



# Texas Cave Management Association

April, 1997

P.O. Box 202853 Austin, TX 78720-2853

## NEWSLETTER

### TCMA MEETING NOTICE

The Texas Cave Management Association has scheduled a board meeting during the weekend of the Texas Speleological Association Spring Convention, 26-27 April, 1997 near Brownwood, TX.

The Board of Directors meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:45 am on Sunday, April 27 on the TSA convention campsite at the Bexar Grotto tent area. The meeting is expected to be short, preceding the cave trips planned during the day. Please bring extra lawn chairs and your sun screen.

TCMA members and any interested cavers are invited to attend the meeting. For more information, please contact Jay Jorden, TCMA President at:

(972) 382-2458 or

<jjorden@texoma.net>

or

Contact **Barbe** Barker, Vice President at: (972) 594-1183 or <cavers@gte.net>.

Agenda items should be sent to Secretary Julie Jenkins at 10005 Childress Drive, Austin, TX 78753. She may also be reached at (512) 832-1965 or <ljules@cris.com>.

Directions to the TSA Campsite are as follows: The location is two miles east of Brownwood off US Highway 183184. Turn south on County Road 270 1.5 miles east of town, or from Road 2525, turn northeast on CR 270 3.6 miles east of town. Consult your TSA Activities Newsletter for a detailed map or follow the signs.

We'll see you there.

### TCMA HOLDS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Conservation Group Appoints New Vice President by Jay Jorden

The Texas Cave Management Association's board of directors has appointed **Barbe** Barker of Irving, Texas as vice president. **Barbe** has extensive experience in nonprofit organizations such as TCMA. She is a past patient-services director for a Dallas doctor's group and has worked for a state medical foundation where she gained experience in non-profit organizations and in fund-raising. Congratulations, **Barbe!**

At the TCMA's annual membership meeting, two directors were re-elected to three-year terms from 1997 to 1999. They are Bruce Anderson of Fort Worth and Bill Sawyer of **Sonora**. Also newly elected is Mike Grimm of Austin, who was involved in the creation of TCMA's Whirlpool Cave Preserve and has established a World Wide Web page listing the organization. Congratulations as well to those elected, with appreciation to Jim Wolff for his past board service.

During the Texas Caver's Reunion weekend at Flat Creek Ranch near Johnson City members and directors forming a TCMA quorum also heard office and committee reports during their business session. Treasurer Anderson submitted for approval financial statements from May to August, with the latest showing a balance of more than \$4,500 in the general account. The premium was recently paid for the group's liability insurance. **Bruce** gave an assessment of TCMA's finances, recommending broadening the membership base and

increased funding from other sources, such as grants.

Noble **Stidham** discussed the latest TCMA **Activities** Newsletter and other publication plans. Reports were also received from Mike **Warton** on the management contract for Buttercup Preserve, from the San Antonio cavers on Robber Baron Cave, and from Walter Feaster and Gralin Coffin on 0-9 Water Well, Amazing Maze, and other UT System caves. (A vandal was identified at Buttercup. Robber Baron needs a new lock. There was plenty of caver demand for 0-9 during a Memorial Day weekend trip).

Bill Russell also has the latest news on Austin area caves, with Whirlpool a popular destination for TCMA-led group trips. A detailed policy on visiting TCMA owned and managed caves and realignment of membership categories are under discussion. A committee was formed for the latter purpose.

The membership also received reports on other Texas caves of interest. A task force was formed to further investigate two leads.

Plans were tentatively made for work projects at TCMA caves including Whirlpool and Amazing Maze. Carl Ponebshek of San Antonio will attend as TCMA representative to a Government Canyon coalition meeting in November.

(continued on last page)

# TEXAS CAVE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Corporate Address: P.O. Box 20285, Austin, Tx 78720-2853

## Purpose:

Chartered in 1986 as a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit Texas corporation for: "The preservation for posterity of the caves and caverns of Texas and their mineral, biological, archaeological and aesthetic contents; to promote the conservation and study of caves within the state of Texas; to promote and support any scientific and educational programs on caves in Texas the Board of Directors shall from time to time authorize to; To acquire ... real and personal property by lease, ownership or other means ... . All of the activities are to be carried out solely for conservation, scientific and educational purposes and not for profit."

## Projects:

Besides the above cave management projects in the Austin and San Antonio areas, TCMA also manages caves on University of Texas System lands and elsewhere. Its volunteers work with landowners and developers to manage the non-renewable resources: protecting them for future generations, helping develop access policies and educating the public. For more information and a **membership application--current** dues are \$25 a year for a lifetime membership in four payments--please contact the treasurer, Bruce Anderson, or any other TCMA officer or director listed below. Thanks in advance for your support.

