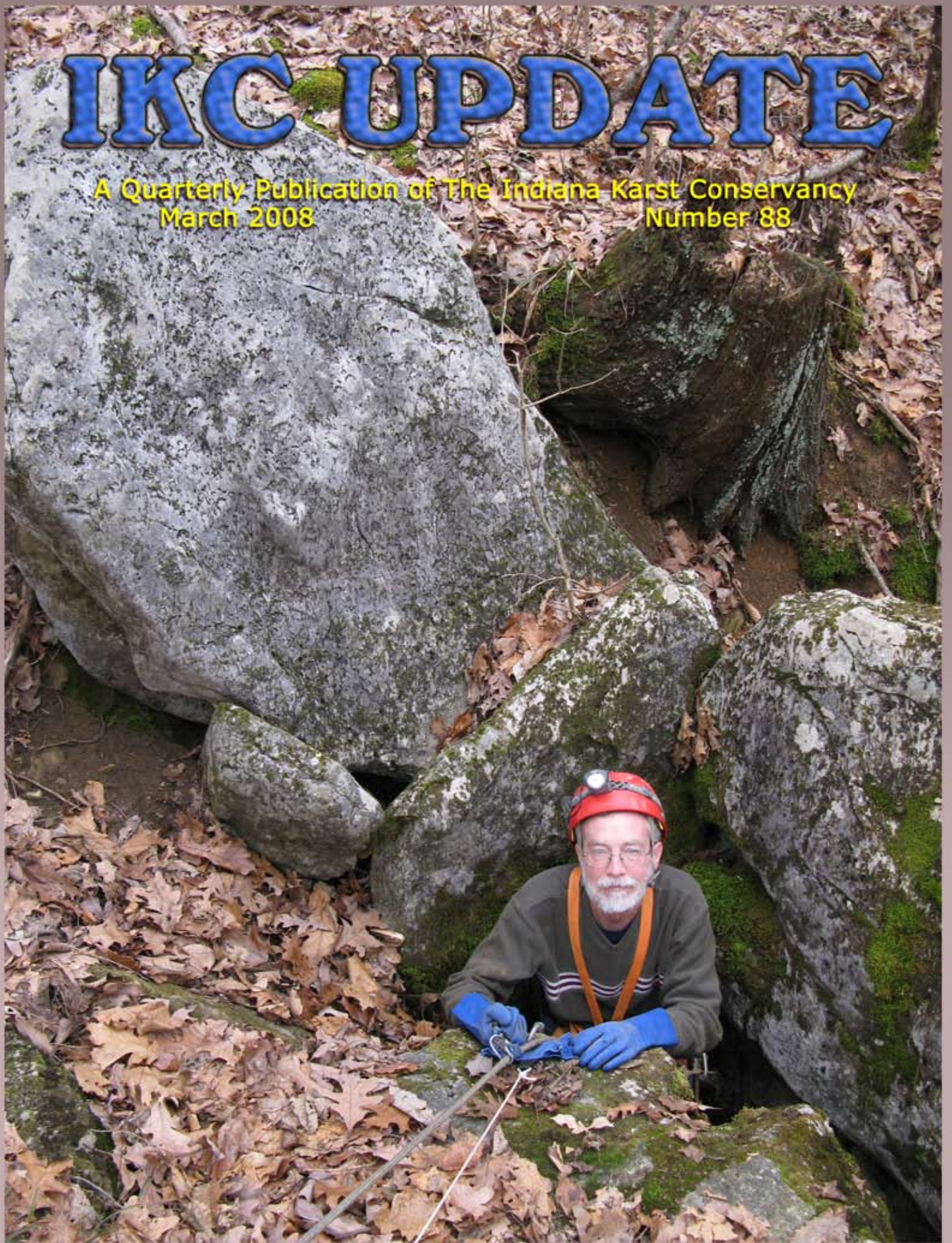


IKC UPDATE

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

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<http://www.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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Cover: IKC Member Dave Stahl in the entrance of Breeden Pit, Harrison County, Indiana. Photo taken by Elliot Stahl on February 10, 2008.



ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING REMINDER
SATURDAY, MARCH 29th, 10:00 AM EDT
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 the Buddha and Robinson Ladder properties; Robinson Ladder Cave Preserve surface restoration; Sullivan outhouse status; Indiana Cave Symposium; Financial Report; HNF inventorying project; and more....

Meeting directions: See page 17 (inside back cover) for directions and map.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

March 29 – IKC Annual Business Meeting (see above)

March 29 – Lost River Tour (Orleans)

April 12 – Tree Planting at Buddha Preserve (see page 10)

April 19 – Under-Earth Day at Robinson Ladder Preserve (see page 5)

April 19 – Indiana Cave Symposium, Milltown (see page 10)

May 3 – Take Pride in America (see page 6)

June 7 – Lost River Tour (Orleans)

June ? – IKC Quarterly Meeting (date and location TBD)

August 11-15 – NSS Convention, Lake City, Florida

For more information on the Indiana Karst Conservancy, visit our website at <http://www.caves.org/conservancy/ikc> or write to our PO box. Membership to the IKC is open to anyone interested in cave and karst conservation. Annual dues are \$15. Please see inside the back cover for a membership application form or to make a much-appreciated donation. Donations can also be made by credit card using the donation button located on our website's home page.

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...

“I don’t know about you suckers, but I’m going caving!” – Art Gahimer



It was sometime back in the early ‘70s and a group of engineering students from Rose Hulman, a professor and a geology tech from IU, and several others all simultaneously dropped the rocks they were pass-

ing up out of a small sink and tried to jam themselves into the body-sized crack into which Art had just disappeared.

The occasion was one of the regular monthly meetings of the SISG, the Southern Indiana Speleo Group – a group of cavers pointedly not aligned with the NSS or any of its grottoes – and after the meeting, president Art Gahimer had kicked a low box out from under the table and suggested that if we liked we could all follow him across the road to a hole he had been keeping an eye on since he noticed fog issuing from it one cold winter day.

It was a nice, sunny day and we had nothing better to do so we grabbed the offered shovels and pry-bars, and a small ammo box which Art insisted had to be kept some distance away from the box he had taken charge of – and walked across Eller Road and into the woods. Art followed a vague trail through the dense growth until we came to an unpretentious little hole, more of a depression really.

Ignoring our skepticism, former quarryman Art set to work and a stream of rocks flew out of the hole. Periodically one of us would relieve Art until he would lose patience with the much reduced output and shove the slacker out of the way.

Eventually, even Art met his match in solid rock and called for “the box”. “The box” turned out to be a case of dynamite – Red Cross Brand. When he worked for the quarries, one of his jobs was as a blaster and in a few minutes he had constructed a rather ominous looking bomb. This was carefully placed and we were instructed to vacate the area while he lit the fuse. Standing well away with fingers in ears and mouths open per Art’s instructions, we were still startled by the explosion. Art clearly loved his work as shown by his big grin – but he wasn’t happy with himself, “Too loud!”

