

## **Bexar Grotto Meeting**

Date: December 14, 2015

No meeting December 28, 2015

Gregg Williams called meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

### **Visitors**

Katie-have done some caving

Derrick

James Moral

Ivan - no caving experience

Aaron - cavers

Ashely - cavers

### **Treasury report provided by Pam Campbell**

**Total            \$11,652.54**

### **Organization Reports**

**TSS** - nothing to report - Marvin Miller is sick

**TSA** - Rob Bissett - second weekend in January at Colorado Bend. They will be having a meeting

**TCMA** - Bennett Lee - around December 19 they should be acquiring Avery Ranch. They also had a budget meeting.

**NSS** - No news

**Bracken** - No news

### **Old Business**

- Presented the Carl Ponebshek award to Richard Silver. Rob Bissett told a story of Carl and mentioned he was very helpful to new cavers. He loved the Grotto and caving. His daughter was in attendance for the award.
- Rob wants to look at a work day at Bracken. Look at ways to spend money to help Bracken. We have a lot of equipment out there. Maybe one day in January.

### **Announcements**

- Geary Schindel brought calendars for everyone.
- No meeting on December 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Meeting Second Monday in January. It will be election day.

### **Upcoming trips**

- April 9, 2016 - Robber Barron open house
- Last two weekends in February and First weekend in March – See My Shovel Cave
  - o February 20 & 27 and March 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - o It will be a tank haul. Must be vertically competent to attend. Bennett may have a vertical night before then to practice. Swimming most of the way with some stooping and crawling.
  - o Must have wet suit and vertical gear
- January 16 - Bennett plans on putting a Logan's trip together.
- January 24 – Rob Bissett taking some scouts into Robber Barron
- January 23 – Houston Grotto is going to Logan's.

### **Trip reports**

- Rob Bissett – went to Bustamante, Mexico. Went with about 15 other people. Ranch has about 9,000 acres. It was an old mining cave. They were after lead, silver and zinc back then. Vertical and horizontal mines. The road up to the ranch is well built. They explored a 1,500 foot deep cave back in the 80s and 90s. Survey notes were destroyed or lost so they are resurveying the cave. They only went 300 feet in the cave last year. They wanted to get to the bottom this year. They were still short rope after bringing as much as possible. Rob was not able to go too deep. It took them about four days to rig it. They had three strong riggers. There were three on the survey team. They looked at other caves as well to survey and GPS. There were some other people that joined them that were not vertically proficient so they did other things.
- James Moral and a friend went with Marvin Miller for ridge walking. They actually went into some caves and did some blasting with Marvin. They could not remember the name of the exact cave. They had a good time and want to do more caving.
- Large group went to Bracken and they were looking for a cave that was filled in. They found some features but not the cave. Tonya Leach, Morgan Adlar, Joe Schaertl and Matt were there as well. The cave they are looking for has a 30 foot repel and gorgeous features.

Meeting adjourned by Gregg Williams at 8:03. Rob Bissett seconded to adjourn.

Presentation By: Leah Hill – She made her own video. Four minutes long.