

TAG Tour Tales

2024 NSS Convention, Friday 7/5 Sewanee, TN

Volunteer needs

We need 4 or 5 volunteers to help the caterers keep the food lines supplied during the banquet service period. Time frame for this is 6:30 until everyone is served.

Volunteers

Thank you to all who volunteered this week. We couldn't have done it without you.

If you did not get a t-shirt when you volunteered please come to registration before noon to get your shirt.

Southeast Expedition Medical at Caver Coop

We are selling comprehensive caving-specific first aid kits on consignment. Compare our flagship kit to North American Rescue's Critical Environment Emergency Kit (Creek) or Adventure Medical's Sportsman 400. Rather than copying these kits we customized your kit for caving, dropping the bulk and adding things like flagging tape, a lighter, our 12-hr Speleocandle, etc.

Every tourniquet or hemostatic you buy from us comes with a free replacement guarantee if you use it during an incident. We know these items can be expensive, and we don't want price to be a factor in your decision to use one.

The only catch is you must submit an ACA report (or equivalent) in order to qualify for the free replacement. This guarantee applies to individuals.

We are also selling the cave satchel, a bag custom-made for bolting and survey.

Visit us at southeastexpeditionmed.com to follow us on social media or join our mailing list. Please excuse our landing page - our website is under construction. We can make custom bags and med kits for your needs as an individual or as a rescue agency, and we offer Wilderness First Aid and/or CPR/AED courses to cavers and rescue groups.

Call Jennifer Young 770-356-8363 or Chris Lee 678-234-3460 to learn more, or stop by The Gauntlet Friday where we will be volunteering.

Farewell and Departure Information

The Convention Staff thanks you all for attending our Convention. We hope you enjoyed your stay in TAG. However, all good things must end. **We must request that camps be vacated by 12 noon**. Only volunteers and staff working to return the campus to normal should be on site after noon.

Post-Convention Camping

If you didn't get enough caving, you can head down the road to Caver's Paradise for a post-convention camp. Caver's Paradise is owned by Maureen Handler.

For more information, visit [Caver's Paradise](#). You can also ask a staff member or text Maureen; her phone number and driving directions are on the website.

Safe Travels

Drive safely as you return to your homes.

Illuminations Print Pickup

If you are a 2024 current subscriber please pickup your issue in the Fine Arts salon by 11:00 Friday. Please leave your name with a volunteer there.

Decon Station

Decon is closing at 10 am Saturday morning. Please pick up your gear before 10 am

Registration Information and Hours

Don't forget to bring your ID to registration. Arm bands for beverages at functions will be issued during registration, and volunteers will need to verify your birth date.

Registration Hours:

- Friday: 8 AM – Noon

Schedule changes

Friday:

BOG, 9am -noon- Simmonds, room 11

2024 LUMINARY TALK SCHEDULE

This year, we are proud to showcase three outstanding women cavers as part of our Luminary Talks! Due to some conflicting scheduling information in the Program Guide, we are reiterating the official schedule below for your reference. All talks will take place from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM CT in McCrory Hall Auditorium!

- **FRIDAY:** Dr. Louise Hose

Don't miss these inspiring presentations!

2025 CONVENTION REGISTRATION NOW LIVE!

Want to experience the charm of rural New York karst, the hospitality of the cavers of the northeast, be able to visit 3 NSS Nature Preserves, attend a caving event in a cooler climate, and hear the stories from A LIFETIME OF CAVING? Then REGISTER NOW for next year's convention. Registrants (adults and minors) who register during this year's convention will not only receive the pre-registration discount but also an additional \$10 off (ONLY during convention). Take advantage of this LOW, LOW price today!

<https://caves.org/convention/2025-nss-convention/>

Overflow Seating for Auditorium & Helm's Deep Sessions

Space is limited for some of our larger sessions, but overflow seating is available in the Spencer Room of Langford Hall for the following sessions. If seating is full, head over to Langford Hall for

- **Helm's Deep (7/5)**
 - **Primary Room:** 5/6/7 Simmonds Hall
 - **Overflow:** Spencer Room

19th International Congress of Speleology - Brazil 2025 - Second Circular

We are pleased to share the Second Circular of the 19th International Congress of Speleology, which will be held in Brazil in 2025. Please distribute this information to the entire speleological community in your country.

