

TKC

No. 13 - June 1989

UPDATE



**** QUARTERLY MEETING REMINDER ****

SATURDAY, JUNE 24th, 7:30 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.

Agenda: Research & Science Committee activities; Hoosier National Forest Committee Status and direction; IDNR/bat projects; Update of other current IKC projects.

Meeting directions: See inside back cover.

Meeting arrangements courtesy Bill Baus and the Indiana Cave Survey.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- 24 JUN = IKC WORK DAY AT SHAFT CAVE, 11AM-6PM (see page 4).
- 24 JUN = IKC QUARTERLY MEETING, Bloomington, 7:30PM (see above).
- 14-16 JUL = CAVE CAPERS, Owen County, Hickory Hills Campgrounds.
- 16 JUL = IKC DIRECTOR'S MEETING (at Capers, tentative).
- 22 JUL = THE ENVIRONMENTAL PICNIC (see page 4).
- 30JUL-5AUG = NSS CONVENTION, Sewanee, Tennessee.
- 26-27 AUG = IKC COON/GROTTO CLEANUP (see page 12).
- 01 SEP = INDIANA BAT HIBERNATION SEASON STARTS.
- ?? SEP = IKC QUARTERLY MEETING, Indianapolis (tentative).
- 10 DEC = IKC/CIG WAYNE'S CLEANUP TRIP (tentative).

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 the *IKC Update*, PO Box 461, Plainfield, IN 46168.

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INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.

PO Box 461, Plainfield, IN 46168

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) 242-2505(W)/(317) 882-5420(H)
 Secretary Jane Miller (317) 353-1437(W)/(317) 784-3724(H)
 Treasurer Lynn Miller (317) 632-4525(W)/(317) 784-3724(H)
 Director Kenney Carrigan (317) 873-5843(H)
 Director Kathy Hornaday (317) 881-7936(H)
 Director Glenn Lemasters (317) 784-6877(H)
 Director Mike Miessen (317) 353-6624(H)
 Director Ernie Payne (812) 428-2959(W)/(812) 477-7043(H)

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

Cave Acquisition & Management/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
 Research & Science/ Kevin Strunk (317) 257-3323
 Education/ Noel Sloan (317) 845-8821
 Membership/ Jane Miller (317) 784-3724
 Publications/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
 Buckner Cave Renovation Project/ Mike Miessen (317) 353-6624
 Environmental Concerns, HEC Liaison/ Lynn Miller (317) 784-3724
 Hoosier Forests Project/ Kathy Hornaday (317) 881-7936

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

Coon Cave/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
 Grotto Cave/ Mike Miessen (317) 897-1668
 Shaft Cave/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
 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
 Central Indiana Grotto/ Mike Miessen (317) 353-6624
 Evansville Metropolitan Grotto/ Ernie Payne (812) 477-7043
 Mid-Hoosier Grotto/ Jeff Cody (317) 736-7596
 Northern Indiana Grotto/ Gene Pelter (219) 456-3374

Cover photo by Pilippe Crochet, courtesy Speleo Projects .

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

RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT...

With the IKC elections at the March meeting, several changes occurred among the Board of Directors. I felt it was only appropriate for me in this column to give recognition to these changes.

There were three Directors retiring from the Board:

- Cindy Riley was among the original organizers of the IKC back in early 1985. She has served as our Treasurer since mid-1985 and assisted in the IKC's incorporation and non-profit organizational status. She elected not to run for re-election because of her anticipated completion of her MBA and the uncertainty of local employment opportunities (she has since moved to Anderson and is working for Delco-Remy).
- Tom Rea was also one of the original organizers of the IKC. He was appointed a Director in 1985, elected as the Secretary in 1986, and served the last two terms as a Director. Tom elected not to run again because of his many other commitments (including the Executive Vice-President of the NSS, a trustee of the MKC, IKC patron of Wayne's cave, and typographer for the CIG newsletter, to name just a few).
- Noel Sloan served as a Director for the previous two years. Noel was good for coming up with sound ideas and projects, but like most of us, always had more commitments than time (including regional coordinator for the NCRC, caving around the world on expeditions, and making a living as a Doctor).

Cindy, Tom, and Noel all plan to stay involved with the IKC as their schedules permit.

Directors re-elected were Keith Dunlap (President), Mike Miessen, Ernie Payne, Lynn Miller (becoming the new Treasurer), and Kathy Hornaday (but stepping down as Secretary). Joining them are Jane Miller (drafted as Secretary), Glenn Lemasters (a former Director in 1986), and Kenney Carrigan.

Thanks to the retiring Directors for the effort they have given, and welcome to the new members of the Board.

- Keith Dunlap

Related to the above topic, Kathy Hornaday has informed the Board that she intends to resign her position as a Director. This resignation was prompted by a career change and her pending relocation to Columbus, Ohio. Kathy was a real asset to the Board, handling much of the correspondence while serving as Secretary for the previous two terms. She was instrumental in organizing the Hoosier National Forest Committee, obtaining a Memorandum Of Understanding with the HNF management, and handling many of their requests concerning possible cave locations. Kathy plans to remain active in the IKC along with her many other cave related activities (including her position as Administrative Vice President of the NSS). The Board would like to thank Kathy for all of her dedicated efforts which she has contributed over the last several years and wish her the best of luck with her move and new career.

RKD

*** SHAFT WORK DAY ***

June 24th, 11 AM - 6 PM

Plans for the day include removing trash and logs from the entrance pit (76' drop) and finish installing a barb wire fence around the entrance (to keep someone from accidentally stumbling into the pit). Since most of the activity will be surface related, all you really need is a pair of gloves, but if you want to drop the pit and/or "do" the rest of the cave, that is okay too. Come on out and spend the afternoon doing a little work, then attend the quarterly meeting that evening. For more information, contact Keith Dunlap.

