

CONCAVE 27

February 24-26, 2006 Horse Cave, KY



CONCAVE 27

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2006

- 12:00 NOON Registration Opens - Hotel Lobby¹
 Consuite officially opens - Rooms 114, Lobby
 Huxter Room opens for dealer setup - Meeting Room
 Art Show Setup - Room 239
- 5:00 p.m. Huxter Room, Art Show, and Game Rooms (324 & 326)²
- 8:00 p.m. Opening Ceremonies - Lobby – Boucher/Gelb Emvarasment
- 9:00 p.m. Remembering Howard, Irv, and Dave
- 11:00 p.m. Registration closes. Late registration is in Room 112.
- TBA: The pool will be closed only for minimum legal maintenance.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2006

- 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast - Lobby
- TBA Pool area re-opens
- 10:00 a.m. Registration, Art Show, and Huxter Room re-open
- 12:00 NOON Registration closes. Late registration in Room 112
- 6:00 p.m. Art Show closes for bidding
- 7:00 p.m. Approximate start of Art Auction - Lobby
- TBA: The pool will be closed only for minimum legal maintenance.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2005

- 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast - Lobby
- 7:00 a.m. Pool opens
- 10:00 A.M. Art Show Checkout - No sales after 11:00 a.m.
- 12:00 NOON Hotel checkout. Extensions may be available on request.
 Gaming Rooms close
- TBA Huxter Room closes when the last dime is squeezed from the marks.
 Dead Dog Party for the survivors.
 Volunteers for teardown are invited to the Sunday Night Pizza Orgy.

¹ The hotel lobby, consuite, Huxter Room, Art Show, Gaming Rooms and especially the hotel corridors are NONSMOKING AREAS. Smoking is permitted in the front unloading zone, the swimming pool patio, and in designated smoking guestrooms.

² Opening times for these areas is approximate and depend on the speed of setup. Volunteers to speed things up are always welcome. The closing times for these functions are not set and will be determined by the people running them.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be ROOM PARTIES! Look for announcements!

GRUMBLES FROM THE CAVE



If you are not familiar with Concave, it is a weekend of relaxed socializing between science fiction fans of all ages. Our mission is to continue the fannish traditions of bringing together SF fans of diverse interests, introduce new generations to the family of SF Fandom, and to honor some of the people who have contributed greatly to this vibrant sub-culture. You won't encounter many SF pros and panel discussions at Concave, but it is a great place to meet oth-

ers who share your enthusiasm for the fantastic. With limited space and staff we probably won't be able to please everyone, but please bring problems to our attention. I am easy to recognize-just look for the guy in the strangest shirt!

It is great to hear from so many of you how much you enjoy Concave. We must be doing something right since we now seem to be filling two hotels! There will be many people working hard this weekend to make Concave a success. Some of their names are found on the back of the program, others just showed up and pitched in. Take time to thank them, or better yet, sign up for a shift or two to help us. I think you will find that it is fun and a great way to meet people. WE LOVE VOLUNTEERS! Helpers in the consuite, art show, art auction, and drivers are always extremely welcome. There will be a sign-up sheet posted in Room 114 for anyone interested in working.

By now I think most of us have become so accustomed to the Hampton Inn that the Park Mammoth has become a hazy memory for many of us! It is amusing to note that we have now gone through three general managers here, although Nancy Drew will be with us again this weekend she has been promoted manage a larger Hampton Inn in Evansville. Most of the front-desk clerks are new this year, so please be gentle. There was also a total computer crash late last week, so some reservations may have been scrambled, so please be patient! As always, have fun and all of us involved in running Concave hope you'll keep coming back for many years!

- Gary Robe

GUESTS OF HONOR: JIM BRIGGS AND SANDRA CHILDRESS

**The Dynamic Duo from the Left Coast—
Don't Hold That Against Them!**

Unfortunately the biographies of Jim and Sandra that were expected were not delivered before press time. Luckily with Big Name Fans like them there are plenty of references to them peppered across the Internet, so it was not too hard for your humble editor to find enough information about them to get us started.

Jim Briggs found Fandom in 1976, mostly as a gamer and media fan, but by 1996 had graduated to the hard stuff: working on SF conventions and bids. While he has not yet gotten to the certifiably insane level of Worldcon convention chairman, he has been on the committees of many of the Worldcons and Westercons plus acting and will be the Chairman of the 2006 Westercon, Conzilla, in San Diego in July. After that he will turn around and work on the LACon Worldcon in August.

