

DEAD DOG DISPATCH TRI-STATE GROTTO



RICKY'S CAVE, JEFFERSON CO, WV

VOL. #36

ISS. #2

FEB

2021

#13

The **DEAD DOG DISPATCH** is a publication of the **TRI-STATE GROTTTO** of the NSS. The OPINIONS expressed herein are not necessarily those of the EDITOR, the GROTTTO, nor the NSS. Material that is unsigned may be attributed to the EDITOR. Material contained within this PUBLICATION may be reproduced by the NSS and its GROTTOS, provided that PROPER CREDIT is given to the **DEAD DOG DISPATCH** and the AUTHOR.

The **DEAD DOG DISPATCH** is a NON-PROFIT monthly newsletter published by the **TRI-STATE GROTTTO of the NSS**. SUBSCRIPTION RATES are \$12.00 per year to SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS, and **FREE** with FULL and ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS to the **TRI-STATE GROTTTO**.

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 -----
Safety Chair -----
Program Dir -----
Youth Chair -----

TRI-STATE GROTTTO MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FULL MEMBERSHIP ----- \$10.00 (Must be NSS)
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP --- \$12.00 (Non-NSS)

SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP- \$12.00 (Non-Voting)
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP ----- \$2.00/FAMILY
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP ---- \$200.00 (Must be NSS)
SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP ---- \$50/YEAR
(SUSTAINING- \$50/yr until \$200 total is met)
(FULL FAMILY- must be NSS)(Voting rights if over 16)
(FAMILY ASSOCIATE- non NSS)(Voting over 16)

Payment of DUES can be made at MONTHLY MEETINGS
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:

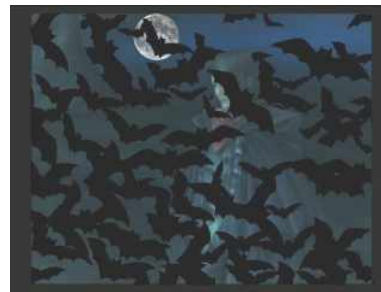
BOB BENNETT, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
TRI-STATE GROTTTO of the NSS
464 HUCKLEBERRY DR.
GERRARDSTOWN, WV 25420-0211
304-821-4621
E-MAIL: gimpycaver@comcast.net

** The photo on this month's cover was furnished
by Beau Ouimette. It shows Beau in the entrance to
a small pit called Rickys Cave in Jefferson 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!



DEAD DOG DISPATCH

V.#35

I.#2

FEB

2021

#14

CAVING EVENTS

2021

FEB 1 --- Bubble Gum Day
FEB 2 --- Ground Hog Day
FEB 7 --- Super Bowl Day
FEB 9 --- National Pizza Day
FEB 10 --- TSG Meeting – 7pm – Virtual
FEB 11 --- FRG meeting – 7pm - Virtual
FEB 14 --- Valentines Day
FEB 15 --- PRESIDENTS DAY
FEB 16 --- Fat Tuesday
FEB 28 --- National Tooth Fairy Day
MAR 1 --- Peanut Lovers Day
MAR 10 --- TSG Meeting – 7pm
MAR 14 --- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS
MAR 14 --- National Potato Chip Day
MAR 14 --- PII Day
MAR 14 --- Dr Latterell – Birthday – (Molers)
MAR 17 --- St Patrick's Day
MAR 19 --- SPRING EQUINOX
MAR 21 --- Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
MAR 22 --- National Goof Off Day
MAR 22 --- World Water Day
MAR 25 --- MD Day
APR 1 --- All Fools Day
APR 2 --- GOOD FRIDAY
APR 2 --- PB & J Day
APR 4 --- EASTER
APR 5 --- Geologists Day
APR 6 --- New Beers Day
APR 7 --- National Beer Day
APR 10 --- National Siblings Day
APR 12 --- National Grilled Cheese Day
APR 14 --- TSG meeting – 7pm
APR 15 --- TAX DAY
APR 17 --- Bat Appreciation Day
APR 20 --- Husband Day
APR 22 --- Earth Day
APR 30 --- Arbor Day
MAY 1 --- May Day
MAY 2 --- Brothers & Sisters Day
MAY 4 --- MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU!
MAY 5 --- Childrens Day
MAY 5 --- SINKHOLE de MAYO

MAY 8 --- National Train Day
MAY 9 --- Mothers Day
MAY 12 --- TSG meeting – 7pm
MAY 15 --- Armed Forces Day
MAY 15 --- Peace Officers Day
MAY 23 --- Lucky Penny Day
MAY 25 --- National Wine Day
MAY 28 --- National Hamburger Day
MAY 31 --- MEMORIAL 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 JAN ----- **\$00.00**

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

GREAT JOB EVERYONE! Let's continue the giving!

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/](https://www.karst.org/index.php/category/preserves/silers-cave-preserve/)



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Don Arrowood, Ereik Bennett, Paulette Bennett,
Barry Duncan, Jayden Floyd, Adam Haines,
Malakai Hanson, Jim McPherson, Ted Monger,
Barbara Walthers

Happy Birthday!



