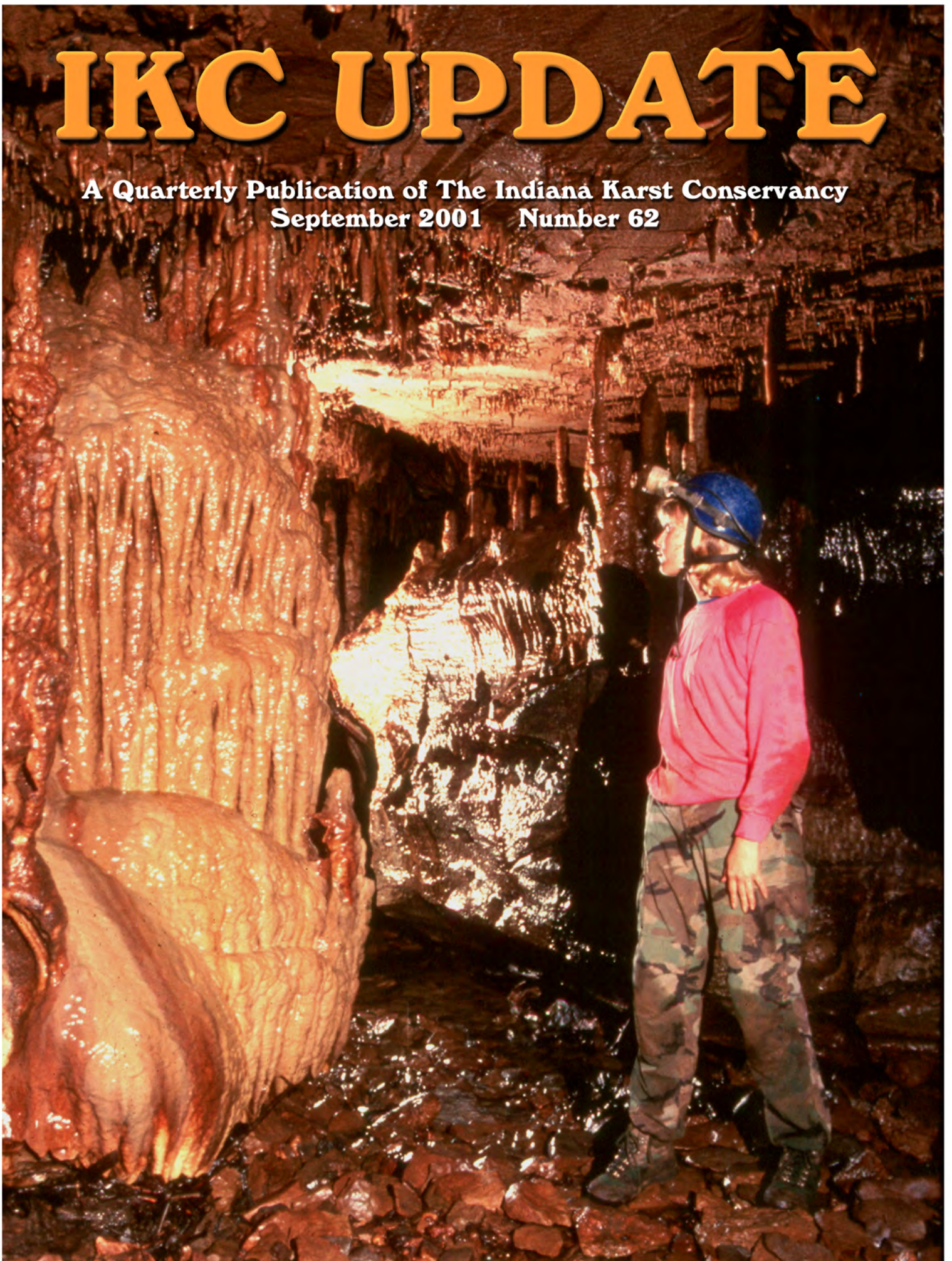


# **IKC UPDATE**

**A Quarterly Publication of The Indiana Karst Conservancy  
September 2001    Number 62**





**INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.**

PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206-2401

Affiliated with the National Speleological Society



The Indiana Karst Conservancy 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.

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**Shiloh Cave**

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**Sullivan Cave**

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**Western Indiana Grotto**

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(630) 548-1259

Cover: Jamie Fee in Buddha Cave (Lawrence County). Photo by Scott Fee (1991).

Newsletter staff: Keith & Bambi Dunlap



# QUARTERLY MEETING/COOK-OUT REMINDER

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 4:00 PM**

**CLAYTON, INDIANA**

Home of Cissy & Bruce Bowman, 8364 South SR 39

The quarterly meetings are for the elected Board to conduct business and for our members and other interested persons to have an open forum to talk about cave and karst conservation and related topics. Past, present, and future IKC projects are discussed to solicit comments and input from our members and the caving community as a whole. The meetings are informal, and everyone is encouraged to attend and participate. The IKC Board *wants* your input.

**Preliminary Agenda Items:** Brief recaps of last quarter's activities; Buddha Property/Cave Management Plan, funding (fund-raising, grants, Indiana Heritage Trust); Bylaw revision proposals; Shaft Pit fence proposal; Sullivan trees and maintenance; HNF kaolinite mine gatings; Land Acquisition Committee activities, HNF inventorying project; NCKMS sponsorship, Bat Gate Forum sponsorship, and more....

Following the business meeting (approximately 6 PM) will be the annual pitch-in cookout. The IKC will provide the grilled burgers, hot dogs, and brats; condiments, and soft drinks. Please bring a salad or covered-dish to share. Finishing off the evening's activities will be the highly competitive dessert contest (10th annual). Bring an entry or enjoy sampling and selecting the winners. Please bring lawn chairs, and the family, too. Contact Bruce Bowman for further details.

Meeting directions: See page 21 for map.

## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- 15 SEP = IKC QUARTERLY MEETING, Clayton (see above)
- 15 SEP = HNF FIELD WORK DAY, contact Kriste Lindberg
- 29 SEP = WYANDOTTE CAVE CLEAN-UP, Leavenworth (see page 5)
- 29 SEP = LOST RIVER TOUR, Orleans (see page 5)
- 13 OCT = TEACH-THE-TEACHER WORKSHOP, Kentucky (see page 5)
- 20 OCT = HNF COMMITTEE MEETING/FIELD DAY, contact Kriste Lindberg
- 15 SEP = HNF FIELD WORK DAY, contact Kriste Lindberg
- 16-19 OCT = NATIONAL CAVE & KARST MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM (see page 10)
- 03/04 NOV = HNF ABANDONED MINE GATING, Lawrence County (see page 6)
- 17 NOV = HNF FIELD WORK DAY, contact Kriste Lindberg

For more information on the Indiana Karst Conservancy, visit our web site at <http://www.caves.org/conservancy/ikc> or write to our PO box. 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 and caving community informed of IKC activities and other news related to cave/karst conservation. Submission of original or reprinted articles for publication is encouraged.

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## RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT...

*Liability.* A scary word for a difficult topic; a topic many of us don't like to talk about. At the same time, it received a lot of discussion at the Conservancy Roundtable at the NSS Convention. It gets a lot of attention on the land trust listserv. And it gets a lot of attention in the IKC Board meetings. Clearly, it's something we have to deal with.

