



# On the Horizon

a publication of the National Speleological Society

Friday, July 24, 2009

Don't forget your name tag for the Banquet tonight. It is required. Our Banquet will be out at the Don Strange Ranch. We encourage you to use the Vans and buses provided. Transportation runs continually from 5:00 to 6:45. (1700) For those wishing to drive to the ranch, maps and directions are available in CAC at Registration, the Information room and at the front table. Plan to arrive no later than 6:45. Dress cool, arrive early and join the fun!

There are also the evening field trips that will depart from the parking lot at 5:00 and return around midnight.

## Program Additions and Changes

**One Way traffic** on the campus loop road during ICS week.

This is a vital safety issue and is necessary because the buses and vans that carry you to the different activities will block one lane for long periods of time making passing dangerous if traffic was two way. Please notify ICS staff immediately of any damaged signs. Stop and notify drivers who are going the wrong way.

We understand your frustration, but there is a real safety issue on the one-way Acorn Rd., so please drive counterclockwise, as the signs indicate.

**Speleology for Cavers** has moved next door from Cailloux Hall 218 to Cailloux Hall 219. It is still scheduled to run all day today.

**Digging Section Meeting** will meet today at 0800 (not 0730) at **Cailloux Hall** in **CH112**. At 1030 we will have digging reports (dig at Snowy River) and talk about techniques. Come to our informal discussions and tell us about your dig. Contact Kathy Peerman if you wish to present on Friday.

**The IUCN - WCPA Caves and Karst** Taskforce gathering will be Saturday at 0800 in MS163 (listed as International Union of Conservation of Nature Biospheres Business Meeting)

**Lava Caves Symposium** has been moved from MS143 to CAC Ballroom 1 on Saturday.

## Convention Announcements

**NAME TAGS must be worn at all times!!!** You will be escorted off campus, otherwise.

**Today's Board of Governors** meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m., room MC138.

**Saturday is the last edition** of *On the Horizon*, if you have any submissions, they **must** be in by 2:00 (1400) or you will have to wait until the next ICS (4 years) (actually the next NSS Convention in Vermont).

### Salon Review and Critique Sessions:

Print Salon awards/prints at Logan Library today at 0900

Cave ballad entries and awards today CH104 at 0900

Spelemedia in Dietert Auditorium today at 0900

Cartography today in Logan Library at 1400 (2:00)

Photography/images today at CAC theater at 1400 (2:00)

For those who are picking up prints/awards see the Salon Chair at the above listed sessions. If you are picking up items for someone not at Convention, written permission must be presented. Email is acceptable.

**Post Congress Cross Country** Excursion will meet after the ICS Closing Ceremony on Sunday, July 26 in the Dietert classroom.

**The following participants need to visit Registration** and pay for the Carlsbad-Kerrville (or other) costs before leaving the Congress: Philippe Audra, David K. De Roest, Fred Luiszer, Michael Queen, Hans Stunzi, Mirjam Widmer.

**Cartographic salon critique** session is open to everyone - 1400 Friday in Logan Library. Salon winners should pick up awards then. Maps will remain up through Saturday.

**International Journal of Speleology** meeting in Ballroom 3 at CAC from 12:30 today - everyone is welcome, not just editorial board members.

**Field trip #85 - Cenote Karst of the Yucatan Peninsula.** All registered participants to gather after the banquet tonight

before leaving the ranch. See you there so that Jim and Trish can answer any questions. Exact time depends on how long the awards ceremony runs.

**Certificates are being delivered to Session Chairs** just before session begin. Those missing certificates (especially for poster sessions) should leave a note with full name, title, and session name at Registration for processing by Roy Jameson and pick up on Friday or Saturday.

**Lightning topics in Survey techniques**, today 11:30 - 1:30 No survey workshop this year (sorry too many things to do). Instead we are presenting a session in new survey techniques. Bring your new gear and gadgets. Come to give a talk or just to listen. Pack a lunch and come to MS212/211 for an informative session. Pat Kambesis and Howard Kalnitz.

**Don't forget to check the airport shuttle schedule** in the Information room to confirm your reservations on Sunday or Monday.

**The First Aid Station** can still use volunteers for daytime coverage. For information, stop by 114 Moody Science building or call Randel Reinertson at 605-691-1611.

**Yucatan Peninsula Mexico** Conservation, Management and Exploration. An informal gathering of all people interested in the science, exploration, management and conservation of this area grab a lunch and gather in Ballroom 1. A discussion will start at 1300 (1:00)

**Tonight's bat flight** trip to Bracken Cave leaves promptly at 5:00

**UIS Physical Chemistry** and Hydrology Commission meets Saturday in CAC Ballroom 3 starting at 1230.

### Dining Hall Menu:

Today's lunch will include the deli bar, salad bar, baked potato bar, hamburgers, french fries, broccoli and rice casserole, carrots, rolls and butter

At the NSS Banquet (Dining Hall closed): Vegan/vegetarian selection, Kosher (prepackaged meals). tossed olive Italian Salad, antipasto salad platter, penne pasta, fettuccine pasta, various sauces, green beans almandine, bread sticks, whole cakes desert bar, Iced tea, water and **wine**.

