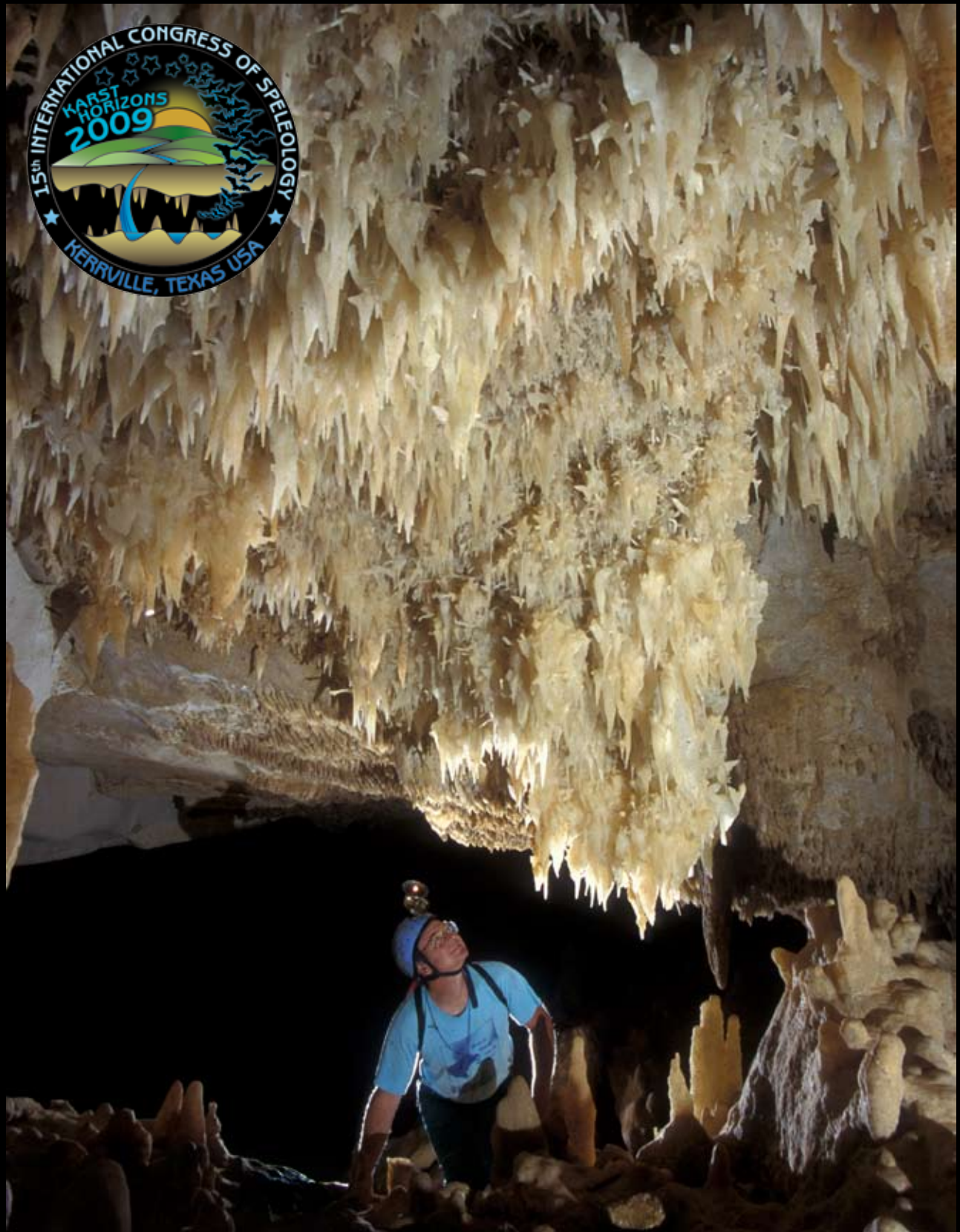




15th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SPELEOLOGY

Organized by

Kerrville, Texas, U.S.A.

July 19-26, 2009



Second Circular





El Sótano de las Golondrinas, Field Camp #86

Welcome!

The International Congress of Speleology (ICS) is the world's premier speleological event. A function of the International Union of Speleology (UIS), it is held once every four years in a location selected by the delegates of the UIS member nations. This circular describes the next ICS, which will be in Kerrville, Texas, USA on 19-26 July 2009. An estimated 2,000 people from nearly 60 countries are expected to attend to share the results of their latest exploration, research, and techniques.

The National Speleological Society (NSS) of the United States will host the ICS in combination with its annual convention for a truly spectacular affair. All of the usual ICS and NSS events will occur in 2009, as well as some new ones. Many pre- and post-ICS trips throughout North America are planned, including the first speleological trip to span the continent. Trips are offered at a variety of prices to satisfy many interests and skill levels. Numerous caving, cave science and management, and family/cultural trips are planned, as well as 15 symposia. Athletic, artistic, photographic, and cartographic competitions will be held. Evening activities will include banquets, music, and trips to show caves and to the world's largest bat flights.

Speleology is no longer restricted to cavers and cave scientists who began their careers as cavers. One of the goals of this congress is to bring together cave and karst scientists, managers, and educators from both caving and non-caving backgrounds. We can all learn a lot from each other. Already, this congress is seeing such collaboration through the people leading trips and hosting symposia, and through sponsors whose generous contributions helped keep the cost of registration as low as possible. I urge you to show your appreciation by supporting our sponsors.

Kerrville, Texas, is a lovely and ethnically diverse community. It will provide a wonderful setting for the ICS and much entertainment for you and your family. Are you uncertain about bringing your children? Read in this circular about the Junior Speleological Society and its many activities for them. Finding something to do will not be a problem at this ICS! There will be plenty of activities for everyone.

As you read through this circular, remember that it cannot hold all of the information on the congress. Please see our website, www.ics2009.us, for complete details. If you still have questions, don't hesitate to contact us at: 15th ICS, P.O. Box 691965, San Antonio, Texas 78269 USA, 001-413-383-2276 (fax), secretary@ics2009.us or johnmoses@excite.com.

The ICS will be a wonderful opportunity to build and strengthen friendships with colleagues around the world. On behalf of the UIS, the NSS, and the ICS Organizing Committee, I hope you will join us in Kerrville for the 15th International Congress of Speleology on 19-26 July 2009.

George Veni, Ph.D.

Chairman, 15th International Congress of Speleology

Adjunct Secretary, International Union of Speleology

Executive Director, U.S. National Cave and Karst Research Institute



Important! Please Read!

The following is important information everyone should understand about the 15th ICS before reading further in this circular. It will help you better understand the information, what to expect in Kerrville, and what will be expected of you.

- Read the website. The address is printed on each page of this circular. The website has far more information and details than could be printed here. We have tried to include all critical information in this circular, but it is possible something critical to you is only on the website.
- Reservations for all trips, rooms, and activities will be based on the order in which you register. Reservations will not be held for persons who have not registered.
- The ICS will send messages to confirm registration. However, confirmation of ICS registration is not confirmation of excursion or field camp registration. Do not make travel arrangements based on your pre-ICS and post-ICS trip requests until after you are contacted by the trip leader confirming that the trip will occur. Excursions and field camps may be cancelled for lack of participation; those who made alternate choices will be assigned to their 2nd or 3rd choice trips if their first choice is cancelled or already full.
- If you are submitting a paper, full registration must be received at or before that time.
- English is the official language of this ICS. Translation services will not be provided. Participants are welcome to present their papers orally in their native languages, but their written papers must be in English. If a paper is presented orally in a non-English language and the author then has someone interpret in English, both presentations must be completed within the time allotted for one speaker.
- In accordance with Texas state law, no alcoholic beverages will be served to anyone under 21 years of age. Identification showing date of birth may be required.
- In accordance with the policy of Schreiner University, no pets or large recreational vehicles will be allowed on the campus or in the campus campgrounds (see Campground information for nearby alternative camping that allows pets and RVs).
- No private campfires will be allowed at Schreiner University. Camping stoves and lanterns are allowed. One group campfire will be constructed if fire safety conditions allow.
- The weather in Texas will be hot during the ICS. Be prepared with light clothing, hats, sunscreen, and plenty of water. Look for information at the ICS on how to protect yourself from the heat when outdoors. All ICS buildings, apartments, dormitories, and vehicles will be air-conditioned. If you are sensitive to air conditioning, bring a light sweater to stay warm when inside, but which you can remove when outside.
- Most caves in the U.S. are privately owned. Access is often gained through years of building trust and understanding with the owners. Everyone visiting caves during ICS trips is expected to behave in ways that are safe for people, show respect for the owner, and do not damage the caves or the land. ICS trip leaders are authorized to remove people from a cave or property, or prevent them from entering, if they act in a way that threatens their safety or the safety of others or might damage the cave, private property, or good relationships with cave owners. No refunds will be given in such cases.
- Please check with your doctor about immunizations you may need prior to traveling internationally. Also, be aware that bat guano in some Texas and Mexico caves has fungus that can cause lung infections such as histoplasmosis. Ticks in those regions carry relapsing fever and Lyme disease. These illnesses are rare, but there are no immunizations for them. Efforts will be made to avoid conditions that cause exposure to these diseases, but prevention cannot be guaranteed.



Visas

Citizens of countries that qualify for the Visa Waiver Program, with the proper travel documents, do not need visas to enter the United States. For the proper procedures for applying for visas to travel to the United States, persons intending to participate in the 15th International Congress of Speleology should check the website for the U.S. Embassy in their home country. U.S. visa policy is dynamic and changes in policies and procedures between now and the ICS in July 2009 could occur. Thus, intending visitors should take responsibility for being familiar with the visa policies and application procedures in their home countries. In some instances, visa application procedures may take a few months, so intending ICS participants should begin their processing early. While the 15th International Congress of Speleology cannot be responsible for actual visa issuances, the Congress Secretary can provide information about the Congress itself which in some cases may assist in the visa application process. You may also request a letter of invitation to the Congress for your visa by contacting the Congress Secretary after January 1, 2009.

Support for Visa Applications

A limited amount of support toward the payment of U.S. entry visa application fees will be made available to Congress registrants from countries with developing economies (listed on the ICS website). Awards will be made based on the application below. Applicants must pay the visa fee at the time of application for a visa. When the U.S. State Department provides the applicants a written final decision on their application,

1) those who are issued a U.S. visa will receive a credit for the amount of the fee (typically \$131) toward Congress registration costs, and

2) those who are denied a U.S. visa will receive a reimbursement of the fee minus international bank transfer fees. Registrants who are denied a U.S. visa will have registration costs fully refunded.

Applications will be reviewed in the order that they are received. Preference will be given to applicants who submit a paper for presentation at the Congress. Please note that funds are limited and it may not be possible to support all applications. A copy of the U.S. State Department's final written decision on issuing a visa, including a receipt for fee payment, will be needed for an award to be issued.

Sponsors of these awards include an anonymous donor; the Western Kentucky University Hoffman Environmental Research Institute; and the UNESCO/IUGS International Geoscience Program Project IGCP 513: "Global Study of Karst Aquifers and Water Resources".

Please send the following information by email to visasupport@ics2009.us to be considered for visa application support:

Name:

Country of residence:

Professional affiliation:

Title and text of presentation abstract to be submitted to ICS in English:

Brief summary of cave/karst-related experience:



Kerrville, Schreiner University, and General Information

Kerrville, Texas is a small centrally-located city in one of the country's largest karst areas. It is the "Key to the Texas Hill Country," a beautiful area covered with rolling green hills and sparkling streams. The Guadalupe River flows through the city and is a favorite place for swimming, canoeing, and kayaking. Six state parks are short drives from Kerrville and offer hiking, biking, climbing, and nature-watching. The Hill Country is also the heart of the Texas karst, so a wide variety of cave exploration, science, and tourist trips will be available. Many cultural and historical venues are located in Kerrville and within short drives that include nature, theme, and amusement parks, shopping, and fine dining.

The 15th International Congress of Speleology will be held at Schreiner University, a small, beautiful private university with facilities for meetings, presentations, offices, internet access, and athletic events. Two cafeterias are on campus and additional food services will be provided. A map of Kerrville with the location of the university, and the hotels and Kerrville-Schreiner Park campground discussed below, is located at the end of this circular.

ICS Travel Agent

You are welcome to make your own travel arrangements to the ICS but are encouraged to use Cruise and Travel, the ICS travel agency. If you make your own reservations on line or with another agency, any changes must be made by you or that agency. By booking with Cruise and Travel, they will be available in Kerrville to easily and quickly make changes for you. For more information, contact:

Michael Fischer
Cruise and Travel
842-A Sidney Baker
Kerrville, Texas 78028 USA
001-830-792-4600
001-830-792-4614 (fax)
e-mail: crsntvl@hctc.net



Airport Transportation

The ICS will provide free ground transportation between the San Antonio International Airport (SAT) and Schreiner University on 18-19 and 26-27 July 2009. This includes transportation for people arriving from pre-Congress Excursions and Field Camps and leaving for post-Congress Excursions and Field Camps. Everyone must send the ICS Airport Transportation Committee (airport@ics2009.us) or their trip leaders their flight schedule to receive free ground transportation. Free airport transportation on other dates cannot be guaranteed but will be attempted.

