORCES DAY  
MAY 22-25 -- KY Speleofest  
MAY 25 ----- MEMORIAL DAY  
JUN 1 ----- Convention Discount Deadline  
JUN 10 ----- TSG meeting 7pm  
JUN 12-14 -- Bubble Weekend - Nancy Hanks  
JUN 14 ----- FLAG DAY  
JUN 20 ----- WV DAY  
JUN 21 ----- SUMMER SOLSTICE  
JUN 26-28 -- Karst-O-Rama - KY  
JUL 4 ----- INDEPENDENCE DAY  
JUL 8 ----- TSG meeting 7pm  
JUL 11 ----- TSG Picnic  
JUL 13-17 --- NSS Convention – Waynesville, MO  
JUL 26 ----- PAREN T'S DAY  
JUL 31 ----- Last Day for TRA Membership  
JUL 31- Aug 2 -- Mudfest - Lincoln Caverns, PA

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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)

## GROTTO BIRTHDAYS

### MONTH OF JANUARY

Chris Coates, Judy Fisher, Sonny Floyd, Bob Gray, Stacy Hajenga, Keith Hammersla, Samantha Hicks, Fritz Kysar, David Lucas, Corey Majtyka, Tim McDougale, Johnny Robinson Sr, Earl Sutor, Fiord'aliza Vis, Trish Walthers, Clint Hogbin

### MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Daniel Amundson, Erek Bennett, Paulette Bennett, Terri Griffin, Malakai Hanson, J D Hicks, Russell Linton, Barbara Walthers, Will Walthers, Todd Zimmerman

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Hey, everyone , go to the TSG website ([www.tristategrotto.com](http://www.tristategrotto.com)). It is up and running! The website is updated and looking good. Everyone give John Scrivener a big hay! Nice Job John!

## TRIP REPORTS

### Mystic Cave - Geary Schendle

Aspen and I had a wonderful day caving in West Virginia. We drove from the DC area to meet my old High School Caving Buddy Tom Griffin in Martinsburg, West Virginia. We arrive at the Sheetz gas station at 7 am and headed south from cave country to even better cave country in Pendleton, County. Terri, Tom's wife was along and we met some of the other TRI State grotto members in Petersburg. They included Jerry Bowen and his son Steve and Bob Bennett. From there we drove to

Seneca Rocks and regrouped and then drove over to Mystic Cave where we met the owner who welcomes cavers with open arms. Very nice folks. We entered the cave around 11 am and went down stream to the waterfall room and then upstream to near the second entrance. Steve and Jerry went out the second entrance but the rest of us returned by way of the main entrance. Got out of the cave around 4 pm after walking and wading and crawling in some 36 degree water. My dogs were barking from being wet and cold. We signed the guest register kept by the owner and noticed many familiar names from some of my VAR and MAR friends. Not sure why I hadn't done this cave before. It was very nice.

Aspen and I then drove down to the Harper Gap Road and up around Schoolhouse Cave and Hellhole and down though Judy Gap and Riverton. We had a fine drive back getting into DC around 8 pm in time for some Apple Strudel my brother bought over. All in all a great day hanging with my favorite daughter.

Here is a photo of my favorite sinkhole in all the world in Germany Valley looking over 40 miles of cave under the valley.



## Fall VAR 2014

October 10-12, 2014

By John DiCarlo

Rich Mountain Battlefield- I arrived in camp Friday afternoon and checked in. Monongahela Grotto was the sponsor grotto. It was their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

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There was a little rain, but there was a large pavilion with inside bathrooms. I ran into Jerry and Mary Bowen. They told me where the Tri-State Grotto camp was.

Meanwhile the beer was tapped and we watched a movie at the pavilion. There were sign-up sheets on the wall with a variety of caving trips offered. I signed up to go to **"My Cave."** I had never been there before.

Saturday morning the rain had stopped and people were grouping up for their trips. I went to move my van and got stuck in a ditch beside the road. Someone from the host grotto pulled me out.