**Book Signings**-these are in Weir outside the bookstores.

**Today:** 11:00 - 1:00 Gary Roberson *Fifty Years Under the Sinkhole Plain*

11:00 - 1:00 - Hazel Barton *Extreme Scientist* (Hazel is featured in this book, she not the author, but it is a really fun title with her on the cover)

11:00 - 1:00 Gary Pint *The Desert Caves of Saudi Arabia*

### SpeleMedia schedule today in Dietert Auditorium

0900 Third place winner

1000 Second place winner

1100 First Place winner

**Video on Demand** in Dietert Auditorium in the afternoon.

**Bonus 3-D shows today in CAC** theater (near Registration) 9:00 - 11:00 check the schedule in CAC for times.

**Music show today in CAC theater** 1130 -the famous song "Grand Kentucky Junction" by Barbara MacLeod set to the images of Mammoth Cave.

**Cave Documentation/informatics**-If you are interested in cave documentation or informatics-please check the contact list on the UIS informatics commission web page and send any additions or updates. [www.UISIC.vis-speleo.org](http://www.UISIC.vis-speleo.org)

If you are interested in participating in an open-source project to extend the web based national database (Linux/ Apache/MySQL/Perl) please get in touch.

If you are already running a cave database, please get in touch - contact Peter Matthews - [matthews@melbpc.org.au](mailto:matthews@melbpc.org.au)

See me at the UIS Informatics meeting on Saturday, Cailloux Hall 104-105 at 1230 - 1400.

**UIS Awards** at the Congress - The UIS gives 3 awards during each ICS that will be presented at the ICS banquet on Saturday evening.

- Best book about caves in the last 4 years
- Most significant discovery in the last 4 years
- Best poster in the poster sessions

See Julia James of Australia before this evening.



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**On Campus Housing Deposit Refund Process** - A team of inspectors will be available Sunday, July 26 and Monday morning, July 27. Find the inspector at your hall and get your room inspected. If you pass inspection, your university inspector will hand you a signed deposit refund form. As you leave Schriener University, stop at Registration, turn in your key and the signed form and receive your \$50 deposit.

If you fail inspection (the room is damaged or excessively dirty, linens are missing or key is missing), the room inspector will keep the deposit refund form and collect your key. There will be no \$50 refund at Registration for you.

Early checkout is available by appointment. Schedule this by filling out the form in the Information room. Every effort will be made to inspect your room at that time.

**ISEI 2008 Results of the International UIS expedition** in Iran by Fadi Nader, Saturday, July 27, at 1210 in Ballroom 2 in CAC.

**UTMB Caving Health Questionnaire** The researchers express thanks to those who returned completed health questionnaires that were included in your registration packet.

For those of you who have not yet returned a form, drop boxes are located in the hall on the second floor of Weir. Extra blank copies are located next to the box.

## Beyond the Horizon

**Volunteers are needed to help** move vendors and tables out of Weir Hall starting Sunday at noon. We will need to clear the building **The elevator is working!** See Emily in Weir 120.

**Do you have a good 5-minute talk or presentation?** Bring it to Lightning Talks this afternoon.

**Please remember to** clean your own table in the Dining Hall.

**For anyone interested in Pseudokarst** in limestone, Charlie Self's lecture is in the Cave and Karst Geology session this afternoon. Yes, really!

**Daniel, thank you for showing** the hummingbirds 3-D one more time. Edna

**Aaron B - Happy birthday.** You are now the answer to life, the universe, and everything (42). Sherie

**Great swimming** 6 miles from the university. Directions: left out of school 1.4 miles to Veterans Highway, make a right. Go to next signal, Rt 173 marker, left go 2.7 miles to Whorton Rd., make a left, go 2.1 miles to fork, (Y or T) bear left, go .8 miles and you'll go over a small bridge. That is the swimming area.

**Boomer (aka Tom Bemis)** (aka Mr. Bemis to the younger generation) is retiring. Give him your congratulations and many happy speleo trips.

**Last chance for raffle** tickets. Win a pottery bowl and help fund WNS research. Tickets \$1.00 each at the NSS Bookstore. Drawing at tonight's Banquet.

**International cavers:** remember to keep your passport with you when traveling. There are check points inside Texas, plus it is a federal law and customs gets grumpy.

**To the NSS/CIS Convention Staff,** your hard work is almost over. You have done, and are doing, a great job of taking care of the needs of many eccentric individuals. Those of us who have worked a convention understand your sacrifice and those who have not yet been a "conventioneer" will someday. Many thanks!

**Donate \$20 and get a** special Fern Cave mug as the SCCI booth.

**Lost - pink T-shirt** "Cave Without a Name" - left in plastic bag on Speleoart bus trip vehicle. Call Sarah (304) 615-2415 or text or drop off in First Aid.

