

**2018 SERA WINTER BUSINESS MEETING
MEETING NOTES, SUMMARY, TO-DO LIST**

20180303 Central Alabama Grotto hosts meeting at Pallasades Park, Oneonta, Alabama

1030hrs Chair Jeff Patton opens meeting
Vice Chair Jay Manneschmidt present
Secretary/Treasurer John Hoffelt present

Michael Gilbert welcomes on behalf of Central Alabama Grotto.

Salon Introductions

Fine Art, Don Hunter – several submittals, photo and art; New (2018) and back issues of the Southeastern Caver are available. Judges for salon: Anne Elmore, Zeke McKee, Warren Wyatt. Fine Arts Salon report attached.

Map, Brent Aulenbach – 24th Annual Map Salon, several submittals. Judges for salon: Gerald Moni, Chuck Sutherland, Al Swain. Map Salon report attached

Executive Reports

Chairman, Jeff Patton – worked on the 2017 Summer Cave Carnival and facilitated efforts by the Nashville Grotto to establish the Avis Moni Hospitality Award

Vice Chairman, Jay Manneschmidt – worked on the 2017 Summer Cave Carnival and worked on updating the SERA website.

Secretary/Treasurer, John Hoffelt – No changes to the SERA IOs from 2017; the NSS IO webpage is down and no updates available. Treasury for 2017 started with \$1,271.81 with \$96.00 income and \$965.91 expenses for end balance of \$401.90.

SKTF, (Maureen Handler absent) – Mark Ostrander provided report of a 2-day roadside clean-up (Marion County?) led by Jim Wilbanks. A highline was rigged to pull waste up steep slopes. The clean-up was sponsored by TennGreen (Tennessee Parks and Greenways), and SKTF provided technical assistance for the high-angle removals.

SERA Activities

2017 Cave Carnival – Jay Manneschmidt reported attendance was 350; Kenner Food (local organic farm) an asset; good dance band and caver beer; pre-registration was 50-75% of total. Hosted by Smoky Mountain Grotto.

2018 Cave Carnival – Alan Cook reported on preparations at Camp Maranatha on Lake Guntersville, May 3-6, 2018. Hosted by Birmingham Grotto.

2019 Cave Carnival – Mark Ostrander reported that potential sites are being identified and evaluated. Hosted by Huntsville Grotto.

2019 Winter Business Meeting – Jeff Patton reported that Chattanooga Grotto would host the meeting; site to be determined.

2020 Winter Business Meeting – John Hoffelt reported that invitations had been sent, no acceptance, yet.

Old Business

2017 WBM Notes – John Hoffelt read the minutes from the 2017 WBM; no changes were noted.
SERA Cave Carnival Toolbox Web Development – Jay Manneschmidt described the concept of the Toolbox and how it could help grottos in hosting the event.

2019 NSS Convention – John Hoffelt reported on behalf of Maureen Handler that significant progress is being made in planning the convention. Still need to find site for Friday night banquet.

New Business Identification

A suggestion was made to update the Summer Cave Carnival handbook that is available on the webpage (in addition to constructing the Toolbox)

Nashville Grotto (Kim Fedrick) proposed creation of the Avis Moni Hospitality Award (award description and criteria attached)

1230hrs Break for Lunch

1400hrs Meeting Reconvenes

Roll Call and IO Reports

12 IOs present (see Sign-In Sheet in Archives)

New Business Resolution

Spencer Mountain Grotto (Anne Elmore) moves and Nashville Grotto (Kim Fedrick) seconds the following SERA Act:

To create and pass the Avis Moni Hospitality Award, to be awarded beginning March 3, 2018.

Motion passes unanimously.

SERA Awards

Francis McKinney Award – awarded to Cuck Sutherland
Judges: Kathie Ferrari, Mendy Swain, Warren Wyatt

Richard Schreiber Award – awarded to Natalie Pheasant
Judges: Bill DeVan, Anne Elmore, Zeke McKee

Alexis Harris Conservation Award – Annette Reynolds
Judges: Candice Eagle, Mark Ostrander, Chuck Sutherland

Larry S. Adams Landowner Appreciation Award – awarded to Robert and Anita Bay
Judges: Matthew England, Michael Gilbert, Jon Zetterberg

Avis Moni Hospitality Award – awarded to Kelly Smallwood
Judges: Candice Eagle, Anne Elmore, Mendy Swain

Meritorious Service:

Teri Stephens for outstanding dedication to the caving community

Election

Vice Chairman = Bill DeVan

Sec/Treas = John Hoffelt

1500hrs Chair Jeff Patton closes meeting and award committees meet

1730 Banquet

Banquet speaker: Annette Reynolds – Manitou Cave of Alabama: History, Herstory, Yourstory

2018 SERA Fine Arts Salon Winners

Judges: Warren Wyatt, Anne Elmore, Zeke McKee

Photo Salon:

Three photographers entered 18 photos in six categories.

