

Kansas City Area Grotto
April Regular Business Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Apr 10, 2013 – 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Arthur Mag Conference Center – 4920 Cherry, KCMO

- 1) Call to order 7:06pm by DJ Hall – agenda was presented
- 2) Recognize Visitors
 - i) Shellie Colatskie
 - ii) Kathleen Colatskie
 - iii) Kevin Day
- 3) Regular Members attending:
 - a) Bill Gee
 - b) DJ Hall
 - c) Jim Cooley
 - d) Pic Walenta
 - e) Sam Clippinger
 - f) Rick Hines
 - g) DJ Hall
 - h) Heidi Fletcher
 - i) Jerry Cindric
 - j) Gary Johnson
 - k) Krista Bartel
 - l) Kyle Lewis
 - m) Jack Peters
 - n) Mike Smoker
 - o) Austen Peters (elected as a member tonight)
 - p) Megan Gruenbacher (elected as a member tonight)
- 4) Secretary – Matt Kuehnert reports that the March meeting minutes were sent out last night. They were accepted by unanimous vote.
- 5) Reports:
 - a) President / Vice President – DJ reports he is pleased with how some people have stepped forward to help with the Grotto activities. He would like to encourage members to get involved in mapping and other Grotto activities. He attended a geology presentation at the KC downtown library this week.
 - b) Treasurer Report – Pic Walenta reports a current balance of \$2804.97. A propane camp stove was recently purchased for the Grotto.
 - c) Quarter Master Report - Pic Walenta reports that Jim Cooley has the stove and awning. Heidi Fletcher will be taking the helmets for next weekend's Cleveland Cave trip. Pic has the banner and it may be used at it was suggested that it could be used at upcoming Earth Day events.
 - d) MSS Report – Jim Cooley reports the next meeting will be May 19th. Krista Bartel will be attending and representing the Carroll Cave Conservancy. Jim has brought multiple copies of MoSpeleo for sale here at the meeting.
 - e) CCC Report – Bill Gee says the annual meeting is coming up this July.
 - f) Committee reports.
 - i) Novice Trip – no report
 - ii) Cleveland Cave Restoration – Trip is coming up April 19th through 21st. Call or e-mail Heidi Fletcher if you are interested in attending.
 - iii) Hickory County – Gary Johnson reports that recent trips have been cancelled due to weather. This weekend will be a bushwhacking trip. Elkton Cave landowners wanted to plan a spring cave trip, but Gary has delayed until fall in order to get a better bat count.
 - iv) Cloud Nine – no new trips to report.

- v) Fund Raising – Pic Walenta reports that we have 1200 lumen headlights available for purchase for \$30 each. Grotto apparel is also available tonight. Rick Hines is working with Pic on a calendar project slated for 2014.
 - vi) Presentation – Heidi Fletcher and Sam Clippinger, co-chairs. No report.
 - vii) Website – Sam Clippinger reports that he will get access for Mike Smoker so he can maintain the website. Sam says we have a link on the website to receive Grotto emails via the list server.
 - viii) Publicity – Krista Bartel reports she is working on creating a presence for the Grotto at Earth Day events coming up. She contacted “Bridging the Gap” group to discuss participating in an Earth Day walk. There is also a social event tomorrow night at Dark Horse Distillery with Bridging the Gap. Krista, DJ Hall, Jim Cooley and Heidi Fletcher plan to attend.
 - ix) Welcoming – Heidi Fletcher presented a revised Grotto pamphlet. A few corrections still need to be made and she is open to suggestions.
 - x) MVOR – Bill Gee reports that the next MVOR will be near Dillard Mill. Bill discussed future MVOR’s.
 - xi) Guano – Bill Gee reports nothing new.
 - xii) Party/Picnic – Rick Hines reports all plans are a GO for a June 8th KCAG picnic at his home.
- 6) Member Cave Trip Reports
- a) Jim Cooley – CRF cave gating activity recently including Rattlesnake Cave on the Chadwick Motorcycle and ATV Special Use Area, run by the Mark Twain National Forest, and the Onondaga Cave boat dock entrance and Cathedral Cave natural entrance, both in Onondaga Cave State Park. CRF came in under budget and all the agencies are pleased with the results. MDC may ask us to help with projects in the future.
 - b) Krista Bartel reports that she visited a cave on private land near Jefferson City. There does not seem to be a record of this cave in the MO cave files. There may also be future cave leads as well as a result of this visit.
 - c) Jerry Cindric reports that he visited the island of Barbuda with Cyle Riggs (former KCAG President). He is working on maps and a presentation for a future meeting.
 - d) Sam Clippinger took a scout Troop 550 from Raytown to Rattlesnake Cave in Laclede County and Perkins Cave near Camdenton in March.
 - i) Jim Cooley added that Perkins Cave will be resurveyed by Lake of the Ozarks Grotto in the future.
- 7) Unfinished business
- a) DJ Hall says that Open water PADI scuba certifications are available from a friend of his. Course work will be completed in one weekend.
 - b) KCAG Constitution and Bylaws discussion – no report
 - c) Rick Hines brought NSS back issues
- 8) New Member nominations
- a) Jack Peters nominated Austen Peters. She was voted in by unanimous decision.
 - b) DJ Hall nominated Megan Gruenbacher. She was voted in by unanimous decision.
- 9) New business - none
- 10) Upcoming Events

Bridging the Gap

April 11 5:30-7:30 Dark Horse Distillery, Lenexa KS. \$5 Free Pizza

Earth Day Events

April 20th

MVOR

Spring 2013 – May 3-5 Meramec Valley Grotto - Dillard Mill

Fall 2013 - Chouteau/PEG - Northeast MO.
Spring 2014 - Ozark Highlands Grotto - Barry County, MO.

