

Preface

The 2001 National Cave and Karst Management Symposium had the largest attendance of any symposium to date with 181 participating. This was in part due to a large number of Forest Service; Arizona State Parks; S.W.C.A. Inc., Environmental Consultants; and Environmental Planning Group, Inc. employees who were able to attend as a result of large donations by these agencies of both cash and in-kind contributions. Special thanks goes to these organizations and their members for taking such an interest in, and enthusiastically supporting the Symposium.

Several new features were initiated at the 2001 Symposium, and all verbal and written comments received suggest that, if possible, these should be included in future sessions. These new features included:

- A pre-symposium workshop presented and taught by Project Underground.
- A post-symposium workshop presented and taught by Bat Conservation International.
- Evening “cracker barrel” sessions in which timely topics, as suggested by the attendees, were discussed at length and in which a wealth of information was shared between the participants.

Notable was the large amount of time and effort by Arizona State Parks employees at Kartchner Caverns scheduling the field trip to the Park, which included an extended caverns tour, a viewing of the video in the auditorium, and a rare and special treat of a tour through several undeveloped areas of the cave. The State Parks offered this field trip at no cost to the symposium.

Also notable was the support of the Coronado National Forest by providing employees time and expertise, printing, equipment, and all necessary materials and supplies to insure an enjoyable and successful orchestration of the symposium.

It is our hope that all who attended the 2001 Symposium had an enjoyable and rewarding experience and perhaps might consider returning to Arizona for another session some time in the future.

Jerry L. Trout
Chairman
2001 NCKMS

