

THE MSS LIAISON

VOLUME 56 NUMBER 5-6

May - June 2016

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS:

CHOUTEAU-KCAG-LEG-LOG-MMV-MSM-MVG-OHG-PEG-SPG-SEMO-MCKC-CCC-CAIRN.

Distributed free on the MSS website: <http://www.mospeleo.org/>
Subscription rate for paper copies is \$10.00 per year. Send check or money order made out to the Missouri Speleological Survey to the Editor, Gary Zumwalt, 1681 State Route D, Lohman, MO 65053. Telephone: 573-782-3560.



President's Message. Our organization is truly remarkable. This is due largely to the efforts and endeavors of tenacious, task oriented individuals with unique abilities and traits, who are exceptional in their contributions and possess a tendency to follow through. Our last meeting exemplified this. We had survey crews doing original exploration, a cave biologist documenting Ozark cave life, an archaeologist exploring potential cultural sites, cave conservationists evaluating graffiti, checking cave gates and documenting cave life along the way and multiple individuals dedicating considerable time to input mass amounts of data into the database. From veteran cavers to fledgling newbies, all came together to contribute towards the common cause of the Missouri Speleological Survey. **In the era** of WNS, when across the nation cavers stand on the outside of gates we are welcomed by agencies such as the Ozark National Scenic Riverways who provided not only a location for the meeting but also a place for us to stay along with access to their abundant caves. In particular, this is due namely to the timeless dedication of Scott House and his wife Patti who were most gracious hosts, keeping us all fed for the weekend and welcoming the Missouri caving community to one of the most spectacular and cavernous places in the country. Thank you guys! **Our next** meeting will be held at Berome Moore Cave in Perryville on Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 10:00 AM. No doubt there will be plenty of opportunity to get underground on the Friday and Saturday before the meeting, with camping available at the site. –Dan Lamping



Shawn Williams surveying in Wallace Cave during the MSS



Matt O'Neal crawling through virgin passage in Wallace Cave.



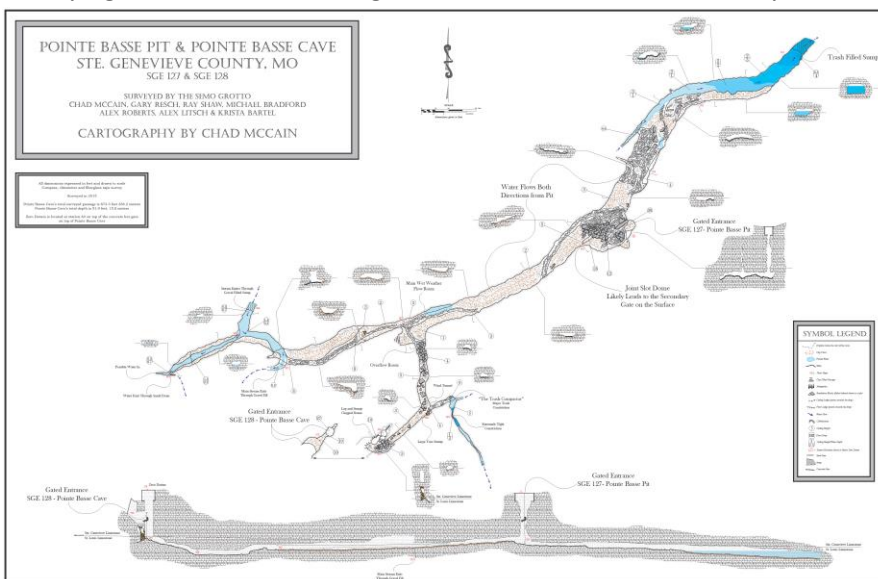
Matt O'Neal reads compass through virgin passage in Wallace Cave.



Mick Sutton doing biology work in Wallace Cave during the survey.

