

# THE MSS LIAISON

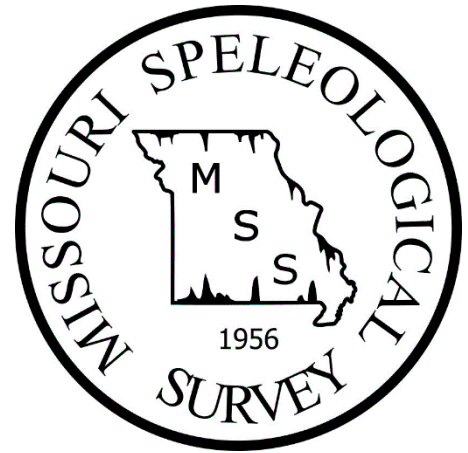
## VOLUME 58 NUMBER 7-8

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### AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS:

CHOUTEAU-KCAG-LEG-LOG-MMV-MSM-MVG-OHG-PEG-RBX-  
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**Missouri Speleological Survey.** President's Message August 2018 by Dan Lamping.

Come one, come all to Current River State Park for the "Current River Cave-In", September 8th and 9th. There will be camping along the river at Current River State Park, monitoring trips, canoeing, cave mapping, restoration, and a cave map display, along with campfire camaraderie. In addition we will have our fall MSS meeting there and MCKC will also have a short meeting.

Business to address at the meeting will include elections for MSS President and Vice President, along with appointment of Treasurer and two new members to the Research Council. Currently, I'm willing to run for at least one more term as President, but likewise, am also willing to step aside if there's supported interest in someone else taking the organization in a different direction.

While it's looking unlikely to be ready for the September meeting, the next issue of Missouri Speleology will be on the history of Cherokee Cave in St. Louis, which was famously used by the Lemp family in the 19th century to lager beer. The issue, written by Joe Light, will contain a wide range of historical images and accounts of the cave's history, along with a new map created during a 2011 survey of the cave. If not ready by the September meeting, surely it will be available not too long after, where it will be available for purchase on the MSS website.

Recently, the NSS Convention was held in Montana. Several Missouri cavers went and from pictures posted online, they appeared to have a memorable time. Three Missouri cavers were honored at the Convention by being made Fellows of the NSS, including Bill Heim, Chad McCain and I. Many thanks to those who wrote letters of nomination and support. I can assure we'll do the same for others, as we have no shortage of cavers in Missouri worthy of such recognition. Also, Missouri caver Ben Miller (a transplant to Tennessee) and I both received ribbons in the cartographic salon for maps we submitted for judging.

Lastly, over the summer, both caves and cavers received a great deal of media attention in association with the Thailand cave rescue, which was no doubt the most high profile cave rescue ever conducted. As I've told numerous people that I've spoken with, the more you know about caving, cave rescue and cave diving the more unbelievable the story becomes. While the geographic conditions of Thailand are half a world away from us, the underlying threat is just as true here. Caves flood. Not two weeks before this event, I was reading a history of the Indiana Speleological Survey and the exploration of Binkley's Cave. In it, is a story of cavers in the 1960s who, on a hot summer day, went to briefly check a cave in order to gauge whether it would be appropriate for an upcoming caving event. It was a low entrance in a field and there wasn't any appearance of immediate threat in the sky. Shortly after they entered, a pop up storm cell hit causing a heavy rain. The low entrance of the cave instantly began to swallow all of the water from the field. The two cavers who entered were not as fortunate as the boys in Thailand. The Indiana caving community was severely shaken by the loss in the years that followed. So was I, after reading about it years later. Let us take this time to reflect upon the potential hazards associated with cave exploration, remind ourselves and one another to take proper actions to

mitigate those potential threats and carry on in our endeavors to chart the unknown and catalog the Missouri underground in a safe, responsible and informed manner.

**Who was “Tex” Yokum?** My first recollections of meeting Tex happened during an MMV meeting at the St Louis County Library – Lindberg branch in 1988. He was very animated and expressed his passion for caving exploration and mapping very well to the audience. But as those of us who had the opportunity to cave with this man, we found that he was opinionated and at times very stubborn about his theories of karst landscapes and development but at times warm and had a love for making people laugh. But who was Tex really? His accomplishments and achievements are too many for such a short reminiscent article.

Tex lived in North City (St Louis) and attended St Edwards High School. He used to talk about hopping trains and swimming the Mississippi River out to Mosentine Island as a young man. He also served his county in the US Army during WWII. Normally, new recruits must pass physical tests to join the service but Tex had injured one of his eyes as a youth and he knew that unless he memorized the eye chart he would not qualify to serve. The Army finally found out about his eye issue and discharged him with honor. After the service, Tex met his future wife Lillian and they moved to Desoto Missouri where Tex built a home for his family they had 3 boys. Tex worked as a heat and frost insulator; his greatest accomplishment was working on the Arch. In the early days, he would be found with his favorite dog – Little Bit exploring caves.