Hotels

Many hotels are available in Kerrville at a wide range of prices. Most are within easy walking distance of restaurants and shopping. A shuttle bus will transport people between the hotels and Schreiner University. Some hotels offer discounts for people attending the ICS.

Apartments and Dormitories

Clean, air-conditioned apartments and dormitories are available at Schreiner University within a one- to three-minute walk from the sessions. The apartments have one to four bedrooms (with one single-person bed per room). Each apartment includes a small kitchen, living room area, and private bathroom(s). Each dormitory room has two single beds per room and a bathroom shared by one or several other rooms. Unless you reserve all beds in an apartment or dormitory room, the remaining available beds will be rented to other ICS participants. Apartments and dormitories include communal areas with access to telephones, television, and coin-operated laundry machines. Bed linens, towels, and toilet paper will be provided, but not soap, shampoo, or other personal hygiene products. All apartments and dormitories are located in two-story buildings that do not have elevators. If your physical condition requires a ground-floor room, please let us know and one will be assigned if available.

Campgrounds

Camping at the ICS will be warm. The average high temperature for the Congress date is 32-35°C, the average night-time low temperature is 23-25°C, and the chance of rain is very small. Three campgrounds will be provided. Two will be at the Congress venue, Schreiner University. One of these two will be near the outdoor party area, for people who want to stay up late and don't mind noise. The other will be across the campus, for families and quiet camping. Between these campgrounds is a gymnasium with hot showers and restrooms. Additional portable showers and restrooms will be provided in the campgrounds. The total camping area at Schreiner is 109,000 m², which includes an additional camping area if more space is needed.

The third campground is at Kerrville-Schreiner Park, located less than 3 km from the University. No pets or recreational vehicles are allowed at the University, but they are welcome at Kerrville-Schreiner Park. Pets are not allowed in cabins or other buildings, and must be leashed and attended when not inside RVs or tents. The park is located along the Guadalupe River and offers swimming, cabins (without indoor cooking facilities), hook-ups for recreational vehicles, grassy areas for tents, and meeting rooms that can be reserved by groups. Reservations must be made directly with the park by e-mailing kerrpark@kerrville.org or calling 001-830-257-5392. Reservations must be confirmed by Visa or MasterCard. Specific sites have been reserved for the Congress and will be held until 31 March 2009. After that date, they will be available to the public and cannot be guaranteed for Congress use. This park is popular, so make your reservations as early as possible.

Bicycles will be available for rent during the ICS to make it easy to travel around Kerrville. Prices and reservation deadlines will be posted in 2009.

Youth Activities Provided by the Junior Speleological Society

The Junior Speleological Society (JSS) will provide age-appropriate educational, recreational and social activities for children of ages 7-17 who attend the International Congress of Speleology, bringing young people together from all over the world. The JSS will provide a schedule of over 50 chaperoned activities. Parents will be responsible for delivering their children to JSS, picking them up, and staying in contact. Participation is voluntary but open to any child registered for the Congress. Some optional activities will be available for additional fees.

Guidebook

A new book, ***Caves and Karst of the USA***, is being prepared for the Congress. With about 400 pages and color photos, it will describe all of the karst areas in the USA and how they relate to the geologic setting of North America. Discussion of exploration history, biology, archeology, and other topics will be included. Although this book is not a guide to specific cave locations, it will include descriptions of significant caves of every type, especially those in soluble rock and in lava. The book will also include brief descriptions of caves and karst in neighboring countries as well, to show how they interrelate. The book is being written and illustrated by about 100 specialists across the continent and edited by Arthur and Margaret Palmer.



Invitation to Vendors and Exhibitors

Vendors selling goods related to caving are invited to sell at the Congress. There are 11 full rooms available at a size of approximately 48 m² (500 ft²). Rooms will be sold on a first-pay system. Vendors requiring less space will be accommodated in several laboratory rooms with space rented at tables or laboratory benches. Consignment sales will be available for those who do not wish to staff a stall for the week but have a few items to sell. Vendors will be required to obtain a Texas state sale tax number and collect sales tax. For those who wish to set up outside, there will be ample grassy space with electricity.

The 15th ICS welcomes exhibitors. You will be located in a high-traffic area, near sessions, registration, and the snack bar, and will have two exhibiting options: booths and tables. Exhibit booths will measure 3 m by 2 m (10' x 6') and include two chairs and one 2.4 m by 0.6 m (8' by 2') display table. Exhibit tables will be 2 m by 0.6 m (6' by 2') with no seating and are meant for unstaffed displays of information. Behind each booth and table will be a 2-m-high display board where you can attach posters, photos, and information with tacks or Velcro.

To reserve vending or exhibit space and to get prices, contact vendors@ics2009.us. A limited number of exhibit tables will be provided free to non-profit caving organizations. While supplies last, an exhibit booth will be provided for each UIS member country bidding for the opportunity to host the 2013 ICS. If no booths are available, a free table will be provided.

General Congress schedule

Time	18 July Saturday	19 July Sunday	20 July Monday	21 July Tuesday	22 July Wednesday	23 July Thursday	24 July Friday	25 July Saturday	26 July Sunday	27 July Monday
Morning	Registration (all week)	UIS General Assembly	Sessions, symposia, and meetings NSS Board of Governors meeting	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Wednesday Field Trips	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Sessions, symposia, and meetings NSS Board of Governors meeting	Sessions, symposia, and meetings Congress of Grottos	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Depart for post-ICS Field Trips (all day)
	Return from pre- ICS Field Trips (all day)		Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Wednesday Field Trips	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	UIS General Assembly ICS Closing Ceremony	
Afternoon		UIS General Assembly	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Wednesday Field Trips	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	Sessions, symposia, and meetings	UIS General Assembly ICS Closing Ceremony	
Evening		ICS Opening Ceremony	Howdy Party	Open Microphone Night	Auction	Photo Salon	NSS Awards Banquet	ICS Banquet	Tour of Caverns of Sonora	
		SpeleoArts Reception		Bat flight and tours of Cave Without A Name, Caverns of Sonora, and Natural Bridge Caverns	Terminal Syphons	Bat flight and tours of Cave Without A Name, Caverns of Sonora, Natural Bridge Caverns	Bat flight and tour of Caverns of Sonora			

Call for Technical Session and Symposia Papers

Presentation Subjects

All proposed presentations should be related to speleology, but can encompass any scientific, technical, cultural or educational aspect. Sessions are planned in geology, biology, archaeology, paleontology, exploration, exploration techniques, and social and medical sciences

Format

Abstracts and papers should be single-spaced in Times New Roman 10-point font, aligned on both margins, with each side margin 2 cm wide (A4 paper setting) or 0.8 in (8.5" x 11", the standard U.S. letter setting). Files must be readable in Microsoft Word. The abstract and paper must be in English. A second abstract in one of the other official languages of the UIS (French, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish) may also be submitted with the full paper. No indentations should be used for paragraphs, and a blank line should divide paragraphs. The following information and format should precede the abstract:

THE TITLE OF THE PAPER

AUTHOR(S) NAMES

Affiliation(s) and address(es)

The abstract text is limited to 30 lines and should **not** include footnotes, tables, figures, maps, bibliographic references, or acknowledgments.

Papers should total six (6) or fewer unnumbered pages with 3 cm (A4) or 1" (U.S. letter) top and bottom margins. The following sequence should be observed: Abstract, text, acknowledgments, and bibliographic references. Maps, drawings, tables, figures, and illustrative photos must be included in the body of the paper.

Each oral communication will be allotted a total of 20 minutes, including questions and answers. Each poster should not exceed 1 m (height) x 2 m (width). Each poster should contain a concise title, as well as the name, institutional affiliation and address of the author(s). It should include information about the materials and methods used, the results obtained (even if preliminary), and the conclusions reached. The poster may contain photos, figures, tables and maps. Authors must be present to discuss their work with the other participants.

Submission and Acceptance Process

Potential presenters must submit one abstract for each proposed presentation to abstracts@ics2009.us or ics@drkarst.net by December 1, 2008. Below the end of each abstract, submitters should indicate if they have a preference for an oral or poster presentation. Submissions for symposia should also identify the name of the targeted symposium. The submission should also identify the corresponding author. Congress registration for at least one author must accompany or precede submission of the abstract. The Science Committee reserves the right to judge the papers received, or have them judged by others; it can accept them as is, refuse them, or suggest modifications to the authors.

Upon submission of a full paper (or extended abstract), the presenter should specify the equipment necessary for the presentation; the Congress staff will attempt to meet the request.

Deadlines

Abstract submission: **December 1, 2008**

Notification of acceptance: **January 1, 2009**

If the abstract is accepted for presentation, the following deadlines apply:

Full manuscript submission and Congress registration¹: **February 1, 2009**

Revisions and copyright release submission: **April 7, 2009**

Abstracts, papers, and revised papers submitted after the deadline and/or not in the required format will not be accepted.

¹Papers and abstracts will be accepted and published **only** if the author (or at least one of the authors for joint work) has paid the Full Participant registration fees.

Symposia

The 15th ICS will offer fifteen symposia, listed below. All will include specially invited presentations and will welcome volunteer submissions. If you are interested in participating in any of the symposia, see “Call for Technical Session and Symposia Papers” in this circular for deadlines and information on submitting abstracts and papers. Also, please check the symposium’s full description on the website to be certain that your paper is appropriate to the topic.

Archaeology and Paleontology in Caves

Educating Citizens about Living in Karst

Evolution and Ecology of Salamanders in Karst

Frontiers in Cave Mineralogy Studies

Geomicrobiology of Cave and Karst Environments

Island Karst

Latest Advances in Karst Geophysics

Lava Caves

Protection and Management of Rare and Endangered Subterranean Fauna

Speleogenesis in Regional Geological Evolution and Its Role in Karst Hydrogeology and Geomorphology

Inventory of Cave and Karst Resources

Unearthing Secrets of the Past from Speleothem Studies

2009 International Cave and Karst Management Symposium: Worldwide Horizons in Cave and Karst Management

which will include the following two symposia:

Budgets, Resource Protection, and Competing Human Interests: The Challenging Work of the Government Cave Manager

Establishing Cave and Karst Protected Areas

In addition to the symposia, papers submitted to the ICS will be organized into sessions by topic. General categories include the sciences, management, education, exploration, equipment, and techniques. The specific session topics will be determined by the papers submitted.



International Cave Arts and Music Salons

The International Cave Arts and Music Salons promote and recognize excellent cave-related art, artists and musicians. They are open to everyone. The entries for each salon will be exhibited from 19-26 July 2009 at the International Congress of Speleology, although with some salons only the best entries will be shown. The highest award for each salon will be presented, and a portrait of the winner shown, during the Congress's Thursday evening Salon program. Please visit www.ics2009.us for a complete listing of salon rules and judging criteria.

