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### ***NCKRI News and Announcements for 2021-11-23:***

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##### **Conferences and Meetings**

- **Announcing the 17<sup>th</sup> Sinkhole Conference: Save the Date!**
- **List of Upcoming Cave and Karst Meetings**

Please contact the people and organizations listed below for more information, and feel free to share this message with anyone who may be interested.

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#### **The International Year of Caves and Karst: Start Thinking about 2022!**

As we approach the last month of 2021, remember that because of COVID the International Year of Caves and Karst has been extended through 2022. So far we have 257 partner organizations that organized 360 events. This has been great and following the success of our meeting with UNESCO in September we hope to keep adding partners and organize even more events for next year.

At first, I described 2021 as the “virtual” International and that 2022 would be the “in-person” International Year. I was mistaken. Strangely, the COVID pandemic has increased the success of the International Year dramatically. Lectures and activities that would have been held in person with only a few people were done on-line with attendees from around the world. They were then posted on the International Year website where hundreds to thousands more people have watched. As we plan for 2022, we need to make it the “hybrid” International Year. Organize events in person where it is safe to do so but make plans to share those events on-line either live or recorded. This will make your event and your contribution to the International Year much more valuable.

Because we are approaching the end-of-year holidays, I expect there will be fewer activities. However, this makes it a great time to begin planning your International Year events for next year. At this time one year ago, many of you were figuring out how to plan your events as virtual activities. This time I ask you to figure out how to make them hybrid. This benefits the International Year, but also you and your group.

If you cannot organize an in-person, virtual, or hybrid meeting, or not a large meeting, that is OK. Do whatever you can. Everything helps. Even if you teach just one person about caves and karst, you might inspire that person to become an important cave explorer, scientist, or manager. Every person you reach is important!

As much as possible, please include the media in your events and send links to those reports for the Event Results page of the International Year website: <http://iyck2021.org/index.php/event-results/>.

Thank you for your continued support of the International Year of Caves and Karst. Together, have made the first year a success and can do even more next year!

For more information about the International Year, visit the website ([www.iyck2021.org](http://www.iyck2021.org)). Also like us at the UIS Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/uisspeleo>), UIS Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/uisspeleo>), and/or the UIS Instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/uisspeleo/>).

George Veni  
President, International Union of Speleology  
Executive Director, National Cave and Karst Research Institute

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## **The William L. Wilson and Diane C. Wilson Scholarship in Karst Science**

The William L. Wilson and Diane C. Wilson Scholarship in Karst Science was established in 2002 by the Karst Waters Institute ([www.karstwaters.org](http://www.karstwaters.org)) to recognize the significant contributions of the late William (Bill) L. Wilson. Bill used a variety of techniques, and unusual creativity, to tackle some of the most difficult karst science questions in Florida and elsewhere. He developed a leading karst consulting company in the United States, Subsurface Evaluations, Inc. To stimulate the development of new, energetic, motivated, and creative karst scientists, and to remember Bill Wilson and his dedication to karst science, the scholarship has been established in his memory. The initial donation of funds to establish the scholarship were made by Diane C. Wilson, and, upon her passing, the name of the scholarship was changed to include recognition of her commitment to supporting karst science. The scholarship includes recognition at the KWI spring banquet, a plaque naming the awardee, and a one-time award of \$2,000.

To apply for the William L. Wilson and Diane C. Wilson Scholarship, the following conditions exist:

- 1) The applicant must be currently enrolled in, or have been accepted into, a master's degree program at an institution of higher education in the United States. PhD students are not eligible.
- 2) A written proposal of the planned karst study. The research topic should focus on karst science, broadly defined, including subfields of geochemistry, geology, geophysics, or hydrology. The proposal narrative is limited to 1000 words, not including figure captions or references.
- 3) A half-page budget explanation. Although funds are unrestricted and do not have to provide complete support of the project, a simple budget and short justification should be included to reflect how the award may further the proposed work.
- 4) One-page CV. The student should prepare a one-page CV that includes information on academic background and any relevant employment or research experience. Include a list of course completed in graduate school.
- 5) One letter of recommendation from the student's advisor or mentor. These letters should be emailed directly to [jherman@virginia.edu](mailto:jherman@virginia.edu) by the letter writer. The letter should include a statement confirming that the student is in progress toward a master's degree.
- 6) Applications are due by February 15, 2022. They should be submitted electronically as a single pdf file that includes the proposal, budget, and CV:

Dr. Janet S. Herman, President, Karst Waters Institute

[jherman@virginia.edu](mailto:jherman@virginia.edu)

Questions regarding the scholarship should be addressed to Dr. Herman.

