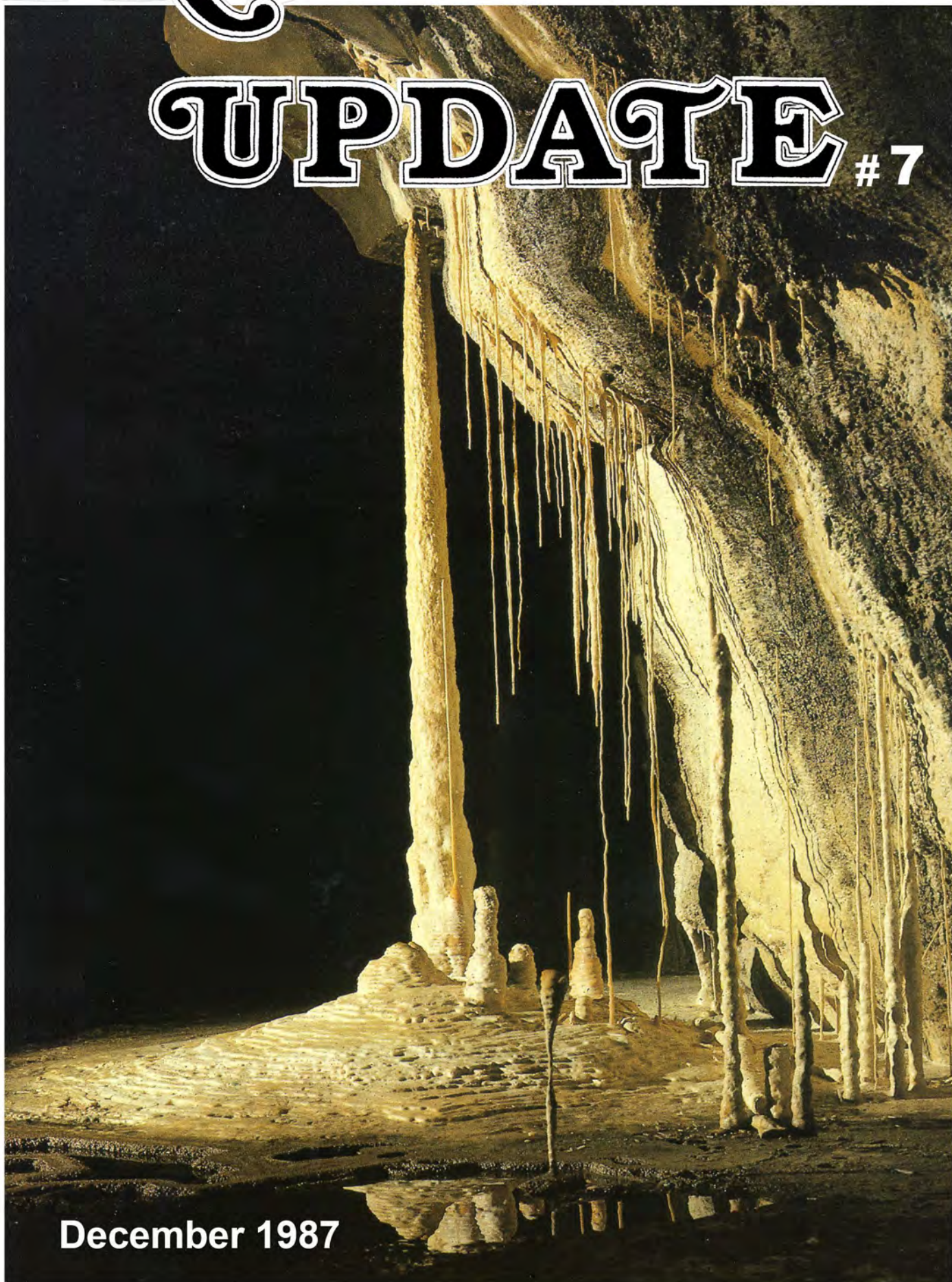


TKC

UPDATE #7



December 1987

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.
affiliated with the National Speleological Society

The Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation and preservation of caves and karst features in Indiana and other areas of the world. The Conservancy encourages research and promotes education related to karst and its proper, environmentally compatible use.

* * * * * BOARD OF DIRECTORS * * * * *

President Keith Dunlap	(317) 242-3845(W)/(317) 291-3845(H)
Secretary Kathy Hornaday	(317) 634-6122(W)/(317) 881-7936(H)
Treasurer Cindy Riley	(317) 634-3837(H)
Director Mike Miessen	(812) 333-5797(H)
Director Lynn Miller	(317) 632-4525(W)/(317) 784-3724(H)
Director Tom Rea	(317) 252-4248(W)/(317) 839-2100(H)
Director Noel Sloan	(317) 929-8961(W)/(317) 845-8821(H)

* * * * * COMMITTEES/ CHAIRMEN * * * * *

Cave Acquisition & Management/ Keith Dunlap	(317) 291-3845
Education	vacant
Scientific & Research	vacant
Resource Inventories/ Jim Wolford	(317) 259-1088
Membership/ Kathy Hornaday	(317) 881-7936
Publications/ Keith Dunlap	(317) 291-3845
Fund Raising/ Cindy Riley	(317) 634-3837
Buckner Cave Renovation Project/ Mike Miessen	(317) 333-5797
Enviromental Concerns, HEC Liaison/ Kathy Hornaday	(317) 881-7936
Hoosier Forests Project/ Kathy Hornaday (acting)	(317) 881-7936

* * * * * CAVE PATRONS * * * * *

Coon Cave/ Keith Dunlap	(317) 291-3845
Grotto Cave/ Mike Miessen	(812) 333-5797
Shaft Cave/ Keith Dunlap (acting)	(317) 291-3845
Shiloh Cave/ Marty Atherton	(317) 783-2194
Wayne's Cave/ Tom Rea	(317) 839-2100
Woodard Cave (TN)/ NIG - contact Gene Pelter	(219) 456-3374

* * * * * GROTTO LIAISONS * * * * *

Bloomington Indiana Grotto/ Mike Miessen	(812) 333-5797
Evansville Metropolitan Grotto/ Ernie Payne	(812) 477-7043
Mid-Hoosier Grotto/ Jeff Cody	(317) 736-9489
Northern Indiana Grotto/ Gene Pelter	(219) 456-3374

Cover: Photo by Gavin Newman, Speleo Projects, Switzerland.

