

No. 21 – June 1991

A man wearing a red helmet with a headlamp, a yellow protective suit, and brown boots is crouching in a rocky, dimly lit cave. He is looking directly at the camera. The background consists of rough, textured rock walls.

TKC
UPDATE

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.

PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206-2401

Affiliated with the National Speleological Society.



The Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation and preservation of caves and karst features in Indiana and other areas of the world. The Conservancy encourages research and promotes education related to karst and its proper, environmentally compatible use.

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- Cave Management & Landowner Relations/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
- Research & Science/ (vacant)
- Education/ Noel Sloan (317) 845-8821
- Membership/ Jane Miller (317) 784-3724
- Publications/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
- Environmental Concerns, HEC Liaison/ Lynn Miller (317) 784-3724
- Hoosier Forests Project/ Kevin Komisarck (812) 339-2394

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

- Coon Cave/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
- Grotto Cave/ Mike Miessen (317) 897-1668
- Shaft Cave/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
- Shiloh Cave/ Marty Atherton (317) 783-2194
- Wayne's Cave/ Serena Smith (812) 333-4971
- Woodard Cave (TN)/ NIG - contact John Simerman (219) 424-0361

***** GROTTO LIAISONS *****

- Bloomington Indiana Grotto/ Dave Everton (812) 824-4380
- Bloomington Indiana Grotto/ Anmar Mirza (812) 339-1506
- Central Indiana Grotto/ Mike Miessen (317) 353-6624
- Eastern Indiana Grotto/ Brian Leavell (317) 552-7619
- Evansville Metropolitan Grotto/ Ernie Payne (812) 477-7043
- Mid-Hoosier Grotto/ Jeff Cody (317) 882-1414
- Northern Indiana Grotto/ John Simerman (219) 424-0361

Cover photo of Ray Sira in Jewell Cave (SD) by Scott Fee.

Publishing courtesy of **Myotis Press**; Editor and Publisher Keith Dunlap.



QUARTERLY MEETING REMINDER

SATURDAY, JUNE 29th, 7:00 PM

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA
IU STUDENT UNION
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI ROOM

The quarterly meetings are for members and other interested persons to have an open forum for communicating items related to karst conservation and related subjects. Past, present, and planned future IKC conservation projects are discussed to solicit comments from members and the caving community. As always, IKC meetings are open to anyone interested in cave and karst conservation. The meetings are informal, and everyone is encouraged to attend and participate.

Partial agenda: Upcoming conservation projects; Committee reports; IDOT highway "improvement" proposal; DNR activities; HNF activities; National Cave Management Symposium; Bat projects; and more!

Meeting Directions: From downtown Bloomington take Seventh Street (an east/west street just north of the courthouse) east for approximately eight blocks. Just past Woodlawn Ave (a four-way stop) turn into the Union's circle drive and park in the adjacent lot. Enter the Union through the revolving door on the circle and proceed up the stairs and past the elevators. Turn left down the hall. The meeting room is on the left and clearly marked.

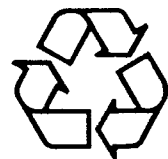
EVENTS CALENDAR

- 29 JUN = HANCOCK PROPERTY WORK AFTERNOON, Bloomington (see p 3).
- 29 JUN = IKC QUARTERLY MEETING, Bloomington (see above).
- 14 JUL = CIG RESTORATION TRIP, Salem (see p 3).
- 22-26 JUL = MAMMOTH CAVE RESTORATION WEEK (Contact Norm Rogers).
- 09-11 AUG = INDIANA CAVE CAPERS, Bedford (Contact Scott Fee).
- 24-25 AUG = ANNUAL COON/GROTTO CLEAN-UP TRIPS (see p 7).
- ?? SEP = IKC QUARTERLY MEETING/PICNIC, Indianapolis (tentative).
- 23-26 OCT = 1991 NATIONAL CAVE MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM, Bowling Green KY

Membership to the IKC is open to anyone interested in cave and karst conservation. Annual dues are \$15. Please see inside back cover for the membership application form or to make a donation.

The *IKC Update*, distributed for free, is published quarterly for members and other interested parties. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep the membership informed, and to document past, report on current, and announce future IKC activities and business. Submission of articles for publication pertaining to the IKC or any other related conservation subjects are encouraged. Forward material to the *IKC Update*, PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

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RECYCLED PAPER

RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT...

The IKC and its members over the last several years have had numerous opportunities to comment on proposed governmentally controlled projects and policies (just to name a few: HNF Management Plan, National Cave Resource Protection Act; Tillery Hill proposed development, Indianapolis-to-Evansville highway project, Ancient Forest Protection Act). I use to be skeptical that responding during a comment period would make a difference. However, having observed how the "system" works, I am now a firm believer that just a few well timed and well written letters can make a significant difference, and an "organized" effort to enlist comments on any particular subject can completely dominate the final decision. Furthermore, it is important to remember that in some instances the "special interest opposition" may be "organized" too, using the same comment opportunities against the silent-majority, and must be "neutralized" by our comments.

A recent example of public involvement significantly directing a government agency is the HNF Management Plan. The proposed 1985 commodity-based plan called for almost 90% of the forest to be available for clearcutting. After numerous iterations with public comments at each step, the final plan significantly de-emphasized timbering, instead focusing on bio-diversity and ecosystem management. Another current example is the Tillery Hill proposal (discussed in our last *Update*) where 1339 written comments (letters or cards) were received. Of those comments, 945 (70%) were against the project. Thus less than one-quarter of one-tenth of one percent of Indiana's population has essentially "voted down" this proposal (the Army Corp is expected to make a final decision in August). A final example is the IKC concerns for the proposed I-64 weigh stations in the Crawford-Harrison area (see the next article). While realistically we do not expect the project to canceled or moved, we do expect the IDOT and the consulting company to address our concerns and take appropriate preventive actions to mitigate the impact it could have on the karst area.

Most of us find that there are just not enough hours in the day to do everything that we should do. But as citizens of this planet and conservation minded cavers in particular, we have an obligation to respond to issues that impact caves, karst, or the environment in general. If each of us would take just a few minutes each month to express our views on proposed projects or policies concerning our conservation oriented interests, everyone would be a lot better off. Someone famous (I forget who) once said "the pen is mightier than the sword." How true, how true.

