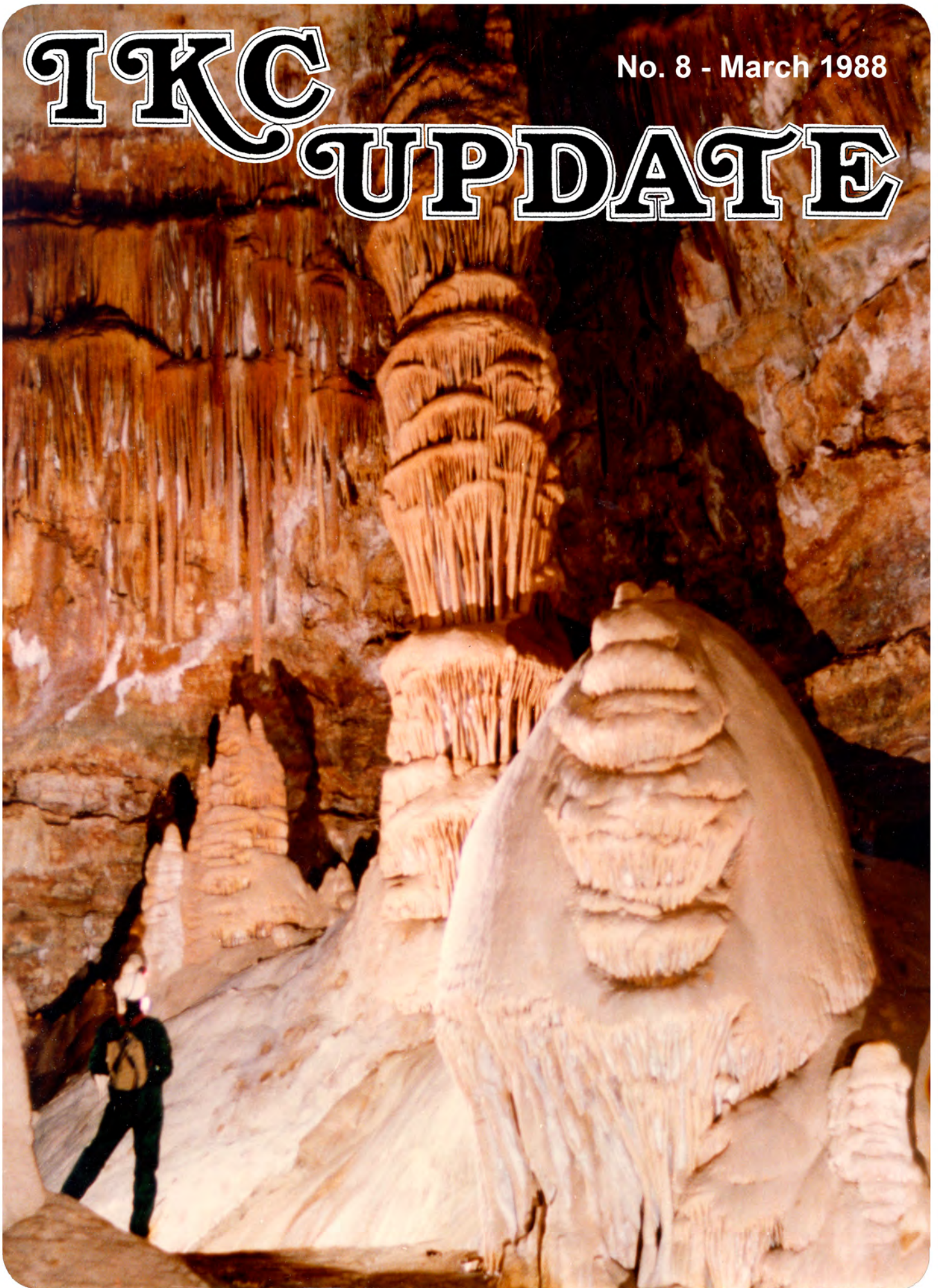


TKC

No. 8 - March 1988

UPDATE



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) 882-5420(H)
 Secretary Kathy Hornaday (317) 634-6122(W)/(317) 881-7936(H)
 Treasurer Cindy Riley (317) 634-3837(H)
 Director Mike Miessen (317) 897-1668(H)/(812) 333-5797(H)
 Director Lynn Miller (317) 632-4525(W)/(317) 784-3724(H)
 Director Tom Rea (317) 252-4248(W)/(317) 745-7772(H)
 Director Noel Sloan (317) 929-8961(W)/(317) 845-8821(H)

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

Cave Acquisition & Management/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
 Education vacant
 Scientific & Research vacant
 Resource Inventories/ Jim Wolford (317) 259-1088
 Membership/ Kathy Hornaday (317) 881-7936
 Publications/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
 Fund Raising/ Cindy Riley (317) 634-3837
 Buckner Cave Renovation Project/ Mike Miessen (812) 333-5797
 Enviromental Concerns, HEC Liaison/ Kathy Hornaday (317) 881-7936
 Hoosier Forests Project/ Kathy Hornaday (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) 745-7772
 Woodard Cave (TN)/ NIG - contact Gene Pelter (219) 456-3374

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

Bloomington Indiana Grotto/ Dave Everton (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 Angie Manon; unnamed cave southwest of Valeene, Indiana.

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

***** MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT *****

THIRD ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

SATURDAY, MARCH 26th, 10 AM

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
INDIANA WAR MEMORIAL
MacARTHUR HALL

The annual business meeting is prescribed by our corporate bylaws as the forum to discuss any necessary corporate business and to elect the Board of Directors for the upcoming year. It is also the time to reflect on and evaluate past projects, update members on current projects, and solicit and discuss future projects. Above all, the annual meeting is *the best opportunity for the members to voice their opinions, make suggestions, and in general, let the Directors know what should be the concerns of the Conservancy.* The meeting will be informal, and everyone is encouraged to attend and participate. *Please show your support for the IKC by attending.*

Also, as we have grown, our membership has diversified to outside the "mainstream" caving community. This meeting will be an excellent occasion for everyone concerned with cave and karst conservation to meet and exchange views.

Special Agenda Items: Hoosier Forests Project update, direction, and participation; Hancock Property update; DNR's Batwing Cave proposal and our level of participation; Buckner Cave Renovation Project update.

