
PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume III No. 10

August, 1991

MEETING NOTICE

Date: Tuesday, August 13, 1991

Location: Golden China Restaurant, 4400 N. Big Spring, just south of the loop; in Mission Square Plaza, behind the Remax Building and next to Kenny's Memory Lane. Go to the back room.

Time: Food consumption and socialization begin at 6:30; business meeting to follow at 7:00 pm.

Future Events

Chuck and Bill visited Caverns of Sonora recently, and management there has agreed to provide a free extended photographic tour to PBSS, in exchange for moving a pile of scrap iron off a hilltop above the caverns. Rust from the iron has been entering groundwater, and is starting to discolor formations. The Caverns of Sonora Work/Photo Expedition will occur sometime this fall.

Another trip, probably to BLM caves in New Mexico, should occur in late August or early September. If you miss the meeting, call Chuck for details.

The Southwest Region Labor Day regional meeting will occur August 30 through September 2. A group campsite at Abiquiu Dam, northwest of Santa Fe, has been reserved. Trips to Falling Rock Cave, Gallina Cave, Cueva Dos Ojos, and Buckman Cave are planned. For more information, contact Bill Heath, Box 2292, Taos, NM 87571, or call Chuck.

Carlsbad Caverns 75th anniversary is coming up this month. Special free cavern tours are scheduled for the 24th and 25th of August, and other events are scheduled as well.

Rediscovery Cave II

Bill and Chuck have continued their exploration of "pseudo-virgin" caves (newly discovered caves that actually turn out to have been ravaged before any of us were born). They entered a 35'-40' deep sinkhole on a property in southeastern Pecos County, and discovered graffiti drawn by Hat A Ranch cowboys from 1908 forward. More than three hundred feet of horizontal passage extended out from the bottom of the sinkhole; the passage became tight, and they didn't follow it as far as they could have. The cave had extensive guano deposits, but was otherwise lacking in decoration. Chuck compared the sinkhole, which was covered with ferns, to an oasis in a desert.

New Members

We have several new members. Some of you will remember Jim Nance as one of the big guns in the PBSS during its old glory days. Welcome back, Jim. Martin Jackson and Mark Overman were formerly Arkansas cavers, who decided to go west and seek fame and fortune in Rankin. They have made one PBSS trip, and although they think our ascending methods are superior to what they used in Arkansas, they don't seem to appreciate the extra challenge of dodging landowner's bullets while on rope. Stephen Franks and Ernie Showalter have done a fair bit of caving in New Mexico, and were at Chuck's radio tower last week practicing vertical techniques.

PERMITS...PERMITS...PERMITS...

As we all know, obtaining permits is a part of caving and can sometimes be a real hassle. The following is a list of where to get permits for most of the caves in New Mexico that can be entered by the general public. Some caves are only open to research permits and this must be submitted in advance. Not all caves require permits but it is best to check first to avoid problems.

BLM Caves-Roswell Area

This area includes Ft. Stanton, Torgac, Blue Tic and Crockett's. The cave specialist is now Mike Bilbo. He can be reached at:

BLM Roswell Resource Area
P.O. Drawer 1857
Roswell, NM 88202
Attn: Cave Program
(505)624-1790 ext 254

El Malpais

Permits for the El Malpais by Grants can be had from Ken Maybery at the El Malpais Information Center:

El Malpais National Monument
Box 939
Grants, NM 87020
(505)285-5348

Alabaster Cave

Permits for Alabaster must be obtained by calling Peter Pino, the Zia Pueblo Tribal Administrator at (505) 867-3304.

Pronoun Cave Complex Area

This is another BLM management area and a call to John Bristol, the District Recreation Planner for the Rio Puerco Resource Area will get you a permit. He can be reached at (505)761-4504 or 761-4596.

Black Range Area

This area includes Coffee, Robinson's, and Mad Hornet caves. Permits are available from the Gila National Forest Ranger Station in T or C. Call Bob Cordtz at (505) 894-6677.

