

## **Bexar Grotto Meeting**

Date: 7/10/17

Attendees: No new attendees.

Arron Wertheim called the meeting to order at 6:58pm.

### **Visitors**

38 visitors

**Treasury report provided by Arron (Pam is unable to attend): \$14,158.20**

### **Organization Reports**

**TSS** – No representative.

**TSA** – No representative.

**TCMA** – We were going to have a meeting last Saturday but many people were busy. There will be a fundraiser at Buffalo Billiards at 7pm on September 30, 2017. There will be a great raffle with tickets from Disney World and other places.

**NSS** – Geary explained what the NSS is and what membership entails. He reported that one may use the NSS membership manual to find cavers across the country. The NSS American Caving Accidents publication has information on safety techniques and caver history. Geary also reported that the NSS convention was in Rio Rancho, New Mexico and guidebooks are provided. Next year's convention will be in Montana.

**Bracken** – No representative.

### **Old Business**

T-shirts are for sale in sizes from small to 2x. Short sleeves are \$15 and long sleeves are \$20. The Hydrogeo workshop shirts are \$5 and the patches are \$5.

Geary ordered four field phones and they will be coming in soon. Greg Mosier has received a list of equipment and its current status with the various people who are in possession. We have 29 helmets (from brand new to poor condition). We only have 18 lights and a purchase should be considered. We have three first aid kits, three assorted gear bags, and some vertical gear in varying levels of condition. Bennett also has the Bexar Grotto banner. Sue mentioned that there should be some survey gear but Greg has not heard any mention of survey gear. We still have a few things we need to track down. This is not a complete list. There is a tent somewhere as well.

### **New Business**

Leia needs articles and/or information for the Bexar Facts. If you have any stories or inspiration, please send that to her. Arron reported that it is difficult to get submissions during the summer because it is a slow time of the year.

### **Announcements:**

\*Geary: Things are progressing with the Hydrogeo workshop. There was an organizational meeting last week. They're still trying to finalize the modules. There will be about 350 attendees. There will be about 30 different modules on every aspect of caves, karst, hydrogeology, and geology. Jordan and Stephanie volunteered to be the volunteer coordinators.

\*Roy is curious about setting up a digging trip at the ranch at Caverns of Sonora. Arron reported that Greg Mosier is the person to talk to.

\*Don't hold your breath about a trip to Cave Without a Name because the air is bad right now. The trip will occur, but Greg isn't sure when it is. It's also a very busy time of year. This trip will happen at some point before the year is over. The trip will be limited to 15 people. Keep an eye on your email. Potentially upstream or in some of the upper reaches of the cave.

\*There will likely be a Government Canyon trip the first week of September but that has yet to be announced. We will wait for Marvin to get back to confirm.

\*Leia would like to plan a Robber Baron trip in the next few weeks. Email Leia if you'd like to go and she will find a date and see if it's available on the calendar.

\*Lori: National Geographic aired footage from Bracken. It was poor footage of just the opening of the cave. They did talk about the bats some. They had a satellite truck out at Bracken that was streaming to NYC. Sue reported that supposedly the producers were getting live information from viewers about what they want to see.

\*There will be a TCMA Fundraiser at Buffalo Billiards in Austin with great raffle prizes, games, drinks, and food. This will take place on September 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

### **Upcoming Trips:**

July 15<sup>th</sup>: Venture crew at Robber Baron cave and we will need to round up some of the equipment. Mike said we have enough volunteers, but we just need the gear rounded up.

September 15-17<sup>th</sup>: Hydrogeo Workshop at Cave Without a Name. Attendance is \$50.

September 23-30<sup>th</sup>: International Association of Hydrogeologists in Croatia

October 12-15<sup>th</sup>: Texas Caver's Reunion at Paradise Canyon. Theme: Vikings.

November 3, 4, 5<sup>th</sup>: Recreational trip to Deep and Punkin. The trip is currently full but you can get on the waiting list.

November 11<sup>th</sup>: Robber Baron Open House; we will need lots of help.

### **Trip Reports**

Geary: Geary recently did some dye tracing at Devil's Sinkhole. He had some photos made of their trip in the cave. One of the photos was circulated to the Daily Mail out of England. Geary was thinking of having the photos mounted and giving a copy to the Rocksprings as well as Austin offices. He would be happy to pay for the prints if the grotto would pay for the mounting (~\$150). He thinks this would

provide goodwill to our cave owners. This might be something we want to bring up during the business section at the next meeting.

Leia: Lori and Leia did the wild cave tour at the Caverns of Sonora. It was 6 hours of interesting caving. They rappelled. If you want to see it, check out Lori's Facebook. When they first entered the wild section, the tour guide went in a different direction. They were told to take their gloves off. Leia was crawling through an area and fell into a pool of water. The manager said that he served on the board of TCMA a long time ago. His name was Bill Sawyer.

**Program Announcement**

There is no program tonight.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.