

KCAG Meeting Minutes October 9, 2013
Arthur Mag Conference Center – 4920 Cherry, KCMO

Call to order by DJ Hall, President, 7:08pm

Regular Members in attendance:

DJ Hall
Matt Kuehnert
Jim Cooley
Gary Johnson
Rick Hines
Dave Mead
Bill Gee
Austen Peters
Jack Peters
Mark Fletcher
Megan Gruenbacher
Lee and Jacob Krout
Nathan Taylor
Kyle Lewis
John McGuire

Visitors in attendance:

Mike Duff – From troop 381 in Prairie Village
Andy Miller
Kip Campbell
Derek Nuno
Nathan Altermann
Jake Keitel
Kevin Bergendoft
Randy Huffey - scout troop 256
Ted Steyer - Scout troop 256
Cliff Gill

Officer Reports

President – DJ Hall asked us to reach out to members that have not been active lately

Secretary – Meeting minutes from September were accepted

Vice President – Jim Cooley reports on a Bat survey workshop that will take place on 12-2-13, in Lee's Summit MDC regional office, 6:30-9:30pm

Treasurer – Pic Walenta reports a current balance of \$2286.11. DJ asked for dues to be brought to the Christmas party

Committee Reports

Quarter Master – Pic Walenta, DJ Hall, and Jim Cooley have all the Grotto equipment

Fund Raising – Pic Walenta says she has Grotto apparel for sale. She would like to pursue calendars for 2014

MSS – Jim Cooley says they met in September.

NSS Convention 2015– Kyle and DJ Hall attended a meeting regarding the 2015 NSS convention

CCC – Bill Gee has no report

Novice Trips- Austen Peters, Nov 10th Skaggs Cave. Grotto equipment will be available. Need to know by Nov. 3rd. She will be sending out emails, and she passed around a sign-up sheet.

Cleveland Cave – Dave Mead reports that there will be another trip next month and he will email us when dates are firm.

December 7th is another tentative date for taking a scout troop.

Hickory County – Gary Johnson reports the project is 5yrs old and nearing its end since most caves have likely been discovered. Elkton Cave is the major cave in Hickory County and there is a yearly landowner trip that takes place next month. DJ Hall, Jim Cooley, Austen and Jack Peters, Nathan Taylor, Ken Grush will be helping with the rope rigging. DJ will also be offering rappelling training in the 35' pit in Elkton. Shelly Colatskie from MDC will also be there to assist with bat studies.

Cloud Nine Report – Lee Krout reports that they have information on a new cave in the area. Thirty-three caves and shelters have been located on the property. They hope someday to assemble a guidebook featuring the caves. Jim Cooley reports that the cave maps are still being drafted and they are 77% complete

Presentations – Nov 18th and 25th, Boy Scout troop 381, and Corinth Elementary School

Welcoming Committee – Mark Fletcher brought the new info brochure and handed them out to all present. We bought 500 for \$120 or so. It is agreed that Heidi and Mark did a great job

MVOR Committee – Bill Gee reports that only 200 people showed up at the Fall MVOR near Bowling Green, MO. He set up a rope obstacle course. There was a 12000' cave on the property. Next MVOR will be South of Joplin next spring.

White Nose – Jim Cooley reports that WNS continues to spread. We are bracing for possible colony deaths this winter.

Guano – Bill Gee reports that he is busy giving information to Megan Gruenbacher

Party – Christmas party will be December 14th this year at Rick Hines home

New Business

DJ Hall discussed the local caving organizations in MO including CCC, KCAG, MSS, and CRF

Randy & Ted from scout troop 256 presented necklaces from the "order of the rock" to all KCAG members that helped them with a Cleveland Cave trip last month

DJ Hall has started a battery bank with donations from scout troops, etc.

Cave Trips

Bill Gee reports he visited a survey on Alley Spring Cave with lots of hands and knees passage. Mill Creek cave is close by and they also began survey.

He also visited Carroll Cave and cleaned trees and limbs around the camping area. He added that the schoolhouse project has been on hold for 3yrs or so. It will take much more money than CCC has currently. Rick says they need \$10,000 more funds. It currently has a temporary roof. It was suggested that windows and doors be installed to make it more pleasant to camp inside.

Andy Miller – reported on a Carroll Cave landowner trip last weekend. Rick Hines and Bill Gee also attended.

Jim Cooley: Reported that he, Ken Grush and Mark Jones visited Cave Spring Cave (OZK-046) Sept. 23rd; Dragon Dentures Cave (OZK-108) and Eye of the Needle Cave (OZK-109) Sept. 24th; Allen Cave (OZK-085), Ballroom Cavelet (OZK-087) & Flat Ceiling Cave (OZK-093) Sept 25th; Otter Romp Den Cave (OZK-097), Sept. 26th; Allie Spring Cave (PUL-317) Sept. 27th; Mill Creek Cave (PUL-012) Sept 27th; and Lewis Cave (RIP-001) Sept 30th-Oct 1st: Jim Cooley, et. al. (2,100+ feet of survey sketched in eight days of effort.) The Pulaski County landowner would like to get his caves gated, and will pay for the materials; Jim is designing the gates. Jim also reported that he and Ken Grush attended the MSS meeting and part of the MCKC meeting September 29th.

Caving Tip:

DJ Hall reminds us to please decontaminate your gear according to USFW standards. To get info, please visit this site:

http://whitenosesyndrome.org/sites/default/files/resource/national_wns_revise_final_6.25.12.pdf

Unfinished Business

None

New Member Nominations

Andy Miller was nominated and voted in unanimously.
Jake Keitel was nominated and voted in unanimously.

Upcoming Events

Paintball this Saturday at DJ Hall's home in Payola. Email was sent out today to members with details.

MVOR

Nov 1-3, 2013

OnRope1 Basic Vertical Class – Chattanooga, TN

Sept 16-20, 2013 (Just Level I Sept 22-24)

OnRope1 Level I & II Technician Class Ft. Payne, AL

November 4-8

National Cave and Karst Management Symposium (NCKMS) -
Hosted by NCKRI in Carlsbad, NM.

December 14, 2013

KCAG Christmas Party

NSS Convention at the NSS Headquarters in Huntsville, AL

July 14-18, 2014

Upcoming Cave Trips

MCKC Goodwin sinkhole cave cleanup every weekend until November.

CCC Bat Census Trip – October 26th (full).

Elkton Cave Landowner trip – Nov 9th

Survey in Benton County – Nov 10-13th with Jim Cooley

Skaggs Cave – Nov 10th with Austen Peters

Carroll Cave Photo Trip – Nov 16th with DJ Hall and Rick Hines

Carroll Cave Restoration Trip – Nov 17th with DJ Hall

Cave Gating – Dec 28 – Jan 2, Ripley County

Carroll Cave – Jan 17th Data logger service with Bill Gee

Carroll Cave – Feb Presidents day weekend – Biology survey to Far Upper Thunder

Mexico – Mark and Heidi Fletcher are visiting the Yucatan area

Presentation:

Jim Cooley shared a presentation that he will be presenting to the Springfield Plateau KCAG to seek a donation to help gate Lewis Cave.

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