Ballad and Song Salon

Chairmen: Barbara am Ende, USA, and Quentin Cooper, Ireland

This will be the first international competition for cave-related songs and music. A rich and diverse group of music exists around the world that deserves exhibition and enjoyment. Entries can be made in three categories: Traditional (new words written to an existing song), Original (completely original words and music), and Avant-garde (non-standard). All entries must be received no later than 1 June 2009. Entries should be submitted in electronic form, either by email, ftp download, or on a CD through the mail. If this is not possible, a cassette tape entry will be accepted. Include a self-portrait, preferably in digital form, but slides or prints are fine. There is no entry fee; all entries are considered donations to the UIS. Send entries and questions about the salon to:

Barbara am Ende
43465 Laidlow Street
South Riding, Virginia 20152 USA
Phone: 001-703-909-6550

Cartographic Salon

International cartographers are invited to submit entries for the Cartographic Salon. No entry fee is required. Unless otherwise requested by the cartographer, all maps submitted will be considered donations to the UIS or NSS and will not be returned. Maps will not be reproduced without permission. Maps may be submitted for judging or for display only. Maps previously winning awards at functions other than the International Congress of Speleology may be submitted to this salon. Categories are not yet finalized but will encompass digital and hand-drawn maps depicting caves and karst features. No more than five maps may be entered by any cartographer. Judging will occur during the ICS by an international team of experienced cave cartographers, and all maps will be displayed. This competition blends both technical expertise and artistic depiction. Send entries to:

15th International Congress of Speleology
Cartographic Salon
P.O. Box 691965
San Antonio, TX 78269-1965 USA

Cover Art Salon

The purpose of the Cover Art Salon is to exhibit and encourage excellence in the design and images on the covers of cave publications. All entries must be mailed to the address below and received no later than 25 April 2009. The entry fee is \$6.00 per organization, regardless of the number of covers submitted. For US entries, please make checks payable to "15th ICS." Entries from outside the US should either pay on-site or contact Brian Killingbeck for payment details. Covers will be judged in one of three categories: (1) Computer Enhanced (2) Non-Photographic (3) Photographic. Please note the category on the back of each cover. Covers must be from newsletters or other publications of UIS-affiliated organizations which were distributed in 2007 or 2008. Entries should be mailed unfolded and unmounted in a large envelope, preferably with a cardboard stiffener. Entries will be considered donations to the UIS and not returned. Address for questions and sending entries:

Brian Killingbeck
PO Box 11290
Chattanooga, TN 37401 USA

MultiMedia Program Salon: Exhibition by Multiple Image Computer Programs

This salon is for multiple-image computer (diapormama) presentations less than fifteen minutes in length, which can include music, narration, animations, or video. Video may not occupy more than one-third of the length. The Salon uses digital projectors and Windows-based computers hosting PowerPoint, Slide Show to Go, and Windows Media Player. If other software is required to play the program, it should either be formulated as a self-executing file (*.exe) or include a run-time player. Presentations can be submitted on either CD or DVD and sent by June 1, 2009. Submit entries or questions to:

Dave Bunnell
P.O. Box 879
Angels Camp, CA 95222 USA

Photographic Salon

The Photographic Salon celebrates the ephemeral beauty of projected images of caves and caving. Cave-related slides and images are projected once, during the Thursday night Salon Awards Program, with a background of instrumental music written for the occasion. Images or slides must be of caves, cave-related subjects, or cave-related humor. Send entries or questions to:

Cady Soukup
P.O. Box 600
Flint Hill, VA 22627-0600 USA

Print Salon and Exhibition of Photographic Prints

Chairmen: Ann Bosted, USA, and Daniel Chailloux, France.

Cave photographers from around the world are strongly encouraged to submit their photographic prints, either as entries in the competitive Print Salon or for display only. Photographic prints from all over the world will be on display during all eight days of the Congress. A short biography of each photographer and a portrait of the photographer will also be displayed. This is a fantastic opportunity to have your work displayed, appreciated, and rewarded before an international caving audience. Judging will take place prior to the Congress, and prizes will be given to the winners in each category (Color Prints and Black and White Prints).

Contact information for questions and sending entries:

Ann Bosted
630 Valley Forge Drive
Newport News VA 23602 USA
Phone: 001-757-249-2819

SpeleMedia

SpeleMedia is a competition among producers of moving-image depictions related to caves, cavers, caving, and cave conservation/restoration. Substantial prizes (still to be determined) will be awarded to the top three entries. Time permitting, all entries will be shown at the ICS.

Contact information for questions and sending entries:

Alex Sproul, *SpeleMedia* Chair
5715 Lee-Jackson Highway
Greenville, VA 24440-1852 USA
Phone: 001-540-377-6364

SpeleoArt

SpeleoArt is the International Congress venue for exhibiting speleologically inspired artwork. Artwork can be in any medium, from painting and sketching to digitally altered photography, computer graphics, pottery and sculpture, textiles, and mixed media. The subject must involve karst and caves, focusing on the central interest of speleology. All artwork must be original. Entries must be received by 1 July 2009. Send entries and questions to:

Carolina Shrewsbury
221 Leitha Way
Lakeland FL 33809 USA
Phone: 001-727-424-2903.

Symbolic Emblem Salon

The Symbolic Emblem Salon is a judged exhibition of symbolic emblems (posters, logos, patches, decals, pins, etc.) related to caves or caving. All symbolic emblem designs must be representative of a caving-related or karst-related organization (such as a caving club, grotto, section, or conservancy) or of a caving-related or karst-related event (such as a caving club event, grotto event, section gathering, meeting, conference, or convention).

Contact information for questions and sending entries:

Kim Fleischmann
115 Stoneleigh Road
Bel Air, MD 21014
USA
phone 001-410-838-4308



T-shirt Salon

The T-shirt Salon is a judged exhibition of T-shirts with designs related to caves or caving. All T-shirt designs must be representative of a caving-related or karst-related organization (such as a caving club, grotto, section, or conservancy) or of a caving-related or karst-related event (such as a caving club event, grotto event, section gathering, meeting, conference, or convention). T-shirts with designs on front and back may be entered as a single design or as two separate designs.

Contact information for questions and sending entries:

Kim Fleischmann
115 Stoneleigh Road
Bel Air, MD 21014 USA
Phone: 001-410-838-4308



Classes and Workshops

SpeleoArt Workshops and Events

During the week of the ICS, special sessions for speleoartists will be offered, in addition to the SpeleoArt exhibition and competition.

For the following three events, registration is necessary and a small fee will be charged. You must register and pay the fee at the SpeleoArts Reception, which will be held at the beginning of the Congress week; the date, time, and place of this reception will be in the Congress Program. The days and times of these events will be posted at the reception and in the Program. For more information, contact Carolina Shrewsbury.

Collaborative artwork (Mural):

A collective collaboration of artwork to make one whole artwork as a symbol of our united mission, to promote the understanding of science through art.

SpeleoArt Class:

A session to be held at the Congress in a classroom setting before the SpeleoArt field trip. There will be an introduction to artist materials used for different disciplines, and how to pack a basic art kit for use on a caving trip. There will be objects and photographs to show different ways to build a composition for a speleo-artwork in preparation for a caving trip.

SpeleoArt Field Trip:

A cave excursion, to practice sketching skills *en plein air*. There will be lessons about equipment and technique to help the artist work in dark environments. The excursion will visit Cave Without A Name, a beautiful nearby show cave. All sketching will be from the tour trail. Caving equipment will not be needed, although you may wish to bring extra lights to better see certain features of the cave for sketching; you may bring folding chairs into the cave.

Speleology for Cavers

This one-day course will be offered on Friday, 24 July 2009. Come and learn the difference between strike and dip, vadose and phreatic, and the birds and the bats. Take home with you the reason why there are two parallel passages in Sinnett's Big Room, the meaning of Bögli's mixing corrosion, and the difference between the lifestyles of *Riparia riparia* and *Pipistrellus subflavus*. Experts in speleology will lecture on geology, meteorology, chemistry, hydrology, biology, and paleontology. The course will last the entire day. The price includes lunch and extensive printed information. The course is limited to the first 35 people who register.

Organizational and Social Activities

Meetings of Organizations

The business meetings of the UIS, NSS, and affiliated organizations will be conducted during the ICS. These include meetings of the UIS General Assembly, Bureau, Departments, Commissions, and Working Groups. NSS meetings will include the Board of Governors, Congress of Grottos, and Sections. Except for the General Assembly, Bureau, Board of Governors, and Congress of Grottos, a representative from all other meetings must contact the ICS by 1 April 2009 and request a meeting space; the request must include any equipment needed, the estimated number of attendees, and a description of other meetings or activities that should not be scheduled for the same time.

Banquets

Three outstanding banquets will be offered during the Congress. The meals will be prepared by the best caterers in the region.

Howdy Party

The National Speleological Society looks forward to sharing its traditional "Howdy Party" with speleologists from around the world. This will be held on Monday night and is an outdoor, informal banquet with music and dancing. It is a great chance to say "Howdy" (Hello!) and make new friends. The Howdy Party is included in the price of registration. Since the Congress will be held in Texas, the Howdy Party will feature an excellent meal of Texas-style barbeque, Texas-style music by a regionally famous band, and a few surprises.

NSS Awards Banquet

The National Speleological Society will conduct its annual convention in conjunction with the Congress. On Friday evening, it will host its annual Awards Banquet to recognize the accomplishments of its members. Attendance at this banquet will require an extra fee. Everyone, including non-NSS members, is welcome to attend.

ICS Banquet

To help close the Congress, the 15th International Congress of Speleology banquet will be held on Saturday night. The cost of this banquet is included in the price of registration.

Open Microphone Night

On Tuesday we will offer a relaxing evening of music and song. This casual event will start with some famous cave balladeers singing their tunes; then the microphone will be open for anyone who wants to sing caving or non-caving songs or simply play music without vocals. Since this is an international event, the audience will especially welcome folk songs and music from the countries represented at the Congress. Bring your voice and musical instruments and be ready to perform!

Auction to Benefit the UIS and NSS

Each year, members of the U.S. National Speleological Society (NSS) donate interesting, unusual, and often rare items for auction at the annual convention. The funds go to supporting NSS projects and activities. This tradition is being brought to the 15th ICS. People from around the world are encouraged to donate cave-related items for the auction, which will occur on Wednesday evening, 22 July 2009. To donate an item, take it to the NSS Bookstore (the location will be given in the ICS Program) and provide information on what the item is, its estimated value, your name, and if you want the money from its sale to go to the UIS or the NSS. What types of items are auctioned? Books, photographs, artwork, music, newsletters and journals, jewelry, historic equipment, registration to future conferences and trips... anything cave-related. Use your imagination! Remember, what may not seem special to you may be precious and rare to people from other countries. The auction is always exciting and fun, and will provide needed money to the speleological organization of your choice.

The Terminal Syphons

The Terminal Syphons is a caver band which first played at the 1985 U.S. National Speleological Society Convention. Since then, it has performed a blend of rock and roll, blues, and R&B for fellow cavers at nearly all the national conventions. Wednesday nights at the conventions were traditionally "dead nights" with no parties or other activities, so Dr. Albert Ogden organized the band to provide free entertainment on those nights. Since 1985, the band has grown and seen many personnel changes. A core of players developed in the early years and has been joined by several other caver musicians, depending on who was available to play. Come join the Syphons on 22 July 2009 for a fun-filled night of dancing and song.

SpeleOlympics

The SpeleOlympics will consist of at least five individual events, plus one team event with each teams made from cavers of different countries. The events will include rope climbing, rebelay course, obstacle course, cable ladder climbing, and surveying. The competitions will be open to men and women of all ages.

Day Trips

Numerous trips will be offered throughout the week to several caves and tourist attractions. Registration for these trips will take place during the Congress when times, locations, equipment needs, costs, and other details will be listed. Prices will be low, mainly to cover the costs of the transportation and any entry fees. The caving trips will include simple and difficult caves, wet and dry, horizontal and vertical - there will be something for everyone. Bring whatever equipment you'll need for your preference in caving. Most day trips will leave the Congress in the morning and return in time for dinner.

Caving trips

Each day during the ICS, you will have the opportunity to GO CAVING!!! Trips will go to caves that are vertical, horizontal, wet, dry, beautifully decorated, and barren of any formations, so you can choose the caves that are right for you. Notable caves include Honey Creek Cave, with 32 km of stream passages; Deep Cave, a complex three-dimensional maze; and Punkin Cave, a pit into a 60-m-diameter room with many still unexplored passages. Trips into many other excellent caves will also be offered.

Clockwise from top left: Punkin, Spring Creek, Deep, and Honey Creek



Cultural and Family Trips

A wide variety of cultural and family trips will be available for those wanting to experience the Texas Hill Country. These trips range from shopping to family fun, to more adventurous outdoor activities. At least two different trips will be available each day of the Congress, typically one full-day trip and one half-day trip. Below are descriptions of some of the trips planned:

Fredericksburg and Enchanted Rock State Natural Area

This trip goes to the small historic Hill Country town of Fredericksburg and then to a fascinating geological formation: Enchanted Rock. In Fredericksburg, you can go shopping at the numerous small and unique stores that line the historic main street. The bus will stop here for lunch and those that wish to shop can remain for the afternoon. Everyone who wants to continue to Enchanted Rock State Natural Area will reboard the bus for a trip to the park for several hours to go hiking. There is also a rare granite cave that is easy for anyone to visit. The bus will return to Fredericksburg before returning to Kerrville.



Hill Country Winery Tour

The Texas Hill Country is the home to many wineries and one of the top wine destinations in the United States. This trip will stop at several area wineries to tour their facilities and sample their wines as well as seeing the beautiful countryside. The trip includes a picnic lunch. The legal age for being served alcoholic beverages in the state of Texas is 21 years, and identification showing date of birth may be required.

Kayaking on the Guadalupe River

Enjoy a day of guided kayaking on the scenic Guadalupe River. This trip will start near Kerrville and last for several hours on the river; lunch will be provided.

Mooney Airplane Company Tour

Mooney Airplane Company produces world-renowned high-performance single-engine aircraft. This short trip tours their manufacturing facility in Kerrville.

