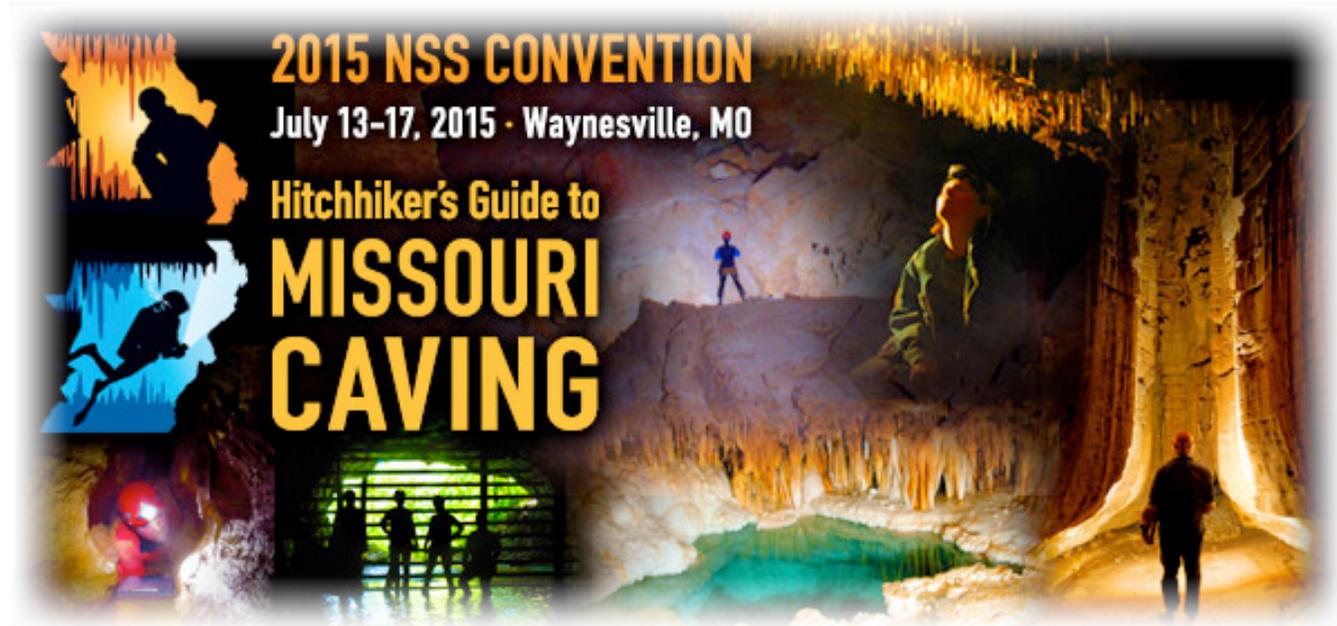


The Carbide Courier

The Dayton Underground Grotto
of the National Speleological Society



2015 NSS CONVENTION

July 13-17, 2015 - Waynesville, MO

Hitchhiker's Guide to

**MISSOURI
CAVING**



GROTTO OFFICERS**Chairman**

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Vacant

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Kentucky Speleological Survey

Don Conover

GROTTO MEETINGS

Grotto meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of each month, with the exception of September and January. Meeting locations may vary, so check the DUG web and Facebook pages for details.

www.dugcaves.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DUG.NSS>

Find Us On the Web:

- www.dugcaves.com
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/DUG.NSS>
- www.twitter.com/DUGCaves
- <https://plus.google.com>

Inside this Issue:

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- 2015 NSS Convention Preview

Cover Photo: 2015 NSS Convention logo (courtesy of the 2015 NSS Convention web page).

MEMBERSHIP INFO

3 Annual membership is \$15 per individual, \$20 per family, or \$7.50 for
 4 full-time students. Memberships
 renewable on January 1st. Dues can
 5 be mailed to the membership committee
 chairman:

6
 Mike Hood
 4668 Airway Rd.
 Riverside, OH 45431-1368

Please make check payable to:
 Dayton Underground Grotto

You can also pay with PayPal.



