



University of South Florida

## Digital Commons @ University of South Florida

---

Cave Talk

Newsletters and Periodicals

---

October 2010

### Cave Talk

Cave Association National

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/cave\\_talk](https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/cave_talk)

---

#### Recommended Citation

National, Cave Association, "Cave Talk" (2010). *Cave Talk*. 51.  
[https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/cave\\_talk/51](https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/cave_talk/51)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Newsletters and Periodicals at Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in Cave Talk by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact [scholarcommons@usf.edu](mailto:scholarcommons@usf.edu).



# CaveTalk

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL CAVES ASSOCIATION

Susan Berdeaux, Coordinating Director

P.O. Box 280, Park City, KY 42160 [susan@cavern.com](mailto:susan@cavern.com)  
270-749-2228 fax 270-749-2428



## From the Desk of the NCA President

As I write this opening for Cave Talk, I sincerely hope everyone has had a productive and well attended summer season. It's hard to believe another tourist season has passed! It seems like just yesterday Labor Day weekend was behind us and we were all preparing for a trip to Branson for the 09 convention. Well, Labor Day weekend is over once again but this year we're preparing for a trip to visit our friends in California. We are certainly hoping for a strong turnout like Branson! After reviewing the agenda, this years' Convention promises to offer a wide range of learning and leisure activities for all. The entire California team deserves a round of applause as they've worked very hard to prepare a fantastic program for all of our members. So, if you have not already made your travel arrangements and registration it's not too late to do such! Looking forward to seeing everyone on the West Coast!  
Safe Travels to all and see you in California!

All the Best,

Eric Evans, President



## 2010 NCA Convention in California

If you haven't yet signed up for this year's NCA convention, be sure to get your registration info in as soon as possible! The convention planners in California need final participation numbers by September 15. We're organizing what we hope will be a really fun, worthwhile event--good food, interesting program, exciting activities, and priceless camaraderie. The pre-convention whitewater rafting trip will be a great way to relax in the still-warm California sunshine, and several post-convention caving trips and winery touring are options for winding down your 2010 convention experience. Sign up today!

Linda Larsen



## OFFICERS

**President:** Eric Evans  
Ohio Caverns, OH  
Ph: 937-465-4017 [crcave@ctcn.net](mailto:crcave@ctcn.net)

**Vice President:** Greg Beckler  
Natural Stone Bridge & Cave, NY  
Ph: 518-494-2283 [gbeckler@frontiernet.net](mailto:gbeckler@frontiernet.net)

**Secretary Treasurer:** Susan Berdeaux  
Diamond Caverns, KY  
Ph: 270-749-2228 [susan@cavern.com](mailto:susan@cavern.com)

**Past President:** Steve Thompson  
Bridal Cave, MO  
Ph: 573-346-2676 [steve@bridalcave.com](mailto:steve@bridalcave.com)

**Coordinator:** Diane Thompson  
Camdenton, MO  
Ph: 417-459-1663 [diane@cavern.com](mailto:diane@cavern.com)

## REGIONAL DIRECTORS

**Region One:**  
(CT, DE, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT)  
**Bob Holt** -Howe Caverns, NY  
[roberth@howecaverns.com](mailto:roberth@howecaverns.com) Ph: 518-296-8900

**Region Two:**  
(MD, VA, WV, KY)  
**Rod Graves** - Luray Caverns, VA  
[rod.graves@luraycaverns.com](mailto:rod.graves@luraycaverns.com) Ph: 540-743-6551

**Region Three:** (IL, IN, MI, OH)  
**Claudia Yundt** - Squire Boone Caverns, IN  
[claudia@squireboone.com](mailto:claudia@squireboone.com) Ph: 812-732-4382

**Region Four:** (IA, KS, MO, NE)  
**Steve Thompson** - Bridal Cave, MO  
[info@bridalcave.com](mailto:info@bridalcave.com) Ph: 573-346-2676

