

CONCAVE 30

Horse Cave, KY February 27-March 1, 2009



CONCAVE 30

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2009

- 12:00 NOON Registration Opens - Hotel Lobby¹
Consuite officially opens - Rooms 114, Lobby
Huxter Room (Meeting Room & Room 131) and Art Show Setup - Room 237 & 239
- 5:00 pm Approximate Opening of Huxter & Game Rooms (324 & 326)²
- 8:00 pm Opening Ceremonies - Lobby
- 10:00 pm Art Show Opening and Reception (Rooms 237-241 TIME APPROXIMATE)
- 11:00 pm Registration closes. Late registration is in Room 112.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2009

- 7:00 — 11:00 am Continental Breakfast - Lobby (Food service Hampton Inn Guests only)
NOTE: The pool will open through the night except for brief closures for cleaning and maintenance.
- 11:00 am Registration, Art Show, and Huxter Room re-open
- 12:00 NOON Registration closes. Late registration in Room 112
- 2:00 pm Banquet
- 6:00 pm Art Show closes for bidding
- 6:30 pm Setup for art auction—Lobby (Please finish games and clear tables)
- 7:00 pm Approximate start of art auction - Lobby

SUNDAY MARCH 1, 2009

- 7:00 — 11:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast - Lobby (Food service for Hampton Inn guests only)
NOTE: The pool will open through the night except for brief closures for cleaning and maintenance.
- 10:00 am Art Show Checkout - No sales after 11:00 a.m.
- 12:00 NOON **Passing of the shirt ceremony**—Lobby
- 2:00 pm Hotel checkout. Extensions may be available on request.
Gaming Rooms (324 & 326) close
- TBA Huxter Room closes when you've spent your going-home gas money on merchandise
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, in overflow game room (Room 326) and in designated smoking guestrooms.

² Opening times for these areas are 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.

NOTE: It's not Concave without ROOM PARTIES! Look for announcements!

GRUMBLES FROM THE CAVE



Well here we are for the last Concave under the management of The Founders. The number of people wanting to make it to Concave again before the old guard retires has certainly made the room lottery a challenge this year! While I may get a bit wistful as the convention nears its end, right now I feel very good about ending a 30-year run and leaving a legacy to continue the traditions in new hands. Some have said "Who are those guys?" but you would have said the same thing about Pat Molloy,

Rickey Sheppard, Jim Woosley, Annette Carrico, Tony Cannon, Pat Shaw, Debra Hussey, and Gary Robe back in 1980. After all we never planned to start a convention...It Was Written.

We'll let Claude and Crew think about the future, right now we have Concave 30 to get through! We will need people to help in running the bar and consuite, in the art show, at the registration table, and making ice runs. There is a sign-up sheet in Room 114 for volunteers. Sign up early and often! Maybe you'll find a job you like so much you'll want to formally take it on! Let Claude know if you do.

The people bartending, running the consuite and room parties are the boss. There are some simple rules for behavior posted near the bar. Please heed these throughout the weekend. We do want you to enjoy yourselves, but not at the expense of others or our group's good relations with the Hampton Inn! Also, if you run a party in a guest room return the room to its original condition before checking out! If you have any problems or see something wrong, please bring it to my attention. I'm not very hard to find. I'm the guy in the strange shirt.

It is amusing to note that we are now on our seventh General Manager of the Hampton Inn at Horse Cave in nine years. Just when we get them broken in they run away screaming. It must be something in the Skippy! Many of the front-desk clerks are new this year, so please be gentle. Also please remember that the lobby area is open to the general public, so keep the scenes there to at least a PG-13 standard! As always, have fun and all of us involved in running Concave hope you'll be able to keep going for many years!

