

# DEAR DAG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



**PINEY RUN WATERFALL, LOUDON CO, VA**

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**2020**

**#61**

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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 picture on this month's cover was a selfie taken by Bob Bennett at Piney Run Waterfall in Loudon Co, VA. The artistic version was done by Don Beech using a program called Deep Art Effects.

\*\*\*\* 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](mailto: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!**





# CAVE EVENTS

## 2020

# CAVE BUCKS

JUN 10 --- TSG Meeting – 7pm  
 JUN 14 --- Flag Day  
 JUN 19 --- Juneteenth  
 JUN 20 --- WV Day  
**JUN 20 --- SUMMER SOLSTICE**  
**JUN 21 --- FATHERS DAY**  
 JUN 23 --- Lucky Penny Day  
**JUN 25 --- MEMORIAL DAY**  
 JUN 30 --- Discount Deadline for NSS Convention  
 (Cancelled)

**JUL 4 --- INDEPENDENCE DAY**  
 JUL 7 --- World Chocolate Day  
 JUL 8 --- TSG Meeting – 7pm  
 JUL 11 --- TSG Picnic  
 JUL 11-12 --- WVACS Classic  
**JUL 15 --- TAX DAY (Deferred)**  
 JUL 18 --- National Hot Dog Day  
 JUL 25 --- National Carousel Day  
 JUL 26 --- Parents Day  
**JUL 27-31 --- NSS Convention – Elkins, WV**  
**Virtual!!!**

AUG 2 --- International Beer Day  
 AUG 11 --- National Son & Daughter Day  
 AUG 12 --- National Middle Child Day  
 AUG 12 --- TSG Meeting – 7pm  
 AUG 13 --- Left Handers Day  
**AUG 16 --- Elvis Died!**

AUG 21 --- National Senior Citizens Day  
**SEP 3-7 --- OTR**  
 SEP 5 --- Doo Dah Parade  
 SEP 5 --- Polyester Power Hour  
**SEP 7 --- LABOR DAY**  
**SEP 9 --- TSG Meeting – 7pm**  
 SEP 11 --- Remembrance Day (9/11)  
 SEP 13 --- Grand Parents Day  
 SEP 20 --- Wife Appreciation Day  
**SEP 22 --- AUTUMN EQUINOX**  
 SEP 25 --- National Comic Book Day  
 SEP 25 --- National Daughter Day  
 SEP 28 --- National Son Day

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 ----- **\$00.00**

**TOTAL TO DATE: ----- \$7505.80**

GREAT JOB EVERYONE! Let's continue the giving! (No Cave Bucks for May. We held meeting On-Line).

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

## WEBSITE & CAVING LINKS

Tri-State Grotto ----- [www.tristategrotto.net/](http://www.tristategrotto.net/)  
 VAR ----- <http://var.caves.org/index.php>  
 NSS ----- [www.caves.org/](http://www.caves.org/)  
 NSS Convention 2020 ----- <https://nss2020.caves.org/>  
 NSS Convention 2021 ----- <http://nss2021.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/)  
 Bob's Web Site ----- [www.tristategrotto.net/Bob/](http://www.tristategrotto.net/Bob/)  
 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/)  
 Crystal Grottoes Caverns ----- [www.crystalgrottoescaverns.com](http://www.crystalgrottoescaverns.com)  
 Silers Cave ----- <https://www.karst.org/index.php/category/preserves/silers-cave-preserve/>

# GROTTO BIRTHDAYS

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Bob Bennett, Gordon Birkhimer, Hazel Bowen,  
Andy Celmer, Anya Crane, Barbara Duncan,  
Mike Eppley, Jesse Hogbin, Tim Jordan, Jennifer  
Kysar, Caiden Monger, Bill Vis

**Happy Birthday!**

# REPORTS

**TSG Meeting, May 13, 2020**

No Minutes were taken!

