

The Speleo Dealeo

NSS Convention Daily Rag

Friday July 10th, 2026



OHIO RIVER VALLEY
CORYDON, INDIANA
JULY 6-10

HOURS

ALL TIMES ARE IN EASTERN STANDARD TIME

Registration

8am - 5pm

Vendors

8am - 12pm

Daily Shuttle

7am-9am, 11am-1pm,
3pm-6pm

24/7 Helpline for Urgent Issues:
"SPELEOWEB-1" or (773) 536-9321

TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

NSS Awards Banquet

6:00-8:30pm

Farewell Party and The Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band

9:00-Midnight



The Reverend Peytons
Big Damn Band

Submit entries to: **dailyrag1@gmail.com** by 7pm daily.
Or drop a legibly written blurb in the Daily Rag submission
box at Registration.



Event	Time	Where
BOG Open Meeting	9:00-Noon	104
NSF Trestees Meeting	9:00-Noon	112
Geology and Geography	9:00-Noon	Auditorium
Arts & Letters	8:30-Noon	154
Fine Arts Salon Critique	9:00-10:00	Library
Cartographic Salon Critique	10:00-Noon	Vendors Area
Photo Salon Critique	10:00-Noon	Library
Print Salon Critique	10:00-Noon	Library
Cave Ballad Salon Critique	10:00-Noon	Library
Video Salon Viewing	9:00-Noon	102
The Caving Podcast Live featuring: Jason Ballensky & Dustin Kisner	Noon-1:00	Band Room
Arts & Letters Lunch	Noon-1:00	154
Geology and Geography meeting	Noon-1:00	Auditorium
Survey & Cartography Session	Noon-1:00	205
Geology & Geography	1:00-5:00	Auditorium
Survey & Cartography Session	1:00-5:00	205
Arts & Letters	1:00-4:00	154
BOG Meeting	1:00-5:00	104
Collegiate Grotto Challenges and Solutions	1:30-3:00	110
NSF Trustees (closed)	1:00-5:00	112
NSS Awards Banquet	6:00-8:30	Fairgrounds
Farewell Party/Music: Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band	9:00-Midnight	Fairgrounds

Breakfast

7:30-9am ✦ \$10 without meal pass

Entree (1)	Sausage Egg Pancake Sandwich
Protein (1)	Yogurt Cup
Fruit (1)	Fruit Mix
Beverage (1)	Beverage

Allergen Friendly

Entree (1)	Cereal Donut
Protein (1)	Almond Milk Yogurt
Fruit (1)	Fruit Mix
Beverage (1)	Beverage

Lunch

11am - 1pm ✦ \$15 without meal pass

Entree (1)	Grilled Chicken Sandwich Egg Salad Sandwich Chicken Salad Sandwich Kale Salad
Side (3)	Soup Side Salad Fresh Fruit
Beverage (1)	Beverage

Allergen Friendly

Entree (1)	Vegan Kale Salad Egg Salad Sandwich Chicken Salad Sandwich
Protein (3)	Soup Salad Fresh Fruit
Beverage (1)	Beverage

WEATHER UPDATES

High 85 - Low 70
Mostly Cloudy



Volunteer Opportunities

The NSS Convention is 100% volunteer run and we need your help! Stop by the volunteer table near registration to see how you can help out!

For every shift you work each day, your name will be entered into a Raffle to win various donated items. The winner will be announced the next day in the Daily Rag. Scan the QR Code or stop by Registration to sign up.



Volunteer Raffle Winner

Isuru Priyaranga
Silva Ethige
& Karin Cassavar

Pick your prize up at Registration!

SESSION UPDATES

1:15 Photogrammetry for fun and prospecting by
Philip Balister

1:40 How do I know where this drone image is? by
Philip Balister

2:05 SpeleoMap: 3D LiDAR cave survey software for
iPhone by Josh Berthiaume

The Caving Podcast Live featuring:
Jason Ballensky & Dustin Kisner moved from Room
254 to the Band Room



VOLUNTEER UPDATES : FRIDAY JULY 10

Banquet Setup: ~2 - 4pm

Many hands make light work so if you are around the large Ag bldg at the Fairgrounds, stop by and see what needs to be done!
(and stay for the quick cleanup after if you can!!!)

Vendor Assistance: 2 - 4pm

10 people are needed to help our wonderful Vendors with tasks such as chair & table pack up, aid vendors in moving boxes to their trailers, etc, etc.
Meet in the hallway in front of the Vendor Hall.

Restrooms need attendance?

If you see an issue with the restrooms, if you can handle it yourself - BONUS POINTS.

If not, we do need folks to make rounds throughout please sign up through the Volunteer QR code you will see in this issue.

