

---

# WILLIAMS CANYON PROJECT

# NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

---

## Autumn Meeting

### *Cave of the Winds*

*September 29, 2001 — 10:00 a.m.*

### A G E N D A

#### **WELCOME**

? Any general announcements or news.

#### **APPROVAL OF 2001-2002 TRIP LEADERS**

**Vote:** All attending trip leaders may participate

Trip leader applications for 2001-2002 will be considered and approved. As per prior discussion, trip leaders who do not submit an application by this meeting will not be permitted to formally lead trips during the upcoming year. However, a position will be reserved for these individuals for 2002-2003. New trip leaders will also be reviewed and approved.

? *Discussion:* Do trip leader forms need to be fully completed or can they be accepted and placed in a "pending" file if some information or approval signatures are missing?

#### **WCP PROJECT REPORT**

**Discussion:** Mark Maslyn

In early August, the Williams Canyon Project's "Caves of Williams Cañon" book was received from the printer and distributed to several "book depositories." Project directors are encouraged to bring a box of books with them to all meetings and events for the next six months for possible sales. Retail cost is \$20.00, wholesale cost to book contributors is \$12.00.

Three caving bookstores are carrying the book: Rich Wolfert's Inner Realm Books, Emily Davis' Speleobooks and the NSS Bookstore. Rich has agreed to limit his sales for the time being to mail order and out of state events. Gerry Estes has posted an image of the book on the WCP website to encourage sales.

Thanks to all who participated in making this book a reality, and particularly to Rob Kolstad, Mark Maslyn, Paul Burger, Carolyn Cronk and Bob Stucklen for their extra efforts.

? *Discussion:* Latest developments, next edition in 2010?

#### **WCP TREASURY REPORT**

**Discussion:** Bob Stucklen

Update on project finances from Treasurer Bob Stucklen. Bob is hopeful that sales of the WCP book will allow for full repayment of the loans for the printing. Each loan will be repaid to contributors on an equal percentage basis. Cavers may request books in lieu of repayment of all or a part of their loan – books are available at the \$12 wholesale rate. Let Bob know if this proposition is of interest.

It is important that sales of all books and complimentary distribution should be reported to Bob regularly so he can keep the account up to date.

? *Discussion:* Account specifics, repayment plans.

## **WCP INTERNET WEB SITE**

**Discussion:** Mark Maslyn

Gerry Estes has moved to Memphis for a temporary position but is scheduled to return to Colorado in the Spring of 2002 (he is actively seeking a full time position in the Denver/Colorado Springs area). Despite his move to Tennessee, he is continuing his duties in maintaining and updating the WCP web site, [www.coloradocaves.org](http://www.coloradocaves.org). Anyone who has information or other project materials to be posted to the site should contact Gerry by e-mail. His e-mail is [gerryestes@email.msn.com](mailto:gerryestes@email.msn.com).

? *Discussion:* What else can be added to the web site?

## **CONSERVATION**

**Breezeway Cave Restoration:** Al Collier, Tom Dotter

Restoration efforts in the Enchanted Forest – Celestial City corridor have nearly reached a conclusion. Thanks to the efforts of several hard-working and dedicated cavers, much of the mud tracked through these areas has been cleaned. Broken formations have been repaired and flagging tape laid to restrict travel.

During the spring of this year, all WCP member grottos voted on the proposal to install a ladder at Hallowed Ground, bypassing the Upside Down Staircase climb. Of the four member grottos, three voted to install the ladder and one abstained from a decision, reserving the vote for later. A tentative design has been determined for the ladder, which can be easily installed in only one or two trips. Once the ladder is installed, the ledge at the top of the Upside Down Staircase can be taped off and restored, with extensive repairs to broken speleothems.

Though the grottos all voted to install the ladder, a last minute effort from some trip leaders has questioned the installation of the ladder. Shall this topic be reopened for additional discussion or should earlier decisions by the member grottos and the WCP board stand?

