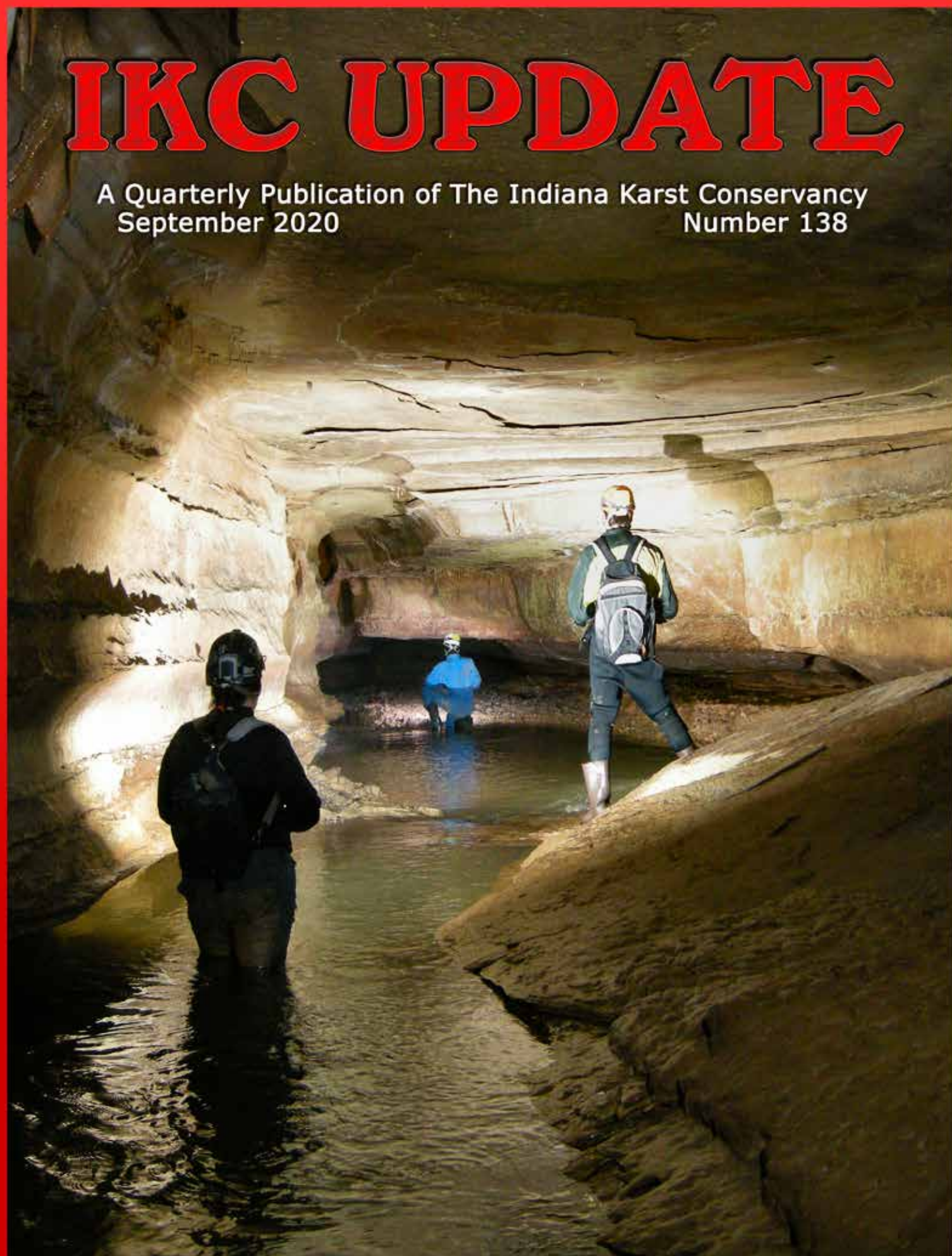


IKC UPDATE

A Quarterly Publication of The Indiana Karst Conservancy
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INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC

PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206-2401

ikc.caves.org

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

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IKC QUARTERLY MEETING REMINDER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 4:00 PM EDT

FERDINAND STATE FOREST, INDIANA

SYCAMORE SHELTER

The quarterly meetings are for the Executive Board to conduct business, and for our members and other interested persons to have an open forum to talk about caves 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: Recap of the summer stewardship/work projects and the promotion of upcoming projects at our various preserves; Financial reports; Membership statistics; Investment Committee update; Election process discussion; Shawnee Karst Preserve expansion status and update; Other land/cave acquisition opportunities; Wayne Cave EQIP funding contract update; Mid-State Corridor Highway project; and more...

Note COVID precautions: The meeting will be outside and we will be practicing proper social distancing (and then some). Please mask-up as appropriate. If the weather is inclement, we will be in an open-sided shelter. Please bring a lawn chair if you want to sit down during the meeting. Also note we will *not* be having the annual pitch-in cook-out this year. However, for those interested, the hosts will be ordering pizza for a little post-meeting treat. Please bring your own drinks.

Meeting location: You can google map/mapquest with success: **7985 S 600 E, Ferdinand, IN**. This will get you to the entrance of the State Forest property. The entrance gate will not be staffed. From the gate house, follow the main road to the end where the Shelter is located. If you get lost, call 812-367-1602 or 812-639-5528.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Sept 26 – IKC Quarterly E-Board meeting (see above)

Dec ?? – IKC Quarterly E-Board meeting (this may be a virtual meeting)

For more information on the Indiana Karst Conservancy, visit our website at ikc.caves.org or write to our PO box. Membership to the IKC is open to anyone or any organization interested in supporting cave and karst conservation. Annual dues are \$15. Please see inside the back cover for a membership application form or to make a much-appreciated donation. Memberships and donations can also be made by credit card using our on-line services on our website (see the Join Us! tab in the menu).

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...

You'd probably be surprised if this Rambling didn't involve something about COVID-19, and you won't be disappointed. It seems impossible to get away from it this year. Last week we were about 600 feet from the entrance of a cave in Monroe County working on a biology project, and in placing an insect trap I noted an old bottle cap sticking out of the mudbank... you guessed it: Corona. Of all the kinds of beer someone could bring into a cave, it had to be Corona. One has to wonder about who climbs up a 10-foot waterfall and wades 600 feet into a cave to drink a bottle of beer? Considering the number of signatures (ranging from carbide to spray paint) on the cave wall there appears to be lots of people to choose from. At least they were kind enough to take the bottle with them. All of that could be the subject of another Rambling, or more likely a rant, but I'll save that for another time.

Like every other organization, the IKC is experiencing some bumps in the road due to adjustments for COVID-19, but we've at least stayed on the road.

In June we had what was undoubtedly the most awkward IKC meeting I've attended since being on the board. We conducted the meeting at the property adjacent to the Shawnee Karst Preserve that was under consideration for acquisition, so with an outdoor meeting place we had unlimited space for spreading ourselves out. The downside of that was it meant anyone who wanted to say anything had to speak loudly to be heard. Add to that the cars, bikers, and semis 100 feet away on Highway 60, and it became pretty festive to try to be heard. As far as I know, everyone escaped being infected by anything other than hoarseness from the need to yell at the meeting.

Among the business items discussed at the meeting were two items that were virus-related. One was the proposition that the IKC develop a policy toward the use of our properties and caves during the epidemic. This was delegated to an ad hoc committee and in the end took a path that the board felt was reasonable in following the CDC guidelines

and recommendations. We adopted the recommendations on June 24 (ikc.caves.org/covid-19-update) and within a week were asked to abandon them by granting an exception so that multiple groups could go caving in Sullivan Cave during Cave Capers. Unfortunately, viruses don't grant exceptions – the grim statistics of the sick and dead here in Indiana attest to it (as of this writing, over 100,000 positive cases and over 3,100 deaths (www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm)). So on behalf of the IKC, I declined an exception, noting that one trip could still be made into any of the IKC caves during Capers while staying within our guidelines. And there are many other caves in Indiana. I'm sorry that it was inconvenient, but few people would consider 2020 the year of convenience.

