

Hey Santa !!!!

DEAD DOG DISPATCH

TRI-STATE GROTTO



SANTAS CHIMNEY, JEFFERSON CO, WV

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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
caver182@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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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 the cover shows 4 cavers looking for Santa Clause at Santas Chimney, Berkeley Co, WV. The photo was taken by Tom Griffin.

**** 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!



DEAD DOG DISPATCH

V.#36

I.#12

DEC

2021

#148

CAVING EVENTS

2021

DEC 4 ---- National Cookie Day
DEC 7 --- Pearl Harbor Day
DEC 8 --- National Brownie Day
DEC 8 --- TSG meeting – 7pm – Grotto Elections
DEC 11 --- TSG Grotto Christmas Party – 6pm – Live & virtual
DEC 21 --- Winter Solstice
DEC 22 --- Short Person Day
DEC 23 --- FESTIVUS DAY
DEC 24 --- Christmas Eve
DEC 24 --- National Chocolate Day
DEC 25 --- Christmas Day
DEC 26 --- National Candy Cane Day
DEC 30 --- National Bacon Day
DEC 31 --- Annual BAT BALL – NSS Hdqtrs
DEC 31 --- New Years Eve

2022

JAN 1 --- NEW YEARS DAY
JAN 1 --- National Hangover Day
JAN 1 --- Polar Bear Plunge Day
JAN 8 --- Elvis Birthday
JAN 9 --- Law Enforcement Day
JAN 12 --- TSG Meeting – 7pm – Live & Virtual
JAN 13 --- Rubber Ducky Day
JAN 14 --- National Dress Up Day
JAN 16 --- Nothing Day
JAN 17 --- Martin Luther King Day
JAN 19 --- Popcorn Day
JAN 22 --- Hot Sauce Day
JAN 22 --- Allen Monger (Owner of Jones Quarry) Birthday
JAN 24 --- Peanut Butter Day
JAN 24 --- TSG BIRTHDAY
JAN 25 --- National Pancake Day
JAN 26 --- National Spouses Day
JAN 27 --- Chocolate Cake Day
JAN 28 --- Fun at Work Day
JAN 28 --- National Kazoo Day
FEB 1 --- Bubble Gum Day
FEB 2 --- Groundhog Day
FEB 5 --- Work Naked Day
FEB 6 --- Super Bowl

FEB 9 --- National Pizza Day
FEB 9 --- TSG Meeting – 7pm – Live & Virtual
FEB 14 --- Valentines Day
FEB 21 --- Presidents Day
FEB 28 --- National Tooth Fairy Day
MAR 1 --- Peanut Lover Day
MAR 9 --- TSG meeting – 7pm – Live & Virtual
MAR 13 --- Daylight Saving Time Starts
MAR 14 --- Dr Latterell birthday (Owner of Molers Cave)
MAR 14 --- PII Day
MAR 14 --- National Potato Chip Day
MAR 17 --- St Patricks Day
MAR 19 --- Let's Laugh Day
MAR 20 --- Spring Equinox
MAR 21 --- Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
MAR 22 --- National Goof Off Day
MAR 22 --- World Water Day
MAR 25 --- MD Day
MAR 25 --- Medal of Honor 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 NOVEMBER ----- **\$12.00**
TOTAL TO DATE: ----- **\$7728.83**

GREAT JOB EVERYONE! Let's continue the giving!

Keep It Coming!

WEBSITE & CAVING LINKS

DEAD DOG DISPATCH

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2021

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Tri-State Grotto ----- www.tristategrotto.org/
 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/
 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/>



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

John Fox, Sir Adame Grigsby, Corey Hackley,
 Elizabeth Harris, Mary Hicks, Brent Jefferson,
 Janey Pate, David Smallwood, Evert Bonito, Vis,
 Bobbi Warrenfeltz

Happy Birthday!



TSG Meeting, October 10, 2021

TSG Meeting, November 10, 2021 (attendance: 11
 in person / 11 virtual)

John called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM

Elysia gave the Treasurer's Report and Doc read the
 previous meetings minutes. Cave bucks: \$12

New Business:

-John delivered grotto pamphlets to Crystal Grotto
 Caverns.

-Crystal Grotto Caverns was broken into. Nothing
 was damaged or stolen.

-The Christmas Party is to be held Saturday,
 December 11, at the Bedington Ruritan Club, 3947
 Williamsport Pike, Martinsburg, WVA. Participants
 should bring a dish to contribute to the potluck.
 TSG will be providing ham and libations.

-The next Wednesday night caving event is to be
 held at Whittings Neck Cave. Parking will be
 arranged.

-Saturday, May 14, 2022 will be Founders Day,
 formally known as Heritage Day. It is to be held at
 the General Adams Stevens House and Triple Brick
 Museum, 309 East John Street, Martinsburg, WVA.
 The Berkeley Country 250th birthday celebration
 will on the next day, Sunday, May 15.

Old Business:

-Izaak Walton Cave survey and maintenance has
 been tabled due to insurance considerations.

