



Minutes of the Kansas City Area Grotto
February 2022 Business Meeting
Tuesday, February 15th, 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 Bill Gee. The following members and guests were present. Mary, Luke, John, Jodi, Steve, Jim and Julie Cooley, Corey Ellis, Bill Gee, Matthew M. Hernandez, Rick Hines, Jay and Nick Kennedy, Jeff Page, John Roth, Taylors, and Kristen Vogel.

Officer Reports:

President: Seth Colston was not present.

Vice President: Jim Cooley talked about the upcoming rappelling weekend down at Truman Lake (May 13th to 15th) as well as the upcoming MVOR (Mississippi Valley Ozark Region) party weekend scheduled for April 29th through May 1st. Rumor is that the location will be on the Osage River downstream from Bagnell Dam, i.e., near the Lake of the Ozarks.

Treasurer: Bill Gee stated that the ending balances for the month of January 2022 were \$2,763.84 (Commerce Bank), \$1,881.02 (PayPal), \$67.00 (Petty Cash) for a total of \$4,711.86. Commerce Bank Expenses were as follows: A \$5 bank fee and \$25 check. PayPal Expenses were as follows: Membership dues: \$42.50 and a fee of \$6.77.

Secretary: Matthew M. Hernandez had no updates during this meeting. The previous meeting minutes, which were for January, 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 Cooley (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 stated that the perimeter fence around the camping area is officially up. He also stated that trusses for the shelter house structure had been purchased. The current plan for the shelter is to be approximately 20'x24'. Jeff Page mentioned there is an upcoming meeting for MCKC to discuss formally being committed to merging CCC with MCKC.

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, so no updates were discussed.

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

Cloud 9 Ranch: Jim Cooley talked about the upcoming 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 was not present, so no updates were discussed

Geronimo Cave: There will be a survey trip led by Seth Colston on February 27th. Contact Seth for more details/information (swcy92@gmail.com).

Trip Reports and Other News:

Kieswetter Cave: Hou Zhong led his trip as a trip leader The trip was successful.

Carroll Cave: Bill Gee talked about the data logger service trip that was in January. There were five people in total. Unfortunately, UL-2's datalogger had a bad battery. It was sent to the manufacturer to get fixed. The logs have been posted onto Carroll Cave's website.

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

2022 March 19th – Cleveland Cave Novice trip. Contact Hou Zhong for more information. human3721@gmail.com

2022 March 30th through April 10th: 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

2022 April 29th through May 1st - MVOR. Rumor is that the location will be on the Osage River downstream from Bagnell Dam, i.e., near the Lake of the Ozarks.

2022 May 13th through 15th – Rappel and vertical practice at Truman Lake. Camping Friday and Saturday nights somewhere nearby. Details are still being worked up.

2022 May 14th – Over The Edge urban rappel event. This is a fund raiser to benefit the KC Fringe Festival. The location will be in the mid-town area of Kansas City, Missouri. More information at <https://give.overtheedge.events/ote-kcfringe2022>

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 31st – 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/>

2022 October 15 – Over The Edge urban rappel event. This is a fund raiser to benefit Voices of Courage CAC. The location is downtown St. Joseph, Missouri. More information at <https://give.overtheedge.events/voicescac2022>

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