He wasn’t worrying about disturbing the neighbors, only that the loudness meant that energy had been wasted on moving air instead of rock.

After years of blasting in the quarries, Art had developed a sensitivity to the nitrates in explosives and the smoke from the dynamite gave him an instant and severe headache. To clear the smoke he lowered a Coleman lantern into the hole and we sat back to wait. This didn’t last long because it didn’t take long for us to see that there was now a black void below. Ignoring his headache and the fumes, Art jumped down the hole and we heard him yell “I don’t know about you suckers, but I’m going caving!” Then followed the exploration and mapping of SISG’s Showcase Cave.

Years have gone by and one of those Rose Hulman students is now retiring as President of the IKC after five terms. He’s also become a long-time supporter of the NSS and member of the Evansville Metropolitan Grotto, and has forgotten just what it was that we were supposed to be protesting against back then.

Lots of things have changed since the early ‘70s, not the least being that wandering around in the woods outside of Bloomington with a case of dynamite would probably result in an arrest and a mention on *NBC Nightly News*. We cavers have also changed; and if you find us wandering in the woods with hammers and drills, it’s usually to work on a project to improve the suitability of a cave to serve as bat habitat. The gonzo days of caving in Indiana are mostly gone and that’s probably a good thing given how much damage can be done – though I confess I still harbor a soft spot for hammers and star drills.

Following are some of the things we accomplished since my first term in 2003 (the emphasis is on “we” here, I just like to think I helped.):

- Completed the acquisition of the 20-acre Wayne Cave Preserve and made significant improvements to the access driveway, parking lot, and camping areas.
- Revised the Grotto Liaison Agreement and added Sullivan Cave to the program.
- Co-sponsored, along with the Hoosier National Forest, Ravenswood Media and the NSS, the video *Caves: Life Beneath the Forest*. Besides providing some of the financing, IKC members contributed to the actual production by sug-



gesting locations, hauling gear, and doing other things involved with the actual filming. We also contributed to and participated in the world premiere of the video in Bloomington. Copies of the video were also distributed to IKC members.

- With the assistance of The Nature Conservancy, purchased the 40-acre Robinson Ladder Cave Preserve and initiated an ongoing surface restoration project.
- Received the 2005 Eastern Region Honor Award for Volunteer of the Year from the USDA Forest Service for our work with the Hoosier National Forest inventorying karst features, writing cave management plans, and nominating caves for significant cave status.
- Expanded our education and outreach efforts with Project Underground, the inflatable cave, and the previously mentioned video at schools and organizations and attendance at various conferences such as HASTI (Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.) and the Bat Festival at Indiana State University.
- Installed a large gate on Piggy Pit (aka Rominger Well) for the Hoosier National Forest.
- Planted thousands of trees at Sullivan Cave and Buddha Karst preserves.

- Built and sold a number of Speloggers to various agencies to monitor bat caves for better management decisions while generating a modest revenue for our own conservation initiatives..
- Fielded volunteers and made our caves available for the 2007 NSS National Convention held at Marengo, Indiana.
- Repaired a washed-out section of tour trail in Little Wyandotte Cave for the Indiana DNR.
- Several members continued to participate in the biennial Indiana bat census.

Thanks to our officers, directors, committee chairs, cave patrons, property managers, grotto liaisons, and most of all to our members, without whom we could do nothing.

I think it's time to get some fresh leadership, after five years I may be getting a bit stale, so I've decided not to seek re-election as President this time. I know my replacement will do an excellent job and will have my full support.

I do intend to remain active in the IKC and to help out wherever I can. It's been a great five years and I have been proud to represent the IKC – you can't find a better bunch of people. For now, I don't know about you, but I'm going caving.

Richard Vernier

UNDER-EARTH DAY – ROBINSON LADDER PRESERVE

April 19, 2008

The Indiana Karst Conservancy will once again organize a workday in celebration of Earth Day. This year we will return to the Robinson Ladder Cave Preserve to continue our grapevine eradication project. We will also be replacing the access lane gate which was damaged earlier this year. The workday will also serve as our "open house" for the members and caving community to explore the property, both above and below ground. Note that Robinson Ladder Cave will still be closed due to the bats.

You do not need any special skill to assist and family participation is encouraged. Bring gloves, good shoes, and water. If you have limb loppers, bring them too. Starting time will be noon EDT. We will be done by 4 PM so participants can attend the nearby Indiana Cave Symposium.

The property is located just off of SR 66, 2.8 miles north of SR 64 (Milltown) coming from the south, or 4.2 miles south of US 150 coming from the north. Watch for Baylor Road, heading west from SR 66 (the intersection has GPS coordinates N4249542 E0563592). The access lane to the IKC property is directly opposite of Baylor Road heading to the east. Take the lane 1/4 mile to the property. If you need further directions or information, contact John Benton (JBenton@fullnet.com or 812-683-2733).

NEWS BRIEFS...

- ❑ With winter winding down (I think) and spring just around the corner, the IKC's activity calendar is once again full of cave conservation/educational projects (see the calendar on page 3 and other announcements throughout this issue). Pick a few projects to volunteer your labor while having a little fun too. IKC projects can be very rewarding and there is always lots of fellowship in accomplishing good things together. Or if you prefer, there are other tasks like mowing grass, performing trail maintenance, or spraying multi-flora rose that can be done on your own schedule. Contact one of the property managers listed on page 2 to find out how you can help.
- ❑ The Buckner Cave Graffiti Removal project continues with monthly work weekends and volunteers are always welcome. Participants have found the project very rewarding through the visual accomplishment gained each day. Efforts are now concentrated in the Volcano Passage section of the cave. The IKC would like to encourage our members to support this effort. Camping is available, but please notify Bill Baus of your intentions. Bill would also appreciate it if you would notify him that you will be coming so he can plan manpower. Bill can be contacted at Baus@alumni.indiana.edu or 812-339-1210. The next work weekends are April 12/13 and May 10/11.
- ❑ On May 3rd, the Hoosier National Forest will be sponsoring their annual Take Pride In America workday. There will be a number of forest-wide stewardship projects needing to be accomplished on that day (generally they have more than 100 volunteers). While no cave-related project has been planned this year, Take Pride in America is still a good activity to support and an excuse to get out and bond with nature.
- ❑ On April 19th, in addition to Under-Earth Day (see page 5) and the Indiana Cave Symposium (see page 10), you can start the morning off at the Hellbender Hustle at the O'Bannon Woods State Park Nature Center. In addition to running and walking events starting at 9 AM EDT, there will be other nature-oriented family-friendly activities and displays, along with a local blues band (appropriately named the Hellbenders). For more information, contact Cassie Hauswald (chauswald@tnc.org 812-737-2087).
- ❑ 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 on March 29th and June 7th. The orientation lecture starts at 7:40 AM EDT 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 Dee at (317) 253-6951.
- ❑ For the last six month, we have been promoting the use of the internet search engine www.GoodSearch.com as a means of raising funds for the IKC. For every search, a penny is donated. This company has now expanded their offering with a promotion called GoodShop. Basically, if you shop via the internet, and enter the merchant's website through the GoodShop portal, 0.5 to 5% of the purchase price will be donated to the IKC. If you do a lot of internet shopping and remember to use GoodShop, the donations can add up quickly. The list of participating merchants grows daily and includes Amazon.com, Barnes&Noble, Best Buy, Buy.com, Circuit City, Dell, eBay, Home Depot, iTunes, J.Crew, Kohl's, Land's End, Macy, Office Depot, Old Navy, PetSmart, Sears, Staples, Target, ToyRUs, and Walmart.
- ❑ One criteria for judging the viability of an organization is membership retention. The IKC has twenty-nine individuals and one grotto that have been members for more than twenty years. Each have paid