Let someone with a volunteer or staff shirt know of any emergent issues.

Fairground Gatekeeper (aka traffic security)

10am - 12pm - arrive a few minutes early to change the guard

12pm - 2pm - " "

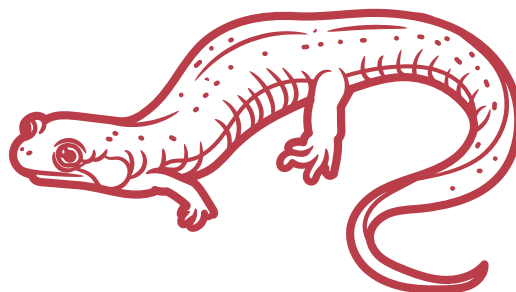
2pm - 4pm - " "

4pm - 6pm - " "

Please sign up online with the Volunteer link or check in at the Volunteer Desk at the high school

THANK YOU ALL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I hope you know how much each and every person here at convention appreciates all the help to make this run as smoothly as it can

FAQ





CAVER COLUMN



VENDOR HOURS

Vendors close at 12pm today! Make sure to stop by for any last minute purchases

NSS AUCTION RESULTS

The 2026 NSS Auction was a resounding success.

Hauer Award fund - \$310

Science/Research - \$210

Lew Bicking - \$130

Cave Aquisition - \$3950

NSF - \$130

Fine Arts Salon - \$1665

VTC - \$340

Library/Archives - \$1730

Conservation - \$550

Save the Caves - \$100

NCRC - \$625

JSS - \$150

Museum - \$110

Vertical Tower - \$300

2028 Convention #1 & 2 - \$1800

GRAND TOTAL - \$12,190

Thank you to everyone who participated!!

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT

ATTENTION: All Staff Radios need returned to the High School Comms Room (114) by 5pm on Friday. Thank you!

CAVE FINDER APP

I'm thankful for all the feedback I've gotten about CaveFinder.app this week! Please consider attending my presentation during the Survey and Cartography session tomorrow, mine is the last one of the day! -Zach Englebert

OUTSTANDING STICHES GEAR REPAIR

Does your pack or suit need some love (repair)? Bring your clean and dry caving gear for repairs to the Out Standing Stiches booth in the vendor area. We have a sewing machine on site and will be doing repairs all week!

WYANDOTTE TOUR

Those who wanted to go on the Big Wyandotte trip this week but they were sold out, the DNR will have two open-to-the-public tours on Saturday. These are two hour tours and offered at 11AM and 1PM EDT and cost \$18. Well worth the price and not your typical commercial cave. They also offer a shorter trip (30 minutes) through Little Wyandotte for \$8 at 10, 11, 1, and 2. The caves are 20 minutes west of Corydon on SR 62.

FROM BRAD SMITH

On the geology tour in Wyandotte Cave I had a refreshing feeling of peace and contentment. Getting underground is cave therapy. Get underground for some cave therapy. You will feel better.

CAVER CO-OP

The Cavers Co-Op will be open Friday from 8 am - 10:30 am. Come get your last minute purchases. All NSS owned convention swag is only \$1. Co-Op vendors, please come to the Co-Op at 11 to pick up your unsold items. We need to start packing at noon!

ROAD CLOSURES FROM THE POPCORN FESTIVAL

Road closures through Saturday for Popcorn Festival may affect your ice cream run or convention departure. Detours will be clearly marked, short, and easy.

CAVER COLUMN

NSS HEADQUARTERS AND A CAVE AND NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

There is an opportunity for the NSS to transform large spaces at the NSS Headquarters in Huntsville, Alabama, into a Cave and Natural History Museum in partnership with museum experts, inspired by past leaders of the NSS with visions of physical space for a Museum of Speleology. We are soliciting feedback from members regarding their interest in this opportunity.

The QR code and link - <https://forms.gle/UkGIVsJkGoJFdGYy5> - will take you to more information and a feedback form. The information will help NSS leaders plan a space that is aligned to the NSS mission, as well as welcoming and appealing to members and the public, today and long into the future.



NSS BOOKSTORE

The NSS Bookstore still has a few Life Member and Fellows polo shirts left. These are free to Life Members and Fellows. Sizes are limited. Come by the NSS Bookstore to get a shirt. The bookstore closes at noon on Friday!

AUCTION ITEMS

If you have not paid for your auction items, please come to the NSS Bookstore before noon on Friday to pay. Thank you!

