

**MINUTES OF THE  
KANSAS CITY AREA GROTTO  
SEPTEMBER 2019 BUSINESS MEETING  
HELD TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2019 – 6:30 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.  
ANITA B. GORMAN CONSERVATION DISCOVERY CENTER  
4750 TROOST AVE, KCMO 64110**

The meeting was called to order 6:30 by President Pic Walenta. The following members and guests were present: Mike Banks, Kirsten Colston, Seth Colston, Kelly Ellston, Hanna Falconer, David Foran, Bill Gee, Cliff Gill, Kristen Godfrey, Thi Gorman, DJ Hall, Rick Hines, Edie Jackson, Laura Jaynes, Gary Johnson, Jay Kenney, Nick Kennedy, Brendan Lavicky, Jackson Lavicky, Steph Lavicky, Zac Lavicky, Amy Raddatz, Shannon Robinson, Nathan Taylor, Sam Taylor, Alexis Tilween, Pic Walenta, Joe Wynne, Terri Wynne, Hou Zhong.

This month we switched up our usual format during the meeting and enjoyed a mini presentation from the Lavicky boys first, then the business meeting, followed by DJ's presentation.

**Mini Presentation: Jackson and Brendan Lavicky, Kid's Expedition at Mammoth Cave**

Jackson and Brendan were able to participate in the CRF Kid's Expedition this July, held at the Hamilton Valley Research Center near Mammoth Cave National Park. They spent 3 days and 4 nights, explored 3 caves, and spent over 15 hours total in cave! Some topics they learned about included: how to read cave maps, types of caves, cave vandalism, archaeology, cave minerals and structures, and more. Jackson got to be a trip leader on the 3<sup>rd</sup> trip. Some things Jackson and Brendan thought were neat included seeing Floyd Collins' former burial vault in Crystal Cave, and archeologic artifacts in Salts Cave. It was great

**Primary Presentation: DJ Hall, Lightening Your Load Backpacking Workshop**

DJ usually does this presentation as a 2-hour presentation and workshop, so the presentation for our meeting was a bit condensed but still incredibly informative. He gave his contact info and encourages anyone to shoot him a text and he'll share the PowerPoint and price sheet he referenced. DJ has done lots of backpacking! He used to do a lot with his wife. It is one of his many hobbies alongside scuba diving, cave diving, flying, and more; he loves the great outdoors.

Backpacking can go right along with caving; we often find ourselves ridgewalking to search for more caves. What everyone learns on their 1<sup>st</sup> trip—you need a lot less stuff than you think! Some key things to keep in mind: it's OK to get lost, your body copes with a lot, cheap doesn't feel cheap for long, and there isn't much you can't wash in the stream.

DJ talked about "10 easy ways to die while backpacking" (according to the National Park Service): falling, drowning, heart attack, hypothermia, heat stress, avalanche, flash flood, insects, snakes, and predators. (mosquitos kill 700k people a year! Mostly an issue outside the US with malaria). It's all about mitigating the risks! You can do this with knowledge, experience, and the proper equipment.

So, where to start? When building your pack, be mindful of your base weight: the total weight of your entire gear kit (minus food and such)—the essentials. Most people keep this around 15-20lbs, some hardcore people try for around 10lbs... this is hard to do! DJ brought tons of gear to show as well as pictures; Pic and Becky had their packs to share as well.

What do you NEED? You want to stay safe, dry, and warm. Many essentials/topics were talked about including navigation, a headlamp, a suitable backpack, shelter, sleeping gear, clothing, footwear, first aid, water, food, fire, tools, and extras.

Navigation: maps, compass, and GPS. Maps should be waterproof/resistant, maybe laminate if needed. Compasses should be durable and have a fluid filled housing remember they affected by metal. For a GPS, you can use your phone; there are lots of helpful apps, some being AllTrails, View Ranger, Hiking Project REI, and HikerBot. Personal locator beacons are helpful too, such as a SPOT Find Me device, especially in an emergency.

DJ recommends headlamps be comfortable, >100 lumens, efficient, and have angle pivot. They are super helpful around camp once it's dark.

Backpacks come in 3 main varieties: frameless, internal frame, or external frame. When choosing a pack, consider the weight of the bag itself, weight distribution, shoulder straps, etc. He recommended a pack where all the weight rides on the hips rather than shoulders. Also consider the capacity/volume, durability/material (Cuban fiber is great!), design, comfort. Each bag type has its pros and cons. For example, frameless options often tout high capacity, but are typically one big bag that you end up having to dig through.

