

Kansas City Area Grotto
September Regular Business Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 8th, 2014 – 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) Cliff Gill
- 3) Regular Members
 - a) DJ Hall
 - b) Matt Kuehnert
 - c) Rick Hines
 - d) Dave Mead
 - e) Lee Krout
 - f) Kyle Lewis
 - g) Jack Peters
 - h) Heidi Fletcher
 - i) Mark Fletcher
 - j) Andy Miller
 - k) Jake Keitel
 - l) David Foran
 - m) Bill Gee
- 4) Secretary - motion made and November minutes were accepted unanimously
- 5) Reports:
 - a) President – DJ Hall reports the December bat ID workshop was well attended. The Christmas party was well attended and all had a great time.
 - b) Vice President Report – Jim Cooley reports that he will be doing a presentation on future cave gating projects.
 - c) Treasurer Report – Pic Walenta is not present tonight. Jim Cooley reports a balance of approximately \$2500.
 - d) Quarter Master Report - Jack Peters reports he has 10 helmets and 8 lights. Cooley has the stove, awning, bash kits. Pic has the banner
 - e) MSS Report – Jim Cooley reports an upcoming Jan 25th meeting in Rolla. There will be a big push this winter to identify WNS in Missouri.
 - f) CCC Report – Bill Gee reports this Saturday will be a data logger service trip. In February there will be a biology trip. Annual meeting will be July 26th.
- 6) Committee reports
 - a) Novice Trip – DJ Hall reports there is a trip to Finley Cave this weekend. The trip is full.
 - b) Cleveland Cave Restoration – Dave Mead reports there was a trip on Dec. 7th
 - c) Hickory County – No report
 - d) Cloud Nine Project – Lee Krout reports Jan 31, Feb 1, and 2nd will be the third annual bat survey at Cloud Nine. Camping sites available as well as trailers.
 - e) Fund Raising – no report
 - f) Presentation – DJ Hall has a May presentation for Troop 494 for May 24th trip to Cleveland Cave
 - g) Website – no report
 - h) Welcome – Heidi Fletcher reports the NSS wants to recruit “Grotto Greeters”. The NSS wants to do some outreach to recruit new NSS members. Jim Cooley suggested looking into programs like Communiversity, UMKC, community colleges, etc.
 - i) Publicity – now belongs to Heidi Fletcher – DJ Hall asked if anyone is interested in chairing this committee
 - j) Out of state Trip – no report

- k) MVOR – no report
- l) Missouri White Nose – Jim Cooley reports WNS is likely to spread through Missouri this winter.
- m) Guano – Bill Gee reports that Megan has downloaded some articles.
- n) Party/Picnic – no report
- 7) Member Cave Trip Reports
 - a) DJ Hall reports that on Dec 7th he visited Cleveland Cave with scout troop 381. Around 14 scouts attended. Jack, Austen, and Dave Mead also attended.
 - b) Jim Cooley reports a December trip to an abandoned mine in Kansas City. He also visited Camden County, Scotts Sawmill Cave. Also visited Willow Springs Cave with Ken Grush
 - c) DJ Hall reports a Carroll Cave photo trip in November. Also had a trip to Finley Cave in November.
 - d) Jim Cooley reports that the Cleveland Cave survey was finished and the map is being finished now. On December 18th, he met with the St. Francois County Commissioner to visit some mines with bat populations. He met with officials from the Mark Twain National Forest to discuss permanently closing some mines that are not easily accessible. The gates will be bat friendly but inaccessible to humans. He will be working with others to create a zip line to move equipment and people across the river. This could also be a training event for high line rigging systems.
 - e) Heidi Fletcher reports that she and her husband went to Playa del Carmen in November and visited a cenote called Ik-Kil and also a two different caves they were able to swim and snorkel.
- 8) Unfinished business
 - a) None
- 9) New Member nominations – none today
- 10) New business
 - a) Elections – DJ Hall asked Jim Cooley to create the nominating committee. Jim reports that Jack Peters and Bill Gee are on the committee. Austen Peters has been nominated for the office of Secretary. All other officers are willing to serve another year, but anyone wanting to pursue office should contact Jack or Bill between now and Jan 31st. Elections will be held next meeting. Jim also mentioned the important position of MSS coordinator.
- 11) Upcoming Events
 - a) Webinar from NSS on self-rescue will take place Jan 9th.

NSS Convention at the NSS Headquarters in Huntsville, AL July 14-18, 2014

- 12) Upcoming Cave trips
 - a) Trip this weekend to Finley
 - b) Trip this weekend to Carroll Cave – Data logger
- a) Jan 17th-19th, Lewis Cave near Powder Mill Research facility ONSR cave monitoring weekend of January 17-19, staying at PMRC. Limited trip ticket, so sign up early – we will be visiting some VERY interesting caves! Contact Jim Cooley if interested.
- b) Lee Krout and Jim Cooley will be hosting a Cloud 9 Bat Survey trip January 31-February 2. Trailers will be available for rent, and camping with electricity and water will be available.
- c) Carroll Cave biology trip on February 15th. Bill Gee will send emails out.
- d) ONSR cave monitoring weekend with Jim Cooley February 21-23, staying at PMRC.

- Limited trip ticket, so sign up early – we will be visiting some VERY interesting caves!
- e) Feb 22nd and 23rd, DJ Hall will be setting up a trip to Crystal Cave.
 - f) Jim Cooley We will be tearing out the old Lewis Cave gate weekend of March 14-16. Helpers are welcome to visit this and other caves in the area. Lewis is a BIG, COOL old show cave.
 - g) Jim Cooley We will be building a new, bat-friendly Lewis Cave gate on the weekend of March 21-23. Helpers are welcome to visit this and other caves in the area. Lewis is a BIG, COOL old show cave.
 - h) SPG will be gating Fitzpatrick Cave in Christian County south of Springfield, April 17-18th. All are welcome to come help build the gate, and to explore the cave.
 - i) We will be re-gating CLEVELAND CAVE April 19-22, near Osceola, MO. This will be a BIG KCAG grotto event. There'll be a wild catfish AND turkey fry. Big party!
 - j) We will be gating Allie Spring cave in Pulaski County near Dixon, MO, Wednesday-Friday, April 23-25. This is a VERY cool cave, we are surveying it now. Immediately afterward, we'll gate the nearby Mill Creek Cave, April 26-27.

13) General Announcements – none.

14) Presentations

- a) Jim Cooley – Gate-Ganza! Overview of possible cave gating projects that we could take part in. Jim has made drawings of gates and created priced materials lists. According to Jim these projects are important for continued caving opportunities in the future.
 - (1) \$1736 for steel for Cleveland cave and \$500 for materials. Jim does not believe that Vick Nickels will be donating money for this. MCKC and SPG may donate steel and funds as well. Jim will be attending the SPG meeting tomorrow night to ask for funds. MDC may be able to help as well. MCHF may be able to help as well but is running out of money. Jim proposes that KCAG donates \$1000 total for the Cleveland cave gate and the Pulaski County Caves (Mill Creek and Allie Spring). Rick Hines made a motion that the Grotto commits \$1000 for the construction of Cleveland and the Pulaski County Caves. Jim Cooley would be accountable. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
 - (2) DJ Hall has committed to donate \$200 to each fund and has invited others to donate as well. Other verbal commitments from the Grotto: Rick Hines \$200, Dave Mead \$200, David Foran \$200 Andy Miller \$100, and Jim Cooley for \$200. This is an additional \$1,100.00 of donations from the Grotto!

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