TSG Meeting, December 13, 2021

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

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

Bob read the minutes, and they were approved.

Old Business

Ashby showed a photo of what the new website looks like so far.

New Business

John reported that clay came down in the Tri-State Grotto passage in Crystal Grottoes, so they have stopped taking tours through it. This might be a future Tri-State Grotto project.

Spring VAR is postponed until next year.

Jeff said the cave protection signs are in. They will be reaching out to grottoes to see what they think are needed sites, and then will be getting the signs out for help with putting them up.

Cricket Maze Conservancy is taking new members. Current members will become lifetime members.

Elysia suggested making an announcement about being able to pay for things such as dues and cave bucks on the website.

Bob reported the current membership is 128.

Trips

Jerry went to Melrose Caverns, which has reopened and is lit. Tours are limited to 4 people per trip during Covid and the cost is \$15/person. Call for a trip appointment. The entrance house is available to rent for weddings and other events. On his way he stopped by Endless Caverns, which had been robbed recently, and went in to help look for damaged formations that took place during the robbery. Stolen was the contents of three glass cases, a lot of memorabilia, and formations. The perpetrators were caught because they were already wanted, and police found the Endless Cavern things when they went to their house to arrest them.

The meeting was adjourned at 7: 58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn DiCarlo

Setting in as substitute for Doc Phillips

SAD NEWS!

Jerry Downs, long time owner and operator of Crystal Grottoes Caverns in Boonsboro, MD has passed away! Jerry passed on to his Forever Cavern on Sunday, January 31, 2021 about 3am. As you either know or helped take part in, TSG dug open a passage in Crystal Grottoes. Once it was dug open, the passage was added to the Cavern tour. Jerry named the passage the Tri-State Grotto Passage!

