



**Minutes of the Kansas City Area Grotto
September 2024 Business Meeting
Tuesday, September 17th, 2024 – 6:30 to 8:30 P.M.**

Meeting held 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 grotto president Bill Gee. The following members and guests were also present: Jordie, Laura, Matthew M. Hernandez, Rick Hines, Dustin Schmidt, Steve, Trey, and Kristen Vogel.

Officer Reports:

President: Bill Gee started the meeting off with a presentation on the Grotto picnic. See “Trip Report” section for details.

Vice President: Dustin Schmidt had no updates to provide.

Treasurer: Jim Cooley was not present, so no updates were discussed.

Secretary: Matthew M. Hernandez had no updates to provide during the meeting. The prior minutes for the month of July had not been submitted to the Grotto.

Quartermaster: Nathan Taylor had no updates to provide. He can be contacted about borrowing any equipment.

Novice Trips: Kristen Vogel had no updates to provide.

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 are available.

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

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

Organization Updates:

Carroll Cave: Rick Hines mentioned there will be an upcoming workday for a few of the remaining items regarding the shelter pavilion. More updates will be provided when details are refined.

MSS/MCKC: Jim Cooley was absent from the meeting, no updates were discussed.

Cloud 9 Ranch: Jim Cooley was absent from the meeting, no updates were discussed. Bill Gee stated there may be a bat counting trip in February of 2025.

Stark Caverns: Bill Gee had no new updates to provide other than mentioning that a quality control check needs to be scheduled and performed on the cave map.

Devil’s Icebox: Kristen had no new updates to provide.

Geronimo Cave: Bill Gee stated that Seth Colston is still interested in developing the map for the cave, but no developments have been made.

Trip Reports and Other News:

Grotto Summer Picnic: Bill Gee presented pictures of this year's grotto picnic, which was in August. The pictures are courtesy of Rick Hines. The photos were filled with wonderful smiles from all the friends and families that joined in at the picnic.

Carroll Cave Data Logger Service Trip: Bill Gee talked about his recent trip to Carroll Cave to service the data loggers. This is a retry from the previous July trip. In July the cave accumulated a substantial amount of water due to inclement weather, making some areas impassable. On this trip they were able to access the remaining loggers. There were some new people to Carroll Cave on this trip, so they did some sight-seeing along the way. Overall, the trip spanned four and a half hours. Everyone enjoyed the trip.

Novice/Scout Trips: No trips discussed.

New Business: No new business.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business. The meeting was adjourned.

Upcoming Trips and Events

Check with the trip leader before you set out to attend any of these events.

2024 September 19th through 22nd: SEMO Grotto is hosting the Fall MVOR (Mississippi Valley Ozark Region) in Perryville, Missouri. For additional details, please see “<https://mvor.org/sites/default/files/MVOR2024Flyer-compressed.pdf>”

2024 October 12th through 13th: Shane McCurdy will be leading a trip to some gypsum selenite caves in Oklahoma. 15 to 20 minutes from Boiling Springs State Park. He can be contacted for additional information.

2024 October 19th: Bridge Day at New Rivers Gorge Bridge in West Virginia. For more information see <https://bridgedayrappel.com/>.

2024 October 26th: Carroll Cave Annual Base census trip. This trip is currently full. Contact Bill Gee for more information. ”bgee@campercaver.net”

2025 January 4th: Carroll Cave data logger service trip. Contact Bill Gee for more information. ”bgee@campercaver.net”

2025 June 21st through 28th: NSS Convention in Cobleskill, New York. More information is available on the NSS Convention website. “<https://caves.org/convention/2025-nss-convention/>”

2026: NSS Convention in Corydon, Indiana.