- Keith Dunlap

IKC WORK AFTERNOON

Prior to the quarterly meeting, the IKC has planned a work afternoon for June 29th starting at 3 PM. Most of the work will be on the Hancock property (trash pickup, fence repair, sign maintenance), but we will also check on other area projects. Please contact Keith Dunlap for other details or to volunteer for a specific task.

CIG RESTORATION TRIP

The Central Indiana Grotto would like to invite IKC members to participate in the clean-up of Suicide Cave (Washington County) on July 14th. The cave is located very near the site of the 1992 NSS Convention and will be visited by many cavers, thus it would be nice to have the cave cleaned up to make a good impression on our guests. The cave is in fair shape, with only a minimal amount of trash to be collected, but there is recent spray paint that needs to be wire brushed or mud painted. The cave is mostly walking with some crawling. It is an enjoyable cave, well worth seeing. As always, you must have a helmet/hard hat and several reliable lights sources. Lugged boots with ankle support and gloves are recommended.

Plans call for meeting at the gate house at Delaney Park at 10 AM to car pool to the cave. Contact Scott Fee, (317) 291-7807, for further detail and directions.

I-64 PLANNED "IMPROVEMENT" PROJECT

by Keith Dunlap

The Indiana Department of Transportation publicly announced their plans to install weigh stations along I-64 just north of the Wyandotte Cave area. Quoting from the Legal Notice published in the Corydon Democrat, "the proposed project will provide the same facilities at both the eastbound and westbound weigh station sights. Each weigh station will consist of a scalehouse, inspection building, truck parking area, sanitation sewers and drainage, and truck over-height indicators. Exit and entrance ramps will be reconstructed and lengthened, weigh-in-motion scale systems and static scale deep pit systems will be installed." The length of the planned project will be approximately 1.25 miles, require the purchase of an additional five acres of right-a-way, and cost over \$7.1 million. The Legal Notice also stated that "it has been jointly determined by the Federal Highway Administration and the Indiana Department of Transportation that the proposed project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion", which means that an Environmental Impact Study need not be performed. Furthermore, checking with the IDOT's Division of Location and Environmental Assessment I was told that highway projects of this type now have essentially a blanket exclusion from environmental review, but that an Environmental Assessment was conducted in 1982 and updated early this year. However, the Assessment did not consider the proposed location being in a karst area, nor could they find records of this project being reviewed by such agencies as DNR's Nature Preserves, DNR's Non-game, or USFWS (the person assisting me stated that she was confident that the reviews were probably done, but that the reports were probably thrown away to reduce the amount of storage required. I later checked with NP and Non-game and they had no records of a formal review).

Because I did not learn of this project until the last day of the comment period (it was forwarded to me from IKC member, John Benton), the IDOT Public Hearing Examiner Office gave the IKC a four day extension to file our concerns. With the assistance of Glenn Lemasters, we drafted the following introduction:

The Indiana Karst Conservancy (IKC) and its membership would like to express concern over the proposed construction of two weigh stations on I-64 approximately 5 miles east of SR 66 in Crawford and Harrison Counties. The proposed location is situated in an area that probably has the highest density of significant caves, sinkholes, and other karst features in the state of Indiana. Within two miles of the proposed project, there are at least 50 known caves, many with significant and complex hydrological systems that could be impacted during and after the construction of the weigh stations. Cave life such as *Amblyopsis spelaeus* are relatively intolerant to pollution and could be threatened, as has occurred in other areas upon development. Furthermore, many of the active cave streams in the project area serve as direct conduits to the Blue River, funneling potential pollution directly without any "filtering".

Because many of the caves in this area have only recently (within the last decade) been discovered or extended, there is also great potential that this proposed project could impact cave systems that have yet to be discovered.

Additionally, five caves within two miles of the project serve as hibernacula for the federal and state endangered *Myotis sodalis* bat. Using 1989 population data, three of these caves contain approximately 70% of the state's population and potentially over one-third of the *entire* known population.

Our greatest concern is that the Environmental Assessment performed on this proposed project was inadequate in the fact that it did not consider the potential impact on the caves, sinkholes, and karst features (known and unknown) in the area, nor did it adequately evaluate the possible effect to the endangered bats, especially during their pre- and post-hibernation stages...

We then went on to discuss approximately a dozen specific questions/concerns. As I understand the IDOT's comment procedure system, the IDOT and/or the consulting company doing this project will have to respond to our concerns before the project can continue.

Since the letter was just filed, it is too early to tell what direction our next action will take in the future on this project.

NEWS BRIEFS...

- ❑ Results from the March elections included Keith Dunlap remaining as President, Bill Tozer newly elected as Secretary, and Jane Miller assuming the responsibility of Treasurer. Directors elected/reelected were Glenn Lemasters, Mike Miessen, Lynn Miller, and Eric Schmidt. The remaining Directors whose terms expire in 1992 include Jeff Cody, Ernie Payne, and Tom Rea. Members having questions, concerns, or suggestions for the IKC should contact the above individuals (phone numbers on page 1).
- ❑ The Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC) has obtained funding for a feature-length video concerning karst areas and groundwater in southern Indiana. Of particular interest is the Lost River area, but information or guidance to appropriate locations for filming of any appropriate karst area would be appreciated. The purpose of the video is to increase awareness of the adverse affects caused by septic runoff, sinkhole dumping, leaking underground storage tanks, etc. We have been assured that the content of the video will divulge neither the names nor locations of any caves being filmed. If you are interested in contributing your time or relevant information to this cause, please contact Doug Mason at the HEC offices at (317) 923-1800.
- ❑ The pastor of the Garrison Chapel near Bloomington, Arden Lee Thompson, requests that cavers refrain from parking in the church parking lot to visit local caves without prior permission. This has become necessary due to instances of vandalism and littering by irresponsible individuals. The lot has been posted as a tow-away zone. Reverend Thompson went on to indicate that conscientious conservation-minded cavers might be allowed to use the lot if permission is obtained several days in advance and the lot is not needed by congregation members. In particular, cavers will not be permitted to use the lot during Sunday worship services or other church functions. Those that do obtain permission should park with their cars facing an east-west direction so that a minimum amount of space is taken up. Requests to park in the lot will be handled on a case-by-case basis; preferably small groups of only one or two cars.
- ❑ The present gate on Wyandotte Cave will be replaced by a new "bat friendly" design on the July 4th extended weekend. Wyandotte's winter bat population has steadily increased since an older, air restrictive, solid wall gate was removed in the late seventies. The hope is that the new gate, located closer to the entrance at a larger cross section, will further increase the air flow, and allow the bats to pass thru the gate more easily (thus reducing their vulnerability to opportunist predators who currently utilize the old gate as an all-you-can-eat bat buffet bar). The gate will be a CCI design similar to the Batwing gate. Labor is being volunteered by USFWS, DNR, CCI, and the IKC. Funding for this project is from an USFWS "Section 6" grant and the IDNR non-game fund.
- ❑ The Indiana Karst Conservancy was well represented at the Earth Day Rally in Military Park in downtown Indianapolis on Sunday, April 21st, 1991. The rally was sponsored by Earth Day Indiana, Inc. Very cool weather and threatening skies may have dissuaded many potential participants, but those who attended had an opportunity to learn about environmental issues. The IKC's booth was well attended, with many people asking about how to "bat-proof" their homes and how to build bat boxes. Groundwater pollution was also a common topic with many unaware of the fragile nature of the karst ecosystem and the impacts of pollution on the cave and broader natural systems. Thanks to Jane Miller, Glenn Lemasters, and Bruce Bowman for their efforts.
- ❑ The IKC drafted a letter expressing our opposition and concerns for the proposed development of the Tillery Hill area on Patoka Lake. The letter was addressed to the Army Corp of Engineers, the owner of the property, with copies sent to various Indiana state and federal policy makers. The IKC also distributed a summary sheet and numerous pre-addressed, pre-stamped post cards to the caving community to encourage comments against this unnecessary privately owned project on our public land. The comment period ended May 9th, and the Corp is now evaluating the comments before issuing a decision on the proposal.