The other side of that coin was that the IKC was able to move forward on the acquisition of a property for a major preserve expansion at the Shawnee Karst Preserve, despite the pandemic.

During the June board meeting the members of the board were able to tour the property being considered for the expansion, which included a small cave, many large sinkholes in a forested tract, a prairie remnant and a spacious shed for storing equipment. Board member Matt Selig played a leadership role in obtaining appraisals, and after deliberation the IKC



board voted (virtually) to make an offer to purchase the property. The offer was accepted and as of this moment we're wrapping up the purchase (see page 7). As Board member Tom Sollman remarked during our virtual discussion of the purchase, he believed this was the most significant of all of the IKC land acquisitions because of the large number of cavefish inhabiting Twin Cave passage under the property.

During the virtual discussion we also found that devoted Board member Bob Sergesketter's computer had just died, and thus he was unexpectedly isolated from the process. Thanks to Board member Dick Vernier, the information was relayed over the telephone and Bob was kept in the loop. And

a new computer is being obtained, which will be more important than ever since I envision virtual meetings in December, and probably March 2021 where outdoor meetings are not really possible.

Another aspect of COVID-19 is that some of our outside work day activities on our preserves can be conducted in relative safety, while others....not so much. The holes we excavated for the footers of the new kiosk at the Shawnee Karst Preserve still await concrete. This is a task that we can't really do without working shoulder-to-shoulder. However, the IKC has received another NRCS grant to fund invasive (non-native) plant control at our Wayne Cave Preserve near Bloomington. Board member and Wayne Property Manager Danyele Green has spear-headed the efforts at the preserve to remove overgrowths of plants like multiflora rose, autumn olive, bush honeysuckle, burning bush, garlic mustard, stilt grass, and a multitude of other noxious invaders. Danyele has been putting in lots of effort at the preserve, and now the most recently acquired part of the preserve is the focus of the next attack. Social distancing is simple to achieve at the Wayne Cave Preserve work days and we need all the help we can get... please volunteer (contact Danyele at iluvlabs2006@yahoo.com)!

Speaking of social distancing, the next IKC board meeting will be outdoors at the Ferdinand State Forest. One of the topics of the next meeting will be looking at changing how our Executive Board is assembled. At present our bylaws prescribe a 15-person board that is entirely elected by a democratic process. This is not typical of how many non-profit land trusts put together their boards. I've been on another board of an organization in Kentucky and they swung in the opposite direction of the way the IKC deals with putting together its board. In that organization the salaried Executive Director selects the board members. In my experience the board members were largely selected on the basis of how much money they were willing to contribute. I don't think that model would work for the IKC.

The problem with members-only elections is that they can become popularity contests, and being a well-known member of a grotto does not necessarily make a person a good fit for managing a conservation land trust. Sometimes I find it necessary to remind folks that the IKC *is not a cave club*. Clearly the IKC board is comprised of cavers, and caves are an obvious and integral part of karst. But the IKC's mission is not caving. In my

view the IKC needs to have a multi-faceted board with many strengths, including hands-on land management, as well as tendrils reaching outside of the organization to interface with other organizations, for example, like the Indiana DNR, The Nature Conservancy, or Sycamore Land Trust.

In this Rambling I've provided several examples of current board members playing leadership roles. There are certainly others whose virtues I could extol. We have a *great* board. That said, I always aspire for more and would like to have a mechanism for appointing board members or some other mechanism for having other persons on our board who add specific expertise and experiences. This will be a discussion for the next meeting – Board member Carla Striegel-Winner volunteered to research how other organizations put together their boards and report back.

Finally, I am a person who likes to have a plan. At board meetings I look around the room and I see a lot of gray hair (with apologies to Goni and Marc). Some of our board members have been with us for many years, and like past-President Bruce Bowman, are now gradually exiting the board. Thus, we are losing their experience and expertise in board meetings. Some, like Bruce, continue roles without being present on the board (he thankfully continues to be our website manager). I'm concerned, however, that the IKC does not have a strategic plan for the future course of the organization. I believe it's time for the board to define a strategy for what direction we are going to move, and perhaps more importantly, how we are going to obtain resources to implement this plan. A simple example is maintenance of our current preserves. We currently have several miles of roads and trails on our preserves. The trails require mowing several times during each warm season, which entails a willing volunteer, an operational mower on-site, gas, oil, and time. At present the majority of the trail mowing is being done by Keith Dunlap, who spends days hauling his large mower to the preserves to maintain the trails. This works for the moment, but is not sustainable. The IKC needs to plan on how this can be sustained, which leads to the questions of purchasing mowers, storage sheds, and personnel. And this is just one aspect of day-to-day operation of the IKC. I think we need a plan.

To summarize, the IKC continues to move forward, damn the viral torpedoes, full speed ahead (with apologies to the late Admiral David G. Farragut) despite being in the midst of a pandemic.



We've just added another jewel to our crown with the expansion of the Shawnee Karst Preserve. That good news is accompanied by a shadow of how to manage increasing acquisitions with the possibil-

ity of decreasing resources. The IKC continues to need people – we need *you* – to step forward.

Jerry Lewis

NEWS BRIEFS...

- ❑ As was mentioned in the Rambling, in August the IKC was awarded a *second* EQIP grant from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to eradicate harmful invasives and to perform some productive timber stand improvements (TSI). The work area for this grant is the southern 20 acres of the Wayne Cave Preserve in Monroe County. The EQIP contract spans five years and will require a lot of volunteer “sweat equity” to complete (there are a lot of autumn olive and multiflora rose), but will really improve the quality of our woodland. The work has already started and will continue into the fall, then start again next June. Also in August, we completed the second year of effort on our *first* EQIP contract for the northern 15 acres of the Wayne Property. If all goes as planned, we hope to submit a *third* EQIP grant request for invasive control and TSI on the middle 22 acres of the preserve. If you would like to know more about this volunteer opportunity and how you could help, please contact Property Manager Danyele Green (iluvlabs2006@yahoo.com).
- ❑ There is not much new to announce on the proposed Mid-State Corridor project that could result in a four-lane highway across the sensitive karst topography in Orange and Lawrence counties. The project planning office has been closed since March 20, which inhibits local residence feedback, but according to the projects website, the DEIS is still targeted for late 2020 or early 2021 and the Record of Decision (ROD) is expected later in 2021. There have been some organized citizen opposition to this project and at least one protest/educational rally, but it is unclear if that will influence the route decision because there are also some well-connect, big-dollar political donors who wish to see this new four-lane highway routed to the French Lick casino, regardless of the negative environmental impacts it may cause. To learn more about this project, please review the [fact sheet](#) that has been put together by a coalition of conservation/environmental organizations, including the IKC.
- ❑ It is not rocket science to figure out that COVID-19 has impacted and disrupted everyone's life, including outside recreation. With that said, leave it to researchers to conduct a scientific study on the subject anyway. Thus a published paper entitled: *Changes in recreational behaviors of outdoor enthusiasts during the COVID-19 pandemic: analysis across urban and rural communities*. The study can be downloaded here: (academic.oup.com/jue/article-pdf/6/1/juaa020/33652841/juaa020.pdf).
- ❑ The IKC in 2016 cooperated with The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF) in doing a chestnut tree planting project at our Robinson Ladder Cave Preserve. We did a 200 tree planting of which 50 of the trees were TACF's hybrid chestnuts that are highly resistant to the chestnut blight, but not completely immune. While this cross-bred hybrid approach has much promise, it is expensive and time consuming, and the resulting hybrids are not “pure” American chestnut trees. Parallel to the hybrid endeavor, TACF has pursued a number of genetically modified chestnut trees. The most promising is one with a gene from wheat that has been transferred into the DNA of a pure American Chestnut to allow the tree to resist the chestnut blight fungus. This genetically-improved tree has many advantages and can be readily reproduced in existing nurseries for general distributions for conservation and commercial proposes. However, before this tree can be distributed, it must be approved by the USDA. There is currently a public comment period to solicit feedback on this proposed tree and citizen input is greatly needed. For more see: www.acf.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/web3-transgenic-tree.pdf.
- ❑ The IKC has gained *twelve* new members in the last quarter. Welcome Thomas Carney, Kimberly Dickerson, Ashley Draime, Katie Elder, Helen Flynn, William Gort, Seth Gullett, Rick McHenry, Rosario Murello, Foster Murry, Scott Wheeler, and Anthony Yoder. The IKC membership currently stands at 223.

