

TEXAS SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF TSA BOG MEETING, 4 May 2003

(Convened at Cascade Caverns, Kendall County, Texas in conjunction with the 2003 TSA Convention)

Present: Terry Holsinger, Chairman; Christi Bennett, Vice-Chairman; Jerry Atkinson, Secretary; Joe Ranzau, Treasurer.

TSA Members in attendance: Joann DeLuna (BG); Mark and Melanie Gee (DFWG/Maverick); Jennifer Hrobar (ASS); Mike Walsh (TCC); Shannon Summers (ASS); Brian Malorino (ASS); Bill Russell (UTG); Jenni and Don Arburn (BG); Logan McNatt (UTG); Jacqui Bills (PBSS); Donna Mosesmann (GHG); George Veni (BG); Keith Heuss (Maverick); Jon Credit (Ind.); Geary Schindel (BG); Linda Palit (BG); Kenny McGee (GHG); and Roy Wessel (BG).

The meeting convened at Cascade Caverns from 10:15 AM to 1:00 PM. The Secretary read the minutes from the last TSA meeting held at Bracken Bat Cave. The minutes were accepted as read with minor corrections.

Chairman's Report : (Holsinger) The Bexar Grotto was thanked for hosting the TSA Convention. Approximately 101 people attended the convention by unofficial count.

Vice-Chairman's Report : (Bennett) The date for the next TSA BOG meeting is set for Sunday AM at the upcoming TCR.

Secretary's Report : (Atkinson) No report.

Treasurer's Report : (Ranzau) Current financial statement for the TSA:

Compass Bank :	\$7038.05	in checking
	\$2835.66	in savings
Fidelity :	\$6579.79	(Land Trust)
Credit Union :	\$373.35	in checking
	\$427.95	in savings

The Credit Union account is outperforming the Fidelity Land Trust due to differences in interest rates.

An audit of the Land Trust account was performed for the Bustamante Project.

The TSA lost \$196 on the 2003 TSA Convention, but added 35 new members to the rolls and several renewals. Membership was approximately 160 individuals prior to the convention.

Committee Reports:

Publication : Keith Heuss volunteered to be chairman of the committee and will try to increase membership.

TSA Store : (McNatt) Sales from the TSA Convention were approximately \$280. There is approximately \$400 in petty cash at present. \$115 was spent printing Oztotl T-shirts for the convention which will be billed to the TSA shortly.

Tom Brown donated a trailer to the TSA and should be officially thanked. It was also noted that Bill Mixon should be acknowledged for housing the Texas Caver publications for several years.

The TSA needs to reimburse Logan McNatt for the shelving used to archive the TSA publications at the TSS office. Cost was approximately \$40 per unit. It was acknowledged that

the TSA would do so.

Texas Caver Report : (Arburn) Don is working on the current Texas Caver issue and could use some additional material. It was noted that the cost for a color cover is \$1.88 per copy. Approximately 400 Texas Cavers are being printed which is an increase from recent printing runs. The Texas Caver recently received an ISN number.

The issue of providing digital pdf files of the Texas Caver was discussed. It was noted that providing digital files is probably not time effective given the current time constraints on the editor. A discussion ensued as to the merits of providing the membership with hardcopy vs digital versions of the Texas Caver. It was decided that the editor will survey the membership in the next Texas Caver as to their preferences in the matter.

Exchanges are being included on the Texas Caver mailout list.

A concern was voiced that the Texas Caver is not coming out on time.

Remaining 2001 Texas Caver Issues : (Kennedy absent) The combined 2001 Texas Caver issue has been promised shortly.

Web Editor : (Mikelski not present) Travis Kinchen is now the TSA webmaster. He is making significant improvements to the TSA web site.

Member's Manual : (Bennett) A general discussion on the TSA Member's Manual ensued. It was the consensus of the quorum that the manual will include all present and past TSA members. An attempt would be made to remove all dead and non-active, short duration members. The manual will be mailed to all current members and will be sold at TSA affairs from the TSA Store. Grotto bios and the TSA Constitution will be included in the manual.

Conservation : (vacant) No report.

Safety and Rescue : Geary Schindel volunteered to chair the committee. Geary has talked with John Green of the NCRC and he can conduct some S&R workshops for the TSA membership. It was noted that cavers need some kind of formal rescue training in order to participate in rescue operations with official organizations. Geary would like to improve the general level of training with respect to vertical techniques and will investigate the possibility of hosting a regional training event.

Potential Constitutional Amendment : (Holsinger) Holsinger will have the proposed amendment for staggered 2 year terms for the TSA officers printed in the Texas Caver. Discussion was postponed until after the amendment is published.

Research Grant Committee : (Geoff Hoese) Not present.

Internal Organization Reports :

ASS : Meets every Thursday.

Bexar : The grotto is exhausted from hosting the convention.

Central Texas Grotto : No report. Grotto may be defunct.

DFWG : No report.

Galveston : No report. An ephemeral group based out of Tom Illiffe's biospeleology class at TAMU in Galveston.

GHG : Recent grotto trip to the high Guads. Meetings alternate between formal meetings and vertical practice.

LAG : No report. Grotto is alive and well based on the reports posted on their website.

Maverick : No report.

NTSS : No report.

PBSS : No report.

SWTOCC : No report.

UTG : Meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

Projects :

Bustamante : Not sure if there will be a Labor Day Project this year.

CBSP : Next month's trip will be the last until the Fall startup.

Kickapoo State Natural Area Project : Another trip is planned for the summer.

Affiliated Organizations :

AMCS : Is peddling publications at the convention.

TCC : The Cordillera Ranch is now open to the TCC.

TCMA : The \$3343 proceeds from the sales of the Texas Caver's Calendar were formally presented to the TCMA. Robber Baron Cave work trips are now scheduled for the 2nd weekend of the month. Four Marshall caves were recently acquired; one of which has endangered species. TCMA is looking for additional caves to acquire.

TCR : No location has been set for this year's event.

TSS : Next TSS Board meeting will be 31 May 2003 at the TSS office in Austin. There will be a Saturday work session on 17 May. On Open House will be held at the TSS office on 14 June 2003.

Submitted by Gerald L. Atkinson.