-Fall VAR has been moved to spring 2022 and is to
 be held at Grand Caverns May 20, 21 and 22.

-A mention was made about personal information
 being required for gaining access to Donaldson
 Cave by the Cave Conservancy.

Caving:

-Jerry took a youth group to Donaldson Cave on
 Sunday, November 7. It was mentioned that the best
 time to visit the cave is from February to the middle
 of March due to flooding.

-Adam and Ashby went to the Yankauer Nature
 Preserve, 438 Whittings Neck Road, Martinsburg
 WVA, and explored entrances to assorted caves on
 the property. Ashby proceed to other caves in the
 area. Norborne Cave was discussed with other cave
 potentials.

-There was a trip to Crystal Grottoes Caverns. All
 age groups were included.

-A troop of cavers consisting of Dave, Doc, John,
 Doyle, Sir Adam and a host of others went to
 Endless Caverns.

-The owner of Molers Cave was brought up.

-Terry was doing some projects in the Swago area.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.
 Nominations for TSG officers followed.

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2021

#150

Nominations:

Nominations will be open until next month for changes.

Secretary: Doc, Adam

Treasure: Elysia

Vice Chair: Bob

Chair: John

Correction

-The Conservation Fund recently purchased Greenville Saltpeter Cave in Monroe County WV.

Respectfully submitted

Donald 'Doc' Phillips

NSS # 32922

Secretary, Tri-State Grotto of the NSS



George Eye Cave, my favorite small cave:

Nathan Roser

All Photos by Ryan Maurer

Our story begins in March 2013 when I was on a SUOC Spring Break trip at Thorn Spring. A local named Jamie Mitchell pulls up in her SUV & is looking for cavers to talk to. A sinkhole taking on water opened up on her family's land a few miles away, and she heard there were cavers staying at Thorn Spring. I got her contact info but didn't get around to checking it out until August of that year. When she showed me the hole it looked intriguing but also unstable, beyond my digging expertise at the time. She also mentioned there were other caves on her & her husband Dennis's land. I took a look at a topo map & the Pendleton County guide for known caves on their property and made a return trip in March 2014 to George Eye Cave.

It was a cold & windy day on that first trip. Most of us were in rough shape from a raucous prior night of

debauchery & got a late start. The entrance is a 24-foot climbable pit in a very picturesque pasture. A skilled caver can get up & down without too much trouble, but a handline is recommended. There were 7 or 8 of us in the group, some of them first time cavers but we all made it down safely. As soon as you get in the place is bristling with dry orange formations. The dry side of the cave has 3 branches beginning as walking & then lowering to crawls around columns & stooping to avoid stalactites. After checking these out we went through a squeeze at the bottom of the entrance pit, a mud mound floor & flowstone ceiling. This is where things get interesting, the first room is roughly square from a large breakdown block and a line of formations on top of it. Then it's down a sloping crawl to the really nice stuff. Another small room or 2 with abundant orange

formations.

Unblemished by mud or worn smooth by heavy traffic. One of the columns I now regard as my favorite formation in all of the 300+ caves I've been to. Past this line of fine columns, the cave goes down a steep flowstone slope to a larger final room containing more stals & some impressive flowstone haystacks. A side slot canyon with soda straws goes for a bit off here, and the

furthest you can go along the main axis of the cave ends in a



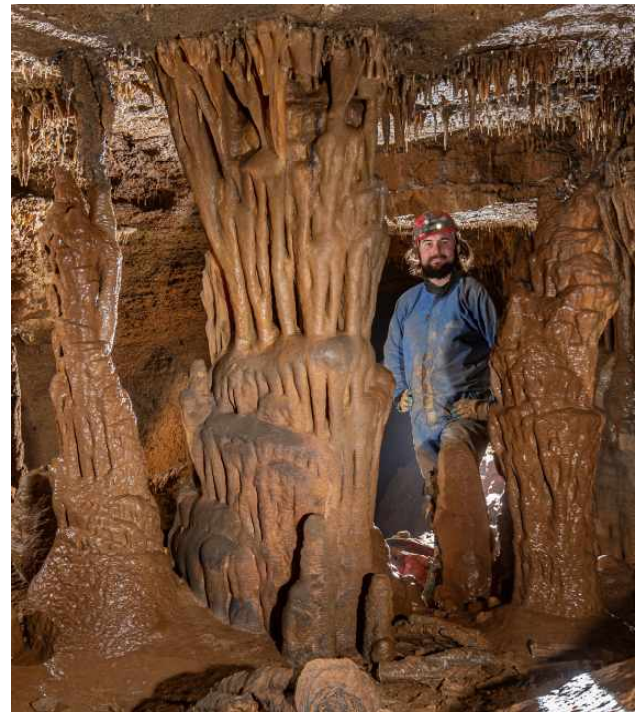
flowstone choked slot above a water crawl. We only spent about 2 hours in there, but it was a very special trip.

