

IKC UPDATE

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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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*grottos with liaison agreements

**grottos with agreements pending

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

SATURDAY, MARCH 27th, 10 AM

GREENWOOD, INDIANA

GREENWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Annual Business meeting is for the explicit purpose of Board elections. Annual reports from the IKC Cave Patrons and Property Managers are also presented. And as always, the meeting is for members and other interested persons to have an open forum for talking 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 meeting is informal, and everyone is encouraged to attend and participate. The IKC Board *wants* your input.

Preliminary Agenda Items: Elections; Cave Patrons/Property Managers annual reports; Brief recaps of last quarter's activities; Upcoming workdays at Sullivan, Buddha, Orangeville Rise, Wayne properties; Under-Earth Day at Sullivan; Land Acquisition Committee activities, HNF inventorying project; and more....

Following the meeting (approximately 1 PM), we will most likely socialize over lunch at a nearby Chinese restaurant.

Meeting directions: See page 15 (inside back cover) for directions and map.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- 27 MAR = IKC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, Greenwood (see above)
- 27 MAR = LOST RIVER TOUR, Orleans (see page 5)
- 28 MAR = ORANGEVILLE RISE WORK DAY, Orangeville (see page 5)
- 03 APR = UNDER-EARTH DAY/SULLIVAN PROPERTY, Bedford (see page 6)
- 05 JUN = LOST RIVER TOUR, Orleans (see page 5)
- 24 APR = INDIANA CAVE SYMPOSIUM, Milltown (see page 8)
- 01 MAY = TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA/WESLEY CHAPEL GULF (see page 10)
- ?? MAY = TREE MAINTENANCE AT SULLIVAN PROPERTY (see page 5)
- ?? MAY = TREE MAINTENANCE AT BUDDHA PROPERTY (see page 5)
- 05 JUN = LOST RIVER TOUR, Orleans (see page 5)
- ?? JUN = WAYNE PROPERTY WORK DAY, Bloomington (see page 5)

For more information on the Indiana Karst Conservancy, visit our web site at <http://www.ikc.caves.org> 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 much appreciated 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...

"Drive thy business or it will drive thee."

-- Benjamin Franklin



Looking back, it has been a busy twelve months for the IKC. The acquisition of Wayne Cave has to be our number one accomplishment. As I've said before, we need to thank Keith Dunlap for driving this

project and doing most of the fund raising, grant writing, and dealing. We should also thank Kevin Strunk for his assistance on the real estate end, Bill Tozer and Jamie Winner for their work on the Management Plan and, of course, all of the generous donors who make it happen.

Another accomplishment has been the restructuring of the Hoosier National Forest Karst Inventory Project. Bruce Trotter and Ray Sheldon have volunteered to run the karst location, survey, and database part of the project. Their past performance with similar projects at Jefferson Proving Grounds and Crane NWSC indicates that we will see good things with the mapping and cataloging of the caves in the over 200,000 acre Forest. This is a major undertaking and I suspect we will be seeing some interesting presentations on it at future Cave Symposiums. The old Karst Team will remain intact, assisting with the "values" inventory and will further focus on working with the HNF on karst issues such as evaluating potential land exchanges and new acquisitions for significant karst resources and future Forest management of karst as well as writing cave management plans.

We've added Sullivan Cave to the Grotto Liaison Program, which should make it simpler for NSS Grotto members to arrange trips to the cave. At the same time, hopefully, it will reduce some of the load on the Cave Patron. This has to be a big job even though patron Bob Vandeventer never complains about it.

Thanks to Kriste Lindberg the IKC has been represented at numerous national, state and community functions. Kriste keeps our name out there in the public sector through her work with Project Underground, Leonard Springs Nature Preserve, WonderLab, the

Storm Drain Marking Project in Monroe County and others.

Thanks to the father and son team of Tom and Robert Sollman for taking on the management of the Wayne Cave property. Robert will use the driveway/parking lot upgrade and trail construction as his Eagle Scout Project and gave an excellent report on his plans at the last meeting. He was even able to persuade the Board to vote to provide funding for the improvements. I'm sure he will be asking for volunteers in the near future. Your support will be appreciated.

There are still loose ends. The Memorandum of Understanding between Spring Mill State Park and the IKC is still not resolved. Park management has reaffirmed their desire to have an agreement, but the State has thrown up roadblocks against MOU's in favor of more restrictive contracts.

Also, the revised Grotto Liaison Agreement has not been finalized due to procrastination by yours truly.

Those of you who have paid attention to the list of Wayne Cave donors on our website and in the Update may have noticed that the NSS first appeared and later disappeared. This was not an error. In the past, these grants have come in the traditional way - with no real strings attached - but at the July NSS BOG meeting the rules were modified in a well-intentioned way to require a Right of First Refusal (RFR) from the grantee. This simply gives the NSS the first opportunity to purchase the property should the grant recipient decide to sell it. Initially this sounded like a good idea to us as it theoretically provides some protection for the property in the event that the IKC is taken over by evildoers. Another provision of the grant is that the value of the grant itself is to be taken off of the sale price. This offers the NSS some protection against misuse of grant monies. Unfortunately, we were the first grant to be administered under the new rules; and as a result, no one outside of the NSS seems to have given much thought to it.

When the matter came before the IKC Board in December, several valid objections were brought forth. First, it was deemed unfair to those other individuals who had made significant donations without asking for anything in return and simply trusting us to use the money for the stated purpose.

