

Trails

December 2012

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Special points of interest:

- The party was indeed a hoot
- Andy Price new PBOC president
- January trip and meeting details
- Party Pics not too incriminating!

Christmas Party was a hoot....

About 35 members attended this year's PBOC Christmas party (a few short of our regular crowd) and, in my judgment, everyone had a really good time. We exchanged goofy gifts (though some were really utile....we need to redefine goofy). I fought for and managed to get the multi-colored wig and goofy sunglasses. I can see wearing both on future trips. We ate a sumptuous meal provided by Carino's and polished off this year's new Christmas party slide show that featured shots from all of this year's trips. Thank you to all that provided pictures. I didn't have a great year of photography so I had to depend mostly on the efforts of others...which is what we really want anyway since a one-man show is never as good as contributions from



many.

I want to take this time to sincerely thank Andy Price and Brandon Hawkins for pitching in to help me put the party together. I never realized how hard Roger and Jan Artley had worked in the past to put this thing together (Jan and Roger were otherwise occupied that weekend of the party.) Putting up the tree, stringing lights on the outdoors of Sibley, preparing the auditorium's new speaker system....all of these things take a long time!

Brandon handed over the office of PBOC president to Andy Price for the upcoming year and presented him the symbol of his office. For those of you

that aren't familiar with that particular token, the symbol of the PBOC president is a brightly painted gold toilet plunger...plumber's helper, that has something added to it by the outgoing president. Each year's president has to come up with something that he or she feels represents them and adds it to the plunger. The old club's "symbol" was buried many years ago in a time capsule along with dozens of other items that each member buried when the old club finally came to a close. That time capsule is buried up in the Davis Mountains on some land that I used to own. I can't remember what all was buried but there were some really neat things that meant something to each member that attended the last trip. Let's hope that a lot of memories are yet to be made with this club!

Happy Holidays everyone!

January 20-22 Backpacking trip

I can't tell you exactly what trail that we'll be taking in January since we haven't decided yet but I can tell you that the next PBOC trip will take place on the weekend of January 20th and the destination is Big Bend

National Park...my old stomping grounds. Pat Dearen is the trip leader and he will decide on the severity of the trail based on who intends to go. We pride ourselves in making every trip appropriate for every-

one's abilities so that we don't exclude anyone. I can tell you that the trail will be gentle enough for all skill levels. Be looking for an email from me asking who plans to attend the trip.

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January meeting

Our next meeting for the PBOC is scheduled for Tuesday night, January 17th at our usual haunt, Murray's Deli at 3211 W. Wadley in Midland. We will meet at 6 p.m. and discuss the January 20-22 weekend backpacking trip to Big Bend National Park. Pat Dearen is the trip leader and he will have details, maps, etc. and answer any questions that you might

have regarding the trip. This has become an annual trip for us in January and has been surprisingly well attended. The winter temperatures in Big Bend are usually mild and perfect for backpacking and the views of the park in the winter are outstanding. This will be a desert hike...the mountains are usually too cool in January so make every effort to

attend this trip.

As usual, you don't have to be attending the trip to come to the meetings. We encourage everyone to attend just to keep up with what's going on in the club, meet new members, and bring potential new members to meet all of us...we'll try to be on our best behavior so as not to embarrass you....

"Government"

"If you think our problems we have are bad, just wait until you see our solutions!"

Party pics....(here's where some of you should get nervous)



Troy used to work for NASA....hmmm.....



Brandon had an unhealthy attachment to this thing...



The newly formed Elliot Clan!



Jeremiah and Chelsea with Meagan with Meagan supervising



Rafael wearing MY eventual gift...and that doll again....