

CUMBERLAND VALLEY CAVER

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Franklin County Grotto



CUMBERLAND VALLEY CAVER

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Franklin County Grotto meetings are held the 3rd Monday of the month in New Franklin Fire Department, New Franklin, PA. The fire department is located on PA Route 316, 3 miles east of I-81 (exit #14). The meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Both grotto caving trips and smaller individual trips are planned at these meetings. All members are invited depending on their ability to safely participate. You must attend at least one vertical training session in order to participate in vertical trips. Contact any of the above individuals for more information.

The Cumberland Valley Caver is published a couple of times per year by the Franklin County Grotto PA. All cave related articles should be submitted to the editor for publication. The contents of this publication are not copyrighted unless previously copyrighted by the author. Material from this publication may be reprinted by other official organizations of the National Speleological Society without prior permission provided credit is given to the original author and this publication, and the article is not changed in anyway. Other interested parties must request permission in advance. Franklin County Grotto actively participates in a newsletter exchange program. All exchanges should be mailed to: Ken Jones, 4446 Duffield Rd, Chambersburg, PA 17201. Information regarding exchanges should be coordinated with the secretary so the exchange list can be updated.

Cover: Jonathan Peterson climbing out of pit in McAllisterville Cave” Photo: by Ken Tayman

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From the Editor.....

Well, we seem to be on a roll! -Two issues, in two consecutive quarters. Thanks to Ish we will have a little variety of authors this quarter. I had mentioned something last issue about getting into WET cave this year. Ish and Todd got a taste of “wet” when they did the sump in Python Pit and got back to the “Monster Dome” and “Real Cave” Not a lot of people have been in that part of the cave, and even fewer have done the sump to get there. There has been a resurgence in week night evening trips, resulting in a couple trips to the P-Caves in Williamson, several weeknight vertical practice sessions and a Wednesday evening Graffiti cleanup trip to Peipers. Apparently, some jerk had more spray paint than common sense and decided to mark up the cave. Thanks to Don Arrowood for providing some of the pictures of the project. Also, thanks to Diane for researching “Cave Bucks” data.

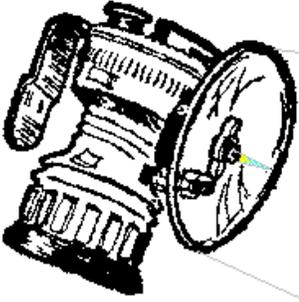
A few of us spent the Memorial Day weekend working with some of Jim Hart’s cohorts at the rocks, showing them the basics of rappelling. They plan to use these new skills to drop roadside cliffs to study plant and animal life at some up to now unreachable sites. (waiting on write-up from Jim)

Planning for our July trip to Butler/Sinking Creek seems to have jelled pretty well. BCCS member, Ed Kehs, has agreed to take us in. It’s been over ten years since FCG has even attempted to get in, and that trip was SNAFU’d due to a broken key in the lock and we ended up doing a Crossroads trip instead. We will provide more info (camping, departure times, etc) regarding the Butler trip later.

Sincerely, Ken Tayman

Speleo-Spotlight...

Barry Duncan NSS 24338



Barry Duncan is one of my favorite caving partners. Some of my best trips were put together by Barry. He took me on my first trips to J-4, Warm River, Porter's, McClung's, Ludington's, Pocahontas Poor Farm, Flower Pot and Roadside Pit. And when Barry takes you through a cave, you really get the full tour. All of the nooks and crannies, the out of the way climbs that lead to a nice rappel or small grotto loaded with pretties. It is never just the short route.

One of the reasons you get the **"complete"** trip has to do with the way he explores a cave. He keeps going back until he really knows the cave. His best favorite Cave is McClungs. Says he must have done it 50 times, each time, seeking out a new and different section, always learning more about the cave. He thinks he has probably done 90% of the cave. He was exploring his way thru McClungs working his way toward the Lightner's entrance. After several trips, he knew he was close, but hadn't actually found the connection to last couple hundred yards. On the next trip, he took several FCG members and we entered the Lightner's entrance and after a few climb downs and a crawl through a huge breakdown pile, he popped out into a passage he had done the previous week and we were on our way to a through trip. Barry is a Cave hunter, cave digger, surveyor, and Land Owner Relationship Cultivator.

His first wild cave was WSBA Cave, north of York, PA in 1960. It only had 500 feet of passage. One of the hardest caves he did was 4 ½ mile "Cave of the Dead" in New York. The entrance was near a cemetery. Soooo much crawling and climbing of pits thought he would die when he got out.

On one trip with him into Flower Pot, a bunch of heart wrenching YEECHKKKs and coughing and spitting alerted us that something was wrong. He had grabbed a bottle of dish washing detergent instead of drinking water, and only discovered the mistake after taking a swig. He remembers being scared once when climbing out of the 70' Hosterman's



Barry ready to do drop in Ludington's Photo by Ken Tayman

Pit, when nearly out, his roping started spinning, round and round and round, perhaps 15 times. He thought his rope was torn and was unraveling. He sped up and is still alive today. Other caves he remembers as special are: Sites (191'), long trip into Friar's Hole, Scott Hollow and a wild trip into Carlsbad Caverns.

Barry is also a TATTOO artist (Luke's) and had an article written up on his Tattoos in Easy Rider Magazine. He is currently employed Navy DDSP in Mechanicsburg, Pa. and is owner of Caver web store "Caver Connection" selling caving gear and bat Trinkets.

PS: Don't feed Barry any chocolate or soda that contains caffeine, it makes him real jumpy! ☐

Spring VAR at Durbin, WV

April 27-29, 2007 by Ken Tayman

I hadn't been to a VAR for a few years, so when Jonathon asked if I was planning to attend this spring I said I wanted to go. There were several Franklin County Grotto members planning to go or at least considering it.