Southeast MO Grotto. (SEM0) Jan. 8th, 2015- Chad McCain visited Howell Co. for work. Blue Hole Hollow Shelter was surveyed and a map was drafted. Jim Ridge Cave was also surveyed but not entirely. The cave continues at the back, but the lack of knee pads prevented further exploration. A permanent station was left on a stalagmite approximately 100' in the cave. A map was drafted and submitted. Tabor Creek Collapse was located; however, a recent collapse had buried the feature. Currently it is not accessible. **Jan. 13th-** survey started on Gegg Cave in Ste. Genevieve Co. Norman Gallup and Chad McCain surveyed 432.7'. **Jan. 17th-** Multiple members of several grottos attempted to survey in Blackfathom; however, snow melt had turned the water in the cave dangerously cold and the trip was abandoned. **Jan. 23rd-** Survey #2 in Gegg Cave netted another 825' of survey by Chad McCain and Norman Gallup. **Jan. 27th -** Chad McCain ridge walked in Shannon Co. and made contact with the owner of Casto Spike Cave and Big Muddy Cave. The owners do not want cavers coming around. Several other caves on MTNF were located and coordinates confirmed and corrected. **Feb. 2nd -** Chad McCain, Ray Shaw and Norman Gallup conducted survey #3 in Gegg Cave. 637.8' of survey was obtained, knocking out all downstream leads, leaving one lead left to survey. **Feb. 7th-** Chad McCain, Josh Hafner, Michael Bradford, Gary Resch, Edmund Tucker and Brian Biggs surveyed up the back scratcher in Crevice Cave, continuing two going virgin leads. 737.05' total of new survey was obtained from the two leads and Paul Hauck, Richard Young and Ray Shaw surveyed 1004.5' from Echo Pit, upstream towards the Backscratcher. **Feb. 14th -** Ray Shaw and Chad McCain conducted the final survey in Lloyds Cave in Ste. Genevieve Co., via the Take out pit entrance. 236.6' of survey was obtained in the upper canyon at the far end of the cave. The total cave length ended up at 1876.2' **June 14th -** Several new caves were located in Ste. Genevieve Co., including Pointe Basse Cave and Pit, owned by the city. Another cave was located directly on top of Kohm's Cave that was previously unknown to cavers. **July 4th -** Michael Bradford and Chad McCain

returned to Blackfathom River Cave to explore a lost lead never marked on the map in the New Discovery. After arriving at the New Discovery, Chad McCain located the lead and Michael was able to successfully climb up into the lead, rigging two ropes along the way. Chad joined him at the top and found a canyon passage, 50' above the stream which can be surveyed. Chad confirmed the lead continues at least 100' and continues into a crawl where there are formations ahead. Photos were obtained of the area and it was left for another day to survey. The area was called the "Lost Canyon." **Sept. 14th** - Ray Shaw, Michael Bradford and Chad McCain started surveying Pointe Basse Cave in the city of Ste. Genevieve after permission was given by the board of alderman. 501.1' of survey was obtained. **Sept. 26th** - Chad McCain returned to Pointe Basse Cave on the weekend of the MSS Fall meeting with Gary Resch, Michael Bradford, Alex Litsch, Alex Roberts and Krista Bartel. 372.3' of survey was obtained as the cave shut down unexpectedly, sumping out in all directions. 873.3' of survey was obtained in the cave. **Nov. 26th** - Chad McCain and Michael Bradford returned to Gegg Cave for survey #4. The final lead was surveyed through low air and grim crawling. The cave opened up into a trunk line 17' wide and 22-38' high. Survey ended in a large 5 way trunk intersection with 828.7' of survey obtained. **Dec. 6th** - Chad McCain, Alex Roberts and Chris Doerhoff traveled to the Eternity Room in Crevice Cave to survey the chimney and the new entrance discovered. Edmund Tucker arrived shortly after along with Gary Resch, Alex Litsch, Krista Bartel, Paul Hauck and Richard Young. Chad's survey resulted with 196.55' resurvey and 85.1' new survey. Edmund got 68.2' new survey. Gary got 143.9' new survey. Paul got 671.8 feet of resurvey. Crevice is approximately 30.3 miles long. **Dec. 19th** - Chad McCain and Gary Resch led two teams into Gegg Cave in Ste. Genevieve Co. for survey #5. Ray Shaw and Alex Roberts went with Chad and Alex Litsch and Michael Bradford went with Gary. 2,148.2' of survey was obtained by both teams and Gary's team found a stream lead flowing a significant amount of water. Multiple new leads were found. **Jan. 3rd, 2016**- Chad McCain, Gary Resch and Alex Roberts returned to Gegg Cave for Survey #6. 748.3' of survey was obtained and significant leads were found. **Jan. 13th** - Chad McCain and Ray Shaw returned to Gegg Cave for survey #7. 226.3' of survey was conducted and the northern passage was discovered by Ray, hidden behind large breakdown in the newly discovered Bolted Junction. A hand line was placed in the Bolted Junction due to the dangerous drop offs from large breakdown boulders into a canyon below. Survey was conducted through the Jungle Gym and down into the Northwest Passage. **Jan. 19th** - Chad McCain and Ray Shaw returned to Gegg Cave for Survey #8, 439.9' of survey was obtained up the northern passage. **Feb. 6th** - A large effort was made for survey #9 by members of the Missouri Speleological Survey from throughout the state. Chad McCain, Ray Shaw, Krista Bartel surveyed passage in the northern passage, Dan Lamping and Tony Schmitt surveyed passages in the northern passage and a large loop was connected with McCain's survey. Gary Resch, Shawn Williams and Josh Hafner surveyed up into the Fault Line Pass, a dry upper canyon lead. Andy Free, Alex Litsch and Alex Roberts continued surveying the Northwest Passage and a total of 2,087.2' of survey was obtained with multiple new leads found.



