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# Minutes of the 2019 GSS Annual Meeting

The 2019 Georgia Speleological Survey Annual Meeting was held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The meeting was held at the SCCi Fricks Cave Preserve, Walker County Georgia. Twenty-seven people were in attendance:

## Attendees

Brent Aulenbach	Kyle Lassiter
Daniel N. Bain	Mark Lassiter
David L Bain	Kim Meier
Kyle Brown Davis	Richard Meier
Chuck Canfield	Kim Miles
George A. Cline	Tom Moltz
Michael Coulter	Allen Padgett
Eric Crisp	Karen Padgett
Jenny Crisp	Jim Smith
E.T. Davis	Patty Springer
Steve Davis	Doug Strait
Jeff Harris	Tom Whitehurst
Judson Hartline	Jon Zetterberg
Debbie Lassiter	

The meeting was called to order by Chair Clint Garner. Clint expressed appreciation from the GSS to E.T. Davis and the SCCi for hosting the meeting location. Clint reminded attendees to please remember to sign the release for being on SCCi property.

## Officers' Reports

*Treasurer Brent Aulenbach* reported a total of 87 members this past year. Income from memberships was \$1,255 and income from retail sales was \$526 for a total of \$1,781. Expenses were \$65 for postage, \$200 for an SCCi donation, \$554 for printing last year's 2018 GSS Bulletin and \$677 for printing this year's 2019 GSS Bulletin. The GSS also purchased plastic bins for storage, map tubes, and flash drives. Total expenses were \$1,950. GSS needs to maintain a balance of \$1,500 to avoid bank fees.

*Vice Chair Jon Zetterberg* will give an update of GSS activities at the NSS Convention. The GSS would like more maps, surveys, and updated locations. This year we had a total of 11 new caves compared to just 1 last year.

## Recap of 2018 Activities

- Jon Zetterberg has been designated as the GSS Data Liaison.
- A discussion regarding requests for data to outside agencies, for example, DNR, occurred. This information will only be made available in a sanitized form due to previously publicly publishing a list of caves provided by the GSS.
- Attendee list for 2018 GSS meeting may not be complete.
- A summary of the 2018 GSS meeting was published in the 2019 GSS Bulletin, as minutes were misplaced. Jenny Crisp motioned to accept the summary as the minutes. Jeff Harris seconded the motion.

## New Business

- Brent Aulenbach and Tom Moltz, co-editors of the GSS Bulletin, thanked everyone for their submissions. They advised of some printing issues with the three maps in the "Zahnd Revisited" article (layers were not printed in the correct order).
- The GSS Mapbook was updated for 2019. There were 51 new entries including 30+ new maps.
- Brent, as GSS web master, advised that the NSS has moved the website to a new server. He has not been able to get the new credentials working, which has prevented Brent from updating the website. This should be resolved soon.

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- Clint Garner suggested publishing a pre-filtered list (Mapbook) as an excel spreadsheet and as HTML to make it more searchable.
  - In response to Clint's effort to make the data more accessible online, Brent mentioned a prior offer to modify the Alabama Cave Survey Wiki for the GSS. However, a stand-alone Wiki site would require a hosting sever, which could be costly. A possible work-around would be to integrate both surveys into the same Wiki with separate password access for each survey. There is a concern that if the developers move away that no one might have the expertise for upkeep. Maintaining an active membership access list is also an effort.
  - Mark Lassiter reported on Fairweather Pit (GWK 687), a recently discovered 170-foot-deep pit. He said for access, park at the corner store on GA 157, 6 miles north of GA 136, and ask permission (and buy something). It is about an hour hike. The pit is about 30 feet in diameter. Yesterday, while surveying with Jon Zetterberg, they found a parallel pit.

### **Election Results**

Allen Padgett nominated Kim Miles for Secretary along with the current officers for Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer. Eric Crisp seconded the motion. Doug Strait made a motion to close nominations. This was seconded by Allen Padgett. Tom Whitehurst made a motion to vote for the slate of nominees by acclimation. Doug Strait seconded the motion. The officers were then elected unanimously.

- Chair – Clint Garner
- Vice Chair – Jon Zetterberg
- Secretary – Kim Miles
- Treasurer – Brent Aulenbach

### **Adjournment**

The meeting ended at 12:25 pm.

### **After the Meeting**

After the meeting, a dozen or so of the meeting participants went to the Charles B. Henson Preserve at Johnson's Crook to check out some of the caves and ridgewalk near Engle Cave. Brent Aulenbach and Jon Zetterberg surveyed Lot 41 Cave (GDD 686), which is located adjacent to the preserve. The cavers then met up and most drove up Lookout Mountain and had dinner together on the porch of Cafe 136 (formerly Geneva's Restaurant).



*Panorama from the 2019 GSS Meeting*