

**2020 SERA WINTER BUSINESS MEETING  
MEETING NOTES, SUMMARY, TO-DO LIST**

(A digital recording of the meeting is available in the SERA Archives)

20200222 Dogwood City Grotto hosts meeting at the Bank of LaFayette Community Room, LaFayette, Georgia

1030hrs Chair Bill DeVan opens meeting  
Vice Chair Jon Zetterberg present and host for DCG  
Secretary/Treasurer John Hoffelt present  
SKTF Chair Maureen Handler present

Jon Zetterberg welcomes on behalf of Dogwood City Grotto.

Salon Introductions

Fine Art, Don Hunter – 20 photo submittals; one art; New (2020) and back issues of the Southeastern Caver are available; 2020 issue is in memorial of Lee White. Judges for salon: Kim Fedrick, Nancy Aulenbach, Scout Aulenbach. Best of Show = Warren Wyatt for “Helictite”. Photo Salon report attached.

Map, Brent Aulenbach – 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Map Salon, 4 submittals. Judges for salon: Brent Aulenbach, Kyle Lassiter, and Chuck Sutherland. Best of Show = Zeke McKee for Chism Chasm. Map Salon report attached.

Executive Reports

Chairman, Bill DeVan – chair and help organize the WBM  
Vice Chairman, Jon Zetterberg – assisting with the WBM  
Secretary/Treasurer, John Hoffelt – Treasury for 2019 started with \$807.97 added \$617.50 income and \$706.25 expenses for end balance of \$719.22  
No new or dropped Grottos. Showed SERA archives and talked about Secretary responsibilities.  
SKTF, Maureen Handler – Brought WNS Decon to Cave Carnival and TAG Fall Cave-In; need new chairman.

SERA Activities

2019 Cave Carnival – Mark Ostrander reported attendance was 350; profit ~\$500. Hosted by Huntsville Grotto.  
2020 Cave Carnival – Chuck Sutherland reported that the carnival will be held at Camp Tubb, Rock Island, Tennessee, May 15-17, 2020. Hosted by Upper Cumberland Grotto.  
2021 Cave Carnival – Michael Gilbert reported that the carnival does not have a location or date, yet. Hosted by Central Alabama Grotto.  
2021 Winter Business Meeting – Bill DeVan reported that East Tennessee Grotto would host the meeting but no date or location, yet.  
2022 Winter Business Meeting – John Hoffelt reported that there was no response from invites to Flint River through Gadsden Grottos; verbal invite to Georgia Speleological Survey, to follow-up with written (email) invite. GSS will get back with their decision.

Old Business

2019 WBM Notes – John Hoffelt read the minutes from the 2019 WBM; no changes were noted.

SERA Web Development – Jay Manneschmidt reported that the website is now up to date, but that it requires more work than anticipated. The website has a new address: <https://sera.caves.org> The old address will automatically redirect to the new site. (Report provided after lunch in New Business timeslot.)

2019 NSS Convention – Maureen Handler reported that the Convention was an awesome success, with a profit of \$45K. No major problems, just small hiccups. Chuck Sutherland reported that the after-impact in Cookeville is very positive.

#### New Business Identification

Bill Stringfellow announced that the SCCi has an option to buy Cyclops Cave in Virginia. SCCi will need the money on-hand by the end of April for the option.

Also, Bill requested agenda items for the Congress of Grottos to consider at the 2020 NSS Convention.

Jon Zetterberg recognizes Eric Crisp on his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Julie Ann Ramsey and Kim Fedrick announced a multi-agency clean-up of an illegal dump in Savage Cove. The clean-up will occur March 6 through 8, 2020. Agencies involved include the cavers, TDEC, and Grundy County. Informational flyer provided.

John Hoffelt requested a volunteer to serve as the southeast representative to the NSS Conservation Division.

Also, John Hoffelt identified that the SERA treasury could provide \$120 as donation, as directed by the membership.

#### 1215hrs Break for Lunch

#### 1400hrs Meeting Reconvenes

Maureen Handler advertises NSS Headquarters work weekends and provides update on progress.

Jeff Patton advertises Cave and Karst Resources Symposium hosted by TDEC and TTU Water Center at TTU on February 29, 2020. Information flyer provided.

#### Roll Call and IO Reports

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

DCG emphasizes the need for all IOs to officially adopt the NSS Harassment Policy.

#### New Business Resolution

No New Business; J. Manneschmidt provides website update. (see under Old Business, herein)

#### SERA Awards

Francis McKinney Award – awarded to Nathaniel Mann

Judges: Alan Hatcher, Kyle Lassiter, Chuck Sutherland

Richard Schreiber Award – awarded to Lee White (posthumously)

Judges: Gerald Moni, Jeff Patton, Marion Smith  
Alexis Harris Conservation Award – No Nominees  
Larry S. Adams Landowner Appreciation Award – awarded to Jeff Haston

Judges: Michael Gilbert, Alan Hatcher, Warren Wyatt  
Avis Moni Hospitality Award – awarded to Kim Fedrick

Judges: Jenny Crisp, Zeke McKee, Natalie Pheasant  
Meritorious Service:

Maureen Handler and NSS Convention Staff and Volunteers (nominated by Bill DeVan (SERA Chair, second unanimous from the Floor) for outstanding service during the 2019 NSS Convention.

