

**MINUTES OF THE 2002
SURVEYING AND CARTOGRAPHY SECTION MEETING**

george dasher
Acting Secretary
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The 2002 meeting of the Surveying and Cartography Section of the National Speleological Society was convened on Friday, June 28th, 2002, in conjunction with the NSS' annual convention. The meeting took place in Room 223 of the Camden High School, in Camden, Maine. Attending were the following 26 members and friends of the Section:

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| Darrell Adkins | Shari Forsythe | Steve Reams |
| Paul Andrews | Bill Fromty | Bob Robins |
| Brent Aulenbach | Dan Henry | Liz Robinson |
| Robin Barber | Bob Hoke | Henry Schneider |
| Roger Bartholomew | Rod Horrocks | Bob Thrun |
| George Dasher | Jim Kennedy | Bill Varnadoe |
| Thom Engel | Chuck Laon | Louise Varnadoe |
| Alicia Flynn | David Larson | Carol Vesely |
| Preston Forsythe | Nancy Pistole | |

Chairman Carol Vesely called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm. She first welcomed everyone to the meeting, then she said that both the vice-chairman, Roger Bartholomew, and the secretary were not present. She then that Roger had initially no submittals for the SACS' Session and that he was doing a good job, that the secretary was in Chile, and that George Dasher was filling in as the secretary.

Bob Hoke then passed out the Treasurer's Report, and said that the Section had \$4945.85 and 211 members at present. He also said no Compass and Tapes had been printed since November, but that he had the next C&T in hand.

Roger Bartholomew arrived, and he said that he had received no papers by the Convention deadline, and that he had then solicited three talks via the internet. He also said he had sent out postcards to all the Section members, but this had produced no results. He said he now had four talks for the SACS Session. Bob Hoke added that the session deadline this year had been March 1st, and that he felt that this had been far too early.

Steve Reams next gave a report on the Cartographic Salon, and said that there had been 14 entries and eight awards had been given. He said that six of the maps had been "Display only," only one medal had been awarded, and he had only mispronounced one cave name badly the night before at the Awards Ceremony. He also said that Rod Horricks will be the Salon Chairman next year and that he has everything he needs. Brent Audenbach won the Cart Salon Medal for his map of Caves of the Snake Well Complex, which is located in Tennessee.

Next was Old Business.

Carol said that, last year, they had planned to have a special C&T dedicated to the Cart Salon with both maps and critiques; however, there had been more enthusiasm than follow through and no such issue had been produced.

There was some discussion. Jim Kennedy said that there had been problems with the critiques last year, and that photos of the maps needed to be put on the website using Powerpoint, particularly for archiving; George said that it was good to have an open critique at the Salon, so other people could give their opinions; Bob Hoke said the judging sheets could be added to a website; George asked if it was appropriate to display all the maps on the webpage, and Bob admitted it would be inappropriate to display some of the maps; Thom Engle said that some people might not be able to find the website location; and Roger Bartholomew said that it might be wise to just show sections of the map.

Carol said that the Section has a website, and Bob Hoke said that there is space on that site. George said that the information on that site is really old, and Brent Aulenbach said the SACS website is now under construction. Steve said he would take care of the website, and several other people made some comments. Jim volunteered to take pictures of the maps and George volunteered to provide a list of the previous years' winners.

Carol then asked if the number of entries are declining, and George said that all the entries for all the salons are down at this convention. Brent said that the breakdown into categories was good, so that the novices didn't have to compete with the experienced cartographers.

George asked about the cartographic salon the Southeastern Region has been hosting, and Brent said that it was made of Mississippi, TAG, North Carolina, and South Carolina, and that it took place at the winter meeting. He said all the maps are on the Southeastern Region website.

Carol asked if this salon was run any different than the NSS salon, and Brent said that the grading was different but that it was modeled on the NSS' salon. Carol asked how many maps were entered, and Brent said that varied year to year. Jim Kennedy said that 12 to 20 maps were usually entered, but that there were fewer cartographers.