Shelter: tarps, tents, hammocks, etc. DJ showed some picture examples, and had his tent set up. His preferred tent is an REI Quarter Dome 2. Typically, it's worth going up in the "person count" for a tent if you want your gear in the tent with you.

Sleeping: bag, pad, and pillow. Don't skimp! You'll spend about 1/3 of your time sleeping. Get a nice pad, you'll be grateful. Pro tip—change your socks before bed! You'll be much warmer. You can also put a handwarmer in the bottom of your bag, the difference is impressive. Consider having a sleeping bag rated for colder temps than you plan to be in. DJ showed a couple sleeping pads, there are different tiers you can get. If he has the opportunity, DJ will even layer multiple sleeping pads for optimum comfort. He also loves having an inflatable pillow.

Footwear: aim for comfort, lightweight, good traction, and **not** waterproof. DJ highly recommends getting custom ortho insoles made for your feet, the expense is worth it for backpacking. He has also noticed lot of people have been moving to trail running shoes rather than bigger hiking boots. Take sock liners (x2) to prevent blisters, and socks (x2). Camp shoes are nice to have, such as flip flops or water shoes.

Clothes: You don't need much. Hiking pants should be durable, nylon. Shirts should be breathable. Running shorts with built in briefs are good, however, hiking in pants is typically easier to avoid things like bugs or poison ivy. Other useful articles of clothing are thermal tights, merino wool t-shirt, a raincoat (Pic uses a poncho that goes over everything including her pack), a buff (multipurpose!), hat, sunglasses. Permethrin is a must—spray all your stuff... it kills ticks! It also lasts on clothes through 5-6 washes. Bill shared you can buy as a concentrate on amazon to fully submerge your clothing, better coverage than a spray.

First aid—be specific and intentional in what you are bringing. Don't just buy a kit from a store and think you're good.

Sustainment: water, food, and fire. Always pack 2 liters of water. DJ likes using a 2L camelback bladder, gives easy access. Alternatively, Smart Water bottles come in liter size, take 2. For refilling along the trail, you may want a squeeze filter, water filter pump, chemical tablets, or to boil water.

Food needs to be high calorie, low sugar. Food is fuel! While backpacking, you likely need 3-4,000 calories a day, 125 calories/oz is a good ratio reference. Best types include nuts, peanut butter, chocolate, olive oil, snack bars, tuna pouches, freeze dried foods (watch out, salty!), pasta/rice sides, or dehydrated foods. Pic does a lot of dehydrated food. Becky likes to have options that don't necessarily require heat, such as tuna or mashed potatoes.

Fire—be aware of regulations (some places don't allow). Be prepared for that scenario. Still have waterproof matches for emergency. For a DIY candle, take a match, wrap it in toilet paper, and dip in wax; this should burn for about 5 minutes. Corn chips and Vaseline cotton balls make great fire starter. A metal match is also great to have.

As far as tools and utensils, it's recommended to have a knife, cook stove/fuel, cook bowl/cup, multitool, eating utensil, and FiberFix. DJ loves his JetBoil, Pic likes her ultralight and compact folding stove. Having a ditty bag for the "extras" is great, something to keep your chargers, toothbrush/paste, sunscreen, lip balm, toilet paper, paper towels, pack towel, vitamins, etc. One extra luxury DJ enjoys is a camp chair, he finds it well worth it. His is very light and compact. Also remember to take breaks while backpacking. DJ suggests taking a 10 minute stop every hour.

DJ has a spreadsheet outlining all the gear he talked about and has documented weights and prices of items. Gear expense adds up over time, but the bare bones essentials can be done relatively affordably. You also never know what gems you can find secondhand. Regardless of what you end up with in your pack, where you are going, or the duration of your trip, remember to follow hiking etiquette, leave no trace.

For a copy of his presentation PowerPoint and gear price list, or to pick the expert's brain, text DJ at (816)739-4897. There's a whole world to see. Get out there and have fun!

## **Officer Reports**

**President:** Pic Walenta gave a shout out to Dr. Jay Kennedy for donating survey equipment to the Roubidoux Grotto. Thanks Dr. Jay!

**Vice President:** Jeff Bowman was not in attendance.

**Secretary:** The amended minutes from the August meeting were accepted. Laura Jaynes had no new report as Secretary.

**Treasurer:** Bill Gee shared the status of the DistoX2's for the Grotto, he's purchased part of the setup and is waiting for the rest of the parts. Bill's latest treasury report is detailed below.

