

SACS MINUTES

george dasher
1 July 1997

The 1997 annual meeting of the Surveying and Cartography Section (SACS) of the National Speleological Society was held on Thursday, June 26th, 1997, in conjunction with the NSS' annual convention. The Convention was held at the Sullivan Elementary School in Sullivan, Missouri; the Section meeting was held in the nearby fire hall. Attending were the following 19 members and friends of the Section:

Aaron Addison
Roger Bartholomew
Lang Brod
Hubert Crowell
Don Coons
George Dasher
William Ellicott

Bob Gulden
Bob Hoke
Pat Kambesis
Ray Keeler
Howard Kynlitz
Kirk MacGreger
Hazel Medville

Dave Taylor
Fred Wefer
Arnie Weisbrot
Carl Weisbrot
Mike Yocum

Chairman Carol Vesely was not present at the meeting. Vice-Chairman Roger Bartholomew allowed the treasurer, Bob Hoke, run the meeting. Bob began the meeting at 12:18 pm. He first thanked Roger for the excellent morning session.

Next were the Officers' reports. No word or no report had been received from Carol.

Vice-Chairman Roger Bartholomew reported that the deadline for papers for the 1997 session had arrived and that he had had virtually no papers. He had then proceeded to run up his phone bill to obtain papers. He asked that people send in papers for the 1998 sessions, and he asked that they send in these papers before the session deadline, so that he would not have to run up his phone bill a second time.

Secretary George Dasher reported that he had received and send out no correspondence within the past year, that no one had complained about the 1996 meeting minutes published in The Compass and Tape (C&T), and that he was passing around a sign-in sheet.

Treasurer Bob Hoke said that the Section had \$3007 at present, and that a bunch of this money was committed to the already-paid-for issues of the C&T. He also suggested that the Section financial year be changed to the calendar year, instead of from Convention to Convention a time which can vary by as much as two months each year. He asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he asked if anyone was opposed to this idea. There were none, and the "motion" was considered passed.

Editor Pat Kambesis said that one issue of the C&T had just been printed, mailed, and received, that a second issue was in the works, and that she was working on the third issue. She asked that people send her articles. Bob Hoke said that the last issue looked good, and Hazel Medville requested that some of the Convention papers be published in the C&T.

George Dasher gave a report on the 1997 Cartographic Salon. He said that 34 maps had been entered, that four maps were display only, and that ten green ribbons, two blue ribbons, and two medals had been awarded. He gave an overview of the planned strategy for the Cart Salon. This was that he would continue to coordinate the Salon, but that there would be a new Salon Chairman and a new Salon Vice-Chairman each year. The Vice-Chairman would then become the Chairman for the following year's Salon. George had in hand a list of the people who had volunteered to chair a Salon; however, none of these people were present. Don Coons had already volunteered to chair the 1998 Salon, and he said that he would handle locating a 1999 Chairman.

Bob Hoke said that a list of all those persons owing the Section dues will be printed in the next C&T, and that if these people did not then pay they would be hassled by postcard.

Pat Kambesis said that she intended to put more maps in the C&T, but that this would cost a little more money. Bob said that the Section has the money and should spend it.

Bob then asked if there was any Old Business. There was none.

Bob next asked if there was any New Business, and he again asked about changing the financial year. George Dasher said that this had already been done.

Arnie Weisbrot then brought up the subject of map labeling and folding standards. He had given a talk on this subject at the morning session, and he had prepared a written motion which read:

"A Proposal for Standardized Sizes of Maps

"I move that the Survey and Cartography Section of the National Speleological Society adopt the following standard for use on all cave maps:

"1. Adopt these parts of American Society of Mechanical Engineers Standards Y14.1 and Y14.1M:

"a. Para 4 - Drawing Sheet Sizes

"b. Para 6.1 - Title Block Location

"c. Para 1 1.1 - Margin Drawing Number Block

"2. Title Block shall contain: Cartographer Name and Address, Cave Name, Location Description, Survey Date and Map Date.

"3. Margin Drawing Number Block shall contain Cave Name and Location Description.

"I further move that the Survey and Cartography Section of the National Speleological Society award bonus points at the Cartography Salon for maps that meet this standard."

Bob Hoke seconded Arnie's motion. George Dasher asked if these auxiliary labels would go onto the map outside of the border. Arnie said yes, and that the labels would in no way affect what was inside the border.

There was some discussion, and it was noted that the standard page size seemed to be more of a concern than the auxiliary labels. Pat Kambesis made the comment that the Section should not fly this through, and that Arnie should write an article and solicit more input. She then made a motion to table Arnie's motion. This was seconded by Hubert Crowell.