We would in a sense be selling the NSS a stake in the property rather than accepting a



grant. Second, it was judged a bad precedent to set as others might now fairly expect some considerations for their donations. Third, it would require the cooperation of the NSS in any future real estate transaction regarding the property - for instance the sale of a conservation easement or a mortgage to raise capital to purchase another property. A well designed conservation easement is generally considered the best way to provide long term protection to a property but an RFR is only as good as the desire and ability of the holder to exercise it within its short lifespan. Finally, there are inevitable costs associated with such a requirement. Ideally the RFR should be drawn up or at least reviewed by legal counsel and properly recorded. All such costs must be subtracted from the value of the grant itself.

Based on these considerations the Board

decided to decline the \$5,000 grant and to express a hope that the NSS will re-evaluate its policy for the future in light of our concerns. That's the "bad" news. The good news is that despite this setback we are now in the homestretch (see the table on page 7), particularly thanks to Dick Blenz's (no strings attached) matching grant. Everyone please take advantage of Dick's generosity - remember it's a new tax year - and let's finish paying off the remainder of the Wayne Property debt and begin replenishing our Cave Acquisition Fund for the next one.

Protecting the caves of Indiana and keeping them accessible for responsible enjoyment and study is our business and like any business we need to drive the process the way we believe is best.

Richard Vernier

NEWS BRIEFS...

- ❑ With the snowy winter winding down and spring just around the corner, the IKC's activity calendar is once again full of cave conservation/educational projects. Check out the calendar on page 3 (and related announcements below and throughout this issue) and pick a few projects to volunteer/participate in while having a little fun too. IKC projects can be very rewarding and there is always lots of fellowship in accomplishing good things together.
- ❑ The first project of the year is at the Orangeville Rise on March 28th. We plan to install several concrete survey monuments to better mark the surveyed corners of the property. Contact Steve Lockwood if you are interested in helping.
- ❑ In May (exact dates to be determined), at least two workdays will be scheduled for tree maintenance at the Sullivan and Buddha properties. Each of these workdays will only take three or four volunteers and the primary task will be performing chemical weed control around the trees we have planted over the past five years (over 3,000 trees between the two preserves). Contact Keith Dunlap if you are interested in helping.
- ❑ In June, work will start at Wayne Cave under the guidance of Robert and Tom Sollman. Tasks will include re-hardening the existing driveway, improving the driveway's drainage, replacing the existing culvert, constructing a parking area, installing a gate across the driveway, constructing a trail from the parking area to the cave's entrance, and defining several camping sites. Obviously there's a full summer of work ahead. Robert will be doing the planning and organizing as part of his Eagle Scout project. Contact Robert or Tom if you are interested in helping with this project.
- ❑ Bob Armstrong and Dee Slater of the Lost River Conservation Association will once again be conducting their guided auto/hiking tours of the Lost River area, starting from the east at its head waters in Washington County, through Orange County to its disappearance near Orleans, and on to its rise near Orangeville. This year there will be two spring tours scheduled: March 27th and June 5th. The orientation lecture starts at 7:40 AM at the southeast corner of the square in Orleans and will depart promptly at 8 AM. Reservations are not required. Tours will go, *especially* if it rains. There will be some moderate hiking so 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.

- ❑ Extraordinary news on the Indiana land protection front. Long time supporter of The Nature Conservancy, Sally Reahard, has bequeathed to the Indiana Chapter approximately \$41 million (along with an additional \$30 million to another state chapter). The gift, per her request, will primarily be used for land acquisition and protection. TNC has already announced that they plan to leverage this initial donation through partners (private, non-profits, businesses, and government agencies) to triple the potential acquisitions, with a goal of protecting an additional 55,000 acres by the year 2016 (as a reference, in the past 47 years, TNC has assisted in protecting just 45,000 acres). This opportunity along with the Indiana Heritage Trust may well be the most important enabler for the Indiana caving community to protect the many important cave and karst resources in our state.
- ❑ Scout groups often request permission to visit IKC managed caves. While we are always cooperative, we often cannot grant permission because the Scouts are too young, or the leaders are inexperienced and ill-equipped to lead a trip. For those groups we suggest the youth group caving programs offered through Bluespring Caverns and Marengo Cave. For those Scout troops that do meet the basic requirements, we ask them to review and follow the BSA's caving guidelines. These guidelines have recently been revised and can be viewed at <http://www.us Scouts.org/safety/g2ssIX.html#RTFTtoC46> or via the link on the IKC's misc web page www.caves.org/conservancy/ikc/misc.htm.
- ❑ On December 11th, the IKC and others were honored by the Forest Service Eastern Region at an awards ceremony in Milwaukee. The recognition was for "promoting and enhancing the nation's natural resources" and given to the Hoosier's "Cave Fauna Bioinventory Group" which consisted of Dr Jerry Lewis/Salisa Rafail/Ronnie Burns, as well as representatives from the HNF, Indiana University, and the IKC. Dr Lewis, Kelle Reynolds, and Kriste Lindberg accepted the award at the ceremony. Specifically, the accomplishment being recognized was for the discovery and documentation of twenty-six species previously unknown to science or at least unknown to exist previously on the Hoosier. Other IKC members honored include Keith Dunlap, Steve Harriss, Hank Huffman, Steve Lockwood, and Tom Sollman.
- ❑ Three new members have joined the IKC in the past quarter. Welcome Jacob Morris (434), Paul Uglum (435), and Kathy Ingle (436). The IKC membership now stands at 195.

