

COMMITTEE MEETING  
A BRIEF SUMMARY OF BUSINESS TRANSACTED

Delegates or proxies were present from CSS, CEGSA, HCG, MSS, NUSS, SSS, SUSS, TCC, UNSWSS, UQSS and VSA. KSS, NTaSS, OSS and WASG were reported as unfinancial. Apologies were received from ISS and WASG.

Newcastle Speleological Association was accepted by vote into ASF, as were the Blue Mountains Speleological Club and the National University Caving Club later in the meeting.

The President in his report spoke of the lack of activity in ASF and in particular on the problems of communication between the Executive and the member societies, and an appeal was made for societies to keep the Executive informed. The reports of the Secretary and the Newsletter Editor also stressed this lack of two-way communication.

The Newsletter Editor also spoke on production problems associated with the Newsletter, such as lack of equipment and problems with post office registration. The Treasurer's report indicated a reasonable trading surplus for the year, and the Handbook Editor reported that overseas orders for the Handbook were starting to arrive.

A Conservation Standing Committee was formed with the President as Convenor, "to examine overall conservation policies at State and National levels, and determine the means by which the ASF can make a proper contribution to Government planning with maximum effect relative to ASF policies; to determine the means which a sense of the principles and practice of conservation can be extended within all caving societies in Australia; and to act whenever and wherever possible as a self-stimulating body using full authority of the Federation".

The Edie Smith Award for outstanding contributions to Australian speleology was discussed, and rules for its implementation were presented.

Discussion followed on the publication of "Australian Speleology", and the problems arising from the publication of a transcript of papers presented. This was finally resolved by including payment for the transcript in the Conference fee and allowing "Australian Speleology" to continue as a private publication.

Conservation action included the naming of caves in the Church Creek area (in danger of destruction due to mining) after members of the New South Wales Cabinet, together with supporting motions for the Colong Committee. The "Save Texas" campaign was also supported by several policy motions.

The next Committee Meeting will be held in Melbourne (January, 1970) and the next Conference in Hobart (December, 1970).

Elections for vacant positions on the executive resulted in the following changes:

Secretary	Howard Dengate
Assistant Secretary	Athol Jackson
Newsletter Editor	Evalt Crabb
Newsletter Manager	Norm Poulter

After an Executive budget meeting, the reconvened Committee meeting voted to purchase a Roneo duplicating machine for use in printing the Newsletter.

HOWARD DENGATE,  
Honorary Secretary,  
Australian Speleological Federation