



IKC Update

No. 28 - March 1993

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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 Publications/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
 Hoosier Forests Project/ Kevin Komisarck (812) 339-2394

* * * * * **MANAGED CAVES/PATRONS** * * * * *

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 Grotto Cave/ Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420
 Shaft Cave/ Jeff Cody (317) 888-9898
 Shiloh Cave/ James Adams (317) 251-7743
 Wayne's Cave/ Serena Smith (812) 339-2394
 Woodard Cave (TN)/ NIG - contact John Simmerman (219) 424-0361

* * * * * **GROTTO/LIAISONS** * * * * *

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 Bloomington Indiana Grotto/ Serena Smith (812) 339-2394
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 Eastern Indiana Grotto/ Brian Leavell (317) 552-7619
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Cover - Speleothems in the Silent Splendor section of Cave of the Winds, Colorado. Photo by Scott Fee, assisted by Jaime Fee.

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



ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING REMINDER

SATURDAY, MARCH 20th, 7:00 PM

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

INDIANA WAR MEMORIAL

The Annual Business Meeting is for the explicit purpose of electing Officers and Directors of the Executive Board. It is also 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 meetings are informal, and everyone is encouraged to attend and participate.

Preliminary Agenda Items: elections, brief recaps of last quarter's activities; SR 37 4-laning project status; KARST ridgewalks; Under Earth Day IV, the Indiana Cave Symposium; Ray's Cave gate update; Shiloh Cave gate update; Non-game donation; membership solicitation letter summary; and more...

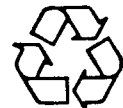
Meeting directions: The War Memorial is located four blocks north of the circle in Downtown Indianapolis. It is bounded by Michigan, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Meridian streets. Enter by the north doors.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- 20 MAR = IKC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, Indianapolis (see above)
- 20 MAR = ACCA HIDDEN RIVER CAVE WORKDAY, Horse Cave, KY (see page 6)
- 21 MAR = IKC RIDGEWALK/INVENTORYING ON HNF (see page 3)
- 27-28 MAR = NIG RIDGEWALK/INVENTORYING ON HNF (contact Bruce Devore/ Larry Mullins)
- 03 APR = MICHIGAN KARST CONSERVANCY MEETING, Waterloo, MI (contact Tom Rea)
- 10-11 APR = WYANDOTTE CAVE RESTORATION (contact Roger Gleitz, Wyandotte Cave)
- 17 APR = NSS BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING, Chicago
- 24 APR = EARTH DAY INDIANA, Indianapolis (see page 7)
- 24 APR = LOST RIVER TOUR, Orange County, Bob Armstrong (see page 7)
- 24 APR = HNF RIDGEWALK/INVENTORYING, Monroe Reservoir area (see page 5, 7)
- 24 APR = INDIANA CAVE SYMPOSIUM, Hardin Ridge Campground (see page 5)
- 25 APR = UNDER EARTH DAY IV, Sullivan Cave (see page 4)
- 15-21 AUG = MAMMOTH CAVE RESTORATION WEEK, Kentucky (see page 6)
- 23-30 OCT = NATIONAL CAVE MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM, Carlsbad, NM

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

The *IKC Update*, distributed for free, is published quarterly for members and other interested parties. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep the membership and caving community informed of IKC activities and other news related to cave/karst conservation. Submission of original or reprinted articles for publication is encouraged. Materials should be forwarded to the *IKC Update*, PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206.



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RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT...

The March issue of the *IKC Update* has traditionally been our "Anniversary" issue, tied to our Annual Business Meeting and the Executive Board election. Historically, the President's column in the March issue serves to look back at our past, and to provide directions for our future. This time it seems even more appropriate because of the large number of new members (due to a successful membership drive) who will be reading the *Update* for the first time.

The IKC was innocently conceived by Bill Wilson in early 1985 after witnessing Grotto Cave being repeatedly visited during the winter despite the fact that it serves as a hibernaculum for an endangered species. He thought there ought to be a better way to manage this cave as well as tackle other general problems that impact caves. After discussions with numerous caver, he and several other Central Indiana Grotto members (including Dave Haun, Tom Rea, Cindy Riley, and myself) decided to form a separate, state-wide organization that could concentrate on conservation, environmental, and land management issues related to caves and karst. Patterning our self organizationally after the Michigan Karst Conservancy (MKC), we officially incorporated in February of 1986, followed shortly by becoming an IRS 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and establishing our affiliation with the NSS.

