

Bexar Grotto minutes - 9/10/18 (by acting Secretary Tom Florer)

Call to order: 7:02 pm

Visitors: Sabrina (has been to Bracken), Kathy (has been to Robber Baron and Bracken), and Sara (back after a 3 or 4 year hiatus).

Treasurers Report: Balance is \$14,159.78...up \$.12 from last meeting due to interest.

Organizational Reports

TSS/TSC: Joe Mitchell reports that a new publication on Government Canyon is coming, but may not be ready in time for TCR. AMCS will also occupy the new HQ, and Marvin has books for sale. Joe will set up some workdays in the fall for the new HQ.

TSA: Linda Pallit reports that they are looking for candidates to run for TSA President. Rob Bissett is not going to do another term.

TCMA: Linda Pallit says they are looking for folks to become board members. Also are looking at a couple caves for purchase. Need volunteers to work on various things, because that frees up \$\$ to do other things like buy caves. David Adamkowski and Gregg Williams are the new preserve managers for Ezell's Cave in San Marcos. Mike H reports that a large tree has died on the Robber Baron property...it was big enough that it required a professional tree service to remove it. Homeless people are once again becoming an issue on the property.

NSS: Geary Schindel brought some membership brochures and applications. Members will soon be able to get discounts on major brands of camping gear. There was a cave rescue in Indiana - someone got locked in a cave for a couple days. Gonna be a lawsuit.

BCI: Everyone had a great time at the potluck two weeks ago.

Committees: no reports.

Announcements

- Gregg Williams: Highline Rope will be available at TCR if there's enough interest. Cost is approx \$.60/foot - see Gregg if interested.
- Mike Harris was out at Cascade Caverns...there is water all over the property.

Old Business

- David Adamkowski is working on a headlamp purchase. He presented 3 options, and we decided to buy 25 Petzl Tikkas.
- Rob needs gear for an upcoming scout trip. Bennett has a bag of 10 set, he will get them to Mike Harris.
- NCRC rescue training coming up in February. Linda will get a couple slots reserved for us; we will publicize the scholarships at this meeting and next; need to apply by next meeting.

New Business

- Leia got a job, we need a new secretary to fill her spot. JoAnn DeLuna offers to take the reins. She will manage the t-shirts as well.
- Kurt M has a medium wetsuit available for \$10.

Upcoming Trips

- No official grotto trips currently planned because Jill has been out of the country for the past month.
- Government Canyon will start up again in October. See Marvin Miller for info.
- Marvin is also setting up a survey trip to the Marble Falls area on 9/23.
- Dave Adamkowski is starting up the Robber Baron dig again. Wednesday (same week as grotto meetings) at 6:00pm. Starting with next meeting week.
- Geary Schindel will start vertical training back up after the Hydro Geo Workshop. He has a couple of virgin pits to practice on.
- October 19-21: TCR at Paradise Canyon.

Trip Reports

- Joe Scharfl went to Ape Cave near Mt St Helens in Washington. It's a lava tube.
- Mio Spyker went to see live music performed in Cave w/out a Name.
- Lindsey went to Bonnie Hills Ranch Cave. The ranch road was a muddy, soupy mess.
- Geary and co. went to Hills and Dales pit. Also did some digging in Helotes at Johnson Pit.
- Geary and Sue went to OTR in West Virginia.

Program: Bennett on how to take great cave photos.

Future programs: 11/12: bring slides to choose grotto Christmas Card photo; 11/26: open; 9/24: Joe M on 3D mapping.

Meeting adjourns at 7:58 pm