Jim is one of the faithful cadre of convention workers who is not looking for glory or egoboo, but is there just for the fun and satisfaction of accomplishment. One area where Jim has specialized in has been Worldcon site selection vote administration. This is a critical job, and one that requires a fanatic level of attention to detail. It's a really delicate job of everything from maintaining the list of eligible voters to accounting for the money collected in voting fees, plus running the actual vote count. Jim has been responsible for developing some of the current best practices used in site selection and for that alone he deserves recognition.

Bidding for a big regional convention such as Westercon or certainly the Worldcon is almost as demanding as run-



ning the convention itself. The bid committee members must travel around the region, if not the world, to promote and campaign for the bid. Jim and Sandra have been tireless in promoting both the LACON 2006 and Conzilla 2006 Worldcon Bids. That meant that they helped host parties on consecutive nights at more conventions than they probably want to admit attending.

Sandra's résumé looks a lot like Jim's which is good since with heir fannish schedule they wouldn't see much of each other except at con committee meetings. She will be acting as the hotel liaison for ConDor next week! She also is the Parliamentarian and CFO of San Diego Science Fiction Conventions, Inc. the corporation that runs SF conventions in the San Diego Area.

GOODBYE IRV, HOWARD, AND DAVE



HOWARD DEVORE—May 26, 1925—Dec. 31, 2005.

SF Fandom lost one of its most beloved figures with the passing of “Big Hearted” Howard DeVore on the last day of 2005. Howard was an icon of Midwestern Fandom for more than 50 years. Howard’s most visible achievements were organizing the 1959 Detroit Worldcon and co-chairing the 1966 Worldcon

in Cleveland. He was also a leading historian of the Hugo, Nebula, and World Fantasy Awards, work which earned him a nomination for the 1998 Best Related Work Hugo Award.

Howard was famous in the region as one of the core of huxters plying their trade at conventions. He scorned the term “dealer” since he always was proud to buy low and sell high to the suckers! Howard specialized in out-of-print books, pulp magazines, and fanzines. His stock was eclectic and unique. He continued to run a table at Midwestcon right up until 2005.

I got to visit for with Howard for several hours last year at Midwestcon. Although his health was precarious, he needed supplemental oxygen to get by, his humor and basic dirty-mindedness was still intact. He was the kind of frail old man who would gleefully run someone over in his wheelchair if he had taken offense,

Howard was Guest of Honor at many Midwestern regional conventions, and was Concave’s 11th GoH in 1990. He attended for a few more years until his health became too fragile for much traveling. He frequently commented how he was happy that Concave had continued the traditions of Midwestern fandom into a new generation.

Howard was selected as the Fan Guest of Honor at LA Con this year. Everyone who knew him was praying for him be able to attend for this supreme recognition of his contributions to Fandom. It was, however, not to be. Howard had long requested that he not have a funeral, but instead have a wake in his honor at Midwestcon. While that will certainly occur, we shall certainly get the party started early by remembering him here at Concave this weekend.

IRVIN KOCH—1947—Nov. 19, 2005.

Irv Koch was one of the essential characters in southern fandom. His work to plant conventions in the 70's laid the foundation for the flavor of southern conventions today. Without Irv, it is doubtful that there would have ever been a Chattacon, Kubla Kahn, Rivercon, or Concave. He was that important in getting fandom organized in the upper south.

It was no coincidence that Irv was the GoH at Concave 3 in 1982. Along with Cliff Amos and Ken Moore, Irv was one of the three essential ingredients that came together like a perfect storm over Bowling Green, KY in 1979 that spawned Concave/UppersouthClave. Back in the early 70's Irv tried to get a second Southern regional convention running to complement the Deep South Con. His idea, UpperSouthClave, was to have a relaxacon in a smaller city that couldn't support a full-blown programmed convention. He organized the Johnson City, TN Gnomoclave in 1970, which attracted Ken Moore and John Hollis, who liked the idea and bid to have the second UpperSouthClave in Nashville. Ken called his convention Kubla Kahn, but dropped the USC idea until Cliff Amos revived it to justify a convention in Bowling Green, which later evolved into Concave.