The Environmental Picnic



Hosted by the Sierra Club



All Hoosier Environmentalists Invited

Saturday, July 22, 1989 -- 4:00 P.M.

Pitch-In Dinner

Indianapolis Museum of Art

Lilly Pavillion Terrace

The Heartland Sierra Club has invited the IKC membership (along with other Central Indiana Conservation organizations) to their annual picnic. The Sierra club members will be supplying the meat, while everyone else is encouraged to bring a salad, side dish, dessert, or drinks. The picnic will begin about 4 pm, with dinner commencing between 5 and 6. Activities include volleyball, croquet, children games, musicians, a horticulture tour of the ground, and star gazing later in the evening. For more information, contact Jerome Joffe at 251-5890. The rain date will be the following day.

Editor's note - I know of several IKC members that are planning to attend the picnic. Let have a big turn out to represent the IKC and the caving community.

RESEARCH AND SCIENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Kevin Strunk, Chairman

Editor's note: Kevin was trying to wrap up loose ends for this year's Cave Capers (including the guidebook he is editing) before leaving on vacation, so I am summarizing the activities of the RSC for him.

The Research and Science Committee has been busy the past several months working on several environmental issues and interfacing with several government agencies and private consulting firms. The following is a brief synopsis of our activity:

- In early March, the Indiana Department of Highways distributed a press release on the progress of the "Southwest Indiana Highway Feasibility Study". The study is to determine the economic benefits and construction cost of possible highway routes to connect Indianapolis more directly with the southwest corner of the state. The announcement basically stated that the first phase of the project had narrowed the dozen or so proposed route down to three, to be studied in more detail in the second phase of the study. The three routes all cut across Indiana's "cave county" and thus are a concern to us. The "Evansville corridor" roughly follows SR 37 south to Bloomington, then southwesterly along SR 45 with new construction connecting with SR 57, then heading south to Evansville. The "Jasper corridor" also follows SR 37 and SR 45, but heads south sooner, following US 231 south to the Ohio River. The final route, the "Tell City corridor", would follow SR 37 south all the way to Orleans then gouge its way across prime karst areas to SR 145, then south near Patoka Lake and on to Tell City.

After Kevin was alerted to the situation, he tried without success to obtain further details of the three routes from the Indiana Department of Highway. He finally contacted the consulting firm performing the study (Donohue and Associates in Waterloo, Iowa) and conversed with Martha Maxon. *Coincidentally, she had been trying to contact us!* She was very aware of the potential problems in the karst region (having had similar experience in Iowa) and needed information on the known cave and karst features that might be impacted by the proposed routes. She sent detailed maps of the routes to Kevin which he and others reviewed, made an assessment of the impact, and compiled a list of *known* cave and karst features that could be effected. His conclusions were that all three routes could potentially damage some caves, with the Tell City proposal having the most serious impact (unfortunately it is the favored route by many). Kevin summarized his findings in a letter to Ms. Maxon and offered our further assistance.

- In April, Kevin was notified of a permit review for the Palmyra (Washington Co) Waste Water Treatment Plant which routinely discharges its treated "product" into a nearby sinkhole. Kevin contacted the consulting firm handling the permit renewal and concluded that the firm wanted to do only the minimum possible, which did not include determining the destination of the waste water once it was disposed into the sinkhole. Both the IDEM and the EPA generally request that determination (by dye tracing) be performed in situations like this, but they often waive this requirement if the consulting firms can convince them there is no need. With Kevin's assistance, a letter (reprinted on the opposite page) was drafted and sent to the IDEM expressing our concerns.
- In May, public comments were requested by the Army Corp of Engineers on the proposed Patoka Lake/Tillery Hill Development Proposal. For those that are unaware of this project, it is being promoted as a "Disney-land" type development in the heart of southern Indiana, destroying mature forests

and disturbing habitats of many species of endangered wildlife including the Indiana bat and the reintroduced bald eagles. Private promoters expecting to reap (or is that rape) big benefits from this project have convinced the IDNR to by-pass the usual process of Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) on the grounds that it will have a positive impact in this economically depressed area. After studying the proposal, Kevin drafted a letter expressing our concerns on the impact to the caves/karst features near the area and to the possible effect that the project might have on the related ecosystems (ground water pollution, summer habitat for bats, etc...).

- All three of the previous projects, as well as others, will require additional review and follow ups as developments occur.

Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc.
PO Box 461
Plainfield, IN 46168
April 25, 1989

Ms Leila Prabelsi
Indiana Department of
Environmental Management
105 South Meridian
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6015

Re: Palmyra (IN) Waste Water Treatment Plant NPDES review.


Dear Ms Prabelsi:

I am write as the President of the Indiana Karst Conservancy, a non-profit conservation group dedicated to the protection of Indiana's caves and karst. It has come to my attention that the Palmyra treatment plant's NPDES permit is currently under review. The plant's outfall, as I understand it, is discharged into a sinkhole. However, the eventual resurgence of this waste water is apparently unknown.

The IKC is aware of at least five caves and numerous springs in the immediate drainage area (some which serve as a source of drinking water for their owners), and is greatly concerned that the plant's discharge is potentially polluting the area's cave systems and ground water. We would strongly encourage the IDEM to stipulate as a permit condition that the discharge sinkhole's drainage be physically determined, and that the water quality at the resurgent point(s) be documented.

