

Coot & Holler Gazette

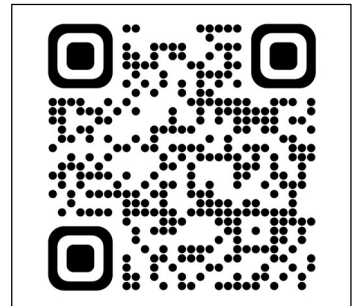
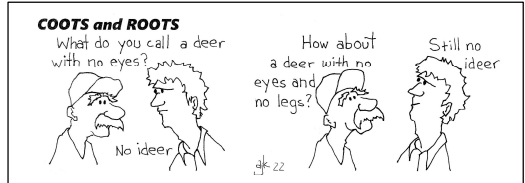
Vol. 23, No. 3, Saturday, August 31, 2024

Submit material to cootnholler@otr.org by 4 p.m. daily.
Or drop a written blurb in the box at Cooters.



Today's Schedule (Typically, the C&H schedule is most accurate.)

- 8 a.m. OTR 5K Run/Walk (meet at Front Gate at 7:30 a.m.)
- 8–9 a.m. Yoga for Cavers (Event Tent)
- 8–10 a.m. Decontamination Station open
- 9 a.m.–9 p.m. Registration Office open
- 9 a.m. Vertical (rope) Contests begin (Pavilion)
- 9 a.m. Cable Ladder Contests begin
- 9 a.m.–12 p.m. Garden Stepping Stone Workshop (Event Tent)
- 9:30 a.m. Long-Range Planning Committee (AVP camp behind WOTR)
- 10 a.m.–12 p.m. Sauna opens—Textiles Only
- 11 a.m. Carbide Lamp, Cave Quiz, OTR Trivia, Poster & Chug Contests (Pavilion)
- 11 a.m. Cave Pack, Maggot Races, Sleeping Bag Contest (behind Pavilion)
- 11 a.m. Batman the Magician (Pavilion)
- 11 a.m. Cooters Pub opens
- 11 a.m.–4 p.m. OTR Museum open
- 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Speleo-Obstacle Course open
- 12 noon The 7th Annual Bubbles Fun Run: Wear a red dress, please (Memorial Garden)
- 12 noon The Raunchy River Jam (River Stage)
- 12 noon Children's Activities following Batman the Magician (Pavilion)
- 12 noon–2 p.m. Live music: ♪ Grateful Gary ♪ (Pavilion)
- 12 noon–4 p.m. Brew Crew open (Pavilion)
- 1–2 p.m. TRA Town Hall Meeting (near Bonfire)
- 1–3 p.m. When Guano Happens: ER-NCRC Cave Rescue Seminar (Event Tent)
- 2–4 p.m. Live music: ♪ Tim White & JB Stalnaker ♪ (Pavilion)
- 3–5 p.m. OTR Merchandise Sales open (Merch Tent)
- 3–4:30 p.m. The Geology of Caves Presentation-adults & kids (Event Tent)
- 5–6 p.m. WV Fossil Discovery Presentation Event Tent
- 6:30 p.m. West Virginia Speleological Survey Fall Business Meeting (Event Tent)
- 7 p.m. The 36th Annual Doo-Dah (Homecoming) Parade (begins at Entrance 'Gate Mahal')
- 7–9 p.m. Decontamination Station open
- 8 p.m. Brew Crew opens (Pavilion)
- 8:15–9:15 p.m. Photo Booth Prom Pics (Cooters)
- Dusk (±8:30) Movie (Crawl-In Theater)
- 8:30 p.m. Cave Photography Presentation (Event Tent)
- 8:30 p.m. Cave Prom Announcements and Introductions (Pavilion)
- 9 p.m.–12 a.m. Live music: ♪ Driftwood ♪ (Pavilion)
- 2 a.m. Last Call at Cooters Pub (may close earlier)
- 2 a.m. Last Call at Brew Crew
- 4 a.m. Sauna closes



Event Tent Schedule for Today (See full schedule at <https://otr.org/event-info/otr-2019-entertainment-event-schedule/event-tent-schedule/>.) The Event Tent is located at the end of Vendor's Row. \$\$\$=Fee or donation!

