



University of South Florida

Digital Commons @ University of South Florida

Cave Talk

Newsletters and Periodicals

November 2012

Cave Talk

Cave Association National

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/cave_talk

Recommended Citation

National, Cave Association, "Cave Talk" (2012). *Cave Talk*. 59.
https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/cave_talk/59

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.



CaveTalk

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL CAVES ASSOCIATION

Robert Holt, Coordinator

P.O. Box 625, Cobleskill, NY 12043 bob@cavern.com
573-836-2256



From the Desk of the NCA President

Wow! The convention this year in South Dakota was one of the best attended NCA Conventions and was packed full of exploration. We enjoyed the Caves (including the zip line & 7D Theater at Rushmore Cave), Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse, Custer National Park and more. The inspirational lighting ceremony at Mnt Rushmore paid tribute to our military members and I think NCA folks represented a third of those on the stage! Thanks to Susan, Diane, the Convention & Retail Committees, all committee chairs, Keith Dobrolinsky and the Hagens for making sure everyone came home with great memories and ideas and finally to the Officers/Directors for coming in a day early to work hard before the fun. We enjoyed great presentations on Social Media and an entertaining session outlining steps you can take to avoid being the target of lawsuits. As I'm writing this, Steve Runkle just called me to personally thank me and the NCA for "Runkle Day" and the Honorary Membership award. He said "it just doesn't get any better than that". No one is more deserving of this recognition, the highest the NCA can provide. Also recognized was Keith Dobrolinsky, who was presented a plaque commemorating his 20 year involvement of developing and evolving our insurance program. Members of both Steve and Keith's family were also present during the award ceremony, making it even more special.



OFFICERS

President: Greg Beckler

Natural Stone Bridge & Cave, NY

Ph: 518-494-2283 gbeckler@frontiernet.net

Vice President: Steve Rawlings

Mercer Caverns, CA

Ph: 209-728-2101 stever@mercercaverns.com

Secretary Treasurer: Bob Holt

Mercer Caverns, CA

Ph: 573-836-2256 bob@cavern.com

Past President: Eric Evans

Ohio Caverns, OH

Ph: 937-465-4017 crcave@ctcn.net

Coordinator: Bob Holt

Mercer Caverns, CA

Ph: 573-836-2256 bob@cavern.com

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Region One:

(CT, DE, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT)

Rob Arey - Polar Caves Park, NH

rob.arey@polarcaves.com Ph: 603-536-1888

Region Two:

(MD, VA, WV, KY)

Rho Lansden - Lost River Cave & Valley, KY

rhol@lostrivercave.com Ph: 540-743-6551

Region Three: (IL, IN, MI, OH)

Claudia Yundt - Squire Boone Caverns, IN

claudia@squireboone.com Ph: 812-732-4382

Region Four: (AR, IA, KS, MO, NE)

Steve Thompson - Bridal Cave, MO

steve@bridalcave.com Ph: 573-346-2676

Region Five: (MN, MT, ND, SD, WI)

Joe Klimczak - Cave of the Mounds, WI

joe@caveofthemounds.com Ph: 608-437-3038

Region Six: (CA, ID, NV, OR, WA, AK, HI,

Barbados, Bermuda)

Matt Doyle - Lake Shasta Caverns, CA

mdoyle@lakeshastacaverns.com

Ph: 800-795-CAVE

Region Seven: (AZ, CO, NM, UT, WY)

Steve Runkle - Cave of the Winds, CO

rsr@caveofthewinds.com Ph: 719-685-5444

Region Eight: (LA, OK, TX)

Ed Mayfield - Caverns of Sonora, TX

edmayfield@mac.com Ph: 325-387-3105

Region Nine: (AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN,)

Patty Perlaky - Raccoon Mt. Caverns, TN

caveperl@yahoo.com Ph: 423-821-9403

Some highlights from our Director/Committee meetings include: Brad Wuest will be talking over as the new Insurance Committee Chair from Bob Holt, Steve Rawlings is heading up our History Committee and is actively collecting historic photos/videos to get ready for our upcoming 50th NCA Anniversary Convention in 3 years, approval to do another Economic Impact Study, approval of two new Affiliate Members (Sun Burst Companies & Zip-Line Flyer), Ed Mayfield is our new Electronics Committee Chair (friend him or me to join a private Facebook page for NCA members only), and finally Ann Westcott and Ann Dunlavy revitalized the Interpretation and Education Committee with new members and plans. Please contact Committee Chairs (find list of Committees on our internal member NCA website) if you would like to help out and contribute to our great organization. I hope everyone had a great summer/fall (lots of caves gave upbeat reports during the roundtable). Dee and I will see some of you at the upcoming IGES Gift Show, complete with NCA dinner/cracker barrel, and we wish everyone a great Thanksgiving and hope you have a chance to reconnect with family and friends.

