Meeting Minutes for KCAG - Oct 20, 2026

Attendees – In person:
Bill Gee
Shane McCurdy
Ray Peterson
Jim Cooley
Kristen Vogel

Attendees – On MS Teams:
Rick Hines
Dillon Bond
Andrew Karum
Qu
Dani Leonard

6:43 pm – Called to order

6:43 pm – The President's update
* We have lost access to the use of the Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center for use for our meetings. Due to an upcoming change in the available hours for using the center not extending late enough into the evening to accommodate our meeting schedule.
* Bill has visited some prospective locations, but they do not seem suitable for various reasons.
* Kristen Vogel looked at nearly every library, and they do not offer an ability to set up long term standing reservations, and only allow for reservations 90 days or less in advance.
* The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts was raised as a possibility.
* UMKC (University of Missouri-Kansas City) may be an option, proposed by Julie Cooley, via their Geology department.

6:47 pm – Vice President Report
No update, as he's away

6:47 pm – Treasures Report

Activity
* Petty cash went up, after the last meeting

Total KCAG Balance: $4,169.79

6:48 pm – Secretary Report
No update

6:49 pm – Project updates and Committee Reports
* Bill Gee will be going to Carroll Cave to do a bat census, and check on the lighter cache. He may perform some groundskeeping work as well. Rick Hines mentioned we needed to check on the cached harnesses, and there was a brief discussion about that.
* MSS/MCKC Jim Cooley - The next MSS meeting is scheduled for March 19th-21st, at the home and farm of Kohl Mitchell near Laddonia, MO.

6:53 pm – Novice and Scout trips
- Dream Cave trip this Saturday, which is not a great novice cave
- Rattlesnake Cave trip coming up, and Dillon Bond will send out an email soon

Cloud Nine Caves - no update
* Bill heard from Lee Kraut via email about some bat detectors, but Cloud Nine caves themselves were not discussed.

6:57 pm – Quartermaster Report
Nathan Taylor is not present.
Dillon returned the helmets to Nathan Taylor.

7:36 pm – Trip Reports
* Bill Gee did the Bridge Day event again this year, where he again volunteered with the safety team. He reported on his travels, etc. There was a significant cold front that came through the morning of the event, which included 30+ mph winds.
* Jim Cooley led the survey of what wound up being Still Cave, near Bent Tree Harbor, MO. Ken Grush, had added the cave to the database, but with a bad location. It was confirmed to be the same cave, and the database was corrected. There was 275 ft of survey conducted, thanks in no small part to Jessica Wilson. She also took a splay shot into a side passage at over a 100 ft, and there are plans to go back to mop up that side passage to complete the survey.
* Shane re-gated the south entrance of Wind Cave in southern MO, near the town of Jane. While in the area he did a recreational trip through nearby Henson Cave. He then later traveled up to the Northeast, where he helped with the annual Pennsylvania Bat Gate Workshop. During the workshop he installed a series of small bat gates on a complex mine entrance.
* On the previous Saturday the Cooleys led a trip out of the Winona, MO station, where they, Jess Wilson and Candice Kovacs visited Amphitheater Cave, in the Irish Wilderness. Sunday Candice canoed to Outflow Cave, did monitoring. It was described as about 4000 ft in extent, and highly decorated. While there they also ran into nine beavers.
* Two days later the Cooleys found a lead to McDowl Cave. They later visited Bliss Camp cave.
* Jim Cooley then shifted to working on continuing surveys on several caves in nearby Shannon County, MO, over the following weekend.

7:18 pm – Upcoming trips and events

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 6-7 – Annual CRF meeting in Perryville, MO. Contact Chad McCain for more information

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.

2026 December 12 – KCAG Holiday party. Details will be out around early November.

2027 January 11-25 – Expedition caving in Thailand. An exotic location! Contact Robert Keith Keith3001979@gmail.com

2027 March 19-21: Cave survey and MSS meeting at Kohl Mitchell's farm in Ralls County, MO. Contact Jim Cooley or see MSS website (mospeleo.org) for details.

2027 April 29 to May 2 – Spring MVOR at Shriner's Campground near Buckhorn, MO. Details will be out in mid-March.

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

2028 dates not known yet – NSS Annual Convention in Washington State.

Shane vert training

7:28 pm - New Business
* Jay Peterson was nominated and voted in as a member

7:30 pm - Adjourned