As you read through many of books and articles regarding Missouri Caves, you find his name mentioned frequently as a contributor to exploration and mapping of Missouri’s Cave resources. Tex’s philosophy regarding caving was that indiscriminate caving is a waste of time instead he felt that accurate maps and scientific data are the most important phases of caving. In 1957 he saw a newspaper article that brought him into proximity of other individuals interested in caving which eventually lead to him joining MMV Grotto. Tex also was involved with M.V.O.R, serving as the Secretary-Treasurer in 1959. He was also elected by the MMV membership to serve as the Grotto representative to the Missouri Speleological Survey that same year. His thoughts of the MSS was that it is a sound organization that serves as a means to sharing information and a repository for this information of its membership. In 1967, he spent time in Hannibal Missouri searching for 3 boys who had vanished in a cave system as the new highway was being built. He joined other notable cavers such as: Stan Sides, Joe Walsh, Jerry Vineyard, Dwight Weaver, Ann Schallert, and Jim Arrigo.

Tex began his speleology career exploring the caves in Meramec State Park but soon expanded to other areas of Missouri, Indiana, Iowa and South Dakota. According to Tex his greatest accomplishment was his first map of Fisher Cave. While visiting Wind Cave, he joined with the Cave Radio project in determining the directions of underlying cave passages.

Early explorations of Tom Moore Cave led to many cavers to seek out other connections to other caves in the area. Careful plotting of Tom Moore passageway showed that immediately north of the end of survey were three likely looking sinkholes in which to dig for a continuance of Tom Moore. Here MMV and some early SEMO members managed to open a hole large enough to get some cold blowing air. After digging it open, Tex followed the group into the black void and was the amongst the first to enter Berome Moore Cave. Tex spent quite a bit of his time fostering landowner relations which helped him to access many of the caves in Perry County. When I joined the grotto Tex was spending many of his weekends exploring and mapping caves in Perry County Missouri. He had an open invitation to anyone who wanted to cave in Perry County to meet him at the Brown House restaurant in Perryville on Saturday morning. The restaurant served as the “official” meeting place for cavers such as Sandy



**Steve Sabo and “Little Bit” on left. Dennis Drum standing in white shirt on right. Photo courtesy of Stan Sides.**

Trembley, Mark Oliver, Mark Brooks, Stan Sides, Al Quamen, Dave Letourneau, Pam and Jerry Saberton, Scott



*Tex and a familiar pose. Photo courtesy of Stan Sides*

House, Laura Guyer, Jim and Betty Sherrell, Lloyd Spicer and countless others who expanded the number of known caves in Perry County. As a result of these cavers dedication towards exploration, the City of Perryville became interested in knowing how and where these caves were located to determine how future developments would impact the karst landscape. The Perryville Project was born and continues to this day. However, Tex's desire to accurately survey caves located in Missouri's State Parks was still a goal. Dan Drees and Eugene Vale were State Park coordinators for Fisher Cave and Onondaga Caves projects.

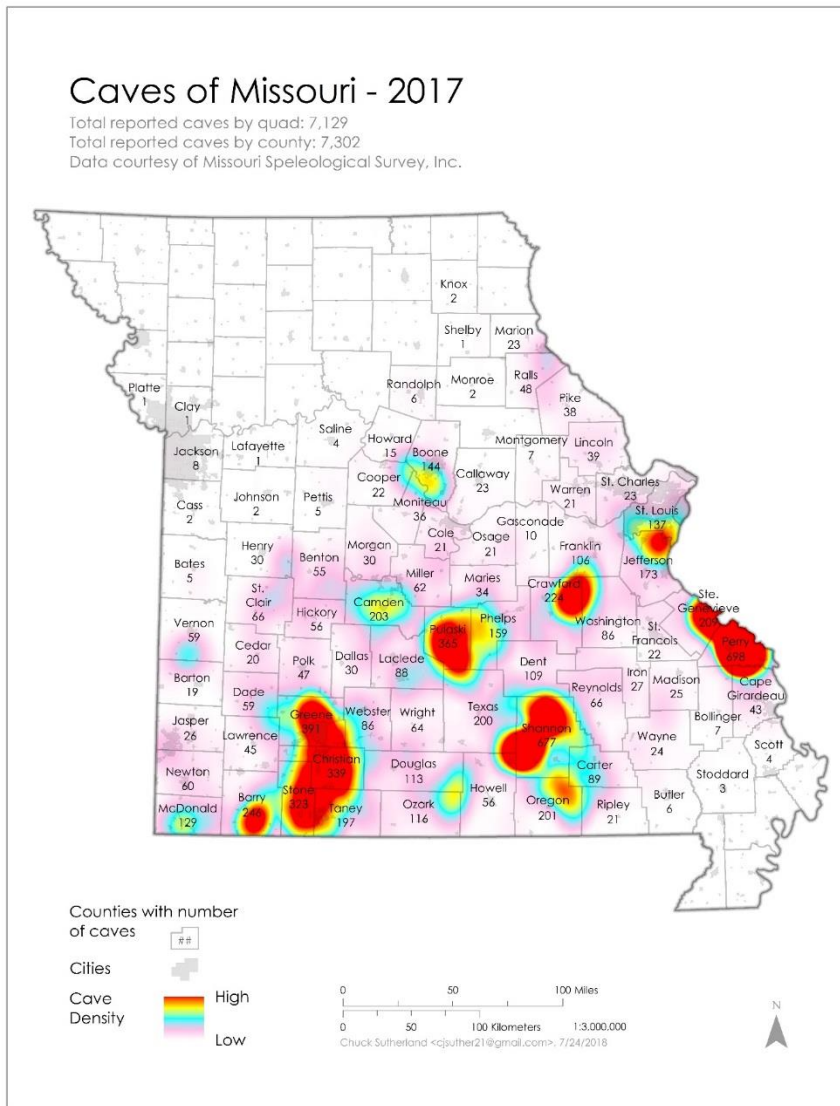
There's so much more to the Tex Yokum legacy but unfortunately in April 1987, I lost a good friend and mentor. His accomplishments are many and the lives of those he

