

Cave Conservation and Restoration Publication Receives International Award

For their work on the NSS publication, Cave Conservation and Restoration, Val Hildreth-Werker and Jim C. Werker receive the Australasian Cave and Karst Management Association award for Outstanding Contribution to Cave and Karst Management. Portrait by Penny Boston; Photo composite by Dave Bunnell

At their 17th Biennial Conference, one of the world's leading organizations in cave conservation and management conferred an honor on the NSS Conservation Division Co-Chairs.

Members of the Australasian Cave and Karst Management Association, Inc. (ACKMA) unanimously agreed to grant the inaugural award for "Outstanding Contribution to Cave and Karst Management" to Val Hildreth-Werker and Jim C. Werker for their "editorship of and contributions to the fine book, Cave Conservation and Restoration. We congratulate the NSS on the breadth and excellence of this volume."

At the NSS Convention in Indiana last summer, during the underground Awards Ceremony in the quarry, the Society also honored Jim and Val with Merit Awards for their commitment to state-of-the-art conservation strategies and years of work on their mangum opus.

Jim and Val extend this statement of appreciation: "We are humbled to receive this honor from the world's premier cave conservation organization. We deeply appreciate the comments on our book [see review below] and ACKMA's leadership-commitment in promoting current best practices for conserving and managing Earth's fragile underground resources. We look forward to many global conservation collaborations in the future with the esteemed membership of ACKMA. Thank you for this special international recognition. We share the lovely certificate of award with all the contributors and reviewers whose dedication made this volume possible and to all the cavers who spend countless days underground working to save cave and karst systems."

Hildreth-Werker V, Werker JC, editors. 2006. Cave Conservation and Restoration. Huntsville, Alabama: National Speleological Society. 600 p. [For every decision related to a cave, the foremost concern should be the perpetuation of speleological processes, values, and resources. Contains a wealth of detail from 46 contributors describing tools and methods for cave conservation, restoration, and speleoethem repair.]



FINDING YOUR VOICE AND KEEPING IT! A VOICE TRAINING MANUAL FOR CAVE GUIDES

by Alan Andrews with Cathie Plowman

This is a 12 page publication recommended for cave guides who want help to project their voice and also avoid voice issues such as shouting and laryngitis. While the publication has been prepared especially for cave guides, it will be of benefit to guides working in any area, and anyone who does public speaking.

The manual is available at the members only section of the ACKMA website. Hard copies can be brought from Cathie for \$8.00 including p&sp.

Send your cheque to Cathie Plowman: 637 Deviot Road, Deviot, Tasmania. 7275. Email for any queries: <luena@bigpond.com>

