Monday, June 26, 2023
Elkins, WV

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/

Program Changes

Junior Speleological Society: Important Notes for this week...
Welcome to Convention! I’m looking forward to this week. Please remember to pack lunches/snacks/water each day.
JSS will no longer be going to Blackwater Falls on Wednesday due to the forecast. We will now be going to Smoke Hole Caverns for a tour, gemstone mining, and a fish hatchery tour and possible fish feeding. Children will still need to bring lunch. The gift store is LARGE with over 2,600 sq ft. and Hershey’s hand dipped ice cream for purchase. MONEY is needed ONLY IF you wish for your child to buy a souvenir and/or ice cream. Your child will be responsible for the cash you send. JSS IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MONEY OR HOW ITS SPENT, HOWEVER I WILL HOLD IT IF YOU BRING IT LABELED IN A ZIPLOCK UNTIL THE GIFT SHOP.
Thursday please send your child with any cave gear that they brought labeled with their name!
Please feel free to reach out and let me know if you have any questions. I am camped directly behind the kiddy corral in the large black and white camper. Or feel free to call or text me at: 804-244-1253.

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.

**Acknowledging Achievement: Welcoming the Accomplished Fellows of 2023**

It is the Awards Committee's honor to announce and congratulate the new Fellows for 2023. We look forward to seeing you at the Fellows and New Members Reception on Tuesday evening at the Augusta Pavilion.

George Bange
Karen Bange
Terry Bolger
Mary Ellen Chester
Bill Devan
Jeff Gobin
Pete Johnson
Kyle Lassiter
Greg McNamara
Chris Pelczarski
Knutt Peterson
Savana Sawyer

**Event Announcements**

**Fellows and New Members Dessert Reception: Congratulations to the newest Fellows of the Society!**

If you don't have a ticket in your badge holder (and it's highly likely you don't), please find Meredith Hall Weberg for your ticket to the Fellows and New Members Dessert Reception that happens on Tuesday night. This is not dinner and is ONLY for Fellows and new members--no "plus ones."
Conservancy Roundtable Update!
Are you a leader in a cave conservancy or manage a cave preserve? Come to the Conservancy Roundtable on Wednesday 9AM-Noon (Room 318). Tom Whitehurst from the Southeastern Cave Conservancy is giving a short talk on security camera systems at preserves. Join us to learn how the SCCi does it or even if you just want to learn more!

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.

Vendor Announcements
Aquanaut Author Rick Stanton's Book Signing Event at Speleobooks' Milestone Celebration
Rick Stanton, author of the book "Aquanaut," will be signing autographs at 12:30 on Wednesday during the Speleobooks 50th anniversary celebration in the vendor area. You are invited to come and meet Rick, have a chat, and enjoy some cake while you're there.

Other Announcements
Leaving a Legacy: Remembering Charlie Maus
CCV & CCF will be collecting memories of Charlie Maus at our exhibit table this week. Please stop by, share your stories, and get on the mailing list for details about Charlie's Celebration of Life this fall.

Be Part of the Future of Vertical Training: Donate to Build Vertical Bill's Training Tower
Donate to the construction of Vertical Bill's Training Tower to be built at the NSS HQ in Huntsville. The NSS has a large matching fund campaign. Be a part of future vertical training. See Maureen Handler for more information.
Support The HQ: Buy a Brick!
Order forms are available at the NSS Bookstore. See the drone aerial photo of the existing Celebration Patio! The next engraved brick order will be placed in September with brick installation happening in December!

Having so much fun at the NSS Convention that you want to VOLUNTEER FOR THE NSS? We have hundreds of projects, committees and work that can use your help. Fill out an interest form at https://caves.org/volunteer/ and we will contact you with opportunities!

Special thanks to our Sponsors!