Jonathon and I planned to pull out of Hagerstown around 4pm, but by the time we both had taken care of a few last minute family responsibilities, it was 8:30 PM before we were on the road. It was raining, but the weather reports we had heard had everything clearing up by morning, and a nice weekend weather-wise. WRONG!

We pulled into the campground around 1:00 AM and met up with

Todd Roberts, who had a nice head start in the beer drinking department. Registration was closed for the night, so we would have to register in the morning.

At 1:30 we were all pitching our tents in the rain. We socialized until about 3:00 and then hit the sack. By the way, Jonathon is still using his Boy Scout era tent, which consistently lets him down in the rain. It appears this weekend will not be any different.

I got up around 8:30 and put some hot water on for coffee, woke up Jonathon. When we registered we saw our numbers were 255 and 256. Since the VAR was only providing 250 meals, we would not be eating the

chicken dinner and they knocked \$10 off the fee. I guess the 15 minutes we spent shooting the bull with Bob Bennett and a few others, was enough to cause us to miss out on the meal. I had brought some emergency rations just in case we couldn't eat for some reason or another, and there was also a bar & grill walking distance from the tents.

We bought a couple sausage, egg and cheese biscuits for breakfast from a local organization at the campground, and went looking for a cave trip. Most of the led trips had filled up and so we were trying to pull something together we could lead ourselves. We could always do Roadside Pit or Carpenters Pit, but I wasn't real sure I could still fit into Roadside, and I hadn't practiced any rope work since January and didn't



Ken Tayman in Tub Cave, near entrance passage.

Photo by: Jonathon Peterson

feel up to doing the multiple drop in Carpenters with 150 feet of rope to climb.

I wanted to get in a new cave and had never been in Tub Cave. It is basically one, gigantic room, with streams and during heavy rain a big lake. It is so big, that in several places, your light beam is only powerful enough to see one wall at a time. Jonathon thought he'd been in Tub before, but couldn't remember anything specific about it. We got directions from several groups, decided on which set we liked the most and the two of us headed out.

It took about an hour of relaxed driving to arrive at the parking spot, plus about a half mile uphill hike to the huge (and deep) sinkhole with the entrance down in the bottom.

It took several minutes for us to adjust to the size and darkness. Our beams just shot out into the blackness and faded away. Couldn't see anything except the floor, ceiling and the one wall. I ended up using both my Myo-5 and UK mini-Q lights at the same time just to throw a brighter

beam. We decided to go down the center then walk the perimeter of the cave.

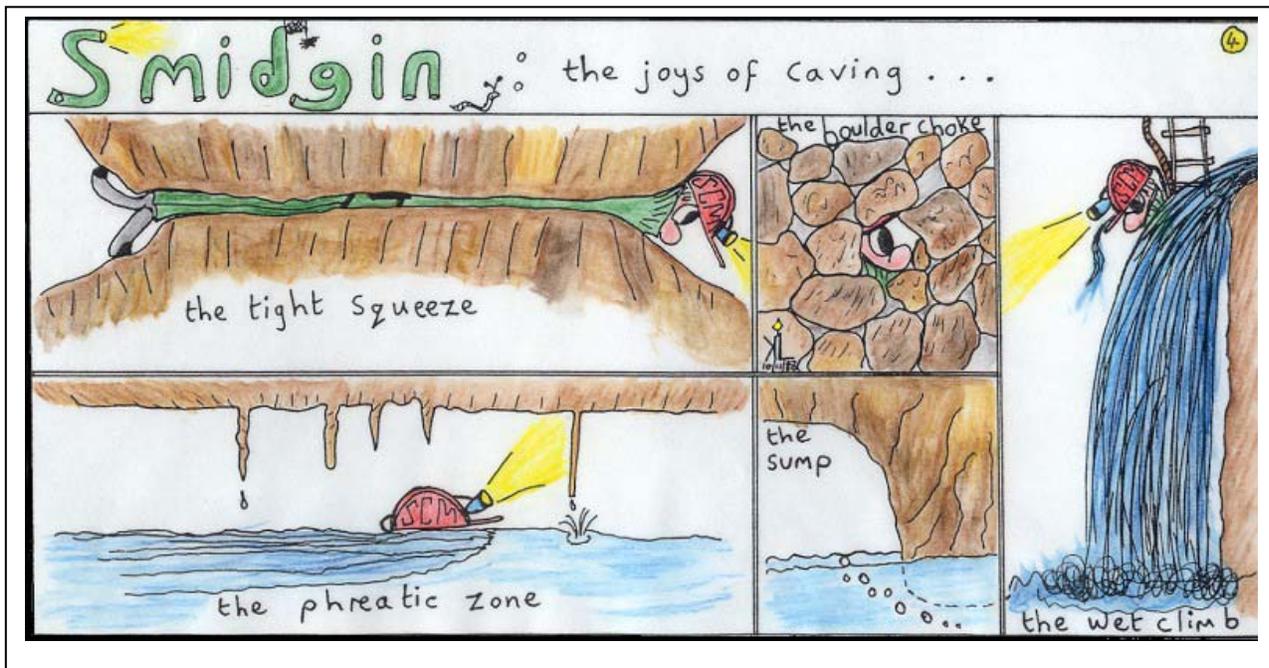
Several of the people who'd been in the cave on Friday, had mentioned a huge deep lake at the bottom. But it had drained by the time we were in. The stream was only couple feet wide and in most places was 6 inches to a foot deep. Down at the bottom where the lake would have been was just a stream with muddy banks and no foot prints. We took our time and toured around the cave, found the passage that goes behind the huge flowstone mountain and ended up spending about hour and a half in the cave.

The trip back to the truck was easy. On the way, we could see across to the next ridge where trucks were parked at Roadside and Carpenters Pit. We decided that after we changed, we would drive up, perhaps a mile, and see how things were going at those Caves. Roadside was really backed up inside waiting for their turn to climb out. The entrance had been rigged as a re-belay, apparently to keep the rope from sliding into a notch at the lip. It was causing really slow climbs.

