



I have been working at Carlsbad Caverns National Park for four years now. I am currently the secretary for the Southwest Region of the NSS. Last year (2020), I was the vice president for the Pecos Valley Grotto, and the two years prior to that, I was the chairman for the PVG. I have been involved in many cave-survey trips, mock rescues, and restoration trips all over the continent, and I have had the honor of conducting some in Lechuguilla Cave. My partner, Melissa, is the Cave and Karst Environmental Protection Specialist for the Carlsbad Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, and our daughter, Rose, is a very proud Junior Ranger here at Carlsbad Caverns National Park. We are a passionate caving family. I am a 3rd generation caver, raising the 4th generation.

My degree is in Elementary Education, but I worked in caves throughout college and during the summers when I was a teacher. Prior to Carlsbad, I managed a tourist cave in Pennsylvania called Penn's Cave. My father has worked there for over forty years and my grandmother was the first female cave guide there. I started at Penn's Cave in 2004. From 2010 to 2013, I worked at Horne Lake Caves Provincial Park on Vancouver Island as the lead vertical cave guide. I was very active in British Columbia Cave Rescue and VICEG (Vancouver Island Cave Exploration Group). Later, my partner and I worked at the Caverns of Sonora in Texas.

Melissa and I have both entered cave songs for the NSS annual Cave Ballad Salon; my ballads have won a few awards at the NSS conventions. Melissa has been featured in the NSS News for her cave photography.

It would be an honor to be considered for the BOG. My primary platform would be based on increasing membership and cave and karst education. I have already contributed to the NSS Speleoguest program by presenting to school classrooms. As the Chairman for the Pecos Valley Grotto, I tripled our membership. I feel that my passion for caves and ability to reach a wide variety of people could greatly contribute to the mission of the National Speleological Society.