

# Coot & Holler Gazette

Vol. 24, No. 2, Friday, August 29, 2025

Submit material to [cootnholler@otr.org](mailto:cootnholler@otr.org) by 4 p.m. daily.  
Or drop a written blurb in the envelope at Cooters.



## OTR Schedule FRIDAY

9 a.m.–11 p.m.	Registration Office open
9 a.m.	SpeleoPrintmaking Workshop; Event Tent
10 a.m.	Cooters Pub opens
10 a.m.	Sauna opens
11 a.m.–4 p.m.	Speleo-Obstacle Course open
11 a.m.–4 p.m.	OTR Museum open
Noon–9 p.m.	Decontamination Station open
12:30 p.m.	The Raunchy River Jam; River Stage
12:30 p.m.	‘Poured Paint’ Workshop; Event Tent
1 p.m.	The 8th Annual ROOTs & TOOTs Social; Cooters
3–5 p.m.	OTR Merchandise Sales open; Merch Tent
3–4 p.m.	1950s Society Meeting & Social; Event Tent
5–6:30 p.m.	Live music: Shanty Irish; Cooters
6:30 p.m.	The Red Queen’s Talent Show; Pavilion
Dusk (±8:30)	Movie; Crawl-In Theater
9 p.m.–Midnight	Live music: Megan Jean’s Secret Family; Pavilion
2 a.m.	Last Call at Cooters Pub (may close earlier)
2 a.m.	Last Call at Brew Crew; Pavilion
4 a.m.	Sauna closes

Non-alcoholic (NA) beer available at Cooters! Ask the Cooters staff about the available options!

WOTR is streaming at [www.wotr.live](http://www.wotr.live).

### SpeleoPrintmaking Workshop (9 a.m.–Noon) Kara Bond

In the style of traditional printmaking, you will learn to carve and print your own interpretations of cave life. We’ll provide all the printmaking supplies and pictures of various underground wonders, but if you have a favorite photo of a bat, cave salamander, or formation to use as inspiration, please bring it! This is a family-friendly activity for all ages and stages. The ink is permanent, so wear old clothes!

\*\*\*Donations of any amount are welcome to offset the cost of materials.

### Poured Paint Bat Workshop (12:30–2:30) Lynne Smith

Lynne will walk us through a Poured Paint Project featuring a Bat in relief. You’ll also end up with an additional Poured Bat art piece. We recommend that you wear old clothing. The \$20 supply fee should be paid directly to Lynne Smith. Send your payment via Venmo to @lynne-smith\_44 (last 4 of phone # 1141) to secure your spot.

\*\*\*\$20 fee required

### 1950 Society Reception (3–4 p.m.)

Prospective and current 1950 Society members are invited to share a pleasant afternoon and learn about our mission and passion. Light refreshments will be served.

### Shanty Irish at Cooter’s Pub

For the past 12 years, the Shanty Irish Pub Band has serenaded their patrons of Cooter’s Pub on Friday afternoons. This year, the band would like to invite anyone interested in singing and/or playing an instrument to join them in a “Session” at the pub Friday’s, 5–6:30pm.

### Lost and Found in Registration

Stop by Lost and Found in Registration if you are missing some items. Including the last chance to claim items lest from last year. Examples of some items from last year included glasses, flashlights, and a phone. Be prepared to describe the item. ~Dr. Kat

**Open Shift at Brew Crew, Saturday night 12 p.m. to 2 a.m.** (really Sunday morning). If we get no volunteers, the taps will close early.

Sign up with **Sir Trevor Finn, Knight of the DooDah Parade** to join in the fun that is the parade. His edress is [DooDahOTR@outlook.com](mailto:DooDahOTR@outlook.com).

### The Third Annual OTR Bullock Distillery Free Bourbon Tasting

#### TRA Membership Update

by Scotty Baker, Membership Secretary

The Membership Process Committee was tasked with developing an online application for membership. A slow “roll out” of the application was introduced in late June. The bugs have been worked out and the application is fully online and ready to use; go to <https://otr.org/application-for-new-tra-membership/> to apply or use the QR code at the bottom. The online application accepts Venmo and credit & debit card payments through PayPal. If you have family, friends, grotto members, acquaintances, or just see someone that would make a great addition to our group and they are a caver, ask them to apply. The benefits outweigh the cost—just look around while at OTR and see how much fun this group is. If you have any questions, please contact me at [membership@otr.org](mailto:membership@otr.org). Have fun at OTR, enjoy the local caves, have a safe trip back home, and I will see you next year. ~Scotty

Come sample the wooden barrel aged **Greenbrier County Karst Groundwater Bourbons** of the Bullock Distillery. These fine West Virginia distilled bourbons are finished with Bullock Spring water, which is part of the Bone-Norman Cave System. Look for the Bourbon and Bone-Norman Cave Map posters.  
Friday August 30 @ 6:30 p.m. in the **OTR Party Section along the back road**. Nick@Nite aka Nick Schaer  
**Lost sausage wallet**—last seen drinking beer at Cooters. If found please return to (nearly) Dead Puppies.

