



April 2000

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

Volume 15 Number 4

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Next Meeting: PBSS

The next official meeting of the Permian Basin Speleological Society will be held on **Tuesday, April 11**, around 7:00 P.M. in the back meeting room of Murray's Delicatessen. Murray's is located at 3211 West Wadley, Midland, Texas.

Our Agenda: Meeting

Future Cave Expeditions

We now have Mass Quantities of Texas Bat Stickers!



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

"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. Please observe copy righted © articles. Items for this newsletter can be sent to the Editor, "The Hole News", c/o Walter Feaster, 4307 Harvard Ave., Midland, TX. 79703. 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 Secretary/Treasurer, c/o Walter Feaster, (address above). If you're interested in caving or even if you think you might like to try it, then contact Kerry Lowery @ (915)394-4230 or <lowery4@crcom.net>. 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 AL, 35810-4431, or <www.caves.org/defaultjs.htm>.

"PBSS Home Page"

<http://www.caver.net/pbss/pbss.htm>

Web space donated courtesy of Bill Bentley & Caprok.net ISP.



Future Cave Trips, Events, and Projects:

8 April- - **PBSS Trip to Hell Below:** Contact Ruel Metcalf for details. **

7-9 April- - **Colorado Bend State Park Project:** Contact Terry Holsinger at (512)443-4241 or <trhli@sprynet.com>.

15 April - **PBSS Expedition to Montgomery Cave:** Contact Noel Pando for more details. **

6-7 May- - **TSA Convention:** Details inside this newsletter.

***20 May - **PBSS Rock Hauling @ CACA:** Contact Ruel Metcalf.

27-29 May- - **SWR Memorial Day Regional:** Details later.

3 June - **Possible PBSS Rock Hauling @ CACA:** Contact Ruel Metcalf.

12-16 June--**CRF Restoration Field Camp @ Carlsbad Caverns:**

The Cave Research Foundation in association with the National Park Service and the NSS, is sponsoring a week long restoration field camp at Carlsbad Caverns. If you are interested contact Bill Bentley at (915) 697-3079 or <caver@caver.net>.

26-30 June-- **NSS Convention:** This year's convention is to be held in Elkins, West Virginia. If you register before May 1st, you can save \$15 off your registration fee! Registration information can be found online at <<http://www.caves.org/events/nss2000>>. You can contact Kim Kehs at (215)563-8153 or e-mail <edandkim@easy-pages.com>.

*****Denotes a PBSS Grotto Trip*****

Due to permit restrictions or other limitations Grotto members have priority.

On Going Projects:

CRF- -Carlsbad Caverns: Expeditions usually occur on holiday weekends. Contact Barbe Barker (972)594-1183 or <cavers@gte.net>. Or possibly CRF website -www.cave-research.org.

High Guads Restoration Project (HGRP): Upcoming events will take place the last weekend of each month. For more info contact Dave Yagnow at <djagnow@cybermesa.com>.

Lincoln National Forest-Capitan Peak Study Area (LNF-CPSA): April 29- May 5 and October 7-13. Ridge walking and cave survey. Contact Dick Venters at <rventers@aol.com>. Everyone welcome.

(Continued Page 1)

(Continued from the Cover)

Fort Stanton Bat Cave Dig (FSBCD): Do you dig caves? Here is your chance to find new passages. Tentative dates: March 24-26, May 26-29, June 30– July 5, August 4-6, and September 1-4. Contact John Corcoran III at <john_j_corcoran_iii@msn.com> or Dick Venters at <rventers@aol.com>.

*****PBSS Rock Hauling At Carlsbad Caverns:** PBSS on going restoration in the Big Room of Carlsbad Caverns. Lots of fun. Tentative dates are: March 11, June 3, September 9, and December 2. Reserve a spot now, they are going fast. Contact Ruel Metcalf at (915)263-4890 or <rueulto@webtv.net>. *****

From the Secretary/Treasurer

There has been some interest in the PBSS attending the Midland Summer Mummies this year. If you are interested in attending let me know, because tickets are about to go on sale and I need some kind of idea of how many people want to go so I can reserve the tickets. No date is set yet, but I will try for a Saturday night sometime this summer. I think the cost is about \$15 each. You can bring who ever you want.