Our first year was somewhat rocky because we had obtained leases on four popular Bloomington area caves and decided to "manage" access which was justifiably unpopular with local cavers. Luckily, our management skills have evolved and positive results have been demonstrated to

meet our definition of conservation -- that being, "the wise use of resources by man."

Many cavers naturally associate the IKC primarily with cave restoration projects. Over the past seven years we have sponsored (or co-sponsored) dozens of clean-up projects with great success. But rather than concentrate all our efforts on these re-active responses, the IKC has tried to focus much of its attention on proactive methods to protect the cave and karst systems before they are impacted. The results are not as immediate and progress is often unmeasurable, but ultimately they could be much more effective in dealing with the problems.

Examples of this pro-active approach include educational presentations and setting up our display at appropriate meetings and events. Other examples are our special publication series and this newsletter (over 100 copies are distributed outside our membership). To leverage our effectiveness, we have joined forces with other organizations and agencies that deal with karst related issues. Foremost, our cooperative agreement with the Hoosier National Forest (HNF) is a model for the rest of the county to follow. Thanks to their visionary Forest Supervisor, his dedicated and motivated Cave Specialist, and many cavers working together, cave management on the Forest is an integral part of their overall land management strategy. We have also undertaken several joint projects with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) including the installation of several bat gates and assisting with cave biota research.

Our reputation for aggressive and pro-

IKC RIDGEWALK ON HNF BEDFORD, IN - MARCH 21st

The IKC is once again sponsoring a ridgewalk on the Hoosier National Forest to look for and inventory the cave and karst features found. This information is needed to assist in the development of land management plans that will protect these resources.

We will meet at 9 AM at the McDonalds in Bloomington and regroup at the HNF office in Bedford by 10 AM before carpooling to our assigned areas. In case of bad weather or heavy snow, we will postpone the ridgewalk until March 28th.

Direct questions to Keith Dunlap (317) 882-5420 or Larry Mullins (812) 824-2192.

fessional cave and karst protection within Indiana is much greater than most cavers realize. Over the past several years, we have consulted with numerous organizations, environmental consulting companies, and government agencies including: the EPA, the Army Corp of Engineers, US Fish & Wildlife Service, the Federal Highway Administration, Soil Conservation Service (SCS), the HNF, the Indiana Dept of Environmental Management (IDEM), the Indiana Dept of Transportation (INDOT), several Divisions within the IDNR, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Protect Our Woods, the Lost River Conservation Association, and the Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC). As an organization, we do not have all the knowledge or expertise internally to respond to every requests, but we generally know someone who can answer the request and thus serves as a referral service.

As for the IKC's future goals, the most

pressing need is to expand the number of cavers involved in *organizing* projects. While we generally have very good response from the membership in actually doing the projects, currently most of the organizational work is performed by only a handful of members. There are probably hundreds of projects that could be initiated, but it takes someone with motivation and imagination to be the leader rather than follower. Hopefully there will be new, untapped talent within our expanded membership base.

The other goal I would like to see the IKC pursue in the not to distant future is the purchase of caves in need of protection. The MKC, which is a smaller organization, has been successful in doing this and we need to prepare ourselves so we can take advantage of any opportunities that may come our way.

- Keith Dunlap

UNDER EARTH DAY IV, APRIL 25th

by Keith Dunlap

The Indiana Karst Conservancy will once again be sponsoring a cleanup in Sullivan Cave (Lawrence Co) to celebrate Earth Day. This year's date is Sunday, April 25th, starting at 10 AM.

For cavers who are not familiar with Sullivan Cave, it is Indiana's third longest, with over nine miles of passage. The cave is privately owned, and has seen its share of abuse over the last thirty years. In 1989, the Central Indiana Grotto installed a gate on the entrance at the request of the owner. Since that time, numerous restoration trips have been completed, improving the aesthetics of the cave significantly. However, there is still much to be done and your participation is needed.

