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ACTIVITIES NEWSLETTER

Solutions To Cave Related Problems

Vol. 3, No. 2

December 1992

THREE YEARS LATER, SHE FINDS . . .

I COULD HAVE GOTTEN MORE
BOYFRIENDS AND SAVED TEXAS
CAVES AND ENDANGERED BATS,
IF ONLY I'D JOINED THE
TEXAS CAVE MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION!

© JJordan '86

The TCMA Activities Newsletter is the official publication of the Texas Cave Management Association, a Conservancy of the National Speleological Society. Distribution is free to TCMA members. Associate membership costs \$10 annually. Lifetime membership, in equal \$25 installments, is \$100. Send membership requests to TCMA, P.O. Box 310732, New Braunfels, TX 78131. Additional complimentary copies are distributed on a temporary basis at the Editor's discretion to cave owners, NSS members and internal organizations, and others involved in cave conservation projects.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Editor, Jay Jordan, 1518 Devon Circle, Dallas, TX 75217-1205.

SUBMISSIONS: Articles and other Activities Newsletter correspondence should be sent to the Editor.

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Officers

Jack Ralph Executive Director
Bruce Anderson Secy.-Treasurer
Carl Ponebshek Board Chairman
Jay Jordan Directors
Carl Ponebshek
Ron Ralph
Jack Ralph
Mike Warton

Mike Walsh

Typeset at Threshold Communications, Dallas, Texas USA.

INDEX

Contents.....2
TCMA Meetings.....2
Election Notice.....2
TCMA News.....3
Correspondence.....3
Other Information.....4

ELECTION NOTICE

Nominations are now open for the Texas Cave Management Board seats currently held by Jack Ralph of New Braunfels and Carl Ponebshek of San Antonio. Jack is the TCMA executive director, while Carl is chairman of the board. Nominations, open until Jan. 15, 1993, must be addressed to: TCMA, P.O. Box 310732, New Braunfels, TX 78131. Ballots will be mailed thereafter.

TCMA MEETINGS

Meetings of the Texas Cave Management Association are usually held on Tuesdays in Austin. The times are generally 7:30 p.m., with the preferred location at Mr. Gatti's Restaurant. It's located at the intersection of Interstate 35 and William Cannon in South Austin. Please watch your mail for upcoming meeting notices.

COVER: Pen-and-ink drawing by Jay Jordan.

TCMA News

from staff reports

Editor's note: Here in a nutshell is the latest Texas Cave Management Association news.

Progress appears slow but sure in the TCMA's efforts to acquire a 3.6-acre tract of land in South Austin. Board member Jay Jordan has been involved for the past four or so months in negotiations with a property management company in Dallas which is in charge of contract administration regarding the property on behalf of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

The tract contains Lost Oasis Cave, which is gated* The cave has a large room and blows a considerable quantity of air. It is located next to a subdivision project and a junior high school which is under construction.

The TCMA board on June 11, 1992 had voted to enter into a contract with NationsBank, through the FDIC, for purchase of the land which includes the cave. Mike Warton, Austin caver and TCMA board member, had installed an excellent gate on the cave, and a fence encloses the adjacent land inside a compound.

Since that time, negotiations have revolved around the proposed purchase and sale agreement, which spells out rights and obligations of the purchaser and seller. Specifically, the seller has proposed that certain closing

costs -- recording fee, escrow fee, etc. -- be paid by TCMA. Also, the seller has proposed that it not pay for a new survey and title policy, but instead supply the buyer with the latest survey notes, from September 1991, and title commitment from March 1992.

The management company is working to provide documents for a closing in Austin later in December, with the TCMA to be represented by Carl Ponebshek, chairman of the board. The TCMA has requested a closing before the end of the tax year, and argued that time is of the essence.

More news will be provided as it becomes available.

Correspondence

from staff reports

From: The Land Trust Alliance
900 17th St. NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006-2596

Feb. 20

To: Jay Jordan, Director
Texas Cave Management
Association

Dear Mr. Jordan:

Thank you for your interest in The Land Trust Alliance. I am happy to provide you with information about the many programs and services we provide our members.

I have enclosed our fact sheet on Conservation Easements as well as our land trust brochure. Please feel free to photocopy the fact sheet as

necessary. I would highly recommend our publication, The Conservation Easement Handbook, to answer your detailed questions regarding conservation easements. This is the most detailed guide to the easement process available in lay language.

Regarding your request for liability and accident insurance, I have included information on our Green Umbrella Insurance Program. Sponsor membership in The Land Trust Alliance allows eligible organizations to take advantage of this low-cost policy which has been developed especially

to meet the liability needs of land-holding organizations. ...

The Land Trust Alliance is the only organization that exists solely to serve land trusts. We have just introduced a new Sponsor Member introductory fee of only \$50. ... We feel confident that Texas Cave Management Association will derive sufficient benefits from LTA membership to make it one of your most cost beneficial expenditures. ...

Sincerely,
Karen Richardson
Program Assistant

Texas Cave Management Assn.
1518 Devon Circle
Dallas, TX 75217-1205