- *Gary Robe*

GUESTS OF HONOR: **MARCIA & TIM ILLINGWORTH** FITTING GUESTS OF HONOR FOR THE 30TH CONCAVE

We first met Marcia Kelly McCoy at a Chattacon in the mid 1980's when she joined us for lunch in the Reid House hotel restaurant. It was so cold outside that the convention was nicknamed Chattercon. We saw her off and on over the next few years at Southern conventions and renewed our friendship each time.

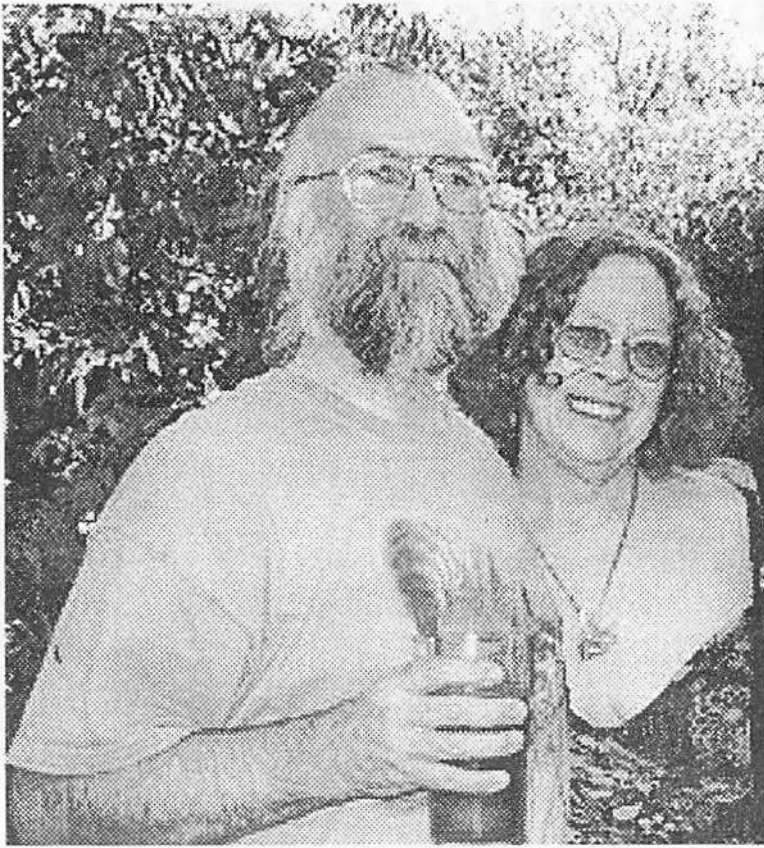
Marcia has performed many fannish functions over the years, including co-chairing the 1996 DeepSouthCon at Jekyll Island, working on numerous conventions and being a member of the Electrical Eggs Board of Directors.

She was Fan Guest of Honor at Con*Stellation 12 in 1993. Marcia met and later married Tim Illingworth in August of 1997 in Chattanooga. They moved lock stock and barrel to England and later to Ely, Coveney, Cambridgeshire, where they lived in a house that was originally built in the 1650's. It was updated in the 1850's to its current state and has functioned as a pub, a village shop and a car restoration business.

Tim and Marcia lived in England until November of last year when they returned to the US to live in Powell Tennessee in the Oak Ridge area to be near her parents. She wanted to be able to help her parents when needed as their health is not as good as it once was.

At Noreascon 4 in Boston, the 2004 Worldcon, Marcia and I sat in the convention's concourse area and talked about dealers rooms. She had taken on the job of running the 2005 Interaction Dealers Room in Glasgow Scotland. Silly girl! I assisted her in the room layout by sketching in the tables on a room diagram that she had faxed to me. We also volunteered to help her run the room when we arrived at the convention. Silly us!

As a part of our travels in Great Britain we stayed with the Illingworths in Coveney for a couple of days along with Richard and Lois Wellinghurst and Melissa Dick (one of our granddaughters) before heading off to the convention. They made us feel very much at home and showed us some of the sights in the area. When we arrived in



Glasgow and were settled in, we went to the Dealers Room with Richard, Lois, Dick Spelman and Chris Stuber in tow. Marcia looked up from the dealers lists in her lap as we approached and said "Oh my, the A-Team is here!"

