

DEAD DOG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



BONE/NORMAN SYSTEM, GREENBRIER CO, WV

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#133

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SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP- \$12.00 (Non-Voting)
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP ----- \$2.00/FAMILY
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(SUSTAINING- \$50/yr until \$200 total is met)
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Payment of DUES can be made at MONTHLY MEETINGS
or can be SENT TO:

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** The photo on this month's cover was taken by
Ashley Hitchcock in the Bone/Norman System in
Greenbrier Co, WV.

**** Don't forget, the **JONES QUARRY BOOKLET** is
ALMOST GONE! There are 10 left! If you are interested in
purchasing a copy of the BOOKLET, contact **BOB**
BENNETT 304-821-4621(H) or 304-671-0344(C) E-MAIL
at gimpycaver@comcast.net
The copy will cost \$6.00 each plus the cost of shipping!

*****10 LEFT!*****

WE NEED EVERYONE TO KEEP THINKING ABOUT
VOLUNTEERING FOR AN OPEN POSITION. WE
STILL HAVE 4 POSITIONS OPEN!
PLEASE GIVE IT SOME THOUGHT. WE NEED YOUR
SUPPORT!



CAVING EVENTS

2019

DEC 4 ---- National Cookie Day
DEC 7 --- TSG Christmas Party – 6pm - Bedington
Ruritan Club
DEC 11 --- TSG Meeting – Elections – 7pm
DEC 22 --- Winter Solstice
DEC 22 – National Short Person Day
DEC 24 --- National Chocolate Day
DEC 24 --- Christmas Eve
DEC 25 --- Christmas Day
DEC 31 --- New Year's Eve
DEC 31 --- National Chocolate Day
DEC 31 --- Bat Ball, Huntsville, AL – 6pm

2020

JAN 1 ---- New Year's Day
JAN 1 ---- National Hangover Day
JAN 8 --- Elvis's Birthday
JAN 8 --- TSG meeting – 7pm
JAN 9 --- Law Enforcement Day
JAN 9 ---- FRG Meeting – 7pm - Thunwa Thai
Cuisine at the Quality Inn in Ft Royal
JAN 13 --- National Rubber Ducky Day
JAN 14 --- National Dress Up Day
JAN 20 --- Martin Luther King Jr Day
JAN 22 --- Ted Monger Birthday – Owner of Jones
Quarry
JAN 24 --- TSG BIRTHDAY
JAN 24 --- Peanut Butter Day
FEB 1 --- Bubble Gum Day
FEB 2 --- Ground Hog Day
FEB 9 --- National Pizza Day
FEB 11 --- Fat Tuesday
FEB 12 --- TSG meeting – 7pm
FEB 14 --- Valentine's Day
FEB 17 --- Presidents Day
FEB 28 --- National Tooth Fairy Day
MAR 1 --- Peanut Lovers Day
MAR 8 --- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS
MAR 11 --- TSG meeting – 7pm
MAR 14 --- Dr Latterell's Birthday – Owner of
Molers Cave
MAR 14 --- Pi Day
MAR 14 --- National Potato Chip Day

MAR 17 --- St Patricks Day
MAR 20 --- SPRING EQUINOX
MAR 21 --- Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
MAR 22 --- World Water Day
MAR 22 --- National Goof Off Day
MAR 25 --- MD Day

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 NOV ----- **\$28.01**

TOTAL TO DATE: ----- **\$7392.73**

GREAT JOB EVERYONE! Let's continue the giving!