- ❑ *NUVO*, an alternative weekly newspaper in Indianapolis, is organizing a concert to be held on Sunday, June 30th, from 1:00 to 5:30 pm, on the grounds of the Indianapolis Art League (820 East 67th - near Broad Ripple). The entertainment will include rock bands, food vendors, etc., with the proceeds from the event donated to HEC's effort to support the Indiana Heritage (public land) Trust Fund legislation.
- ❑ The IKC Executive Board approved the duplication of the slide show presented at the Natural Areas Conference. The show is directed toward the general public and helps to disseminate appropriate information on caves, cavers, cave/karst abuse, and the necessity for conserving and managing caves. The program could also be used to "sensitize" federal and state policy-making agencies about caves and karst. The program will be available to borrow as soon as the script is re-edited and a borrowing policy is approved. We will also show this program at an upcoming IKC quarterly meeting (probably Sept or Dec).
- ❑ Latest word on our cave conservation poster "project" is that the final poster's art work is completed and it will be printed in September. The IKC will distribute the three poster series as soon as the DNR poster becomes available to us.
- ❑ The IKC has received a copy of the research project report entitled "Analysis of the sediments found within Buckner Cave and Trap Door Cave - Monroe County, Indiana" by Sally Letsinger and Marta Corbin. The research and report was completed as a geology senior project and was funded by the IKC, NSS, Indiana Academy of Science, and an IUPUI undergraduate research grant. The 70+ page report is available for review or copying.
- ❑ The IKC received a letter of appreciation from the Chicago Field Museum of Natural History for our challenge grant to the Windy City Grotto for the bat educational display that the museum is planning as part of their new exhibit entitled "Into the Wild: Animals, Trails, and Tails". Jay Savage (WCG) organized the fund raiser and collected over \$1000 for the display. The display will be completed sometime this fall.
- ❑ The IKC sponsored HNF ridgewalk on March 24th had about 20 participants turn out on a beautiful spring day. The group broke into teams of 3-4 individuals and continued to work in the Experimental Forest southwest of Paoli. Numerous small caves and karst features were discovered and documented. This information will be vital in formulating the management plans for the caves/karst features in this area to assure their long term protection.
- ❑ Tom Rea reports that the "mud sprayer" worked great in his preliminary experiment at home and has potential application in caves for covering graffiti. The mud sprayer is actually a compressed air powered commercial "stucco" gun, but can spray a mud slurry equally well. This means we will proceed with Phase II of our plans to develop a portable means of powering the gun in a cave, either by SCUBA tanks or, preferably, by a person driven air compressor (minimum requirements are 2 cfm @ 30 psi). Suggestions and/or spare compressor parts would be appreciated. Contact Tom Rea or Keith Dunlap.
- ❑ You may have noticed that this newsletter was printed on a different paper stock from what was previously used. The new paper, available from Earth Care Paper, is called "Minimum Impact" paper and is one of the most ecological printing stocks available. It is made from 100% recycled paper (pre- and post-consumer) and is not deinked or bleached (explaining its off-white, "natural" tint). This paper uses less water, fewer chemicals, and creates less solid waste than virtually any other paper produced for printing. It is also less expensive than the brite-white recycled paper we were using (but unfortunately it is still more expensive than paper made from virgin timber). We would encourage our members that are also members of other organizations to suggest the use of recycled paper for their publications if they have not already switched.
- ❑ The IKC would like to welcome our new members who have joined over the last several months. They include David Anderson, James Adams, Allen Clawson, Penny Hibbard, Jonathan Knott, Daniel Lucas, Tim McLain, Larry Reece, Ray Sheldon, and Thomas Sollman. Expanding our membership base allows the IKC more opportunities to tackle karst related conservation projects and we hope our new members will participate in current and future activities.

ANNUAL COON/GROTTO RESTORATION TRIP

AUGUST 24th & 25th (STARTING BOTH DAYS AT 10 AM)

This is the sixth annual IKC sponsored work weekend for these two caves located in Garrison Chapel Valley (SW of Bloomington). As in past years, we will continue their restoration with the usual techniques of wire brushing and "brown-washing" graffiti, and the removal of whatever remaining trash that can be located.

Current plans are to work in Coon Cave on Saturday. Coon is a fun cave which primarily consists of a single multi-level passage approximately 1200 feet long terminating at a crystal clear blue pool. However, along the way, there are numerous lower level breakdown mazes to explore. In particular, there is one area that crosses over several 20 foot pits. It is in this area that we plan to concentrate our graffiti removal. Coon Cave has a 22 foot vertical entrance, but we will have the cable ladder and belay rigged for non-vertical cavers.