Please feel free to contact me (at the above address or call 317-242-2505 days) should the IKC be of any further assistance to the IDEM on this matter or any other concern pertaining to caves or karst.

Sincerely,



Keith Dunlap
President
Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc.

HOOSIER FORESTS PROJECT COMMITTEE
QUARTERLY REPORT

Kathy Hornaday, Chairperson

Editor's note: Due to Kathy's pending move to Columbus OH, she will be resigning as Chairperson of this committee. Vice-chairman Kevin Komisarck has scheduled a HFP committee meeting for June 24th at 1 PM in Bloomington to select a new Chairperson and to update committee members on the status of current concerns.

Two significant events of interest have happened since the last report, the first is that the Forest Service has withdrawn its 1985 management plan (thus terminating all appeals of that plan) and has proposed a new alternative plan to be considered along with the five other alternative plans already proposed. Further details of this proposal are covered in the accompanying article (see page 9).

The second item of interest, and one that could affect cavers on the HNF, is that the Forest Service is in the process of formulating their cave related management plans, primarily due to the recently passed Federal Cave Resource Protection Act, but also because the Forest Service is much more aware of their cave resources because of our activities and communications.

For those that were at the annual IKC meeting, you met Larry Mullins. Larry has been a long time caver, and was recently appointed as our HNF liaison, replacing Ron Abraham. At the meeting, Larry presented information on the new forest plan alternative and specifically addressed parts of the plan as it *could* relate to caves and karst features.

Subsequent to the annual meeting, Larry requested another meeting as a follow-up, inviting the HFP committee officers (Kathy Hornaday, Kevin Komisarck, and Tom Rea) and Keith Dunlap. The meeting was to be informal with discussions to include cave related issues pertaining to the forest plan, and Forest Service policies. In Larry's words, "Cave management on the HNF will be affected by the Hoosier Forest Plan, the Federal Cave Resource Protection Act and the regulations that spring from it, and [the HNF's] new partnership with the caving community. We need to take advantage of these opportunities to develop a model cave management program for the forest. We need to examine issues, concerns and opportunities in a problem solving environment. We need to take initial steps that will result in a top to bottom plan for cave management on the Hoosier."

That meeting was held April 16th at Larry's home. It lasted almost six hours. Many topics were discussed. Many of them preliminary to actual management plan formulations. Larry was genuinely committed to establishing a trusting relationship between the HNF and the caving community. He felt that for our relationship to be beneficial, that the problems causing barriers needed to be addressed. We discussed at long lengths the "protectiveness" cavers felt about turning over cave lists to federal and state agencies. He suggested several administrative ways within the FS to limit "sensitive" information dissemination and "freedom of information" access.

Larry went into great detail on the implication that the Federal Cave Resource Protection Act could have on the FS's management of caves. Crucial to the federal regulations was the definition of what constitutes a "significant cave" that needs protecting. While formal definitions had not been agreed upon, from what he could ascertain, the definition was going to be rather broad in that

all caves would be classified as significant until determined otherwise. If this definition held true, the HNF management plan would have to address the protection of approximately 80 to 100 caves within its boundaries. Of course, this led back to the discussion that the HNF cannot carry out its responsibility to protect the caves unless it knows specifically where the caves are.

Also discussed was the fact as far as he knew, the Hoosier Management Plan was possibly the first plan to address the new issues of cave protection. Since government agencies have a way of "cloning" regulations, if the Hoosier cave management plan was well written, it could set the standard for all others to adopt.

Since that meeting, Larry has been in contact several times, but other pressing issues on the overall management plan have kept him busy such that another meeting has not been scheduled.

RESEARCH GOING BATTY

by Fred D. Cavinder

When Professor John O. Whitaker advertised for bats, he got bats -- at least 6,700 in one barn near Brazil.

"They called us in to help get rid of the bats," said Whitaker.

A church had planned to raze the barn and erect a new church building.

Now, converted by Whitaker, a researcher at Indiana State University, the church has chosen another site so science can study the little brown bat colony, possibly one of the largest in the nation.

"We're getting a bunch of ideas as to where they hibernate," said Whitaker, who has traced one of the bats to Mammoth Cave, Ky.

Whitaker has nearly as many research ideas as he has little brown bats in the barn. He has advertised in numerous places throughout Indiana, including the Indianapolis Zoo, that he wants bats.

He and colleagues are looking for endangered species in Indiana. They are looking at hibernation habits. And they are trying to reverse the image of bats as ominous.

"Bats are entirely good," said Whitaker. They eat insects.

The project has uncovered one endangered species: evening bats that are colonizing in a church south of Terre Haute. It may be the only such colony in Indiana.

Six colonies of pipistrelle, the state's tiniest bat, have been found.

In all, Whitaker's signs say "Bats wanted" have led to 231 colonies, most of them inhabited by the big brown bat, Indiana's most common species.

An early research discovery: Contrary to popular opinion, the big brown bat doesn't hibernate in caves and mines. Most of them hide away in buildings.

And if you find some in your building, call Whitaker.

(reprinted from the *Indianapolis Star*, Main Street Indiana column)

Hoosier National Forest Management Plan

March 89 Proposal

The Hoosier National Forest Management Plan announced in 1985 has been in the appeal process since its introduction. The original plan essentially called for over 80% of the forest to be clearcut. Much opposition was raised by environmental/conservation groups and alternative plans have been proposed by several organizations (including plans from the forest industry that is heavily biased towards timbering, a plan from the now defunct "working group" which was an attempted compromise, a "conservation alternative" which is backed by many conservation organizations as having the right mixture of timbering and wilderness, and a zero-timbering alternative which is too extreme to get general support). The original plan was recently withdrawn and in its place was proposed another alternative. While this new proposal is just that, it is a good bet that the final plan will significantly resemble this proposal unless considerable opposition can be mustered.

