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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, August 11, 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:

PBSS trip to Montgomery Gypsum Cave
Future Cave Projects and trips

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>.

"The Hole News" is the monthly publication of the Permian Basin Speleological Society. Articles and cartoons may be 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 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 and Apex 2000 ISP.



Future Cave Trips and Events:

***15 August, PBSS Trip to Montgomery : Our rock hauling at CACA has ben canceled, due to miss communication. Instead we are going to Montgomery Cave. Contact Kerry Lowery @ (915)394-4230 or Noel Pando @ (915)523-9294. ***

22-23 August- GYPKAP: New Mexico-Contact Joli or Chris Lee (505)585-8406 or <jclee@wazoo.com>.

4-7 September- Tentative Bustamante/Gruta del Palmito TSA Labor Day Project: Details later. Contact: Ediger @ (512)441-0050 or <gille@worldnet.att.net>.

5-7 September- Southwestern Regional: Details Later.

*** 26 September- PBSS Trip to Ft. Stanton, N.M.: Details later.*

16-18 October- 21st Annual Texas Cavers' Reunion: Always held the weekend immediately following Columbus Day. Site to be announced.

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>.

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

Attention All Cyber Cavers:

Here are a few web sites that might interest all you cyber cavers while exploring the cavernous maze of the web.

Inside Earth is a news letter produced by the NPS for National Parks that have caves. The address is <<http://www.nature.nps.gov/grd/geology/inside2/index.htm>>.

Here are two sites about histoplasmosis. Histo is a fungus found in bat and bird droppings and sometimes attacks the lungs. Yes we have it out here. The address: <<http://www.bway.net/~keith/>> and <<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/hi97146.html>>.

<<http://www.flash.net/~trriage/>> Is a bat and caving related site.

TSA web site: <<http://www.caver.net/tsa>>.

SWR wet site: <<http://www.caves.org/swr>>.

"PBSS Grotto Trip to Sonora 98"

It has been suggest and approved that we (PBSS) make this year's Sonora Caverns Restoration a grotto function. I have contacted the person in charge of the restoration and he said one person can reply for all our grotto when the project is announced. Restoration should be around the last of October or the first of November. The date has not been announced yet.

One person answering for the grotto should save time and hassle. I have volunteered to do this. At our next couple of grotto meetings we need to find out who all is going. We need people who are willing to work hard and make a firm commitment to this project. Cancellations with out notice have been a problem in the past. People say they are going but never showed up. Then someone on a waiting list doesn't get to go. When it gets close to the project time and you have an emergency and can't go, let me or George know that you won't be there. This will let someone else have the opportunity to go.

Be thinking about this and we will start signing up at our next grotto meeting.

Walter Feaster

Trip Reports:

DAMN CAVE

Date: 5-17-98

Cavers: Kevin Glover, Tom Kaler, Rebecca Lee, and Mike Snellson

Time in Cave: 20 minutes.

The entrance is a large crack or gash in the rock about 6 feet wide and about 14 feet high, a large tree grows out of the entrance. The cave was discovered in the early 1960's and was named by Ken Harrington who accidentally fell down into the mouth of the cave. A large gate is located about 50 feet inside.

Damn Cave is only about 200 feet long, consisting of a large easy walking passageway. It is nicely decorated with large rimstone dams (one is 16 inches high), "lumpy" cave pearls (one is as large as a tennis ball), draperies (one is called "the Ear" because of its resemblance to that part of the anatomy), flowstone, and the usual stalactites and stalagmites. One particularly unusual formation looked exactly like an upside down flower, with a soda straw being the "stem" and a radiating cluster of helictites at the bottom comprising the "flower". The whole formation is about 18 inches long. Epsomite crystals were also found toward the back of the cave.

By Tom Kaler NSS # 27372

COTTONWOOD AND HIDDEN CAVES

7/18 - 7/19, 1998

KERRY LOWERY, RUEL METCALF, JUDI BLACK, MIKE GRAY, AURELIA GRAY, BARRY HAYES, LORI HALES, AND DWAIN MOORE

IN THE USUAL RUSH TO GET TO THE MOUNTAINS, WITH A COUPLE HOURS SLEEP AND A MAD DASH PACK JOB, I LEFT COAHOMA AT 12:30 PM. I MET MIKE

AND AURELIA GRAY JUST BEYOND EUNICE, NM. AND TRAVELED TO CARLSBAD WITH THEM.

AFTER THE USUAL STOP AT GUADALUPE MOUNTAIN OUTFITTERS AND TURNING IN SOME PAPER WORK AT THE FOREST SERVICE OFFICE WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO LINCOLN NATIONAL FOREST. WE ARRIVED AT THE TEXAS CAMP SITE AT 5:30 PM TEXAS(REAL) TIME, SET UP CAMP, AND STARTED SUPPER. SUPPER AND BREAKFAST WITH MOST OF THE CAVERS THIS WEEKEND WAS A VERY LARGE ORDEAL WITH STEAK & POTATOES FOR SUPPER AND BACON, EGGS, ORANGE JUICE, AND BISCUITS. NEEDLESS TO SAY WE ATE DAMN GOOD THIS WEEKEND. ANY WAY WE COOKED AND DRANK THE USUAL COUPLE OF BEERS WAITING ON THE REST OF THE CREW. BARRY SHOWED UP AT ABOUT 7:00 HAVING TO BACK TO FIND LORI, BOTH OF WHICH GOT A LITTLE CONFUSED WITH THE DIRECTIONS. RUEL AND JUDI SHOWED UP AT 9:00, SO WE CELEBRATED WITH ANOTHER BEER AND CALLED IT A NIGHT.