On Sunday, we will work in Grotto Cave. Grotto is a moderately difficult cave with three distinct personalities: 1) a sizable walking trunk passage for the first 1000 feet; 2) an upper level canyon passage, off the end of the main passage, turning into a crawlway terminating in two formation rooms; and 3) a lengthy and challenging breakdown maze area also extending beyond the trunk passage. We have basically completed our efforts in the first two sections and will be concentrating on the third. If you have not been in this section of Grotto before, it is worth seeing (at least once).

As a reminder, this cleanup weekend will be the last chance to visit either of these caves until May 1st, as both caves are closed for the hibernating Indiana bat (you will probably see a few early arrivals, as they start their fall swarming activities). Both caves are appropriate for novice cavers and older children (and older cavers who act like children); all we ask is that each participant have a hard hat and their own light sources (lug sole boots recommended, but not required).

Further questions or inquiries should be directed towards Keith Dunlap: (317) 242-2505 days, 882-5420 evenings.

TENTH INDIANA NATURAL AREAS CONFERENCE

by Jane Miller

The IDNR Division of Nature Preserves organized and hosted a very successful conference on the unusual features of the Mitchell Karst Plain in Corydon on Saturday, May 18th.

This conference was very worthwhile and offered an opportunity to see old friends and make new acquaintances. The IKC was a co-sponsor of this event and participated by setting up our display booth and answering participants' questions and by presenting the evening slide program.

An amazing array of speakers made presentations on a variety of features of the Harrison-Crawford area. Lieutenant Governor Frank O'Bannon welcomed conference participants. IDNR staff from Nature Preserves, Forestry, and Fish & Wildlife (Non-Game Division) discussed the unique features of some state-owned properties in southern Indiana, the cultural and historical significance of same, and the goals of DNR programs in the area. Bill Forsyth, IUSE Professor of Biology summarized his research on the fish and mussels of the Blue River. Ecologist Jim Keith addressed the natural history of Indiana Caves. Frank Voytas, HNF Supervisor highlighted the amenity oriented management plan being adopted for the Hoosier and his willingness to work cooperatively with the state to protect Indiana's natural areas. Denny McGrath, State Director for TNC, encouraged participants to "Think Big" with respect to ecosystem management.

continued...

Following a lunch break, participants dispersed on a variety of field trips to nature preserves and historic sites in the area. All the feedback I heard was positive concerning these trips which were lead by knowledgeable and friendly individuals.

An excellent evening barbecue was served at the Wyandotte Woods group camping area. Both food and facilities were more than adequate.

Following dinner, IKC President Keith Dunlap presented a slide program on caves, caving, and cave preservation, focusing on the work of the IKC. Keith and Glenn Lemasters are to be complimented on the quality of the program they put together. Those who attended were highly complimentary and expressed a new appreciation for caves. One (only moderately biased!) participant declared this program "the best session of the day". Congratulations on a job well done!

[editor's note - IKC members in attendance included Keith Dunlap, Hank Huffman, Jonathan Knott, Glenn Lemasters, Lynn Miller, Jane Miller, and Richard Vernier.]

DON'T LOSE OUT - TOURS HELP YOU FIND LOST RIVER

by Fred Gavinder *[reprinted from the Indianapolis Star, April 21st, 1991]*

There's something unusual about the Lost River tour: If rain comes, it's better than ever.

"The river is most dynamic in its wet weather stages," said Robert R. Armstrong of Indianapolis. Armstrong is chairman of the Lost River Conservation Association and guides the tours.

And another unusual thing about going to see the Lost River: You can't see it at all for about a quarter or its 85-mile course.

The first 1991 tour of this now-you-see-it, now-you-don't river will be Saturday. Additional tours are scheduled for May 11, June 8, Sept. 28 and Oct. 12. Tours are free and can be taken in your own car. They begin at 9 a.m. each tour day at the southwest corner of the town square in Orleans.

Lost River begins in western Washington County. It can be seen placidly flowing southeast of Orleans, where Ind. 337 crosses it.

The River disappears near Orleans and flows out of sight in a labyrinth of sinkholes to a spot near Orangeville in northwestern Orange County. A spring 165 feet deep forms where the river reappears.

Tours cover much of the river route from Orleans to Orangeville.

"Our goal is to promote the idea that the entire Lost River is so unique and so rich in overall heritage resources that it is worthy of being designated a 'wild and scenic river,'" said Armstrong.

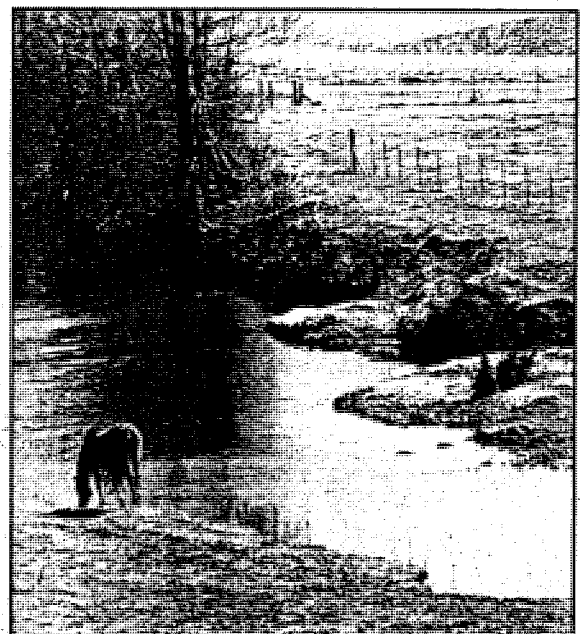
"What's wilder than an invisible river whose existence is shown by the results it produces on the earth's surface?"

Armstrong, an industrial engineer at the Naval Avionics Center in Indianapolis, has been leading

Lost River tours for 20 years. "I've been tramping that river, which I consider one of the best places in the world, since about 1955," he said.

"I'm not kidding about rain. It's the best time to see some of the disappearing springs and swallow holes."

For information on the tours, write Armstrong at 3101 Washington Boulevard, Indianapolis, Ind. 46205 or call (317) 926-4266 after 4 p.m. Upon request, the Lost River Conservation Association also will put you on a mailing list for announcements of events.