touched continue to search, map and protect Missouri's cave resources. In 1985 President Ronald Reagan bestowed the President's Volunteer Award to the MSS. It was received by Dwight Weaver and Tex Yokum. Thanks to Mark Brooks, Stan Sides, past Liaison issues, MMV Underground articles for helping with this short article on a man I was proud to call my friend. --Pam Saberton

**Missouri Speleological Survey Files Report for September 2018.** Remember if you have new information on any Missouri caves, my email address is [slagrush@gmail.com](mailto:slagrush@gmail.com). **Jon Beard sent:** -14 photos of Artos Cave in Taney County. The email that sent the photos was an update on surveying activities in the cave. **Josh Brewer sent:** -New map of Shale Shelf Cave (VR=7 ft) in McDonald County. This feature appears to be a shallow shelter but took 44 ft of survey to capture the sketch. **Mark Brooks sent:** -A report on the status of Onyx Cave in Howell County; after last seeing the cave 33 years ago. He also included several photos for the archives. **Jim Cooley sent:** -Five location plats utilizing a copy of the quadrangle (quad or topo) map to estimate the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) quarter sections for a cave. Having the quad represented on the image provides confirmation that the GPS location fits the terrain the reporter traveled and actually falls where one found the cave. The 5 caves were all from Camden County. -A new map for Drummond Cave (841 ft CL, 27 ft vertical range) in Camden County. Cooley sends his Xara software file, all sketch and book material from the field survey, Walls data that plots the field survey, and both color and B&W copies of the finished map. For longer caves like Drummond, he also supplies plates to break the map into smaller portions of the map; thereby allowing one to see more detail on multiple pages that otherwise would be reduced on a single page document. In this case, Drummond came in four parts, an index to show how the parts related to each other and of course a complete map without the index grid. -Ten monitoring forms and 28 fauna records for trips made in Barry and Shannon Counties. -A bunch of updates to the database: 10 new faunal records, use monitoring form, updates to six caves, 2 related record reports and 3 new caves. The updates involved a trip on the Niangua River to entrance-monitor Lower Burnt Mill, Mine Tunnel, Mud Slope and Three Column Caves in Camden County. Three other updates covered activity close to Kansas City at Santa Fe Trail Spring Cave, James Brother Cave, plus the new Creaky Crickets Cave. The remaining new caves are Kreemer Sinkhole Cave in Greene County and Three-eyed Hangover Cave in Camden County. -7 photos showing The Cave Bar and Grill which has been known as Truitts Cave in McDonald County. -13 new faunal records for Flippen Cave in Benton County and Lewis Cave in Ripley County. He also sent 2 new report records for Flippen Cave. Flippen may become another MCKC managed cave, while Lewis Cave is already an MCKC managed cave. **Dillon Freiburger sent:** -Map of Artos Cave (see Beard contribution above) that Beard and he surveyed in Taney County. Cave surveyed out to 88 feet, most of it apparently less than 2 ft high. Freiburger also sends his Illustrator file and the original sketch and survey notes for his maps. -Final map of Rattlesnake Cave in Christian County. I wonder how many people stopped where the map ended when the passage got low? The original 1972 mapped stopped at about 200 ft; while Freiburger's map shows 1018 ft surveyed. Map seems to fit the premise of the Reeds Spring-Pierson