August beginning balance = \$4400.32 (Commerce Bank)

Deposit = \$835.00

Checks = \$0.00

Debit card = \$

Bank fee = \$5.00

End balance = \$4542.67

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Activity:

Income:

Patches = \$120

Donations = \$700

Membership dues Brandon VanDalsem = \$15.00

Expenses:

Purchase 10 helmet lights - Princeton Tec Apex = \$663.66

MeetUp monthly fee = \$23.99

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August beginning balance = \$137.99 (PayPal)

No activity.

End balance = \$137.99

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August beginning balance = \$62.00 (petty cash)

No activity.

End balance = \$62.00

**Carroll Cave Conservancy (CCC):** Rick Hines reported on the September 7<sup>th</sup> workday. They moved the “sky crapper” (double decker composting toilet). It was difficult to navigate around gates, trees, and ditches while balancing on a tractor, but they were successful. The full trip report is on the website. The plaque honoring Chris Danuser, Greg Fry, and Ron Jaeger has arrived, it will be mounted in the cave and backlit. September 28<sup>th</sup> is the landowner trip. Contact Rick Hines at [rickhines@aol.com](mailto:rickhines@aol.com) for more information and visit [www.carrollcave.org](http://www.carrollcave.org) to stay up to date.

**Missouri Speleological Survey (MSS) & Missouri Caves and Karst Conservancy (MCKC):** Nicole Ridlen was our Proxy at the September 17<sup>th</sup> MSS/MCKC Meetings, Jim Cooley forwarded her report to the Grotto via email on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. At the meeting, they surveyed over 1000 feet; Berome Cave is now over 25 miles long. The next meeting will be in January. See Upcoming Trips for opportunities with MSS/MCKC. MSS newsletters (i.e., “The Liaison”) are available at <https://www.mospeleo.org/newsletter>. Contact Jim Cooley at [coolstoi@kc.rr.com](mailto:coolstoi@kc.rr.com) for more information.

**Novice and Scout trips:** DJ Hall had another scout trip set for September 21<sup>st</sup> at Cleveland. Contact DJ at [dj.hall@rangerdj.com](mailto:dj.hall@rangerdj.com) for more info. Also see Trip Reports.

**Hickory County:** Gary Johnson thanked Bill and Laura for finishing Vanderman. November 2<sup>nd</sup> is the landowner trip to Elkton Cave; they'll be doing the pit entrance. Gary is looking for vertical helpers to rig it. Contact Gary Johnson at [gary.johnson@imagesjournal.com](mailto:gary.johnson@imagesjournal.com).

**Stark Caverns Survey Project:** See Trip Reports. Contact Bill Gee for additional information, [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net).

**Mosby Cave:** No new update. Contact Pic Walenta, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com).

**Old Spanish Cave Restoration Project:** Pic shared that the resto trip over August 23<sup>rd</sup> was great; they finished their first big room and are moving on to the area called Rebecca's Well. The next trip is over October 4<sup>th</sup>. For more info contact Pic Walenta [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com).

**MVOR:** Pic recently scouted around and may have found a band for MVOR. Eagles Nest, last weekend in September 2020. The theme is Mudstock. There is plenty to work on if interested! For more information, contact Pic Walenta, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com).

**MeetUp:** Sign up to and show you will be attending meetings and events; visit <https://www.meetup.com/Kansas-City-Area-Grotto/>. Contact DJ Hall ([dj.hall@rangerdj.com](mailto:dj.hall@rangerdj.com)) for more information.

**Cloud 9:** Lee Krout not present, no new report.

**Cave Spring Park Association:** No new update.

**Devil's Icebox:** See Trip Reports.

**Quartermaster:** There is now a new logbook system for Grotto helmet/light use, and they are all brightly numbered to prevent loss. Contact [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com) for more info on who-has-what.

**White Nose Syndrome:** See <https://caves.org/WNS/> for the most current map of WNS's reach.

**Fundraising:** Contact Pic at [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com) for more information. T-shirts, coffee mugs, beanies and patches are available for purchase. We are working on MVOR fundraising.

**Presentations:** Have an idea or topic for a presentation? Let Pic know! Can never plan too far ahead. See Upcoming Events for scheduled presentations.

## Trip Reports

**DJ Hall** did a trip to **Cleveland Cave** with 45 scouts (3 troops), some Grotto members volunteered, it was a great time. The water is still high, had to swim in part of the cave. The Bat Room was completely covered in a film of mud. It was kind of dicey, more difficult than usual, but everyone made it through okay.