## Scott Hollow Tales

By Billy Gibberson

Corey Hackley and I set out to check a lead that Mike Dore had told me about that sounded like fun. We got the plans down and set off to check it out. The lead was in a remote part of the cave way up at the end of the Lost Passage. The description was a low crawl leading out an even tighter spot.

Back in the 80s John Robinson had pushed this way beyond the limits of anyone before. He reported coming out to a stream in a very-low area. It was so tight he actually had to dig his way out coming back, hmmm!! Anyway, Corey and two of his friends, which you'll have to forgive me since I forgot their names, and I made our way to the area where the lead was waiting.

We had a map but still none of us had been there, so we navigated toward the area where

the lead was. We soon came to a spot that Mike said would make or break the trip. It was a 20-ft climb that looked impossible at first so you just had to wing it. It was a blind climb-down where you had to feel for holds because you could not see them. It was one of the hardest things I've ever done. It was in the back of my head, "How the hell we would get back up it the whole time we were down there!" To get to the lead you had to belly and hands crawl. For some odd reason it was giving me a headache being low, so I let the 3 of them pass and went to check out the big passage at the bottom of the tricky climb.

I followed it down dip to place that got low but not too bad since I could see continuing passage. It pinched down but it looked diggable. As I was coming back the other 3 were coming out of the crawlway. Corey reported coming to a stream but he pushed it further until it got so tight he could no longer make progress. I've come to find that if Corey pushes something and says it doesn't go, I take his word for it.

10 years later I was back staring into the lead I mentioned before. Wow how time flies! It didn't look anything like I remembered it, but I did bring some digging tools this time and started digging away at the pinch. Damn what had I got myself into! It was easy digging but very low. I returned a month later with a dig pan and made good progress until I hit a barrier. It was a slab of chert just big enough to keep me from going any further. I could see a passage at the end of a belly crawl that looked like it got bigger around a corner. The only thing was it was taking 2 and a half hours to get there and by the time you dug for an hour you were spent! It was brutal work digging and hauling out dirt in a very snug area. I made several trips up there and got a nice size spot dug out, but the barrier and the distance to get to this area burned me out for a while.

I still haven't busted thru so I went on to another lead Dore told me about years ago. It's up near an area called Hopkins Maze. This area has a very odd thing about it. When it was first surveyed every station was off by 15 ft every 100 ft, and good survey is only off 1 ft every 100 ft. Thinking that the first survey crew made mistakes, it was resurveyed and the same thing happened. No one knows quite sure why this is happening. Maybe there is iron ore or even a crashed flying saucer! Who knows??

Back to the lead: I went up into the top of a major breakdown pile and removed some really heavy rocks. I got a space big enough to go down. Crap another dead end, or so I thought. A year later something told me to go back, so I slid down and dug out a an easily overlooked tight spot, I kicked out some mud and clay and slid down. I came to a flat breakdown boulder. What happened next will be something I will never forget!! I looked down into a huge void! I was confused for a second and thought I was on the side where i came up, but it wasn't, ha ha! I had just found a way around a major breakdown choke and of course the way my luck goes I was gonna have to have a pry bar to move two rocks out of a crack in order to get down. Well I got them removed on the next trip found a maze of passages, and lots of air coming out in just about every side passage. All of these were stooping but have good potential. The main passage goes east, there is another collapse but it's not terminal, and it has tons of air coming out of it. I haven't got back to push that part yet but maybe I'll have a good trip report when I do! I still haven't been to the other dig at the end of North South Passage, but I think I'm on to something major!!!



## OBITUARY

Recently, Corey Majtyka, one of TSG members passed-away. Kevin Hughes has asked to have a remembrance to honor Corey in the Grotto Newsletter! I know that I for one will miss Corey. He went on several ridgewalks with us and always seemed to be the 1<sup>st</sup> to check out any hole that we found! (Bob B).

Here is what Kevin sent:



### Corey Ronald Majtyka

Date of Death: March 22, 2020

In lieu of flowers, please remember Corey by making time to reach out to an old friend, do a favor for someone, or have a good laugh with someone you love.

