
PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

April, 1993

MEETING NOTICE

Date: Tuesday, April 13

Location: Murray's Delicatessen, 3211 W. Wadley. Murray's is on the south side of Wadley, in the strip shopping center east of Midkiff and Texas Burger.

Time: Food consumption and socialization are optional and begin at 6:30 PM; the meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

APRIL TRIPS

The NTSS, Maverick and Pecos Valley Grottos have reserved the following:

Thursday, April 8: Pinks, Damn, Three Fingers
Friday, April 9: Madonna, Hell Below, Black
Saturday, April 10: Cottonwood, Wonderland, Hidden
Sunday, April 11: Unknown

If you're interested in going to any of the above, call Martha McArthur at (817) 723-9890, who is ramrodding the ultimate Three Mile Hill weekend.

Laurence Parent, professional photographer, is going to be taking photographs in Carlsbad Caverns and New Cave, Thursday, April 8 through Saturday, April 10, and could use some help, if he hasn't already gotten all he needs. Accommodations will be in the CRF Huts, and you should call him ASAP if you desire to help at (512) 280-2843.

H. T. Miers trip has been rescheduled to May, but will occur before our next meeting/newsletter. See below.

MAY TRIPS

H. T. Miers, a multi-drop cave near Del Rio, is scheduled for Saturday, May 8. **Try and be at the meeting on Tuesday, April 13 if you're planning on going.** Bill has very explicit directions he will explain at the meeting. We will camp at a roadside park on Friday evening, go onto the rancher's property together on Saturday morning, and return on Sunday. If you can't make the meeting because of work or a scheduling conflict, call Bill at 694-7721 for more information.

09 Well is scheduled for Saturday, May 15. The cave requires a wet suit, and you may need to switch ropes during ascent and descent. Call Walter at 367-8253 for more information.

JUNE TRIP

Bill has reserved Sentinel Cave for June 19 and 20.

JULY TRIP

Bill has reserved Virgin Cave for July 17 and 18.

NEW MEMBERS

Rich Abner, Noel's brother-in-law, has joined PBSS. Rich lives in Big Spring and is a member of the Guard. He helped us clean up Amazing Maze last year, and is ready to do some more caving.

Kevin Day, Rick's cousin, has also joined PBSS. Kevin, who lives in Roanoke, is a noted explorer in Southwest Texas, and a trail at Big Bend National Park is named after him.

TRIP REPORT - Spider and Chimney Caves

March 20 & 21, 1993

Verbal, by Bill Bentley

Walter, Gralin, Bill, Tom, Tony Abernathy, and trip leader Jason Richards of the NPS made the Spider expedition on Saturday, while Martha, a friend, and trip leader Tony Jones (NPS) entered the cave on Sunday. The cave was very mazey, and included a tonsil passage, molars, and a gnome dome. The composition of some of the formations was beautiful - white calcite, or a combination of white calcite covered with iron and manganese minerals that looked like structured mildew. The group was impressed by the mace formation -- a soda straw that extends 3 feet out of the floor, with a glob suspended on the end that appears to defy gravity. The cave was wet and muddy in a lot of places. From the back part of the cave, it took 30 minutes to get out. No snakes showed up, as they apparently didn't know Walter was there.

Saturday evening Gralin and Walter ate at Lucy's, Bill grilled a steak, while Tom and Tony went on home. Sunday, the survivors ate breakfast at the Visitors' Center along with Noel, Gary and Martha, and then followed Walter's killer bee line (through all the d_ _ _ lechugilla cactus he could find) straight to Chimney Cave. The group entered the cave at 10:00, exited at 1:00, and headed home.

MISCELLANEOUS

D. J. has graciously offered to put up PBSS members passing through the Dallas area. However, you must be prepared to watch her demon dog do disgusting and obscene things to your leg. She reports the traffic in Dallas is a change from West Texas, and is ready for another trip to the Pinks. She promises J. D. she won't get her hair tangled in the descender next time.

Steve is in a depressed condition, as his honey ran away to South America.

Rick and Noel hosted a successful meeting in Andrews last month, and we all appreciated the opportunity to practice vertical techniques in the the gym. With a padded floor and stereo music, the environment couldn't be beat. Also, thanks go to Noel and Dolly for the refreshments afterwards. See enclosed article, which appeared in Andrews Paper, and was written by Noel, I think.

Tom Rodney Dangerfield Hill and family showed up at Amazing Maze last weekend, ready to do some hard work cleaning out the cave, but no one was there. So they assumed PBSS was back to its old tricks -- the annual spring Stand Up Tom Weekend. Actually, everyone else was in Fort Stockton, renting a cutting torch to take care of a faulty lock on the gate. Tom has been permanently removed from the weasel list.

Contrary to vicious rumors being spread by Bill and Walter, I will not be doing any special favors so we can gain access to H. T. Miers Cave.