speleogenetic model (see upcoming issue of MoSpeleo). **Scott House sent:** -Three new maps of Wraparound (CL=70 ft) and Walled (CL=227 ft) Caves in Shannon County and (yes another) Walled Cave (CL=36 ft) in Oregon County. Strangely both Walled Caves had low walls built in their entrances. The thought is that the walls might trap or funnel small animals as they exited these caves. **Dan Lamping sent:** -Photographs of 2 pages from a 1944 publication that addressed a cave off of Sinkin Creek in Shannon County that at least in 1944 or before seemed to collect a lot of stray hogs in the vicinity. Well, no photographs to tie the entrance to a specific cave were published, but the author sketched the entrance and it looks enough like the entrance to suggest Enloe Cave in Shannon. This cave was previously reported to house pigs which fits nicely with the story. Perhaps not proof, but an interesting story of the early use of caves in Missouri. Our database shows that feral hogs, in addition to bears, are using caves today. If you haven't been spooked by buzzards bursting out of entrances, try one of these! -Report (for related records) and 5 faunal reports for recent survey work done in Carroll Cave in Camden County. A long day delivered over 400 ft of survey for the hardy team. **Joe Light sent:** -Report on recent investigation into Benton Park/English Cave in the City of St. Louis. Several features were identified and checked with the conclusion that none connect to this lost cave of the city. And a report on Cave Spring Cave in St. Charles County. Light originally compiled the information back in 2010, but somehow never got into the database. Next time I pass the Cave Spring exit off the interstate, I'll know this cave is also lost to access. MDC announced the closure, but I never saw a follow up announcement from them. Thanks to Light's investigation, we do know the rest of the story now. -Sent an investigative report on a "sinkhole collapse" at Rockwoods Reservation in St. Louis County. Turns out that it was more of a road collapse related to a spring with the ominous name of Blood Spring. -Sent a link to a "blog" on the city of St. Louis by Chris Naffziger who writes stories also on the karst of the city. A recent post mentioned Benton or English Cave whose entrance seems long lost. The recent post dealt with sinkholes and quarries that are sprinkled throughout the city. **Alex Litsch sent:** -A faunal report and brief description as a follow-up for the recently found Inconspicuous Pit in Ste. Genevieve County. He quickly followed up with a new map for this cave (C-Length=50ft, C-Depth=20ft). -A final map of Smooth Pit (CL=127ft, CD=88ft) in Ste. Genevieve County. -A final map of Lewis Cave (CL=93ft) in Jefferson County. This one appeared to be a solo survey, no doubt aided by the DistoX which provides distance, bearing and azimuth for the survey. Repetition of the DistoX readings at each station confirms the consistency of readings. An "offset" is added to the device to allow readings in almost any direction around a given station. Many more cave surveyors are using the DistoX. -Two new caves for Ste. Genevieve County: Pothole Pit and Lucky Turtle Pit. The lucky turtle will live out the rest of his days thanking the caver who saved him and his "home" so that he can live out the rest of his days dodging all the "durn" pits in this part of Ste. Genevieve! -Three new caves: Pond Drain Cave and Free Climb Pit in Perry County and Little Bridge Pit in Ste. Genevieve County. **Chad McCain sent:** -Survey scans for both Gegg Cave and Berome Moore Cave. These are nice to have in the archives for future reference. -Updated Walls survey file for Gegg Cave in Ste. Genevieve County; this cave just keeps going. Latest survey and sketches were sent for the archives. -Survey/sketch notes for Roaring Well in Ste. Genevieve County, This cave is close to Gegg Cave, but no connections yet. -Map sheets for Berome Moore Cave in Perry County. There are 4 sheets that cover the Basecamp, Coon and Formation, Drum Crossover and Maze sections of the cave. Berome remap is still a work in progress, but great progress has been made. -Sent in a "stand-alone" map of Overflow Cave (CL=86 ft, CD=33) in Ste. Genevieve County. Overflow is "part" of the Gegg Cave system and also appears on the Gegg map, although no physical connection has been made. It appears that the 30 ft of vertical separation between the caves is slightly more than the horizontal. So close! **Joe Sikorski sent:** -A finished map of Stacked Slabs Cave (CL=97 ft) in Shannon County. Sikorski has been a frequent contributor to survey parties and has done the cartography on several maps. He has even wrote a report or two. Always good to hear from you, Joe. **Tyler Skaggs sent:** - (My ode and my apologies to the real "boys of summer", but we have a new caver enjoying his summer and his rookie year as a caver. Just came up from the "farm" league out of Houston, TX... County, that is. He did his spring training with KCAG, Mo Bat Census, Roubidoux and MSM Cavers for the first six months of the year, posting photos on Facebook and now provided...) nine GPS locations on Texas County caves that were last reported on in 1967, from work probably done by the MSM Spelunkers. Fifty years is a long gap in reporting but not uncommon in the database. Only locations and entrance dimensions were previously noted. Now there are GPS locations, some entrance photos, fauna records and verification of entrance dimensions. Transient Gray Bats were noted in a few of them. In

addition he provided a published source for much more information on these caves. I'll call that a nice home run for the database and the rookie. **Gary and Alberta Zumwalt sent-** A collection of about 25 photos and newspaper clippings, discussing the Rockhouse Bridge and Rockhouse Bridge Cave of Cole County. The initial 1908 bridge managed to dodge the bluff that housed the cave, while the 1994 "new" chose a route to remove the bluff and cave. The old bridge apparently made access easy enough that the cave was almost destroyed or at least vandalized and trashed before the new bridge took it away. As of today, these are the only photographic remains of the cave. **As an "end note" Chuck Sutherland** has been collecting data covering cave statistics across the state. The MSS has provided data that Sutherland has turned into the attached map.



