

Candidate Platform Statement for Ken Sallot, NSS#45099

Please don't vote for me.

I'm going to start this platform statement off with a discussion about our current board.

Our current board has been awful and they should be ashamed of themselves.

When was the last version of UWS? Please, don't say it's because there's no content, I know I have authored at least 3 articles that are "sitting in the can" and it's not that hard to send out public solicitations for articles.

Why was it that Wayne's World was never re-opened even though we spent a lot of effort organizing a clean-up and replacing the guideline and line arrows in the system. Yes, I know it's now impossible to dive it due to the collapse, but my point is that they should have followed through with opening it. Instead it was delay after delay.

Why are we only having one workshop this year? What about a winter workshop? I know for a fact that someone volunteered to organize one at the October board meeting, but the board declined to do the simple thing of approving it.

What happened to the calendar we were promised? All those photos we received and no calendar to show for it.

When was the last time we saw anything from the equipment committee?

Heck, when was the last time we had a board meeting? It was in October, it's now February and no meeting has been scheduled.

At the board meeting in October, a proposal was made by a CDS member (a former board member) to create a \$1500 scholarship for an undergraduate student to work on a research project involving cave science in either archaeology, biology, chemistry, or geology. That proposal was voted on and approved, but there has been no announcement about the scholarship, the criteria to apply for it, and who is eligible. \$1500 towards an undergraduate research project could be life changing for a college kid.

From where I'm sitting, about the only committee that is worth a damn right now is the awards committee, so let me thank Mr. Floren for his hard work.

If you're happy with the way things have been going with the NSS-CDS, then please don't vote for me.

There, I said it. I don't want to win a seat to the board because I know what winning will mean to me and my family.

It will mean I will be dedicating plenty of my free time working to improve the NSS-CDS to make it a better organization.

It will mean late nights spent working towards developing outreach programs regarding water quality and source issues.

It will mean time and energy spent getting a new editor for UWS, getting it fixed, and creating both a digital and print version that is delivered on time.

It will mean getting a conservation committee rebooted that actually conducts conservation science.

It will mean time spent working with landowners to try and gain access to sites that are currently unavailable and doing everything I can to make the NSS-CDS an important part of the cave diving community.

Anyone that knows me and knows the volunteerism I've given to the NSS-CDS and other organizations, knows the effort I will put into making the NSS-CDS better. You know I've put time into creating the gold line fund. You know I've put time into helping to organize the workshop at Hart Springs last year. You know I've put time into rebooting and fixing the Hart Guide program. You know I've put time into writing articles to help education people. But honestly, it would be a lot easier for me and my family if you pick someone else and keep the status quo.

So please, don't vote for me.