**Region Five:** (MN, MT, ND, SD, WI)  
**Joe Klimczak** - Cave of the Mounds, WI  
[joe@caveofthemounds.com](mailto:joe@caveofthemounds.com) Ph: 608-437-3038

**Region Six :** (CA, ID, NV, OR, WA, AK, HI, Bermuda, International)  
**Steve Rawlings** - Mercer Caverns, CA  
[stever@mercercaverns.com](mailto:stever@mercercaverns.com) Ph: 209-728-2101

**Region Seven:** (AZ, CO, NM, UT, WY)  
**Steve Runkle** - Cave of the Winds, CO  
[rsr@caveofthewinds.com](mailto:rsr@caveofthewinds.com) Ph: 719-685-5444

**Region Eight:** (AR, LA, OK, TX)  
**Michelle Devaney** - Longhorn Caverns, TX  
[michelle@vtrc.com](mailto:michelle@vtrc.com) Ph: 830-598-CAVE

**Region Nine:** (AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN,)  
**Patty Perlaky** - Raccoon Mt. Caverns, TN  
[caveperl@yahoo.com](mailto:caveperl@yahoo.com) Ph: 423-821-9403

## The Obama's visit Luray Caverns

Luray Caverns had its 132nd Anniversary of Discovery Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>, and the Grand Opening of the Luray Valley Museum. The attraction opened as a soft opening April 3rd and has received over 60,000 visitors. Also, we received a second visit by the First Lady and family Aug 12th. It was a very memorable tour. She commented that she loves Luray Caverns more than anything on earth that she has seen yet. That was a Wow comment that really was neat! I also gave them a tour of the Car & Carriage Caravan Museum. She is very interested in the caverns, loves nature, and museums. The Obama's stated that they want this to be an annual visit!! We feel like the visit will be positive for all in the Cave industry.

Rod Graves



## NCA Now on Facebook

How many of you are on Facebook? Is your cave on Facebook? If not. Why not? Do you know what Facebook is all about? Social media is just one more tool out there that we should all be taking advantage of and it's free. Since your board met for their mid-winter meeting in March, the NCA now has a presence on Facebook. You can view the page at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/National-Caves-Association/100457649994226>

If you wish to "Like" the NCA, you will need to register as a Facebook user. We are nearing 400 people who "Like" the NCA. President Eric Evans issued a challenge last March asking that we have 1000 Fans before the California Convention! We have a ways to go! Help us out and spread the word. Encourage your staff and friends to "Like" us and consider developing a page for your cave. At Howe Caverns we have nearly 3000 fans and it grows by leaps and bounds (about 100 new people a week) and it is a terrific way to get your message out. We also found that Facebook was the #1 referral to our website. It is our hope to do the same for the NCA. This is one more tool for our members to get the word out so please join us!

Bob Holt

NCA Facebook Administrator



## IGES / Sevierville Gift Show

Hello NCA Buyers and the NCA Board,

The following is information we have received from the two Tennessee Gift Shows. We are not hearing much information from the Gatlinburg, Smoky Mountain Gift Show but we are hearing a lot from the IGES / Sevierville Gift Show. Gatlinburg / Smoky Mountain Gift Show will be Nov. 5th - 9th, 2010. From what I'm understanding it will be at the main convention center in downtown Gatlinburg. Registration can be done online and they are having hotel specials. IGES / Sevierville Gift Show will be Nov. 3rd - 7th, 2010. It will be held again at the Sevierville Events Center. This show has officially been sold out with 1,021 booths and 489 vendors. But there is plenty of room for more buyers. They are looking to expand in 2011. They have offered a host of things for NCA Buyers ONLY!!

**1) New for 2010!! Nov. 3rd** there will be a very special **cocktail party/mixer** in the CAVES lounge from 4:45 to 5:45pm. This will be hosted by the sponsors of this year's 2nd Annual Caves Dinner and Cracker Barrel. It's always refreshing to have a cold beverage and some appetizers right at the close of the show. Thanks to suggestions from last year's NCA buyers this mixer is for the dinner sponsors and the NCA buyers. You can get to talk to the vendors' one on one!