Fast forward to 2019. Myself, Amanda Willis, and Mary Hicks were planning on going to the PSC Fall Party. I was rummaging through my glovebox & the paper with the Mitchell's phone # came out. I called the owners to see if they still remembered me & would be willing to give



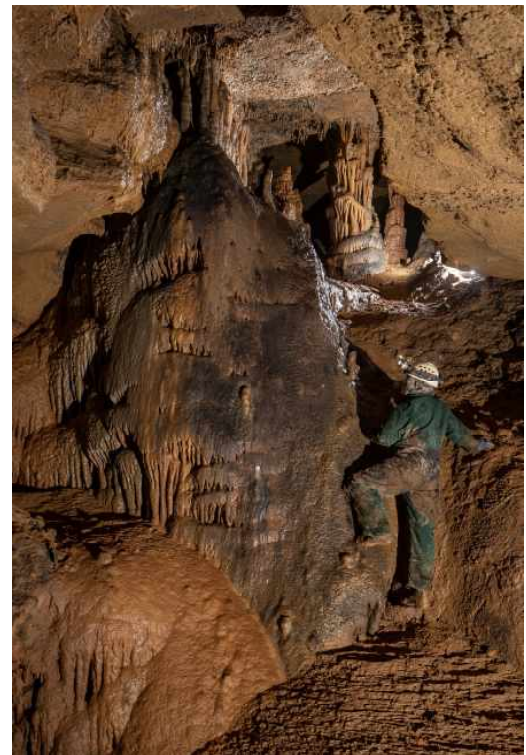
Ryan Maurer at the Bottom of the Entrance

permission after 5 years. Success, we had a caving plan. We initially had the idea to survey but opted for a tourist trip, survey would wait until after I checked the WVASS database for a map. We also popped into Dennis Mitchell Cave nearby, the entrance is probably the absolute smallest hole I can possibly fit through, but well worth the formation display in the entrance room. To the best of my knowledge no high-quality photos of either cave existed, then in January 2020 I offered to take Ryan Maurer there on a whim while we were at the BCCS Homestead. The two of us & a PA caver Cindy Barton geared up in the cold & got in there. Afterwards I finally got around to checking the WVASS database & questioning the landowner. Devin Kouts had been on the property in the 1990's & mapped Dennis Mitchell Cave, but neither the owner nor the database had any record of a mapping for George Eye Cave. Finally in September 2021 I returned with Ryan Maurer & Hope Brooks to make it happen. My sketcher brain was rusty from barely getting used for the last 2 years and drawing the plethora of decorations took time. Seven hours for a 469-foot-long cave, mission accomplished. Drafting the map took longer than usual as well. This was my first map since submitting Cartography Salon



Nathan to the Right of His Favorite Column

entries in 2020, I had a lot of improvements to make based on the feedback from the judges. But I can say this is my best work yet map wise :)