Sullivan is a caver's cave, offering something for everyone. If you are a novice caver, an easy trip to the Mountain Room and back will wet your appetite for this cave. There is plenty of wire brushing and mud-washing that can be done in the Backbreaker area. For the experienced caver, you may wish to venture up or downstream in Sullivan River (assuming the water is not too high) removing graffiti

and collecting trash in the lesser traveled area.

Haul bags, plastic bags, wire brushes, and other equipment will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. This year we will also be experimenting with a new technique to "spray" mud over graffiti covered walls. If this method works, it could greatly improve our efficiency in our restoration efforts.

Sullivan is appropriate for beginners and older children. ***All that we ask is that everyone have a helmet and adequate light sources.*** A liability waiver must also be signed to protect the owner.

For those coming from the north, we plan to carpool from the westside Bloomington McDonalds, leaving at 9:15 AM. There will be a short safety/orientation meeting at the cave's parking lot at approximately 10 AM. Someone will be stationed at the cave's entrance all day, so you may show up later and still participate. Plans are to be out of the cave by 4 PM. To obtain further information, contact Keith Dunlap (317-242-2505/882-5420) or Bob Vandeventer (317-888-4501).

FIRST ANNUAL INDIANA CAVE SYMPOSIUM

by Dave Black

The First Annual Indiana Cave Symposium will be held at the Hardin Ridge Campground pavilion on the evening of Saturday, April 24, 1993. This event is being co-sponsored by the Indiana Karst Conservancy and the Hoosier National Forest. The purpose of the event is to allow the active caving groups in Indiana to share their projects with each other.

The evening will begin with a hotdog roast at 5:00 PM. The presentations will start at 6:00 and should be over by 9:00. After the talks, there will be time for informal discussions on how to strengthen communication and cooperation between the various Indiana caving groups.

Presently, speakers for the symposium are being solicited. The subjects of the talks will be on each groups' recent activities. The emphasis will be on exploration, surveying, and conservation projects. It is preferred that the talks be on activities within Indiana, but if the caving group's most significant project is outside the state, exceptions will be made. The talks should be from 15 to 30 minutes in length with time for questions. There will be a slide projector available, but slides are not required.

The partial list of talks thus far include the survey of Stubby's Cave by the Harrison Crawford Grotto, the 1993 Indiana bat census by Keith Dunlap (IKC), the HNF cave inventory project by KARST, and results of the radon study in Wyandotte Cave by Kevin Komisarck (BIG).

During the day on Saturday, Bob Armstrong will be conducting a tour of the Lost River area. It is an interesting tour of some

impressive karst features. Part of the tour will be a discussion of how the various proposed highways will effect the karst and caves. The tour will leave the square in Orleans at 8 AM. For more information contact Bob at (317) 926-4266.

As an alternative activity, Larry Mullins will have information on areas near Hardin Ridge in the HNF which need to be ridge-walked and inventoried. For more information, contact Larry at (812) 824-2192.

On Sunday the Indiana Karst Conservancy will host their Under Earth Day cleanup at Sullivan Cave (see the article on page 4 for more information).

There is no cost for the Symposium except for the regular HNF campground user-fees. The day pass/entry fee is \$2.00 per vehicle. The fee for overnight camping is \$7.00 per camp site, but up to eight people and two cars can share a camp site (the 2nd vehicle will still have to pay the \$2.00 entry fee). It is possible that a lower fee rate will be arranged.

Hotdogs and related condiments will be provided. It is suggested that attendees bring chips, salads, or desserts to share, and their own beverage of choice.

For the weekend to be a success, there needs to be involvement of the active cavers throughout Indiana and the neighboring states. It will be a great weekend with the Lost River tour or HNF ridgewalk on Saturday. The Indiana Cave Symposium on Saturday night, and the Sullivan Cave Cleanup on Sunday.

For more information or to schedule a talk, contact Dave Black at (812) 951-3886.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

On my latest trip into Wayne's Cave on Sunday [February 20], we were stopped at Camp I by the swelling stream passage. The stream passage was flooded within two feet from the level at Camp I, making it impossible to continue towards Camp II.

