

# SCCi The Steward

Newsletter of the Southeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. • Fall 2000 / No. 13

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*The SCCi is a tax-exempt not-for-profit corporation (501-c-3) dedicated to cave conservation, caver education, and cave management.*

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Page one photo by Alan Cressler.



## SCCi Holds Richard W. Schreiber Estate Auction

by Connie Hillebrand and Kenneth Huffines

This year finds the Southeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. in the midst of a new and exciting fund raiser, a silent auction. This auction affords everyone the unique opportunity to purchase items from the library and caving gear cache of the late Richard W. Schreiber. Schreiber's estate instructed the SCCi to use these items to help raise

funds for cave acquisition. Over 340 items have been cataloged and are offered in 143 lots. The auction items contain an enticing mix of rare publications and collections, many focusing on the historic development of not only caving in the South, but the mapping and exploration of many TAG classics combined with primitive caving gear and sentimental personal items. Whether you are a beginning caver growing your collection of caving references or were a friend and caving companion to Richard, this auction holds something for you. No doubt many of the items are commonly available. However, being once owned and used by Schreiber adds special value.

For those unfamiliar with Richard Schreiber, you should know he was a well-known cave explorer and mapper from the 1960s through the 1980s. A resident of Rising Fawn, Georgia, he is one of the discoverers of

Fantastic Pit, Georgia, and led the exploration and mapping of Bull Cave, Tennessee, still known today as the deepest cave in that state. An expert in single rope techniques, Schreiber was principal in the exploration of many deep pits and caves as vertical caving came into its heyday. He spent considerable time exploring and mapping Ellisons Cave,

Georgia, as well as Engle Double Pit, Alabama, the Gouffre, Tennessee, Pettijohns Cave, Georgia, and many other caves considered classics today. Schreiber was also an active participant in the Sistema Huatla exploration in Mexico in the '70s and '80s. He was one of the founders of Pigeon Mountain Industries (PMI) and also helped found the Georgia Speleological Survey and the Dogwood City (Atlanta, Georgia) Grotto. Cavers today frequently come across his name on cave maps from Georgia, Tennessee, and Alabama.

Richard held continuous membership in the National Speleological Society from April 1964 until his death 26 years later. He served as Director for the NSS and was one of the first named Fellows of the Society in 1969. The same year he was also honored with being the first recipient of the Lew Bicking

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## Southeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc.

### Officers

#### Chairperson

Diane Cousineau  
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## Quarterly Board Meeting Highlights

The quarterly meeting of the Southeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. Board of Directors was held on June 17, 2000 at the Walker County Civic Center, Lafayette, Georgia.

Following are highlights of Board actions:

- The SCCi received \$78,238.82 in gifts in fiscal year 1999. Current assets are \$343,145.00 and liabilities are \$58,132.24. The Conservancy has \$21,589.63 in unrestricted funds.
- The Nature Conservancy of Tennessee has received a small grant for acquisition of any cave in Tennessee that contains bats that are endangered or threatened. TNC wants to partner with the SCCi on the acquisition. Any management plan would be developed jointly by the SCCi and TNC. The SCCi would retain ownership of the cave.
- Property managers gave written reports of activities at the SCCi caves. The leasing of the property around Run to the Mill Cave and Sinking Cove Cave was covered.
- The booth used for caving events was discussed. Because of the amount of materials

displayed, money was allocated to enlarge its size.

- Materials were distributed on formulating a strategic plan for a non-profit organization. The Board decided to get more information on conducting a plan in the near future.
- The chair was directed to manage requests from individuals to use images from SCCi properties for commercial purposes. One major stipulation in the use of photographs, or other images taken on SCCi properties, is that the location not be given.
- The Board recognized Rhonda Shubert for her work in surveying the Fox Mountain properties.
- The Board decided that the chair and at least one other board member should review all written communications before distribution to any public forum.
- Next Board meeting will be held on Saturday, November 4, 10:00 a.m. eastern time at Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

*For the full minutes of the meeting, visit the SCCi website, <http://www.scci.org>.*

## New Fund Raising Program Announced

In 1998, the SCCi purchased 40 acres of land near Bridgeport, Alabama that contained two caves, Horse Skull Cave and Jacks Hole. The deal was completed with a 5-year, owner-financed loan.