UNDER-EARTH DAY AT SULLIVAN CAVE PRESERVE APRIL 3rd, 10 AM

The Indiana Karst Conservancy will once again organize a workday in celebration of Earth Day. This year we will be returning to the Sullivan Cave property to work on a number of surface projects needing attention. The list will include replacing approximately 100 trees in our re-forested areas, re-flagging all of the trees in the back field (that's about 1800 trees), systematically removing the wild grapevines from our mature forested areas, and starting the trail improvement project by benching the first segment of the loop trail. If you have never been to the 28-acre property, you might be surprised that it's more than just a place to go caving. We are not planning any work in the cave, but there will be opportunities for participants to visit the cave during the day.

You do not need any special skills to assist and family participation is encouraged. Bring gloves, good shoes, water, and lunch. Limited primitive camping is available on site.

The property is located on SR 54, 1.3 miles west of the junction of SR 54 and SR 58 near the town of Springville. Parking is limited in the main parking area so some vehicles may need to park along the SR 54 pull off. If you need further directions or information, contact Keith Dunlap (keith.dunlap@juno.com or 317-882-5420).

WAYNE CAVE PRESERVE DONORS	
as of 3/12/2004	
\$10,000 or more	
IPALCO Golden Eagle	
\$5,000 to \$9,999	
Dick Blenz*	
Bob Decker	
Central Indiana Grotto	
\$1,000 to \$4,999	
Bruce Bowman	
George Brutchen*	
Keith Dunlap	
Eric Higbie	
Kriste Lindberg	
Steve Lockwood	
Tom Rea	
Bob & Phyllis Sergesketter	
Tom Sollman	
Kevin Strunk & Jeanette Holland	
Bill Tozer	
Bruce Trotter	
Dick & Sue Vernier	
National Speleological Foundation	
\$250 to \$999	
Dave Black	
Keith Calkins	
Tony & Leslie Cunningham	
Mark Deebel	
Bambi Dunlap	
Dave Haun	
Tem Hornaday	
Peter Shirley	
David Weliever	
Bob Zatarski	
Eastern Indiana Grotto	
Evansville Metro Grotto	
Saint Joseph Vally Grotto	
\$100 to \$249	
David Anderson & Susan O'Shields	Don Martin
Bob Armstrong	Dan McDowell
John Basset	Don Peters
Pat & Debbie Burns	Everett Pulliam
Barb Capocy	Eric Rasmusen
Chris Carpenter	Russ Romme
Larry Coker	David Taylor
Rane Curl & Alice Rolfes-Curl	Steve Taylor
Jeff Farr	Richard Van Rheenen
Jaime Fee	Jamie Winner
Scott Fee	Bluespring Caverns Park
Jack & Sandra Hissong	Dayton Underground Grotto
Don Ingle	Greater Cincinnati Grotto
Patrick and Nathana Jarboe	Northern Indiana Grotto
Paul Johnson	Western Michigan Grotto
Jerry Lewis	Windy City Grotto
\$50 to \$99	
Jeff Cody	Andrew & Shavon Peacock
Jack Dorsey	Kelle Reynolds
Dave Everton	Gary Roberson
Dwight Hazen	Robert Roundy
Ken Huffines	Josh Rubinstein
Mark Kraus	Ralph Sawyer
Lynn & Jane Miller	Dave Tibbets
Carl Nelson & Loui Lord Nelson	Kevin Wools
Donations/Pledges:	\$53,120
Prior Acquisition Fund:	\$18,662

WAYNE CAVE PRESERVE

by Keith Dunlap

Since the last report, the IKC Board has selected the Property Managers, Robert and Tom Sollman who will work with the Cave Patron, Tom Willett to provide the proper stewardship for the cave and over-laying property. There will be many activities going on this summer at this property.

From a fund-raising standpoint, in the past three months we have received an additional \$14,220 in donations and pledges. These are highlighted by Dick Blenz's on-going one-for-one match offer (\$5,860 to date), a grant for \$3,800 from the National Speleological Foundation, and several more \$1,000 donations. These large donations should not underscore the importance of all of the smaller donations that members and others have made, and continue to make. To date, there have been 127 donors which says a lot for an organization with less than 200 members.

As of March 12th, we have \$3,686 to raise to pay off Wayne Cave so we can start building up the Land Acquisition Fund for our next project. And since Dick Blenz's offer is still in effect, we really have only \$1,843 to go. So if you have not made a donation yet, or wish to make another donation to jump to the next donor's level, now is the time to do it.