The PDF file can be downloaded by clicking on the link below:

[19th ICS - 2nd Circular](#)

Members and Donors Welcome at the Cave Conservancy of Hawai'i

The Cave Conservancy of Hawai'i needs your help to protect Hawai'i lava tubes!

The Conservancy was established as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in 2002. Our mission is to preserve Hawaiian

caves. We have a new project in the Ocean View area of the Big Island to acquire a property with two cave

entrances, next to land we have already preserved.

We are looking for new members and donors to help us with projects like this. Visit our

website, <https://hawaiicaves.org>, or come see us at our table in the Non-Profit Hallway to join and collect new swag.

Donor contributions over \$50 also receive nice thank you gifts.

Annual membership categories = Regular \$25, Family \$35, Student \$15, Contributing \$50, or Supporting/Institutional \$100.

Fire at Dixie Dinner

Nikki White reported that there was a kitchen fire at the Dixie Diner Wednesday afternoon about 2:30pm was growing quickly. All people got out safely. The fire department arrived but I am not sure if the building will make it.

Dixie Dinner was one of our convention sponsors and many of you may have dined there. Our sympathies to the owners. It appears the building was a total loss.

Cafeteria Dining Information

Breakfast:

Days: Monday - Friday

- Time: 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM
- Cost: \$8.00 plus tax
- Payment: Cash or credit

Lunch:

Days: Monday - Friday

- Time: 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- Cost: \$12.50 plus tax
- Payment: Cash or credit

Ice Availability

Ice is available at the on-campus campground. We deliver in the mornings and early evenings for \$5 per bag. If you have an ice emergency, talk to a staff member, and we'll assist between deliveries.

Come and see the NEW Cave Sim

CaveSim is open for everyone to explore for free just outside

Registration. Come join us to see the brand new system, with three levels, over 50 formations, helmet tracking, highly-realistic passage, and a padded floor. We are open from 9am-5pm Monday-Thursday, and 9am-noon on Friday.

Stay Connected

The NSS Vertical Section is active on Facebook! Look for events and information on our FB Page and help us determine new directions for the Section.

First Aid

First Aid General first aid services are available at the Registration desk or by calling SPELEOWEB1 (773-536-9321)

Emergencies: For emergencies, call 911 first. Then, you can request on-site medical assistance from Registration or SPELEOWEB1 (773-536-9321).

SPELEOWEB1 is staffed 24/7.

AED Locations:

- Outside the bathrooms near Registration
- In the Gymnasium lobby
- In the Chapel • At The Gauntlet
- In a BLS pack carried by on-site medical

2025 NCKMS in Nevada!

The Western Cave Conservancy invites you to attend the National Cave & Karst Management Symposium in Ely, Nevada, in October 2025.

Cave and karst resource management spans a wide array of scientific and recreational disciplines. Across North America, responsible stewardship of these fragile ecosystems necessitates a broad-spectrum approach to both problems and solutions.

Since 1975, NCKMS has been North America's forum for promoting, advancing and sharing concepts in the effective management of cave and karst resources. Our conference is a gathering of inquisitive minds and passionate experts who share a common ethic for the responsible management of these rare environments.

During this NSS Convention week, see Crash Kennedy or Pat Kambesis for a 10% registration discount code or visit us online at: <https://ely2025.nckms.org/>

Local business discount

Mountain Outfitters is offering a discount. Mention you are with the caver convention (wear your name badge!) and you can receive 15% off any item in the store that are not already on sale this week!! They are doing an awesome shoe sale too and have a 50% OFF section upstairs full of gear!!!

Mountain Outfitters
[903 West Main Street](#)
[Monteagle, TN 37356](#)

931-924-4100 Phone
www.themountainoutfitters.com
facebook.com/themountainoutfitters
plus.google.com/+themountainoutfitters

A Piece of the Pit

Now open and protected by SCCi, The Sinkhole-Kelly Cove Preserve is a TAG classic. Did you know you can now own an honorary piece of the pit? Commemorate a memory or loved one while supporting the conservancy with your purchase. Have your name on the official map and a certificate denoting your ownership. Stop by the SCCi booth with inquiries.

TAG Tour Tales

The Tag Tour Tales staff has been happy to serve you this week by providing updates to schedule changes and new activities. We apologize a few mistakes and a couple of missed submissions. Thank you for your patience with us. It took us all week to get our system streamlined.

Vendor Closing Notice

Vendors will close at 12 noon today. Thank you to all our wonderful vendors!