

THE MSS LIAISON

VOLUME 66 NUMBER 3-4

March – April 2026

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS:

CAIRN – CHOUTEAU – DAEDALUS – KCAG – LEG – LOG – MCKC - MMV

MSM – MVG – OHG – PEG – SEMO – SPG - Stygian

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.



Missouri Speleological Survey Vice President's Message by Kohl Mitchell.

The weather was absolutely perfect as about 40 cavers converged on my farm in northeast Missouri for a weekend of camping, caving and meetings in a part of the state that, despite having many caves, has traditionally been overlooked by project cavers. Starting on Friday morning, we sent thirteen teams to caves in Ralls, Marion, & Pike Counties, and they came home with just short of 4,000 feet of survey between the lot of them.



On Friday, two teams began a resurvey of Frankford Cave, a significant bat habitat, starting from its upper sinkhole entrance. Another team performed biomonitoring in Hannibal's Cameron Cave, a show cave adjacent to the well-known Mark Twain Cave. Finally, another cave on the Mark Twain Cave property, Red's Cave, which had recently been re-excavated after being cut off by a collapse, was resurveyed to 96 feet long.

On Saturday, nine teams went to various objectives across the area. One team returned to Frankford Cave, starting a survey from its downstream entrance. While they didn't make it all the way to connect the two entrances, we finished the weekend with just over 2,000 feet of survey in the cave, confirming it as the second-longest cave in Pike County.

Three teams headed to Fisher Cave, where they got nearly 1,000 feet of survey in one of Ralls County's largest and most picturesque caves. Two teams got wet and cold in Moore Cave, just recently relocated after over 60 years without any cavers paying it a visit. We got about 600 feet of survey here, with at least another 500 feet of grim but going virgin water crawl remaining for next time. A team was sent to survey the elusive Jerry Long Cave in Ralls County, but it remained hidden from them – we'll get it next year. A team mapped about 300 feet in Ralls County's Boling Cave, with enough passage left to survey to keep a team busy on another day. Finally, the survey of Lost Boys Cave, a painful but rewarding project I'm glad to close the book on, was finished with profile sketch in a few strategic areas.

As for the meeting, topics of discussion included the 70th anniversary of the MSS, the presence of officer & director contact info on our website, Ian Pelletier of Stygian Grotto's NCRC scholarships, as well as reports on cave files and agency projects. Tony Schmitt received a package of

correspondences from legendary geologist & author J Harlen Bretz, while I was also honored to be presented with the Lang Brod certificate of recognition.

Special thanks to Kirsten Alvey, without whom this weekend would not have been possible, for arranging landowner contacts for most of the cave trips as well as cooking delicious food for the group. Thanks to MSS & MCKC presidents, Dan Lamping & Tony Schmitt, for running with my hare-brained idea to hold the meetings at my house. Additional thanks are in order for everyone who participated in cave mapping this weekend. It's hard to put into words how awesome it is to see cavers from all across the state doing work underground in areas that I've lived around and called home all my life.

I feel very privileged to be part of this community, and am more than happy to give back by hosting the spring MSS/MCKC weekend at my farm again in March 2027. I hope to see many faces, both familiar and new, getting underground up here again next year. Before then, however, we are in the initial stages of planning the fall 2026 MSS/MCKC weekend in Lincoln County, another karst area that receives little attention compared to others in the state. Further details will be ironed out as we get closer to the date.

