



The TAGLine

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

Chattanooga Grotto of the NSS

March 2008

February Meeting!

The Chattanooga Grotto currently meets at the Chattanooga Nature Center! Our next meeting is Monday, March 10, at 7pm, with the EC Meeting at 6pm. Directions are in this newsletter! See you there!

Happy
St. Patrick's Day!

This Month's Program

The program for this week will be on local caves. See three of the deepest pits in America and learn about the discovery and exploration of the caves which contain them. These two caves were pivotal in the development of SRT techniques which TAG covers taught to the rest of the world.

Fern Cave is a local cave in the Paint Rock Valley in Alabama. First known for its wonderful Surprise Pit, it later has turned into a world class cave with multiple entrances. Photos by John Van Swearingen.

Ellison's cave in our backyard is the original slide show photographed by famous TAG caver Richard Schreiber. See photos of Fantastic and Incredible Pits.

Calendar of Events

May 3 – 10, 2008: NCRC Cave Rescue Operations and Management Seminar in Mentone, Alabama. Contact Jane Morgan at caverjanpet@comcast.net or www.caves.org/io/ncrc for more information.

June 9, 2008: (Tentative) Chattanooga Grotto trip to Nickajack Cave to watch the bat flight. This will take the place of our monthly meeting. More information later.

July 26, 2008: Grotto Summer Splash at Sinking Cove Cave. More information later.

August 11 – 15, 2008: NSS Convention in Lake City, Florida. Contact Buford Pruitt at bpruitt5@cox.net or (352)271-3203. Or visit www.nss2008.com.



It's Time To Renew

So far we have not heard from over 50 of our 2007 members. It's time to renew! (The March newsletter is the last one we send to members who have not sent their renewal forms in.)

A membership application can be downloaded from the Chattanooga Grotto website

www.chattanoogagrotto.org.

2007 Financial Summary

Last year's financial report may look a little odd because there were a number of large 2006 expenses that did not get paid until then (the Grottos 50th Celebration and the replacement of half of our loaner gear).

We had a great 2007 overall. The Grotto Picnic and Auction netted us roughly \$1300.00, and we were able to replace the remainder of our Grotto Loaner gear.

The details are below. If you have any questions please contact Butch Feldhaus at 423/238-7009 or bfeldhaus@centurytel.net.

Chattanooga Grotto of the NSS, Inc. 2007 Financial Summary

Opening Balance
7,569.25

Income

2006 Auction
81.00
2006 Financial Appeal
50.00
2007 Auction
1,507.31
2007 Dues
1,081.00
2008 Dues
175.00
Cedar Ridge Cave Gate Maintenance
140.00
Grotto 50th Celebration
270.00
Loaner Gear
603.00
Misc. Money
713.00
SERA Winter Business Meeting
650.25

Total Income
5,270.56

Expenses

2006 Financial Appeal
42.45
2007 Picnic and Auction
211.42
2007 Summer Splash
39.72
Banking
99.50
Cedar Ridge Cave Gate Maintenance
131.10

Corporation Fees
40.00
Donations - SCCI
500.00
Equipment Purchase - Projection Screen
381.99
Grotto 50th Celebration
2,541.40
Loaner Gear - Purchase
1,432.85
Meeting Refreshments
111.95
Misc
3.07
Office Supplies
169.68
Post Office Box
168.00
Postage
80.80
SERA Winter Business Meeting
444.01
Storage
300.00
Tagline Publication
622.18

Total Expenses
7,320.12



Can We Email You The Tagline?

Currently nearly 80% of our Grotto members receive the Tagline by email. This is a tremendous savings, as mailing the Tagline costs between \$12.00 and \$14.00 a year, and takes a considerable amount of time (printing, stuffing, mailing, and driving around). If you are one of the 20% who still receive the Tagline by regular mail, please consider having it emailed to you. There are several benefits of having The Tagline emailed to you. It arrives much quicker, is easier to store for later reference, and saves the Grotto time and money. If you would like to change to email, please contact Butch Feldhaus at 423/238-7009 or bfeldhaus@centurytel.net.