nearly \$500 in dues over the period (note, for the first several years, dues were \$25/year). Thank you Keith Calkins, Paul Cannaley, George Cesnik, Jeff Cody, Steve Collins, Rane Curl, Keith Dunlap, Dave Everton, Scott Fee, Dave Haun, Tem Hornaday, Hank Huffman, Glenn Lemasters, Angie May, Jane Miller, Lynn Miller, Nick Noe, Ernie Payne, Don Peters, Kevin Rasmus, Tom Rea, Bob Sergesketter, Noel Sloan, Susan Strickland, Kevin Strunk, Bill Tozer, Bruce Trotter, Dick Vernier, Mark Webb, and the Windy City Grotto.

- Two new members have joined the IKC in the past quarter. Welcome Kevin McKelvey (470) and Eric Metcalf (471). The IKC membership now stands at 187.

INTO THE WOODS: KARST SYSTEM

by Cindy Sandeno

Editor's note: Into the Woods is a feature courtesy of Hoosier National Forest staff that appears once a month in the Education section of the Times-Mail. The goal is to keep the public regularly informed of what is happening on the ground on Indiana's only national forest.

The cave and karst program in the Hoosier National Forest is committed to cave conservation to protect caves for future generations. Home to more than 165 caves, the Hoosier National Forest is a great place to study and protect cave resources. This program allows Hoosier National staff to do intensive surveying and studying of caves for effective management and protection. Caves are Indiana's most remote and fragile ecosystems. Cave formations take centuries to form and just seconds to destroy.

What's that?

Karst is a landscape formed by rock that dissolves to create features like caves, sinkholes, springs, and underground rivers. The most common cave-forming rock is limestone, which is abundant in this area. Indiana has one of the best-known karst areas in the United States.

Data mining:

Caves provide habitat for an array of unusual and rare animal species due to the extreme isolation and harsh conditions of the environment. Perhaps the most fascinating of all animals found there is the troglobite, which lives permanently and exclusively in caves. These unique animals have no pigment in their skin and have no eyes. During inventories of caves in the Hoosier National Forest, more than

54 troglobitic species were found and more than 30 species new to science were discovered.

Protecting caves: Why and how?

If the cave environment is damaged or altered, the survival of species like troglobites is threatened. Caves also are intimately linked to the surface. Delicate cave ecosystems require water, air, and nutrients from surface sources. We can't protect caves without protecting the lands that contribute water and nutrients to them. In karst terrains, rivers and streams often continue underground, draining rapidly into caves with virtually no filtering. This water and the contaminants it carries – such as human and animal waste, fertilizers, and pesticides – eventually emerges back at the surface at springs, seeps and wells. To protect our drinking water, we must wisely manage the relationship between karst and water by keeping pollutants from entering into caves.

Partnerships:

Volunteers are the backbone of the cave and karst program at Hoosier National Forest. The Indiana Karst Conservancy and Indiana Cave Survey volunteer thousands of hours each year surveying and mapping caves. They also assist with a variety of cave projects including the newly completed film, *Caves: Life Beneath the Forest*.

Learn more:

Wildlife biologist/karst coordinator: Cynthia Sandeno – 275-5987 or Franklin Lograsso – 277-3580.

Reprinted from the December 12, 2007 issue of the Times-Mail (Bedford).

IKC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

by Kriste Lindberg

“Thinking Outside the Box”... that was the theme of this year’s Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc. (HASTI) annual conference. We were thinking, however, that it should have been, “Thinking Inside the Cave” as our Project Underground “cave” was one of the most visited attractions there. Science educators from all around the state and beyond were delighted with it. The cave was a haven, a friendly respite from the busy conference. They could enter the cave and just rest for a few minutes to collect their thoughts while contemplating how they could use karst education in their endeavors.

The cave was also noticed by the event organizers and the media. Many kudos were received, a television crew from WFYI public television came to visit and the camera man even said that from the camera’s perspective, the cave was quite convincing. Thought this was a great compliment.

We also had the IKC display set up with another Project Underground activity – Salt Block Cave – taking place over the two-day event, February 7 and 8. Folks could stop by the booth to watch its progress and better visualize how a cave forms by water dripping onto salt blocks that simulate soluble limestone (just quicker).

Of course, the *Caves: Life Beneath the Forest* video was also present and running continuously. Don Ingle even offered up a complimentary copy as a door prize. The lucky recipient was very pleased, as you could imagine!

Event organizers praised our efforts and noted that we were one of the best attractions present.

I’m pleased to announce that we had over a dozen educators sign up to either take and/or host Project Underground workshops. This will be most helpful to us as cave and karst education is becoming more and more popular in the schools. We need more people out there to help with the requests. What we are doing must be working!

Similarly, we will be attending the state’s Environmental Education Symposium this summer to talk about how to integrate cave and karst education, including Project Underground, into an organized plan for Indiana. The symposium takes place on June 26 and 27.

On a broader note, we have been working more with not only state, but national efforts. In April, I will once again be traveling to Austin, Texas for the Texas Cave Conservancy’s biannual Cave Day in which the public is invited to visit cave preserves in developments. I’m not only involved with Cave Day, but are also working on a project to bring videos to formal and informal educators via video packages provided through the NSS and in partnership with an Austin-based business.

Some of the same folks, including Mike Walsh and I, are involved in the Partnership Building Forum of the Conservation Division of the NSS. At the end of April, we plan to travel to Las Vegas for the American Planning Association 100th National Planning Conference where we will have a booth encouraging planners to build responsibly in karst areas. Thanks to the National Speleological Foundation for funding this endeavor through a grant. Quite exciting! All these initiative seem to be evolving



The IKC’s multi-media display at the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers conference at the Indianapolis Convention Center.

nically together, creating good models, win/wins, and a more sustainable future along the way.

Closer to home, we also have had requests to bring the inflatable cave to two science nights – Grandview Elementary and Lakeview Elementary in Bloomington. We are becoming “regulars” at science nights and educators from HASTI have asked for our assistance in upcoming science nights in other parts of the state for next year, as well. People really enjoy climbing through the cave. It is a good “hook” to bring them in to learn more about cave and karst education. We’ve also been recently asked to bring the cave to the Ellettsville Public Library.