With our trip cut short just out of the crawlway, we didn't want to just turn around and head back out. So, we spent some time cleaning up the cave. Before we exited the

cave due to rapidly rising water, we had collected a whole trash bag full of trash including, two flashlights, a good sized lantern, a glove, a shoe, and the usual batteries. Even the trash bag was found in the cave. Almost all of this was found in the crawl passage.

This really angered me. I have now been in Wayne's three times since the cleanup trip last December. Each time, I've been able to

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MAMMOTH CAVE RESTORATION FIELD CAMP

by Larry Reece

The fifth annual Mammoth Cave Restoration Field Camp will be held this year from August 15th through August 21st. These week-long camps are a project sponsored by the National Park Service and the National Speleological Society.

The purpose of the field camps are to perform cleaning and restoration in Mammoth Cave. Due to the limited resources and manpower of the National Parks Service there is always a list of projects that they just don't have the time to complete. This is where the field camps come in. Each year about forty volunteers spend a week at Mammoth Cave taking care of some of the projects on the wish list of the park staff.

There are benefits for both Mammoth Cave National Park and the volunteers in these projects. The park receives the skilled manpower of the cavers and the cavers have an opportunity to help restore one of the nation's treasures. The park gets people who provide their own lights, have caving experience (both vertical and horizontal), require minimal direction and supervision, and who are careful and concerned about the tasks they are assigned. The cavers have the chance to see parts of the cave that are not on the regular tourist trips and often other caves in the park that have limited access.

The park provides accommodations at the Maple Springs Research Center in the park for the participants. This includes an air

conditioned bunkhouse, showers, toilets and a kitchen. The cavers provide their own caving equipment, sleeping gear and the skilled manpower to complete the projects.

Past projects have included removing rotten wood from Great Onyx Cave, wet wood from Echo River, old tour boats from Silliman Avenue, wood from River Hall, aluminum grates and I-beams from River Hall, surplus and defective lighting from the Wooden Bowl area, lining the trail with rocks along Cleveland Avenue, cleaning up old latrines in El Gohr and Valley Way Side Cut, patching the trail on the self-guided tour, pit cleaning in Bottomless, Sidesaddle, Thorpe's, and Crystal Lake as well as other work in other areas of the cave.

The projects for 1993 have not yet been decided, but I'm sure they will be both worthwhile and fun like past ones have been. If you would like to spend a week this summer putting something back into caving while having fun you can contact Norm Rogers, the project leader for details. The cost for the week is \$45 which covers the food. T-shirts will be available for \$7 if you order in advance. Participation is limited to forty people so prompt action is required if you want to join the fun.

For an application or more information, contact: Norm Rogers, 4324 W. Rockwell, Peoria, IL 61615, phone 309-692-6715.

HIDDEN RIVER CAVE WORKDAY

HORSE CAVE, KY - MARCH 20th

The American Museum of Caves & Karstlands will be celebrating its Grand Opening this Summer. In order to provide an informative and interesting tour to our visitors we need to complete the following:

- 1) Cleanup and remove construction debris in the Hidden River Cave sinkhole.
- 2) Complete the stone wall along the trail leading to Hidden River Cave.
- 3) Re-pour the cement steps leading into the cave to allow visitors to actually see Hidden River.

This workday is co-sponsored by the Cleveland Grotto of the NSS and the American Cave Conservation Association. The ACCA will provide refreshments during the day. After the work is done, participants are invited to tour the museum and Hidden River Cave (please bring appropriate caving gear). For further information, contact the ACCA office at (502) 786-1466.

NEWS BRIEFS...