Father Venner and I rode with Kevin Combs. We followed the line of cars out of camp and down the road. Our first stop was a small restaurant. They had a breakfast buffet that really hit the spot. This was my kind of caving trip. After eating them out of food, we continued on toward **"My Cave."**

We parked in the parking spot and suited up. We had to cross the road and a dry streambed. Climbing up the hill on the other side, we ascended until we made it to the entrance to **"My Cave."** Taking turns we dropped into the cave. We passed a pile of bones and I had to take a picture of them.



**Pile of bones on a ledge**

Passing the bone pile we caved our way down the passage. Looking up there were nice things happening on the ceiling. There were holes that let us see higher up, with some nice pretty things going on there.



**Looking up into a hole in the ceiling**

We dropped down to a lower passage and had to cross a pit that was a little scary. We kept on and made our way down until we were down to the stream. We were in a fair sized room with the stream under a ledge.



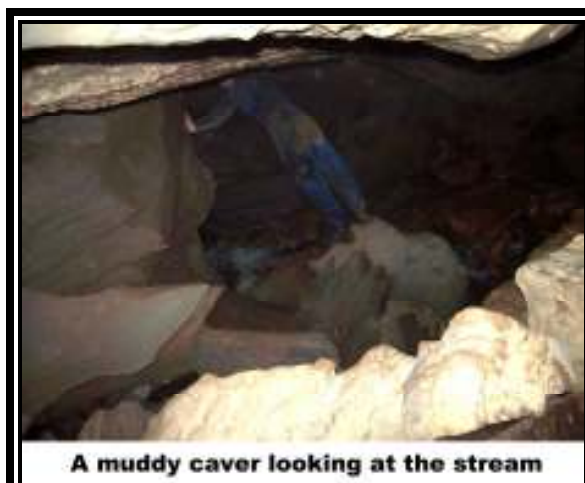
**One of the cavers in a room with the stream under the ledge**

There was a couple with us, where the guy had a new GoPro camera attached to his helmet. I hope sometime in the future I run into them again to see how the camera did.



**Our GoPro Couple**

The stream passage moved a bit of water. It had its own room. We could stand in the room and look down to the stream.



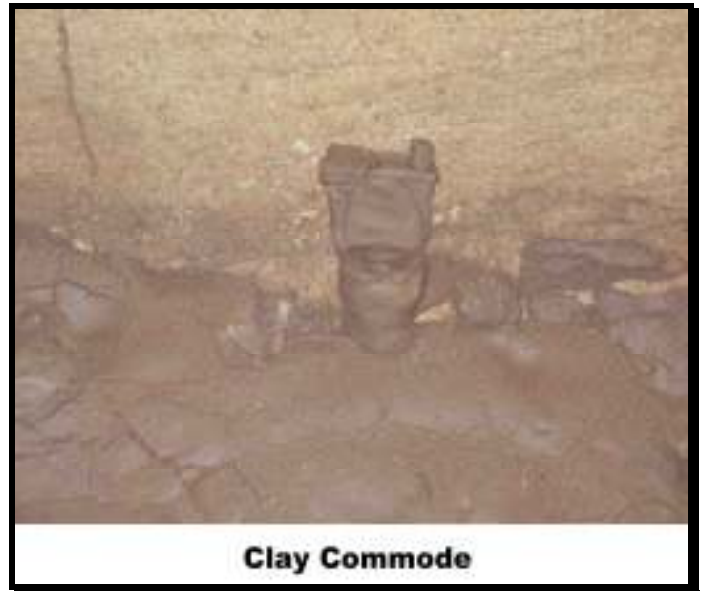
**A muddy caver looking at the stream**



We went through good sized rooms that you could climb up on a ledge and slip through a gap and connect with the next room.



This cave, like others had its area of clay art works. I had to show something from there.



There were times we had to drop to lower levels, and had to climb back up to continue on. The mud was slick and we did get dirty.