When I did Roadside, we didn't use any re-belays and we didn't encounter any issue with the slot. I think I could probably still fit into the entrance slot. It might be a close call since I weight about 40 pounds more now than I did when I dropped it before. Just seeing that small slot has encouraged me to drop a few pounds before I get down that way again, just in case we have a chance to do it.

We headed back to the camp, in the rain. Neither one of us was paying much attention to the route back so we ended up making two wrong turns and killing at least an extra half hour. Got back and hit the Bar and Grill up for a nice cheeseburger, large serving of French fries and couple of beers. It was still over cast and actually getting chilly.

We visited with Barry Duncan at his vender stand for awhile. He seemed to be pretty busy. We stood around the small camp fire, competing for the warm places. When I mentioned something about this being a pretty small fire, I was told the Bon Fire was down near the end of the campground. So we headed down



that way and there was a Great Bon Fire, with benches and perhaps 60-75 people. Couple of people playing guitars and drums and singing. It was a very sociable atmosphere, and plenty of warmth.

We stood around, listened to the music, enjoyed the heat, listened to the talk about the days caving and really relaxed. Even the rain had let up for four or five hours. By 2:00AM, there were three guitars, some drums, a flute and a didgeridoo all going at the same time.

It started to rain again around 3:00AM, so we headed back to camp and sacked out. It was quite chilly, windy and rained almost all night. Jonathan had bunch of wet gear by morning, and continued to assure me he would be ordering his new tent by the end of the day.

A pancake breakfast was scheduled from 8-10 AM (or until they ran out of food) so we headed down to the eating area and found out we were almost too late again. They cut off service after us, until they could verify just how much food they had left. The Blue Berry Pancakes, Sausage Patties hash browns with Ramps, juice and coffee were really good.

We cleaned up, packed up and pulled out around 10:30 AM and had a nice easy paced trip home. I got home around 2PM which was early enough to clean up gear, dry out tents and cut the grass. I sort of wished I had trained up a little on my vertical work prior to going down there. If I had, I think I probably would have done Carpenter Pit which is more challenging than the cave we did. I guess I will have to do that the next time I get down that way. □



Jonathon at Tub Cave Photo by: Ken Tayman

FCG Vertical Practice Sessions

by Ken Tayman

January 6, 2007

Jonathon Peterson and I decided to have a vertical practice at Schaeffer Rocks. We invited new to vertical caving, Tri-State Grotto member, Todd Roberts, to come along and test out some of our vertical gear before he purchased his own. He had only a few minutes of previous vertical practice at a grotto picnic, and was interested in checking out a Micro steel rack that Jon happened to have, before he actually bought his own. Everyone dropped and climbed the 55' cliffs a few times. Todd proved to be very capable and would soon be ordering his own frog rig. □

April 9, 2007

Pat announced a vertical practice at the March grotto meeting. Jonathon Peterson, Ken Tayman, Gordey Ley and Pat Minnick showed up. This practice would be the start of what is hoped to be at least monthly vertical practice session for the spring and summer. Doing it on weekday evenings makes it easy to squeeze it in without sacrificing a weekend. Everyone did the rappels and climbs and slowly stretch out those old tired muscles. □

April 23, 2007

FCG held vertical practice at Schaeffer Rocks. Pat Minnick worked with new FCG member Istvan Urcuyo. It turned out Ish was already an experienced and very capable vertical caver. Ken showed up later and provided moral support. Ish normally uses a "Frog" system, but gave Pat's "Mitchell" a try and did very well. It is nice to have a recent influx of active and capable cavers to the grotto. □

June 4, 2007

Pat, Ken and Ish showed up for the vertical practice at the rocks. The routine of trying to work in vertical sessions during the weekday evening a couple times every month seems to be working out pretty good. Every one got in a few climbs. Pat pulled out his rope walker rig, which he doesn't use very often, knocked the dust off, and made a few runs.

Ish hadn't used a rope walker rig before, so he gave Pat's rig a shot. He did a very smooth climb. I initially attempted a climb on Ish's Blue Water rope, but it was so soft and flexible, it actually looked like a larger diameter. My knee Gibbs was not sliding easily. I switched over to Pat's stiffer PMI and I made a "labored" climb without too much difficulty. Just reconfirmed the fact I need to lose about 20 LBS. □



Cassel Cave

April 28, 2007 by Istvan Urcuyo



Getting ready to rappel into 90' entrance shaft. Photo by Istvan Urcuyo

We started out our Saturday 2007 Spring VAR trip by meeting at 8am and leaving the East Fork Campgrounds very soon after. The participants in this trip were assorted members of the Potomac Speleological Club, the Philly, Front Royal and Franklin grottos: Dwight Livingston, Paul, Chris Coates, Nikki Fox, Bob Kaltenbach, Dominique,

Amos Mincin, Clinton Ohlers and Istvan Urcuyo.

We arrived at the parking location, changed into our caving gear and walked up a gentle slope to the Pit entrance of Cassel Cave. Along the path to the pit, Dwight showed us our planned exit location, the entrance to the windy section of Cassel. The vertical pit entrance is a total of 90 feet broken into two sections, a ~25 foot drop into a breakdown platform followed by a ~65 foot free fall rappel.