There was a time when the IKC *didn't* have to pay all that much attention to liability concerns. After all, up until four years ago, we didn't own any property. We managed caves through leasing agreements, but we didn't have substantial assets. If someone had been injured, we could have been sued; but as they say, "You can't get blood out of a turnip." Things have changed since then. Besides engaging in potentially hazardous activities such as gating unstable mine entrances, we also own three properties, valued at over \$150,000. Despite the fact that we don't encourage people to cave, we don't prohibit it, either. Most of the people who enter "our" caves are not trespassers. If they get hurt, we have to consider the consequences.

Understanding the ramifications of land ownership, the IKC Board has had to pursue insurance policies; spending money on insurance premiums that we'd like to be spending elsewhere. Just this summer, we went back and forth on what to do about the Shaft Cave entrance. Everyone wants to enhance safety at the site, and to replace the ugly barbed wire. But we couldn't agree on how to accomplish that objective. After about 45 minutes of discussion, during which no clear consensus was reached, we finally

managed to pass a motion only because most of the Board abstained!

Liability considerations also show up on our management plans. If we leave a fixed bolt at a rope drop, are we tacitly assuring that it's bomb-proof? How can we determine who can enter our caves without engaging in "caver certification?" Is wandering around the entrance room "caving?" It *is* dark in there, after all... what if someone gets hurt? An adult who has waived liability is one thing, but what about a child? Can a youngster's parents sign on their behalf without visiting the cave themselves, without knowing first-hand what the risks are? A crippled child -- injured in an IKC-managed cave -- is going to get a lot of sympathy from a jury.

These are very serious issues. Such incidents may not be very likely, but it only has to happen once. It would be very unfortunate to accumulate all these karst resources, only to lose them all with the wave of a judge's hand. At the same time, sometimes I feel we're being a little overcautious. What good does owning these properties do, if no one can visit them? Wise cave use does *not* mean no use at all!


Such is the nature of being a landowner in a litigious society. The IKC Board does the best we can, but I doubt we've yet reached the optimal balance between these two opposing forces. Maybe your opinion will help; perhaps you have a perspective on the issue that we haven't considered. Please let us know if we're being too liberal...or conservative.

*Bruce Bowman*



Aerial view of the Buddha Karst Preserve looking westward. Photo courtesy of Hank Huffman

## NEWS BRIEFS...

- ❑ As you will see on page 8, the management plan for the Buddha Karst Preserve is in it's final stages and the Board is likely to adopt a final version at the September 15th meeting. The next step will be to identify and select a property manager and a patron for the cave (this may be two individuals or the same person). The property manager has the responsibility to enact the prescriptions in the management plan, organize workdays, perform routine maintenance such as mowing and litter pickup, and monitor the property. The patron is specifically focused on protecting the caves and arranging access for those who wish to visit. If either or both of these positions are of interest to you, please contact Bruce Bowman. It is anticipated that the Board will make these appointments at the December meeting.
- ❑ On September 29th, master interpreters Bob Armstrong and Dee Slater of the Lost River Conservation Association will be conducting their last Lost River tour for the year. The caravan/hiking excursion explores the Lost River from it's head waters in western Washington County, through Orange County to its disappearance near Orleans, and on to its rise near Orangeville. The orientation lecture starts at 7:45 AM on the southeast corner of the square in Orleans and will depart at 8 AM. Reservations are not required. Tours will go, *especially* if it rains. There will be some moderate hiking and sturdy footwear and long pants/sleeves are strongly recommended. The tour is free, but a small donation is suggested for the optional printed handouts. This is a must-do tour, if you are interested in Indiana karst. For more information, contact Bob or Dee at (317) 253-6951.
- ❑ Would you like to teach others about caves and karst? On October 13th at Mammoth Cave, a one-day workshop will be held to train and equip you, so you can teach others. This initiative is being co-sponsored the American Cave Conservation Association, the NSS, Project Underground, and the National Park Service. Several regional workshops will be given with the goal to recruit 100 volunteer trainers who can then work locally in classrooms. To encourage participation, a \$50 travel stipend will be provided. For more information, contact Mike Adams (270-758-2254, Mike\_Adams@nps.gov) or Julie Gee (270-786-1466, JulieGee@cavern.org)
- ❑ Each year at the NSS Convention, a number of awards are given to recognize contributions made by it's members. This year a number of IKC members and Indiana cavers were presented with awards. Designated as NSS Fellows were Dave Haun, John Benton, and Bill Greenwald. Former Hoosier and current member Scott Fee received a Certificate of Merit for his dedication to getting the SpeleoDigest series back on track, and Tom Rea was acknowledged with the Arts and Letters award for many years of editing and publishing. The IKC also received some distinction when three of it's four 2000 newsletter covers received ribbons (Honorable Mention for #57 and #58, Merit for #59) in the Graphic Arts salon. Finally the IKC embroidered hat received a Honorable Mention ribbon in the NSS Emblem salon. 

### WYANDOTTE CAVE CLEAN-UP SEPTEMBER 29

Wyandotte Cave will be having a volunteer cave cleanup day on Saturday, September 29th. Tasks to be accomplished will include removing algae from around light fixtures, doing some minor trail maintenance, and depending on turnout possibly removing the old fencing (chicken wire) material from the crater room. All volunteers/groups should contact Todd Webb (812-738-2782) prior to the 29th so the Wyandotte staff can be properly prepared.

A complimentary tour of the caves will follow.

- ❑ Due to the *IKC Update's* production process, we sometimes print the cover page months in advance (for instance, the September and December covers were both printed in June). This means the contact information on page 2 can sometimes become out of date by the time the issue is distributed. Such is the case with Bob Vandeventer's e-mail address due to his retirement from Thompson Consumer Electronics. His tce.com address is no longer valid, but you can e-mail him at VandeventerBob@netzero.net. His phone number is still correct.
- ❑ Several members (Jim Adams, Bob Armstrong, Keith/Bambi Dunlap, Tom Rea) save their aluminum cans all year long and those along with "Cans for Karst" collected at Cave Capers are turned in for money. This year we had 116 lbs of cans along with another 96 lbs of other aluminum netting \$48.16 for the IKC coffers. If you too would like to save cans for the IKC just bag them up and occasionally get them to Keith Dunlap and he will do the rest.
- ❑ Several collector plates and pennants related to a number of commercial caves have recently been donated by Bill Schultze to the IKC to benefit the acquisition of the Buddha Karst Preserve. These items need to be liquidated. Collectors should contact Bruce Bowman for more information; otherwise they will be auctioned on eBay with no reserve. In a separate donation, Christine Gerace has provided the IKC with a significant number of *NSS Bulletins* (vol 30 to present) and cave-related *National Geographic*. Any one interested in making an offer on these items can contact Keith Dunlap.
- ❑ Five new members have joined the IKC in the past quarter. Welcome Tim Priebe (386), Salisa Rafail (387), Emily Davis (388), Steve Harriss (389), and Mark Kraus (390). The IKC membership now stands at 197.

## **ABANDONED MINE BAT GATE PROJECT NOVEMBER 3/4**

We are doing it again, but this time with a new partner. The Hoosier National Forest and the IKC have signed a challenge-cost-share agreement to secure four abandoned mine entrances in Lawrence County. These mine entrances were part of an extensive kaolinite mining operation in the early 1900s. Most of the other dozen or so entrances have already collapsed and the HNF originally proposed to collapse all but one of the remaining entrances. After additional scoping and consultation, it was decided that to retain airflow and bat habitat, the main entrance would have an angle-iron bat gate (16 foot wide by 6 foot high) installed, two entrances would have culverts inserted and secured to still allow bat use, and the final entrance would be secured with wire mesh to allow continued airflow.