John Hoffelt (nominated by J. Patton, Upper Cumberland Grotto; second by D. Cousineau, Pigeon Mountain Grotto) for service as SERA Secretary/Treasurer.

#### Election

Vice Chairman = Zeke McKee  
Sec/Treas = Alan Hatcher

#### Donation

\$120 donated to SCCi general fund to be used as necessary. (motion by A. Hatcher, Nashville Grotto; second by C. Sutherland, Upper Cumberland Grotto)

1515hrs Chair Bill DeVan closes meeting and award committees meet

1730hrs Banquet Meet and Greet

1900hrs Awards Presentation by Bill DeVan, Don Hunter, Brent Aulenbach (results as noted above)

1930hrs Banquet speaker: Kyle Lassiter: Resurvey of Gourdneck Cave.

2020 SERA Fine Arts Salon

Twenty photos by nine different photographers and one piece of art.

Judges: Nancy Aulenbach  
Scout Aulenbach  
Kim Fedrick

**Photo Salon:**

*Color, People:*

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ashley Atkin Irons, "If the helmit fits, you fit!"

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Warren Wyatt, "Lunch Box Cave"

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Warren Wyatt, "Crabtree Cave"

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Jason Lovvorn, "Kid Kavers"

Honorable Mention: Alan Hatcher, "Muddy Hell"

*Color, Macro/Closeup:*

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Warren Wyatt, "Helictite"

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Taylor Lynn, "Sallie"

*Color, Artistic:*

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Chuck Sutherland, "Mega-Junction, Blue Spring Cave"

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Warren Wyatt, "Little Hell Hole"

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Chuck Sutherland, "Mt. Stromboli, Gourdneck Cave"

Honorable Mention: Alan Hatcher, "Catacombs"

*Color, Entrances/Exterior Scenes:*

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kelli Lewis, "Jay Creek Spring Cave"

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Annabelle Dempsey, "Morgan Pit"

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Jason Lavender, "Calfkiller Saltpeter Cave"

Honorable Mention: Annabelle Dempsey, "Capshaw Cave"

**Best of Show:** Warren Wyatt, "Helictite"

**Art Salon:**

1<sup>st</sup> Place and **Best of Show:** Kyle Evans, "Caver on Rope"

**From:** [JOHN HOFFELT](#)  
**To:** [John Hoffelt](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Results of the 26th Annual SERA Map Salon  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 26, 2020 8:26:03 AM

---

**\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\***

---

----- Original Message -----

**From:** GSS <gssweb@bellsouth.net>  
**To:** "mossyguy@comcast.net Guy" <mossyguy@comcast.net>, Don Hunter <caverdon24@gmail.com>, devanbill@gmail.com, jay manneschmidt <jjmanne@gmail.com>, Jon Zetterberg <jzett33@gmail.com>, jahatcher@gmail.com, Zeke <ezraymckee1@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** February 24, 2020 at 7:54 PM  
**Subject:** Results of the 26th Annual SERA Map Salon

The 26th annual SERA Map Salon was held at the SERA Winter Business Meeting on Saturday, February 22nd, 2020. The meeting was hosted by the Dogwood Grotto at the Bank of LaFayette Community Center, LaFayette, Georgia. 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 by three cartographers. All the maps were from caves in Tennessee. Maps were judged in a single "all caves" category. All maps were of high quality and three maps received awards:

A merit award went to Jon Zetterberg for Van Dykes Cave, Grundy Co., TN. (A merit award indicates that the map achieved a high level of proficiency while not receiving another award.)

Second Place went to Warren Wyatt for Spade Hole, Putnam Co., TN.

Best of Show went to Zeke McKee for Chism Chasm, White Co., TN.

In addition to these maps, Warren Wyatt entered Beauty-Pickett Cave, Putnam Co., TN and Bill DeVan displayed a thick binder of draft pages of Zarathustra Cave, TN for show.

Thanks to all the cartographers for their excellent maps! And thanks to the judges: Brent Aulenbach, Kyle Lassiter, and Chuck Sutherland.

Looking forward to seeing many more great maps next year! Get mapping & drafting!

-Brent

---

Georgia Speleological Survey  
Brent Aulenbach, Treasurer  
195 Windy Court SW  
Lilburn, GA 30047  
(770) 279-7674 (Home)  
(470) 214-6623 (Cell)  
[gssweb@bellsouth.net](mailto:gssweb@bellsouth.net)  
[caves.org/survey/gss](http://caves.org/survey/gss)