

**Kansas City Area Grotto**  
**September Regular Business Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, September 11, 2013 – 7:00pm to 9:00pm**  
**Arthur Mag Conference Center – 4920 Cherry, KCMO**

- 1) Call to order by DJ Hall at 7:02pm - present agenda
- 2) Recognize Visitors
  - a) Kevin Weinand
  - b) Mark Ekis
  - c) Bern Weinand troop 333 from St Michael - Leawood
  - d) Nathan Spriggs
  - e) Rusti McMillan
  - f) Tom Clarke
  - g) Andy Smith
- 3) Regular Members
  - a) DJ Hall
  - b) Matt Kuehnert
  - c) Nathan Taylor
  - d) Pic Walenta
  - e) Dave Mead
  - f) Lee Krout
  - g) Jacob Krout
  - h) Austen Peters
  - i) Brandy Riggs
  - j) Andy Isbell
  - k) Kyle Lewis
  - l) Megan Gruenbacher
  - m) Jack Peters
  - n) Gary Johnson
  - o) Heidi Fletcher
  - p) Mark Fletcher
- 4) Secretary - Thanks to Nathan Taylor and Austen Peters for taking minutes last month – motion made and minutes were accepted
- 5) Reports:
  - a) President – DJ Hall reports that he will be the facilities chair for the 2015 NSS Convention in Waynesville, Missouri. DJ reviewed the caving organizations in MO.
  - b) Vice President Report – Jim Cooley absent
  - c) Treasurer Report – Pic Walenta reports a balance of \$2,375.00. Lights were purchased for \$792 last month. We now have a debit card.
  - d) Quarter Master Report - Pic Walenta reports one of the new lights is faulty and will be replaced. DJ Hall has all items except the stove.
  - e) MSS Report – Jim Cooley not present. Meeting is coming up in late September
  - f) CCC Report – Bill Gee not present. CCC events are present in schedule
- 6) Committee reports.
  - a) Novice Trip - DJ needs someone to take this position.
  - b) Cleveland Cave Restoration – Dave Mead reports there have been two recent trips
  - c) Hickory County – Gary Johnson reports new information at Murphy Memorial SF. Stovepipe and Siphon Cave. Ken Grush found that there was a 1996 trip to both of these caves involving surveying. He was able to contact the surveyors and Gary now has the data and will be able to produce a map. Pomme de Terre River has not been conducive to floating recently. Next month, he wants to visit a cave on the Little Niangua after the bats leave. Cave may have a few hundred feet of passage and it needs to be surveyed.

November 9<sup>th</sup> is the landowner trip to Elkton Cave. DJ Hall has offered to help with the rigging of hand lines in the entrance area. More cavers are needed for this trip to help landowners, flagging paths, checking guano piles, etc. In late Sept, early Oct. there will be bushwhacking trips to check out as many as seven cave leads.

- d) Cloud Nine Project – Lee Krout reports they visited in July but did not do much caving.
- e) Fund Raising – Pic Walenta reports no new projects. Grotto apparel was not at meeting tonight
- f) Presentation – DJ Hall has been working on a new presentation for scout troops. DJ has done several presentations recently
- g) Website – no report
- h) Welcome – Heidi Fletcher reports that the brochures are being ordered. Five hundred will be ordered. The brochure was displayed and looks great. It can be added to the website as well.
- i) Publicity – no report
- j) Out of state Trip – no report
- k) MVOR – no report
- l) Missouri White Nose – DJ Hall summarized the extent of WNS and current rules of closure and decontamination
- m) Guano – Megan says she is waiting for Bill Gee to send her articles for her to start the next issue.
- n) Party/Picnic – no report
- 7) Member Cave Trip Reports
  - a) DJ Hall reports on a recent Cleveland Cave trip with a scout troop. Went rappelling and camping as well. Another trip with the Royal Rangers last weekend.
  - b) Gary Johnson reports that he and his family visited Jacks Fork River and investigated small holes in bluff lines around 150' tall
  - c) Brandy Riggs reports they visited Ape Cave near Mt St Helens in Washington.
- 8) Unfinished business
  - a) KCAG Constitution and Bylaws discussion
- 9) New Member nominations – none today
- 10) New business
  - a) Andy Isbell asked if we have a liability waiver form. DJ Hall and Gary Johnson said we do have a form and they would get it to him. There are three caves near the KC Zoo and the manager said he would let people in if they had a waiver. Andy hiked through a steep hill and stickers only to find that the cave was right next to his car!
- 11) Upcoming Events

Mine Trip – 10am 9-18-13 in Lee's Summit near limestone mine. Jim Cooley will be leading this trip with Fish and Wildlife to look for bats. THIS TRIP IS FULL

## MVOR

September 13-15: Fall 2013 MVOR is being hosted by Chouteau and Peg grottos

Spring 2014 MVOR - Ozark Highlands Grotto - Barry County, MO.

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.

Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>

Bat Identification Seminar –This would last 2hrs

December 14, 2013

KCAG Christmas Party

NSS Convention at the NSS Headquarters in Huntsville, AL

July 14-18, 2014

## 12) Upcoming Cave trips

Sep 14

Cleveland Cave Scout Troop 425 Novice Trip

Sep 20-22

Ennis Cave “Camp, Cave & Conference”: trip and campout for Cooley’s friends from Alcoholics Anonymous (DNBYOB!); in conjunction with AA convention in Mountain View, Arkansas.

September 29<sup>th</sup>

MSS/MCKC meeting Sept 29th in Rolla.

Email Jim Cooley @[coolstoi@kc.rr.com](mailto:coolstoi@kc.rr.com) if interested."

Sep 30- Oct 2nd

Lewis Cave Survey – Ripley Email Jim Cooley @[coolstoi@kc.rr.com](mailto:coolstoi@kc.rr.com) if interested."

Oct 5

Carroll Cave Conservancy Land Owners Trip  
Carroll Cave Conservancy School House work day.

Oct 9<sup>th</sup>

Goodwin Sinkhole (every weekend till November)

Oct 26

Carroll Cave Conservancy Annual bat census.

Nov 9<sup>th</sup>

Elkton Cave Land Owner Trip

Nov 16

Carroll Cave Conservancy Photo Trip (Filled up)

Nov 17

Carroll Cave Conservancy Restoration Trip

13) General Announcements

14) Presentations

i) DJ Hall

(1) Review of Introduction to caving presentation.

(2) “15 Myths about being on rope”

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

16)

## **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 : Krista Bartel
- 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