

Bexar Grotto Meeting

Date: 4/24/17

Attendees: 40

Arron Wertheim called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Visitors

Dan Jansen found us on the internet. Alex Hernandez went to Robber Baron last year and wants to go to more caves.

Treasury report provided by Pam Campbell:

Pam is not present.

Organization Reports

TSS - There will be announcements at convention. There will be a meeting in two weeks. There are books for sale.

TSA - Convention starts Friday. If you register online you can register for the workshops. If you feel like you can help at the convention please do so. The park does not allow public consumption of alcohol. Do not be obvious about drinking. No hammocks allowed and nothing can be tied to trees.

TCMA - Members gathering Sunday at TSA convention at 9:00am. TCMA breakfast Sunday at 8:00am. Coffee will be set up Saturday morning for donations. Bring your own utensils. Silent auction will occur. Bring cash. If you have any caving related objects you'd like to donate, give it to Gregg, Pam, or Bennett. There will be toga theme.

NSS - NSS convention is coming up June 19th in Rio Rancho, NM.

Bracken - No news.

Hydrogeo - Massive mail-out went out. They have some sponsors. There is an oil company that will sponsor them.

Old Business

The homeless person has returned to Robber Baron. Alan told him he was trespassing and that he needed to leave, so the man did. Alan didn't have time to call the police. There is another homeless person who has been around the property. He is nice and was apologetic for passing out on the property. Gregg has talked to the police and they suggested that we clean up the area a little so there are fewer places to hide. Officer also suggested new signage that listed the hours for the park.

New Business

Bamberger is next weekend (May 6th and 7th). If you haven't signed up, speak to Fran. The bat flight meeting is coming up in June. There was a question about how many guests to bring. This is not an event for inviting guests. If you have people in town who would like to visit, speak to Fran about going at some other time.

Arron: A few people have talked about updating the by-laws.

Linda: Interested in working on by-laws. She volunteers to head a committee and see what needs to be updated. It would be the by-laws, not the constitution. If you would like to help, let Linda know. She thinks she would need 4-5 on the committee.

A by-law committee will be established to update the by-laws. Linda thinks it will take a couple months.

Announcements:

Fran: Early voting started today. Ron Neuremberg is running for mayor. He helped get the support from City Council for Bracken.

Good Sports is having a sale at their outlet store. They're having half off of all their stuff. It's across from the fire station we work with.

Upcoming Trips:

April 28, 29, 30th : TSA Spring Convention at Hill Country State Natural Area; there will be \$20 pre-registration email blast sent out. There will be in-cave workshops. There will be workshops on coordinating GPS to cell phones. There will be an in-cave rope and rigging workshop (8 people). There will also be a number of other presentations. Registration is open now on the TSA website.

May 6th: TSS board meeting

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 12-13th: Deep and Punkin Work Day (last big work weekend) and Don's birthday bash. There will also be a Government Canyon weekend. There are many volunteers but there is a lot of work to be done. If you haven't signed up and are interested, contact Don Arburn.

May 13th: Last Government Canyon trip until October. This is a good opportunity for new cavers to see how we look for caves.

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. The gate will be open at 5pm. The bats will probably fly at 7:30 or 8pm. Bring your own plates and utensils.

Things to look out for: Bexar Grotto has been invited back to Cave Without a Name and the trip should be scheduled soon. Also, we will probably have another trip.

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. Go to the website.

August 5th – 20th: Peter Sprouse will be scheduling a trip to Quintana Roo, Mexico. Contact him if you're interested. He will also have trips later.

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 have to do catering or fend for ourselves. Theme: Vikings.

Trip Reports

Bennett: Went to the Chapel Room at Robber Baron with Pam and his brother. His brother's girlfriend went to the lighted passage and stopped. Pam sprained her ankle there.

Program Announcement

There is no presentation tonight. This Monday is happy hour.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:39pm.