Black and White, People: 1st Place, Al Swain "Passing the Torch"
2nd Place, Al Swain "Time to Climb"

Color, People: 1st Place, Chuck Sutherland "Allie, Armour's Cave"
2nd Place, Chuck Sutherland "Cathedral Room"
3rd Place, Mendy Swain "Smile"

Color, Macro/Closeup: 1st Place, Mendy Swain "Eyes in the Dark"
2nd Place, Mendy Swain "Bubbles and Bones"

Color, Artistic: 1st Place, Chuck Sutherland "Flowstone, Wheeler Cave"
2nd Place, Chuck Sutherland "Borehole, Lockwood Cave"
3rd Place, Al Swain, "Old School"
HM, Al Swain, "Old and New"

Color, Entrances/Exterior Scenes: 1st Place, Chuck Sutherland "China Cave"
2nd Place, Chuck Sutherland "Short Creek Cave, KY"
3rd Place, Al Swain, "York"
HM, Mendy Swain, "Does it go?"

Color, Humor: 1st Place, Al Swain "Follow your leader"
2nd Place, Mendy Swain "Got mud?"

Best of Show: Chuck Sutherland for "China Cave", with an average score from the judges of 44 out of 45 total points.

Art Salon:

One artist in the graphic design category.

1st Place Ribbon and Best of Show to Joelle Marlin for her graphic design piece "Blue Spring Cat"



GSS Website

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To John Hoffelt, Don Hunter and 2 others

Quick reply all Reply Forward Delete

The 24th annual SERA Map Salon was held at the SERA Winter Business Meeting on Saturday, March 3rd, 2018. The meeting was hosted by the Central Alabama Grotto at the Dalton Moss Lodge Building at Palisades Park, Oneonta, Alabama.

The goals of the map salon are to encourage and improve the mapping of caves in the SERA region by (1) providing a venue for cartographers to display their maps, (2) give cartographers an opportunity to view other cartographer's maps and techniques, (3) provide helpful critique, and (4) provide an incentive through healthy competition.

There were four maps entered for competition this year by three cartographers along with one map entered for show only. Maps were judged in a single "Open" category. All four maps were of high quality and received awards:

Two maps received a Merit Award for achieving a high level of proficiency; Hinch Mountain Happy Hole, Cumberland Co., TN by Warren Wyatt and Calfkiller Plunge, Putnam Co., TN by Zeke McKee.

Second Place went to Zeke McKee for Briggs Cave, White Co., TN.

Best of Show went to Jon Zetterberg for TTU Cave, Putnam Co., TN.

The map "Caves of FKTAG - 2017" was entered for show by Chuck Sutherland and showed the distribution of caves throughout Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia.

Thanks to all the cartographers for their excellent maps! And thanks to the judges: Al Swain, Chuck Sutherland, and Gerald Moni.

Looking forward to lots more great maps next year! Hopefully cavers mapping caves from states other than Tennessee will step their game! Get mapping & drafting!

-Brent



TREASURER REPORT

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE NSS

JANUARY 1, 2018

(Covering the Period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017)

BEGINNING BALANCE		\$ 1,271.81
(Balance Forward from December 31, 2016)		
INCOME (\$96.00)		
SERA Patch Sales		\$ <u>96.00</u>
	Subtotal	\$1,367.81
EXPENSES (\$965.91)		
2017 SERA Awards		\$ 150.00
Frames/Plaque		\$ 31.41
2017 Web Space		\$ 12.00
SKTF 2016 Carnival		\$ 165.50
SERA Salons		\$ 100.00
PESH Expedition		\$ 150.00
SERA Patches		\$ <u>357.00</u>
	(Subtotal Expenses)	\$ <u>965.91</u>
ENDING BALANCE		\$ 401.90