## President:

Jay Jorden  
11201 County Road 132  
Celina, Tx 75009-2527  
(972) 382-2458  
<ljorden@texoma.net >

Jay Jorden  
11201 County Road 132  
Celina, Tx 75009-2527  
(972) 382-2458  
<ijorden@texorna.net >

Marigold, Buttercup, Austin area  
Mike Warton  
3508 Valley Pike  
Cedar Park, Tx 78613-5208  
(512) 250-8143

## Vice President:

Barbe Barker  
2909 Warren Circle  
Irving, Tx 75062  
(972) 594-1183  
<cavers@gte.net >

Carl Ponebshek  
247 Army Blvd.  
San Antonio, Tx 78215  
(210) 229-2696

Amazing Maze, 0-9 Water Well,  
SW Texas  
Walter Feaster  
4307 Harvard Ave.  
Midland, Tx 79703-4847  
(915) 694-1824

## Treasurer:

Bruce Anderson  
504 Kimbrough  
Fort Worth, Tx 76108  
(817) 246-6313  
<brewskyjba@aol.com >

Ron Ralph  
1106 Hooks Dr., Apt. 15  
Waco, Tx 76705  
(817) 799-4837  
<ralfph@texnet.net >

Gralin L. Coffin  
910 W. Kansas  
Midland, Tx 79701  
(915) 682-1904

## Secretary

Julie Jenkins  
10005 Childress Dr.  
Austin, Tx 78753  
(512) 832-1965  
<ljules@concentric.net >

Bill Russell  
4806 Red River  
Austin, Tx 78751  
(512) 453-4774  
<k.arens@mail.utexas.edu >

## Publications:

TCMA Activities Newsletter  
Noble Stidham, editor/publisher

## Meeting Times:

Annual Membership Meeting,  
multiple board meetings

## Meeting Sites, Dates:

Various, usually in conjunction  
with TCMA projects at caves,  
Texas caving functions.

## Directors:

Bruce Anderson  
504 Kimbrough  
Fort Worth, Tx 76108  
(817) 246-6313  
<brewskyjba@aol.com >

Noble Stidham  
P.O. Box 1094  
Lubbock, Tx 79408  
(806)-748-0105  
<Nmartinjr@aol.com >

Mike Grimm  
3303 China Grove  
Austin, Tx 78745  
(512) 282-6846  
<mgrimm@io.com >

## Project Managers:

Robber Baron Cave, San Antonio  
Carl Ponebshek and  
Bexar Grotto

Dan Hogenauer  
4514 Maybrook Woods  
San Antonio, Tx 78249  
(210) 492-2006

Whirlpool, Lost Oasis Caves, Austin  
Nico Hauwert  
2301A Ann Arbor Ave.  
Austin, Tx 78704-3921  
(512) 443-8023

## NIFTY WEB SITES

### TCMA

<http://www.io.com/nmgrimm/>

### April TSA Convention

<http://www.apex2000.net/personal/bb2145/tsaconv.htm>

### TSS

<http://www.utexas.edu/depts/tnhc/www/tss>

# VANDALS DAMAGE SOUTH AUSTIN CAVES

*Austin, Texas*

Park managers in the Texas Capital say delicate rock formations **formed** over thousands of years were destroyed and permanently scarred in just moments by vandals.

Mark Sanders of the Austin Parks and Recreation's Department's natural resources division **surveyed** the damage beneath the Karst Preserve in South Austin in **late** July.

"What happened here is **reprehensible**," he said. "Some of the damage **can** never be repaired, **these** formations will continue to grow, but what was destroyed was several thousand years' worth of work that was very fragile."

Park managers estimate at least **50** formations were damaged **or** destroyed. Officials say the vandalism at Maple Run and Goat caves on the 8-acre Karst Preserve is **relieved** to have occurred in the last week of June or first week of July.

**Of** the four caves in the **Karst** Preserve, only Maple Run and Goat **caves** are accessible to human **visitors**. Formations, believed to be at least 1 million years old, formed **s** rainwater that filters through the soil above the caves picked up **minerals**. The rainwater eventually **empties** into the Barton Springs **portion** of the Edwards Aquifer.

The Huntsville, Alabama based **rational Speleological** Society and **others** are offering up to a \$1,000 **reward** for more information about the incident. Austin Nature Preserve **officials** and Park Police say they **have** few leads in the **case**.

*(Annual Membership Meeting, continued from front page)*

Officers attending were Jay **Jorden** of Dallas, president; **Barbe** Barker of **Irving**, vice-president; Bill Anderson, treasurer; and Julie Jenkins of Austin secretary. Directors attending were Dan Hogenauer and Carl Ponebshek, both of San Antonio; Ron Ralph of Waco; Bill Russell of Austin; and Noble **Stidham** of Lubbock. Director Bill Sawyer of Sonora was absent.

Julie is writing the official meeting minutes. For more information, please contact Julie at 10005 **Childress** Dr., Austin, Texas 78753 or e-mail her at <ljules@cris.com>.

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## TEXAS CAVE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC FINANCIAL STATEMENT JANUARY 1997

Beginning balance:	\$ 2,884.48
Total to be accounted for:	\$ 2,892.39
Ending balance:	\$ 2,884.48

Central Bank & Trust 12/31/96 \$2,884.48

### Grant balances:

Wrey Trust	\$ 41.47	
<b>Total Grant Funds:</b>		<b>\$ 41.47</b>

Balance of funds in general account: \$ 2,843.01

Respectfully submitted,  
J. Bruce Anderson,  
Treasurer

## NOTES AND OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF

*I'm making it a point to send the TCMA Treasurer a small tax deductible donation this month to help defray the costs of printing new TCMA Brochures and other general accounting expenses in '97. In this manner, our general funds will only be used for the maintenance and protection of caves.*

*P.S. Will you help too?  
If we all sent Bruce \$10.00, it would be **very** helpful in keeping our general funds for the uses we all want to see.*

*Noble*



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Cave Management  
Association**

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