**The money was sent to MAKC.
Keep It Coming!**

WEBSITE & CAVING LINKS

Tri-State Grotto ----- www.tristategrotto.net/
VAR ----- <http://var.caves.org/index.php>
NSS ----- www.caves.org/
NSS Convention 2020 ----- <https://nss2020.caves.org/>
OTR ----- www.otr.org/
MAR ----- www.caves.org/region/mar/
WVCC ----- www.wvcc.net/
Bob's Web Site ----- www.tristategrotto.net/Bob/
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/

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WNS -----
<http://www.caves.org/WNS/WNS%20Info.htm/>
Crystal Grottoes Caverns
www.crystalgrottoescaverns.com
Silers Cave -----
<https://www.karst.org/index.php/category/preserves/silers-cave-preserve/>



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Priscilla Armer, John Elliott, Teresa Elliott, Sam Ellis, John Fox, Brittany Gregor, Corey Hackley, Elizabeth Harris, Mary Hicks, Carlyn Pate, Haney Pate, Davis Smallwood, Evert Bonito Vis, Bobbi Warrenfeltz

Happy Birthday!



TSG Meeting (11 people in attendance)
November 13, 2019

John called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
Elysia gave the Treasurer's Report.
Doc reported the minutes of last month's meeting October 9, 2019.

Committee Reports: Doc will be receiving a tent pole from Bob in order to use the size to cut new ones.

Same status as last report concerning climbing gear which is in fine condition.

Doc now has all the helmets for cleaning and repair.

Adam will be using a dozen helmets for his upcoming trip to Jones Quarry Cave.

Access to make changes to the TSG website is in a forbidden status. Ashby Haines can set up a server to post information into. At present TSG has only one out of date website.

TSG inventory list begins January 2020. Doc will be taking inventory.

John DiCarlo now has ear protection and safety glasses added to the hammer drill including a pointed bit and a shovel bit.

Tom Griffin has two three hundred-foot rolls of rope equaling six hundred feet for club use.

There is a new drive after the loss of the original. The new drive is now held by Ashby Haines.

Old Business: Wednesday night caving trip to Donaldson Cave went well with an few cavers traversing the loop. The only water was found in a hole in a back passage dug out a few years ago for measure. John commented that after finding a long-tailed salamander, Donaldson Cave is a healthy cave. There is a new lock on the gate. In order to visit the cave, the troop leader must provide the following: the total of the group, leader's name, leader's NSS#, leader's address, leader's cell phone#, leader's email address, name of group, date of trip and time of the trip. The lock will be checked after each visit.

There was an enquiry as to the ownership of Donaldson and Jones Quarry Caves. Donaldson is owned by the West Virginia Cave Conservancy, while Jones Quarry Cave is privately owned. A discussion of Jones Quarry Cave concerning the key, volunteers work and general connection with the owner followed.

John and Doc inspected the Hollow Hill dig and came to the conclusion that dig should be inspected after the winter. Doc reported that there may still be viable cave yet to be discovered. The discussion of generating hard copy of the DDD was finalized and dismissed.

The Christmas party will be held on December 7 at the Bedington Ruritan Club building located at 3947 Williamsport Pike, Martinsburg, WV 25404, starting at six. There may be a visit from a cave owner or two. Food, libation and fellowship will be featured.

New Business: Wednesday, November 20 there will be a climbing class at Rumsey.

Wednesday night caving conflicts with Thanksgiving Day this year. The event will be held on Saturday, November 30. Meet in Jones Quarry Cave parking area at eleven. Adam Haines is hosting the trip.

A poll was taken on who took their Moms caving. Approximately one hundred and ten people attended the Banquet held in Lewisburg last month. Afterwards there were cave visits for those who traveled home via the interstates.

Klines Gap Cave in Great County was mentioned and considered being visited.

Terry visited Memorial Cave on his 70th birthday. The dig at unnamed cave continues with Front Royal grotto.

Sinks of Gandy property is for sale for twenty-eight million dollars. The property has approximately 800 acres.

There is no new news concerning Mystic Cave.

Nominations are as follows:

Elisa Mathias for Treasure

Doc Phillips for Secretary

Bob Bennett for Vice Chair

John DiCarlo for Chair

There were no oppositions and nominations will be closed at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM

Respectfully submitted

Donald 'Doc' Phillips / 32922

Secretary

Tri-State Grotto of the NSS

WHO'S BEEN CAVING?