San Antonio River Walk and Missions Historical Park

For those more interested in history than shopping, this bus tour will include a visit to the San Antonio River Walk and Alamo, and then will continue to the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park which contains historic Spanish missions dating from the 1700s. The Missions are Spanish pioneer churches and fortresses dating from the 18th century, while the River Walk is the scenic heart of downtown San Antonio, featuring numerous shops and restaurants. This is a full-day trip that will start in downtown San Antonio for a visit to the Alamo and River Walk before continuing to one or more of the historic missions.

San Antonio River Walk and Riverboat Tour

A trip to San Antonio is not complete without a visit to the scenic River Walk and the historic Alamo, Texas's most popular tourist destinations. The River Walk winds through downtown San Antonio along the banks of the scenic San Antonio River and has numerous shops and restaurants. The Alamo is a historic Spanish mission dating from the 18th century and was the site of a pivotal battle in Texas history. This full-day trip will include a visit to both of these sites, shopping at the Rivercenter Mall, and a chartered tour of the San Antonio River by riverboat.

SeaWorld

SeaWorld is an ocean-themed amusement park that focuses on shows and displays of marine mammals as well as numerous thrill rides. Orcas, sea lions, and dolphins are featured in the shows, while displays and aquariums provide views of other marine life. Thrill rides include roller coasters, water rides, and a full water park. This trip will include a full day at the park as well as a catered fajita lunch at the picnic grounds, door prizes, a Shamu visit, and more. This is a great trip for children and the whole family.

YO Ranch Horseback Riding

Be a cowboy for a day and go horseback riding on this authentic dude ranch deep in the rugged Texas Hill Country. This half-day trip includes two hours of horseback riding followed by a chuckwagon lunch.

YO Ranch Tour

Be a true Texan for a day and visit an authentic Texas dude ranch! This is a working ranch deep in the rugged Texas Hill Country with numerous exotic animals. This half-day trip includes a tour of the ranch by bus followed by a chuckwagon lunch.

Evening Trips

Special trips will be offered most evenings to tourist caves and to watch the world's largest bat colonies fly out of caves. Please do not use flashes or movie lights to photograph bats! While photography is welcome in the show caves, all photos must be taken from the tour trail and at the pace of the tours. Do not bring tripods; these trips are not for detailed photography. Registration for these trips will take place during the Congress when times, locations, costs, and other details will be listed; no caving equipment will be needed. Prices will be low, mainly to cover the costs of the transportation, meals, and any entry fees. Most evening trips will leave the Congress in the late afternoon, have dinner at or near the cave, and will return at night. Below are descriptions of some of the caves that will be visited.

The World's Largest Bat Emergences

For three nights during the ICS, there will be an opportunity to board an air-conditioned bus to travel to one of the famous bat caves of central Texas and view the evening emergence. Each night will offer a different choice: Bracken Bat Cave (the largest bat colony in the world with about 20 million), Frio Bat Cave (ten million), and Eckert James River Bat Cave (four million). Although each cave is relatively close to Kerrville, trips will leave early in the evening to ensure arrival at the cave before the emergence begins. Dinner will not be provided, but snacks and refreshments will be available. Cave entry is not possible during these trips, and little walking is involved. A naturalist will be on every trip to discuss the bats and the caves and to answer questions. All trips will return to Kerrville before midnight.

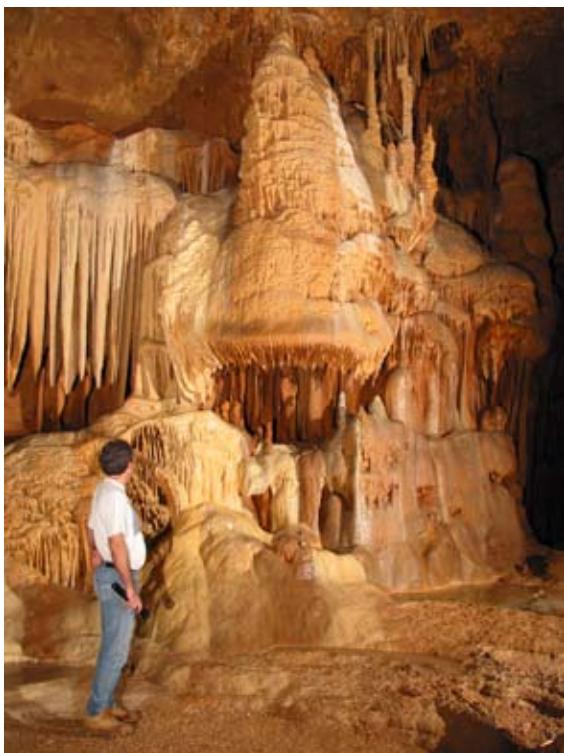


Tour of Cave Without A Name

Enjoy a delightful visit to Cave Without A Name on Tuesday or Thursday evening. Tours to this special cave, named because local children thought it was "too pretty to have a name," will leave Kerrville in comfortable air-conditioned buses at 6:00 p.m. and return around 10:00 p.m. Dinner will not be served, so plan to eat before leaving or after you return.

Tour of Natural Bridge Caverns Tour

On Tuesday and Thursday evenings, you may visit Natural Bridge Caverns, Texas's largest show cave! These special tours will leave Kerrville in comfortable air-conditioned buses at 5:00 p.m. and return close to midnight. Since the cave is located in an area with a rich German heritage, a delicious German dinner will be served before the return to Kerrville.



Tour of Caverns of Sonora Tour

Spend an evening touring one of the most spectacularly decorated caves in the United States! These special tours for the Congress will be available Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday evenings, leaving Kerrville in comfortable air-conditioned buses at 5:00 p.m. and returning around midnight. Dinner will be served before the return to Kerrville.

#03



#04

#59



Field Trips

The ICS offers a wide variety of pre- and post-Congress field camps and excursions. One-day trips will also be offered during the Congress on Wednesday. Pre and post-congress field camps and excursions include all meals, lodging, and transportation. Field camps focus primarily on wild (non-touristic) caving. For most field camps you will be expected to provide your own camping and caving equipment, although some provide hostel style accommodations. Excursions may provide some wild caving, but the primary focus will be on touristic caving, cultural activities, and other easily accessed activities. Excursions will include accommodations ranging from hostels to hotels, and most meals will be in restaurants. Some trips are described as “hybrid” and include elements of both field camps and excursions.

Travel arrangements before and after Congress trips must be made by the trip participants and provided to the trip leaders. Air travel to or from the Congress should connect to the San Antonio International Airport (SAT). Ground transportation will not be provided between Kerrville and other airports.

Below are short descriptions of 12 pre-ICS excursions and field camps, nine post-ICS excursions and field camps, and 20 Wednesday trips. Note that the Congress web site has much more detailed information on each. Registration for these trips must be received by 16 April 2009; after this date, participation cannot be guaranteed. Select up to three trips for each pre-ICS, post-ICS, and Wednesday category. If your first choice is not available, you will be registered for your second or third choice trip. A map with the locations of the trips in on page 25.

Pre-ICS Excursions and Field Camps

Excursion 02: Coast to Coast Through the American Karst: Western Segment

Start: 9 July 2009, Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Los Angeles CA

Pickup location at a hotel near LAX to be determined

End: 18 July 2009, Congress, Kerrville, Texas, USA

Experience the diversity of the American southwest on this 10-day bus excursion starting in Los Angeles, California and ending at the Congress in Kerrville, Texas. The desert terrain is rich in geology, archaeology, and natural and cultural history. The excursion will cover about 2900 km (1800 mi), passing through the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. Along the way, we will visit four national parks and three national monuments, with an emphasis on both limestone and volcanic terrain. Highlights include the Grand Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns, and the Caverns of Sonora. Motel accommodations and restaurant meals are included.

Excursion 03: Texas Bat Caves

Start: 13 July, 2009, 11:30 hrs, Austin, Texas USA, meeting place to be specified later

End: 18 July, 2009, Congress, Kerrville Texas USA

Texas is famous for its numerous major bat caves. Bracken Bat Cave is home to over 20 million bats, the largest colony in the world. More than 100 million Mexican free-tailed bats, *Tadarida brasiliensis mexicana*, make their homes in Texas, and another ten species are also seen in caves across the state. This excursion through the central Texas karst will give participants an overview of Texas caves while concentrating on bat sites. Participants will visit 12 bat sites, and thrill to the evening emergences at five of the largest. During the day, we will explore other central Texas karst features and bat sites and do some easy caving. We will travel by air-conditioned van, eat in restaurants, and stay in motels. If you plan to arrive by air, you should arrange to fly into Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) on July 12, so you can be ready for an early start the next morning. If you arrive early enough, you can watch the evening bat flight from the Congress Avenue Bridge and tour the headquarters of Bat Conservation International (BCI).

Excursion 04: Endangered Species/Endangered Caves

Start: 16 July, 2009, 8:00 am, San Antonio, Texas USA, at a hotel to be designated later

End: 18 July, 2009, Congress, Kerrville, Texas USA

This three-day excursion will focus on the biology of cave invertebrates and cave salamanders, and on management issues for endangered species. Led by a cave biologist, the excursion will visit caves beneath both oak-juniper forest and desert scrub in the Texas Hill Country. These caves provide habitat for terrestrial and aquatic troglobitic species. We will have the opportunity to see many invertebrates and a bat flight. The caving will generally be easy. Biologists and cave managers will have good opportunities to see a variety of cavernicole species and to exchange ideas and methods that are used for ensuring preservation of those species and their habitats. We will travel by air-conditioned van, eat in restaurants, and stay in motels. It is recommended that you arrive in San Antonio on 15 July in order to be ready for an early start on the 16th.

Excursion 82: Caves of the Bahamas: Rapid Cave Formation in Very Young Limestones

Start: July 11, 2009, 18:00, Hotel near Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL), Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA

End: July 18, 2009: 16:00 Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL), Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA

Take a charter flight to the Islands of the Bahamas, a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, located between Florida and Cuba. The 700 islands of the Bahamas form a 260,000 km² (100,000 mi²) archipelago that extends over 700 km (500 mi) of the clearest water in the world. The islands are made entirely of calcium carbonate. There are no rivers. Study the geology of these low-lying tropical islands while you spend six days exploring flank margin caves, banana holes, and pit caves. This is not an open water diving or cave diving trip, but you may snorkel on the living reefs and enjoy the beautiful beaches. We will be staying at the Gerace Research Centre (GRC) on San Salvador Island. This field station is comfortable, but it is not a hotel. It provides cafeteria-style meals and double-occupancy rooms with linens, private bath, and ceiling fans. Air conditioning can be arranged for an extra fee.

Field Camp 33: Cumberland Plateau of Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia (TAG)

Start: 9 July 2009, Nashville International Airport (BNA), Nashville, Tennessee USA

End: 15 July 2009, Nashville International Airport (BNA), Nashville, Tennessee USA

The Sewanee Mountain Grotto invites you to explore the caves on and around the Cumberland Plateau in the heart of TAG, where the states of **Tennessee**, **Alabama** and **Georgia** meet. This field camp will feature open-air pits over 45 m (150 feet) deep and multi-drop caves up to 150 m (500 feet) deep. This area of the southeastern United States is famous for deep pits. The area also has numerous large horizontal caves, for those who prefer non-vertical caving. Several commercial caves are within driving distance. Non-caving activities and attractions include the Chattanooga Aquarium, Rock City (a well-known tourist attraction with unusual rock formations), the University of the South in Sewanee, hiking, and historic sites.

Camping and meals will be provided in a shaded campground on the Cumberland Plateau. The campground has a shower house, portable toilets, a sauna, a horseshoes court, and a grass volleyball court. Limited lodging in nearby homes of cavers may be available. If you are interested in this option, contact the trip leader after you have registered for the camp.

Field Camp 34: Tectonic Pseudokarst in Western North Carolina

Start: 14 July 2009, Hartsville International Airport, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

End: 18 July 2009, Hartsville International Airport, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Be a guest of the Flittermouse Grotto and the Carolina Cave Survey as you explore the giant fissure caves of Hickory Nut Gorge, North Carolina. These caves are located in the ancient metamorphic rocks of the Blue Ridge Escarpment. The camp will include visits to Bat Cave and Rumbling Bald Mountain Cave, two of the longest augen gneiss fissure caves in the world. Both vertical and horizontal cave trips will be available. Non-caving activities, such as a visit to the nearby town of Old Fort to enjoy regional culture and arts and an evening of live mountain folk music, make this an ideal trip for families. Our beautiful



campground is equipped with flush toilets, showers, laundry, swimming pool, and a small store. Participants will have the option of tent camping or, for a small additional fee, can rent a cabin with bath. Each cabin accommodates four people. The camp cooks will prepare your meals, featuring a typical southern cuisine.