Mar. 26th - Chad McCain and Alex Litsch returned to Gegg Cave for Survey #10 with Chris Doerhoff and Jeremy Weih. After a long day of survey, 1,516' of survey was obtained and yet again, a handful of new leads were discovered. At the end of the day a low passage was discovered through large breakdown that leads to a stream passage that disappears through the floor. Upstream continues into the unknown. **Apr. 12th** - Chad McCain, Gary Resch and Edmund Tucker conducted survey #11 in Gegg Cave. 1,030.3' of survey was obtained, bringing the

total length of the cave to 10,664.5', 2.019 miles. A flooded low air overflow route was surveyed to complete a

large loop in the center of the cave. Two digging leads were found in this loop. An upper level canyon passage was also surveyed which was full of bottles from the 1800's as well as chicken bones. The passage is very dangerous to get into and likely will never be seen again. Survey ended in another 3 way junction. **Apr. 19th** - Chad McCain, ridge walking in Ste. Genevieve Co., located a new cave on top of Gegg Cave, just off of the current map. A possible connection to this entrance is likely.-Chad McCain

Roubidoux Grotto (RBX). As of July 1st, new officers for RBX are: Karen Hood, Chairman; Ryan Thompson, Vice Chairman; Laura Huffman, Secretary/Treasurer; Dan Slais, MSS Representative. Our June meeting was a farewell to our Chairman Emeritus, Ron Jones, who is moving to Germany with his wife compliments of the US Army. **Apr. 15th – May 30th** - Dan Slais has been leading tours through Onondaga Cave with a greater than usual visitor load due to Meramec Caverns temporary closure. He noted water level changes in some of the rooms. **Apr. 25th** – Jessica Tygett-Self and Lukus Shoffner did a “door to door” flood inspection of Cathedral Cave. **April 30-May 1st** - Karen Hood and Laura Huffman attended the MVOR at Brumley and participated in Cave cleanup operations. Jessica Tygett-Self led a trip to Perkins Cave at MVOR. **May 25th** – Ron Jones and Dan Slais went to the Newburg Children’s Museum to visit Elizabeth teGroen concerning the “Cave Room.”-Dan Slais