To help pay off the loan on the property, the SCCi is continuing its *Buy a Piece of the Cave* fund raising program.

Horse Skull Cave is an interesting, 2,500 foot long horizontal cave with a reported summer gray bat colony located in the back. Jacks Hole is a 90-foot pit with 200 feet of passage at the bottom.

For a \$50 contribution, you can name a section of the cave, receive an honorary certificate and a t-shirt. Because we may sell out fast, Horse Skull Cave t-shirts featuring the artwork of caver Sara Krusac can be purchased for \$10.00. The cave map and t-shirts will be available at the TAG Fall Cave-In and at future caving events where the SCCi booth is present.



If you would like to purchase a piece of the cave and cannot attend, contact SCCi Treasurer Buddy Lane.

## 2000 SCCi Annual Meeting

The 2000 Annual Meeting of the SCCi was held on Saturday, June 17, after the SCCi Board Meeting. Below is a summary of activities.

### Officers' Reports

**Chair:** The year has been primarily dedicated to consolidating the financial position by paying off Conservancy debt and in organizing the 14th National Cave and Karst Management Symposium. Fricks cave was the site of a great many Conservancy activities throughout the year. In March, taking advantage of the documented absence of the endangered gray bat, the SCCi held its first Fricks Cave Open House. Over 100 people attended the event.

The conservancy is also working on developing a legal information base to assist landowners and their attorneys in making educated decisions about their properties and their level of risk. Jim Wilbanks is in charge of this project.

Also in fiscal year 1999, the SCCi developed a new fund raiser--a silent auction using the Conservancy web site. The SCCi had received a great many items from the late Richard Schreiber's estate, and these are being auctioned. Connie Hillebrand and Kenneth Huffines have developed catalogues, bid forms, and have linked this to the SCCi web site. Connie is serving as manager of the project.

**Secretary:** As required by Act 15-038, the attendance record of Directors for the Board meetings of the past year is:

Attending all meetings: Greg Eck, Scott Fee (resigned 12/1999), Kenneth Huffines, Buddy Lane, Jim Wilbanks (appointed to Scott Fee's seat 1/2000); Missing one meeting:

Richard Blackburn, John Hickman, Bill Putnam, John Van Swearingen; and missing three meetings: Mark Wolinsky.  
Treasurer: See report from June 2000 quarterly business meeting for details.

The financial highlight of the year was the pay-off of Fricks Cave, which took place just prior to the June Member's meeting.

### Elections

Richard Blackburn, chair of the elections committee, solicited nominations from the membership. Up for election are Richard Blackburn, Kenneth Huffines, and Jim Wilbanks. Bob Lewis, of Chattanooga TN, and Kris Green, of Noble, GAnames were submitted into nomination at the June quarterly business meeting. No additional nominations were submitted.

### Activities

The highlight of FY 1999 was hosting the National Cave Management Symposium. The Symposium, held in Chattanooga, Tennessee, at the Clarion Hotel was a smashing success! Some 160 scientists, cave managers, educators and cavers attended various sessions and workshops.

No cave acquisitions were made during fiscal year 1999.

### Fricks Cave Note Burning

At the adjournment of the Membership Meeting, the group went to nearby Fricks Cave for a cookout to celebrate the paying off of the mortgage on the property.