Applicants will be notified in late March of the decision of the Scholarship Committee.

Publications and presentations derived from supported research should acknowledge the Karst Waters Institute and the William L. Wilson and Diane C. Wilson Scholarship.

For more information, go to: <http://karstwaters.org/scholarship/>

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### **Visual KARSYS: Next Online Course Announcement**

The next Visual KARSYS course will occur online on 12-13 January 2022 in two 3-hour sessions. The course is designed for geologists and hydrogeologists (engineers, academic, students) working in karst environments for applied issues (groundwater resources, natural hazards, geothermy, construction, etc.). It intends to provide steps and tools to attendees who will apply KARSYS by themselves. For more information visit <https://www.visualkarsys.com/>.

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### **New Book: Symphonie En Sous-Sol / Underground Symphony**

For all lovers of the underground world, treat yourself and others while sharing your passion. Master cave photographers Philippe Crochet and Annie Guiraud have produced this exceptional coffee table book featuring photos of outstanding cave landscapes in France and around the world. It is accompanied by texts in French and English. Size: 30 cm x 30 cm (11.8 in x 11.8 in). 336 pages.

You can contact your regional cave book sellers to see if they are carrying this book to avoid international shipping charges, or order it directly from Philippe Crochet at [contact@philippe-crochet.com](mailto:contact@philippe-crochet.com) for 65€ plus shipping (costs vary according to the country and the means of shipping).

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## **International Show Cave Association: November-December 2021 Newsletter**

Dear ISCA friends,

Relax and have some reading time by following the link below, which will take you to our latest newsletter:

- [ISCA Newsletter November & December 2021](#)

Our next issue is scheduled to be published on January 1st (2022!), but it may be sent a week earlier since I am going to Costa Rica!

Do not forget to reach me in order to include your contents.

Truly yours,  
*Juanjo Tíscar Moya*  
ISCA Editor

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## **IAH TimeCapsule project: Video Interview of Wolfgang Dreybrodt**

The International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) Karst Commission has released a video interview with Dr. Wolfgang Dreybrodt. Dr. Dreybrodt is famous for his landmark work in the meticulous application of physics to cave and karst hydrogeology. The interview was conducted by Franci Gabrovsek, Georg Kaufmann, and Douchko Romanov.

To learn about Dr. Dreybrodt's life and perhaps find a source of inspiration for their professional development and personal enthusiasm, watch the 1-hour video at <https://timecapsule.iah.org/episode/wolfgang-dreybrodt>.

For more information about the IAH and the Karst Commission, visit <https://karst.iah.org/>.

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## **Call for 2022 Cave Proposals: New Mexico, USA**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Roswell Field Office is now accepting project work and scientific proposals for the 2022 caving season for caves within

the Roswell Field Office boundaries. The proposal format and criteria are located [HERE](#). (The document says "2019" but applies to 2022.) All proposals must be received by January 7, 2022.

If you are writing a proposal to do a science project, and you are not a subject matter expert, the BLM recommends that you have a subject matter expert work with you and co-author your proposal. If you anticipate needing to collect samples, please mention that you are also applying for a sample collection permit(s).

PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE PROPOSAL CRITERIA SHEET! Take note of the email address in which to send the proposal. Please be sure to include ALL required information in your proposal. Failure to do so means that your proposal will not be considered.

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### **Bats, Our Friends: A New Bat Protection Initiative**

Hello friends,

We are writing for your help. Please vote on our initiative "Bats, our friends", a project that we started to protect and conserve these animals that lately are demonized more than usual. Our initiative is mainly aimed at environmental education of the little ones.