Meeting Directions: The War Memorial is located four blocks north of the circle in downtown Indianapolis. It is bound by Michigan, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Meridian.

For more information, please contact one of the Board Members.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- | | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| 26 MAR | = | IKC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, Indianapolis (see above) |
| 05 APR | = | HOOSIER NATIONAL FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN STATUS MEETING, Bedford. Contact Kathy Hornaday for more details. |
| 16 APR | = | BUCKNER CAVE CLEAN-UP, meet at the cave, starting at 10 am. We plan on concentrating our activities underground. Haul bags and wire brushes will be provided. For more details, contact Mike Miessen. |
| EARLY JUN | = | IKC QUARTERLY MEETING. Also possible Buckner Cave workday, emphasizing above ground work. |
| 30 JUN | = | MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATELY OWNED UNDEVELOPED CAVES SYMPOSIUM, NSS Convention, Hot Spring, South Dakota. The IKC will be presenting one or two papers. |
| 06 AUG | = | FIBORN KARST PRESERVE DEDICATION, Michigan |
| 27-28 AUG | = | COON & GROTTO CAVE WORK WEEKEND (tentative). Annual clean-up before the bat hibernation closure. |

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...

As our third annual meeting approaches quickly, it is perhaps appropriate to reflect back on our activities over the past year. Fortunately for the Conservancy, our second year continued to be successful, as we diversified into other areas and projects, gained wider acceptance and support among Indiana cavers and other conservationists, and established ourselves with several government agencies and environmental organizations.

Highlights for 1987 include:

- Participation in the censusing of the endangered Indiana Bats in non-priority I caves. The population count was sponsored by the IDNR and is utilized to monitor the decline of this species.
- Reproduction of the bat census report, distributing it to the membership and others, promoting a better understanding of the concerns for the Indiana Bat.
- Initiation of cooperative activities with the Hoosier National Forest Management to assist in the inventorying and recommendation of proper management for karst features in the HNF. Furthermore, the IKC established an autonomous standing committee representing the major caving organizations in Indiana that will carry out this work.
- Execution of Letter of Agreements with the five Indiana grottoes with an appointed grotto liaison authorized to grant access to IKC managed caves, allowing for easier visitation.
- Participation in the Buckner Cave Renovation Project initiated by Bloomington cavers. The IKC organized several work days, sponsored a T-shirt fund raiser, and strongly promoted the educational aspect of this project.
- Organization of successful cleanups to Coon, Grotto, and Wayne's caves as well as encouraged other organizations and individuals to do the same.
- Continuation of the protection of IKC managed caves from vandalism while still maintaining reasonable access to responsible cavers.
- Continuation of the protection of Coon and Grotto Caves that serve as hibernacula for Indiana Bats. The IKC erected large informational signs as well as smaller warning signs.
- Assisted the IDNR on several bat related projects including the removal of debris from the entrance of Batwing Cave; the publicizing of winter closures of significant bat hibernacula; and the search for additional hibernacula to be included in future census.

(continued)

- Participation in the Hoosier Environmental Congress and the HEC, promoting cave conservation awareness and our existence to other environmental/ conservation organizations.
- Supported the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act introduced to Congress and sent formal letters expressing our support.
- Submitted and received two conservation grants from the NSS, one for our activities at Buckner Cave, the other for partial funding of the Coon/Grotto signs.
- Implementation of quarterly informational meetings (in Indianapolis and Bloomington) to keep the membership informed and to allow a better forum for discussing conservation projects that affect the caving community.
- Continued publishing quarterly issues of the *IKC Update* to keep the membership and others informed, involved, and aware of our activities. The IKC tries to promote cave conservation through high visibility.

The membership should be proud of their accomplishments and to be a part of this organization. We are still a young organization, but as we evolve and mature, and our direction becomes more defined, hopefully we will become a major influence in cave conservation for Indiana.

- Keith Dunlap

***** ELECTION NOTICE *****

All *members* should have received a letter last month with an absentee ballot enclosed (if you did not, please contact Keith Dunlap). The IKC's governing structure is such that the elected Board ultimately makes the decisions for the IKC. Thus, it is important that the members select a Board that will represent their views. Furthermore, it is important that the members continually communicate with the Board members throughout the year.

All the current Board members are seeking re-election including Keith Dunlap (President), Kathy Hornaday (Secretary), Cindy Riley (Treasurer), and Mike Miessen, Lynn Miller, Tom Rea, Noel Sloan (Directors). Additionally George Brutchen, Dave Haun, Ernie Payne, and Kevin Strunk were nominated for positions as Directors. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

Our membership (as of March 19th) stood at 70 individual members, prescribing the Board of Directors to consist of seven members (one Board member for every 10 individual members, including the three Officers). Should the membership grow by one more by the time of the election, an eighth Board member's position will be added.

BATWING CAVE
by Keith Dunlap

Batwing Cave, as many of you know, serves as a hibernaculum for the endangered Indiana Bat (*myotis sodalis*). The bat population is large enough for the cave to be classified as a "Priority I", and has been receiving increased federal and state attention as the population of this species elsewhere continues to decrease. To this end, Bat Recovery Team (federally sponsored by the US Fish & Wildlife Agency) recommended to the Indiana Fish and Wildlife Division of the DNR, that Batwing Cave be gated. The main functions of the gate would be to eliminate any winter traffic by unconscientious visitors that ignore the warning signs, and much more importantly, to prevent the possibility of a mass intentional slaughter, which could annihilate this important colony. While the chances are small of this latter act transpiring, there have been several such incidents documented, such as at Thornhill Cave and Carter Cave (also an undocumented incident at Coon Cave).

Several divisions of the DNR have been involved in this proposed project including the non-game section of the Fish & Wildlife Division (whose responsibility it is to protect endangered species), the Division of Forestry (whose property surrounds the cave), and the Division of Nature Preserves (who actually has control over the cave, being a dedicated Nature Preserve). The project has been contemplated for several years, but serious consideration did not develop until last summer. Since that time, the momentum has increased to the point that it has been decided that a gate is feasible, justified, and *will* be installed.