Tim has also been very busy with fannish activities for many years. He has worked on many British conventions, has been a member of the WSFS Marks Protection committee and is involved in the WSFS Business Meetings held at every Worldcon. He was the Exhibits Division head at Interaction in 2005. If you want to hear the details of his efforts working on conventions or his more mundane interests, I'm sure he will be glad to sit and tell you all about it. Be sure to ask him about the Leningrad Cowboys.

After receiving such great hospitality from the Illingworths while we were in England, we reciprocated by asking them to spend a couple of days with us when they came over to the US for their annual Thanksgiving visit with Marcia's family in Tennessee. We promised them two things for each visit. First, we would take them to the Vince Staten Bar-B-Que shop so they could stock up on their supply of sauces and second, we would fix our best French Toast breakfast one morning. They honored us with their presence in 2006 and 2007. Unfortunately they were in the process of moving to the US in November of 2008, so they couldn't come to Louisville last year.

You can tell when you meet Marcia by her bright red hair and Tim by his pony tail. One word of warning, Marcia is a real red-head, so don't make her mad, because you won't like it if you make her mad!

STEVE AND SUE FRANCIS

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 front unloading zone, the swimming pool patio, and in designated smoking guestrooms.
2. The Lobby area and first floor hallways are open to the general public, and occasionally travelers will enter out of curiosity or looking for a room. Please keep activities in the public areas appropriate and considerate of local sensibilities.
3. The breakfast bar is for registered Hampton Inn guests only. There is no sharing allowed, and a maximum occupancy of four people per room.
4. Even though Hampton Inn makes a 100% satisfaction guarantee in its publications, 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.
5. 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.
6. Please report spillage and breakage as soon as possible! We understand that accidents will happen, but the sooner we are able to clean up a problem the better!
7. If you re-arrange the furniture or throw a party in your room do not leave until the room is returned to its original condition. The consuite prep room (Room 112) can supply you with extra trash bags if needed. You are responsible for any damage to hotel fixtures in your room. Cleanup after a party is extra work for the housekeeping staff. **Don't be a clod—leave a tip!**
8. Rooms 224-241 are designated as the quiet zone. Please try to avoid 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 for agreeing to host this madness. The management is very appreciative of our business, so let's 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 Noble Roman's Pizza and a deli. We are pleased to announce that Horse Cave has entered the 21st century and there is now a 24/7 McDonalds at the Love's Truck Stop on the south side of the I-65 interchange! Alas, The Bookstore Café is no more although the books are still there. Go 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 Glasgow or Exit 22 in Bowling Green.