Cindy Barton with the Haystack in the Final Room

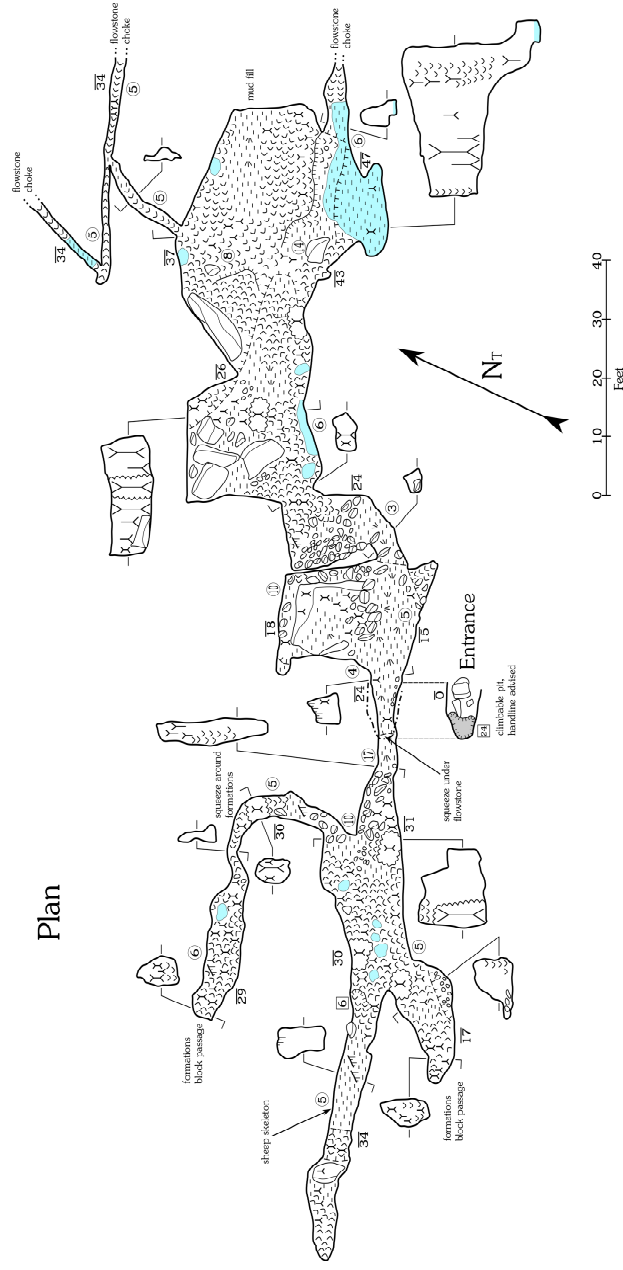
George Eye Cave

Pendleton County, WV

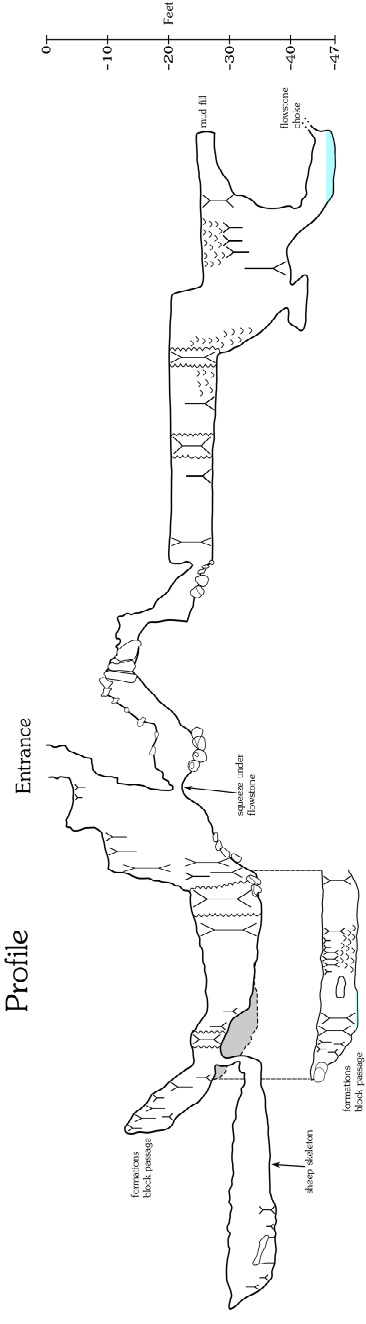
Disto X survey September 25th 2021
 by: Nathan Roser, Ryan Maurer, and Hope Brooks
 Length: 469.5 feet | Depth: 47.3 feet
 Elevation: 2720 feet ASL
 USGS 7.5min Quadrangle: Sugar Grove
 Cartography by Nathan Roser

Cave is developed in flat bedded limestone along the contact between the Cortigianville & New Creek members of the Helderberg Formation

Plan



Profile



Legend

80°	floor cobbles
80°	flowstone
80°	floor slope
80°	mud floor
80°	floor ledge
80°	breakdown
80°	ceiling drop
80°	ceiling height
80°	depth
80°	vertical drop
80°	stalactite
80°	stalagmite
80°	column
80°	soda straws
80°	large column

TRIP TO A CAVE ONCE CALLED MAMMOTH CRYSTAL CAVE NOW BETHLEHEM CAVE

As a rule, I am not big into history - names, dates, places - but when it is about a cave I get interested

History

1876 pioneers called this the Crystal Cave area.

1876 discovered by Adolphus C. and Charles Frederick McBride.

Winter 1889-1890 the McBride brothers discovered the Lakes Region.

1891 a narrow-gauge railroad was being built from Lead down the Elk Creek Canyon. The cave was developed.

1892-1894 cave owned by Keith and Allabaugh.

1892 first cave tours.

1893 many specimens were removed to show them in a so-called model cave at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

Crystal Cave became a regular stop on the Black Hills and Ft. Pierre Railroad.

1919 bachelor's thesis describing Crystal Cave and its mineralogy by J. Harlan Johnson, a student at S.D. State School of Mines.

1919 Loui Storm, a real estate investor, bought the cave.

1920 start of development by Loui Storm.

1923 electric light powered by a diesel engine and generator installed.

02-JAN-1952 deeded as a gift to the Conception Abbey, Order of St. Benedict of the Catholic Church.

02-FEB-1957 operation of the cave was passed to Father Gilbert Stack, OSB. The cave was renamed Bethlehem Cave.

01-OCT-1959 the U.S. Post Office Department authorized Bethlehem, S.D., as a permanent post office, later the ZIP Code 57708 was assigned.

1964 Brother G. Nicholas conducted a considerable study of the geology of Bethlehem Cave in LaSalle College's "Geology of the Black Hills" course.

1968 Conception Abbey transferred the property to The Shrine of the Nativity inc..

1969 Visitor Center built.

1976 survey of the cave by Paha Sapa Grotto.

1977 new discoveries by Matt Wallace.

1981 leased to the "Old Original Crystal Cave Company," a division of the Midwest Land Management Corporation.

1984 accurate survey by Walt Kaminski and others.

2004 cave closed.