WE WOKE UP SATURDAY MORNING, ATE, AND GOT OUR CAVING GEAR ALL IN ORDER. THE RANGERS ARRIVED AT 9:45 AND WE WERE STILL WAITING ON DWAIN TO SHOW UP. HOPING HE WASN'T LOST OR BROKE DOWN WE CALLED HIS HOUSE AND FOUND OUT HE LEFT EARLY THAT MORNING. JUST AS WE GOT OFF THE PHONE HE DROVE AROUND THE CORNER.

WE HOPPED INTO PROSPECTIVE VEHICLES WITH RUEL, MIKE, AURELIA, AND JUDI HEADED TO COTTONWOOD CAVE AND KERRY, LORI, BARRY, AND DWAIN GOING TO HIDDEN CAVE. IN COTTONWOOD CAVE THEY PUT STEPS DOWN A SANDY SLOPE THAT WENT TO THE BACK OF THE PASSAGE. AFTER STACKING ROCKS IN A STEP FORMATION THEY THEN COVERED THEM WITH SAND TO MAKE THEM LOOK NATURAL.

IN HIDDEN CAVE WE CLEANED TOADSTOOL FORMATIONS THAT WILL SOON BE BLOCKED FROM FURTHER TRAFFIC. THE STEP BUILDERS TOOK A JOB THE RANGERS THOUGHT SHOULD BE DONE IN THREE DAYS AND FINISHED IT IN 6 HOURS, WHILE THE CLEANERS CLEANED A GOOD SIZED AREA WITH HALF THE TOOLS AND BRUSHES WE NEEDED.

WE WERE ALL BACK AT CAMP BY ABOUT 4:00 AND WERE VISITED BY BILL? THE GUY WHO HEADS UP THE SONORA CAVERNS CLEANUP EVERY YEAR. RUEL AND JUDI CUT THEIR TRIP SHORT TO GO BACK TO WORK AND EVERY BODY ELSE ATE, DRANK, AND RELAXED THE REST OF THE DAY.

MIKE GOT ANOTHER PERMIT FOR COTTONWOOD ON SUNDAY SO A CAVING WE WENT. BUT AS USUAL THE TIME CAME TO LOAD UP AND COME HOME, AND THAT WE DID. WE LEFT THE FOREST AT 1:30 SUNDAY AFTERNOON KNOWING WE WOULD RETURN VERY SOON. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERY ONE WHO SHOWED UP THIS WEEKEND AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO SHOW UP AT OUR NEXT FUNCTION.

CAVE OFTEN KERRY LOWERY NSS# 41518

MEMBERS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NAME:	ADDRESS:	PHONE #:	NSS #:
Alton, Ron	#1 Scenic Dr. Big Spring, Tx. 79720	Unknown	none
Bentley, Bill	400 Eastwood Dr., Midland, Tx. 79703-5308	915-697-3079	21977
Carroll, Arlon & Valarie	1600 E. 53, Odessa, Tx. 79762	915-550-5042	none
Coffin, Gralin	910 W. Kansas, Midland, Tx. 79701 6124	915-682-1904	33471
Cullen, James R.	8330 Endicott Lane, Dallas, Tx. 75227	214-412-1632	none
Feaster, Walter	14307 Harvard, Midland, Tx. 79703-4847-71	915-694-1824	31624
Florer, Tom	3609 Caldera # 112, Midland, Tx. 79707	915-697-5959	none
Ford, Grace L.	2002 W. Missouri Ave., Midland, Tx. 79701	915-687-1371	none
Gray, Larry	31 East 33rd Street, San Angelo, Tx. 76903	915-653-3823	19588
Gray, Mike & Aurelia	3501 Boulder, Odessa, Tx. 79762	915-550-2395	none
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
Hogan, Felder	P.O. Box 341, Andrews, Tx. 79714	915-524-6327	41068
Kaler, Tom	2 Permian Dr., Carlsbad, N.M. 88220	505-785-2404	27372
Kamon, Ken	4400 Andrews Hwy # 801, Midland, Tx. 79703	915-699-7192	34637
Laman, Allen	3105 Maple, Odessa, Tx. 79762-7846	915-550-0910	37903
Lee-Kaler, Rebecca	2 Permian Dr., Carlsbad, N.M. 88220	505-785-2404	42075
Lowery, Kerry	P.O. Box 39, Coahoma, Texas 79511	915-394-4230	41518
Metcalfe, Ruel	1410 E. 4th, Big Spring, Tx. 79720	915-267-7330	42854
Moore, Dwaine	10011 S. County Rd. 1213, Midland, Tx. 79706	915-683-7016	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	P.O. Box 849, Manchaca, Tx. 78652	512-280-2843	none
Rogers, Christie M.	4700 Polo Parkway # 170, Midland, Tx. 79705	915-570-1192	none
Snelson, Mike	P.O. Box 2252, Odessa, Tx. 79701	915-580-5218	none
Wallace III, Warren	P.O. Box 382, Coahoma, Tx. 79511-0832	915-394-4310	43891

* 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.

E-Mail Address:

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 Grace L. Ford: <glford@marathonoil.com>

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