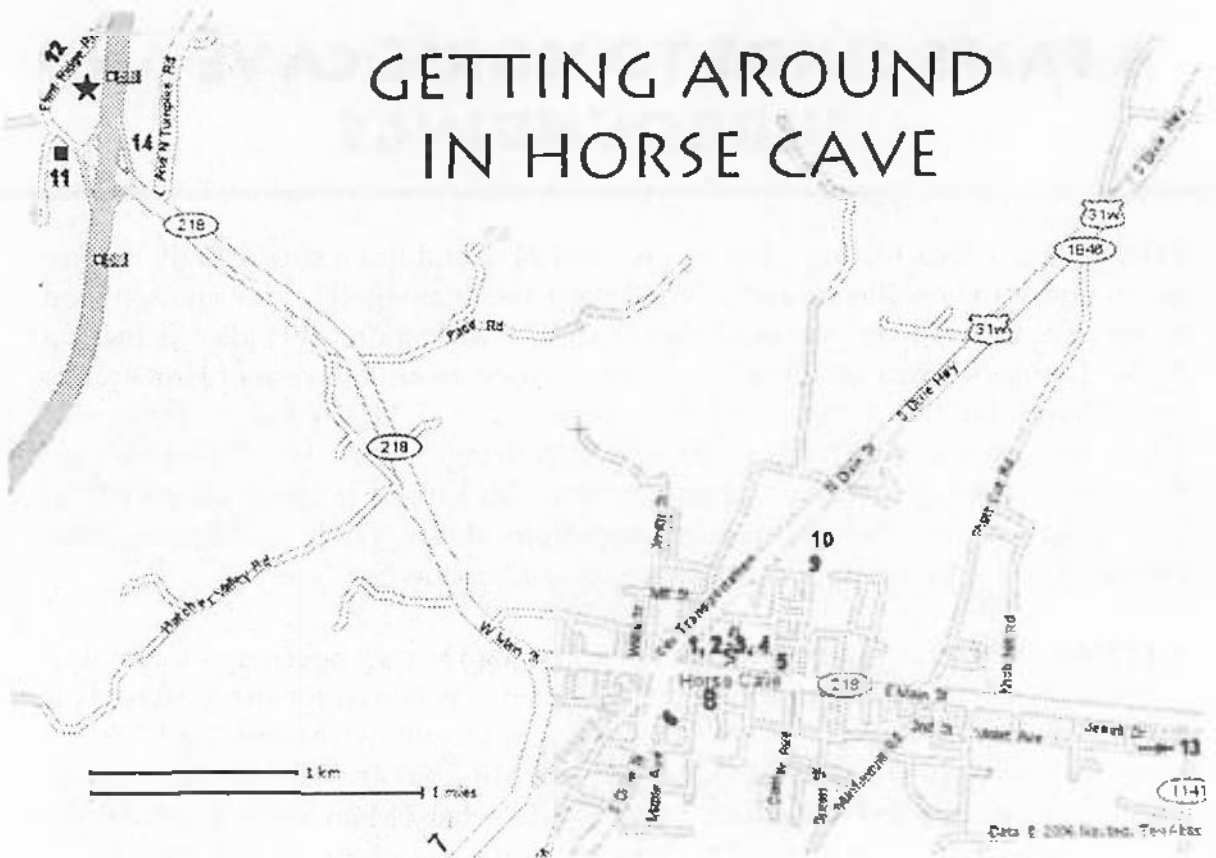
ATTRACTIONS: Just across I-65 is the Kentucky Down Under Park. Caves and Australian critters-down under, get it? Too bad it is closed for the season. Follow the road for another 2 miles and you are in Downtown Horse Cave. In the center of town you will find the National Cave Museum and Hidden River Cave. Check out perhaps the only place in the world where Main Street is perilously close to a gigantic cave entrance. 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 IGA market (8 to 8 Daily) in Horse Cave can probably satisfy your non-alcoholic party needs. Take Highway 218 into Horse Cave, turn left onto Highway 31-W and the store is three blocks away on the right. There is a 24/7 Wal-Mart on Highway 90 in Glasgow that has all one might expect. If you need something more potent, you'll discover that the nearest oasis is Exit 28 or 22 in Bowling Green. Since this is the only wet spot within a 50-mile radius, the liquor stores are within sight of the exit ramps. All the liquor stores in Bowling Green close promptly at 11 p.m., so plan accordingly

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's anything left over there but the adult bookstore. Inquiring minds want to know. 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 three convenience stores of Exit 58 should provide what it takes to provision both you and your car for the trip home. There are also ATMs located at the Marathon Mart and Love's