Irv was among the first to apply business principles to SF conventions. He was famous for studying patterns in convention attendance and developed a series of "Koch Constants" that he used to predict such factors as at-the-door attendance from per-registration numbers. He also carefully calculated how much beer a fan would consume over a weekend so he could buy at the cheapest price before the convention. There was a famous incident at an Atlanta convention where the Koch Constant failed miserably and Irv was stuck at the end with several non-returnable kegs and he went around the con-

ging folks to drink beer before leaving. Since then we've used "helping Irv" as a euphemism for beer consumption at conventions. To this day we still use the techniques Irv taught us to track attendance and consumption at Concave in order to try to better serve our attendees.

Irvin died suddenly in his sleep leaving behind his devoted wife, Kay Pickney and hundreds of fannish friends who may not have always agreed with him, but always respected him for his energy, creativity, and sincerity. Don't forget to "Help Irv" a few times this weekend in his memory

DAVID SHOCKLEY—1949-January 2, 2006

Dave Shockley was one of the founding members of the Nashville SF Club and was always a faithful helper throughout the run of Kubla Kahns. Dave also was a key member of the early Concave committees and ran the Concave art show almost by himself for many of the Park Mammoth years.

Dave was also a central member of the group who organized the World Horror Convention to Nashville in 1990, bringing some of the biggest names in horror writing, art, and cinema to Nashville. Although the idea of the WHC as a moving convention similar to the World Fantasy Convention never took hold, the first WHC in Nashville was a great success as the only SF-themed convention to use the posh Hyatt Regency hotel in Nashville.

Dave attended as many conventions as his finances would allow and was always willing to lend a hand, especially in the art shows. He was a frequent member of the infamous "Nashville Sardine Can" contingent at Worldcons. While not well known outside of Tennessee and Kentucky fandom, Dave was always an active member of the various incarnations of the Nashville SF Club and could always be counted on for amusing conversation amongst such characters as Ken Moore, Dan Caldwell, Maurine Dorris, and the rest of the Nashville Usual Suspects.

Dave was stricken suddenly by a brain hemorrhage on December 30 and sunk into a coma from which he never emerged. When I was him at the Nashville DSC last year he told me he really wanted to get back to Concave. I'm very saddened that he never made it.

PREVIOUS CONCAVE GUESTS OF HONOR

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------|-----------------------|-------------|
| P.L. Carruthers-Montgomery | 1980 | "Cliff" Hanging | Pat Molloy |
| Ken and Lou Moore | 1981 | "Moore" Mashing | Pat Molloy |
| Irving Koch | 1982 | 1st "Concave" at PMR* | Pat Molloy |
| Dal Coger | 1983 | | Pat Molloy |
| Mike Lalor | 1984 | | R. Sheppard |
| C. L. Barrett | 1985 | | R. Sheppard |
| John Hollis | 1986 | | R. Sheppard |
| Jane and Scott Dennis | 1987 | | Gary Robe |
| Lynn Hickman | 1988 | | Gary Robe |
| Pat Molloy | 1989 | | Gary Robe |
| Howard de Vore | 1990 | | Gary Robe |
| Nancy Tucker | 1991 | | Gary Robe |
| Peggy Rae Pavlat | 1992 | | Gary Robe |
| Margaret Keifer | 1993 | | Gary Robe |
| Ben Jason | 1994 | | Gary Robe |
| Judy Bemis / Tony Parker | 1995 | | Gary Robe |
| Bob Roehm | 1996 | | Gary Robe |
| T. K. F. Weisskopf | 1997 | | Gary Robe |
| Bill Cavin | 1998 | | Gary Robe |
| Tom Feller | 1999 | | Gary Robe |
| Janice Gelb | 2000 | Move to Hampton Inn | Gary Robe |
| Stephen Boucher | 2001 | | Gary Robe |
| Bill Francis | 2002 | | Gary Robe |
| Vincent Docherty | 2003 | | Gary Robe |
| Deb Geisler | 2004 | | Gary Robe |
| Greg and Dana Bridges | 2005 | | Gary Robe |



SUBWAY of Horse Cave Now Open!
101 N Dixie St - Phone 786-5554

Across Main St From Horse Cave Theater and The Bookstore
Open Late - We Deliver to Hampton Inn!



CARE AND FEEDING OF THE HAMPTON INN OF HORSE CAVE

Please treat the Hampton Inn with respect! There are some rules we expect all Concave members to respect if we are to get along here.