*"It's not the number of years in your life, but the amount of life in your years."*

*– Adlai Stevenson*

Corey passed away suddenly in Winchester, VA at the age of 49. He was an inspiration to his family; the cherished son of Patty and Ron,

amazing father to Matthew and Morgan; life partner of Arlene, devoted brother of Jeff (Blair) and Heather (Mike); and beloved uncle to Ethan, Kendall, Padraic, Ben, Madeline and Logan. Corey will be greatly missed by his extended family in Michigan, and was a treasured, loyal friend to too many to name.

Corey was a man who made life happen, no matter the obstacles or challenges. He built his own business, and his craftsmanship will endure in many homes across the area. His heart was as big as the outdoors he loved, from bowhunting on the Blue Ridge Mountains to kayaking and wakeboarding on Virginia's rivers and lakes. He rappelled into deep caves throughout the south and as far as Belize. Corey imparted his love and knowledge of the outdoors as a Scout leader and was especially proud when his two boys were awarded the rank of Eagle Scout.

Corey's personal qualities outshone all of his accomplishments, from his generosity of spirit to his sense of humor and a strong sense of self. Corey believed ingenuity and hard work could solve any problem; he was the first to roll up his sleeves and was a great teacher to those who didn't know where to start.

Above all else, family came first for Corey. He filled our homes with light and laughter at every family gathering and his spirit will be irreplaceable.

For Corey, happiness was simple: love of family, loyal friendships, and a hard day's work with his dogs by his side. If Corey called you a friend, you were one for life. It's been said he'd give you the shirt off his back ... and not just because he hated wearing one!

Corey's life celebration will be scheduled at a future date. Until then and in lieu of flowers, please remember him by making time to reach out to an old friend, do a favor for someone, or have a good laugh with someone you love.

Leave A Message, Share A Memory

**Charles & Sharon Poindexter** left a message on April 11, 2020:

In memory of Corey Ronald Majtyka, Charles & Sharon Poindexter lit a candle

**Carla gross** left a message on April 8, 2020:

In memory of Corey Ronald Majtyka, Carla gross lit a candle

**Kathy and Dave Olimpi** left a message on April 6, 2020:

We send our sympathy and are so sorry for your loss. Corey always took care of the neighbors when it snowed and plowed driveways without being asked. His love of family and his beloved dogs was so apparent—our thoughts are with you at this difficult time.

**Mike Gill** left a message on April 6, 2020:

I was referred to Corey by a friend of his to do a project at my home. It and all subsequent projects were completed to his high standard of perfection. Even though I was 20 years his senior, we had much in common, especially his taste in music. I will miss his good humor and zest for life. Next time I buy donuts, I'll be sure to get 2 blueberry ones in his memory. My heart goes out to his Family and Friends for their loss.

**Paul and Monika Martin** left a message on April 4, 2020:

Monika and I are so sorry for your loss. Corey was very much a part of our lives the past few years. His projects are everywhere in our home from the screened porch down to all the new the doorknobs. We hardly ever undertook a project that didn't have a "Corey" factor. We are privileged to have called him our friend.

Peace of mind is a call away. We're here when you need us most.

**Steve & Katrina Hawes** left a message on April 4, 2020:

Katrina and I want to extend our deepest sympathies to you and your family. We will always remember Corey as the fun loving person that we met at your 75th birthday. He was gregarious, and full of love for his mother and father, as well as his whole wonderful family. Please know that we are praying for you at this unbelievable time. Steve and Katrina Hawes

**Brad texter** left a message on April 3, 2020:

In memory of Corey Ronald Majtyka, Brad texter lit a candle

**Alaria Sun** left a message on April 1, 2020:

Corey was truly one of a kind!!! To know him was to love him! He flies with the angels!!! I am sorry for your loss!

**Laura Owens-Korkmaz** left a message on March 31, 2020:

I'm sincerely sorry for loss of such a unique person. I will always remember singing with Corey in the children's choir at Christmas in the old St. Francis church.