**2) The 2nd Annual NCA Caves Dinner and Cracker Barrel** will be on **Thursday Nov. 4th** right after the show. The dinner this year will be at the newly opened Eagles' Landing Golf Course Club House. It just opened about a month ago and they are opening their doors especially for us!! (Orleans restaurant that we ate at last year has closed). Cocktails and mixer will start at 5:30 and dinner will start at 6:30 with the Cracker Barrel following dinner. Details on the menu have not been released yet. Please remember to bring your good ideas and finds to the dinner. Once again this year the vendors that are sponsoring the dinner will be providing us

with goodie bags and door prizes!! The Club House is very close to the Events Center but IGES will be providing a shuttle to and from the dinner.

3) Once again this year the NCA buyers will have their own **CAVES LOUNGE!** It will be complete with complimentary Wi-Fi and snacks. This room was used a lot last year by our NCA Buyers! We're thrilled it is being offered again this year.

4) **New for 2010!!** Three (3) Drawings only for attending NCA buyers! Each drawing will be for 3 nights free lodging at The Wilderness Water Park Resort - at show site! Drawings will be held right after the IGES show. Winners will be notified and results will be posted on the IGES website. What a fantastic new item to add!!

5) **New for 2010!!** The 2010 NCA buyer representing the cave with the farthest distance from the Sevierville Events Center will win complimentary lodging for the 2011 show! This winner may choose from The Wilderness Water Park Hotel, at show site (up to \$600.00 value), or a one bedroom cabin at the luxurious Oak Haven Resort (based on availability).

6) CAZAM NEWS: Buyers attending last year's show will be receiving this newsletter with all the great things to do and see at the show!

These are just the benefits for NCA BUYERS ONLY. Besides these benefits all buyers to the IGES show will have FREE lunch and dinner shuttles available every day and evening.

Show party is on Saturday Nov. 6th from 5:30 to 11:00pm

Golf Carts pick up buyers at their cars and take them to the show doors. Free Parking

Fiesta Friday will be full of \$100.00 drawings, a free lunch and complimentary margaritas. Pinky from Perry's Cave won a prize last year!

If you know you will be attending the IGES Gift Show please let me know. We are not positive of the dinner menu yet but we do need a head count for the dinner. Please just drop me an e-mail and let me know:

Your Name

Caves Name

# of people attending the FREE NCA dinner

E-mail address

I will be getting in touch with everyone closer to the show on menu and selections! You can register online for the IGES Show at [www.iges.us](http://www.iges.us) If you know of any other NCA Buyers that are planning on attending but have not received my e-mail please forward the e-mail or let me know and I'll contact them. We want to make sure that ALL NCA Buyers are aware of this opportunity and have a chance to attend!!! Hopefully we'll be seeing you in Tennessee in November! If you are debating on attending the Tennessee Gift Shows and have questions please just drop me a line and I'll try and find out answers for you.

See You at the Convention!

Claudia



## ISCA CONGRESS 2010, SLOVAKIA

**Congress date: 18<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>th</sup> October 2010** (Monday – Saturday). Please contact Brad Wuest immediately at [www.naturalbridgecaverns.com](http://www.naturalbridgecaverns.com) if interested in attending this conference.



## Cave Property and Business for Sale



Long time Black Hills attraction, Black Hills Caverns will be on the market at the end of the 2010 season. Black Hills Caverns has been in operation since 1939, and is located on Scenic Rimrock Highway 44 West. Property: 8.5 acres with two buildings. Gift shop remodeled and updated. Signs: Currently Black Hills Caverns has 20 billboards located on I-90, Hwy 44 and Hwy 385. Listed sale price, \$474,000 but cave owners motivated and looking for buyer with cave operations experience. Qualified Buyers can contact Dennis or Kathy Johnson, 605-343-8684 or [kjohnson@blackhillscaverns.com](mailto:kjohnson@blackhillscaverns.com)

Thanks, Kathy

