

May 1999

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

Volume 14 Number 5

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, May 11**, around 7:00 PM in the back meeting room of Murray's Delicatessen. Murray's is located at 3211 West Wadley, Midland, Texas.

Our Agenda:

Meeting

Will be showing a Cave Video!

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. Items for this newsletter can be sent to the Chief Editor, "The Hole News", c/o Walter Feaster, 4307 Harvard Ave., Midland, Texas 79703-4847. 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 Treasurer /Secretary, c/o Walter Feaster, 4307 Harvard Ave., Midland, Texas 79703-4847. 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 Alabama, 35810-4431.

"PBSS Home Page"

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

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



Future Cave Trips and Events:

1 May--May Day is Cave Day at Cave Without A Name:
(Postponed)

Contact Blair Pittman 830-537-4212 or <cavepit@juno.com >.

7-9 May--Colorado Bend SP Project-Contact: Terry Holsinger 512-443-4241 or <trhli@sprynet.com>. Last CBSPP trip of the season. Project resumes 8-10 October.

8 May--Walkup and Little Crystal Caves:--Near Quanah, Texas. Work day sponsored by the North Texas Speleological Society. Melynn Conway 940-322-9529 or <speleotwin@aol.com>.

8 & 9 May--Fort Stanton Bat Cave Dig:--New Mexico. Contact: John J. Corcoran III at <john_j_corcoran_iii@msn.com>.

14-16 May--Kendall County Cave Survey:--Contact Allen Wong or Joe Ranzau <caveproject@hotmail.com> or 210-573-4820. Camping at Cave Without A Name.

*****15-16 May- PBSS Trip to the National Forest in the Guads:** Allen Laman has permits for Cottonwood, Hidden, Black, and work trip to Hells Below. For Sunday he has Hidden, Black, Cottonwood, Pink Panther, and may be Deep Cave in the National Park. If you want to go or need more info contact Allen Laman (915)550-0910 or <ilove2cave@msn.com>. *Here is a good opportunity to see some nice caves in the Guads.* *****

15 May--TSS Board Meeting/Work Session: TSS Office at 11 a.m. Other work sessions will be held and announced before then. Check TSA Calendar Page often. For Board Meeting details contact George Veni 210-558-4403 <gveni@flash.net> . For Work Session info Jim Kennedy 512-443-8198 <jkennedy@batcon.org >.

28-31 May--SWR Regional: (Memorial Day Weekend) Location to be announced. Contact John Lyles 505-455-2565 <jtml@lanl.gov>.

12 & 13 June--Fort Stanton Bat Cave Dig:--New Mexico. Contact: John J. Corcoran III at <john_j_corcoran_iii@msn.com >.

18-20 June--Marneldo Ranch:--Northern Uvalde County--Jim Kennedy 512-443-8198 or <jkennedy@batcon.org>.

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(Trips & Events Continued)

25-27 June--Powell's Cave Project--Contact Terry Holsinger 512-443-4241 or <trhli@sprynet.com>.

26-27 June, 31 July, 25 September, 30 October, 25-28 November, 31 December--High Guads Restoration Project: Contact Dave Jagnow 505-662-0553 <djagnow@roadrunner.com >.

1-5 July--Fort Stanton Bat Cave Dig--New Mexico. Contact: John J. Corcoran III at <john_j_corcoran_iii@msn.com >.

July 12-16, 1999--NSS Convention: Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Filer, Idaho. Contact: David W. Kesner, PO Box 1334, Boise, ID 83701; (208)939-0979; e-mail <drdave@micron.net>.

7-8 August--Fort Stanton Bat Cave Dig--New Mexico. Contact: John J. Corcoran III at <john_j_corcoran_iii@msn.com >.