<http://www.dugcaves.com/membership-and-renewals.html>

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June 2015

The Carbide Courier is on-line and available for download from the Dayton Underground Grotto website, or from DUGCarbideCourier.weebly.com. The newsletter is published monthly. Submissions must be sent to the editor by Friday preceding the last week of the month. Send submissions to mkhood@woh.rr.com.

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Calendar of Events

- June 14 Regular membership meeting, 7pm, at Roger and Lynn Brucker's house.
- June 25-28 Karst-O-Rama <http://karstorama.com/>
- July 12 Regular membership meeting, 7pm, at Roger and Lynn Brucker's house.
- July 13-17 2015 NSS Convention <http://nss2015.caves.org/>
- August 7-9 Indiana Cave Capers, Lawrence County Recreational Park, Springville, IN
<http://www.cigcaves.com/indiana-cave-capers/all-about-cave-capers/>
- September Grotto cookout and auction at the "Great Rice Preserve." Date to be determined.
- October 11 Regular membership meeting, 7pm, at Roger and Lynn Brucker's house.
- October 24 Fall NSS Board of Governors meeting, sponsored by the Cleveland Grotto



Get Your Very Own Grotto Patch!

Designed by our very own Tom Cottrell, you too can own one of these handsome patches. They are \$5 each. Contact our chairman, Pam Carpenter, to purchase one (pcarpenter@woh.rr.com). Or, send a check to:

Pam Carpenter
3715 Woodman Drive
Kettering, OH 45429

We are officially the 184th different NSS affiliated grotto to have produced a patch

Ergor Explores Puzzling Cave

By Ergor Rubreck

Puzzling Cave is one of the few known in Rhode Island. I was contacted by Seymour Butz, Chair of the RIG (Rhode Island Grotto of the N.S.S). He's a plumber when not visiting the longest caves in his state. Seymour phoned me and described a series of unbelievable events related to Puzzling Cave, so to test his veracity I asked him some probing factual questions: "What color are your mother's eyes? Can you name a variety of tick hound? And, how do you feel right now?"

He answered, "Blue." Therefore, I knew he was a truthful man!

I told him I'd be on the next plane to Providence (or is it Providence Town?) with my full kit of caving gear. Unfortunately my travel agent routed me through Detroit, Denver, Atlanta, and Albany to catch the "next" weekly flight to Rhode Island. (As I side note, I felt cheated. A friend booked flights to Rhode Island through Atlanta at far less cost than my \$2,469 ticket.)

Seymour met me at the airport. He stood seven feet tall--a pillar of muscled strength--ruddy complexioned, with a thatch of straw-colored hair.

His bib overalls showed signs of his spending time on his knees, either through vocation, religion, caving, or all three. He explained his conclusion that Puzzling Cave contained a perfect blend of dark energy and dark matter. He said astrophysicists had puzzled that the universe seemed to have missing matter and missing energy to achieve entropy, and had concluded that 95.1% of the universe IS dark energy and dark matter. He handed me a well-thumbed "National Geographic" and I flipped through the pictures in the article on the subject.

He pointed at a hole in the ground and warned, "We haven't explored. We really don't know how deep it is because every time we lower the tape, it comes flying back out. The rock I threw in to time its depth was ejected like a Trebuchet (a catapult) and came down in Connecticut."

I unrolled my 120-foot Blue Line static rope and made it fast with two anchors. I tied a knot in the end of the rope and heaved it into the entrance. Imagine my surprise when the rope ascended like a cobra in an Indian snake charmer's act! The rope stood erect, a 120-foot obelisk. Just then the rope

plummeted straight down into the cave! Since many caves breathe, I recognized that Puzzling Cave experienced "breathing" of dark energy and dark matter. Clearly, the time to descend was now, when the dark energy waned and the dark matter contracted. I fastened my descending rack to my harness and stepped over the lip of the edge of the brink.

