



Minutes of the Kansas City Area Grotto
November 2024 Business Meeting
Tuesday, November 19th, 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: Dillon Bond, Jim Cooley, Corey Ellis, Matthew M. Hernandez, Rick Hines, Gabriel Fedynich, Kohl Mitchell, Dustin Schmidt, and Hou Zhong.

Officer Reports:

President: Bill Gee started the meeting off by introducing Dillon Bond. Dillon is doing a presentation about Island Cave which is located in Ha Ha Tonka State Park. See section further below for details. Bill also mentioned that he was able to have a handful of Disto-X tailpieces 3D printed from his local library.

Vice President: Dustin Schmidt had no updates to provide.

Treasurer: Jim Cooley informed everyone that the total balance across all accounts is \$3,753.73. The balances for each account type are as follows. Bank account has \$3,324.73, PayPal has \$290.00, and Petty Cash is \$139.00.

Secretary: Matthew M. Hernandez had no updates to provide during the meeting.

Quartermaster: Nathan Taylor was not present and there were no updates to provide. He can be contacted about borrowing any equipment.

Novice Trips: Kristen Vogel was not present and there are no upcoming novice trips planned.

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.

Island Cave: Ha Ha Tonka State Park: Dillon Bond gave the grotto a presentation about his recent trip to Island Cave, which is located in Ha Ha Tonka State Park in Camden County, Missouri. This cave is one of the first few that was publicly documented in Missouri. This cave is open by permit application from June 15th to September 15th. Dillon showed various photographs of the formations along the passages. After talking about Island Cave, he transitioned to showing pictures of his September Bio-Inventory trip to Kiesewetter Cave. He highly recommended those who have not had a chance to visit, to put it into their calendars.

The Guano: KCAG does not currently publish a newsletter. When we did, it was called *The Guano*. Back issues can be viewed on our website. If someone would like to resurrect this effort, please contact Bill Gee or Jim Cooley for details.

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

Organization Updates:

MSS/MCKC: Jim Cooley had no updates to provide.

Cloud 9 Ranch: Jim Cooley mentioned there will be a February Bat census trip on the property. Jim will be providing details as the month gets closer.

Stark Caverns: Bill Gee had no new updates to provide.

Devil's Icebox: Kristen was not present, so nothing was discussed.

Geronimo Cave: Bill Gee informed everyone that Seth Colston signed up for the Carroll Cave Data Logger service trip in January. He is also going to transfer all the current survey data to Bill Gee in order for him to develop the map.

Trip Reports and Other News:

Carroll Cave Bat Census: Bill Gee talked about the Bat Census trip which was on the 26th of October. The trip team counted three Tri-Colored Bats, a few solo Gray Bats in addition to a single small cluster of Gray Bats. They also saw close to a hundred Sculpins. The trip was a successful good trip.

Carroll Cave Work Weekend: Rick Hines mentioned they had an excellent work weekend. They had a total of 14 people participating. The rock wall for the fireplace is completed. All of the exterior board and batten siding is finished. The wiring for the container / shelter is completed. The steel wind break has been disassembled for salvage.

Oklahoma Trip: Corey Ellis talked about his Oklahoma trip with Shane McCurdy. They spent their time ridge walking/caving at a ranch, guided by lidar maps. He said there were lots of cool formations / crystal rocks. Everything was formed in Gypsum. He also visited a show cave along the way.

Novice/Scout Trips: No trips discussed.

New Business: Christmas Party to be on December 14th, see upcoming trips and events.

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 November 15th-17th & 22nd-24th: Carroll Cave property, Pic Walenta Memorial Shelter work detail. See above for details.

2024 December 14th: Kansas City Area Grotto Christmas Party, see attached flyer.

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

2025 January 18th-19th: Cave gating project, CAM-096 Neongwah Bear Cave on the Bridal Cave property in Camdenton, MO. Contact Jim Cooley for more information. coolstoi@kc.rr.com

2025 April 4th through 6th: MCKC and MSS meetings on Sunday Apr 6. Three days of caving before that. Camping at the Winona Field Houses. Contact Dan Lamping for more information. danieljlamping@gmail.com

2025 Late April: MVOR at Shriner's Camp near Waynesville, MO.

2025 May 2nd through 4th: SERA Cave Carnival in Tennessee. <https://sera2025.subworks.com/>

2025 May 23rd through 26th: Ennis Cave Blowout. Northern Arkansas. Contact Randy Rose for more information. randalrose@sbcglobal.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/>"

2025 October 6th through 10th: National Cave and Karst Management Symposium in Ely, Nevada. <https://ely2025.nckms.org/>

2026 July 6th through 10th: NSS Convention in Corydon, Indiana.

KCAG Christmas Party & Dinner

Saturday, December 14, 2024

6:00 PM

At the home of Rick Hines
16525 Orchard Lane
Stilwell, KS 66085

Meat and hot apple
cider provided
Bring a dish to share

After dinner plan to stay
for a fire on the deck and
a dip in the indoor heated pool

RSVP

rickhines@aol.com or 913 710 1063