We kept working our way through, going into large passages and climbing up to another opening, and again coming into a big area.



**Climbing up some breakdown**

We arrived at Razor Pit and took turns looking down it. It had a lot of sharp edges. It had some good colors too.



**Razor Pit**

Sliding down slick mud banks, we made our way to a pond at the bottom. It had a slow counter clockwise turn to it. The water was falling down through a siphon. We took the opportunity to look over the map before climbing back out.



**Someone dropped a candy bar.  
( They're looking at a map )**

Climbing back out we had to follow footholds dug into the clay bank. Even with those it was a hard climb out. There wasn't always foothold and you just had to go for it. Sometimes you didn't make it and you would slide back down.



**Trying to climb out of the trough  
and sliding back down**

We made our way out of the cave and had to go down the steep slope to the dry creek bed. Crossing



the creek we climbed up the slope to the paved road. Back at our cars we changed out of muddy clothing into clean clothes for the ride home. All the muddy clothing, boots and gloves went into plastic trash bags for the trip home.

Arriving back at camp, it wasn't long before dinner was served. There was plenty of food and no one went hungry.

There was an after dinner program, then live bluegrass music under the pavilion. After the bonfire was lit the music moved over to the fire. There was plenty to drink, good music and lots of conversation. Another good VAR, thanks Monongahela Grotto!

## A Story Worth Repeating

By John DiCarlo, NSS 25744

A friend of mine, Don Wood, who was the head of the Berkeley County Historical Society and has since passed away, gave me a copy of an article that appeared in the American Gazette in 1859. It may be the first trip report to a cave in what is now Berkeley County, WV. In 1859 it was Frederick County, VA.

I do not want the report lost to posterity, so I am re-publishing it in the Dead Dog Dispatch. The end of the copy was too blurred to read. This is probably what the original copy in the records looks like. Unfortunately, it does not show the name of the writer. I believe the cave is Boyles Cave.

After reading the report, I found plenty of similarities to a VAR Trip Report: Getting to the cave, drinking "Lemonade" back at camp, and heading back home. Maybe you can relate.

I tried to keep all the original wordings and spellings.

# American and Gazette

Wednesday Morning June 22, 1859

For the American & Gazette.  
**VISIT TO A CAVE**

Mr. Editor:- Deem me not impudent in thus trespassing upon the time, which I know is doubly valuable to you, but as I have a few interesting things to speak of in this illiterate communication, let the end justify this audacious act. Then sir, know that there exists a Cave, of some considerable extent, about four miles west from Bunker's Hill, the fame and importance of which is little known. It is situated on a farm adjoining that of W. Coe' Esq., (The former possession and home of the Hon. Charles James Faulkner.) I, having heard it casually spoken of, had an intense desire to see, and explore it, and accordingly on last Saturday in company with Messrs. John Gageby, Oliver Clemens, James Gageby, C. Boyd and W. Swimley, (Gentlemen of Bunker's Hill) took a pleasure trip there, in a two horse spring wagon. Suffice it to say that we arrived there safely in due time, and we found it was situated in a lovely grove, which made the pleasure doubly pleasing. After having rested ourselves, we lighted our candles and entered in an upright position the yawning chasm which seemed

"Fierce as ten furies, terrible as Hell,"

to our excited and experienced imaginations. Having descended about forty five feet in a slight perpendicular manner we came to the first curiosity which it contains a rock stove bearing a striking resemblance to our old fashioned Cooking Stoves, and having some eight or ten vessels of various sizes and construction upon it, each filled with the coldest, purest, and clearest water it has ever been my good fortune to see and taste. After examining

this thoroughly, we went about fifty feet farther, and came to the principal apartment of the cave, a vaulted chamber, with a lofty roof, and containing an area of about 200 square feet.- To this chamber is connected a superstitious idea- "that the Court of Oberon and Titania (Fairy King and Queen) is held here nightly, and the print of the feet but one inch long distinctly seen in the sand upon the floor, by every visitor who will take the trouble of examining it." Yet sir, as the foot print of a Raccoon, bears some resemblance to that of a person, and as those rooms would be an admirable place for the hairy gentry to skulk in, I am somewhat loathe to swear credence to the above. The roof of this room is very smooth, and has imbedded in it many particles of a gritty substance, which sparkle in the candle light and give a glorious appearance to the entire room. Having left this room, we entered a narrow causeway and descended through a damp and narrow alley, which made me think of going-