Due to invisible force, I rose on the rope three feet to the anchors. Clearly the puzzle was to use my cam ascending gear -- Petzl Sup -- to the rope, which I did, and began to descend! Aha! Up is down and down is up in a dark energy and matter cave. It was not Alice in Wonderland, rather Ergor in Wonderful Land. I alighted on the floor of a horizontal passage extending into the gloom -- or dark. The beam of my Skurry-On Lamp bent in a rainbow-like curve so I adapted by only paying attention to where the end of the light landed. It must be the dark matter in this part of the cave bent the light beam. It would make surveying difficult.

I came to a pool of water containing cave pearls, but as I knelt to examine them, they leaped out of the water,

peppering my face like a shotgun blast. Good thing I kept my mouth shut. Around the corner I saw a sort of chair consisting of a 2" x 8" board suspended by a Y-rope from above.. Remembering my general science, I reasoned that this was a Higgs boson's chair, invented by the Emperor Hadron Kollider II. Puzzling Cave was turning out to be a marvel of mystery. I could write a paper on this scientific marvel, maybe collect the Nobull Prize.

A breakdown stopped my progress. Wall to wall and floor to ceiling boulders plugged the passage. Up close I could see small spaces between the boulders. Near the left wall a larger space caught my eye. I struggled mightily to fit through. The rocks seemed loose here -- it would be tricky to get back safely.

The trunk passage beyond the breakdown slanted downward at 4°. At the floor I thought I saw two small ponds or lakes, but there was no reflection off

the surface. The mysterious pool absorbed 100% of my light beam. Could these be pools of dark matter and dark energy?

In the interest of science, I dumped my water bottle and filled it with what I took to be dark energy. I filled my pee bottle with dark matter from the adjacent pool. Nobody had ever seen dark matter and dark energy before, so my discovery would create a sensation. I was squeezing through the tightest spot when it happened!

"Clunk!" My left ankle was trapped in a V-shaped groove! The more I struggled the more rocks and soft earth sifted in around my left leg. I screamed, "HELP!" I fell, limp, exhausted. Why hadn't I invited Seymour? "Never cave alone," rang in my brain. I'd have made Seymour go first. Mercifully, I fell into a deep coma.

I awoke slowly, a prisoner in the silent cave. Suddenly I remembered my bottles -- dark

energy in one, dark matter in the other. If only I could open the dark energy bottle, the cave would expand and boulders fly off in all directions, freeing me. On the other hand, If I opened the dark matter bottle, I and every rock in the breakdown would be condensed to the size of a micron! A horrible death! Which bottle was which? I honestly could not remember! The Lady or the Tiger? A 50-50 proposition! Think of the terrible loss to science -- to me and the hundreds of thousands of my caving admirers everywhere! Never mind the samples of dark energy and dark matter.

Opening the pee bottle seemed undignified, so I opened my water bottle, springing the dark energy in a blinding flash to expanded the boulders, passage walls, the mouth of the cave, and that part of Rhode Island. I alone stood at the bottom of the largest crater I have ever seen. No Seymour.

Amendments to the Dayton Underground Grotto Constitution and Bylaws

Amendments to the grotto's Constitution and Bylaws were proposed in the April edition of the Carbide Courier. DUG members may now vote on these amendments by clicking on the link found on the grotto's web page (www.dugcaves.com). You will need the "Members-Only" password to vote. The voting will end at midnight on July 14th. Please take the time to vote.



2015 NSS Convention Preview

By Mike Hood, NSS 24166RL FE

The 2015 NSS Convention is right around the corner (July 13-17)! How many DUGsters plan to go? If you haven't made plans to go, you should! This year's convention is fairly close by, only an approximately eight hour drive from Dayton.

If you're an NSS member and have never been to a convention, you don't know what your missing! There are seminars and sessions to interest any level, or topic, of caving. There are parties, presentations, and many things for you to do while there. I should also mention there are a lot of caves to visit in the vicinity of Waynesville, Missouri; not to mention many other above ground attractions. Here is a short excerpt of what this year's convention has to offer (courtesy of the convention web page):

"What's the first rule for caving in the state of Missouri? --DON'T PANIC!