Our plan was to do a through trip from the pit entrance and exit at the windy entrance. After a false start due to a little of route finding difficulty (there are many leads from the pit floor), we started our trip down some interesting breakdown passages with lots of climbing over breakdown and squeezing between large boulders to reach a nice walking passage that lead us to the large dome room that was the historical end of the cave. We then backtracked a little and quickly slipped down into a crawl with a ceiling of ~24 inches which winded its way for approximately 30 feet into more passage near the area called the t-junction. This is when you started to hear the rumbling caused by the

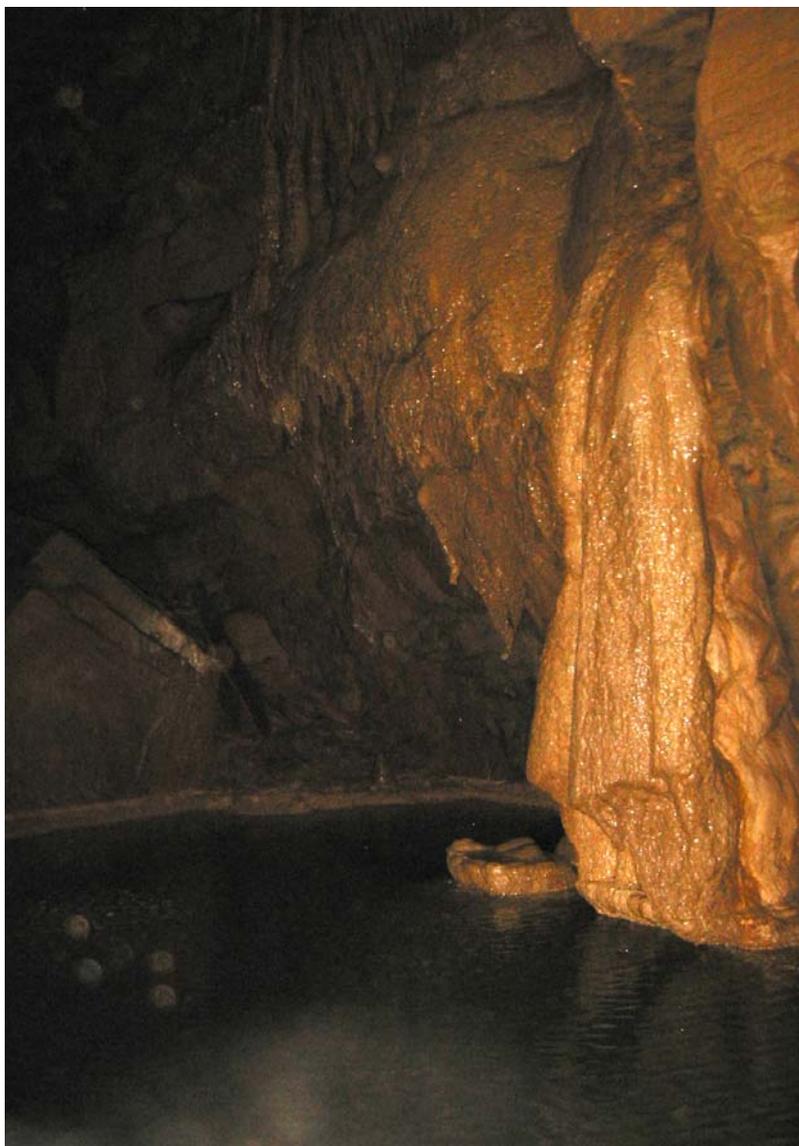
constant flow of water in unseen passages below us.

We then followed the upper sections of the passages leading to the north fork, along the way we had to do another rappel (~30 ft) which brought us to the lower sections of the mazy area of the cave. Lots of passages everywhere with lots of chimneying and stepping over unprotected falls (some of the drops seemed

over 60 ft deep). Along the way I managed to be the first to bite the bullet and accidentally slid down the mud slopes into the shallow stream. My neoprene socks certainly paid for themselves that time. During particular difficult sections of the exposed traverses, Chris demonstrated his flexibility, his strength and chivalry by serving multiple roles as anchor, bridge, ladder, foot stool and all around nice guy. Amazingly, Amos almost always managed to find the only possible dry route in any of the wet passages, his strong desire to remain dry was commendable (but ultimately futile) and the flexibility required for some of his daring moves earned him my kudos and a new nickname "Spiderman."

We walked down these passages, sometimes walking on the flowing streambed until we reached the double-zero mark. Soon after finding the "0-0" survey mark, we climbed over breakdown to the upper passage. The climb took us back into the upper levels, away from the stream and into a long straight passage back from the southern area of the cave. The upper level passage was much drier, even dusty at times and highly complex. It would be easy to get turned around in this area of the cave. The stooping upper passages led us to yet another rappel (~35 ft) back down the lower levels. By now, most of us have become very proficient at putting-on and taking-off our vertical gear so gearing up and rappelling went smoothly. We followed the walking passage down to the nicely decorated "Lake Room" with multiple shallow

rimstone pools, calcite flows and one large deep pool which we did not cross. We took some pictures of the pretties and then retraced our steps to yet another final 15 ft rope ascent. The climb immediately leads to a narrow crack which eventually opened into a hands-and-knees tunnel which passes over a scary hole that is the top of a nasty free fall drop. Once you step over the hole, the tunnel then led to a final rappel (~20 ft) down a slippery wall face. The last passage started after a breakdown climb and it was a short crawl to a small triangular-shape squeeze exit of the windy section. *Continued on page 10 "Cassel Cave"*



Lake Room in Cassel Cave

Photo by Istvan Urcuyo

Cleversburg Sink Update

As of Wednesday June 20, 2007, The MAKC proposal to lease the Cleversburg Sink Cave from the South Hampton Township has been presented to the township board. The board seems to be satisfied with the proposal and is having it reviewed by their lawyers.

The proposal basically allows the MAKC to lease the cave, while letting MAKC member organization, Franklin County Grotto, manage access to cave, all the while being covered by MAKC's insurance Policy.

The Grotto will then set up a key control program where responsible cave organizations will be able to obtain the key, from FCG grotto key holders, for specific trips. More to follow....☐

"Cassel Cave" continued.....

A beautiful, sunny West Virginia afternoon greeted us after seven hours of caving. It was a great trip and our sincere thanks to Dwight and Paul for leading the trip and for all their hard work rigging most of the rappelling and climbing ropes (the day before) in our route. Thanks to Dwight we not only had a safe trip but also a lesson on the history, mapping and mishaps of Cassel Cave.☐



Istvan at rimstone pools in Cassel.