As this issue of Cave Talk was being prepared, the Executive Committee received notice of resignation from Diane Thompson. After much reflection, Diane has decided that this is in her best interest. The Executive Committee wishes to thank Diane for all of her hard work over the past couple of years and her dedication to the NCA. I would like to personally thank Diane for her deep commitment to the NCA members and wish her the best in the future. She promises not be a stranger and is thankful of all the friendships she has developed. For more information on what is next for the NCA, see the next section below.

Best,

Greg Beckler,

President, NCA





NCA Interim Coordinator and Relocation of Association Office

By now most of you may have heard I left Howe Caverns to pursue a couple offers that I could not refuse. I will be working with a former employer and good friend with his hotel in Cooperstown, NY as he prepares to expand his operation in the next couple of years. Also, thanks to Steve Rawlings, as I will be helping out with Public Relations at Mercer Caverns. I'm looking forward to working with Steve and Bernard as this position keeps me connected with all of you, my great friends in the NCA.

They say that timing is everything... with the sudden announcement from Diane Thompson of her resignation as Coordinator; I offered my services to keep the continuity of our association running as smoothly as possible. During the next couple of months, we will relocate our NCA headquarters to New York State. Thankfully, Diane will help with the transition through the end of January and with the help of Susan Berdeaux and others, this will indeed be a seamless transition.

When you call the office you will continue to use the **573-836-2256** number. All mail from PO Box 1613 in Camdenton, MO will now come to the **National Caves Association, PO Box 625, Cobleskill, NY 12043**. Please make a note of this change.

I want to thank Diane for her service to the NCA. We all certainly appreciate her work in moving the office from Kentucky to Missouri not so long ago. This was no easy task. Diane made it happen. In the meantime, I have lots to get acquainted with... please be patient with the transition. I truly believe we have an outstanding organization and that only happens when we have wonderful folks like you involved!

Please don't hesitate to call or email when the need arises. I'm looking forward to working with each of you now on a more frequent basis.

Regards,

Bob Holt
Interim Coordinator

National Caves Association
PO Box 625
Cobleskill, NY 12043

Phone: 573-836-2256

Email: bob@cavern.com

Website: www.cavern.com

Follow us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/National-Caves-Association/100457649994226>





A MESSAGE FROM ISCA PRESIDENT DAVID SUMMERS
23rd October 2012

As an attendee at the recent NCA Convention in South Dakota it is my privilege to convey my congratulations to the NCA on a job well done.

As you read this message a sizable contingent of NCA Members will be preparing to set off to the ISCA Conference in Greece and Turkey, or they will be physically there. I am sure that the members attending this ISCA Conference will have many exciting tales to tell of next year's NCA Conference in Missouri.



During the recent NCA Convention a number of you expressed interest in joining ISCA. I believe that I have responded to those who expressed this interest, but I am concerned that I may have overlooked one or two of you. If this has occurred please drop me a line at (dsummers@bcec.bm). The pace of the South Dakota Convention was pretty hectic, so it would not surprise me if I have overlooked responding to some of you!

Attending the South Dakota Conference was one of the highlights of my year. As I travel to more and more of the United States it never ceases to amaze me of how much variety there is in this great country. Americans, you should never cease being proud of your country.

At next year's NCA Convention I will have more details of the coming 2014 Congress at Jenolan Caves in New South Wales, Australia. Jenolan just makes it the perfect trip. If you have never been in the Southern Hemisphere then this will be the perfect opportunity for such an adventure. The dates for the 2014 ISCA Congress are 2nd November 2014 to 8th November 2014.

Looking forward to seeing as many NCA Members as possible in Missouri next October. In the meantime stay safe and really work those show caves.





Wedding Bells Rang

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Brad Wuest, married July 6 in New Braunfels, TX.