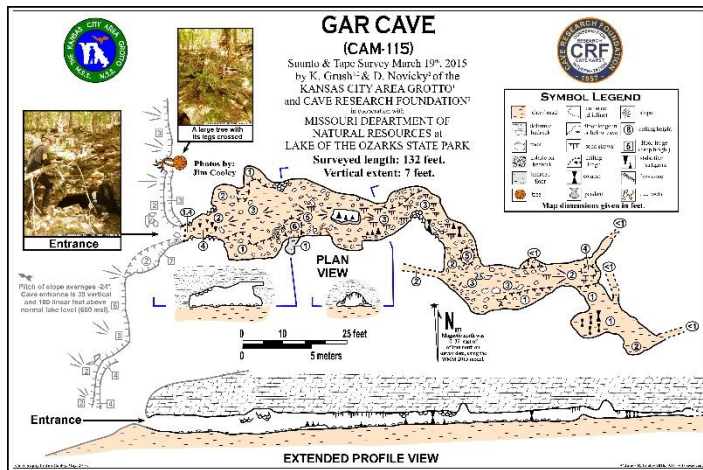
Lake Ozarks Grotto (LOG). At our May meeting, members voted to match the MVOR donation of \$1,000 to the MCKC for Goodwin Sink. Any other grottoes want to donate to this worthwhile project? We are getting close to a break-through. We urge everyone to stop by the sinkhole and take a look. It is amazing..... **May 21st** – Ken Long led a trip to Kiesewetter Cave, assisted by Jarrett Ellis, Christen Easter, and Klaus Leidenfrost, taking 14 Boy Scouts from Troop 31 from Versailles and their leaders. Ken said it was the best Scout group that he had ever worked with. It was a 3 ½ hour trip and they saw more than 15 salamanders. **June 9th** – Gary & Alberta Zumwalt, along with Klaus Leidenfrost, worked at Goodwin, cutting brush and pumping the sediment trap. **June 11th** –Ken Long, Jon Beard, Klaus Leidenfrost, along with a group of 5 Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, worked above ground at Goodwin and in the cave. The landowner has put up a new fence and now there may even be room for camping. Ken Long has been talking to someone at Rolla about removing a large rock in the entrance of the cave.-Alberta Zumwalt

Springfield Plateau Grotto (SPG). **May 2nd**—Jon Beard and Watershed Committee of the Ozarks director, Mike Kromrey, were interviewed by Linda Russell of KY3-TV, the NBC affiliate in Springfield, about the recent discovery by a local Boy Scout, documentation and exploration by Brandon Van Dalsem, Eric and Charity Hertzler and Jon Beard of Coen Pit Cave (Greene Co). A two-minute feature was aired on TV that evening using the KY3-TV video footage and photos by Brandon and Jon. **May 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th** —Jon Beard conducted spray paint removal on stubborn graffiti in Pearson Creek Cave (Greene Co) for approximately six hours each day, collecting 3.8 lbs. of minute trash (small pieces of glass mostly). On the 18th he was assisted by MSU grad student Olivia Graves and on the 25th he was joined by Tom Fowler. Biota was entered into the cave fauna database. This completes the five-year restoration of Pearson Creek Cave. Although there are minor blemishes remaining that can be rectified, all of the major graffiti is gone and all but minute slivers of glass embedded in the floor have been removed. Many thanks goes to the many who have teamed to make a huge difference! **May 7th**—Charley Young, Abby Young, Bill Palmer, Jon and Alicia Beard did maintenance and repair on the trail in Round Spring Cavern (Shannon Co) as part of CRF cave management in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. The trail had become eroded in a few places during high level water from the December flood. In the afternoon, at the request of David Tobey of the park service, Jon took an Ozark Master Naturalist group on an educational trip through the cave’s tour section. **May 8th**—Jon and Alicia Beard conducted the annual removal of graffiti from the bluff face around and in Big Spring Anastomosis Cave (Carter Co) in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. Some 58 separate graffiti markings were removed with brush and water. Also visited were Blue Spring (Shannon Co), Falling Spring and Greer Spring (Oregon Co), picking up small quantities of trash along the trails. **May 16th**—Andrew Westmaas, Dillon Freiburger, Treavor Bussard and Jon Beard went to Breakdown Cave (Christian Co), visiting the Main Room, North Loop, 100-foot Room, Fourth Level, Northwest Passage, Lower Level Maze Loop, Formation Loop, Handshake Hall. Andrew, Dillon and Treavor tested Hells Gate to Brents Room, then Dillon and Treavor crawled Canopy Avenue to the Register Room,