Publishing courtesy the Central Indiana Grotto; Editor and Publisher Keith Dunlap, Assistant Angie Manon.

QUARTERLY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5th
5:00 PM

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA
IU MEMORIAL UNION
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI ROOM

The quarterly meetings are for members and other interested persons to have an open forum for discussing past, present, and future IKC projects, a place to voice opinions and make suggestions, and in general, a way to let the Directors know what are the concerns of the caving community. The meetings are informal, and everyone is encouraged to attend and participate. Remember this is *your* organization, get and stay involved.

DISCUSSION TOPICS: Hoosier Forest Project Committee formation, progress, and direction; DNR's Batwing Cave project, an update; Status of current IKC projects.

DIRECTIONS: See map and directions inside back cover.

REMINDER: A clean-up cave trip is scheduled in Wayne's Cave for the following day. We strongly urge all members (and non-members too) to plan on participating in both functions. We will try and arrange for sleeping floor space for the out-of-towner. So bring a sleeping bag and your caving equipment, and make a weekend outing out of it.

For more information, please contact one of the Directors.

Meeting arrangements courtesy Bill Baus.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- 05 DEC = IKC QUARTERLY MEETING, Bloomington, 5 PM (see above)
- 06 DEC = WAYNE'S CAVE CLEAN-UP, meet at McDonald's 9 AM or at the cave entrance by 9:30. Trash bags and wire brushes will be provided. For more details, contact Tom Rea or Keith Dunlap
- 20 DEC = HOOSIER FORESTS PROJECT COMMITTEE MEETING, Bloomington, 2 PM. Contact Kathy Hornaday for more details.
- ?? MAR = IKC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, Indianapolis

Membership to the IKC is open to anyone interested in cave and karst conservation. Annual dues are \$15. Please see inside back cover for the membership application form or to make a donation.

The *IKC Update*, distributed for free, is published quarterly for members and other interested parties. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep the membership informed, and to document past, report on current, and announce future IKC activities and business. Submission of articles for publication pertaining to the IKC or any other related conservation subjects are encouraged. Forward material to: *IKC Update*, PO Box 461, Plainfield, IN 46168.

RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Each time I sit down to write this "President's Ramblings", I have a dozen or more topics that I could write about and it is usually hard to select the one "most important". However, this time the choice was easy. On the following page you will read an article about the "Hoosier Forests Project". This project's primary goal, briefly stated, is to allow the organized caving community to have a forum for input into, and assist in the development of management policies for cave and karst features on public lands. Initially the scope of the project will be directed only toward the the Hoosier National Forest, but it might be expanded someday to include formal relationships with the IDNR too.

Focusing on the immediate task of assisting with the HNF, one might ask why would they, the HNF administrators, accept input and assistance from a "bunch of cavers". Simply put, because *it is in their best interest to take advantage of us*. The section in the original HNF management plan relating to caves was very short, but stated that all cave and karst features would be inventoried and proper management policies implemented to protect such features. It was not explicit how this was to be accomplished, and more than likely would have been performed by some contract environmental company, more concerned with making a buck than doing what is best for the caves.

Proposed new amendments to the cave section of the original management plan (now under revision) goes into much greater details on how to implement a proper plan and also heavily emphasizes public involvement. Excerpts from the proposed amendments include that the HNF should, "...develop and foster communication, cooperation, and volunteerism with interested publics...", "...work with organizations and members of the caving community when establishing regulations...", "...encourage volunteer involvement for projects such as cave mapping, inventorying, planning, monitoring use, guiding, and interpretation through development of adopt-a-cave program, volunteer agreements, and memoranda of understanding...", and "...approve Memorandums of Understanding for cooperative cave management activities with local organizations...". Much of this new language is probably an outgrowth from the very successful experience that the US Forest Service has had with the Boone Karst Conservation Task Force in the Danial Boone NF. The BKCTF has set the ground work for us to follow; and our HNF staff so far appears cooperative. Now it is up to the Indiana caving community to get "organized".

And this brings me to my final comments, if this project is to be successful, it *must* be organized and remain that way for the long haul. The IKC has initiated the effort by setting up a standing committee to work with the HNF. The committee was organized under the IKC because most involved felt that it was the best and quickest way to become functional, and thus work could begin immediately on the real tasks at hand. The Committee was established as its own entity in most respects and will have its own independent governing body, made up from representatives of the cooperating organizations. The important thing to remember with a structure like this, is that each group, and especially their representatives, have an obligation to put aside any rivalries they might have and remain focused only on the tasks before them. We have a real opportunity to help protect and manage the caves on the HNF, let's not fumble the ball because we couldn't get or keep our act together.

- Keith Dunlap

THE HOOSIER FORESTS PROJECT

by Kathy Hornaday

The history of the Hoosier Forests Project goes back at least to June of this year, and the involvement of the IKC in the concern over the proposed Management Plan for the Hoosier National Forest (see Update #6). Since Karst Encounters, the project has begun to take form. At the meeting with Ron Abraham, of the HNF staff, representatives of several Indiana caving groups were asked to discuss with their groups what involvement, if any, the organized caving community wanted to have in developing the cave management policy of the Hoosier National Forest. Paul Unger, of the Boone Karst Conservation Task Force, related the experiences his group has had in working with the Daniel Boone National Forest, and Paul offered to help set up a similar arrangement here in Indiana. I was asked to coordinate the responses of the caving groups, and to relay them to Ron, and to Paul. Consequently, on September 28, I sent a letter to each of the Indiana Grottos, and to the Indiana Cave Survey, asking for feedback on this question, on several possible structures, and for the name of a representative from each group to attend a meeting.