**Tony Swope** left a message on March 29, 2020:

I and my family are so sorry. The loss of Corey leaves a void in all of our hearts.

**Thomas Laignel** left a message on March 29, 2020:

I will always remember that Black Leather Jacket at the CYO meetings and gatherings!!! Love to his family and Mom! Tom

**David Whitehurst** left a message on March 28, 2020:

We had some of the best times of my life. You did a phenomenal job raising your boys. I'll never forget you.

**mike myers** left a message on March 28, 2020:

he was a good friend and will be missed

**Amy East** left a message on March 28, 2020:

I am so saddened by this news. I have the best memories of my childhood friend Corey: from being dared to eat grass in Ms. Whitehouse's class to earn money to buy our scooter crunch, watching a giant movie your dad projected for all of us on your birthday, stone soup in second grade and saying me Corey and Chris were all going to get married. Happy laughs! Much light and healing to your family.

**Harry Everhart** left a message on March 28, 2020:

In memory of Corey Ronald Majtyka, Harry Everhart lit a candle

**Rhea and Gary** left a message on March 28, 2020:

So very sorry for your loss. May all your good memories help support you during this difficult time. You and your entire family are in our thoughts.

**Dorinda and David** left a message on March 27, 2020:

Sending all our thoughts to you and your family during this time. Lots of hugs.

**David Chmiel** left a message on March 27, 2020:

Jeff and family, We are so sorry to hear of your brother's passing. Cherish every great moment you had together and live each day in celebration of his memory. Please know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers. Peace, The Chmiel family

**Nancy Dunn** left a message on March 27, 2020:

I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with the family, especially Morgan and Mathew.

**Heidi Henckel** left a message on March 27, 2020:

While I never got to meet him, I know was an amazing person. My thoughts and prayers to all of his amazing family and friends.

Peace of mind is a call away. We're here when you need us most.

**Karin Leone** left a message on March 27, 2020:

If you were a friend of Willies, you're a friend of mine. Fly with the birds

**Kathleen Fowler** left a message on March 27, 2020:

I had the pleasure of meeting Corey on several occasions when he came to Fauquier High to celebrate Matthew and Morgan. His love for those boys shone clear through his eyes, and his pride in their accomplishments was absolute. While I didn't know him well, I saw much of him in both Matt and Mo - or Lupus and Aquila, as they were known in Latin class - and heard about him through their stories. My thoughts are with Corey's family, especially with Matthew and Morgan.

**Jackie Allison** left a message on March 26, 2020:

My deepest condolences to Corey's family and most especially Matthew and Morgan. Corey was a wonderful man, but his real legacy is the love and devotion he had to the boys. You'll be missed, Corey, but I'll always remember you whenever I look at the work you did around my house!

**Guy Frederic Tillson** left a message on March 26, 2020:

I remember most a Christmas Mass in Purcellville when Corey and his mother Patty joined in singing a special contemporary Christmas carol. The two of them smiled as they sang. It was a delight to see and hear. I hold him, his family, his parents, and his siblings in my hearts and prayers. I am sorry they have to endure such a shocking loss. I pray that God will comfort and strengthen them all.

**Roger Younker** left a message on March 25, 2020:

There are times in a person's life where one crosses paths with another and you develop a tremendous amount of respect and admiration. Corey was that person for me where I appreciated his sense of humor, wonderful life stories and life lessons and such a creative and hard working person. We used to shoot pool together all of the time and would solve all of the world's problems. Well, mostly Corey was solving the world's problems and I was just agreeing with his ideas. I will miss him dearly..