Field Camp 37: Caves and Karst of Virginia

Start: 11 July 2009, Dulles International Airport (IAD), Washington DC, USA

End: 18 July 2009, Dulles International Airport (IAD), Washington DC, USA

The state of Virginia contains some of the longest cave systems in the United States, as well as some of the deepest and most difficult. Spend six days underground in some of the most spectacular discoveries of the last decade. Three challenging expedition-style caving trips, lasting 10 to 16 hours each, will provide you with a rigorous vertical and horizontal caving experience and give you an understanding of the local and regional geology. Shorter trips of three to five hours are planned for “rest days”.

This field camp is for experienced vertical cavers who are looking for challenging trips into regionally significant caves and who want to experience an all-around enjoyable camp with minimal frills and plenty of great caving! Participants **must** demonstrate the ability to perform changeovers and to negotiate rebelay and traverse lines. A caving resume is required and recommendations are requested. Participants should expect to tent camp at simple campsites. Support crews will assist with setting up camp and cooking meals.

Field Camp 51: Scientific Rambles through Southeast New Mexico

Start: 11 July 2009, El Paso International Airport (ELP), El Paso, Texas

End: 17 July 2009, El Paso International Airport (ELP), El Paso, Texas

Southeast New Mexico is a land of varied karst, including world-class examples of sulfidic, hypogenic paleo-speleogenesis and karst geomicrobiology within the classic Permian Reef. Centered around Carlsbad Caverns National Park, this science-oriented field camp will offer a variety of daily trips to many of America’s most spectacular hypogenic caves in limestone and to caves and karst of the adjacent Permian Basin gypsum plain. The camp will be based at Washington Ranch, a conference center near the Park. Participants will have the choice of camping or, for an additional fee, staying in air-conditioned dormitories. Meals will be served in the Washington Ranch dining room. This Camp will run in association with Field Camp #52.

Field Camp 52 (pre-Congress): Caves of the Guadalupe Mountains and surrounding area, New Mexico

Start: 11 July 2009, El Paso International Airport (ELP), El Paso, Texas

End: 17 July 2009, El Paso International Airport (ELP), El Paso, Texas

In addition to its world-famous namesake cave, Carlsbad Caverns National Park (in the state of New Mexico in the southwestern United States) boasts over one hundred undeveloped limestone caves. Several hundred more are found in the surrounding Guadalupe Mountains and the adjacent gypsum plain. Formed by sulfuric acid, these caves exhibit unique characteristics and features. This field camp offers both tourist and off-trail trips in Carlsbad Caverns and daily trips into many of the undeveloped caves. Both horizontal and vertical caving are possible, and activities for non-caving family members can also be arranged. This camp will be based at Washington Ranch, a conference center near the Park. Participants will have the choice of camping or, for an additional fee, staying in air-conditioned dormitories. Meals will be served in the Washington Ranch dining room.

Field Camp 55: Lilburn Cave: California’s Marble Masterpiece

Start: 12 July 2009, Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Los Angeles, California USA

End: 17 July 2009, Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Los Angeles, California USA

Lilburn Cave, in Sequoia National Park, is California’s longest cave. This small camp offers an unparalleled opportunity for three days of camping, backpacking, and challenging sport caving in Lilburn’s spectacular banded marble. An additional day will be spent touring Sequoia National Park. An 8-kilometer (5-mile) backpacking trip that passes through a large stand of old-growth giant sequoia trees will bring us to our base camp at the Lilburn Cabin. The cabin has limited sleeping space, a rustic kitchen, and untreated water. Most people will choose to tent camp near the cabin. Food will be cooked communally each evening over a camp stove and will include simple fare such as pasta and sauces, soups, and Mexican dishes.



Field Camp 56: Cave the Sierra Nevada, John Muir's Range of Light

Start: 12 July 2009, Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Los Angeles, California USA

End: 17 July 2009, Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Los Angeles, California USA

John Muir, founder of the modern environmental movement, called the Sierra Nevada the Range of Light. These mountains, the tallest in the continental United States, are home to an astonishing variety of caves. Spend three days in spectacular scenery, exploring three very different cave areas, and a fourth day touring Sequoia National Park. This trip will take you from high alpine karst to well-decorated Soldier's Cave in the Sierra foothills. We will camp near our vehicles at a different location every evening. Food will be cooked communally each evening over a camp stove and will include simple fare such as pasta and sauces, soups, and Mexican dishes.

Field Camp 88: Giant Caves of Northern Mexico

Start: 13 July 2009, San Antonio, Texas, USA

End: 18 July 2009, Kerrville, Texas, USA

Experience the enormous caverns and dramatic scenery of Nuevo León, Mexico, on this five-day pre-Congress camp. Located within three hours of the Texas border, this area features the closest real mountains to Kerrville. This camp will include exploration of Gruta de Palmito, located near the town of Bustamante, as well as a tour of the famous show cave, Grutas de Garcia. Lodging will be a non-air-conditioned field house with minimal amenities. Meals will be provided at restaurants and in the field.

Post-ICS Excursions and Field Camps

Excursion 01: Coast to Coast Through the American Karst: Eastern Segment

Start: 27 July 2009, Congress, Kerrville, Texas, USA

End: 5 August 2009, Washington, DC, Dulles International Airport (IAD)

Experience the diversity of classic American karst terrains on this 10-day bus excursion starting at the Congress in Kerrville, Texas, and ending in Washington, D.C.. As you travel the scenic highways of the eastern United States, you will visit many of the country's finest tourist caves, numerous surface karst features, and various cultural attractions. Trip highlights include the large springs and abundant caves of the Ozark Mountains in the states of Arkansas and Missouri; the world-famous Mammoth Cave System in Kentucky; the extensive cave systems of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the states of Virginia and West Virginia; and the abundant cultural attractions of Washington, D.C., the capital of the United States. Local experts will provide stimulating discussions on the geology, hydrology, biology, and cultural aspects throughout this diverse bus excursion. Motel accommodations and restaurant meals are included.

Excursion 58: Caving on Big Island Hawai'i

Start: 27 July 2009, Kona International Airport at Keahole (KOA), Hawaii, USA

End: 1 August 2009, Kona International Airport at Keahole (KOA), Hawaii, USA

Hawai'i, the largest island in the state of Hawaii and in the United States, is the site of two active volcanoes, Mauna Loa and Kilauea. These volcanoes have added in excess of 220 ha (543 acres) of land to the island in the last 25 years. Hawai'i is also home to some of the longest and deepest lava tubes in the world. This hybrid-excursion will take you from sea level to the top of Mauna Kea as you experience the geology, ecology, caves, and culture of the Big Island. The caving will take you to lava flows of various ages, and if nature cooperates, you may even be able to watch an eruption. This excursion also includes a bus tour highlighting the cultural and environmental diversity of Hawai'i and a full-day trip to Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. People who do not want to participate in strenuous hiking or caving may register for the non-caving version of this trip, which includes only the tours, and leaves plenty of free time to enjoy the wonders of Hawai'i. Both versions of this excursion include double occupancy in a luxury resort hotel with breakfasts, lunches, and two evening meals. On the other evenings, you will be responsible for your own meals and may choose from a wide variety of local restaurants to suit your taste and your budget.

Excursion 81: Caving with the Maya: 1750 Years in the Underworld, with Optional Tikal Extension

Start: 27 July 2009, Philip S. W. Goldson International Airport (BZE), Belize City, Belize

End: 3 August 2009 (5 August 2009, for the Tikal extension), Philip S. W. Goldson International Airport (BZE), Belize City, Belize

This hybrid-excursion to the Central American country of Belize will visit more than ten caves, all of which still contain artifacts and evidence of rituals left by the ancient Maya. We will also visit two significant Maya cities in Belize, Caracol and Xunantunich. There is a two-day optional extension to visit the Maya city of Tikal in Guatemala. The Maya lived in the area that is now southern Mexico, Guatemala, northern Honduras, El Salvador, and Belize. The peak of their civilization was between

250 A.D. and 900 A.D. The earliest known community in Central America is Cuello in Belize, dating to 2000 B.C. The Maya civilization lasted longer than any other in Mesoamerica. The Maya built large temples, palaces, and public buildings, with plazas and ball courts. They believed that caves were special places that were connected to the underworld where some of the gods lived. All accommodations are double-occupancy rooms in tourist lodges with private bathrooms. Meals will be provided by the lodges.

Excursion 85: Cenote Karst of the Yucatán Peninsula, Mexico

Start: 27 July 2009, Cancún Airport International (CUN), Cancún, Quintana Roo, Mexico

End: 3 August 2009, Cancún Airport International (CUN), Cancún, Quintana Roo, Mexico

The lowland Yucatán Peninsula of Mexico is a spectacular karst landscape, dotted with numerous cenotes and covered with tropical jungle that hides the ruins of the ancient Maya civilization. This eight-day hybrid-excursion will take you through the jungle and into both dry and partially water-filled caves. Non-scientist speleologists will gain insights into the geology, hydrology, geochemistry, and speleological development of this massive coastal karst. The trip will visit the longest underwater cave systems in the world and the Chicxulub impact crater, which is associated with the extinction of the dinosaurs. Participants should be prepared for jungle hikes, caving with some short rappels, snorkeling in underground rivers and coastal springs, and close encounters with local insects and animals. This is not a dive trip; however, those with appropriate experience may be able to arrange an independent cenote cavern diving tour with a local guide. Accommodations range from dormitory rooms at the Centro Ecológico in Akumal to historic colonial hotels. An upgrade from the dormitory to private bungalows is available for a fee. All meals are included and range from self-serve breakfasts to restaurant dinners.

Field Camp 31: Exploration and Science in the Mammoth Cave System

Start: 27 July 2009, Nashville International Airport (BNA), Nashville, Tennessee

End: 2 August 2009, Nashville International Airport (BNA), Nashville, Tennessee

At well over 590 km, the Mammoth Cave System is by far the longest cave in the world. This vast three-dimensional maze extends under four principal ridges, containing what were once four separate major cave systems. Enjoy five days of caving in Mammoth Cave's farthest reaches. Daily science and exploration trips will provide the opportunity to follow the muddy footprints of one of the great explorations of the last century. Participants will have the choice of staying in the dormitories at Cave Research Foundation (CRF) Headquarters, located at Hamilton Valley, or camping on Hamilton Valley grounds. Participants will help with the preparation of meals and cleanup.

Field Camp 53 (post-Congress): Caves of the Guadalupe Mountains and surrounding area, New Mexico

Start: 27 July 2009, El Paso International Airport (ELP), El Paso, Texas

End: 2 August 2009, El Paso International Airport (ELP), El Paso, Texas

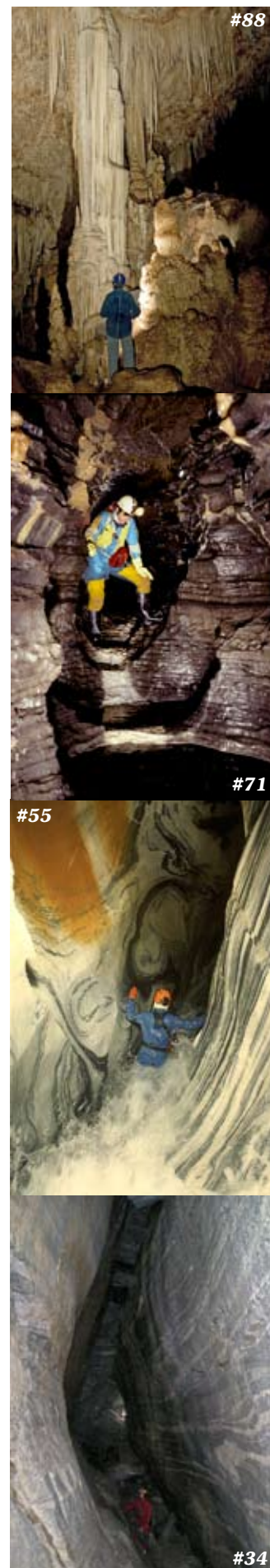
In addition to its world-famous namesake cave, Carlsbad Caverns National Park (in the state of New Mexico in the southwestern United States) boasts over one hundred undeveloped limestone caves. Several hundred more are found in the surrounding Guadalupe Mountains and the adjacent gypsum plain. Formed by sulfuric acid, these caves exhibit unique characteristics and features. This field camp offers tourist and off-trail trips in Carlsbad Caverns and daily trips into many of the undeveloped caves. Both horizontal and vertical caving are possible, and activities for non-caving family members can also be arranged. This camp will be based at Washington Ranch, a conference center near the Park. Participants will have the choice of camping or, for an additional fee, staying in air-conditioned dormitories. Meals will be served in the Washington Ranch dining room.

