



# Constitution of the Boston Grotto

February 4, 2004

- I. **NAME.** The name of this organization is the Boston Grotto of the National Speleological Society (NSS).
- II. **PURPOSE.** The purposes of this organization are the same as those of the National Speleological Society, with the additional purpose of organizing NSS members in Eastern Massachusetts, particularly in the vicinity of Boston, Massachusetts, to better promote the objectives of the NSS.
- III. **GOVERNING.** (1) The Boston Grotto is governed by an Executive Committee made up of the following officers elected annually by the members: (a) Chair, (b) Vice Chair, (c) Secretary, (d) Treasurer, and, (e) Trip Coordinator. (2) The Executive Committee has complete power to manage the business of the Grotto. (3) Decisions or actions of the Executive Committee may be overruled by a two-thirds majority vote of the members.
- IV. **MEETINGS.** (1) Executive Committee and general meetings are held at such times and places as the committee determines, (2) A petition signed by one-half of the membership requires that the Executive Committee call a special meeting for the purpose stated in the petition.
- V. **MEMBERSHIP.** (1) Membership is not limited to members of the NSS, although NSS membership is strongly encouraged. (2) Officers must be members of the NSS, unless the NSS is not in existence. (2) Various classifications of membership such as "Full" and "Associate" may be defined in the Bylaws.
- VI. **NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.** The Constitution and Bylaws of the National Speleological Society are binding on the Boston Grotto. Any action inconsistent therewith is null and void.
- VII. **DISSOLUTION.** In the event of dissolution of the Boston Grotto, any NSS property must revert to the NSS. All assets remaining after fulfilling outstanding liabilities shall be assigned to the NSS. However, if the NSS is not then in existence or is no longer a qualified distributee, or is unwilling or unable to accept the distribution, the assets of this organization shall be distributed to a conservation group determined by the Executive Committee.
- VIII. **AMENDMENTS.** Amendments to this constitution may be proposed either by the Executive Committee or by a petition of twenty-five percent of the Full Members in good standing. Adoption of any amendment requires a two-thirds vote of the Full Members, either in person or by absentee ballot. Notice of the meeting and the content of the amendment must be announced to the membership by mail, by email, or at a meeting at least thirty (30) days prior to when the vote will be taken. The total votes cast must constitute at least fifty (50) percent of the Full Members.