Cavers being what they are, the requested written answers had not been received by my arbitrary deadline of October 15. I therefore contacted some people by phone, and had personal knowledge of the votes of two groups, by virtue of having attended the meeting during the discussion. I sent out a follow up letter, announcing a committee, or "task force" meeting on Sunday, November 15, at 2:30 p.m. in Bloomington.

This produced a somewhat more visible response, with five out of the seven groups sending one or more representatives. The ICS had appointed Tom Miller, who called me to say he would not be able to attend, and the Mid-Hoosier Grotto failed to show up, although Jeff Cody had spoken to me prior to the meeting invitation, and had indicated his grotto's support for the project.

As a result of that meeting, it was agreed that the IKC will serve as the "umbrella" organization for this effort, for the purpose of signing the Memorandum of Understanding with the Forest Service. The committee will consist of one representative and one alternate from each participating group, which appears to be each of the Indiana Grottos, plus the IKC and the ICS, for a total of seven groups, and fourteen people. Official written response is being requested from each of the groups, with the names of the two appointed representatives.

Some preliminary work has been done on a draft MOU (at the Nov. 15 meeting). The next order of business, to be taken up when the "official" committee meets on December 20, is the election of a committee chair, and completion of the draft MOU.

The first working business of the committee will be to determine the accuracy of the information already on file with the HNF office, and then, hopefully, to begin to identify other areas likely to contain caves and karst features which need to be considered in the management of the Forest. Some work will need to be done in developing management policy, and much work will need to be done in developing ways to implement that policy.

This is a unique opportunity for all of Indiana's organized caving community to come together to work for the benefit of the caves and the Hoosier National Forest. Let's get to it!



Little brown bat, *Myotis lucifugus*.

BUCKNER PROJECT ACTIVITIES

by Keith Dunlap

Activities out at the Buckner property has finally slowed down to a manageable pace. With the project leader, Mike Miessen, changing employers and commuting to Bloomington only on weekend, his free time has taxed considerably. Also, some of the other supporter of the project have been busy working on other projects. However, we did manage to have one workday on October 24th, that had a respectable turnout considering the uncooperative weather.

Our original intent for the day was to have the usual underground cleaning for those so inclined, but also work above ground on some projects, including resetting some of the parking lot posts, running a permanent buried electrical line from Blenz's house to the registration kiosk, and installing cold weather lighting to replace the present fluorescent lights. We got the first item accomplished before the drizzle turned into a steady downpour, postponing the other projects for another day.

Most of the remaining participants headed for the cave where energy was spent collecting trash and removing graffiti from the walls. We are really making some progress with the wire brushes in the entrance room, unfortunately it is just a drop in the bucket compared to the rest of the cave.

Those that participated include: Mike Miessen, Sherri Miessen, Sherri's brother, Angie Manon, Keith Dunlap, Tom Crismore, Bill Baus, Paul Mason, Steve Bickel, Griff Laycock, and John Carson (Paul, Steve, Griff, and John are from the South Vigo Adventurer's Club). Also showing up for a brief time were Scott Fee, Pat Carmean, and Tem Hornaday.

Our next "official" Buckner workday probably won't be until next spring, to give everyone a little break in the action. Thanks to all that have supported us so far.

IS BUCKNER REALLY WORTH IT?

This is an often asked question, even among the project organizers. From a first glance at the trash and filth, the answer could very well be no. But one must look beyond the beer cans and spray paint and remind themselves the real purpose of all this effort: to make a *positive* impression on the novice cavers that start at Buckner, but will eventually venture to other caves. The message can either be: "do what ever you want without regards to the mess you leave for the next visitor" or "leave nothing but footprints, take nothing but pictures, kill nothing but time."

Scraping graffiti can be a pretty thankless job, but it has its rewards in knowing that most of the visitors to Buckner that stroll by while you are working (and there are a lot of them on most weekends), stop and look at what you are doing. Some will stop and ask questions. Others will complement you on the progress of the project and how much better things look than the last time they were there. And the remainder will pass, saying nothing, but at least becoming conscious to the fact that someone cares enough about the cave to expend a little elbow grease. This could be the difference between tossing the candy wrapper on the cave floor, or placing it in their pocket. The tasks left at Buckner are tremendous, but then so are the positive impressions left on its visitors.

MISCELLANEA...

The following items are newsworthy but too short for separate articles:

- The grant proposal submitted to the NSS Grant Committee for partial funding of the signs at Coon and Grotto Caves has been approved. Janet Thorne, Chair of the Conservation Committee, in her reply made the following remarks, "...The IKC is doing excellent work protecting cave resources in Indiana. Certainly this is one more example of the dedication of your members and their concern with all aspects of the cave environment."
- A new brochure by the NSS Fund Raising Committee soliciting for the *Save the Cave* Fund was distributed recently to all NSS members. Of the three conservation grants listed for last year, the IKC received two of them, one for the Grotto fence, and the other for our attempts at Shaft.
- The IKC is still receiving a lot of other positive media exposure. The most recent being several paragraphs in the November *NSS News'* Conservation Dispatch.
- Our paid membership has topped sixty with the addition of our five newest members listed on page 21. Three of these members learned about the IKC from our presence at the Hoosier Environmental Council Congress with approximately fifty brochures distributed. The IKC had seven members present, and exposed a lot of other environmentalists to our specific cause (and visa-versa). A special thanks to Jane Miller for her report starting on page 9 and Lynn Miller for serving as our delegate to the business meeting.
- It was hoped to have a complete update on the IDNR's plans to gate Batwing Cave. The project is to protect the large colony of Indiana Bats that hibernate there. The IKC members at the September meeting had expressed some concerns that the risk involved (rejection by the bats) might outweigh the protection benefits gained in this out-of-the-way cave. The IDNR was also concerned, and has been carefully investigating the facts. Conversations they have had with bat protection experts have indicated that there is little danger in rejection with a properly designed gate. A final decision is being postponed until early next year while more input is being solicited.
- As of mid-November, the fence around Grotto is still in good shape with no evidence of encroachment. The new sign installed inside the perimeter, however, has sustained some minor damage from critters that apparently like its taste. The new sign over at Coon Cave is doing okay, although at least one group has ignored it. The perpetrators have dumped a tree down the entrance to use as a ladder. The tree will have to be cut up as it is too large to remove in one piece.

