



The NSS Web site is changing!

Home Page

We've improved the NSS Web site (caves.org) home page! To streamline the face of our ever-growing site, the links to pages that pertain to members have been relocated to a new "members page."

Access to this members-only page and its links requires you to log in. In the same way you accessed the previous NSS business pages, your user name is your NSS member number, and your password is your zip code. Both of these must match the information in the current NSS member database, which is refreshed daily. If you have a problem logging in, contact the NSS office (256-852-1300 or nss@caves.org) to verify your information.

The login will remain valid until you close your browser. You may also use your browser or anti-virus program to remember your responses and log you in automatically.

Another improvement to the home page is the addition of social media (SM) buttons that will take you to the NSS sites on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, **Google+**, and **LinkedIn**; to **CaveChat** and **OnlineCavers**; and to the **Caving News** Web site. The SM buttons are also now included in the navigation bar that is part of the header on many caves.org pages.

NSS+Caving News

Speaking of **Caving News**: On the occasion of its first birthday, we offer congratulations on its success. The NSS is pleased to have joined forces with this superb news site, which will display our logo and link to our Web site. We hope this will introduce the Society to people around the world interested in news about caves and caving. To make it easy keep up with **Caving News**, we've included a widget on the NSS home page that scrolls the day's news, along with thumbnail pics and links.

In return, we ask members to contribute local and regional news items for the site, to increase its value to the caving community. Anyone may send news to CavingNews.com at any time, but contact Dean Wiseman <PR@caves.org> if you'd like to be a regular "stringer." Visit CavingNews.com to see how to contribute material, subscribe to news updates delivered to your inbox, and follow on SM sites.

New Members-Only Page

Now let's look at the NSS members-only page. The links relocated from the home page have been organized into logical groups:

- **Membership** – Renew, Change Info, Volunteer, Donate
- **Publications** – A pdf archive of NSS periodicals
- **Documents** – Constitution, Bylaws, BOG Manual, Personnel, Budget, and Convention
- **Business** –BOG agenda and minutes and Congress of Grottos issues
- **Reports** – The latest officer reports and NSS Annual Reports
- **Activities** – An array of the most frequently visited NSS committee pages.

If you'd like to see additional quick links included in the activities group, send me your suggestions.

NSS Periodicals Archive

The new periodicals archive is an exciting addition to the NSS Web site, and a terrific benefit for NSS members. Every issue of the **NSS News**—64 years worth, beginning in 1941—has been scanned in pdf format for your enjoyment. These files can be searched and downloaded, but are encrypted so that individual articles and graphics cannot be copied. NSS policy prohibits posting issues less than 5 years old, but there is a motion on the March Board meeting agenda to reduce that limit to one year. You'll also find links to indexes for the years that they were created, as well as a pop-out table of contents for each issue.

All issues of **American Caving Accidents** (ACA)—28 issues spanning 44 years—are also available. All issues of the **Journal of Cave and Karst Studies** (JCKS) since 1996 are likewise available on the JCKS page. Its predecessor, the **NSS Bulletin**, is being scanned and uploaded as quickly as possible; the first 18 years are now available. Similarly, we're adding copies of the **Speleo Digest** and **Convention Guidebooks**.

Caves.org Facelift

A working group has begun a complete facelift of our caves.org Web site, to update it to current Web standards and improve its organization, function, and consistency. We will build it using a content management system (CMS) called **Joomla!** in order to make it easier for committees to maintain their pages, requiring no special software or knowledge of HTML. As you might imagine, this is a huge undertaking, which will likely require a year or more of parallel development before the new site is unveiled. **Anyone with CMS experience, or just a desire to assist, is welcome to join the effort!** If you simply have ideas for what you would like to see or do on the NSS site, we'd like to hear from you as well. Just write to webteam@caves.org.

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