

# CAVE SCIENCE NEWS

## NSS CONVENTION - CALL FOR PAPERS

The NSS Section of Cave Geology and Geography is accepting abstracts of papers for presentation at the Geology and Geography Session of the 2003 NSS Convention, to be held in Porterville, California, from 4-8 August 2003. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words in length (this limit must be strictly met). In addition to the text, the abstracts should contain the title of the paper, and the name(s) and address(es) of the author(s). The abstracts should be informative summaries that include the conclusions, and not lists of topics that "...will be discussed." Bibliographies and references should not be given in the abstracts. Papers may be submitted for either oral presentation or as a poster.

Send any questions and your abstracts by mail, e-mail, disk, or fax to: George Veni 11304 Candle Park San Antonio, Texas 78249-4421 210-558-4403 413-383-2276 (fax) gveni@satx.rr.com

The deadline for abstracts is 15 May 2003. Early submissions are encouraged. Confirmation notes will be sent to everyone sending an abstract. Details on presentations times, dates, and other information will be sent to all confirmed participants after the deadline. For online details about the convention, visit: <http://www.nss2003.com/>

In addition to the regular sessions above, the convention will include a special GIS & Digital Mapping Symposium sponsored by the Geology and Geography Section. The symposium will include oral presentations (PowerPoint or slides) and will also offer additional slots for "how to" or software demonstrations. Presentations should be 20-30 minutes long, additional time for special presentations can be accommodated. Interested individuals are encouraged to submit papers or presentations on all topics related to GIS and digital mapping. If you have questions or are interested in presenting a paper or demonstration please contact the symposium organizer, Bernie Szukalski, at [bszukalski@esri.com](mailto:bszukalski@esri.com) or call 909-793-2853 ext.1315 for more details. Abstracts for this session should be sent to Bernie. The deadlines and guidelines for abstracts given above also apply to this symposium and all NSSCON 2003 sessions.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

An abstract published on page 187 of the December 2002 issue (v. 64, n. 3) perpetuates a charming but, unfortunately incorrect, bit of folklore: That Kenya's Kitum Cave was excavated by salt-seeking animals, primarily elephants. All participants in the 1998 excursion to that cave after the 8th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology concluded that it primarily is solutional in origin. This also is the conclusion expressed in the scientific literature on the cave, e.g.:

- Sutcliffe, A., 1967, A caving expedition to East Africa: William Pengelly Cave Studies Association Newsletter, n. 9, p. 17.  
Halliday, W.R., 1998, Overview of the 8th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology: International Journal of Speleology, v. 27B, p. 10.  
Simons, J.W., 1998, Volcanic caves of East Africa – An overview: International Journal of Speleology, v. 27B, p. 19.

William R. Halliday

## THE CANON NATIONAL PARKS SCIENCE SCHOLARS PROGRAM FOR THE AMERICAS

PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE 2002 CANON SCHOLARS

Linda "Rickki" Grober-Dunsmore  
*University of Florida, USA*  
Mark Hebblewhite  
*University of Alberta, Canada*  
Patricia Illoldi  
*National Autonomous University, UNAM, Mexico*  
Jessica Lindquist  
*University of California, San Diego, USA*  
Ramona Maraj  
*University of Calgary, Canada*  
Carolina Morales  
*Universidad Nacional del Comahue, Argentina*  
Ashley Morris  
*University of Florida, USA*  
Marc Stern  
*Yale University, USA*

AND OPENS ITS 2003 COMPETITION

The Canon National Parks Science Scholars Program is a collaboration among Canon USA, Inc., the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the US National Park Service. Thanks to a generous commitment by Canon USA, Inc., the program will be awarding eight US\$78,000 scholarships to PhD students throughout the Americas to conduct research critical to conserving the national parks of the region.

Research projects in the biological, physical, social and cultural sciences are eligible, as well as projects in a new category-technology innovation in support of conservation science. Applications must be received by 15 May 2003.

For information about the Canon National Parks Science Program and a copy of the Application Guide, please visit the website at:  
[www.nature.nps.gov/canonscholarships/](http://www.nature.nps.gov/canonscholarships/)