

The Bottom Line

The consensus seems to be that the Gibbs are superior for deep pits and for pitches where both hands are needed to push away from the wall. However, Jumars are probably more versatile for complex multi-drop caves and are more easily clipped on and off the line.

As for the old-fashioned Prusik knots, they are still in use today particularly for shorter drops

where the added complexity of rigging into the line with ascenders is too much trouble. Also when equipment weight and bulk looms large or where backpacking trips call for minimum equipment, prusik slings may be taken along in preference to the heavier Jumars or Gibbs. □

1. Matching Cave Gear to Cave Hazards, D. McClurg, Proc. 8th Int. Cong, Speleo., 1981, pp 252-3.

1983 MINUTES

By Kirk MacGregor

The 1983 Vertical Section meeting was held in Elkins, West Virginia, starting about 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, June 30th. Approximately forty section members attended. Executive Committee members present were Bill Cuddington, Kirk MacGregor, Gary Storrick and David McClurg, who chaired the meeting.

Kirk MacGregor read the 1983 Treasurer's and Secretary's reports which are reproduced on page 21 of Nylon Highway #17.

The question of whether one member of the Executive Committee should continue to be elected specifically as Convention Coordinator was discussed. This was done on a one-only basis in 1981, and was informally repeated in 1982. (See Nylon Highway #16, page 17.) After no volunteer for 1983-84 could be found, this procedure was allowed to lapse. In the future, the Executive Committee will appoint the Convention Coordinator who can be any suitable section member.

Bru Randall, one of the two people who organized the caving short course at the 1983 Convention, suggested that the course would be better if the vertical work were done separately, given more time, and run by the Vertical Section. In a number of minutes of discussion, several people agreed with this, but no one volunteered to run such a basic vertical techniques course.

The meeting concluded with the elections. Those elected were:

Bruce Smith	Nylon Highway Editor
Kirk MacGregor	Secretary-Treasurer
Bill Cuddington	Committee Member
David McClurg	Committee Member
Gary Storrick	Committee Member
Darrel Tomer	Committee Member

When the meeting ended at 5:30 p.m., the five Executive Committee members met and selected David McClurg as Chairperson. □

TREASURER'S REPORT

SECRETARY'S REPORT

NSS VERTICAL SECTION

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1983 JUNE 22

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INCOME:

Memberships \$150.15
 Subscriptions 43.00
 Back Issue Sales. 105.40
 Bank Interest 37.95
 Other 0.20

 Total \$336.70

EXPENSES:

EDITOR:

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 1983 Bulk Mailing Fee 40.00
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 Mailing Nylon Highway # 16. . . 39.97
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 Printing Nylon Highway # 15 . . 210.00
 Printing Nylon Highway # 16 . . 250.00
 Mailing Envelopes 74.36
 Other 20.23

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Postage \$21.53
 Supplies. 9.75
 Other 3.00

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NET EXPENSES. \$459.13

BALANCE AS OF 1982 JUNE 22. . \$1217.24

BALANCE AS OF 1983 JUNE 22. . \$758.11

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 Number of Family Members (# people) 20
 Number of Nylon Highway Subscribers 23
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