Photographer unknown

Python Pit

By Istvan Urcuyo

We met at the junction of Paxton Rd and Warm Springs (the unofficial parking spot for the p-caves area). There were a total of ten cavers with many of them being members of Tri-state and Franklin grottos: Jon Peterson, Bob Bennett, Chuck Stanley, Ellie Florence, Todd Roberts, Jeff, Dave Hackley, Corey Hackley, Jonathan Halta and Istvan Urcuyo.

We originally planned on visiting at least three caves in the p-caves area that same evening (python, persistence and platter). We came across the entrance to python first (even though we actually were looking for the entrance to persistence) and went underground.

Python is a fun cave with two main passages leading from a small and decorated room right after the downslide crawling entrance. One of the passages begins with a short drop which then leads into a winding canyon with two levels and then ends in breakdown. The other passage begins as a small squeeze/crawl at the opposite direction of the drop to the canyon passage. This small crawl opens up into a slippery descent over a large breakdown boulder (assisted with a permanent rope) and a large room with muddy walls and a shallow stream running at the bottom.

This is the end of the cave passage unless you want to follow the stream into a small passage with two sumps. The only reason to even consider going through the sumps (one a partial sump with about 6 inches of air space and the other a full submersion sump), or at least my only reason to consider it, was the promise of a visit to a chamber called "The Monster Dome"

located after the sumps. Three of us decided that with a name like that, it would be worth it to go on and get a little wet.

As expected, the water was cold and helmets had to be removed to pass both sumps (couple of feet submersions). After the second sump, there is a short-distance crawl and careful wiggling around speleothems is needed (one of which was found to be broken but could be repaired) to reach the "Monster Dome." Well, it certainly did not look like I imagine a "monster dome" should look, or had the dimensions of one, but then again, we are in a Pennsylvania cave. In all fairness, it was a small "dome", but only with enough space for four or five people to stand in and a height of ~30 ft with large breakdown on one side of it and clean rock face all around the rest.

On the floor of this "dome", laid the remains of what once was a wood-and-rope ladder with a couple of white millipedes crawling on portions of the decaying wood. We stood there; shivering and basking on the amazing sights offered by the "Monster Dome" when we all decided to give the location a new nickname "Crappy Dome." The nickname seems to fit with the submersion work required to visit it.

After taking some pictures (someone later jokingly suggested that we should have taken a fish-eye lens for a room of such opulent dimensions), we headed back through the same wet route we entered and eventually we met the rest of the caving party above ground for some much needed warmth. The group decided not to enter other caves that night but rather save them for another weeknight caving trip. Thanks to John P. for putting this trip together. Time in cave: 1 ½ hours □

**Ron Simmons
1953-2007**

NOTE: The following is a composite from several newspaper and magazine articles, and emails;



Virginia cave diver, Ron Simmons, died in a cave diving accident in a tributary of the Suwannee River near Gainesville, Florida, on February 14, 2007.

He was an extraordinary cave explorer, surveyor, mapper, and photographer, having won NSS awards for photography and cartography. He was the inventor of the Simmons Roller, with which most vertical cavers who use the "Ropewalker" system are familiar.

Ron died while solo diving in Allen Millpond Cave. He was about 300 feet into the cave, which he had been in over 40 times, when he apparently had some equipment trouble.

He was involved with many cave projects including Friar's Hole System, Elk River Caves, Culverson Creek, Simmons-Mingo and Scott Hollow. He was key participant in Mexico and Huautla expeditions.

There is an excellent obituary on Ron in the May 2007 issue of the NSS News that describes his life and achievements in greater detail. □

Simmons-Mingo Cave Rescue

April 21-23, 2007 by Ken Tayman

NOTE: The following is a composite from several emails from on site participants;

On Saturday, April 21, 2007, at 9:00 am, Five Pennsylvania cavers (two experienced and three beginners) entered the Dry Gulch entrance of seven mile long Simmons-Mingo Cave, Randolph Co., WV, with the intentions of doing a through trip.

Ten hours into the trip they found themselves in a large room with a maze of multiple passages that all seemed to return back to the same room. During the next 36 hours they ventured out in pairs trying to find the way out, trying not to lose voice contact with the rest of the group. They would take turns resting and venturing. Some were dressed in cotton T-shirts and pants. Apparently, one of these ventures lasted eight hours. The temperature was a very chilly 50 degrees. They ran out of food and were drinking water from small pools and licking droplets from the cave itself. They did have plenty of light, and they could stand and move around.

The owner of one of the cave entrance noticed their car was still parked at the cave late Saturday night and notified the authorities. Members of the National Cave Rescue Commission and volunteer cavers from several states showed up to assist in the search.

Since it had been raining heavily, there was concern that the water passages may be very high and there was the possibility of flooded passages. Search teams were sent in from several entrances to search the probable routes. Some of the search teams encountered flooded rooms with ten foot deep lakes. About 48 hours after they entered the cave they were found by one of the search teams. It took another four hours or so to lead them out. Some were assisted with a haul system up a climb. Most were just cold and thankful. One member had injuries to ribs and knee, and was MEDEVAC'd to a hospital.

The last cavers associated with the rescue exited the cave at 4:30 pm on Monday after retrieving the lost groups cave packs. □

Micro-gravity Sampling at Adam Stephen House

Wednesday November 9, 2005 (by Ken Tayman)

Tri-State Grotto has been searching for and excavating long lost tunnels and caves under and near the Adam Stephen house in Martinsburg, WV. for several years. These underground passages are supposedly part of the "Underground Railroad" from the civil war era.

Myths, firsthand accounts, and promising results from the grotto digs all seem to reinforce the existence of these passages.



Jeff briefing the press on how the Micro-gravity project works



John Pearson placing flags at 10 ft intervals

John DiCarlo, Tri-State Grotto, along with John Pearson had coordinated with Jeff Bray of Maxwelton, WV, to take some micro gravity measurements around the house which might indicate "voids" that could assist in locating the tunnels and caves.

