

**ACT SECTION 28 --- MEMBERSHIP - GENERAL**

28-241 Dues 8-5-96, 8-18-72  
 Dues payments are not returnable or proratable, except to adjust Family Member dues to the renewal date of the parent member, or to convert pre-paid dues for future years so as to allocate them to life membership or sustaining life membership dues.

28-286 Application Form 8-16-74  
 Application for any class of NSS membership may be made only on the form appearing in the official NSS membership brochure, on a facsimile thereof, or on other forms approved by the Executive Committee which are in conformance with all policies and acts of the NSS

28-300 Contributions 11-08-97, 3-18-95, 6-29-84, 7-2-82, 6-27-57  
 Members who contribute to the Society in addition to their dues are entitled to the following designations in appreciation of their contribution:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Designation</u>
<\$100	Contributor
<\$500	Supporter
<\$1000	Friend
<\$2000	Mentor
<\$5000	Sponsor
>\$5000	Patron

The President, upon approval of the Board, may designate a member as a Benefactor of the NSS for lifetime, substantial financial contributions

28-334 Gift Memberships 3-16-96, 11-5-77, 8-5-77  
 Gift memberships or renewals may be given by NSS members in good standing. Ordinary membership rates apply.

28-389 Dues Structure 3-15-08:28, 11-6-04, 4-7-01, 7-12-99, 10-21-95, 4-4-87, 6-29-84, 7-2-82, 7-26-81  
 Effective January 1, 2005, the dues of the Society are as follows:

<u># Years Paid</u>	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Associate</u>	<u>Family</u>	<u>Basic</u>
One	\$36.00	\$25.00	\$7.00	\$15.00
Two	\$70.00	\$49.00	\$13.00	\$29.00
Three	\$103.00	\$72.00	\$19.00	\$42.00

Institutional Dues are \$75.00 per year, Regular Life Membership is \$720.00 and Family Life Membership is \$360.00.

Family members in the immediate family of a member accepting the prepayment option must prepay at the same time for the same number of years.

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- 28-633 Postage Surcharge 07-12-99  
The dues of members with a mailing address outside the U.S. and U.S. Territories shall have a surcharge added to reflect the additional cost of mailing their NSS publications over what is incurred for members residing in the United States and its Territories.
- 28-643 The Stephenson Group 10-23-99  
NSS Members in good standing who:  
(A) Contribute a cumulative of \$10,000 to the Society, or  
(B) Name the Society as a beneficiary under a will or living trust for at least \$10000, or  
(C) Create a charitable remainder trust that names the Society as the beneficiary of at least 25% of the corpus of the trust are designated as members of the AStephenson Group.≡ Membership in the Stephenson Group will include past donors and deceased members who have had funds contributed in their names. The Fund Raising Committee Chairman is responsible for managing this program. Membership in the Stephenson Group will be designated on NSS National Convention name tags beginning in the Year 2000.
- 28-646 Sustaining Memberships 10-23-99  
A group of NSS sustaining life members may not combine their cumulative sustaining life membership payments towards establishing only one life membership.
- 28-743 Membership Committee 08-04-03  
The Membership Committee is established in the office of President. The Membership Committee will create and implement effective membership recruitment and renewal strategies and programs that will include, but are not limited to the following: developing programs to effectively reach out to non-member cavers; monitoring and evaluating membership figures; following up on requests by non-members for more information about the Society and caving; following up with members who do not renew to develop strategies for increasing the renewal rate; developing audiovisual programs for grottos on the NSS and the benefits of membership; maintaining an informative NSS web page for prospective members; and ensuring the quality and content of NSS membership brochures, applications, renewal forms, and new member information packets.
- 28-799 NSS Privacy Policy 03-15-08:30  
The NSS Privacy Policy is adopted. See Appendix AX.

#### Cross References

02-072 Election Eligibility  
25-043 Grotto Directory  
50-782 Conservation Statement  
72- All Acts  
Appendix AX