DEAD DOG DISPATCH

V.#35

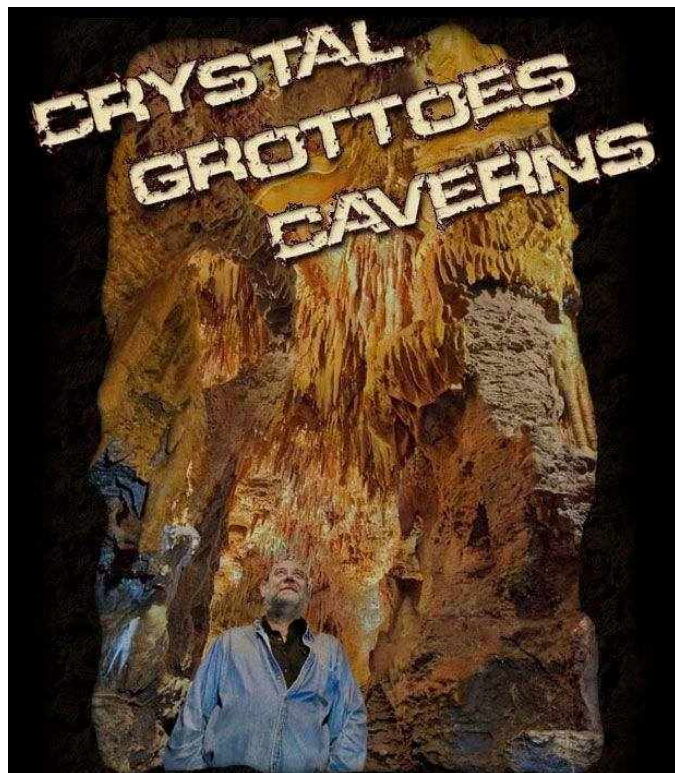
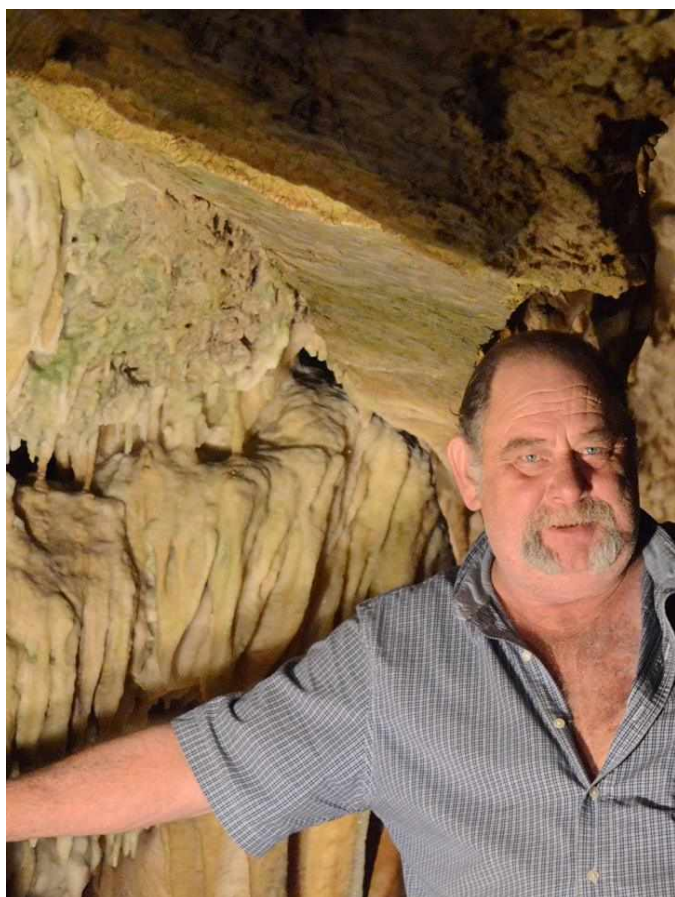
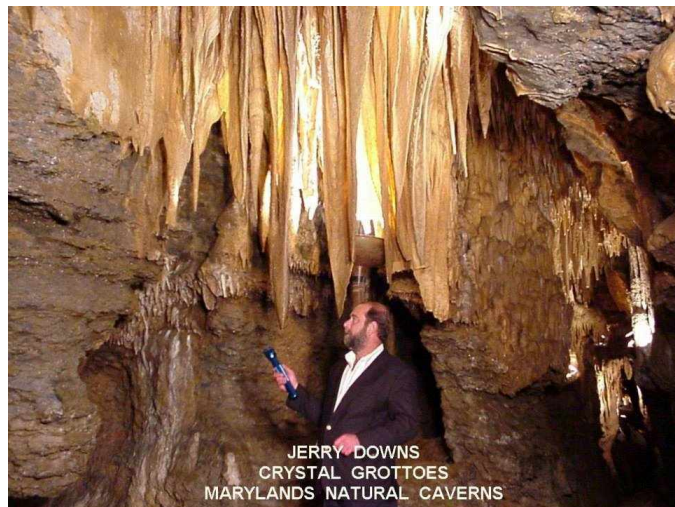
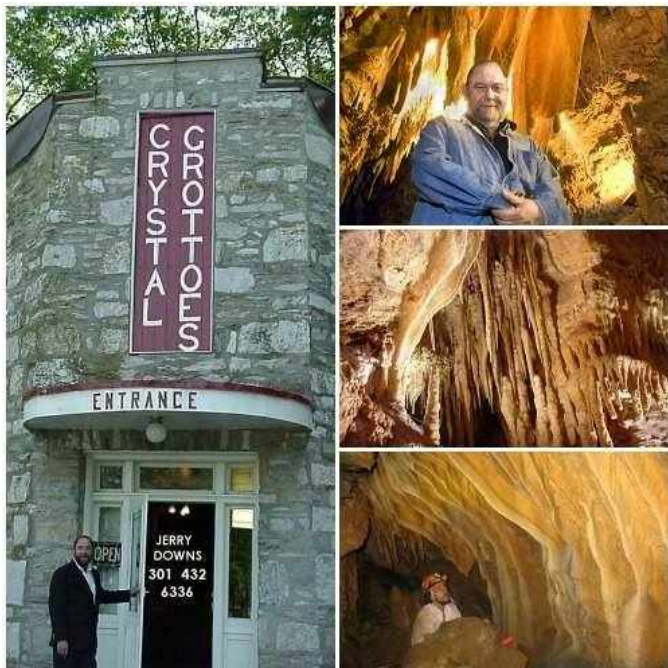
I.#2

FEB

2021

#16

Everyone send a prayer (or however you want to honor Jerry or send condolences) to the family in their hour of sadness! Jerry will be forever remembered by me. (Bob B)



All photos taken from Jerry's Face Book Page



Donaldson Cave (Photo by Shannon Miranda)



Piney Run Waterfall (by Adam Haines)



Death Trap (by Beau Ouimette)



Elysia found a new sink! (by Gary Mathias)



CAVIN CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 7TH - MARCH 20TH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 7 SUPER BOWL SUNDAY	Feb 8	Feb 9  NATIONAL PIZZADAY	Feb 10  Meeting 7pm Virtual	Feb 11 FRG meeting 7pm	Feb 12	Feb 13
Feb 14  VALENTINES DAY	Feb 15 PRESIDENTS DAY	Feb 16 FAT TUESDAY	Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19	Feb 20
Feb 21	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26	Feb 27
Feb 28 National Tooth Fairy Day	Mar 1 Peanut Lovers Day	Mar 2	Mar 3	Mar 4	Mar 5	Mar 6
Mar 7	Mar 8	Mar 9	Mar 10  Meeting 7pm Virtual	Mar 11	Mar 12	Mar 13
Mar 14 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS Pi Day National Potato Chip Day Dr Lattrell Birthday (Molers)	Mar 15	Mar 16	Mar 17  Happy St. Patrick's Day!	Mar 18	Mar 19  EQUINOX	Mar 20

DEAD DOG DISPATCH



The TSG Brick at the NSS Headquarters (by Maureen Handler)



DEAD DOG DISPATCH

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

