



**КОРОТКІ ПОВІДОМЛЕННЯ, НОВИНИ**  
**КОРОТКИЕ СООБЩЕНИЯ, НОВОСТИ**  
**BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS, NEWS**

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**МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ КОНФЕРЕНЦИЯ «КРЫМСКИЕ  
КАРСТОВЫЕ ЧТЕНИЯ: СОСТОЯНИЕ И ПРОБЛЕМЫ  
КАРСТОЛОГО-СПЕЛЕОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЙ»**

В апреле 2008 года проведена первая международная конференция в основанной УИСКом серии «Крымские карстовые чтения: Состояние и проблемы карстолого-спелеологических исследований». Со-организаторами конференции выступили Институт геологических наук НАН Украины, Украинская спелеологическая Ассоциация, Комиссия спелеологии и карстования Русского географического Общества и Силезский университет (Польша).

В конференции приняли участие 48 человек, в том числе 19 докторов и кандидатов наук, из Украины (Симферополь, Севастополь, Киев, Тернополь, Львов), России (Москва, Санкт-Петербург, Уфа, Самара, Иркутск), Польши (Сосновец). В ходе двух дней научных сессий было представлено 42 доклада по актуальным вопросам карстологии и спелеологии и проведена полевая научная экскурсия по гипогенному карсту Предгорного Крыма.

К началу конференции изданы сборник тезисов

докладов (заявки следует направлять на адрес УИСК) и путеводитель полевой экскурсии.

Участниками единодушно отмечены высокий уровень организации конференции, представленных докладов и состоявшихся дискуссий.

Оргкомитет и участники конференции благодарят руководство ТНУ за действенную помощь в организации и проведении конференции.

**Климчук А.Б. (Симферополь, Украина)**

**15<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SPELEOLOGY:  
ARE YOU READY TO REGISTER?!**

The International Congress of Speleology (ICS) is the world's premier speleological event. An event of the International Union of Speleology (UIS), it is held once every four years in a location selected by the delegates of the UIS member nations. The next ICS will be held in Kerrville, Texas, USA on 19-26 July 2009. An estimated 2,000 people from nearly 60 countries are expected to attend to share the results of their latest exploration, research, and techniques. Registration will begin by the end of July 2008.

The National Speleological Society (NSS) of the United States will host the ICS in combination with its annual convention for a truly spectacular affair. All of the usual ICS and NSS events will occur in 2009, as well as some new ones. This article covers some of the many activities planned, but first, some important information:

Read the website: [www.ics2009.us](http://www.ics2009.us). Everything we know and plan is immediately posted there. If something is not there, we don't know it or haven't finished planning it yet. If you want more details on anything below, go to the website!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> ICS Circular will include the registration form

and a summary of all activities. As previously announced, it will only be mailed to those on our mailing list who don't have e-mail addresses (Internet access) or have specifically requested printed copies. It will be downloadable from the website.

Reservations for all trips, rooms, and activities will be based on the order in which you register. Reservations will not be held for people who have not registered.

If you are submitting a paper, full registration must be received when or before submitting.

If you need a visa, the Congress Organizing Committee will gladly provide a letter of invitation to assist in the visa application process, but the committee has no control over the visa process or the decision of the U.S. Consulate.

A limited amount of support toward the payment of U.S. entry visa application fees will be available to Congress registrants from countries with developing economies.

Register early for the lowest price. For even lower registration fees, some registration items are optional and can be deducted.

### General Information

The 15th ICS will be held at Schreiner University, a small, beautiful private university in Kerrville, Texas, USA. A shuttle bus will transport people between the university and the many nearby hotels, which are available at a wide range of prices. Some hotels offer discounts for people attending the ICS. Clean, air-conditioned apartments and dormitories are available at Schreiner University within a one- to three-minute walk from the sessions. Plenty of room for camping exists at the university and along the Guadalupe River at a nearby former state park.

The Junior Speleological Society (JSS) will provide educational, recreational, and social activities for children of ages 7-17 who attend for the ICS, bringing young people together from all over the world. The JSS will provide a schedule of over 50 chaperoned activities. Participation is voluntary but open to any child registered for the Congress. Some optional JSS activities will require a fee in addition to normal child registration.

Nearly 700 m<sup>2</sup> of indoor space, as well as ample outdoor vending space, will be available for vendors selling caving books, equipment, and related materials. For people who just have a few items to sell, one large room will be available for consignment sales. Exhibit booths and tables will also be available for informational displays. A limited number of tables will be provided free to non-profit caving organizations. If reserved early enough, a booth will be provided for each UIS member organization bidding for the 2013 ICS. If no booths are available, a free table will be provided.