GETTING AROUND IN HORSE CAVE



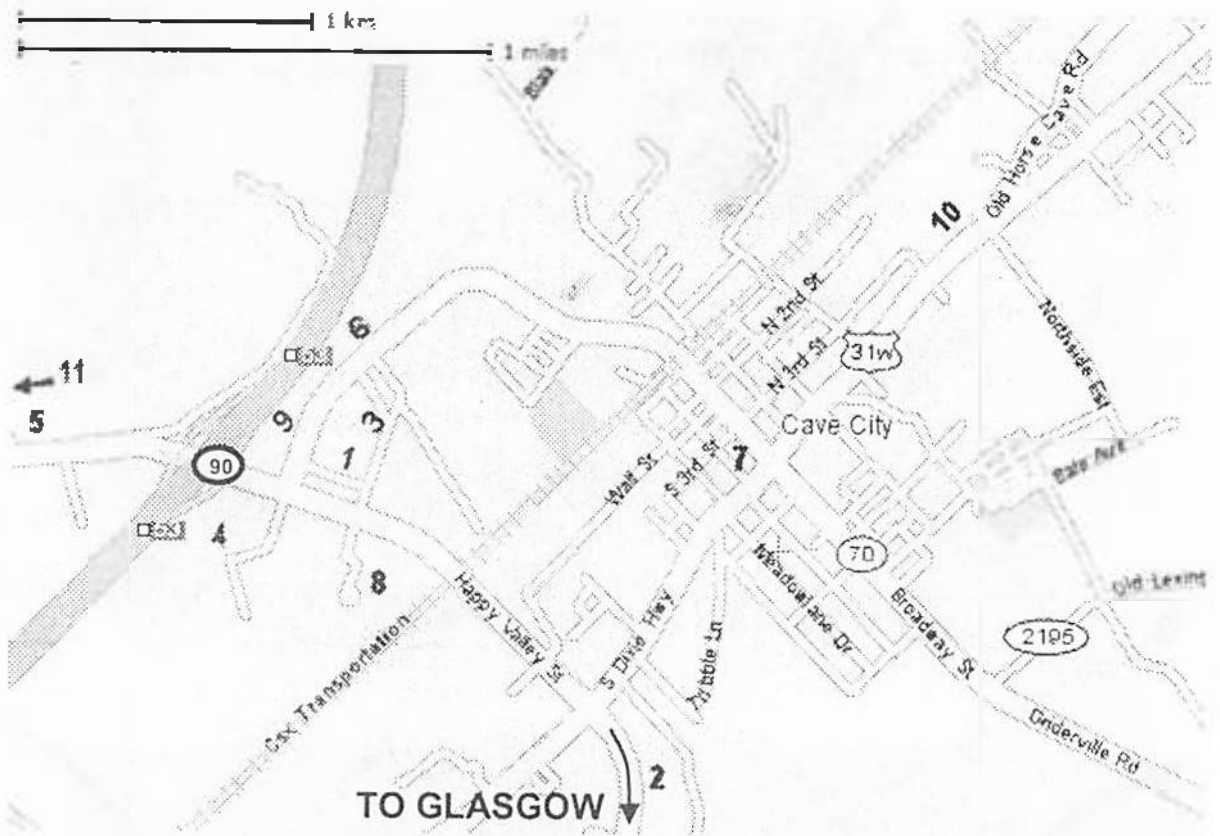
Horse Cave offers several unexpected surprises for the curious visitor. The Bookstore, The Gypsy's Closet and the American Cave Conservation Museum all offer discounts for Concave members. Having the convention in a small town means it is quite visible but that has worked in our favor in developing the 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