1. The only smoking areas in the hotel are the smoking consuite in Room 141, the front unloading zone, the swimming pool patio, and in designated smoking guestrooms. ANYONE FOUND SMOKING IN THE HALLWAYS WILL HAVE THEIR CONCAVE MEMBERSHIP REVOKED! We are serious about this. There are few things that will displease the management more than cigarette burns in the carpet.

2. The Continental Breakfast is for registered Hampton Inn guests only. There is no sharing allowed, and a maximum occupancy of four people per room.

3. Even though it says 100% satisfaction guaranteed or your room is free on the keys, we cannot expect the hotel to support that promise on a group rate and a full house. We feel that you will find the staff of the hotel to be extremely supportive and helpful if there are problems. Gary Robe is the final arbiter for any hotel disputes.

4. Don't trash the hotel! There are several trash barrels on each floor and in the lobby area. Please do not allow trash to accumulate in the hallways. The better the job we do in housekeeping, the more welcome we will be next year.

5. Please report spillage as soon as possible! We understand that accidents will happen, but the sooner we are able to clean up a mess the better!

6. If you have to kick in a door in a guest room, please wait until the hotel manager is there to witness the action.

7. The area from Room 224-241 is designated as the quiet zone. Please try to minimize loud talking and hall parties in this area. Many of the convention workers are staying in this area, so unless you like grumpy bartenders, keep the noise down in the upper end of the second floor.

We hope you all will join us in thanking the staff of The Hampton Inn in agreeing to host this madness. The management is very appreciative of our business so lets try to deserve their trust! A great way to show your appreciation is to leave a gratuity for the housekeeping staff.

GARY ROBE AND THE CONCAVE COMMITTEE

A FAN'S GUIDE TO HORSE CAVE AND SURROUNDINGS

FOOD: Aunt Bee's Country Kitchen is open 24/7 and has a surprisingly diverse menu and some excellent deserts. We'll see if they managed to buy enough food to make it through the weekend this year! The Marathon Mart also includes a Pizza Hut and deli. In the Outlet Mall the Caveland Café serves sandwiches, plate lunches, and deserts. The Main St Café offers a basic meat & three buffet that is at least fast and cheap if a bit hard on the arteries. Alas, The Bookstore Café is no more although the book side is still operating. About 5 miles to the south on I-65 at Cave City there are restaurants that range from Mickey D's to The Sahara Steak House. If you want more, try Exit 22 in Bowling Green.

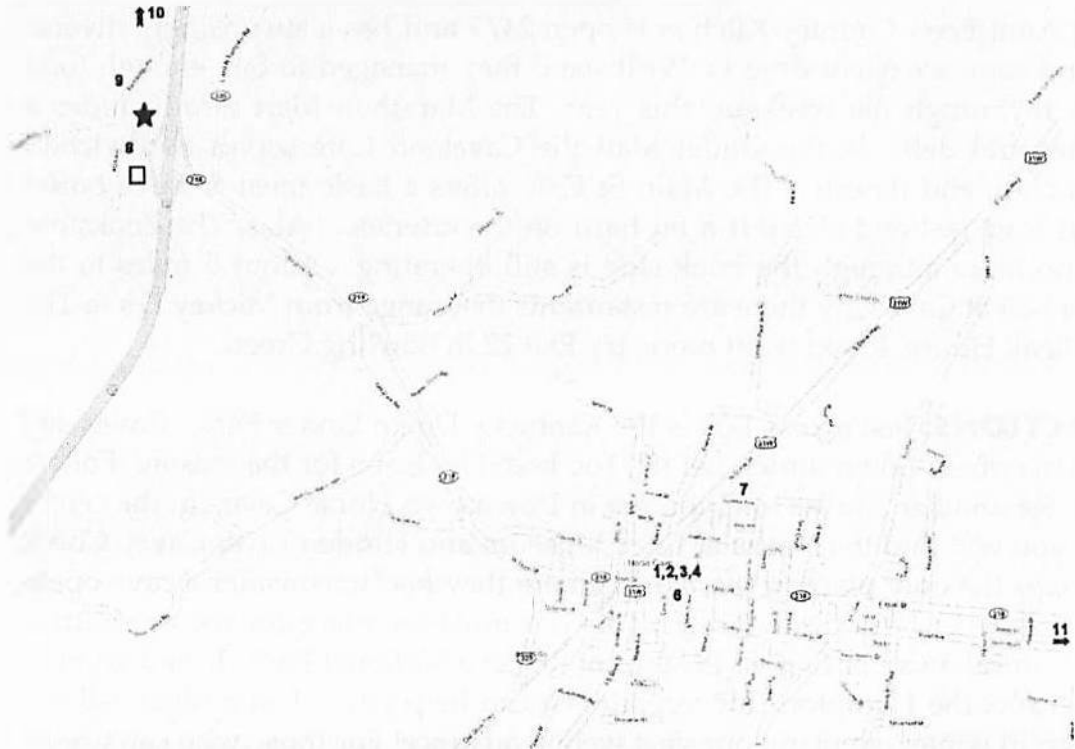
ATTRACTIONS: Just across I-65 is the Kentucky Down Under Park. Caves and Australian critters-down under, get it? Too bad it is closed for the season. Follow the road for another 2 miles and you are in Downtown Horse Cave. In the center of town you will find the National Cave Museum and Hidden River Cave. Check out perhaps the only place in the world where they had to consider a cave opening when they laid out Main Street. This is a must-see place for the eco-tourist. About 16 miles away at Exit 48 is Mammoth Cave National Park. If you want to tour the cave, the Hampton Inn receptionist can help you. Tours often sell out early even in winter, so plan your visit well in advance! For those who can't resist a peek at the old place, the Park Mammoth Resort still there 10 miles to the south on I-65. It is, however, closed until March 1.

