

Kansas City Area Grotto
August Regular Business Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 13th, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Arthur Mag Conference Center – 4920 Cherry, KCMO

- 1) Call to order by DJ Hall at 7:04 pm- present agenda
- 2) Recognize Visitors
 - a) Hope Ladish
 - b) David Rogers
 - c) Austin Toler
 - d) Steve Caulfield
- 3) Regular Members
 - a) Austen Peters
 - b) Jack Peters
 - c) Pic Walenta
 - d) Jim Cooley
 - e) Bill Gee
 - f) DJ Hall
 - g) Rick Hines
 - h) Dave Mead
 - i) Cliff Gill
 - j) Gary Johnson
 - k) Lee Krout
 - l) Andy Isbell
 - m) Jeff Page
- 4) Secretary - motion made and minutes were accepted unanimously
- 5) Reports:
 - a) President – DJ Hall reports - Not too much presidential to say today. He will have trip reports later and new as well as old business to present later.
 - b) Vice President Report – Jim Cooley reports - Nothing to report as the Vice President, but will present things later.
 - c) Treasurer Report – Pic Walenta reports a balance of \$1,769.72 in the KCAG bank account. - Cooley wrote a check to the grotto (returned funds from previous gating effort at Cleveland Cave and the Pulaski County gating projects) for \$301.28. Pic wrote a check for the remaining balance from the t-shirts for \$112.00.
 - d) Quarter Master Report – Pic Walenta reports - Cooley and Pic have most of the stuff. Jack has the helmets and lights. One helmet is unusable and one light needs to be sent back to Princeton Tech. All together, we have 9 usable helmets.
 - e) MSS Report – Jim Cooley reports - Next MSS meeting is Sunday Sept. 7, on the Current River at the Ozark National Scenic Riverways (a national park) at their Powder Mill Research Center. There will be project caving Saturday and after the business meeting on Sunday.
 - f) CCC Report – Bill Gee reports - There is a new President - Bob Lerch - Last month the CCC voted a new set of officers, Rick Hines is now reporting for the CCC at grotto meetings.
 - g) Bob Lerch - President
 - h) Jeff Page - Treasurer
 - i) Heidi Fletcher - Secretary
 - j) directors: Krista Bartel, DJ Hall, Rick Hines, Kerry Rowland, and Joe Sikorski.
- 6) Committee reports
 - a) Novice Trip– Nothing to report.

- b) Cleveland Cave Restoration – Dave Mead - Dave and Jim Cooley made a trip August 3rd, worked about an hour in the cave. Removed some graffiti in the newly named Cooley Lake Passage. Relocated the excess steel from the gating project for Cooley to pick up at a later date.
 - c) Hickory County – Gary Johnson Reports - Summer work in Hickory county usually consists of contacting landowners. Right now it is mostly bushwhacking. We have been finding caves that we didn't know about. A landowner found a 30 to 40 foot drop off that we will visit if we can get access to it. We are not sure yet if we can get access to it. There is other work that will be happening later, we need to finish up the survey in Clymore cave, that will be over 1,000 feet long. We still have one or maybe two trips still to do there. We will need somebody small for one of those trips. Those will potentially be in October, though there is no exact date yet. November 8th should be the Landowner trip for Elkton Cave. Gary will probably send out a message to the grotto sometime soon.
 - d) Cloud Nine Project – Lee Krout reports - We have not been back since last meeting. Might be going to Cloud Nine the weekend of Sept. 22nd. We have a couple of caves to finish up, Fogey Cave and Cold cave. The Pulaski County survey trip got canceled that weekend so we hope to be going back during that time frame. Cloud Nine has 33 caves and karst features. We have almost surveyed all 33 of them.
 - e) Fund Raising–Pic Walenta reports - All kinds of grotto apparel for sale. If you would like to order a polo shirt like the ones Pic and Cooley are modeling we can order them as needed. They are \$35. Nothing with the calendars yet.
 - f) Presentation –
 - Trail Life USA National Leadership Training Caving 101 presentation in Olathe KS on Sept 5.
 - Sept. 29 and Oct. 6th presentation for a caving trip, Oct. 10-12 Boy Scout troop 510 in Belton, MO. Paul Fyffe, 816.935.5013. They are wanting to camp all weekend at Cleveland Cave with a Younger Lookout rappel.
 - g) Website – Sam Clippinger reports - Not present.
 - h) Welcoming– Heidi Fletcher reports - Heidi has resigned her post.
 - i) Publicity –Heidi Fletcher reports - Heidi has resigned her post.
 - j) Out of state Trip – nothing to report.
 - k) MVOR – nothing to report.
 - l) Missouri White Nose – Jim Cooley reports - Northern Long-eared bats are being proposed for listing on the endangered species. Probably followed by little browns and Tri-colored bats.
 - m) Guano –Megan has abandoned us. There is a position open for the editor of the Guano.
 - n) Christmas Party - possibly sometime in December.
- 7) Member Cave Trip Reports
- a) July 14-18, DJ attended the NSS Convention in Huntsville Alabama. Carpoled down with some folks. They rented a house down there for a week. Over at the high school they set up a booth for next year's convention. Pretty good attendance. There was a ropes workshop. DJ was unfortunately not able to attend the entire convention. Tuesday night they went down into Steven's Gap cave. Two waterfalls on either side of the entrance. The cave was about 140 feet deep. By the time they got down it was night time. Overall a pretty cool cave.
 - b) Carroll Restoration Trip July 26th - DJ took Jack, Rick, and his two sons, along with Jamie.
 - c) Next Day, July 27th, Bill Gee took a cave fish photography trip into Carroll. For the Fishes of Missouri Book we wanted to get pictures of the fish. We wanted to get pictures