The IKC will provide construction materials, skilled volunteer labor, equipment, design and project management, and handle all of the logistics. The HNF will provide a funding to the project and assist as needed. This is a win-win situation for both parties, but it is especially good for the bats and other sub-terranean fauna who are now living in these mines.

We need about a dozen hard working volunteers to get the steel transported (all down hill) and the gates constructed. Most of the iron work should be completed on Saturday, but it is likely we will need some volunteers on Sunday morning too. Lunch will be provided on Saturday and camping will be available both Friday and Saturday nights.

If you are interested and can help, please contact Keith Dunlap at 317-882-5420 or Keith.Dunlap@juno.com. The meeting time on November 3rd will be 8:30 AM at the HNF Bedford office or 9 AM at the work site. Specific directions will be provided to those who can help.



## PROPOSED IKC BYLAWS CHANGES

by Bruce Bowman

At the March 2001 Annual Business Meeting, an ad hoc committee was established to review the IKC bylaws and propose needed updates. The committee formulated a number of changes and these were organized into seven proposals and presented to the Executive Board at the June meeting (note, the Board does not approve bylaws changes as this is a function of the membership). The complete language of the proposals were communicated to the membership in July and they will be voted upon by the members present for approval/rejections at the September 15th meeting.

A brief explanation of each bylaws proposal follows:

- 1) A series of changes are proposed to clarify the original intent of the bylaws and provide consistent terminology. These proposals are largely a matter of style and format; but some fairly significant changes can be seen in the description of tie-breaking in the election of Directors, in order to make the instructions less ambiguous.
- 2) Change Director terms from 2 to 3 years, and modify the election process to correspond. The purpose of this is to avoid the potential for a hostile take-over. As the IKC's financial assets increase, concerns have been raised that these assets need more protection than our current election process provides. Conceptually, a group could join the IKC for \$15 each, nominate a number of their own from the floor, and win a majority of Board positions which would then have authority to liquidate the IKC's asset. With 3-year terms, winning all open positions in any one election would still not provide a majority.
- 3) Stipulate that Robert's Rules of Order will define the IKC's default meeting process. This ensures orderly meetings, and indirectly addresses some topics that were previously unclear (such as a simple majority being needed to pass a motion).
- 4) Modify Secretary/Treasurer responsibilities so the same person who processes the dues also maintains the membership database. Under the previous approach, discrepancies sometimes occurred between the Secretary's membership roster and the Treasurer's dues records. It is likely that Executive Board will dissolve the standing Membership Committee if this change is approved.
- 5) Add a requirement that the Board will review and approve the annual election ballot. This is related to topic #2, because it is also designed to avoid a hostile take-over. However, nominations from the floor will still be allowed at the Annual Business Meeting.
- 6) Change the election process so rather than having the new Executive Board seated immediately after the election during the Annual Business Meeting, they are not seated until later. Some feel that newly-elected Board members need some time to become acquainted with standing issues and meeting process before having to serve. This is particularly true of the Officers, who currently are expected to fulfill leadership roles for the remainder of the meeting with little opportunity to prepare. With less time being spent bringing new Board members up to speed, the Annual Business Meeting should be more efficient.
- 7) More clearly define a process to fill Board vacancies. Previously, the Board was charged with replacing one of their own without the bylaws providing any guidance on how to do so. The new process calls for a Board motion/appointment to select one of the Directors to fill any open Officer positions, while Director vacancies will remain vacant until the next general election. This ensures that no one receives a seat on the Executive Board without being duly elected by the membership.

The bylaws govern all of the critical operations of the IKC. Along with elections, bylaws changes are the most direct influence that the membership can have on the operations of the IKC. Therefore, all members are strongly encouraged to attend the fall Meeting, make your position known, and vote for/against the above proposals.

## PROPOSED MANAGEMENT OF BUDDHA KARST PRESERVE

by Bruce Bowman

At the summer quarterly meeting, the Buddha Management Plan ad hoc committee was established to draft use policies for Buddha Karst Preserve. The committee members are Keith Dunlap, Tom Rea, Bill Tozer, and Kathy Welling, with Bruce Bowman as committee chairman. Over the last three months, committee members have visited the site many times; on the premise that we cannot devise a plan for a property whose resources we don't fully understand. We have also met twice to discuss management ideology, agree upon interim access until the plan is completed, to plan led trips for events such as Cave Capers, and to discuss fundraising options. In addition, the committee named Bill Tozer as acting cave patron, until such time that the IKC Board appoints a permanent patron and property manager.

The remainder of this article is intended to present, in abbreviated form, the draft management plan for Buddha Karst Preserve. This plan has not yet been approved by the Board, but will receive much discussion at the fall meeting on September 15. Members who have strong feelings about the content of the draft are encouraged to either attend the meeting or contact a committee member and make your opinions known.

**Resources** - The draft plan contains a lengthy discussion of property resources, both surface and sub-surface. Of course, the primary resource is Buddha Cave. The description of the cave is modified from the text in the 1992 NSS Convention Guidebook. As most cavers know, Buddha Cave is well-decorated, and contains an exposed climb and a 25-foot drop through a crevice. The property also contains Chase Cave, with a fairly large entrance room and two crawlways. Chase Pit Cave is said to have a 15-foot drop to a small room, but the entrance is currently blocked by no less than ten rolls of woven-wire fencing. The property also contains two karst ponds, numerous sinkholes, and several wet-weather swallets and springs.

**Surface Management** - The perimeter of the property will be fenced. A small parking lot (about 4000 square feet) will be located adjacent to the county road at the highest point on the property, and additional adjoining area may be kept mowed for overflow parking. A nature trail will be designed to skirt the significant karst features, and some

hardening of these trail(s) may be necessary where the grade is steep. Small interpretive signs may be erected, along with a kiosk to recognize those who contributed to the purchase. Discarded fencing rolls will be removed from the Chase Pit entrance and the area allowed to revert to its natural condition. Tree planting will likely occur, with appropriate vegetative management to assist their growth. Ultimately, the property will likely be dedicated as a state Nature Preserve.

**Surface Access** - Access to the property is solely through the parking area. Permission to hike on the property is not required. Off-road vehicles, swimming, hunting, trapping and fishing are prohibited; as are any surface modifications and collecting of any item other than mushrooms, berries, and nuts. The existing vehicle gate will be kept close, but will not be locked unless the property becomes a "party spot."

**Cave Management** - The caves on the property will be maintained in their natural state, and there are no plans to install gates or other entrance restrictions. All bolts and anchors will be removed, and no improvements will be made. Periodic clean-ups may be necessary. Contemporary signatures and dates will be removed or obliterated. No camping will be allowed in the cave(s).

**Cave Access** - Buddha Cave is known to flood, and offers special hazards of an exposed climb and a 25-foot vertical drop. The cave also has a limited carrying capacity, and cannot tolerate several trips at the same time. Not being gated, it was also difficult to define "caving" in the context of walk-in access to the property. The following conservative approaches will be used initially, and may be revised based on further experience:

- Any entry beyond the cave drip-line is caving and requires a permit and liability release. A new release is required for every cave trip. A permit provides permission to visit any cave on the property, not just Buddha Cave.
- Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult of the immediate family. Due mainly to safety concerns, no youth groups will be allowed in the caves.