2013 NSS Convention
August 5-9, 2013 at Shippensburg University, PA

KCAG Summer Picnic
June 8, 2013

KCAG Christmas Party
December 14, 2013

11) Upcoming Cave trips

Apr 19-21

Cleveland Cave Family Campout

April 22-26

Ozark National Scenic Riverways gate repair, and Mark Twain National Forest
ridgewalking and survey trip. E-mail Jim Cooley at coolstoi@kc.rr.com for details.

May 3-5

MVOR

May 17-19

Willow Springs Survey – Jim Cooley / DJ Hall

May 19

MSS Meeting

Jun 8

Grotto Picnic

June 5th or 6th

Cleveland Cave youth trip – two people needed.

Jun 14-17

Current River or Jacks Fork Float Trip Cave monitoring. Jim Cooley

July 12-14

Eleven Point Float Trip – Cave Monitoring. Jim Cooley

Jul 20 – 21

Onondaga Lantern Tour

Aug 9-11

Cave Trip Somewhere (probable float trip)

Sep 14-15

Onondaga Lantern Tour

Sep 20-22

Ennis Cave and Camp (Grotto Novice Trip)

12) General Announcements – none

13) Presentations

a) Shelly Colatskie Assistant Cave Ecologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation gave a presentation on Bat Identification / WNS Update

i) shelly.colatskie@mdc.mo.gov

ii) My hometown is Kansas City, north of the MO River near Gladstone and Liberty. I graduated from Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri with my Bachelors of Science in 2007 and then I graduated in 2009 from Missouri State University with my Masters of Science (I conducted my Master's Thesis work on the summer maternity colonies of Indiana bats in Northern Missouri). I began working for the Missouri Department of Conservation in April of 2010 as the Invasive Species Graduate Intern working for Tim Banek. From April 2010 to September 1st, 2010 I worked on spotted knapweed control, reports, zebra mussel eradication, emerald ash borer research, etc. I was offered the Assistant Cave Ecologist position working for Bill Elliott beginning on September 1st, 2010 and I have been working in this position ever since (although now that Bill is retired, Tony Elliott is now my supervisor). I work on cave surveys across the state, bat surveys, database management, presentations on White Nose Syndrome, Bats of Missouri and other Cave Life of Missouri, Pink Planarian counts, Tumbling Creek Cave Snail counts and research, cave fish research and winter bat census counts. I work with private landowners, nonprofit organizations, federal and other state agencies, consulting groups and schools. In my free time I like riding horses, hiking with my husband and dog and working in my garden.

b) Next month's KCAG May 8th meeting will include a presentation by Raymond M. Coveney Jr Professor of Geosciences UMKC

14) Adjournment. (Waldo Pizza – 7433 Broadway - 75th and Wornall)

Kansas City Area Grotto Committees

- 1) Novice Trips: Responsible for organizing trips for inexperienced cavers.
 - a) Chair :
 - b)
- 2) Cleveland Cave Restoration : Responsible for the Restoration of Cleveland Cave
 - a) Project Manager : Dave Mead
 - b)
- 3) Hickory County: Responsible for the discovery, documentation and survey of caves in Hickory County, MO.
 - a) Project Manager : Gary Johnson
 - b) Lori Schultz
 - c) DJ Hall
 - d)
- 4) Quarter Master: Responsible for keeping track of all physical assets of the KCAG.
 - a) Pic Walenta
- 5) Fund Raising: Responsible for the fund raising efforts of the KCAG.
 - a) Chair : Pic Walenta
 - b) Andy Isbell
 - c)
- 6) Presentation: Responsible for organizing and presenting caving information to scout, youth and other organized groups.
 - a) Chair : Heidi Fletcher and Sam Clippinger
 - b)
- 7) Website: Responsible for maintaining the KCAG website and list serv.
 - a) Lead: Sam Clippinger
 - b)
- 8) Publicity: Responsible for promoting the KCAG through printed material and publicity efforts not limited to campuses flyers, earth day outreaches, and visitor welcome packet.
 - a) Chair :
 - b)
- 9) Welcoming: Responsible for making guests and visitors welcome at all events.
 - a) Chair : Heidi Fletcher
- 10) Out of State Trip Organizer
 - a) Chair : Krista Bartel
 - b)
- 11) MVOR: Representative to the Mississippi Valley Ozark Region. The purpose of the MVOR is to promote fellowship, exploration, and safety among cavers in the MVOR area.
 - a) Chair: Andy Isbell
 - b) Jeff Page
 - c) Bill Gee
 - d) Pic Walenta
 - e)
- 12) Missouri White Nose working group: Dedicated to the conservation of bats and their habitats and works to address bat-related issues with a regional approach.
 - a) Chair : Jim Cooley
 - b) Pic Walenta
 - c) Dave Mead
- 13) Guano : KCAG's official magazine
 - a) Editor : Bill Gee
 - b)
- 14) Party/Picnic

a) Chair : Rick & Kay Hines