21 August- - PBSS Rock Hauling @ CACA: Limit of 12 people. Contact Ruel Metcalf to sign up. His ph. # (915)263-4890 or <rue1gto@webtv.net>. *Try to be on this one, we only had 5 people on the last one back in April.***

3-6 September--TSA Labor Day Project--Gruta del Palmito, Bustamante, Nuevo Leon--Once again the emphasis will be on clean-up and restoration. Step work will continue. Camping at the warm springs in the canyon with a Banquet on Sunday night. Precipicio rigged??? Trips to other area caves and attractions. Watch the TSA Newsletter for further announcements. See maps and info @ TSA website for access to Mexico.

***25 September- - PBSS Trip to Ft. Stanton Cave: Contact Walter Feaster @ (915)694-1824 or <waltfeast@marshill.com>.**

8-10 October--Colorado Bend SP Project: Resumes activities. Contact: Terry Holsinger 512-443-4241 <trhli@sprynet.com >.

11-15 October--Capitán Peak Cave Dig--Lincoln National Forest, New Mexico. Contact Dick Venters <rventers@aol.com>.

15-17 October--Texas Cavers' Reunion: Just the biggest caver party in The Great Southwest. Place to be announced.

20-28 November--Nine-day caving trips to Mexico: -Start planning now for the Thanksgiving Week Caving Break to the World's best caves. It's a 40 year Texas caver tradition. Do your own thing or watch the TSA Newsletter for details.

Early December--Amazing Maze Family Trip & Cave Rally--Sponsored by PBSS and TCMA. Watch for details.

Late December--Two-week trips to Mexico--Start planning now for the Christmas/New Year's Winter Caving Trips to the World's best caves. It's a 40 year Texas caver tradition. Do your own thing or watch the TSA Newsletter for details.

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

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

Non-Cavers Say the Darndest Things!

If you have been caving for any time at all you have probably noticed some of the really stupid things non-cavers ask. Sometimes you get so tired of the same questions, you start making up some answers, or answers you would like to use. Here are a few:

Q: "Ya ever find any Indian Gold in them caves?"

A: "Well yes, how do you think I get to go caving all the time?"

At Carlsbad Caverns doing restoration work (hauling rocks).

Q: "What ya diggin for, gold?"

A: "No, we think we may have found Jimmy Hoffa!" *I would like to use this!*

Q: "Can I have one of these rocks as a souvenir?"

A: "NO!" "All these rocks are registered with the National Park Service and to remove them with out proper authorization is a federal offense!" *I would like to use this remark too!*

Q: "Are all of you on a work release program from the local correctional institution?"

A: "Not all of us!"

Questions about Carlsbad Caverns.

Q: "Have you ever been to the part of the cave that connects to Sonora Caverns?"

A: "No sir, I haven't been there yet." *What can you say, I don't want to explain it.*

Q: "Is all of Carlsbad Caverns underground?"

A: "Just the pretty parts!" *Duh!*

Q: "How many ping-pong balls does it take to fill Carlsbad Caverns?" *This was sent in by Tom Florer and he got it out of a magazine article on questions asked NPS personal. Tom found out it takes about 512 ping-pong balls per cubic foot. If any one knows the cubic volume of Carlsbad Caverns we can answer this.*

General questions about caving.

Q: "How dark does it get in them caves?"

A: "There is no light in there except the lights we take with us."

Q: "Well, how dark is that?"

A: "At mid-night turn off all the lights in your house, go to the center closet, close the door, close your eyes, put your hands over your eyes, and that is how dark it is in a cave." *And sometimes they still don't understand!*

Statement: "I wouldn't go in one of them caves, it would be my luck there would be a bear in there!"

Reply: *This one caught me totally by surprise. The only thing that I could visualize was Yogi and Boo-Boo in Cottonwood Cave with a picnic basket!*

Q: "Your not going in that cave at night are ya?"

A: "Hey Einstein, like the sun is going to shine in that cave in the day time!?"

Q: "What are you lookn' for when you go in them caves?"

A: "ADVENTURE and GLORY! It beats sitting around the house and watching the grass die, or the Cowboys!" *That usually shuts them up.*

Q: "I got this old ski rope, you want'a go rappelling?" *This actually happened.*

A: "No, I have to go sort out my sock drawer or something!"

