

Northeastern Cave Conservancy News



The Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. (NCC) is a not-for-profit corporation committed to the conservation, study, management, and acquisition of caves and karst areas having significant geological, hydrological, biological, recreational, historical or aesthetic features. To these ends, the NCC combines the resources and expertise of affiliated cave explorers, educators, scientists, landowners, and conservation officials.

Next Board Meeting

Sunday, March 20th, 2005, 11:00AM
at The Cave House, Cobleskill, NY

Notes from the Last Board Meeting

- 1) The standing group of Officers were re-elected for another year.
- 2) The 2005 Budget was passed.
- 3) The NCC will purchase 1000 trail markers with our logo for the properties - cost is up to \$300.
- 4) The NCC will make arrangements to take ownership of Onesquethaw Cave and transfer a conservation easement to the Albany County Land Conservancy - up to \$300 for the closing.
- 5) Bob Simmons stepped down from his Nominating Chair position and the NCC thanks him for the professional job he did.
- 6) Mike Martuscello was voted in as new Nominating Chair.
- 7) Bill Folsom was appointed to form an Ad Hoc committee for the purchase of Pompeys Cave.
- 8) Thanks to Howe Caverns for hosting the meeting and providing donuts, bagels and coffee.

Next Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday, February 12th, 2005, 4:00PM
At Bob and Christa's Place, Cohoes, NY

Notes from the Last Executive Committee Meeting

- 1) Clarksville - Parking area has been cleared, might need to order a load of shale. Status of Stewardship program.
- 2) State Incorporation for Vermont - the application for state incorporation will be sent to Vermont within the correct time frame and payment.
- 3) Database - Melanie is working on it and will have one ready for testing soon.
- 4) Communications - try to get more members to join the discussion group, update on-line waivers, events page, NCC store on web
- 5) Streamlining at meetings- all committees must send a report with "Plans, Progress, Problems" if no issues then "status quo"
- 6) Budget - Joe is working on the budget for next year.
- 7) Promotional - new t-shirt design was discussed, promotional / donation levels discussed.
- 8) Cave and Karst Acquisition Policy - Board members need to review for upcoming board meeting
- 9) Direction for the NCC - ways to increase membership, next project needed!
- 10) Thanks to Bill and Robin for hosting the meeting and also to Robin for keeping us well fed. :-)

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<p>The Northeastern Cave Conservancy News is published quarterly by the Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. The Northeastern Cave Conservancy promotes the study and preservation of speleologically significant properties in the Northeastern United States. Annual membership is \$15 (Regular), \$5 addtl. (Family), \$10 (student), \$50 (Benefactor), and \$100 (Institutional). All checks made payable and sent to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. P.O. Box 254 Schoharie, N.Y. 12157</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.caves.org/conservancy/ncc/</p>		

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy elects three new Board members each year for three-year terms. At this time, the Nominating Committee requests that anyone interested in running for the Board this year please contact the Committee (c/o Mike Martuscello at 78 Glen Avenue, Amsterdam, NY, 12010, mikemart@superior.net or call at (518)842-2189), no later than Monday, April 11th, 2005. Alternatively, you may express your interest to any Board member or officer of the NCC and ask that your name be forwarded to the Nominating Committee. Additionally, as the NCC is always seeking new and varied voices for the Board (and many other positions), if you know of someone that you feel would make a good candidate for the Board (or other position), please give their name to the Nominating Committee so that we may approach them about the possibility of their running for a seat.

Missed Clarksville Donors

In the previous issue two donors to Clarksville Cave were inadvertently left off the list. These donors were Peter Jones and PMI, both who donated prizes for the raffle held at the NSS Convention this past summer.

Plum Day or the Plum Festival *by Bob Addis*

Saturday, September 24, 2005 will be the Plum Festival in Clarksville, and both the NCC Board and the Clarksville Cave Preserve Management Team have decided to participate in this community event. Similar to last year's community day, The NCC will put up a dining fly with table displays to answer questions that the public might have about us and the cave property. Throughout Clarksville there will be various activities - an antique car show, perhaps a craft show, undoubtedly personal garage sales, historical displays and demonstrations, and several food vendors, to mention a few. It is sponsored by the newly formed Clarksville Historical Society, and its emphasis will be on history. The NCC has been attending their monthly planning meetings and have been welcomed as a new neighbor. We will tap all of our resources to gather information on the history of Clarksville Cave for a display, but I

believe the pictures to be few. Therefore, we will advertise ahead of the event for residents to bring whatever they have to our booth for copying and gathering. This could unearth photos, newspaper articles, and possibly personal stories that we have not seen before. We will have a copy camera at the booth. Would anyone be able to do a Power point demonstration if we get electricity?

By the way, the Plum Festival was started a few years ago by the Town of New Scotland, and has very little to do with plums. Plums were only a minor crop in the area, although many farms raised them for their own use. Somewhere along the line, someone discovered that New Scotland was "plum" in the middle of Albany

County, and the name stuck! I don't make this stuff up, you know!

Request for Assistance

by Bob Addis

I have been asked to do the Saturday night program on the successes of the NCC during the NSS Board of Governor's weekend, November 4-6, 2005, and I will need the help of local photographers in illustrating our cave preserves. First question to be answered soon: Do you have 35 mm. slides or digital images? Can you take assignments for the summer to gather pictures? This should be both above ground and under.

Upcoming Events

NCC Board Meeting

Sunday, March 20th, 2005, 11:00AM
at The Cave House, Cobleskill, NY

Spring NRO

May 20th-25th
at Oak Valley Campground, Cuddlebackville, NY



Wicks Hole (side shot)



Halls Hole, iced over! (2-19-05)

(Photos by Mike Chu)