Lincoln National Forest (The Guads)

This area is the biggie and includes Madonna, Three Fingers, Black, Cottonwood, Sentinel, Gunsight, Hell Below, Hidden, The Pinks, Virgin, and numerous others. Permits can be obtained by contacting the Forest Service office at:

Lincoln National Forest
Guadalupe Ranger District
Federal Building
Room 159
Carlsbad, NM 88220
(505)885-4181

Carlsbad National Park

This area includes all of the caves within the boundaries of the National Park. These include Spider, Christmas Tree, Deep, Lake, and Chimney Cave to list a few. Access to Lechuguilla is controlled by the Park and the LCP. To get permits contact Dale Pate or David Eek:

Superintendent
Carlsbad Caverns National Park
3225 National Park Hwy
Carlsbad, NM 88220
(505)785-2232 ext. 26

McKittrick Hill Caves

This is the Azotea Mesa Area and includes the McKittrick Hill caves, Endless, Sand, and Dry caves. These are BLM caves and permits must be obtained from Jim Goodbar at:

BLM Carlsbad District
P.O. Box 1778
Carlsbad, NM 88220
(505)887-6544

GYPKAP

The GYPsum KARst Project is a group survey of many of the privately owned caves in the karst area South of Vaughn and North of Carlsbad. There are no permits issued for these caves and access is allowed ONLY on the prearranged trips. Caver/rancher relations are touchy and infractions could cost us access to the caves. Anyone is welcome on scheduled trips which are about every other month. Contact Dave Belski at (505) 885-6168 or check the calendar for the next event.

Edgewood Caverns

This is a privately owned cave reached by descending through an 18" well casing for over 120'. Permission from the owner as well as release forms are required. Cost is \$7.50 per person and two weeks notice are requested. Contact John Stephenson (Sandia Grotto) or Wes Cavenee at (505)883-0807.

Miscellaneous

Mike Bilbo has been appointed the new cave specialist for the Roswell BLM district. He is soliciting grotto participation for several projects. Bilbo says the BLM is in the process of destroying mud sculptures at Fort Stanton Cave. Any future sculptures will be considered the same as graffiti; their construction will be illegal. Bilbo is an archeologist by training.

Six cocker spaniels are available for adoption. Contact Chuck.

Carbide lamps have been banned from Lechugilla Cave, and restrictions have been placed on other types of open flames.

Contest

Bill has proposed a contest to select a new name for the newsletter, and is donating certain valuable climbing equipment to the lucky winner. Submit your entry at any meeting.

PBSS Newsletter

Please mail material for newsletter to Ken Kamon, 400 W. Texas #1100K, Midland, TX 79701

PBSS MEMBERSHIP

Last Name	First Name	W. Phone	H. Phone	NSS #
Anderle	Chuck	685-3119	685-3119	31477
Anderle	Jan	685-3119	685-3119	31478
Bentley	Bill	694-7721	697-3079	21977
Brinson	Debbie	699-4081	687-4443	31906
Brinson	Will	699-4081	687-4443	31905
Carlton	Don	335-3265	687-4352	30417
Coffin	Gralin	684-5548	682-1904	33471
Coffin	Kari C.		682-1904	33472
Day	Rick		523-9665	-----
Dickens	Henry	563-0421	367-5275	-----
Feaster	Walter		367-8253	31624
Fincher	J. D.		694-4381	-----
Fincher	Richard		694-4381	-----
Franks	Stephen	697-7672		-----
Glossa	Jeff	682-9731		-----
Hill	Patrick		689-8347	-----
Hill	Tom	560-5065	687-2122	27888
Jackson	Martin	693-2111	693-2975	-----
Kamon	Ken	686-0720	699-7192	-----
Nance	Jim		563-5208	-----
Overman	Mark	693-2111		-----
Scott	Melissa		694-4381	-----
Showalter	Ernie	563-1663	682-1700	-----

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Midland, TX 79705



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