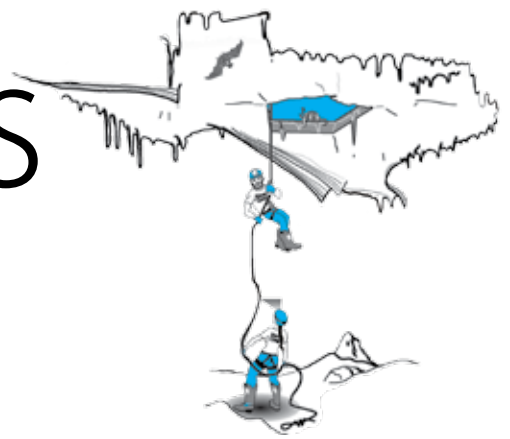


BEXARfacts

March 2012



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Hi, I'm Bennett Lee, computer geek extraordinaire. I grew up in San Antonio and spent most of my youth backpacking, mountain climbing, and rock climbing. My best friend's uncle, Bill Steele, got us introduced to caving at the end of the 80's with cave trips around central Texas and a few trips to Mexico. I loved it immediately.

When I started college at Texas Tech, I joined the Lubbock Area Grotto and became editor of the grotto newsletter, the LAG News, which promptly went from terse but regular monthly distribution to glorious but extremely infrequent issues. If you don't know Lubbock, it is devoid of caves, so LAG caves mostly in New Mexico. We had a few projects at the time, one being the surveying of all the caves in a section of New Mexico desert (awful project, but at least it was caving), and the other major project being restoration work in the beautiful Endless Cave.

After college, my caving activities became limited until I moved back to San Antonio in 2001. Although I have been caving regularly since 2001, I finally got around to joining the Bexar Grotto a decade later and now realize just how much I've been missing. The Bexar Grotto is so active and the camaraderie is wonderful. I should have joined years ago. I hope I can contribute with my meager survey skills and recently-started cave photography hobby.

My 7-year-old son, Ethan, enjoys caving, too. He has been a regular attendee of TCR for several years, a frequent Robber Baron guide, and added a much needed youthful enthusiasm to various other cave trips filled with grumpy old cavers. Plus, he's already started in the fine tradition of rocking, although he needs to work his subtlety—he giggles so much when the victim comes back that it's obvious something is up. But don't worry; he's got a good teacher. Eventually, he'll get a rock into your pack without you knowing.



Bennett Lee at Three Mile Hill, NM

Ethan Lee bat watching at Bracken Bat Cave

TSA SPRING CONVENTION

March 30 - April 1st, Boerne, TX

(Article Rerun) The Texas Speleological Association's annual Spring Convention is right around the corner!

This is an annual, technical meeting is a great time for all of us to come together not only for the business meetings, but also with family and friends to enjoy group meals, presentations about cave sciences, exploration, project status, workshops and view new works in the Map & Photo Salons.



It's also a great opportunity to acquire new treasures at the TCMA auction, and your favorite vendors.

There is a free scheduled Cascade Caverns tour included for all registered convention attendees.

Presentations will be on Saturday, March 31st and Mallory Mayeux (mmayeu4@gmail.com) and Roger Moore (caverarch@aol.com) are already lining up a slew of interesting speakers so it should be another great year. Please contact Mallory or Roger with your presentation ideas.

Registration Fee

- \$15.00 Individual Rate per person
- \$10.00 Child Rate per child 12-16 years old
- \$40.00 Family Rate (parents & children)
- FREE for Children 12 and under

Saturday Meeting

Geneva School of Boerne
113 Cascade Caverns Rd, Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78015

Boerne, TX is a very beautiful, pleasant town to visit. Check out the details on their site at: www.visitboerne.org (visitor's packets available).

Continued.