**Meramec Valley Grotto (MVG) July 1st:** Alex Litsch investigated a new pit lead in Ste. Genevieve County as well as mapped a small pit cave. **July 7th:** Chad McCain interviewed by local news for caver insight into the Thailand Cave Rescue. **July 9th:** Dan Lamping interviewed by local news about the Thailand Cave Rescue and the dangers of caves when inexperienced and ill-equipped persons enter them. **July 15th:** Derik Holtmann, Dan Lamping, Josh Hafner, Joe Sikorski, and Bob L did a 12 hour survey/photo trip in Carroll Cave. **July 19th:** MVG hosted their monthly meeting inside a local cave. **July 24th:** Alex Litsch documented a new pit cave, Pothole Pit, in Ste. Genevieve County. **July 28th:** Alex Litsch turned in another new pit cave in Ste. Genevieve County, Lucky Turtle Pit. **Aug. 11th:** Chad McCain, Alex Litsch, and Gary Resch took a group of rock climbers and cavers to Crevice Cave via Pipistrel entrance. The Eternity Room and Paradise Room were visited. **Aug. 18th:** Chad McCain and Alex Litsch surveyed in the upper levels of Gegg Cave and attained 727.5' of new survey. **Aug. 25th:** Tony

Schmitt hosted a vertical workshop at his home. **Aug. 25th:** Alex Litsch and Brian Biggs added 483' of survey to an unnamed cave. This survey connected 2 entrances and pushed total length over 1 mile.-Alex Litsch.

**Lake Ozarks Grotto (LOG). Reported at July meeting:** Gary & Alberta Zumwalt spent 1 ½ hours working at Goodwin, weed-mowing, weed-eating and taking pictures. Kerry Rowland was asked if he had been in the Thailand Cave in the news. He said as far as he knew, he had not but had been in caves in the area. Kira Rowland went swimming in a Mexican cave while there for two weeks, visiting her Grandmother. The program was a guided trip into Stark Caverns by Charlie Starr. LOG meetings are held in the meeting room at Stark Caverns the second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. **Reported at the August meeting:** Klaus Leidenfrost and Jean Knohl worked at Goodwin on Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>. Jean has donated a picnic table for the site. LOG member, Jason Synder will donate a potty. Klaus and LOG members are planning on building the pavilion. Ken Grush sent a list of caves for our grotto to furnish more information and we are working on it. The next Jacob's Cave swap is Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. – Alberta Zumwalt

**Middle Mississippi Valley Grotto (MMV). June 9<sup>th</sup>** - Brian Biggs, Mark Brooks and Cody Brooks surveyed in Popsicle Passage in Berome Moore Cave. The push here is in an attempt to make a connection with Dorothy Taylor Cave. No connect was made during this trip. Another trip is being planned from the Dorothy Taylor side. **June 6<sup>th</sup> & July 21<sup>st</sup>**- Brian Biggs participated in CRF survey activities in Fitton Cave on the Buffalo River. **July 14<sup>th</sup>** - Michael Leer, Jim and James Sherrell, Larry Ablin and Michelle Leicht went on an exploratory trip into Valle Mines via the Discovery Pit. **July 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Jim Sherrell and Jim Sheim (sp?) visited Lewis & Clark Caverns in Montana and The Sinks Cave in Wyoming during the NSS Convention week. **Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>** - Michelle Leicht and Larry Ablen visited Lewis & Clark Cave during the NSS Convention. Also, Lois Walsh Visited Lewis & Clark Caverns. Her comments: "The hardest commercial cave I have ever been in. At least they gave me a ride down after exiting the cave. To get to the caverns, I climbed 300' of elevation for 25 minutes in the heat of the afternoon. Then climbed 600 steps down in the cave on wet, slippery poorly lighted steps." **Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>** - Michelle Leicht and Larry Ablen participated in a 4 hour wild cave tour of Wind Cave in South Dakota. **Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>** - Ioana Herte, Chad McCain and Alex Litsch went into Crevice Cave to do some survey work but, for an unreported reason, it became a "geology" trip. Entering via the Pipistrelle entrance, the group visited the Paradise Room and then down to the Eternity Room. They retrieved some digging tools and exited the cave. **Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>** - Doug and Mike Leer visited the entrance to Watson Cave in St. Louis County. Access to it was via a trail near Big Bend and 270. Per the 1960's survey map that we were able to obtain, this is a fairly short cave (< 100 ft.) but with some walking passage and a disappearing stream. The entrance was located, but not entered other than a peek in with a good flashlight. There is an old gate that has been breached. **Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>** - Rick Haley led a trip into Berome Moore Cave. The participants include Jeff Feunell and friends from Daedalus Grotto. They toured the portion of the cave called the "four hour loop".--Doug Leer