Another learning opportunity was hosted this quarter - Going Batty! A number of kids and their parents came to learn more about bats during a two-hour program hosted by Bloomington Parks and Recreation in February. They were treated to a number of Project Underground activities involving bats, including the cave, as well as a presentation and live bat demonstration by Laura Hohman of Bat World Sanctuary. Laura brought in a couple of her Big Brown bats for the kids to see.

As for the grant money we received from the National Speleological Foundation, we have already purchased Adobe Creative Suite 3 desktop publishing software to produce better quality educational materials. We have already colorized a few formerly black and white drawings for interpretive signage and created new publications. You will be seeing more of them in the future.

We are also gearing up for this year’s Leonard Springs Nature Days, hosted by Bloomington Parks and Recreation, Monroe County Consolidated School Corporation, and the Sycamore Land Trust. Grants have also been received to fund this endeavor. As you may recall from last year, we hosted one-third of the area’s six-graders at the park to learn more about karst, stream monitoring, wetlands, forests, soils, and the interconnectivity thereof at Leonard Springs Nature Park. This year, we are hosting two-thirds of the six-graders and next year, we hope to host all of them. Thanks to Bloomington Indiana Grotto for their work making sure the trail is well-protected during this event through the city’s Adopt-a-Trail program. More on this “No Child Left Inside” endeavor next issue.

Also in April, we will once again be working with partners in The Nature Conservancy at their annual “Spring Fling” in O’Bannon Woods State Park. There, we plan to hold a special showing

of the *Caves: Life Beneath the Forest* video and I’ve designed the logo for the event’s Hellbender Hustle 5K race. Then, head down to the annual Indiana Cave Symposium where we will be presenting the highlights of our educational adventures throughout the past year.

More opportunities to get out and learn about karst will be offered through the Bloomington Parks and Recreation Summer Program Guide and, further in the future, at the 2008 NSS Convention.

Upcoming educational events include:

- Envirothon, Lawrence County Fairgrounds, Bedford, March 11
- Leonard Springs Nature Days, Bloomington, March 25 - April 15
- Texas Cave Conservancy Cave Day I, Cedar Park, Texas, April 12
- The Nature Conservancy’s “Spring Fling”, Corydon area, April 19
- Indiana Cave Symposium, Milltown, April 19
- APA National Planning Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, April 27 – May 1
- IDNR, Project WET Karst Tour, Wesley Chapel Gulf, etc., May 10
- Jordan River Fest, IU – Art Museum, Bloomington, May 18
- Lost River Tour, Orleans, June 7
- Cave Critter Creations, Monroe County Public Library, Bloomington, June 26
- Environmental Education Symposium, Indianapolis, June 26-27
- Quarries: Old and New Tour, Bedford area, June 28
- Caves Among Us: Leonard Springs Nature Park Tour, Bloomington, July 16
- NSS Convention, Lake City, Florida, August 11-15 (Education Day, August 14)
- Spring Mill State Park “Gone Caving” third annual event, Mitchell, August 23 – 24
- Texas Cave Conservancy Cave Day II, Cedar Park, Texas, September 13

If you would like more information on any of the above and/or would like to help out, please contact me at kriste.linberg@gmail.com or (812) 339-7210.

Special thanks extended to the BIG, Laura Hohman, Don Ingle, Nick Noe, and Bob Vandeventer.

INDIANA CAVE SYMPOSIUM 2008 PREVIEW

by Keith Dunlap

The 16th annual Indiana Cave Symposium, co-sponsored by the Indiana Karst Conservancy and Indiana Cave Survey, will be held on Saturday, April 19, in Milltown, Indiana. The customary free cookout and pitch-in dinner will start at 5 PM Eastern Daylight Time at the Cave Country Canoes campground shelter with presentations beginning at 7 PM in the nearby Community Center building. The expected presenters (not in any particular order) and tentative presentation titles include:

- Jamie Winner Hell Hole Hat Dome location and connection
- Jerry Lewis Our year in cave biology
- Keith Dunlap Indiana Cave Survey map catalogue project
- Dave Everton Auriga and American Bottoms caves survey project
- Jack Wood Karst, caves, and sediment: the extent and timing of the Laurentide ice sheet
- Kriste Lindberg Our year in cave and karst education
- Todd Webb Indiana Cave Survey GIS validation project

We may also have some cave related entertainment during the program's intermission. Camping will be available on-site at Milltown Canoes campground. For more information about the Symposium, contact Dave Everton (deverton@indiana.edu or evening phone 812-824-4380) or visit the Indiana Cave Survey website at www.caves.org/survey/ics.

BUDDHA KARST NATURE PRESERVE TREE PLANTING

April 12, 2008

The first IKC conservation project of the year will be at our Buddha Karst Nature Preserve. We plan to plant 1,000 tree seedlings which will reforest about two acres of the 37-acre preserve. The tree species this year will include White oak, Red oak, Chinkapin oak, Shumard oak, Black oak, Scarlet Oak, and Black walnut.

Starting time is 10 AM EDT, rain or shine. Bring gloves, appropriate shoes, water, and a light lunch. We have two scout troops lined up to help, so with a good caver turnout, we should be done in two to three hours. Contact George Cesnik (see page 2) if you are interested in helping and need directions, or just show up. To date, we have planted approximately 2,900 trees at this preserve and plan to continue planting 500 to 1,000 trees per year. Partial funding for the trees this year was provided by a conservation grant from the Dogwood City Grotto.



Ray Rough and Salisa Lewis planting trees at the Buddha Karst Nature Preserve

Movies make return to Marengo

Actor Kevin Sorbo highlights cast of 'Fire From Below'

by Lee Cable

Few people would think that a little town like Marengo would ever be the location for the filming of a movie. But it was. And even fewer people would think that the town would be the site for the filming of two movies, but it was.

The crew from the movie "Madison" showed up a few years ago and converted part of Marengo into a Hollywood version of smalltown America. This year, the crew from the movie "Fire From Below" came knocking and filmed for three days last week in Marengo Cave.

The movie, starring Kevin Sorbo, is an action film about a seismic investigator named Jake Denning (Sorbo) and his fiancée, Karen, who are on a vacation at Lost Lake when an industrialist, digging in a nearby cave, unearths a vein of pure, base lithium and inadvertently brings it to the surface, where lithium combusts when coming into contact with water and begins to wreak havoc across the countryside.

Four boaters are the first to encounter the perilous effects when their craft is engulfed by walls of fire that erupt from below and across the lake bed. Jake and Karen start putting together clues when they find one of the boater's charred remains. They later discover the entire town has succumbed to a deadly, noxious gas.

The military soon arrives and seals off the region, but things go from bad to worse when a seismic eruption entraps two of Jake's colleagues and an Army sergeant below the earth's surface in a labyrinth of mine shafts and caves. A rescue mission is mounted to try to save them before time runs out.

