

# Bexar Grotto Meeting

January 13, 2014

**Announcement:** The first case of Chagas disease has been reported in Bexar County. Be Careful!!

**Presentation:** Caves in China presented by Dr. George Veni.

First meeting of the new year!!! Elections were held with no opposition.

<b>Chairman</b>	Gregg Williams
<b>Treasurer</b>	Pam Campbell
<b>Secretary</b>	Michelle Smith
<b>Trip Chairman</b>	Bennett Lee
<b>Program Director</b>	Gary White

All officers must be NSS member. Please renew or join if you are not a member.

## **Organizations**

### **TCMA**

Offer elections were held. TCMA is reviewing its committees. Bennett is in charge of the New Members Committee. Officers are as follows:

<b>President</b>	John Brooks
<b>Vice-President</b>	Bennett Lee
<b>Treasurer</b>	Michael Cicherski
<b>Secretary</b>	Saj Zappitello

### **TSS**

Upcoming board meeting. Nothing new to report.

### **TSA**

Elections were held. Kirk Menking is the president. He will be on a push to get new members. They are financially doing well. ***Cave Without A Name*** trip was free so all money collected was put into the treasury. Their publication has been a success. It has been coming out regularly and within budget.

### **Bracken Bat Cave**

Fran had news to report. A month ago the owner put the land under contract with a Dallas based developer. They ended up backing out of the deal which put everyone on notice that this might not be the best place to develop. We are negotiating with the owner to purchase the land and should be under contract this week. The purchase price will be around \$19,000,000 and they are half way there. There

will be a public announcement soon. They plan to close before July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. They will have 2,200 acres by the summer with 4,000 acres in the future. Help is still needed for the Karsts surveys.

## Trips

- Ryan went on a trip to **Wonder Cave**
- Two weeks ago Marvin climbed **Big Dome in Government Canyon**
- Evelyn and Joe took a trip to Cheddar, England and visited a few caves in that area that are unique in the fact that they were decorated for Christmas with lots of cool features.
- Gary went to **Paradise Canyon** which has three nice caves.
- Kirk mentioned **Colorado Bend**. He said they have over 600 caves with karst features. Everyone should go if they get a chance.

## Upcoming Trips

- **February 1, 2014 – Government Canyon** Karst Survey
- **February 1, 2014** – Birthday Party for Evelyn Mitchell & Jenny Arburn
- **February 15, 2014 – Deep** Survey Trip. There was one spot left but it may have been filled during meeting.
- **February 22 and 23, 2014** – We need people to help take students from Lamar University in Beaumont, TX into several caves including **Logan's** and **Robber Barron**.
- **February 25 and March 8 – See My Shovel Cave trip** – This will go on for three weekends. They will need some labor and surface support. Please contact Ellie if interested. Linda Patit has some wet suits for anyone around her size.