**Seth Colston** shared that he and Kirsten Colston participated in a trip to **Devil's Icebox** last weekend. They took some water samples and will be going back again soon to do more work.

**Cliff Gill** mentioned he is also helping with survey at **Devil's Icebox**. Seth and Kirsten agreed there is lots of survey still to be done in the cave.

**Rick Hines** had just gotten back from helping Jim Cooley with the two Beaver Creek cave gates around **Bull Shoals Lake**. Rick said it was a good crew, good work.

**Bill Gee** reported on the latest survey trip to **Stark Caverns** with Jon Beard and Bruce Archambault. They are officially done with the tourist section and surveyed a loop. They are up to 1700 feet; Bill expects it to be around 4000 feet by the time it's all said and done.

**Bill Gee** reported on the trip to **Vanderman Cave**. He and Laura Jaynes finished the survey and did QC, it was a good trip. He took GoPro video throughout the cave.

#### **New Business:**

#### **New Member Nomination: Brandon VanDalsem and Nathan Burton family.**

Brandon VanDalsem has been on various trips with KCAG, he is currently VP of SPG. Nathan Burton, owner of Old Spanish Cave, and his wife and 2 sons are excited to become members, they have been actively involved in our restoration project. Brandon and the Burton family were nominated and voted into membership at our September meeting. Welcome!

**Grant Research:** Pic is still working on a big one!

**Unfinished Business:** none.

Pic Walenta verified there was no further unfinished business. The meeting adjourned, whereupon members repaired to Minsky's Pizza, 5105 Main Street, KCMO, for great food and even better company.

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## **UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS**

**September 21st** - Exploring Roots Cleveland Cave Trip

Exploring Roots Boy's Novice trip - DJ Hall and Seth Colston could use help with this trip

If interested contact DJ Hall, [dj.hall@rangerdj.com](mailto:dj.hall@rangerdj.com)

**September 21st** - Cathedral Cave Night Tour

915 PM - \$10 fee

Sponsored by Onondaga Friend's Association

Leasburg, MO. Onondaga State Park

If interested visit <https://mostateparks.com/events/park/onondaga-cave-state-park>

**September 21st** - Photo Tours of Cathedral and Onondaga Cave

9 AM - 4 PM - \$15 fee - 3 hours each cave with lunch break

Bring your own photo gear

Leasburg, MO. Onondaga State Park

Sponsored by Onondaga Friend's Association

If interested visit <https://mostateparks.com/events/park/Onondaga-cave-state-park>

**September 26<sup>th</sup> - October 3<sup>rd</sup>** - 2019: Cobb Cave Gating

To protect an endangered gray bat maternity colony, for Missouri Department of Conservation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in Nixa, MO, a suburb of Springfield.

If interested contact Jim Cooley at 816-753-8111 or [coolstoi@kc.rr.com](mailto:coolstoi@kc.rr.com) or MOBat Director, Kirsten Alvey-Mudd, [cavechef@gmail.com](mailto:cavechef@gmail.com)

**September 28th** - Paranormal Cave Tour

7 PM to 10 PM \$65 fee

St. Louis Paranormal Research Society and Onondaga Friends Association

Learn the history of the cave and use equipment to seek out the paranormal of the cave

Onondaga Cave, Leasburg, MO.

If interested see - <https://mostateparks.com/events/park/onondaga-cave-state-park>

**September 28th** - "See the Best of Carroll Cave"

Thunder Falls, Carroll Passage, Angel Pool Passage

Open to the Public, liability release and be able to climb a 100' ladder

If interested contact Rick Hines, [rickhines@aol.com](mailto:rickhines@aol.com)

**September 14th** -- Over the Edge Event

Rappelling Fund Raiser

St. Joseph, MO.

If interested contact Bill Gee, [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net)

**October 4th - 6th** - Old Spanish Cave Restoration Trip

Reeds Springs, MO. Ongoing restoration of a commercial cave that closed in 1974.

Camping in the old gift shop parking lot, communal meals, be prepared for bad weather!