I arrived around noon and joined an already in progress briefing that John DiCarlo was giving to a couple of reporters from the local papers who had been invited to document this "scientific" search for the tunnels.

John Pearson, Bob Bennett, Jerry Bowen, Ann Muldoon and I started setting out survey flags in a couple of parallel lines around the house at 10 feet intervals. We later surveyed the lines, both azimuth and inclination, which was later added into the database.

Jeff then took his micro-gravity device and measured the gravity at each of the 39 stations. A few freight trains, who's mass is great, caused a few slowdowns. When they passed by, machine appeared to be recording an earthquake and the reading needed to be re-taken.

Later in the day, Channel 25 showed up with a reporter and camera crew. They spent a lot of time filming in the basement of the house across the tracks that we feel is the destination of one of the tunnels.



Bob Bennett & I continue to set up flags around side of house and over area where we anticipate finding voids



Jeff taking micro-gravity readings

At the end of day, with only some of the required data corrections completed, there appeared to be few anomalies the might indicate a few voids. There were more corrections he would have to make to compensate for buildings, latitude and other I can't remember.

On Friday, I received an email from Jeff advising that after other corrections, there did indeed seem to be a few anomalies in the right locations. He is scheduling a second trip in December to take some more readings that will hopefully home in on the tunnels.

Jeff does this type of work for a living and often contributes his time and expertise to various caving projects. □

Peipers Cave GRAFFITI Clean-up

May 30, 2007 by Ken Tayman

During a recent phone conversation between Ken Jones and Ed Kehs, owner of Peipers Cave, Ed mentioned that his cave entrance had recently been hit by spray-paint vandals. So Ken offered to raise the issue at the next Franklin County Grotto meeting, and see if he could recruit a few grotto members to volunteer some time and try and clean up the graffiti.

At the May 21, 2007 meeting, we decided to take an initial group out on May 30th and evaluate the mess



Pat removing yellow paint.

Photo by Ken Tayman



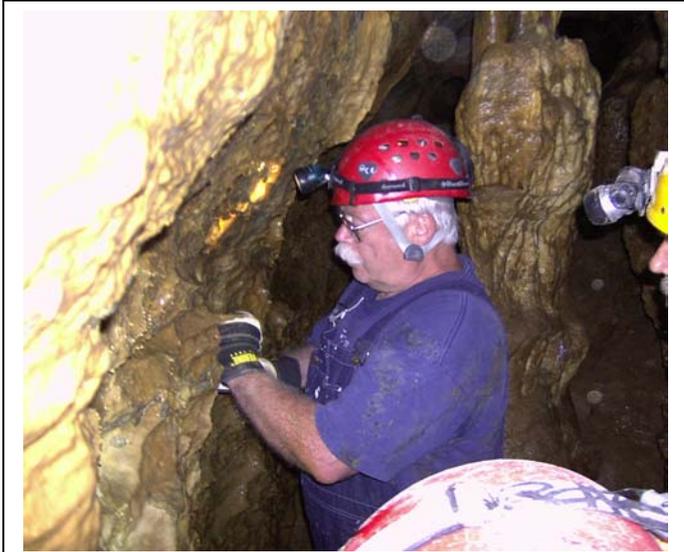
Still grinding away...

Photo by Dawnette Urcuyo

and determine just how big a project this was going to be. We would also bring some brushes, water, etc and start work.

FCG members Ken Jones, Don Arrowood, Ted Valcis, Istvan Urcuyo and his sister Dawnette, showed up around 5:30pm, while Pat Minnick and I arrived around 6:50 pm. We were happy to see that the vandals had not done a lot of damage. Several red, yellow, and blue stripes and patches mostly in the first 50 feet of the cave.

It could have been a whole lot worse. The first group had already made a lot of progress with wire hand brushes when Pat and I arrived. Pat had brought a secret weapon that would really remove the still left over paint. His battery powered hand drill with a couple different sized wire bristle brushes would make quick work of some of the more persistent spots. Some grinding here and there, some rinsing, some more touch up with hand brushes, a fresh set of batteries for the drill and definite progress was made.



Me scraping yellow paint

Photo by Don Arrowood

Probably by 8:00 pm, all but the slightest traces of the paint was gone. Luckily, the passage was naturally colored with browns, slate grays, algae greens and thin flowstone creams, so the lighter colored rub spots from the brushes blended in well and would not be noticed by most people. I guess the owner and clean-up people will always have a keen eye for those spots.



Ken Jones is removing paint in small room past portal. This appears to be as far as the painters went. We won't know for sure until we take a trip further back in to cave.

Photo by Ken Tayman



Dawnette and Istvan (and Ted's arm) surveying damage just inside gaffe. *Photo by Don Arrowood*

Unless there are more areas deeper in the cave that were painted, there will not be a need for any more follow-up trips. Everyone was glad to do this project for Ed, who has been very caver friendly and has been allowing responsible cavers to explore his cave with permission. □

Note: We recently learned the graffiti we cleaned up was old stuff. There more recent stuff is located a little deeper in the cave. FCG is planning another cleanup on June 27th at 6 PM



Ken Jones, me, Istvan and Dawnette working on entrance passage.

