



# The TAGLine

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

Chattanooga Grotto of the NSS

January 2006



## Meeting Notice

The regular meeting of the Chattanooga Grotto is held the second Monday of every month at 7:00p.m at the downtown CARTA Conference Center in Chattanooga, the next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2006. The EC meeting is at 6:00, right before the Grotto meeting.

## January's Meeting

Please make plan to attend this month's meeting, as the bulk of this month's meeting will be devoted to electing new officers for the upcoming year!

## REMINDER, DUES ARE DUE

by Jack McCormick

### Joke of the Month:

A man and a woman were having dinner in a fine restaurant. Their waitress, taking another order at a table a few paces away noticed that the man was slowly sliding down his chair and under the table, with the woman acting unconcerned.

The waitress watched as the man slid all the way down his chair and out of sight under the table. Still, the woman dining across from him appeared calm and unruffled, apparently unaware that her dining companion had disappeared.

After the waitress finished taking the order, she came over to the table and said to the woman, "Pardon me, ma'am, but I think your husband just slid under the table."

The woman calmly looked up at her and replied firmly, "No he didn't. He just walked in the door."

As a reminder to new and old members alike, the Grotto's annual dues for 2006 are due and payable as of January 1, 2006. Enclosed (or attached if you get your Tagline electronically) are our current membership list and member contact data, as well as a copy of our membership application/renewal form. Please check your data on the list, update it if needed on the form, and send in your form and appropriate payment, or give them to the treasurer, within a respectable proximity to the January 1 deadline. (Right now, while you are thinking about it, would be a good time.) If there are no changes to your data, just put your name on the form and write "no changes" in the area for the data. Please note that our dues schedule has not changed; it is shown on the back of the form, along with definitions and instructions. It's all the same as last year.

We usually have a 90 day grace period on getting in the dues and, after that, unpaid members are dropped. So thanks in advance for your promptness, and happy holidays!



# **Sera Business Meeting & Sera Summer Cave Carnival**

By: Michael Gilbert & Magz Sims

HELLO FELLOW GROTTOS AND FELLOW CAVERS,

THIS IS JUST A SHORT NOTE TO SAY **MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR** FROM THE CENTRAL ALABAMA GROTTO & TO ANNOUNCE/REMIND SOME OF YOU THAT THE CENTRAL ALABAMA GROTTO WILL BE HOSTING THE SERA WINTER BUSINESS MEETING ON FEBRUARY 18, 2006 & THE SERA SUMMER CAVE CARNIVAL ON

JUNE 1, 2, 3 & 4, 2006.

THE SERA WINTER BUSINESS MEETING WILL BE HELD AT OTEY HALL NEXT TO THE COLLEGE OF THE SOUTH (SEWANEE, TENNESSEE) ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2006. THE BANQUET WILL FOLLOW THAT EVENING AT THE SAME LOCATION. NEARBY HOTELS/MOTELS ARE AVAILABLE AND/OR YOU MIGHT WANT TO CAMP WITH US FOR FREE!

FREE CAMPING APPROX. 12 MILES FROM THE MEETING LOCATION WILL HAVE 2 SAUNAS & ONE HOTTUB & A CAMPFIRE TO BOOT! CAMPING IS AVAILABLE FRIDAY FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> & SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>. ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2006 A SERA KARST TASK FORCE CAVE CLEANUP WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE. MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CAG WEBSITE.

[WWW.CAVES.ORG/GROTTO/CAG](http://WWW.CAVES.ORG/GROTTO/CAG)

THE 55<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SERA SUMMER CAVE CARNIVAL WILL TAKE PLACE ON JUNE 1, 2, 3 AND 4, 2006. BUCK'S POCKET STATE PARK NEAR SCOTTOSBORO, ALABAMA WILL BE THE HOST SITE. SOME WATER & ELECTRIC CAMPING IS STILL AVAILABLE ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS BY RESERVING. YOU MAY CALL 256-223-2228 &

ASK FOR MICHAEL TO SEE IF THEY ARE STILL AVAILABLE & RESERVE. FOUR DAYS OF CAVING, FELLOWSHIP, CAMPING, VENDORS AND FUN! MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND! CAG IS GOING TO PUT THE "CARNIVAL" INTO THE SERA CAVE CARNIVAL IN 2006! MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CAG WEBSITE.