Let me know, the sooner the better!
Walter Feaster Secretary/Treasurer of PBSS

Rubble Moving in Carlsbad Cavern

On October 12, 1996, the P. B. S. S. generously volunteered to remove rubble from the old lunchroom at Carlsbad Cavern. Some of the rubble from the blasting of the 750' elevator shafts was dumped in the cave and sadly covered the natural cave floor. In this area, the original underground lunchroom was established. Now in this era of cave restoration, the rubble is targeted for removal.

We had the limit of 12 volunteers but unfortunately when the time came to work we were left with 8. Nonetheless, we probably accomplished just as much as 12 being the mighty cavers that we are. (That's what we choose to think.) Our work was slow in getting started due to the fact that the freight elevators were not working and had not been working for the last week. No one informed Jason Richards of this glitch and he set up the project just as though all was right with this world. It looked like our day was going to be short much to the relief of some. But, the maintenance division at the park had the elevators running in no time. M-ho, hi-ho, it's off to work we go.

We had 4 wheelbarrows, 6 shovels, 1 hoe, 2 picks, 45 Walter Feaster buckets, and a partridge in a pear tree. (The partridge was totally useless.) As we worked, the destruction which is usually taboo in caves made the rocks begin to fly. We posted a person to act as an interpreter for the visitors while others took turns digging, moving and unloading buckets, and dumping the wheelbarrows in the truck on the surface. We had the usual run of questions like, "Whatcha dig 'n'for? Diggin' for gold? Can I have that rock?"

We didn't find any gold but Bill Bentley managed to dig up a power cable which suddenly brought our work to a stand still while we tried to find someone who could tell us if the cable was "alive." We also had trouble finding a government employee who could dump the first truckload for us. No one could really tell us if the cable was active, so we just carefully worked around it. After we filled the second dump truck, we decided that was enough. Everyone was wearing down and after all we're volunteers damn it.

We cleaned our mess in the cave and went back to the huts for a well deserved rest.

Reluctantly, we thought that maybe we could score a reward, caving trip which have just about been totally phased out by the Park Service. To our delight, Jason Richards agreed to let us go to Lower Cave and with that our day as cavers was complete.

Eight people, eight hours, and two dump truckloads. That's pretty good work. I was glad to have the opportunity to do the work which the P.B. S. S. has been doing since the 1980's and give something back to this cave. We have future plans to do this again soon. Anyone interested in helping should give the P.B.S.S. a call. It would be nice to get this project done in our life times, don't ya think?

Submitted by Rebecca Lee NSS# 42075

Footnote., This report was written four years ago. Has anything changed?



