



# TRAILS

The Newsletter of the Permian Basin Outing Club

November 2009

## 2010 Calendar of Events

I hope that you've seen the new Permian Basin Outing Club Calendar for 2010! Of the 27 or so years of several incarnations of the club, I have seen few more exciting list of events. Thanks to all of you that contributed ideas for the upcoming year and a big thanks to everyone that agreed to serve as trip leaders for the events.

Pat Dearen has, once again, offered to lead the January backpacking trip to Big Bend National Park....(his beloved Longhorns will have performed by trip time). I don't know yet which trail Pat is planning to lead the group on but he always takes into account weather and the varying abilities of our backpackers...(read: Pat and I are getting longer in the tooth and it's nice to be able to blame backpacking novices for the easier trails!) In February we'll return to the Buffalo Trail Boy Scout Ranch in the Davis Mountains. The trip this year was so popular,

we had a new record of members involved...46, which included over a dozen kids. In March we've got a brand new area to see: the Alamito Creek Preserve. Member David Crum's organization, the Trans-Pecos Water Trust, got this land donated to the operation and he's sharing! I've been there and it's beautiful...a birder's haven. April finds us at Independence Creek, another beautiful, watered area.....and in May, we finally will be canoe/kayaking the Devil's River! We have been talking about this for years and will finally pull the trigger on it. I did a solo float of the Devil's River years ago and the water was so pure, when I got thirsty I simply dipped a cup into the river and drank from it directly. I don't know if the river is still that pure so don't try it until you know! Our June trip finds us back at Pat and Sharon Barber's ranch near Colorado City. This has become an annual ritual for a reason. Pat and Sharon always go out of their way to

make the camping experience a good one and their ranch is beautiful. In July we will be backpacking the White Mountain Wilderness trails (probably the South Fork area) in the Lincoln National Forest near Ruidoso, N.M. This was always a favorite trail of the old PBOC club and it's a great time of year to be there. August will find the club at Caprock Canyons State Park in the panhandle. If you will remember, last year we tried to go there but a hurricane on the coast threw bad weather our way and very few members went (though those of us that did go had a great time under almost ideal conditions!) We repeat the Boy Scout Ranch in September (that's how much we liked it this year) and repeat Dog Canyon in the Guads in October for the same reason. We were having trouble with the November trip so arbitrarily decided to go to Carlsbad Caverns....just for the heck of it. December is the annual Christmas Party. Like I said, a great Calendar!

## We Have a New Prez

We recently took nominations for the 2010 PBOC President. We usually have at least an informal election if someone isn't universally recognized as the new president....and that's what has happened. The new prez for the club is

Sean Patty. We had about a dozen nominations and they were all for Sean....no election required. Kathy Lupardus, our current club prez, will tell you that it's not all that hard to be the president of the club but it does come with some

responsibilities including being the primary cheerleader and recruiter. I know Sean and know that he will do a great job. He has already visited here with some new ideas. Congratulations Sean and thank you Kathy!

### Special points of interest:

- *2010 Calendar ready to go*
- *New PBOC President Sean Patty*
- *Christmas Party ready to go....sort of....*

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## Christmas Party

We set Friday, November 20th at 5 p.m. as the deadline to commit to attend the annual Christmas Party, which will be held on Saturday, December 5th at 7:00 p.m. here at Sibley. We've extended that deadline to Tuesday, November 24th at 5 p.m. Right now we have almost 30 that have indicated that they will be attending and we wanted to give everyone a chance to come. We need to order enough food for everyone so that's the reason for needing the numbers. We have decided that Johnny Carino's will be the fare again this year for the catering since they are reasonably priced and everyone likes the cuisine. In year's past the out-of-pocket expense for members has been around

\$7 but we'll have to develop the menu and let you know...but it won't be much. We'll make tea and coffee here and you'll have to bring your own soft drinks or "adult beverages" along with an ice chest, etc....and remember, bring a "white elephant gift" to exchange for each person attending. Some have brought actually useful things



Whее.....

in the past. Me, being the classy guy that I am, have brought such things as fake.....uh.....nasal stuff, a gadget that makes uh.....embarrassing sounds, etc., etc. You've just got to get into the spirit of the thing.... The party will start at 7 p.m. on the 5th, dress is casual. There will be a tree in the library (fake...the tree...not the library....) for you to put your cherished gift under, we'll visit, eat, see a slide show, cavort, eat some more, dally around, etc. Let me know by 11/24 at 5!