Photo by Don Arrowood

FCG SPELEO-CALENDAR

Current as of June 20, 2007

DATE	EVENT	REMARKS
Jun 27*	2 nd Peiper's Cave Clean Up	May 30's clean up went well. We just cleaned up some older graffiti that had been there for awhile. The fresher paint is just a little deeper in the cave. 6 pm at cave. Caving will be allowed!! Contact Pat Minnick(717) 765-0521 or Ken Jones (717) 267-2669
Jul 2*	Vertical Practice	Vertical Practice @ Shaeffer Rocks, 6:30PM, Call Pat Minnick (717) 765-0521 if coming !!!This trip has been confirmed!!!
Jul 6-8 *	Butler-Sinking Creek	MUST DO TRIP for those who have not done it yet!! Also short trip on SUNDAY is possible. We need a headcount of those interested in participating. Please contact me (717) 794-2069, Pat Minnick (717) 765-0521, Ken Jones (717) 267-2669 or Jon Peterson (717) 788-1096 if you are planning to go. Will be camping at the Homestead, limited facilities (outhouse and spring) Driveway gate should be open by 9PM Friday; be prepared to camp if bunkhouse is full. There are cavers interested in car pooling. Driveway can be pretty rough on low clearance vehicles. Contact Pat for directions and departure times.
Jul 14-15	LV PROJECT	POCs: Ken Jones (717) 267-2669
Jul 16	FCG Meeting	
Aug 10-12	Culverson Creek	Culverson Creek (Wildcat Entrance), Greenbriar Co, WV, entrance collapse has been fixed
Aug 10-12*	Simmons-Mingo	Tentative- Contact Gordy Ley (717) 642-8970 (Strenuous)
Aug 18-19*	FCG PICNIC	CONFIRMED!!! Summer PICNIC @ Rouzerville Hunt Club. This year's meat will be burgers and hot dogs. Please, NO Arrivals before Noon on Saturday. Vertical Practice at rocks. Let Pat Minnick know if coming to vertical practice and Diane if you plan to eat.
Aug 20	FCG Meeting	
Aug 25-26	LV PROJECT	POCs: Ken Jones (717) 267-2669
Aug 30-Sep 3	Old Timer's Reunion	You must be TRA member NLT 30 days prior to event or you will need a sponsor and you will pay more. If you need information You can contact Pat Minnick (717) 765-0521 or Jonathan Peterson (717)788-1096. Also please note that Howard White (717) 423-6005 , has always been the first person to show up at the OTR site (noon on Thursday) and he needs to know if you are camping in the FCG area, so he will know how much camping space to occupy. If he doesn't occupy a campsite for you, there may not be enough room for you to pitch a tent.
Sep 15-16	LV PROJECT	POCs: Ken Jones (717) 267-2669
Sep 17	FCG Meeting	
Oct 13-14	LV PROJECT	POCs: Ken Jones (717) 267-2669
Oct 12-14	VAR/MAR Fall Meet	Combined VAR/MAR at OTR site
Oct 15	FCG Meeting	Nominations for 2008 Officers
Oct 19-21	New River "Bridge Day"	Rappelling, Base Jumping: 800 feet --POC Jon Peterson (717)788-1096
Nov 17-18	LV PROJECT	POCs: Ken Jones (717) 267-2669
Nov 19	FCG Meeting	Elections for 2008 Officers
Dec ??	LV PROJECT	Potential for extra (and final) survey trip
Dec 25, 2007	FCG No Meeting	Merry Christmas!!!
Jan 2-?, 2008	FCG NEW YEAR PARTY	(Tentative date) Happy New Year POC Anne Shepard/Pat Minnick (717) 765-0521
Various dates	VAR Projects	http://www.varegion.org/var/regEvents.shtml

*date change or new date

To add an event to the SPELEO-CALENDAR, email pertinent facts to Ken Tayman at: KTAYMAN@SUPERNET.COM

CAVE BUCK\$

Diane White, Treasurer

Franklin County Grotto has been supporting the "CAVE BUCKS" program since 1998. Basically, it consists of collecting a voluntary donation of \$1.00 per cave visited from grotto members during the month and donating it to various Cave Conservancies and other similar organizations for the strict purpose of buying or leasing caves. During the last nine years FCG has contributed nearly \$700 to the following organizations;

Mid-Atlantic Karst Conservancy \$286 Tytoona Cave Preserve \$40 Southeast Cave Conservancy \$ 54
West Virginia Cave Conservancy \$171 Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy \$132

FRANKLIN COUNTY GROTTO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER as of June 21, 2007