8 a.m.–9 a.m.

Hatha Yoga for Cavers with Emilee Goodman. This gentle yoga practice helps revitalize the body and mind to promote overall strength and well-being. "Yoga is a great way to prevent injuries and decrease recovery time physically, while meditation and breath work help with focus and emotional resilience. These skills are helpful in the cave and beyond," she says. We will focus on poses that encourage strength, flexibility, balance, and relaxation. This class is appropriate for all ages and fitness levels! Please bring a yoga mat or towel as well as some water.

9 a.m.–12 p.m. \$\$\$

Garden Stepping Stone Workshop with Hannah Davis. Learn how to make beautiful Garden Stepping Stones!
\$10 suggested donation to cover materials.

12 p.m. (noon)–2 p.m. \$\$\$

American Red Cross First Aid and ADULT (only) CPR/AED with Mike Tripodi. American Red Cross [first aid training classes](#) give you the information and the skills you need to help adults during many emergency situations. Course is 2 hours long. Any questions please email esftripod@gmail.com with "OTR CPR" in the subject line. **Cost is \$60** (cash or Venmo onsite) and includes digital book and certification good for 2 years.

2 p.m.–3 p.m.

Eastern Region-National Cave Rescue Commission Presentation: WHEN GUANO HAPPENS! What you need to know about cave rescue and how you can be one of those who helps. Meet representatives of the various cave rescue organizations in the Mid-Atlantic States/Eastern Region to learn how you can join and how you can help your fellow cavers WHEN GUANO HAPPENS!

3 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Geology of Caves with Katie Schmidt and Wayne Perkins. Geology for cavers and their kids of ALL ages.

5 p.m.–6 p.m.

Smilodon and Other Prehistoric Cats from West Virginia Caves with E. Ray Garton. Cavers are invaluable partners, the eyes and muscle to paleontologists, in the discovery of Pleistocene (Ice Age) micro and megafauna bone deposits in caves. Nowhere is this more evident than in WV. Cavers have helped paleontologists understand the distribution and impact these Ice Age animals had on our world. This presentation will focus on the discovery of Smilodon and other Ice Age cats found in West Virginia caves. These big cats include sabertooth cat, *Smilodon fatalis*: jaguar, *Panthera onca augusta*: and cheetah, *Miracinonyx inexpectatus*. Many of the initial discoveries were made by cavers and the specimens recovered by cavers under the guidance of Guilday, Grady, Garton, Whittemore, Hamilton, McDonald, et al.

6:30 p.m.–8 p.m.

West Virginia Speleological Survey (WVASS) Business Meeting. The Fall (OTR) meeting agenda includes reports of various survey & cave-inventory work completed in WV over the past year. Anyone interested in such work should attend.

8:30–9:30 p.m.

Cave Photography—It's All About the Light with Nikki Fox. Nikki Fox, a professional photojournalist for 25 years, will discuss the basics of composition, using colors to your advantage, managing negative space, using passages to make leading lines, and the Rules of Thirds. Most of this discussion will be focused on how to illuminate a lightless environment.

OTR's inaugural (and perhaps only) Roper Romp will begin at the Gate Mahal Saturday evening so we can join in the Homecoming Parade! So all you Ropers plan to meet me up there and we'll head on down to Prom to "chaperone" all these "kids attending prom"!

What is a Roper Romp, you ask? "The romp is a costumed bar crawl based on Mrs. Helen Roper, a character on the 1970s TV show, "Three's Company." Mrs. Roper was the wisecracking, caftan-wearing, love-deprived wife of landlord Stanley Roper. The romp began in 2013 as a "Million Mrs. Roper March" of men and women wearing caftans and curly red wigs during a New Orleans parade. Today, there are countless Mrs. Roper Romp/Bar Crawl groups all over the world.

After we prance and dare I say, ROMP in the Homecoming Parade...We can stay at Prom, we can walk about the site, whatever the group wishes! Maybe we'll even have a "Best Roper" or "Loudest Mumu" prize!!!!