SHAWNEE KARST PRESERVE EXPANSION

by Keith Dunlap

On August 26, The Indiana Karst Conservancy signed a Purchase Agreement to acquire a 17.5 acres tract of land adjacent to the IKC's existing 50.3 acre Shawnee Karst Preserve (that was purchased in 2012). Closing on this expansion property is expected in late September.

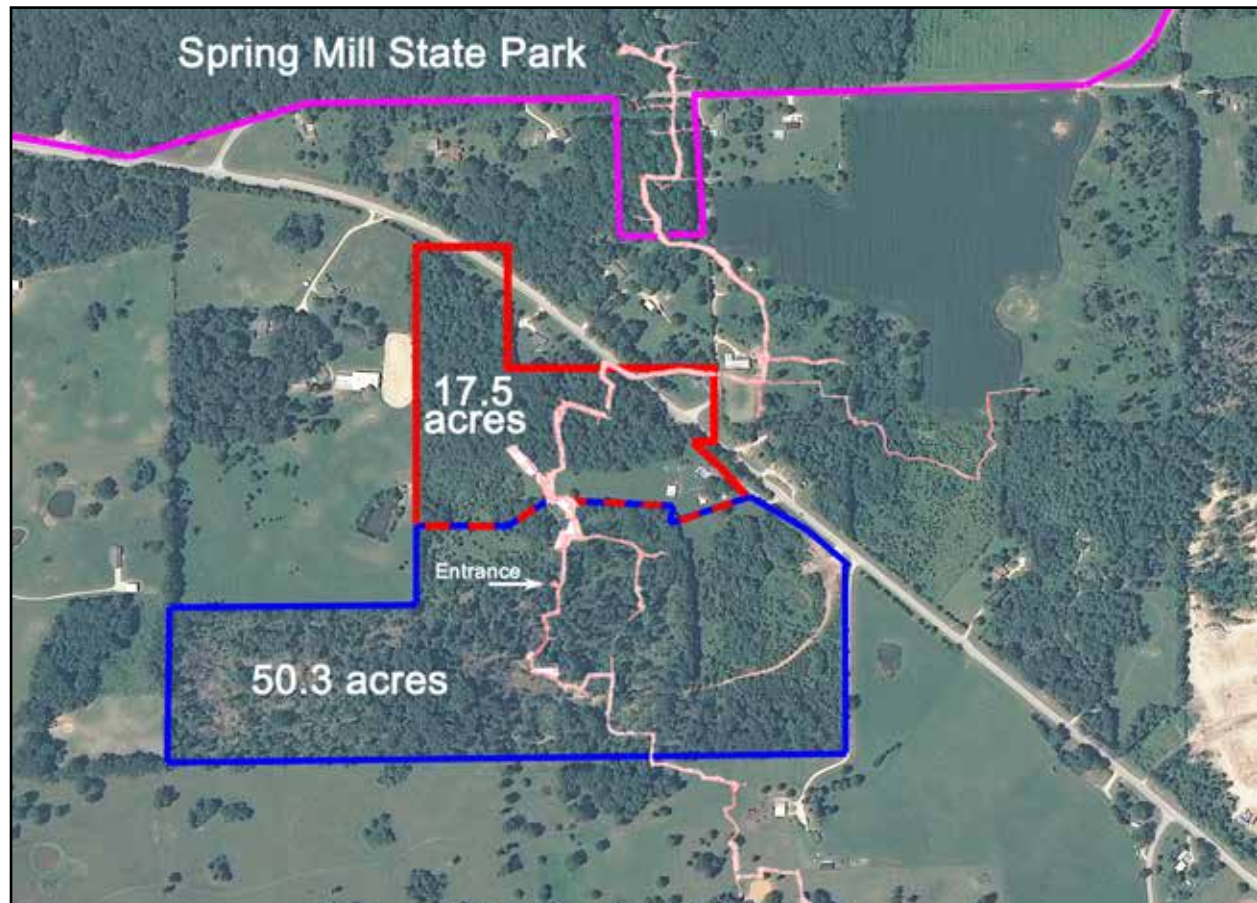
The primary motivation for acquiring this property is to further protect the habitat of the largest known population of the Indiana cavefish (*Amblyopsis hoosieri*). This expansion will also nearly double the amount of Upper Twin Cave passage directly under IKC-owned land, and greatly expands the main stream passage protected between the IKC entrance and the downstream boat dock entrance in Spring Mill State Park. The expansion tract also contains the largest room in the Upper Twin Cave (see photo on page 8).

As with the original preserve tract, this new acquisition has numerous large surface sinkholes and many other karst features. There is also one small (~100' long) cave on the new property that is hydrologically associated with Upper Twin Cave. The new tract is currently a mixture of mature forest with considerable tree diversity,

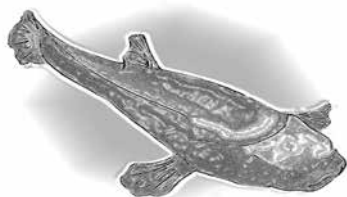
and open fields, some with native warm-season grasses (perhaps a remnant of an old prairie or glade). While the long-term stewardship plans for this expansion has not been finalized, encouraging the native grass areas (e.g., prescriptive burns, removing cedars) and some native tree plantings are likely. Prior to the acquisition of the property, several old out-buildings and two houses (one recently occupied) were demolished, eliminating two septic systems (one that had reportedly "failed" was directly over Upper Twin passage). One hundred white oaks seedlings were also planted in early 2020. The new property does have a nice functional/secure "pole barn" that can be used in the future for storage of IKC equipment and supplies.

Capital cost of the acquisition was \$70,000 with another \$1,600 estimated for appraisals, closing fees, deed work, and title insurance. We also budget into our projects a contribution of 10% of the capital cost (\$7,000) to our Stewardship Endowment Fund for long-term preservation. This brings the total project cost for the expansion to \$78,600.

While the project cost is daunting, we have



already made significant headway. First we are applying the bequest last year from Gary Whitaker's estate to this project. We also had \$5,600 in pre-donations from IKC members who contributed to the "next" acquisition project. And finally we have had over \$2,400 donated since this project was announced last month. We have submitted one grant proposal and will be submitting at least two other grant requests soon. And the IKC Board is likely to make the Stewardship Endowment Fund contribution from our General Fund. If all goes as planned, this leaves "only" about \$13,000 to raise the "old fashion way" from members and other grass-root donors. And the sooner we can retire this project, the sooner we can take on another one. So if you like seeing the IKC buy and protect caves, please consider contributing by mailing a check to PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or making an on-line donation at ikc.caves.org/donate-to-the-ikc.