Bethlehem Cave has numerous speleothems, but once it had much more. Keith and Allabaugh, the owners of the cave, built an artificial cave on the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The "miniature cave", located under the floor of the Horticultural Building, filled a room of 18 to 25 meters. The original description tells about "300,000 lbs. ... of stalactites, stalagmites, onyx, geodic crystals, dogtooth spar, and sparkling botryoidally masses; of cave pearls, flos Ferri, aragonite and drip-stone stained by oxidation in as many colors as the rainbow..."

The artificial cave had seven rooms, passages and was lighted by 100 light bulbs. This kind of event was typical for this time, when the people believed in future, science and technology. The World Fair attracted thousands of visitors, and nobody thought about the destruction of the cave. The comment of the description "...patiently cut out of the rock, so as to not mar or rob the cave of its embellishments..." sounds strange from our point of view, as the removing of the speleothems was an act of marring and robbing. The owners are said to have made a small fortune from their five-cent admission charge and the sale of specimens during and after the fair. It seems they sold crystal specimens on many fairs and exhibitions until 1910.

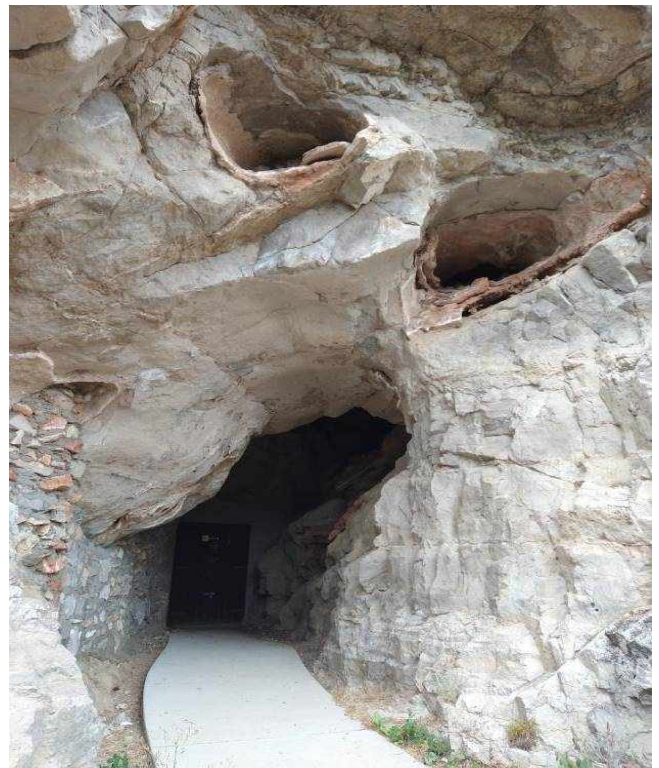
Fortunately, the cave is really big, and contains an enormous amount of speleothems, so it is still very impressive. The cave was originally named Crystal Cave, and was so successful in the 1920s and 1930s, that many commercial caves in the United States were renamed or at last added a "Crystal" to their name. Some of those caves even use the name today, while this cave is now called Bethlehem Cave.

On October 9th I was given the privilege of a trip into this beautiful cave. On the walk From the parking area was a grand vista of the valley where the trains used to run. The long set of

stairs that the passengers used to reach the cave are long gone.



As we walked along the trail to the cave there was



evidence that the cave once extended further out than it currently is. I can only assume the part of it was taken away in order to provide a pathway for the visitors to reach the entrance.

Our trip consisted of six experienced cavers and one newbie who was excited and nervous. On the trip was Connie Putnam, John Scheltens, Dave and Maria Springhetti, Adam and Sharon Weaver and myself.

The entrance room had been modified for religious services but the first thing I noticed was the bat.

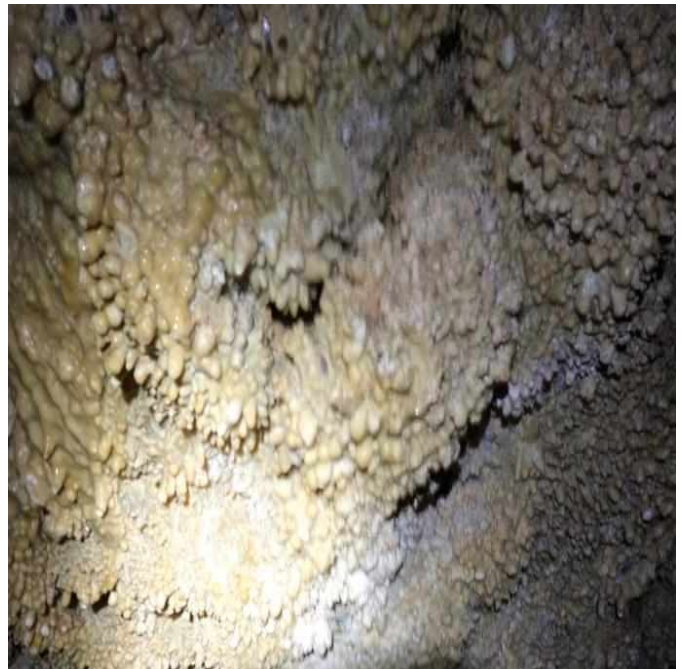
We headed in and quickly left the old tourist trail, heading off to do a little survey. The cave is around a mile in elevation, and I felt it, especially after 2 days participating in the Amazing Rush in hopes of winning some support money for the 2022 convention. I expected the cave to be colder than the ones in Virginia and they might be, but a t-shirt and pants were quite comfortable for the trip.