\$100 to \$249		\$5 to \$49	
David Anderson & Susan O'Shields	Don Martin	James Adams	David McGowan
Bob Armstrong	Dan McDowell	Ron Adams	Tom & Kim Metzgar
John Basset	Don Peters	Bill Baus	Jon Miller
Pat & Debbie Burns	Everett Pulliam	John Benton	Robbie Miller
Barb Capocy	Eric Rasmusen	Jim Braswell	Jacob Morris
Chris Carpenter	Russ Romme	Chris Brown	Kevin Morris
Larry Coker	David Taylor	Larry Bundy	George Mundy
Rane Curl & Alice Rolfes-Curl	Steve Taylor	Paul Butler	Ernie & Jacqueline Payne
Jeff Farr	Richard Van Rheenen	Chris Carpenter	Danny Rice
Jaime Fee	Jamie Winner	George Cesnik	Kristie Schavey
Scott Fee	Bluespring Caverns Park	Thomas Chenier	Steve & Diana Schuh
Jack & Sandra Hissong	Dayton Underground Grotto	Steve Clark	Ray Sheldon
Don Ingle	Greater Cincinnati Grotto	Jim Crouch	Mark Sparks
Patrick and Nathana Jarboe	Northern Indiana Grotto	Patty Cummings	Brandon Stephens
Paul Johnson	Western Michigan Grotto	Jack Derry	John Stigall
Jerry Lewis	Windy City Grotto	Bruce Doezema	Susan Strickland
\$50 to \$99		Mike Dowden	Carla Striegel
Jeff Cody	Andrew & Shavon Peacock	Allen Goodcase	Kevin Wyatt
Jack Dorsey	Kelle Reynolds	Scott Hammon	Mark Webb
Dave Everton	Gary Roberson	Horton Hobbs III	Kathy Welling
Dwight Hazen	Robert Roundy	Paul Lundberg	Lost River Conservation Ass'n
Ken Huffines	Josh Rubinstein	Adam Manship	Sub-Urban Chicago Grotto
Mark Kraus	Ralph Sawyer	Bill Morrow	Tri-State Grotto
Lynn & Jane Miller	Dave Tibbets	Robert Masta	Western Indiana Grotto
Carl Nelson & Loui Lord Nelson	Kevin Wools		
Donations/Pledges:	\$53,120	Total Funds:	\$71,782
Prior Acquisition Fund:	\$18,662	Amount remaining:	\$3,686

INDIANA CAVE SYMPOSIUM 2004

by Keith Dunlap

The twelfth annual Indiana Cave Symposium will be held on Saturday, April 24 at the Cave County Canoes' Group Meeting Hall in Milltown, Indiana. A hot-dog/brat/hamburger cook-out will begin at 5 PM (4 PM Indy time) in the nearby campground shelter and talks will begin promptly at 7 PM (6 PM Indy time). Please bring a covered dish and/or dessert to share. The hot-dogs/burgers, sandwich fixings, soft drinks, paper and plastic ware, and ice will be provided. Camping will be available. The Indiana Karst Conservancy and Indiana Cave Survey are co-sponsoring the event.

The purpose of the symposium is to assemble the active caving groups to share and discuss their projects, and for cavers and cave researchers to network. Presently, speakers for the symposium are being solicited from caving groups within Indiana and neighboring states. The emphasis will be on exploration, surveying, science, and conservation projects. It is preferred that the talks be on activities within Indiana. Talks will be from 5 to 30 minutes in length. A slide projector, computer projector, and an overhead projector will be available. The symposium is an excellent media to showing off your grotto's recent projects.

At this time, there are ten presentations

on the agenda and several more that may be added:

- **Wayne Cave Preserve Acquisition** -- Robert Sollman
- **A Floyd Collins talk** -- John Benton.
- **Cave and Karst Networking Process** -- Kriste Lindberg.
- **Cave mystery talk** -- Brian Killingbeck.
- **Carcass Crypt Pit Cleanup** -- Brian Leavell.
- **Lost River Project Progress** -- Tony Cunningham.
- **Caves of the Harrison-Crawford State Forest** -- Chuck Perkins.
- **ICS Web-based Report Forms and Database Update** -- Rob Jarboe/Dave Everton.
- **Clark County Projects** -- Todd Webb.
- **HNF Cave/Karst Inventory Project Update** -- Bruce Trotter.

For more information, contact Dave Everton at (812) 824-4380 or e-mail DEverton@indiana.edu Also visit the ICS's website (www.caves.org/survey/ics) for the latest information and location map.

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE

by Keith Dunlap


At the March 27th Annual Business meeting, there will be a member's motion to adopt a revision to the IKC's bylaws. The revision is minor, and perhaps more symbolic than anything else. The proposed change is to shift emphasis upon the National Speleological Society and like non-profit organization as the primary recipients of the IKC assets should the organization ever dissolve. The current bylaws list local government entities first, non-profits second, and the State third. The change simply reverses the order of the first two choices, and adds local land trusts to the list of non-profits entities. The change is likely more consistent with

the current desires of the membership.

The italic text is the proposed change in the following article:

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION

In order to dissolve the Conservancy it shall be necessary to receive the unanimous vote of the membership or their written proxies attending the Annual Business Meeting or a meeting specially called for the purpose, notice of which shall be in writing at least thirty (30) days in advance of such meeting.

...continued on page 14 

CAVES, CAVE FAUNA, AND MARRIAGE PROPOSALS AT BASE LINE BARREN

by Julian J Lewis (LewisBioConsult@aol.com)

The significance of the area now known as Base Line Barren was first recognized by Allen Pursell of The Nature Conservancy. Although hardly pristine, the land was discernible as a piece of the once common native prairie that had been encroached upon by cedars. The land was purchased and is now the Base Line Barren Nature Preserve, located about two miles north of Fredericksburg, in Washington County.

One cave was known on the property and a second opening was present, but blocked by a boulder. Local rumor was that the cave was a "back entrance to that cave in Fredericksburg". In 2003 I entered into an agreement with the Indiana Natural Heritage Program to perform a biological inventory of subterranean fauna of the nature preserve.