With the collaboration of the military, Jake must find a way to rescue his co-workers and prevent a terrestrial holocaust. But, unknown to Jake, the Army has a backup plan to detonate massive underground explosives — at the expense of the lives of those trapped beneath the surface.

The entourage came to Marengo and filmed one day at the Marengo

Warehouse and Distribution Center, using military helicopters and explosives to film the last scene of the movie. The crew then moved to Marengo Cave for three days of filming underground.

"It was almost like the film was written for Crawford County and the caves," assistant producer Bill Dever said. "Actually, I feel that one of the stars of the film is Crawford County. We felt very welcomed by the county.

"When this movie was in the planning stage, we started making calls about getting access to caves for filming. We decided to look at what Indiana has to offer and found that this area suited us," he said. "It would be difficult to top Marengo Cave. This county should be proud. And you guys have a mean, lean promoting machine in Carol Groves here at Marengo Caves. She helped make all of this possible.

"I feel that Crawford, Harrison and Orange counties should be more involved in promoting themselves. This is a beautiful area, and even though a few people have said that Indiana wasn't really good for filming, they've got it all wrong," Dever said. "Just in this area, there's Patoka Lake, the casinos, really good military support, caves, rivers. We were lucky to find all of this. Some locals should take the initiative and become the master of their own destiny. And Indiana should have their own film commission. You have so much to offer, but no one is actively promoting it." (*The Hoosier state does have a agency, FILM Indiana, to help promote itself.*)

On the second day of filming at the caves, the morning started out with breakfast in the snack shop catered by Rose Toney, who owns Van's Restaurant in Marengo. Makeup was set up in the same area, and when the actors finished breakfast, they took turns getting "made-up" in whatever manner their roles required. Some had fake blood on them from "injuries" they would later sustain when the filming

started, some with real looking mud and dirt on their faces, and some, like the main characters, with regular makeup that helps them look more star-like.

One of the co-stars, GiGi Ermeta, was through with makeup and sat down for a chat with Toney and Wilson.

"I do a lot of horror and action films," said Ermeta, who is from New York but now lives in Dallas. "I also do a lot of my own stunts. We actually filmed some of this movie in Dallas where I had to outrun explosions in a couple of scenes. I also do a lot of commercials.

"Sometimes people will come up to me and say, 'I've seen you somewhere before.' I think it's mainly because of the commercials I've been in, which are shown all over the country," she said. "I was in one commercial recently advertising Buffalo Wild Wings, where I went flying over a bar and a lot of people recognize me from that. I also host a television show in Dallas. But after this, I'm going to take a much-needed vacation."

About the time the rest of the actors finished with makeup, producer Andrew Stevens entered the room and yelled in an intimidating way, "Where are my actors? — I need my actors — now! Let's get to work — now!" And everyone headed for the caves for another day of filming.

"I'm really proud to be a part of all of this," said Toney, who served more than 700 meals while the actors and crew were at the caves. "They have been so nice to us. They really make you feel appreciated."

Sharon Wilson of the Crawford County Tourism Office, who was helping at the cave, agreed with Toney.

"It's really amazing," Wilson said. "We've gotten so many compliments. They act like we are the most important people here, like we are part of the crew. They are all very respectful. And they love the food. While we are setting up breakfast, they're asking us, 'What's for lunch?' They

Continued on page 16...

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY TREASURY REPORT

**Income/Expense Statement
From October 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007**

INCOME:

Dues Apportionment and Residuals	671.25	
Donations - General	886.82	
Donations - Land Acquisition Fund	1375.00	
National Speleological Foundation Grant	1000.00	
Interest	<u>769.89</u>	
		\$4,702.96

EXPENSES:

IKC Update (printing, production, mailing)	208.66	
Stewardship/Conservation	1196.75	
Education / Outreach	979.11	
SpeLogger expenses	69.93	
Business (PO Box rental, insurance)	769.50	
Transfers to/from restricted funds/other adjustments	<u>1704.98</u>	
		(\$4,928.93)

NET OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIT) THIS PERIOD: (\$225.97)

**Balance Sheet
December 31, 2007**

ASSETS:

Cash in Checking / Saving Accounts / CDs	89610.96	
Wayne Cave Preserve (20.00 acres)	75000.00	
Robinson Ladder Cave Preserve (40.40 acres)	75000.00	
Sullivan Cave Preserve (28.00 acres)	72000.00	
Buddha Karst Nature Preserve (36.84 acres)	29000.00	
Orangeville Rise Nature Preserve (3.01 acres)	7000.00	
Indian Creek Conservation Easement (valued at \$1/acre)	<u>13.16</u>	
		<u><u>\$347,624.12</u></u>

LIABILITIES & OPERATING EXCESS:

Land Acquisition Restricted Fund	32033.40
Deferred Dues Restricted Fund (183 members)	2291.25
Stewardship Endowment Restricted Fund	28776.88

Previous Operating Excess	26748.56
Net Excess (Deficit) This Period	<u>(225.97)</u>
Current Operating Excess (unrestricted funds)	26522.59
Real estate liquidity (basis value)	<u>258000.00</u>

Total Liabilities & Operating Excess \$347,624.12

IKC WINTER QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, January 12, 2008 – Bloomington, Indiana

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Vernier, President
 Keith Dunlap, Treasurer
 Bob Sergesketter, Secretary
 Jim Adams
 Dave Haun (proxy by Brent Grist)
 Don Ingle
 Jerry Lewis
 Kriste Lindberg (proxy by Karen Silvers)
 Nick Noe
 Bruce Silvers
 Tom Sollman
 Bob Vandeventer
 Sue Vernier
 Jamie Winner

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Steve Lockwood

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 AM in Room 143 of the Geology Building on the campus of Indiana University, President Richard Vernier presiding. The meeting which was scheduled for December 15, 2007 was cancelled at the last minute due to weather conditions. Today's meeting will combine the business that would have been conducted at the December meeting and the business that would normally be conducted at a February meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as published in the December 2007 *IKC Update*.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dunlap reported that we had a lot of expenses in the fourth quarter of 2007 but we had some income as well from donations and a grant so we more or less broke even for the quarter. He said that we are still in pretty good shape financially. Our total assets in land holdings and cash amounts to \$347,624.12. A detailed Treasury Report may be found in the March *IKC Update*. Membership stands at 183. Dunlap said that there are six or seven that still have not renewed, but he is working on them. Dunlap also reported that we just received a \$1,000 donation from the 2007 NSS Convention Committee.

Nominations for three officers and four directors

The positions of President, Treasurer, and Secretary are one year terms and they must be voted on each year. The Directors are elected to three year staggered terms so that four directors are elected each year. The terms of Lindberg, Noe, Vandeventer, and Sue Vernier are up for grabs. Dick Vernier asked if we should send out a general solicitation to encourage members to run for a Board position. We have a little more time this year because this business is normally discussed at a February meeting. Dunlap said that we can solicit, but then we would have to conduct an E-vote to approve the final slate of candidates, but that isn't a problem. We have plenty of time.

