

THE MINUTES OF THE 1992 SURVEYING AND CARTOGRAPHY SECTION

george dasher

On Thursday, August 6th, 1992, the annual meeting of the Surveying and Cartography Section of the National Speleological Society was held in conjunction with the 1992 NSS Convention in Salem Indiana. Chairperson Carol Vesely called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm.

Twenty-two members and friends of the Section were in attendance. These persons were:

Barry Chute	Dale Ibberson	Bill Putnam
Don Conover	Howard Kalnitz	Bru Randall
Don Coons	Pat Kambesis	Greg Sholly
Hubert Cromwell	Robert Lenz	Hope Uhl
George Dasher	Angela Morgan	Jeff Uhl
Ed Devine	Bill Nelson	Carol Vesely
Thom Engel	Barbara Schomer	
Bob Hoke	Nancy Pistole	

The first order of business was the Officers' Reports. Carol made no report; Vice Chairman Doug Dotson was not present. Secretary George Dasher stated that the minutes of last year's meeting had been published in the Compass and Tape and no one had complained.

Treasurer Bob Hoke said that SACS had plenty of money and that a more formal report was available at the meeting for those people who desired such. The Section had approximately \$2100 in its accounts, \$520 of which was money intended for future issues of the C&T.

Tom Kaye, the C&T Editor, was not present, and Bob Hoke gave his report. Bob said that SACS had printed two issues of the C&T within the past year, but--because of a lack of material--that both issues had been combined issues. They were Volume 9, numbers 1 and 2, and Volume 9, numbers 3 and 4. Bob said that the C&T needs material desperately.

Old Business was next discussed.

George Dasher gave a report on On Station, the surveying book he is writing and editing for the NSS' Board of Governors. Last year George had said that OS was pretty much dead in the water. Although the text has been finished for approximately three years, the illustrations have not been forthcoming.

George said that his old Digital Equipment computer had died a timely death last Labor Day and he had purchased an IBM clone. Because of this, he has a newer, more-state-of-the-art word processor and has reformatted the entire book. With a newly formatted book, he could see exactly what was needed where, and he has been drawing the illustrations himself. In addition, Hope Uhl has provided some illustrations, Don Conover one, and Bob Cronk one. Tom Rea has been made aware of how close to finished OS is and may--in the future--become a serious player in the publication.

The bottom line: OS is nearly complete. George has been distributing manuscripts during the Salem Convention for one last technical review. He hopes to--let's cross our fingers!--have the entire thing finished before the winter is over.

The Cartographic Salon was discussed next. George Dasher--the Cart Salon Coordinator--began this with some general bitching. He was unhappy with his placement as last at the Salon Ceremony the previous evening, and he is still unhappy that he is not allowed to bring the Cartographic Salon winners up on stage during the ceremonies. Each of the winning maps requires an enormous amount of time and effort, and George feels that the Society could reward its cartographers with just a few minutes on stage.

There was an enormous amount of discussion. Many felt that the Cartographic Salon was an extremely popular event at Convention. Bob Thrun asked if a slide could be taken of each winner and shown during the ceremony. George said that was Paul Stevens'--the coordinator of the Salon Ceremony--strategy; however, as of yet George had not had the time or the energy to initiate any such program. George also said that the rules for all the BOG Salons require a one dollar entry fee and a slide of each contestant--and that both rules are usually not noticed by the Cart Salon entrants.

Bob Hoke brought up the subject of the Cart Salon Medal award. It is extremely small and very unprestigious. Bob said that with SACS' surplus of funds, that SACS could give cash to the annual Cart Salon medal winner or improve the quality of the medal award. He personally was in favor of improving the medal award.

Barry Chute made the motion to allocate \$100 and establish a committee to come up with a new medal award design. Bob Hoke seconded this motion and a vote was taken. All but one were in favor, no one was opposed, and one person abstained. The motion passed. Barry and George were appointed to the committee, and it was generally understood that Hope Uhl would help with any art work.