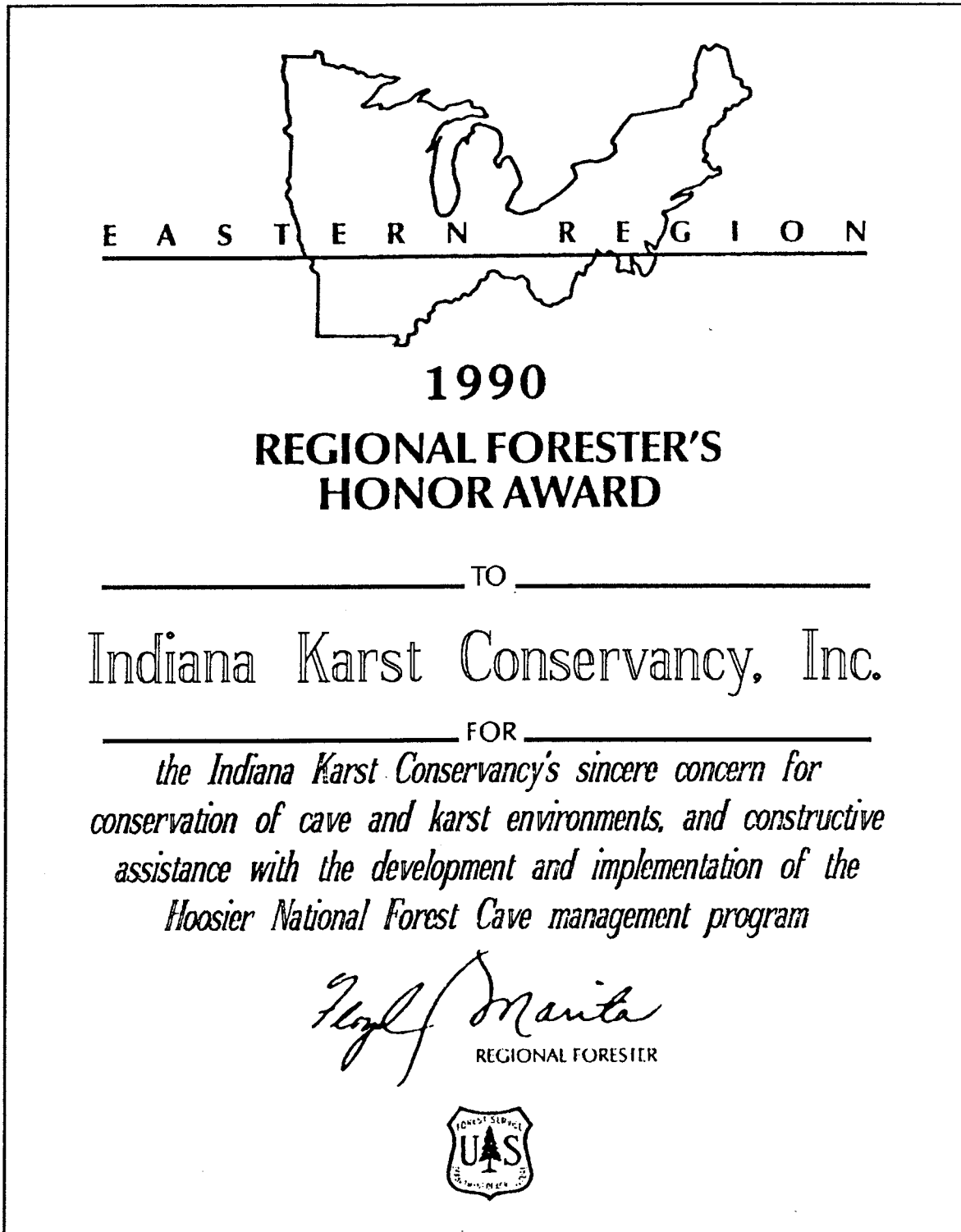


STAR PHOTO

The Lost River makes one of its appearances in a pasture near Orleans.

IKC RECEIVES US FOREST SERVICE AWARD

At the March meeting, Frank Voytas, Forest Supervisor of the Hoosier National Forest, presented the IKC an engraved plaque (facsimile below) along with the accompany letter. It was accepted for all the cavers who assisted in the development of the Forest's cave/karst management plan and who are participating in the inventorying activities.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Eastern
Region

310 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53203

Reply to: 6140

Date: November 7, 1990

Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc.
PO Box 461,
Plainfield, In 46168

Dear members of the Indiana Karst Conservancy:

The Eastern Region of the Forest Service presents "Regional Foresters Honor Awards" to groups which make outstanding contributions to Forest Service land management. We recognize the contribution of the Karst Conservancy and present you this award for your service.

You have worked hard to help develop a cave management plan everyone can be proud of. The plan has a balanced approach to preserve the subterranean environment while permitting use of the resource. You are now providing great assistance in carrying the plan out.

Your accomplishment is the most comprehensive plan to be incorporated in a Forest Plan since the passage of the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act. We believe it will become a pacesetter for the management of cave and karst resources and for cooperation of other caving organizations.

Your action has done more to improve the trust between cavers and the Forest Service than any other activity since the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act was passed.

We appreciate your contributions and award you a Regional Foresters Honor Award in the Citizens Public Service category.

Sincerely,

FLOYD J. MARITA
Regional Forester



Caring for the Land and Serving People

UNDER EARTH DAY II

by Keith Dunlap

Once again cavers showed their support for the environment by participating in Under Earth Day II at Sullivan's Cave. **Eighty-six** cavers joined together to collect and carry out trash, wire brush graffiti, and mud paint the walls in an all out effort to reverse years of cave abuse. Many concentrated their efforts in the Back-breaker and Mountain Room, while others ventured down stream to the Spiral Room. Some tried to exit via Speed Hollow but found it sumped. All had fun caving, cleaning, and socializing.

Simultaneously on the surface two other projects were accomplished. The first was to install a safety latch mechanism on the gate door to secure the door in the open position (necessitated by cavers wanting to use the bottom of the door as a step when exiting). We also replaced the old rusty metal sign mounted over the cave entrance with a new routed wood sign constructed by Tim McLain (and funded by the IKC).

Mrs. Stewart, the owner, was very pleased with all the interest shown by organized cavers for her cave. Our actions over the past several years have gone a long way to reestablish a good landowner relationship with this popular cave. And of course the cave is now being protected and restoration is progressing.