? *Discussion:* Shall Breezeway be reopened now that the restoration has reached its conclusion? Shall a ladder be installed in Hallowed Ground, as per the direction of the member grottos? What additional restoration efforts, if any, are needed for Breezeway Cave?

**Cave of the Winds Restoration:** Jeremy Stiles, Al Collier

Al Collier and Tom Dotter will continue their restoration efforts in 2001-2002 in Cave of the Winds and the Manitou Grand Cavern. All interested cavers are invited to participate in this continuing project.

? *Discussion:* Project logistics, timetable, other areas needing restoration.

**Twin Walls Cave Gate:** Jeremy Stiles, Fred Luiszer

Gating or semi-permanent blockage of the descending series leading through breakdown to the Cricket Chamber in Twin Walls Cave in lower Williams Canyon is necessary, as unknown persons have dug it open several times over the summer months.

? *Discussion:* Project logistics, timetable.

**Narrows Cave Gate Repairs:** Jon Barker, Jeremy Stiles

The Narrows Cave gate was damaged during the summer, requiring repairs by Jon Barker and Chas Lindsey. Despite its visibility to the Cave of the Winds, this cave continues to attract vandals intent on entering.

? *Discussion:* Should the gate be replaced or supplemented with a second gate?

## CAVE PROJECTS

### **Babylon:** Fred Luiszer

Digging in the Egyptian Temple region of upper Williams Canyon last spring faded with the warming weather. The Babylon dig has been disappointing in that open cave passage has yet to be found. It has about 20-25 feet of passage and two digs, one leading northeast, the other north. Is more cave in the mountain north of Grieving Widows? More effort is needed.

? *Discussion:* Dig logistics.

### **Breezeway:** Tom Dotter, Randy Reck, Mike Frazier, Rick Rhinehart

Several dig projects are proposed for the new season in Breezeway Cave. With the cave scheduled to reopen this fall after a restoration hiatus, there are three main digs proposed: the Twin Tulip dig in the Celestial City (Tom and Randy), the lower level dig below Rattlesnake Canyon (Mike) and an exploratory dig in Wintergreen Dome (Rick). Twin Tulip has good airflow and might provide an alternate route to the inner cave from the Celestial City. The lower level dig, not visited since flooding in 1999, could offer a significant extension to the system to the south and east. The Wintergreen Dome, at the north end of Cowboy Heaven, has been overlooked since its discovery in May 1993. If properly opened, it might provide a bypass to the main trade route through the C Survey/Holy Waters region.

? *Discussion:* Dig logistics.

### **The Big Dig:** Fred Luiszer, Rick Rhinehart

Walt Rubeck will coordinate "The Big Dig" in lower Williams Canyon this October. Following a day of repairs to the flood-ravaged Williams Canyon road, Walt will turn his heavy equipment to digs at the East Wall near the old Huccacove parking area and to the "Dig of the Presidents" across from the Manitou Cave pit entrance. Cavers are welcome to participate in the digs, which have good possibilities of opening hidden cave passageways.

? *Discussion:* Dig logistics, plans for gating or temporary sealing when (and if) new cave is discovered.

### **Additional Digs**

Other dig projects for the 2001/2002 season can be discussed.

## WILLIAMS CANYON PROJECT SURVEY SECTION

### **Update:** Paul Burger, Tom Dotter

Surveying of most of the caves of the canyon, large and small, is now complete. Inventory of the caves, however, has only just begun. Paul will again schedule training sessions this season for cavers to learn the inventory process.

The 1999/2000 laser theodolite survey data should also be available this year, allowing development of the long-proposed topos of canyon caves. This will be very helpful in understanding the relationship between caves and determining where additional caves might yet be discovered.

? *Discussion:* Inventory training; available maps.

## CAVE OF THE WINDS TOPICS

### **Discussion:** Jeremy Stiles

Jeremy Stiles of the Cave of the Winds may have some topics for review and consideration by the Board and Project Trustees.

## OTHER TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

? Topics from the Floor

? Date for next meeting: last Saturday in January (alternative in case of snow)?