

DEAR DAG DISPATCH TRI-STATE CROTTO



DONALDSON CAVE, BERKELEY CO, WV

VOL. #35

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OCT

2020

#109

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TRI-STATE GROTTTO OFFICERS

CHAIR - John DiCarlo - 301-432-2323
j.dicarlo@myactv.net

V-CHAIR - Bob Bennett - 304-671-0344
gimpycaver@comcast.net

TREASURER- Elysia Mathias – 443-695-5350
emathiasmba@gmail.com

SECRETARY – Donald ‘Doc’ Phillip
703-583-0390
thosearemagicbeans@gmail.com

Member At Large - Tom Griffin - 240-676-3184
A1TopCatDesign@gmail.com

Conservation Chair -

Equipment Chair - Doc Phillips - 703-583-0390
thosearemagicbeans@gmail.com

Membership Chair - Bob Bennett -304-671-0344
Newsletter Editor --- Bob Bennett ----304-671-0344
Funding - Paulette Bennett -304-671-8317

P R Chair -----
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SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP-\$12.00 (Non-Voting)
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or can be SENT TO:

ELYSIA MATHIAS, TREASURER
TRI-STATE GROTTTO of the NSS
133 DEVONSHIRE RD.
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
443-695-5350
E-MAIL: emathiasmba@gmail.com

For MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION contact:

BOB BENNETT, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
TRI-STATE GROTTTO of the NSS
464 HUCKLEBERRY DR.
GERRARDSTOWN, WV 25420-0211
304-821-4621
E-MAIL: gimpycaver@comcast.net

** The photo on this month's cover was taken by Shawn Harris in Donaldson Cave, Berkeley Co, WV. It shows his son Benjamin walking through the flooded passage between the 2 big rooms.

**** 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!



CAVE EVENTS

2020

OCT 3 ---- Skyline Karst Trail Maintenance –
9:30 am - FRG
OCT 12 --- Columbus Day
OCT 14 --- TSG Meeting (Virtual) – 7pm –
Annual Auction cancelled!
OCT 17 --- Bridge Day (Cancelled)
OCT 30 --- Devil's Night
OCT 31 --- All Hallow Eve (Halloween)
OCT 31 --- National Knock Knock Joke Day
NOV 1 --- Day of the Dead
NOV 1 --- **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS**
NOV 3 --- Election Day
NOV 7 --- Ogdens Cave Sinkhole Cleanup - FRG
NOV 10 --- Vivian Monger's Birthday
(Owner of Jones Quarry Cave)
NOV 11 --- Veterans Day
NOV 11 --- TSG Meeting – 7pm -Nominations
for Officers
NOV 14 --- WVCC Banquet – 7pm (Cancelled)
NOV 16 --- Sadie Hawkins Day
NOV 21 --- World Hello Day
NOV 26 --- **THANKSGIVING DAY**
NOV 27 ---Day After Thanksgiving
DEC 4 --- National Cookie Day
DEC 9 --- TSG Meeting 7pm – Elections Officers
DEC 12 --- **Annual TSG Christmas Celebration**
– 6pm (Cancelled)
DEC 21 --- WINTER SOLSTICE
DEC 22 --- National Short Person Day
DEC 24 --- **Christmas Eve**
DEC 24 --- National Chocolate Day
DEC 25 --- **CHRISTMAS DAY**
DEC 30--- National Bacon Day
DEC 30 --- Annual NSS Bat Ball
DEC 31 --- New Year's Eve



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 SEP ----- **\$24.01**

TOTAL TO DATE: ----- **\$7529.81**

GREAT JOB EVERYONE! Let's continue the giving! (**Cave Bucks for September.**)

**The last 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/>
NSS Convention 2021 ----- <http://nss2021.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/
Crystal Grottoes Caverns
www.crystalgrottoescaverns.com
Silers Cave -----
<https://www.karst.org/index.php/category/preserves/silers-cave-preserve/>



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

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Bob Denton, Debbie Floyd, Ashby Haines, Zack Haney, Chrissy Hogbin, Larry Powell

Happy Birthday!



