National Speleological Society Appoints New Administrative Vice President, Emily Davis

NSS Headquarters, Huntsville, AL — Emily Davis becomes the next Administrative Vice President (AVP) for the National Speleological Society (NSS) following March 25, 2023 Board of Governors meeting.

A member of the NSS since 2011, Emily Davis began her caving and conservancy career with the Chattanooga, Nashville, and Sewanee Mountain Grottos. She served the Nashville Grotto as Secretary for over five years as well as Treasurer and Head of Registration for the Southeastern Regional Association (SERA) Cave Carnival. Other positions-of-note prior to this new role include: Five years as Director at Large of the Tennessee Cave Survey and two years as an active member of the NSS Nature Preserves Committee. “Working on the NSS Nature Preserves Committee, taking NCRC and having been welcomed into caving by an amazing family of people led me to want to volunteer for a leadership role on the Executive Committee. Additionally, caving with so many titans of the NSS and seeing them share their expertise and time with our organization, made me want to follow in their footsteps and create my own legacy of giving back to the caving community,” stated Davis.

Davis was voted into office on March 25, 2023 and will serve a one-year term as AVP. Emily comes into this role after Adam Weaver who served as Administrative Vice President for three and a half years from June 2019 to March 2023. “The former AVP, Adam Weaver, was an excellent leader of this department. His shoes will be hard to fill as his tenure was filled with accomplishments, collaboration, good communication, and the start of several new programs (e.g. the Cave Preservation Network and Speleoguest). It is an honor to serve after a great officer, and I intend to continue and reinforce the great work he started. I look forward to continuing to work with him in the Conservation Division.” Emily’s role will include overseeing the continued conservation and education work of the NSS. When asked about her new role Emily stated, “The role of the AVP is to lead these teams effectively, guide their work by tying it back to the NSS Strategic Plan, ensure our divisions have the appropriate resources to deliver on our mission, and maintain a strong group of volunteers who work collaboratively together.”

Looking to the future, Davis plans to continue working with the passionate team of volunteers of the Conservation and Education committees. “Our work to protect caves through Conservation and to educate new cavers in all aspects of speleology and caving techniques has never been more important; I want to make sure the membership is aware of the value we are bringing to the NSS community.”

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For over 70 years, the National Speleological Society has promoted safe and responsible caving practices, effective cave and karst management, speleology, and conservation. Our members are bound together by their love of caves, their desire to learn about the underground wilderness, and their commitment to protect it for future generations.

NSS membership offers worldwide caver camaraderie, networking opportunities, and access to information about discoveries and developments in caving, speleology, equipment, and techniques through our publications, annual conventions, grottos, internal organizations, and NSS-sponsored projects, expeditions, and surveys.

With 8,000+ members and more than 200 grottos (chapters), the National Speleological Society is the largest organization in the world working every day to further the exploration, study, and protection of caves and their environments, and foster fellowship among cavers.