Welcome New Members

The following folks have joined the Chattanooga Grotto this year:

David Rowe – Chattanooga, TN
Leanne Berry - Decatur, TN
Andrew Miller - Decatur, TN
Kyle Oden- Hixson - TN
Brian Killingbeck - Chattanooga, TN
Michael Elbe - Tucker, GA
Emily Abercrombie - Trenton, GA
Kasey Thompson - Ooltewah, TN
Courtney Pietsazk - Collegedale, TN
Wyntre Robinson - Collegedale, TN
Christopher Twombly - Collegedale, TN
Eleni Tesch - Collegedale, TN
Flor Osorio - Collegedale, TN
Charity Penaloza - Raleigh, NC
Caitlyn McCrain - Collegedale, TN
Michael Looby - Chattanooga, TN
Alex Wade - Collegedale, TN
Jonathan Southard - Collegedale, N
James Ladd –Chattanooga, TN
George Daoud - Harrison, TN

Welcome Returning Members

The following folks have renewed their membership for 2008,

Marty Abercrombie - Trenton, GA
Linda Baker - Chattanooga, TN
Hollie Baranick - Cleveland, TN
Zack Baranick - Cleveland, TN
Cathy Borer - Mount Berry, GA
Rodney Bradford - Soddy-Daisy, TN
Marianne Brook - Lakeland, FL
Jonathan Scott Burishkin - Apison, TN
Brian Conners - Soddy-Daisy, TN
Cassie Conners - Soddy-Daisy, TN
Diane Cousineau - LaFayette, GA
Dane Creel - Ringgold, GA
Katrina Daoud - Harrison, TN
Emma E. DuBose - Chattanooga, TN
Susan C. DuBose - Chattanooga, TN
Tom DuBose - Chattanooga, TN
Christopher Ely - Rising Fawn, GA
Butch Feldhaus - Ooltewah, TN
Mary Beth Feldhaus - Ooltewah, TN
Jerry Geer - Signal Mountain, TN
Richard Harris - Tellico Plains, TN
Margie Haven - Ft. Oglethorp, GA
Kenneth C. Heck - Keedysville, MD
Steve Hudson - LaFayette, GA
James Johnston - Collegedale, TN
H. Mae Kile - Chattanooga, TN
Sarah Kreitzer - Chattanooga, TN

Micha M. Lane - Signal Mountain, TN
Kelsey M. Lane - Signal Mountain, TN
Buddy Lane - Signal Mountain, TN
Doranne M Lane - Signal Mountain, TN
David Lasser - Schererville, IN
Bob Lewis - Chattanooga, TN
Melissa Lewis - Chattanooga, TN
Judy S. McCormick - Soddy Daisy, TN
Jack R. McCormick - Soddy Daisy, TN
Ron Miller - Mount Berry, GA
Jonathan A. Mnich - Ooltewah, TN
Barbara Munson - McMinnville, TN
Barry J. O'Neal - Ooltewah, TN
Robert Payne - Chattanooga, TN
Patricia Perlaky - Chattanooga, TN
Ralph Powers - Chattanooga, TN
Jonny Prouty - Chattanooga, TN
Jennifer S. Schroll - Cleveland, TN
Carolina Shrewsbury - Lakeland, FL
Wm Shrewsbury - Lakeland, FL
Rhonda Shubert - Cherrylog, GA
Moore J. Smith - Lookout Mountain, TN
Bruce W. Smith - Harrison, TN
Gini Smith - Harrison, TN
Betty Jo Stephenson - Ringgold, GA
James B. Stephenson - Ringgold, GA
Julie Uselton - Chattanooga, TN
Jerry M. Wallace - Flat Rock, AL
Jim Wilbanks - Rising Fawn, GA
Gail S. Wilbanks - Rising Fawn, GA

If you have renewed your membership and do not find your name here, please contact Butch Feldhaus at 423/238-7009 or bfeldhaus@centurytel.net.

Driving Directions to the Nature Center:

From Downtown:

1. Go south on Broad St, towards Lookout Mountain
2. When you get to signs for Ruby Falls/Rock City – follow signs to Ruby Falls.
3. Go under the railroad underpass.
4. Follow Cummings Hwy (the road you are now on) around the base of the mountain.
5. You will pass the sign to go up the mountain to Ruby Falls, continue around
6. After the Lookout Valley apartments, and Mountain View apartments you will take a left turn
7. Onto Old Wauhatchie
8. Take the next right from Old Wauhatchie, this is Garden Rd – follow to end and our parking lot.

Contact List

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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.

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