Deeper into the cave we went, with no chance to take pictures. The cave passages are all covered in dogtooth spar. You almost can't fall, but sometimes

Eventually we headed back out, hitting some of the old commercial tour highlights. The areas we had been in were dry, however the commercial section had stalactites and stalagmites, and flow stone over spar. There were even a few pristine pools. There was even box work covered in spar.



The cave was a wonder to behold and a good workout. We did not go through any tight crawls, just stoop ways. I did appreciate having elbow pads on for the trip. They made the climbs more comfortable.



you can hardly move. What I later found interesting was all the scratches I had on my legs, but there are no tears in my pants. I got to do my first survey with a disto, OMG I can see why everyone loves them. Shazam and you have all the data. Adam has access to a BRIC but did not have it on this trip.



After about five hours we were back out of the Cave and headed off to a group dinner.



Carol Tideman

Trips (Tom Griffin)

Sarah Furnace November 11th, Red and I went. We surveyed for 6 hours. With all the survey crews we brought the cave to 6.02 miles

Silers Cave on November 13th with Elysia, Ashby, Adam, Red and I with 4 others.

December 4th - Bob, Red and I went to Jones Quarry to meet up with Allen Monger to replace the old DNR sign for a newer version.

December 5th - Red, Ashby, Adam and I went to Santa's Chimney to do the drop and get some pictures then proceeded to Cascade cave where we found the stream to the cave not flowing. We left and headed to Clown Cave where Ashby went in to take some video.



Reflections on a West Virginia Classic Terry McClanathan (NSS 12103)

On November 20th I went to Elkhorn Mountain with a group of Pennsylvania cavers. Present were Gordy Ley, Johanna Neller, and Bill Geller from Franklin County Grotto, and Mike Shank from York Grotto, all of whom had been there before. The sixth member of our party was first timer Shawn Long. Mike and I arrived early so I rigged the 149-foot entrance pit and Mike rigged the 79-foot drop to the stream passage. While Mike was doing this, I yo-yoed the entrance, seven times as it turned out, until the rest of the folks arrived. Once everyone was assembled and rappelled the entrance drop most of the group descended the second pit to the lower level. This was my usual tourist route too, but on this trip, I waited for the others at the climb-up by the flowstone boss, which



is the first major formation downslope from the base of the entrance drop. As we leisurely toured the rest of the cave, I found myself waxing nostalgic over my first trip to Elkhorn more than half a century ago.

It was in the spring of 1970, my sophomore year of college. Our small group had only been caving for about a year and a half. We were pretty pumped after our successful Hellhole trip some months earlier and were excited about exploring our next vertical cave. Now I suppose I should point out that our vertical skills were rather antiquated, in fact we were about two decades behind the times, though we were unaware of this. Our entire technique had been self-taught. We practiced a lot, but other than our brass carbide lights we possessed not one single piece of hardware. We body rappelled using half inch manila rope, and for ascending we used quarter inch manila slings. However, I must admit that none of us were ever very efficient in the use of prusik knots.

There were four of us on that 1970 Elkhorn trip. Besides me, there was Sid Weaver (Baltimore area), Howard White (Washington area), and Terry Sterner from Ocean City. I owned no topo maps in those days (probably didn't even know what they were) and all we had to go on for location was from William E. Davies Caverns of West Virginia stating that it was "1.5 miles south of Masonville...and 200 feet north of the road." It took several trips up and down that gravel mountain road, which was pretty rutted in those days especially after a hard winter, before, with the aid of locals, we were able to find the entrance. The description in Davies, which was our caving bible back then, described the entrance as being a vertical shaft 135 feet deep.

To offset our deficiencies in prusik skills we planned to climb out on ladders. Problem was we only had 90 feet of rope ladders. I made these myself for our early excursions into Allegany County, Md.'s Twiggs Cave, so they already had some wear and tear. For their construction I used one-inch-thick dowel rods purchased from a local hardware store. These were fastened to two parallel half inch manila lines and secured with hemp baler twine (I grew up as a farm boy). The ladders were tied together in 30-foot lengths. Knowing we were short, we scrounged around campus and were able

to find a college professor who used to be an old-time caver and happened to own a 30-foot cable ladder. Our cumulative total of 120 feet would leave us with just a short 15-foot prusik up to the end of the ladders, or so we thought.

The four of us body rappelled the entrance pit with no major difficulties beyond pad re-adjustments and some feeding near the top. On the way down I noticed a kink in the middle of the cable ladder which we'd tied to the end of the rope ladders, rendering it (cable ladder) unsafe for usage. Our prusik was going to be longer by 30 feet. Once on the bottom we observed that the end of the cable ladder, which should have been only 15 feet off the floor, was a lot higher up the wall. Since we had 120 feet of ladder hanging in the pit, this meant the entrance was deeper than the 135 feet Davies said it was. Our prusik was becoming still longer. I would (much) later tape the entrance drop at 149 feet. Well, we would have to deal with that on our way out, there was a huge cavern beckoning.