signed the register and rejoined the others. Afterwards, the four saw all 637 feet of Fitzpatrick Cave nearby. **May 20th**—Shawn Williams and Jon Beard made some final minor notes on the map by Jim Cooley et al of Five Sisters Cave (Shannon Co) and conducted a bio monitoring of the cave. **May 21st**—Craig Williams, Laura Ibanez, Andreu Gazquez, Dillon Freiburger, Matt Bumgardner, Bethany Bruman and Jon Beard monitored the eight Tunnel Bluff Caves for biota and vandalism (none of the caves is much longer than 60 feet in length). Afterwards, the group minus Matt and Bethany monitored Cave Spring Cave and Lost Man Cave, collecting trash out of the latter. All caves are in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Carter County. **May 23rd**—Scott House and Jon Beard led one of two groups through Round Spring Cave (Shannon Co). The groups consisted of agents from the Missouri departments of Natural Resources and Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and the Nature Conservancy. The purpose of the guided trip was to emphasize how important surface activities and management relate to the wellbeing of cave ecosystems. **May 27th**—Matt Bumgardner and Jon Beard led two visiting North Carolina cavers, Ryan and Liz Hoffman, through Breakdown and Fitzpatrick Caves (Christian Co). In Breakdown, they visited the Main Room, North Loop, Fourth Level, Formation Loop and Split Knee Passage. All of Fitzpatrick was seen. Biota included a few bats, cave salamanders, crane flies, heleomyzid flies and salamander larvae. --Report by Max White, Material provided by Jonathan Beard. **June 3rd**—Brandon Van Dalsem hiked a hollow at the Buffalo National River in Arkansas for undocumented caves on behalf of the CRF. **June 4th** —Brandon Van Dalsem, Dillon Freiburger, Matt Bumgardner and Jon Beard assisted Kayla Sapkota (with others) in survey work in the East Passage of Fitton Cave, Buffalo National River. **June 7th, 15th, 21st**—Jon Beard resumed the restoration project of Fitzpatrick Cave (Christian Co) by cleaning several dozen broken speleothem pieces in Paul's Gallery in preparation of reattaching them to their original places later in the project. On the 21st, he was assisted by Byron Himes. **June 11th, 12th**—Jon Beard assisted in removal of trash-laden clay, silt and gravel from "Amy's Dig" within Goodwin Pit Cave (Laclede Co). The dig has reached within sight of a shallow pool of water in what may be virgin passage. The dig is averaging 3 to 4 feet wide, 2 to 3 feet tall to facilitate use of shovels and hoes. **June 12th**—Andrew Westmaas took his father to see Fitzpatrick and Breakdown Caves (Christian Co). They saw four cave salamanders in Fitzpatrick and one in Breakdown Cave. **June 13th**—Brandon Van Dalsem and Treavor Bussard assisted Jon Beard in the survey of the first half of Moonshine Hole (Barry Co) in Mark Twain National Forest as part of CRF projects in the area on behalf of the agency. **June 16th**—Jon Beard guided 16 students and two instructors from the Discovery Center through the Main Room of Breakdown Cave (Christian Co) on an educational field trip. The fifth graders were taught about the cave environment and its ecology. Afterwards, everyone was given a copy of *Caring for Your Karst*. **June 18th**—Matt Bumgardner, Bethany Bruman and Jon Beard joined Chris Wessel and Scott House on a biota and photography trip to the first ~4,800 feet of Powder Mill Creek Cave (Shannon Co) while another group consisting of Jeremy Weih, Mike Tennant, Joe Sikorski, Kayla Sapkota, Dan Lamping, Spike Crews and Krista Bartel noted biota beyond that in an unsuccessful attempt to retrieve a climbing pole at the back of the cave. **June 19th**—Brandon Van Dalsem assisted Jon Beard in the continuing survey of Little Bear Cave (Ozark Co) while Matt Bumgardner and Bethany Bruman photographed and took videos of neighboring Big Bear Cave and Little Bear Cave. About 300 feet of cave was surveyed, leaving ~800 feet remaining. **June 23rd**—Andrew Westmaas, Byron Himes and Treavor Bussard spent four hours in Breakdown Cave (Christian Co) where they visited the Main Room, Hells Gate, Brents Room and part of Canopy Avenue. Biota noted included salamanders: two slimy, two grotto, three cave and three juveniles plus countless heleomyzid flies. **June 25th** --- Cynthia Spoering, Clayton Russel, Cheryl Paulson and Max White participated in the Carter Cave (Barry Co) gating project led by Jim Cooley. **June 29th**—Byron Himes and Montana Richardson visited Breakdown Cave (Christian Co), noting a pickerel frog and the following salamanders: 3 slimy, 3 cave and 4 grotto. They visited a couple of passages Byron hadn't seen before as well as passing through the Hells Gate constriction and seeing the first section of Canopy Avenue. Also —Charley Young, Max White, Cynthia Spoering, Cheryl Paulson and Jarod Ozee guided two groups of fifth and sixth graders "The Salamanders" plus adult leaders from the local Catholic Church through Fitzpatrick Cave (Christian Co). The theme was on cave conservation and the restoration and cleanup of caves including this cave and Fisher Cave in Meramec State Park, removal of spray paint and the Goodwin Sink cleanup. Some of the kids had been in caves before such as Mammoth, Flint Ridge, Smallin, Marvel and others. Some had been