The IKC has been aware of this proposed gating project almost from its inception, initially through conversation with Chris Iverson, and then later with Scott Johnson (both non-game biologists for the State). Because of our bat related conservation activities at Coon and Grotto caves, we became involved in the DNR sponsored bat census project. We later assisted in other bat/cave related work that nurtured our relationship with the DNR. Six months ago, the DNR solicited our input on the proposal to gate Batwing. Ultimately they were hoping for our full support of the project and a commitment to help, if the proposed plans materialized. At the September IKC Quarterly meeting, the project was discussed



Indiana Bat

among the members with mixed feeling about the necessity of the gate and a general concern that a gate might do more harm than good. Our agreed upon position was to not make a decision on a commitment to assist until after it was determined that a gate would be installed, with the reason being that we did not want to influence the decision to gate simply because we had volunteered our services.

Our concerns from that meeting were forwarded to Scott Johnson, and he in turn contacted several bat/gate experts on the questions raised. Responding to the "more harm than good" concern, the general consensus was that there is very minimal risk of negative impact on the bats with a properly designed gate, based upon many successful installations elsewhere. The question of the necessity of a gate is much harder to address, but the conclusion was that with an endangered species, it is better to be safe than sorry, as apathetic mistakes are often irreversible (it will be too late to act, if the attitude is to wait until after a problem is discovered).

Since the decision to gate the cave has been decided, the IKC must again discuss the issue of assisting the DNR. Scott Johnson will be attending the March 26th meeting to answer questions and address concerns. We should decide on our degree of commitment at that time. The debate of gating a cave is always a controversial one, and Batwing has a few side issues that can confuse the matter even further. But when all is said and done, hopefully the decision will be based strictly upon our assessment of this project's potential to protect this colony of endangered bats.

Why We Are Losing Our Cave-dwelling Bats

A primary cause of bat population decline in the United States is repeated human disturbance in bat roosting caves. Some can be blamed on deliberate acts of vandalism, but an unfortunately large proportion results from a lack of awareness of how greatly even unintentional disturbance adversely affects a colony and, therefore, the entire species population. A single human entry into a hibernation cave can cause thousands of bats to awaken prematurely and expend anywhere from 10 to 30 days worth of stored fat reserve, a supply which must last until spring in order to avoid starvation. Repeated entry into caves housing nursery colonies not only causes high mortality rates among young, but can also force a colony to abandon the cave altogether. Bats are extremely loyal to their caves of birth or hibernation, and most have few options suitable for their highly specialized needs.

A high priority for conservation planning is, therefore, protection of critical caves and their bat populations, but equally essential is public education about the importance of bats.

Reprinted from Bat Conservation International's publication, *The Importance of Bats*, written by Dr. Merlin Tuttle.

MORE ON BATWING CAVE
by Keith Dunlap

The preceding article dealt with the recent history of the DNR's proposal to gate Batwing Cave and some related background information. This article will present some of the side issues involved, as they will be part of the discussion at the March 26th meeting. Most of these issues have already been discussed with the DNR and others during a March 12th trip to Batwing.

The trip was a result of the DNR inviting representatives from various disciplines and backgrounds to visit the entrance area of Batwing. The primary purpose of the trip was to determine the feasibility of installing a gate at the entrance without impacting airflow or the bats' accessibility to the cave. The participants on the trip included Scott Johnson (non-game biologist, Division of Fish & Wildlife, IDNR), Brain Abrell (Division of Nature Preserves, IDNR), Hank Huffman (Division on Nature Preserves, IDNR; also an IKC member), Robert Currie (bat specialist, US Fish & Wildlife), Virgil Brack (independent bat biologist; also an IKC member), Keith Dunlap (IKC), Tem Hornaday (IKC), Angie Manon (IKC), Roy Powers (bat gate specialist, Cave Conservation Institute), and Dave Dalton (CCI).

During the trip, questions, comments, observations, and other input were solicited. There were discussions on the necessity of a gate, the physical construction of it, costs, manpower requirements, other logistics, and the caving community involvement in the project. There was also a lengthy discussion on the Nature Preserves' access policy (or lack thereof), especially after the gate is installed.

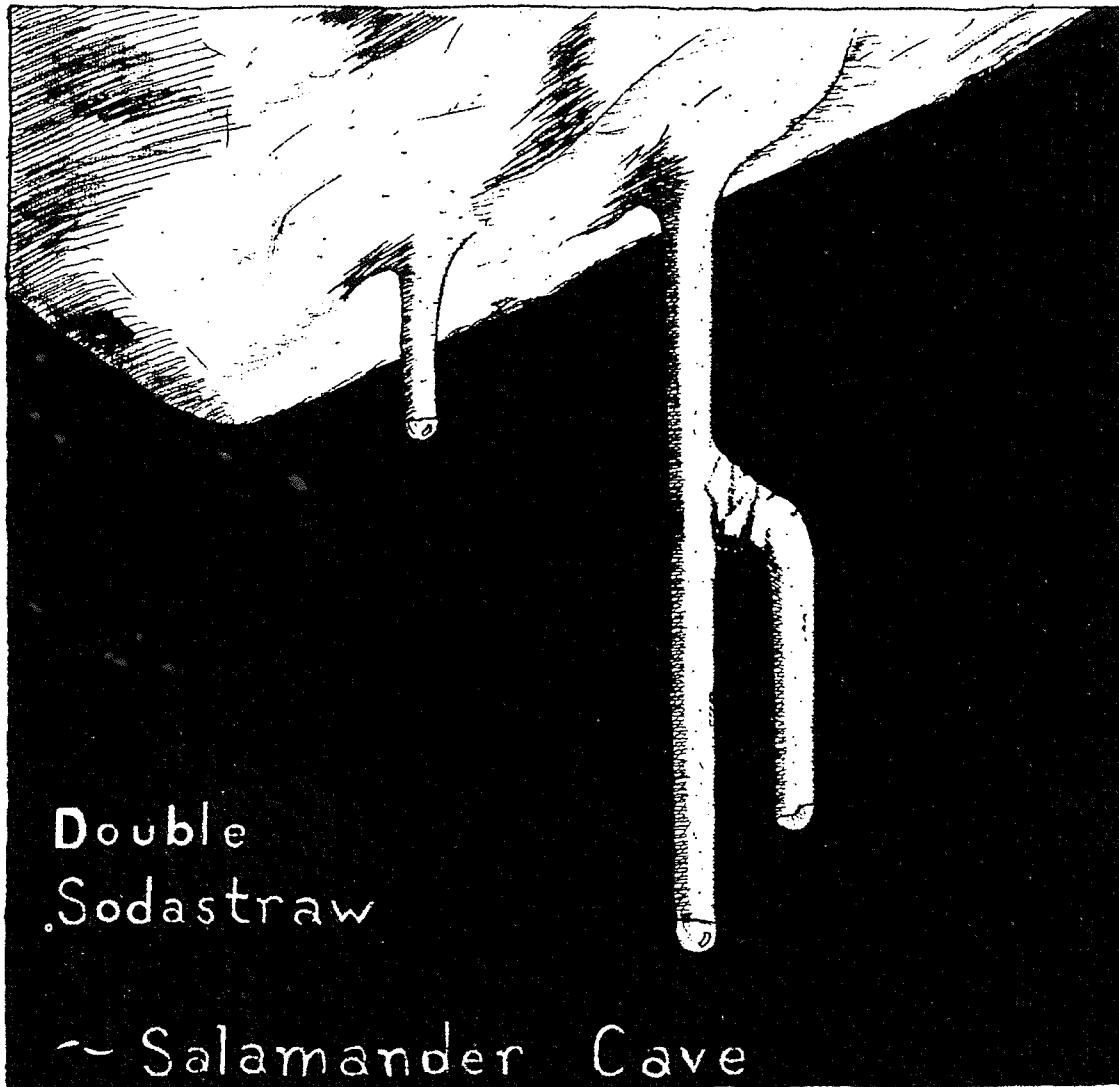
The current Articles of Dedication (DNP's official management/protection plans tailored for each Preserve) for both Batwing and Twin Domes prescribe that the cave will be closed year around (this is *not* required or mandated by any other agency as often thought, nor are the caves used as maternity sites). Originally this was thought to be the "best" management plan to protect the bats during the winter as it was feared (and probably rightfully so) that summer visitation and publicizing of the cave by legitimate cavers would lead to winter traffic by less conscientious visitors. (As a side note, it is interesting that even though Batwing is officially closed all year, the closure is never publicized or posted as such, fearing the attention will create visitation).