■ **Country Hearth Inn + Aunt Bee's** - 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
3. **Man D's Bistro**— 103 N Dixie St —786-8686 Fri-Sat 10 am -10 pm + Sun 9am—2 pm—**New! Check it out and give us a report!**
4. **The Gypsy's Closet** - 101 Water St - 786-2492
5. **CK's Homestyle** - 6 am-4 pm Buffet - 209 E Main St - 786-3864
6. **Snappy's Pizza**—**New Location!** S Dixie St—Fri-Sat 10:30am—10 pm + Sun 11 am-8 pm—786-8686 Best pizza in the region, with Italian specialties for dine-in.
7. **Caverna Memorial Hospital**—1501 S Dixie St—786-2191
8. **American Cave Conservation Museum** - 119 E Main St - 786-1466 Cave tours
9. **IGA Market** - 390 N Dixie St - 786-2639
10. **Rite-Aid Pharmacy**— 394 N Dixie St—786-1147
11. **Aunt B's** - Open 24/7 - I-65 & Highway 218 - 786-2020 Notoriously slow service, but great for a group of friends in no hurry.
12. **Noble Romans Pizza** - 735 Flint Ridge Rd - 786-1824 Ok if you're in a hurry or it's late, but Snappy's is vastly better pizza.
13. **Dollar General Store**—1010 E Main St—786-3030
14. **Love's Truckstop + Mc Donald's** Open 24/7 + **Chester's Fried Chicken** 9 am - 10 pm Daily Everything here is fried—even the corn-on-the-cob!

