

Apr. 3, 2020



Folks,

I'm sure you're not at all surprised to receive this official announcement that the 2020 Spring MVOR campout **is canceled**. Considering the current status of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic and how the situation is changing daily, it's simply out of the question to predict when in the coming 1-3 months we might be able to hold a group campout.

On Mar. 24, NSS President Geary Schindel issued a press release which states, in part:

"We've recommended that physical grotto meetings as well as regional events be canceled for the foreseeable future and (for) everyone to practice social distancing.

The NSS is a membership organization but also a family. Please be kind and helpful during these trying times.

The Executive Committee is following the outbreak closely and we will make a recommendation to the Board of Governors soon regarding whether the NSS Convention in July will need to be canceled or postponed.

For more information on the coronavirus, I would recommend the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.

Remember, this too, shall pass.

Geary Schindel, President
National Speleological Society"



The MVOR is an Internal Organization of the NSS, and we will take our cue from their leadership. At this point, we think it's best for everyone to simply focus on the upcoming Fall MVOR. Sponsored by the Missouri Bat Census and the Kansas City Area Grotto, their event has been years in planning and will occur on the weekend of **September 18**. Mark your calendars!

Depending on what happens with the coronavirus, there still is a possibility the MVOR Board will try to get together for a business meeting. We're thinking of a small gathering around a picnic table at a state park. But the date and location—and even the possibility of it happening at all—is to be determined. All MVOR members will be invited (although you must maintain social distancing at the meeting) and there will be 30 days advance notice on the web sites.

To all of you, our MVOR caver tribe of friends, your health and welfare is most important. These are very concerning and difficult times for us, and we should remember that 'the caves will still be there'. Thanks for your understanding. It's the first time in the history of the MVOR that we must cancel one of our biannual campouts. In the meantime, watch for future announcements, stay safe, wash your hands, maintain social distancing and think of other vulnerable people. We'll see you in the Fall!

Sincerely,

Chuck Breite
MVOR President