Full disclosure: This property, after more of a year of negotiations, was purchased by an IKC Board member in June 2019, who then paid to have the various "improvements" demolished and hauled away. The price offered by the IKC in 2020 was lower than the 2019 purchase price and lower than the average of the two independent appraisals obtained by the IKC. The owning Board member did not participate in any of the IKC deliberations to acquire the property, nor discussions on the valuation/offer price, to minimize any internal conflicts of interest.

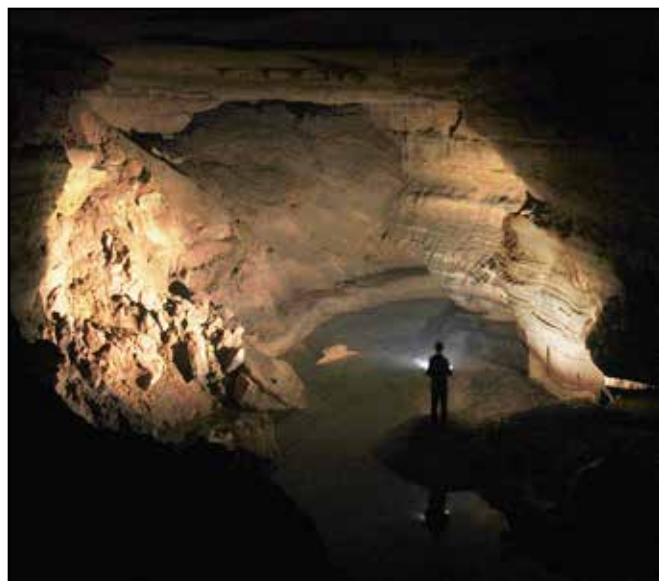


photo by Jerry Lewis, 2013

The largest room in Upper Twin Cave is under the new property.

SHAWNEE KARST PRESERVE DONORS

\$10,000 or more

Gary Whitaker

\$2,500 to \$9,999

Bar Keepers Friend (SerVaas Labs)

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Keith Dunlap
Gordon Smith

\$500 to \$999

Hank Huffman & Ellen Jacquart
Matt Selig
Carla Striegel-Winner & Jamie Winner

\$250 to \$499

Joy Baiz

\$100 to \$249

Gretchen Anderson
Barb Coons
Barbara Hanka
David Hughes
Richard Lunseth
Dan McDowell
Nathan Pate
Tom Rea
Ralph Sawyer
Stan Weinzapfel

\$50 to \$99

Patti Cummings
Laura Demarest
Kelle Reynolds
Carroll Ritter
Rich Whisler
Gerry Woltering
Dayton Underground Grotto
Indiana Caverns

\$5 to \$49

Dayton Boyd
John Dimit
Jim Duncker
Tim Heppner
Shawn Hogbin
Jon Miller
Ernie & Jacqueline Payne
Jennifer & Gene Pelter
Joe Powers
Kevin Rasmus
Gary Roberson
Kevin Wyatt

Project goal: \$78,600
Raised/Pledged* to date: \$52,100
Percent of goal: 66.3%
September 8, 2020

PRODUCT REVIEW: INSECT SHIELD CLOTHING LINE

by Jerry Lewis

Last summer Salisa and I were in England, and had just departed the London Natural History Museum and were walking down a street toward a pub to grab a pint and some dinner, when my cell phone rang. It was my doctor's office, calling to tell me that my blood tests had come back positive for Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. I'd been bitten by a tick the day before we had departed on a three-week trip, and my doctor had already prescribed antibiotics for me to take while we were in Europe. My past history included a severe case of Ehrlichiosis, and a probable case of Lyme Disease. I've also developed the allergy to beef and pork that comes with some tick-borne diseases.

Last year in a meeting with Ron Scott at the Hoosier National Forest, he mentioned that a lot of Forest Service folks wore clothing infused with the chemical permethrin, and seemed not to be bothered by ticks. This year I had over a dozen tick bites from just working around my own property during the spring, so decided to invest in clothes ward off the ticks. I now wear the jeans every day, and on days I'm in the field, the permethrin-laced socks and a shirt... and I haven't been bitten once. When I removed my boots on a trip to Buddha Karst Preserve, I did find a dead tick on my sock, but it didn't have the chance to bite.

I recommended the clothing to friends and one of them (I won't share names but you all know him for his prominent role in NCRC) conducted a test. This anonymous person procured a

healthy tick and put it on a piece of the clothing he'd purchased. He reported that after five minutes the tick looked like it was done, and after he removed it, there was no life after death. A common sense reality check.

With many of our members and volunteers performing stewardship work on our preserves, avoiding tick bites is a real consideration and these pre-treated clothes appears to be one way to add a needed layer of protection.



Salisa Lewis models Insect Shield pants and t-shirt at a cave entrance in Monroe County.

The company is called Insect Shield (insect-shield.com), located in Greensboro, North Carolina. Up front I can tell you I don't have stock in the company, don't know anyone who works there, and there's nothing in this for me. I don't like being bitten by ticks, this product works for me, so I'm telling you about it. Maybe it will work for you, too, no promises.

I have purchased from them twice from their website, used a credit card, never spoken to a person at the company. I've experienced no problems with the transactions and the merchandise arrived in a few days. The clothes are comfortable and I haven't

noticed any odor or anything else to indicate the presence of the permethrin. The tick resistance is advertised to last for several dozen washings.

Cost? Jeans: \$50; t-shirts: \$16.95; work shirt: \$46.00; socks (2 pairs): \$14.95. Doctor's office visit + antibiotics: more than a complete outfit. Ability to eat a steak: priceless (I'll never eat another steak since I've developed beef allergy from the tick diseases).



**BeTICK
Smart!**

Protect • Check • Remove • Watch

LOWRY KARST PRESERVE STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

by Ray Sheldon (Property Manager)

I last reported on the activities of the then newly acquired Lowry Karst Preserve in the December 2019 *IKC Update*. Since that time, many smaller tasks and several larger projects have been started and some even completed at the preserve. With any property, visitor access in and out is most important, so that has taken priority. Also knowing what types of plants (good and bad) are growing on the property and understanding what biological species (above and below ground) are present is necessary. This facilitates treating invasive plants below the tree canopy. Finally, a large black locust that impeded safe access to the back area of the preserve was removed. The following activities document the efforts over the past nine months:

- December 7 (2019) – I attended the IKC Board meeting at the Ellettsville Public Library where a brief summary of efforts to date and future visions for the preserve were presented.
- December 14 – Member Rob Jarboe and son Robbie visited the preserve taking a few pictures while checking out the parking availability and lane gate.
- December 22 – Keith Dunlap, Bruce Trotter, and I worked on grading stone on the un-maintained county road and the interior lane, cutting grapevines, multiflora rose, bush honeysuckle, and autumn olive. The invasive cut stumps/

stems were treated with Tordon.

- December 26 – Aaron French, Noah French, and Charlie Vetter made a trip into Lowry Cave. Aaron sent some photos and Charlie made a video of some of the passage.
- February 8 (2020) – Rob and Robbie Jarboe, Travis Toliver, Scott Davis, and Shane Johnson made a visit to Lowry Cave.
- April 4 – A spring visit to the preserve where Jerry and Salisa Lewis looked around while pulling bush honeysuckle and noticing a fire pit inside the back of the entrance area of Lowry Cave.
- April 6, April 15, and April 26 – Beth Sheldon and I walked around the preserve grounds and cleaned up debris from two different fire pits inside Lowry Cave. We continued to check on the Lowry entrance area and noticed a few bats (likely transient Indiana bats) in a ceiling crack.
- May 2 – Doug Van Demark and Andi visited the preserve and took some photos of the entrance to Lowry Cave.
- May 10 – Beth Sheldon, Megan Hohnstreiter, and I tied a light rope with flagging between the line posts along the north side of the interior lane to re-direct foot traffic to the preferred trail from the lane to the Lowry Cave entrance.