George Dasher said that there is no NSS map standards and no SACS map standards, so this motion would be precedent setting. He also said that the Cart Salon standards were formulated by a committee and if the labeling and sheet size options were to be made a requirement for the Cart Salon then that committee should be reopened to formulate a decision.

The motion to table was then unanimously tabled.

Bob Hoke mentioned the subject of lava tube map symbols, which had been discussed at the 1996 meeting. Hazel Medville asked that the Section take no action at this time.

Bob then brought up the subject of the section purchasing a LCD Plate. Roger Bartholomew said that the plate supplied by the Convention had been inadequate, and that he had been prepared to drive to Saint Louis and rent an adequate plate with his own money.

Roger also said that these plates which are used to project computer screens onto a large screen are manufactured in two varieties. One kind fits on an overhead projector; the other is a total system which stands-alone. Also, Roger said that many of the total systems can be used with a VCR. Aaron Addison had provided the LCD using during the morning session. His company was located nearby.

Bob Hoke said that the Section might be able to share the costs with another section, and he said that a high-resolution, high-intensity view graph could cost as high as \$2500 to \$3000. Another possibility was a scenario where the Section pays half, the Convention pays half, and the Section gets guaranteed use. This unit would then be a NSS resource.

There was a lot of debate. Hazel Medville commented that, because of the high cost of the equipment, it would not be possible to ship it around the country.

Hubert Crowell said that the section should not purchase any equipment before contacting him, as he works for a company that supplies this equipment and he might be able to arrange a donation.

Fred Wefer said that it was a good idea to get a projector that could interface with a VCR.

Don Coons said that he had recently priced this equipment, that a plate unit would cost between \$2500 and \$5000, and that a total unit would cost between \$5000 and \$8000. He also said this technology was on the way out and would soon be replaced by a more expensive technology. He said that the Section should thus move quickly if they wanted to purchase a cheaper system.

Aaron Addison said that the unit in the room was NSS owned and was a low resolution unit.

George Dasher asked if there was truly a need for this equipment, and he asked if it could be supplied by the each Convention.

Bob Hoke said that a high school might have such equipment, but a location like an elementary school would not. He said that each convention supplying the unit was problematic and that it would cost \$500 to rent a unit for at least two days. Roger Bartholomew added: If a good rental place could be found. Bob also said that the Section might receive co-funding with the Photo Salon. There was more discussion.

Bob Hoke then formed a committee of himself, Roger Bartholomew, Hubert Cromwell, and Fred Wefer. He said that the committee would look into the options and make a recommendation prior to the 1998 Convention. The consensus of the group seemed to be that the Section could spend up to one-third of its assets. All but one seemed to be in favor of this idea. None were opposed, and one abstained.

Hazel Medville remarked that the unit used in the morning session had not been adequate. Aaron Addison said that the room's low ceiling had made for a poor projection. Roger Bartholomew added that the unit needed an extension cord. Bob Hoke remarked that the NSS had actually bought several extension cords for convention use, but that often-times the Convention committee does not locate these until repacking the equipment after the convention. He again said that the newly-formed committee would look into the options.

Kirk MacGregor said that using Convention-owned equipment would side step the issue of someone dropping our equipment.

Hubert Cromwell then brought up the issue of the convention survey contest offering prizes. He said that he would like the Section members' thoughts on this and he said that the contest was only offering certificates at present. Pat Kambesis said that prizes would be nice. Hubert said that 16 people had participated in the 1997 contest.

Bob Hoke asked if the contest should be more for more than one day. Arnie Weisbrot said that a donation from the vendors might be nice; Roger Bartholomew suggested a \$50 gift certificate. Hubert said that no decision was needed at present. Bob said a \$10 gift certificate would be good; Pat Kambesis suggested \$20 or \$25.

Pat then made a motion that the Section award a \$20 gift certificate to the winner of the convention survey contest. Arnie Weisbrot seconded this motion. All but one person was in favor of the motion. No one was opposed and one person abstained.

George Dasher asked about the USGS inclusion of cave locations in their GIS system. Hazel Medville said that the USGS had dropped the locations from their system.

Bob Hoke called for elections. He asked if anyone knew if Carol Vesely was willing to continue as the Chair. He then said that Roger was willing to continue as Vice-Chair, George as secretary, himself as treasurer, and Pat as Editor. Hazel Medville said that the Section's meeting was taking twice

as long as the Geo2 meeting, that there was no objections to the current officers, and that they should remain the Section's officers. Bob asked if there were any objections to this and no one spoke up.

Bob then asked if there was any other business or if there were any announcements. There was none. He adjourned the meeting at 1:01 pm.