



What?.....you didn't think you'd get a newsletter just because we didn't take a June trip!?

Annual Calendar Planned –

A small group of PBOCers gathered at Michaels in Midland and planned the remainder of the year's trip and event calendar. Among the trips and activities planned are several backpacking trips in New Mexico and Texas, caving in New Mexico, and, of course, a Christmas party (site to be determined). If you haven't received the calendar, please call me at the Sibley Nature Center at 684-6827 or, better yet, email me at richard@sibleynaturecenter.org. That way, I can get you the calendar by a reply with an attachment.....lazy.....so lazy. As you may know, we've already had a successful first trip down the South Fork of the Llano River. We had, I believe, about 14 people go *and the club is still new!*

July 21st Trip –

As you undoubtedly know, the July 21st trip is now scheduled to go to the Davis Mountains with rappelling as the main activity. We switched the July and August destinations because of the closure of Lincoln National Forest (which has since re-opened but we're going to leave things as they are). Sometime prior to the trip, we will decide exactly where our campsite will be and let you know. All you will really need for the rappelling is loose clothing or shorts (please Spencer, if you're planning to go, loose clothing doesn't mean you kilts.....that'd be just too much). The only other thing that you'll need is a pair of shoes that either have lugs or have somewhat adhesive soles (cheap tennis shoes will do). I've got the rest of the gear that we'll need, ropes, belay ropes, diaper slings.....that's right, diaper slings, carabiners, slings, anchors sets, etc. It doesn't matter whether or not you know what all of that is; you'll know after the trip. Normally, we'll simply camp on Friday night, do our rappelling on Saturday at Point of Rocks, and then, if you are interested, make the short trip to the Marfa Lights viewing area, where we usually take our ice chests, picnic junk, etc. It's all up to you about what you want to do but that's the usual fare. Be sure and email Olivia Whitaker, who is in charge of the trip, to let us know who all is planning to make the trip. As always, guests are welcome. I need to know specifically so that I can buy enough tubular webbing to make the slings. Olivia's email address is: olivia_whitaker@ajg.com.

Recruit, recruit, recruit.....

The strength of the prior PBOCs was its numbers. The earlier club had over 600 people enrolled through its history. We usually had about 40 to 50 at any given time and some were members for the entire 17 year history of the club. Remember, guests are always welcome to come to the meetings and trips.

July Meeting-

The July meeting for final preparations for the July 21st Ft. Davis trip will be held at the Sibley Nature Center at 1307 E. Wadley, Midland, at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, July 18th.

Equipment

One of the reasons for starting an outdoor club is to share equipment with those that haven't acquired as much or are new to outdoor pursuits. However, if you haven't bought that equipment or have a loaner, the Sibley Nature Center has acquired a grant, through the generosity of the Permian Basin Area Foundation to purchase camping equipment sufficient to outfit 20 people with backpacks, tents (at 2 occupancy), sleeping bags, and back pads. The grant is meant to allow us to do youth outdoor programming but with the understanding that, when the equipment is not being used otherwise, that it will be made available to the public and the outdoor club, etc. for a nominal rental fee. That fee is meant to be placed in a fund to replace the equipment when it is worn out. The fee to the general public will be \$20 each for backpack, tent, and sleeping bag and \$10 for the back pad. That rate will be cut in half for Sibley/PBOC members. So you can be completely outfitted for \$35. Just keep that in mind if you have the need.

Finally

Since we don't have a trip report for June and, consequently, no trip pictures, I thought I would include a few websites for you to get a feel for where we're going in July and what you might see. I know that Olivia has kept you up with some of these sites but I'll give you some of those and some new ones as well. Remember, let Olivia know as soon as possible on your plans.

On Point of Rocks (our rappelling site)

<http://www.rockclimbing.com/routes/listArea.php?AreaID=211>

Marfa Lights

<http://www.theoutlaws.com/unexplained3.htm>

Davis Mountain Attractions

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/davis_mountains/

This one is particularly good (just hit enter once you get there):

<http://www.davis-mountains.com/>

Hope to see you at the meeting and on the trip!

Richard