- The report from the firewood cutters out on the Hancock property is that they are still having a lot of problems with trespassers. Also, since the posts have been installed across the old pull-off area, they have had trouble with people blocking their access gate. A reminder to members and others that visit the property; please do not block the drive, and make sure you have a valid permission form in your possession. The IKC is planning on installing a large sign at the pull-off, clarifying the current access policies for that property.
- And one final item on the Hancock property. The IKC is looking for a new patron for Shaft Cave. Current responsibilities are not too great; mainly responding to permission requests promptly, and occasionally checking on the cave's entrance and replacing signs as necessary. It is preferable that the patron be located near Bloomington, but not imperative. Interested persons should contact Keith Dunlap. Also, thanks to Scott Fee who served as patron for the past two years through some rather unpleasant and trying times.
- It is less than a month away from the end of the tax year. And the IKC would be more than happy to help anyone out by accepting a year end tax deductible donation. Also, any member may pre-pay next years dues.
- And what better Christmas gift to give to that special loved one than an IKC membership. Need a stocking stuffer? How about a limited edition Buckner Project T-shirt. Only a few left - see Mike Miessen.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Directors of the Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc. would like to solicit nominees for positions on the Board. All members of the IKC are eligible (NSS membership required) with the only qualification being the desire and willingness to be actively involved in cave conservation.

Elections are held at our annual business meeting in March. Interested individuals should contact a Director for more details.

HOOSIER ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL REPORT

by Jane Miller

The Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC) held its annual congress and business meeting on Saturday, November 7, and Sunday, November 8, 1987. Both days' activities were interesting and enlightening. IKC and/or CIG members in attendance were: Keith Dunlap, Angie Manon, George Cesnik, Kevin Strunk, Tem Hornaday, Lynn and Jane Miller.

Saturday's Hoosier Environmental Congress included presentations and discussions concerning several environmentally "hot topics" by a broad spectrum of Indiana's environmental activists representing a number of HEC's forty-one (41) member organizations.

Following opening remarks by HEC President Ethyle Bloch, Sue Greer (PAHLS - People Against Hazardous Landfill Sites) spoke on the status of hazardous waste legislation known as RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act). Basically, this act is intended to monitor and regulate disposal of hazardous wastes. Its effectiveness has been limited by lack of funding - for inspection and enforcement personnel, for laboratory tests of samples, etc. Sue is preparing a report on this topic to be published by the HEC in January or February of 1988.

The second major agenda item was a panel discussion on ways to affect change - what tactics to use and when to use them. This discussion, moderated by Pat Morrison of the Indianapolis Star, included: Bob Graham, Sierra Club member and employee of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM); Dick Van Frank, long time environmental activist and member of the Indiana Air Pollution Control Board; Terry McClosky, Northwest VP, Indiana Izaak Walton League; and Lynn Cherry, Grand Calument Task Force. The discussion was a lively one, with several entertaining examples cited. Some of the tactics proposed by the panel include:

- Don't make enemies of existing or potential friends;
don't increase the level of enmity from your enemies
- Source and cultivate a broad base of technical expertise
from which you can draw (universities and industry)
- Petitioning/Demonstration - direct citizen involvement
to resolve problems
- Intelligent utilization of the press (letters to the
editor, press conferences, etc.)
- Interaction with/Involvement in the political process
- Cooperate with and assist State and Federal agencies
- Adopt a rational view of the problem you face and
understand its interconnectedness to other issues
- Land acquisition
- Fight smart
- Direct political action
- Confrontation
- Be in it for the "long haul"

Following this discussion, Jeff Stant, Executive Director of the HEC, gave a stirring speech on pursuing environmental activism, establishing and living an environmental ethic, and the rights of plants and animals to exist for their own sake as a prelude to discussions of issues identified under the heading "Public Lands."

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park (Charlotte Reed) - The National Lakeshore was established in 1966. While there have been additions to the land base of the park since that time, parties interested in the commercial and industrial "development" of the lakeshore are constant threats. With respect to the state park, there is currently a proposal to construct a hotel/conference center complex within the park which will certainly destroy habitat the park was created to preserve and protect.

Proposed Patoka National Wildlife Refuge (Niles Rosenquist) - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel have identified land along the Patoka River in Pike, Dubois, and Gibson counties as the best remaining hardwood forests in Indiana, and as one *the most significant* wetland areas remaining in the United States. The proposal has met with opposition from the Orr administration and some local businesses and landowners. A modified proposal (encompassing approximately three quarters of the original acreage) has been submitted for consideration.

State Forest Management (Jeff St. Clair) - There are approximately 145,000 acres of land within the state forest system managed by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Division of Forestry. There exists no statute or regulation providing for public input into the management process.

Urban Greenways (Hoosier Rails to Trails) (Ed Painter) - Utilization of abandoned railroad right of ways as foot and/or bicycle trails and recreational areas within the urban environment.