## November Big Bend Ranch State Park Trip

This is going to be short since *almost* no one went on this trip and was the reason for my rant earlier this month about commitment to trips. I do believe that Steven Schafersman and Gae went on the trip but I haven't had a chance to ask him for a trip report and this letter needed to go out now. I think that Steven and Gae should be up for some kind of award for attending almost all of the trips.

**"ROCK BOTTOM.....you'll know when you get there."**

I've only missed two trips in the last two years and both were at the end of this year. I hope that we'll have pictures from the trip for the annual Christmas Party slide show.....(Steven?.....). Anyway, I was in the area....in Marfa and the weather was beautiful so I'm sure that everyone that attended, whether they were from our club or any number of the others enjoying the festivities, had a great time. If Steven or

Gae would like to produce a trip report giving us details, I will include it in a future newsletter. If anyone wants to contribute items to the newsletter, please, I would encourage you to do so. Trail recipes, trip reports from some of your ventures, pictures, etc.....send 'em. If we have room we'll put them in.

## 2010 Meeting Site

For the last year or so, we have had our monthly meetings at Casa Lopez here in Midland and they have been very good to us as far as space and the food has been great. There has been some talk of changing the cuisine....no reflection at all on Casa Lopez. Sammy Hunnicutt has offered to approach Murray's Deli about using their back room and we have discussed several other venues. I would like input from club members if you have

an idea of a meeting place. We could meet at Sibley but a great deal of the socializing and "getting to know you" takes place at the meetings and that is always enhanced by food (and, being a bachelor, it's a chance for me to get a decent meal....it's all about me.....). If you have a good idea of a meeting place and would even check on it for us, it



Merry Christmas All!

would be greatly appreciated!

**"Just because you aren't paranoid.....doesn't mean someone isn't out to get you."**



## PBOC 2010 Calendar

January 19 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

January 22-24 – Big Bend National Park, Backpacking – Patrick Dearen

February 16 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

February 19-21 – Buffalo Trail Boy Scout Ranch, Backpacking/Camping – Richard Galle

March 23 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

March 26-28 – Alamito Creek Preserve (South of Marfa), Camping – David Crum

April 13 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

April 16-18 – Independence Creek, Camping – Sean Patty

April 30-May 2 – Devils River, Float Trip – Sammy Hunnicutt

June 22 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

June 25-27 – Pat & Sharon Barber Ranch (Colorado City), Camping – Pat & Sharon Barber

July 27 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

July 30-August 1 – White Mountain Wilderness (Ruidoso), Backpacking – Brandon Hawkins

August 17 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

August 20-22 – Caprock Canyons State Park, Camping, Mountain Biking – Richard Galle

September 21 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

September 24-26 – Buffalo Trail Boy Scout Ranch, Backpacking/Camping – Sammy Hunnicutt

October 12 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

October 15-17 – Dog Canyon (Guadalupe Mts. Ntl. Park), Backpacking – Steven Schafersman

November 9 – Club Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

November 12-14 – Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Touring, Hiking, Camping – Sean Patty

December 4 – Christmas Party – Jan Artley or by Committee

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Outing Club**

Sibley Nature Center  
1307 E. Wadley  
Midland, Texas 79705

Phone: 432-684-6827  
Fax: 432-685-3396  
Email: [richard@sibleynaturecenter.org](mailto:richard@sibleynaturecenter.org)



  
**The Sibley Nature Center**