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AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS:

CAIRN – CCC – CHOUTEAU – DAEDALUS – KCAG – LEG – LOG –

MCKC – MMV – MSM – MVG – OHG – PEG – RBX – SEMO – SPG - Stygian

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order made out to the Missouri Speleological Survey to the Editor, Gary Zumwalt, 1681 State Route D, Lohman, MO 65053. Telephone: 573-782-3560.



Missouri Speleological Survey Files Report for June 1, 2022. If you have **new information** on any Missouri caves, my email address is **slagrush@gmail.com** . We need your help to improve the database and make it more complete. I can and do work with Facebook entries, but for information or photos to be incorporated I need to be “private messaged” with the cave name and county. **Jon Beard sent:** -An email clearing up the length of Steury Cave in Greene Co. Regrettably, the cave had been filled back in the late 1960s, but Jon is a font of excellent cave memories. **Jim Cooley sent:** - Report on the multi-day gating project for Toby Cave in Camden Co. -12 Faunal Records, largely additions at Cloud 9 Ranch in Ozark Co. -5 new cave locations in Ozark, Oregon and Shannon, three of them were surveyed. -12 Use Monitoring Forms, 29 Faunal Records and 5 new caves (records included Oregon, Ozark and Shannon Co.). -3 Faunal Records for Estes Cave in Benton Co. **Spike Crews sent:** -2 new leads: Plundered Cave in Pulaski and Mosquito Spring in Phelps Co. **Kayla Flamm sent:** -40 plus photos from the CRF Monitoring trip in Shannon Co. (see also Holtmann). **Ken Grush sent:** -10 Narratives from C. Dake and Josiah Bridge in 1924, that had to be scanned, transcribed and formatted to fit into the database. (House supplied the republished copy of the 1924 report.) -10 Use Monitoring reports for an MDC project in St. Clair Co. This included new GPS locations and entrance photos for the caves last visited/reported back in 1977. Ten maps are in progress; but not a lot of footage in these mostly small caves (<100 ft long). Four new caves were added with accompanying information. These too were scanned and maps are in progress. **Derik Holtmann sent:** -135 photos of 7 caves in Shannon Co. from a recent CRF Monitoring Trip. Five of them became the new “cover” photo for their respective caves in the database. **Scott House sent:** -16 Faunal Records, 12 Use Monitoring forms and 1 new cave; all in Shannon Co. -A volley of emails forwarded from various people with several fauna photographs, Faunal Records and a Use Monitoring form, all archived in their respective cave folders and/or added to database; all MTNF or ONSR caves. -(While working with Ken Grush) 4 deleted caves that seem to be duplicates of other nearby caves. **Mark Jones sent:** -Almost 140 Faunal Records, 41 Narratives and 41 Use Monitoring Forms (41 caves visited) while working from Winona for CRF on ONSR/MTNF caves. **Dan Lamping sent:** -25 Faunal Records and 6 Use Monitoring forms for a trip to 5 caves in Shannon Co. on ONSR and Cliff Cave in St. Louis Co. -A map for Rainbow Cave (CL=127) and Sancoucie Cave (CL83) in Washington Co. **Chris Lewis sent:** -A nice 2002 report from Ken Thomson on Coyote Cave, which he recently purchased. **Joe Light sent:** -Report, 2 Faunal Records and 9 photos including a nice one of the “entrance area”, all added to archive along with one for the cover photo of the database for Little Hamilton Cave in Washington Co. An entrance check and report were done on Hamilton Cave too; the photos included a pair of the entrance shots that together provide a good idea of what to look for while in the field, big gated

entrance. -Report on Hamilton Spring Cave in Washington Co. including 16 photos (including a nice cover photo of the entrance) and 2 Faunal Records. **Alex Litsch sent:** -A cave lead from a real estate website for Jefferson CO. Photo from the property does look like a cave. **Kohl Mitchell sent:** - Verification of a cave in Monroe Co. It was recognized as a lead off of Facebook posts but was confirmed by a field trip with photos, GPS, 2 Faunal Records, some directions and description. -A new map for Possum Pit (CL134, CD30) in Boone Co. **Richard Orr sent:** -Via Messenger, several photos of Rock and Rill Caves in Gasconade Co. -New cave location for Spring Bluff Spring and Cave in Franklin Co. **Tony Schmitt sent:** -Narrative on a survey trip to a new cave in Shannon Co., now over 3100 ft. **Mick Sutton sent:** -14 Faunal Records and 18 Narratives for 33 caves all over the state. -A report that discussed 5 caves and included the sketch map for one of the caves, all in Shannon Co. -A Use Monitoring Form for Pine Hollow Cave in Texas Co. -A final copy of 1 of 4 maps that comprise the map for Powder Mill Creek Cave; 2 down and 2 yet to go. -Biologic Summary of a fairly new cave in Shannon CO. -A new cave report with direction, description and biologic summary for Wild Ginger Cave in Reynolds Co. -A thorough review of the Faunal Records and Species Table in the database. This included modifying over 7000 of the 40000 records we have. **Richard Young sent:** -Report/Narrative for a new cave and a known cave in Perry Co.; Grandpa Unterriner (we do have an Unterreiner Cave already, spellings differ) and Black Haw respectively. —Ken Grush