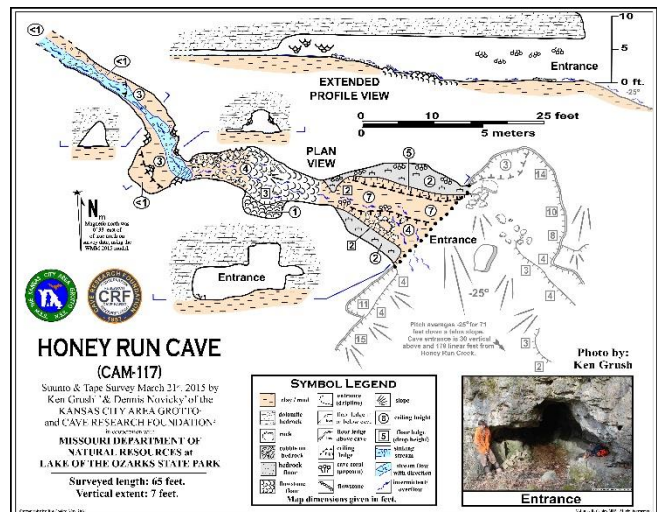
reading about caves prior to the trip. The guides answered many questions about caves. --Report by Max White, Material provided by Jonathan Beard.

Kansas City Area Grotto (KCAG). Some April trips were not previously mentioned. **Apr. 16th** – Jack Peters led a Perkins Cave trip with Boy Scouts. **Apr. 28th** – Jim Cooley and Brenda Goodnight gave a presentation on cave formations (speleothems and their genesis) and cave mapping to the Osage Beach Rock and Mineral Club, covering the history of onyx mining in Missouri and focusing on why it is unethical to harvest speleothems to show off at your rock & mineral club meeting. **Apr. 29th-May 1st** – Cooley and Goodnight offered directions to several caves that were made available for the MVOR, and marked routes to them with flagging tape, including Perkins (in Camden Co., which he manages for MCKC), Little Mouth (Miller Co.), Wounded Knee and Joe Cave (Camden Co.). **May 7th** – Cooley, Jaclyn Dalbey, and Naomi McDonnell visited Flippen Cave (Benton Co.), gated by KCAG, SPG, MSM, MDC, MODoT and other cavers in 2011. They saw five cave salamanders and a nest full of three phoebes – but no gray bats whatsoever. (The cave is suspected of being a summer bachelor colony.) The bat room, found at the end of the right passage and usually thickly coated with bat guano, was washed



clean, indicating more water passes through the cave than previously suspected (or some world-class coprovores). This guano seemed to be scattered along the stream in the right (bat) fork, along with three unlucky epigeal crayfish, another sign arguing for a major flooding event. They also maintained (oiled) the lock. They then proceeded to Lake of the Ozarks State Park, and did quality control checks on the drafts of maps in two small caves there: Honey run, and Gar. Another nest brimming with four juvenile *Sayonaris phoebe* was noted at Honey Run. Lastly, Dalbey and McDonnell celebrated Ms.

McDonnell's first wild caving trip with an extended stretch of recreational cave exploration in nearby Perkins Cave, which is managed by the MCKC. The next day, Cooley completed the cartography of the two state park maps and submitted final versions to the MSS. Eleven of 24 cave maps have been completed for the CRF sponsored Lake of the Ozarks State Park initiative. **May 15th – 22nd** – Cooley, Goodnight and Ken Grush braved the mid-month May-elstorms to monitor several locks on caves in the ONSR: Bear and Jacks Fork Caves (Texas Co.); Branson and Nill Caves (Shannon Co.); and Coalbank (Carter Co.). Flooding blocked easy access to Big Spring Well and the Granite Quarry Caves (Carter Co.). Although the road to the quarry was still open, it was disconcerting to look down at the edge of the road and see the Current River way out of its banks and to see normally dry low water crossings with several inches of water; forward progress was blocked by multiple downed trees and only a lot of backward driving extricated the monitors before they became stranded. The previous discovery by KCAG, Binocular Cave (Shannon), now has a completed sketch. The walk to and from the cave in the rain wasn't all that bad! Cooley organized a quality control check on Five Sisters Cave that was done by Jon Beard (SPG) and Shawn Williams. Cooley, Ken Grush, Max White, and Cheryl Pauling tried to track down a cave lead in the Mark Twain National Forest south of Winona, to no avail. Derrick and Angie Norris, local cavers, assisted on horseback. **June 13th-28th** – Cooley led an army of gaters on a sixteen-day adventure to build six gates on the mined Carter Cave (Barry Co.) and