*For the full minutes of the meeting, visit the SCCi website, <http://www.scci.org>.*

## 2000 SCCi Board Election Results

The SCCi held its annual election following the Annual Meeting. The mail-in ballots were sent to all current SCCi members. Three SCCi director seats were open. The top three candidates were the winners. The results are below:

Richard Blackburn 18.8%	Kris Green 23.6%
Kenneth Huffines 26.8%	Jim Wilbanks 30.5%

## Calendar of Events

**October 6 - 8**  
Fund Raising Booth  
TAG Fall Cave-In  
Valley Head, AL

**November 4**  
Fall Board Meeting  
10:00 a.m. eastern time  
Oak Ridge, TN  
American Museum of  
Science

**Spring 2000**  
Spring Board Meeting  
TBA

### Who to Contact

General Information  
Diane Cousineau  
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(423) 867-2846

SCCi Property Managers  
*(Visit SCCi website for  
complete listing,  
<http://www.scci.org>  
or contact Diane Cousineau)*

## Thanks to our Sustaining Members/Contributors for their support

The SCCi receives contributions in many ways — money, time and donations. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize those individuals who are Sustaining Members/Contributors of the SCCi and give on a monthly, quarterly, biannually or yearly basis via credit card.

The benefit to the SCCi of having a large and strong sustaining member base is that it allows the Conservancy to plan for debt (which means more acquisitions). The Conservancy currently receives \$43,000 per year from this program alone. This has allowed the SCCi to pay off debts at a remarkable pace and will allow us to make future acquisitions.

Thanks again for your support!

### How to Become A Sustaining Member/Contributor

If you would like to become a Sustaining Member/Contributor just complete the membership application on page 7.

#### \$60 - \$119 per year

Brian Bolt  
Mike Breiding  
Janice Broom  
Todd Bryan  
CD Bryant  
James Burke  
Edie Cowan  
David Crisp  
Seamus Decker  
David Dehart  
Frank Filz  
John French  
Sheila Gallogly  
Colin Gatland  
Bob Gordon  
Tom Hagood  
Julie Henderson  
Tim (Wade) Holcombe  
Robert Jones  
John Kern  
John Klayer  
Steve Knapp  
Brian Krebs  
Daryl Lee  
Kristie Lindberg  
D Camille Lloyd  
Dan Lovingood  
Scott Mackay  
Raleigh Marlin  
Mike Martuscello  
Joel McGuire  
Tanya McLaughlin  
Jane McNally  
Steve Moorman  
Nick Noe  
April Olberding  
Kevin Peters

Wendy Pope  
Michael Rogers  
Owen Schultz  
Raymond Sira  
Jeffrey Sorensen  
Lawrence Southam  
Deborah Strotz  
Brittain Thompson  
Bonny True  
Richard VanArsdel  
Frank Vlchek  
Bonnie Ware  
Brian Williamson

#### \$120 - \$249 per year

Frank Abatto  
Joe Abbott  
Paul Andrews  
Stephen Attaway  
Brent & Nancy Aulenbach  
Kent Ballew  
Sullivan & Caren Beck  
Maury & Teresa Benamy  
Jennifer Bennett  
Terry Bigioni  
Leon Blackburn  
David Brace  
Gordon Brace  
Peter Bracken  
Eddy Brooks  
Joel Buckner  
Dave Bunnell  
Bill Busey  
Gary Bush  
Gary Capp  
Jay Carpenter  
Charles Cattell  
David & Edna Caudle

Ashley Chan  
Rick & Karen Clark  
Debbie Clotfelter  
Donna & Danny Cobb  
Steve Collins  
Alan Cressler  
George Crosby  
Brian Crowe  
David Culver  
Jennifer Curan  
William Curry  
Suzanne De Blois  
David Drake  
Thomas Dubose  
Joseph Eaker  
Robert Eldridge  
David Ellis  
Ben Ewing  
Ted Farmer  
H M Fausold  
Nadi Findikli  
Bernice & Jane Flank  
Glenda Fleming  
Don Going  
S Blaine Grindle  
Kimberly Grossman  
Jim Hall  
Dave Hamrick  
Tim Henderson  
Martha Hendrix  
W.F. (Kirk) Holland  
William Holton  
Kirk Holzapfel  
Kenneth Huffines  
Timothy Jarvis  
Carrie Johnson  
Eric Johnson  
Cheryl Jones