Daedalus. May 28th - I (Jeff Fennell) along with Jill Fennell, Brendan Fennell, Ben Geisert, Chuck Breite, Baird Breite, Blaise Breite, Kylie Green, Hadley Poole and Drew Lowenstein all took a trip into Aholt Cave in Augusta in St. Charles Co. It was surveyed in the mid-60s and some of the passages toward the back showed they were filled with silt and we were hoping that through the years maybe they had been washed out. We had our fingers crossed that we could possibly add some footage to the map. That did not happen. However, we had a great afternoon in the cave and we did see some critters including the following: One rather large raccoon near the entrance which was on a high ledge trying to keep its distance from us, one Camelback cricket, a couple of amphipods, three silkworms and a few regular earthworms. We also saw a few small piles of guano but no bats on this particular day. We were in the cave a little over 2 hours which was perfect for an introductory trip for Kylie as it was her first ever wild cave trip. Despite not being able to add any footage to the map, a good time was had by all.--Jeff Fennell

Lake Ozarks Grotto (LOG). April – Long-time LOG member, Don Toole, helped with the gating of Toby Cave. **June 13th** – Ken Long took 6 pallets and another leaf blower to Goodwin and met Klaus Leidenfrost there. Ken took 720 pounds of scrap metal for recycling, netting \$40 for the sinkhole fund. Picture taken by Klaus. **June 25th** – Ken Long had a group from Chouteau & KCAG scheduled to go into Kiesewetter Cave. After a problem with the lock on the gate, Ken went to the cave on the 29th to get the lock situation fixed.—Alberta Zumwalt



Stygian. May 7th - Grotto Members JJ Huelsing, Allan Breite, Eric Basinger, TJ Griffin, Chris Landis met up with cavers from the Karst Conservancy of Illinois, Windy City Grotto & Near Normal Grotto and spent the Saturday guiding new cavers in Illinois Caverns. Camping was at Freedom Lake Campgrounds in Waterloo IL. **May 8th** - JJ Huelsing, Allan Breite & Eric Basinger joined members of

Windy City & Near Normal Grotto in a trip into Keller Cave. Stygian Grotto member, Chris Landis, led a trip into Stemler Woods Cave. A big thank you to Ralph Sawyer, Jeffrey Gosnell, Chris Landis & Bob Weck for making the access possible. **May 27th – 30th** - Chris Landis attended Speleofest in Kentucky **June 4th** - JJ Huelsing, Eric Basinger, Chris Landis assisted US Forest Service personnel & MO Bat Census with netting, IR filming and counting bats in Sodalis Nature Preserve in Hannibal. Survey results have been posted by MO Bat Census. **June 5th** - JJ Huelsing, Eric Basinger and Chris Landis explored Cameron Cave & and a small unknown cave in Bear Creek Greenway in Hannibal. **June 11th** - Rich Orr located and reported a new cave lead on the Bourbeuse River in Franklin Co. JJ Huelsing accompanied members of KCI in a bio-survey in Illinois Caverns. **June 18th** - JJ Huelsing, Allan Breite and Kevin Berdak continued the clean-up and removal of trash in a sinkhole in St Charles Co. **June 19th** - New member, Jessica Goertz, did a refresher session for vertical caving techniques with youth cavers.--Allan Breite

Kansas City Area Grotto (KCAG). May 12th-15th: Jim & Julie Cooley, Lee Krout, Peter



Yet another new cave on Cloud 9 Ranch

Schnegelberger and Mike & Candace Kovacs did cave survey and map quality control (QC) work at Cloud 9 Ranch. Two new caves were discovered and reported to MSS, one of which was surveyed. Map QC work was done in Fogey, Bear, Cave Hole Cave, and the other Bear Caves. **May 28th-31st:** Jim & Julie Cooley, Joe Williams and Seth Colston ridgewalked and surveyed two caves on private land in Shannon Co. Two new caves were reported from this trip, one of which we were shown by the landowner. The other new one had two turkey buzzard chicks in it, along with their mom. **June 1st-3rd:** Jim & Julie Cooley served as guides for Dr. Pamela Beth Hart, an NSF post-doctoral fellow from the University of Oklahoma, to collect cavefish on the Mark Twain National Forest and nearby private lands in support of her research on how these creatures can find scarce food in the dark. **June 2nd - 3rd:** Seth Colston and Bill Gee did survey for two days in Geronimo Spring Cave. The first day they did centerline data and the second day sketched. The cave is nearly done. There is probably one more survey trip for a tight muddy passage off the waterfall that may



