



Minutes of the Kansas City Area Grotto January 2022 Business Meeting Tuesday, January 18th, 2022 – 6:30 to 7:30 P.M.

Meeting held virtually through "ZOOM".

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Seth Colson. The following members and guests were present. Seth Colston, Jim and Julie Cooley, Bill Gee, Kristen Vogel, Jay and Nick Kennedy, Matthew Miguel Hernandez, Rick Hines, Dustin Schmidt, Scott W., and Hou Zhong.

Officer Reports:

President: Seth Colston talked about the 2022 KCAG Grotto membership dues for 2022 as well as discussions for a spring rappelling week.

Vice President: Jim Cooley had no updates.

Treasurer: Bill Gee stated that the ending balances for the month of December 2021 were \$2,793.84 (Commerce Bank) and \$1,745.29 (PayPal), for a total of \$4,539.13. Commerce Bank Expenses were as follows: A \$5 bank fee and \$137.50 deposit. PayPal Expenses were as follows: Membership dues: \$165.00 and a fee of \$8.20.

Secretary: Matthew M. Hernandez had no updates during this meeting. The previous meeting minutes, which were for November, were approved.

Quartermaster: No updates. As always, Seth can be contacted about any equipment.

Presentations: Please contact Seth Colston at swcy92@gmail.com if you are interested in giving a meeting presentation or have a topic idea. For online meetings, presentations should be in the half hour range rather than an hour long.

The Guano: No updates. Anyone interested in contributing a submission to the publication is encouraged to contact Julie Cottrell I(oragami_fold@yahoo.com) or Seth Colston (swcy92@gmail.com).

MeetUp: There have been few events on MeetUp since there have been no recent open-invitation novice trips, but Seth (swcy92@gmail.com) can still be contacted for any trips to add to the MeetUp schedule.

White Nose Syndrome: See <https://caves.org/WNS/> for the most current map of the spread of WNS.

International Year of Caves and Karst (2021): Contact Seth Colston if you have ideas for presentations or want to lead a trip in 2021.

Organization Updates:

Carroll Cave Conservancy (CCC): Rick Hines and Jim Cooley met with Rusty Clark to negotiate the current land acreage in regards to land access and hay/grazing leasing. One acre was purchased so that CCC now owns the road through the pasture. One and a half acres will be fenced in to keep cows out, though the remaining 4.5 acres will still have cows grazing on it.

MSS/MCKC: Jim Cooley informed everyone that the next MCKC & MSS business meetings will be held in Perryville, Missouri on March 6th, 2022 at the Catalyst Center.

There will also be a "Perry County Underground" educational event on March 5th and 6th. It is free and open to the public.

Project Updates:

Hickory County: Gary Johnson was not present, but Seth Colston talked about their previous two surveys at Rim Stone Dam Cave. Additionally, they were able to do further ridgewalking on the north side of the Mule Shoe Conservation Area.

Stark Caverns Survey Project: Bill Gee talked about the upcoming survey trip for February 26th

Cloud 9 Ranch: The annual Bat Census Biology trip will be on March 7th through 11th tentatively. Contact Lee Krout krout.lee@gmail.com or Kirsten Alvey-Mudd at Missouri Bat Census for details.

Devil's Icebox: Seth Colston had no major updates other than mentioning an upcoming meeting which is on the weekend of January 22nd.

Geronimo Cave: Seth Colston talked about the previous survey which was on November 20th. The survey focused on the loop stream passage. The survey also features a 150-foot belly stream crawl as you enter the cave.

Trip Reports and Other News:

Carroll Cave Photography Trip: Kristen Vogel had eight people attend the trip, some of which were newcomers. The trip went well.

Cleveland Cave Trip: Kristen Vogel led two trips into Cleveland Cave, one in the morning and another in the afternoon. The trips were well attended by about 15 people each time.

Atchison Mine: Jim Cooley took an eight-person team to the mine entrance, intending to survey the mine for the owner. Seth Colston and Krista Bartel attempted to get into the mine. The only viable entrance was heavily eroded. They were only able to get around a full length body into the entrance, but with the unstable nature of the loose fill that was falling into the entrance, it was decided that it was not worth the potential risks of a collapse to continue further.

New Business: No new business.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business and the meeting was adjourned.

Upcoming Trips and Events

COVID-19 update: Check with the trip leader before you set out to attend any of these events. Many of the “stay at home” restrictions have been lifted. Restrictions or not, please make your own decision regarding your health. The caves are not going anywhere.

2022 January 22nd – Novice trip to Kieswetter Cave. Contact Kristen Vogel vogel_kris@yahoo.com

2022 February 20th - Cleveland Cave Novice Trip. Contact Nathan Taylor. nathan.t.taylor@gmail.com

2022 February 26th – Stark Caverns Survey Trip. Small people needed. Contact Bill Gee bgee@campercaver.net

2022 March 19th – Carroll Cave. Service the Anabat Roost Logger in the Mountain Room. Change batteries and memory card. Contact Bill Gee bgee@campercaver.net.

2022 March 30th through April 7th: Cave gating project to protect a LARGE gray bat colony in western Camden County, Missouri. Contact Jim Cooley for more information. coolstoi@kc.rr.com or (816) 753-8111

2022 June 13th through 17th – NSS National Convention in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Central States Fairground in Rapid City, South Dakota.

2022 July 24th through 25th – 18th International Congress of Speleology. Savoie Technolac, 16 Avenue du Lac du Bourget, Le Bourget-du-Lac, France. <http://uis2021.speleos.fr/>

2022 October 15th – Bridge Day in West Virginia. <https://officialbridgeday.com/>

2023 – NSS National Convention in Elkton, West Virginia. This is a retry from the canceled/online 2020 event. Dates are not yet determined.