First Name	MI	Last Name	Address1	City	ST	Zip	Home Phone	E-Mail Address	NSS	Rescue Call Out	CAT	FCG #	Thru Year
Richard		Anderson	6571 Buchanan Trail W.	Mercersburg	PA	17236	(717) 328-2318	randersn@pa.net	14660		R	30	LIFE
Donald		Arrowood	437 Ramsey Ave	Chambersburg	PA	17201	(717) 593-0808	arrowood@crossroads.ws	15433	YES	R	1	LIFE
Barry		Duncan	16 W Green St	Shiremanstown	PA	17011	(717) 731-1163	formations@earthlink.com	24338		R	114	2007
Christopher		Edenbo	1421 Trindle Rd.	Carlisle	PA	17015	(717)243-2019	edenboc@diakon.org			R	222	2007
Christopher	M	Emory	305 E. Orange St	Shippensburg	PA	17257	(717)532-9934	cmesound@yahoo.com			R	220	2007
Mark		Guiffre	698 Themar Ct	Baldwin	NY	11510	(516) 546-9312	cricketvass@yahoo.com			A	126	2008
James	A	Hart	800 Ritner Hwy	Shippensburg	PA	17257	(717) 532-3950	jahart@pa.net	22080	YES	R	6	2007
Eric	W	Heberlig	3545 Old Hershey Rd	Elizabethtown	PA	17022	(717) 520-9799	ericheberlig@yahoo.com	29855		R	65	LIFE
Christine		Heberlig	3545 Old Hershey Rd	Elizabethtown	PA	17022	(717) 520-9799	kintsy@comcast.net	44657		R	168	LIFE
George	M	Heberlig	3545 Old Hershey Rd	Elizabethtown	PA	17022	(717) 520-9799		46333		F	171	2007
Elizabeth	J	Heberlig	3545 Old Hershey Rd	Elizabethtown	PA	17022	(717) 520-9799				F	205	2007
Martin		Helmke	330 Buckeye Lane	West Chester	PA	19382	(703)785-1145	mhelmke@wcupa.com			R	209	2008
Adam		Henry	555 Hamilton Ave	Chambersburg	PA	17201	(717)491-7512	tmxx.30@gmail.com			R	219	2007
Jay		Herbein	625 Carbon Ave	Harrisburg	PA	17111	(717) 564-5589	No Email	4750		R	142	2007
Guy		Holbrook	2072 Bergen St.	Bellmore	NY	11710	(516) 679-9045	brenda_holbrook@ml.com			A	206	2007
Alan		Horn	60 Husson Rd	Felton	PA	17322	(717) 880-0604	pacavewolf@aol.com	45259		R	180	2008
Brian		Hornberger	222 Moyer Ridge Drive	Manheim	PA	17545	(717)808-5881	theseeker@dejazzed.com			R	225	2009
Dale		Ibberson	445 Hale Ave	Harrisburg	PA	17104	(717)238-2198	ibberson@paonline.com			R	218	2007
Joel	R	Jacobs	2 Locust Hollow Lane	Carlisle	PA	17013	(717)776-3601	joelrobertjacobs@aol.com			R	216	2007
Kenneth	C	Jones	4446 Duffield Rd	Chambersburg	PA	17201	(717) 267-2669	caseycaver@comcast.net			R	18	LIFE
Kelly		Knepper	435 Pennsylvania Ave	Chambersburg	PA	17201	(717) 267-2416	kknepper@pa.net			R	174	LIFE
Troy		Lewarchick	114 Verchick Lane	N. Cambria	PA	15714	(814)934-5541	troylewarchick@yahoo.com			R	221	2007
Gordon		Ley	34 N. Miller St	Fairfield	PA	17320	(717) 642-8970	gley@supernet.com	39089		R	157	2008
Timothy	R	Long	14935 Wrangletown Rd	Mount Union	PA	17066	(814)542-4482	tlong_geo@msn.com	30877		R	217	2008
Terry		McClanatha	20847 Jefferson Blvd	Smithsburg	MD	21783	(301) 797-6535	mcclater@wcboe.k12.md.us	12103		R	78	2008
Kevin		McDonald	464 Brook Circle, PO Box 485	Mechanicsburg	PA	17055			36256		R	161	LIFE
Patrick	A	Minnick	14220 Blue Mountain Rd	Waynesboro	PA	17268	(717) 765-0521	patanne@pa.net	20099	YES	R	19	2007
Thomas	I	Mitchell	RD #1, Box 520	Mapleton Depot	PA	17052	(814) 542-2881	No Email			A	35	2009
Jonathan		Peterson	5406 Kennedy Ave	Williamson	PA	17270	(717)788-1096	jonpeterson@comcast.net	39657	YES	R	163	2008
Todd		Roberts	231 West Street	Winchester	VA	22601	(703)599-3860	trobart.02@gmail.com			R	228	2007
Joe		Schock	22 Chestnut Ave	Carlisle	PA	17013	(717) 245-9083	kulcherschock@netscape.net	30620		R	125	2007
Miranda		Schock	22 Chestnut Ave	Carlisle	PA	17013	(717) 245-9083				F	208	2007
James		Schweitzer	PO Box 573	Farmingdale	NY	11735	(516) 249-4652	jabschweitzer@yahoo.com	24697		R	57	2007
Michael	E	Scott	1000 Woessner Rd	Harleysville	PA	19438	(610) 287-0579	michaelscott@dejazzed.com			R	68	2007
Paula		Scott	1000 Woessner Rd	Harleysville	PA	19438	(610) 287-0579	paula_scott@fmc.com	41415		F	136	2007
Anne	M	Shepard	14220 Blue Mountain Rd	Waynesboro	PA	17268	(717) 765-0521	patanne@pa.net	39262	YES	F	158	2007
Kerry		Speelman	740 South River Rd	Halifax	PA	17032	(717)571-9269	kescaver@hotmail.com			R	213	2007
Nick		Stoner	840 Newport Rd	Manheim	PA	17545	(717)664-3523	stonerm@dejazzed.com			R	224	2007
Kenneth	B.	Tayman	13373 Sunrise Drive	Blue Ridge Summit	PA	17214	(717) 794-2069	ktayman@supernet.com	32074		R	86	2009
Helen		Tayman	13373 Sunrise Drive	Blue Ridge Summit	PA	17214	(717) 794-2069	yfwk@iup.edu			F	119	2009
Steven		Trevitz	8685 Orchard Dr	Mercersburg	PA	17236	(717) 328-5256	steventrevitz@pa.net			A	62	2008
Istvan		Urcuyo	1192 Baltimore Pike	gettysburg	PA	17325	(717)253-6343	INTENSEKARST@COMCAST.NET			R	226	2007
Theo		Valcis	217 Walnut Dale Rd	Shippensburg	PA	17257	(717)532-5059	GoldbugLDT@embargmail.com	44987		R	87	2007
Dane		Wagle	Box 277	Fairfield	PA	17320	(717)6425865	daswagles@superpa.net			R	277	2007
Howard	C	White	1160 Three Square Hollow Rd	Newburg	PA	17240	(717) 423-6005	raifan@intergate.com	33287	YES	R	79	2007
Diane	S	White	1160 Three Square Hollow Rd	Newburg	PA	17240	(717) 423-6005	mtnflower@intergate.com	33288	YES	R	90	2007
Andrew	B	White	1012 Buck Rd	Quarryville	PA	17566	(717) 284-9906	dwbaylis@yahoo.com			A	169	2007
Douglas		Wilt	810 Fleshman Mill Pond	New Oxford	PA	17350	(717)479-1204	zagnuts4me@yahoo.com			R	223	2007

Please Verify all of your personal information and let me know if any corrections are necessary.

Also, please note the "Membership thru Year" in the right most-column.

Thanks, Ken Tayman

Kenneth Tayman, Editor
13373 Sunrise Drive
Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214



Franklin County Grotto
Franklin County, PA