The new proposal is dramatically better than the original plan in the areas of timber base acreage and methods of timber harvesting, but I'm sure most conservationist would still prefer to see the "conservation alternative" adopted.

As a comparison, the 1985 plan and the March 1989 plan are tabulated below:

	1985 plan	1989 proposal
Total HNF land (acres)	185 500	188 000
Deam Wilderness	13 000	13 000
Developed recreational areas	5 500	7 000
Experimental forests, existing RNA's & SIA's	4 500	5 400
Wildlife openings, water, etc...	7 000	10 000
Land outside the boundaries	5 000	2 000
Large undisturbed* & stream corridors without harvesting	- 0 -	~29 000
Retention zones	- 0 -	~10 000
Major Riparian areas	- 0 -	~6 000
Core areas (~250 areas)	- 0 -	~3 600
Other reduction - cliff zones, <u>caves</u> , minor riparian areas	- 0 -	~5-10 000
Remaining "timber base"	150 500	97 000
Allowable annual timber sales (MBoardfeet)	11.5	6 to 8
Even-age harvesting (clearcutting)	100%	~25%

* Nebo Ridge, Bad Hollow, Porter Hollow, Sam's Creek, Lick Creek, Mogan Ridge

NEWS BRIEFS...

- On May 20th, Dave Everton, Angie Manon, and Keith Dunlap spent the day out at the Hancock property working on several projects. They first installed posts and a cable across the pull-off just west of the main pull off to Grotto and Shaft cave. This project was at the request of Mr. Hancock. The posts were purchased with money donated by Mr. Hancock and the cable was donated by Tom Rea. A "no trespassing, no parking" sign (routed by Dave Everton) was also installed at the same pull-off. Finally, test corner posts for the fence around Shaft cave were installed in preparation for the June 24th work day.
- It was hoped to have the formal results from this year's Indiana bat "non-priority I" cave census published in this issue of the *Update*. However, the final report has not been released to the IDNR yet, so the findings will be published in the next *Update*. The Directors elected to not reprint this years report because of the similarity of information to the previously reprinted 1987 report. However, members wishing to obtain a copy of the new report can do so by contacting Keith Dunlap.
- Results from the bat census conducted by the USFWS at the seven "priority I" caves is not encouraging. Five of the seven caves had decreased populations (some significantly), while two caves showed moderate gains, compared to the last census. Overall, the population of Indiana bats has dropped 15% in the last two years in these caves. The two "priority I" caves in Indiana (Twin Domes and Batwing) unfortunately followed the trend.
- In early April, the CIG/IKC sponsored a cleanup trip to Patton Cave located in the Deam Wilderness on the Hoosier National Forest. The cave was in pretty good shape with all trash and graffiti removed. Participants included John Vargo, Chris Field, John Hedge, Kathy Hornaday, Barry Welling, Scott Fee, Tom Rea, Larry Reese, Matt Reese, Bill Tozer, Kathy Tozer, and Robin Fitch. The IKC received a letter from Leo Swettenam, Brownstown District Ranger thanking us and the CIG for organizing the cleanup trip.
- In early June, the CIG sponsored a weekend trip to Mammoth Cave National Park for the purpose of assisting with a restoration project in Great Onyx Cave. Emphasis was given to removing old timber remaining from the former commercial exploitations of the cave. Previously the Louisville Grotto helped the park with this project, and the NSS is sponsoring a week long camp following the convention. The park plans to eventually re-commercialize the cave, probably as a lantern tour. Seventeen cavers were involved including IKC members Scott Fee, Mike Miessen, Tom Rea, John Vargo, Angie Manon, Keith Dunlap, and Susie Sweeney. Another weekend trip is being planned for August or September, contact Scott Fee for more details.
- Several members have inquired about IKC T-shirts. Is there interest? Contact Keith Dunlap with your comments and/or suggestions for a design.
- The IKC wishes to welcome several new members that have recently joined. These members include Bruce Barnes, James Nowacki, Colleen Reesman, and Dan Solmon.
- With the pending resignation of Kathy Hornaday from the Board of Directors (see page 3), a replacement will be sought and appointed by the Board. If you are interested in being considered, contact a Director by ASAP. Potential candidates will be identified at the June 24th meeting with a selection made at the following Director's meeting (probably at Capers).

BUCKNER CAVE ACTIVITY

by Keith Dunlap

Several notable events have taken place out at the Buckner property over the last several months, unfortunately most of them were unfavorable.

In mid-March, a cave "rescue" was called out to locate and remove several juveniles allegedly on drugs in Buckner (see editorial on facing page). This problem seems to be re-occurring more often, despite the efforts of many (including the IKC) to discourage such activities. *Dick Blenz has filed criminal trespass complaints against several of those involved!* The investigator handling the case was familiar with Buckner, as he was a former Boy Scout leader that had visited the cave occasionally. The current status of this case is unknown.