Using their above reason for year around closure, the question now becomes, "Once a gate is installed as a winter management tool, why does summer visitation to Batwing need to be prohibited?" Almost everyone on the trip agreed that it doesn't; *however*, there is one major reason why the *summer access policy will probably not be changed*. Supposedly, once the Articles of Dedication for a designated nature preserve are accepted, they become law and are "set in concrete". The rationale for this is to protect the resource from future tampering (i.e., the current DNR management does not trust those who will be in power 25 or 50 years from now). The Batwing nature preserve could be re-dedicated with a different set of management Articles, but this will not happen because it would set a precedence which could force other preserves to be re-

dedicated or un-dedicated for economic reasons (there are currently a couple of nature preserves that have become very valuable for other resources on the property, but have been protected because of the inflexible dedication system).

The candid question of cavers asked to help on this gating project is, "Why should I help to gate a cave that will never have a summer access policy?" The obvious answer is, to protect the bats. But a much more subtle reason should be to establish the caving community as a responsible group of "experts" on caves that should be consulted on all cave related matters. Past policies have been set the way they are because they have been set by non-cavers, ignorant or unsympathetic to caver concerns. Establishing visibility, credibility, and a genuine interest to participate with policy making agencies will ultimately lead to our ability to positively influence those policies that effect caves.

We are currently involved in a similar situation in the Hoosier National Forest, and we have come a long way with the DNR in just the past year, but we must continue to initiate cooperative efforts if we are to truly establish ourselves as the underground experts.



MISCELLANEA...

- The IKC renewed its lease of the Hancock Property (containing Coon, Grotto, and Shaft caves) for a third year in January. The owner, Marc Hancock, has been very pleased with our activities on his property, particularly our efforts in protecting the bats and in cleaning up Coon and Grotto caves. He again expressed his liability concerns with Shaft and would like to see the gate replaced.
- Mr. Hancock also voiced his dissatisfaction with the continued unauthorized traffic on his property, especially going to Salamander Cave (*not* on his property). *He has requested that the IKC not grant permission to visit Salamander* and would like us to do every thing we can to discourage traffic. He has also empowered the IKC with a limited Power of Attorney so that we may prosecute trespassers directly at our discretion.
- Sometime after Christmas, intruders cut a couple of strands of barbed wire atop the fence in Grotto to ease access into the cave. On January 24th, Keith Dunlap and Angie Manon repaired the fence, and then removed and/or cut in half several new logs in the entrance pit of Coon. Traffic in both caves this winter is thought to be minimal.
- The IKC was advised against performing a special off-year census in Coon and Grotto caves. Our motivation was to have more data to evaluate the effect of the fence around Grotto. However, Virgil Brack (the person we approached to perform the count) and the others he consulted did not feel the information that could be obtained would be statistically or scientifically significant, and the extra disturbance was not sufficiently warranted.
- The bat hibernacula season officially ends on March 31. Visitation to the non-priority I, seasonally closed caves should be as before (visitation to Grotto and Coon caves can be arranged through their respective IKC patron). Enjoy these caves during the summer the same way the bats enjoy them during the winter.
- In Bedford on December 15th, a public meeting was held pertaining to the Hoosier National Forest Management Plan. The IKC was well represented by Kathy Hornaday, Jane Miller, Lynn Miller, Keith Dunlap, and Kent Wilson. The IKC elected not to pursue a position on the "working committee", but instead to use the approach of cooperating with the Forest Service via a Memorandum of Understanding (see more details on this in the Hoosier Forests Project Committee's Quarterly Report, elsewhere in this issue). The next public meeting on the Management Plan will held on April 5th, with the purpose being to review the progress of the working committee.
- On March 10th, a public meeting concerning the Deam Wilderness Management Plan was held with Kathy Hornaday, Tem Hornaday, and Tom Rea representing the IKC. Each were appointed to a separate working group to formulate a proposed management plan on this heavily used 7500 acres (also see the HFPC's report).
- Following several leads (from IKC members and others) on possible Indiana bat hibernacula, Keith Dunlap and Angie Manon confirmed approximately 30 *myotis sodalis* in Bentz Cave and investigated a considerable number of *myotis* (sub-species unclear) in Donnehue Cave. They also documented a cluster of six *myotis* in King Cave.
- Hats off to the Northern Indiana Grotto that celebrated Cave Conservation Month with a February clean-up trip into Buckner. Participants included Gene Pelter, Jr., Steve Reesman, Mike Sunderman, Dave Seng, Dave Plumber, Chris Plumber, Lance Danner, and Leslie Cunningham. The NIG also donated \$25 to the cause.