Ian Jones  
 JL Jones  
 Mark Jones  
 RD Jones  
 Mark Joop  
 Jerry Kammer  
 Monty Keel  
 Joan I Keevers  
 David Kegley  
 Chris Kelly  
 Jim Kennedy  
 Michael & Susan Kettles  
 Gregory King  
 Sara Krusac  
 Dwayne Lasky  
 Chris Lloyd  
 Jim Loftin  
 Harold Love  
 Kathy Mackay  
 John Maddox  
 William McClain  
 Greg McCoy  
 Robert & Janet McFarland  
 Bob Meadows  
 Alfred Merrill  
 Todd Merriman  
 Laurie Metter  
 Derick Mitchell  
 Gerald Moni  
 Tom Moss  
 Dave & Camille Mueller  
 Todd Orwat  
 Allen Padgett  
 Alan Parker  
 John Parks  
 Scott Parvin  
 Iain Paterson  
 David H Patrie  
 Walt Pirie  
 Steve Pitts  
 Chris Pourchez

Buford Pruitt  
 Julia Quinn  
 Jeff Ransom  
 John E Robinson  
 John Rose  
 Nancy Rueff  
 T John Schliesser  
 Franklin Shires  
 Jack Shotts  
 Alan & Cassy Smith  
 Charles Smith  
 Tom Smith  
 John Stembel  
 Tim Stickley  
 Steve Storey  
 Walter Templeton  
 Jack Thomison  
 Richard Thompson  
 Louis Towles  
 Evelyn Townsend  
 William Tucker  
 Avis VanSwearingen  
 Bruce Ventura  
 Kenneth Walsh  
 Dave Warren  
 David West  
 Tim White  
 Jim Wilbanks  
 Mike Wilburn  
 Mark Wolinsky  
 James Worthington  
 Douglas Wright  
 Andy Zellner  
 Andy Zerbe

**\$250 - \$999 per year**

Richard Blackburn  
 Philip Bodanza  
 Peter & Ann Bosted  
 Chuck Canfield  
 Laura Clarke

Robert Coney  
 Diane Cousineau  
 Marty Dudrow  
 Greg Eck  
 Keith Filson  
 Kim Fleischmann  
 Jeff & Alexis Harris  
 John Hickman  
 Chris & Julie Hudson  
 Don & Karen Hunter  
 Carol S Jackson  
 William Jackson  
 Debby Johnson  
 Mark D Jones  
 Scott Keith  
 Carl Lehmann  
 Kathy Minter  
 Andrew Porter  
 Steve Rawlings  
 Geary Schindel  
 Robert & Janet Shipp  
 Gordon Smith  
 Moore J Smith  
 Mary Sprunger  
 Wesley Sprunger  
 Bill Stringfellow  
 John Swartz  
 John C Taylor  
 John VanSwearingen  
 Kathy Welling  
 Thomas Whitehurst

**\$1000 plus per year**

Richard Blenz  
 ET Davis  
 Kris Green  
 Chuck Henson  
 Steve Hudson  
 Buddy Lane  
 William Putnam

## Next Board Meeting

Saturday, November 4, 2000  
 in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, at  
 the American Museum of  
 Science and Energy. Meeting  
 begins at 10:00 a.m eastern  
 time. For directions, check  
 the SCCi website or contact  
 Diane Cousineau.

## SCCI Lets You Think Outside the Box when Gift Giving

Running out of new ideas for holiday gift giving? How about a cave, well at least part of one. With SCCI's donation program, you can save yourself a lot of trouble. Not only will you be giving a friend or relative something they probably don't have, plus it's tax-deductible for you.

*Act Now!*

## SCCI Merchandise and Donation Programs

\$10.00	SCCI Logo T-shirt, white or natural
\$20.00	Embroidered SCCI Logo Sweatshirt, Green or Grey, L and XL only
\$10.00 <i>per month</i>	SCCI Logo Sustaining contributor T-shirt, Ash Grey
\$25.00 <i>per month</i>	Embroidered SCCI Logo Sustaining contributor Polo shirt, Teal, M to 2X
\$250.00+	Embroidered SCCI Logo Polo shirt, Teal, M to 2X

### Horse skull Cave -- Buy a Piece of the Cave

\$50	Honorary Ownership of a section of Horse Skull Cave Passage, Certificate and T-shirt
\$10	Horse Skull t-shirt