Ray Sheldon felling a double-trunk black locust (left). A stump-grinder removing the stump encroaching on the access lane.

all photos by Ray or Beth Sheldon, 2020

- May 11 – A visit to the preserve included a meeting to pick up liability waivers with area caver Jacob Grider for an upcoming visit.
- May 13 – Jacob Grider and Bradley Winston made plans to visit Lowry Cave, but the trip was cancelled because of poor weather conditions.
- May 23 and May 31 - Beth and I checked out the property and the entrance area in Lowry Cave.
- June 6 – Workday at the preserve to pull/treat invasive species and open up some sinkholes from smaller trash and debris. Participants included Brian Cross, Keith Dunlap, Bambi Dunlap, Beth and I, Debbie and Jerry Walker, and Bruce Trotter. Bruce used his chainsaw on a couple occasions to cut up trees across the interior lane and large grapevines. Bruce and Brian removed tree branch debris from a sinkhole in the southeast end of the property that provided a first look into Wilkerson Cave.
- June 11 – Keith worked on spraying invasive plants under the tree canopy while I sprayed the interior lane and the un-maintained county road.
- June 22 – Keith Dunlap hosted Cassie Hauswald and two TNC interns (Gabby and Ashley). Their purpose included spraying multiflora rose and specific herbicide targeting Stiltgrass. After lunch at the cave entrance, the group visited Graham Creek to look for mussels.
- June 23 – IKC member Anthony Yoder made an extensive trip into Lowry Cave with five members of his family. Traci, Rachel, Ruth, Abraham, and Benjamin seeing most of the passage and daylight at the plugged entrance near the end.
- June 26 – Beth and I used a chainsaw to drop a large double trunk black locust tree. The tree was overhanging the interior access lane and had a trunk rot issue, so it needed to go. The

north trunk fell easterly onto the interior lane and the south trunk was dropped in a southerly direction into the woods.

- June – 27 Beth and I used a chainsaw to cut up the part of the black locust tree that fell on the interior lane.
- July 4 – Members of the Yoder family: Anthony, Ben, and Abraham, my grandson Logan Hohnstreiter, and Beth and I cut up the rest of the black locust tree and removed the larger pieces obstructing travel on the interior lane.

- July 5 – Jonathan Annonson, Harrison Moore, and Stuart Moore visited Lowry Cave. They observed several salamanders, numerous spiders, and a surface crayfish.



The extended interior lane for better access at Lowry.

- July 12 – Keith sprayed five backpack tanks (4 gallons per tank) of Clethodim 2E, grass-specific herbicide to treat stiltgrass on the east end of the south half of the preserve.

- July 24 – Keith sprayed five and one-half tanks to treat stiltgrass on the west end of the south half of the preserve.

- August 2 – Keith sprayed three tanks to treat stiltgrass at the southwest corner, finishing up that project for the year. Re-treatment will be required for the next few years due to the seed bank in the ground.
- August 6 – Phil Connor made a trip to the preserve to grind off the black locust stump. This was the last obstacle that was needed to be completed in order to safely extend the interior lane to the turn-around point. While Phil was busy, I sprayed invasive stiltgrass along the un-maintained county road.
- August 22 – Robbie Baker who drives for Bishop's Trucking delivered 21 tons of crushed stone. He helped extend the interior lane to a total length of nearly four hundred feet. He also spread another layer of stone on the un-maintained county road, adding to the base put down last year.

- August 30 – Visit by Bruce Trotter, Jerry Walker, and I to fill out an ICS report form on a small cave located in the southeast area of the preserve. This small cave has two entrances located in one depression. One is a crawl-in and the other a chimney. Unless someone knows otherwise the cave is virgin past fifteen feet. Keith suggested the name of Wilkerson Cave in honor of the landowners prior to the IKC acquisition. This property was in the Wilkerson family for more than 100 years.
- September 5 – Jasper Beavers, Tyler Maggard, Megan Hohnstreiter, and I made a trip into Lowry Cave. We observed numerous formations, four salamanders, surface cray fish, crickets, spiders guarding their egg sacks, a field mouse, five isopods, and the daylight at the plugged entrance.

Upcoming projects will further improve the road and lane accesses, continue the invasive

species removal, clean more debris out the sink-holes, work on the lane gate posts, and develop a recreational area.



Spreading crushed stone on the old county road at Lowry.

A LOOK BACK AT INDIANA KARST

by John M Benton

THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT:

It Really Happened

The year was 1968, in the fall. As Richard Smoots drove down his lane toward his home surrounded by the Harrison-Crawford State Forest, he noticed a Ford Mustang pulled off in the fire lane by Langdons Cave. Richard didn't give the car much thought; cavers going to Langdons often parked there. Richard knew quite a few cavers, for he was one himself, having discovered beautiful Jewel Box Cave (or Richards Cave as some referred to it) on his farm several years before, after noticing cold air coming out of a small opening, while waiting on a neighbor friend to go hunting. (Now some 50 plus years later, the Smoots farm is part of the HCSF and Jewel Box Cave is gated and all but forgotten about). On his way to church services the next day, Smoots noticed the Mustang was still there. He thought it was unusual that the vehicle remained there over 24 hours. Maybe some spelunkers were lost or had problem in Langdons Cave. After church, he stopped at the car to check it out. From his drive lane, he could not see anyone, but as he walked over to take a closer look, he could see a person slumped down.

He checked for a pulse, but evidently the fellow had been dead for some time. Richard quickly went to call the Harrison County Sheriff, who came to investigate with the Coroner. The death was ruled a suicide, the poor fellow was rumored of being very depressed of recent times. His name was George McHugh from Louisville, who had done some caving with the Louisville Grotto.

The very next weekend, in the fall of 1968, Purdue Outing Club (POC) members, and Indiana Speleological Society (ISS) cavers, George Jaegers, Al Erickson, and Allan Upshaw headed for southern Indiana for a weekend of caving. It was a long drive and the trio of cavers usually camped somewhere like the pines north of Wyandotte Cave or in the State Forest. They had originally planned to meet ISS New Albany caver Terry (Dog) Crayden, but Terry could not make it Friday night. Terry and George Jaegers had been high school classmates at New Albany, along with other ISS cavers Gary Roberson and Ken (Bear) Hoover.

The group of POC cavers, without any knowledge of the previous week's suicide, backed Upshaw's old Ford into the fire lane pull-off across from Langdons Cave (the same spot where the suicide had occurred). The weather was fairly mild,



so they decided to throw their sleeping bags out on the ground in front of the car. George remembers quite clearly that it was a very dark night. Not even a little moonlight poked through the trees; it was almost as dark as in a cave.

Around midnight, Al woke up to the sounds of twigs snapping in the woods not far away. Thinking it could be poachers, he woke the rest, fearing that they might pull a vehicle in the lane, and possibly drive right over the cavers. George recalls that their dirty sleeping bags did blend in quite well with the surrounding ground.

The three cavers sat up, looking around to see what was going on. It didn't take long and all three heard the loud sounds of sticks cracking, as if underfoot of some creature in the woods. They reasoned it was probably just a deer wandering about, and prepared to return to sleep. But as they lay there listening to the crunching, they noticed the sounds seemed to circle them. The noise seemed about 100 feet or so away, and it moved in a deliberate steady pace in a large circle. They followed the sound around them twice, and at that point, their imaginations took over. They all decided it would be better if they slept in the car. So they scooped up their sleeping bags and quickly climbed in their vehicle.