Salisa Rafail and I first entered the cave on the property, which was going under the name of Base Line Barren Cave, during the spring of 2003. The cave consisted of a walking-height passage bisected by a steep-walled sinkhole entrance. In one direction the passage led less than fifty feet to a formation choke, through which a hole allowed entry into a small room large enough to sit up. In the other direction from the entrance the passage again ended in a breakdown/formation choke after less than fifty feet. The only water in the cave was drip pools.

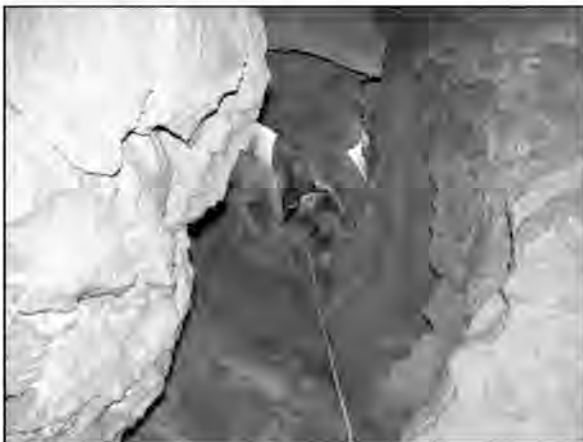
The property manager for the preserve, Cliff Chapman, tried repeatedly to winch the

boulder from the entrance of the other cave, called Twin Oaks Pit, without success. Looking around the boulder we could see cave floor about ten feet below, but little else. I enlisted Ronnie Burn's help and using a ton come-along successfully pulled the boulder out of the hole. We rigged the pit and found that the floor we had seen was only a ledge on the way down a pit approximately twenty-five feet in depth. At the bottom a duck-under led to a short walking-height formation passage, again ending in less than fifty feet. We placed some pitfall traps in both caves that day to sample the fauna.

On 22 October 2003 Salisa and I returned to retrieve the pitfalls. It was a beautiful, warm sunny day on the barren. We dropped off the vertical gear and ropes at the entrance to Twin Oaks Pit, then walked up the hill to pick out an area for an impromptu picnic lunch before going in the caves. Salisa was puzzled why I brought along my caving pack instead of dropping it at the entrance, but this certainly wasn't the first unusual behavior she had seen me display. The reason for bringing the cave pack to lunch became clear shortly, when I pulled an engagement ring from it. After seven years of courtship the answer was "Yes!" We are planning on marrying in May in the walled garden of the pioneer village at Spring Mill State Park, next to the spring run emerging from Hamer Cave.

Considering the small size and absence of water in the two caves at Base Line Barren, the fauna was surprisingly significant. Since there are no streams in the caves, only one aquatic animal was found, collected from a drip pool in Base Line Barren Cave. It is a new species of a subterranean amphipod group (*Stygobromus*) that is ultra-rare in Indiana.

Another species that is nearly as rare was found in Twin Oaks Pit, the Packard's cave pseudoscorpion (*Kleptochthonius packardi*). Other troglobites found were the Blue River cave millipede (*Pseudotremia indianae*) and the Lewis' cave springtail (*Arrhopalites lewisi*), both known only from Blue River area caves; the Indiana cave springtail (*Sinella*



Ronnie Burns at the top of Twin Oaks Pit in the Base Line Barren Nature Preserve.



alata) known only from southern Indiana caves, the Fountain cave springtail (*Pseudosinella fonsa*), Subterranean sheet-web spider (*Phanetta subterranea*), and the Cave dung fly (*Spelobia tenebrarum*).

Acknowledgments -- I want to thank Cloyce Hedge and the Indiana Natural Heritage Program (IDNR Division of Nature Preserves) for funding this project, and Salisa Rafail and Ronnie Burns for their assistance in the caves.

Editor - Congratulations to Jerry and Salisa, both IKC members, on their engagement.



Salisa Rafail at Base Line Barren Nature Preserve.

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA DAY MAY 1st, 9 AM

Take Pride in America Day is an annual event sponsored by various National Forests to encourage volunteerism by doing simple stewardship projects in an organized fashion. The Hoosier National Forest has been particularly effective in soliciting participants and accomplishing a great number of projects. Several scout groups have made TPIA an annual event. Many cavers have also participated and there is usually at least one "cave" related project (last year we did trail maintenance/erosion control near Patton Cave). After the work is done, everyone is invited back for a complementary traditional cook-out. Participants also get a nice t-shirt and many chances for some really great door-prizes. It's just a wonderful way to spend a spring day accomplishing something good for *our* public lands. Bring the family and have some fun!

This year the "cave" related project will be tree planting at Wesley Chapel Gulf in Orange County. The HNF is scheduled to plant approximately 59 acres of trees on this property. Most will be done mechanically, but some will need to be done by hand due to the terrain and that will be the task for the day. The IKC and the Saint Joseph Valley Grotto have agreed to co-sponsor and promote this project and we hope for a big turn out. A school group and others will also be assisting. If you have not been to Wesley Chapel Gulf, this would be a great opportunity to see a truly impressive karst feature. It is also just minutes away from the IKC's Orangeville Rise Nature Preserve.

