

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING HELD!

On September 16, 1989 an organizational (or reorganizational) meeting was held for the purpose of re-establishing the Permian Basin Speleological Society (hereafter and forevermore to be referred to as the PBSS). Nine people attended the meeting and joined together to form the club. Several more people who were unable to attend have indicated an interest in joining. There was an even mix of former PBSS members, new cavers, and unaffiliated cavers at the meeting, but all had one thing in common -- a lot of ENTHUSIASM.

Officers elected for a 12 month term were:

President Bill Bentley
Vice-President Will Brinson
Secretary/Treasurer... Don Carlton

Meetings were set for the third Tuesday each month at 5:30 P.M., and will be held at member's homes for the present.

Dues were set at \$5.00 per year. A collection was taken to get us rolling, and \$33.00 was given. After paying expenses of \$15.00 for the meeting room and \$5.00 for stamps, we have a treasury balance of \$13.00.

The secretary completed and mailed an NSS report reflecting the above information to get us back in the NSS.

A MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN BILL

Let me say a few things about the revitalization of the PBSS. I was very impressed with the number of people who showed up at the organizational meeting, and I hope the enthusiasm lasts, as we will need it. Most of you know that Midland and Odessa are set in the middle of prime cave country in the Southwest. You can't just pack up and go caving after work -- planning, organizing and commitments must be made and followed through. In the past I have seen this club or grotto fold up and die because only a few people did all the work, and they eventually moved or lost interest. To be a successful grotto will require that every member participate, and most important, attend the trips. For the more knowledgeable this will mean that you will have to help out the newcomers and make them feel as well as be a part of the grotto. For us to grow, it means that every member must take the responsibility for recruiting new members. This will be a slow process (caving is not a hobby for everyone), and we will need to keep a constant flow of new blood coming into the grotto.

For the new people let me tell you a few items of interest. The Permian Basin Speleological Society was first conceived by Richard Smith around 1959. Richard and a friend did some caving in the area south of Midland, and they mapped a few small caves. He later moved away. The Hill brothers and I did some caving starting in 1980. In October, 1983 Tony Grieco and I formed the P.B.S.S., and in January of '84 the N.S.S. chartered us as its 300th grotto. Later we would change our affiliation with the Texas Speleological Association to the Southwestern Region of the N.S.S.. The P.B.S.S. is still counted as one of the six member grottos of the SWR, and welcome to the world of speleopolitics - a whole lot of hoopla for a bunch of folks who like to crawl around under the ground. If you can overlook all of the undesirable things such as always having to drive 100 miles or more and stay overnight, cavers in the East arguing over some cave that has little impact on us West Texans, and people who think you are crazy for going underground, then caving or spelunking can be a neat and exciting hobby.

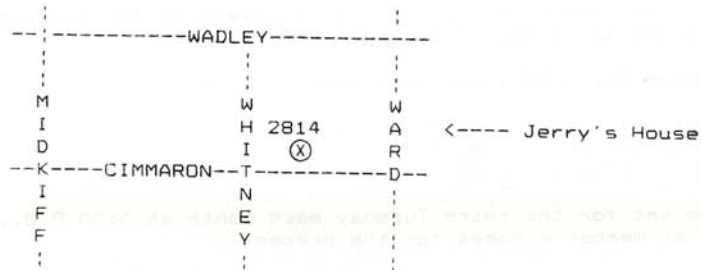
In conclusion, I believe that with everyone's help a club in the Permian Basin can survive through the struggles that have killed so many grottos in the past.

Bill Bentley

TWO
BIG EVENTS

OCTOBER MEETING

Tuesday, October 17, 5:30 P.M.
Pot Luck Dinner at Jerry Atkinson's house
2814 Cimmaron



Jerry will rig his vertical gear on some contraption (a tree? a pole? a tower?) in his back yard, and we will have the opportunity to practice or be introduced to vertical rope techniques. This will prepare us for this month's big

CAVE TRIP

October 21 - go to Pointer Rock near Fort Davis for a day of practice and instruction in rappeling. We will spend the night at Balmorhea State Park. David Diffie is a scuba instructor, and he can get us into the pool for a refreshing dip. On Sunday we will find out how well we learned our lessons by descending into the bowels of S Cave.

Trip details will be finalized at the meeting on the 17th.

File: PBSS
Report: Members

Page 1
9/19/89

Last Name	First Name	Address	City	Zip	W Phone	H Phone	NSS #
Anderle	Chuck	5707 Co. Rd. 57 E.	Midland, TX	79705	685-3119	685-3119	Application Made
Atkinson	Jerry	2814 Cimmaron	Midland, TX	79705	688-6106	697-3807	22368
Bentley	Bill	4728 Wilshire	Midland, TX	79703	694-7721	697-3079	21977
Brinson	Will & Debbie	2201 Co. Rd. 130 W.	Midland, TX	79703	699-4081	683-1191	Application Made
Carlton	Don	1301 Daventry	Midland, TX	79705	683-4701	687-4352	30417
Diffie	David	3306 Princeton	Midland, TX	79703	688-7851	699-0919	31097
Noldan	Suzy	4457 Hackberry Ct.	Midland, TX	79707	687-8476	689-0586	Application Made
Siegmann	Jim	4457 Hackberry Ct.	Midland, TX	79707	683-0128	689-0586	Application Made

Don Carlton
1301 Daventry
Midland, TX 79705