Hoosier National Forest (Jeff St. Clair) - A high quality slide show was presented as Jeff discussed the HEC's involvement in appealing the current U.S. Forest Service Management Plan for the Hoosier. This plan calls for extensive use of clear cutting methods to harvest timber, with approximately 80% of the forest to be clear cut within the next fifty (50) years. (The IKC is becoming involved with this project as well, seeking to cooperate with the Forest Service to avoid clearcutting activities that would adversely impact cave ecosystems.)

The final topic under the heading "Public Lands" was a proposal by Randal O'Toole, economist, and publisher of ForestWatch Magazine. Randy presented a proposal to re-organize the National Forest Service budget that would positively impact both the outlook for environmental (vs. timber) management of public lands as well as the Federal budget deficit. Essentially, forestry units are managed under guidelines which make it "profitable" for forest managers to focus their attention on timber harvesting rather than other "multiple use" concepts. Public lands are not utilized as "fees for use" areas, with the exception of

campground areas. However, if a permit structure were adopted, charging reasonable fees for opportunities to hike, hunt, fish, canoe, or whatever, forest managers would be provided with other avenues for revenue generation. As multiple use applications produced revenues (from sources other than timber harvests), the motivation for mass timber harvests would be reduced. In addition, fees collected would funnel into the national treasury.

The final agenda item for Saturday's congress was the identification of key legislative issues to be pursued during the 1988 General Assembly. This segment was coordinated by Bill Hayden, HEC Legislative Director. After discussion, a vote was taken which identified groundwater pollution and clearcutting on public lands as the primary concerns for the upcoming short session.

At various times throughout the day several political figures addressed the congress. They included Corydon Senator Frank O'Bannon, Kokomo Mayor Steve Daley, Indiana Secretary of State Evan Bayh (all three candidates for Governor), and Congressman Jim Jontz.

The annual business meeting of the Hoosier Environmental Council was held at Victoria Centre on Sunday. Agenda items included reports on the status of the HEC from the President (Ethyle Bloch), Executive Director (Jeff Stant), and Treasurer (Bill Hayden). Review and discussion of the proposed 1988 Action Plan followed these three reports. The 1988 Action Plan proposed and presented by Jeff Stant was a thorough, far-reaching, and ambitious one. The seven (7) major categories/goals addressed in the Action Plan are as follows:

- I Organization Building
 - development of both organizational and individual membership
- II Monitoring State Environmental Agencies
 - attending various board and committee hearings
 - timely publication of Boardwatch
- III Grass Roots Development
 - locate funding for staff position(s) to assist communities and organizations in their efforts
- IV State Groundwater Protection Policy
 - establish provisions to protect groundwater
 - build a coalition of support for these measures and seek their implementation
- V Indiana Hazardous Waste Regulatory Policy
 - completion of report (by Sue Greer)
 - distribution of same to a wide variety of policy makers, industry, environmental organizations, etc.
 - advocate solutions to groundwater contamination problems

VI Public Land Management

- obtain funding for a Public Lands Project Director position
- procure changes to the Hoosier National Forest Management Plan
- advocate coastal zone management for Lake Michigan
- advocate passage of the State Forest Management Act
- source funding for long distance trail development

VI State Legislature (In addition to groundwater and clearcutting issues previously identified as the primary legislative concerns for 1988)

- improvements in the IDEM budget
- State Wetlands Protection Act
- additional park land acquisition
- long distance trail development

While some topics prompted debate and revision to the plan, the majority of the plan was adopted as originally presented.

The third major topic of the business meeting was consideration of the proposed 1988 operating budget. This did not prove to be a very controversial proposal and was adopted as presented after some discussion and clarification of specific points.

The election of Directors to the Board of the HEC constituted the fourth agenda item. Fifteen (15) candidates were nominated to fill seven (7) available positions on the board. These positions were vacant due to the expiration of the terms of seven sitting board members. Each of the nominees present was given the opportunity to briefly address the remaining board members and organizational delegates and to field questions. Ballots were distributed, tabulated, and the following individuals were elected to serve three (3) year terms on the board: Donna McCarty, Bill Hayden, Tim Maloney, Ed Paynter, Niles Rosenquist, Marijean Stephenson, and Mary Wadel. An eighth position on the board was open due to the resignation of another board member. Connie Smith was elected to fulfill this term.

The final order of business for the day was a board meeting to elect the President, Secretary, and Treasurer for 1988, and to set meeting dates for the board for the upcoming year. Ethyle Bloch, Robert Pedersen, and Bill Hayden were all nominated to continue to serve the board in their respective capacities for another year. These nominations were unanimously approved by the board.

This rather marathon weekend meeting of the HEC was an enjoyable and educational one. It provided all those who attended with the opportunity to share ideas, concerns, and potential solutions with other concerned individuals. I would recommend attending to anyone who has a desire to see the world continue to be a habitable planet - for people, as well as plants and animals. Being exposed to so many difficult situations in one short weekend was at times depressing, frustrating, and angering, and at other times a source of inspiration and motivation; small victories carrying with them great rewards. Participation is surely bound to stir up the "environmental activist" in all who attend.

MICHIGAN KARST CONSERVANCY
ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER

by Kathy Hornaday

On Friday, November 6, Tom Rea and I left for Alpena, Michigan, for the annual meeting of the Michigan Karst Conservancy. I had joined the MKC during the NSS Convention, after my second visit to the Fiborn Karst Preserve, and my first trip into Hendrie River Water Cave. When Michigan cavers undertake to protect their karst, they don't fool around! I guess because there are so few really good caves in Michigan, they don't take any chances with leasing arrangements -- they go out and buy the land.

At any rate, this was a good excuse to go to Michigan again, so we took off after Tom finished his class and we headed North. Alpena is really a long way up there, so we stopped in Standish for the night, and took off again as soon as we could get some breakfast. It turned into a beautiful day, and we reached Alpena in plenty of time for the 10 a.m. business meeting. After six months of fund raising, the MKC was within \$4,000 of paying off the \$25,000 loan for the purchase of the Fiborn Karst Preserve (that's better than \$3,000/month). This is in addition to funds for ongoing expenses -- things like routed signs, etc. Their membership is holding at about 40-45 members.

