Vending Programs

Founded in 1941, the National Speleological Society is the largest organization in the world dedicated to the exploration, preservation and conservation of caves. Our society’s 9,000 members include scientists, cartographers, explorers, and cave enthusiasts from the United States and around the world. This summer, members of the NSS will gather in Ely, Nevada to celebrate the society’s 75th anniversary.

We hope you can join us!

Celebrate our Past. Discover our Future.
July 16-23, 2016 ~ Ely, Nevada USA ~ http://nss2016.caves.org
NSS Conventions

Spanning across North America and several foreign countries, the National Speleological Society is best described as a conglomeration of groups and individuals sharing a common passion in the exploration, study, and preservation of caves.

While natural sciences are a core element of this society, the NSS also embraces cross-disciplinary interest groups which include an arts and letters section, medical & rescue specialists, cartography experts, safety and techniques practitioners, and an active speleology section.

Our annual convention is the one opportunity for these disparate interest groups to gather in one place to collaborate and share their events from the past year.

This fusion of science, art and social events is the highlight of the society’s annual calendar.

Our 75th Anniversary

In 1930’s America, a small group of east coast scientists shared a common passion for the study and exploration of caves. At a time when the subterranean world was viewed through a lens of mystery and folklore, these pioneers of speleology developed the early techniques for underground research.

Seventy-five years, and nearly 70,000 members later, the NSS has evolved into the largest organization in the world dedicated to the exploration, study, and preservation of caves.
Our Members...
We're an affiliate member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and our members’ research frequently graces the pages of science journals, mass media and National Geographic magazine. NSS members are regular collaborators with the US Geological Society, National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife and countless municipal agencies and private cave owners. We’ve provided research and testimony for the United States Congress and even assisted NASA in predicting cave environments on Mars.

Your Customers!
As one the oldest eco-tourism organizations in North America, the NSS draws a passionate crowd of seasoned cave explorers to our annual conventions. This audience spends far above the national median in sports & recreation, travel, lifestyle and technology categories.

Unlike Hollywood “spelunker movies”, true caving is a thinking person’s endeavor. The nature of the activity is heavily reliant on science and the thrill of exploration. This is evident in the demographics of our membership. With a strong presence of Baby Boomers and Gen-Xrs, a typical NSS member skews an above-average education and above median income. Our largest audience segment by far is in the lucrative 35-54 year age range.
Cavers arrive in Ely, Nevada!
The 75th anniversary convention of the National Speleological Society will be held from July 16-23 in Ely, Nevada. As of this writing, convention attendees have already booked over 900 room-nights in local motels and hundreds more will be camping at our official campground.

Facilities this year include White Pine High School where our sessions and presentations will be held. The back portion of the county’s golf course will serve as our campground. Additional minor facilities will be rented as necessary for the convention.

Most sponsors and vendors will be set up at the high school, although some spaces are available at the campground if that is requested.

Kick-Off Event
A public festival will be held on Saturday, July 16 in Courthouse Park in downtown Ely. This “Speleo-Fest” is designed to encourage appreciation for the caves and natural resources of the county.

At the conclusion of the event, the NSS will unveil a new 25 foot wide mural designed by NSS member Carolina Shrewsbury. Located across the street from the park, the mural features images of the historical discovery and exploration of Lehman Cave in nearby Great Basin National Park.

Booth space will be made available at this event at no additional charge to any convention sponsor or full-week vendor if they wish to promote their interests to the public. We request that any participants in the public “Speleo-Fest” focus their store fronts on conservation and land appreciation.
White Pine High School
This school facility is located about 5 minutes from the downtown hotel area and from the official campground. Several rooms have been reserved for vendor space and the convention staff is committed to help drive foot traffic to these locations. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come basis. During the week, free shuttle service will be provided between the campground, high school and downtown hotel district.

Details:
Load-in: Any time from Thursday, July 14 through Sunday, July 17 from 9AM to 5PM. Alternative times may be possible if arranged in advance. All vendor spaces must be set up and staffed by 8AM on Monday morning.

Strike / load-out: We strongly request that you not strike your displays until noon on Friday, July 22.

On-site delivery: There is a loading dock at the school. If possible, please time your shipments to arrive no earlier than Thursday, July 14. If you must take delivery earlier, please coordinate the date in advance with our vendor staff. Ely features daily delivery service by FedEx and UPS.

Storage: Shared storage will be provided for shipping containers and supplementary material. Since this is a shared space, access to this area needs to be coordinated with our vendor staff.

