

2005 Congress of Grottos Report

Congress of Grottos 2005
Report to the NSS Board of Governors

The Congress of Grottos met on Wednesday, July 6, 2005. Three issues were received and published prior to the meeting.

NSS President Bill Tozer reported to the Congress on the response of the NSS Board of Governors to last year's motions. No specific action has been taken on these motions, but both are being evaluated.

Motions considered:

1. Florida Speleological Society moves:

Chattanooga Grotto seconded, that the NSS create a new award for developers of cutting edge caving techniques and technologies, which could be called the Caving Innovation Award.

Motion passed – 223 in favor, 50 opposed, 24 abstentions

2. Central Arizona Grotto moves:

The **Cave and Karst Conservation and Restoration Committee** is established in the office of the Administrative Vice President under the Conservation Committee. The purpose of the Cave and Karst Conservation and Restoration Committee is to administer the Cave and Karst Conservation and Restoration Funds and authorize Cave and Karst Conservation and Restoration Grants.

The Cave and Karst Conservation and Restoration Committee is authorized to spend up to \$5,000 annually from the General Fund for direct cave and karst restoration grants. Cave and karst grants are matching dollar for dollar grants of up to \$500 to NSS Internal Organizations, NSS Conservation Task Forces, NSS Conservancies, or NSS individuals for specific projects. Recipients of these grants shall submit written reports to the Society as stipulated by the Chairman of the Committee.

The budget line item is listed in the Budget of the Administrative VP. Any unused grant money is moved into the Cave and Karst Conservation Fund annually.

Motion passed – 330 in favor, none opposed, 27 abstentions

3. Central Arizona Grotto moves:

The **Cave and Karst Conservation and Restoration Fund** is established. The purpose of the fund is to provide matching dollars for dollars for "boots on the ground" direct cave and karst clean-up, restoration and conservation. Individual donations to the fund are in addition to the NSS financial commitment. Examples include: Trash removal from caves and sinks, graffiti removal, equipment and transportation of equipment necessary to restore caves and karst, building and maintaining cave gates.

The Cave and Karst Conservation and Restoration Fund shall be administered by the Cave and Karst Conservation and Restoration Committee. Each year one-fifth of the donations to the Cave and Karst Conservation and Restoration Fund shall be transferred to the NSS Operating Fund as revenue for use as Cave and Karst Clean-Up, Restoration and Conservation Grants.

Motion passed 333 in favor, none opposed, 21 abstentions

Election of Officers

Bill Jackson was reelected Chairman by acclamation.

Don Shofstall declined to run again as Vice-Chairman.

Clifton Colwell, NSS 53596, Fayetteville, Arkansas was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,
William N. Jackson
Chairman, Congress of Grottos 2005