After the business meeting, which was somewhat more formal than ours, but not much, we invaded the dining room at the motel where we were all staying and ate lunch. The afternoon offered the choice of attending the public lecture on karst in Michigan, or going to look for a cave. The meeting room was fairly well filled by "the public", and I had been in meetings for the entire week, so cave hunting we went. This proved to be frustrating, as the remembered cave entrance had apparently collapsed in the intervening years, and nothing workable was found.

We did some shopping (try looking for a swim suit in Michigan in November), returned to the motel, and I proceeded to unwrinkle my skirt in time for the banquet. This was held in a private dining room in the motel, and offered a choice of prime rib or whitefish - quite a feast! We also had a very engaging speaker from Lake Superior State University (note the name change since Convention). The final activity of the evening was the sauna and swimming pool, which the motel had agreed to keep open past their usual season closing date.

Sunday morning proved to be somewhat less welcome, as a steady drizzle had set in, but we persevered and set out on our scheduled field trip. This included stops at several

sinkholes, including one which was swallowing a good deal of water from a nice waterfall, and whose floor was covered with broken rock that was full of fossils. There may not be a lot of caves in Michigan, but there sure is a lot of karst, and maybe in a couple hundred centuries...?

The trip home was complicated somewhat by windshield wipers that refused to work, but after spending the night in Fort Wayne, we made it home in good time on Monday.

The Michigan Karst Conservancy has taken a somewhat different approach to karst preservation, using formal public education programs to help generate support for a very ambitious program of land acquisition. Because many of their sinkholes are visible from the roads, and having seen the accumulation of trash that has been dropped in them, it seems an effective way of dealing with some very different problems. I wish them well, and will continue to support their efforts in Michigan, as well as our efforts here.

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY GENERAL FUND		
Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance for the Quarter ended September 31, 1987		
Receipts		
C. I. G. Donations	\$ 70.00	
Dues	22.50	
Interest	13.81	
Donations	<u>2.70</u>	
Total Receipts		\$ 109.01
Expenditures		
Signs	182.81	
Bat Census Report	94.47	
Update paper & stencils	70.00	
Update postage	66.64	
Paper for brochures	20.86	
Keys	16.58	
Wayne's locks	13.04	
Grotto fence repairs	4.50	
Postage	<u>4.40</u>	
Total Expenditures		473.30
Fund Balance, 6/30/87 (corrected)		1018.06
Fund Balance, 9/30/87		<u>653.77</u>
INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY BUCKNER FUND		
Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance for the Quarter Ended September 30, 1987		
Receipts		
T-shirt Sales	\$331.22	
N. S. S. Grant	150.00	
I. K. C. Donations	<u>50.00</u>	
Total Receipts		\$531.22
Expenditures		
N. S. S. Grant	150.00	
T-shirts	88.80	
Gasoline	51.00	
Donations	<u>50.00</u>	
Total Expenditures		<u>339.80</u>
Fund Balance, 6/30/87		140.80
Fund Balance, 9/30/87		<u>332.22</u>

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY
MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY PUBLIC MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Indianapolis, Indiana
Indiana World War Memorial
September 22, 1987

Directors attending: Keith Dunlap
Kathy Hornaday
Cindy Riley
Mike Miessen
Lynn Miller
Tom Rea

Directors absent: Noel Sloan

The meeting was called to order by Keith Dunlap.

INTRODUCTIONS

Members and visitors introduced themselves, and a sign-up sheet was passed around. Thirteen people were in attendance, in addition to the Directors.

PURPOSE

The need for the IKC to expand its membership base was discussed briefly, with visitors urged to join.

CURRENT ISSUES

The decision to close Parker's Pit was discussed. This closure was the result of recommendations of the Bat Recovery Team, at the request of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. The owners agreed to cooperate, and the cave is closed for the hibernating period (September 1 through March 31). The recommendation was apparently based, in part, on the determination that there are bats in the pit and the alcoves, as well as at the bottom.

The closure of Twin Domes and Batwing caves is not a change of policy, as these are Priority I caves. This led to considerable discussion about the impact of cavers on bats, which has not been thoroughly studied. The general consensus was that a conservative policy is best, without any good data on which to base a decision.

HOOSIER NATIONAL FOREST PROJECT

Kathy Hornaday discussed the status of the Hoosier National Forest appeal, and the request from the Forest Service, through Paul Unger, for a cooperative set up similar to the

arrangement in the Daniel Boone National Forest, with the Boone Karst Conservation Task Force. Keith called for a straw vote to gauge support for IKC involvement in this project. The vote was strongly in support of IKC involvement, including support for the IKC to consider being the "umbrella" organization for such a task force. Hank Huffman indicated that the Indiana DNR is already involved in making recommendations for special interest areas, and research natural areas, and may be able to use cave information and data to help set aside some additional land.

DNR/BATWING PROJECT

Indiana DNR has proposed permanent gating of Batwing Cave, by August of 1988. The original recommendation of the Bat Recovery Team was that Batwing be left alone. Recently, however, they have reversed that position, and are strongly recommending permanent closure. Scott Johnson has been directed to gate the cave. The cave is on State-owned property, and several DNR Divisions are involved, with the Fish and Wildlife Division having responsibility for endangered and threatened species. A more recent look has presented some additional problems, in that it is unclear whether or not the gate, itself, will have a negative impact. There is further study being done, with the decision to be made, probably, this winter after expert advice and opinion have been considered. The IKC has been asked to help with this gating project, but it was decided to table the decision until we know more about what will be happening. It was made clear that the assistance would be manpower only.