<b>BUDDHA DONATION LIST</b>	
<b>\$5,000 or more</b>	
<b>\$1,000 to \$4,999</b>	
Bruce Bowman	
Bob Decker	
Keith Dunlap	
Kriste Lindberg	
Steve Lockwood	
Tom Rea	
Tom Sollman	
Bruce Trotter	
<b>\$250 to \$999</b>	
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Bob Zatarski	
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Kim & Tom Metzgar	Mark Webb
Jon Miller	Norbert Welch
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Sandy Packman	Kathy Welling
Gene Pelter, Jr	Gary Whittaker
Charles Perkins	Rich Whisler
Jay Pittenger	Scott Worpell
Jan Pursley	Sub-Urban Grotto
Last updated: 09/01/2001	
Donations total: \$15,949	

## BUDDHA FUND-RAISING STATUS

by Keith Dunlap

As you read in the previous article, the management plan for the Buddha property is nearly complete and physical activities such as surface clean-up, resource inventory, construction and repair of fences, hardening of the parking lot, and reforestation are well into their planning stage. Just as important is figuring out ways to pay for the property while keeping the organization viable. The goal is to form the proper mix of funding mechanisms including membership donations, non-member cover and grotto donations, auxiliary fund-raisers such as raffles, grants, and for this acquisition, tapping into the Indiana Heritage Trust.

In the past three months, the IKC has raised almost over \$12,400 in donations, mostly from members. In addition to that, we are utilizing the \$3,600 which was in the Land Acquisition Fund that members had previously contributed. Thus we have accrued almost \$16,000 from 88 individuals and organizations. However, we are still about \$58,000 in debt. If you have not donated yet, now would be the perfect time.

Also over the past three months we have submitted grant application to the IPALCO Golden Eagle Grant program (the IKC has received two previous grants from this foundation) and the National Speleological Foundation. We should know the result of these requests by October.

Most significant in the Buddha acquisition is funding from the Indiana Heritage Trust. This funding source could potentially provide the majority of revenue we need to pay off our loans. However, it is not an outright grant, rather the IKC will be required to agree to perpetual management prescriptions and to dedicate the property as a private nature preserve. While this is consistent with our long-term goals, we do relinquish some landowner flexibility. Competition for IHT funds will be stiff and it may be October before we know whether our request is successful.

The bottom line is that the next several months will be crucial in determining much of our funding status. If we are successful with our grants and IHT requests, we will be in very good shape. If things don't go as planned, we will have to investigate other means of retiring our obligations.

## CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES AT THE 2001 NSS CONVENTION

by Bruce Bowman and Kriste Lindberg

The NSS Convention is always a good time, but the conservation aspects of speleology were definitely on display for the 2001 event. Although the IKC was unable to participate in everything (concurrent sessions made this difficult), the following article will summarize some of the highlights of the 2001 NSS Convention.


First thing on Monday, the Conservation and Management Sessions were held. The sessions consisted of a series of half-hour presentations, hosted by the co-chairs of the Conservation Section, Val and Jim Werker. There were two presentations on Wind Cave. The first, by an intern at the cave, discussed ongoing cleanup efforts; while the second, delivered by Matt Reece, presented a new database for managing survey data. This was followed by a discussion of rock cairns in Snedegar's Cave by Roy Jameson of Winthrop University, demonstrating that what appear to be innocuous modifications can have significant, detrimental effects on the cave environment. The remaining morning presentations were by the Werkers themselves, including discussion of volunteer value, restoration techniques and a case study in Lechuguilla Cave.

The afternoon sessions included a panel discussion on cave wilderness and how to define it. Ron Kerbo demonstrated how the park service defines cave wilderness, and there was much discussion on the how the term "wilderness" is interpreted and the expectations that many have regarding management of cave wilderness. Zelda Bailey presented an overview of the new National Cave and Karst Research Institute (also affiliated with the park service), which currently has a staff of two. Later presentations were of more local flavor, including discussion of the tri-modal transpark near Mammoth Cave and proposed spill retention upgrades along I-65 in central Kentucky. *[editor's note: On August 30, a tanker spill along I-65 near Mammoth Cave dumped 3,800 gallons of diesel fuel which immediately disappeared down a crevice... the extent of environmental damage is yet unknown.]* Of course, no conservation section meeting would be complete without a presentation by Bill Halliday on work he is doing with lava

tubes in Hawaii.

Many of these presentations will likely receive additional attention at the National Cave and Karst Management Symposium in Tucson (October 16-19). The IKC will also be making two presentations at this event. For more information, or to register for the NCKMS, visit their web site at [www2.nature.nps.gov/grd/nckms](http://www2.nature.nps.gov/grd/nckms).

Wednesday morning was the Conservancy Roundtable. The main purpose of the roundtable is to share ideas and learn from those who have been managing caves for awhile. John Wilson, Chairman of the NSS Cave Conservancies Committee, led the meeting. Discussions ranged widely, including how to apply for grants, other fund-raising, tax issues, liability and insurance, how to make the greatest impact and best use of limited resources. The IKC was definitely one of the "old timers" in this crowd -- along with SCCI, MKC, and MCKC. Nonetheless, it's clear that the newer conservancies are hitting the ground running. Many of them already own property, it seems the main reason many of the new ones have formed is because a cave became available and they needed to incorporate quickly. The group agreed that there should be a Conservancies Session for the 2002 Convention. After

...continued on page 20 



Don Ingle demonstrating a pop-bottle sinkhole during the Project Underground workshop at the NSS Convention.

photo by Kriste Lindberg

## KARSTLAND MONITORING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

by Kriste Lindberg

The Karstland Monitoring and Adaptive Management Workshop, presented by the Karst Waters Institute, took place August 5-9, 2001 at Indiana University. I attended as the IKC representative and served as an on-site host.

The purpose of the workshop was, "To train project managers and conservation biologists in The Nature Conservancy and its Heritage and International Program partners in monitoring and adaptive management of rare and imperiled species and natural communities in caves and other subsurface karstland habitats."

Instructors present were Dr David Culver of American University, Dr Horton Hobbs III of Wittenberg University, and Dr Carol Wicks of the University of Missouri.

Much was learned during these few days in the classroom and in the field. Sunday found us getting acquainted with each other. Monday's classroom sessions consisted of becoming acquainted with subterranean habitats and their associated fauna, such as epikarst, streams, and permanent groundwater and what lives there such as isopods, amphipods, and the like. We also covered techniques to collect them. On Tuesday, we visited a sinkhole, a stream, and Mayfields Cave in Monroe County in order to assess its current status, collect data and specimens (released after identifying them), and discuss ways in which we would manage the areas based on our monitoring. IDNR's Hank Huffman joined us at the cave. Wednesday we were back in the classroom learning about terrestrial communities and case studies. On Thursday, we returned to Mayfields Cave to check on studies we had started and ended the workshop with a wrap-up discussion on how we would tie all of the above into a management plan. Mayfields is in a developing industrial area and has been the subject of much local concern.

Most people believe cave fauna are delicate and fragile. However, guess again. Just think of the conditions they live in: getting bashed around in flooding waters, enduring cold temperatures, and quickly

changing conditions. These creatures have evolved to survive in seemingly inhospitable conditions and are quite hearty, in reality! However, they are not indestructible. Their existence depends in part on how well we treat our karst systems. Much can be done and is being done around the country to protect them. We are just starting to get going on more stringent measures for protecting our Indiana karst.

