

Arizona Hydrological Society

2008 AHS Kartchner Kaverns Field Trip – So What?

When: 3/22/2008, Saturday

Where: Meet at Kartchner Caverns at 7:45 am

Cost: \$35 per attendee. Space is limited to 30 people. All AHS members who make a reservation can bring 1 person in addition to themselves. Please note the number in your party when you make your reservation.

Not your ordinary tour:

This tour starts with a surface tour of the area. All aspects of the ecosystem will be covered: hydrology, geology, ecology...and every thing else in between. We will then head underground to see how the surface processes helped to create the caverns. The theme of the tour will be to describe much of what is known about the formation of the cave and what controls the hydrogeologic conditions of the cave and what it means for future research objectives, or simply put; “So what?”

Preliminary Itinerary:

8:00-9:00: Welcoming Statements, Overview of Itinerary, Introductions

9:00-9:30: Overview of regional geology, hydrology, Discovery Center Amphitheater

9:45-12:30: Surface field trip--Foothills Loop trail--geology, hydrology, ecology, economic geology, and anything else of interest to the participants

12:30-1:30: Lunch at the Discovery Center Ramada

1:45: Group 1 - cave tour, Group 2 - Discovery Center movie, displays Q&A w/ trip guides, leisure

2:15: Group 2 - cave tour, Group 1 - Discovery Center movie, displays, Q&A w/ trip guides, leisure

3:15: Groups 1&2 Q&A with all field personnel

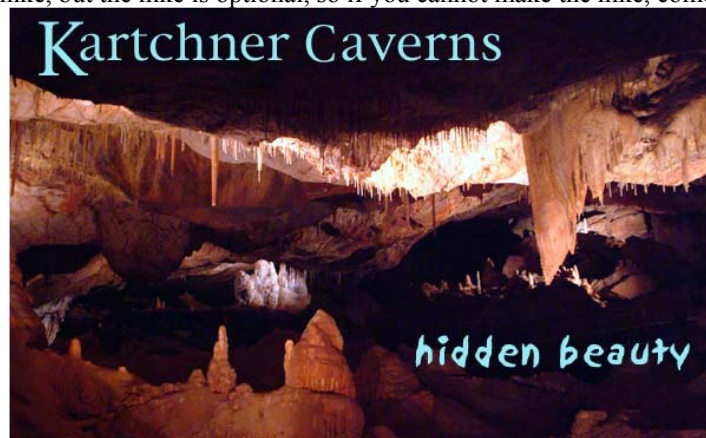
3:30-4:00: Departure for Tucson

Please arrive ready to rock! Bring trail snacks, plenty of water, and good hiking gear!

Note that no opened toed shoes will be allowed in the cave. Long pants are recommended to prevent vegetation “love bites” during the above ground tour. Rain gear is recommended just in case. The tour will proceed rain OR shine!

Bring a sack lunch and plenty of water! The last food before the Caverns is located at the intersection of I-10 and Highway 90. You’ll find Subway, McDonalds, KFC, and Taco Bell here.

Note that the surface tour will include an easy 2 mile hike. No accommodations for handicapped persons can be made on the hike, but the hike is optional, so if you cannot make the hike, come anyway for the rest!



Tour Guides

Dr. Robert Casavant – KCSP Cave Resource Manager – Overview of structural geology, including regional and local faulting, fracturing, aerial photogeologic interpretation techniques, and cave formation

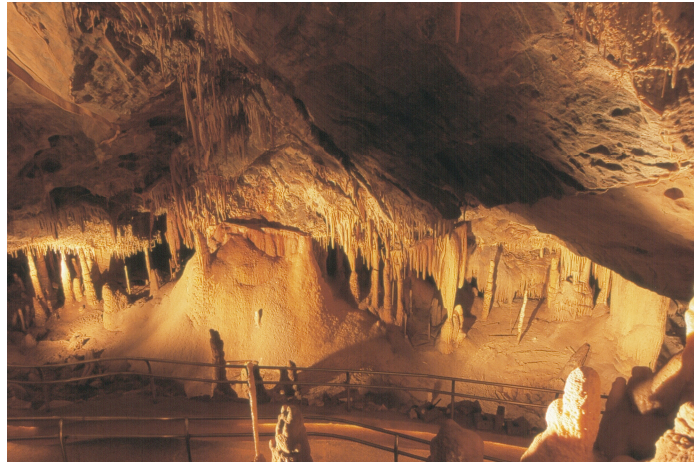
Dale Armstrong- (Golder Assoc.--Geohydrologist, Economic Geologist) - Mineral exploration and history of mineralization of the Whetstone area; Hydrothermal story of Kartchner block; Geohydrologic topics of the area

Joanne Roberts- (AZ State Parks-resource ecologist) - Throughout the tour Joanne will provide ad hoc information on linkages and diversity of fauna-flora within the park and within the region.

Bob Sejkora (AZ State Parks-Water Program Manager)- Bob will be able to provide folks with information on water adjudication issues and monitoring of surface drainages across the park and McGrew Springs area.

Eric Cook/Heidi Lauchstedt--KCSP Cave Unit Rangers - Will discuss water well and rain gage monitoring programs both on and off park, as well as environmental station monitoring within the caves, cave research projects, etc.

Field Trip Participants – Please provide any and all insight into the geology, hydrology, ecology...or any other aspect of the system that you possess!



The first 30 people to make a reservation will be able to participate on the tour. After that, any additional persons who are interested will be added to a waiting list. For reservations, please email Jeff Gawad. **Payment to secure your reservation must be received no later than Monday, March 10th, 2008.** If your payment has not been received by this date, your space will be given to the next person on the waiting list. Thanks!

Please send payment to:

Jeff Gawad
1550 E Prince Rd
Tucson, AZ 85719
jgawad@elmontgomery.com

Your check should be made payable to: Arizona Hydrological Society, Tucson Chapter

The general theme of the tour will be “So What?” As such, please question EVERYTHING as the tour progresses. Why does anything I see on the tour matter, and how does it apply to my particular field of expertise? Let’s really give our tour guides a strenuous intellectual workout...