



Bexar Grotto Minutes for the November 12, 2018 Meeting

The November 12 meeting of the Bexar Grotto was held at Chester's Party Room located at 1006 NE Loop 410. The meeting was opened at 7:03 PM by Grotto President Mike Harris. Mike recognized everyone having November birthdays and Grotto members wished them a very Happy Birthday. Mike then acknowledged all Grotto members who are veterans and thanked them for their service.

Treasurer's Report: No report

Programs: Garry White announced the following upcoming programs:

November 26- Geary Schindel will present a "Photo Real 3D Model of Seco Creek Sinkhole".

December 10- Jesse Chadwick will offer a program on "Burgess Shale- Excavating Cambrian Soft Shell Fossils".

Organizational Reports:

BCI: Fran Hutchins said that the bats are still there but will begin migrating south soon as a result of the cold front. There is still much work to be done at Bracken, and anyone interested in helping is asked to contact him.

TCMA: Linda Palit reported that a budget meeting was held last weekend, and that there will be a lot of expenses this year which may result in TCMA being in the red. Expenses include insurance payments, work at Robber Baron Cave, and the possible purchase of new caves. Mike thanked Linda for her work on the budget.

TSA: Rob Bisset encouraged all TSA members to participate in the ongoing officer elections.

TSS: Marvin Miller has publications for sale.

Announcements:

Sue Schindel has free T-shirts for any members wanting them.

Joann DeLuna announced that Grotto T-Shirts are for sale and that they make excellent holiday presents.

Pam Campbell made a motion that the Grotto T-shirt prices be reduced to \$10.00 for short sleeved, and \$15.00 for long sleeved until Christmas. The motion was seconded by Greg Mosier. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Rob Bisset asked that Dave Adamowski be reimbursed for the purchase of the Grotto headlamps. Emily will mail a check to him.

MJ Gibbs asked which Grotto reps will be attending the National Cave Rescue Operations and Management Seminar training. Mike indicated that the Grotto members will choose who will attend at the next meeting.

Linda Palit will send information on the National Cave Rescue Operations and Management Seminar (which will be held from February 8 - 15, 2019 at Colorado Bend State Park Bend, Tx) to anyone interested in attending.

New Business:

None at the current time.

Upcoming Trips:

Linda Palit announced a Christmas trip to Cancun, Mexico. It will take place one week before Christmas until one week after New Year's Day. There will be lots of caving opportunities and jungle hiking. Anyone wishing to participate is asked to contact Peter Sprouse.

Marvin Miller reminded members that the Government Canyon Project dates are December 1 and 2.

Kurt Menking announced a trip to Geode Mines in Mexico on November 28. If you are interested in going please contact Kurt to make arrangements.

Mike Harris announced that there will be a dig night at Robber Baron Cave on the evening of Wednesday November 14.

Mike Harris also announced that he needs a volunteer to help with a trip to Robber Baron for Trinity students that will take place on Saturday November 17. He will also need additional volunteers for Robber Baron trips scheduled for December 1 and 15.

Sue Schindel reminded members that the Bexar Grotto Christmas Party will be on December 15 at 6 PM at the Schindel's home.

Trip Reports:

Marvin Miller said that on the last Government Canyon Project no new caves were located, but the ridge walking team located a fault. Dancing Fern Cave and Black Hill Cave had rattlesnakes inside and outside.

Marvin reported that the Black Hill Cave survey had been completed. Bennett Lee reported on a dig in Crazy Blind Cave that opened into a large room.

Rob Bisset accompanied the Texas Archeological Association on a trip to north Bexar County to check for evidence of artifacts in an area cave. Nothing of significance was located however the cave is a recharge feature with 100 feet of stoop walking passage.

Mike Harris and MJ Gibbs led a trip to Robber Baron for adventure scouts. The scouts helped to remove dirt and rocks from the cave.

Mike Harris and Rick Corbell checked out a lead in the Canyon Lake area with a small opening that they chiseled out to reveal a six-foot conduit. The owner is open to further digging in the passage.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM after a motion was made by Linda Palit and seconded by Randy Baker. The program immediately followed.

Grotto Program:

Thanks to Bennett Lee for bringing a great selection of his photos for our Grotto Christmas card.