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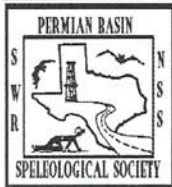
Happy Caving

Next Meeting: PBSS

The next official meeting of the Permian Basin Speleological Society will be on Tuesday, December 12, 1995 at 7:00 PM in the back meeting room at Murry's Delicatessen which is located at 3211 West Wadley in Midland, Texas. If you need directions or more information call our official contact person Walter Feaster @ 915-699-7049. The meeting starts about 7:00 PM or thereabouts, eating and caver style socializing usually begins at 6:30 PM and is optional. Topic of discussion will hopefully be future cave trips for 96. Hope to see every one there.

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Surfing the internet! Courtesy of Chuck Anderle



Chuck found this information for you old timers, who still use carbide lights. Are you tired of the constant drip, drip, drip of your Premier carbide lamp? You know, the water leaks out and around the filler cap, down your helmet, into your face and causes a clean spot. Now there is a solution that is politically correct, environmentally friendly, and cholesterol free. Use a thin piece of plastic, like a candy wrapper, and put a small hole in it. Place the plastic over the filler hole and close the cap. The plastic with the hole in it acts as an additional check valve and prevents the lamp from leaking. You don't own a Premier carbide lamp? Well get one, Chuck says it works great.

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

December 9, Montgomery Cave. This is a last minute trip. Sorry about that. Contact Noel Pando @ (915)523-9294*****
 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.

December 1995? After Christmas and before New Years PBSS tour of the W.I.P.P. site, Carlsbad, NM. More information in this newsletter or call Gralin Coffin @ (915)682-1904*****

August 3-9, 1996-NSS Convention, Salida, Colorado. NSS Convention Committee, c/o Skip Withrow, 5404 South Walden, St. Aurora, CO. 80015, (303)693-0997

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

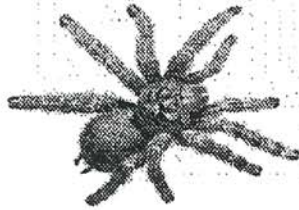
Carlsbat Cavers, contact Phyllis Weston @ 505-887-6790 for restoration educational programs, off trail trips.

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!.....

Eleven Foot Spider Found In French Cave

From: The Weekly World News, November 28, 1995.
Montpellier, France-The largest spider ever recorded has been discovered in a cavern in southern France. The enormous spider is eleven feet in diameter, and its web stretches an eye popping two hundred yards. The length of two football fields!



The awesome Arachnid was found when a

farmer ventured into the cave while searching for a lost cow, and saw the helpless animal trapped in the web!

Editors note: How much do you want to bet on this one? This is probably the low point of my publishing career having to take articles off such a trash rag.

1996 PBSS Grotto Officers

President:.....Noel Pando
Vice-President:.....Gralin Coffin
Secretary:.....Walter Feaster
Treasurer:.....Walter Feaster
News Letter Editor:.....Walter Feaster

From the Secretary/Treasurer:

Here are the results of the recent 1996 PBSS election. Of the 40 ballots sent out, 5 were returned to me by 7 PM November 11. In the race for president Noel Pando received 4 votes and Chuck Anderle received 1. You could say Noel won by a 4 to 1 margin. For vice-president Gralin Coffin received 5 votes beating out Rick Day. Congratulations to Noel and Gralin.

The PBSS goat roast for the most part was a failure. We had 6 members show up. Where was everybody? I don't think we will do that again. We would like to thank Noel Pando and his brother Amador Pando for there efforts.

PBSS would like to welcome two new members to our grotto. Rich Abner from Big Spring, Texas. Rich so happens to be Noel's brother-in-law. We won't hold that against you Rich. From Midland, Texas we welcome Rebecca Lee, who has expressed a big desire to go caving. We look forward to caving with you all in 96.

The T.C.M.A. (Texas Cave Management Association) is selling bat posters representing the bats of Texas. This is a large 2x3 ft. color poster showing the many species of bats that live here in Texas. T.C.M.A. representative Gralin Coffin has several posters available selling for \$3.00 each. They are well worth it. Donations will go to the T.C.M.A. for future cave conservation projects. Contact Gralin @ 915-682-1904.

