



**Minutes of the Kansas City Area Grotto  
May 2022 Business Meeting  
Tuesday, May 17th, 2022 – 6:30 to 7:30 P.M.**

**Meeting Held inside the auditorium at Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center, a Missouri Department of Conservation facility at 4750 Troost, Kansas City, and via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Seth Colston. The following members and guests were also present: Luke, Jim & Julie Cooley, Bill Gee, Trent Hall, Matthew M. Hernandez, Nathan Taylor, Kristen Vogel, Joe & Terri Wynne.

**Officer Reports:**

**President:** Seth Colston talked about the upcoming Grotto Summer Picnic, scheduled for Saturday August 13th.

**Vice President:** Jim Cooley had no updates for this meeting.

**Treasurer:** Bill Gee informed everyone that the ending balances for the month of March 2022 were \$2,679.90 (Commerce Bank), \$1,931.00 (PayPal), \$97.00 (Petty Cash) for a total of \$4,707.90. Commerce Bank Expenses were as follows: \$5 bank fee. There were no transactions for PayPal and Petty Cash. Bill also presented a slide show presenting CaveSim. The motion to donate \$100 to CaveSim to defray their expenses to attend the NSS convention was approved.

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

**Quartermaster:** Nathan Taylor is the new Quartermaster, He can be contacted about any equipment. Additionally, there will be raffle in the future to win a kayak.

**Presentations:** Please contact Seth Colston at [swcy92@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:oragami_fold@yahoo.com)) or Seth Colston ([swcy92@gmail.com](mailto:swcy92@gmail.com)).

**MeetUp:** MeetUp has been renewed till September 2022.

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

**Organization Updates:**

**Carroll Cave Conservancy (CCC):** There have been no new updates regarding the merge of CCC and MCKC.

**MSS/MCKC:** Jim Cooley talked about the new liability release form required by MCKC for all of their owned, leased, and managed properties, and the mandated protocol for administering it. A discussion followed among trip leaders that frequent these caves, continuing an e-mail discussion, of how this could be made to work in the different circumstances in the MCKC caves

that KCAG members manage and KCAGers use A LOT: Cleveland, Perkins, and, to a lesser extent, Lewis.

### **Project Updates:**

**Hickory County:** Gary Johnson was not present, so no updates were discussed.

**Stark Caverns Survey Project:** Bill Gee talked about doing a survey in the cave on June 4<sup>th</sup>, focusing on the Rugged Canyon portion of the cave. Contact Bill Gee at [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net).

**Cloud 9 Ranch:** Jim Cooley talked about the recent cave map quality control trip he and Julie led with Lee Krout, another cave-fanatic ranch member named Peter Schnegelberger, and Candace and Mike Kovacs of SPG. A lot of time was spent surveying a new cave, OZK-124 Critter Crawls Cave, one of two they found, and looking for two others recently reported that could not be found. QC efforts were focused on Flat Ceiling Cave, Cave Hole Cave, the Bear Caves, and Fogey.

**Devil's Icebox:** Seth Colston had no updates for Devil's Icebox.

**Geronimo Cave:** Seth Colston will be conducting the remaining survey work for this on June 2nd and 3rd. Please contact Seth Colston at [swcy92@gmail.com](mailto:swcy92@gmail.com)

### **Trip Reports and Other News:**

**Grotto Meeting:** The meeting scheduled for the month of June has been canceled, the next meeting will be on July 5<sup>th</sup> the first Tuesday of the month.

**Grotto Summer Picnic:** Rick Hines will be hosting the picnic on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. Details will be updated when available.

**New Business:** A motion was made, seconded and passed to elevate the position of Novice Trip Coordinator a grotto Board Position. Welcome to the Dream Team, Kristen Vogel!

**Unfinished Business:** No unfinished business. The meeting was adjourned. Participants then had pizza at Minsky's Pizza at 51<sup>st</sup> and Main.

## 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 May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Cleveland Cave Novice Trip. Contact Kristen Vogel for more information.  
[vogel\\_kris@yahoo.com](mailto:vogel_kris@yahoo.com)

2022 May 27<sup>th</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup> – Speleofest. This is a caver gathering in Kentucky. More information at the Speleofest web site. <http://speleofest.com/>

2022 June 4<sup>th</sup> – Carroll Cave Restoration Project. Contact Kristen Vogel for more information.  
[vogel\\_kris@yahoo.com](mailto:vogel_kris@yahoo.com)

2022 June 4<sup>th</sup> – Stark Caverns Survey Trip. Small people are needed as we will be traversing some tight passages. Contact [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net) for more information.

2022 June 13<sup>th</sup> – Introduction to Caving. This is a Zoom call starting at 6:30 CDT, 6:30pm CDT. Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqd-qhqD0rGtPmhR32aNAGZQFJobzWHQJF>

2022 June 13<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup> – NSS National Convention in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Central States Fairground in Rapid City, South Dakota. Go to NSS 2022 Convention Website for more information.

2022 June 26<sup>th</sup> – Perkins Cave Novice Trip. Contact Kristen Vogel for more information.  
[vogel\\_kris@yahoo.com](mailto:vogel_kris@yahoo.com)

2022 July 9<sup>th</sup> – Carroll Cave Data Logger Service Trip. This is a fairly easy trip. Membership in Carroll Cave Conservancy is required. Contact [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net) for more information.

2022 July 24<sup>th</sup> through 31<sup>st</sup> – 18th International Congress of Speleology. Savoie Technolac, 16 Avenue du Lac du Bourget, Le Bourget-du-Lac, France. <http://uis2021.speleos.fr/>

2022 September 22<sup>nd</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup> – Fall MVOR. The location is Perryville, Missouri. Sponsored by SEMO Grotto. More details and registration information should be out in early August.

2022 October 8<sup>th</sup> – Over The Edge urban rappel event. This is a fund raiser to benefit Restoration House of Greater Kansas City. The location is the Marriott Hotel at I-435 and Metcalf in Overland Park. More information at <https://give.overtheedge.events/oterh2022>

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

2022 October 15<sup>th</sup> – 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>

2022 October 29<sup>th</sup> – Carroll Cave Annual Bat Census. This trip down Carroll River passage to the mountain room, or close to it. This is a long and fairly difficult six-mile round trip. Wet-suit recommended. Contact ([bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net)) for more information.

2022 November 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: National meeting of Cave Research Foundation in Perryville, MO. Cave survey and a Saturday meeting open to the public. Contact Jim Cooley ([coolstoi@kc.rr.com](mailto:coolstoi@kc.rr.com)) for more details.

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