George mentioned that he would probably not be able to make the 1993 Oregon Convention. His father had recently died and he feels an urge to spend his 1993 vacation doing family things. Earlier he had asked Carol Vesely to stand in for him; however, Carol is always very busy at Convention running the International and U.S. Exploration Sessions. There was a general call for volunteers to run the 1993 Cart Salon--no one volunteered.

New Business followed.

Bob Hoke brought up the issue of accounting and dues. It was his opinion that the membership should be regulated not by years, but by the number of C&T issues each person had received. He said a lot of people paid for several years of membership at one time and he personally felt they should not be getting only one or two issues of the C&T within that time period. He said that any such membership changes would have to be reflected in the C&T masthead.

There was much discussion. Bill Putnam said that he had joined SACS to be a member of the Section not--as a primary reason--to receive the C&T. Don Coons said he saw nothing wrong with making money. Bob Hoke stated that Tom Kaye had taken the editorship of the C&T with the explicit understanding he would not have to hound people for articles. It was also mentioned that, when Tom

took over his editing job, that Doug Medville had volunteered to hound people for articles. A very-unserious suggestion was made to replace Tom as editor, but no one was in favor of this idea.

Bob Hoke made a motion to change the membership from yearly to the number of C&T issues received. Hubert Cromwell seconded the motion and a vote was taken. Five persons were in favor, eight opposed, and three abstained. The motion failed.

Bill Putnam made a motion to add issue numbers to the C&T and to publish the C&T by those numbers, not by volume and number. Bob Hoke interceded and much discussion followed. Afterwards, Bill again made his motion, adding that the C&T masthead be changed to reflect that the C&T intends to publish quarterly, but that it might be published irregularly. Jeff Uhl seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The vast majority were in favor, no one was opposed, and four abstained. The motion passed.

Next was a discussion to name the Cart Salon Medal award after Bernie Smelzer, a Pennsylvania cave surveyor who had recently died and who had consistently published quality cave maps for the past three or four decades. Hope Uhl gave the "pro" side to this argument--she told a little bit about Bernie, said there was a display of his maps upstairs, and that the last issue of the York Grotto Newsletter (V28#4) was dedicated to him and contained a lot about what he had done. Hope also said that the NSS has a lot of named awards, i.e., the Lew Bicking Award, the Sara Corrie Award, etc. (Secretary Note: None of these awards are BOG Salon awards, as is the Cart Salon Medal award.)

Hope also said, more or less, "We in Pennsylvania know Bernie's work, his maps set the standard for many of our maps, and most of our cartographers have descended from Bernie." In addition, Bernie was "an extraordinarily person, a true caver and friend, a publisher of cave maps and articles, willing to pass on his knowledge, and always leading trips for younger persons." Hope proposed that the Medal be named the "Bernie Smelzer Award." She did not want it to say the "Father of Cave Cartography," or the "Greatest Cave Mapper."

The NSS Board was aware of the Bernie Smelzer Award idea and they had suggested Hope, etc. talk to SACS and convince SACS. The BOG decision would follow SACS' decision. (Secretary's Note: On Friday, Paul Stevens informed me, as the Cart Salon Chairman, that the BOG had decided to allow me to make the decision.)

A great deal of discussion followed. George Dasher said that he was concerned that naming the Cart Salon Medal award after any one person, no matter how the award was worded, would give the impression that that person was the father of American cave cartography. Carol Vesely suggested that instead of making a decision at this meeting, the pros and cons be presented in the next issue of the C&T. She asked Hope to write the "pro" side of the argument and Bob Hoke write the "con." Unfortunately, because of a lack of time--Carol was in charge of the International Session and she had to return to that auditorium--the discussion on this subject had to be terminated.

Elections next followed. Hubert Cromwell made the motion to continue with the present slate of officers. Thom Engel seconded the motion, and Barry Chute moved that we accept the present officers by acclamation. No one objected, and the present officers were thus railroaded back into their positions.

Thom Engel made the motion to adjourn, and Carol adjourned the meeting at 1:02 pm. Many persons stayed afterwards and participated in a discussion on the possibilities of a Bernie Smelzer Cartographic Salon Medal Award--or possibly in a second award, named after Bernie, given at each Convention and in conjunction with the Cart Salon Medal.