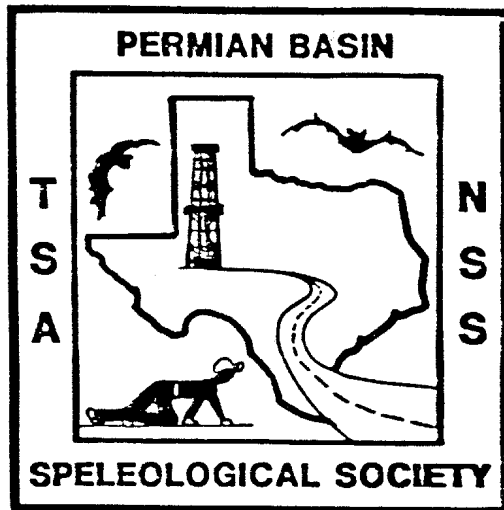


The P.B.S.S. Monthly Spylunk

FEBRUARY, 1984



BILL BENTLEY - PRESIDENT
STAR ROUTE A, BOX 31-D
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79707

MEETING: The next meeting of the P.B.S.S. will be held Thursday, February 16, 1984, 7:30 PM at the home of Tony & Vicki Grieco, 4723 W. Illinois, Midland, Texas. Call 697-0323 for directions. Once again, anyone with a cave-related show feel free to bring it along. Also, if you know of any closet-cavers who might want to become spylunks, bring them, too!

IMPORTANT STUFF: The P.B.S.S. is now legal! The NSS has notified us that we are an official grotto. In addition to this notification, they also sent us a large amount of printed matter which will be available for your inspection at the next meeting.

Pat Murphy has volunteered to be treasurer of the P.B.S.S. (you didn't really believe that we'd do all those nasty things to your family if you didn't, did you, Pat??). His address is P. O. Box 331, Gardendale, Texas 79758, Phone: 563-0839.

Dues: O.K. Kids, this is it! No more free rides! At the January meeting it was decided that we are going to have to collect some dues (I know, everyone wants money these days). These dues will mainly cover postage, paper and reproduction of the SPYLUNK, as well as such exotic items as waterproof cans for cave registers, audio-visual stuff from the NSS, and field trips for grotto officers to Tahiti. The due rates are: \$4.00 per person or couple who receive the newsletter by mail and \$1.50 per person or couple to whom the newsletter is hand-delivered.

Send your money to Pat Murphy at the address given above. You will not receive a March SPYLUNK, if dues are not paid (that alone should make you reach for your checkbook!!!). The only exceptions to dues are the NSS, Texas Caver and Pecos Valley Grotto. They get a SPYLUNK whether they want it or not.

A subscription to the TEXAS CAVER has been donated by the P.B.S.S. to the Midland County Library, and presumably will be put out with the rest of the periodicals (its a lot easier to subscribe yourself, folks!). In addition, the library is willing to let us use a display case for a few weeks, but we'll need some especially pretty pictures - anyone got any? Call Bill Bentley or Tony Grieco if you want to contribute to this project.

CAVE TRIPS: February 18, 1984: We have applied for a permit to visit Corkscrew and Lake Caves, Carlsbad Caverns National Park. Sign up is full, but unforeseen circumstances may make some spaces available later on. Call Bill Bentley (563-4178) if you want to be put on the alternate list. **COMANCHE SPRINGS CAVE:** All of you who are fans of slime and mud can still get in on this lovely cave! Call Dennis or Patti Haynes (336-8947) if you want to arrange a trip.

RECENT ACTIVITY: Our grotto trip to Ogle Cave, Border Cave and Sidewinder Well (January 21-22, 1984) was a smashing success, and everyone had a great time. Two "firsts" were recorded, inasmuch as this trip had the first "one-eyed man" (Pat Murphy) and the first pregnant woman (Vicki Grieco) in Ogle Cave. (The joke on this trip was that the only thing else we needed was a black, two jews, a cripple and James Watt to have the perfect caving group - will I get fired for

Both made the trip with no difficulty. "Wild Bill" Greenlee also got the opportunity to enter Helens Cave with another group of cavers after the Ogle trip - a lucky windfall!

We are now able to obtain limited use of the YMCA basketball courts for climbing practice, thanks to the kindness of Richard Galle. If you are interested in learning to do vertical work, call Bill Bentley to make arrangements. We have had two practice sessions at the YMCA already, and it has proved to be an excellent place for training.

THE FUTURE: The following list of tentative future grotto trips was decided upon at the January meeting. We needed to decide on such matters early inasmuch as these caves require a permit for entry, and we want to avoid getting "closed out". Any comments or suggestions concerning this list are welcome.

- March 17 - 18: Helens Cave, Chimney Cave (vertical),
Carlsbad Caverns National Park
- April 21 - 22: Christmas Tree Cave, Wen Cave
Carlsbad Caverns National Park
- May 19 - 20: Hell Below Cave, Cave of the Madonna
(vertical), Guadalupe National Forest
- June 16 - 17: Black Cave, Hidden Cave, Cottonwood Cave
Guadalupe National Forest
- July 21 - 22: Deep Cave, Spider Cave (vertical)
Carlsbad Caverns National Park
- August 18 - 19: Pink Ridge Caves (vertical)
Guadalupe National Forest

MISCELLANEOUS: Kudos once again to Lety Hernandez for typing the newsletter. Also many thanks to Bill Greenlee for the excellent bat drawings that grace these pages. My thanks to all who have contributed!

What about the rest of you? It's easy to be immortalized in the pages of the SPYLUNK - just send your letters, articles, brief trip reports, cartoons, jokes or whatever to Tony Grieco, 4723 W. Illinois, Midland, Texas 79703. Since you are now going to be paying for this thing, I'd appreciate any comments/criticism on the style, format, etc. of the newsletter.

