Kansas City Area Grotto
Minutes of Monthly Business Meeting
Wednesday, Aug 11, 2010

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Cooley at 7:06 p.m.

Attendance

The following members were in attendance: President Jim Cooley, Vice-President/Treasurer Pam Rader, Secretary Cyle Riggs, Brandy Rich, David Mead, Matt Kuehnert, Gary Johnson, Michael Smoker, Juliane Shaw, Bill Gee, Rick Hines, Dave Foran.

The following guests were present: Jenny Bentz, Casey Ernest, Diego Plazas, Greg Herin, Jeanene Herin

Previous Minutes

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

Treasurer's Report

Pam Rader reported a balance of $943.45 with no recent activity.

Old Business

Grotto Helmet/Lamp Replacements

Cyle Riggs presented a report on the current status of the grotto gear and a proposal to purchase nine (9) new Petzl Tikka Plus 2 headlamps from Dynamic Earth. Discussion followed. A motion was passed to purchase nine of the headlamps at $36.90 per unit, including tax. Rick Hines demonstrated a powerful new headlamp he'd purchased on-line from China for $8, plus $8 shipping.

New Business

Stand-in Secretary for September:

Bill Gee volunteered to act as Secretary for September's business meeting since Cyle Riggs will be absent.

Grotto Gear:

Cyle Riggs has the grotto helmets.

Meeting Presentations:

Jim Cooley asked for members to submit ideas for meeting presentations to him via e-mail.

Cleveland Cave:
Jim Cooley discussed the potential for a land-owner working relationship for the KCAG at Cleveland Cave and the idea to resurvey the cave in the winter.

WNS:
Jim announced that the grotto still needs four volunteers to send to the WNS stewardship training event.

Hickory County Project:
Gary Johnson reported on the activities in Hickory County for the month. The total number of caves is up to 39.

Carroll Cave Conservancy:
Rick Hines announced the CCC meeting will be August 14th, at 10AM at the Camdenton Fire Station. New officers will be elected. Ballots are due.

Boy Scouts Website Information:
Sam Clippinger reported via e-mail that the BSA has been uncooperative in updating the information on their website.

The Guano:
Editor Bill Gee announced that the next issue is expected to be put out in September.

Missouri Speleological Survey (MSS):
Three maps have been submitted to the MSS: Coffin Cave, Dead Beetle and Dead Beetle Annex Cave, and Blue Hole Bluff Cave. All maps were made by Jim Cooley. Jim Cooley asks that all maps be submitted to him to be displayed during the meetings.

Trip Reports:

July 15-18 CRF MTNF Survey Trip:
Jim Cooley reported on a trip in which Thanksgiving and Blue Hole Bluff Cave were surveyed.

Cleveland Cave Trip:
Jim Cooley reported on the August 8th trip to Cleveland Cave in St. Clair County, MO.

St. Clair Historical Society Talk:
Jim Cooley reported on his trip to the St. Clair Historical Society to talk about St. Clair county caves.

Upcoming Events:

Carroll Cave Conservancy Annual Meeting, August 14th:
10:00 a.m. at the Fire House in Camdenton. Election of officers.

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.

MSS Meeting:
September 18th - Rolla, MO. Missouri Department of Conservation's Bill Elliott will roll out the MDC's Cave Stewardship Program. A Missouri Cave and Karst Conservancy (MCKC) meeting will also be held that day in Rolla, in conjunction with the MSS meeting.

Ennis Cave Birthday Bash
Oct. 8-10 - Celebrating Randy Rose and Peddgie Heinz's birthday at Ennis Cave, Mountain View, AR.

Fall 2010 MVOR:
October 2010 – Near Hannibal, MO. Dates are set for Oct. 22-24.

Upcoming Trips

The following upcoming trips were announced:

- Troop 200 Scout Trip to Perkins Cave, August 21st. (Andy Isbell, Cyle, Pic)
- Crevice Cave/Mertz Cave Sherpa Trip, Saturday, August 28th, Perry County. Wetsuit trip to pack diving gear one mile into Mertz to a sump connecting to Crevice Cave. Participants are welcome to camp out at McCain's house – four miles from Crevice (yes, four miles … life is tough in Perry County) and will resurvey from the sumps back towards the Mertz entrance while waiting on the divers. Contact Jim Cooley if interested. Crevice is the longest known cave in Missouri. It's about an eight-hour drive from Kansas City.
- CRF Eleven Point Ranger District/Irish Wilderness Survey Trip (Cooley): Thursday, September 9th through Monday, September 13th. Target caves: Canyon, Little Hurricane Creek. Secondary: Poison Ivy, Wild Ginger, Still, Turtle Altar, Green Knees, Weepy Seep, White, Niche.
- Ozark National Scenic Riverways Survey & Cave Monitoring Trip, Sunday, September 19th through Wednesday, September 22nd. Canoe-bases survey of Baptizing Hole Triangle Cave – which WE discovered! – and maybe others, also monitor ten rarely-seen caves in a remote and rugged hollow, one of which requires vertical gear.
- CRF Eleven Point Ranger District/Irish Wilderness Survey Expedition (Cooley): Sunday, September 23rd through Monday, September 27th (and/or parts thereof): Target caves: Briar, South Flat, Zigzag, Hobo Home, Canyon, Little Hurricane Creek. Secondary: Poison Ivy, Wild Ginger, Still, Turtle Altar, Green Knees, Weepy Seep, White, Niche.

- Second Annual Eleven Point Ranger District Thanksgiving Ridgewalk, November 24th through November 29th. Get cold, get lost, eat wild turkey (or at the very least, turkey in the wild), and find new caves.
- Third Annual Eleven Point River Float & Wilderness Backpacking Ridgewalk, December 30th through January 3rd, 2011. Featuring little-seen corners of the Irish Wilderness & the Chuck Curtis Memorial Polar Bear Plunge & Canoe Capsize on New Year's Day. Black-eyed peas provided, BYOC (canoe).

Upcoming Events

The following upcoming events were announced:

- Carroll Cave Conservancy Annual Meeting, August 14th, 10:00 a.m. at the Fire House in Camdenton. Election of officers.
- Ennis Cave Birthday Bash, near Mountain View, AR, October 8th-10th – Randy Rose's 50th is October 7th, Peddgie Heinz's 60th is October 8th. Pot Luck Dinner Saturday night. Please contact Ron Lather if you plan to attend, cavinron@centurytel.net 573-265-4034 (Hines)
- CAVE RESEARCH FOUNDATION (CRF) Annual Meeting, October 23-24, ONSR Headquarters, Van Buren, MO. Tour of Big Spring, Blue Spring, and Alley Spring areas on Sunday. Alley Roller Mill (1897) will be open just for this event. National Expedition Sunday night through following weekend will include cave survey, restoration, & monitoring; also ridgewalking, hiking, and canoeing opportunities (canoeing and cave monitoring trip is likely). CRF can no doubt use local grotto help with the event. Plan on camping – indoor accommodations will be reserved for out-of-state people.
- Fall 2010 MVOR is at Camp Oko-tipi near Hannibal, MO. Dates certain, Oct 22-24. (Sponsored by PEG & Chouteau)
- February 21, 2011 presentation to Kansas City Outdoor Club, Mission, KS.

Presentation

Recent Biological Research Activies In Carroll Cave BY BILL GEE
Bill showed photographs and discussed recent biology research activities in Carroll Cave. Bill is the chair of the Biology Committee of the Carroll Cave Conservancy.

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