Files Report for May 1, 2026 - By Ken Grush. If you have **new information** on any Missouri caves, my email address is slak@grush.org. 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. **Kirsten Alvey sent:** -Reports on over 20 caves in Ozark Co. at Cloud 9 Ranch in Ozark Co., among the files were 167 or more Fauna records; 2 new caves, O'Mani and CC Cave, with supporting documents of photos, fauna and GPS location. **Karamea Christofferson sent:** -9 Faunal records for Glauber/Bear Cave in Jefferson Co. **Jim Cooley sent:** -8 Use monitoring forms and 10 Fauna for caves on Lake of the Ozarks. -A map of Camp Hawthorn Cave #4 (CL=55) at Lake of the Ozarks. **Josh Cooper sent:** -15 Faunal records and 11 photos for 3 caves in Perry Co.: Wind, Deer Stand and 76 Caves. **Nathan Curran sent:** -4 new caves for Shannon Co.: Cache Squeeze, Rat Loop and 2 more Dark Hollow Caves. Directions, locations and brief descriptions were sent, too. -A new map for Cache Squeeze Cave (CL=44 ft) as above. -Two new caves: Lone Nailed Log Cave in Texas Co. and Briar Midden Cave in Reynolds Co. Subsequently, he sent maps of both: Nailed (CL=30) and Briar (CL=27). -New cave for St. Louis Co.: Old Jamestown Spring Cave. Lang Brod back in the 1960s reported 2 caves along the Missouri River Bluffs; finally, the second cave got recognized and recorded for the county. Cave was surveyed on this trip. Both are spring caves and really not far from each other. Quickly thereafter, he sent the map (CL=36). -Another new cave for St. Louis Co.: Post 444 Shelter Cave. Along with a full Main Table export, he also provided a sized photo of the entrance, full size photo and the cave map (CL=29). -Another new cave for St. Louis Co.: White House Retreat Cave. Along with a full Main Table export, he also provided a sized photo of the entrance, full size photo and the cave map (CL=24). -A map for St. Louis for a former cave lead: Trevor Pit, now recognized as a pit of 39 ft depth and survey length of 52 ft, including vertical. -Another new cave for St. Louis: Chalet Forest Fissure (CL=17). Along with the map, he sent a Narrative report on discovery of the cave and entrance photos. -2 reports for Lon Odell Memorial and Crevice Hall Caves in Dade Co. He included 18 Faunal records for the 2 caves. **Don Dunham sent:** -A new cave for Laclede Co., Blue Spring. It's pretty well-documented as a spring, but Don got to the entrance during the recent MVOR and could see into the cave, but was kept from entering by the flooded stream in front of the cave. **Ken Grush sent:** -9 new shelters in Montgomery Co., maps are in progress for all (see below). These largely were found in the literature and then verified in the field. Four additional caves were added based on the published reports and maps.

Hopefully, these can be further verified and mapped anew with a field trip and ownership identified. - 4 new maps for Pike Co. (see Huelsing): Shy (CL=150), Shyless (C=34), Too Shy (CL=22) and Lucky (CL=60) Caves. -9 new maps for the Montgomery shelters: Main (Dripline length, DL=49, CL=30), Shallow (DL=78, CL=20), Lower (DL=80, CL=23), Korman (DL=34, CL=30), Parking (DL=132, CL=25), Harbor (DL=34, CL=14), Dome (DL=60, CL=14), High (DL=148, CL=20) and Low (DL=98, CL=19) Shelters. All are in the St. Peter Sandstone. All 13 maps are from 3D scans done with an iPhone Pro, so 3 maps are provided: a standard map without LiDAR, a version without cartographic details in order to see the images used from LiDAR and a combined version with all the cartographic and LiDAR details. **Scott House sent:** -19 Use forms (read 19 caves monitored) in