- ❑ Bob Armstrong of the Lost River Conservation Association has publicized his schedule of dates for the 1993 Lost River tours. If you have not been on one of his tours, it is well worth the time to do so. Dates are April 24, May 22, June 5, September 25, and October 9th. All tours leave the SE corner of the square in Orleans. Trips are rain or shine. For more information, contact Bob at (317) 926-4266 or 353-7049.
- ❑ Larry Mullins of the Hoosier National Forest KARST Project has announced this spring's activities. Besides the IKC-sponsored ridgewalk on March 21st (see page 3), other field days include March 27/28 for the NIG, April 10th, and April 24th. The NIG and April 10th dates will meet 9 AM at the Bedford Forest Office. The April 24th date will meet at Hardin Ridge Campground at 9 AM (see page 5). The HNF is also sponsoring a caver's training class on "How to Navigate in the Woods and Find Caves", starting 9 AM on May 8th at the Bedford Office. Finally, the Hoosier is sponsoring a clean-up canoe trip on the Lost River on May 15th in conjunction with the Take Pride in America campaign. Please contact Larry for more details at (812) 358-2675 (days).
- ❑ Indiana Earth Day will be holding their Earth Day celebration in Indianapolis on Saturday, April 24th, from 11 AM to 6 PM, at the Indiana Art League (820 East 67th Street). The IKC usually participates with a booth and our display.
- ❑ Twenty-five cavers participated in the December clean-up trip to Wayne's Cave which was co-sponsored by the IKC and CIG. About half of the group visited the Wells area and the RPI Discovery, most of the rest ventured to Camp II, and a few hearty souls went to Camp III. General graffiti cleaning and trash removal were the main activities. Participants included Joe Busby, Chris Cahill, Steve Cahill, Al Clawson, Chris Culver, Matt Decker, Robert Decker, Mike Dowden, Keith Dunlap, Jason Ferguson, Doug Gilmore, Mike Lownis, Kevin Lownis, Roy Logan, Joe Norris, Mitch Norris, Jerry Nunn, Barry Osborne, Tony Rainbolt, Ray Rough, Jonathan Schwer, Tom Sollman, Grant Van Hemert, Scott Webb, and Jim Wilson.
- ❑ While waiting for everyone to exit Wayne's, a full bag of litter was picked up along both sides of the road. This activity was mis-interpreted by a neighbor who came over and expressed her displeasure with all the trash being dumped along the road and down the embankment. She blamed the cavers of course, even though it was obviously local trash (how many cavers do you know who haul heavy appliances around so they can discard them where they park to go caving?). This led several CIG cavers to return the following weekend to remove several pickup loads of trash in hopes of improving the reputation of cavers. Thanks should go to Grant Van Hemert, Betty Bunting, Steve Watson, Roy Logan, Tony Rainbolt, and Eric Higbie.
- ❑ Last October, the gate on Wayne's Cave was vandalized. The hinge pins were sawed through, allowing the gate to be breached, but no other damage. The damage was discovered on a Sunday. The gate was retrieved on Tuesday, repaired and painted on Thursday, and reinstalled on Saturday. The actual damage was minor, and the replacement hinge pins (with hardened inserts added) had been made previously.
- ❑ The NIG reports that there is evidence of unauthorized traffic and recent vandalism in the Woodard section of the Dunbar/Woodard System. The puzzling part is that the gate is intact and several attempts to figure out how people are getting in have been unsuccessful. They suspect another entrance, but in-cave and overland searches have not turned up anything yet. They are planning additional trips to figure out this mystery. Those wishing to help with this project may contact Bruce Devore or John Simmerman.
- ❑ Steve Collins of the Spring Mill Project reports that Whistling Cave has surpassed 40,000 feet and counting. The survey is on a temporary hiatus because of the recent rains, but is expected to start up again in April. Those interested in helping (and have a wet suit) can contact Steve.

