



Central Indiana Grotto

a chapter of the National Speleological Society, Inc.

Membership Application

To become a member of the Central Indiana Grotto you must submit this application to the Chairman or the Vice Chairman. You are expected to become a member of the National Speleological Society within one year of joining the Grotto.

By signing this application applicants agree to abide by the cave conservation policies of the National Speleological Society and the Central Indiana Grotto. The conservation policy of the National Speleological Society is reproduced on page 2 of this application.

I have read and agree to abide by the conservation policy, I hereby apply for membership in the Central Indiana Grotto:

Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____ Email _____
Primary Phone _____
Alternative Phone _____ (list only numbers you can be called)
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip+4 _____ Age _____ Occupation _____

Interests (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Mapping | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronics | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational Caving | <input type="checkbox"/> Archeology | <input type="checkbox"/> History |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vertical | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching/Training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biology | <input type="checkbox"/> Caving Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology | <input type="checkbox"/> Cave Diving | <input type="checkbox"/> Help W/Online Content |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scouts/Church Groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Lead Trips | <input type="checkbox"/> Cave Rescue |

Experience (not required for membership)

Briefly summarize your previous caving experience on the back of this form.
This is so members can get to know you.

List grotto trips you have attended:
(Cave) _____ Month/Year _____

Have you been a member of CIG before?
 Yes No If yes, approx when? _____

Are you presently a member of another grotto of the NSS?
 Yes No Which Grotto? _____

Are you presently a member of NSS?
NSS# _____ (if available)
Type of member (check one if applicable)
 Reguar Family Life
 Sustaining Honorary

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I, _____ of _____
(Name - Please Print) (Address - Please Print)

understand the risks involved with caving-related activities of the Central Indiana Grotto and hereby agree to assume all responsibility for myself and my property. I agree for myself and my heirs, personal representatives or assigns, to indemnify and hold harmless the National Speleological Society, Inc.; the Central Indiana Grotto and all members thereof; and the owners and/or managers of any caves in which I go caving, from any and all claims arising from risks which are hereby voluntarily assumed.

Signature _____ Date _____ Age and Birthdate: _____

Parents Signature if Minor _____ Date _____

Witness to Signature _____ Date _____

Experience Summary (Experience is not required but it helps us to know your skill level and to tell the other members something about you)

The National Speleological Society Conservation Policy

The National Speleological Society believes:

- Caves have unique scientific, recreational, and scenic values
- These values are endangered by both carelessness and intentional vandalism
- These values, once gone, cannot be recovered
- The responsibility for protecting caves must be formed by those who study and enjoy them.

Accordingly, the intention of the Society is to work for the preservation of caves with a realistic policy supported by effective programs for: the encouragement of self-discipline among cavers; education and research concerning the causes and prevention of cave damage; and special projects, including cooperation with other groups similarly dedicated to the conservation of natural areas. Specifically:

All contents of a cave -- formations, life, and loose deposits -- are significant for their enjoyment and interpretation. Therefore, caving parties should leave a cave as they find it. They should provide means for the removal of waste; limit marking to a few, small, and removable signs as are needed for surveys; and, especially, exercise extreme care not to accidentally break or soil formations, disturb life forms or unnecessarily increase the number of disfiguring paths through an area.

Scientific collection is professional, selective, and minimal. The collecting of mineral or biological material for display purposes, including previously broken or dead specimens, is never justified, as it encourages others to collect and destroy the interest of the cave.

The Society encourages projects such as:

- Establishing cave preserves
- Placing entrance gates where appropriate
- Opposing the sale of speleothems
- Supporting effective protective measures
- Cleaning and restoring over-used caves
- Cooperating with private cave owners by providing them knowledge about their cave and assisting them in protecting their cave and property from damage during cave visits
- Encouraging commercial cave owners to make use of their opportunity to aid the public in understanding caves and the importance of their conservation.

Where there is reason to believe that publication of cave locations will lead to vandalism before adequate protection can be established, the Society will oppose such publication.

It is the duty of every Society member to:

Take personal responsibility for spreading a consciousness of the cave conservation problem to each potential user of caves. Without this, the beauty and value of our caves will not long remain with us.



Welcome To The Central Indiana Grotto

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Facebook Group: [facebook.com/groups/244253938802/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/244253938802/)
(or search for "Central Indiana Grotto" and ask to join group)

This is the best place to connect and talk about caving and stay up on upcoming trips.

Web Site: cigcaves.com

The web site of the CIG. Lots of cool stuff here. Check it out!

Monthly Meetings:

1st Wednesday every month at the World War Memorial
in downtown Indianapolis at 7:30 p.m

Indiana Cave Capers:

Annual event sponsored by the Central Indiana Grotto (CIG) since 1954! A weekend of fun with cavers from all around the midwest every summer. We get permissions for caves in the local area and provide a guidebook along with led and self-led trips. Live music, doorprizes a banquet and more! See cavecapers.com for details.

CIG Newsletter:

As a member of the CIG you will receive our award winning monthly newsletter full of trip reports, gear reviews and everything caving in Indiana delivered to your mailbox for your enjoyment!

CIG Email List:

You will be automatically added to the email list when you become a member. Stay connected and up on announcements and activities.

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