

Minnesota Trip: Summer 2014

Tyson's Spring Cave: by Hank Boudinot (Hank, Emily, Kandi Olson, Kirk)

Summertime, bored stiff, going inert. So I contacted John Ackerman to see if it would be possible to set up a trip into Tysons, been on my bucket list for a long time. And he said yes, now to find a leader. Emily Hudson had explored that cave in winter with John so I asked her, she also said yes. Kandi Olson, great caver and good friend, also would go. ET would not go, she was concerned about the 120' ladder and her bad hip. Kirk(???) was the fourth in our group.

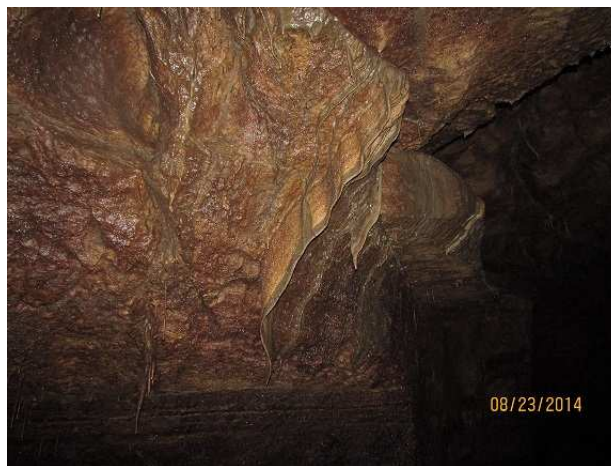
Trip was first scheduled to be weekend of Cornfeed, but Emily hates the MSS so we moved it to the following weekend. Finding the culvert was interesting, but we got there, suited up and went in.

It was as beautiful as I had heard. A heavy wetsuit is not optional, the water was around 42, 45, downright frisky. I will go back again, with better socks. After 2 1/2 hours in the cave I went out, my feet were Frozen. Wool socks would have solved my troubles but I left them up top. So I was a wimp. We got to the section where the rimstone dams start, you must climb pool to pool thru them if you want to go downstream.

My big frustration was in trying to get good photos, damn near impossible. Because the water and air are at 49*, every time you tried to take a photo, it was full of fog. Body heat creates this wonderful wall of steam, messing up my shots

In order to get the pictures you will see I had to find a place to stand with a flat floor in front of me, mine up my shot, and then step forward out of my steam. If I did it right the pictures worked.

I will try to do more of this cave next time I go, it is amazing. Pictures following.





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