**Springfield Plateau Grotto (SPG). July 3<sup>rd</sup>**—Nicole Ridlen hosted Jon Beard plus Becka Marlin of KCAG and a friend Dustin Hillis in a bio inventory of Kettle Cave and Flutestone Cave (McDonald Co). Both caves have long, vaulted hallways and genetic domes. With others' assistance, Jon took some photos of three of the domes in Kettle Cave (named "kettle" for a nearby cavelet shaped like a perfect upside-down kettle). Afterwards, the four had an early supper at the Cave Bar and Grill in Lanagan. **July 11<sup>th</sup>**—Nicole Ridlen directed a six-cave multi-tasking trip involving Brandon Van Dalsem, Cynthia and Clayton Russell, Jim Cooley and Jon Beard. Just inside Arkansas from McDonald County, Missouri, they met a landowner who showed them to 300-foot Plethodon Crawl Cave. Then Brandon, Nicole, Jim and Jon checked out nearby 39-foot Deer Cave. Just across the state line in Missouri, Jim and Nicole took measurements and discussed the gating of Flutestone Cave before the four strolled through the 500-foot cave. Further down the bluff, they checked 270-foot Hobo Cave and adjacent Daylight Cave. The day was culminated with a supper at the Cave Bar and Grill (formerly show cave Truitt's Cave). **July 13<sup>th</sup>**—Dillon Freiburger assisted Jon Beard in the completion of 769-foot Coincidence Cave (Barry Co) in Mark Twain National Forest on behalf of the CRF. The cave consists entirely of crawlway on thick silt except for three stand-up rooms including some tight squeezes. **July 15<sup>th</sup>**—Brandon Van Dalsem, Treavor Bussard and Jon Beard checked out a recent opening in a large shallow sink in Christian

County. Brandon and Treavor took turns entering the throat of the sink to do some chert cobble removal and digging. Jon helped to lift the cobble out of the throat and cast it aside. More digging will be needed if a cave passage is to be reached. **July 16<sup>th</sup>**—Jon Beard assisted USFS staff in the removal of trash from Gilbert Cave (Taney Co) on Mark Twain National Forest. The trash consisted of aluminum cans and several sheets of corrugated steel (the latter of which had been used to block the entrance in the past but was found in a pile a few feet inside the cave. Jon and two of the staff checked the entire 360 feet of cave for biota. They also checked for any graffiti, finding only a minor amount. **July 18<sup>th</sup>**—Jon Beard and Mike Slay (Arkansas Nature Conservancy biologist) checked a couple of wet crawlway caves on private land in Stone County. The caves have yet to be named, approximately 120 and 250 feet long. One had a nice genesic dome in it but was otherwise a wet bellycrawl. They also GPSed a pit and a possible resurgence cave, but lack of time prevented entry into the pit to check it out. Also—Jon Beard assisted six MDC agents in harp netting gray bats at the dripline of Cobb Cave (Christian Co). They found that the grays were lactating females, meaning that the bat colony inside was a maternity site. Plans are to gate the entrance to prevent human disturbance of the colony. Because it is a maternity site, the gate will need to be a chute gate. **July 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>**—SPG members Sammy Wentz, Brandon Van Dalsem, Dillon Freiburger and Jon Beard participated in survey trips to Fitton Cave (Newton Co, AR) as part of CRF projects at the Buffalo National River directed by Kayla Sapkota. Sections of the cave receiving survey attention were the Bat Passage, Lower East Passage and Lost Passage. **July 26<sup>th</sup> – Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>**—Jon and Alicia Beard and Nicole Ridlen attended the 2018 NSS Convention in Helena, MT. In transit, and while there, a number of caves were visited including Indian Cave (NE)(a significant petroglyph site), Wind Cave (S.D.), Lewis and Clark Caverns and Pictograph Cave (MT) as well as Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks--Report by Max White, Material provided by Jonathan Beard

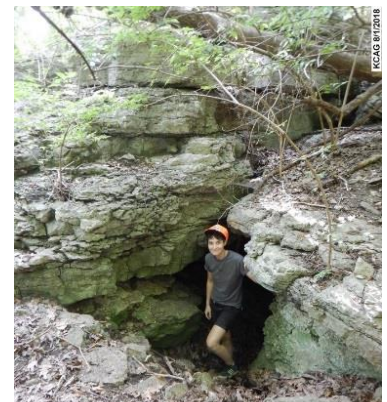
**Kansas City Area Grotto (KCAG). July 11<sup>th</sup>**- Jim Cooley joined Nicole Ridlen, Jon Beard, Brandon Van Dalsem Clayton Russell and Cynthia Spoering to check out some cave leads in Arkansas that Ridlen had turned up on a 900 acre private tract of land, just south of the Missouri border. This resulted in Cooley reporting the (possible) new caves Plethodon Crawl Cave, Many Millipedes Shelter, and Deer Cave to the Arkansas Association for Cave Studies, the Arkansas analog to the MSS. Then Ridlen, Beard, Van Dalsem and Cooley visited Flutestone Cave in McDonald County, Missouri so Cooley could design a gate for it to keep vandals out. Beard, Ridlen, *et. al.* had recently scrubbed out a bunch of new graffiti in this cave. The team then visited two other caves in McDonald County, also with extensive graffiti. **July 12<sup>th</sup>**- Cooley and Ridlen checked caves, mined caves, mines, and cave and mine gates in Barry County for the Mark Twain National Forest, including Butler Hollow Cave (horizontal and vertical entrances), Butler Hollow Mine (gate is breached), Onyx Cave (gate is breached), Sugar Silver Cave, and Radium Cave. Cooley will lead a CRF crew to build a cupola closure over the last remaining mine shaft into Radium Cave on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, with the gating of Flutestone to follow immediately afterward. Cooley will then lead another effort to build a rigid fence gate around the vertical entrance (sinkhole) entrance to Butler Hollow Cave, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. **July 14<sup>th</sup>**- Jim Cooley led a CRF survey team of Brenda Goodnight, Mike Bradford, Dennis Novicky, and Rita Worden to continue the survey of two new caves recently discovered on the Missouri Department of Conservation's Sunlands



