

# Trails

January 2008

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## Time to get back on the trail!

The January 25th PBOC trip is planned for a backpacking trip to the Chimneys Trail in Big Bend National Park. The hike is just a little over 2 1/2 mile one-way and is relatively flat. This is a great trail to get your backpacking legs back into shape after the holidays... and the weather in Big Bend is "usually" superior to winter weather here.

Patrick Dearen will be leading this trip and he will have details of the trip at the next meeting on Tuesday, January 22nd. If you've never backpacked or it has been a while since you've had a load on your back, this is a great trail to get back into the swing of things. The trailhead is on the west end of the park which the club has never ventured. At the end of the trail, where we'll be camping, is a myriad of formations that look like (to some), chimneys. Some

call them hoodoos, etc. We will day hike or pretty much do whatever you want from camp. It is well worth taking cameras along, as well. The whole west end of Big Bend National Park is volcanic and the views are incredible. We actually have had quite a few people that have shown an interest in this trip, unlike the last January trip in which only 4 of us hit

the trail.

Plan for intermediate to easy hiking. Some experts say to shoot for a pack weight of no more than 25% of your own body weight and certainly no more than 33%. Also plan to carry about a gallon of water per day...perhaps more if you plan to use water for cooking. Water weighs about 8 pounds a gallon so "pack smart."

Several of us will be going down to the park early on Friday, the 25th but we will make sure that everyone is accounted for if you want to go and can't get off until later on Friday. This should be a great trip so make every effort to make the event if you can.



### Special points of interest:

- Get ready for the trail in January
- Christmas party a great success
- It's election time!

## Presidential Election .no..not that one...the PBOC Presidential Election..the important one...

As many of you know, it's time to elect a new president for the club. Kay Crum has served admirably for the past year but is ready to pass the symbol of her office (presented to her at the PBOC Christmas Party)

to a new prez. Sammy Hunnicutt has been nominated as well as Kathy Lupardis (though I haven't heard back from her as to her willingness to serve. If you have any nominees, please send them to me by email

(richard@sibleynaturecenter.org) and we will prepare for a vote on or before the January meeting.....(may do it by email) and then we can have the traditional "swearing in ceremony."

# Christmas Party

Well, we had a great time at this year's Christmas party. Carino's catered the party and we managed to polish off most of the delicious food. We would all like to thank Jan Artley who made all of the arrangements for the party and was a very gracious hostess.

We had quite a few more folks this year than last and we had the traditional gag gift exchange, the slide show from all of last year's trips, and, as a new tradition (an old tradition carried over from the first out-

door club), the presentation of the "Symbol of the Office" for the club president, Kay Crum. Unfortunately for Kay, she only gets to keep it for a month in that she must hand it over to the incoming president. For those of you that didn't get to attend the party, Kay received an absolutely beautiful, metallic gold (painted), toilet plunger. In the old club, each president added something to the plunger that commemorated their year in office. When we buried the original plunger from the old club, it was

decorated with a baby rattle, various paintings, etc. The doggone thing actually started getting heavy! We all look forward to seeing what Kay will do to the "symbol" when she passes it along to the 2008 president. You've got to start thinking now Kay!

Following are a few pictures from the party.

**"In the battle  
between you and the  
world.....bet on the  
world."**



**Chris Cherry with the....?**



**Don Moore and his wife wait with bated brath..**



**Believe it or not....they finally joined!  
But they still hate me so all's well with the world..**



**One thing you need to know about the club.....we carry ourselves with dignity and grace....and for the second year in a row, Sharon was elected as Miss PBOC and her dentist was nominated for the Nobel Prize!**



## January Meeting

The January 22nd PBOC meeting will be held at Casa Lopez at 4411 W. Illinois in Midland. We will be discussing the upcoming January 25th trip to Big Bend National park, handing out maps, etc.

Apparently, the January trip is going to be very well attended if phone calls and

inquiries are any indication. And, as always, try to come to the meeting whether or not you will be attending the trip. It's a great opportunity to visit and catch up on all of the latest PBOC news, etc. And, lest I forget to remind you, it's also a great opportunity to recruit new mem-

bers to the club. One look at us and the visitor will immediately know whether or not they want to be a part of our club! Also, we should know by then who our next club president will be and who will attain the "Golden Plunger."

## PBOC Website

The Sibley Nature Center, our sponsoring agency, has taken on the responsibility of managing the outdoor club's website. The only real change is that you need to submit pictures here for inclusion in the newsletters and for posting of pictures on the site.

We wanted to thank Bill

Bentley and Steven Schafersman for the yeoman's effort that they displayed in setting up the original site and maintaining it for the last year. When you go to Sibley's website:

[www.sibleynaturecenter.org](http://www.sibleynaturecenter.org) you will see a "button" that will take you directly to the club's site. All of the prior newsletters and submitted pictures will be found there along with

PDF documents including the current Calendar and registration form. We encourage you to submit pictures that will really display what the club does along with scenic shots. We've found that the website is one of our best recruiting tools and has served us well in the past. Again, thanks to Bill and Steven for all of their hard work.

**"Always remember  
that you are  
unique.....  
just like everyone  
else.**



**The Newsletter of the  
Permian Basin Outing  
Club**

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**We're on the web:**  
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