What's Up? (8/31/24) by Joel Jacobs

Stand up, bend your neck back, and look straight up at the night sky. The star directly above you is Deneb, the 19th brightest star in the sky and the alpha star in Cygnus, the Swan (aka the Great Northern Cross). It marks the tip of the swan's tail & appears at the top of the cross. Deneb is a supergiant with a luminosity about 60,000 times greater than our sun. It lies approximately 1,600 light years away.

Announcements and Personals

- **Dear SUOC:** I miss you so very, very much. So sorry to miss our reunion this year. Have a wonderful time in paradise. Pour one out for Bubbles, Loveland, Hillman, and Decker's Mom. ~Keebs
- **VKT~** Boredom's not a burden anyone should bear, To breathe, to feel, to know I'm alive.
- **Thanks for hanging with me** for the last 25 years as of tonight. I still love you, my blue-eyed guy! ~Lynnie Pie
- **Vote for Jeff!** [NOTE: Voting by eligible TRA members for TRA Trustee is on Sunday morning. Same as it ever was!]
- **Happy ROOT Year, Mark Z.!!!!**
- **Happy Birthday, Bob Frostick,** you old coot, entering your 7th decade today! ~Chuck
- **Shorah Jakooth:** Are you here?
- **Dear Steve Luke & Woody Ulmer:** Thanks for taking in the slack this year. We are so grateful to be a part of this OTR tradition. And to all the participants: CHUG! CHUG! CHUG! ~With love, Robbie & Jane
- The **OTR Caving Guide** has an insert—the CAIS—that has an insert about local caves in the area having their closure date extended to 9/3 **this year only!** Use the CAIS and see these caves while you can.
- **Tri-State** has a poop chart. You should go see it and sign on. Perhaps you too can poop and tell.
- **KIDNEY DONOR NEEDED.** To hear her story or get more information, see Gloria Freeland at Standing Stone Grotto.
- **Dozer 4 Jester** and **Debi 4 Prom Queen!** ~Ross from Canada
- Stop by the merch tent from 3–5 pm to meet this year's **Struggle Bus Studs** who are seeking dates to CAVE PROM. The **NSS Bookstore** on Vendors Row will happily accept new memberships & renewals.
- **Rick Stanton** will be autographing copies of **Aquanaut** at Speleobooks at 8 p.m. Saturday night after the parade.
- **Vote Alan Staiman** for TRA Board! Keep OTR hot & wet!
- **Brady Weekley,** your new Nalgene is waiting for you at Merch. Come see us so you can stop being disgusting.
- **Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy t-shirts for sale!** Get your very own, limited edition, PCC t-shirt for the bargain price of just a \$5 donation. What a great deal! See Tom Griffin or Red Schock at Seven Valleys Grotto. Sizes available: S, M, L, & XL.
- **Come play pool** at the real pool table! Way up in the far corner near Back Road in the Party Section.
- Please **take all camp trash to dumpster.** Thanks, Dirty Deeds (Denny and Dave Woods)
- **Thank a volunteer or staff member!** Everybody works very hard so YOU CAN HAVE OTR FUN!!!
- Don't forget to come to hear Buzz City play its annual **Band Aide tomorrow at 10 p.m. in the pavilion!**

SPELEO-OLYMPICS EVENT SCHEDULE					
Contest	Contest Start		Contest End		Location
	Date	Time	Date	Time	
Scavenger Hunt	Thursday	12:00 PM		4:00 PM	Pavilion
Obstacle Course	Friday	11:00 AM		4:00 PM	Behind Pavilion
SK		8:00 AM		9:00 AM	Registration
Cable Ladder		9:00 AM		4:00 PM	Behind Pavilion
Vertical Contest		9:00 AM		4:00 PM	Pavilion
Batman The Magician		11:00 AM	Saturday	12:00 PM	Pavilion
Cave Pack					Behind Pavilion
Chugging					Pavilion
Lamp Assembly					Pavilion
Maggot Races					Behind Pavilion
OTR Trivia		11:00 AM		4:00 PM	Pavilion
Cave Quiz					Pavilion
Poster Contest					Pavilion
Sleeping Bag Contest					Behind Pavilion