'Tis the season in the newly reported Buzzard Babies Cave in Shannon County

amount to only three or four shots. **June 4th:** Bill Gee and Seth Colston continued survey work in Stark Caverns. They collected centerline data in the Rugged Canyon area, which will be sketched on

the next trip. They added 457 feet to the cave, which now totals 3,868 feet. They still need to do survey in the stream level of the Rugged Canyon, but have gone just about as far out Rugged Canyon as humans can get. **June 6th - 7th**: Jim & Julie Cooley provided trip planning, guide services and Sherpa support to Jordan Meyer (MDC) and Angela Trombley (MTNF) doing two thermal infra-red video bat censuses at Bat Cave in Oregon Co. The gray bat population is numerous, alive and thriving at this Priority 1 maternity site that we gated with Bat Conservation International in September, 2012. **June 25th**: Kristin Vogel, KCAG's Novice Trip Coordinator, led a grotto novice trip to Kieswetter Cave. The trip was compromised by having the key break off in the lock that opened the cave. Eventually, with the blessing of the cave manager and after about five hours' hard work, Vogel and team busted the lock off the gate and were able to tour the cave. The cave manager already had locks purchased to replace the old ones. **June 26th**: Kristin Vogel led a nine-person grotto novice trip to Perkins Cave in Camden Co. **June 28th**: Jim & Julie Cooley did a casual visit to check out a reported gray bat cave in Benton Co. While we did not go far enough back to find the bats, we did find sufficient (and substantial) flyway guano to conclude that the cave is currently being used by some sort of colonial myotine. **June 20th**: Jim Cooley used his 16-foot jon boat powered by a trusty 10 hp Yamaha outboard motor to ferry Ken and Sam Grush around the Osage arm of Truman Lake, upstream from Osceola to the Sac-Osage confluence. Their objective was to locate, inventory and do LIDAR surveys of several caves on the Corps of Engineers property. Six caves were found and examined, one of which contained the first turkey vulture chick that Sam had ever seen. Ken then uses the LIDAR imagery to create maps of these caves. **June 21st**: Jim Cooley again ferried Ken and Sam Grush around the Osage arm of Truman Lake, this time from the Talley Bend access upstream to Cannonball Bluff on the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation, to continue locating, inventorying and doing LIDAR surveys of four caves and a newly reported shelter. Another unreportable cavelet was found that also contained a turkey vulture chick. **June 28th**: Jim & Julie Cooley visited a gray bat cave in Benton Co. to see if there was any evidence of current usage by bats. There was! We did not go back far enough to disturb (or even see) the bats. They were "identified by signs."-- Jim Cooley

Springfield Plateau Grotto (SPG). **May 7th** —Nathan Burton and Jon Beard visited Gentry Cave (Stone Co.) to determine the speleogenesis of this maze cave, surveyed in 1971-1972 by the late Ken Thomson and late Bob Taylor, et al. The cave was mapped to just under 1,100 feet and mainly shows curvilinear passages with many three-way intersections except two extant parallel passages to the south and two prominent vaulted joint passages in the north section of the cave. Other than the two joint passages, the cave is very similar to the few other maze caves developed in the Jeff City/Cotter Dolomite that Jon has been researching (most recently Clayton Cave in Taney Co. Several photos were taken of cave features and passage shapes. Afterwards, the owner invited Nathan and Jon into his home to watch the Kentucky Derby! **May 14th** —Alicia and Jon Beard, Jim and Cathy Huckins were among a party of ten who were guided through Giboney Cave (Greene Co.) as part of the celebration of Roy Gold's 80th birthday (actually May 16th) attended by family and friends. Giboney Cave has a perennial stream in its nearly 2,000 feet of negotiable passages. Although none were seen that day, it is home to bristly cave crayfish, a number of salamander species. It is also known for its rimstone terraces and flowstone that often flow water that cascades in gentle sheets across the terraces. The group saw 800 feet of main passage that continues beyond the trail as a 700-foot watercrawl that becomes too low to follow. **June 11th** --- Melvin Johnson set up a Bat & Cave display at the "Nature's Impact on Mental Health" sponsored by Missouri State Parks / Bennett Spring

State Park and the National Alliance on Mental Illness. The event was held 1100 - 1400 at The Exchange at Wall Street Cattle Co., Lebanon, MO. He had several express interest in the display. -- Report by Max White. Materials by Jonathan Beard and Melvin Johnson.

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Cave Files Committee: Scott House (Chairman), Ken Grush, Mick Sutton, Dan Lamping, and Jeffrey (Spike) Crews.

NOTE: MSS Affiliate Organization fees were due in January. Check or money order for \$25.00 should be sent to the MSS Treasurer, Don Dunham, 6104 Valley Creek Ct., Imperial, MO 63052.

Not paid are: Daedalus, MMV, OHG, Roubidoux (owes \$10).

Failure to pay the Affiliate fee will affect your status on the Board. Please send money to Don ASAP.

Calendar:

Sept. 1st – Next Liaison deadline.

October 2nd – Fall 2022 MSS Meeting, Rockbridge State Park & Devils Icebox. Watch for more information in the next MSS Liaison.