They listened through the window vents for a while and continued to hear sounds of the tramping. Then, all of a sudden, it became very quiet. No breaking sticks. No crunching leaves. No sounds at all. A few seconds later, there was a loud crash as something landed on the hood of the car. They immediately turned on the headlights. Nothing there – *Nothing that is, except a huge dent in the center of the car hood, as if someone had jumped up and down on it!* The metal of the hood bounced as if someone was pounding their fists into it, but no one could be seen! They heard no sound of an approaching animal before the crash and none of anything moving away after.

To this day, George Jaegers has no idea what they encountered that dark fall night in 1968. George states it was clearly stalking them, it was

large and strong enough to crush most of the hood of a large car, and it was capable of moving silently when it wanted.

They did not want any more excitement that night, so they started the car and quickly sped out of Smoots lane without delay. George remembers they drove to one of the shelter houses in the Forest to spend the remainder of the night. The next day, during daylight, they returned to the fire lane, but found nothing unusual. Terry Crayden recalls that when he met up with the group the next day, they were still shaken by the incident. Terry had heard of the previous weeks suicide at the spot, and

related that information to them. They never spent another night camping across from Langdons!

Did the suicide have anything to do with this *haunting*? I don't know, but it just might. The two events were close to each other. As far as I know, no other *happenings* have occurred at the site. (With the noted exception that there was a murder in 1990s when a husband placed his wife's body inside Langdons

Cave). Today, the lane to Smoots farm is gated near Hwy 462, the pull off of the old fire lane is barely visible as is the trail leading to Langdons Cave. The Smoots' house was torn down after the State acquired the property. Smoots died in 1984. George Jaegers went on to do a lot of work in Binkley Cave and resides in Allentown, PA today. Terry Crayden, long-time ISS caver, lives near Marengo. Maybe it didn't go bump, but it did go crunch in the night, and makes a true, strange story near Halloween. Explanation? You tell me. From cave country.

References:

- Taped conversation; April 1993 with Terry (Dog) Crayden.
- Letter, November 1994 from George Jaegers (NSS12978) to John Benton
- Personal Conversation with Jaegers & Crayden, 09-30-1995 in Binkley Cave
- Personal Conversation with J. Pat Stephens, circa 1997



MY REFLECTIONS OF THE IKC OVER THE DECADES AND HOW IT HELPED ME

by Jeff Cody (IKC Director and longtime Cave Patron)

I began caving back in the very early 1980s, mostly going with friends from high school not long after graduation. Initially we were not affiliated with any organized caving until Dick Blenz pointed us in the direction of the NSS. Sorry to admit, but we were part of the many problems in Garrison Chapel Valley area back then. We never left trash or spray painted walls, but we thought we could go wherever we wanted... and did most of the time which likely contributed to landowner relation issues. Fortunately we soon began to meet organized cavers after attending to my first Cave Capers in 1983. It was not long before we had positive influences in our caving peer group. Fast forward a bit to 1986, the year the Indiana Karst Conservancy (IKC) was formed. My long-time friend from Franklin, Mark Webb, was one of the first to become an IKC member and not too long later persuaded me to join. Mark's IKC membership number was #9 and I was #14. Mark was never overly involved, but maintained membership until his passing a few years ago. I decided to attend IKC quarterly meetings and became a "regular" and wanted to get more involved, giving a little back to an activity that has given so much to me.

In 1986, I helped erect the fence around Grotto Cave to protect the Indiana bats that winter there. This was my first time being involved in a legitimate conservation group. In the late 1980s, I ran for a Board position, but was not elected. A couple years later when there were vacancies on the Board, I decided to run again and was elected this time. By then, the IKC had a lease on the property where Coon, Grotto, and Shaft caves were located. We were in the property management business by then, and I decided to help the IKC by taking over

the Cave Patron responsibilities for Shaft Cave, as I was really big into vertical caving. At the time, I was also the Grotto Liaison for the Mid-Hoosier Grotto that I helped start. This gave me the ability to grant visitation permits for Wayne, Grotto, Coon, and Shaft caves. This was interesting because it also created an opportunity to meet many cavers that you otherwise might not meet. This proved valuable to me in the networking I was able to do, and contacts made over the years.



Construction of the fencing around Grotto Cave by the IKC in 1986 to protect wintering bats from disturbance.

This access arrangement went on until our grotto disbanded and I could no longer serve as the Liaison. Also at some point later, the IKC lost the lease on the Coon/Grotto/Shaft property... not by anything of our doing. The owner was selling a mitigation easement to InDOT and the IKC lease complicated things, so it had to be discontinued. The landowner was happy with what we had done over the past 25 years, but his hands were tied. I had been on many conservation projects on this property during the IKC lease years. It was sad to me to see the lease lost, but I understood why, and had the satisfaction of

knowing the IKC left the property and caves in better condition than when we leased them. And maybe someday the IKC will again be involved with the stewardship of that property and caves.

Leasing cave properties is an inexpensive way to manage access and provide stewardship, but experience has shown they are always temporary. So over the years, the IKC has focused on acquiring properties for permanent protection. One such property was the Buddha Karst Preserve with Buddha Cave where I became the Cave Patron in 2001, and remain in this position today.

I have maintained membership constantly over the years. In 2018 I was approached by a Board

Continued on page 18..

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY TREASURY REPORT

Income/Expense Statement From April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020

INCOME:

Dues Apportionment and Residuals	775.00	
Donations - General	566.93	
Donations - Land Acquisition Fund	465.00	
Investment Earnings	161.80	
		<u>\$1,968.73</u>

EXPENSES:

IKC Update (printing, production, mailing)	591.08	
Education / Outreach	0.00	
Stewardship/Conservation	189.94	
Business (PayPal fees, postage, security box rental)	180.27	
Property taxes	85.86	
LAF - appraisal	500.00	
Transfers to/from restricted funds/other adjustments	94.26	
		<u>(\$1,641.41)</u>

NET OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIT) THIS PERIOD: \$327.32

Balance Sheet June 30, 2020

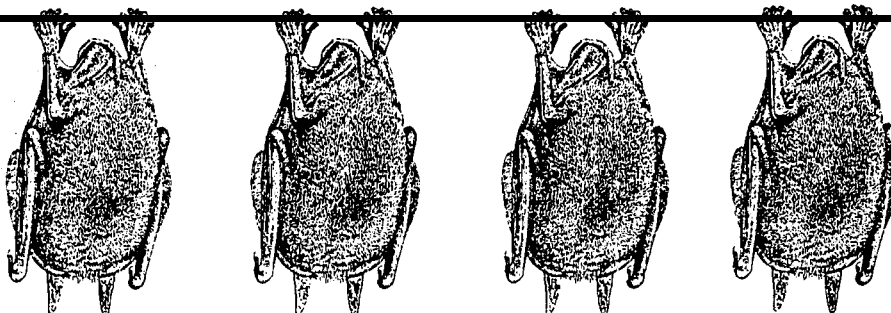
ASSETS:

Cash in Checking / Saving / CDs / Brokerage acc'ts	240,100.33	
Robinson Ladder Cave Preserve (73.48 acres)	162,000.00	
Wayne Cave Preserve (57.59 acres)	188,000.00	
Shawnee Karst Preserve (50.31 acres)	105,000.00	
Buddha Karst Nature Preserve (36.84 acres)	29,000.00	
Sullivan Cave Preserve (28.00 acres)	72,000.00	
Lowry Karst Preserve (6.66 acres)	33,000.00	
Orangeville Rise Nature Preserve (3.01 acres)	7,000.00	
Indian Creek Conservation Easement (valued at \$1/acre)	13.16	
		<u>\$836,113.49</u>

FUNDS & OPERATING EXCESS:

Land Acquisition Restricted Fund	96,412.42	
Deferred Dues Restricted Fund (213 members)	5,456.25	
Stewardship Endowment Restricted Fund	73,994.19	
Previous General Fund (total)	63,923.31	
Net Excess (Deficit) This Period	<u>327.32</u>	
Current General Fund (unrestricted)	64,250.63	
Current General Fund (committed)	1,550.00	
Real estate liquidity (basis value excluding CE)	<u>596,000.00</u>	

Total Liabilities & Operating Excess \$836,113.49



IKC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2020 11:00 AM EST, 3918 SR 60 E, Mitchell, Indiana

(adjacent to the Shawnee Karst Preserve)

Board Members Present:

Jerry Lewis, President
Marc Milne, Secretary
Keith Dunlap, Treasurer
Jeff Cody
Laura Demarest
Scott Frosch
Danyeale Green
Dave Haun
Goni Iskali
Matt Selig
Bob Sergesketter
Carla Striegel-Winner
Richard Vernier
Sue Vernier

Board Members Absent:

Tom Sollman

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Lewis at 11:00 AM at 3918 SR 60E, Mitchell, IN, the property adjacent to the Shawnee Karst Preserve. Jerry asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Acceptance of Proxies

None.

Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the December Board meeting were approved as published in the March 2020 *IKC Update*. The March Annual Business meeting was cancelled due to the corona virus, so there were no minutes from that meeting to approve.

Election Results

Jerry Lewis appointed Danyeale Green and Goni Iskali to be the Election Tellers to count the mail-in ballots for the March elections. The results were as follows:

President: Jerry Lewis

Secretary: Marc Milne

Treasurer: Keith Dunlap

Directors (4): Scott Frosch, Matt Selig, Bob Sergesketter, and Richard Vernier.

E-mail motions since the December meeting

On February 5, 2020, a motion was brought forth by Bruce Bowman to approve the slate of candidates for the upcoming Board elections. The candidates included President: Jerry Lewis; Secretary: Marc Milne; Treasurer: Keith

Dunlap; Director: Scott Frosch, Raymond Moul, Bob Sergesketter, Matt Selig, Richard Vernier, Brian Walker, and Wyatt Williams. The motion was seconded by Keith on February 5th, 2020. The motion passed on February 8, 2020 by a vote of 14 (yes) – 1 (no).

Treasurer's Report

Keith outlined the current financial status of the organization: Cash assets totaling \$240,474.44 and land assets totaling \$596,000.00, for total assets: \$836,474.44. Funds include Stewardship Endowment: \$73,864.93; Land Acquisition: \$96,812.42; Deferred Dues: \$5,175.00; and General Operating Fund (unrestricted): \$64,622.09.

Membership: Currently stands at 236 members with 210 renewals. This is the highest membership the IKC has ever had. There are still 26 members who have not renewed as of this meeting. Those members with expired dues will receive one more renewal reminder.

There was a conversation about the membership. Laura suggested some new members may have gotten an IKC membership for the cave rescue training discount. They are from Ohio and are likely not going to renew.

Investment Committee Report

Members of this committee include Keith, Matt, Tom, and Jerry (ex officio). Keith stated that the Investment Committee will only manage the Stewardship Endowment fund (currently approximately \$74,000). The Treasurer will manage the other funds. The Investment Committee will largely invest in an equities index (e.g. S&P 500) and investment-grade bond mutual funds, which should provide better growth for the long-term. They will also set up a "cash" money-market fund for short-term holdings.

Matt stated that occasional market crashes will negatively affect investments in the short-term over the next 30-40 years, but the overall growth will be positive. As an investment group, the IKC Board needs to be able to tolerate these corrections. If we can't, then he suggested putting more money into CD's, which are ultra-safe, but low yielding investments. Discussion ensued.

Keith then read the motion from the Investment Committee: "The Board approves the Investment Committee to move the entire Stewardship Fund into a dedicated Fidelity money-market fund in the short-term, then at the Committee's discretion, invest into the other dedicated funds." Danyeale asked to add "going forward" to the statement so that it now reads, "The Board approves the Investment Committee to move the entire Stewardship Fund into a dedicated Fidelity money-

market fund in the short-term, then at the Committee's discretion, invest into the other dedicated funds going forward." Sue Vernier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 14 – 0.

Land Acquisition Activities

Jerry spoke about the Shawnee Karst Preserve expansion, a 17.5 acres property adjacent to the Shawnee Karst Preserve. He stated that the 50-acre Shawnee Karst Preserve was purchased because it had an entrance to Upper Twin Cave, which has a large known population of Indiana cavefish. The adjacent property came up for sale two years ago and contained two houses, root cellar, pool, outhouse, horse shed, garage, and an additional building. The property is split by SR60 whereby two small parcels of the property are on the other side of the road. One of the smaller parcels also had a house. Both houses had septic systems, which was a big incentive for purchasing the property to eliminate them. If this adjacent property is purchased, the IKC would own a much larger part of Upper Twin Cave and the largest room in Upper Twin exists beneath this property. Furthermore, the property currently contains an area of native warm season grasses. So far, the IKC has not been able to maintain a native grassland on any of our properties and this is something the Board desires to have. This adjacent property was purchased by a Board member last year.

Last spring, several IKC members visited the property and cut down pines, removed some invasives, and trash. They planned to burn part of the property too to help the prairie recover from years of neglect. However, they were never able to burn because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Volunteers also helped remove rocks from the entrance to a small cave on the property.

The Board discussed the land acquisition opportunity, including the status as Classified Forest, options for funding, and how to move forward.

Laura made a motion to fund an appraisal. Scott seconded. The motion passed 13 – 0 – 1 (abstain). Matt Selig volunteered to arrange for an appraisal.

Mid-State Highway Corridor Update

Keith stated that he has been sitting in on Zoom meetings about the Mid-State Corridor. The IKC elected not to be a signature on a recent letter. Last night, a two-page fact-sheet put together by the Hoosier Environmental Council about the corridor was circulated to the Board. It is rather neutral; we may want to be listed on it. There's a lot of opposition to this highway project, particularly two alternative routes. The original route seems the most logical and Keith suspects that's the one that will be picked.

Cave and Preserve Visitation During COVID-19

Keith initiated a discussion on caving on IKC properties in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. After discus-

sion the decision was made to form a committee to look at what other organizations have done and pursue recommendations.

Board Member Election Method Update

Jerry stated that at the previous IKC Board meeting, there was discussion about changing the method by which Board members were elected within the IKC, and requested formation of a committee to research the options. Carla and Laura agreed to pursue options for formation of the board.

Education & Outreach

Jerry stated that we have a number of researchers requesting permission to use our caves for research purposes. This is something that the IKC should be promoting, but we usually do not hear back from the researchers after they use our caves even though further communication of results is requested. A permit form modeled after the one used by IDNR Nature Preserves was circulated as an example of a form that could be modified for IKC use. Conversation ensued about this topic, including the need to ensure that cave locations are not revealed. It was recognized that an application was also needed prior to a permit being issued, and Jerry agreed to work on it and bring it back to the Board at the next meeting.

Lowry Karst Preserve

Keith reported that we're done with funding and that we reached 130% of our goal.

He also said that Ray Sheldon is there once a week checking on things and has had two invasive workdays recently. One more and most invasives will be done for the year. Invasives mostly include bush honeysuckle, autumn olive, stilt grass, multiflora rose, and garlic mustard. Laura asked if the botany assessment and signage for the cliff were completed. Keith stated that TNC is coming to the property to look around and is particularly interested in the mussels in the creek. Jerry stated that when he walked the property with Allen Purcell, Allen noted that a lot of interesting botanical specimens were on the cliff edge and if a rope is installed for repelling down cliff, it will be destroyed. Two botanists from the IDNR Nature Preserves were going to try and swing by Lowry and look. Not sure if they've done that yet. They committed to look at it if they haven't done that yet.