Those wishing to participate can do one of two things. They can meet at shelter house #1 in Hardin Ridge Recreation Area (off of SR 446 on the east shores of Lake Monroe) by 9 AM and car pool from there. Or they can go directly to Wesley Chapel Gulf, meeting there by 10:30. Boots should be worn and dress appropriately for ticks. The HNF will provide bug spray, gloves, and some water. You should bring additional water and snacks or a light lunch.

The work will conclude around 3 PM so volunteers can travel back to Hardin Ridge for the cook-out and door prizes. If you are going directly to Wesley Chapel Gulf and would like a t-shirt, please inform Steve Harriss of your name and shirt size prior to the workday.

If you need further information or directions, contact Steve Harris (SCHarriss@fs.fed.us or 812-275-5987), Keith Dunlap (keith.dunlap@juno.com or 317-882-5420), or Mark Kraus (MPKraus@prodigy.net or 219-295-6673).

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY TREASURY REPORT

Income/Expense Statement From October 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003

INCOME:

Dues Apportionment and Residuals	711.25	
Donations - General	145.38	
Donations - Wayne Acquisition Fund	16574.88	
Interest	19.40	
		\$17,450.91

EXPENSES:

IKC Update (printing, production, mailing)	224.31	
Stewardship/Conservation	281.25	
Membership/fund-raising expenses	51.32	
Business (insurance, PO Box rental, card fees)	618.30	
Transfers to/from restricted funds/other adjustments	16591.28	
		(\$17,766.46)

NET OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIT) THIS PERIOD: (\$315.55)

Balance Sheet December 31, 2003

ASSETS:

Cash in Checking/Saving Accounts/CDs	22325.73	
Accounts Receivable / Pledges	4855.00	
Wayne Cave Preserve (20.00 acres)	75000.00	
Sullivan Cave Preserve (28.00 acres)	72000.00	
Buddha Karst Nature Preserve (36.84 acres)	29000.00	
Orangeville Rise Nature Preserve (3.07 acres)	7000.00	
Indian Creek Conservation Easement (valued at \$1/acre)	13.16	
		<u><u>\$210,193.89</u></u>

LIABILITIES & OPERATING EXCESS:

Wayne Cave Acquisition Fund	-11346.04	
Deferred Dues Fund (193 members)	1953.75	
Stewardship Endowment Fund	10952.08	

Previous Operating Excess	25949.65	
Net Excess (Deficit) This Period	<u>(315.55)</u>	
Current Operating Excess	25634.10	
Real estate liquidity	<u>183000.00</u>	

Total Liabilities & Operating Excess \$210,193.89

Indiana Karst Conservancy Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, December 6, 2003
Indianapolis, Indiana

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Vernier, President
James Adams, Secretary
Keith Dunlap, Treasurer
Bruce Bowman (by proxy Tom Rea)
Bruce DeVore (by proxy Sue Vernier)
Dave Haun (by proxy Bambi Dunlap)
Kriste Lindberg
Steve Lockwood
Nick Noe
Don Ingle
Bob Sergesketter
Tom Sollman
Bill Tozer
Bob Vandeventer
Jaime Winner

The fourth quarter/winter meeting of the Indiana Karst Conservancy was called to order at 10:06 AM at the home of Nick and Carita Noe in Indianapolis, President Dick Vernier presiding. All Directors were represented.

Proxies were accepted, Tom Rea for Bruce Bowman, Sue Vernier for Bruce DeVore, and Bambi Dunlap for Dave Haun. The minutes of the September meeting were accepted as published noting that Don Ingle's first name was incorrectly listed as "Doug".

Treasurer Keith Dunlap reported there was \$24,888.87 in the general fund, \$2,505 in membership dues fund, \$10,935.68 in the stewardship endowment fund, and -\$18,101.04 in the Wayne Cave acquisition fund. Assets include \$20,228.51 in cash, \$6,605 in accounts receivables, and land value of \$183,013.16 for a total of \$209,846.67. The IKC's total membership is at 192 with seven new members joining since the September meeting.

There was discussion on a proposed revision to the Grotto Liaison Agreement. The draft was previously distributed to the Directors so that it could be reviewed prior to the meeting. Bill Tozer noted that two items should be addressed initially. A time limit for the agreement should be included so that the IKC and grottos are required to review procedures and liaison performance periodically. He also noted that it might be more efficient for liaison reports to go to the Cave Patron and not the Agreement Coordinator.

Tozer, Rea and others noted several items that need to be addressed regarding general word-smithing and clarifying the intent of various points. D Vernier will make the noted revisions and invited further comment.

Regarding Sullivan Cave access, it's been proposed that a change be made to improve convenience and

to be more consistent with our access policies. Currently, Bob Vandeventer manages access as the Cave Patron. S Vernier moved to change Sullivan status from "restricted" to "limited" to allow Grotto Liaisons to arrange access, but the Liaison must contact the Sullivan Cave Patron prior to the trip to coordinate that trip. Seconded by Don Ingle. Motion passed, 15-0-0.

Kriste Lindberg summarized her activities regarding the IKC's education and outreach programs. Much of her activity was included in the December issue of the *IKC Update*.

K Dunlap reported on the Hancock property status.

There was much reporting and discussion regarding the Wayne Cave acquisition. \$45,000 has been raised/pledged; \$11,500 needs to be raised. [*Secretary's Note: This \$45,000 figure included the NSS grant that was later declined, see below.*]

Robert/Tom Sollman and Don Ingle requested consideration as the Property Manager for the Wayne Property. Both candidates spoke on their own behalf for the position. The Sollmans were selected.

