



The TAGLine

PO Box 11506 Chattanooga, TN 37401-2506
<http://www.chattnoogagrotto.org>

Chattanooga Grotto of the NSS

April 2007

Monthly Meeting

We are NO LONGER meeting at the Carta building downtown. Our April meeting, on **April 9, 2007**, will be held at Ruby Falls on Lookout Mountain.

Directions from Downtown Chattanooga:

- Travel South on Broad Street US-11 S away from Downtown Chattanooga
- Proceed to the railroad underpass. Broad Street becomes Highway 41 (Cummings Hwy)
- Continue on Cummings Hwy (Hwy 41) about 0.5 mile
- Take the ramp on the left side of the highway labeled Ruby Falls

We will meet in the Pavillion, which is on the THIRD floor. You have to go inside the building to get to it. There is no elevator access, so you will need to take the stairs. The front desk staff can help you if you get turned around. The executive committee will also be meeting here at 6pm.



Officer Steven Whited Will be presenting on METH LABS - Threatening caves and conservation OVERVIEW:

- * A look at METH, the drug
- * Health problems related to METH
- * How METH effects everyone
- * How METH is produced (general awareness info w/ no instruction)
- * Cave METH labs in the news
- * Possible effects on caves, cavers and conservation
- * Identifying possible METH activity
- * Safety precautions and reporting activity

Top Ten People to Avoid Caving With **By: Butch Feldhaus** **Originally posted on TAG - Net, February 14, 1999**

I recently took a co-worker on his first caving trip. He obviously understood that I didn't introduce just anybody to the sport and asked what criteria I used when selecting my caving pals. I told him that after twenty years, experience enables me to read someone pretty well, and I generally have a good feel for how they are going to work out. Later I pondered the question a little more and put my thoughts down on paper. I hope this helps you decide who to cave with, and who to send to Ruby Falls or Raccoon Mountain Caverns

The Top Ten people I avoid caving with:

1. Anyone who shows-up in an Eddie Bauer outfit, driving a Lexis or Range Rover and has one of those hand-crank flashlights as a back-up. If you are not there when they drive up, you can usually spot them later by the plaid tassel hanging down from the garter that holds up their "over the calf" socks.
2. Anyone who when asked about their caving experience responds: "Last weak I culnd't evn spill kvr, now I are un." or repeatedly asks you how to spell NSS so they can write (?) away for membership information.

3. Anyone who wears those T-shirts that say: "I'm a caver. I know my ass from a hole in the ground." To me this is like a worker at your favorite eatery wearing a shirt that says, "I'm a restaurant worker. I know to wash my hands before returning to work from the restroom."
4. Anyone who looks at my helmet and upon seeing the RESCUE SQUAD sticker remarks how glad they are that I'm on the trip, and how much they could have used me last time.
5. Anyone who has to slam their caving clothes on the ground to loosen them up to remove enough dirt from the last trip so they can put them on. Coincident to this is anyone who can be identified at a distance of more than ten-feet by the body odor that has become impregnated in their poly.
6. Anyone who swears by their Pretzel equipment. Coincident to this is anyone who cannot correctly spell, pronounce or identify his or her equipment. Chances are they also did not (or could not) read the safety warnings and instructions that came with it, or they found the gear on their last trip.
7. Anyone who carries so much gear in their pack that they have installed a metal frame or extra padding to help it ride more comfortably on their back.
8. Anyone who recounts their caving experiences with Bill Toad, RV, Butch Hudson or that famous woman of TAG, Marian Smith.
9. Anyone who does not know the tri-bond between "rock-salt," "four-ten" and "trespassing."
10. Anyone who starts a conversation with either "My psychiatrist suggested I try something new," or "I saw the cave rescue team pulling that injured guy out of the pit on TV last night and thought caving might be something my family would enjoy."

I hope this helps!

Looking for a Cave Trip?

Check out CaveChat! Our grotto has our own forum, complete with the latest announcements and cave trips!

www.cavechat.org



Cave Closure Notice

Hurricane Cave is closed.

The bulge in the concrete tile near the natural entrance has seen marked degradation. An inspection on Wednesday revealed conditions which are dangerous. The SCCI has decided to close the cave until further notice.

Please distribute this notification as soon as possible. Signage will be posted and the folks at Sue's alerted.

Thank you for your assistance.

Jim Wilbanks
Fox Mountain Management Committee



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In order to get the Tagline out earlier we would like articles for all editions of the Tagline to be submitted by the 28th of the month before publication. Send in pictures, articles, announcements, or what you want posted. See contact page for info. All drawings are copyright protected and the editor has received special permission from the artist to use in the TAGLine. The gifted Rick Spears provided the drawing on the envelope. Thank you very much! The Chattanooga Grotto TAGLine is the monthly notice of The Chattanooga Grotto of the National Speleological Society, Inc. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity and space requirements. Exchanges are welcome and encouraged. Please submit trip report and other longer material to the TAGLine PO Box 11506, Chattanooga, TN 37401-2506 or the Grotto TAGLine Editor.