Cater, Howell, Oregon, Ripley and Shannon Co., while working in Winona on the operative database. In addition, 96 Faunal records were added; 2 new caves added, The Igloo in Carter and Hidden Hole in Shannon Co.; and 17 records were modified. -Map of The Igloo (CL=16) and Golden Seal (CL=30) Caves in Carter Co. -Redraft of Arches Caves (CL=97) in Phelps Co. **JJ Huelsing sent:** -Copy of a 1907 report on two caves in Pike Co. from the Bureau of Geology and Mines. Earliest report for the county comes from a newspaper clipping in 1863, Clark (state geologist, DNR building in Rolla named after him) had one other report (listing of caves) before 1950 on caves of Pike Co. **Candace Kovacs sent:** -A detailed report of an SPG trip to Giboney Cave, where the collected photos and 8 Faunal records. -A new map for Coon Hollow Crack Cave (CL=22) in Stone Co. -A new map of Horse Creek Cave #2 (CL=29) in Stone Co. **Mike Kovacs sent:** -A new record, Use form and Trip Report with a description for Skyline Pit in Taney Co. Shortly after the map came in with a name change: Cedar Bluff Cave (CL=105). -A new map for Giboney Cave (CL=2305) in a Springfield city park (Greene Co.). -A new map for Coon Hollow Dripping Cave (CL=79) in Stone Co. -A new cave for Stone Co: Horse Creek Sink. **Dan Lamping sent:** -2 new caves for Shannon Co.: Inner and Outer Tube Cave. Sent via the MSS online reporting site. Directions, location, photo and descriptions were added. -Sent directions for a formerly lost cave in Shannon Co.: Signature Rock Cave was found about a mile away from its actual location. Directions relative to another cave provided the key to unlock the correct PLSS location. Tony Schmitt found the key, thanks for the assist! Monitoring form and 3 Faunal records for Signature Rock Cave were sent separately. -2 more new caves for Shannon Co.: 35 Foot Long and Christmas Song Caves. Both were surveyed. Maps in progress. -21 Faunal records and 9 Monitoring forms for work in Shannon Co. at Blair View, Blair View Crawl, Dripping Ledge, Window, Alignment, Inner Tube, Inner Tube, and 35-Foot-Long Caves. Caves were on LAD Foundation properties. -A map for Helm Cave (CL=1017) in Wayne Co. More trips needed to complete. -7 Faunal records for Cliff Cave in St. Louis Co. -New maps of Outer Tube (CL=22), Alignment (CL=48), Christmas Song (CL=18) and 35 Foot Long (CL=27) Caves in Shannon Co. **Kohl Mitchell sent:** -A report on a Katy Trail survey trip; 6 Use forms for 6 caves, 16 Faunal records and 2 new caves. All records came via runtime exports that were easily added to the database. Maps in progress. -A Narrative on survey trip to Marvel/Blair Creek Cave in Shannon Co., now at 3956 ft with 139 ft vertical range. -4 Monitoring forms, 6 Narratives and 11 Faunal records Marvel Cave (Shannon), Frankford and Moore Caves (Pike), and Spring and River Overlook Caves (Boone). Pike Co. activity included some of the MSS weekend projects. -A new map for Reds Cave (CL=96) in Marion Co. -New maps of Railroad Shelter (CL=31), Beached Barge (CL=40) and Railroad Tunnel (CL=32). The first 2 are in Boone Co., while the third is in Howard Co. All are along the Katy Trail. -A new map of Fisher Cave (CL=992, VR=26) in Ralls Co. Fisher re-mapping was one of the big objectives for the MSS weekend. -A new map of Frankford Cave (CL=3300, VD=51) in Pike Co. Another MSS weekend big project. -A new map of Boling Cave (CL=242) in Ralls Co. Another MSS weekend project. **Eric Reuter sent:** -5 photos and 2 videos of the newly re-found Reds Cave in Marion Co. The videos are fly-through of the 3D model that they generated while surveyed the cave. **Tim**

Shoppenhorst sent: -Several historic land plats from the 1930s, that validate the name for Sallee Cave in Gasconade Co. One plat shows a cave location, while also identifying the owner, whose daughter was a Sallee once married. -Several newspaper clippings that show a 1941 cave trip to Hankin Caves #1 and #2 and also Cave Hill Cave, all in Gasconade Co. **Joe Sikorski sent:** -3 cave maps for Shannon Co.: Blair View Crawl (CL=26), Dripping Ledge (CL=25) and Blair View (CL=60) Caves. **Mick Sutton sent:** -A bunch of revisions (over 800) to the Faunal records and added 57 new records. He needed the operative database to make the changes over 4 days. -45 “new” Faunal records.

Harold Present – Missouri’s Canine Cave Rescuer – by Joe Light. Harold Present was an employee of the Missouri Humane Society with a passion for rescuing animals. He was involved in the rescue of thousands of pets that had gotten themselves into precarious situations, but his legacy is the numerous dogs that he rescued from various Missouri caves. **In town of Hematite, MO,** 40 miles south of St. Louis, a small dog became trapped in a cave under a rock in the summer of 1948. The owner of the farm discovered the dog, raised the alarm, and notice was sent to the Missouri Humane Society in St. Louis. **Harold did not wait.** He immediately traveled to the cave, arriving at 2:30 AM. He promptly began digging. Over the next couple days, volunteers including Harold used picks, shovels, crowbars, and an air hammer. While they dug, they fed the dog raw hamburger to keep it alive. After several days of work, the dog was freed. **This wasn’t the first dog** that Harold freed from a cave. Several years earlier, he was involved in rescuing a dog deep inside an Ozark hillside near Munger, MO. Drive, a 10-year-old coon dog, had become trapped in a cave. When the owner of the dog, Jake Light, put out the call for help, 75 men from neighboring farms arrived to help including Harold from St. Louis, over 90 miles away. Jake the dog, had fallen into a pit and the only way to rescue the dog, was to dig and blast through 25 feet of limestone. While Harold and the rescuers dug, the dog was fed bacon attached to the end of a stick to keep its strength up. **After 10 days** and removing 100 tons of limestone, the dog was pulled from the cave. Harold wanted to take the dog to vet, but the owner of the dog, while crying, wrapped his dog in his shirt and took him home. As the owner left with Jake the dog, he stated, “I’ll take care of the dog myself, and the day I get him well, I’ll go out and get drunk to celebrate. **Harold’s final canine cave rescue** occurred in September of 1948 near the town of Cyrene, MO. Two dogs had entered a cave and could not get out and in true Missouri fashion, a massive rescue began. Harold used a chisel and hammer to break away rock in hopes of freeing the dogs. Eventually, one of the dogs became so emaciated that it was able to exit the cave on its own. **Desperation to free** the remaining dog was so great, that a \$200 reward was offered to anyone that could do it. Fifteen men turned down the reward and four failed. A 19-year-old housewife tried for three hours to rescue the dog but was unable to get to the dog. Unfortunately, the fate of the remaining trapped dog is unknown. There are no follow up stories in the newspapers, but we know the fate of Harold Present. **Harold’s job** as Missouri’s canine rescuer ended the next year when he was unexpectedly fired from his job of 16 years with the Missouri Humane Society. The shock and outrage of the termination was reflected in St. Louis newspapers. Saving animals above and below ground was his life. When he lost his position, he lost his reason to live. Within a month of losing his job, he committed suicide. – Reprinted from the *Journal of Spelean History*.

Lake Ozarks Grotto (LOG). **Mar. 24th** – Ken Long worked at Kiesewetter clearing the path and did maintenance on the locks. **Apr. 14th** - Dillon Bond presented a program on Goose Tunnel, Buzzard Slot Cave and Two buzzard Tunnel after a trip with KCAG. He also showed pictures of the LOG trip to Rock House. Dillon is working on a new website for the grotto. –Alberta Zumwalt

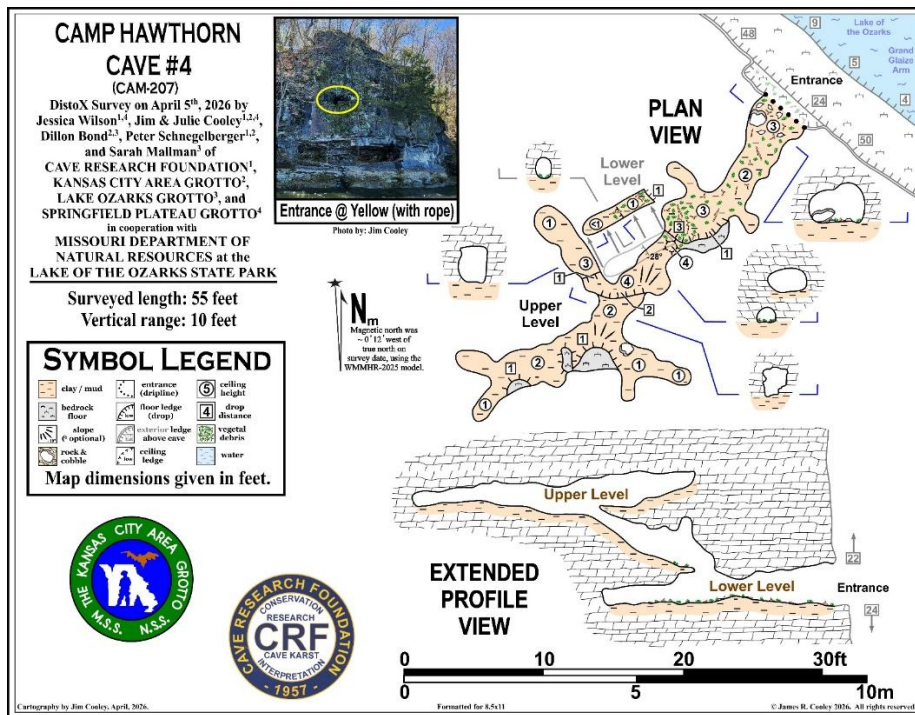
Chouteau Grotto: Mar. 29 - Kohl Mitchell, Kirsten Alvey, Nathan Curan, Derik Holtmann, Phill Heavrin, and Quinton Heaton returned to Frankford cave to finish surveying the main passage, recording over 1200 additional feet. Two low, wet side passages are still left to complete the survey. **Apr 26** - Rita Worden and Kayla Heady participated in the annual Spring bio-survey of invertebrates in Devils Icebox cave (BNE-001) with other members of DICI and park employees. --Rita Worden

Stygian. Mar. 1 - The Grotto organized a ropes training class for 8 members of CAIRN in preparation for a vertical cave trip they had planned to the Springfield MO region. Basic rappelling and ascension instruction with a change-over were taught and practiced. Thanks to instructors Bobby Swain, Ian Pelletier, Kyle Mann and Allan Breite for passing on their skills and knowledge. Thanks, also, to Nathan Curran for helping out and Dani Lotz for all the photos. A special thanks to Park Ranger Laura McLeod with the St Louis County Parks Dept for arranging the session at Cliff Cave in Cliff Cave County Park. She also went through the training since she had no prior ropes experience. This first session replaced the ill-fated January 24 session when the weather sent the temps to near zero and it snowed about 10 inches. **Mar. 14** - Grotto members Bobby Swain, Allan Breite, Heather and Christian Fox and Atom Fox; 8 members from the St Louis Area Geocachers Assn. along with 8 students and their instructor from the robotics club of the St Louis Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience met up with Ranger Laura McLeod from the St Louis County Parks Dept at Cliff Cave Park. The group removed old household appliances from the park's upper sinkhole basins. 2,000 pounds of junk was removed, including several old hot water heaters, an old gas stove, a washing machine, a tire on a rim filled with mud and parts of at least one large refrigerator. Park visitors were amazed with the haul and inquiring if the old car was going to be removed which is in another part of the park but it has been deemed a trail marker for now. **Mar. 27** - Ian Pelletier and Allan Breite scouted and recorded 2 rock shelters in Callaway Co. on private land. **Mar. 29** - The Grotto hosted part 2 of the previously rescheduled January 24 session ropes training. This class was another basic level training also done at Cliff Cave and attended by 10 newer members of the Grotto who did not have any previous ropes training and a couple of guest Regional Heritage biologists from the IL Dept of Natural Resources. The weather was great and everyone learned a lot and all look forward to doing more with their new skills. Thanks again to Bobby, Ian, Rob, Kyle and Allan for passing on the knowledge. **Apr. 11** - Rich Orr, Lexie Beckermann and Allan Breite conducted a field search for a lost cave in St Charles Co. A new spring and spring planaria site were located and recorded. **Apr. 23** - Several grotto members began a survey of a new cave located in St Louis Co. on private property. The cave appears to have a large population of cave salamanders considering its location and its passage size as explored so far. **Apr. 25** - Allan Breite and Emma Huff assisted the park staff at Cuivre River SP with some spring clean-up at one of the campgrounds in an effort to further the working relationship that we've had for the past 8 years with the park. A formal request to use the park's group campground in September for the Fall MSS meeting has been submitted to the DNR Parks division for consideration. A service project is being discussed. --Allan Breite

Kansas City Area Grotto (KcAG) Liaison Report for January-February, 2026: Mar 13th: Jim Cooley led a team consisting of Bill Gee, Nathan Taylor, Shane McCurdy and Peter Schnegelberger to continue the survey of two privately owned caves in Shannon County. **Mar 14th:** Jim Cooley led a team consisting of Bill Gee, Nathan Taylor, Shane McCurdy, Peter Schnegelberger and Sarah Peterson (SPG) to continue other surveys in privately owned caves in Shannon County. On this day, we took the landowner and three friends into these caves with us to explain speleogenesis and cave survey.

Landowner relations are EVERYTHING! **Mar 26th**: Jim & Julie Cooley gave a multi-part Powerpoint presentation entitled *Speleology: A Citizen Science* at Southwest Baptist University (SBU) in Mountain View, Missouri, to a **Teaching Methods for the Physical Sciences** class in SBU's School of Education. Topics covered included an introduction to caves and karst; recreational and project caving organizations and their relationship to agencies that manage natural resources; ridgewalking; cave mapping and cartography; and cave gating. This presentation was done at the behest of one of our landowners, a retired educator who is an adjunct professor at SBU. As mentioned before: Landowner relations are EVERYTHING! **Apr 4th**: Jim & Julie Cooley led a CRF expedition consisting of Peter Schnegelberger, Jessica Wilson, Sarah Petersen, Dillon Bond, Peter Schnegeleberger and Sarah Mallman to the eastern side of Lake of the Ozarks State Park to try to finish a survey project first started in 2015. We monitored, bio-inventoried and did map QC on CAM-116 Camp Rising Sun Cave, CAM-195 Camp Hawthorn cave #2 and Shelter, CAM-196 Camp Hawthorn Cave #3, CAM-197 Submarine Beaver Cave, CAM-198 Grand Glaize Shelter, CAM-199 Camp Hawthorn Beaver Cave, CAM-201 Shelter Bluff Cave, and CAM-202 Shelter Bluff Shelter. All accession numbers above CAM-116 were new caves identified in 2015-2016 in the course of this project effort. Mission creep continued this time, with the discovered of two MORE new caves, CAM-207 Camp Hawthorn Cave #4 and CAM-208 Tree Root Cave Annex. SRT was required to enter CAM-207. Interesting biological observations included four beavers (two deceased), Canada geese, both turkey and black vultures, and a turkey vulture egg. Boats were used to access all of these caves, uniquely enabled by the

generous provision of a 28-foot, 350hp Tritoon pontoon boat by Dillon Bond. Thanks, Dillon! This magnificent piece of gear was supplemented with Cooley's more modest 16-foot jon boat, powered by a mighty 10hp Yamaha outboard. **Apr 5th**: Jim & Julie continued the Lake of the Ozarks survey and monitoring effort with Peter, Jessica, Dillon, and Sarah Mallman. On this day, several cave leads were investigated in the vicinity of Camp Hawthorn Beaver Cave, none of which proved to be reportable caves. Then we



surveyed 55-foot-long Camp Hawthorn Cave #4, which required a rappel to get in the entrance. This map has since been drafted and a final version submitted to the MSS. **Apr 25th**: Jim Cooley led a survey crew consisting of Julie Cooley, Bill Gee, Becca Marlin, Dillon Bond, and Jaclyn Dalbey, to survey JKN-003 Roanoke Park Cave, located 592 meters from Jim and Julie's house in Kansas City, Missouri. It was recently protected by the Roanoke Park Conservancy with one of Cooley's BCI/ACCA-standard, air-flow-optimized, bat-friendly cave gates. We got 96 feet of interior survey completed and mostly sketched. There are at least a couple hundred more very low, very wet and nasty feet at least to go, that will require waterproof survey gear (i.e., a BRIC). -- Jim Cooley

Springfield Plateau Grotto (SPG). Apr. 18---Candace Hancock, Christine Longenecker, Daclan Raymond, Cheryl Paulson and Max White visited Sarcoxie Cave (Jasper County). Sarcoxie Cave is a gated cave managed by MCKC, the dirt has been washing off the hillside and blocking access to the gate and cave entrance. The purpose of this trip was to dig out the dirt allowing access to the locked gate. (MDC Biologist plan to start regularly monitoring the cave once access has been restored). The team was able to remove most of the dirt that needed to be removed. The next trip will consist of a little more digging and cleaning up the sliding stainless steel bar with the hopes of being able to enter the cave. The three photos were taken by Cheryl Paulson. Report by Max White



Mar. 13-14-15 --- Matt Beeson led a trip to re-survey, over a mile long cave in Arkansas, as part of a CRF Project, his team included Mike Beeson, Nathan Burton, Candace Kovacs, Mike Kovacs and Jessica Wilson. They hiked the 3.8 miles to the cave, with tents and camping gear. After camping 2 nights and surveying for 3 days, the team had surveyed 4,564 ft., including 32 loops. **Mar. 19**--- Cheryl Paulson and Max White, using photos provided by Roy Gold, gave a presentation on Caves, Cave Life and Caving to Home School Students at the Lawrence/Barry County Library. **Mar. 29**--- Candace Kovacs, Mike Kovacs, Lauren Kuntz and Jessica Wilson continue the survey of a cave they had previously started mapping. The team added several hundred feet of low wet passage to the map. They will continue the survey on another day when no rain is in the forecast. **Apr. 26**--- Alex Stump led a trip to Berome Moore Cave (Perry Co.). His team included Becca Marlin, Tyler Marlin, Jerel Waters and Jessica Wilson. --Material provided by Jessica Wilson. Report by Max White

MSS MINUTES. The Spring 2026 Board meeting of the Missouri Speleological Survey was called to order by President Dan Lamping on March 22nd at Laddononia, MO. **Introduction of Officers:** Dan Lamping, President; Kohl Mitchell, Vice-President; Don Dunham, Treasurer; Alberta Zumwalt, Secretary. **Roll Call of Directors:** Lorin O'Daniell, PEG; Tony Schmitt, MCKC; Dave Hoffman (acting Director), MSM; Max White, SPG; Andrew Mayer (proxy for Gary Resch), SEMO; Cani Lotz (proxy for Craig Williams), CAIRN; Kyle Mann (proxy for Chad McCain), MVG; Rita Worden, Chouteau; Bill Gee (proxy for Jim Cooley), KCAG; Allan Breite, Stygian; Charley Rey, OHG; Gary Zumwalt, LOG. Absent were Daedalus, LEG and MMV. **Secretary's report.** The minutes of the Fall 2025 meeting were distributed to the officers and directors after the meeting and printed in the Sept./Oct. 2025 issue of

MSS Liaison. Minutes approved. **MSS Liaison**. Gary Zumwalt reported cash on hand of \$141.63. Sending out 25 paper copies and 118 electronic copies. **Missouri Speleology**. Don Dunham reported an issue on Water Study of Roaring River and Scott House is working on an issue. Don said that the MSS affiliation fee is due. Pres. Lamping explained that the first issues of *Missouri Speleology* were all based on caves by county. He said that work done in Ralls County this weekend would be a good start to a Ralls County issue and would encourage producing work for a publication. **Old Business**: Pres. Lamping presented Kohl Mitchell with the Lang Brod award from last meeting. **New Business**: The Secretary presented Tony Schmitt with a package of mementos from a former Chouteau member, Carol (Kruesi) Kendall who had correspondence from J Harlan Bretz. Since Tony got the J Harlan Bretz award at the Fall meeting, Carol wanted to pass on some publications & letters that she had. **Officer & Director contact information**: Pres. Lamping explained that with the *MSS Liaison* being on the website, it was causing scams on people listed. After much discussion, Allan Breite made a motion that the personal information be omitted from the *MSS Liaison* that is posted online. Seconded by Rita Worden. Passed. This would also include the MSS treasury report. **NCRC**: Allan Breite reported on a scholarship fund that would cover the cost of going through NCRC. He reported only one response, that there are still some slots left. **Cave Files**. Pres. Lamping reported over 8,000 documented caves with over 4,000 mapped in some way. Someone asked about the unmapped caves. Pres. Lamping said a spreadsheet of unmapped caves for an area can be obtained. **Agency reports: Mark Twain National Forest, Ozark National Scenic Riverways, and Missouri Dept. of Conservation** – Pres. Lamping said there are cooperative agreements with them and the MSS is the repository for the information obtained. **State Parks** – Pres. Lamping said there is no formal agreement but CRF and MSS work with certain parks. Rita Worden said the Superintendent of Rockbridge is a caver. **Affiliate organizations** – Nameless Cave, along the Meramec, started re-survey early this year with 6 or 7 teams working and cavers from all over. Allan Breite reported a St. Louis County Park cleanup – the sinks in Cliff Cave with 23 people. Geocachers hauled the trash up. Slimy Salamander, still plugged, but a tire and washing machine were removed. **Public Outreach** – Pres. Lamping said he continues to add to the website and on Facebook. Also, an MSS Facebook group – ask to be on if not on it. **Thanks** – Pres. Lamping thanked Vice-President Kohl Mitchell and Kristen Alvey for organizing the MSS weekend. Kohl reported on Frankford Cave – 2092 ft. on the re-survey; Red Cave – re-surveyed & finished 96 ft. Fisher Cave 990 ft. Boling Cave 242 ft. Moore Cave – 584 ft. – just short of 4,000 ft. total surveyed this weekend. Pres. Lamping added that it's the 70th Anniversary of the MSS. **Next meeting**: Pres. Lamping asked for ideas of where to hold the Fall meeting. Kristen Alvey proposed having the Fall meeting at Cuivre River, possibly in October. Kohl Mitchell offered to have the Spring 2027 meeting at his farm and continue to work on Ralls and Pike County caves. Pres. Lamping said they would be working on the location for the Fall meeting. Meeting adjourned. –respectfully submitted, Alberta Zumwalt, Secretary.

