

2008 Southern California Grotto Information Sheet

The Southern California Grotto is a local chapter of the National Speleological Society (NSS). Founded in 1948, the Southern California Grotto is one of the oldest chapters of the NSS and it continues to thrive as one of the largest grottos in the western United States. The Southern California Grotto has a long history of active caving and cave-related projects throughout California and other states, and extending to other areas of the world. Members of the Grotto endorse the goals of the National Speleological Society - the study, exploration, and conservation of caves. The motto: "*Take nothing but pictures. Leave nothing but footprints. Kill nothing but time.*" summarizes the ideals practiced by cavers while exploring the underground world.

Grotto meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Beckman Institute Auditorium located at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in Pasadena. Free parking is available in the parking lot on Michigan Avenue. Meetings are open to all interested people, and normally feature a slide show or other presentation by grotto members or guests. After the meeting, many members meet at Conrad's on the northeast corner of Lake Avenue and Walnut Street for a drink, something to eat, and to continue caving discussions.

The Grotto Executive Committee meets the second Tuesday of the month in various Grotto members' homes. The location of the meetings is announced at the regular monthly meeting, and also published in the Grotto newsletter. Executive Committee meetings are open to all grotto members and begin at 7:30 PM.

Southern California Grotto membership is \$15 per year and includes the monthly newsletter *The Explorer*. After June 1 membership is half price. A trial membership is available for \$3 and is valid for two months. Participation in Grotto activities such as caving trips and technical practice sessions is limited to Grotto members. Membership in the National Speleological Society is strongly encouraged. Grotto members may also elect to join the Western Region of the National Speleological Society for an additional \$10. Western Region membership includes the regional publication *The California Caver*.

The Southern California Grotto promotes safety, proper caving techniques, and conservation. Climbing practices, instructional sessions, demonstrations of proper use of caving equipment, and other cave and caving related activities are conducted by grotto members. Grotto equipment is available for use on trips by Grotto members.

For additional information contact one of the Southern California Grotto Executive Committee members or Committee Chairs listed below.

2008 Southern California Grotto Executive Committee

Chair	Carol Vesely	(626) 357 - 6927	carol@farrside.net
Vice Chair	Betty Veelik	(626) 303 - 6563	dveelik@earthlink.net
Secretary	Lynn Fielding	(310) 533 - 8627	lynn@wb6hjq.ampr.org
Treasurer	Rich Collier	(818) 787 - 6259	rich-collier@roadrunner.com
Other Executive Board Members:			
	Ryan Baker	(626) 416 - 9201	awasetoishi@yahoo.com
	Dave Campen	(626) 447 - 1870	dcampen@earthlink.net
	Frank McDonough	(626) 993 - 7937	frank.mcdonough@arboretum.org
	Alan Rice	(714) 547 - 7831	alan_rice_apr@yahoo.com
	James Rice	(714) 547 - 7831	James.Rice@lennoxhp.com

2008 Southern California Grotto Contacts

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Equipment	Vance Nelson	(818) 248 - 6546	vanmyn@gmail.com
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Programs	Jaime Lintemoot	(626) 836 - 4706	jlintemoot@yahoo.com
Safety and Techniques	Bart Rowlett	(310) 533 - 8627	bart@wb6hjq.ampr.org
Trip Coordinator	Allen Hager	(626) 222 - 7194	jetskizz@aol.com
Western Region Liaison	Lynn Fielding	(310) 533 - 8627	lynn@wb6hjq.ampr.org

Cave Softly