

Meeting Minutes for KCAG - May 19, 2026

Attendees - In person:

Bill Gee
Cory Ellis
Rick Hines
Shane McCurdy
Steve Wahlen
Jarred Madsen
Lola Madsen
Raney Yelenich
Brady Watts
Will Sims
Allyssa Seymour
Ethan Lenhardt
Richard Cindric
Nathan Taylor
Jeff Page
Bailey Martinet
Dillon Bond
Quentin Brown
Jocelynn Morris
Kristen Vogel

Attendees - On Zoom:

Kohl Mitchell
Andrew Karum
Palmer Bowles
Dani Leonard

6:34 pm - Called to order

6:35 pm - Newcomers introduced themselves:

Jarred Madsen
Lola Madsen
Raney Yelenich
Brady Watts

6:38 pm - Cory Ellis gave a long-form photo presentation on his recent multi-day expedition to the Southwest Branch of Lechuguilla Cave in Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM. The mission for the trip was rope replacement and doing photogrammetry in the Chandelier Ballroom. The goal of the photogrammetry is to get an extensive enough number of photographs of the Chandelier Ballroom to build a 3D rendering of the room.

8:02 pm - Business updates

President Report - no updates

Secretary Report - no updates

Treasures Report - no change from last month

Quartermaster Report - Four headlamps were damaged, and were sent in to the manufacturer for repair and the manufacturer replaced them with new headlamps. So we have four new headlamps now.

The safety cable is now removed from Carroll Cave.

Bill Gee has officially called off the tentative July 11-15 trip to TAG, which was to be immediately following the 2026 convention, due to logistics and anticipated fuel costs.

8:04 pm - The following Saturday, May 30th, Dillon Bond is leading a novice level trip to Perkins Cave. Plans are to use the Carroll Cave campground for camping and to meet before carpooling over the cave itself, being that parking at the cave is limited.

8:07 pm - Upcoming trips and events

2026 May 30 - Novice trip to Perkins Cave. Contact Dillon Bond for more information.

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

2026 August 8 - KCAG Summer Picnic at the home of Rick Hines. More details will be sent out to the grotto email list as the date approaches.

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

2026 September 22-26 - "The Hypogea 2026 International Congress will be at Tbilisi, Georgia (Europe) Sept 22-26 under the patronage of the Union International de Speleologie (UIS). For more information: <https://hypogea2026.com/> "

2026 October 17 - Bridge Day. <https://officialbridgeday.com/> for more information.

2026 October 31 - Annual bat census trip at Carroll Cave. Contact bgee@campercaver.net for more details.

2026 November 5-9 - International Technical Rescue Symposium in Golden, CO. Co-sponsored by Pigeon Mountain Industries. More information at <https://itrsonline.org/>

2026 November 1-13 - 22nd International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology. Held in the Canary Islands. Registration should open in May 2026. Contact Dave Foran for more information.

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

8:08 pm - Trip Reports

Roanoke Park Cave - Bill Gee, Dillon Bond, and Jim Cooley participated in the survey and exploration of a recently re-opened cave entrance in Roanoke Park in Kansas City, MO. It is largely a single room with knee to hip deep water, with a single side passage crawl in low water.

Bill Gee, Jim Cooley worked on some project caving and survey in Shannon County, MO. One survey trip was cut short due to the reluctance to disturb a large seasonal presence of bats.

Dillon Bond took the Lake of the Ozarks Grotto on a novice level trip to Skaggs cave.

8:20 pm - Adjourned