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disks with \*.txt, .pub, .rtf, .doc, .wps, and .wri formats for trip reports and \*.bmp, .pcx, .tif, .pcd, .gif, .tga, .clp, .cut, .dib, .iff, .img, .jas, .jif, .jpg, .lbm, .mac, .msp, .pic, .rle, .wmf, .wpg, and .cdr formats for graphics. However typed or handwritten submissions as well as hand drawn graphics are also welcome. All are greatly appreciated. Contact the editor @ 915-699 7049.

"The Hole News" is the monthly publication of the Permian Basin Speleological Society. Articles and cartoons maybe reproduced by cave oriented publications that exchange newsletters with PBSS, as long as proper credit is given to the author. Items for this newsletter can be sent to the Chief Editor, "The Hole News", c/o Walter Feaster 4307 Harvard Ave., Midland, Texas 79703-4847. Regular membership dues are only \$10.00 and includes one voting right, associate membership is \$ 5.00 and does not include a newsletter. Dues should be sent to PBSS Treasurer /Secretary c/o Walter Feaster, 4307 Harvard, Midland, Texas 79703. If you're interested in caving or even if you think you might like to try it, the contact Noel Pando at (915)-523-9294. Or if you are not from this area and some how through circumstances beyond you're control or ours found a copy of "The Hole News" then you should contact the National Speleological Society at 2813 Cave Avenue, Huntsville Alabama, 35810-4431.

Happy Caving

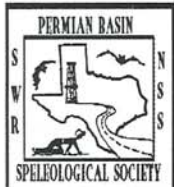
Next Meeting: PBSS

The next official meeting of the Permian Basin Speleological Society will be on Saturday, November 11, 1995, sometime after we eat the goat, around 5:00 or 6:00 PM. The meeting will be in Andrews, Texas at the Florey Park. Do not go to Murry's Delicatessen the 2nd Tuesday in November, the meeting won't be there. See more details in this publication.

Topic of discussion will be our guest of honor and hopefully some future cave trips. Any ideas, bring them with you. Hope to see everyone there.

BAR-  
-B-  
-Q

Surfing the internet! Courtesy of Chuck Anderle



Date: Sun, 13 Aug 1995 19:25:11 -0400  
From: <JMPARNELL@aol.com>  
To: cavers  
Subject: Re: when to retire gear?  
Message-ID: <950813192505\_53890841@aol.com>

In CD 5193 Steve Roberts wrote -  
Bruce w. Smith" wrote: "People get paranoid over a carabiner that may hit the floor from waist high and insist it be thrown away.... "(continued on page 1)

## Future Cave Trips: Also other events from PBSS and other grottos.

November 11, PBSS goat roast. @ Florey Park, Andrews, Texas. Contact Walter Feaster @ 915-699-7094\*\*\*\*\*

November 18, Ken Kamon has permits for Pink Dragon & Pink Palette, call Ken @ 686-0720

November 23-26, CRF Thanksgiving Day Expedition, contact: Brian Holcomb@ 505-266-8485

December 9-10, SWR Winter Technical, to take place at Tijeras, N. M. (near Albuquerque). If you wish to present a talk, contact Jeffrey Forbes @ 505-225-2826, before Nov. 1. Pre-registration is recommended.

Most all of this material was stolen from various and sometimes reliable caving newsletters in the Southwestern Region and surrounding area, including the TSA's "Activities Newsletter"

\*\*\*\*\* Denotes a PBSS club Trip...

Madonna Survey Trips, contact: Mike Huber @ 505-887-6065

Carlsbat Cavers, contact Phyllis Weston @ 505-887-6790 for restoration educational programs, off trail trips.

Honey Creek, contact: Mark Minton @ 512-847-3829

**IF YOU HAVE ANY CAVING TRIPS PLANNED, PLEASE LET THE EDITOR KNOW AND HE WILL PUBLISH THEM HERE IN THIS SPACE!.....**

### Retiring Gear, (continued from cover)

Do people really do this? Speaking as a metallurgist (of sorts) I don't see why one should. I'm still using krabs I bought 15 years ago. They look a bit battered, mind you. You should also see the state of my 15-year-old Fig 8.

Remember, though: don't deep fry your alloy Krabs - it ruins the age-hardening. (you can boil them safely should you wish.)