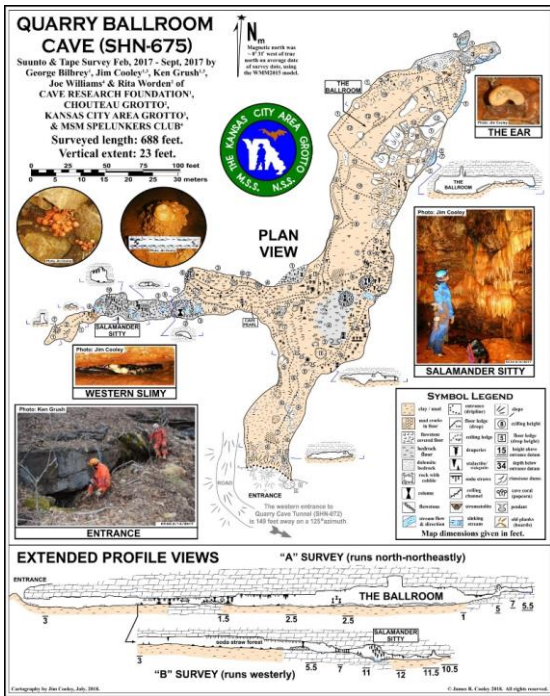
**Breach at Lower Burnt Mill Cave**



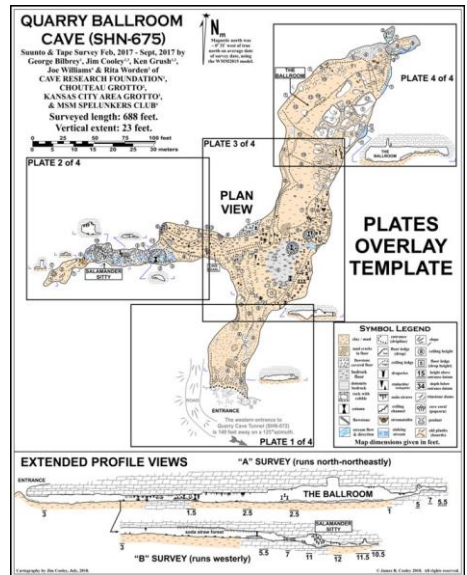
**Three-eyed Hangover Cave**



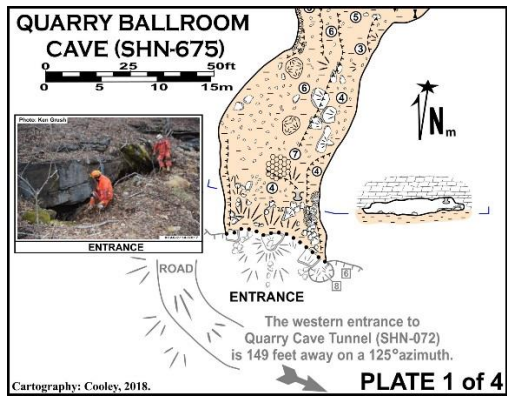
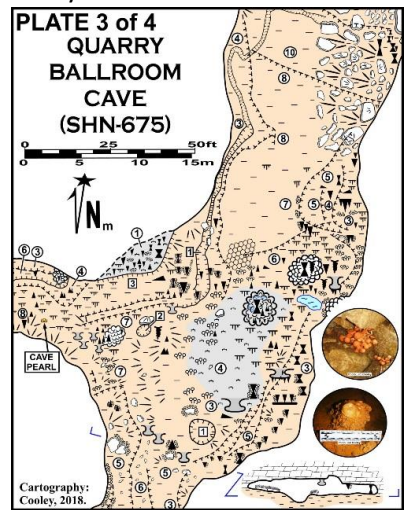
**Jaclyn Dalbey, creakin' with the crickets in Jackson Co.**



Conservation Area, in Shannon County: Rock Pool Cave (SHN-679) and Two-Legged Cave (SHN-678). The Rock Pool survey was completed in a wet and valiant effort by Novicky, Bradford and Worden, while Two-Legged Cave resisted the efforts of Grush and Cooley. The next day, Cooley led the same KCAG survey team to

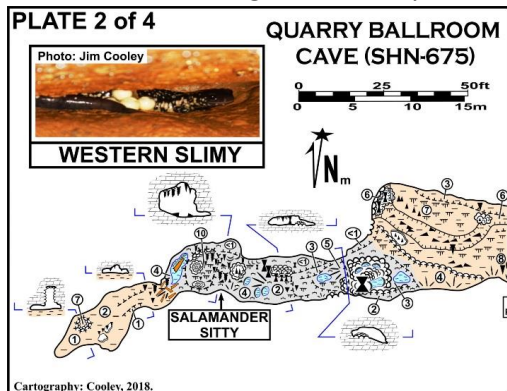


complete the survey of a nearby cave on private land. **July 16<sup>th</sup>**- Cooley and George Bilbrey surveyed another cave on this property, and began to start a second one, but were stopped by two snarly, hissing juvenile turkey buzzards. The next day, Cooley finished the survey of yet another cave on this property.