TSA Convention continued

Camping - Cascade Caverns

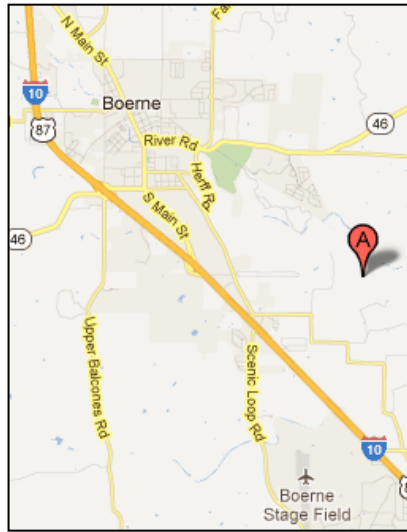
Camping is at Cascade Caverns beautiful campgrounds. Plenty of shade trees, cooking grills, restrooms and showers and parking.

226 Cascade Caverns Road
Boerne, Texas 78015
www.cascadecaverns.com

\$5.00 Camping per person/per night camping (children under 16 camp free)

- Full use of campground facilities for Sunday meetings, auction, and meals
- Renovated showers/bathrooms
- No attack dogs permitted on campground and **all pets must be leashed at all times**

Contact Ellie Watson for questions.
ellie.thoene@gmail.com



NSS CONVENTION - DEADLINES APPROACH!

Cave and karst-related maps

<http://www.caves.org/committee/salons/Cartographic.shtml>

DEADLINE: Mail: June 1, 2012.
Convention: 9am Monday, June 25, 2012.
Mailed to Chair (label package clearly "Cartographic Salon") to arrive no later than June 1, 2012 (Jim Kennedy 3406 Catalina Drive Austin, TX 78741-7041 512-663-2287); delivered to the Cartographic Salon display area.

Photographic prints

<http://www.caves.org/committee/salons/Print.shtml>

DEADLINE: Mail: June 1, 2012. NSS Convention: Sunday, June 24, 2012 before 10 am

All entries must be delivered to Print Salon area on Saturday, June 23d between 9am-5pm, or on Sunday, June 24th between 8-10:00am at the NSS Convention Print Salon exhibition area, or mailed so that we receive it before June 1st (contact Pat Seiser at printsalon@caves.org or call 505-292-5793). Please include your email address on the outside of the package so that we can let you know by email that your package has arrived. ENTRY FORM: <http://www.caves.org/committee/salons/printentry.pdf>

SALES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For questions concerning entries or sales of prints, please e-mail Pat Seiser at printsalon@caves.org or call 505-292-5793. If you have trouble with the deadline, please contact Pat before June 1st, 2012.

Photographic slides & digital images

<http://www.caves.org/committee/salons/Slide.shtml>

DEADLINE: March 30, 2012

All entries mailed to Cady Soukup (P.O. Box 600 Flint Hill VA 22627-0600; 540-522-8631; cady@mindwrap.com) to arrive no later than March 30, 2012. If you cannot make the deadline, please contact Cady before March 30.

ENTRY FORM: <http://www.caves.org/committee/salons/photoentry.pdf>

MORE INFORMATION: Contact Ray Cole / Cady Soukup at photosalon@caves.org.

For more categories and complete details <http://www.nss2012.com/>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Date	Event	Contact
Mar 16-18	D&P cabin welding	Don Arburn donarburn@mac.com
Apr 7	Gov Canyon	Marvin Miller mlmiller@gvtc.com
Apr 7-8	Longhorn Caverns	Lyndon Tiu ltiu@alumni.sfu.ca
Apr 13-15	Colorado Bend	Jim Kennedy jkennedy@batcon.org
May 5-6	Bamburger Cookout	Bob Cowell bcow911@satx.rr.com

SURVEY TRIPS

Date	Cave	Contact
Mar 14	Logans (7 pm)	Ellie Watson ellie.thoene@gmail.com
Apr 11	Logans (7 pm)	Ellie Watson

EVENTS

Date	Event	Contact
Mar 30	TSA Convention	Ellie Watson
Jun 25-29	NSS Convention	Geary Schindel

GROTTO TRIPS*

Date	Location	Details (Contact - Jill Orr)
Mar 24	Wilson's Cave	day trip
Apr 6-8	Powell's Cave	overnight
May 19	Roan's Pit	day trip
Jun 22-25	Arkansas	Buffalo River National Forrest

*All trips are subject to change or cancellation. More details will be announced at Grotto meetings. Questions contact jillorr@swbell.net