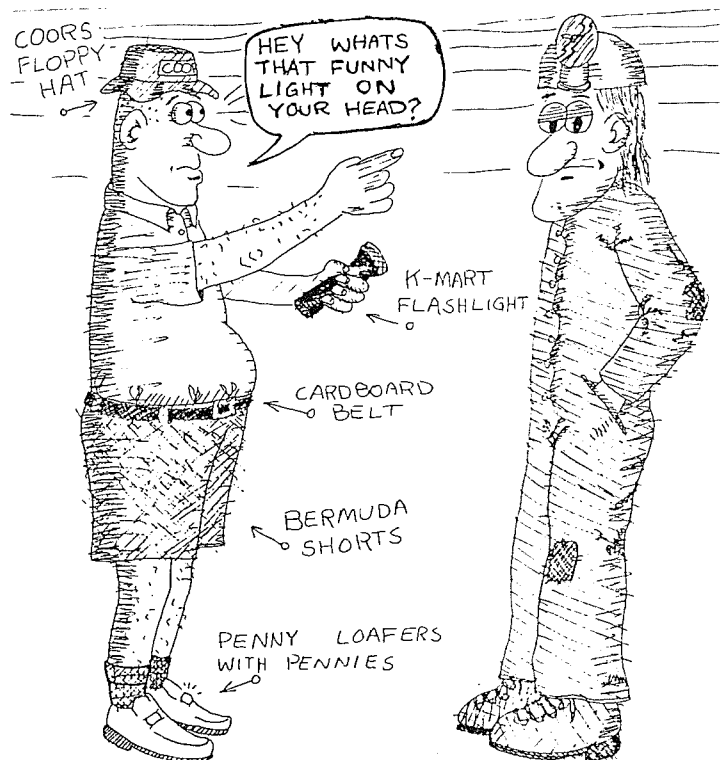
Also in mid-March (actually the weekend before the previous incident), a Boy Scout troop from Greenwood was visiting Buckner and witnessed a person spray painting in the cave. They reported the vandalism act to Dick Blenz along with the perpetrator's license plate number. Initially, Dick did not act upon this information, but while he was filing charges on the other incident, he also filed a complaint against this offender. If the person is convicted, the Boy Scouts are eligible for a \$500 reward from the NSS.

In April, the donation box located in the kiosk was vandalized. This was only the second time in almost two years, but this time they got the box open, and the money was stolen. The box was repaired and reinforced, hopefully preventing further attempts. Dick Blenz is also going to empty the box regularly to deter the motivation of the culprit.

The IUPUI students performing the "silt study" geology project, originally in Trap Door and Buckner caves are supposedly expanding their work into Showcase and other area caves. Results of this study will hopefully be available by late summer.

The IKC's involvement at Buckner is being phased out, primarily due to lack of enthusiasm (of organizers and participants) and perhaps the realization that things will not change greatly until a better management plan is formulated and *enforced*.

The IKC still acknowledges that there is a great potential to influence and educate novice cavers that visit the property, and to this end, we plan to remain visible as much as possible. Additionally, we will continue maintaining signs with information about organized caving in the kiosk and we will continue to service the cave register. The Buckner money in the IKC account along with the remaining money collected previously from the donation box will be spent on mailing out information to those that request it (via the donation box, cave register, and our PO box) and on Buckner related activities.



Brian Donahue
Caving in the Rockies 18(5/6)1

Your opinion

Caring for caves

To the editor:

"Do you know where your children are?" is an important question when considering that there are dozens of teen-agers who go in caves in Monroe County. So why do they go out there and get a bit dirty in a cave with their buddies? The answer is plain when you observe people coming and going on the property and in Buckner Cave. Some of the young people who go there are not there to learn about that wonderful natural world in the mysterious underground. They are there for one reason; to drink or use drugs. The passageways of Buckner Cave are densely littered with beer cans and marijuana seeds. Despite efforts by cavers to keep the area clean, people who are often under legal age continually dispose of their trash in or near the cave so that parents or the law will not know they were doing something unlawful.

We of the Bloomington Indiana Grotto are usually called upon to extract people from caves in this area. Occasionally a mishap can occur that requires we locate

and rescue some unfortunate person but more and more we are called upon to help people who have gotten into trouble on drugs or booze. Caves are potentially hazardous but people with altered senses are almost sure to get into trouble. A recent incident serves to illustrate the problem with young people and some Monroe County caves. Six teenagers from the Indianapolis area went into Buckner Cave while using LSD. One of them began to hallucinate that the devil was in pursuit of him and made a mad desperate dash for the outside world. The others were found by rescuers in a room atop a high ledge (where a drunk person fell breaking his back a few years ago) and they had to be led out of the cave in a dazed condition.

Parents could help prevent accidents by making sure their teen-age kids are supervised or don't possess unlawful substances (I realize this is a tall challenge in today's fast world), and we can all support local law enforcement by encouraging local governments to use more of our tax dollars for patrolling and prosecution of offenders.

Sam Frushour

Reprinted from the *Bloomington Herald-Telephone* March 22, 1989

* COON/GROTTO CAVE WEEKEND *

August 26, 27th (starting both days at 10 AM)

This is the fourth annual IKC sponsored work weekend in these two caves. As in the past years, we will continue their restorations. Both caves have under gone considerable improvements in the last three years, but there is always more to do. Grotto cave is in good shape with plans for "brown-washing" in the main passage to address the last of the graffiti that previously could not be removed by wire brushing. Minor repairs to the fence may also be necessary. Coon Cave has considerably more graffiti, some minor trash in the less traveled areas, and the ever present logs that tend to congregate in the entrance pit.

Plans call for concentrating in Coon on the 26th, and in Grotto on the 27th, but both caves will be available both days to meet your schedule and needs. As a reminder to those that may be less familiar with these cave, both serve as hibernacula for the endangered Indiana bat (*myotis sodalis*). As such, the caves are officially closed for visitation from September 1st to March 31st. Thus, the work weekend is the last opportunity to see these two interesting caves until next spring. So whether you plan on participating in the restoration projects, or just want to go caving, plan on attending this event.

For more information, contact Keith Dunlap.