MEMBERS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NAME:	ADDRESS:	PHONE #:	NSS #:
Alton, Ron	1 Scenic Dr. Big Spring, Tx. 79720	915-263-4931	None
Bentley, Bill	400 Eastwood Dr., Midland, Tx. 79703-5308	915-697-3079	21977
Black, Judy	804 N. Bell, Big Spring, Tx. 79720	915-263-4890	None
Coffin, Gralin	910 W. Kansas, Midland, Tx. 79701 6124	915-682-1904	33471
Feaster, Walter	4307 Harvard, Midland, Tx. 79703-4847-71	915-694-1824	31624
Florer, Tom	11501 Braesview # 1901, San Antonio, Tx. 78213	210-479-5612	47639
Gray, Larry	31 East 33rd Street, San Angelo, Tx. 76903	915-653-3823	19588
Gray, Steve	106 Canyon, Big Spring 79720	915-264-7619	None
Grieco, Tony	1221 East Llano, Hobbs, N.M. 88240	505-393-5604	Expired (GDI)
Hales, Lori A.	3509 N. Greer Ave., Odessa, Tx. 79764	915-381-3408	45354
Hayes, Barry	1912 Santa Rosa, Odessa, Tx. 79763	915-333-8856	None
Herpin, Susan	P.O. Box 612, Carlsbad, N.M. 88221-0612	505-785-2423	34557
Hogan, Felder	P.O. Box 341, Andrews, Tx. 79714	915-524-6327	41068
Kaler, Tom	P.O. Box 53, Essex, Ca. 92332	760-401-0046	27372
Kamon, Ken	4400 Andrews Hwy # 801, Midland, Tx. 79703	915-699-7192	34637
Kettle, Cheryl	4741 Devonian Ave., Odessa, Tx. 79762-4410	915-550-8102	None
King, Don & Mary	1907 Centerview, Midland, Tx. 79707	915-520-7193	32749
Jones, Tamara	1907 Centerview, Midland, Tx. 79707	915-520-7193	None
Lee-Kaler, Rebecca	P.O. Box 53, Essex, Ca. 92332	760-401-0046	42075
Lowery, Kerry & Sonceia	P.O. Box 39, Coahoma, Tx. 79511	915-394-4230	41518
Metcalf, Ruel	804 N. Bell, Big Spring, Tx. 79720	915-263-4890	42854
Mikelski, Annmarie	118 Paloma Dr. Del Rio, Tx, 78840	830-768-1615	46101
Moore, Dwaine & Lou Ann	10011 S. County Rd. 1213, Midland, Tx. 79706	915-683-7016	None
Moore, Dwaine G. II	10011 S. County Rd. 1213, Midland, Tx. 79706	915-683-7016	None
Moore, John R.	10011 S. County Rd. 1213, Midland, Tx. 79706	915-683-7016	None
Van Moort, Kristina	P.O. Box 8928, San Angelo, Tx. 76909	915-942-3328	None
Pando, Noel D.	1204 Alpine, Andrews, Tx. 79714	915-523-9294	39037
Pando, Noel M.	1204 Alpine, Andrews, Tx. 79714	915-523-9294	None
Parent, Larence	2803 Robin Rd., Manchaca, Tx. 78652-4176	512-280-2843	None
Ross, Don & Elizabeth	1720 Catalina Dr. San Angelo, Tx. 76901	915-949-6771	None
Russell, Charles	5721 E. CR 98, Midland, Tx. 79706	915-683-4314	13740
Sedbrook, Greg E.	P.O. Box 421212, Del Rio, Tx. 78842	830-775-4068	26754
Snelson, Mike	P.O. Box 2252, Odessa, Tx. 79760	915-580-5218	None
Wallace III, Warren	P.O. Box 382, Coahoma, Tx. 79511-0832	915-394-4310	43891
Wheeler, Teri	3012 Mackland N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87106	505-268-8294	46467
Wolff, Sean	170 Quail Run, Odessa, Tx. 79761	915-550-3323	None

* denotes new members

Please send all exchanges, correction, and updates to Walter Feaster, 4307 Harvard, Midland, Texas 79703-4847-71. Use of this list is for members and cave related functions only and should not be used for commercial purposes. This includes e-mail addresses.

E-Mail Address:

Walter Feaster: <waltfeast@marshill.com> or <wfeaster@caver.net>

Bill Bentley: <caver@caver.net>

Gralin Coffin: <glcoff@agesys.com>

Ken Kamon: <kenkamon@apex2000.net>

Tom Florer: <tomflorer@yahoo.com>

Barry Hayes: <barrdonn1@juno.com>

Greg E. Sedbrook: <gregsed@earthlink.net>

Annmarie Mikelski: <anniegreg@earthlink.net>

Teri Wheeler: <twheler@access1.net>

Kerry Lowery: <lowery4@crcom.net>

Felder Hogan: <fhogan@andrews.esc18.net>

Noel D. Pando: <npando@andrews.esc18.net>

Noel M. Pando: <noelpando@hotmail.com>

Ruel Metcalf : <ruelgto@webtv.net>

Lori Hales: <lahales@excite.com>

Don & Elizabeth Ross: <donandelizabethross@juno.com>

Charles Russell: <charlier@nts-online.net>

Cheryl Kettle: <ckettle@apex2000.net>

Mike Snelson: <kmsnell2@prodigy.net>

Dwaine Moore: <daviation@aol.com>

Sean Wolff: <sean_wolff@hotmail.com>

Don & Mary King: <kingmg@ecisd.esc18.net>

Tony Grieco: <griecotony@hotmail.com>

Susan Herpin: <sherpin@caverns.com>

Judy Black: <moomoojudie@webtv.net>

Kristina van Moort: <chenacat@yahoo.com>