Wayne Cave Preserve

EQIP Invasive treatment update: Danyele stated that the yearly update was most recently sent out. NRCS contract round 1 is completed. We got approval and money for year 1. We are starting year 2 now. Most recently, we sprayed and mowed. There is currently not much to do on the first 15 acres. Almost all multiflora is coming back, and some cuttings are coming back. Spraying

is required. I will post on Facebook to ask if anybody else wants to join. Work on the southernmost tract has been put off until July. We don't know if we've been approved for that part of the property yet. This will give us a late start. There is a lot of multiflora rose in that tract.

Orangeville Rise

Stewardship update: Carla stated that they had a work-day to remove Garlic Mustard and since then, she dug up 30 poison hemlock plants. Natives are growing in.

Shawnee Karst Preserve

Jerry reported that holes were excavated for the installation of the kiosk, but due to the COVID-19 restrictions, concrete can't yet be poured. He pondered if the IKC should hire a truck to haul in concrete. Keith stated that he'd be concerned with a large truck on the service road.

Buddha Cave Preserve

Keith stated that he recently mowed the property and that everything seems great.

Sullivan Cave Preserve

Keith said that David Schaefer volunteered to mow the property and he allowed him to. The Port-a-Jon has not yet been pumped because there has been so little traffic on the property. Goni stated that she noticed some damage in Sullivan recently. Someone took a rock and broke part of the ceiling, that fell. She reported it to Dave.

Robinson Ladder Cave Preserve

Stewardship activities: Keith stated the he mowed around chestnuts. He stated that he's going to spray around the trees again soon. Carla stated that Jaime Winner recently mowed the campground area, but that Jaime says that he cannot mow the fields anymore; tractor can't handle it. He wants someone else to mow the fields and campground area if possible.

Items from the Floor

Laura reported that she has updated the IKC information/membership tri-fold brochure. She will send it out via email. They added information about donations, PayPal, and website information. They want to give the brochure to landowners. They also updated the logo.

Concerning volunteers working on invasives control at the Wayne Cave Preserve, Danyeale voiced potential concerns about members of a youth group use of loppers and cutters to help cut invasives. Chainsaw use was forbidden outright, but the question arose about hand tools and herbicides. Danyeale will look into guidelines for volunteers.

Keith announced that the Monroe County Planning Commission is revising their zoning rules. They are putting together focus groups with one being "Environmental." Keith voices that he might volunteer for that group. Anyone interested in being on such a focus group, they should apply.

Keith next discussed that the annual April Indiana Cave Symposium had been cancelled this year due to COVID-19. He asked if the IKC wanted to consider postponing the symposium until later in the year rather than outright cancellation. Discussion followed and there was no interest voiced in attempting to have the meeting later in 2020 considering the continued epidemic.

September Business Meeting Scheduling

The next Board meeting will be on September 26th, 2020. The preferred meeting location will be at Ferdinand State Forest at 4:00 PM EDT. Carla agreed to reserve an open-sided shelter for the meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:54 PM.

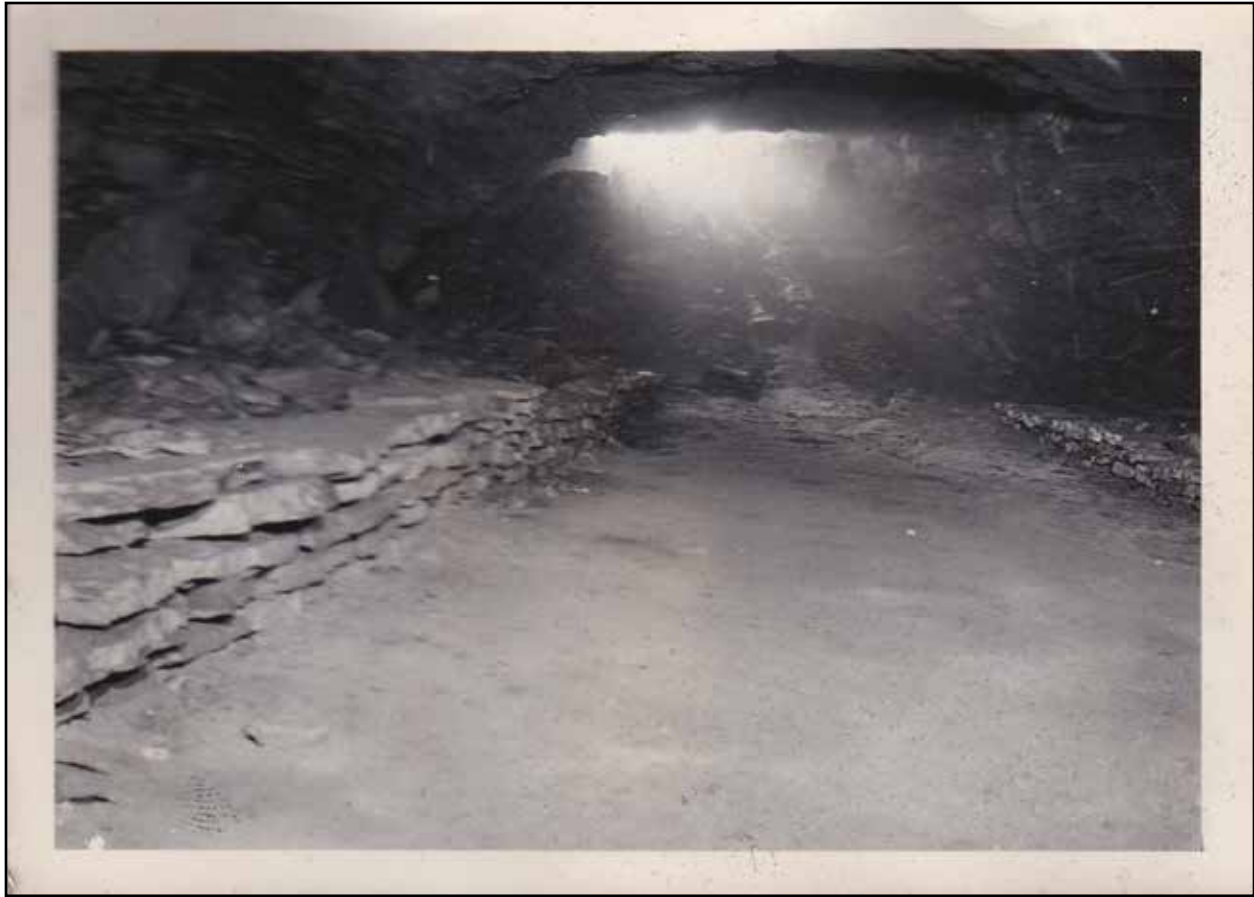
Respectfully submitted by Secretary Marc Milne.

...Continued from page 14

member to run once again for a Director position. I accepted the invitation and was elected for my second stint. An opportunity to get a little more involved. Interesting to me being on the Board is when negotiations are made to acquire a new property. During my time with the IKC and attending meetings, I had learned a lot about property acquisition and management and requirements for Classified Forest designation and why it is beneficial. For this reason I would encourage any

member to get involved, run for Board position, and make a difference. If you do not get elected the first time, try again. I did. I did not come in with any expertise other than just being a caver for five years before the formation of the IKC. This is a perfect opportunity for young cavers to get involved. I reflect back on seeing the growth of the Indiana Karst Conservancy from its infancy to its present state with a sense of pride knowing I played a part in making it what it is today.

A LOOK BACK AT INDIANA KARST (BONUS PHOTO)



Wyandotte Cave entrance photo taken in Fanueil Hall entrance room, looking towards the outside. Today there is a large gate across the entrance (constructed in 2013) and concrete steps going towards the entrance. The steps were built circa 1969 after the State purchase the cave from the Rothrock family. The rock walls shown in photos are also gone. This photo was from George F. Jackson estate and now owned by John Benton.

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.

