

**Kansas City Area Grotto**  
**November Regular Business Meeting Agenda**  
**Wednesday, November 13, 2013 – 7:00pm to 9:00pm**  
**Arthur Mag Conference Center – 4920 Cherry, KCMO**

- 1) Call to order - present agenda by DJ Hall, 7:05pm
- 2) Regular Members present
  - a) Matt Kuehnert
  - b) Jim Cooley
  - c) Pic Walenta
  - d) Kip Campbell
  - e) Jack Peters
  - f) Gary Johnson
  - g) Nathan Taylor
  - h) Bill Gee
  - i) Kyle Lewis
  - j) Megan Gruenbacher
  - k) Austen Peters
  - l) Jake Keitel
  - m) Andy Miller
  - n) Rick Hines
  - o) Jay Kennedy
  - p) Jacob Krout
  - q) Lee Krout
- 3) Recognize Visitors/Guests.
  - a) Mark Phillips – later voted in as a member
  - b) Angie Clarke
  - c) Cliff Gill
  - d) Andy Smith
- 4) Secretary – Reading/accepting of minutes from last KCAG meeting. Minutes were accepted
- 5) Reports:
  - a) President - DJ Hall reports on an NCRC event in Perryville, MO last month. They used Berome-Moore Cave for the event.
  - b) Treasurer Report – Pic Walenta reports a balance of \$2231.11 in our bank account. DJ Hall motioned that we need to appropriate approx. \$100 to Jim Cooley in order to build a wooden box for the Grotto's camp stove. A motion was made and it was passed unanimously.
  - c) Quarter Master Report - Pic Walenta reports that she, Jim Cooley and have most of the equipment. DJ Hall has some other equipment. Gary Johnson mentioned he needed to borrow the survey equipment from DJ Hall
  - d) MSS Report – Jim Cooley gave out flyers from MSS, explained the basis of their organization, and asked each of us to consider membership.
  - e) CCC Report – Bill Gee reports they had a bat census trip. They also found that there was another recent large water level spike according to the water level data loggers.
- 6) Committee reports.
  - a) Novice Trip – Austen Peters reported on a recent trip to Skaggs Cave near Waynesville. Twelve people attended and seven were novices.
  - b) Cleveland Cave Restoration – Dave Mead not present. Jim Cooley said Dave spent last Sunday scrubbing the cave walls. Lee Krout was there last Sunday with Jim to finish some survey work.
  - c) Hickory County - Gary Johnson reports that the landowner trip took place last weekend and was successful. Shelly Colatskie attended and took samples from bats and studied

the guano pile (estimate of 14,000 bats). Gary said there would be more survey and bushwhacking trips in December.

- d) Fund Raising – Pic Walenta reports she is working on a Grotto calendar. She has obtained a Springfield Grotto Calendar and is looking for any ideas. There will be a photo shoot this weekend dedicated to the calendar. (Secretary's note: this trip was later postponed due to the fact the Carroll Cave Landowner does not want cavers on the property on the opening day of rifle season). Her goal is to have them ready this December. Rick Hines said he used Costco's online program for creating the calendar. Pic brought Grotto apparel.
- e) Cloud Nine – Lee Krout says there may be a bat census in February. He believes they are 80% complete with the survey.
- f) Presentation – DJ Hall will be presenting this week for Troop 381 and asked for help. There will be a trip to Cleveland Cave on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> with this troop.
- g) Website – No report
- h) Welcome – No report
- i) Publicity – no report
- j) Out of state Trip – no report
- k) MVOR – No report
- l) Missouri White Nose – Jim Cooley says Shannon County is now suspect for WNS contamination due to recent positive swab tests. This may be the winter that WNS takes its toll and many bats could be wiped out.
- m) Guano – Megan Gruenbacher reports that she needs more articles. She would like to do a caver profile section in the future.
- n) Party/Picnic – Rick Hines sent an RSVP list around the room for the December 14<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party at his home

#### 7) Member Cave Trip Reports

a) Jim Cooley - The last three weekends he has been doing conservation trips in Oregon and Shannon County, including a visit on October 26<sup>th</sup> to Big Mouth Cave (ORE-002), arrangements for which were made by local cooperater and CRF Joint Venturer Derrick Norris. This cave has never been surveyed and Jim wants to do that this winter. He also visited Boulder Skylight Arch Cave on October 27<sup>th</sup>, on the Mark Twain National Forest, also reported by Derrick Norris who discovered it while deer hunting. And he led a trip to Wind Cave November 2<sup>nd</sup>, on ONSR, to measure the guano piles. Then on Monday November 4<sup>th</sup>, Jim and Mark Phillips floated the Current River to monitor caves including Poker, Merritt Rock, Blue Pearl, Conglomerate.

b) Jim Cooley - Cleveland Cave's existing gate has been breached and needs to be repaired in order to protect the good conservation work that Dave Mead and others have accomplished up to this point. The existing gate is not bat friendly so Jim has designed one that is bat friendly, and showed us a drawing and materials list. The gate would require approx. 2955 lbs of steel and based on 2011 prices, would cost around \$1884.00. There is leftover steel from the Berome Moore cave gate project, and he will be inquiring about that. Jim will be asking the Grotto for funds as soon as he figures out what material is available. He has also asked MCKC to see if they can provide assistance. Jim has targeted April 2014 for the Cleveland Cave gate building. Vic Nickel owns Cleveland Cave, and will most likely beselling it in the next four to six years.

#### 8) Unfinished business

- a) None

9) New Member nominations

- a) Mark Phillips was nominated and voted in unanimously.

10) New business

- a) January elections are coming
- b) DJ Hall will be looking at the different versions of the KCAG Constitution and possibly holding a vote in January.

11) Upcoming Events

December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Winter Bat ID Workshop in Lee's Summit, MO at 6:30-9:30pm

December 14, 2013

KCAG Christmas Party at Rick Hines home

NSS Convention at the NSS Headquarters in Huntsville, AL

July 14-18, 2014

12) Upcoming Cave trips

Nov 16

Carroll Cave Conservancy Photo Trip (Filled up) – Rick Hines and DJ Hall will be leading (This has been postponed)

Nov 17

Carroll Cave Conservancy Restoration Trip – CANCELLED

Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>

Ennis Cave get-together.

Dec 28-Jan 2

Cave gating in Ripley County

Jan 17

Carroll Cave data logger service

Feb

Carroll Cave Far Upper Thunder – tough trip for small people

Feb 7-15<sup>th</sup>

NCRC Level 1 and 2 training

2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of Feb

Cloud Nine bat census

13) General Announcements

14) Presentations

(1) Jay Kennedy – Safety Considerations for Caving

15) 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 :
- 2) Cleveland Cave Restoration : Responsible for the Restoration of Cleveland Cave
  - a) Project Manager : Dave Mead
- 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
- 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
- 6) Presentation: Responsible for organizing and presenting caving information to scout, youth and other organized groups.
  - a) Chair :
- 7) Website: Responsible for maintaining the KCAG website and list serv.
  - a) Lead: Sam Clippinger
- 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 : Open
- 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
- 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
- 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
- 14) Party/Picnic
  - a) Chair : Rick & Kay Hines