The second rule is, always bring a towel.

The theme for the 2015 NSS Convention is: A Hitchhiker's Guide to Missouri Caving. Whether you're from nearby St. Louis, flying in from Australia, or transporting from a far off galaxy, the 72nd annual NSS Convention promises to be

one cavers will remember long after the mud is toweled away.

The 2015 NSS Convention will take place July 13-17 in Waynesville, located in picturesque Pulaski County Missouri, about a two-hour drive southwest of St. Louis. We're confident that cavers from across the country will take advantage of the convenient, centralized location and come enjoy caving, camaraderie, and the natural beauty to be found in the Missouri Ozarks.

"Hey, want to go for a trip in my cave passage?"

If you're looking to get underground, the 2015 NSS Convention will not disappoint. With hundreds of caves located within a one-hour drive, there will be plenty of guided as well as self-led cave trips to choose.

"Don't forget to bring a towel!"

Special features unique to the 2015 NSS Convention will include cave diving trips as well as float trips on local creeks and rivers.

If you're more interested in the social aspect of Convention week, DON'T PANIC --we've got more fun and activities than one person can fit in the time you'll be there. This includes contests, salons, lectures, scientific workshops, guided and

and self-guided driving tours, time-travel demonstrations, and live entertainment every night of the Convention! (...we're just kidding about the time travel --or ARE WE?)

Facilities for the 2015 NSS Convention will include the [Shriner's Club Ft. Wood Campground](#), which has acres of space, on-site pavilions, electricity, shower houses, shaded tent sites, and pull-through RV camping spots. Waynesville High School offers state-of-the-art technology in every room for educational sessions, salons, and workshops.

The Pulaski County Tourism Bureau will be providing plenty of options for sightseeing, lodging, and discovering the rich history and lore of the region.

Whether you're parachuting to the site from an airplane, driving there in your car, transporting from your spaceship, or hitchhiking via the back roads, the 2015 NSS Convention, a Hitchhiker's Guide to Missouri Caving, promises to be one of the best ever!

For Convention registration information, click on this [link](#).

The staff of the 2015 NSS Convention is very excited about our upcoming event. We warmly welcome you to the Missouri Ozarks --and to the Galaxy!"

Pulaski County/Fort Leonard Wood Shrine Club
26920 Shrine Road (P O Box 133)
Waynesville, MO 65583
Phone: 573-774-5454



The National Speleological Society Convention camp ground is several miles away from the convention site, at the Shriner's Club Ft. Wood Campground.

Please visit the convention website (<http://nss2015.caves.org/>) for more information, or to register. You can also get a hard copy of the registration form on page 11 of this newsletter.

Tracy and I will be there! We hope to see you there, too!



The Dayton Underground Grotto
of the National Speleological Society
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM
www.dugcaves.com

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME:		NSS NUMBER: <i>(if member)</i>	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP CODE:
E-MAIL ADDRESS:			
HOME PHONE NUMBER:	CELL PHONE NUMBER:	WORK PHONE NUMBER:	
I AM 18 YEARS OF AGE, OR OLDER: _____ YES _____ NO			

MEMBERSHIP TYPE AND ANNUAL DUES (check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL (\$15)(\$7.50 if after June 1 st)
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL STUDENT (full time students only) (\$7.50)(\$3.75 if after June 1 st)
<input type="checkbox"/>	FAMILY (family members must reside in same household) (\$20) (\$10 if after June 1 st) List family members:

WILL THE DAYTON UNDERGROUND GROTTTO BE YOUR PRIMARY NSS AFFILIATION? _____ YES _____ NO

DO YOU WISH TO BE SUBSCRIBED TO THE GROTTTO YAHOOGROUPS E-MAIL LIST? (dugcaves@yahoogroups.com)

