
PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume III No. 11

September, 1991

MEETING NOTICE

Date:

Location: Golden Corral Family Steakhouse, 4709 N. Midkiff Rd.
Midland

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

September and October Cave Trips

Chuck has reserved Chimney Cave for Saturday, September 7. Chimney is largely vertical, and requires rope work. He also plans to obtain permits, if available, for horizontal caves on BLM lands for September 7 and 8. Please call Chuck if you plan to make the trip, as only 6 spots are available for Chimney, and he doesn't have a good handle as of this writing on what will be available from the BLM. Campsite will be at Parks Ranch.

J. D. has been busy! He's reserved Gunsight, Sentinel and Shotgun for September 14 and 15. The caves are in the vicinity of the Dark Canyon lookout tower. Entering Sentinel requires a short rappel, while Gunsight is a walk-in.

For September 21 and 22, McKittrick, Sand and Endless Caves have been reserved. All are horizontal caves, located on BLM property close to Carlsbad and close to the road. Campsite will be on McKittrick Hill.

Hidden, Black, and the lower level of Cottonwood have been reserved for October 5 and 6. The caves are near the Dark Canyon Lookout Tower. The lower level of Cottonwood requires crawling through 14" passages. Black and Cottonwood do not require rope. Black is well-decorated and very-wet. Hidden is an excellent vertical cave for a novice.

If you don't make the meeting, please call J. D. for information regarding trips scheduled September 14, 15, 21, 22, and October 5 and 6. As only 6 spots are available for the lower level of Cottonwood, you may want to get in touch with him early.

Chuck has reserved Damn, Pink Panther, Pink Palette, and Pink Dragon for October 19 and 20, for a joint trip with the Permian Basin Outing Club. Two rock climbers plan to make the trip, so that we should be able to check out a high lead in Damn Cave. Most of Pink Dragon, Damn, and Pink Palette can be seen without rope. Pink Panther, which contains a bear skeleton, requires a rappel. All the caves are located in the vicinity of the Dark Canyon Lookout Tower. A fairly long hike is required to reach the caves. However, since Chuck has transferred the cave locations onto his topo map from Dave Belski's map, we won't have any trouble finding them.

Finally, Chuck notes that the Lechuguilla Precision Survey (LPS) has work scheduled for November 24 through December 1. There is a possibility that PBSS members may have the privilege of serving as Sherpas for the LPS over Thanksgiving, carrying surveying equipment in and body wastes out. If this sort of thing appeals to you, Chuck suggests you may wish to brush up on vertical work during trips described above. Walter and Chuck have already been Sherpas for the LPS, and can provide additional details.

The Following Excerpt from the Third Source was contributed by Don Carlton.

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 Tie 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 [REDACTED] 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.

New Members

Art and Joan Seabury of Alpine have joined the PBSS, after attending the August meeting. Both are NSS members. Welcome Art and Joan!

Miscellaneous

Chuck has received copies of catalogs from numerous caving and climbing supply houses, and may be able to get NSS grotto discounts from certain suppliers. He has extra copies of catalogs, so contact him if you want any.

ADDENDUM: CHUCK HAS THE FOLLOWING HORIZONTAL BLM CAVES PERMITTED FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8: MUDGETTS, DOC BURRITO, AND JERNIGAN II. MEET AT PARKS RANCH. CHIMNEY, A VERTICAL CAVE, IS PERMITTED FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7. ONLY 6 PLACES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE PERMIT FOR CHIMNEY.

ONE OR TWO OF THE CAVES SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY MAY INVOLVE SOME OPTIONAL RAPPELS. SO BRING YOUR VERTICAL GEAR IF YOU SO DESIRE

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	27723
Overman	Mark	693-2111		-----
Scott	Melissa		694-4381	-----
Seabury	Art			32682
Seabury	Joan			32683
Showalter	Ernie	563-1663	682-1700	-----

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