For example, if too much fine silt enters a cave through poor agricultural or development practices, the silt enters the spaces between the rocks which the critters occupy and eventually chokes them out. Therefore, it's best to keep it out of there. For more on this, see "Education and Outreach Committee Report" in this issue (see page 12).

It was very beneficial to interact with these folks who have been doing this type of work for years. The chemistry was right and much was learned, including the old adage, "The more you know, the more you realize you don't know." There's a lot to it.

The above is just a brief description of the workshop. If you would like more details, please contact me, as I have many pages of material including maps, charts, and cave biota identification keys. There is much to share.



Hank Huffman discussing endangered cave species at the entrance to Mayfields Cave. photo by Kriste Lindberg



## EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

by Kriste Lindberg

Your Education and Outreach Committee, consisting of Kriste Lindberg (Chair), Bambi Dunlap, Don Ingle, Bill Tozer, Bob Vandeventer, and Kathy Welling, has been very busy over the past several months. Things are really progressing, it's almost uncanny. We have many new endeavors to report on. Read up and enlighten yourself.

Most recently, I have been working with IDNR Stormwater Specialists and their associates to assess construction sites that are associated with karst systems. We have traveled to various sites checking on such factors as drainage, siltation, and measures to keep them in check. There is much room for more education here. We are working on ways to get more of it to those that need it.

In addition, Bob Vandeventer and I visited the Indiana State Fair a few weeks ago. While there, we came across a great exhibit, the "Pathway to Water Quality." It is a presentation of the Indiana Conservation Partnership, which includes the IDNR, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and Purdue University Cooperative Extension. The wood chip path lined with a stream and native vegetation, literally takes you along a demo of ways to conserve land, complete with tips on how to properly farm it to reduce the effects of erosion and the like, including buffer zone setbacks around streams and sinkholes. There is even a certification program that acknowledges farmers who practice these measures.



IDNR Stormwater Specialist, Sharon Hall, inspects a cave entrance near a construction site in Lawrence County.

photo by Kriste Lindberg

As siltation directly effects caves and cave life, this is a wonderful place to visit and learn from. Think we could have a place there in the coming years? I'm networking with some of these folks right now.

In the meantime, the Partnership has several informative brochures to get folks started in these practices. One can also get



Indiana State Fair conservation brochures.

a booklet on backyard conservation tips by calling 1-888-LANDSCAPE or download it from <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>. It's a good read. In addition, we left a few IKC flyers and Leonard Springs Nature Park brochures at the IDNR building.

Also, the National Cave and Karst Management Symposium is coming up. It is October 16-19th and will be held in Tucson, Arizona. IKC will be presenting two papers: one on writing management plans and the other on Leonard Springs Nature Park.

Finally, stay tuned for the soon to be completed Education and Outreach Committee page on the IKC website!

## HNF/IKC KARST INVENTORY PROJECT UPDATE

by Kriste Lindberg

We are seeing some new people join our efforts, including those working for the HNF. All are interested in working on the project, helping with educational efforts, and doing more caving. We've been busy with the following activities: putting together educational programs, going out into the field to check on properties, and helping with the biota inventory. Read on....

The HNF has a new face, Steve Harriss. Steve is the Information Specialist for the HNF and is interested in karst education. He



Kriste Lindberg demonstrating a Project Underground activity for HNF campers at Hardin Ridge.

has a background in climbing but is in the process of adapting his skills to include caving. Just last month, he attended Cave Capers, along with a relative from Illinois, and did Gory Hole among other caves. Let's welcome Steve aboard. He's even joined the IKC!

In July, I did a presentation at the HNF's Hardin Ridge on karst and how to protect it via educational efforts. This presentation was put together for campers at the campground. Several folks attended to learn more about the topic. Thanks to the HNF archaeologist and camp education coordinator, Sarah Arthur, for arranging it. She, too, is becoming interested in caves and caving.

We look forward to working more with both Steve and Sarah at upcoming events such as the HNF/IKC Karst Inventory Project and related activities.

As far as the workdays are concerned, in June, we ridgewalked an area just south of Interstate 64 near Sulphur Springs to check on reported cave locations for Dr Jerry Lewis cave biota study. In July, we split into two

groups - one assisted the biota study near Huron and the other group checked on the IKC's newest acquisition, the Buddha Karst Preserve. In August, five of us ridgewalked a potential acquisition property (265 acres) for the HNF along the Lost River. We are now up to 121 caves on the Hoosier.

Congratulations are in order for the HNF as they just received a grant to purchase a karst/groundwater model for their educational efforts! We plan to do a combined agency karst education discussion and workshop with Spring Mill State Park employees, Jeff Cummings and Julie Kleeman, this month as both agencies territories overlap. It will be helpful to partner with them and discuss common interests rather than duplicate efforts. They have much in common. I will be teaching a Project Underground workshop and Bob Armstrong will be leading a Lost River field trip.

Dr Lewis has been busy finding more and more critters, including new-to-science species, and expanding his territory. It will be beneficial to tie these new findings in with the others to discover general trends in the HNF and neighboring systems. It is also probable that his contract with the HNF will be extended into 2002 so he can visit even more caves of the Forest.

Plans are underway to gate some of the collapsing kaolinite mine entrances in Lawrence County. They will be gated to allow cave dwelling critters to ingress and egress, but not people. The workdays have been tentatively set for the weekend of November 3-4. For more info, see the call for volunteers in this issue on page 6).



Jamie Winner checking out a spring house during the June HNF Karst Inventory Project workday.

## IKC/DNR SECURE ABANDON MINES FOR BATS - YEAR 3

by Keith Dunlap

In 1999 the IKC, in cooperation with the Indiana DNR, initiated a bat habitat conservation project which continued in 2000. The result has been twelve bat gates placed on abandoned coal mine entrances which would otherwise have been permanently closed by other means. Securing these entrances with steel gates rather than rock and concrete allow bats to continue to use the mines for hibernation, while at the same time significantly reduces the human liabilities the open mines presented.

Because all involved over the past two years were pleased with the outcome, the DNR solicited our assistance for five more gate in 2001 and after a formal proposal was prepared, the IKC Board approved the project.

The first weekend of activity was May 12/13 in Parke County. The first work site was near Nyesville and consisted of a single entrance approximately six foot wide by six foot high. This entrance was interesting in that when it was visited last winter, it had significant airflow out of it, indicating a large mine system below or a lower entrance somewhere else. The entrance also appears to take a great deal of water, draining a substantial ravine.

This entrance was perhaps the easiest one we have gated to date with solid rock all around and bare rock on the floor, thus there was practically no prep work required. The gate was basically a text book installation from start to finish. Despite that, we did not finish the construction until mid-afternoon. While everyone else moved on, Bambi Dunlap



Keith Dunlap arc welding the one-inch diameter anchor pin to the vertical support on the Nyesville gate.

and the finishing crew stayed behind to prep, prime, and paint the gate.

Before the first gate was completed, an advance crew was dispatched to the second work site near Coxville to prepare the trench for the gate. However, when the rest of the workers arrived there, they found the advance crew struggling with water that was backed up in the mine. Despite a deep chan-



Bruce Trotter, Ray Sheldon, and Wayne Tucker attempting to drain the mine and dig the base-plate trench at the mine entrance near Coxville.

nel being dug to drain the water, there was still six inches of water standing where the gate's base-plate was to go. Eventually the water drained away and the gate construction was started. While the working conditions were not the greatest, the gate was finished without further complication.

