This is a call for presentations for the Survey and Cartography session at the 2017 NSS Convention. The session provides a good way to tell other cave mappers what you are doing, and to discuss problems related to mapping and cave surveying. Most cave surveyors have either developed useful techniques that may benefit others, or are encountering problems that someone else may have solved. In either case a session presentation would be appropriate.

The session is informal and the audience is friendly. There are no requirements to provide fancy visual aids or to provide a written paper (other than an abstract to include in the Convention’s Program). Most presentations are scheduled for 15-20 minutes, but this is very flexible and can be changed to accommodate the presenter.

The time for the Survey and Cartography Session has not been confirmed yet, but we have asked that it be on Friday afternoon, June 23.

Presentations can be on any topic related to any aspect of cave mapping, and the material can be for folks with any level of mapping experience. A partial list of potential presentation topics includes:

- How to keep cave mud off your survey instruments (while still going into the cave)
- How to resolve blunders without another trip to the cave
- Large project management (personnel, survey standards, data processing, etc.).
- New tools, toys, or software to aid in mapping or cartography
- Representing complex vertical caves on a 2-dimensional map
- Demonstrations of techniques for improving efficiency when drafting maps on a computer.
- Comparison of various programs for survey processing, map drawing, and data visualization.
- Integrating cave survey data with surface and GIS data.

The above list is obviously incomplete. If you are doing something that you think would be of interest to other cave surveyors, please consider doing a presentation on it. We are open to suggestions for topics for an “open discussion” to solicit input from the session attendees.

The session will be chaired by Carol Vesely. Abstracts can be e-mailed to her at cavesely@gmail.com or mailed to her at 328 Highland Pl, Monrovia CA 91016. Your abstract must be limited to 250 words. Please insure that it is a summary of your conclusions and results, not simply a statement of what you are going to talk about. Also, let Carol how much time you will need for your presentation and whether you need any special equipment.

The deadline for submitting abstracts is April 1 (Yes, this is a very early deadline)

For questions about the session please contact Carol Vesely at cavesely@gmail.com or 626-614-7067.

For information about the Cartographic Salon go to caves.org/committee/salons/Cartographic.shtml

Check the convention’s web site, nss2017.caves.org, for more information about the convention.