Parking: Vendors will be given access to close-in parking during the load-in and strike windows. All staff in the vendor spaces must be registered attendees at the convention and badges must be worn at all times.

Tables & chairs: All tables and chairs will be tagged with each room number prior to occupancy by the convention. If possible, we hope to move as little furniture as necessary, but we recognize that vendors have specific needs for display space. In your vendor application, please specify your needs and our staff will accommodate your wishes to the best of our abilities.

Communications: The school features free high-bandwidth wireless Internet connections, but cellular coverage in White Pine County is limited to AT&T and Verizon carriers. Land-line phone connections may be possible if necessary.

Local business taxes: White Pine High School is located within the City of Ely. The golf course is under county jurisdiction. Upon registration, you will be provided with the appropriate contacts to secure temporary business licenses in the respective municipality. Vendors are responsible for all city, county and state taxes and for securing their own operating licenses.
Addresses:

Sessions & registration:
White Pine County High School
1800 Bobcat Drive, Ely, NV 89301
GPS @39.238,-114.875
Registration opens at the high school at 9:00 AM on Saturday, July 16.

Camping & social events:
White Pine County Golf Course
151 Golf Course Rd, Ely, NV 89301
GPS @39.263,-114.859
Driving Traffic to your Store...
The convention staff is interested in maximizing your sales potential in every way! Here’s what we’re planning...

Traffic cards:
Each full-week vendor will be given a self-inking stamp with their logo or name. All participants in the convention will receive a card in their registration packages encouraging them to visit your display space. The cards will have spaces where you can stamp your brand when they visit your store. Convention attendees may then deposit their fully-stamped cards to enter a grand prize drawing to be held late in the week. We’re currently negotiating with a number of cave-specific manufacturers to secure several high-value prizes for this program.

Book signings:
Several authors have approached us to arrange book signings in conjunction with the 2016 convention. If you wish to sell these items, please let us know on your vendor application and we will direct the authors to you for scheduling. The daily newsletter will promote these events at no charge.

Public Speleo-Fest:
As previously discussed, the convention staff is producing a kick-off event in downtown Ely on our opening Saturday. Full-week vendors at the convention are invited to set up at the park at no additional charge. This event runs from 10am to about 4:30pm on Saturday, July 16. If you would like to participate, please check the appropriate box on your vendor application.

Program guide & daily newsletter:
Each full-week vendor is entitled to a free 1/4 page ad in the convention program guide. All artwork for the program guide must be black and white, camera-ready art. The art deadline for us to include you in the program is Thursday, June 9. Full-week vendors will also be given 2 mentions in the daily convention newsletter.
Vendor rules & limitations

To ensure a fair presentation for all vendors and the National Speleological Society, we ask that all vendors please abide by the following rules:

1. Vendors may not sell or distribute food or beverages without prior permission from convention staff.
2. We request that vendors open their store locations no later than 9am from Monday-Friday during convention. Vendors are welcome to hold Sunday openings at their discretion.
3. Please do not post flyers on any convention grounds. Space will be made available for flyers (up to 11x17) at the convention message board. All flyers must identify the posting vendor.
4. Although we do have security on site, the NSS and the convention staff is not responsible for theft, damage or loss.
5. Any vendor that promotes their appearance at the 2016 NSS Convention on social media or websites will receive reciprocal mentions on the convention’s social media sites.
6. The National Speleological Society reserves the right to prohibit sales of any offensive materials determined to be incompatible with the conservation ethic and overall mission of the society. This includes, but is not limited to, speleothems, questionable historical relics or any other material protected under federal and regional laws.
7. Vendors are expected to have registration badges in their possession at all times.
8. Vendors may not sublet or share space without prior approval from the convention staff. For each application, only one vendor will be recognized as the official tenant. Sublets are discouraged. One room will be dedicated as shared space for smaller vendors.
9. Promotional materials and displays must be contained completely within the defined space rented to each vendor.
10. Vendors are responsible for securing their own space at the end of each day in conjunction with convention security.
11. Any vendor offering promotional discounts on items manufactured by official convention sponsors will be given favorable promotion through convention media channels (newsletters, program guides, etc.)
12. By state law, no alcohol is allowed on high school grounds.
13. Vendor representatives and staff may not remain in the high school beyond normal hours of operation without the prior approval of the convention staff.
14. Vendors are encouraged to provide the convention staff with a mobile phone number and local lodging details for emergency use during convention.
15. Vendors may not exceed electrical amp ratings for their respective spaces.
16. Any amplified music from vendor spaces must not project beyond the respected vendor location.
17. Hand-written signage is discouraged on vendor store locations. Reasonable access to computers and printers are available at the high school at no charge.
18. Vendors are encouraged to send a high-resolution graphic of their company logo for signage purposes.
19. All vendors may conduct business under the umbrella business license of the NSS Convention. Ely, Nevada does not require individual licenses for each vendor. Aside from tax payments, no additional paperwork is necessary.
20. Following the convention, vendors will be responsible for payment of 7.25% sales tax to the State of Nevada for merchandise and goods sold. The official tax form may be downloaded at: http://nss2016.caves.org/vendors/docs/Sales_and_Use_Tax_Return_07-01-11.pdf