Cavers arrived from at least three states (IN, IL, MI) representing at least eight NSS grottos (approximate primary affiliation: CIG - 34; WCG - 14; BIG - 10; NIG - 4; EMG - 4; MHG - 2; EIG - 2; AuAg - 2; also 10 claiming non-affiliation or IKC only). The participants included David Anderson, Jean Buckley, Betty Bunting, Bill Bunting, Steve Cahill, Chris Carpenter, Kenney Carrigan, George Cesnik, Jeff Cody, Jamie Coffman, Bruce DeVore, Deb DeVore, Mike DeVore, Phil Dittamore, Keith Dunlap, Cindy Edinger, Steve Edinger, Bambi Erwin, Carrie Erwin, Scott Fee, Rick Fischer, Robin Fitch,

Sam Frushour, Jeff Godfrey, Jeff Grant, Rose Greenwood, Steve Greenwood, Tom Hancock, Mike Harold, Joanne Healy, David Hibbard, Penny Hibbard, Eric Higbie, Tem Hornaday, Steve Kappus, Jonathan Knott, Cheryl Lamm, Frank Lamm, Heather Lamm, Linda Lanning, Steve Lanning, Brian Leavell, Sarah Leavell, Chris Leindecker, Gary Leindecker, Angie Manon, Tim McLain, Tom Miller, Anmar Mirza, Jennifer Mirza, Jim Nickell, Susan O'Shields, Ernie Payne, Lynn Poole, Jeanne Rataj, Tony Rainbolt, Jim Rasnoz, Tom Rea, Larry Reece, Matt Reece, Steve Ringrey, Ray Rough, Jay Savage, Eric Schmidt, Greg Schmit, Tom Schmit, Walt Serabran, Bob Sergesketter, Phyllis Sergesketter, Barry Smith, Susie Sweeney, Bill Tozer, Michelle Tozer, Amy Vandeventer, Bob Vandeventer, Sara Vandeventer, Steve Vaughn, Sharon Walker, Marcia Wallace, Stephen Watson, Clay Whitaker, and Jeff Woodard.

Kenney Carrigan, Bob Vandeventer, Sharon Walker, and Keith Dunlap assist Tim McLain with the installation of the new Sullivan's sign above the entrance.

All photos by Larry Reece.





Participants gathered in the parking area for the safety/organizational briefing before starting the day's cleaning activities.



The procession of smiling cavers entering Sullivan's entrance, eager to start their restoration work. A safety latch was installed on the gate later in the day to secure the door in the open position.

GLEANINGS FROM NATURE - TEN INDIANA CAVES AND THE ANIMALS WHICH INHABIT THEM

book review by Larry Reece

Gleanings From Nature - Ten Indiana Caves and the Animals Which Inhabit Them is a reprint of a chapter from *Gleanings from Nature*, a book written by W.S. Blatchley and published in 1899. Blatchley was a well known Indiana naturalist. This review was written from a galley proof of the reprint soon to be published for the Indiana Karst Conservancy by *Myotis Press*. The 8.5 by 5.5 inch format, soft cover, offset printed book runs 72 pages including maps, drawings, and photos.

This chapter from Blatchley's book deals with ten caves in Indiana located from the Bloomington area south to the Ohio river. The caves are generally described quite well and with much detail as to passage size, length, formations and cave life seen in each cave. Included are maps of six of the caves and drawings of many of the cave creatures seen during Blatchley's visits. The names of the caves will be familiar to most cavers as they probably have visited many if not all of these caves. I have visited most of them myself and find the descriptions parallel my experiences and also note things that I have missed or forgotten.

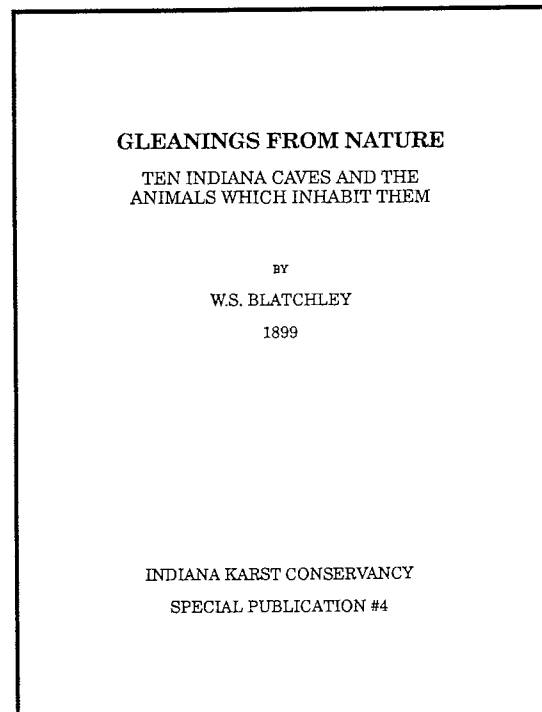
The largest cave and the longest description is of Wyandotte Cave. Even before I finished this part, I found myself wanting to return to Wyandotte, book in hand, to see the cave again through the eyes of W.S. Blatchley. In one area he details the findings of an archaeological dig in the Senate Chamber which shows evidence of many visits by Indians in a location that is far removed from the entrance.

Remembering that this was written in the late 1800's when cavers used candles and oil lamps, I am amazed at the detail of the work and the lengths to which some of these caves were explored. You will note that in some places where he mentions that the cave ends or they were unable to continue due to obstacles they could not surpass, modern cavers have extended the length of these caves while others remain essentially ending where they were in 1899.

In general this will be a very nice reprint of a section of Blatchley's book that has long been out of print and generally not available to cavers. I'm sure you will find it a very worthwhile addition to your library.

[Publisher's note: The book has been printed and collated, but it must still be folded, saddle stapled, trimmed, and prepared for bulk mailing. A July 15th completion date has been targeted, but this may slip due to some other commitment.]

The book will be distributed free to all IKC members. Approximately 100 extra copies will be available to others for a minimum contribution of \$3, plus \$1 postage and handling (the postage and handling will be waived if payment is received before the bulk mailing). Send remittance to the IKC, PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206]



INDIANA FAMILY KNOWS LYME DISEASE UP CLOSE

by Associated Press [reprinted from the *Elwood Call Leader*]

Monroe, Ind. - Lyme disease may seem a remote ailment to some Hoosiers, but an Adams County woman and her daughter know it too well.

Vickie Zurcher, 34, and Brittney, 6, of rural Decatur, have been fighting the disease more than three years. Neither had been outside the Decatur-Monroe area before they caught the potentially fatal infection.

Lyme disease is caused by a bacteria transmitted by the bite of a tiny deer tick, which lives in grassy areas and feeds on the blood of deer, mice, dogs, birds and other animals.

The disease is most prevalent in New England, Minnesota and Wisconsin, but the ticks also have been found in Indiana, said Dr. Linda S. Evans, a Fort Wayne pediatrician specializing in infectious diseases.

