

Bexar Grotto Meeting

Date: 3/13/17

Attendees: 19

Arron Wertheim called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Visitors

Andrea from Austin

Treasury report provided by Pam Campbell:

\$14,064.74

Organization Reports

TSS - No news to report.

TSA - No news to report.

TCMA - There will be an auction at Spring Convention so start looking for quality items that can be auctioned. Speak to Pam if you would like to donate. TCMA will have a table for T-shirts and will have a breakfast Sunday with a members meeting afterwards.

NSS - Board of Governance meeting in two weeks in Park City, Kentucky.

Bracken - No representative.

Old Business

- Budget Committee has drafted a Giving Policy. Ramon put a lot of work into it. He did a second review of the draft and we will be sending it out the committee for review shortly.

New Business

Announcements:

Sue: There are grotto shirts, bags, and patches for sale.

Geary: Has three pairs of fins for sale. You can wear shoes with them. Ten dollars a pair.

Upcoming Trips:

March 18th: Bracken clean up and work day; 9am-1pm. Contact Fran or Bennett.

March 24th-26th: Deep Survey trip. The trip is full but you can contact Joe Mitchell to get on the waiting list.

April 1st: Ezell's Cave work day. Southern part of San Marcos, little preserve, goes all the way to the aquifer. Has a new gate and we hope bats may re-inhabit which will

encourage salamander population to re-emerge. Cut brush, haul rocks, trash, cut cactus, work on trails. No work in cave at this time. Contact Michael Cicherski. Notifying early means you get part of the lunch. Also Government Canyon day. Bennett will also have a trip this weekend. He will have ropes rigged but will not be around for training, so you should be vertically competent and proficient.

April 22nd and 23rd: San Antonio and Austin will have a March for Science weekend. It's also Earth Day.

April 28, 29, 30th : TSA Spring Convention at Hill Country State Natural Area

May 6th -7th: Bamberger Ranch Cookout will be held on Sunday, but volunteers are needed for both days to prepare lunch for 350+ people. See Fran and Rob for more details. Annual fundraiser. Prep and setup Saturday, meeting 7am Sunday to start cooking and feed from 11-1pm. They make a sizeable donation to grotto (\$1000). Be on lookout for email. They invite us back for recreation trip. They have a 15 acre spring fed lake and we have a potluck dinner on July 4th. They also have a silent auction and native plants on sale from ranch.

May 13th: Deep and Punkin Work Day (last big work weekend) and Don's birthday bash. There will also be a Government Canyon weekend.

June 12th: Grotto meeting at Bracken. There will be a potluck and bat flight viewing. Make sure to bring a lid for your food and an ice chest for perishable items. There is no electricity and no running water.

Things to look out for: Bexar Grotto has been invited back to Cave Without a Name and the trip should be scheduled soon.

June 19th: NSS Convention in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. Consider getting a hotel because camping in New Mexico in June in a parking lot is not comfortable.

September 15-17th: Hydrogeo Workshop

September 23-30th: International Association of Hydrogeologists in Croatia

October 12-15th: Texas Caver's Reunion. We need people to help cook. Stefan has given up. If we don't get volunteers then we might have to do catering or fend for ourselves. Theme: Vikings.

Trip Reports

Leia: She helped Zach last Thursday. Leia asked Gregg if Joe Mitchell would be okay with filming in Robber Baron. Leia helped the children at Robber Baron. There were two guys who were slipping often. It was an interesting trip. Saturday she brought her dad to the cave.

Geary: Gregg and Geary took the firefighters into Spring Creek Cave. Geary was left behind and then rescued. Gregg went another 600 yards up the passage and then it sumped. Four days later Geary took a couple to Seco Creek to find bugs. He also

had the hydrogeology class at Deep and Punkin. They took the South Central Geological Society Caving at Robber Baron.

Joe S.: Saturday he met with Marvin and they went to the bottom of Solitude pit at Government Canyon. They dug out the remaining dirt. It's a continuing passage with a small person lead, as many of the leads there are. If you know someone skinny that would like to go, talk to Marvin.

Program Announcement

Meeting Adjourned at 7:53pm