TSG Meeting, September 9, 2020

John called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. The meeting was again held online because of the pandemic.

Elysia read the treasurer's report and it was approved.

Bob read the minutes and they were approved.

Old Business

Bob checked the Wayback Machine Website and found a copy the old Grotto website. In clicking links on it, it was exhibiting the same issues that were caused by the virus. Because of that, he suggested to start over from scratch in building new website, and to only use that copy as a pattern.

Elysia will make an announcement on the Grotto Listserv about being able to pay dues through Facebook Pay.

New Business

The board of directors will come up with a process to hold the election online this year. The grotto auction will not be held this year due to the meeting being online.

Jeff reported that the DNR is considering whether or not to do winter bat counts because of concern of spreading the corona virus to the bat population. Although unlikely, there is currently an investigation as to whether humans can pass it to bats.

In regard to paying NSS dues, Bill suggested going on the NSS website and log into your profile where you can check on your history of payments to see if you are on auto dues renewal.

Don reported he has old newsletters from the Waynesboro Speleological Club. He also reported that he is excusing himself as spokesperson for Baker Caverns and would like someone to take his place. He had been dealing with the woman who is the new owner, who seemed to welcome his assistance. But then he had a strange encounter with the woman's sister who didn't care for him being around. Don also reported that he was talking to someone across the road from Cedar Grove Schoolhouse Cave who said a house was built there and the cave is gone.

Bob reported on a few caves. Someone had requested a kayak trip into Baker Quarry. Clark's Cave is open, but you have to drive across the field and repel down the cliffs. The owner of Jones Quarry Cave asked for a key and he gave it to him. Jones Quarry has been quiet. Donaldson's Cave has been busy. There is currently not much water in it. He will be changing the combination on the lock soon, which is done every so often.

Tom reported that there is a new NSS Administrative VP who is working on building preserves to be able to work with other conservatories. He also reported that 2 keys for the new lock were sent to the Baker Quarry caretaker.

There are 4 new books by WVASS (West Virginia Speleological Survey):

The Caves and Karst of Mercer and Summers Counties

The Caves and Karst of Monroe County

The Caves and Karst of Hardy County

The Caves and Karst of Western Greenbrier County

Trips

Elysia went to Gandy and met Denny Nelson.

Tom went to Kimbles Pit with Terry and some Franklin Grotto people.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn DiCarlo Substitute
For Doc Phillips, Secretary



Wow! Would you believe it! TSG has two (2) members who have been NSS members for 50 years! Yep, you heard it right, 50 years! Terry McClanathan & Bob Edmonds both have been members of the National Speleological Society for 50 years. It's always an honor to have one (1) in that category, but two (2) is unheard of!

Congratulations to Terry & Bob!
Maybe you can make it 50 more!

Cavers Slang Dictionary

The following was from a long-ago past website. I no longer can find the website. It was furnished to me by Jeff Hajenga way back in 2005.

From the following site . . .

http://www.umsi.edu/~joellaws/ozark_caving/caves_lng.htm

Cavers Slang Dictionary

From the Cavers' Digest electronic mailing list.

Compiled by Tom Moss, Edited for the WWW by Joel Laws.

This compendium of cavers' terms comes from postings by individuals from all over the world, and

reflect the lingo of various regions. The contributors: Paul Aughey, Less Bartel, Ken Byrd, Donald Davis, Michael DeChaine, Jeff Dilcher, Mark Dougherty, Bill Franz, Rob Harper, Malcolm Herbert, Dave Linton, Mark Minton, Graham Proudlove, Frank Reid, Bill Steel, Andy Waddington, Joel Laws, Tim Harrison, Jon Hagee, Greg Barnes, C. Acklin, Mike Dawson, et al, and others.

In taking these out of their original context, I (Jeff) have edited some of them to match the dictionary-style format, and combined some of the terms with multiple meanings for different cavers or regions. I also added a few of my own.

[A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S
[T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z]

Air Rappel - an accidental fall down a pit.

Armchair caver - one who talks about caving more than going underground.