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.
 Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes in
 Fund Balance for the Quarter Ending 3/31/89

GENERAL FUND			
RECEIPTS			
DUES	75.00		
DONATIONS	71.26		
INTEREST	24.64		
TOTAL RECEIPTS		170.90	
EXPENDITURES	0.00		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		0.00	
EXCESS TO FUND BALANCE			170.90
FUND BALANCE 12/31/88*			1507.20
FUND BALANCE 3/31/89			1678.10
BUCKNER FUND			
RECEIPTS			
		0.00	
EXPENDITURES		0.00	
EXCESS TO FUND BALANCE			0.00
FUND BALANCE 12/31/88			259.64
FUND BALANCE 3/31/89			259.64
HANCOCK PROPERTY			
RECEIPTS			
		0.00	
EXPENDITURES		0.00	
EXCESS TO FUND BALANCE			0.00
FUND BALANCE 12/31/88			500.00
FUND BALANCE 3/31/89			500.00
TOTAL BALANCE - FUNDS 3/31/89			2437.74
			=====

*Denotes adjustment/correction to 12/31/88 fund balance
 as reported in IKC Update No. 12 - March, 1989

MINUTES IKC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
 March 18, 1989
 Indianapolis, Indiana

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Keith Dunlap
 Lynn Miller
 Ernie Payne
 Noel Sloan

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Kathy Hornaday
 Mike Miessen
 Tom Rea
 Cindy Riley

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. Introductions were made.

Elections

By acclamation, the officers for 1989 are:

President	Keith Dunlap
Secretary	Jane Miller
Treasurer	Lynn Miller

Directors:	(two year terms)	(one year term)
	Kathy Hornaday	Kenny Carrigan
	Glenn Lemasters	Ernie Payne
	Mike Miessen	

Committee Reports

A) Science & Research Committee

- 1) IUPUI Project - Cave sediment analysis in Buckner, Trap Door, and Show Case should be completed by August.
- 2) Pless, Doghill Caves - A meeting was held with IDEM personnel concerning the gas spill in this area in August 1985. Potential exists for development of a clear environmental statement if a serious survey could be conducted to identify where leaks/seeps are occurring. Gas is apparently still seeping through at periods of flood or drought.

B) Hoosier Forests Project Committee

April 9th CIG grotto trip will be a clean up of Patton Cave on the Deam Wilderness.

C) Buckner Project Committee

Not much activity on this project recently. Visitation continues high. Recent problem with drug impaired juveniles in the cave. Dick Blenz was to file a formal complaint to pursue prosecution.

Prosecutor's Meeting

Keith Dunlap and IDNR Conservation Officer Marlin Dodge met with Deputy Prosecutor Dave Hunter to learn the protocol for prosecution of violators of endangered species act, bat hibernacula, and cave vandals. The local Conservation Officer(s) are available to come out on these types of complaints. It is good to have the C.O. on site to issue a warrant to violators.

With respect to the Hancock Property, IKC Directors can make complaints using our power of attorney. IKC members at large cannot unless the Board of Directors has specifically granted them power of attorney.

Hancock Property

Mr. Hancock is pleased with progress at the property. The IKC is very pleased to have a landowner so clearly concerned about his property, caves, and cave life.

- 1) Shaft Gate - General discussion of the situation. Proposals under consideration at this time include: a) an unlocked "lid" of open grate design to permit access to wildlife, while protecting "unwitting hikers" from falling into the pit; and/or b) installation of some type of fence around the perimeter of the pit.
- 2) Mr. Hancock has requested that additional fence posts and cable be installed along the road.
- 3) Coon/Grotto - There is a new tree in the entrance to Coon and the DNR hibernacula sign has been torn down. The sign has been replaced by Scott Johnson and Dave Everton. There has been some new excavation under the fence at Grotto.

Managed Cave Access Procedure

Tom Rea (Wayne's patron) notified Keith of new graffiti and trash in Wayne's. The gate is still intact. This indicates that some individuals of the type we have been trying to restrict access to are being given permission anyway. The locks on Wayne's have been changed. Steps will be taken to define criteria for grotto liaisons to use in granting/denying access to all IKC properties, such as defining "proper" equipment, requiring a formal trip report, implementing a key deposit, and limiting access to one trip per day. Lynn Miller made a motion, seconded by Noel Sloan, to accept Tom's recommendations for restructuring the Cave Access procedure for IKC managed properties. The motion passed. Member comments are encouraged in this process.

Bat Census

The State funded biannual bat census was conducted in late January and early February. Nineteen (19) caves were surveyed. Thanks go out to all who volunteered, whether you were able to assist or not. Preliminary numbers indicate that total bat population in Indiana caves was up approximately 17% in non-priority I caves. Results of the Federal survey of Priority I caves are not yet available.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has begun studying pesticide levels in bats through the collection of guano samples in caves. This is to address non-winter disturbance impacts on populations. This will be an ongoing project with biannual surveys.

IDNR Non-game Projects (Scott Johnson)

- 1) Summer habitat study of Indiana bats.
- 2) Winter disturbance project - will conduct an analysis of bats' pre- and post- hibernation weights in several caves with varying degrees of traffic. Bat Wing Cave will be used as the control group.
- 3) Continuation of John Whitaker's study of evening bat maternity colonies.

Ray Cave

Scott Johnson reported that Ray Cave has the second largest bat population in Indiana. Landowner is aware of problems but not certain of what should be done. Keith Dunlap made a motion, seconded by George Brutchen, that the IKC support Scott Johnson and DNR in efforts to conserve this cave; support to include labor and funds as necessary/appropriate. Motion passed.