If interested contact Pic Walenta, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com)

**October 5th** - Cathedral Cave Night Tour

915 PM - \$10 fee

Sponsored by Onondaga Friend's Association

Leasburg, MO. Onondaga State Park

If interested visit <https://mostateparks.com/events/park/onondaga-cave-state-park>

**October 6th** - Cathedral Cave and Onondaga Photo Tours

9 AM - 4 PM - \$15 fee - 3 hours each cave with lunch break

Bring your own photo gear

Sponsored by Onondaga Friend's Association

Leasburg, MO. Onondaga State Park

If interested visit <https://mostateparks.com/events/park/onondaga-cave-state-park>

**October 7th - 11th** - National Cave and Karst Management Symposium  
Bristol, Virginia

Interested in cave and karst management

Variety of registrations available

If interested see their web site at <https://www.sinkingcreekpottery.com/>

**October 10th - 13th** Annual TAG (Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia) Fall In  
Caving and Rappelling

2477 Old Stone RD.

Menio, Georgia 30731

If interested see <https://dogwoodcitygrotto.org/TAG-Fall-Cave-In>

**October 12th** - Perkins Cave - Jeff City Boy Scout Trip

Led by Seth Colston - **He could use help with this trip**

Camden County, MO.

If interested contact Seth Colston, [swcy92@gmail.com](mailto:swcy92@gmail.com)

**October 11th - 14th** -- Fall MVOR (3-day event)

Sponsored by MMV Grotto

Soehl Cave, Mystery Cave, Fritsche Cave, Hot Caverns, Wind Cave, Berome Cave, Tom Moore,  
Klumps and Meisner Plus - Kayak Float trips

200 Church St. East Perry County Fairgrounds

Altenburg, MO. 63732

If interested contact Pic Walenta, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com) or Bill Gee, [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net).

Visit <http://mvor.caves.org/>

**October 11th - 14th** - Columbus Day Expedition

CRF Eastern Division, Hamilton Valley Research Center

9-hour drive, Bunk house and meals provided

Must be a CRF member to attend. to join CRF - <http://www.cave-research.org/MembershipInfo.php>

If interested contact Rick Olson, [rickardolson16@gamil.com](mailto:rickardolson16@gamil.com)

**October 15th** - KCAG Monthly Meeting

Presenter - Dr. Jay Kennedy

NCRC Cave Rescue

630PM - Anita B Gorman Building

4750 Troost Ave. KC MO. 64110

**October 18th** - Ghost Lantern Tours

Bluff Dwellers Cave, 6 - 9 PM, Fee Attached

McDonald County, 163 Cave Rd. Noel Mo.

If Interested contact Nicole Ridlen at [cavingsiberians@yahoo.com](mailto:cavingsiberians@yahoo.com)

**October 19th** - Cavern Tavern Brews and Boos



Bluff Dwellers Cave, 530 - 9 PM, Fee Attached  
Whistling Springs Brewery  
McDonald County, 163 Cave Rd. Noel Mo.  
If interested contact Nicole Ridlen at [cavingsiberians@yahoo.com](mailto:cavingsiberians@yahoo.com)

**October 18th - 20th** CRF Survey and Monitoring on National Buffalo River  
Lower District, survey and monitoring cave and karst features  
Working out of Taney Bend Facility, meals provided  
If interested contact Kayla Sapkota, [kayla.spaokta@gmail.com](mailto:kayla.spaokta@gmail.com)

**October 19th** - OTA Mega Event and "Closing the Gap"  
Ozark Trail Association  
Be a part of this legacy as the OTA completes the new section at Round Springs  
8 AM - Free Camping, free food, live music, some epic trail building  
Note: Trail Building is hard work!  
OSNR at Rounds Springs Campground  
Carpooling available - Friday, returning Tuesday  
If interested contact Pic Walenta, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com)

**October 19th** - New River Gorge Bridge Day Rappel  
Longest free rappel that you can do in the world - 851'  
New River Gorge Bridge - West Virginia  
If interested contact Bill Gee, [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net)

**October 26th** - Spooky Cave Tour  
Every half hour - 5 PM - 9 PM Kids \$6, Adults \$12  
Geared for an adult audience, but everyone welcome  
Sponsored by Onondaga Friend's Association  
Leasburg, MO. Onondaga State Park  
If interested visit <https://mostateparks.com/events/park/onondaga-cave-state-park>

**October 23rd** - Iowa Grotto Meeting  
Want to attend another Grotto's meeting?  
730 PM - University of Iowa Campus  
Car Pooling and Accommodations available  
If interested contact Pic Walenta, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com)

**October 26th** - Carroll Cave Bat Census Trip  
Wet suit recommended  
Difficult, 10 hours in cave  
If interested contact Bill Gee, [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net)

**November 2nd** - Stark Caverns Survey Trip  
Survey will be Overlook area west end of Onyx Circle  
Eldon, MO.

If Interested contact Bill Gee at [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net)