Modern version is the 'virtual' caver.

Baby Hog - a not-so-long coil of rope to be carried through a cave. See Hog.

Babysitting - referring to those cavers who can cave one day of the weekend, while they look after the kids for the other day.

Bang - explosives.

Beady Eye - A candle. From Balch's Dependable Illuminant (B.D.I.)

BFR - Big F*cking Rock. A bomb-proof anchor; bad news if it really isn't!

Bide - carbide.

Biner - carabiner. See Krab.

Birth canal - that passage which reminds you of some certain part of the female anatomy.

BNC - Big-Name Caver (usually complimentary, but sometimes connotes self-styled, or a speleopolitician).

BO! Shout used in lieu of whistle signals in Southeast US TAG area.

Bomb Box - army surplus ammunition box explosives are packed in for transport through a cave.

Bomb Proof - (1) suitable natural rig point. (2) any belay which has a vast overkill of security, or any sort of shoring or other equipment whose safety in no doubt.

Booty - virgin cave passage. See Scoop.

Bottomed or Bottomed Out- reaching the lowest point of a vertical cave.

Brain Bucket - helmet.

Carbide Assist -refers to "encouragement" of a caver (esp. slow cavers) in a crawlway by a close following carbide caver.

Carbide Pig - a length of knotted car inner-tube used for carrying carbide in caves. Also known as piglets (if made from bicycle inner-tube - often pink).

Cardboard Caver - a caver who turns around at the first sign of wetness - so that his/her layers don't delaminate.

Ceiling Burner - belt-generator carbide lamp with vertical flame. See Gobbler.

Cell - almost any electric light, but particularly its battery pack.

Chair Sucker (rope sucker, stove sucker, etc.) - one who use someone else's gear while the other person is preoccupied with something else. "I got up to get something to eat and someone sucked my chair!"

Chest Compressor - a crawl that cannot be negotiated by an individual without exhaling.

Chicken Loops - ankle slings incorporated in vertical systems so foot stirrups cannot come off if the climber hangs upside down.

Craps Out - passage ends.

Cratering - too fast a rappel ending with too quick a stop. "Put a knot in the end of the rope or ya' might crater."

Cave Burritos - the containers of fecal waste, normally triple-bagged in Ziplocks, removed in one's pack from Lechuguilla Cave.

Chemical Persuasion - explosives.

Cong-stompers - Vietnam combat boots.

Cow's Tail - (1) a very short loop of 15-20cm strap from the sit-harness. (2) A much longer safety loop, so that the krab at the end is just about at the arm's reach. This is what early SRT protagonists in the UK called a "Claude loop" after Jean-Claude Dobrill who first pioneered their use in Europe.

Dangle - strap used to hang packs out of the way below your feet while on rappel. See Donkey Dick

Death March - particularly grueling caving trip.

Disco Arms, Disco Legs - State of bodily dysfunction resulting from standing on thin ledges and over-extending your reach whilst placing hangers.

Doing a Neil - local South Wales Caving Club term, for a keen caver trying his best to overtake people to get to the front of a party.

Donkey Dick - (1) a length of knotted inner-tube used for carrying carbide in caves. (2) A strap used for carrying tackle sacks so they hang out of the way below your feet while on rappel. Also known as a "Dangle" in the US.

Dufus (or doofus) - an inept caver.

Eardip - water passage that gets so low that you must drag one's ear on the ceiling, while the other dips below the water.

E-Caving - one who experiences caving electronically. Usually via a computer, E-Mail, the Internet, BBSs, etc.

E-Caver - one who spends more time E-Caving than actually going underground. See Keyboard Caver, Paper Caver.

Enduro Caver - one who often goes on death march or grunt trips.

Entrance Fever - when a caver is anxious to get out of the cave.

Flail - Poor (or energy wasting) climbing technique. "I saw this guy try to get over a lip and he was flailing all over the place!"

Flat Rock - banging someone unconscious (on purpose or not) with a rock. (1) when a BFR falls on the caver at the bottom of the pit. (2) first aid technique to eliminate the need to rescue an injured caver.

