Kansas City Area Grotto
Minutes of Monthly Business Meeting
Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Cooley at 7:05 p.m on Mar. 10, 2010.

Attendance

The following members were in attendance: Secretary Cyle Riggs, Bill Gee, Mike Hartley, Rick Hines, David Mead, Matt Keuhnert, Jerry Cindric, Michael Smoker, Justace Clutter, Gary Johnson, Terry DeFraities. The following guests were present: Brandy Rich, Juliane Shaw

Previous Minutes

Members reviewed the minutes online ahead of the meeting. No edits were requested.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Treasurer Pam Rader, Bill Gee read the checking account statement and reported a balance of $652.45. A recent check for $20 was issued to Jim Cooley for reimbursement of gasoline for travel to an MSS meeting. No deposits have been made for the last two months. Some members complained of dues checks written back during the Christmas party in December, 2009 that have not been cashed.

Old Business

There was no old business to be addressed.

New Business

Memberships:
No new members were voted in.

Lechuguilla Baseline Book:
Jerry Cindric brought a copy of and passed around an old Lechuguilla baseline book attendees to read through.

Website Committee:
Sam Clippinger has setup accounts and submitted website change procedures to Jim Cooley.

White Nose Syndrome:
White nose has been confirmed in a second cave in eastern Tennessee. Missouri is officially now an adjacent state for WNS.

Ozark Underground Labs Issue on Boy Scout website
The problem material has yet to be adjusted with the BSA.

Sierra Club - Skaggs Trip Orientation:
Jim Cooley had his first orientation meeting with the Sierra Club regarding the trip to Skaggs Cave. He reported lots of interest in caving from the group.

KCAG T-Shirts / Patches:
Jim Cooley announced that Pic Walenta wants to get some grotto patches/t-shirts made up pending

interest levels. Mike Hartley has masters from some previous patches/t-shirts. He will bring them to the next meeting for the group to see so we can decide whether we would like to use these as templates or make some new designs.

The Guano:
Editor Bill Gee announced that he expects to release the next issue in April and that he still needs trip reports and photos. New and old trip reports are both acceptable.

Hickory County Survey:
Gary Johnson reports the following:

- The Elkton Cave survey has been completed and the map is now being created. A further trip will be necessary to clarify some information in the survey and to get some photos.
- The Williams Cave survey has been completed at 664 feet of passage. A futher trip will be necessary to acquire photos. Salamander larvae and raccoons were both found in this cave during the survey.
- Gary Johnson and Mark Lankford made a trip to the area surrounding the Starks caves in search of a rumored third cave in the area, which was not found.
- The Starks Cave #1 survey has reached 150 feet and will be continued later this month.
- A bat check will be performed at Elkton Cave. On this trip some photos will be collected for landowners as well.
- On March 20th a trip will be made with Eric Hertzler from SPG into both Hickory and Camden County to check out Creech Cave and Keyhole Cave.

Carroll Cave Conservancy:
A third five-year lease payment has been made on the 20 year lease at the silo entrance. An official offer has been made for the purchase of 8 acres on the silo property. Materials for the school house roof are being collected from two salvaged decks this year, although some further materials will have to be purchased to complete it.

Grotto Gear:
Sam Clippinger currently has the grotto gear. Jim Cooley has it reserved for the April 24-25th weekend.

Trip Reports:

Pulltite Monitoring Trip - Part 1
Feb. 26 - 28, 2010 – Jim Cooley, Rick Hines, Cyle Riggs, and Justace Clutter made a trip to the Pulltite Campground area on the ONSR to monitor nearby caves. A new cave was found and surveyed, several caves were monitored, and one known cave was surveyed. The Jack's Fork Bat Cave gate was inspected and found to be faulty. A plan for fixing it has been put together and begun being implemented.

Pulltite Monitoring Trip - Part 2
Mar. 5 - 8, 2010 – Jim Cooley and Jeff Page finished monitoring caves near Pulltite and began work on repairing the Jack's Fork Bat Cave gate.

Perkins Cave:
Mar. 6, 2010 – Sam Clippinger made a novice trip to Perkins Cave. His report was: “Went great. There were only four of us and the cave was very wet (plus a dead animal halfway back) but we had fun and I think the boys actually learned something.”