another gate on Butler Hollow Mine. HUGE thanks go out to Brenda Goodnight (exemplary chef); extraordinary welders Dennis Novicky, Joe Williams, Jay Bridgewater and Ollie Froelich (Americorps); and surgeons of steel (oxy-acetylene cutters) Bree McMurray and George Billbrey. Caver volunteers from SPG included Dillon Freiburger, Max White, Cheryl Paulson, Cynthia Spoerling, and Clayton Russell. Five other Americorps volunteers camped on-site for eight days and assisted mightily in the effort. Additional labor and heavy equipment support was provided by Mark Twain National Forest personnel Nettie Sitting Up-Perez, Robert Horner, Jess Register, David Aurenheimer, Mike Voltz, and Bradley Taylor. The project was complicated by an equipment-annihilating lightning strike, which proved to be both expensive and time-consuming to recover from; a rather aggressive pygmy rattlesnake whose glade home turned out to be smack in the middle of the upper five



Starting on the big Carter Cave gate

Carter Cave gates, a real proponent of “hold your ground,” high heat and humidity; other equipment problems, including four flat tires; and a crippling fraction of caver volunteers who no-showed. But they got ‘er done! – Submitted by Ken Grush



Dennis Novicky welding up the last (Butler Hollow Mine) gate.



June 26th crew, mostly SPG, right before supper.