Field Camp 59: Caves and Karst in Southeast Alaska

Start: 27 July 2009, Ketchikan International Airport (KTN), Ketchikan Alaska, USA

End: 2 August 2009, Ketchikan International Airport (KTN), Ketchikan Alaska, USA

Take a whirlwind tour of karst and caves in the Tongass National Forest! This Alaskan



adventure will take you to alpine karst and temperate rainforest and will give you the opportunity to explore Alaska's longest cave. Wildlife is abundant, including black bears, Sitka black-tailed deer, and bald eagles. Focusing on Prince of Wales Island, this trip provides an overview of karst management in a US National Forest, as well as an introduction to the cave archaeology, geology, paleontology, and cultural heritage of southeast Alaska. We will be staying in a variety of bunkhouses and small cabins with beds, indoor toilets, and hot showers. Participants must supply their own sleeping bags. Camp meals will be simple, incorporating local foods, and will be served group-style. Participants will be expected to help with cleanup. On the last evening, we will dine in a rural Alaskan float house, where a retired five-star chef will fete us with native salmon, shrimp, and wild game.

Field Camp 71: Caving in New York: The Preserves of the U.S. National Speleological Society and the Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc.

Start: 29 July 2009, Albany International Airport (ALB), Albany, New York

End: 1 August 2009 (3 August 2009 with two-day extension), Albany International Airport (ALB), Albany, New York

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. will welcome you to Albany and Schoharie Counties, 300 km (186 mi) north of New York City. Three of the U.S. National Speleological Society's (NSS) cave preserves are located here, and the Northeast Cave Conservancy protects five additional properties. This camp will build on discussions begun at International Cave and Karst Management Symposium (ICKMS) during the Congress and provide an overview of the conservation and management of caves in populated areas. Most trips will be short and relatively easy; however, there will also be several opportunities for serious caving, including McFail's Cave, the longest in the northeastern United States. The optional two-day extension provides time for additional caving. Participants will camp at the home of Mike Warner and Emily Davis in rural upstate New York. Participants should bring their own sleeping bags and mats. Tents will be provided, if requested in advance. Meals will be traditional US cookouts with local products as ingredients. Special food needs can easily be accommodated.

Field Camp 86: Deep Pits of Mexico

Start: 27 July 2009, Kerrville, Texas, USA

End: 7 August 2009, San Antonio International Airport, Texas, USA

This is a 12-day field camp in one of the most remarkable karst areas in the world. After an 18-hour drive by rented van divided into two days, eight days will be spent in the jungle area surrounding Aquismón, San Luis Potosí, Mexico. The area contains numerous large pits, home to large flocks of birds. The trip will culminate with the spectacular 376-meter descent into El Sótano de las Golondrinas. The trip will also showcase the wonderful culture of the local Huasteca Potosí people who have inhabited the area for thousands of years. Camping conditions will be primitive, and participants must supply their own camping and caving equipment. Meals will be provided by the local Huastec people.

Field Camp 99: Gran Caverna de Santo Tomás, the Greatest Cave in Cuba

Start: 28 July 2009, Cuban Speleological Society's headquarters in La Habana, Cuba

End: 5 August 2009, Cuban Speleological Society's headquarters in La Habana, Cuba

Note: Due to the United States' restrictions on travel to and commerce with Cuba, the ICS cannot register people for this trip. If you are interested, please contact Ángel Graña <anan@geotech.cu> directly.

This hybrid excursion will visit the jewel of Cuban caves, the Gran Caverna de Santo Tomás, in Viñales, and nearby caves. The geographic setting is dramatic, with beautiful karst landscape in a jungle setting. This excursion combines dormitory-style accommodations at the National School of Speleology in El Moncada, with sport caving. The caves are for the most part undeveloped and range from very easy, walking passage to small and tight. There is no need for vertical caving gear. The group will be divided according to the capabilities and interests of the participants. There will be other cultural activities such as visits to nearby towns or nature hikes through the mountains.



Wednesday Trips

Sessions and meetings will not be held on Wednesday, 22 July 2009, and everyone will have the opportunity to join an all-day field excursion. The Kerrville area offers a wide range of activities. They are presented below in two groups: cave, karst, and tourist, history, and water-fun trips. Space on the trips is limited, so make your reservations early! Lunch is provided on all trips unless otherwise mentioned.

Cave, Karst, and Nature Trips

Bats, Bridges, and Cave Preserves

This trip will tour Austin, the capital of Texas. It will begin by visiting caves owned and managed by two cave management organizations. The caves are small but protected because they contain endangered species. Lunch will be provided at one of the preserves. Afterward, everyone will visit Barton Springs, a large karst spring that is in the heart of Austin. The aquifer feeding the spring is an important water supply for the city. The trip will end with dinner along the Colorado River under the Congress Avenue Bridge, famous for housing the world's largest bat colony in a bridge. After watching more than 100,000 bats fly from the bridge, everyone will return to Kerrville.

Birds, Rivers, and Bats

Be prepared for an early departure, since that is the best time to watch birds in Texas during the summer (bring your binoculars!). We'll visit nearby Lost Maples State Park, hike some of its trails looking for the birds and enjoying the scenery, and then we'll eat lunch. Afterward, we'll visit Garner State Park to cool off in the Frio River (bring your swimsuit and sunscreen). The river is fed by many karst springs upstream of the park, and there are a few tiny caves to explore. You'll enjoy an early dinner in the town of Rocksprings so you can leave in time to watch a colony of three million Mexican freetail bats fly out of the spectacular Devil's Sinkhole. Trip price includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner, plus all entrance fees.



Barton Springs

Canoeing, Kayaking, and Tubing the Guadalupe River

Kerrville is 270 km from the sea, but if you enjoy the water and want to escape the summer heat, join this trip into the beautiful Guadalupe River. The river flows gently through Kerrville, and you will can explore the Guadalupe by canoe, kayak, or in the Texas tradition of a leisurely float down the stream in a large rubber tire tube. Canoes, kayaks, and tubes will be provided.



Guadalupe River

Challenges in Urban Cave Management

The Texas Cave Management Association (TCMA) will lead a trip to several caves in the city of San Antonio. The caves are small and will not be entered, but are important to the local karst aquifer and in protecting rare species. Some of the caves are owned by TCMA, others by the city, and others by the military (non-US citizens must have passports and US citizens must have photo identification to enter the military base). Topics for presentation and discussion include cave gating, public education, karst water quality and quantity, managing endangered cave ecosystems, and karst management in support of karst research.

Endangered Species/Endangered Caves

This trip will focus on cave invertebrate and cave salamander biology and management issues for endangered species. A cave biologist will lead trips to biologically significant spring, cave and well sites that have endangered species. We anticipate closeup views of terrestrial and aquatic troglobites and salamanders. General topics will cover introductions to local hydrogeology, biology, and land use. Specific discussion will include monitoring and management of rare species, balancing biological needs against land development, aquifer protection, and cave species biology and evolution. One or two show caves will be visited; no caving equipment is necessary. We will focus on the area of the city of San Marcos, which is about 1.5 hours driving time

from Kerrville. This will be a good opportunity for biologists and cave managers to see a variety of cave species and to exchange ideas and methods that are used to preserve those species and their habitats.

Karst Hydrogeology of the San Antonio Segment of the Edwards Aquifer

This field trip will visit a number of locations in the Edwards Aquifer recharge and artesian zones, including the entrances to various caves, the location of a large sewage spill, rock outcrops, and Comal Springs, the largest spring in the southeastern United States with an average discharge of 8 m³/s. During the trip, we will discuss the aquifer research and data collection activities, the role of large faults in controlling groundwater movement, water quality and urban development, and water resource management.

Kickapoo Cavern and The Devil's Sinkhole

You will ride for one hour atop the Edwards Plateau and then for another hour through steep canyons to reach Kickapoo Cavern State Park. Your first stop will be at the entrance of Stewart Bat Cave before having an early lunch and entering Kickapoo Cavern. Kickapoo has the largest speleothems in Texas. The large passage requires only lights, helmet, and sturdy boots. Bring your cameras and big flashes! You will then ride to the town of Rocksprings for an early dinner so you can leave in time to watch a colony of three million Mexican freetail bats fly out of the spectacular Devil's Sinkhole.



Land and Bat Habitat Restoration

Visit Selah Ranch to witness one of the best examples of land reclamation and land management in Texas. Learn how this formerly dry and denuded landscape is now rich in springs and wildlife. Selah is also the home to the world's largest artificial bat cave. This trip includes driving and walking tours of the ranch, and watching the bat flight in the evening after dinner.

Paleontology of Caves on the Edwards Plateau

Caves of the Edwards Plateau provide one of the best records of Late Quaternary faunal change in North America. At least 37 caves from the area have produced significant vertebrate fossils. Most of these deposits range in age from 25,000 to a few thousand years old. The field trip will visit two significant cave paleontological sites. The first, Hall's Cave, contains one of the most completely dated sequences of sediments in North America. The sediments span the last 18,000 years and contain remains of thousands of small vertebrates. These fossils provide detailed information on the changing climate and environment of the area from the Pleistocene into the Holocene. The second site, Friesenhahn Cave, also contains important Pleistocene and Holocene fossils. It is best known for its larger animal fauna and was a den for an extinct Pleistocene scimitar cat (*Homotherium serum*).

Powell's Cave

Powell's Cave is the second longest cave in Texas, with a surveyed length of 22.9 km. Bring your helmet, lights, and knee pads. Most of the cave is a dry maze connected by a long, narrow passage. The cave also has a 3-km-long stream. A wetsuit is not needed for this trip unless you plan to spend a lot of time in the stream.

Granitic Pseudokarst of the Enchanted Rock State Natural Area

Enchanted Rock is a beautiful domed inselberg rising above Sandy Creek in Llano County, Texas. It is located several miles north of Fredericksburg, a popular tourist destination. Enchanted Rock is Texas's equivalent of Ayers Rock in Australia or Stone Mountain in Georgia (USA). We will be walking to the summit on a monolithic, smoothly curved expanse of pegmatitic granite, exposed through the continuing process of exfoliation and grussification. On the way, we will pass numerous examples of granitic landforms that have been produced by physical and chemical weathering, in many cases taking on a character of true karst. These include wide vernal pools (gnammas or tinajitas) that have their own ecosystems; dendritic channels in bedrock; giant residual blocks and corestones; pedestal rocks (hoodoos); A-tents; and more. The view from the surface of the rock includes much of the Llano Basin and its savannah landscape and vegetation.

Recharge and Discharge Features of the Edwards and Trinity Aquifers, Central Texas

This trip will be led by hydrogeologists of the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District. It will visit caves and karst springs where water recharges into and discharges from the Edwards and Trinity aquifers in central Texas. The trip will start at Barton Springs, which is the major discharge point for the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer. The



Two views of the Schlitterbahn Waterpark Resort

second stop will visit a cave with a vault constructed over its entrance to control the flow of water into the aquifer. The vault was constructed with a valve that can be closed at times of major sediment and contaminant flow in the creek, and can be opened following the passage of a storm pulse. The next stop will be at San Marcos Springs, a major discharge point for groundwater from the San Antonio segment of the Edwards Aquifer. Lunch will be provided at this stop and a tour of the springs will be made in glass-bottomed boats. The fourth and last stop will be at Jacob's Well in Wimberley. This is a significant spring that discharges from the Trinity Aquifer. Presentations will be given about the Trinity Aquifer and Jacob's Well, along with descriptions of current studies of the aquifer and the cave from which this water flows.

Rock Art at Seminole Canyon State Park

Seminole Canyon is located in the Lower Pecos River region of Texas, which contains some of the oldest and most spectacular ancient rock paintings in North America. Fate Bell is a massive rock shelter that contains thousands of distinctive and colorful pictographs dated as old as 4,000 years. A 3-km round-trip walking tour to Fate Bell will include interpretation of the rock art by an expert archaeologist. A few kilometers from the canyon is the highest highway bridge in Texas, where lunch will be served at the scenic overlook of the Pecos River just above its confluence with the Rio Grande. On the return trip, if time allows, we will stop at San Felipe Springs in Del Rio, the fourth largest group of springs in Texas.

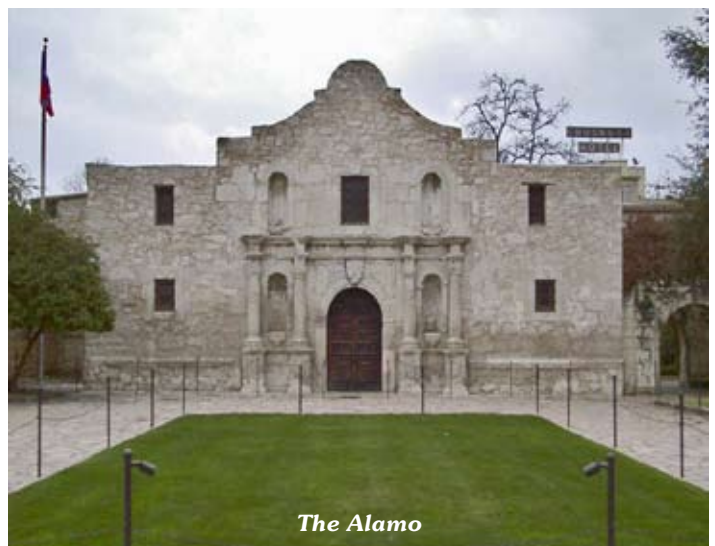
Tourist, History, and Water-fun Trips

Fredericksburg, Peaches, and History

Visit the beautiful German town of Fredericksburg, pick peaches right out of the orchards, stroll through the many shops along Main Street, and visit the National Museum of the Pacific War.



