



Bexar Grotto Minutes for the October 22, 2018 Meeting

The October 22 meeting of the Bexar Grotto was held at Chester's Party Room located at 1006 NE Loop 410. The meeting was opened at 7:04 PM by Grotto President Mike Harris. Club members wished visitor Monica Ponce a Happy Birthday. Mike then welcomed visitors Julio Lopez and Isoke Craig.

Treasurer's Report: Emily Thompson reported that the current balance is \$14,168.03. She also said that the Petzl headlamps ordered by the grotto at a cost of \$498.00 had been received. Rob Bisset volunteered to mount them on our grotto helmets.

Programs: Garry White announced the following programs:

November 12- Grotto members are asked to bring their favorite images and we will choose one for the Bexar Grotto Christmas card.

November 26- Geary Schindel will present.

Organizational Reports:

TSC: Joe Mitchell announced that there will be two workdays at the Texas Speleological Center on the weekend of November 3 and 4. Peter Sprouse will send out emails with details about the workdays.

TSA: Rob Bisset reported that the deadline for nominations for the 2019 officers is Friday October 26. Elections will follow soon, and elected officers will be installed on January 1, 2019.

TCMA: Linda Palit said that there are currently 8 people running for 5 positions on the TCMA Board. Greg reminded members to look for their ballots to vote online.

NSS: Geary Schindel announced that NSS membership is up to over 8,000 members. Membership will include discounts on gear from various vendors.

Announcements:

Mike Harris announced that the Texas Caver Reunion held last weekend was a great success.

Monica Ponce (Union of International Speleologists) informed members about the Techniques and Materials Commission which will be showcasing new products, materials, and innovations to over 60 countries.

Rob Bisset and grotto members thanked Monica Ponce for her achievements and work for the UIL.

Jill Orr showed members the "Welcome to the Bexar Grotto" informational pamphlet that she created along with Michael Harris, Geary Schindel, and Joe Mitchell. Copies will be given to all new Bexar Grotto members. Thanks to Jill and everyone who worked to create this publication.

Joann DeLuna announced that Grotto T-Shirts are for sale.

Old Business:

Linda Palit will send information on the National Cave Rescue Operations and Management Seminar (which will be held from February 8 - 15, 2014 at Colorado Bend State Park Bend, Tx) to Emily Thompson so that the grotto can pay for 2 members to attend. Mike Gibbons and Ken Flynn volunteered to represent Bexar Grotto at this training.

Alan Montemayor reported on the meeting that he attended on October 17 about the proposed high-density subdivision that will drain their sewage into Honey Creek. He asked Annalisa Peace from the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance to give more information about this during her presentation. Annalisa Peace announced that the Boerne Loop has been voted down by the Boerne County Commissioners.

New Business:

None at the current time.

Upcoming Trips:

Marvin Miller reminded members that the Government Canyon Project dates are November 3 and 4.

The November 4 trip to Big Dome Cave to survey and clean up the cave has been filled, however people wanting to go can contact him at mlmiller@gvtc.com to be placed on a waiting list.

Rob Bisset announced that the TSA Colorado Bend Project will take place every second Saturday and Sunday of the month. Upcoming project weekends are on November 10 and December 8. Everyone must email cbsp.tsa@gmail.com to sign up for project weekend. Email should include how many people and vehicles are in your group, how likely you are to attend, and if you intend to arrive Friday night or Saturday morning. Send your email before noon the Friday before the project weekend and receive confirmation response. The project weekend is limited to 20 people total.

Mike Harris announced that there will be a dig night at Robber Baron Cave on the evening of Wednesday October 24.

Trip Reports:

Joe Mitchell reported that he, Geary Schindel, and Jill Orr visited Snowy River Cave in Fort Stanton. They completed over 1,510 meters of Lidar scanning in Snowflake passage and Snowy River passage.

Marvin Miller said that the last Government Canyon Project ridge walking resulted in locating 1 possible cave which will need to be dug out. Marvin reported that in Dancing Fern Cave two new rooms with nice formations had been surveyed. The passage parallels Hackberry Sink.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM after a motion was made by Randy Baker. The program immediately followed.

Grotto Program:

Thanks to Annalisa Peace Executive Director of GEAA for her very informative presentation on The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance efforts at protection of area rivers, caves, and watersheds.

Minutes submitted by Joann DeLuna: Bexar Grotto Secretary