

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Management Committee Meeting

April 10, 2012

7 PM at the Juds' House

Committee Members present

Neena Jud
Werner Jud

Richard Duncan

Also attending

Bob Dobbs
Janice Gott

Beau Gergel

Meeting began at 7:15.

Secretary's Report

Minutes were read and approved. Motion to accept Neena, Werner 2nd, by acclaim.

Treasurer's Report & Green Latrine

Last month received donations from the UK Geology Club, Hunter Hensley (the chanter) and ASPI. Camping passes again brought in a significant amount, and there were a number of scout troops out at the preserve already that gave donations. The CD collateral for the Green Latrine has been closed out and the arrangement with Richard Blenz is complete.

Materials for the Scout shelter have been purchased for \$1,842. There were a few finishing touch expenses for the Green Latrine. Total expenses for March were \$2517.47.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Neena motion, Duncan 2nd, by acclaim.

Caretaker's Report

Grass is growing quickly, has already been mowed once and needs it again. The showers are open but needed some repair. The road needs grading at an angle, so the gravel doesn't wash out as quickly. BC is happy that the scout shelter is

underway, since it is needed. Bill suggests the “floor” be gravel or poured concrete. Flagpole needs to be extended 3-4’ higher for a crosspiece to be added, for a GSP flag to be hung on it. This should be balanced by a Kentucky commonwealth flag on the other side. He is looking into getting a flag made for GSP, and Neena sent him the logo graphic. Neena replied to him that flooring the scout shelter will need to wait a year or more for budget reasons.

Motion to accept the Caretaker’s report RD, 2nd Neena, by acclaim.

Announcement - GSP Committee Chair

Neena announced that this will be her last year as GSP Committee Chair. Please be thinking about a good candidate for next year’s GCG Chair to appoint.

Business.

Calendar Hunter Hensley will go down to the cave for an official recording session on 5/3. There are a multitude of scout troops planning to camp at the preserve in the next few months. RD needs more people to sign up to help lead cave trips, “tail gun” and sponsor.

Firewood Scout troops will need firewood, and with the insect problems they are not allowed to bring it from home. Jim Pheanis is a local supplier, who has dropped off a pickup load for \$50. We could sell about a sixth of a pickup load for \$10. Neena will have a load delivered to the scout area for the April 20th weekend. It will need a “Scouts Only” sign.

Green Latrine is “open for use.” Neena and Werner are working on informational signs that will also credit sponsors that can be up for Open House.

School field trips are scheduled for April 19th & 20th. T-shirts and bats will be available for sale to the kids.

GCG By-Laws Changes have been proposed to the GCG By-Laws. They were read at the March meeting, and were missed

at the April GCG meeting, so will need to be read at the May meeting before they can be voted upon.

Cave signs. Ron Hager, Bob Yuellig and Bob Dobbs have put up half of the new informational signs already.

Website Gary Bush has been redesigning the GSP website on Caves.org. RD has new images for the GSP merchandise section.

Scout Shelter Materials have been bought, and are in Pat Hutson's hands for installation.

Range Hood Doug Schnelle is a GCG Member from the Columbus area who has offered to help move a wall cabinet to make room for the new range hood.

Cave Videographer A cave videographer, Michael Stoll is coming with a Boy Scout troop on April 21st and has volunteered to make a video of the cave which could be put on the website and used for promotions.

Bumps in Signature Alley There has been interest expressed in doing a conservation project in the cave. Would leveling the "washboard" bumps in Signature Alley be appropriate?. The Committee is not sure this is needed, as that kind of feature naturally develops when there is a lot of foot traffic in a cave. Neena offered to cut into one with a mud knife and check whether it has "lint" in it, which would prove it was this type of feature.

Open House – Saltpetre Festival. Someone will contact DUG (Dayton Grotto) to ask them for help with the Saltpetre Festival, since we really need more manpower for this event. Bob Dobbs delivered cedar to Mike McNabb for the demonstration V-vat. Mike McNabb has a new baby boy, but has made good progress on the project anyway. He needs to buy slats for it. Susan Newmeyer did a master's thesis researching the Carter Caves V-vats, and her brother made a

demo vat, which is in storage now. It has been offered for a demo at our event, but would need to be put back together. Neena has a picture of it, but theirs seem to be a different style from those in our cave. We are interested, but not sure it is the right style. It would need to be hauled down.

Culvert A culvert is planned in the drainage creek which cuts the road in the back field. Lumber King may be a good source for a steel culvert.

Saltpetre Mike Wuerth is trying to make saltpetre from cave dirt and ash, but the ash he was using is spent and he needs a newer supply.

Open House Advertising Neena will re-contact interested re-enactors for the “village.” Half-sheet and full sheet size posters will be finalized, and start to be distributed by April 20th weekend, including the RKC booth at Earth Day. Bob is talking to Buddy Mullins about live music at Open House.

Open House Work Weekend is scheduled for May 5-6th, with caving on Sunday. GSP needs help on the work weekend, and also especially on the event weekend. We are tentatively planning to have our guides at stations in period dress and let the crowds go through unguided. The new signs will also help with this.

MIM RKC is discussing a live broadcast of Music in the Mountain (August 18th). For this they will need a working phone line in Echo Auditorium, There is an old phone line that will need to be tested. Since ticket sales on site at the event will need computer service for credit cards, Bob Dobbs suggested investing in a WiFi to be hooked into the phone service. Equipment and service for a year would be about \$300, with \$30/ month ongoing. GSP is interested, but would need MIM/RKC and KOR/GCG to chip in on this, and all groups and events could use it. The Woody Pines band has been confirmed as the main band.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

The next meeting will be
Tuesday, May 10th, 7 pm at the Grosbeck Public Library,