While the main crew packed up the equipment, Bambi prepped and primed the gate. When all was done, we headed to my sister's house for a late, but great supper. The next morning Bambi and I painted the Coxville gate and the first weekend of the project was complete. Participants included Barb Capocy, Bob Decker, Bambi Dunlap, Keith Dunlap, Cindy Rothrock, Tom Rothrock, Bob Sergesketter, Ray Sheldon, Mark Stacy, Steve Taylor, Bruce Trotter, Greg Tucker, Wayne Tucker, Bob Vandeventer, Dick Vernier, and Steve Weinzapfel.

June 23/24 was the date for the second gating weekend, this time near Montezuma in Vermilion County. Originally we were to construct three gates at this site but several weeks prior, one of the entrance had a catastrophic collapse. This event was a very visual



reminder of why these mines are hazardous to curious visitor and need to be secured from entry. It also is a reality check for those of us working in these entrances installing gates.

Unlike the first weekend, the mine entrances at this work site were not easily accessible. All equipment and the steel had to be carried across an active train track, through the wood about 200 yards, then up a very steep slope. From there, ropes were used to haul the steel up another very steep slope to the entrances.

Significant rock had to be removed from the first entrance to get the base-plate properly positioned and level. Once this was done, the rest of the gate went in easily. This gate had a slightly different design in that it was constructed with a removable bar. This is to allow access for Dr Whitaker who has been doing bat research in this mine for more than a decade.

The second gate was even more precarious in getting steel up to the entrance but fortunately cavers are good at vertical rigging. Again much rock removal was required to get the base-plate properly situated and pinned in place. But once that was done, the rest of the construction was routine. With the iron-crew done, Bambi and her assistants did the prep and priming, finishing the second gate after dark. The next day Bambi and I returned to add the top coat of paint.

Participants for the second weekend included Stephanie Baumann, Bruce Bowman, Terry Clark, Bruce Devore, Bambi Dunlap, Keith Dunlap, Dave Haun, Hal Hempe, Thomas Hempe, Steve Leonard, Kriste Lindberg, Steve Lockwood, Walt Serabian, Bob Sergesketter, Ray Sheldon, Mark Stacy, Bruce Trotter, Greg Tucker, Wayne Tucker, Bob Vandeventer, Dick Vernier, Jerry Walker, Jamie Winner, and Bob Zatarski.

I would like to thank everyone who helped this year. There were 29 different volunteers, many who helped both weekend. All total, we expended approximately 400 man-hours in constructing the four gates. For the last three years, we have contributed over 1300 man-hours to install 16 gates.

In summary, the DNR (Mark Stacy specifically) has been very impressed with our volunteerism, professionalism, skills, and cost-effectiveness in constructing bat gates over the past three years. Likewise, I have been impressed that so many IKC members have demonstrated true teamwork and skills to build these gates which not only provide permanent and secure winter habitat for bats, but also has been an invaluable revenue source for the IKC.



The two mine entrances at the Montezuma work site were located at the top of very steep slopes so material had to be hauled up with a tyrolean line.



With the base-plate and vertical columns in place, it's just a matter of measuring the horizontal bar lengths and welding them in place. Note hammer-drill used to put in anchor pins.



This is the finished view of the gate under construction in the above frame. The sign mounted on the gate explains that the mine is ideal habitat for bats.

## LEONARD SPRINGS NATURE PARK UPDATE

by Kriste Lindberg

If you haven't been to Leonard Springs for a while, you may want to stop by and see some of the new improvements now in place, thanks to some cavers we know.

In June, we had an IKC workday at the park. IKC members constructed a very nice waterbar and stairway combination on a steep part of the trail. It was made mainly of materials found at the park, including some recycled timbers and some black walnut from a tree that had blown down over the trail near Shirley Springs.

In addition to the above, cedar split-rails were purchased from Richard "Fig" Newton's company, Eastern Red Cedar Products, for construction of a substantial fence. The fence can be seen at three different locations in the park and will hopefully keep unintended trails from forming in sensitive areas such as next to the trailhead, around the bus parking lot, and near the breach on the dam. It is a beautiful fence and should last a good, long time!

Also near the dam, we constructed a brace to hold sediment in place where an old off-road vehicle trail was located. It seems to be holding up quite well. Thanks to Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs for their help with this service-learning project. The Army Corp of Engineers is also being consulted to see about stabilizing the rest of the dam, including the breached area.

And, last but certainly not least, now that the park is this far along, I am going to be spending more time on karst education

initiatives, including working with more schools and agencies in the area in broader terms. It is an ideal setting. We really couldn't ask for better.

Stay tuned on the progress of this important cave and karst conservation park.



IKC members and their newly constructed stairway along the trail at Leonard Springs Nature Park's June Trails Day.  
photo by Kriste Lindberg

continued from page 8...

- Recommended trip size for Buddha Cave is 3-10 cavers, at least two of which must be vertically competent. Due to concerns about trip scheduling, only the cave patron may issue trip permits. The property manager will serve as a backup if the patron is unavailable.
- The cave patron and property manager will collaborate to provide an annual report on the status of the caves and property.

As with the Sullivan Cave Preserve, the Buddha management plan is in narrative form and will be published on the web page after approval (less the cave map).

Anyone interested in reviewing the draft management plan in more detail should contact Bruce Bowman or a member of the committee. In addition, we are currently seeking IKC members to serve as the either property manager or cave patron. Please let us know of your interest prior to the December IKC quarterly meeting.

**INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY TREASURY REPORT**

**Income/Expense Statement  
From April 1, 2001 to June 30, 2001**

<b>INCOME:</b>	
Dues Apportionment and Residuals	593.25
Donations	570.00
Acquisition Fund	7925.44
DNR gate project	5450.00
SpeLoggers	2437.00
Interest	<u>226.23</u>
	<b>\$17,201.92</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
IKC Update (printing, production, mailing)	140.87
Membership (postage, meeting notices, etc)	72.63
Stewardship/Conservation	121.58
Education/Outreach	210.40
Buddha expenses (from general fund)	457.84
Business (safety deposit box, service charges, etc)	65.22
DNR gate project	1361.89
SpeLoggers	1927.16
Transfer to restricted funds	<u>7925.44</u>
	<b>(\$12,283.03)</b>
<b>NET OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIT) THIS PERIOD:</b>	<u><b>\$4,918.89</b></u>

**Balance Sheet  
June 30, 2001**

<b>ASSETS:</b>	
Cash in Checking Account	3560.49
Cash in Savings Account	16771.63
Accounts Receivable <sup>(1)</sup>	6970.00
Notes Payable	-64000.00
Sullivan Karst Preserve	72000.00
Buddha Karst Preserve <sup>(2)</sup>	82890.00
Orangeville Rise Nature Preserve	7000.00
Indian Creek Conservation Easement (valued at \$1/acre)	<u>13.16</u>
	<b><u>\$125,205.28</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; OPERATING EXCESS:</b>	
Hancock Property Maintenance Fund	100.22
Indiana DNR Nongame Fund <sup>(3)</sup>	0.00
Land Acquisition Restricted Fund <sup>(4)</sup>	1662.44
Deferred Dues Restrctied Fund (159 members)	2418.75
Hat Fund (excluding 19 hats in inventory)	262.16
Previous Operating Excess	17939.66
Net Excess (Deficit) This Period	<u>4918.89</u>
Current Operating Excess	22858.55
Real estate liquidity (minus outstanding loans)	<u>97903.16</u>
Total Liabilities & Operating Excess	<b><u>\$125,205.28</u></b>

**NOTES:**

- 1) \$5,450 for mine gates (DNR), \$1,320 for SpeLoggers(HNF & USFWS), and \$200 from Helping.org.
- 2) Appraised value of \$2,250/acre X 36.84 acres.
- 3) Previous balance of \$120 spent on SpeLogger for the DNR (fund will be eliminated).
- 4) Fund would have been \$11,342.44 before spending \$9,680 on Buddha acquisition.