San Antonio River Walk



The Alamo

Historic Spanish Missions Trail

Texas has a reputation as an exceptionally proud and independent state, largely because it is the only U.S. state that was first an independent country. Visit the famous Alamo, site of a key battle for Texas's independence. Afterwards, travel the trail of historic Spanish missions which occur along the San Antonio River: Mission Concepción, Mission San José, Mission San Juan Capistrano and Mission San Francisco de la Espada. If time allows, there may be an opportunity for a little shopping in downtown San Antonio.

River Walk and Shopping in San Antonio

Visit downtown San Antonio's Market Square to shop for authentic products of Mexico. Eat a delicious lunch at Mi Tierra, considered one of the best Mexican restaurants in the city, then stroll along and enjoy a boat tour of the famous River Walk, home to some of the most interesting shopping in Texas. Visit the Alamo, site of a key battle for Texas independence, and shop at Rivercenter Mall.

San Marcos Prime Outlets Shopping Center

For those who want to go shopping in Texas, Prime Outlets, located in San Marcos, has a huge collection of bargain shops and factory outlet stores. It is ranked as the third best place to shop in the world! The shopping center is located about two hours from Kerrville.

Schlitterbahn Waterpark Resort

Escape the Texas heat at this incredible water park. Slide through kilometers of water chutes, rivers, and uphill water coasters. There are waves for surfing, lots of splashing and relaxing, and child- friendly water playgrounds. Treat yourself and your children to the most fun you'll have in years. Many consider Schlitterbahn the best water park on the planet!

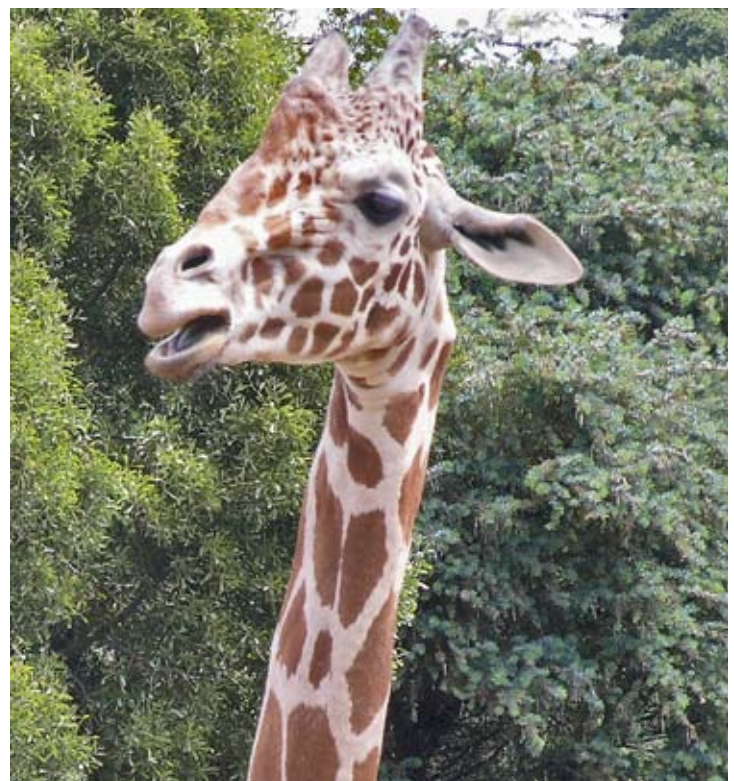
SeaWorld of San Antonio

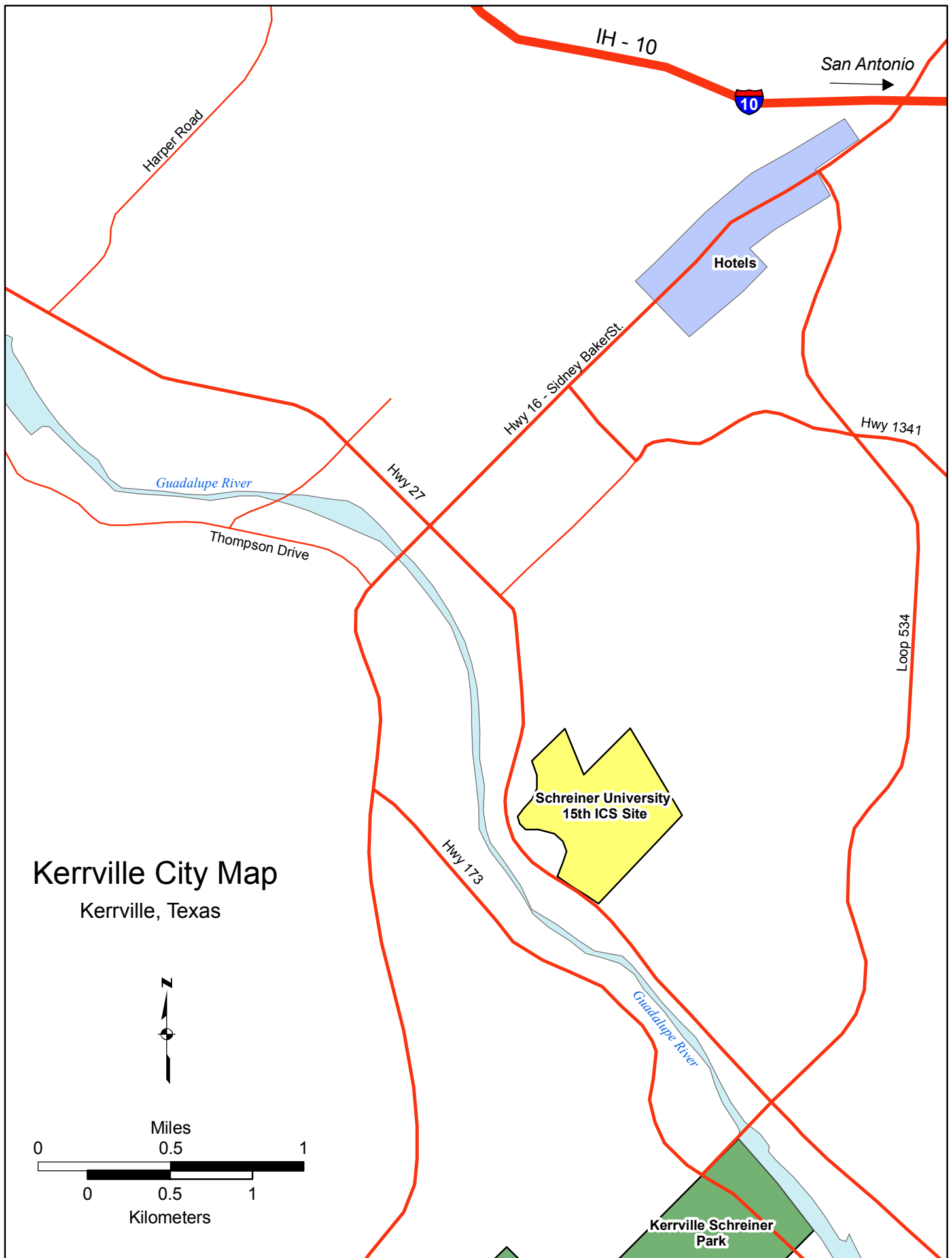
SeaWorld is an ocean-themed amusement park that focuses on shows and displays of marine mammals as well as numerous thrill rides. Orcas, sea lions, and dolphins are featured in the shows, while displays and aquariums display other marine life. Thrill rides include roller coasters, water rides, and a full water park. This trip will include a full day at the park as well as a catered fajita lunch at the picnic grounds, door prizes, a Shamu visit, and more. This is a great trip for kids and the whole family.



YO Ranch

Tour the famous YO Ranch, less than an hour from Kerrville. The ranch has 279 km² of longhorn cattle, North African scimitar-horned oryx, and many other protected or endangered species. Ride on horseback with real Texas cowboys! Shop at stores and galleries with Texas-themed gifts and art.





Office Use:
Reg. #**Registration Form – International Congress of Speleology****Kerrville, Texas, July 19-26, 2009** (*Mail this form to address below by June 1, 2009*)

Note: Only one registrant per form. Please type or print. All prices are in US currency.

Registration Information		
Family (Last) Name	Given (First) Name	Middle Initial
Name as you wish it to appear on name tag		Sex: ☐ M ☐ F
Organization (professional or caving affiliation)		
Age (check one): ☐ 0-6 ☐ 7-17 ☐ 18-20 ☐ 21+		

Contact Information	
Mailing Address	Apt. #
Address (continued)	
City or Town	State or Province
Postal Code	Country
Telephone – Primary () - country code (area code) number	Telephone – Secondary () - country code (area code) number
E-mail Address	

Emergency Contact
Name of someone NOT at the Congress whom we can contact:
Contact's Name
Contact's Telephone () - country code (area code) number

Special Needs
☐ Vegetarian Meals ☐ Kosher Meals
Other special needs

Languages Spoken
Primary Language:
Other Languages:
Are you willing to volunteer as a Translator? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Campus Regulation
Guns are not allowed on Schreiner University's campus or in the Campground. Initial above to acknowledge compliance with this state law.

General Information
To help us better prepare for you, please provide the following information:
Will you have a vehicle: if camping? _____
If staying in a dorm or apartment? _____
NOTE: Parking on campus is limited and carpooling is encouraged. A parking permit will be required. For those staying at local motels, shuttles will be provided.
If staying in a local motel: What motel are you staying at? _____
If staying at an off-campus campground: What campground are you staying at? _____
Congress Activities:
Will you be presenting a paper at the Congress? _____
(Note: Speakers are required to register by April 16, 2009.)
Are you a member of the ICS staff? ☐ If so, in what capacity are you volunteering? _____

Registrant notes and comments:
If you would like multiple registrations to be charged to a single credit card, please list names below.

Information Required for Bank Transfers
Bank: Bank Of America, 741 Water St., Kerrville, TX 78028 USA
Account Number: 4880-1666-6005
Account Holder Name: 15 th International Congress of Speleology
Standard Routing Number: 111000025
Domestic Wire Transfer Number: 026009593
International Wire Transfer, (SWIFT) Number: BOFAUS3N

Send all five pages of the Registration Form to:
15th International Congress of Speleology Registration
Attn: Karen M. Kastning, Registration Chair
P.O. Box 681
Radford, VA 24143 USA
or to
registration@ics2009.us or fax: 001-413-383-2276

Name (last) _____ (first) _____ (MI) _____ Registration Number _____

Registration Fees – International Congress of Speleology**Kerrville, Texas, July 19-26, 2009** *(Mail this form to address on page 1, by June 1, 2009)*

Note: Only one registrant per form. Please type or print. All prices are in US currency.