Spring Mill Cave Survey

Steve Collins et al are working on this non-IKC project. Please contact Steve directly to volunteer for this worthwhile project.

Hoosier Environmental Council

Lynn Miller made a motion, seconded by Keith Dunlap, and passed by the membership to renew the IKC's membership in the HEC at the \$25.00 level.

Graffiti Remover

A recent NSS publication presented information on a high pressure sprayer to be used in removing graffiti. Keith Dunlap and Tem Hornaday will examine the feasibility and necessity of such a device (anticipated to cost approximately \$700).

Other Projects/Items of Interest

- 1) Noel Sloan proposed (and will initiate work on) developing an educational piece for landowners, etc.
- 2) Kevin Strunk proposed initiating a registry program of cave and karst features similar to (or in conjunction with) The Nature Conservancy Registry Program. Hank Huffman volunteered to provide information on the procedures used by TNC.
- 3) Jeff Cody reported a collapse at Brinegar's.
- 4) Larry Mullins reported that the Hoosier National Forest Planning Team is looking at a land acquisition program. He asked the IKC to evaluate private properties in the forest boundary that we would (a) encourage acquisition of, (b) parcels for divestiture, and (c) parcels we don't want them to get rid of.

This project will be turned over to the Hoosier Forests Project Committee for review.

Larry Mullins is our new liaison with the Forest Service and is seeking an opportunity to meet with IKC Directors to receive input on caves and cave management on the Hoosier.

- 5) Keith Dunlap suggested a topic for Publication #4 in the IKC special publications/reprints series: Blatchley's Gleanings from Nature, published in 1897.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jane E. Miller, Secretary

MINUTES
IKC DIRECTOR'S MEETING
May 10, 1989

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Keith Dunlap Glenn Lemasters
Mike Miessen Kenny Carrigan
Lynn Miller Jane Miller

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Kathy Hornaday
Ernie Payne

Members attending: Kevin Strunk and George Brutchen.

Meeting called to order at 7:42 p.m.

HANCOCK PROPERTY

Work day, Saturday, May 20, 1989. Purpose to install posts and cable along Spicer Lane and to do preliminary measurements for installation of fence around Shaft.

- A) Shaft Cave - See work day note above.
- B) Coon Cave - NIG trip in mid-April encountered many bats. Rather than disturb them, the group turned around and left the cave. In addition, they removed the tree which had been placed in the entrance. The IKC (and the bats) thank the NIG for their thoughtfulness.
- C) Grotto Cave - No report.

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you letters for those who renewed will go out this week. Reminder letter for non-renewals is being drafted. Discussion to identify methods for soliciting new members.

BUCKNER PROJECT

We have experienced some successes and some burn out. Potential for prosecution exists in a couple of cases. Keith will discuss with Blenz. New sign will be posted at kiosk encouraging interested parties to write to the IKC P.O. Box if they want more information. Secretary will send info. Mike will no longer send packets to those who sign register.

HOOSIER FORESTS PROJECT COMMITTEE

Meeting on April 16th with Larry Mullins (caver and HNF Liaison to the IKC), Kathy Hornaday, Tom Rea, Kevin Komisarck, Sam Frushour, and Keith Dunlap. Larry is very interested in seeing that caves are properly addressed in the HNF Management Plan. The meeting addressed concerns of both sides. Larry would like to receive a list of all known caves on the Forest.

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

- A) IUPUI Project - Sediment study seems to be going well.

- B) IDEM Update - Palmyra Sewage Treatment Plant discharging into sinkhole. IDEM will require dye tracing of known streams. IKC has encouraged IDEM to see that proper procedures are followed. We recommend that stream discharge testing should be a part of the permit process. Kevin and Mike will arrange to view the IDEM file to determine current status. We may be compelled to notify IDEM and/or EPA of cave stream locations to ensure safe discharge levels.
- C) Southwest Corridor (Evansville highway) - High potential for significant karst impacts regardless of which of three (3) routes is selected. IKC should send a letter to the consulting firm ASAP addressing our concerns and requesting further input as plans progress.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A status report was presented. We need to be identifying/soliciting conservation projects to work on. Jane will draft a letter for publication in the NSS News, grotto publications, and selected other conservation publications offering conservation grants for karst related projects. The letter is to be reviewed by the Board prior to publication.

PROJECT PROPOSALS

Treasury discussion led to brainstorming. Numerous possible projects were identified:

- 1) Involvement in Bat Breeding programs.
- 2) Education Committee Funding. Develop promotional video/slide program to promote conservation in general and IKC projects in particular. Lynn made a motion to form a committee to study the scope and purpose of a slide/video program. Glenn seconded. Motion passed. Glenn Lemasters will chair the committee. George Brutchen and Lynn Miller are initial committee members.
- 3) Registry Program. Kevin Strunk has received information from Paul Carmony on The Nature Conservancy's registry program. Jane is to review materials to consider feasibility of applying registry program to caves.
- 4) Liaison Budgets. Discussion of developing budgets to pay for communications between cave patrons and grotto liaisons. No action taken pending discussion with current patrons.
- 5) Direct mail solicitation of Indiana NSS members encouraging membership in the IKC. Keith made a motion. Mike seconded. Motion defeated.
- 6) Paid Consultants. The concept of paying for work on conservation projects was discussed. The concept was generally acceptable, but each request for funds would need to be evaluated by the Board on a project by project basis. Discussion of whether funds would be a flat rate fee or an expense reimbursement.

DUES

Discussion of whether or not to reduce IKC annual dues structure. Glenn made a motion NOT to reduce dues, Lynn seconded. Motion passed. Dues structure will remain as is.