UPCOMING PROJECTS/EVENTS

October 24: Buckner's clean up

We have received a grant from the NSS for \$150 to help with the cost of materials.

One of the 4x4 posts which was set last time has been pulled up, for no apparent reason. It was not damaged, and has been re-installed.

The booth needs to be winterized, especially with underground conduit for the light, and perhaps another bulletin board. There is still (always) a need for additional surface and underground cleanup. Grass seed has been donated to help fill the bare spots. Mike asked for lots of publicity, so there will be a good turnout.

December 6: Wayne's cleanup is scheduled.

MISCELLANEOUS

The fence still needs to be constructed at Shaft Cave.

A sign may need to be posted near the road, to advise people of the access process.

There is still some effort going into the request to get Caves of Indiana and Doug Love's books out of general circulation.

There is a proposal to close the culvert entrance to the Doghill-Donnehue system. Rescue considerations need to be taken into account in deciding how to accomplish this. It was also suggested that the Department of Environmental Management needs to be contacted regarding the pollution level of the water in Doghill, which is reported to be much worse than usual. There was also a report that Southeastern bats may be roosting in the culvert entrance, which might also need to be taken into consideration. The IKC would like to have about 6 month advance warning, so that a last clean-up project could be scheduled.

NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING

The next quarterly meeting will again be held in Bloomington, in conjunction with the Wayne's clean-up. It was decided to have the meeting at 6 p.m. on December 5. The exact location will be determined later.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.



photo by A. Manon

The August 23rd workday at Grotto cave revisited. This is a sign that was installed inside of the fence informing would-be visitors that the cave is closed during the hibernation season. The sign was constructed by Dave Everton. Tom Rea is seen in the background performing maintenance on the fence.

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

NOVEMBER 11, 1987

Directors attending: Tom Rea
Cindy Riley
Keith Dunlap
Lynn Miller
Kathy Hornaday

Directors absent: Noel Sloan
Mike Miessen

Others attending: Jane Miller
Angie Manon

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Keith Dunlap.

1. HOOSIER ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL SUMMARY

Keith and Lynn gave a joint report on the HEC Congress and business meeting. The IKC was well represented at the Congress, with Lynn and Jane Miller, Keith Dunlap, Angie Manon, Kevin Strunk, George Cesnik, and Tem Hornaday all noted as attending. The business meeting on Sunday also had good caver representation, with Lynn as the IKC delegate, Kevin Strunk as the CIG delegate, and Jane Miller as a delegate chosen to represent individual members (as opposed to groups). Second priority for the HEC for the coming year will be the Hoosier National Forest issue. There will also be a data base developed, based on an informational questionnaire. The IKC Board approved completion of the information form. Keith requested that the Board authorize use of IKC funds to reimburse our delegate's expenses of \$14, which was also approved.

2. HOOSIER NATIONAL FOREST

Kathy reported that the "Task Force" was scheduled to meet on November 15, in Bloomington, and requested the Board to appoint an official representative, since Kathy represents the CIG. Tom Rea was appointed. Since a preliminary tally of the votes for structure indicated a preference for the IKC to be the "umbrella" organization, the Board agreed to establish a standing committee for the Hoosier Forests Project. Membership will consist of the appointed or elected representatives from each participating group. After discussion, it was agreed that the members of the committee did not have to be IKC members, although that would be preferred. The Board did express a strong preference that the Chair of the committee be an IKC member, but agreed it would

not have to be a Board member. Kathy indicated she would try to have the next committee meeting "piggy-backed" on the IKC quarterly meeting December 5.

3. BLOOMINGTON LIAISON

Since Mike Miessen is now working in Indianapolis, there is going to be a need to replace him as BIG liaison. Although this is a decision which must be made by the BIG, it was decided to ask Mike what ideas he had as to a possible replacement, and for suggestions as to who should be asked to relay IKC information at BIG meetings, etc. This will need to be dealt with in the near future, although not immediately, since Mike is still spending weekends in Bloomington while preparing to sell his house.

4. SHAFT CAVE PATRON

Keith announced that Scott Fee has resigned as Shaft Cave Patron, and a replacement needs to be located. It was suggested that an IKC member in Bloomington might be a good choice. Keith will pursue this, and will serve as acting patron until someone else is found.

5. BUCKNER PROJECT

Mike expects to be able to continue his involvement with the Buckner project, although perhaps with a little less intensity. Primary concerns include maintaining a high level of visibility, and continuing to reinforce the posted rules. Regular collections need to be made from the donation box, and we need to follow up on the recent grants. Suggestions included installation of another bulletin board, and further weatherization of the registration kiosk, especially replacement of the fluorescent light with an incandescent one for the winter. Keith reported that the clean-up on October 24 had a somewhat smaller turnout, with above ground work abandoned due to the weather, in favor of additional underground cleanup. Visitation remains very high, with 60 names added to the register during a 4 hour period, and an additional 6 or more cars full that did not stop to sign in.

6. BATS

As was expected, there has been some negative feedback on the State's winter closure of several popular caves. It needs to be reiterated that this was a decision of the State DNR, and that the closure is not permanent.

Copies of the DNR Bat Report are being mailed to owners of the identified caves, along with a cover letter.

There are still several copies of the Bat Report available. These will be mailed to new members as they join, or sold to those who request them.

Keith suggested that it might be advantageous to do "off year" census counts of the bats in Coon's and Grotto, to see if there is any detectable impact from the fence, or if additional action needs to be taken at Coon's. It was agreed that this data could be useful, over a span of several years. Keith will follow-up with Virgil Brack.

The gating project at Batwing appears to be continuing within IDNR. Keith has asked Scott Johnson to make a presentation at the Dec. 5 meeting. The Board decided that, since there is insufficient data on the possible impact of/need for the gate, we cannot completely support this decision, however, we will ask for volunteers to help with the labor, in a spirit of cooperation.