Nick Noe said that he will not be running for re-election. Jerry Lewis said that he is willing to run for President. Keith Dunlap said he is willing to continue as Treasurer. Don Ingle

said that he is interested in the Secretary position. Kriste Lindberg, Karen Silvers, Bob Vandeventer, Sue Vernier, Richard Vernier, and Bob Sergesketter will all be seeking a Director's position.

Dunlap said that he thinks it would be a good idea to do one more solicitation for candidates and he will take care of doing it soon. He is going to set a deadline of January 19, and then have an E-vote to approve the slate of candidates.

Education and Outreach Report

Lindberg reported that we have received our \$1,000 grant from the National Speleological Foundation. A publication software upgrade has already been purchased. Items such as helmets and lights to be used with the "inflatable cave", supplies for other Project Underground activities, supplies for the IKC display, and the establishment of an Education and Outreach Fund will also be funded by this grant.

Lindberg reported that the two-day HASTI (Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.) convention is coming up. It will be held at the Indianapolis Convention Center on February 7 and 8, 2008 and she proposed that we register for a full booth for the IKC display. The cost would be \$200. Sue Vernier made a motion that we spend \$200 for registration at the HASTI convention, seconded by Noe who stated that this conference is some of the best exposure that the IKC can get. It is heavily attended not only by teachers, but also by state officials. Sollman asked if this expense could be paid out of the recently acquired grant. Dunlap said that the grant came with very specific guidelines as to what the money could be spent on, and this would not be covered. Dick Vernier said that we could possibly apply for additional grants in the future that we could use for educational opportunities such as HASTI. The discussion then turned to the need for an electrical hookup for our display which would be needed to run a DVD player and monitor so we can run the video *Caves: Life Beneath the Forest*. The video proved to be a popular attraction last year. An electrical hookup would cost an extra \$50. There was talk of possibly sharing a hookup with another booth and splitting the expense. Sue Vernier modified her motion, changing the amount to \$225. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Set up day for the convention is Wednesday, February 6, and volunteers are needed to set up and also to man the booth during the convention.

Lindberg said that she wants to have a Project Underground facilitator training class in the future and she is hoping to get some financial support from the IKC to do it. She will have more details on that later in the year. She is also working on an Education and Outreach article for an upcoming issue of the *NSS News*.

Lost River: Hoosier National Forest Boundary Adjustment

Vernier reported that Angela Hughes of The Nature Conservancy was scheduled to give a report at the December meeting, which was cancelled, and she was unable to attend this meeting. She was going to report on a plan to adjust the purchase boundary of the Hoosier National Forest to encompass a portion of the Lost River Cave system. Vernier made a brief presentation of the proposal and showed the areas involved



on a large map. He said that the way things are right now, the HNF can't actually buy any property outside their boundaries without an act of Congress. In order to make it easier for them, TNC would most likely be the party to make the acquisition and then they would transfer it to the HNF. Right now, TNC owns 213 acres of land that covers a large portion of the Lost River Cave System. HNF owns the Wesley Chapel Gulf feature and some land associated with that. When TNC bought their tract, the intent was to then sell the property to the HNF. A new administration brought new leadership to the National Forest agency and the deal was denied. In anticipation that the situation may loosen up in the future, TNC is trying to position itself so that the exchange could take place. Each transaction would likely require congressional approval so nothing is going to happen very soon. Vernier said that Hughes will probably come to a future meeting to go into more detail about this matter.

Cave Biota Video

Lewis reported on attending the Cave Conservation Café in Washington DC on October 22. He said that the event attracted about sixty to seventy people including several mid- and upper-level Forest Service and other agency people. He said that Cindy Sandeno was there and was very pleased and excited at the outcome. They both thought that the event was worth the effort. Lewis and Sandeno each had an article in the December 2007 *IKC Update* about the event. Vernier reported that he got a call from Dave McGowan who said that he will be showing the video on January 23 to a group of Department of Interior people. McGowan thinks that this may lead to an agency wide showing at an event similar to the Forest Service's Cave Conservation Café. McGowan has asked that we continue to explore different ways that we can get the video out before the public. Lewis reported that he will be the keynote speaker for the Kentucky Science Teacher's Convention in February and he intends to use the video in his presentation.

HNF Gypsy Moth Eradication Program

Vernier reported that he received an e-mail that said the Gypsy Moth has been found in the Deam Wilderness and that the IKC would receive a copy of the proposed eradication plan in the mail. We have received the plan and several members have looked it over. Vernier said that he is concerned that the plan could result in toxic products getting into the cave systems and also that species other than the Gypsy Moth could be affected which would reduce the food source for bats in the area. Moths of all kinds serve as food for bats. Noe commented that this program will take some very fine micro management in order to eradicate the Gypsy Moth without messing up the food chain. Lewis said that his understanding is that the program is species specific and that Cindy Sandeno is not too worried about the outcome. He said that they will be using pheromone flakes which will be interrupting the mating cycle of the Gypsy Moth. No further action was taken. We will wait and see what happens.

Western Indiana Grotto: Grotto Liaison Application

No representative from the Western Indiana Grotto was present so after a brief discussion, Adams moved that the matter be tabled until such time as a WIG representative attend a meeting and apply for the grotto liaison program, seconded by Sue Vernier. President Vernier determined that a vote was unnecessary and tabled the matter.

Bat Census Report

Dunlap said that the report covering the January 2007 census has been published. If anyone wants a hard copy, talk to Dunlap.

Robinson Ladder Cave Preserve

Vernier said that he met someone who does prescribed burns and related stuff. He is based in Sullivan, IN so he may not be interested in coming as far as Robinson Ladder, but he may be a possible resource. Winner said that he has been unable to get anyone to do the burn. He also reported that the spraying is done. Both fields got sprayed (but we only paid for the upper field). The guy made a mistake and also sprayed the bottom field which we had planned on leaving alone. Vernier thought that most of the good stuff in the bottom field had already gone dormant so perhaps no harm was done. In any event, the effects of the spraying are already visible. Winner said that the burn should be done in early April.

Vernier reported that the gate on the driveway has been damaged recently. One of the neighbors reported the damage to John Benton who then contacted Vernier and Dunlap. It is not known if the damage was deliberate or accidental. Benton will inspect it and let us know if it is repairable, or if the gate must be replaced. Tom Rea said that he may have a gate we can have if he can find it and if it's the right size.