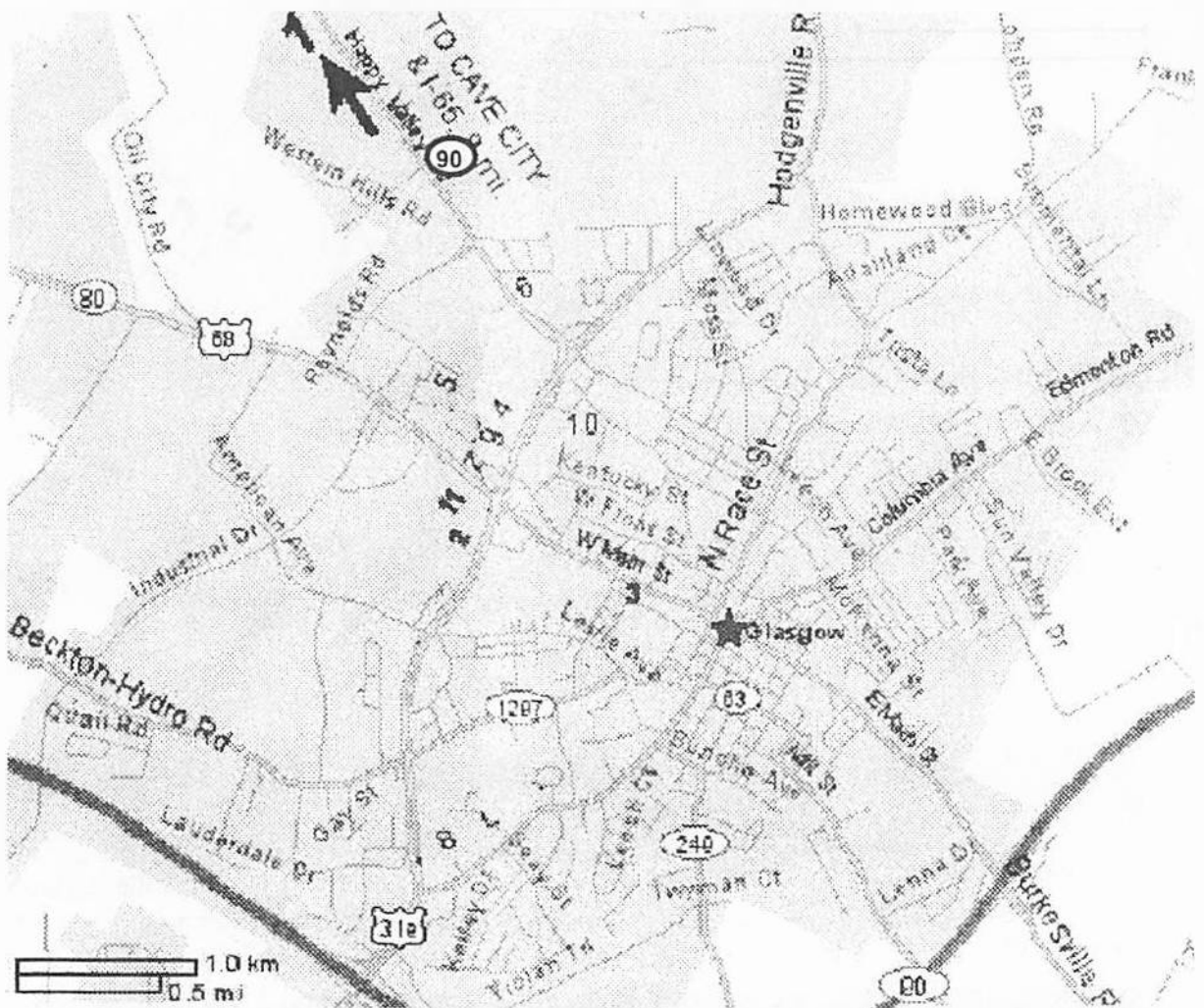
PLACES OF INTEREST IN CAVE CITY, KY



It is about 5 minutes from the Hampton Inn to anyplace in Cave City. Most of the restaurants are within sight of Exit 53. Highway 90 (A.K.A. Happy Valley), Mammoth 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 Just what you'd expect. For real country cooking try Aunt B's or The Watermill.
2. **Sahara Steak House** – 413 E Happy Valley Rd. – 773-3450—Love that vegetable beef soup! A Concave favorite.
3. **Rosie's Kitchen (Formerly Hickory Villa)** – Behind Cracker Barrel—Old favorite reborn! 11 am-9pm Barbeque buffet or menu service. You won't leave hungry!
4. **Rawhide Steakhouse** – At Knight's Inn—10-10 Daily - Full Bar—Much better steaks than Sahara, but pricier and no salad bar.
5. **Watermill Restaurant** – 1004 Mammoth Cave Rd (North of I-65) – \$5.95 All-You-Can-Eat buffet 5:30 am—9 pm CASH ONLY! 773-3186
6. **Pizza Hut + Long John Silvers + Kentucky Fried Chicken**– 804 Mammoth Cave St - 773-3370 (Pizza Hut)
7. **Godfather's Pizza** – 99 S Dixie Hwy – 773-4403
8. **El Matazlan** – 105 Gardner Ln – 11 am-10:30pm—Alcohol served
9. **Cast Iron Kettle** – 750 Mammoth Cave St – 773-2278 May have closed recently.
10. **Wigwam Village** – 601 N Dixie Highway—Seeing is believing!
11. **Wild Country Steaks & Barbecue**—Mammoth Cave Rd 11 am-9pm

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 53. 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—Now 24/7!
2. **K-Mart** – 368 NL Rogers Wells BL—651-7693
3. **Big Moose's BBQ** – 525 W Main St – 651-1913
4. **Mancino's Deli** – 302 Rogers Rd – 651-6500 Forget Subway—This is sandwich heaven!
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. **Colton's** – 206 NL Rogers Wells BL – 629-2255—Voted best area steakhouse by Naomi and Gary FORGET SAHARA AND DRIVE 10 MINUTES MORE FOR COLTONS!
10. **El Mazatlan** – 706 W Cherry St – 651-7799

WHAT CONCAVE MEANS TO ME

By Gary Robe

As we drove home from Chambanacon in November of 1979 the four of us, Rickey Sheppard, Debra Hussey, Pat Shaw and I, were in shock. We had just been informed that we had three months to organize and run a convention with no up-front cash, 12 registered members, no hotel contract, and a half-hearted publicity effort, and next to no experience in running a convention. That may explain why I need to apologize to all of the frustrated people patiently waiting for Concave mailings each year. Preparing for the convention at the last minute is in my fannish genes.