- The IKC sponsored a clean-up trip into Wayne's Cave last December. It was well attended and very productive. Most of the visible trash has now been removed from the cave, but much graffiti and carbide remains. Participants in the cleanup include: Tom Rea, Kathy Hornaday, Tem Hornaday, Keith Dunlap, Angie Manon, Ken Vanice, John Vargo Jr., Mark Bower, Bruce Trotter, Ray Sheldon, Sam Thornburg, Kenny Carrigan, Kevin Wools, Craig Williams, Kevin Strunk, George Cesnik, Tim Balog, Charlette Balog, Mike Miessen, Erik Newhon, and Robin Fitch.
- The lock and gate vandalism at Wayne's seems to have subsided. In the last six months, only one lock has required replacing, and that was because it became inoperable from dirt.
- The IKC continues to receive coverage almost monthly in the *NSS News*. Recent articles include the announcement about receiving two NSS conservation grants, and a submission by Mike Miessen on the Buckner Cave Renovation Project. Also there have been excerpts from *Update#7*,
- Channel 8 News did a two-part human interest story on bats last month. The segment's intent was to dispel some of the myths about bats and have a strong conservation message. However, apparently the temptation to sensationalize was overwhelming as the piece opened with a close-up of an out-stretched bat screeching at the camera, followed by a clip from the movie *Dracula*. Interviewed were Prof. John Whitaker of ISU and Scott Johnson of the DNR. Scott's segment was taped inside a hibernaculum cave (not really, but they didn't know it) near Bloomington. If nothing else, the story was interesting.
- For those late filers of their State income tax, consider using the non-game check off as way of supporting bat conservation. Last year's bat census was paid for with a grant funded by that program, as well as some future projects.
- Troubles continue to surface at Sullivans Cave. The elderly owner has tried to limit access to responsible cavers only, but has not been very effective. As a recent example, it was reported that a group of boy scouts defecated in the middle of one of the heavily traveled passages. The IKC, the BIG, some other organization, or individuals needs to assist the owner with a better management plan. *This is a very significant cave system and should not be neglected.* Please, someone volunteer!
- There was also a report from one of our members that visible vandalism is on the increase at Devil's Graveyard (trash dumped in the entrance, beer cans inside the cave, gate in disrepair again). The NIG has in the past taken on the responsibility for this cave. It is hoped that they will continue with this project. This cave is well decorated and deserving of some attention.
- Prof. John Whitaker gave an interesting presentation entitled "The Bats of Indiana" for the Ammos Butler Audubons' meeting February 12th. Cavers attending were Keith Dunlap, Angie Manon, Mike Miessen, and Mike Marr.
- Welcome to several new members that have joined in the last three months. Your support is appreciated. Individual memberships now approach seventy, along with five organizational members. A complete membership list is included in the back of this issue. Also included is our complimentary mailing list of individuals and organizations. The circulation of the *Update* now stands at approximately 150, with approximately 60 of those copies distributed to non-members in the various Indiana Grotto.

HOOSIER FORESTS PROJECT COMMITTEE
QUARTERLY REPORT
MARCH, 1988

by Kathy Hornaday

The Hoosier Forests Project Committee consists of a representative and an alternate from the five NSS grottos and the two state wide caving organizations in Indiana. The members and officers of the committee are as follows:

BIG	Kevin Komisarck (rep)	Vice-chair
	Dick Powell (alternate)	
CIG	Kathy Hornaday (rep)	Chair
	Jane Miller (alternate)	
EMG	Don Shofstall (rep)	
	Tom Floyd (alternate)	
ICS	Kevin Strunk (rep)	
	Jack Countryman (alternate)	
IKC	Tom Rea (rep)	Recording Secretary
	Mike Miessen (alternate)	
MHG	Jeff Cody (rep)	
	Mark Webb (alternate)	
NIG	Lance Danner (rep)	
	Dave Weyrick (alternate)	

The committee has met once a month, and has submitted a proposed Memorandum of Understanding to the Forest Service. Preliminary response has been positive, and hopefully there will be a signed agreement soon.

The committee has also contacted the Forest Plan Working Group, and has offered to serve as a resource to that group. We are preparing a position paper to be sent to the working group, and will ask for time to make a formal presentation at the public meeting on April 5.

The ICS members have prepared a preliminary list of caves believed to be in the Forest, and is collecting data on sandstone shelters, which also meet the Forest Service definition of "cave".

The committee is doing preliminary work on some of the caves, as notices are received of specific forest activities. So far, none of the proposed activities on specific sites have had any impact on known caves. Representatives from the committee attended a meeting on March 10, to work on a management plan for the Charles Deam Wilderness.

Prior to this meeting, several committee members spent a Saturday hiking in the Deam, to verify cave locations and get a sense of the current status of the caves there. There is only one "true" cave in the Deam. Patton Cave has had

some traffic, as evidenced by beer cans at the entrance, spray paint in the first room, and about 150 feet of nylon clothesline which had been tied to a formation (about 1/2 inch in diameter) for access to an upper level bypass to the stream crawl. The "rope" was removed, along with the beer cans around the entrance. There were two bats and a few insects observed in the cave.

As soon as the Memorandum of Understanding is finalized, representatives will be going back to their groups to solicit help in specific areas of the Forest.



MICHIGAN KARST CONSERVANCY TRIP REPORT
by Kathy Hornaday

Enticed by the promise of snow for cross-country skiing, Tom Rea and I set out for the MKC spring(?) meeting at Dave Luckins' house on March 12. We got to West Bloomfield, Michigan, in good time, but...Where is the SNOW?!? Gone, says Dave. Too much rain. The skis stay in the back of the Subaru, and we go inside for the meeting. Tom is confirmed as one of the appointed Trustees of the MKC. A representative from the Nature Conservancy is introduced, and later in the meeting, she presents the MKC with a wooden plaque, signifying that the Fiborn Karst Preserve has been included in the Michigan Natural Areas Registry. The need for fundraising continues, as the note for the Karst Preserve has not yet been paid off. The flow of money through the MKC Treasury has required a conversion to double entry bookkeeping, which Dave Luckins attempted to explain to the Trustees and visitors. The Management Plan for the Preserve is discussed, along with the need for money to implement the plan. (Some things never change.)

