

Minutes of the NSS Survey & Cartography Section Annual Meeting at the NSS Convention in Huntsville, Alabama July 18, 2014

Chair Dwight Livingston called the meeting to order at 12:08 PM. There were 24 people in attendance. The Secretary (George Dasher) was not at the convention. Nobody had a copy of the 2013 minutes, and nobody remembered the minutes were on the SACS Web site so the 2013 minutes were not approved.

Treasurer's report: Bob Hoke passed out a 2013 financial report. He said that since there are no longer any Section dues the only activity was \$6 in interest income, \$78 in 2013 Cartography Salon expenses, and \$22 for Web hosting. The Section had \$4,186 in the bank on December 31.

Chair's report: Dwight Livingston said that he had done very little as Chair during the past year. He said he sent Brent Aulenbach, the Webmaster, a few Web site updates, but most of his activity was related to the Cartography Salon.

Web site: Brent Aulenbach said he has posted Dwight's updates. The site contains all the *Compass & Tape* issues and the table of contents page for each. The list of Cart Salon winners has been posted along with portions of many of the winning maps. Bob Thrun suggested that the official NSS cave map symbols be posted on the site. Brent agreed to do that and Bob promptly gave him a CD containing all the symbols and some other survey-related articles for the Web site.

Cartography Salon: Dwight said the 2014 Salon ran smoothly. It was originally going to be located in a hallway, but was moved to a room with more wall space due to the large number of maps submitted. The Salon expenditures in 2014 were \$92. There were 11 Apprentice maps, 20 Experienced maps, and one Master map. There was a new category, Web-based maps, but there were no entries this year.

Dwight said he had to hunt for judges during the convention, but he was able to find enough qualified volunteers. He said the judging workload is unbalanced and that he plans to ponder a way to solve that problem. He said that he would like to have three judges looking at each map. He said he

plans to get his judges before the convention next year to avoid the last-minute recruiting hassle.

Bob Hoke noted that one reason the Salon was moved was to accommodate a large floor map. He said that such unusual facility requirements should not be allowed to dictate the location of the Salon. However, the consensus was that the Salon should try to accommodate all types of maps so that innovation isn't stifled.

There was a discussion of Web-based and electronic maps. Dwight said that he wants to encourage entries in that category. There was a discussion about the Section buying a large display to encourage entries, but interest waned when it was noted that someone would have to store the device and bring it to conventions.

Dwight said he would write an article about the Salon for the *NSS News* and the consensus was that it should go in an issue different from the traditional convention summary issue.

This was the third consecutive Salon without a Medal being awarded. Aaron Addison suggested simply having a "Best of Show" award and always awarding it. After a lengthy discussion, there was a **motion to award a medal to the Best of Show map in each Salon and to always award the medal.** The motion was seconded and passed. It was noted that this change is unrelated to dropping the Professional part from the Master/Professional category (discussed later in these minutes).

Social Media: Dwight said that social media is becoming increasingly important and that the Section needs to have a significant presence on it. Peter Sprouse gave a demonstration of the survey-related Facebook page he maintains. It has over 800 members and is quite active.

There was a discussion of the roles of the Web site and social media (primarily Facebook) and the consensus was that both are needed. The Web site should contain relatively static reference information while Facebook can be more interactive and timely.

There was a **motion to create a new position, Social Media Coordinator, to enhance the Section's visibility on Facebook and other social media sites.** The motion was seconded and passed. Dwight appointed Peter Sprouse to be the Social Media Coordinator.

Master/Professional Salon category: Dwight said that the definition of the Master/Professional category is confusing. Following a discussion, the consensus was that whether a cartographer is paid to draft a map is irrelevant and that the "professional" part of the category should be dropped.

Election: Dwight said that he wanted to step down as Chair and devote his efforts to the Salon. Rod Horrocks said he was willing to be the Chair. It was not known whether George Dasher is willing to continue as Secretary, but the assumption was that he is willing. Following almost no discussion there was a **motion to elect the following slate of officers:**

Chair:	Rod Horrocks
Vice Chair:	Carol Vesely
Secretary:	George Dasher
Treasurer:	Bob Hoke

The motion was seconded and passed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.

SACS patch: After the meeting adjourned the officers met to discuss an ad-hoc proposal to produce a cloth patch for the Section. After some discussion, the officers decided to produce a patch. Dwight volunteered to produce a draft design and circulate it for comments. It was also decided that the patch should be distributed free to everyone on the SACS e-mail list who wants one. When the patch is close to production Bob Hoke will send a message to the list telling folks to send him their mailing address to him if they want a patch. Only those who respond will get one. The number of patches ordered will be determined by the number of folks who want it and the quantity price breaks. There was no discussion about how many extra patches to order or how the extras will be sold or distributed.

(Minutes taken by Bob Hoke)