QUARTERLY MEETING

Saturday, June 24, 1989, 7:30 p.m. Bloomington, Indiana. Notice to be sent to NSS news as soon as location is identified.

IKC MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE

Brochure needs to be updated.

LEASES

Shiloh Cave - IKC will renew lease on downstream entrance.
Dunbar-Woodard - Lease has been renewed.

PUBLICATIONS

Next *UPDATE* deadline is June 8. Need Committee Reports, Treasurer's Report and minutes to Keith ASAP.

Special Reprints - Virgil Brack's next bat census report; Blatchley's Gleanings from Nature. Bat Census will be published in full and distributed to only those who request it (for the cost of postage and handling). A synopsis of the report will be printed in the *Update*. Blatchley's report will be published for general distribution to the membership.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

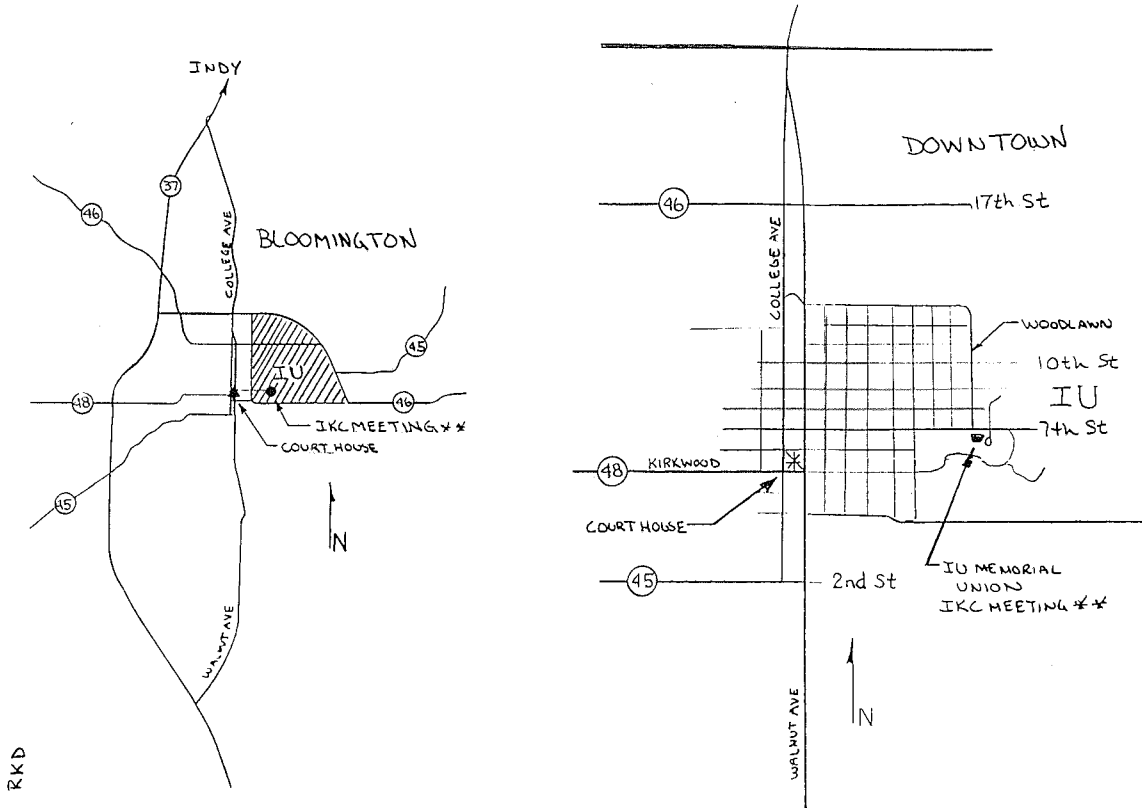
Submitted by Jane E. Miller, Secretary



MAP AND DIRECTIONS TO THE IKC QUARTERLY MEETING

SATURDAY JUNE 24th, 7:30 PM

Head towards downtown Bloomington to the 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 circle drive and parking lot. Enter the Union through the door on circle drive. Proceed in and the staircase to mezzanine level. Continue straight past the elevators, then left down the hall. The Alumni room is on the 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 _____

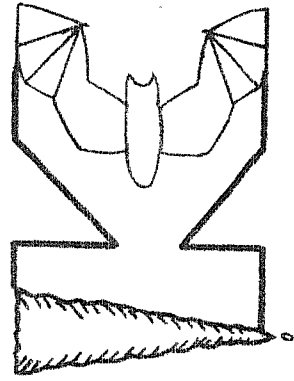
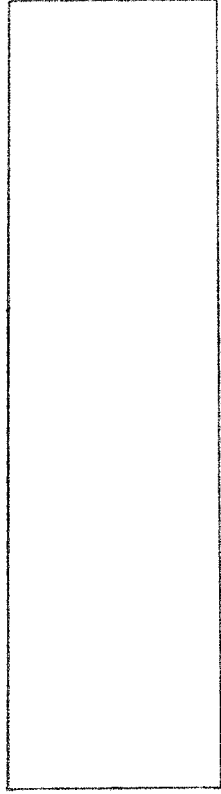
Address _____

City/state/zip _____

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

Make checks payable to the INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY and mail to the IKC TREASURER, PO Box 461, Plainfield, IN 46168. The IKC is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with membership dues and donations tax deductible. A cancelled check is considered an acceptable receipt, but if you wish a separate receipt, check here

Indiana Karst Conservancy
PO Box 461
Plainfield, IN 46168



PROTECTING CAVES THROUGH ACTIVE CONSERVATION