Sunday, June 25, 2023
Elkins, WV

Welcome to the 2023 NSS convention in Elkins, WV! We are thrilled that you have joined us for this exciting event and are eager to embark on a journey of knowledge and camaraderie. Throughout the convention, you can expect a multitude of amazing activities that will allow us to connect and forge new friendships. Make sure to grab your 2023 Convention Guide, where you will find comprehensive information on all the events, including their timings and locations. In case of any updates or alterations to the guide, we will keep you informed through this daily newsletter, Cow's Tales. Let the convention begin!

If you have an announcement you'd like us to consider for the newsletter, kindly submit it via our online submission portal: www.caves.org/convention/dailyrag/submissions/

General Announcements

Convenient Shuttle Services: Regular and Evening Buses for Easy Transportation

Regular Hourly Service Monday - Friday:
Shuttle buses run every half hour between the campground and D&E between 8 AM and 6:30 PM. The last hourly bus leaves D&E for the Campground at 6:30.

Additional Evening Shuttle Services:
- Tuesday: Buses will pick up at D&E at 9 PM, 10 PM, 10:15 PM, and 10:30 PM following the Fellows Reception and Thailand Rescue talk.
- Wednesday: Buses will pick up at D&E at 7:30 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:30 PM, 10:30 PM, and 10:45 PM following the Auction.
- Thursday: Buses will pick up at D&E at 7:30 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:30 PM, 10:00 PM, and 10:30 PM following the Photo Salons.
- Friday: Buses will pick up at the Campground for service to Gainer Center at 5:00 PM and 5:15 PM for the Banquet. Note: This overlaps with the daily hourly service. Confirm with the driver at the Campground where they are going.

Return buses will pick up at Gainer Center at 8:30 PM.

**Event Announcements**

**Stonewall cavers: Annual Dinner and Meeting at CJ Maggies**

Please join us for our annual dinner/meeting at CJ Maggies, 309 Davis Ave, on Sunday at 7 PM. If the Geology Field Trip runs late, please just join whenever you can, I'm sure we'll be there for a while! Can't wait to see you!

**Section Announcements**

**Hamming it Up: Experience the Thrills of Amateur Radio at K8C Special Event**

Amateur radio special event station, K8C, will be operational on the following schedule:

- Saturday: 12 PM to 5 PM ET
- Sunday: 9 AM to 5 PM ET
- Rest of the week: As available

To locate the station, look for the banner just past the entrance to the campground. You are invited to operate with us using either your own equipment or ours. The presence of control operators means that you do not need a license to "Get on the Air."

If you're interested in obtaining a ham license, we can assist you with the test. The test will take place at the station in the campground on Tuesday, from 5 PM. Please note that advanced study is required. For more information, please reach out to Sam Rowe, KG9NG.

**RUN ROPE: Vertical Section Climbing Contest Sign Ups**

Sign-up for the Climbing Contest has gone virtual this year! Sign up for a time slot ahead of time at this link: Sign up to RUN ROPE: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0944AFAA2FA0FD0-vertical](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0944AFAA2FA0FD0-vertical)

**Volunteers Needed: Vertical Section Climbing Contest**

The Vertical Section needs volunteers to help run the Contest! Please sign up for a 2-hour time slot here: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0944AFAA2FA0FD0-volunteer](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0944AFAA2FA0FD0-volunteer)
Vendor Announcements

Legacy of Adventure: Mountaineering Books and Memorabilia from Horton "Beep" Hobbs III

Mountaineering books and personal items from the late, great Horton "Beep" Hobbs III will be for sale at the Speleobooks Annex in the vendor area. Profits will go to the Biology Section in support of students.

Other Announcements

Happy Birthday: Dave Socky!

Happy 72th Birthday, Dave Socky! you're still caving strong and looking fine! Love You!!
Mary Sue Socky

Happy 72nd Birthday Dad! Even with a torn meniscus, I can still cave faster than you old man! ;) but seriously keep going strong with those cave projects and mountain climbing!
Love, Nick.

Special thanks to our Sponsors!
“The cold was what hit me first.
Brisk, crisp cold, laced with loam and rotting things.
In the twilight, the world beyond the narrow cave mouth was a latticework of red and gold and brown and green, the trees thick and old, the mossy ground strewn with rocks and boulders that cast long shadows.”

- Sarah J. Mass