**West Virginia Cave Conservancy** ephemera. Go to Consignment Sales, glow-in-the-dark "Save the Caves" wrist bands \$3, colorful patches \$5, cave preserve signs \$5.

**I love you BHR!**

**Help with the cure** for WNS - T-shirts in Consignment Sales go to support WNS research.

**Reminder: All ICS participants** receive free entry to the self guided tours at Carlsbad and Mammoth Caves National Parks this week and next (through August 3, 2009). Just show your ICS badge at the fee station to receive your free pass.

**We miss you Bergan!** You will be forever in our hearts!

**Don't miss "Speleobooks After Hours"** in the sales tent in the campground. Great deals! Open most evenings.

**Happy Birthday NSS! Nicholas Stephen Socky** will be 18 years old on 8/13/2009. From your friends and family.

**Today is the last day** to enter to win a free caving calendar + a special prize from Europe at Speleo Projects. Come to Weir 110 to enter. Winners must collect their prize in person.

**Famous cave ballads now on DVD!** Hear "Plastic Justrite" and other songs from Barbara MacLeod on a new video for sale by the Texas Cave Management Association @ Texas Sales in Weir and Consignment Sales in Moody Science bldg.

**Attention SpeleoArtists!!** The 2012 NSS Convention is having a logo contest. Submissions due by December 21, 2009! Info at Fine Arts Salon and in Loud Camping at the Zoo!!

**Wine! 2009 ICS** special label wine from Becker Vineyards will be on sale in the CAC today thru Saturday. What a great way to remember ICS 2009!

**Are you related** to the peninsula of Yucatan? Everyone interested in this area can join us today at 12:30 in CAC Ballroom 1.

**Cavelegs kneepads** at Consignment Sales. Check them out!

**You should return by bracelet:** flat silver and black bat on yellow/orange/black beaded wire wrist band and smooth carved rust colored ring. Turn in to Lost and Found at Registration. Elaine Hackerman

**Lost - one sturdy banana shaped** grey spectacles case with zipper opening and internal soft bag with drawstring. If found, please return to Lost and Found in the Information room.

**Ride needed** to San Antonio rail station Monday 27, July for 2 people - Brad Smith and Liz Robinson. 604R Flato Look for SpongeBob hats.

**Volunteers needed for 2011 NSS Convention** in Colorado. A variety of positions are available. Please contact Barbara Smith at [Smithbr@comcast.net](mailto:Smithbr@comcast.net) if interested.

**Please join us for the Photo Salon Critique** and workshop today at the CAC theater at 1:00 (1300)

**Cavers: We appreciate** your concerns, thoughts and generosity for Donald Davis. Donald, we wish you a speedy recovery. From all your caving friends.

**Canadian/Canadian, eh?** Group photo - Friday, before the NSS Banquet. Meet in the lobby of CAC at 5:00. Photo de group - vendredi avant NSS Banquet. Recontre dans le hall du Cailloux Centre a 5 p.m.

**Come learn about caving** in Belize. Cavers and non-caving spouses welcome. The 2010 Xmet Expedition will be February 17 - March 16, 2010. Join us for a week or more. Sketches/mappers needed. Drop in Friday 1230 - 1400 to MC143 (behind the pool and tennis courts) Leaders are David and Eleanor Larson. [delarson@aol.com](mailto:delarson@aol.com).

**TCC Bat T-shirts** available at Mercy Raines shop n Weir. Children's sizes available today. \$5 each.

**Packing supplies** for shipping those heavy books home are available at Registration.

**Extra Guide books** are available at Registration for \$35.00 **Michael Kehs woodworks** "The Fine Art of Caving" wooden cave related art. Visit us in room 007, ground floor in Weir.

**Pre and Post-congress** field trip guidebooks are available at Registration. Buy the book for the trip you didn't go on or buy the whole set. (If you are on a post-congress trip, you do not need to buy a book. You will receive one on the trip. Peri Franz

**Vermont - 2010 Convention** "A cool Convention" - Preregistration now available at the NSS Bookstore - Register here at the ICS and we will mail you a free "Cavermont" bumper sticker: 2 1/2 x 12" white on green. See samples at our booth just outside Registration in CAC.



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**SWBLF seeks MLNBLM** preferably graffiti artists for long rolls across campus. Contact Helene Wielz for info.

**Found - Bag of purchases** in Speleo Projects, Weir 110. Identify contents to claim at Speleo Projects.

**When sandblasters** are outlawed, only outlaws will have sandblasters. Bead boy

**1530 feet new highline** rope (formerly PMI Canada) \$0.55/ft. Deal if you buy all of it. Contact Maureen Handler 423-605-5569.

**WNS Decon is easy!** 1. Completely wash your gear. 2. Soak CLEAN gear in disinfectant for 10 minutes. 3. Rinse disinfectant and dry gear.

**If someone picked up my** small red Swiss army knife, don't use the toothpick (I did), the tweezers have blood on them and the blade is tricky to close. OR...you could return it to me. (at First Aid) Stephen Mosberg