Before it was diagnosed, the disease had turned Brittney Zurcher from an energetic, bouncy 3-year-old into a lethargic, irritable child, her mother said.

"She wouldn't even like to eat at Pizza Hut," said Lindsey, Brittney's 11-year-old sister.

For Mrs. Zurcher, who has a more advanced stage of the disease, "It's like being 34, but feeling 84," she said.

Lyme disease is a relatively new ailment named in 1975 after 51 people in Lyme, Conn., developed a mysterious rash and arthritis. Ten cases were reported in Indiana from 1983 to 1988.

Oral antibiotics helped bring Brittney's condition under control, but Mrs. Zurcher's symptoms were not diagnosed until the disease had progressed to a more serious stage.

About a year ago, both began receiving antibiotics intravenously. Treatments were needed as many as five times daily for several weeks, Mrs. Zurcher said.

Brittney was so sick she begged to be carried because her legs and ankles were swollen and sore, her mother said.

Now, she's off medication and more interested in playing than talking. She stops long enough to say, "My ankles and legs don't hurt" and that she can run and ride her bike.

However, Mrs. Zurcher, who is being treated by Fort Wayne internist Dr. Dominick Acquaro, remains on a potent oral antibiotic and said her health is uncertain.

The disease has three stages. The first occurs four to 20 days after the bite and include flu-like symptoms such as low-grade fever, chills, headache, nausea and aching muscles. Two of three victims develop a distinctive "bull's eye" rash.

Brittney had the rash but it did not develop on her mother, allowing the disease to advance before it was diagnosed.

The second stage, which occurs weeks to months after the rash, includes meningitis, mild encephalitis, muscle weakening and a numbing or tingling sensation in the extremities.

"Your muscles are just like Jell-O," Mrs. Zurcher said.

If not treated early, the disease usually advances to the third stage, which can affect any of the major organs, causes heart palpitations and arthritis of the large joints, disorientation and extreme fatigue.

"There is no organ or area in your body (the bacteria) cannot invade," said Mrs. Zurcher, whose liver has been damaged.

Mrs. Zurcher can work only for a couple hours and sleeps 12 to 14 hours a day. She cannot fix meals because she cannot lift the pans.

Because so little is known about the disease, it is not only difficult to diagnose but to treat, Evans said.

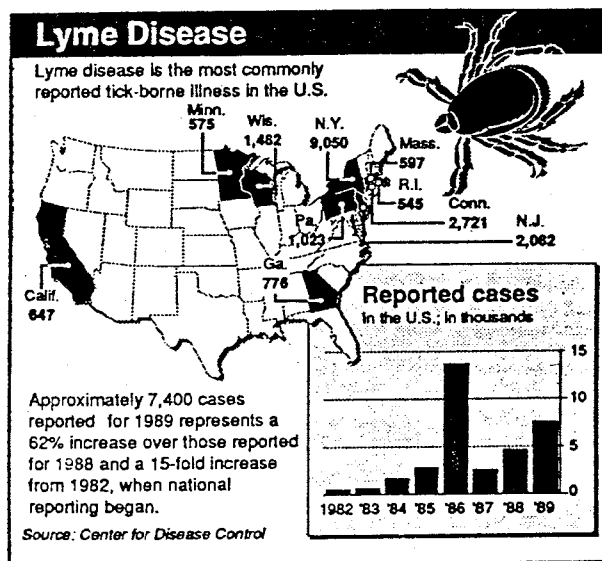
"The frustrating thing about Lyme disease is that there's nothing written in stone that this treatment is any better than that treatment. We truly do not know what the best treatment is," Evans said.

Also, many Indiana doctors insist Lyme disease has not reached the state and refuse to test for it, she said.

Mrs. Zurcher and her husband, Mark, 35 know better.

"We've said many prayers," he said. "Sometimes you operate on faith. You have to stay optimistic. It could always be worse."

By sharing what the Zurchers have been through, Mrs. Zurcher hopes "maybe someone else can be spared some of this."



INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.

**Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes in
Fund Balance for the Quarter Ending 03/31/91**

GENERAL FUND

RECEIPTS

DUES	602.50	
DONATIONS	25.00	
INTEREST	31.41	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		658.91

EXPENDITURES

UPDATE	243.28	
POSTAGE, GENERAL	2.71	
POSTERS (VCB)	110.00	
OFFICE SUPPLIES	29.62	
KEYS (Wayne's)	5.40	
MEETING ROOM RENT	35.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		426.01

EXCESS TO FUND BALANCE		232.90
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FUND BALANCE 12-31-90		2397.76
FUND BALANCE 3-31-91		2630.66

HANCOCK PROPERTY

RECEIPTS	0.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		0.00
EXPENDITURES	0.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		0.00

EXCESS TO FUND BALANCE		0.00
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FUND BALANCE 12-31-90		336.52
FUND BALANCE 03-31-91		336.52

TOTAL ALL FUNDS 03-31-91		2967.18
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If your address label on the back cover is pink,
your dues have expired and you will be dropped from our membership list!

IKC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, March 23rd, 1991
Indianapolis, Indiana

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Keith Dunlap	Jane Miller
Glenn Lemasters	Tom Rea
Ernie Payne	Eric Schmidt

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mike Miessen	Jeff Cody
Lynn Miller	Bill Tozer

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. Introductions were made. Twelve members and three visitors present.

HNF Ridgewalk - IKC is coordinating a ridgewalk on the Hoosier on Sunday, March 24th. All members are encouraged to participate. Meet at the McDonald's in Bloomington at 9:00 or at the Forest Service office in Bedford at 9:30. Bring a light source and compass, if you have one. Topo maps of the areas to be walked will be provided. We will plan to walk approximately 4 hours.

Under Earth Day II - Our under earth day event was a great success in 1990. We will repeat it on Sunday, April 21, 1991 at Sullivan's Cave, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Meet at Bloomington McDonald's at 9:15 or at the cave entrance at 10:00. All participants should be sure to have a helmet and light sources. NOTE: Sullivan's is temporarily closed due to a death in the Stewart family.

Indiana Natural Areas Conference - IDNR Division of Nature Preserves is organizing the 10th annual Indiana Natural Areas Conference, which will be held in Corydon and Wyandotte Woods on Saturday, May 18th. Hank Huffman is actively involved in the planning of this conference on the unusual features of the Mitchell Karst Plain. The IKC is a co-sponsor of the conference and will present a slide show Saturday evening. Members are encouraged to attend this conference. Preregistration is required.