In later business, the date for the Summer meeting, which will include ceremonies dedicating the Fiborn Karst Preserve, is moved to August 6, to allow MKC members who are also CIG members to attend both the dedication and Cave Capers. The IKC membership and Board of Directors is invited to attend.

After the meeting, several of us went for a walk, which was cut short by steadily increasing rainfall. I thought Michigan weather was different from what we have in Indiana! We returned to the house for a delicious supper of chili, salad, bread and wine (or other beverage), finished off with cake. The Michigan Interlakes Grotto held their meeting in the evening, and some people even stayed up until some ridiculous hour of the morning. It is rumored that there was somersaulting off the back of the couch, and that someone managed to fit through under the folding chair (side to side) without moving Bill Fritz too much (only about an inch off the floor - he was sitting on the chair to keep it from moving around).

We left on Sunday morning, as it began to spit snow. No further comment.

BUCKNER CLEAN-UP REMINDER

Members and others are encouraged to participate in the Buckner work day scheduled for Saturday April 16th. This is our first clean-up this year and hopefully the weather will be nice. We plan on concentrating our work inside the cave, mostly hauling trash and wire brushing graffiti, but we also need someone to work on displays in the kiosk. Show your support for cave conservation.

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, Inc.
Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes
in Fund Balance for the Quarter Ending 12/31/87

General Fund

Receipts	
Dues	197.50
Donations	145.70
NSS grant (for signs: Coon & Grotto)	50.00
Bat book	24.00
Interest	13.52
Total Receipts	<u>430.72</u>
Expenditures	
Update publishing	30.00
Update postage	26.85
Wire brushes (for Wayne's clean-up)	22.31
HEC Congress	14.00
Locks for Wayne's	13.14
Duplicate keys	7.90
Bank checks	6.82
Lease payment	1.00
Miscellaneous postage	.88
Total Expenditures	122.90
Fund balance 09/30/87	653.77
Fund balance 12/31/87	<u>961.59</u>

Buckner Fund

Total Receipts	-0-
Expenditures	
T-shirt	88.80
Total Expenditures	<u>88.80</u>
Fund balance 09/30/87	369.12
Fund balance 12/31/87	<u>280.32</u>

HNF Fund

Receipts	
Donations	35.00
Total Receipts	<u>35.00</u>
Total Expenditures	-0-
Fund balance 09/30/87	-0-
Fund balance 12/31/87	<u>35.00</u>

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, Inc.
Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes
in Fund Balance for the Year Ending 12/31/87

	<u>General Fund</u>	
	1987	1986*
Receipts		
Dues	847.50	1000.00
Donations	386.92	1198.30
Sales tax refund	70.81	-0-
Interest	50.00	25.43
NSS grant (for signs: Coon & Grotto)	50.00	-0-
Sale of bat picture	25.00	203.88
Bat book	24.00	-0-
Total Receipts	1454.23	2327.61
Expenditures		
Grotto Cave fence	-0-	1146.71
Buckner Project	253.00	-0-
Signs: Grotto, Coon, others	182.81	19.83
T-shirts: Buckner	172.80	-0-
Shaft Cave maintenance	-0-	161.14
Shaft Cave gate	-0-	123.77
Wayne's Cave gate	-0-	116.32
Update postage, stencils	100.00	-0-
Bat census report	94.47	-0-
Update postage	93.49	46.00
Bat picture	-0-	65.25
Wayne's Cave gate maintenance	50.66	52.92
Miscellaneous	-0-	33.50
Trash removal (Wayne's)	-0-	32.00
Wire Brushes (for Wayne's clean-up)	22.31	-0-
Paper for brochures	20.86	-0-
Membership cards	-0-	17.85
HEC Congress	14.00	-0-
State filing fee	14.00	26.00
Lock box rental	12.00	12.00
ACCA dues	-0-	10.00
Bank checks	6.82	-0-
Miscellaneous postage	5.28	-0-
Grotto fence repairs	4.50	8.96
Lease payment	1.00	-0-
Total Expenditures	1048.00	1872.25
Beginning balance 01/01	555.36	-0-
Ending balance 12/31	<u>961.59</u>	<u>555.36</u>

*Reflects receipts and expenditures from 2/14/86 - 12/31/86

<u>Buckner Fund</u>	
Receipt	
T-shirt sales	420.12
NSS grant	150.00
Donations	50.00
Total Receipts	<u>620.12</u>
Expenditures	
Donation	200.00
T-shirt	88.80
Gasoline	51.00
Total Expenditures	<u>339.80</u>
Fund balance 01/01/87	-0-
Fund balance 12/31/87	<u>280.32</u>

<u>HNF Fund</u>	
Receipts	
Donations	35.00
Total Receipts	<u>35.00</u>
Total Expenditures	-0-
Fund balance 09/30/87	-0-
Fund balance 12/31/87	<u>35.00</u>

<u>Year End Balance of All Funds</u>	
General fund	961.59
Buckner fund	280.32
HNF fund	35.00
Total funds available 12/31/87	<u>1276.91</u>

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

Bloomington, Indiana
Indiana University Memorial Union
December 5, 1987

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

Directors absent: Noel Sloan

The meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m. by Keith Dunlap.

INTRODUCTIONS

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

HOOSIER NATIONAL FOREST

Kathy Hornaday reported on the formation and progress of the Hoosier Forests Project Committee. A preliminary meeting was held on November 15, 1987, with representatives present from BIG, NIG, EMG, CIG, and the IKC. The ICS and MHG had responded with their intent to participate, but their representatives were unable to make the meeting. The group agreed to form as a Committee of the IKC, with the understanding that they would be given complete freedom to formulate policy and develop the relationship with the Hoosier Forest staff. The committee plans to meet again on December 20, with representatives and alternates confirmed in writing by each participating group, to work on draft language for the Memorandum of Understanding.