## IKC QUARTERLY MEETING

Saturday, June 9th, 2001

Bloomington, Indiana

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Bowman  
 Kriste Lindberg  
 Keith Dunlap  
 James Adams (by proxy Bambi Dunlap)  
 Bruce DeVore  
 Dave Haun  
 Steve Lockwood  
 Nick Noe  
 Tom Rea  
 Bob Sergesketter  
 Tom Sollman  
 Bill Tozer  
 Bob Vandeventer  
 Richard Vernier  
 Kathy Welling

### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

none

The Summer Board Meeting of the Indiana Karst Conservancy was called to order at 6:15 PM at the Geology Building on the Indiana University campus, Bloomington, Indiana, President Bruce Bowman presiding. Bambi Dunlap was accepted as a proxy for Jim Adams.

The minutes of the Annual Business Meeting were approved as published on the IKC website and in the June 2001 *IKC Update*.

Treasurer K Dunlap reported the following:

#### Pre-Buddha Karst Preserve Acquisition

Cash	\$24,238.67	(\$3,692.28 in
Land	\$79,013.16	Land Acq Fund)
Debt	\$0.00	
Total	\$103,251.83	

#### Including Proposed Buddha Karst Preserve

Cash	\$21,558.67	(\$0.00 in
Land	\$152,693.16	Land Acq Fund)
Debt	(\$64,000.00)	(unsecured loans)
Total	\$110,251.83	

The IKC currently has 192 members.

Rescue Coordinator, Anmar Mirza, has put together a rough rescue plan for each cave the IKC manages and distributed several copies. Bowman will receive an electronic version in Microsoft Word to distribute to the rest of the Board. The format is set up for dispatches. Mirza will need a complete set of maps for each

cave. Sollman will provide these maps. Mirza stressed the importance of having the backing of the IKC when negotiating with rescue organizations. Mirza also requested permission to use Sullivan Cave for the NCRC week-long training in August 2001 if needed. Activities would be restricted to the entrance passages and Backbreaker. Rea moved that the NCRC be allowed to use Sullivan Cave during the week-long training if needed. Welling seconded. Motion passed, 14-0-1.

Two time-critical board actions had been pursued and approved since the Annual Business Meeting. In April, K Dunlap moved that up to \$75,000 (\$1,800/acre) be allocated for the acquisition of the proposed Buddha Karst Preserve, which included 42 acres plus the main cave entrance. Bruce Bowman seconded. Motion passed, 15-0-0.

During the negotiations, a five-acre section bordering the property's south side had been sold. The seller countered the offer at \$2,000 per acre with seller to pay title search, title insurance, survey, and closing. Selling price for the 36.84 acres was set at \$73,680. The actual appraised value (appraisal cost covered by buyer) came in at \$82,890 (\$2,250/acre).

In May, K Dunlap moved contingent upon our decision to purchase the property: 1) accept up to \$70,000 loan money in exchange for issuing Promissory Notes (interest-free, unsecured, with a maximum one year term); 2) expend all assets in the acquisition fund; and 3) expend money out of the general fund necessary to complete the transaction. Adams seconded. Motion passed, 14-0-1.

This evening, K Dunlap gave a rundown of the proposed Buddha Karst Preserve acquisition to date, including previous motions made (see above), and stated that the June 2001 *IKC Update* will not be mailed until after closing.

B Dunlap gave a synopsis of the IDNR visit to the Buddha Karst Preserve. The trip consisted of K Dunlap, B Dunlap, Lindberg, Rea, Tozer, and IDNR Nature Preserve employees Cliff Chapman and Hank Huffman. All present were encouraged that Heritage Trust funds would be available if the proposed Buddha Karst Preserve was dedicated as a state-recognized nature preserve. The preserve would



essentially be a conservation easement on the existing proposed Buddha Karst Preserve. Under this proposed contract, the IKC would still own and manage the proposed preserve. Bowman provided a very rough draft of the IDNR Nature Preserve master plan to Directors for comment.

Bowman established an ad hoc committee to work on the management plan of the proposed Buddha Karst Preserve, including the IDNR Nature Preserve master plan. The newly appointed Buddha Karst Preserve Management Committee consists of K Dunlap, Rea, Tozer, Welling and Bowman as ex-officio. They will discuss such issues as access, an interim management plan, funding options, and access during Cave Capers. A proposal will be returned to the Board.

Naming of other caves present on the proposed Buddha Karst Preserve was postponed until which time a complete survey of the property is completed.

Welling moved that the proposed Buddha Karst Preserve be officially named the Buddha Karst Preserve. Rea seconded. Motion passed, 14-0-1.

Tozer moved to establish a Buddha Karst Preserve Acquisition Fund. Noe seconded. Motion passed, 14-0-1.

Dunlap moved to transfer funds from the Land Acquisition Fund to the newly established Buddha Karst Preserve Land Acquisition Fund. Tozer seconded. Discussion ensued. Welling moved to amend so up to the full amount of the Land Acquisition Fund be transferred to the newly established Buddha Karst Preserve Land Acquisition Fund as needed. Motion failed for lack of second. Discussion continued, including K Dunlap stating that the funds would most likely be needed for closing and if they weren't, they would be returned to the Land Acquisition Fund. Original motion passed, 12-0-3.

Welling moved that the Board proceed with pursuing all options available for funding the purchase of the Buddha Karst Preserve, including Indiana Heritage Trust, IPALCO, etc. Rea seconded. Discussion ensued, including the fact that the proposed IDNR Nature Preserve dedication could devalue the property at about 80%, reducing our property tax obligations. Motion passed, 13-0-2.

A draft copy of a proposed Buddha Karst Pre-

serve fund-raising flyer created by K Dunlap, Lindberg, and Vandeventer was passed out to Directors. A few suggestions to enhance it were made, including using larger pictures. Lindberg will work on the revision.

Mirza suggested that he would like to donate Lost Creek Enterprises material for the IKC to use in fund-raising for the Buddha Karst Preserve. The effort was referred to the Buddha Karst Preserve Management Plan Committee for later discussion and decision on how to proceed with this generous offer. Other fund-raising efforts were discussed, including the potential for a personal raffle; the proceeds of which would be donated to the fund.

Permission was granted by Bowman for a survey to be done on the other cave(s) on Buddha Karst Preserve once closing takes place.

Other land acquisition opportunities were discussed, including those in the Lost River area.

The ad hoc Bylaws Committee has prepared seven sweeping change proposals for consideration. Bowman provided a color-coded, edited version of the document. These will be forwarded to the membership and voting will occur at the Fall meeting.