7. FINANCES

Cindy reported a fund balance of \$927.54. Details will appear in the Update

Membership appears to have leveled off, but most of the members have renewed from last year, so it appears that our membership is stable, with no significant change anticipated.

It was agreed to leave the dues structure as is.

8. OTHER CONCERNS

It was decided to slow down on cleanup projects, after the Wayne's cleanup on Dec. 6, to avoid "burn-out".

The sewage problem in Doghill-Donnehue needs to be reported to the Department of Environmental Management.

The Spring Mill Project appears to be dormant, for the time being.

The Hoosier Forest Project will be the next major undertaking, and energies need to be geared for this effort.

Smaller projects suggested for the winter included the fence for Shaft cave, a sign for Shaft cave, and a sign for the roadside pull-off area at the Hancock property.

9. UPDATE #7

Deadline for articles for this issue is November 23, with a mailing date of November 30. Articles are needed on the following topics:

Hoosier National Forest
 Hoosier Environmental Council Summary
 Minutes of meetings (9/22 and 11/11)
 Batwing information
 Buckner cleanup weekend
 Treasurer's Report
 MKC meeting
 Membership update

The cost of mailing this issue will exceed the donation from the CIG. The over run will be charged to the IKC general fund.

10. COMING EVENTS

The next quarterly meeting will be December 5, at 5 p.m. in the IU Memorial Union, Bloomington, Indiana.

The Wayne's Cave clean-up will be December 6, at 9 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 p.m.

NEW MEMBERS

September 9 - November 21, 1987

Paul & Monica Cannaley
 4253 Senour Rd.
 Indianapolis, IN 46239

Tem Hornaday
 816 Blue Oak Lane
 Indianapolis, IN 46227
 H-317-881-7936, W-317-351-4807

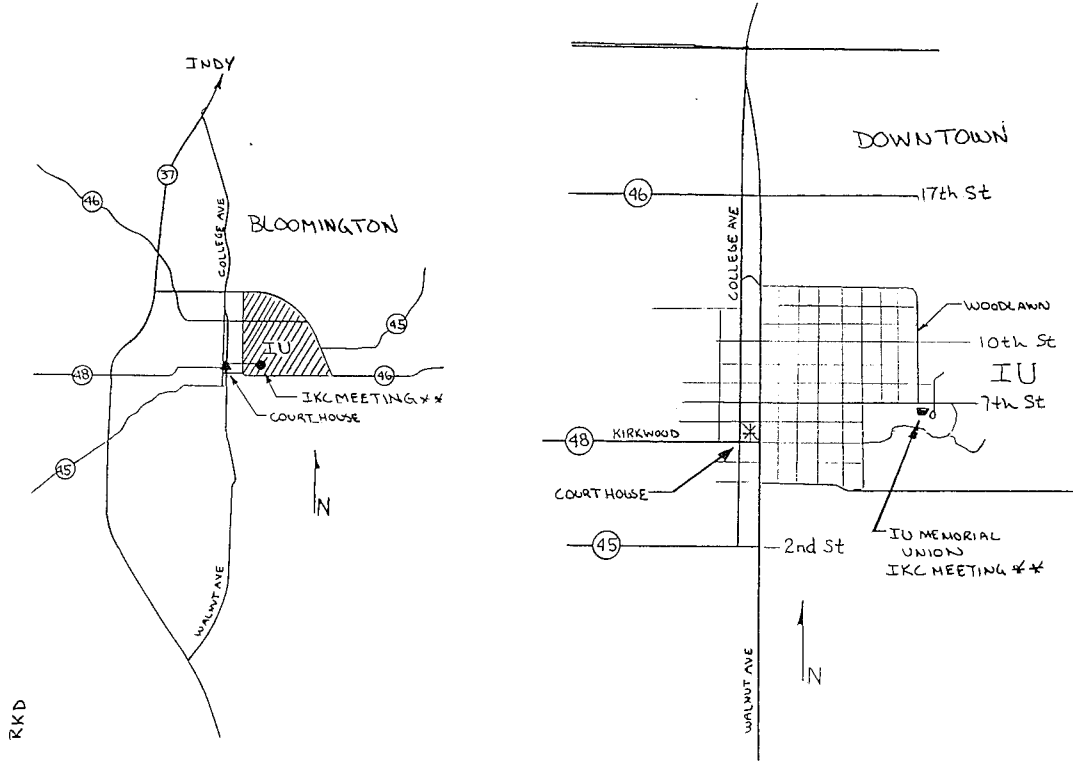
Dan Heiser
 P.O. Box 1821
 Indianapolis, IN 46206

Nicholas W. Noe
 4460 Aristocrat Circle
 Indianapolis, IN 46236

MAP AND DIRECTIONS TO THE IKC QUARTERLY MEETING

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5th, 5 PM

Head towards downtown Bloomington to courthouse. Take Walnut one block North to 7th Street. Head East on 7th for approximately eight blocks. Just past Woodlawn Avenue (a four way stop), turn South (right) into the Memorial Union's Parking Lot. Enter the Union through the entrance on the circle drive. Proceed in and up the staircase to the mezzanine level. Continue straight past the elevators, then left down the hall. Alimuni Room is on left as the hall turns right.



INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC: PO Box 461, Plainfield, IN 46168

I would like to help the IKC conserve Indiana's unique cave and other karst features.

Enclosed is:

\$ _____ for IKC membership at \$15 per year (dues expire March 31st each year, you) .
may pro-rate @ \$1.25/month, if you wish

\$ _____ donation to the general IKC fund.

\$ _____ donation restricted to a specific IKC project. Please specify: _____

_____ I know an area worthy of protection. Please contact me.

_____ I would like to volunteer to help.

Name _____

Address _____

City/state/zip _____

Suggestions for other interested persons (names and addresses please):



BATS



NEED FRIENDS

THE INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.
PO BOX 461
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA 46168