K Dunlap reported that our \$5,000 NSS grant has been approved, however, as a stipulation for that grant, the NSS now requires a Right of First Refusal if the property is sold. K Dunlap has previously distributed to the Board a draft agreement document that would be submitted to the NSS. Basically, the Right of First Refusal agreement is a purchase agreement prepared in advance. There was discussion. James Adams moved that we accept the grant and submit our proposed Right of First Refusal to the NSS for their review. S Vernier seconded. Motion failed, 1-9-4. A letter will be sent to the NSS Grant Chairman explaining our decision. [*Secretary's Note: This will increase the amount of money needed for the Wayne Cave payoff from \$11,500 to \$16,500.*]

Tom Sollman indicated it will take an additional \$2,000 for hardening of the driveway at Wayne. Approval for the funding will probably be made at the March meeting.

There will be a new contact for us with the Hoosier National Forest. We should have more information sometime in January.

There is a meeting on December 18th to find out if the Buddha Property will qualify as a Classified Wildlife Habitat. This designation will lower our property taxes.

A letter declining the Spring Mill Memorandum of Understanding has been sent to the DNR. A meet-



ing has been scheduled with Spring Mill representatives on December 20th to discuss this further.

Buckner Restoration/Conservation Project: No one had any additional information. K Dunlap thought that a draft management plan had been written but no one has seen a recent copy.

Adams reported on recent contact with the Shiloh Cave landowner. All is well with the landowner re-

lationship.

The next meeting will be on February 21, 2004 at 6:00 PM at the Bloomington home of Kriste Lindberg. This is the annual Director's Meeting. The March business meeting will be on March 27, 2004 at 10:00 AM at the Greenwood Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 1:33 PM.

Submitted by James Adams, IKC Secretary

IKC DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, February 21, 2004
Bloomington, Indiana

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Vernier, President
James Adams, Secretary
Keith Dunlap, Treasurer
Bruce Bowman
Bruce Devore
Dave Haun
Don Ingle
Kriste Lindberg
Steve Lockwood
Nick Noe
Bob Sergesketter
Tom Sollman
Bill Tozer
Bob Vandeventer
Jamie Winner

The February Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 6:19 PM at the Bloomington home of Kriste Lindberg. All Directors were present with no proxies necessary for the first time in several years (June 2002). President Dick Vernier presiding.

Keith Dunlap reported cash assets of \$28,298.45 and total assets of \$211,311.61. We have 194 member of which 60 have already renewed for 2004.

Lindberg has received a photo taken at the recent Forest Service awards presentation honoring the cave biology inventory project lead by Dr Lewis with assistance from several IKC members. She has authored an article regarding IKC education and outreach activities that will appear in the *NSS News* upcoming conservation edition.

Wonderlab of Bloomington has asked the IKC to sponsor a program on bats. Dave Haun moved to sponsor the program for \$100. Bob Vandeventer seconded. Motion passed, 15-0-0.

Jerry Lewis has written a paper titled *The Subterranean Fauna of Leonard Springs Nature Park*. Lindberg indicated Bloomington Parks & Recreation is interested in input regarding the gating of Shirley

Springs Cave which they would like to pursue at some point.

Lindberg has been working with Carla Striegel on some educational outreach projects.

Dunlap reported on various acquisition efforts.

Elections will be held at the March meeting. Three officer positions and four Directors positions are open for election. Vernier and Dunlap will re-run for President and Treasurer respectively. Steve Lockwood, Don Ingle, Nick Noe and Jaime Winner all agreed to re-run for their expiring Director positions.

Bob Sergesketter accepted a nomination for the open Secretary position. Brandon Stevens and Sue Vernier accepted nominations for Director positions. Bruce Bowman moved to accept the ballot. Vandeventer seconded. Motion passed, 15-0-0.

Bill Tozer volunteered to serve as Election Teller.

Regarding the Wayne Cave acquisition, Dunlap reported that the IKC has received \$3,800 from the National Speleological Foundation. There is also a \$1,000 grant request before The Robertson Association. Several donations were received after Dick Blenz recently agreed to match donations. The total raised so far is \$51,628.30 along with \$18,662.16 previously in the land acquisition fund. With the Blenz match, we have only \$2,589.02 to go.

A response has been received from the NSS regarding the IKC's decision to decline the NSS offered grant because of the required Right of First Refusal stipulation. The NSS response was previously circulated to the Directors for review. There was discussion. It was pointed out that the NSS response mentioned that the NSS is not specifically mentioned as the primary benefactor of IKC assets if the IKC dissolves. After further discussion, the IKC will stand by its decline of the grant offer.



Dunlap moved to fund up to \$2,500 for proposed driveway improvements at the Wayne Cave property. Bowman seconded. As outlined by Property Manager Robert Sollman, this will include six loads of #2 rock and three loads of #53 rock plus a culvert. Tom Rea has donated a 20-foot farm gate. Dunlap volunteered the use of a tractor and drag blade if a trailer can be obtained to haul the tractor. Motion approved, 15-0-0.

Dunlap noted that he has received the final paperwork enrolling the Wayne Cave Property in the Classified Forest Program.