10/5/19 ---- Sinkhole, Jefferson Co, WV -----

Bob & Paulette – Checked out a sinkhole right along busy Rt 340 right on the edge of the road. The opening was only 3' round but went down 4+ feet. The unique thing was that there 20-30 cave crickets gathered about 3' down next to a small hole going almost straight down. Cave crickets huh!!??

11/16/19 --- Alexander Caverns, Mifflin Co, PA -----

Members of Bald Eagle Grotto invited Red and I (Tom Griffin), Gary & Elysia to Alexander cave. This was a commercial cave many years ago on Amish land, being discreet is a necessity. I had never been there. For the most part it was a boat trip with some side leads that led to more pretty formations. The water level was low enough we were able to lay down in the boat and pull ourselves using the ceiling to make it out of the other 2 entrances. No need to fall into the water it was still very muddy. Good thing there was no current since our boat had no oars after the first stop. Lol. Afterwards we headed to an Italian restaurant for good food and lots of laughs including the waitress with a sense of humor. About 11 cavers in all.

11/17/19 ---- Whitings Neck Cave, Berkeley Co,

WV --- Ryan Mauer, Hope Brooks, another caver? and myself (Tom Griffin) met at Whitings Neck to complete the survey information. 2 areas needed done. The back past the rabbit hole and the passage to the left of the drop. After about 5 hours the survey was complete.

11/20/19 ---- Sinkhole Dig, Jefferson Co, WV -----

Tom, Beau, Bob – Dig right in the landowner's yard. Lots of old wood, steel roofing material, and large rocks. Apparently was an old filled sinkhole.

11/21/19 ---- Sinkhole Dig, Jefferson Co, WV -----

Beau, Tom, & Bob – Another dig on the same farm in a Karren rock break with apparent holes. Found lots of farm stuff including the nipples from several milking machines.

11/30/19 ---- Kookan Cave, Huntingdon Co, PA -----

Black Friday trip to Kookan. Red invited me to come along on their annual Kookan trip. I had been there once before. Then we only made a short distance due to the water. This time we did a through trip. 80-foot drop about a 30-foot narrow passage to another about 45-foot scree slope. Once at the bottom it was peanut butter mud

pretty much through the whole cave. Allotted time was about 5 hours. We completed the trip in about 3.5 hours. Red said we did not take the most direct route. After passing many horizontal hand lines, sketchy slopes, ladder bridge, spiral staircase and about a 150-foot climb using a hand line we made it out in the middle of an uncovered greenhouse. The other Penn cavers were great to hang out with. Afterwards we headed to a pizza joint where a 36-inch pizza fed 9 hungry cavers.

12/6/19 -- **Whitings Neck Cave, Berkeley Co, WV** -- I (Tom Griffin) met 3 other climbers from DC. They had a few days to travel around. I met them at Whitings Neck. They were just getting to set the drop. 2 had never caved before. Liddia, Sylvain and Samuel. For never caving before they never hesitated to hit the small leads or climb to the top of the canyon, down the rabbit hole to the very back with all the claymations. They did bring their dynamic 10.2 mm 77-meter rope. Nothing but fun climbing a dynamic rope. Afterwards we hit Indian River which they got to learn a bit about the bats, good picture opportunity. Then we headed to Donaldson's. Their energy seemed endless. If I could have found another cave, I'm sure they would have done that also. For me very tiring day, still a great day with high energy people.