In that spring of 1970 Elkhorn was the 50th cave I'd visited, and while some of these had noteworthy speleothem development, most were heavily vandalized. Of the caves we'd seen, so far only a couple of the Higginbotham caves in Greenbrier County contained anything resembling speleothems that were in pristine condition. Although Davies said Elkhorn was well decorated, we were in for many pleasant surprises. Not far from the entrance drop is a huge floor-to-ceiling flowstone festooned with large rimstone dams around its base. We were fortunate in that the snowy winter (of 1970) had yielded enough groundwater flow that most of these were water-filled. In fact, not during any of my many subsequent trips to Elkhorn over the past 50 years, have I ever seen these pools so lavishly vibrant.

Past the giant flowstone, things just kept getting better. A profusion of tall stalagmites, columns, draperies, and stalactites formed a line of silent sentinels dividing the massive corridor as it extended off into the darkness. Closer inspection revealed dense clusters of delicate straws of a pristine nature tucked between the larger formations. At the time, we had never seen anything quite like it. The centerpiece of the Elkhorn formation-fest came next. An all-white cascading flowstone extending along the wall for nearly 50

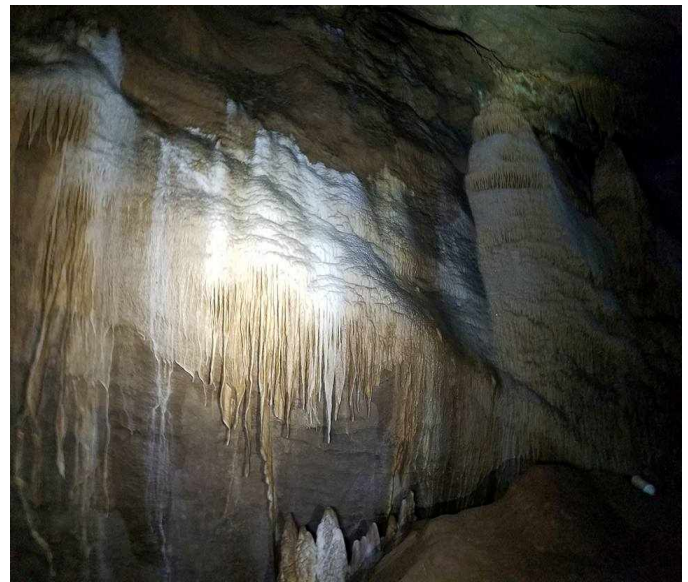
feet, and reaching from floor to ceiling to a height of some 30 feet, created a sensory overload. In addition, blanketing the floor all around the base of this was a white glacier-field of miniature rimstone dams comprised of, and filled with, the most intricate of calcite crystals. In the yellowish glow of our carbide lamps the entire vista glowed in a twinkling sparkle. The hundreds of tiny crystalline pools filled with the clearest water glistened. I fell in love with the cave, and even today, nearly 2,000 caves later, I still have a great fondness for Elkhorn Mountain. This was my 32nd trip to the cave, but it certainly won't be my last.

On our recent December 15th visit I made a few casual observations. The cave is showing some evidence of wear. There is discoloration on the rimstones at the bottom of the big flowstone. This stems from people climbing over the dams and is unnecessary. On the plus side, considering the many hundreds (perhaps even thousands) of cavers who have traversed the cave over the decades, there is little to be observed in the way of wanton vandalism. Even at the white flowstone cascade, with its flat floor of small rimstones, for the most part cavers have limited travel to the crawl which skirts the whole array down to the right, rather than simply walking across the floor. The entire cave is still very pretty and is sure to leave first-time visitors with the same sense of awe we experienced those many years ago.

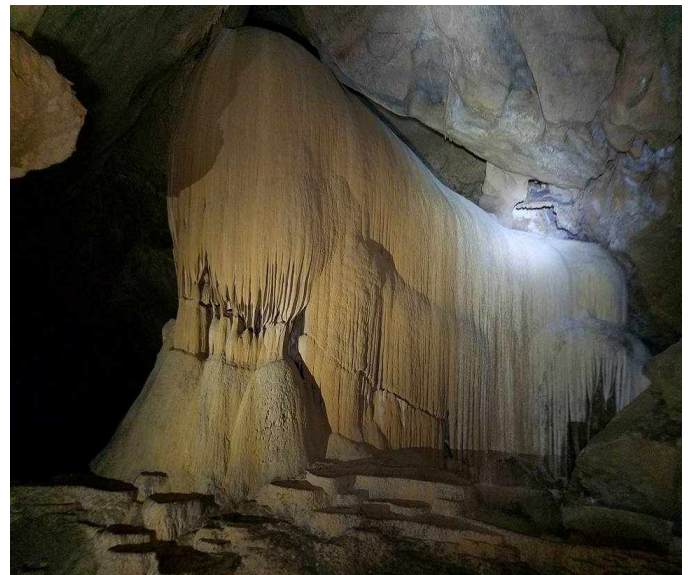
We, the caving community, are fortunate that Elkhorn is, and has been for quite some time, under the caring and watchful guardianship of its owner Linda Baker-Devine. The cave has a bat closure which is in effect from June 15th to Oct. 15th, but other than that Linda has graciously allowed Elkhorn Mountain to remain open to future generations of cavers. Let's all do our best to keep it that way by being safety conscious, and conservation minded. The 149-foot entrance pit should be treated with respect and vertical competence is required. I wouldn't particularly recommend our body rappelling and ladder climbing exploits to anyone else, and remember, I said we did practice a lot. Hopefully, centuries from now, the cave will still look much as it does today, and our great, great, great grandchildren will still marvel at its spell-binding splendor.