- ❑ The new information signs for Shaft Cave have finally been printed and will soon be installed by Jeff Cody, Shaft Patron. The 11-inch by 17-inch heavy vinyl signs are bright yellow with black lettering. The text is primarily for legal protection, but also gives the IKC mailing address to obtain additional information.
- ❑ Plans are still in the works to remove the existing gate and install a new, operational gate on the Quarry Entrance to Shiloh Cave (Lawrence) sometime this spring. Exact details of the design have not been finalized. Questions or concerns should be forwarded to Jim Adams, the Shiloh Patron. Limited access should be available to the cave after the gate is installed.
- ❑ Also scheduled this summer are gates for the three entrances of Jim Ray's Cave (Greene), Indiana's second largest bat hibernaculum. Leasing arrangements are currently being worked out between the IDNR and the owner. Funding for this project will be from the IDNR and the USFWS. It is anticipated that Indiana cavers will supply the majority of the labor for this project. The owner has indicated that once the gate is installed, limited summer access may be available. The owner is also interested in the IKC performing restoration work in the cave.
- ❑ The National Cave Management Symposium is soliciting papers for this fall's Symposium in Carlsbad, NM (October 27-30). The papers can be on a variety of topics related to cave management issues. In order to have the Proceedings available at the conference, a deadline of July 31st has been set. The Symposium will have Tom Aley as its banquet speaker and Merlin Tuttle of BCI will be making a special presentation one of the other evenings. For more information, contact Dale Pate, 505-785-2104; Jim Goodbar, 505-887-6544; or Richard Carlson 505-885-4181.
- ❑ The Ohio Valley Region voted to make a \$100 donation to our "Legal Defense Fund" against INDOT. The money will be returned if it is not needed for that cause.
- ❑ Two more Legal Defense Funds were recently created that could supply money to our potential INDOT lawsuit. The Hoosier Environmental Council received a \$250,000 donation for a fund from one of its members (see newspaper clipping on page 10) and the NSS received a \$10,000 donation from one of its members. Both funds are interested in providing monies for legal actions that better the environment through litigation.
- ❑ With this issue's mailing, members received a copy of *Bats of the Eastern United States* by Michael Harvey. This 46-page softcover book was distributed as part of the IKC's educational mission and as an incentive for our membership drive. The book was very well produced, containing considerable information on bats in general, as well as descriptions of specific species found in the eastern United States. The book was courtesy of the US Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 3. Individual copies are also available from the Indiana DNR, Non-game Section.

ELECTION NOTICE

The IKC by-laws specifies that the size of Executive Board (Officers and Directors) will comprised of one Board Member for each ten general members (fractions are rounded up), up to a maximum of fifteen. With the current membership of 145 (as of March 5th), this requires all fifteen positions to be filled. Excluding the three Officer positions and the four existing Directors with a second year to serve on their two-year term, a total of eight Directors will be elected at the March 20th meeting. Further, the by-laws stipulate that the Directors' terms must be such that approximately half expire each year. This will means the top six vote-getters will serve two-year terms and the remaining two elected Directors will have single year terms.