If you click on this link below, you can register your support by clicking on the thumbs-up icon. You will then be asked to register and confirm your email to activate your account (it takes 2 minutes and also among those registered € 300 will be drawn). And look again for our link and register:

<https://www.ecolatrass.es/detalle/los-murcielagos-nuestros-amigos>

We ask you for maximum dissemination among your contacts, family, friends to continue with this initiative and be one of the most voted. All for the animals that we are most passionate about in caves.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FROM VILLACARRILLO.

Toni

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## **Dye Tracing Call for Proposals!**

Traqa is sponsoring dye tracing projects related to caving activities (exploration, sensibilization, environmental protection, training) by supplying *STREAM@fieldfluorometers* for high-resolution monitoring of fluorescent dyes.

The *STREAM@fluorometer* is an innovative, ultraportable (1,25kg, 23x6 cm), and fully submersible (no cables, 1000 m depth rating) field fluorometer allowing to trace fluorescent dyes in challenging karst environments (difficult to access, flooded). TRAQUA is a spin-off specialized in hydrogeology and dye tracing expertise. More info on [www.traqua.be/en](http://www.traqua.be/en).

Any non-profit association, group or federation active in the field of caving may apply for use of a *STREAM@fluorometer*. Applications can be made by speleology associations worldwide and throughout the year using the project call form (available in English and French). You can request form and additional information via [contact@traqua.be](mailto:contact@traqua.be).

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## **Announcing the 17<sup>th</sup> Sinkhole Conference: Save the Date!**

The 17<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts on Karst, more commonly called "The Sinkhole Conference," will be held on 27-31 March 2021 in at the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida, USA. This long-standing internationally acclaimed and attended meeting is multidisciplinary, with topics including geotechnical engineering, hydrogeology, land management, water supply and quality, geophysics, and many others. The conference began in Florida in 1984 and we're happy to return it there for the best Sinkhole Conference yet!

Mark your calendar for March 2023 and look for registration and the call for abstracts to begin in early 2022. We are just starting to add information to our website, <http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>, so bookmark it to check as more details are added.

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## List of Upcoming Cave and Karst Meetings

*If you are interested in any of the following events, contact the organizers directly to learn if they are still planned as announced below.*

- 1) Conference of the Arabian Journal of Geosciences, Cave and Karst Session, 25-28 November 2021 (Istanbul, Turkey), <https://www.cajg.org/>
- 2) 4th National Speleology Days, 26-27 November 2021, (virtual meeting, Argentina), <http://espeleoar.blogspot.com/>.
- 3) Visual KARSYS Online Course, 12-13 January 2022, <https://www.visualkarsys.com/>
- 4) Karst Record IX (KR9) Conference, postponed to 2022 (Innsbruck, Austria), <https://www.uibk.ac.at/congress/kr9/>
- 5) 14th International Symposium on Pseudokarst, postponed to Spring 2022, <https://14pseudokarst.wonders4you.com/>
- 6) Fort Stanton Cave Science Conference, 7-9 April 2022 (Socorro, New Mexico, USA), <https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/FtStanton/home.cfm>
- 7) 36th Brazilian Congress of Speleology, 3-6 June 2022 (Brasilia, Brazil), <http://36cbe.org.br/>
- 8) EuroKarst 2022: The European Congress on Karst Hydrogeology and Carbonate Reservoirs, 22-25 June 2022 (Málaga, Spain), <http://www.eurokarst.org/>
- 9) 25th International Conference on Subterranean Biology, 18-22 July 2022 (Cluj-Napoca, Romania), <https://www.25icsb.com/>.
- 10) 18th International Congress of Speleology, 24-31 July 2022 (Savoie Technolac, Le Bourget du Lac, Savoie, France), <http://uis2021.speleos.fr/>
- 11) 17th Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst, 27-31 March 2023 (Tampa, Florida, USA), <http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>
- 12) 19th International Congress of Speleology, July 2025 (Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil), for preliminary information see volume 63-1 of the UIS Bulletin at <http://uis-speleo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/uisb631.pdf>