**Buzzzzz City Grotto's Limited Edition 3-CD Set**

Buzzzzz City has created a three CD special edition set of their greatest hits (Hint: ALL their music is GREAT!) and they're offering a few LUCKY winners their own sets this year at OTR!  
Tickets can be purchased at Buzzzzz City, First Aid, and other locations around the site. Cost is \$3 or 2/\$5.  
Drawing will be held Sunday night, in the Pavilion at BandAide! Must be present to win! Or someone you know is present but this will be so awesome they may not ever actually give it to ya!

**Crawl-In Theater (@ Dusk, Weather Permitting)**

This year's film festival will feature:  
**Friday: *How to Train Your Dragon*** – DreamWorks, 98 minutes  
**Saturday: *How to Train Your Dragon 2***, 102 minutes  
**Sunday: *How to Train Your Dragon–The Hidden World***, 104 minutes  
No dragons or white rabbits were harmed in the making of these films.  
The **Kiddie Korral** is seeking “new blood” to learn and ultimately become the audio/visual folks who would show the films at the Kiddie Korral and join the KK team! If interested, please visit the Dead Puppies Grotto camp.  
**Welcome to OTR!** Did you bring an instrument to OTR this year? New and old friends welcome at **Buzzzzz City's Friday night jam at 9:30 p.m.** DON'T BE BASHFUL! ALL ARE WELCOME!

If you want to **borrow a red dress** for the Bubbles Fun Run on Saturday, see Stacy Mock. She has extras.

**Out Standing Stitches**—Bring your clean and dry caving gear for an onsite repair!

Trash cans are **not for camp trash**. Take your camp trash to the dumpsters please.

**Love OTR? Join TRA!** Come to Cooters to learn how you can join the organization that throws the best party in the world! There are applications waiting for you; just ask the staff.  
**Carly:** You and me since 2013. Every year just gets better! Love, Hansome

**What's Up? (8/29/25)** by Joel Jacobs

There are nine circumpolar constellations in the northern hemisphere. These are the constellations that rotate around the North Star, Polaris, and never set. They are Auriga, The Charioteer; Camelopardalis, the Giraffe, a hard constellation to discriminate because the stars in it are so faint; Cassiopeia, the wife of King Cepheus; Cepheus, the King of Ethiopia; Draco, the Dragon; Lynx, which in North America we would call a bobcat, another difficult to distinguish grouping said to represent; Lynceus, one of Jason's sailors with terrific eyesight, which you have to have to see this constellation; Perseus, usually depicted holding the head of Medusa in one hand and a bejeweled sword in the other; Ursa Major, the Great Bear; and Ursa Minor, the Lesser Bear.

**Holes** by Joel Jacobs

Chapter 2 – Into It

What appeared to be a cave entrance was going to need further examination, but not at the moment. I was dressed for golf: baseball cap, polo shirt, cargo shorts, ankle high socks and cleated golf shoes. The space in front of me looked like I could wriggle through into whatever lay beyond. I would have to get someone else to go with me when the course was closed, say 11 p.m., or later, so that we could sneak onto the links in our cave gear and take a look at the mysterious depth beneath that green.

When I got back to camp, I went looking for Melissa, my tent mate. She had told me that she was going to the hot tub area to catch a few rays and relax while I played nine holes. That's where I found her. Every time I see her, especially when she's appropriately undressed, I am wowed at how gorgeous she is, but that's not what I like about her the most. She is smart and savvy and sexy and she loves me back. She's an excellent climber and tireless caver. I told her what I had experienced and she became as excited as I was about the idea of exploring the opening beneath the green.

On the way to our campsite, we had a couple of cheese steaks from the food truck, readied our cave gear, and then took a nap. We wanted to get a little sleep in before our midnight adventure. When we woke, we dressed in our caving coveralls, drove out of the OTR site at about 10:30 and, avoiding the pro shop, parked up the road from the golf course. The sky was clear and with a waxing moon just shy of full, so it was easy to walk to our destination. When we got there, I pointed to the drop off and we slid down below the big boulder that was shielding the opening. We turned on our helmet lamps.

“Hear that noise?” I asked.

“Yeah. Curious.”

I aimed the beam of my light and said, “I just couldn't poke into that narrow slot wearing my golf duds.”

“Well, Arthur, we're in the appropriate outfits now, so . . .” and she crawled by me and wriggled into the slot. I followed her boots for about 15 feet into a declining shaft that turned to the right and continued for another 15 feet.

“Hold up,” she advised, “There's a drop off here.”

*To be continued . . .*

