

Cumbres-Toltec (Chama) Railroad Trip Next

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Almost 20 members have signed up for and paid for the May 23rd trip to Chama, New Mexico for the Cumbres-Toltec Railroad ride.....who'd of figured?! We paid for the trip two months ago and the original plan, as per the railroad, was to send us the tickets in the mail for distribution to the attendees. They have since changed their method of distribution and have emailed me a confirmation number and document to be presented by one or more of the riders **at the ticket booth at Chama.** What I will do is have copies of the document to hand to each of you that are planning to go at the May 20th PBOC

meeting at Casa Lopez. If you can't make that meeting, you need to let me know so that I can get you the required document some other way.



This promises to be a really neat trip and I was really surprised at the numbers of folks that wanted to participate. Remember, if you plan to camp you need to prepare properly with a *very warm sleeping bag* and cold weather clothing. If you plan to stay in a motel, which I understand most are planning, you really, really need to make those arrangements.....well.....some time ago. You can Google

Chama, New Mexico or call their Chamber of Commerce to get a list of available hotel/motels. I know that Michael made arrangements several weeks ago and still had some choices but he said that those choices were disappearing rapidly so NOW'S THE TIME. If you need help finding motels on the internet, let me know and I'll see what I can do to help.

Special points of interest:

- Prepare for Chama
- Star Party a possibility
- Trip photos!

Star Party/Cookout

A couple of years ago we had a one-day trip to Castle Gap which is just south of Crane, Texas and had a little cookout and a star party. We were talking about possibly repeating that. Our plans at the time were to take my 10 inch computerized telescope and do it up right but it was cloudy and I

didn't bring the scope in fear that it would get rained on..... (not good for a telescope that has electricity running through it).....so we improvised with just a visual tour through the sky.....and between the clouds. If you think that you'd be interested in another one-day cookout/star party, please

email me and let me know. I think that we could arrange a visit to Castle Gap again, but if not, we could set up somewhere else. Castle Gap is just about 60 miles from Midland so it would work well. Email me if you're interested.

richard@sibleynaturecenter.org

Amistad Trip Report



We had almost 20 members and guests show up on the shores of Lake Amistad on the weekend of April 25th! David and Kay Crum came all the way from Ft. Davis and several people brought their kayaks. Lake Amistad is a favorite lake among canoeists/kayakers and the weather cooperated beautifully.

When people showed up Friday night we were rewarded with a campfire and an absolutely beautiful "light show" courtesy of a large thunderstorm east of our camp. The storm continued to grow through the night and everyone forgot the campfire and turned their chairs to watch the show.

Rick Gray and I showed up at the site a couple of days before the rest of the club and set large rocks and concrete in a couple of bad road areas so that non-four-wheel-drive vehicles wouldn't have to negotiate an otherwise un-navigable way to the campsite. We also spent several hours grubbing large thorn bushes out of the road so that we wouldn't have a series of flats in everyone's tires and then placed signs at all of the turns so that folks

would be able to find their way to camp.....(gosh we're dedicated!) What we didn't know is that a road crew took down a couple of our signs making it difficult for people to find their way. When Pat and Sharon Barber and David and Kay Crum found the place, sans signs, they informed me and I rushed to put new signs up. As far as I know, everyone else found their way to camp.

On Saturday morning everyone went kayaking, hiking, or fishing. Rick and I sailed by in the fishing boat for a while and then joined everyone for a second night of campfire stories. The second night was beautiful and we regaled each other with methods to get rid of ill-gotten sticks of dynamite, stories of chubacabra (not sure of the spelling but....you know....the mysterious goat sucker.....never mind....), and lost caves, etc. The fishing was so-so but the stories were great!

I got up a little late Sunday morning from my camp....okay....Rick and I were staying in our cabin that we get to use every year....that overlooks the campsite for

everyone else.....and lo and behold, the skies had turned grey and there was a cold wind blowing from the north. Now, if you know the Del Rio area, it's noted as being one of the hottest spots in the nation and quite often is indeed the hottest spot in the nation, but you wouldn't have known it from the Sunday morning weather! I managed to putter around the cabin for a while waiting for the weather to warm up and when we looked again, everyone was gone. I think that everyone thought better of hanging around a large body of water on a cold and blustery day! Except for the Sunday weather, this was a great trip! Pictures are enclosed!

"If you can't learn to do something well, learn to enjoy doing it poorly."

Our very first Ad !

Wanted

Nice looking girl with fishing boat. Please send photo of fishing boat. Respond to:

richard@sibleynaturecenter.org

May Meeting

Casa Lopez at 4111 W. Illinois, May 20th at 6:30 p.m. Come on over and bring a guest.....or else!



Don Moore enjoying morning.....coffee?
photo by Bill Bentley



Potential caving opportunity?
photo by Bill Bentley



Pat Barber, David Crum, and Don Moore solving
the world's problems—photo by Bill Bentley



"No one can make you
feel inferior without
your consent, but you'd
be a fool to withhold
that from your
superiors."

"I can row a
boat....canoe?"
(sorry) - photo by Steven
Schafersman



Pat, David, and Kay ... (see, it was warm!)
photo by Steven



Intrepid kayakers—
photo by Steven

The Newsletter of the Permian Basin Outing Club

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We're on the web:

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Your business tag line here.

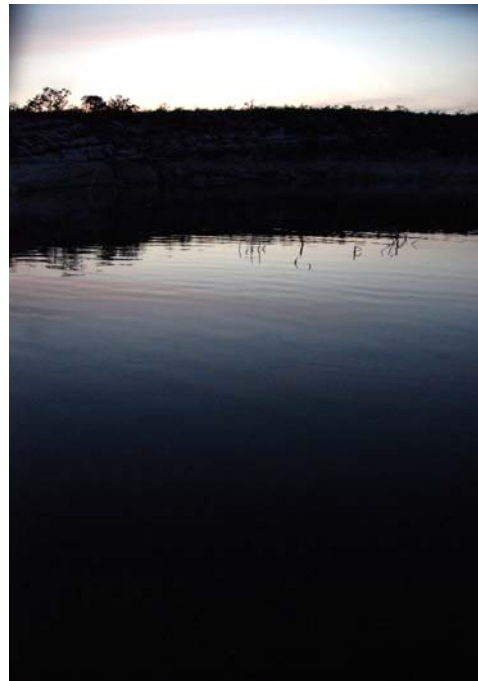


Resident artists Sharon Barber and Kay Crum
photo by Steven


The Sibley Nature Center



Rick Gray doing what he likes
best....well least.....never mind
photo by Richard Galle



End of day....end of trip
photo by Richard