Ghar Parau'd (as in Ghar Parau Pakistan) - what the cave has done to you if you organize a full expedition to return to it only to find after days of rigging that it goes round a corner (or down a short pitch) and sumps or chokes out.

Gobbler - expedition-style waist-mounted carbide lamp generator, because of the rate at which carbide is consumed. See Ceiling Burner.

Gnar (also Knar) - a narrow passage which has popcorn or other features which catch on packs and tear clothing.

Goes - the report on a lead that says it continues.

Goosh - boiled condensed milk (caramel).

Gorilla Dicks - large Vienna sausages sold in Mexico.

Gorp - "Good Ol' Raisins and Peanuts" - popular cave food.

Grimbly - Greasy. from the "Grimbly Chimbley", a common term for the Greasy Chimney in Swildon's Hole, Mendip. Popular in "Grimbly thrutch".

Grots - any caving clothing, save only that it is well used.

Grunt - a rugged and challenging caving trip requiring some extra effort.

Hardman's handbag - a term which never really caught on (I wonder why?) for a small pack containing vertical hardware.

Hardware - refers to 'biners, racks, figure 8's, ascenders, bolts, etc. -- the metallic paraphernalia of vertical caving.

Hog - a log coil of rope to be carried through a cave.

Hydrothermia - hypothermia from being submerged in water, or from hanging on rope in a waterfall.

Instant Cave - explosives.

Janglies - assorted SRT ironmongery.

Jack - decision not to continue with or start the trip.

Keyboard Caver - a person who spends more time reading the Caver's mailing list than actually going caving. See Paper Caver, E-Caver.

Knobbly Dog - like half of a wire ladder. It has a single length of wire and the "rungs" are drilled in the centre, threaded into the wire and fixed by any convenient means.

Knot - Trendy new word which often follows an absurd statement. "I climbed Fantastic Pit on helicals....Knot!"

Krab - Karabiner.

Lipping - puckering one's lips into severely low airspace between water and ceiling. Frequently referred to a "MASUing" from the acronym Minimal Air Space Utilization, invented by cave divers to conceal the fact that they weren't actually diving at the time...

"Little black rocks to make fire" - Calcium Carbide.

Low Air (also Low Airspace) - small airspace between water and the ceiling.

Minion - anyone (usually hypothermic) conned into being a model or holding flash guns on a photographic trip.

Monkey dicks - Vienna sausages.

Mundane - a non-caver.

Nerd Caver - a flashlight spelunker wearing low top tennis shoes and carrying a can of spray paint.

Nerd Gate - natural, but over-comeable barrier in a cave passage preventing wimps from going any further into a cave.

Nurdles - lumps of unused carbide in expended carbide dump bag.

On Point (On Station) - comment to let instrument reader know you are ready for survey measurement reading.

Oneyedsulu - Derogatory term applied to a person puffed up with their own importance. This type of person begins every caving story with "When I soloed..."

Paper Caver (P C) - a caver who does more caving on paper than underground. See Armchair Caver, Keyboard Caver, E-Caver.

Pig - (1) See Carbide Pig. (2) a hauling container made from two-gallon plastic bottles with their bottoms cut off, filled with whatever, and then jammed together and taped or tied securely.

Useful for tethering to your leg to drag gear through lots of crawlways. (3) generic term for anything which is a bastard to carry thru a nasty cave !!

Pinky Load - originated in Huautla to describe underground camping duffle bags which were so light they could be picked up with the small finger. (2) used to indicate a person is not carrying their share of group gear.

Pitch - the most commonly used term for a vertical drop (at least in Britain it is!)

Pitching or Pinching a Loaf - defecating, dump. See Cave Burritos, Screaming Yellow Zonkers

Pot Holing - What cavers in Great Brittan refer to when they enter caves with vertical entrances.

Rock Solvent - explosives.

Romping into Big Stuff - term used for encouragement, before going digging, in a sordid dig, or afterwards in the pub.

Rout - to exit the cave. "We were trashed, so we routed for the entrance."