Vendor contact: Teresa Greissel, tgreissel@gmail.com
(702) 808-1325

NSS 2016 Convention
6687 Oxendale Ave
Las Vegas, NV 89139-5364
## Vendor Application

**Vendor Contact:** Teresa Greissel, tgreissel@gmail.com  
(702) 808-1325

### Vendor Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant Name</td>
<td>NS (if any)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postal Code</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daytime Phone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening Phone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Emergency Contact & Considerations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact Name</td>
<td>NS #</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daytime Phone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening Phone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please list all staff members allowed in your vendor space:

Any medical conditions we should be aware of?

Where will you be staying during convention?

Do you wish to participate in the public kick-off “Speleo-Fest” on Saturday, July 16 in downtown Ely?  
Yes  No

### Facilities

Please specify your desired needs for amenities. The convention will provide up to 3 tables/chairs for each space. Additional amenities will be billed at cost.

- Additional 8-foot tables: $9/week  □: ___
- Additional chairs: $1/week □: ___
- 220v Power □: ___  Land-line phone □: ___
- Dedicated 24-hour security □: ___

### Payment Information

- VISA □  MasterCard □  Discover □  Check/Money Order □
- All payments should be made to: NSS 2016 Convention
- Card Number  
- CVV Code  
- Name on Card  
- Expiration Date  
- Billing Address  
- Billing City  
- State  
- Postal Code  
- Signature  

Please mail application form and your check or money order to:  
NSS 2016 Convention  
6687 Oxendale Ave  
Las Vegas, NV 89139-5364

### Merchandise Type (check all that apply)

- Artwork & Quilts □  Furniture & Large Items □
- Automotive Gear □  Home & Garden □
- Books & Printed Material □  Jewelry & Watches □
- Cameras & Photo □  Lights & Batteries □
- Camping Gear □  Maps & Data □
- Cave Gear □  Medical & Rescue Gear □
- Clothing & Accessories □  Music, Movies & Recordings □
- Collectibles & History □  Photography Equipment □
- Communications & Electronics □  Rocks & Minerals □
- Computers & Software □  Scientific Equipment □
- Convention Memorabilia □  Services □
- Crafts □  Stamps & Philatelic □
- Diving Equipment □  Survey & Cartography Gear □
- Food & Beverages □  Vertical Gear □

### Vendor Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dimensions Sq. Feet</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Classrooms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1: Rm. 204 28x24 (1/4)</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: Rm. 103 28x29</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>$230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3: Rm. 104 28x29</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>$230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4: Rm. 106 28x29</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>$230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5: Rm. 202 28x29</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>$230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6: Rm. 206 28x30</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>$270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climbing Gym</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7: Climbing Gym 10x20</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>$355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8: Climbing Gym 10x20</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>$385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9: Climbing Gym 10x20</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>$385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10: Climbing Gym 10x40</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>$525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11: Climbing Gym 20x40</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>$780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>These outdoor spaces must be self-contained. No utilities available.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12: Campground 20x20</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>$375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13: Campground 20x40</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>$780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Space Vendors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>These outdoor spaces at the high school will be assigned on a daily basis if available. Load-in from 7-8am, load-out after 5pm.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14: Courtyard 10x10</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>$55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15: Courtyard 10x10</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>$55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Discounts

Have you been a vendor at an NSS Convention within the last 2 years?  
If yes □: Subtract 15% from total: _____

Is the primary business owner a member of the NSS 404 Club?  
If yes □: Subtract 5% from total: _____

### Total Vendor Fee:  

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*The 2016 NSS Convention is an internal committee of the National Speleological Society. Visit us online at nss2016.caves.org*