of the fish out of the cave for pictures. It almost worked. Three fish did not survive and make it back into the cave.

- d) Onondoga Lantern Tour - We did it again. We camped out at the cabin. It was an interesting trip. Andy played a fantastic Daniel Boone. Very inappropriate pictures were shown at the meeting. There's another one coming up in October.
 - e) July 11th 12th 13th and 14th at AllieSprings Cave we did a mapping project. We have been working with the landowner to get this cave mapped. Either Cooley or Ken Grush has to be there for a trip to occur. We got a total of 2,900 feet of Alley Spring Cave mapped. Nothing done on Mill Creek Cave. During the week we went to Lewis Cave in Ripley County and finished the survey, it is a total of 3,100 feet long. There are 3 dive-able opportunities in this cave. Also surveyed 84-foot Worrell Spring Cave, which had gotten 9 inches of rain upstream two weeks earlier, and found a new location for the southern cave fish, which apparently had flushed up out of the aquifer. Also surveyed Patsie Lewis Brown Cave, named after the landowner's wife, which is a 40 foot cave.
 - f) July 9th-19th Lee Krout went down to Cloud 9 and got a 54 minute go-pro video of Fogey Cave.
- 8) Old Business
- a) We are buying half dome helmets from Black Diamond. We have to buy in increments of 10. We have money in pocket for 11 helmets and we have sold 16 helmets for outside people. We need to get 30 helmets total. Motion approved to purchase 14 helmets for the grotto.
- 9) No new member nominations
- 10) New Business

a) NCRC Orientation Cave Rescue Course - DJ would like to make a Motion that the KCAG sponsor an NCRC course next Spring before the NSS Convention.

- Does KCAG wish to host?
- Tentative Date - May 16th and 17th, 2015
- Training Location?
- Mock Event Cave Location?
- Additional Costs

b) Motion to host event accepted.

11) Upcoming Cave trips

- August 16 Perkins Novice Trip – Jack Peters
- August 23rd and 24th Richard Cindric is leading a trip to Alexander Cave in Arkansas.
- September 3-7: Texas County Bear Cave Gating – Jim Cooley
- September 7th: MSS Meeting at PMRC/ONSR project caving
- September 13: Over the Edge Lincoln Nebraska
- September 20: Paintball @ DJs.
- September 20-22: Cloud 9 Ranch Surveys
- October 9-13: Carrico Cave gating, Dade County. Private lands cave. BIG PARTY! Don't miss this one.
- October 18: Over the Edge Jefferson City MO
- October 15-20: Wilderness Backpack, and cave surveying.
- October 9 – 12 TAG Fall Cave-In – Near Trenton Georgia – South of Chattanooga 10 hour drive from Kansas City
- October 31-November 7: Silver Mines Cave gating (mine closures) project, with HIGHLINE/VERTICAL RESCUE training by Dr. Jay Kennedy and Terry DeFraities, on the weekend of November 1-2

- Thanksgiving weekend: Four day float trip and backpack, Irish Wilderness, Eleven Point River
- Next year Memorial Day Weekend is Ennis Cave's 30th anniversary year blowout.

12) General Announcements –

13) Presentations

- a) Feature Presentation - Gary Johnson!!

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

15)

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