

Message from the OTR Chairman

Summer is nearly here, and soon we will all be back together at our home away from home. The 72nd Old Timer’s Reunion is less than four months away. This year’s theme is Prohibition, The Roaring 20s, and The Age of Jazz. Our team is busy puttin’ on the Ritz to make this year’s OTR the bee’s knees! We have several events planned to celebrate the 20s in high style. Get dolled up in your best spats or flapper dress for the DooDah parade. This year the DooDah Parade will be held in the evening, and will be the start of Saturday night’s festivities. After the DooDah Parade, take a tour of the campsite to find the best giggle water and hooch around and maybe get spifflicated. For camps that want to participate, there will be a people’s choice speakeasy contest. Show off your juice joint and win a prize! Finally, head to the pavilion with your favorite sheba or sheik and dance the night away.

We all make OTR the great event that it is. Without you, OTR would not be OTR. Like last year, each TRA member will be allowed to sponsor up to 5 guests at OTR. We’re challenging each of you to bring a friend to OTR this year. Bring a friend to OTR! Invite a friend back to OTR! The friendships we make and the stories we create are the best parts of OTR; let’s all do our part to sustain our beloved Old Timer’s Reunion. I look forward to seeing everyone in Dailey!

Ben Mirabile
OTR Chairman



Arrival and Departure: OTR 2023 begins on Thursday, August 31. Gates open at noon, and we will do everything we can to get you through registration quickly. The line of cars that forms outside of the gate prior to noon is a traffic hazard, so please be considerate of our neighbors and try to arrive after the noon gate opening. **OTR closes at noon on Monday, September 4.** The only people permitted to be on the site before and after OTR are those who have received permission in advance to support setup or cleanup.

Preregistration: Preregistration will be available in early July via the OTR Website. [OTR.ORG](http://otr.org)

Onsite Registration: Registration is open Thursday, 8/31, from 12:00 noon to 12:00 midnight, Friday 9:00 AM to 12:00 midnight, Saturday 9:00 AM–9:00 PM, and Sunday 9:00 AM–6:00 PM. OTR closes completely to new registrants and guests at 6:00 PM on Sunday.

Day Passes: Day passes are good for the day purchased from 8:30 AM until 6:00 PM. To stick around after 6:00 PM, go through registration and purchase a regular pass. Without exception, day passes are \$10 and include the non-refundable insurance surcharge, regardless of the length of your visit.

OTR Merchandise: OTR merch is available through preregistration and onsite at OTR. This year’s featured merch includes t-shirts, stickers, collectible pins, stainless steel flasks, and a rocks glass – all with fantastic logos designed by the talented Amanda Willis! Quantities are limited, so order with your preregistration to guarantee that you get what you want!

Guests: Guests are welcome at OTR, when invited and sponsored by a TRA regular member. TRA regular members may sponsor up to five adult guests. Guests of all ages (except infants) pay the regular registration fee plus a \$20 guest surcharge. Family companions 18 and over are considered guests unless they are TRA members. Non-adult guests must be children of adult sponsors, or the adult sponsor must provide proof of guardianship. We cannot permit entry to guests under 18 who are not lawfully in the custody of their adult sponsors. Legal verification may be required. **Please choose your guests carefully;** this is a cavers’ event; please invite only cavers or other outdoor enthusiasts.

Children of TRA Members: Children of TRA members up to the age of 17 are not considered guests and do not pay the guest surcharge. Children who are active cavers may apply for their own membership (\$10) at <http://membership.otr.org>.

Photo ID: **You must provide legal photo ID at registration,** even if you do not intend to consume any alcoholic beverages on site. The OTR staff is authorized to request and see ID of any individual on-site. You MUST be 21 or older to consume any alcoholic beverages on-site; staff may ask for validation at any time.

Checks: OTR accepts cash or checks written in US funds and on US banks. OTR charges \$30 on returned checks and reports nonpaying registrants to the authorities. Credit cards are also accepted.

2023 OTR Registration Fees				
Arrival Day	Adult 18+	Junior 12-17	Child 3-11	Additional Guest fee
Pre-registration	\$60	\$47	\$37	+\$20
Thursday	\$60	\$47	\$37	+\$20
Friday	\$58	\$45	\$35	+\$20
Saturday	\$56	\$43	\$33	+\$20
Sunday	\$50	\$37	\$30	+\$20
Infants under 3 years are permitted free entry. A ‘Day’ begins at 4 AM				

TRA Membership: If you need a TRA membership, the deadline to submit your paperwork is July 31. The cost is \$15, and you can download forms at <http://membership.otr.org>. **Important Note:** if you were a junior member or family dependent and are now over 18, you will need to upgrade your membership to a regular member to avoid paying guest fees. Please see the website for more information and forms, or contact our membership chairman, Scott Baker at membership@otr.org.

Pets: Pets are NOT permitted at OTR, including at the gate area or chained to or inside vehicles at the gate.