Hornaday and others who were present at the committee meeting responded to questions from the group to clarify the committee's plans, time frames, and responsibilities. Hank Huffman from IDNR helped clarify the relationship between the Forest Service and IDNR. Dunlap requested that the report from the committee be submitted for publication in the IKC newsletter.

It was announced that there would be a meeting in Bedford on Tuesday, December 15, to discuss the Hoosier Forest Plan, and the status of the appeal, and to work toward resolution of the problems.

BATS IN GENERAL

Dunlap gave some clarification of the bat census study, and the response by IDNR in closing some caves for the winter hibernation season.

Scott Johnson, of IDNR, explained the signs which were posted at the state-owned caves, announcing the seasonal closure. He stated that the signs were also posted at the privately-owned caves with the agreement of the land owners. Violations of the closure should be reported to the Conservation officer. The phone number for the Paynetown dispatcher is 812-837-9536.

The controversy over closure of Parker's was discussed. The IKC position was reiterated. The location of the bats in the pit and alcoves was emphasized. Although the level of traffic has not been clearly established, it is the intent of IDNR to reduce traffic in these caves as much as possible during this period.

BATWING IN PARTICULAR

Johnson also reported in more detail about the status of the gating project at Batwing. The census in this cave has dropped from 30,000 bats in the 1980-82 period to 17,000 in 1987. The Federal government has designated Batwing as a Priority I cave for the protection of the large colony present there. This requires a sign as a minimum, with a fence or gate considered the best options. Funding for this is being sought. The leader of the Federal Bat Recovery Team has recommended installation of a gate.

Because of logistical questions as to the first location chosen, a second location has been selected. This is being studied for acceptability, and the design is being studied as to its impact on the bats. The danger of adverse impact appears to be minimal. This gate design has been used on 25 caves, with Indiana Bat and/or Gray Bat colonies, and has not been rejected to date. There is no data as yet on the success of the gate in increasing the bat population. The gate is constructed of angle iron, is basically vandalproof, and appears to be acceptable to the bats. The purpose in gating is primarily to prevent mass vandalism of the type encountered at Thornhill Cave, where there was wholesale slaughter of bats.

CCI has agreed to take on the project, with a summer study and follow-up. This will represent about 3 weekends worth of work.

HANCOCK PROPERTY

Dunlap reported that the woodcutting lessee is still having problems with vandalism on the property. There appears to be a need to increase our efforts in protection and education at this site.

A proposal to erect a sign at the roadside with information about access to the property was approved by the Directors, Hornaday dissenting. Wording on the sign is to read:

"Access to karst features on this property may be obtained by contacting the Indiana Karst Conservancy, P.O. Box 461, Plainfield, Indiana 46168".

Rea volunteered to dismantle the tree in the Coon's entrance pit.

Scott Fee has resigned as patron of Shaft Cave. Dunlap will continue as acting patron while a replacement is sought.

WAYNE'S

There have been problems with the lock on Wayne's - the key has not worked for the past two trips. Miessen cut the lock off on the morning of 12/5. A replacement will be put on after the clean-up trip on 12/6.

BUCKNER'S

Miessen reported that the Buckner's Project is continuing. The last cleanup turned out to be mostly underground work, because of the weather. The donation box continues to bring in a steady flow of money.

NEXT MEETING

The next quarterly meeting will be in Indianapolis in the spring. This will be the annual meeting, with election of three officers and four Board members as the Board of Directors for 1988.

HOOSIER FORESTS PROJECT COMMITTEE

Rea moved, and Miller seconded:

The IKC establishes a standing committee to interface with the managers of the Hoosier National Forest. This committee will be independent in its actions regarding the Forest and will choose its own chairman. Each interested caving group in the state will appoint one representative

and one alternate to the committee. The chairman will report the activities of the committee to the IKC president quarterly.

Glenn Lemasters proposed to amend:

...This quarterly report will be published in the IKC Update.

The amendment was accepted by Rea and Miller, and approved by consensus. The motion was approved by the Directors, Riley dissenting.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:45 p.m.

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

JANUARY 20, 1988

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

Directors absent: Noel Sloan
Cindy Riley

Others attending: Jane Miller
Angie Manon
Glenn Lemasters

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 p.m. by Keith Dunlap.

1. Election planning - proposed slate of Officers and Directors.

All Officers and Directors have agreed to run for another term. Additional candidates for Directors included Kevin Strunk, Dave Haun, Dave Everton, Ernie Payne and George Brutchen. Keith will try to solicit someone from the NIG, and will confirm with the proposed nominees that they are interested in serving as Directors. Angie Manon was suggested as a possible candidate for Treasurer. There were no other candidates for the other Officers' positions. Keith will confirm the ballots, and have them ready for mailing by February 24. Bill Tozer was suggested as Teller for mail-in ballots, since he has done it before. Keith will check with him to see if he's willing to do it again.

2. Membership letter.

Kathy will write a letter to all members, announcing the annual meeting. The letter will include a summary of the past year's accomplishments, and ask for membership renewals and donations. This letter will be mailed with the ballots on February 24.

3. Annual Meeting plans.

The Annual Meeting will be held on March 26, 1988, in the War Memorial. Keith will make arrangements, and will try to get McArthur Hall. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Keith will reserve the room until 2 p.m., but hopefully the meeting won't last that long.

4. Corporation business

Kathy will see to it that the Secretary of State's Annual Report is filed on time. She will get with Cindy Riley to be sure the Tax Reports are filed on time, as well.

5. Financial Statement.

Keith will get with Cindy to clarify some of the information in the last financial statement, especially relating to the Buckner Project figures. Projections for 1988 look good so far.

6. HEC membership renewal.

It was decided to renew our HEC membership. The renewal notice did not indicate the amount due. Kathy will forward the renewal letter to Cindy with the Board's instructions to renew the membership, which we believe may cost \$20.

7. ACCA membership renewal.

The ACCA membership renewal is also due. If we renew by January 31, we can renew for \$15. It was decided to renew this membership also. Kathy will forward the forms to Cindy, with the board's instructions to renew the membership as quickly as possible.

8. Hoosier Forest Project update.

Kathy reported briefly on the progress being made on the Memorandum of Understanding, and the representation on the Committee. She will prepare a written report for the Update. The Committee will use contacts on the Forest Plan "working group" to propose language to be included in the final management plan.