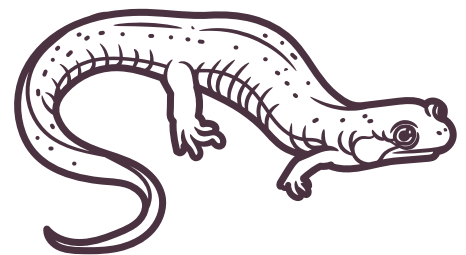
BAT COOKIES

A local bakery, William's Bakery, made bat cookies that are delicious.



COLLECTIVE PHOTO DRIVE FOLDER

Please add any photos you'd like to share to this google drive folder! Keep it PG and dont be weird.



Here's to Consent, Safety & Good Times

We are actively working to create safer experiences for our attendees through consent and anti-harassment initiatives and open and judgment-free reporting avenues.

Please speak to any of our staff if anything causes you any concern.



For Assistance Head to Medical Station or Report to Medical/Security Staff (Help Line # +1 773 536 9321)

CAVER COLUMN

CaveSim needs your help

What we do: We teach over 20,000 people each year about cave conservation, exploration, and science. Kids and adults love exploring. They learn to love caves. Most participants will never enter a wild cave, but we're building generations of cave conservation advocates.



Left: a veteran from the Afghan War says exploring CaveSim helped him overcome PTSD.
3 generations explore in TX

The problem: Our truck has 320,000 miles and just had major engine failure. We're using a rental truck. The new trailer is bigger. A heavier-duty truck is needed. CaveSim does ~100 days of events per year in 8-12 states!

The solution: A new truck to continue our educational work effectively and safely. A ¾ or 1-ton diesel w/ <20k miles. Such a truck is \$60,000-\$85,000.

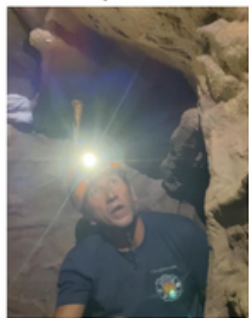
Why we need your help: CaveSim relies on cavers. Generous cavers helped buy trailers for the mobile caves. Cavers fund education each year at schools, museums, libraries, and Convention. We need your help because doing the education is costly, and we can do far more if you help CaveSim get a new truck.

How to help: Mail a check to CaveSim at: 13 Kreg Ln., Manitou Springs, CO, 80829 (not tax deductible). Or mail a check to the Cave Research Foundation (memo: "for CaveSim") at: CRF Treasurer, Box 600367, Dallas, TX 75360 (tax deductible). Or donate via credit or debit card at www.cavesim.com/support. Let us know if you want to be recognized or anonymous.

Questions? Contact Dave: 914-330-7824; jacksondmit@cavesim.com



cavesim.com/support



Firefighter training in CaveSim Trailer3, 5/15/26



High school students enthralled by bat skeletal morphology



Joyfully exploring CaveSim Trailer1 (above) in 2018 and Trailer3 (below) in 2025



Dave fixing oil leaks, 6/28/2026. Two repairs held, but total engine failure followed. The truck is returning to CO on a flatbed. We finished 31 days of outreach in California and drove to NSSCON with a rental truck.

Anyone looking for tax efficient contributions, especially with RMD or QCD, can donate through Cave Research Foundation by specifying CaveSim.

A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITORS

Thank you for all your submissions, thank you for reading the Speleo Dealeo, thank you to all of the volunteers who dedicated hours of thier lives to make sure things were flowing smoothly, thank you for coming out to Indiana and exploring our beautiful state. We appreciate all of the love.

Cave Softly,

Your very grateful editors



RAINBOW FROM WEDNESDAY NIGHT



2026 NSS Convention Sponsors

Diamond Tier - \$5,000+ Value



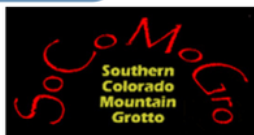
Platinum Tier - \$2,500+ Value



Gold Tier - \$1,000+ Value



Silver Tier - \$500+ Value



Lewis & Associates LLC

Bronze Tier - \$250+ Value



Ohio Cave Survey



Vietnam Project

2027 NSS CONVENTION



Del Rio, Texas
June 14-18, 2027

Texas cavers welcome everyone to the border city of Del Rio for the 2027 NSS Convention, June 14-18. This will be a real

Tex-Mex Convention, with piñatas, mariachis, and of course, caves on both sides of the border. Centrally located at the Val Verde County Fairgrounds, Southwest Texas College, and the Del Rio High School, every effort will be made to provide shade, hydration, and shuttles to avoid prolonged heat exposure. Large sessions and the Banquet will be held in the nearby Del Rio Civic Center. Come to Texas for the Convention, and stay for the caves!

Register before midnight on Friday to receive an additional 10% off of the early