IKC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

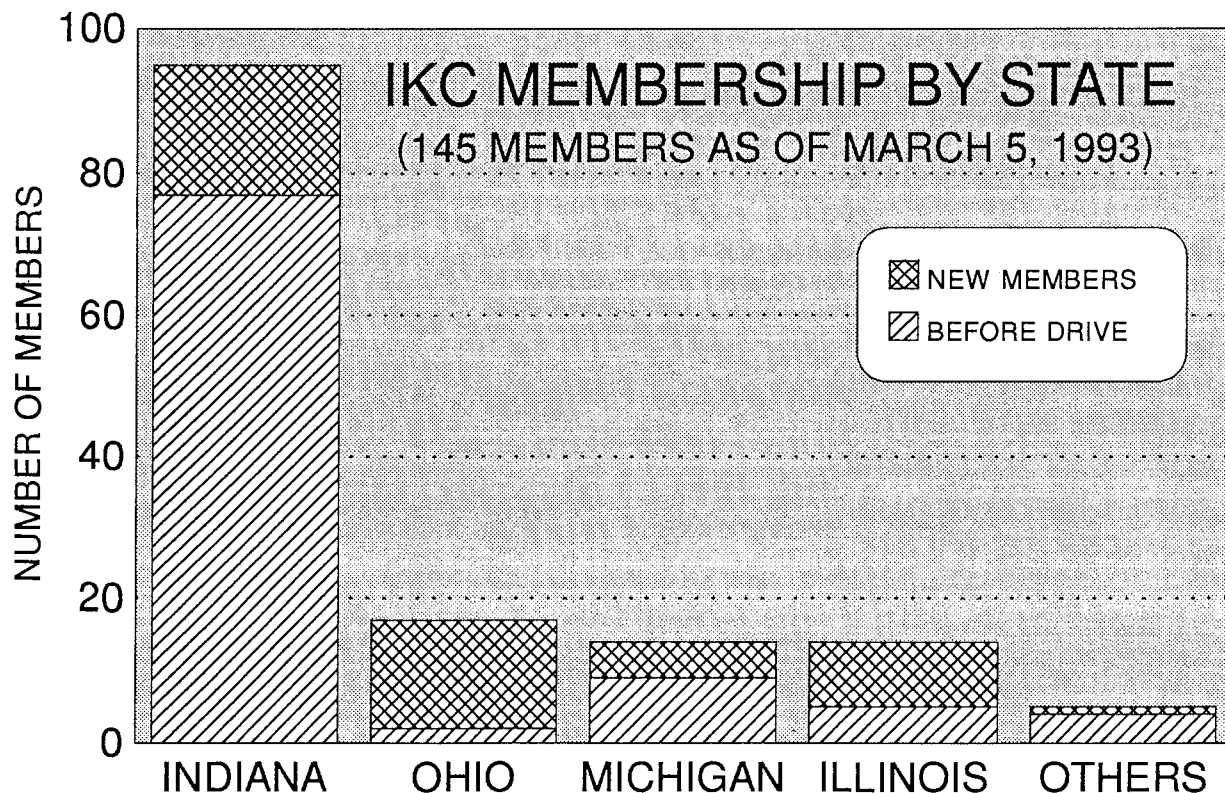
by Keith Dunlap

At the September quarterly meeting, a suggestion was made to send out a "legal defense fund" solicitation letter for our anticipated litigations against INDOT. By the December meeting, the letter was refocused to solicit membership for building a stronger organization with a broader base of support. Jim Adams, our membership chair, headed up the effort by drafting a letter which was approved at the January Board meeting. A five-state mailing list was obtained from the NSS, then reduced from 1600 names down to 977, removing duplicate house-holds, current IKC members, and geographical regions outside Indiana's traditional caver area. The areas solicited included Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, the western-half of Ohio, and the extreme northern part of Kentucky. Jim Adams, Larry Reece, Tom Rea, Jaime Fee, Scott Fee, and Keith Dunlap helped with the production and mailing of this letter. Using non-profit bulk mailing rates, the total cost including postage, a two-sided letter, an IKC brochure, a printed envelope, and a label was less than 20¢ each. This membership drive has been a tremendous success, yielding 48 new members from which to draw support and volunteer labor. The accompa-

nying chart show the distribution of our members and the effectiveness of the membership drive.

New members since December include Rick Appelsies, The Boehler Family, Sandra Bornejko, Barb Capocy, The Church Family, Royal DeLegge, Robert Decker, Ron Dowell, Cheryl Early, James Eastridge, Lorlie Esterly, Jeffrey Farr, Dawn Fuller, Curt Heinrich, Kevin Hieber, Jack Hock, Jean Hock, Mike Hood, Richard Janssen, Clayton Johnson, Stephen Johnston, Louie Kitcoff, Tom Kolb, Tom Kopp, Robert Letsinger, Stephen Lockwood, Dale Lofland, Willie Lunsford, Bob Masta, Richard Maxey, The Melton Family, Frank Norton, Marla Pelowski, Patrick Philipps, Victor Porter, Kenneth Redeker, Charles Rex, Robert Roundy, Jay Savage, Thomas Schmit, Peter Shirley, Shane Slay, Gregory Stamp, Charles (Bob) Vandeventer, Douglas Wolfe, Kevin Wools, The Wright Family, and Michael Wuerth.

Even those who did not join at this time are at least better aware of our existence and may elect to join sometime in the future.



SR 37 HIGHWAY UPDATE

by Keith Dunlap

Over the past eight months, the Indiana Karst Conservancy has been involved in an environmental disagreement with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) over the SR 37 construction project south of Bedford. The last several *Updates* have carried articles describing the dispute, primarily concerned with potential impacts that are likely on known habitats of the northern cavefish, a state-listed endangered species. The dispute escalated in July to the point that the IKC, the Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC), and Protect Our Woods (POW) filed a citizens action suit against INDOT. A hearing in front of the Natural Resource Committee on the subject in October concluded that INDOT had indeed violated the Endangered Species Act. However, the IDNR's recommendations to mitigate the problem was unsatisfactory to the environmental groups, so an appeal was filed. In November, the first pre-hearing meeting to address the appeal provided a cooperative forum to discuss the differences between the two sides. Several meetings have been held since that time and progress is being made.

Our main concerns have dealt with inadequate erosion controls, road contaminates being washed into the karst system, general water quality and quantity issues caused by the highway's drainage designs, the placement of the temporary concrete plant, lack of an experienced consultant on the project, and INDOT's general disregard of its environmental responsibilities.