### Call for Papers

Papers on any scientific, technical, cultural or educational aspect of speleology are welcome. Sessions are planned in geology, biology, archeology, paleontology, paleoclimate, exploration, exploration techniques, and social and medical sciences. Fifteen symposia that cover a diverse group of state-of-the-art topics are also planned. The abstract and paper must be in English. The abstract text is limited to 30 lines. Papers should total no more than six pages. Submit digital files that are readable in Microsoft Word. The deadlines for papers are:

- **1 December 2008:** Abstract submission
- **1 January 2009:** Notification of acceptance
- If the abstract is accepted for presentation:
- **1 February 2009:** Full manuscript submission and Congress registration
- **7 April 2009:** Revisions completed and copyright release submitted

### Classes, Workshops, and Meetings

Are you new to caving or just want to learn something different? Three SpeleoArt workshops will be offered. Additionally, there will be a one-day technical class where experts in speleology will lecture on geology, meteorology, chemistry, hydrology, biology, and paleontology. Also, the UIS will have its General Assemblies and meetings of its departments, commissions, and working groups throughout the week. NSS Board of Governors, Sections, Congress of Grottos, and other meetings are also planned, and the international community is welcome to attend. All groups

wishing to have meetings at the ICS must contact us and reserve a space by 1 April 2009.

### International Cave Arts and Music Salons

The International Cave Arts and Music Salons are competitions that promote and recognize excellent cave-related art, artists, and musicians. They are open to everyone and most entries will be exhibited during the ICS. The highest award for each salon will be presented, and a portrait of the winner will be shown during the Congress's Thursday evening Salon program. The salons are:

- Ballad and Songs
- Cartographic
- Cover Art (newsletter covers)
- MultiMedia (exhibition by multiple image computer programs)
- Photographic (projected slide transparencies and digital photographs)
- Photographic Prints
- SpeleMedia (video)
- SpeleoArt
- Symbolic Emblems (pins, patches, logos, etc.)
- T-shirts
- Social Activities

Three delicious banquets will be offered during the Congress. The meals will be prepared by the best caterers in the region. The NSS looks forward to sharing its traditional "Howdy Party" on Monday night with speleologists from around the world. This outdoor, informal banquet will feature Texas-style barbecue, Texas-style music by a regionally famous band, and a few surprises. On Friday evening, the NSS will host its annual Awards Banquet to recognize the accomplishments of its members. Everyone, including non-NSS members, is welcome to attend. To help close the week, the 15th ICS banquet will be held on Saturday night with a formal and excellent dinner.

Tuesday offers a relaxing evening of music and song starting with some famous cave balladeers singing their tunes. Then the microphone will be open for anyone who wants to sing caving or non-caving songs or simply play music without vocals. Since the ICS is an international event, folk songs and music from the countries represented are especially welcome. Bring your voice and musical instruments and be ready to perform!

Each year, members of the NSS donate interesting, unusual, and often rare items for auction at the NSS annual convention. The funds support NSS projects and activities. This tradition is being brought to the 15<sup>th</sup> ICS. People from around the world are encouraged to donate cave-related items for the Wednesday evening auction. Money from the sales will go to the UIS or the NSS, your choice. What types of items are auctioned? Books, photographs, artwork, music, newsletters and journals, jewelry, historic equipment, registration to future conferences and trips... anything cave-related. Use your imagination! Remember, what may not seem special to you may be precious and rare to people from other countries. The auction is always exciting and fun, and will provide needed money to the speleological organization you select.

The Terminal Syphons, a caver band which has played at the NSS Convention since 1985, will perform later on Wednesday night. Come to this exciting party and dance to

a blend of rock and roll and blues.

The SpeleOlympics will challenge athletes in five individual events, plus one team event. The teams will not represent nations but international friendship and cooperation. Each person on a team will be from a different country. The rope climbing, rebelay course, obstacle course, cable ladder climbing, and surveying competitions will be open to men and women of all ages.

### *Trips!!!*

Fantastic trips will be offered before, during and after the ICS.

Day trips will occur throughout the week to several caves and tourist attractions. Registration for these trips will take place at the ICS where times, locations, equipment needs, costs, and other details will be listed. Prices will be low, mainly to cover the costs of the transportation and any entry fees. The caving trips will include simple and difficult caves, wet and dry, horizontal and vertical—there will be something for everyone. Bring whatever equipment you'll need for your preference in caving. In addition to caving, a wide variety of cultural and family trips will offer shopping, family fun, and non-caving outdoor activities. Most day trips will leave the Congress in the morning and return in time for dinner.