Entrance to Elkhorn (by Shawn Hogbin)



Some of the beauty of Elkhorn (by Bob Edmonds)



(By Bob Edmonds)



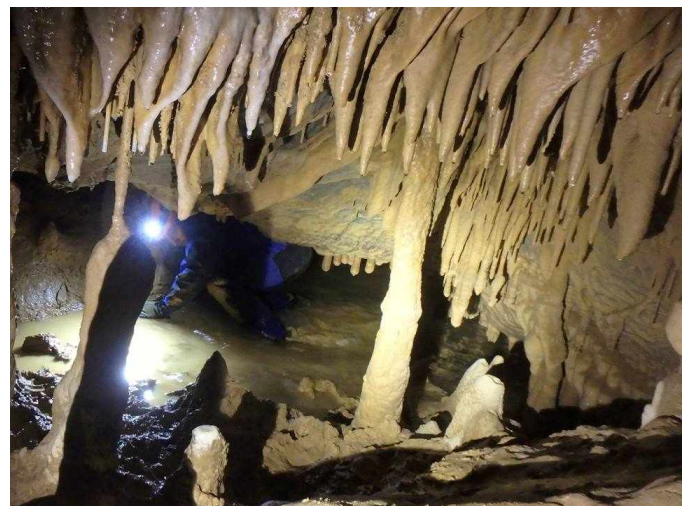
The Drapery (by Bob Edmonds)



Old photo of Judy with Bob rappelling at Elkhorn
(Do not remember who took the photo)
(Been too long ago)



(By Bob Edmonds)



(by Shawn Hogbin)



CAMIN CALENDAR

DECEMBER 5TH - JANUARY 15TH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 5	Dec 6	Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Day	Dec 8 Meeting 7pm - Live & Virtual - Elections National Brownie Day	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11 Annual TSG Christmas Celebration - 6pm
Dec 12	Dec 13	Dec 14	Dec 15	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18
Dec 19	Dec 20	Dec 21 WINTER SOLSTICE	Dec 22 Short Person Day	Dec 23 HAPPY FESTIVUS!	Dec 24 Chocolate Day CHRISTMAS EVE	Dec 25 Merry Christmas CHRISTMAS DAY
Dec 26 National Candy Cane Day	Dec 27	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30 National Bacon Day	Dec 31 NEW YEARS EVE	Jan 1 National Hangover Day Polar Bear Plunge Day
Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8 Elvis birthday
Jan 9 Law Enforcement Day	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 12 TRI-STATE GROTO Meeting 7pm - Live & Virtual	Jan 13 Rubber Ducky Day	Jan 14 National Dress Up Day	Jan 15



DEAD DOG DISPATCH
TRI-STATE GROTTTO OF THE NSS
BOB BENNETT, EDITOR
464 HUCKLEBERRY DR
GERRARDSTOWN, WV 25420-0344
304-671-0344
gimpycover@comcast.net



(Upper left) Gary coming out of Boarhole (by Elysia Mathias) (Upper Right) New DNR Sign in Jones Quarry (by Bob Bennett) (Middle Left) Your Never Gonna Fit Cave (by Adam Haines) (Center) Bob Grinding Bolts Holding Old Sign in JQ (by Tom Griffin) (Middle Right) Crystals in Bone Cave (by Ashley Hitchcock) (Lower Left) White Formations in Bone Cave (by Ashley Hitchcock) (Lower Right) Boarhole (by Ashley Hitchcock)

The Annual Grotto Christmas Celebration

Saturday, December 11th, 2021

Time: 6PM until (?) whenever!

The party will be held at the
Bedington Ruritan.

Bring a cover dish (with food of course) and your families and celebrate the joyous season with your fellow cavers & friends! The Grotto will furnish a ham, plates, eating utensils, napkins, sodas, ice, & veggies.

There will be pictures & slides of caving trips and events to show. If anyone has any pictures &/or slides bring them along to show.

There will be a squeeze box for those who want to show off how small of a hole they can get through. For those who would like to help decorate, please arrive about 2 hours early to help out since Paulette is incapacitated!

CYALL at the party. Paulette says that you better be here!

BYOB!