Dunlap reported that one of the action items for management recommendation in the bat report is to monitor Robinson Ladder Cave for temperatures. He doesn't think that it would take Board action to do the monitoring but he wants the Board to be aware of the study. Vernier asked if we need to buy temperature monitors. Dunlap said that we may or the DNR might furnish them. He intends to begin the study in the fall of 2008 and continue it for two years. The bat population in Robinson Ladder Cave has been flat, neither increasing nor decreasing. Robinson Ladder Cave is considered to be a cold cave and one of Dr Brack's things that he's been looking at long-term is that there might be some caves that are too cold for the bats. Bat Conservation International, on the other hand, thinks that caves aren't cold enough. A two year temperature study in Robinson Ladder Cave may not prove which theory is correct but it will be a start.

Orangeville Rise

Vernier reported that as of three weeks ago, the plaque was still in place and a small amount of trash was picked up.

Wayne Cave Preserve

Sollman said that he visited the property a few weeks ago and everything looked fine.

Indian Creek Conservation Easement

Vernier said that he hasn't received anything recently from Richard Newton. We were in a situation where we needed to have the site evaluated for possible infractions and he was going to do that. He was going to go there with Bonnie Wolf from TNC. Vernier said that he has had a couple of e-mail exchanges with Newton, but nothing lately. Dunlap said that someone needs to walk the property and fill out a report to TNC. They have become more formalized and the proper reports need to be filed. He said that there are no violations that we know of. Vernier said that he will try to get in touch with Newton one more time.

Buddha Cave Preserve

Dunlap reported that over half of the multi flora rose plants have been killed. Tree planting will be April 12. We will have at least one Boy Scout troop to assist and maybe two. We have 800 trees ordered. If we get the second scout troop, Dunlap said that we could easily plant 1,000 trees so he made a motion to order another 200 trees, the cost not to exceed \$100, and contingent upon having the second scout troop to help. Lewis seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Vernier reported that the Indiana Department of Natural Resources is planning to publish a guide book to Indiana Nature Preserves and he has been asked if we want the Buddha property listed in the guide since it is a state designated Nature Preserve. The presence of a cave on the property makes it a somewhat sensitive area so he asked for some feedback from the Board as to whether we want it to be listed. Ingle thought it would be a bad idea to list it because it would just draw attention to the property and to the cave. Noe wondered if there is really anything on the property, other than the cave, that is so sensitive that we wouldn't want to include the property in the guide. Tom Rea thought that the description of the property could be written to call attention to features of the preserve other than the cave. Sollman said that he is all for listing in the guide. He said that we are supposed to be an educational group, not a secret society. Dunlap said that he has mixed feelings. Initially he was against listing, but has now changed his mind because it is after all, a designated Nature Preserve. Seventy-five percent of the funding came from the state and he feels like we should provide opportunities for people to visit it. We are not under any obligation to do that, however, because it is privately owned. He said that the property receives little visitation now and he doesn't think that listing it in a guide will increase visitation that much. He also noted that people who visit nature preserves are generally nature minded and not likely to vandalize the place. Sue Vernier said that she was in favor of listing, but said it would be nice if we knew in advance how the property would be described. She would prefer that the surface features were emphasized and the cave not mentioned. Sollman said that the property is already listed in numerous caving event guidebooks and no harm has occurred. Adams asked if the IDNR needs our permission to list the Buddha property. Vernier said that they do need our permission. Sue Vernier made a motion that we allow the IDNR to list the Buddha Karst Nature Preserve in a guide to Indiana Nature Preserves, subject to editorial oversight by the IKC. Dunlap seconded and the motion carried, 12 for, 0 against, 2 abstaining.

Dunlap presented draft version of the panels which will be placed in the information kiosk that was built a few years ago at Buddha Karst Nature Preserve. He is seeking member ideas and comments. There will be three panels. One will list visitation rules, one will be a donor recognition panel, and one will be an education panel. A 30 minute brainstorming session followed, in which everything from what colors will be used to what the various donor levels will be named was discussed. The text of the visitation rules was reviewed word by word down to the finest detail and changed as needed. Dunlap said that he will incorporate all of the changes and update the master file and then circulate the revised version to the Board for review. Dunlap said that the panels will be screen printed on aluminum plate. Sollman asked if there would be Lexan over the aluminum panels. Dunlap said that we could put Lexan over the panels. Sollman asked who is

paying for these panels. Dunlap said that is the next thing we need to discuss. Sollman asked if we could print the panels on paper, put Lexan over it, give it a year and see how it holds up. Dunlap said that the biggest issue with that idea is the difficulty of dismantling the kiosk to put the panels in and reassembly. He said that no one has shot at or vandalized the kiosk in any way since it was put in place and he feels like it would be safe to put permanent panels in place now.

The next discussion was about funding for the panels. Dunlap said the cost estimate for aluminum panels was \$300 to \$400. Sollman again asked if we could print the panels on paper. Dunlap said that he's never seen a situation like this where the paper wasn't deteriorating in just a few months. Tom Rea disagreed saying that he has experience with a similar kiosk in Michigan in which the paper panels under Lexan are still looking good after at least ten years. Dunlap said that he will investigate further and report. Winner pointed out that aluminum would be better if the Lexan cover was damaged and water got in. If a bullet penetrated the Lexan, only a small part of the aluminum panel would be damaged while a paper panel would be eventually ruined from water seeping in.

Dunlap said that he will do more investigating and the discussion will resume at a future meeting.

Sullivan Cave Preserve

Dunlap reported that two memorial benches have been placed near the entrance to Sullivan Cave. They were erected in memory of Eric Schneider by his friends Adam Manship and Mark Sparks.

The camping area has been leveled by dumping several loads of dirt and grading and seeding. The project was partially funded by the IKC with an additional donation by Keith Dunlap and the use of Jamie Winner's tractor.

The bio-inventory in Sullivan cave being conducted by Dr Lewis is in progress. Lewis said that he is taking Cloyce Hedge, Director of the Indiana State Natural Heritage program, into Sullivan Cave after the meeting.

There has been no movement on the outhouse project.

Vandeventer commended Dunlap and Winner on the camping area improvements.

Land Acquisition Activities

Lewis reported that Alan Pursell has contacted him and told him that he would like to attend one of our meetings. Pursell thinks that he and TNC can work with the IKC even more than they already do.

Dunlap reported that TNC is talking with the owner of Click's Cave again. Dunlap also said that he is surprised that nothing has come up that we would be interested in. It has been three years since we've bought anything.

Truitt Cave Gate

Dunlap reported that he hasn't followed up on this. A couple of meetings were proposed and they fell through. The landowner hasn't made any contact with us either.

BCI Request for Assistance

Dunlap said that back in October 2007, when Jim Kennedy was here, he asked if we would be interested in helping to put a gate on Bat Cave in Washington County. He told Kennedy that we would be interested, but we haven't heard anything since then.



HEC Membership Renewal / Donation

Noe offered a clarification before we discussed renewing our membership. He said that the Hoosier Environmental Council is an IRS 501(c)4 organization while the Hoosier Environmental Council Foundation is an IRS 501(c)3 organization. The reason it makes a difference to us is that the HEC can use money we give them for political activities while the HEC Foundation must use it for educational purposes. Dunlap said that he thinks we are obligated to go with the HEC Foundation in order to keep the IKC, which is also a 501(c)3 organization, from engaging in political activity. He also said that we have not received a renewal notice. Noe said that the HEC just got a new Executive Director and they are in a bit of turmoil, but the notices are going out very soon.