Hoosier National Forest Management Plan - Frank Voytas, Forest Supervisor, attended this meeting to summarize the nature of the revised management plan, which is due out in a week or two. The plan will be very much amenity oriented aimed at managing the forest as an ecosystem.

Regional Forester's Honor Award - Frank Voytas presented the IKC with a plaque recognizing the IKC for our cooperation and dedication to working with the Forest Service on the management plan and on inventorying the karst features of the forest. Congratulations to all who have contributed to this very worthwhile project.

Elections - Annual elections were held. The officers, elected by acclamation are: President - Keith Dunlap, Secretary - Bill Tozer, Treasurer - Jane Miller. Directors elected to serve until 1993 are: Glenn Lemasters, Lynn Miller, Mike Miessen, and Eric Schmidt. The remaining directors are Jeff Cody, Ernie Payne, and Tom Rea; their terms expire in 1992.

National Cave Management Symposium - Will be hosted by the ACCA at the Executive Inn in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The symposium will be held October 23 - 26. The IKC has been encouraged to submit a paper for presentation. Deadline for abstract submittal is May 1, 1991.

- A motion was made and passed for the IKC to become a co-sponsor of the symposium. We will forward a check in the amount of \$200.00 to provide financial assistance to the ACCA in defraying the costs of the symposium.
- Preregistration cost is \$80.00 per person (by September 1); registration after September 1 is \$100.00 per person. For more information call 502-786-1466.

continued...

Tillery Hill, Patoka State Recreation Area - Those in attendance reviewed summary information on the status of a proposed resort/theme park at Tillery Hill. Members are encouraged to write the Army Corps of Engineers to request that the theme park not be built and that the Tillery Hill area be left in its undeveloped state. The comment period deadline is May 9.

Grant Request - Keith made a motion, seconded by Tom to help fund (\$50) the costs of a gate recently installed by Indiana cavers on an Indiana cave. After much discussion, the motion failed.

Salt Creek & No Sweat Caves - Jeff Cody notified Keith of a strong odor of kerosene or diesel fuel in Salt Creek and No Sweat caves. This condition needs to be pursued with IDEM. The caves will be checked for fumes on the field trip tomorrow.

Bat Activities - Scott Johnson reported that the biannual bat census report should be published by late spring or early summer.

- The over-winter weight loss census spring work will be conducted in April.
- No current information to report on the status of the prosecution being pursued concerning trespass and cave law violations which occurred in Grotto Cave.
- Funds have been approved to replace the gate on Wyandotte Cave. The project will likely be completed in July, and should be a two or three day project.
- The state Non-Game program is interested in acquiring Parker's Pit.

Land Trusts - Two Indiana land trusts have recently been formed. Refer to the March UPDATE or contact Hank Huffman.

Membership Perks - Anticipate a May publication of Blatchley's chapter on caves. Distribution of cave ecology posters has been postponed awaiting the completion of the IDNR poster.

IKC Information Brochure Revision - We continue to seek volunteers (with artistic ability or access to appropriate artwork) to assist in this project.

IKC Display Booth - Discussion of the need to revise/expand/upgrade this display. Proposed improvements should be completed in time for the 92 NSS convention.

UPDATE Comments - Positive feedback on the content and quality of this publication was received.

Mud Sprayer Status - The unit purchased for this task looks good, however, a portable, dependable air supply is needed. Tom Rea will work with Noel Sloan on this problem.

Chicago Field Museum Bat Exhibit - At the December meeting, Jay Savage of WCG made the IKC aware of the museum's desire to develop an educational display on bats and their habits and habitats. The IKC responded by offering to match the donations of WCG up to \$200. WCG more than rose to the challenge. Jay reports that, with the WCG and IKC donations and the corporate match of his employer, he has forwarded in excess of \$1,000 to the museum! Well done.

HEC Membership Renewal - Annual dues are due. Ernie Payne moved and Tom Rea seconded payment for another year (\$25).

Long Term Goals - There was discussion of whether there is a need for the IKC to establish long term organizational goals. Some members felt that long range goals are not necessary of themselves, that the IKC should be a platform for the projects of members, and that plenty of projects will present themselves.

Salamander Cave - Larry Mullins received a call from the owner concerning trash, liability, and traffic. Larry recommended that he contact the IKC.

Boy Scouts - Hank Huffman has been approached by scouts who want to go caving during their summer encampment. There would be 10-15 kids per group. Buckner and Trapdoor were recommended.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Submitted by Jane E. Miller, Secretary.

NEW MEMBERS

(as of June 16th)

David Anderson
15 Sixth Avenue
La Grange, IL 60525-2402

Daniel C. Lucas
11234 Lantern Road
Fishers, IN 46038

James Adams
5311 North Crittenden Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46220

Tim McLain
1721 North Gerrard Drive
Speedway, IN 46224-5637

Allen Clawson
805 West 54th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Larry Reece
2929 East Southport Road
Southport, IN 46227

Penny Hibbard
7903 - 15 1/2 Mile Road
Marshall, MI 49068

Ray Sheldon
16175 East 300 South
Elizabethtown, IN 47232

Jonathan E. Knott
1440 North Woodburn Apt. 40
Bloomington, IN 47404

Thomas P. Sollman
RR 2 Box 23a
Fort Branch, IN 47648

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, PO BOX 2401, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204-2401

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 #(s) _____

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 46204-2401. The IKC is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with membership dues and donations fully tax deductible. A canceled check is considered an acceptable receipt, but if you wish a separate receipt, please check here .

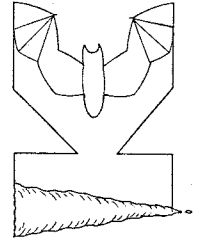
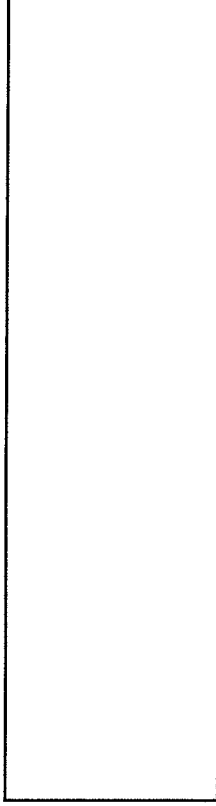
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