



February 1997

Chartered 1984 as the 300th Grotto of the National Speleological Society

Volume 12 Number 2

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

"The Hole News" is edited on Pentium P5 -133 MHz IBM compatible personal computer utilizing Microsoft Publisher 97 desktop publishing program. The editor will accept modem transfer (28.8kb N81) or 3 1/2 floppy 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, .lhm, .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 @ 915-559-3297 after 8 p.m. Fax line and voice mail @ (915)694-1824, any time. E-mail: waltfeast@marshall.com



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Next Meeting: PBSS

The next official meeting of the Permian Basin Speleological Society will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 1997 at 7:00 PM in the back meeting room of Murry's Delicatessen. Murry's is located at 3211 west Wadley, Midland, Texas.

Our Agenda:



If you need more directions or information call our official contact person, Walter Feaster @ 915-559-3297, or 694-1824. E-Mail: waltfeast@marshall.com

CAVE LONG AND PROSPER



⤴ Please Note This ⤵

The PBSS trip to Montgomery Cave has been moved to February 8, 1997!



PBSS Home Page

<http://www.apex2000.net/personal/bb2145/pbss.htm>

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

- *** February 8, - *PBSS trip to Montgomery Gypsum Cave: Contact Noel Pando @ 915-523-9246. ******
- February 15,- *McKittrick Hill: Allen Laman has permits for the caves of McKittrick Hill, NM. Contact him @ 915-550-0910.*
- *** March 1, - *PBSS Restoration at CACA: Rock hauling at Carlsbad Caverns. There is still room. Contact Walter Feaster @ 915-559-3297 or 915-694-1824. ******

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...*****

A Special Announcement

On January 12, 1997, Rebecca Lee and Tom Kaler expressed a life long commitment of love, devotion, and unity in a small ceremony and exchanging of rings in Gorman Cave at Colorado Bend State Park, Texas. Rebecca and Tom first met at Colorado Bend during the Earth Day Project in April of 1996. The ceremony was planned to take place at Gorman Falls but due to the freezing temperatures and snow it was moved to Gorman Cave. The vows were witnessed by Melynn Conway and Meliene Davis both close friends of the newlyweds and members of the North Texas Speleological Society. Tom and Rebecca are planning to move to Wichita Falls, Texas in the near future and will of course continue caving.

PBSS Members:

The membership of the Permian Basin Speleological Society would like to convey our congratulations and best wishes to Rebecca and Tom on their recent marriage. We loved the idea of having the ceremony in a cave!

Cave long and prosper, from the members of the PBSS.

Cave Trips:

The PBSS will be going to Montgomery Gypsum Cave February 8, 1997. Hopefully we will be practicing some rescue techniques. Contact Noel Pando @ 915-523-9246.

Allen Laman (former member of PBSS), has permits for McKittrick, Endless, and Sand Caves. For more info contact him @ 915-550-0910.



THAT LUMP UNDER THE RUG??... THATS DAVE....HE'S HAVING CAVE WITHDRAWL...

TRIP REPORTS: and other lies and stories

**Little Crystal Cave Trip January 1, 1997**

Cave: Little Crystal Cave, Hardeman County, Texas.

Cavers: Meliene Davis, Gary Maham, Tom Kaler, and Rebecca Lee.

Tom and I went to a New Year's eve party at Meliene's house December 31 and were met with a great surprise. We were asked if we wanted to go caving. Being the cavers that we are, of course we want to go caving on the first day of the year.

There are a couple of caves the North Texas Speleological Society has access to and this was our opportunity. We jumped even though we did not have our gear with us. The only gear we had that New Year's Eve night was chips, champagne, and beer. Melynn Conway generously offered to let Tom and I use her gear and the next day we snagged it.

Gary knew the way to the cave, Meliene confirmed it, and Tom and I followed. The entrance is a hole in the side of a hill and you have to make a climb down in to it before reaching the gate. Gary unlocked the gate, checked for rattlesnakes, and eased himself in. We followed. The snug entrance crawl is littered with rocks, leaves, and webs. The crawl opens up into a good sized room with 11 tiny bats clinging dormant to the ceiling. One bat was covered in dew.

We milled around the room and noticed some new graffiti on the wall. What a disappointment. Then, we went on to the rest of cave. This cave has a little bit of everything. Gypsum crystals sparkle on the walls. There are stalagmites and stalactites in one area of the cave. Some of the walking passage is serpentine and curvy. And, just when you are through exploring a large room, you realize the way to go on is to crawl through more passage only to stand up again in another room. We noticed the cave is a lot like a playground as we slithered through the holes and tunnels.

Having reached the back of the cave, we returned to the entrance quickly in hopes of seeing Walk Up Cave which is near Little Crystal. But, Gary and Meliene had trouble finding the entrance that is close to Little Crystal and we spent too much time looking for it. The sun began to set. So, we went back to the truck which was parked by the other entrance to Walk Up and Tom and I looked wide-eyed at the incredible graffiti in a sky light room just past the entrance crawl of this cave. Losing time, we crawled back out and promised to go back to see the entire cave some other day.

As is the tradition, we had dinner at the Pizza Hut in Quanah before starting our drive home. It was a fun trip and a good way to start the new year. Tom and I particularly enjoyed hiking the land around the cave and enjoying the fantastic view of the Pease River. I look forward to going back.

Submitted by Rebecca Lee NSS# 42075

This is not Little Crystal. This is Sonora Caverns taken from Corel Photos CD.