Dunlap moved that we donate \$100 to the HEC Foundation for renewal and donation. The motion was seconded by Adams. The motion passed 13 for, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

Items From the Floor

Vernier reported on attending Conservation Day at the Statehouse in Indianapolis. Each year TNC and several allied conservation groups, all part of the Indiana Conservation Alliance, sponsor a Day at the Statehouse event. They host a feed for the legislators and their aides and make presentations about three or four target items that they would like to see addressed by this year's legislation. A major concern this year is getting money for the Indiana Heritage Trust. An item that got Vernier's attention was SB14 which would eliminate funding the Indiana State Forest system from property taxes. Though the bill does not say where future funding for the for-

ests would come from, the implication is that it would come from the General Fund as a part of the biennial budget. He said a potential problem with that is that it is somewhat political and funds could be reduced or cut at any time.

Vernier said that what people are afraid of is that funding for the State Forests will be decreased and if that happens, money made from timber cutting in the State Forests will have to be used to make up for the reduced funding instead of using it to purchase more forest land. There is also a concern that programs such as invasive plant control, recreational activities, and educational programs could be reduced or eliminated.

He concluded by reminding everyone to let your state representatives know that you do not want to see dedicated funding removed from the State Forest system as an unintended consequence of property tax reform.

Lindberg said that there is a workday in progress today at the Richard Blenz Nature Conservancy property (Buckner Cave) and there will be another one tomorrow. Volunteers are always appreciated.

The next meeting will be Saturday, March 29, 2008, at the White River Library, State Road 135 and Smith Valley Road, in Greenwood, Indiana. The meeting will start at 10:00 AM, EDT. (*Editor's Note – The meeting venue was later switched to the Greenwood Public Library in downtown Greenwood. Same date, same time. See page 3*)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Sergesketter, Secretary.

...continued from page 11

are such nice people, and this whole thing has been good for Crawford County."

"They just called me out of the blue one day," Toney said. "When they asked me to furnish the food, I told them that we don't do real fancy stuff, and they said that wasn't what they wanted. They told me that they needed food that would stick to their ribs. The caves are cold and damp, and they wanted hot food, not finger sandwiches and all that."

And that's what they got. Toney and her cooks – Judy Jenkins, Imogene Griesinger and Betty Eastridge – got up every morning at about three o'clock in order to have breakfast served at the caves by 6:30. They had a typical country breakfast each day. And for lunch, Toney and Wilson dished out vegetable soup, homemade chicken and dumplings, beef stew, chicken, pinto beans, coleslaw and several kinds of cakes.

"We also served combread every

day," Toney said. "They've loved everything we served and asked for more."

Groves, vice president of marketing and public relations at Marengo Cave, was glad to have scenes from the movie filmed at the caves, but she wasn't willing to put the caves at risk.

"Bill (Dever) called about using the caves for filming," Groves said. "He came down and brought Andrew Stevens. They went to all four caves in the area and narrowed it down to this one. They had already been filming some in Texas and decided to film the rest of it here in Indiana. They actually pulled a lot of their crew from Louisville and Southern Indiana. It was planned to film here for three days, but another day was added once they started filming."

One of the reasons Marengo Cave suited the filmmakers was that golf carts could be used to get equipment in and out of the caves.

"We have paths in the cave that are wide enough for golf carts," Groves

said, "but we wouldn't allow them to drive the carts. Our people did that. And the film crew and actors were really restricted in where they could go and what they could do. We made sure they played by our rules by having some of our crew with them all the time they are in the caves.

"They aren't allowed to get off the paths, take food into the caves or touch anything," she said. "They are filming in two areas, the Crystal Palace and the Music Hall. Some areas are off limits. Movies come and go, but we must protect our caves.

"But everyone has been really nice. Even the star, Kevin Sorbo, is very approachable. My son had his picture taken with him. It's been a positive event for everyone involved."

"Fire From Below," a made-for-TV movie, should be released in late 2008. It will be shown on the Sci-Fi channel.

Reprinted from the December 19, 2007 The Corydon Democrat.

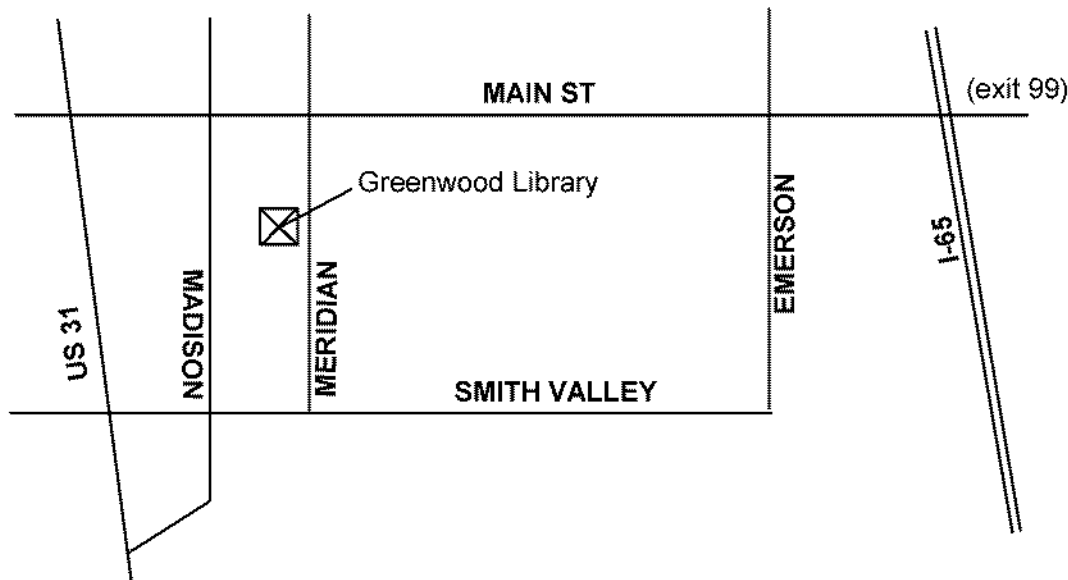
IKC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
SATURDAY, MARCH 29th, 10 AM EDT
GREENWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY
310 S Meridian St, Greenwood, IN
317-881-1953

Directions:

From I-65 north or south: Take exit 99 west on Main Street. After crossing the railroad tracks, go another 2 block to Meridian (traffic light) and turn south (left) one block. The library is on your right.

From SR37 north or south: Take Smith Valley Road east. Cross SR 135, US 31, and Madison Avenue and turn north (left) onto Meridian. Go about three block. The library will be on your left.

GPS: UTM 16 576682E 4384808N (NAD27)



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.