PARTY SUPPLIES: The Houchens market in Horse Cave can probably satisfy your non-alcoholic party needs. Just take Highway 218 into Horse Cave. Turn left onto Highway 31-W. The store is one block down on the right. Store hours are 8-8 daily. If you need something more potent, you'll discover that the nearest watering hole is Exit 28 or 22 in Bowling Green. Since this is the only oasis within a 50-mile radius, there are liquor stores within sight of the exit ramps.

SHOPPING: We're not quite sure why they built an outlet mall in a cornfield in Hart County, but there it is. The only question is if there are any stores left open in it. It is theoretically within walking distance and may be just what you need to burn off what you did to yourself on Friday night! In Horse Cave you can find The Bookstore, Dollar General Store and other shopping opportunities. For the city mall experience, there is Greenwood Mall in Bowling Green at Exit 22.

FUEL FOR MAN AND MACHINE: They may not be elegant, but the two convenience stores within walking distance of The Hampton Inn should provide what it takes to provision both you and your car for the weekend and the trip home. There is also an ATM located at the Marathon Mart.

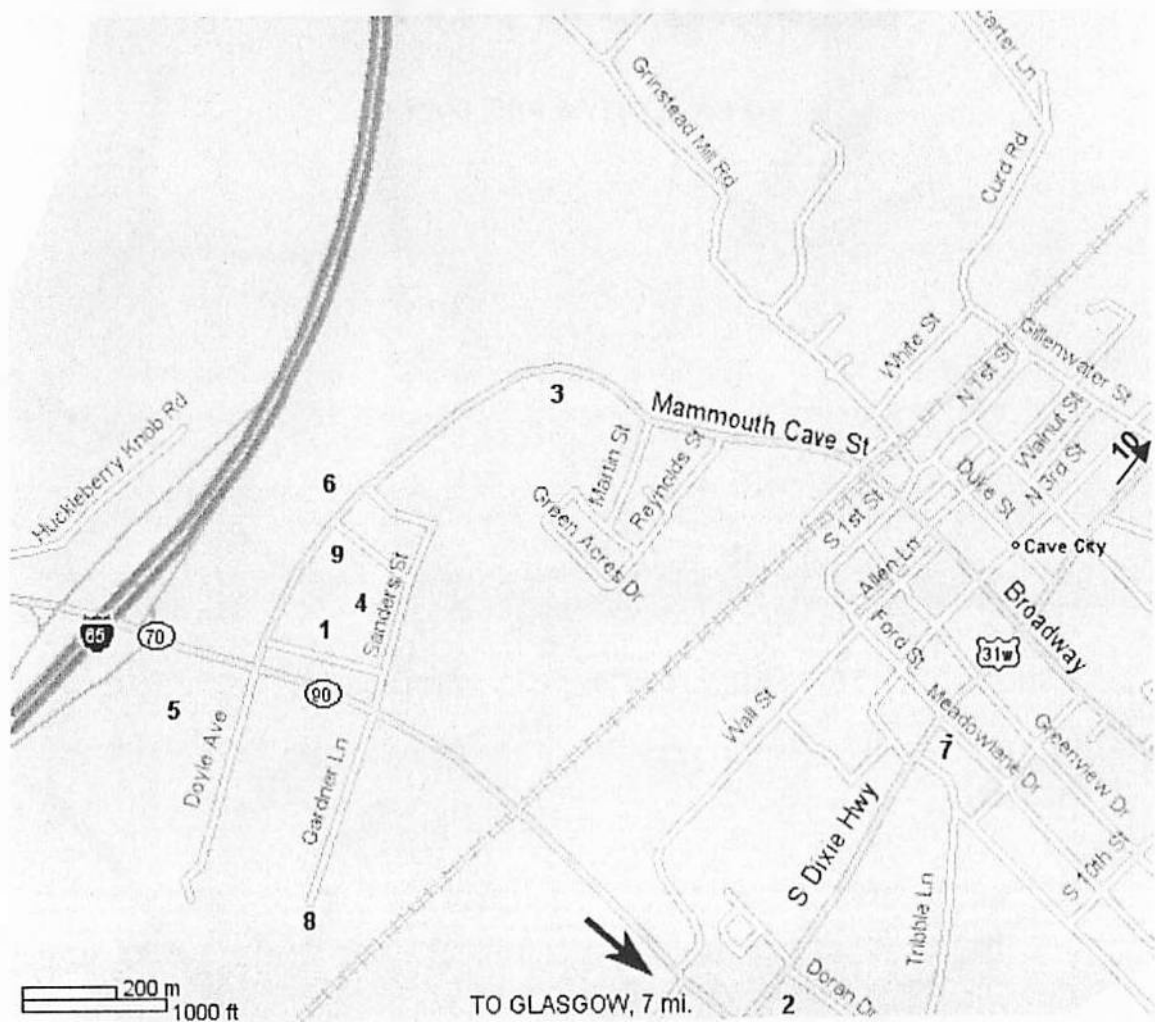
POINTS OF INTEREST IN HORSE CAVE



Horse Cave offers several unexpected surprises for the curious visitor. The Bookstore, The Gypsy's Closet and the American Cave Conservation Museum all offer discounts for Concave members. Having the convention in a small town means it is quite visible but that has worked in our favor in developing the warm welcome back that the city gives to Concave. Give it a try and find out what we mean!

- ★ Hampton Inn of Horse Cave - 750 Flint Ridge Rd - 786-5000
- Budget Host Inn - I-65 & Highway 218 - 786-2165
- 1. The Bookstore - 111 Water St - 786-3084
- 2. Subway of Horse Cave - 101 N Dixie St - 786-5554 **NEW!**
- 3. The Gypsy's Closet - 101 Water St - 786-2492
- 4. Main Street Café - 209 E Main St - 786-3864
- 5. Caverna Memorial Hospital - 1501 S Dixie St - 786-2191
- 6. American Cave Conservation Museum - 119 E Main St - 786-1466
- 7. Houchens Market - 390 N Dixie St - 786-2639
- 8. Aunt B's - I-65 & Highway 218 - 786-2020
- 9. Noble Romans Pizza - 735 Flint Ridge Rd - 786-1824
- 10. Caveland Shopping Outlet - 895 Flint Ridge Rd. - 786-4466
- 11. Dollar General Store - 1010 E Main St - 786-3030 **NEW!**