The first thing that comes to mind when I think about Concave are the people I've met. Lynn Hickman is at the top of the list. Right to the end Lynn was always reaching out to young people, writing in fanzines and APAs, was a bottomless well of stories, and always let you know that he was really happy to be with you. In so many ways Lynn's vision of fandom is at the heart of the Concave tradition. The other one I have to mention is C.L. (Doc) Barrett. His aura of confidence and humble competence is always something I try to emulate, plus he was the one who took me aside and told me to marry the young femfan who was crashing in my room. Now 25 years later that is still good advice! These are just the greatest among so many people who have become close friends that make Concave my annual family reunion.

Second, I think of all the stuff that has happened during Concaves that will keep me telling stories for the rest of my life. Lets see, there were the tits growing on David Francis' ceiling, the Great Blackout of 1997, The Year of No Carpet, The Year of No Bedspreads, a million ladybugs in the Park Mammoth dining room, the conception of The Rubble Award, Hampton Inn managers getting hammered on skippy, The Manager's Lawn Incident, banquets at The Bookstore, kicking in the door, nothing burns like a Deere, watching sunrise from The Barn Room, Haley's Comet from the PMR railroad tracks, gray swill, Crack and Cheese parties, Bio-Hazard parties, Brynley & Judy's parties, and the strangest shirt collection this side of Betelgeuse. I could go on, but I've only got a page here. The special thing is that after 30 years my memoirs of past Concaves *don't* run together! Each one stands out in my memory like they just happened.

Most of all I think of Saturday nights at about 11 pm. By then every seat in the consuite is full of people talking and playing, the bar is dispensing liquid cheer, the nacho cheese is bubbling, the parties are in full swing, and everyone is in their happy place. At these times I like to walk out to the road and look at the hotel. The lights from the room parties make the place look like it's decorated in Early Alien Invasion. Anyone passing by can tell at a glance that something special is happening at the Hampton Inn! It's then I like to think that from that shaky start we built something that will live on after the founders have moved on. It's hard to explain Concave to an outsider without making it sound like an excuse for a long weekend bender. OK, I admit that's true on the surface, but when you add in that it is where you met your best friends, made your fondest memoirs and anticipate more than Christmas then it all begins to make sense, and it is good.

CONCAVE 30 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE OLD GUARD:

CHAIRMAN: Gary Robe

FACILITIES VICE CHAIR: Naomi Fisher

REGISTRATION VICE CHAIR: Corlis Robe

CONSULTE: Annette Camco & Sue Francis

HUXTER ROOM: Steve Francis

ART SHOW: Pat Molloy & Naomi Fisher

GAMING: Steve and Mary Franklin

THE NEWBS

Claude Miles: **CHAIRMAN**

Brad Hall: **FACILITIES VC**

Trish & James Krog: **ART SHOW**

Tony Tomazic: **ADMINISTRATION**

Tonya Miles: **GUILTY BY ASSOCIATION**

Michael Jameson: **COUNSELOR**

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS:

Patricia Clements: *Con Chair's Wardrobe* Guests of Honor Photo: Kadaziel

Randy B. Cleary – *Program Book Artwork*

And Many Thanks To Concave 29 Volunteers

Paul Anderson

Randy Archie

Cokie Bailey

Bill & Fran Bartley

Mike & Susan Baugh

Warren Buff

Kim Burton-Oakes

Nathan Byers

Dan Caldwell

Tony Cannon

Jason Cansler

Bill Cavin

Judy Chantelois

Brad Collins

Mike & Kai Cunningham

Drew & Heather Curtis

Brynley Dolman

Bob Embler

Shawn Ewing

Paul Fink

Jeff & Sherri Harrison

Martin & Shannon Hickey

Art & Janet Hopkins

Walter Hunt

Troy Johnson

Julee Johnson-Tate

Frank & Millie Kaliz

Mark Linneman

Travis Lockhart

Pat & Debbie Minogue

Sherry Norris

Mike Pendleton

John Ray

Kim Reynolds

Tim Romero

Ryan Spainhoward

Chris Tate

Bonnie Waedle

BJ Willinger

Joel Zakem

And Anyone Else I've

Inadvertently Missed!

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!**