12/7/19 ---- **TSG Christmas Party** -----
 We had 53 people in attendance including the owner of Jones Quarry Cave – Lots of good food & camaraderie – Jerry Bowen, Mike & Tammy Eppley, Trevor Mann, Bob Edmonds, Linda Bender, T. Allen Monger & ____ Monger, Lindsay Kerfoot, Beau Ouimette, Terry McClanathan, Sue Harbina, Doc Phillips, John & Lynn DiCarlo, Elysia & Gary Mathias, Melissa Schoeffield, A____ H____, Cody Schoeffield, Ashby Haines, JC & Judy Fisher, Jared, Dassify, Catherine, & Jay Morris, Fran Griffin, Tom Griffin, Julie Burroughs, Michael Bechm, Laure, Doug, Adam, Ryan, & Evan Oates, Don Arrowood, Janet & Rex Tinkham, Greg & Lauren McCoy, Nuch

Songsasen, Bob Gray, Danita Gladden, Derek Bennett, Justan Bennett, Natalie Karlene, DJ, June, Alice, & Winnie Bennett



Alexander Cavern (by Elysia Mathias)



Alexander Cavern (by Elysia Mathias)



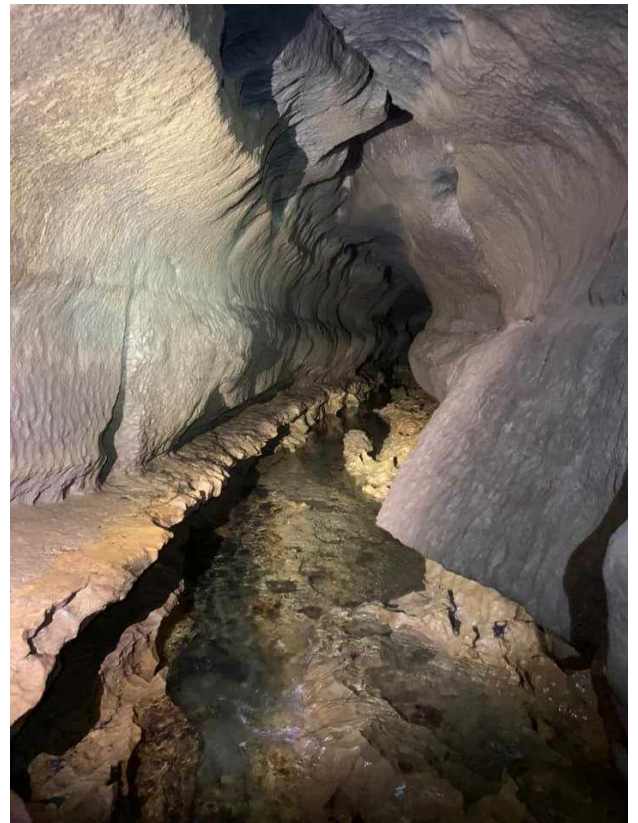
Whitings Neck Cave (by Tom Griffin)



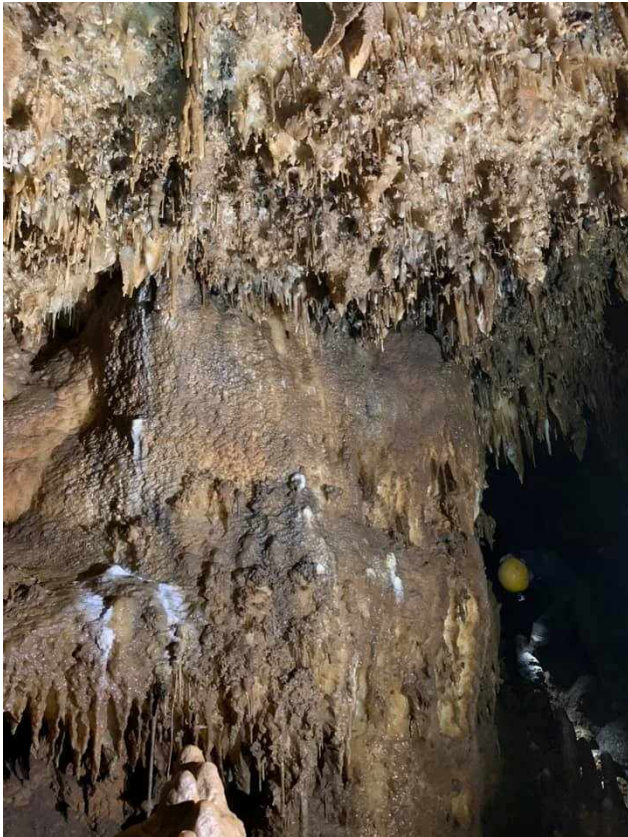
Jones Quarry Cave (by Johnny Robinson)



