



Minutes of the Kansas City Area Grotto
January 2023 Business Meeting
Tuesday, January 17th, 2023 – 6:30 to 7:30 P.M.

**Meeting at the 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 Bill Gee. The following members and guests were also present: Tristan, Core Ellis, Joe Hamilton, Matthew M. Hernandez, Mike and Candace Kovacs, Kohl Mitchell, Dustin Schmidt, Nathan Taylor, Kristen Vogel, and Tom Whitby.

Officer Reports:

President: In absence of a President, Bill Gee started the meeting off by talking about the Treasurer update. See below section.

Vice President: Jim Cooley was not present so there are no updates.

Treasurer: Bill Gee informed everyone that the ending balances for the month of December 2022 were \$4,370.08 (Commerce Bank), \$533.48 (PayPal), \$89.00 (Petty Cash) for a total of \$4,922.56. Commerce Bank expenses were a single \$5 bank fee and a deposit of \$52.50. PayPal expenses were a fee of \$4.25 and an income of \$90 from membership dues. The balance for petty cash increased by \$35 from membership dues.

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

Quartermaster: Nathan Taylor is the Quartermaster; He can be contacted about any equipment.

Novice Trips: Kristen Vogel informed everyone that she is planning a Cleveland Cave trip on the third weekend in March.

Presentations: Please contact Bill Gee at bgee@campercaver.net 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. For in-person meetings up to an hour is available.

The Guano: No updates. Anyone interested in contributing a submission to the publication is encouraged to contact Julie Cooley (oragami_fold@yahoo.com).

MeetUp: Kristen Vogel has no updates. Meetup is paid up through March 2023.

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

Organization Updates:

Carroll Cave Conservancy (CCC): Bill Gee talked about the data logger trip which was on January 7th. There were five people in total on the trip. The trip went fast with spare time spent sight seeing around the conference room and round room. All data for 2022 is now gathered and collected. There was also a survey trip which was on the north side of DL7 and around the Lake Room.

MSS/MCKC: Jim Cooley was not present, so there are no updates.

Hickory County: Gary Johnson was not present, so no updates on his work were discussed. Corey Ellis was present thought he had no updates to provide.

Stark Caverns Survey Project: Bill Gee talked about a previously planned photography trip that was scheduled for December 17th, it ended up being aborted. The rescheduled date has not been set yet.

Cloud 9 Ranch: Lee Krout was not present and nor was Jim Cooley, so no updates were discussed.

Devil's Icebox: Kristen had no updates. There will be a biology inventory trip in April. You have to be a member of the Devil's Icebox survey group to participate.

Geronimo Cave: Bill Gee had no updates for Geronimo Cave. Seth Colston is still developing the map for the cave.

Trip Reports and Other News:

Mary Lawson Cave: Corey Ellis was involved in survey of Mary Lawson Cave. The work was divided among four teams. There were able to survey roughly a couple thousand feet.

New Business:

Grotto Officers Positions

President: Bill Gee

Vice President: Dustin Schmidt.

Treasurer: Jim Cooley

Secretary: Matthew M. Hernandez

Quartermaster: Nathan Taylor

Novice Trips: Kristen Godfrey

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business. The meeting was adjourned. Participants then had pizza at Minsky's Pizza at 51st 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.

2023 February 18th – Jim & Julie Cooley will be sponsoring a visit to Cleveland Cave by Scout Troop 395 of Leawood, KS, including a campout Saturday night. This is ALSO an opportunity for any cavers who wish to become vetted trip guides for Cleveland Cave to visit and get oriented to the cave, grounds and the responsibilities of an Authorized Trip Guide. Note: Interested cavers will NOT be required to camp with the Scouts on Saturday night, February 18th, although you are welcome to do so if you wish. Please contact coolstoi@kc.rr.com for more details.

2023 February 21st: **Monthly KCAG meeting** at the Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center, 4750 Troost, Kansas City, Missouri, and via Zoom. Please contact bgee@campercaver.net if you would like to make a presentation!

2023 March 18th – Carroll Cave Bat Roost Detector Service Trip, led by Bill Gee. Trip is currently full; Please contact bgee@campercaver.net if you would like to be wait-listed. This will be a medium difficult trip.

2023 April 28th – 30th – Spring MVOR – Waynesville, MO. The place and date are not 100% certain, so stay tuned just in case. The flyer should be out in early to mid March.

2023 June 26th – 30th – NSS National Convention in Elkton, West Virginia. This is a retry from the canceled/online 2020 event. <https://nss2023.caves.org/>