Safety Loop - a length of rope which connects your top ascender to the sit harness in case the chest/seat ascender fails.

Scoop - (1) speleobopping through cave passage instead of surveying it, therefore ripping off the virgin passage some other caver would have to survey later. (2) to discover virgin cave, no negative connotations.

Screaming Yellow Zonkers - diarrhea.

Sherp - to act as a Sherpa. "We sherped 80 pounds of rope up to the pit."

Sherpa - person who carries loads of gear for someone else or to supply a latter effort.

Short Roped. (1) When a pitch is rigged with a too-short rope (hopefully with a knot in the end!). (2) When the person preceding you on a rope climbs

over the lip and accidentally pulls the rope up beyond your reach.

Squeeze - (1) a tight spot or constriction. (2) SpeleoBabe

Speleobopper - (1) teenybopper in a cave (2) Flashlight caver (3) A caver who participates on in sport caving. See Dufus, Nerd Caver.

Spelunk - (1) The sound made by a caver hitting the bottom of a pit. See Air Rappel. (2) The sound made by a caver walking through water 1 to 1.5 feet deep.

Spelunker - person who goes into caves without proper equipment or the desire to learn/practice proper safety/conservation techniques.
Example: When five people go spelunking, everyone has well-worn tennis shoes, two might have flashlights, one claims to know about the cave, and none in the group has a helmet. The word spelunker comes from the sound one makes when they slip, fall, and land in a pool of water - SPEEE-LUNK!
The difference between a Spelunker and a Caver is: Cavers rescue Spelunkers!

Sporting - statement to imply positive images of a challenging, wet, muddy, less than easy cave. "It's a sporting cave!"

SRT - (1) Single Rope Techniques. (2) Solid Rubber Trussing.

Stink - carbide.

Stinkies - carbide lamps.

Stout - refers to a caver with almost superhuman strength and endurance.

Tight Spot - a squeeze.

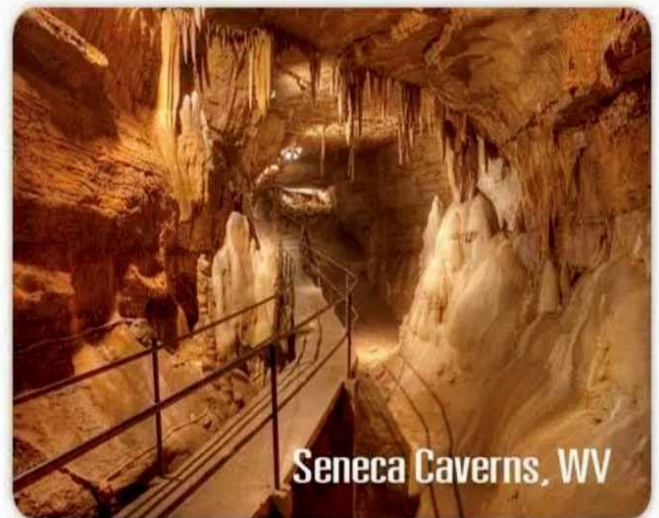
Torotion - cave modification, especially digging ledges around pits. After Bill Torode, Huntsville caver.

Winker - (1) A fray in a caving rope when the core is exposed. (2) a follower of Sister Winkie, the Ozark Caving Deity.

Winse - a vertical shaft in a mine between levels (i.e. it does not connect directly with the surface). This is also known as a Rise if it's encountered from the bottom.

Wooly bear - fibre pile caving undersuit.

Wuffo - a non-caver who asks "Wuffo you go in them caves?" See Mundane [Borrowed from skydiving terminology]



This photo was supplied by Jerry Bowen. He purchased it on Ebay.



