



UTG NEWS



The Official Newsletter of
the University Speleological Society
University of Texas - Austin
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The UTG News is printed on a monthly basis. All submissions should be sent to Tim Stich, 3707 Red River, Austin, TX, 78705 or leave a message at (512) 499-8289. Please keep me up to date on trip & event dates!

What is the Texas caver Reunion?

If you have been, you know what it's about, no doubt. But if you are *wondering* if you should go, then read on. Imagine a beautiful river like the Blanco cutting through a small valley. Now, collect a large number of cavers from around the country (get most of them from Texas). Leave them all to create things to do for fun for many consecutive years. What you get is a multitude of events and diversions sure to entertain everyone. There are games of skill to test your mettle at caving: rope climbing and digging races (winners get valuable equipment as prizes), obstacle courses, the occasional beer drinking contest (depending on who lasts longest), and other games. There are many vendors of caving gear and door prizes include the same type of stuff.

Of course, the reunion is also a huge dinner and party that attracts around 300 or more folks. It has the appearance of a M.A.S.H. unit when everyone's tents are set up. They always have a great hot tub and sauna (wood-fired of course). The Lounge Lizards provide the evenings' music and then they select the door prize winners. All in all, it's a big production sure to impress.

To get there take S. I-35 to Kyle and exit right to 150. Go towards Wimberly and turn left on Flite Acres Rd.(CR 173) 0.6 mi. before the intersection of RM 12 & RM 3237. At 2.5 miles, turn right on CR 174. Cross the Blanco river and follow the signs and road 2.2 more miles. Look for the registration tent to pay \$13 bucks. So if you haven't been, see what you have been missing!

Great Fall trip line up!

Not in at least two years has the grotto seen so many excellent trips scheduled for new cavers! I know, because I have gone on these trips before and they were fantastic. I heartily recommend that everyone go on the **Palmito** trip in Northern Mexico. Palmito is a huge and impressive cavern full of pretty formations, snow-white stalactites, and varied terrain. No crawling required, it's just BIG! You can see 747's fitting quite nicely in the larger chambers. Technically, it's all one humongous room; but the formations cut it up into a myriad of passages and "rooms". It's *neat!* No one will leave unsatisfied, that is a certainty.

Should you want to go, remember to have your passport or a voter registration card. If you are bringing your own car,

ask about the details of entry (it is quite involved). The destination of Bustamante is around 80 miles into Mexico which is no sweat. Ask for Don Broussard at the meeting or give him a call at 873-7911. You will want to plan this one a least two weeks ahead of time to get a ride. If you go on this trip, you will truly be hooked on Mexico caving!

Caver Classifieds

Free advertising for caving, camping, and travel stuff for sale or wanted to buy. 499-8289

Caving Equipment Supplier

Los Gatos-Alex Villagomez

Best prices on a wide variety of gear from, Petzl, PMI, Climb High, & Beal Rope. See him before or after grotto meetings or call 280-5507 to see prices and styles of gear.

Room for rent at Gill Ediger's house in South Austin for \$200/month. 441-0050

Calendar

October 9-10

Colorado Bend State

Park Explore & survey over 60 caves. Some are vertical with walking passage. Meet at NW corner 26th & Speedway, Sat. 8:45am info: Nico Hauwert 326-2707, Rafal Kedzierski 495-2265

October 10

Robber Barron cave

San Antonio, An unusual maze cave full of surprises. Meet at 26th & Speedway lot Sun. 9:30am, Info: Allan Cobb 873-0256

October 14-17

Texas Caver Reunion

Wimberly, Lone Man II ranch. Big annual cavers party with a cast of hundreds. Food, games, climbing, swimming, hot tubs, a band, and other things. \$13 entrance fee. Vertical practice Info: Gill Ediger 441-0050, Terry Holsinger 443-4241

October 20

Meeting at Painter hall 2.48, 7:30 p.m.

October 23-24

Powell's Cave-

Menard County, Ongoing survey of 2nd longest cave in Texas (16mi.) Terry Holsinger 443-4241

October 30-31

River Styx Cave

Explore the longest gypsum cave in Texas. Non-vertical. Wetsuit good idea. Info: Rafal Kedzierski 495-2265 Donna Anderson (817)2466313

October 31

Halloween party and the **Haunted Storm Drains** Austin-below La Zona Rosa

November 3

Regular Grotto meeting

November 12-14

Palmito Cave (Bustamante,

Mexico) This spectacular cave has bigger passages and more formations than you are ever likely to see anywhere. Only 2 hours into Mexico from Laredo. A must see! Info: Don Broussard 873-7911