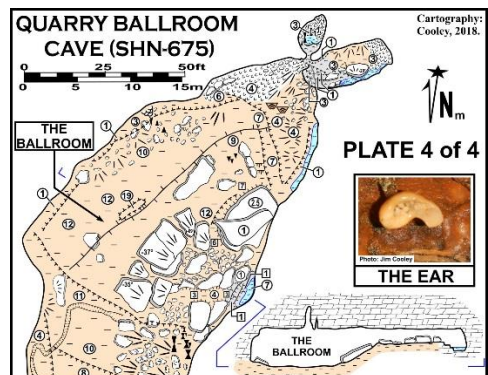


**July 27<sup>th</sup>**- Cooley and Julie Cottrell floated the (very low) Little Niangua River, and visited Mine Tunnel Cave, Mud Slope Cave, Three Columns Cave, and Lover Burnt Mill Cave. Two snarly, hissing juvenile turkey buzzards were in residence at Three Column Cave, but Cooley refused to let Cottrell take one home. They then stopped and monitored the gate at Lower Burnt Mill Cave, discovering it to be breached again. Lastly, they found a new cave, and named it Three-Eyed Hangover Cave, after a rather bizarre, high dripline. **Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>**- Jaclyn Dalbey led Jim Cooley to a small cave in Kansas City, Missouri, which

she dubbed Creaky Crickets Cave. Cooley verified that it qualified as a cave, and reported the location and details to the MSS. It will be surveyed soon. **Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>**- Cooley and Tyler Skaggs visited four caves on a 5,400 private recreational property that Skaggs has access to in Texas County, including a gray bat site with 400 to 600 myotines in residence, and began the survey of one of the caves. **Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>**- Cooley monitored Jacks Fork Bat Cave in Texas



County, on the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, electing to swim into the cave rather than fool with a canoe. Although this gated cave is a gray bat site, no myotines were in residence. But the gate was in good shape, and the locked worked. Cooley did





see there the first soft-shelled turtle to ever be reported in a Missouri cave. Lastly, Cooley completed the map of 688-foot-long Quarry Ballroom Cave in Shannon County.-Submitted by Jim Cooley

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**Ozark Caving web site**– [www.ozarkcaving.com](http://www.ozarkcaving.com) **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>

### **CALENDAR:**

**Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> – Fall MSS meeting weekend**, Current River State Park (old Alton Club).

The MSS meeting will be on Sunday at 10 am. The MCKC meeting will precede the MSS meeting at 9 am. There will be activities all weekend. Plan to attend.

**Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> – Fall MVOR**, to be held at NRO Canoe Rental, Lebanon, MO.

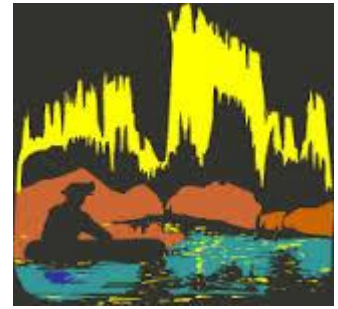
**Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> – Next MSS Liaison deadline.**

# Missouri Speleological Survey

## Fall Board Meeting Agenda

Current River State Park

September 9, 2018



### Board meeting begins at 10:00 AM

#### Administrative Business

- Roll call – Officers and Board
- Secretary's Report and approval of last meeting's minutes – Alberta Zumwalt
- Liaison – Gary Zumwalt
- Treasurer's Report – Don Dunham
- *Missouri Speleology* – Don Dunham

#### Old Business

#### New Business

Appointment for Treasurer  
Appointments to Research Council  
Election of President and Vice President

#### Projects and Announcements

- Cave files / Database
- Agency Reports
  - *Mark Twain National Forest*
  - *Ozark National Scenic Riverways*
  - *Missouri Department of Conservation*
  - *State Parks*
  - Others
- Affiliate Organizations Project Reports
  - Carroll Cave
  - Others
- Public Outreach
  - Facebook & Website

#### Next meeting & Adjournment

#### ATTENTION MSS DIRECTORS:

MSS affiliation fees were due at the Winter meeting in January. The organizations that still have not paid are: **CAIRN, CCC, Chouteau, MSM and SEMO.** Annual reports are no longer required but affiliation fees are. Send a check or money order for \$25.00 to: MSS Treasurer, Don Dunham, 147 Ron de Lee, Arnold, MO 63010 or bring it to the September MSS meeting.