Carol then asked if we should have a "pen and ink" category, as it would be good to maintain a link to the traditional technology. Bob Hoke said "Let's experiment and see what happens," and he added that it is sometimes hard to tell the difference many times between the two styles. George said that P&I is less expensive, and that is a big factor for some people.

Jim Kennedy said that we will have to be careful when differentiating between the two styles, because a lot of the hand-drawn maps use computer-generated text. Nancy Pistole added that if the computer is used to draw any part of the map, then the map should be considered computer drawn. Henry Schneider said that photographic salon considers a photograph "digital" if the data is digitized during any part of the photography process. Bob Hoke said he didn't like the idea of calling a map computer generated if it used only computer-generated text.

Carol said it was time to move on, and she said that we will have access to a computer lab at the next convention. Steve Reams volunteered to help with that, and he said that Paul Burger has plans to

do two half-day sessions at that convention. He will emphasize not the software programs, but rather the computer cartographic process.

There was additional discursion and Carol said these sessions should be popular. Steve said that they will be hands-on workshops, and there will have to be a sign-up sheet. "And handouts," Carol added. Bob Thrun noted that there are differences in the different cartographic software packages, but Steve said that every company is copying the software from every other company and the feature sets are very similar. In short, he felt the software differences are a non issue.

George said that, several years ago he had at SACS' direction put together a questionnaire regarding the different computer data-reduction and drafting programs. No one, he said, completed the questionnaire and returned it.

Carol said that we should bring in Bob Richards or Joel Despain for their input, and Jim Kennedy said we should keep the session program neutral. Carol asked if we should have a beginner and advanced workshop, and Darrell Adkins asked if people could come up with a list of problem areas: "Here's what I'm having trouble doing." Bob Thrun said a good explanation between a CAD [computer-aided drafting] and a drawing program is needed, as well as what each can do. Bob Hoke said that CAD is not as good as the drawing programs, and George Dasher agreed. Steve Reams said that there should also be a discussion of GIS [Geographic Information System] programs, such as Arcview.

George Dasher asked if Steve Reams will be handling this computer session, and Carol Vesley said yes.

Carol then said that she has a friend with a kid who wants to learn cave surveying, and she asked if we should have a kids' workshop. She thought this would be a great idea and a good thing for the next generation. Bob Thrun said that this would have to be a simpler class than the one he had taught in years past. Carol agreed, and said it would have to be more geared to kids. She also said that there was a talk this year in International Exploration where a cave in the Ukraine had been surveyed by kids.

Nancy Pistole asked if Carol will again be running her surveying class at the next convention, and Carol said "Yes and no." She said the sketching workshop planned for next year is a no go, as the closest cave is a commercial cave with severe restrictions. "I would like to do it," she said, "But I need another cave." Thom Engle said it would impossible not to do the course in a cave, and Nancy Pistole added that only a short cave was needed, perhaps only five stations long. George Dasher added you don't need much of a cave, but you do need a cave.

Carol asked if someone would take on teaching the kids' surveying class. Thom Engle asked the age of the kids, and Carol said teenagers. Thom said, "Let me think about it." Liz Robinson asked, "What about at the 2004 Convention?" and Carol said the caves will be further away from that convention site.

Bob Hoke asked about money to support the sketching class and the kid's survey class, and Carol suggested \$30. George Dasher suggested \$50 and Steve Reams suggested \$100. Jim Kennedy seconded the \$100 suggestion, and it was quickly voted on with everyone in favor.

Carol asked if there was any new business. There was none.

Carol asked about elections, and she in particular asked if anyone wanted to be the secretary. George said maybe, but he wasn't sure if he could make the 2003 Convention. Robin Barber said she might do it, and Thom Engle made a motion that Robin should be the Secretary. Jim Kennedy again second the motion, and Thom Engle made a motion to close the nominations, which Steve Reams seconded. This passed unanimously and Carol adjourned the meeting at 2:06 pm.