Signature

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian if under age 18

Date

Make checks payable to the Dayton Underground Grotto
Mail completed form and payment to Mike Hood, 4668 Airway Rd., Dayton, OH 45431

www.karstorama.com

Karst-0-Rama 2015

June 26, 27 & 28

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Mt. Vernon, KY
 EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
 Pre-registration Form (ends June 01, 2015)

***THIS YEAR WE ARE HAVING A PIG ROAST FOR THE SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER.
 THE THEME FOR THE PARTY (that's right) HAWAIIAN LUAU SO PACK YOUR
 GRASS SKIRTS AND HAWAIIAN CAVE SHIRTS***

Principle Registrant's Name _____ NSS# _____

Grotto of which you are a member of if any: _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Emergency Contact/Phone # _____

E-Mail Address _____

Additional Family Members Only (*Names are required for badges; family members do not receive guidebooks*).

Spouse _____ Child _____

Child _____ Child _____

Total Family Members _____

The following prices are good for PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY!!

Principle Registrant (\$35.00 at gate)	\$25.00	X _____	\$ _____
Spouse (<i>No Guide Book, No Car Pass</i>)(\$30.00 at gate)	\$20.00	X _____	\$ _____
Children 13 – 17 (\$15.00 at gate)	\$10.00	X _____	\$ _____
Children under 12	FREE	X _____	\$ F R E E
Dogs or Cats	\$20.00	X _____	\$ _____
<u>Additional Camping (Per Night/Per Person)</u>			
Wed. _____ Thur. _____ Sun. _____ other nights _____	\$5.00	X _____	\$ _____
Electric Site: Wed. _____ Thur. _____ Fri. _____ Sat. _____ Sun. _____	\$5.00	X _____	\$ _____
Sat Night Dinner Ticket Chicken instead _____	\$10.00	X _____	\$ _____
Children under 12 Dinner Ticket (smaller portion)	\$5.00	X _____	\$ _____
T-Shirt S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____	\$10.00	X _____	\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make Checks Payable To: Greater Cincinnati Grotto

Mail By June 1st, To:

James Clements 9211 McKinney Rd. Loveland, OH 45140

For more information or questions contact:

James Clements j766clements@gmail.com 513-237-0514
--

Karst-O-Rama 2015 Information Sheet June 25,26,27 & 28

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Mt. Vernon, KY
www.karstorama.com

*The first 50 adults to pre-register will be entered into a drawing for a BAT UMBRELLA
For pictures of the BAT UMBRELLA check out our website
and to keep up to date with KOR check us out on facebook!*

KOR 2015 would like to welcome cavers and their friends..

Your registration includes *caving, caving, and more caving, many cave trips* of all shapes and sizes, a photo contest, map contest, vertical contest, Caver kid's activities, door prizes, informational speaker, Howdy party and Saturday night party. Your registration also includes camping fees for Friday and Saturday night, you are welcome to come earlier in the week and enjoy our caving area with self led trips. Additional camping fees are *\$5 for each person for each night*. Saturday night dinner tickets and T-shirts are available for an extra cost and only guaranteed for pre-registered guests. *Please be aware, Rockcastle County is a dry county.*

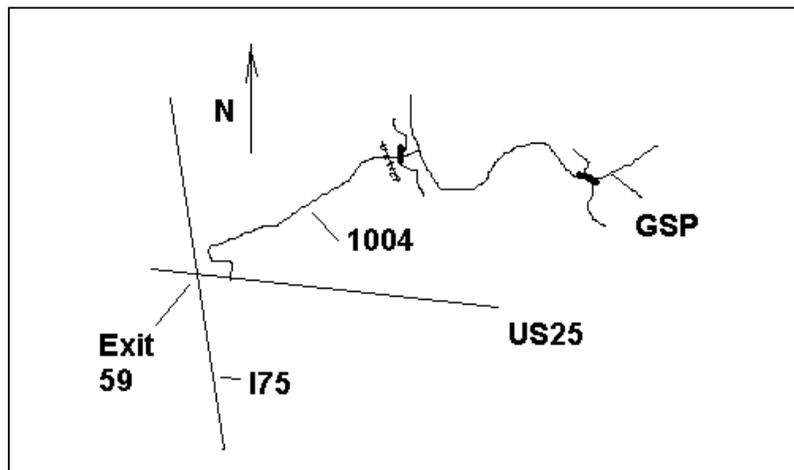
Electric sites are an additional \$5 per night per electric site with limited availability; if you want one, plan to preregister. You will be notified if we no longer have electric sites available. No air conditioners allowed, electric sites cannot handle large loads (in excess of 10 amps per site). You must be in an approved designated electric site along the pole to use electric; long extension cords will not be permitted.