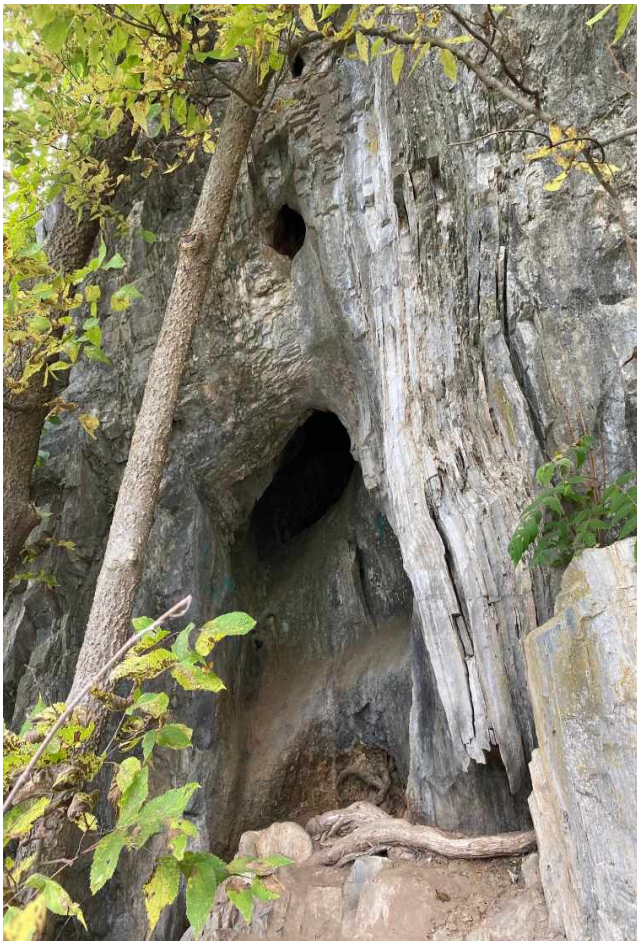
Furnished by Bob Gulden. It shows Bob Gulden in Izaak Walton Cave in Randolph Co, WV. Bob says passage goes & still needs mapping.



Sinks of Gandy (BB)



Howell Cave (Shawn Harris)



Chimney along C&O Canal (Tom G)



McMiner Cave (Beau-Aquachigger)



Dellingers Cave (Ashby Haines)



CAVIN CALENDAR

OCTOBER 11TH - NOVEMBER 21ST



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct 11 Fall TAG Cave-In Cancelled	Oct 12 COLUMBUS DAY	Oct 13	Oct 14  Virtual Meeting 7pm	Oct 15	Oct 16	Oct 17 Bridge Day Cancelled
<i>Oct 18</i>	<i>Oct 19</i>	<i>Oct 20</i>	<i>Oct 21</i>	<i>Oct 22</i>	<i>Oct 23</i>	<i>Oct 24</i>
<i>Oct 25</i>	<i>Oct 26</i>	<i>Oct 27</i>	<i>Oct 28</i>	Oct 29 Summer Cave Carnival, TN	Oct 30 Summer Cave Carnival, TN Devil's Night	Oct 31 Summer Cave Carnival, TN  HALLOWEEN ALL HALLOW EVE
Nov 1 Summer Cave Carnival, TN Day of the Dead Daylight Saving Time Ends	<i>Nov 2</i>	Nov 3 Election Day	<i>Nov 4</i>	<i>Nov 5</i>	<i>Nov 6</i>	Nov 7 Ogdens Cave Sinkhole Cleanup - FRG
<i>Nov 8</i>	<i>Nov 9</i>	Nov 10 Vivian Monger Borthday (Owner of Jones Quarry)	Nov 11 Veterans Day  Meeting 7pm Virtual	<i>Nov 12</i>	<i>Nov 13</i>	Nov 14 WWCC Banquet Cancelled
<i>Nov 15</i>	<i>Nov 16</i>	<i>Nov 17</i>	<i>Nov 18</i>	<i>Nov 19</i>	<i>Nov 20</i>	Nov 21 World Hello Day

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Key Cave (Doc Phillips)



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TRI-STATE GROTTO OF THE NSS
BOB BENNETT, BOB BENNETT, EDITOR
464 HUCKLEBERRY DR
GERRARDSTOWN, WV 25420-0344
304-671-0344
gimpycaver@comcast.net



TO:

