

Bexar Grotto Minutes - 7/23/18

Call to order: 7:00 pm

Visitors: Michael (military veteran), Anthony B., Alex Pena, Dr. George Veni (Bexar Grotto member); Nick; Carrie Piazza (Louisiana) ; Serenity Hilton (Louisiana)

Treasurers Report: \$14,159.66

Birthdays: Marvin and Lisa Miller Anniversary; Leah Miller turns 13 soon.

Organizational Reports:

TSS/TSC-(*“Texas Speleological Society; Texas Speleological Center”*) Marvin Miller – Nothing.

TSA (*Texas Speleological Association*): Nothing. Running for TSA Officer;

TCMA (*Texas Cave Management Association*): Art Auction at TCR this year; talk to Lindsey Admoski; TCR is in October

BCI (*Bat Conservation International*): Meeting August 27, at Bracken; Bats are going strong; NSS: NSS Newsletter (Directory); NSS Convention July 30- August 3.

NCKRI (*National Cave & Karst Research Institute*): Dr. George Veni’s trips to DC have paid off; got a half a million dollar boost in funding; adding 100 + new hires?

NSS (*National Speleological Society*): nice program on fossils/caves; NSS Convention is in Montana July 30- August 3.; Geary brought a map on environmental considerations for first responders; see Geary Schindel for more info./questions.

Hydro Geo Workshop: Up and running; volunteer registration coming up; see Geary Schindel for more info;

Committees:

Old Business – None at the moment.

New Business – Jill Orr mentioned that she thought the Grotto email list wasn’t being kept up; so Jess Chadwick has volunteered to help keep track/up with grotto list; Sunny mentioned the Bexar Grotto calendar and there were no trips listed on the online calendar on website. She is offering to coordinate with someone to get the trips and dates posted on the calendar.

Upcoming Trips

- Date TBD: Spring Creek Cave
- 8/12: Stargazing out at Deep & Punkin.
- 8/3 Ladies Night at Robber Baron Cave 6:30 p.m.
- 8/14: Bat Loco at the Camden Street bridge on the Riverwalk
- 8/27: Grotto meeting at Bracken Bat Cave
- October 5-7 Hydro Geo Workshop at CWAN
- July 30-3 NSS Convention
- Cool Creek Cave with Marvin Miller Saturday 28

*** (Contact Jill Orr for questions about upcoming trips, or if you have a trip to a cave you would like to visit with the grotto).**

Trip Reports:

- Cool Creek Cave on June 16: Mike Gibbons and Marvin Miller went to the cave, which is the believed back door to CM Shovel Cave. They had a good success pumping out water—40 feet gravel slope into a water passage that is sumped. Water receded fast; room about 20 feet long, and room was full of water, water running (different pool); possibly go back on July 28 to pump out more water and explore more of the cave;
- Marvin Miller, Leia Hill, MJ Gibbons, Richard Silver, and MJ's friend (who was new to caving), went up to Marble Falls-Ostermeyer Spring Cave to survey some of the dry cave, and some of the wet lower portion of the cave; job was to follow from and to the waterfall; Mike was the first one down there in the pond/pool room and it just ended; but water drains somehow and goes somewhere, Marvin Richard and MJ went to survey this water tube passage that was all belly crawl, really short and narrow.
- George Veni: Puerto Rico Sinkhole Conference in 2020; date is tbd. Contact Dr. George Veni for more info.
- Geary Schindel: went up to Longhorn Caverns for a trip with a professor from Texas A&M and offered a unique perspective to the cavern formation;
- Benji Von Cramon was in town last week offering a 3d model viewing of Seco Creek Sinkhole.

Program: Marvin Miller talks about this past caving season 2017-2018 at Gov. Canyon!

Meeting adjourns at 8:00 p.m.