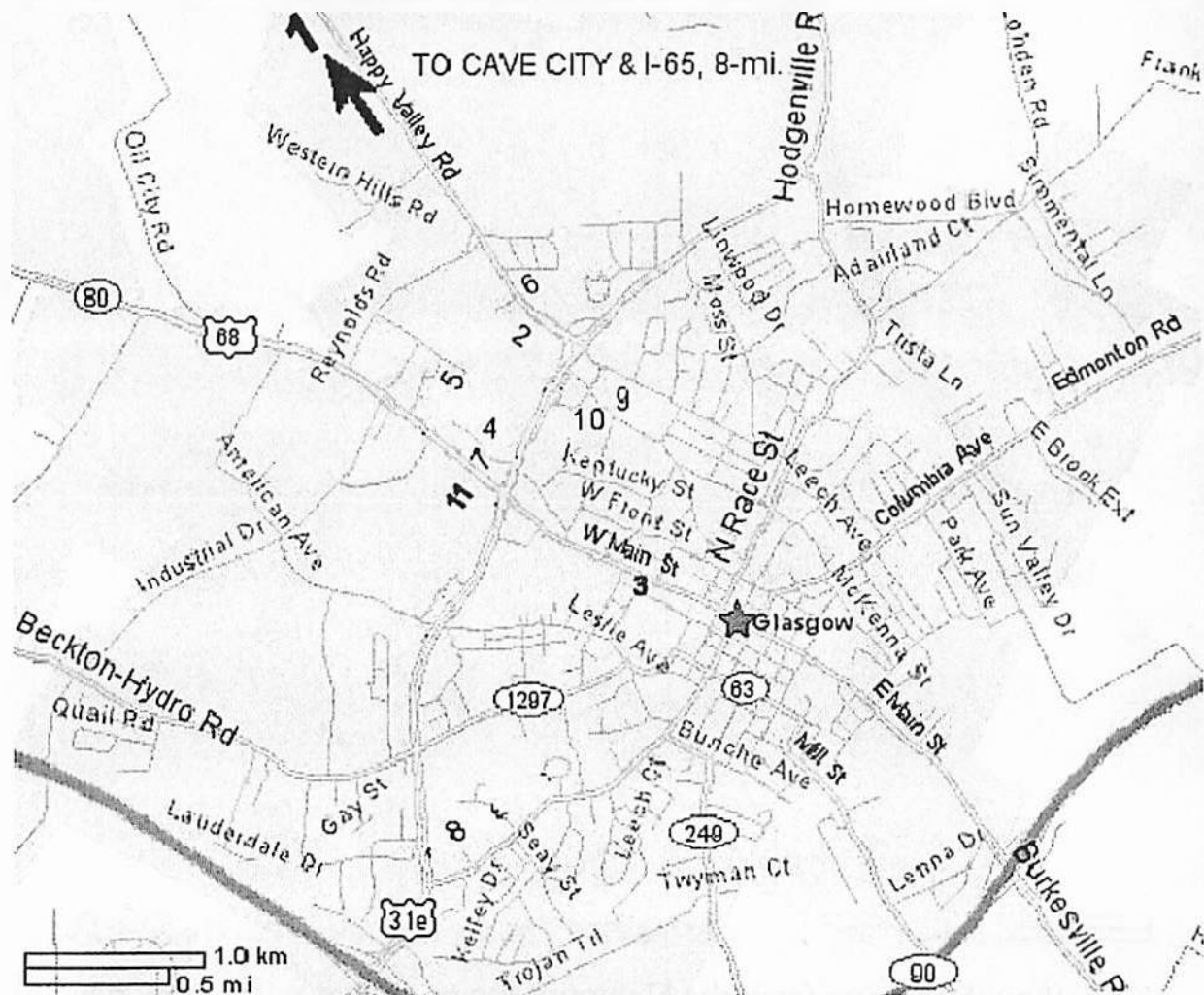
PLACES OF INTEREST IN CAVE CITY, KY



It is about 5 minutes from the Hampton Inn to anyplace in Cave City. Most of the restaurants are within sight of Exit 52. Highway 90, Mammouth Cave St and US 31-W (Dixie Highway) are the essential routes. Of course no visit to Cave City is complete without at least a drive-by of Wigwam Village, located on 31-W north of town. Three miles north 31-W intersects with Main St. Horse Cave to the south and Flint Ridge Rd

1. Cracker Barrel - 800 Happy Valley Rd - 773-4723
2. Sahara Steak House - 413 E Happy Valley Rd, - 773-3450
3. Mario's Italian Restaurant - 403 Mammouth Cave St - 773-5407
4. Hickory Village - Burned to the ground - sorry!
5. San Miguel Mexican Buffet - 1006 Doyle St - 773-8554
6. Pizza Hut - 804 Mammouth Cave St - 773-3370
7. Godfather's Pizza - 99 S Dixie Hwy - 773-4403
8. Happy Garden Chinese Buffet - 105 Gardner Ln - 773-5775
9. Jerry's Restaurant - 805 Mammouth Cave St - 773-2169
10. Wigwam Village - 601 N Dixie Highway

PLACES OF INTEREST IN GLASGOW, KY



Although a bit farther a field, Glasgow takes about 15 minutes to reach by heading south from Cave City on Highway 90 at Exit 52. Glasgow nearly qualifies as a city with a Wal-Mart and some nicer restaurants although it is dry. Getting aground is straightforward since most everything of interest is within sight of a left turn on US 31-E (a.k.a. Rogers Wells BL) at the HWY 90 intersection.