Down in the damp and darksome earth,  
Where lurk the spirits of evil;  
Where ghosts and witches hold their mirth,  
In concert with the Devil.

At the end of this we came to a small stream of water, which when crossed conducted us to another chamber much larger than the first, with an arched roof of considerable height. In this room are cups, saucers, knives and forks, with a few stone dishes, all adhering to the surface of the rocks. The floor of this room is much more dry than the first, and has a coating of fine sand nearly an inch in thickness, while the air in this chamber is much warmer and more easily inhaled than in the first. From this apartment you pass to another of equal magnificence and dimensions, filled with strange devices, seemingly sculptured by an artistic hand in the solid rock. After exploring this apartment we returned to the first and made preparations to have a glorious treat in the shape of "an Ice cool Lemonade"-minus the Ice- which was prepared from the water in the vessels on the stove, by that prince of "Lemonaders," our friend John Gageby, Esq. After it was announced that all was ready we wended our way to the mouth of the Cave, where seated beneath the branches of a noble oak, whose umbrageous foliage covered us as an emerald

screen, and the music of its rustling leaves trilling a soothing melody to our hearts, we reclined luxuriously on our mossy couches and gave ourselves up the enjoyments of the moment. The festivities were enlivened by a few toasts from some of the party, and crowned by an admirable joke upon our driver, perpetrated by the most merciless of wits-Mr. O. C. After this, cigars were lighted and Messrs. John Gageby and O. Clemens, wended their way arm in arm to the Cave, which they entered, "with pleasure in the eye and song upon the lip." Soon we were drawn nearer the entrance by the sound of voices issuing there from, when repairing thither we ascertained that the two gentlemen were singing hymns, the effect of which might be imagined, but never described. Both being good singers, and the harmony of the bass and tenor, blending so well, we at the entrance were entranced by the melody, and for the time thought that we heard that much talked of, "music of the spheres." After the singing was over, our friend O. C., gave us stump speech, of what order, or of what subject I cannot say, as I was too far away to hear distinctly. This being over we concluded to start for home, and accordingly we gathered up our "luggage" and all "Jumped in the wagon and then took a ride."

On our way home the front axle tree broke down, and we were compelled to "foot it," however we arrived safely, well satisfied with our trip to the cave.

And now sir one word for the Company. It has been my fortune to attend many pleasure parties, held by Ladies and Gentlemen alone, but sir, I must say that I never spent more pleasurable moments than upon this ??? ??, and that I was never in a more ??? and virtuous Company. There was???? ???word spoken that would bring a blush to the cheek of the most virtuous, and there was no act committed, that would ???.....

# Adam Stephen Dig

## August 16, 2014

By John DiCarlo, NSS 25744

**Martinsburg, WV**-The fan was set up and extension cords run down into the dig site. Tri-State Grotto had returned again to work on their dig at the Adam Stephen House. The date in the stone over the front door is 1789.

Jeff Marcum slid down to the dig site first. Tools were lowered down; one being the new Makita hammer drill Tri-State Grotto purchased to help with the dig. Brent Jefferson slid down and full buckets started coming up.



Tom Griffin (L) pulled up the buckets while Bob Bennett swapped them out.

Tom Griffin pulled the buckets up with Bob Bennett swapping around full and empty buckets. Russell Linton, Keith Hammersla, and John DiCarlo carried them out.



Paulette Bennett keeps track of the buckets

As they passed Paulette Bennett, she recorded them in a book.



