



On the Horizon

a publication of the National Speleological Society

Monday - July 20, 2009

Tonight's big event is the Howdy Party! Located at the Robbins Lewis Pavilion, from 19:00 to 23:00 hours (7:00 - 11:00), you can enjoy Texas BBQ, drinks and dancing. Y'all come!

Program Additions and Changes

General Exploration 1 on Tuesday afternoon in Dietert Auditorium. The program schedule correctly lists the location but the program text incorrectly places it in Dietert Classroom.

Cave Ballad Listening Session - time change. New time - Tuesday 13:00 - 14:00 in CH219. This session will be repeated Friday 13:00 - 14:00 in CH112.

Important time change - Seminole Canyon Rock Art Wednesday trip meet at the bus at 05:00 (5:00 am). We must leave as early as possible. For more information see trip description in the Information Room across from Registration.

Convention Announcements

You must wear your name tag every day and at all NSS/ICS functions

"It's one small step..." today is the 40th anniversary of the first landing of humans on the moon! The Howdy Party will have some surprises. Maybe one will commemorate the landing.

A meeting to review the status of the Karst Information Portal and to plan future activities will be held from 1800 - 1900 (6:00 - 7:00) in MS106

Dining Hall Hours:

Breakfast - 6:30 - 9:30 - \$7.00 per plate
Lunch - 11:00 - 14:00 (2:00) - \$8.00 per plate
Dinner - 17:00 (5:00) - 19:00 (7:00) - \$9.00 per plate

To save some cash on campus you can always purchase a meal ticket. The tickets are \$70.00 - this allows you 10 meals at the dining hall. These tickets can be purchased at the Sodexo office next to the

dining hall. These tickets are for 10 meals, **not** 10 days worth of meals.

Today's lunch includes the deli bar, the salad bar, hot dog bar, hamburgers, french fries, King Ranch chicken, green beans, mashed potatoes and rolls

The Dining Hall will be closed tonight. The meal at the Howdy Party will include: BBQ chicken, S smoked brisket, vegan/vegetarian selections, Kosher (pre-packaged), a variety of salads, bread, Pinto beans, Bluebell Ice Cream cups, soft drinks and Shiner beer.

Many trips will require you to supply your own lunch. You may order a boxed lunch from Sodexo for your trip for \$7.00. You must have your boxed lunch order placed the day before your trip by 19:00 (7:00 pm) See the Sodexo office to place your order. Additional lunches requested the day of the trip will not be possible!

Registration will be open 24 hours until tonight just before the Howdy Party

On the Horizon, your daily newsletter, can be picked up in the Information Room, at the cafeteria on campus, and at Weir Hall.

Book signings - these are in Weir on the first floor outside the bookstores.

Today: 11:00 - 13:00 Lois Manno - *Visions Underground*

Tuesday: 11:30 - 13:00 Bill Steele - *Huautla*

11:00 - 13:00 - Steffi Schwabe - *Living In Darkness*

14:00 - 16:00 - Dave Bunnell - *Caves of Fire*

16:30 - 18:00 - Bill Steele - *Huautla*

Session Chairmen should pick up certificates at Registration to give to their presenters. Certificates of Participation will also be available late in the week. See Roy Jameson at Registration.

JOCKS Editors meeting Tuesday 16:00 - 17:40 (4:00 - 5:40) in CH 213.

Remember to make your caving trip reservations before Registration closes - the day before the trip. Also remember that Texas caves are warm, about 20C (70F) so do not wear coveralls or cave suits. Blue jeans and T-shirts are fine.



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SpeleMedia schedule in CAC Theater. All show times are approximate. There are no intermissions except for the lunch break. Please enter and leave the theater discretely between programs.

Today: 8:00 *Caves, Caves, Caves* - video
10:00 *Beautes Souterraines* - 3-D
10:15 *Extrodinary Lechuguilla Cave* - 3-D
10:25 *Heaven and Earth* - multi-media
10:35 *Memoire des Grottes* - video
11:30 *Her father's Worst Nightmare* - video
13:00 *Lechuguilla Cave: Favorite Places* - 3-D
13:08 *Mammoth Cave, A Place to Explore* - 3-D
13:18 *Caving in TAG* - 3-D
13:35 *Sima de la Cornisa* - multi-media
13:50 *L'Abisso (The Abyss)* - video
15:00 *Caves of Hungary and Abroad* - 3D
15:13 *Cave Art* - 3-D
15:30 *Great Cave of the Xe Bang Fai* - multi-media
15:45 *Error of Youth* - multi-media
16:00 *The Discovery of Grand Caverns* - video
16:25 *Exploration of Snowy River* - video

The James G. Mitchell Award may be made for the best scientific paper presented at any of the sessions of the annual convention by a member (or members) of the National Speleological Society, age 25 or younger. Eligible presenters should submit their name, NSS number, paper title with the scheduled session and time to Mike Backe. Please e-mail information to caver.backe@gmail.com or leave a note for the Mitchell Award at Registration.

Grant Money Available. The National Speleological Foundation offers grants for cave and karst related projects, including those for research, education, acquisitions, and exploration. Learn how to apply at the NSF meeting on Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in room CH112. Increase your chances of a successful application by making a 5 minute presentation. Email or call to get on the agenda. caving.ashbrook@comcast.net. or (267) 968-1389.

More information at www.speleofoundation.org.

Beyond the Horizon

The Texas Cave Conservancy will have several caves available to visit all week. The caves range from Avery Ranch Cave, a small educational show cave with lights and a deck to several tough crawlway caves. Both vertical and horizontal caves will be available. The deepest pit is around 55 ft. and the longest cave crawl is over a mile long. These caves are in the Austin-Cedar Park area. Mike Walsh, TCC president, will be at the TCC table in the sales room Monday and Tuesday around noon to provide additional information. **There will be no fee to any of the Texas Caves.** Remember to soak in the pool and river to stay cool and out of First Aid. Welcome to Texas you all!

The NSS Bookstore announces MYSTERY MONDAY - find the hidden deals on NSS publications. This promo will run until all the discounted books are found.

Happy 25th anniversary Dave and Mary Sue Socky! (7-14). Wishing everyone many more years underground

All Terminal Syphons T-shirts are in - only \$10. Find Mike Taylor at the Howdy Party or come to the band's annual practice Wednesday night to claim your piece of caving rock and roll history.

Fall VAR: September 25-27, 2009, Battle of Cedar Creek Campground, Middleton, VA. See a BAT to pre-register! Thanks

Do you have a good five-minute talk or presentation? Consider bringing it to Lightning Talks on Friday afternoon.

The Texas Cave Conservancy white bat T-shirts will be available at Merci Raines table located in her own sales room. The T-shirts are \$5 each while the supply lasts.

NSS Raffle - spend \$50 or more in the NSS Bookstore and enter to win a \$100 gift certificate to



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the NSS Bookstore. Drawing will be held Friday night at the banquet.

Speleo Projects sponsors 1 (one) daily drawing Monday - Friday, for a FREE 2010 Caving Calendar + a surprise gift from Europe. Come to Weir 110 to enter. Winners must collect their prizes in person.

All NSS Grottos who brought their publications for exchange with the Swiss Speleological Society should bring them to the Speleo Projects stand in Weir 110. Anyone else who wishes to make an exchange should come to see if the SSS Library needs your publication.

Thoughts For Convention

From Maxine - "Take life with a grain of salt. This works much better if the salt accompanies a Margarita."