Q: "Are you one of them Spelunkers?"

A: "Spelunker?" "I never heard of that before!"

I don't want to get into that at all!

Cave like you mean it! Walter Feaster NSS# 31624

New Members:

The Permian Basin Speleological Society would like to welcome **Charles Russell** from Midland, Texas. Charles has been a member before and has decided to rejoin us.

Cheryl Kettle is from Odessa, Texas and has already been in some wild caves, and I quote her here "I love it!" There is a lot more to see.

From Sweetwater, Texas **Chris Ivy** has joined our ranks. In the near future Chris may have a cave for us to visit.

Welcome all!

Info on the Web:

CaveTex: Is a free e-mail remail service for Texas cavers. To subscribe just:

- (1) Send e-mail message to <majordomo@mailing-list.net>.
- (2) Leave the subject line blank.
- (3) In the body of the message type: **SUBSCRIBE CaveTex**.
- (4) Then send it in.
- (5) You will receive 2 messages in return. One is an instruction sheet and the other is an authentication/confirmation message.
- (6) Follow the instructions.

E-mail: NM Cavers List. To keep current on announcements: Subscribing-- mail to: <listserv@unm.edu >

Message body: Subscribe nmcavers-I First name, Last name.

Using for announcement distribution--mail to: <nmcavers-I@unm.edu > with your message in the body.

TSA Web Page: <www.caver.net/tsa>

TSA Activities News Letter: <www.caver.net/tsaact.htm>

SWR Web Page: <www.caves.org/region/swr>

Cavers Digest: <www.ditell.com/~cavers> Follow instructions.

Mr. Bill's Cave Links: <www.caver.net/>

Texas Cave Rescue

The TSA Cave Rescue emergency number is still:

1-800-692-0234

This number will work in the U.S.. But the

Mexico Cave Rescue

number has changed Area Codes. again.

001-956-686-0234

From Mexico dial direct or call collect (*Por Cobrar*-in Spanish)! These are the 24-hour numbers for Kreidler Funeral Home in McAllen, Tx. Ask for **Cave Rescue** and John Kreidler. Be persistent!

In the Carlsbad, New Mexico area try:

911

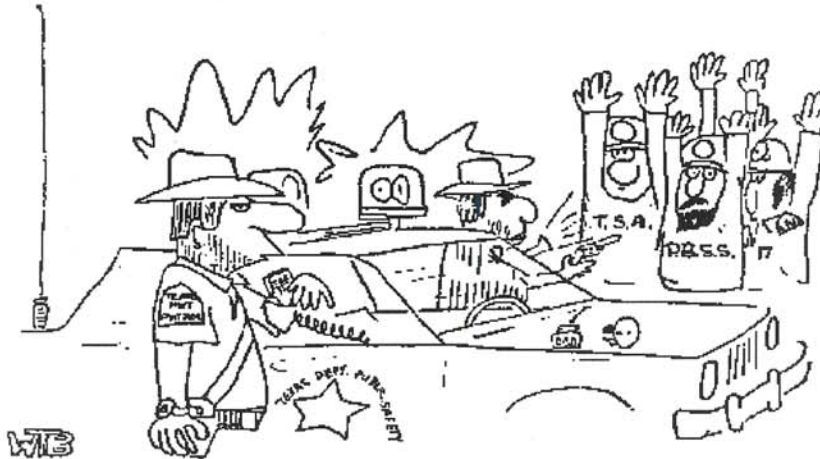
Permian Basin Speleological Society Officers:

President: Kerry Lowery

Vice-President: Ruel Metcalf

Secretary/Treasurer: Walter Feaster

Newsletter Editor: Walter Feaster



"They smell like Hippies, look funny and is got the cans of funny white powder. They claim they's SPELUNKERS --Some militat outfit for sure! They got helmets and all....."