

Grotto meeting

May 11, 2015

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Gregg Williams

Visitors Angelica Rogers – She met Gregg at Adventure Tours
Taylor
Jennifer – knows Sue Laprise
Wendy and Matthew
Dave and Lindsey – moved from Austin
Chris
Ray
Gary

Treasury Report

Report given by Pam Campbell

\$450 from the Hydro Geo

Total \$6,019.19

Organizational Reports

TCMA

Bennett – no news

TSA

Kurt Menking – Meeting at Spring Convention. Looking for election candidates.

NSS

There are now options when renewing dues. You can do an electronic selection and save money. You can look at the electronic copy of the NSS news at any time on-line. Convention is coming in July to Missouri.

TSS

No news

Bracken

Fran not at meeting

New Business/announcements

- Bennett – we have had the meet up for one year. It is \$14.99 a month. Do we continue? We had a discussion in terms of how to monitor the number of people that sign up but don't show. Maybe we should leave open as a marketing attempt for the Bexar Grotto. Sue Schindler made a motion to leave meetup as is and Allen Montemayor seconded.

- Bennett also signed us up for bexargrotto.org now that we are a non-profit organization and registered with the state. Google has a larger drive for non-profits. We can share with others.
- The taxes are now filed. Bennett thinks we should get a P.O. Box since new officers are voted in yearly. The smallest box is \$56 per year and the next size is \$74 per year.
- Bennett eventually wants to create a website that is more user friendly so others can post.
- Bennett Lee is also setting up Google Groups with a google drive and calendar. It should be available soon. Grotto email list will be available to everyone as well.
- Alan Montemayor told us about a cabin that is available for renting for \$750 per year on the Guadalupe River.
- The new name for Honey Creek section won during the auction will be Camp BS.

Trip reports

- Chris Lafferty went caving. Six hour van ride to Mohawka. The cave's claim to fame is mushrooms. There are a number of large caves in the area. Chris went for a week. They had already rigged up to 400 meters deep by the time Chris had gotten there. You have to repel into a sink hole. It is well decorated.
- Joe Schaertl went to Niche Cave. Rolling Oaks trip was out there. Joe Schaertl, Ellie Falgout, Joe Mitchell and others were there. They are trying to expose the southern wall. They may bring a back hoe next time.
- During the elections citizens authorized another purchase in the recharge zone. They are going to do some preservation work for water quality. Geary Schindel wants to let the city know that cleaning sinkholes could help. Geary will see if there is any money available. A lot of organizations are vying for the money.
- Geary Schindel took Pam Campbell, Bennett Lee, Chris Lafferty, Jill Orr and Gary Donham to Royal Canyon pit. 30 foot drop into climb down into another drop. Then led into a pancake crawl. In the future they want to dig this out.
- September 25-27 Hydro Geo

Upcoming trips

- Tom Florer - Lamar University has requested another trip - no dates worked for them so Sam Houston University wants to cave now. He will be taking them on November 14 & 15.
- Government Canyon will be this weekend.
- Honey Creek this weekend but it might be rained out. Cleaning roads etc. after road work there will be a swim through. We don't want to mess up roads again so if raining it will be cancelled.

Kurt Menking spoke with owner about what needs to be done. They will need for someone to be on the tractor while someone else is on the bobcat. They do not need a lot of people but it will take time.

- June 20 2 pm until late. Pete Strickland is having pond party
- September 25 – 27 – Hydro Geo

Program by Evelyn Mitchell
Adjourned 7:56 by Gregg Williams

Joe Shartel paid