Everyone involved in a recent dig southeast of Midland suffered numerous tick bites, and Chuck came down with a strange disease. Being a real caver (like real man or real woman), he did not seek medical attention. Bill has contributed information regarding tick-borne diseases, which is reproduced herein. Someday they'll need to start publishing an appendix to the annual NSS accident reports describing Chuck's experiences.

Cave enthusiasts meet here for demonstration, planning

The Permian Basin Speleological Society (PBSS) had their monthly meeting at the Andrews Middle School weight room Saturday, March 13, with local members Gary Harter, Noel Pando, Rick Day and Larry Glasson serving as hosts.

The organization is a local grotto or club of the National Speleological Society. Their main function is the preservation and caring of cave systems, while also helping the public become more aware of the delicate systems that exist underground.

Based in Midland, the area club has more than 25 active members. The club sponsors cave trips at least once per month and provides training and help for new members.

PBSS members attended from Midland, Odessa and Greenwood. Several items were discussed at the meeting including the restoration at Carlsbad Caverns, the survey at Glow-Worm cave, club presentations and upcoming trips.

Member Walter Feaster, who is also involved with the Cave Research Foundation, gave a report on the PBSS activities at the Caverns. He stated that Cavern officials had been pleased with the work done by the organization and had invited them back to help with more restoration.

Pando and Day, local members, participated at the project

at Carlsbad Caverns.

Chuck Anderly presented a finished draft on the Glow-Worm cave southeast of Midland. The club has been actively involved in gating and surveying the area.

Anderly also stated that the gate had been installed too late because hunters had already entered the cave and vandalized it, much to the landowners dismay. The cave is now gated and no more problems are anticipated.

Members of the survey team at Glow-Worm include Anderly, his daughter, Tiffany, Day, Pando and his son Noel.

Also discussed at the meeting were various presentations and demonstrations to Midland-Odessa area civic, church and scout organizations by club members. They also discussed future trips into New Mexico and Texas caves and the permits and permission required from the proper agencies and land owners.

Other activities included demonstrations by Ken Kammon, Walter Feaster, Graylin Coffin and Don Carlton on rope safety, technique and equipment. Kammon also demonstrated the proper technique for changing from ascending to descending gear while hanging on rope.

Persons wanting to join the PBSS should contact either Noel Pando at 523-9294 or Rick Day at 523-9665.

PBSS Newsletter

Please mail material to Gralin & Kari Coffin, 910 W. Kansas, Midland, TX 79701 or to Ken Kamon, P. O. Box 10589, Midland, TX 79702.

PBSS Membership

To join PBSS, mail \$5.00 to Don Carlton, at the address that appears below. Make checks payable to Don, and include your address, phone numbers, and, if you have one, NSS number.

PBSS MEMBERSHIP				
Last Name	First Name	W. Phone	H. Phone	NSS #
Abernathy	Tony		694-7919	-----
Abner	Rich	267-4100	264-0023	-----
Anderle	Chuck	685-3119	685-3119	31477
Anderle	Jan		685-3119	31478
Bentley	Bill	694-7721	697-3079	21977
Carlton	Don	335-3265	687-4352	30417
Cargile	Terry		697-8700	-----
Coffin	Gralin	684-5548	682-1904	33471
Coffin	Kari C.		682-1904	33472
Cullen	James		(214)412-1632	-----
Day	Rick		523-9665	-----
Day	Kevin		(817)491-1026	-----
Eddy	David	(817) 287-8350	699-6451	11830
Feaster	Walter		367-8253	31624
Fincher	J. D.		558-7248	31859
Fincher	Richard		694-4381	-----
Fox	Charles		(817) 692-5770	-----
Franks	Stephen	697-7672	683-3305	35245
Glasson	Larry		523-9772	-----
Gray	Kim	523-5675	523-6409	-----
Gray	Larry	655-6957	653-3823	19588
Guad	Slut		(505)393-5604	-----
Harter	Gary	523-9758		-----
Hill	Tom	560-5044	687-2122	27888
Hunt	Doug		697-1885	-----
Kamon	Ken	686-0720	699-7192	34637
Knight	Kenneth		(817)696-8713	-----
McArthur	Martha		(817)723-9890	35327
Nance	Jim		563-5208	27723
Pando	Noel M.		523-9294	-----
Pando	Noel D.		523-9294	-----
Qualls	Patrick	(505) 397-0884		-----
Scott	Melissa		694-4381	-----
Seefeld	Cheryl		570-1124	-----
Terrett	Tiffany		685-3119	-----
Wall	Denise J.	(214) 637-5297	553-5740	-----

PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

c/o Don Carlton
1301 Daventry
Midland, TX 79705

Bill Bentley
3815 W. County Rd. 116
Midland, TX 79703