**November 4th - 8th** - Great River Wilderness Institute  
Dardanelle State Park, Russellville, Ark.

A free stewarding wilderness training partnership between Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the USFS, The Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards

If interested <https://wildernessskillsinstitute.org/>

**November 8th - 10th** - Allie Springs Cave Survey  
Big Caverns Ranch, Pulaski County 3.5-hour drive  
4 Objectives, easy to moderate, thin cavers, stamina and experience  
Bunks and camping available, meals provided

If interested contact Shawn Williams at [sosifr@yahoo.com](mailto:sosifr@yahoo.com),  
or Bruce Archambault at [brucearchambault60@gmail.com](mailto:brucearchambault60@gmail.com), 573-855-1457

**November 19th - KCAG Monthly Meeting**

Presenter Dr. David Ashley,

Missouri Cave Wildlife

630 PM - Anita B Gorman Building

4750 Troost Ave. KC MO. 64110

**November 22nd** - Old Spanish Resto Trip

Stone County, Reeds Springs MO.

Camping and meals provided

If interested contact Pic Walenta at [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com)

**November 27th - Dec 1st** - Thanksgiving Expedition

CRF Eastern Division, Hamilton Valley Research Center

9-hour drive, Bunk house and meals provided

Must be a CRF member to attend. to join CRF - <http://www.cave-research.org/MembershipInfo.php>

If interested contact John DeLong, [mcthanksgiving@yahoo.com](mailto:mcthanksgiving@yahoo.com)

**November 28th - December 1st** - CRF Survey and Monitoring on the Buffalo National River

Upper District, monitor and survey cave and karst features

Working out of the Steel Creek facility, meals provided

If interested contact Kayla Sapkota, [kayla.sapkota@gmail.com](mailto:kayla.sapkota@gmail.com)

**December 2nd - 22nd** CRF Ozark Region Monitoring and Survey

Accommodations and Meals provided

Winona Facility - Shannon County

If interested contact Pic Walenta, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com)

**December 14th** - Annual KCAG Christmas Dinner Party

No Monthly Meeting

Home of Rick and Kay Hines

BYOB and a dish to share

RSVP to Rick Hines at [rickhines@aol.com](mailto:rickhines@aol.com)

**December 18th - 22nd** - Winter Monitoring and Mapping BNR  
Buffalo National River - Steel Creek Facility

Ponca, Arkansas

If interested contact Kayla Sapkota, [kayla.sapkota@gmail.com](mailto:kayla.sapkota@gmail.com)

**December 27th - 30th** - New Year's Expedition

CRF Eastern Division, Hamilton Valley Research Center

9-hour drive, Bunk house and meals provided

Must be a CRF member to attend. To join CRF - <http://www.cave-research.org/MembershipInfo.php>

If interested contact Ed Klausner, [Klausnere@gmail.com](mailto:Klausnere@gmail.com)

**January 11th** - Annual Carroll Cave Data Logger Trip

Camdenton County, Easy trip

If interested contact Bill Gee at [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net)

**January 25th** - MSS/MCKC Meeting

10 AM

Rolla, MO.

If interested contact MSS Director Jim Cooley [coolsoti@kc.rr.com](mailto:coolsoti@kc.rr.com)

**February 8th** - Winery at Bluff Dwellers Cave with MoBat Census Bio Trips

163 Cave Rd. Noel, MO. Mc Donald County

More details to follow

If interested contact Nicole Ridlen at [cavingsiberians@yahoo.com](mailto:cavingsiberians@yahoo.com),

or Kirsten Alvey-Mudd at [cavechef@gmail.com](mailto:cavechef@gmail.com)

**February 13th - 17th, 2020** - Mark Jones 60th Birthday President Day Mammoth Cave Expedition

CRF Eastern Division, Hamilton Valley Research Center

9-hour drive, Bunk house and meals provided, fee attached

Must be a CRF member to attend. To join CRF - <http://www.cave-research.org/Membershipinfo.php>

If interested contact camp mgr. Pic Walenta, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com) or Expedition leader Mark Jones, [speleok9@gmail.com](mailto:speleok9@gmail.com)

**September 18th - 20th 2020 - OUR MVOR**

Hosted by KCAG and Missouri Bat Census

McDonald County Noel, MO.

If interested on serving on a committee, contact Pic Walenta, 816-665-5588, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com)

**If you have trips you would like to add, ideas for trips that you would like to organize and share with our members, please contact Pic directly, [picwalenta@aol.com](mailto:picwalenta@aol.com).**