Lindberg noted that the Brood X Cicada Study by an Indiana University professor is ready to proceed at the Wayne property. Haun moved to allow the Property Manager to coordinate our cooperation on the project. Ingle seconded. Motion approved, 14-0-1.

The IKC's current bylaws do not specifically name the NSS as the primary benefactor of IKC assets if the IKC is dissolved. Dunlap proposed specifying that the NSS, The Nature Conservancy or similar non-profit organization be made the primary benefactor. Specific language will be presented to the membership and voted upon at the March meeting.

Under Earth Day: Dunlap proposed that April 3 be designated Under Earth Day 2004. Activities might include replacing and re-flagging trees, cutting grapevines, benching the trail and other like activities at the Sullivan property. He also outlined some other activities at various properties for other days.

The St Joseph Valley Grotto has asked to participate in the Grotto Liaison program. Ingle moved to include the SJVG in the program. Vandeventer seconded. Motion approved, 14-0-1.

Vandeventer commented that there are tours into Sullivan Cave almost every weekend. Visitation continues to rise.

D Vernier reported he and others had a meeting with the staff of Spring Mill State Park and reaffirmed that both parties are still interested in working together, but there was nothing new to report regarding a Memorandum of Understanding.

Ingle reported that during a recent trip to Bealey Cave at the Crosley Fish and Wildlife Area he observed considerable graffiti and trash. Photos of names in the cave were made and some investigation pointed to specific individuals. The property management will follow-up.

The 2004 Indiana Cave Symposium will be held on Saturday, April 24 at Milltown. Bowman moved to fund the symposium for up to \$50. Sergesketter seconded. Motion approved, 15-0-0.

The next meeting will be March 27 at the Greenwood Library, beginning at 10:00 AM. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM. Thanks to Kriste Lindberg for hosting the meeting and supplying good food and drink.

Submitted by James Adams, Secretary

Continued from page 8....

Upon dissolution, the assets of the Conservancy remaining after payment of just debts or debts ordered paid by law, are to be turned over *to similar non-profit organization(s) whose intent and purposes encompass those of this Conservancy such as the National Speleological Society, The Nature Conservancy, or a local land trust where the particular assets are located, providing said organization(s) are willing to accept same and carry on the purposes of this Conservancy for said assets; otherwise to the town, city,*

or county, respectively, where the particular assets are located, provided said unit is willing to accept same and carry on the purposes of this Conservancy for said assets; otherwise, said assets are to be turned over to the State of Indiana.

It shall be the duty of the President upon dissolution to make arrangements for the transfer of assets. Under all circumstances, the transfer of assets must be consistent with Article IX of the Articles of Incorporation.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR DUES

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

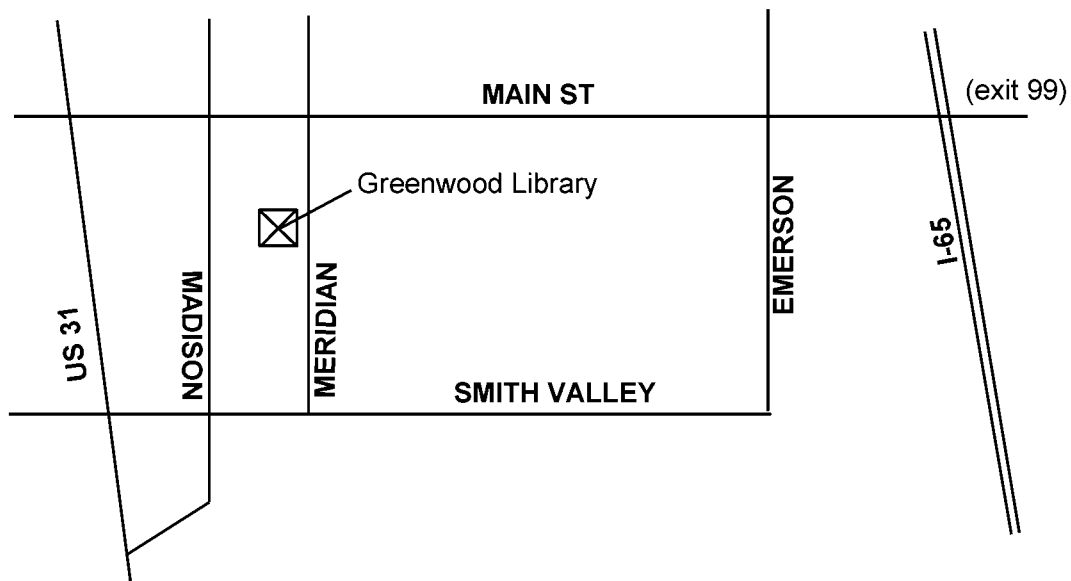
SATURDAY, MARCH 27th, 10 AM

GREENWOOD, INDIANA

GREENWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

DIRECTIONS: The Greenwood Public Library (310 S Meridian, 317-881-1953) is located three blocks south of Main St in “old” Greenwood. From I-65 (exit 99), take Main Street west. After crossing the railroad tracks, turn south on Meridian (first traffic light). The library will be on your right. From SR-37, take Smith Valley Road east all the way to US 31. Continue on Smith Valley to Madison (next traffic light) and turn north. Just past the Greenwood middle school, turn right into the library’s parking lot.

Enter the library’s front entrance and turn left just past the main desk. Go down the hall and turn left again to the meeting room.



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

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.