Directions to Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve:

I75 to Exit 59 (Mount Vernon, KY). EAST on Route 25, turn LEFT onto Route 1004. Continue on Route 1004 to a "T" (just over the Railroad tracks and concrete bridge), turn RIGHT to continue on 1004. Look for the second concrete bridge at a sharp bend to the left. Continue for ¼ mile up the hill and look for the Great Saltpetre Preserve sign on the right. It is a total of 9 miles on Route 1004.

CAUTION: road is VERY steep and makes sudden, sharp turns

For those using a GPS coordinates are: N 37 deg 21.993 min, W 84 deg 12.391 min



2015 NSS CONVENTION July 13-17, 2015

Waynesville, Missouri www.nss2015.caves.org

Office Use Only
Reg #

Pre-Registration must be postmarked by June 13, 2015
One Registrant per Form.
Questions? Please E-Mail: registration2015@nssconvention.com

Please Print Clearly

Registration Information	
Last Name	First Name
Age: (circle): 0-6 7-17 18-20 21+	
Name on Name Tag	
Grotto/Affiliation	
NSS#	Sex: Circle One M F
Contact Information	
Mailing Address	
Email Address	
Phone #	Alt. Phone #
Emergency Contact	
Contact Name: _____	
Contact Phone # _____	
Is contact at convention Y N	
Special Needs	
Vegetarian Meal ____	
Other Needs:	
Payment	
Check or Money Order ____ Payable to 2015 NSS Convention	
Credit Card ____	
MC__ VISA__ DISCOVER__	
Card Number	
Exp. Date	CVV#
Name on Card	
Signature of Cardholder	
Additional Registrants associated with this payment	
Billing Address if different from mailing address	

ITEMS	COST	QTY	TOTAL
Adult Registration 18+ Pre Register	\$160.00		
On Site	\$200.00		
Accompanier Pre Register	\$130.00		
On Site	\$170.00		
Child Registration 7-17 Pre Register	\$150.00		
On Site	\$190.00		
Child 0-6	Free		
Will child participate in JSS	Yes	No	Incl.
Non NSS Member	Add \$45		
Adjustments			
No Guidebook	-\$30.00		
No Banquet	-\$30.00		
New Member Discount	-\$40.00		
Special Events			
Geology Field Trip SUN	\$60.00		
Hydrology Field Trip SUN	\$60.00		
Bat Workshop	\$25.00		
Cave Biology	\$30.00		
Vertical Workshop	\$25.00		
Speleo Art Workshop all 3 days	\$20.00		
Speleo Art Workshop 1 day only	\$10.00		
Speleo Art Workshop Non A&L 1 day only	\$15.00		
MCKC Pasta Dinner Wed.	\$15.00		
Convention Symbolic			
T-shirt Short Sleeve S M L XL	\$15.00		
T-shirt Short Sleeve XXL	\$17.00		
T-Shirt Long Sleeve S M L XL	\$20.00		
T-Shirt Long Sleeve XXL	\$22.00		
Convention Patch	\$5.00		
Convention Pin	\$5.00		
Extra Guidebook	\$30.00		
Grand Total			

Please send completed Registration form to:

NSS 2015 Convention
PO Box 411836
Chicago, IL 60641