Fan bricked up for air flow

As we were setting up, Tom yelled back from the top of the dig that we should make sure the fan was on high. It appeared that there was low air flow.



Russell and I looked at it and saw that the canvas around the fan was pinched. Keith got us some bricks and we propped it up. We had done this with rocks in the past. As you can see it's a straight shot with the bricks holding the end of the pipe up. We did turn the fan around twice trying to figure out which way it was blowing. The right way blows the canvas out. When it is backwards the canvas will look sunken in.

Last dig we had taken out 81 buckets before lunch. Everyone wanted to reach that number before we broke for lunch. We stopped at 12:45 with 84 buckets.



**Our Lunch time crowd**

After lunch everybody went back to their previous places. After lunch, Todd Zimmerman, Donna Linton, and Dale Parker showed up as the afternoon shift. Todd and Dale joined us in carrying buckets. Donna helped Paulette count buckets. The buckets came up quick. Brent Jefferson informed us at lunch that there were four full buckets down in the bottom waiting to come up.



**Russell Linton and Tom Griffin get their lunch**



**Russell Linton empties a bucket of dirt**

After carrying the buckets out, they are dumped over the hillside. Over time we have extended the level area out several feet.



From the right, this is how far we have extended the hillside

Late afternoon, Jeff, Brent, and Tom had to leave. We switched jobs around, and Todd slid down into the dig site and Bob pulled the buckets up. Russell swapped the full buckets with Bob. Paulette and Donna still counted, and Keith, Dale, and John hauled the buckets.



This is the large bone that Todd found. Fred Grady identified it as a horse bone.

The big news of the day was that Todd unearthed some bones. First he found a large bone. He sent that up and we gathered around to look at it. We kicked it around about what it was. Human? There was a report of a human skeleton found under the kitchen in the mouth of the cave before it was filled

in. Was this part of the skeleton that came off and fell down the hole? Was it a beef bone or ham? Sheep? We didn't know. We would have to get them checked out.



Eight more bones that Todd Zimmerman found after he found the large bone.

Todd continued to dig in the same spot and found eight more pieces of bone. We laid them out on a table and took some pictures.

I sent pictures of the bones to Fred Grady. He thought the large bone was a horse metapodial. Think of it as one of the bones between the horse's ankle and knee.

All told we took out 169 buckets and nine bones. We also had a yo-yo rock. It started up and decided to go back down.

Our workers were: Russell Linton, Donna Linton, Tom Griffin, Brent Jefferson, Jeff Marcum, Paulette, Bennett, Bob Bennett, Todd Zimmerman, Dale Parker, Keith Hammersla, and John DiCarlo. This added up to sixty-five volunteer hours





Hamilton (Jerry B)



Jones Quarry (Ton G)



Jones Quarry (John D)



Hamilton (Eric B)



Jones Quarry (John D)





# CAVIN CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY 8TH - MARCH 21ST



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 8	Feb 9	Feb 10	Feb 11  Meeting 7pm	Feb 12	Feb 13	Feb 14  VALENTINE'S DAY Adam Stephen Dig 9am
Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 17 FAT TUESDAY	Feb 18 Venture Crew 66 Meeting at Triple Brick Museum-7pm	Feb 19	Feb 20	Feb 21
Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26	Feb 27	Feb 28
Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3	Mar 4	Mar 5	Mar 6	Mar 7
Mar 8 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS	Mar 9	Mar 10	Mar 11  Meeting 7pm - Work with knots	Mar 12	Mar 13	Mar 14 Karst Water Inst Banquet-6pm
Mar 15	Mar 16	Mar 17  ST PATRICK'S DAY	Mar 18	Mar 19	Mar 20  VERNAL EQUINOX	Mar 21 Scout trip to Whitings Neck 9am - see Tom

# DEAD DOG DISPATCH



JC RAPPELLING FLOWER POT (BB)



## DEAD DOG DISPATCH

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