Guadaloupe Moutnains
Matt Keuhnert reported on a recent trip to the Guadaloupe Mountains with members of the recently reinstituted Arbuckle Mountain Grotto of Oklahoma. The group stayed at Texas Camp and visited Hell Below Cave and others in the area.

Wind Tunnel Cave
Jerry Cindric took part in a recent trip to resurvey Wind Tunnel Cave near Mountain View, AR.

Upcoming Events:

Spring 2010 MVOR:
Apr. 3 - May 2 – Green's Canoe Rental near Steelville, MO

CCRN *2-day*:
Apr. 10 - 11, 2010 – Colorado Cave Rescue Network will hold a 2 day seminar.

2010 NCRC Weeklong:
May 15 - 22 in Mentone, AL.

Missouri Caves & Karst Conservancy
Saturday, May 15, 2010 – Meeting in Rolla

Missouri Speleological Survey
May 15, 2010 – The next meeting is for the MSS is on May 15 in Rolla. CRF cave surveying that weekend on the Paddy Creek Wilderness Area.

Grotto Picnic:
Jun. 5, 2010 – The grotto picnic will be held at the Hines residence in Stilwell, KS on June 5th.

SERA Cave Carnival:
Jun. 17 - 20, 2010 – Montaegle, Tennessee. http://www.caves.org/grotto/sewaneemountaingrotto

Indiana Cave Capers:
June 25 - 27, 2010 – Delaney Creek Park near Salem, Indiana.

2010 NSS National Convention:
Aug. 2 - 6 – Essex Junction, Vermont.

Black Hills Cave Restoration Camp:
Sep. 13 - 17 – Contact marc_ohms@nps.gov or call 605-745-1182 by Friday, July 30, 2010. Space is limited.

Fall 2010 MVOR:
October 2010 – Near Hannibal, MO. Dates are uncertain, but probably Oct. 16-18.

Upcoming Trips:

Troop 118 March Trip:
March 27, 2010 – Sam Clippinger will be leading a trip for Troop 118 on the John Alva Fuson Conservation Area. Volunteers wanting to assist with the trip should contact him. There is expectd to be approximately 25 participants.

Hickory County Float Trip:
March 20, 2010 – Gary Johnson will host a float trip on the Little Niangua River from US-54 to Mule Shoe.

AACS Survey Trip:
March 26 - 28, 2010 – In Lawrence County, AR. Contact Jim Cooley.

Cooley's Spring Float Trip:
April, 2010 – A three-day float trip on the Mark Twain National Forest. Dates and river to be determined.

High Guads Restoration Project:
April 18 - 25, 2010 – Jerry Cindric is putting together a trip to the Fort Stanton area of New Mexico. The

group will participate in the High Guads Restoration Project and also do some recreational caving. The trip has filled a one day permit, so if more are to join it would have to be enough to get a separate permit as no more people can be added to the current permit.

Sierra Club Novice Trip:
Apr. 24, 2010 – Saturday at Skaggs Cave, in Pulaski County. Camping will be available on the Mark Twain National Forest. The trip roster is over-full. The grotto helmets will be used.

KCAG Novice Trip:
Apr. 25, 2010 – Sunday at Skaggs Cave in Pulaski County, MO. Camping will be available on the Mark Twain National Forest. The trip roster is over-full.

MSS Meeting & Campout
March 15, 2010 – In Rolla, MO. CRF Project Caving on the Mark Twain National Forest in addition to the MSS meeting.

Missouri Caves & Karst Conservancy
Saturday, May 15, 2010 – Meeting in Rolla

May Vertical Training:
May 22, 2010 – The grotto will be hosting another vertical training day in May which will be led by Terry DeFraities.

Kelly Hollow Cave Restoration Trip
TBD - Summer 2010 – A restoration trip will be made to the largest cave in Oregan County, Kelly Hollow Cave, at over two miles long.

Kelly Hollow Cave Gating Project
TBD - Summer 2010 – A bat gate will be installed on the largest cave in Oregon County.

Presentation

Bound for Underground in the High Guads
by Jerry Cindric

A presentation was given by Jerry Cindric displaying photos from several past trips to the High Guads area. Matt Keuhnert also showed a few photos of the same area from the trip mentioned above.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Afterward, several members convened at Waldo Pizza on Wornall to enjoy libations and cheesy comestibles.

Respectfully submitted,
Cyle Riggs
Grotto Secretary