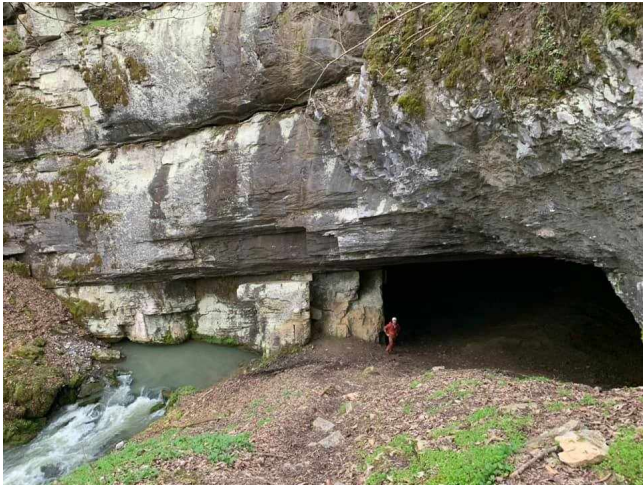


Emily Majtyka left a message on March 24, 2020:  
In memory of Corey Ronald Majtyka, Emily Majtyka  
lit a candle





# GROTTO PHOTOS



Worleys Cave (by Ashley Hitchcock)



Worleys (AshleyH)



Hancock Cave (Ashley H)



Pet salamander in Hancock (AshleyH)

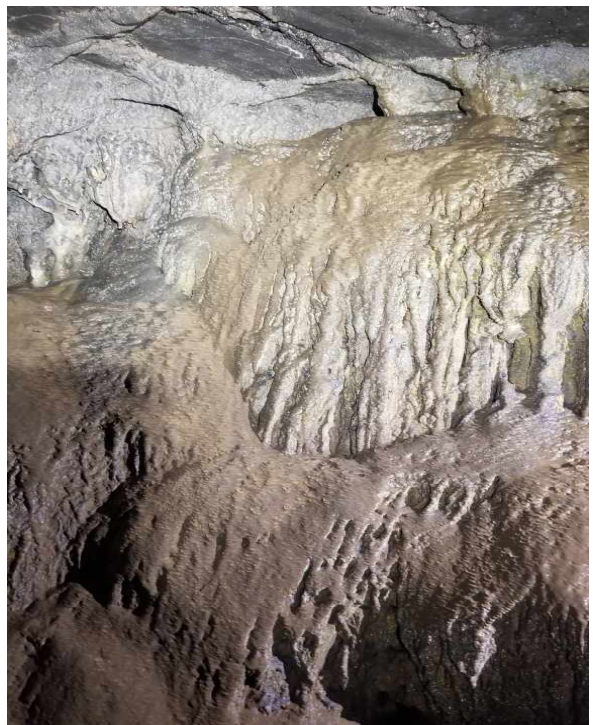


New Cave (Beau Ouimette)





More of Beau's New Cave



Conodoguinet Cave (Tom Griffin)



Darbin Mine (Gary Mathias)



Hampshire Co Resurgence (BobB)



# CAVIN CALENDAR

JUNE 7TH - JULY 18TH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Jun 7</b> Bubble Weekend Cancelled	Jun 8	Jun 9	<b>Jun 10</b>  Virtual Meeting 7pm	Jun 11	Jun 12	Jun 13
<b>Jun 14</b>  FLAG DAY	Jun 15	Jun 16	Jun 17	Jun 18	<b>Jun 19</b> JUNETEENTH	<b>Jun 20</b>  SOLSTICE WV DAY
<b>Jun 21</b> FATHERS DAY	Jun 22	<b>Jun 23</b>  Lucky Penny Day	Jun 24	Jun 25	Jun 26	Jun 27
Jun 28	Jun 29	Jun 30	Jul 1	Jul 2	Jul 3	<b>Jul 4</b> 
Jul 5	Jul 6	<b>Jul 7</b> World Chocolate Day	<b>Jul 8</b>  Meeting 7pm	Jul 9	Jul 10	Jul 11
Jul 12	Jul 13	Jul 14	<b>Jul 15</b> TAX DAY (Deferred)	Jul 16	Jul 17	<b>Jul 18</b> National Hot Dog Day



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*Photo found on Ebay (by Jerry Bowen)*

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**TO:**