Steve Roberts

When I was recently compiling some papers concerning NCRC, I came across a policy that states that if a piece of equipment is dropped from a height of over 3 (three) feet it will be suspect of damage. Before being reused in training it would have to be tested with appropriate methods to assure that no damage had occurred. This may be an extreme policy, but I believe that it was adopted to help insure that absolutely no student would ever be injured due to damaged equipment. If someone drops a piece of private gear from 4' and decides to continue to use it, I don't think the carabiner police should be dispatched. On the other hand, if someone drops a piece of gear and then intends to let someone else especially a student, use the gear, you should err on the side of caution. We all get emotionally (and financially) attached to our gear, but don't ever let a question of a \$15.00 carabiner get someone killed.

My Dad told me once that if you are driving down the road and you ask yourself if it is dark enough to need your headlights, go ahead and turn them on. If something makes you ask yourself weather or not you should retire a piece of life-support gear, just do it. Jeff Parnell

**Editor's comment: Do I need to boil my carabiners as part of it's regular care? I would like to know more about this procedure. Do I need to get a deep fryer?**

### Cave Closing In Lincoln National Forest

*This is a condensed version of an article that appeared in the October 95 issue of the Greater Houston Grotto newsletter "Speleospace" editor Charles Haskett.*

Due to recent damage and vandalism in several caves in the Lincoln National Forest, these caves will be closed until further notice. They include Hell Below, Three Fingers, Hidden, Black, Wonderland (Cottonwood), Pink Dragon, and Pink Palette. Starting January 1, 1996 permits will not be issued for these caves, except for special projects.

They will remain closed until the Forest Service can determine a workable plan for monitoring and protecting these caves. No telling what will happen, but you can bet future trips to these Guad caves will be ranger led or "leader" led.

*Editor's note: I did not have the time to confirm this report, but I am sure it is accurate. Neither did I have the space to go into detail. It does look like our caving area has been severely limited.*

### **Texas and Mexico Cave Rescue**

**Call Collect 210-686-0234**

This is Kriedler Funeral Home's 24 Hour number  
Ask for "Cave Rescue" and "John Kriedler"

**In New Mexico Dial 911**



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## THE PBSS GOAT ROAST

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**WHEN :** Saturday, November 11, 1995.

**WHERE:** At the Florey Park, Andrews, Texas. Florey Park is located north of Andrews off of Hwy. 385. Drive north out of Andrews towards Seminole for about 9 miles. At this point there will be an intersection, where you turn to the right or east. Go east about 3 miles and there it is.

**WHAT TIME:** Our cook (Noel) and his helpers will be at the park all day preparing our honored guest. So you may show up any time you want. Plan is to start serving about 5:00 or 6:00 Saturday evening. After eating we will have our meeting and elections. Ballots must be in by 7:00 p.m.

**B.Y.O.B. :** Alcoholic beverages are not allowed at Florey Park. Noel has assured us that as long as we do not have any open containers (cans or bottles), and put any beverages in plastic or paper cups we shouldn't have any problems. So everyone use discretion and mind your manners and we should have a good time. In other words, drink at your own risk.

**BRING:** Bring your own eating utensils and plates. It is some what difficult to eat beans with your fingers.

**ACTIVITIES:** Sorry everyone, no caves in Andrews Texas. We could organize a volley-ball or soft-ball game Saturday afternoon if someone has the equipment. Also we could rig a rope in one of the many trees and do some vertical practice. For Saturday night Noel is planning to have a camp fire so we can sit around and lie to each other. Any other ideas?

**CAMPING:** Yes we can camp there. If you are wanting to stay at the park you need to call Noel for more info.

**LAST NOTE:** We encourage all our members to show up. A good part of your dues is paying for this feast. For those people joining at mid-year or later, this is a good time to redeem part of those full year dues you have paid. Bring your appetite, bring a guest, bring your vertical gear. Any questions call Noel Pando or Walter Feaster. See you there. Live to cave, and eat to live.

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### 1995 PBSS OFFICERS

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**President: Noel Pando**

**Vice-president: Gralin Coffin**

**Secretary: Walter Feaster**

**Treasurer: Walter Feaster**

**News Editor: Walter Feaster**

**Etc. Walter Feaster**

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### 1996 DUES ARE DUE

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Yes it is that time of year again. Time to rejoin the Permian Basin Speleological Society.

Good news, dues have not gone up. Hopefully they will not go up in the future. Regular membership dues are \$10.00, and includes this fine newsletter and one voting right. Associate membership dues are \$5.00 with one voting right and no news letter.

Bring your dues to the November or December PBSS meetings or send it to your secretary-treasurer: Walter Feaster, 4307 Harvard Ave., Midland, Texas 79703 4847 71.

Since the PBSS is not a non-profit organization or has not incorporated, please make your checks payable to Walter Feaster. This will save having to send your check back to you.

If payment is not received before January 1, 1996, you will be dropped from the grotto membership.

Have a nice day.

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