Music at OTR: Live music has always been a big part of OTR, and this year is no exception. Thursday night, the Pavilion Stage will feature the nostalgically melodious cocktails of our own **Grateful Gary**, recalling the intoxicating sing-along tunes of the Grateful Dead, Beatles, Crosby/Stills/Nash/Young, and Bob Dylan, among many others. Friday Happy Hour at Cooters brings the sometimes bawdy but always drinkable melodies of our own Irish pub band **Shanty Irish** to the fore. Friday night, OTR has mined the sleazy speakeasy parlors to bring to you from Harlem, New York, itself the one-of-a-kind **Dirty Mae**, as they begin a southern tour of the Eastern States. Carrie Fireman, Ben Curtis, Robin Frost and their band can with well-honed musical precision skewer the 18th Amendment as they create a down and dirty sonic concoction we'll all want to imbibe. Saturday we are honored to welcome back by popular demand the dancemasters themselves, **Queen City Funk and Soul**, with their 11-member horn-driven brand of funk. For our tasting delight, this will be the epic 4th OTR serving of these sultans of soul. On Sunday afternoon, OTR hosts one of the best bluegrass bands, and one of the most accomplished mandolin players on the planet, when **Johnny Staats and the Delivery Boys** hits the River Stage; where West Virginia "shine" can wet our acoustic whistle. Finally, on Sunday night we'll all swallow the musical hair of the dog when our own **Buzz City** offers their own sonic brew.

Contests: The Speleo-Olympics at OTR are designed to resemble East Coast caving experiences. A variety of contests allow attendees to demonstrate their skills. Contests include five vertical contests, an obstacle course, and even a beer-drinking contest. This year a new program for kids ages 5–9 and 10–13 will combine physical skills and educational experiences. Even if you don't plan to compete, come watch! Contests make great spectator sports.

DooDah Parade: The DooDah parade has been going on since we moved to our current site and offers a fabulous display of the zaniness and creativity of OTR's diverse attendees. This year's DooDah Parade will be held in the EVENING and will kick off another night of OTR fun as spectators wait and watch to see just what is coming around the corner. Beads? Potions? Flashes (of light, or of brilliance)? Who would like to see the Grotto rivalry continue? Start planning now!

Event Tent: Started in 2017 as a venue to bring caving-related events and presentations to OTR, the Event Tent has taken off! Since its inception, offerings have included a virgin reception, yoga for cavers, a paint and sip class, speleoprintmaking, lightning talks, and presentations on various cave-related topics including cave rescue, cave photography, and the History of OTR. This year, we'll be requesting that OTR grant awardees share their work with us.

Introduction of the Virgins: Bring out your grotto virgins (first-time OTR attendees) for introduction to the membership before the bonfire lighting on Thursday evening. We will have some "fun" quests to help you familiarize your virgins with our little family. Don't forget that OTR is a gathering of cavers. Although cave closures are a fact of life, consider taking a cave virgin to one of the nearby open caves and properly introduce them to the joy of caving.

Kids' Activities: As always, the Kiddie Korral will be up and running to keep your kids entertained! Additionally, many contests are open to children, and children are welcome at the all-ages art and craft sessions at the Event Tent.

Vendors: If you wish to sell anything at OTR, you must make prior arrangements with the Vendor Coordinator, Dave Fricke (caverdavef@gmail.com). Wednesday is setup day for vendors; please don't arrive earlier. Greg Miller will again provide food concessions throughout the day and late into the night. All vendors selling food or beverages may be visited by the Health Department's inspectors and must be set up and ready for inspection when the inspector arrives.

Caving at OTR: White Nose Syndrome (WNS) continues to be a problem in the region. Many caves with significant bat population are closed because of it. OTR does not organize caving trips, so if you do go caving, please check the closed cave list first. If you are planning some caving during OTR, please practice proper cave gear disinfection procedures before and after entering caves in the area. Be sure to let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return. Please complete a Caver Information Form before you go; forms can be found at Registration and on the Information boards throughout the campground. As always practice safe caving. Closed cave list: <https://tinyurl.com/closedcaves>

Awards Ceremony: The awards ceremony is held on Sunday evening and includes presentations of TRA awards, contest awards, election results, door prizes, and a preview of OTR 2024.

Volunteers: OTR happens because of its many volunteers. WE can always use help with the many different tasks before, during, and after OTR. Some areas requiring help are registration, gate, first-aid, sauna, audio/video, IT, contests, daily cleanup, Wild Side, security, Cooters and Brew Crew. If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, see the volunteer section on www.otr.org for more information and contacts. Sign up lists are online for sauna, gate, and first-aid.

Remember OTR is a caver event ---

Please sponsor only cavers or other outdoor enthusiasts!



DAILEY, WEST VIRGINIA

This information may be distributed to caving clubs, cave conservancies, and individual cavers only.

Note that information presented here is subject to change