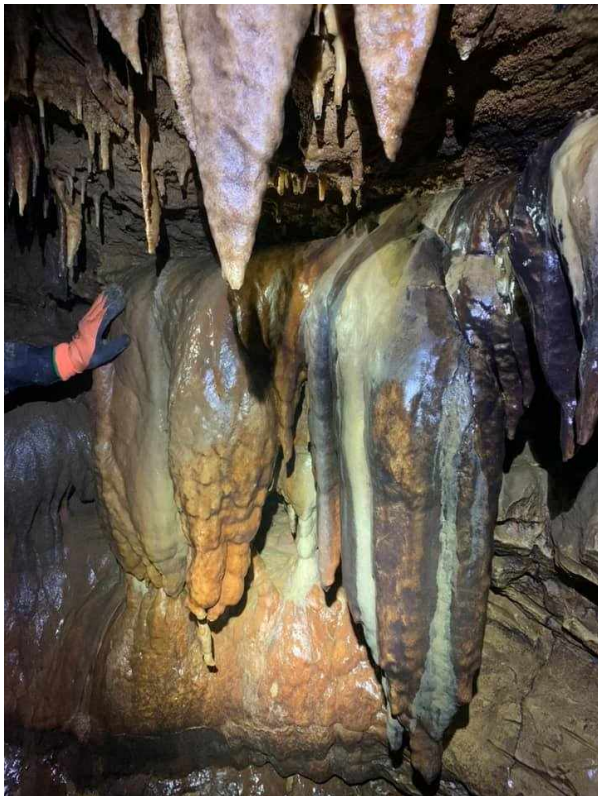
McClungs Cave (by Nathan Roser)



Bone-Norman System (by Ashley Hitchcock)



Paxtons Cave (by Ashley Hitchcock)



Great Savannah Cave System (by Ashley Hitchcock)



Christmas Party (BB)



Christmas Party (by John DiCarlo)



Christmas Party (Nuch Songsasen)





CAVIN CALENDAR

DECEMBER 8TH - JANUARY 18TH

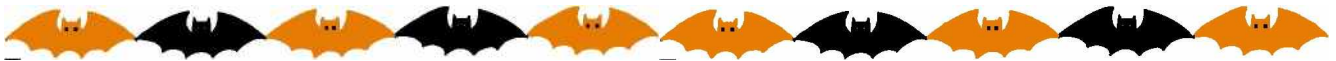


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 8	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11  Meeting 7pm Elections	Dec 12	Dec 13	Dec 14
Dec 15 Paxtons Cave - FRG	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 20	Dec 21
Dec 22  SOLSTICE	Dec 23	Dec 24  CHRISTMAS EVE	Dec 25  CHRISTMAS DAY	Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28
Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE NATIONAL CHOCOLATE DAY  NSS BAT BALL	Jan 1  NEW YEAR'S DAY NATIONAL HANGOVER DAY	Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4
Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8  Meeting 7pm ELVIS' BIRTHDAY	Jan 9 LAW ENFORCEMENT DAY FRG MEETING 7PM	Jan 10	Jan 11
Jan 12	Jan 13 NATIONAL RUBBER DUCKY DAY	Jan 14  NATIONAL DRESS UP DAY	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 17	Jan 18

DEAD DOG DISPATCH



Road Kill Cave (Photo cut from movie by Beau Ouimette)



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