9. Buckner Project update.

Records from the register indicate that 200 to 250 people show up each weekend. The donation box has brought in \$15 in two weeks. The project does appear to be having continued impact. The bulletin board needs to be redone, with better information on the different grottos. A cleanup weekend will be scheduled in mid-April, about two weeks after the Annual Meeting. This would make it either the weekend of April 9-10, or the 16-17. Keith will mention this at the CIG February meeting, and will nominate this as the April grotto trip.

10. Shaft Cave

A patron is still needed for Shaft Cave. Possible candidates include Dave Everton and Kent Wilson. Keith will follow up.

11. BIG liaison.

Dave Everton has been recommended as the BIG liaison, replacing Mike Miessen.

12. Hancock property update.

The barbed wire has been cut at Grotto Cave. Mr. Hancock has not responded to Keith's letter as of this meeting.

13. Batwing update.

Bob Curry and CCI will be going to Batwing on March 12, to assess the best location for a gate. Keith will follow-up, to try to get the opportunity for input from the IKC, and/or other cavers.

14. Bat count in Coon and Grotto.

Keith has written to Vergil Brack, seeking permission to do a bat count in these caves. There has not been any response, as yet. Keith will visit the area to check on the status of the caves and the signs, fences, etc.

15. Next issue of the Update.

Deadline for printing is March 14. Articles needed (and assigned authors) include:

Recap of year's accomplishments	Dunlap
Hoosier Forest Report	Hornaday
Treasurer's Annual Report	Riley
Minutes of Directors Meetings	Hornaday
Wayne's Cleanup article	Rea
Buckner Report	Miessen

16. Call for papers - NSS Convention

Keith has received a notice from Rane Curl, announcing a Symposium at the 1988 Convention on the Management of Privately Owned Undeveloped Caves. Rane expressed the hope that the IKC would participate, and it was decided to prepare two proposed presentations. Mike Miessen will plan a presentation on the Buckner Project, and Tom Rea and Kathy Hornaday will plan to present information on the management of Wayne's and the Hancock property caves. *the deadline for abstracts is March 20.

17. "Cave for Pay" question.

The use of IKC managed caves by groups which advertise trips with a specified cost, or "registration fee" was discussed. This was in response to correspondence Tom Rea has had about Wayne's Cave. The position of the IKC is that we should not allow such usage, because of the difference in liability between "permittees" and "invitees". We also should be sure that groups which may have their own liability releases use the appropriate IKC release as well.

18. Update on Spelunker's Guide concerns.

Noel Sloan has received a letter from Doug Love's attorney, asking for documented incidents of injury and/or trespassing as a result of Doug's book. It was decided that the recent incident at Coon's would be the best example, and that he should be advised of the IKC's policy on the four caves we manage which are included in the book.

19. Announcements.

The Audubon Society is hosting a presentation on Bats on February 12, at 7 p.m. in Cropsey Hall at the Main Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.



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(as of 20MAR88)

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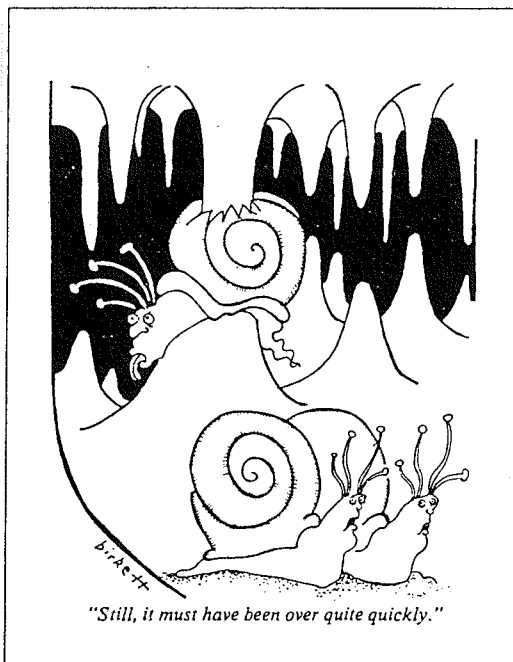
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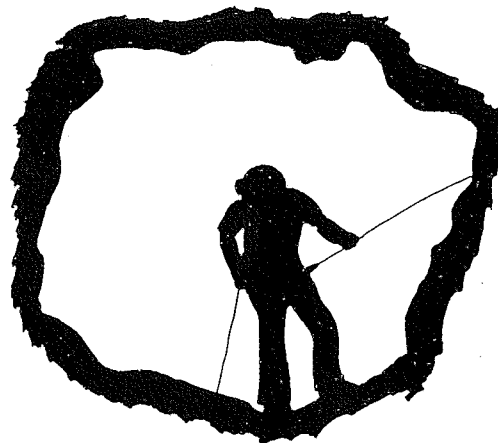
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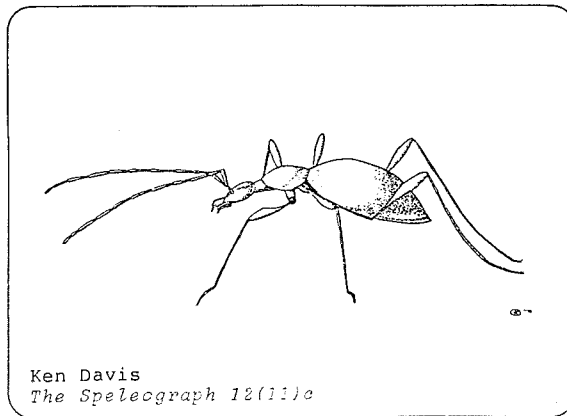


MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If your membership expires in March and you have not yet renewed them, please do so. The IKC needs your moral, physical, and financial support. Our strength is in our membership's dedication to cave and karst conservation.

CLARIFICATION

In the recent membership letter that was mailed with the absentee ballot, due renewal reminders were sent to some members that had joined the IKC mid year. If you are one of these members that joined since last April and did not pro-rate your dues, you are still a member until your anniversary month. However, for bookkeeping simplicity, we would like to encourage all mid year members to pro-rate their dues for next year to March 1989 (at \$1.25 per month). Questions on renewals should be directed towards the Secretary.



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