

Grotto meeting

April 13, 2015

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Gregg Williams

Visitors Morgan – works at Natural Bridge Caverns

Treasury Report

Report given by Pam Campbell

Total \$4,792.09

Organizational Reports

TCMA

Bennett Lee – Spring convention is coming soon. Pam Campbell is in charge of auction items. Bring cash for raffles. You can also link to Amazon when making purchases and a percentage goes to TCMA.

TSA

No news

NSS

Geary Schindel – NSS convention in Missouri coming soon. NSS has been awarded a certificate of merit for the hydro geo workshop.

TSS

Marvin Miller – meeting this weekend. Everyone is welcome.

Bracken

Fran Hutchins – new season starts mid-May. It is mentioned on the website. Saturday is the Roost to Roost run. They need supporters to come out and watch on Sunday. We discussed holding a meeting at Bracken like last year. You can buy a sticker and shirt in support of Roost to Roost. We will hold meeting on June 22nd at Bracken.

New Business/announcements

- The Scott Hardin memorial this Saturday.
- TCMA has tried to get access to a cave near La Cantera near Logan's called Madlas cave. Bennett Lee is going to try to gain access
- Bamburger's ranch cook out May 2 & 3. Annual fundraiser. Need prep, serve and cleanup volunteers.
- Bobs wife wants his ashes want to be spread at Bracken. We may do it in June at meeting at Bracken.
- Enter t-shirt in the NSS convention competition
- Lamar University - sent email to Gregg Williams. They want to do a trip this fall
- Hydro geo workshop. Website Trying to go live this week. Randy Baker working on it. September 25-27. Registration through Eventzilla.

Trip reports

- Fran did a LIDAR study at Bracken. Within half hour they found a cave with a twelve foot drop. Someone must have closed it up many years ago. Looking for more caves.

- Steve Gutting - they had a government canyon trip a couple of weeks ago. Steve's nephew was in town and wanted to go caving. They went to big dome to clean up some surveys. They then did some digging with some airflow. They will plan more survey trips. Marvin miller also went. There were a number of leads that will take some rock shaving and micro-blasting to get through. They found a hole above and realized that the above had been surveyed. It was a new hole to get in the velvet underground. They are following the airflow.
- Mike Harris went to Robber Barron with UTSA engineering group. They used stainless steel to make a box to put in the cave. Richard Silver helped as well. Someone's battery was smoking in one of their packs. It was a lead acid battery. Then the storms caused a palm tree to hit power lines and it was caught on fire. Rain puts out fire. The box is meant to take co2 levels for their project.
- Rob Bissett went to property next door to Deep called Blowhole. Ellie and Galen Falgout went as well. There are some smaller leads. Galen has found some spots that are worth pursuing. They are keeping the owner posted when they go in every time
- Bennett Lee and Wade McDaniel took 6 Aggies into Logan's. Only three Aggies did the whole cave. Bennett is going to try to put another traverse rope in Logan's to hold on to.
- Jill went to a cave with Gary Donham, Gregg Williams and Geary Schindel. They spent about six hours in the cave. Formed in the lower portion of the Edwards Aquifer. They saw one bat. Geary stopped at Bill and Rosas and said they should put an article in Texas caver about eating spots after caving.

Upcoming trips

- Logan's this Saturday meet at Dairy Queen at 9
- Roost to Roost this Saturday
- Memorial this Saturday
- April 25 - Spring convention
- May 2 & 3 Bamburger's Ranch
- May 16 & 17 - Government canyon last one until fall
- May 9 & 10 Colorado bend
- May 9 cleanup at Rolling Oaks preserve.
- May 17 cleanup at whirlpool from 10-1

Program by Don Arburn about Deep & Punkin
Adjourned 7:56 by Gregg Williams