1. Wal-Mart Supercenter - 2345 Happy Valley Rd - 678-1003 **NEW!**
2. E. W. James Supermarket - 376 NL Rogers Wells BL - formerly Winn-Dixie
3. Big Moose's BBQ - 525 W main St - 651-1913
4. Mancino's Deli - 302 Rogers Rd - 651-6500
5. China King Buffet - 106 Shane Dr #70 - 659-9888
6. Los Mariachis - 802 Happy Valley Rd - 651-3229
7. Ponderosa Steakhouse - 206 NL Rogers Wells BL - 651-9229
8. Reel Scoops Ice Cream Shoppe - 1605 S Green St - 651-5656
9. Toby's Steakhouse - 760 W Cherry St - 651-3419
10. El Mazatlan - 706 W Cherry St - 651-7799
11. Food Lion Supermarket - 230 S L. Rogers Wells BL

Jim and Sandra are also well known for their hospitality towards fans visiting their area. Just ask Naomi Fisher about how they saved her life with their bathtub two years ago. They have both paid their dues to become permanent members of the SMOF circuit, and it is with great pleasure that Concave becomes the first convention to recognize their contributions to fandom by naming them as our 2006 Guests of Honor. We are luck they were able to join us as Concave falls this year on the only weekend in the first quarter of 2006 that Jim and Sandra were not committed to some other fannish activity!

Please join with me in making Jim and Sandra welcome at Concave this weekend and take the opportunity to get to know them. You'll be glad you did!

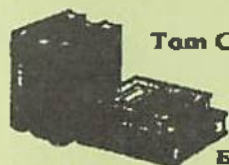


DID YOU KNOW?

That the Hampton Inn at Horse Cave recognizes the Concave rate year round?

That's right! Anytime you are in the area and would like to spend some time exploring Kentucky's Cave Region on your own, just call (270) 786-5000 and ask for the Concave Corporate rate. The discount is subject to availability, so make your plans early!

CONVENTION SPECIAL: 10% off for all Concave Members



Tom Chaney, Ann & Jerry Matera
(270) 786-3084
FAX (270) 789-3085

E-mail: bookstore@horsecave.com

BOOKSTORE

111 Water Street, Horse Cave, KY 42749

"Serving Good Books, Good Food, & Good Friends"
Located Downtown, Across From Horse Cave Theater

Books Sold - Traded - Bought
Used Books Sought
New Books Ordered

Stories Told - Tales Accepted

In Horse Cave - 2 miles east of I-65, Exit 58
At the junction of U.S. 31 W & KY 218

CONCAVE 27 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CON CHAIRMAN: Gary Robe
VICE-CHAIR FOR FACILITIES: Naomi Fisher
VICE-CHAIR FOR REGISTRATION: Corlis Robe
CONSUIE COORDINATOR: Annette Carrico
HUXTER ROOM: Steve Francis
ART SHOW: Pat Molloy and Naomi Fisher
GAMING: Steve and Mary Franklin

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS:
Patricia Clements: *Con Chair's Wardrobe*
Sue Francis: *Consuite First Officer*
Randy B. Cleary – *Program Book Artwork*

And Many Thanks To Concave 26 Volunteers

Deborah Allen - Cokie Bailey - Bill Bartley - Mike & Susan Baugh -
Judy Bemis - Nathan Byers - Dan Caldwell - Tony Cannon - Bill Cavin
Judith Chantelois - Drew & Heather Curtis - The Crack & Cheese Crew
Bob Embler - Tom Feller - Martin & Shannon Hickey John Hollis
Cullen Johnson - Julie Johnson-Tate - Frank & Millie Kaliz - James
Krog - Mark Linneman - Jeff & Lisa Lockridge - Claude & Tonya Miles
Pat Minogue - Ken Moore - Sherry Norris - Troy Johnson - Tony
Parker - Mike Pendleton - Bryan Porter - Kenny Reasoner - Pat & Roger
Sims - Dick Spelman - Chris Tate - Eric & Felicia Troutman
B. J. Willinger - Joel Zakem

*And to all the others not named here who threw room parties and
volunteered during the weekend, our deepest thanks and appreciation!*

And of course a very special thanks, as always to the
management and staff of the



OF HORSE CAVE

for continuing to cheerfully provide such a
Great home for **CONCAVE!**