### Fox Mountain -- Buy an Acre of the Preserve or a Piece of a Cave

\$270	Honorary Ownership of One Acre of the Preserve, Certificate and Embroidered SCCI Logo Polo shirt (Teal, M to 2X)
\$50	Honorary Ownership of 50 feet of passage in Cemetery Pit, Hurricane Cave, or Rustys Cave
\$150	Small Named Feature on the Map, Certificate and T-shirt (Ash Grey only, L and XL only)
\$250	Medium Named Feature on the Map, Certificate and T-shirt (Ash Grey only, L and XL only)
\$500	Large Named Feature on the Map, Certificate and T-shirt (Ash Grey only, L and XL only)
\$2000	Honorary Ownership of an entrance to Rustys Cave, Hurricane Cave, or Cemetery Pit, Certificate and Embroidered SCCI Logo Polo shirt (Teal, M to 2X)
\$1000	Honorary Ownership of an entrance to one of the smaller caves, Certificate and Embroidered SCCI Logo Polo shirt (Teal, M to 2X)

### Fricks -- Adopt an Endangered Grey Bat

\$10	Bat Adoption Certificate and Fricks Bat Sticker
\$20	Bat Adoption Certificate, Magnetic Bat and Fricks Bat Sticker

### Neversink -- Buy the Bottom of the Pit

\$10,000	Special Plot - Honorary Ownership of the Bottom of the Pit, Certificate and T-shirt (Light Blue, Ash Grey, or Raspberry, L and XL only)
\$10	Additional T-shirt (Light Blue, Ash Grey, or Raspberry, L and XL only)

To order, please send a list of the items you want along with a check or authorization to debit your credit card (please include your credit card number, name on the card, and expiration date) to: SCCI Merchandise, c/o Buddy Lane, PO Box 71857, Chattanooga, TN 37407.



## Schreiber Auction.....*continued from page 1*

Award that recognizes an individual NSS member who, through specific action, has demonstrated a dedication to the thorough exploration and mapping of a cave or group of caves.

Richard was a man with deep passion and vision. He was quoted as saying, "...the excitement of being out in the woods, out in the mountains, doing something that took a bit of skill or degree of calculated expertise...was wonderful, and rewarding spiritually." As much as Richard loved nature and enjoyed caving and its challenges, he also cherished sharing his enthusiasm and passion with his friends. It was in this spirit that Richard began the group known as TAG, the group of cavers from all three states that caved and mapped and explored together without a fixed organization, but with a purpose. Schreiber died in 1990 at age 46.

In addition to our usual "buy-an-honorary-piece-of-the..." programs, this year we encourage you to check out the auction as a means to expend your generous donations. Without the continued selfless contributions of our members, sustaining donors, corporate sponsors and program supporters, the fulfillment of the SCCi mission would cease. With that, we invite you

to visit the auction web site [www.scci.org/auction](http://www.scci.org/auction) to view the individual lot pictures and descriptions as well as the current bid. At this site you may also cut and paste the bidding form to the Auction Coordinator in order to place bids. Please review the complete set of auction rules found at the bottom of the bidding form.

We also encourage you to stop by and visit us at the SCCi booth to volunteer an hour or two, talk about acquisition possibilities you may want to share, see our new Horse Skull Cave t-shirts, and to inspect the auction lots first hand. Bidding for all items concludes at 10:00 p.m. central time, Saturday, October 7th at the TAG Fall Cave-In. Winning bidders will be posted after 11:00 p.m. central time at the SCCi booth on Vendor's Row. Those not present may check the auction web site later in the week. If the winner is not in attendance, payment and shipping covered by the bidder must be arranged by contacting the Auction Coordinator, Connie Hillebrand at 16147 Darden Road, Granger, IN 46530-9509, (219) 277-8032, [daveandconnie@mindspring.com](mailto:daveandconnie@mindspring.com).

If you have a new address, please contact:

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**PO Box 71857**  
**Chattanooga, TN 37407**