Have you ever seen 40 million bats?! Special evening trips will be offered to watch the world's largest bat colonies fly out of caves. Evening trips to beautiful tourist caves will also occur: Cave Without A Name, Caverns of Sonora, and Natural Bridge Caverns. Like the day trips, registration for the evening trips will take place at the ICS. Most evening trips will leave the Congress in the late afternoon, have dinner at or near the cave, and will return at night.

You must register before the ICS to join the pre- and post-Congress field camps and excursions, as well as the special one-day trips that will occur during the Congress on Wednesday. Pre and post-congress field camps and excursions generally include all meals, lodging, and transportation (you will need to arrange your own transportation to the trips and between the trips and the Congress). Field camps focus primarily on wild (non-

touristic) caving, and you will be expected to bring your own camping and caving equipment. Some will provide hostel style accommodations. Excursions may offer some wild caving, but will primarily focus on touristic caving, cultural activities, and other easily accessed activities. Excursions will include accommodations ranging from hostels to hotels, and restaurants will serve most meals.

Twelve pre-ICS excursions and field camps, nine post-ICS excursions and field camps, and 20 Wednesday trips are planned! Some trips will appeal to those with a general interest in caves, while others specialize in topics like exploration, geology, biology, and management. Registration for these trips must be received by 16 April 2009; participation cannot be guaranteed after that date. Combining one pre-ICS and one post-ICS trip, you can explore caves and karst across North America, from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C. Combined, the 41 trips will visit 17 U.S. states plus the Bahamas, Belize, Guatemala, and Mexico.

### *Are you ready to register?*

We hope you are, and we are ready to give you the best ICS we can. Remember, this is just an overview of the 15<sup>th</sup> ICS. Go to the website and download the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circular. Use it as a guide and then look at the website for more details. Don't forget to watch the 15-minute video on the website to see Kerrville and more of what the 15<sup>th</sup> ICS has to offer. If you still have questions, don't hesitate to contact us at: 15<sup>th</sup> ICS, P.O. Box 691965, San Antonio, Texas 78269 USA, 001-413-383-2276 (fax), secretary@ics2009.us or johnmoses@excite.com.

While the U.S.A. is the host country for the 15<sup>th</sup> ICS, its committees include members and assistance from around the world. It is with this help and your attendance that we expect this to be an excellent ICS where we can build and strengthen international friendships. On behalf of the UIS, the NSS, and the ICS Organizing Committee, we hope you will join us in Kerrville for the 15<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology on 19-26 July 2009.

***George Veni (USA), Andrew Eavis (Great Britain)***

## **ИЗУЧЕНИЕ ПЛЕЙСТОЦЕНОВЫХ ОТЛОЖЕНИЙ ПЕЩЕР УРАЛА**

Вторая совместная экспедиция Горного института УрО РАН (Кунгурская лаборатория-стационар) и Украинского института спелеологии и карстологии НАНУ и МОН Украины по изучению плейстоценовых отложений пещер Западного Урала состоялась с 11 по 24 августа 2008. Работы осуществлялись в рамках проекта «Оценка современного состояния геологических природных комплексов и археологических объектов на территории ООПТ регионального значения в Александровском, Гремячинском, Губахинском и Кизеловском районах Пермского края».

Основные исследования проводились во входной части Виашерской пещеры в г. Кизел, где производилась ревизия раскопок местных краеведов 1960-1980-х годов. К сожалению, большая часть плейстоценовых отложений, содержащих кости ископаемых животных (а возможно и культурные остатки), здесь уничтожена и в значительной мере заменена современным мусором.

Но все же, под большой упавшей глыбой удалось найти целик ненарушенного залегания, содержавшего фаунистические остатки. Кости и зубы принадлежали главным образом пещерному медведю, а также пещерному льву, северному оленю, мелким хищникам семейства куньих и др. Грунт, как из ненарушенных слоев, так и из отвалов раскопок прошлых лет, подвергался промывке с целью выявления микрофауны, мелких костей и зубов крупных животных. Отложения относятся преимущественно к верхнему плейстоцену. Более подробное их деление будет установлено по результатам фаунистического и радиоуглеродного анализов.

Разведочное обследование было проведено также в пещере Барсучьей около г. Александровска, и в Махневских пещерах. В последних кроме фаунистических остатков, были выявлены верхнепалеолитические кремневые отщепы.