

# Meeting Minutes for KCAG - March 17, 2026

## Attendees – In person:

Bill Gee  
Kelly Wood  
Bailey Martinez  
Jim Cooley  
Cory Ellis  
Shane McCurdy  
Rick Hines  
Ray Petersen  
Seth Colston  
Nathan Taylor

Dani Leonard  
Will Simms  
Allyssia Seymour  
Andrew Karum  
Kristen Vogel  
Bridget Huepfel

## Attendees – On Zoom:

Dillon Bond  
Andrew Karum

6:34 pm – Called to order

6:34 pm – Newcomers into  
Kelly Wood  
Andrew Karum

6:38 pm – Presidents Report

The KCAG Vice President position is effectively back open, since Steve Wahlen, the person that volunteered to fill the position for 2026, has been absent and unresponsive.

Siewei Tian's Zoom presentation on the Cavway1 survey instrument is up on YouTube now.

2026 Member Dues are now due

6:42 pm – Vice Presidents Report - no update, due to the position's vacancy

6:42 pm – Treasures Report

<b>KCAG TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 3/17/2026 GROTTO MEETING</b>				
BANK ACCT	Check#	To/From	Amount	Balance
2/17/2026		STARTING BALANCE		\$3,566.07
3/17/2026	136	Jim Cooley - Stamps for cave management	(\$119.76)	\$3,446.31
3/17/2026		ENDING BALANCE		\$3,446.31
<b>Paypal</b>				
		To/From		
2/17/2026		STARTING BALANCE		\$597.74
3/17/2026		ENDING BALANCE		\$597.74
<b>Petty Cash</b>				
		To/From		
2/17/2026		STARTING BALANCE		\$244.00
3/17/2026		ENDING BALANCE		\$244.40
<b>Total KCAG balance:</b>				<b>\$4,288.45</b>

6:45 pm – Secretary Report - no update

6:45 pm – Project updates

MSS/MCKC meetings are this coming Sunday. Cave trips are full.

Novice and Scout Trips - Cleveland Cave: There were two scout trips last weekend. Another preliminary trip is scheduled for the leaders of a girls group, for them to assess if they feel that the cave would be an appropriate place for a later activity for their group.

Stark Caverns & Geronimo Springs Caves - no change

Cloud Nine Caves - no update

6:53 pm – Quartermaster Report

Helmets are out, as they were used on the recent Cleveland Trip.

The DistoX2s are out as well, in use with KCAG members.

There was a discussion about reported broken helmets and headlamps.

6:58 pm – Trip Reports

Bill spoke about his trip in Shannon County last weekend, which was cut a day short due to a large winter weather system moving in on the last day.

Dillon Bond was going to work on a dig-out project, but it was rained out the day-of.

6:55 pm – Upcoming trips and events

2026 March 21-22 – MSS/MCKC meeting at Kohl Mitchell's farm

2026 April 17-19 – Spring MVOR at Shriner's Campground near Waynesville. More information will be available around early March.

2026 June 18 – Presentation at Rolling Hills Library, St. Joseph

2026 July 6-10 – NSS Convention in Corydon, Indiana. NSS Web site for more information. There is also a promotional video on YouTube

2026 July 11-15 – MAYBE! Trip to TAG for three days of caving. Contact [bgee@campercaver.net](mailto:bgee@campercaver.net) for more information.

2026 September 18-20 – Fall MVOR at Riverview Ranch. More information will be available around early August.

2027 June 14-18 – NSS National Convention in Del Rio, Texas.

7:04 pm – Late Newcomer into  
Bridget Huepfel

7:07 - New Business

Cory Ellis is going on a 4-day Lechuguilla trip in a few weeks. The trip objective is assumed to be working on the on-going rope replacement effort, but the full details of the objective have not been provided so far.

Stipend for Jack Rufener to attend NCRC training. Jim Cooley made a motion that the grotto give \$200 towards the cost of Jack's tuition for the training seminar. The motion was quickly seconded, and unanimously approved.

Vote-in new members? No one was eligible this time.

Josh White and Shane McCurdy have some prospective spots in Swope Park and along the Blue River that may be suitable for a more local vertical practice location. These spots need some work, and need to be further assessed and developed for easy access, approach, and safety.

7:17 pm - Adjourned