MSS MINUTES. The Spring 2016 Board meeting of the Missouri Speleological Survey was called to order by President Dan Lamping on May 22nd at the Powder Mill Research Center. **Introduction of Officers:** Dan Lamping, President; Scott House, Vice-President; Alberta Zumwalt, Secretary. Absent was Don Dunham, Treasurer. **Roll Call of Directors:** Al Quamen, LEG; Gary Zumwalt, LOG; Ken Grush, KCAG; Jon Beard, MCKC; Max White, SPG; Craig Williams, CAIRN; Tony Schmitt, MVG; Jim Sherrell (proxy for Doug Leer), MMV; Alex Litsch (proxy for Jessica Tygett-Self), MSM; Chad McCain, SEMO; Rita Worden, Chouteau; Absent were Lorin O'Daniell, PEG; Bill Heim, OHG; Krista Bartel, CCC. **Secretary's report.** Alberta Zumwalt reported that the minutes of the Winter meeting were distributed after the meeting to the Directors and Officers and were printed in the January-February issue of *MSS Liaison*. The minutes were approved. **MSS Liaison.** Gary Zumwalt reported sending out 46 paper copies and the rest as electronic copies with cash on hand of \$568.88. The next deadline is July 1st. **Treasurer's Report.** Don Dunham had sent out the report electronically before the meeting and copies were distributed at the meeting. General fund \$5072.32; Membership: (2015) \$2002.00; (2016-2022) \$733.00. Photo Cave Files \$177.07; Public Relations/Web site \$71.39; *Missouri Speleology*: Vol. 54 (2014) \$374.00; Vol. 55 (2015) \$60.00; Subscriptions \$2281.76. Research Funds \$12,724.78; Anne Johnson Data Management Fund \$19939.73. Interest checking \$84.10; Affiliation fees \$650.00; Liaison \$63.00; Total \$44,233.15. Assets: Savings bonds \$2,000.00; Interest checking \$42,233.15; Total \$44,266.15. **Missouri Speleology.** Scott House reported that they are working on the Bat census issue. **Affiliate Organizations.** Jon Beard said he had received about half of the reports for this year. He reminded everyone that the annual reports are an annual requirement. **MSS brochure.** Jim Sherrell asked about reprinting an updated MSS brochure. This will be done. **MO Bat Census.** Kirsten Alvey has been talking with the Bat Confederation about changing legislation on bats. The biggest fine now is \$250 - \$500 for vandalism unless there is a Federal offence. The Confederation said to bring the proposed changes to them. Kirsten wants to form a committee to work on the changes. **Cave files/database.** Scott House reported a busy weekend. Ken Grush is working with Kirsten Alvey of MO Bat Census to get all their data entered into the database. Scott will be taking the database to the NSS Convention again this year. He wrote a database for Kentucky and they are using it. He will be taking a break for about a month to draft maps, etc. and said to hold database stuff. **Agency reports.** Mick Sutton is catching up on work in Mark Twain Forest. Alex Litsch, MSM, reported working south of Waynesville in Forest Service. They will be involving Roubidoux Grotto in their work. Jeffrey Crews reported trips in the Big Piney area. Officers from Fort Wood were given a list to find certain caves on Forest Service land and are working on that. Scott House reported bat monitoring in SW Missouri. He reported that Jim Cooley will be gating Carter Cave with six entrances in June. Scott said the Park Service is very supportive with a good Park Administrator. Scott reported work in Wallace Cave, crews in south end of park. Tony Schmitt found four new caves recently, two within walking distance of this meeting location. MDC: Scott House reported that an agreement was sent 2 ½ years ago but it was not good. Another agreement was done. Scott said they rewrote it and Pres. Lamping sent it back. Trying to get an agreement the same as all the other agencies. Scott said a special use permit is required every time a cave is mapped or monitored and wants to get that changed. State Parks: Ken Grush reported work in Lake Ozarks State Park with 3 new caves, 6 caves surveyed, making over 20 caves on Park property. Coakley Spring has filled with gravel. Pioneer: Pres. Lamping is working on files for their caves with Tony Schmitt and MVG. Tony is working with St. Louis County parks, 6 caves, 1 new one. Pres. Lamping will be working at Cliff Cave Park. **Affiliate Organizations projects.** SEMO – Chad McCain reported working on a St. Genevieve County cave where they broke into an underground river and found another entrance. Roubidoux – Dan Slais reported they are monitoring Ozark springs. **Public Outreach.** Facebook – Pres. Lamping said if anyone has something that they want posted, to let him know. Website – Pres. Lamping said he updates as people send to him. He said he added some of Mick Sutton's *Liaison* article on salamanders. Spring MVOR – Tony Schmitt said around 20 maps were displayed, all new within the last year. He plans on doing a display at every spring MVOR. Conservation Federation in March – Pres. Lamping said he would work with Kirsten Alvey on that. MO Natural Resources Conference in February

at TanTara – Scott House reported that at the last one, they gave away many old issues of *Missouri Speleology* and sold some. He said they got some new recruits and will probably do it again. Pres. Lamping said there is a PayPal link on the website to buy Missouri Speleology. The Amphibians issue and a cave mapping guide are free on the website. Tony Schmitt announced that Scott House was awarded the Lester B. Dill award at the Spring MVOR. **Next Meeting:** Sunday, Sept. 25th, 10 am at the Berome Moore shelter in Perryville, MO. Meeting adjourned. - Respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt.

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Ozark Caving web site– www.ozarkcaving.com

Carroll Cave Conservancy website <http://www.carrollcave.org>

MCKC website – <http://www.mocavesandkarst.org>

Caves of Missouri Discussion Group – <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cavesofmo>

Petroglyphs, inscriptions, & pictographs: rockartmo.com

The new MoCaves: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/mocaves/info>

MSS annual reports were due at the Winter meeting. Reports have not been turned in by: CAIRN, CCC, MMV, MSM, MVG, & PEG. Please get them to Jon Beard as soon as possible.

MSS Affiliation fees were also due at the Winter meeting. From the last list, Chouteau, MVG, MSM, & PEG have not paid. The fee is \$25.00 and goes to the MSS Treasurer, Don Dunham.

CALENDAR:

Sept. 1st – Next Liaison deadline.

Sept. 25th – Fall MSS meeting, 10 am, Berome Moore pavilion, Perryville, MO. Activities will be planned for the weekend.

Sept. 29th, Oct. 1st-2nd - Fall MVOR, Bonneville Kentucky at the Lonestar Cave Preserve, hosted by Windy City Grotto and Louisville Grotto.

First Class

**MSS Liaison
Gary Zumwalt
1681 State Route D
Lohman, MO 65053**