[WWW.CAVES.ORG/GROTTO/CAG](http://WWW.CAVES.ORG/GROTTO/CAG)

Watch out ABOVE and BELOW ground!

**Michael Gilbert / 2006 SERA Chairman**  
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**Magz Sims / 2006 SERA Co-Chair**  
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## **Election Time!**

As we all know, January is Election Time! Most of this month's meeting will be devoted to electing the officers for this upcoming year. Remember, the best way to make a difference is to participate! We're looking forward to seeing you there!



## **New Website!**

[www.chattanooga.org](http://www.chattanooga.org)

Log in, create a user name, and let the interactive fun begin! Special thanks to Mike Harrison and Jonny Prouty for putting this together.

## PHOTO AND ART SALON WINNERS

By Jack McCormick

As is our custom, the Grotto had its annual photo and art salon contest at our December meeting/ Christmas party. Again this year, we were privileged to have the event at the Lane's home, which couldn't have been a nicer place for our group to be. I really enjoyed it, as I'm sure all those present did. Thank you Doranne, Buddy, Kelsey, and Micha for having us.

Also as previously, the salon entries were classified into four categories: Film prints, film slides, digital presentations, and art. Of course, all entries had to be related to caves in some way. For each category we awarded prizes of \$80 for first place, \$40 for second place, and \$20 for third place. No individual person was allowed to "sweep" a category. The winners in each category are listed below:

### PRINT FILM

First place: Wm Shrewsbury  
Second place: Carolina Shrewsbury  
Third place: No entry!

### SLIDE FILM:

First place: Wm Shrewsbury  
Second place: Wm Shrewsbury  
Third place: No entry!

### DIGITAL PRESENTATION

First place: Pam Akins  
Second place: Jerry Wallace  
Third place: Michael Hills

### ART

First place: Carolina Shrewsbury  
Second place: Jerry Wallace  
Third place: No entry!

Although no prize was authorized, the "best of show" in all categories, by virtue of its getting more points than any other entry, was the first place winner in the digital presentation, that being the one by Pam Akins. It is also interesting that last year we had only one entry in the digital presentation category and this year there were many, while this year there only two entries in the print film category, while last year there were many. Slides may have had their day (Thanks to Wm for retrieving and cleaning our projector!), but come on now you artists! Anyway, it was a great show. Thanks to everyone who entered.

## Calendar of Events

**February 18:** Sera Winter Business Meeting.  
**June 1-4:** SERA at Bucks Pocket State Park  
**October:** TAG Fall Cave-In!

### Grotto Trips!

**January 20-22:** Glory Hole: 01/20-22/06 This is quite possibly the prettiest cave in the south east. The trip is limited to ten people. If you are interested in going please contact Marty Abercrombie as soon as possible.

#### **Tentative Trip Schedule for This Year:**

Special thanks to Beth Elliott for getting this schedule together! If you would like to lead a trip, please contact Beth at 706.820.9293!

**January:** Byer's Cave, led by Jonny Prouty. Please contact Jonny for more information.

**February:** Grindstone Cave-led by Mike Hills. Please contact Mike for more information.

**February:** TBA cave trip led by Jerry Wallace. See Jerry for more information.

**March:** Wheeler's Raid Pit, led by Glen Segrest.

**April:** Gourdneck Cave, led by Wm Shrewsbury.

**May:** Camps Gulf/Natural Bridge Sinks, led by Beth Elliott.

**June:** Limrock Blowing Cave, led by Monty Keel

**July:** Whiteside Cave, led by Beth Elliott.

**August:** Sinking Cove Cave-Summer Splash!

**September:** Cedar Ridge Cave, led by Carolina Shrewsbury

**October:** TAG Fall Cave-In!

**November:** Levi Cave.

**December:** Cumberland Caverns Christmas Party

## Contact List

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This contact list may also be found at the Grotto web site "Contact Us" page, at <http://www.caves.org/grotto/chattanooga/contactus.html>



In order to get the Tagline out earlier we would like articles for all editions of the Tagline to be submitted by the 28<sup>th</sup> 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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