The 1996 PBSS grotto dues are due. Bring your dues to the next meeting or send it to me. Please make checks payable to Walter Feaster.

Cave friendly. Walter Feaster NSS#31624

Trip Report: Submitted By Ken Kamon

Trip Report

Pink Dragon and Pink Palette Caves
Eddy County, New Mexico

Cavers: Steve Horn, Mike Huber, Ken Kamon, Richard (Slim) Luttrell, Martha McArthur, Danny Sherrod

Our weekend of adventure began at Lucy's Restaurant in Carlsbad. Ken had bragged about the place at every rest stop between Coyote Corner and Loving, so that we were unprepared for the disgusting, overpriced slop there that's supposed to pass for food. The Margaritas cost \$4.25 and the tortillas were swimming in a bowl of liquid lard. Instead of stopping to urinate on the way to Lincoln National Forest we all stopped a couple of times to vomit. We bedded down at 1:00 AM, and hardly noticed Danny and Martha when they arrived at 3.

The next morning we passed by Texas Campground and hooked up with Mike Huber. Someone noticed that Mike didn't have a spare tire. Mike brushed off the warning saying he just bought new Michelins -- no chance of a flat. Five minutes later Mike had a flat. Ken was starting to lose credibility with Slim and Steve. First there was Lucy's. Now the man he described as a world class caver and MacGyver clone just had a flat tire and didn't have a spare. Mike spent the rest of the day getting another tire while the rest of us went on to Pink Palette and then Pink Dragon.

Danny led us straight to the caves. Martha provided a good lesson in cave geology, and Slim and Steve did very well for their second trip. Danny and Martha left that evening. But first Martha told Ken he should go to Texas Campground and try and meet someone named Jane Doe, who was in charge of restoration in the state of New Mexico. Ken asked, "Why, so I can get in on the restoration?" Martha answered, "No, because she's single and she's got a big personality."

Mike was upset when Martha left, as he was counting on an evening of fireside entertainment, and he remembered to bring his camera this time. He became even more upset after the rest of us crapped out on him by not changing campsites. Slim fixed fajitas and beans that we enjoyed, except for Steve, who suffered high fever and upset stomach - probably the after-effect of Lucy's. We left the next morning.

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**A Note From The Vice-President...**

I'd like to take this opportunity to express my heart felt thanks to those of you who voted for me as your choice for VP. I know Noel would agree that nothing is so heart warming as having so many people vote you into such a prestigious position. Everyone should experience it.

Now for the other issue. I'd like to thank all of you assholes, with or without excuses for making it a point not show up for the goat roast. If this had been something that had been dreamed up in less than a month, it would have been one thing. But with having discussed it at several meetings, made note of it in at least a couple of newsletters and had input from almost all members, it is a hell of a situation when know one shows. Most all of you remember the discussion that we had more than once about to "RSVP" or not. It was finally decided that since at least this year it was only going to be "us", that we wouldn't need to worry...So much for that thought!

Nothing about this would be so bad had not Noel and his entire family put so much time and effort into pulling this off - and doing a damn good job at it too. All the different meats were great! It takes a lot of time to do this kind of cooking, I think Noel and his brother started at about 6:00 am Saturday morning. All the fixin's and deserts were there also, thanks to Dollie.

I guess my final word is that - Yea we weren't at a cave but it was a heck of a goat roast, with lots of good food, good drink and good fun. The PBSS as a hole or maybe asshole (except for the 6 that were there) have surpassed any thing that could be recorded in the BOOK OF WEASEL. And those of you that didn't show up, please don't bore us with all your excuses when you show up again.

Thanks again to the Pando Family for their hard work and yes Walter, you're probably right - It won't happen again.

Gralin L. Coffin, Vice-President PBSS, NSS# 33471

W.I.P.P. Site tour for PBSS

W.I.P.P. stands for Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. W.I.P.P. is an under ground facility for storing hazardous waste materials and is located near Carlsbad, New Mexico. The facility offers tours to the general public during the week. Gralin Coffin is arranging a tour for one of the week days following Christmas. They do not have tours on weekends. I have been told this tour is well worth the trip. Gralin will have more information at the meeting or you can call him.