Per the minutes from the Annual Business Meeting, several Board members visited Shaft Cave in preparation to discuss how to manage the entrance area. Tozer moved to remove the existing fence and concrete. Dunlap seconded. Motion failed, 0-13-2. Tozer moved that the existing barbed-wire fence be removed from the entrance area of Shaft Cave. Devore seconded. Motion passed, 13-1-1. Haun moved that a lockable lid be placed on Shaft Cave. Motion failed for lack of a second. Sergesketter moved that a non-lockable gate be placed on Shaft Cave. Haun seconded. Motion passed, 6-3-6. Much discussion followed, including that a primary basis for a gate (lockable or non-lockable) be for safety. More information on the ramifications of these proposals is needed before any action will take place.

K Dunlap moved that the IKC collaborate with the Hoosier National Forest to gate several entrances of the Gardner kaolinite mines in Lawrence County. Steve Lockwood seconded. Motion passed, 15-0-0.

K Dunlap discussed the upcoming IDNR Mine Gating opportunity in Montezuma, Indiana. Two gates out of the originally proposed three gates will be all that are needed as one en-



trance has collapsed. Camping will be available in nearby Rockville, Indiana.

K Dunlap moved that the IKC renew their Hoosier Environmental Council membership for \$100. Welling seconded. Motion passed, 15-0-0.

Sollman gave a rundown of local sculpin and crawfish findings at Shiloh Cave. Populations of both seem to be down, perhaps because of recent heavy rains.

The IKC Fall Director's Meeting/Annual Picnic will be held September 15 at the Bowman property -- the meeting will start at 4:00 PM and the picnic will start at 6:00 PM.

Devore moved that the meeting adjourn. B Dunlap seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM.

Submitted by Kriste Lindberg,  
IKC Secretary

continued from page 10...

much cajoling, Rane Curl of the MKC agreed to organize and chair this session.

SCCI, the ACCA, and MCKC had booths set up in the high school throughout the convention, and the new Northeastern Cave Conservancy had a tent on Vendor's Row at the campground selling T-shirts. By comparison, the IKC was low-profile.

Nonetheless, fund-raising for Buddha Karst Preserve was the subject of some attention. Flyers at the Conservation Sessions and similar events didn't prove to be very effective as everyone else present had their own project to raise money for! On Wednesday, Keith Dunlap brought several T-shirts that had been printed with the flyer artwork we use to solicit donations. These were worn by several IKC members, who were selling tickets for a private raffle of a 52-inch projection TV set. A notice also ran in the daily newsletter on Wednesday and Thursday advertising this raffle, and asking for donations. Roughly 150 tickets were sold, which was a little disappointing and short of our goal. We were also approached on several occasions and strongly encouraged to pursue grant money from the NSS and the NSF.

Running concurrently with the Conservancy Roundtable was the first meeting of the newly-formed Conservation Committee Education Team and the Project Underground Workshop.

The Conservation Committee Education Team consists of 12 people from around the country who are very active in cave and karst conservation education. It is co-chaired by Jim Werker and Val Hildreth-Werker. Kriste was asked to join it this spring. Others include Bill Elliott (Missouri), Hillary Hopper (Kentucky), Sandy and Jerry Trout (Arizona). The chemistry was

right for this first meeting and things are moving right along. Elizabeth Rousseau-Bunnell is collecting photos and other pictures for inclusion in the PowerPoint show and other materials that will be available for use.

Project Underground, as some of you may know, is the NSS-sponsored education initiative directed towards young people. However, anyone of any age can actually learn from it, as most people do not have formal training in karst. Approximately 25 people participated in the workshop, including Kriste and Don Ingle. These numbers were up from previous years. The word is getting around!

The NSS convention is an excellent opportunity for conservation-minded individuals to get together, share their experiences, and learn from each other. Hopefully the conservation discussions at the Maine convention will be as fruitful as what we experienced in Kentucky.

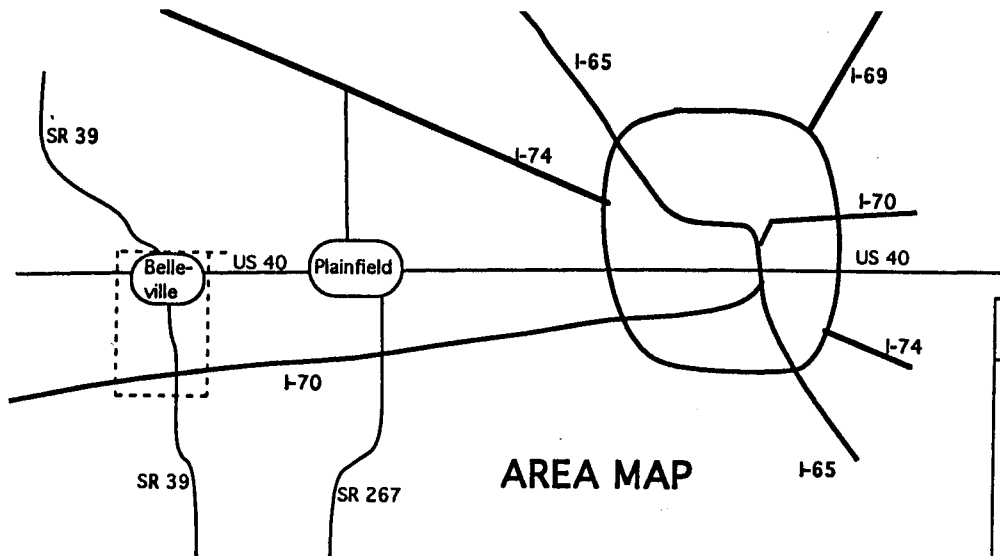


NSS Conservation Committee Education Team members Kriste Lindberg, Sandy and Jerry Trout, Jim and Val Hildreth-Werker, Elizabeth Rousseau-Bunnell, and others at their first meeting.



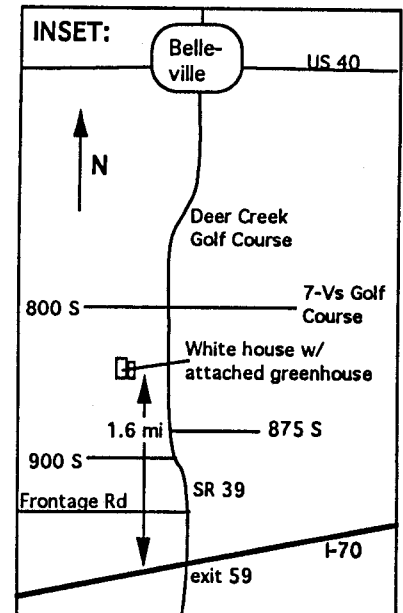
# DIRECTIONS TO THE IKC QUARTERLY MEETING / COOKOUT

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15th, 4:00 PM



AREA MAP

Directions: Take I-70 west of Indianapolis to SR 39 (approx 14 miles, 2nd exit west of I-465). Turn north 1.3 miles to a white house on the west side of the road. The house has an attached greenhouse (the only one on the entire road). A sign will be placed on the road so you can't miss it.



INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, PO BOX 2401, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206-2401

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I would like to help the IKC protect Indiana's unique caves and other karst features. Enclosed is:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for IKC membership dues at \$15 per year (dues expire March 31st of each year, please pro-rate @ \$1.25/month).

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation to the general IKC fund.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ I know of an area worthy of protection. Please contact me.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to volunteer to help. Please contact me.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc. and mail to the IKC Treasurer, c/o Indiana Karst Conservancy, PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206-2401. The IKC is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with membership dues and donations fully tax deductible.

