

Kansas City Area Grotto Regular Business Meeting Minutes Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Cyle Riggs at 7:09 p.m.

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting, compiled by Matt Kuehnert, previously sent out on e-mail, were accepted.

Attendance

The following members were present: President Cyle Riggs, VP/Treasurer Brandy Riggs, Secretary Matt Kuehnert, Shelie Johnson, Gary Johnson, Michael and Julianne Smoker, Bill Gee, Pic Walenta, Jim Cooley, Heidi Fletcher, David Mead and Rick Hines

The following guests were present: Daniel Money and Elliot Skinner

Treasurer's Report

Brandy Riggs reported a balance of \$2606.95 for April

Grotto gear Report

Cyle has helmets and bash kits, Rick has the projector. Rick reports that the remote control for the projector is missing.

White Nose Syndrome (C. Riggs)

Grotto has Lysol IC Concentrate for sale: \$.25 per fluid ounce (25 grams).

<http://www.caves.org/WNS/index.htm> -- the NSS data site for WNS

Novice Trips Committee

Heidi Fletcher is requesting help with a June 6th trip to Cleveland cave including rappelling on the nearby bluffs.

Grotto Apparel

Pic Walenta spent \$515.00 on an order for new apparel, and sold \$376.00 of apparel. She will have more shirts printed with CAVER on the back.

The Guano

Bill Gee – no new report

Old Business

Content for Scout website

Heidi Fletcher has made revisions to the caving section of the BSA's website. She is trying to confirm contact names for misc. caves. She passed around notes for our review.

Jay Kennedy Auction

Pic Walenta has not heard anything new from Jay.

Website Changes

Cyle Riggs – no new report

Vertical workshop 2012

Cyle Riggs. – No new report. He asked if there is a desire to do this.

Rick Hines offered to let people do vertical practice in his tree during the Grotto picnic

Activity Reports

Scouting

No new reports

Hickory County Project

Gary Johnson reports that on April 21st they surveyed Calbert and Palmer Bluff Cave. April 26th they also surveyed.

Carroll Cave Conservancy Report

Bill Gee reports that the July 14th meeting is coming up. He stated that they need another round of trip leader training. Rick Hines brought thank you cards from Mike Hartley's wife.

Missouri Speleological Survey Report

Jim Cooley reports the next meeting may not happen.

Missouri Caves & Karst Conservancy

Jim Cooley reports the Goodwin sinkhole cleanup continues. More tires were removed from cave and a road is now in place to get large equipment down into the sinkhole.

Summer Trip announcements

Jim Cooley reports that a trip to Willow Springs June 9th will be planned. This may be a difficult wetsuit cave. Surface and sinkhole survey work also. Camping is available at the landowner's property.

Jim Cooley is planning a June 11-15th or 16-17th trip to survey at Cloud Nine Ranch. Also may have survey trip the week of May 21st.

Jim has reserved 3rd and 4th weekends of July and August at Powder Mill Research Facility. The Park Service would like us to monitor caves on the Current River.

Jim offered a trip to Cleveland Cave this weekend. The landowner will be cooking awesome catfish and cornbread. Jim strongly recommends the cornbread

Jim Cooley reports that he may be getting an opportunity to collect salamander tail clips. Contact Jim if you are interested.

Jim Cooley reports that he may be soon working with a cave diver to dive Meramec Springs to look for cave fish and other cave life.

Grotto Picnic

June 2nd at Rick and Kay Hines house. Rick asked for RSVP's and passed around a sign-up sheet.

Open Discussion, Misc. Trip Reports

Onondaga Cave – Jim Cooley reports he had visited the old gate and took measurements for a replacement gate. They also visited Cathedral cave's natural entrance and inspected the gate.

Jim met with Dante Fenolio and visited Banker's cave. Dante is a photographer and amphibian conservation scientist with the Atlanta Botanical Garden. He is also the co-author of the new book: Cave Life of Oklahoma and Arkansas: Exploration and Conservation of Subterranean Biodiversity. This is an excellent book and contains many fantastic photos.

Jim Cooley visited McCormick Cave. The owners recently hired a contractor to help work on the project. His large equipment was a great help in completing the project. The cave gate is now complete and only took 4 days to build.

Jim Cooley reports that Onyx cave gate had been breached three times. Jim and his group were able to make repairs to the gate on a Saturday, May 5th.

Brandy Riggs reported on The Year of the Bat at Onondaga Cave State Park. Dave Mead and Jim Cooley attended as well.

Brandy reported that they took some students from Bosworth School into Cleveland Cave.

Brandy then took some classmates and her English teacher to Cleveland Cave.

Upcoming Events

Karst-o-Rama, Greater Cincinnati Grotto, <http://karstorama.com>, July 20-22, 2012.

Mid July and October lantern tours at Onondaga Cave. If you are interested in doing some historic re-enactment, contact them.

Summer, 2014: NSS National Convention, ROLLA, MO.

Presentation

Bill Gee showed photos of the Onyx cave gate repair work.

Rick Hines showed a Power Point he had recently presented to the Newton Photo Club on cave photography.

Adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Participants gathered at Wornall Pizza for food, drink, and fellowship!

Respectfully submitted,
Matt Kuehnert, KCAG Secretary