Lodging: Camping			
Items	Cost	Quantity	Total
Camping per adult (week)	\$25		
Camping (child 0-17)	FREE		
Lodging: On-campus Dorms and Apartments			
Dorms and apartments will be available Thursday evening, July 16 th through the morning of Monday, July 27 th :			
Check-in date:		Check-out date:	
Deposit required (refunded on checkout at end of Congress)	\$50		
Apartment (7 nights, per person) (linens provided)	\$280		
Extra night, per person (indicate the number of additional nights)	\$40		
Dorm Room (7 nights, per person) (linens provided)	\$210		
Extra night, per person (indicate the number of additional nights)	\$30		
Lodging subtotal:			
On-campus dorms and apartments:			
Roommate's name(s) (if none listed, we will assign one/them):			
Medical/Traveler's Insurance (Optional)			
Optional insurance is available for non-U.S. citizens that will provide coverage upon departure from your home country, throughout the ICS, and travel home (select only one).			
15 days (per person)	\$40		
30 days (per person)	\$55		
Insurance subtotal:			
Method of Payment			
☐ Check or Money Order (make payable to 15 th ICS) ☐ Bank Transfer (see required information on page 1) ☐ Credit card (check one) Expiration Date: ____/____/____ VISA MasterCard Discover Three-digit code (for Discover card) _____ Card Number: _____ / / / Name on card (please print): _____ Signature of cardholder _____ Billing address for credit card (include postal/zip code): _____			

Items	Cost	Quantity	Total
Adult registration (18+)	\$250		
by January-31-2009			
by April-16-2009	\$275		
after June-01-2009	\$300		
Child registration (7-17):			
(with JSS, without guidebook or proceedings):	\$125		
by January 31, 2009			
by April-16-2009	\$138		
after June-01-2009	\$150		
Child (0-6 years): (No guidebook or proceedings)	FREE		
Registration for NSS BOG meetings only	FREE		
Lodging subtotal (from left)			
Insurance subtotal (from left)			
Special Events			
Speleology for Cavers Workshop	\$45		
NSS Awards and Convention Banquet	\$38		
Pre-Congress trip subtotal (from page 3)			
Wednesday trip subtotal (from page 4)			
Post-Congress trip subtotal (from page 5)			
Congress Extras			
T-Shirts, Short-sleeved:	\$15		
S M L XL XXL			
ICS Patch	\$5		
ICS Lapel Pin	\$5		
Additional ICS Lanyard	\$2		
Additional ICS Satchel	\$20		
Additional ICS Guidebook	\$20*		
Additional ICS Proceedings	\$30*		
SUBTOTAL			
Adjustments			
Discount for No Guidebook	-\$20		
Discount for No Proceedings	-\$30		
GRAND TOTAL (US currency)			

*Discount price only available during the Congress

Name (last) _____ (first) _____ (MI) _____ Registration Number _____

Registration for Pre-ICS Field Camps and Excursions (Use a separate form for each registrant)

All fieldtrip participants must be registered for the Congress. *(NOTE: Mark your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices in the boxes below for the trip in which you wish to participate. You will be charged for your 1st choice; price adjustments will be made if your 1st choice is already filled or is canceled and a substitution is necessary.)*

List the names of any traveling companions who must be on the same trip as you: _____

Event	Trip Number	1 st , 2 nd , & 3 rd Choice	Location/Description – Trip Leader Minimum/Maximum Number of Participants	Trip Fee	Total Cost Per Event
Pre-Congress Excursions	02		Coast to Coast Through the American Karst: Western Segment – Dr. Tom Strong: 30/40 (Transportation Included)	\$1940	
	03		Texas Bat Caves – Jim “Crash” Kennedy: 10/30 (minimum age 16; Transportation Included)	\$790	
	04		Endangered Species/Endangered Caves – Dr. Jean Krejca: 10/20 (Transportation Included) (Not recommended for children.)	\$605	
	82		Caves of the Bahamas: Rapid Cave Formation in Very Young Limestones – Dr. John Mylroie: 6/30	\$1420	
Pre-Congress Field Camps	33		Cumberland Plateau of Tennessee, Alabama, & Georgia (TAG) – Maureen Handler and Martha Mills: 12/30	\$420	
	34		Tectonic Pseudokarst in Western North Carolina – Dr. Cato Holler: 8/15 Upgrade to Cabin (optional)	\$520	
				\$40	
	37		Caves and Karst of Virginia – Dr. Benjamin Schwartz: 3/8 (Caving resume required)	\$550	
	51		Scientific Rambles through Southeast New Mexico – Dr. Louise Hose: 6/40 Upgrade to dormitories (optional) Upgrade to motel in town (optional)	\$560	
				\$95	
				\$255	
	52		Caves of the Guadalupe Mountains and Surrounding Area, New Mexico – Steve Peerman: 6/40 Upgrade to dormitories (optional) Upgrade to motel in town (optional)	\$615	
				\$95	
				\$255	
	55		Lilburn Cave: California’s Marble Masterpiece – Benjamin Tobin and Joel Despain: 6/10	\$470	
	56		Cave the Sierra Nevada, John Muir’s Range of Light – Joel Despain: 6/10	\$470	
	88		Giant Caves of Northern Mexico – Peter Strickland and Aimee Beveridge: 9/24 (Transportation Included)	\$375	

Name (last) _____ (first) _____ (MI) _____ Registration Number _____

Registration for Wednesday's Congress Excursions (Use a separate form for each registrant)

All fieldtrip participants must be registered for the Congress. *(NOTE: Mark your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices in the boxes below for the trip in which you wish to participate. You will be charged for your 1st choice; price adjustments will be made if your 1st choice is already filled or is canceled and a substitution is necessary.)*

List the names of any traveling companions who must be on the same trip as you: _____

Event	Trip Number	1 st , 2 nd , & 3 rd Choice	Location/Description – Trip Leader	Trip Fee	Total Cost Per Event
Wednesday Trips – Cave, Karst, and Nature	WD-101		Bats, Bridges, and Cave Preserves – Ron Ralph	\$90	
	WD-102		Birds, Rivers, and Bats – ICS Staff	\$60	
	WD-103		Canoeing, Kayaking, and Tubing the Guadalupe River – ICS Staff	\$85	
	WD-104		Challenges in Urban Cave Management – Linda Palit and Joe Mitchell	\$60	
	WD-105		Endangered Species/Endangered Caves – Dr. Jean Krejca	\$85	
	WD-106		Karst Hydrogeology of the San Antonio Segment of the Edwards Aquifer – Geary Schindel	\$60	
	WD-107		Kickapoo Cavern and The Devil's Sinkhole – Travis Scott	\$75	
	WD-108		Land and Bat Habitat Restoration – Rebecca and Fran Hutchins	\$95	
	WD-109		Paleontology of Caves of the Edwards Plateau – Dr. Rickard S. Toomey, III and Dr. Ernest Lundelius	\$65	
	WD-110		Powell's Cave – Terry Holsinger	\$60	
	WD-111		Pseudokarst of the Enchanted Rock State Natural Area – Dr. Ernst H. Kastning, Jr.	\$60	
	WD-112		Recharge and Discharge Features of the Edwards and Trinity Aquifers – Brian Smith and Brian Hunt	\$70	
	WD-113		Rock Art at Seminole Canyon State Park – Logan McNatt	\$65	
Wednesday Trips – Tourist, History, and Water-fun	WD-120		Fredericksburg, Peaches, and History - ICS Staff	\$80	
	WD-121		Historic Spanish Missions Trail – Kitty Swoboda	\$65	
	WD-122		River Walk and Shopping in San Antonio – Kitty Swoboda	\$70	
	WD-123		San Marcos Prime Outlets Shopping Center – ICS Staff	\$60	
	WD-124		Schlitterbahn Waterpark Resort – Ann Scott	\$80	
	WD-125		SeaWorld San Antonio – Joe Mitchell	\$105	
	WD-126		YO Ranch – YO Ranch Staff	\$110	

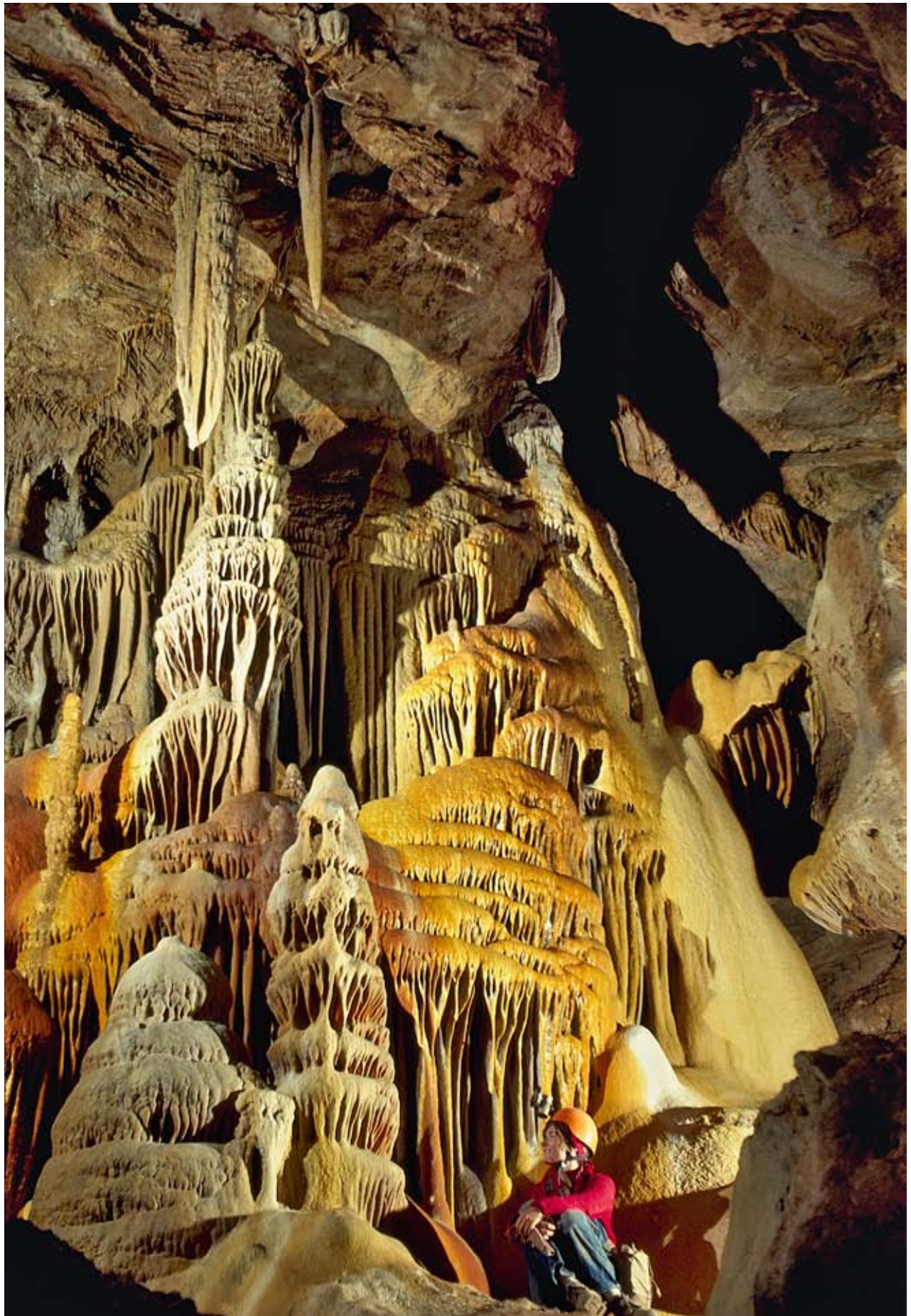
Name (last) _____ (first) _____ (MI) _____ Registration Number _____

Registration for Post-ICS Field Camps & Excursions (Use a separate form for each registrant)

All fieldtrip participants must be registered for the Congress. *(NOTE: Mark your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices in the boxes below for the trip in which you wish to participate. You will be charged for your 1st choice; price adjustments will be made if your 1st choice is already filled or is canceled and a substitution is necessary.)*

List the names of any traveling companions who must be on the same trip as you: _____

Event	Trip Number	1 st , 2 nd , & 3 rd Choice	Location/Description – Trip Leader Minimum/Maximum Number of Participants	Trip Fee	Total Cost Per Event
Post-Congress Excursions	01		Coast to Coast Through the American Karst: Eastern Segment – Dr. Kevin Stafford: 30/40 (Transportation Included)	\$2400	
	58a		Caving on the Big Island of Hawai'i – Full Caving Option Doug and Hazel Medville: Total for 58a and 58b is 10/18 Upgrade to single occupancy	\$1535	
				\$500	
	58b		Caving on the Big Island of Hawai'i – Non-caving Option Doug and Hazel Medville: Total for 58a and 58b is 10/18 Upgrade to single occupancy	\$1150	
				\$500	
	81		Caving with the Maya: 1750 Years in the Underworld – David and Eleanor Burns Larson: 10/16 (minimum age 13) Tikal Extension (optional)	\$1750	
				\$425	
	85		Cenote Karst of the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico – Dr. Patricia Beddows and Mr. Jim Coke: 6/15 Upgrade to Bungalow in Akumal (optional)	\$840	
				\$85	
Post-Congress Field Camps	31		Exploration and Science in the Mammoth Cave System – Dr. Chris Groves, James Borden, and Pat Kambesis: 8/40	\$400	
	53		Caves of the Guadalupe Mountains and Surrounding Area, New Mexico – Steve Peerman: 6/40 Upgrade to dormitories (optional) Upgrade to motel in town (optional)	\$615	
				\$95	
				\$225	
	59		Caves and Karst in Southeast Alaska – Johanna Kovarik: 4/8	\$1150	
	71		Caving in New York: The Preserves of the National Speleological Society and the Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. – Emily Davis: 6/15 (not suitable for children) Two (2) Day Extension (optional)	\$155	
				\$45	
	86		Deep Pits of Mexico – Jerry Fant: 10/30 (Transportation Included)	\$1225	



Three Fingers Cave, Guadalupe Mountains, New Mexico. Field Camp #52, 53



Texas Caves

Some central Texas caves featured on Congress day trips, clockwise from the top: Punkin Cave, Honey Creek Cave, Deep Cave, and below, Devil's Sinkhole.



ICS Sponsors:

