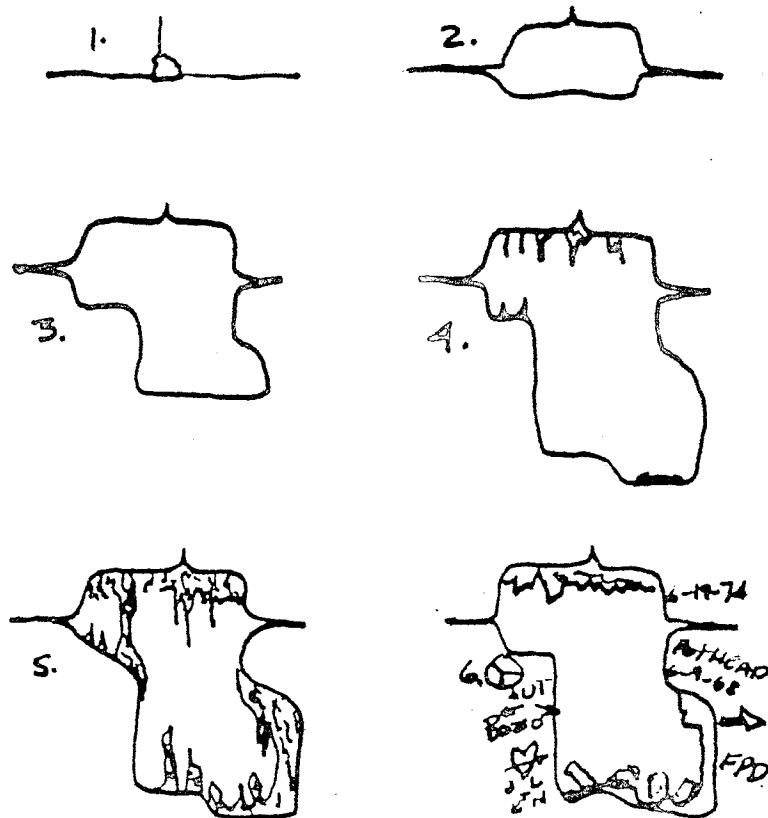


IKC

UPDATE

A MEMO FROM THE INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY
APRIL 1986

Cave Evolution: STOP STEP SIX



INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY

The Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc., is a non-profit organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of Indiana.

The purpose of the Conservancy is to acquire, manage, and protect the caves and related karst features of Indiana and other areas of the world for future study and recreation. The Conservancy will also promote conservation education about, and environmentally compatible use of karst areas.

Organization for 1986:

President--William L. Wilson	Director--Keith Dunlap
Secretary--Tom Rea	Director--Glenn Lemasters
Treasurer--Cindy Riley	

Committees for 1986:

Membership-----	Cindy Riley
Public Relations-----	Dave Haun
Cave Acquisition and Maintenance-	Bill Wilson
Fund Raising-----	Cindy Riley
Scientific-----	Bill Wilson
Educational Program Development--	vacant
Resource Inventories-----	Jim Wolford

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

- * May 17, Saturday: 9:00 am, Gate Shaft Pit Cave
- June 15, Saturday: 9:00 am, Clean-up trip to Coon's Cave
- August: Fence Grotto Cave

Please call any officer or director for more details about these events.

For more information on the INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY write to:
 Cindy Riley
 P.O. Box 461
 Plainfield, IN 46168

The IKC UPDATE is published to keep the membership in touch with the Board of Directors and informed on current projects and happenings.

THE COVER: Reprinted from December 1985, CIG Newsletter

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
at

Indianapolis, Indiana
MacArthur Room, Indiana World War Memorial
March 22, 1986

Directors attending: Bill Wilson
Keith Dunlap
Cindy Riley
Dave Haun
Tom Rea

Directors absent: none

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm by President Wilson.

1. Bill Wilson started the meeting by explaining the objectives of the Conservancy and reading the purpose as stated in the articles of incorporation and the bylaws. He also explained the liability advantages of a corporation and the tax benefits of a non-profit corporation. He described how the Conservancy could provide free management service to a cave owner who, most likely, viewed his cave as a nuisance.
2. Membership was solicited from the audience. A short break was declared at 1:20 pm to allow those who wanted to join to do so before the election.
3. The meeting was reconvened at 1:40 pm.
4. The Treasurer reported that we had 19 members, a balance of \$583.28, and had received a donation of \$99 from the Mid-Hoosier Grotto.
5. Election of the president:
Bill Wilson was nominated and elected.
6. Election of the secretary:
Tom Rea was nominated and elected.
7. Election of the treasurer:
Cindy Riley was nominated and elected.
8. Election of board members:
The bylaws provide for two board members at our present level of membership. Mark Webb, Keith Dunlap, Glenn Lemasters, Dave Haun were nominated. Keith Dunlap and Glenn Lemasters were ultimately elected.
9. General discussion of short term goals:
(continued)

Minutes cont.

Waynes Cave has been gated.

Shaft Cave will be gated in the Spring. We need to choose a patron for Shaft Cave within the next month.

The consensus of the membership agrees with the board's opinion that it is not appropriate to gate Grotto or Coon's Caves because of doubts about the bats willingness to pass through the gate. A grant has been applied for from the NSS Conservation Committee to provide for a fence around the entrance of Grotto Cave. Plans for Coon's Cave await results on Grotto. The members were asked to monitor Grotto and Coon's while they were in the area. The officers of the Conservancy will file charges against trespassers.

Dave Haun is working on acquiring leases that will allow access to several now closed caves. The names will be revealed if the negotiations are successful.

There was wide membership support for a membership card and a newsletter. The Membership Committee will investigate how these things can be done.

10. General discussion of long term goals:

The members suggested the following caves be considered for protection: Dog Hill-Donnehue (culvert entrance-permanent closure), Fless, Reeves, Salamander, Wells.

Publicity and public awareness needs to be addressed. Suggestions were: newspaper interviews, campus slide shows, and talks to service organizations.

Someone suggested we should look into ground water pollution to give publicity to the problem of trash in sinkholes. Bill Wilson said this would be an ideal project for a student looking for a thesis subject.

Bill Wilson mentioned the need to begin acquiring resource inventory reports and described three existing formats. Jim Wolford is interested in this project.

There was a discussion of accepting dues in installments. Bill Wilson said the membership benefits were slight and someone who couldn't afford dues could just make a donation. Cindy Riley said she would informally accept dues in two installments.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

From the President:

The Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc., is an non-profit organization through which cavers may acquire, manage, and protect the caves and karst features of Indiana. The Conservancy can hold cave leases and own caves, thus protecting individuals from legal liability. Because the corporation is non-profit, expenses for cave trips made to conduct corporate business are tax deductible, thus stretching one's caving dollar. The \$25.00 annual membership fee will repay itself many times over in tax savings, and the dues will help support conservation projects.

Caves contain unique scientific and scenic resources that should be preserved for future generations. Effective conservation requires vigilance and assertive action. Whatever has been saved is still there to be taken, and you never get anything back after the damage is done. The Conservancy will protect caves by standing between the cave and the vandal, and the Conservancy will work to obtain access to caves closed by the owner.

Cavers appreciate and know more about the caves than any other group. It is natural and sensible that cavers should obtain control of caves, manage them, and protect them, for the benefit of everyone. The Conservancy was formed by concerned NSS Cavers who recognize the legal need for a separate organization which would serve as a vehicle for cave conservation activities. Through the Indiana Karst Conservancy, cavers can begin to reverse the trend of damage and destruction in Indiana caves caused by years of complacency and neglect.

If you care about caves, then please join the Conservancy today! Help us build a future in which we can say that, through our actions, we saved the caves.

Bill Wilson, President IKC

CURRENT PROJECTS:

Current projects are any cave or area where the Conservancy has a land agreement or is attempting to obtain an agreement. At this time, current projects include:

Wayne's Cave

Grotto Cave

Shaft Cave

Coon's Cave

GOALS FOR 1986

The Board of Directors has selected the following goals for 1986:

1. Gate Shaft Cave to protect unprepared visitors, and implement a cave management plan.
2. Secure funding and build a fence around Grotto Cave to protect the 4,200 Indiana Bats that hibernate there during the winter.
3. Clean logs out of Coon's Cave pit entrance and post signs warning visitors not to enter the cave during the winter when endangered bats are hibernating.
4. Clean trash out of the sinkhole next to the entrance of Wayne's Cave. This may take a long time, because there is at least 100 cubic yards of trash in the sinkhole.
5. Attempt to obtain permission for regular visits to caves that are closed by the landowner, in exchange for managing the cave. Selected targets include Gory Hole, and Shiloh Cave.

It will take a lot of hard work and effort to accomplish all the goals outlined. We can only get these things done if all members join together and make the Conservancy's goals their goals!

HAVE A CONSERVATION PROJECT?

Do you know of a cave or karst area that needs protection? Discuss the situation with a director of the Conservancy. If the Conservancy has the money and manpower to support the conservation project, the director will bring it before the board and make a motion that the board designate the project as a current project. Your trips to the project area then become tax deductible corporate business. Simply by volunteering to serve as a leader on a project you might make it possible for the Conservancy to support that conservation action. The Conservancy has no employees--only volunteers.

THE CONSERVANCY IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN.
WHY???

We need patrons. Patrons for Coons Cave, Grotto Cave, and Shaft Cave. If your interested please tell one of the Officers or Directors now! Their phone numbers are in the front of this update.

A WORD ABOUT COMMITTEES

The following committees have been established by the Board of Directors. Now that we have these committees, we need your help! Please call the chairpersons of the committees you are interested in joining and help out.

MEMBERSHIP:

Chair-----Cindy Riley, (317) 634-3837
Purpose----Maintain data about the membership

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Chair-----Dave Haun, (317) 784-2573
Purpose----Publication IKC UPDATE; inform media of current events; design membership applications

CAVE ACQUISITION AND MAINTENANCE:

Chair-----Bill Wilson, (812) 249-5808
Purpose---Monitor negotiations with cave owners; monitor leases; (membership on this committee is currently limited to officers and directors. If you are interested in negotiating a lease with a cave owner, please discuss it with Bill Wilson)

FUND RAISING:

Chair-----Cindy Riley, (317) 634-3837
Purpose---To raise funds and establish budget

SCIENTIFIC:

Chair-----Bill Wilson, (812) 249-5808
Purpose---Supervise and coordinate scientific research of caves and karst; encourage, support, and secure funding for scientific activities and coordinate these funding activities with the funding committee

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT:

(no information available)

RESOURCE INVENTORIES

(no information available)

THE PATRONAGE SYSTEM

Property may be acquired by the Conservancy through leases, letters of agreement, or purchase. At this time, the Conservancy has three leases covering four caves on 352 acres in Monroe County. Caves located on these properties are Coon, Grotto, Shaft, and Wayne's; together these caves contain 5.5 miles of passage. Two of the caves (Coon and Grotto) are used as hibernaculums by an endangered species of bat: the Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*). The Board of Directors appoints someone to manage the cave or caves on each property. This person is called the patron. A management plan is drafted by the patron and submitted to the BOD for approval. Patron responsibilities are outlined in a guideline adopted by the BOD on 2-5-86.

WAYNE'S CAVE CLEANUP TRIP

By Bill Tozer of the Central Indiana Grotto

Central Indiana Grotto had a cleanup trip to Wayne's Cave in December, thirteen members showed up: Pat Carmean, Steve Collins, Pat Eudaly, Scott Fee, Tem Hornaday, Jo Ellen Kimmel, Bruce Krueger, Tom Rea, Mark Sorensen, Bill Tozer, Mark Tozer, and Bill Wilson.

The December grotto trip to Wayne Cave seemed like an impossible mission. After all there is a ton of trash and it is strung out through the crawlway all the way to Camp One. Besides as soon as we get it cleaned the enemy will start to trash it again. The lucky 13 cavers felt it was worth the effort and spent a pleasant Sunday hauling trash. We laid plans carefully which quickly evolved into a pragmatic solution. Cavers have initiative and when they see something that needs done they do it. The result was several people worked Old Wayne Cave, which was fully trashed. Others worked the crawl, some never getting out the other end. And two groups headed for Camp one. The visitors were given a quick trip to the RPI section- a small reward for contributing to the cleanup. They of course picked up the trash as they went. Then everyone began the "haul", trash bags and all, out of the crawl. Many plastic bags didn't make it and resulting in several bags being left in the last 25% of the crawl (near Old Wayne's). If we only were the lucky 17 or 18 (persons showing up for the trip), we could have gotten it all! Two separate groups expressed interest in returning the following week to get the split bags. In total we removed 19 large bags of trash and 4 tires. Efforts like this are work, but they instill a conservation awareness in each of us. It says we are willing to do something. And the effort does have a good impact on the cave.

* * * * *

Since this article was written a gate has been placed over the entrance of Wayne's Cave. Thus the efforts of the persons mentioned above and anyone else that has helped cleanup the cave, now or in the future, can smile at the fact that the Indiana Karst Conservancy has stepped in between the cave and the cave vandal!

* * * * *

WAYNE'S CAVE GATED

By Bill Wilson and Scott Fee of the Central Indiana Grotto

Wayne's Cave, the longest in Monroe County, and one of the most abused in the Garrison Chapel area, was gated on Saturday, February 14, 1986, by members of the Central Indiana Grotto and the Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc. (Keith Dunlap, Scott Fee, Eugene Jurgonski, Tom Rea, Lynn Miller, Tem Hornaday, Bill Wilson, Jim Wolford, Dave Smashey, Cindy and Rusty Riley) Eleven people showed up

(cont

Wayne's Gate cont.

to pour 10 sacks of cement and install a steel bar gate manufactured by Keith Dunlap. Who incidentally, stood an all night vigil to discourage any would be vandals and cavers. On Sunday, the actual gate was installed into its cemented frame which is reinforced with re-bar. During this activity approximately 15 would be cavers were re-routed and the response was encouraging. Most understood the reasoning and purpose of the gating and accepted that fact along with the information of how they may obtain a permit.

The cost of the gate was \$125.00. Bill Wilson arranged the agreement with the landowner by which the cave was gated. The gate is locked with a combination lock, which can be easily changed. Tom Rea is serving as the cave patron. He is responsible for managing the cave and protecting its resources. NSS members who want to visit the cave should write the Indiana Karst Conservancy, PO. Box 461, Plainfield, IN 46168. The people in the nearby house do not own the cave, and do not have the combination to the lock. Please do not disturb them. The Conservancy intends to do its best to stop the destruction of Wayne's Cave including prosecuting violators. The placement of a gate on the entrance turns Wayne's back into a caver's cave!

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION THAT YOU FEEL SHOULD BE IN THE IKC UPDATE, OR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS, PLEASE SEND THEM TO:

DAVE HAUN
PO. BOX 27682
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46227

THE INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY
P.O. BOX 461
Plainfield, IN. 46168