In the past several months, INDOT appears to be making progress to address some of these concerns. In January, INDOT hired Tom Aley as a special consultant on the project to review existing designs and to make recommendations. After his on-site visit, Tom agreed with our concerns over inadequate erosion control, and INDOT has acknowledged the problems and is attempting to correct at least some of them. INDOT seemed open to pursuing some of his other initial suggestions, too.

INDOT has also expanded the work scope of their own environmental consultants, WW-Engineering, to answer questions pertaining to the rainfall capacities of the drainage structures. WW is also to perform extensive dye-tracing to document the hydrologic connectivities of the drains to the karst systems. Finally, a program to sample and quantify water quality is being proposed.

In the upcoming weeks, INDOT has scheduled several meetings to openly discuss drainage system improvements. The IKC, HEC, POW, USFWS, and IDNR have all been invited to participate.

It is too soon to say if there will be a satisfactory outcome to our legal dispute with INDOT, but it at least appears that they are now sensitized to our concerns. We are optimistic that things can be settled without further legal actions -- the determining factor will be if INDOT walks the way they talk.

Hoosiers allied on environment forming fund for legal defense

by Kyle Niederpruem

The Hoosier Environmental Council is hiring a legal staff and making a three-year financial commitment with \$250,000 in contributions to a new legal defense fund.

The Council, the state's largest environmental advocacy group as an umbrella for 67 organizations, is hiring two lawyers to staff its new Legal Defense Fund.

"It's a totally new chapter for us," said Jeff Stant, Executive Director of the Council.

In the past, the group has relied on lawyers to donate free legal time. Many of its Board members who are lawyers have been tapped for their expertise on environmental issues.

Some of those lawyers donated time to negotiate a consent decree with Ogden Martin Systems of Indianapolis, operators of the city's southside incinerator, for air pollution violations.

Conservatively, Stant estimates that legal work could have cost the Council as much as \$8,000.

Eventually, the Council would like to establish a statewide network of lawyers interested in working on environmental issues.

The Council has up to 10 issues it may pursue this year. Most of the issues could put the Council at odds with the administration of Gov. Evan Bayh, said Stant.

One such case involves a threatened citizens lawsuit over the way an endangered species of cavefish was handled during an ongoing multimillion-dollar road expansion project.

Ironically, the Council endorsed Bayh in his re-election bid for governor last year over Republican Linley E. Pearson.

"Why would you endorse him then turn around and sue him? Because we have no green party," Stant said of Hoosier politics.

By its tax status, the fund would be precluded from taking on cases in which citizens are seeking damages in civil court for environmental harm.

Reprinted from the Indianapolis Star, January 24, 1993

1993 MARENGO CAVE RESTORATION WEEKEND

by Larry Reece

The second annual Marengo Cave Restoration Weekend was held on January 9 and 10, 1993. This event has become increasingly popular with area cavers and requests to participate exceeded the forty caver limit for the project. There were participants from Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Michigan. Quite a few IKC members were present at this event.

Marengo Cave, a popular commercial cave in southern Indiana, was discovered in 1883 by Orris and Blanche Hiestand who were eleven and fifteen years old. As word of the cave spread, Samuel Stewart, the owner of the property, soon opened the cave to the public and began charging a quarter for admission. The cave has had several owners since that time. The current owner of the cave is a corporation formed by four cavers to purchase the cave in 1974.

On Friday evening, January 8, my son, Matt, and I left from his college residence in Bloomington to attend the restoration weekend. We had a filling meal in Bedford and a pleasant drive down SR 37 in the dark of the winter night. The advance information we had received advised that we could stay in the Old Mill Bunkhouse during the weekend, the same as last year. Well, we were unable to attend last year but planned to stay in the bunkhouse this year. We arrived at Marengo around 8pm and noticed that the NIG and Michigan participants had fully occupied the only motel (all four rooms) in Marengo. We proceeded to the cave assuming the bunkhouse was on the cave property. Surprise! The road to the cave was gated and a small sign advised that restoration participants could stay at the Old Mill Bunkhouse in Milltown.

Okay, Milltown was just 3 or 4 miles down the road and as it was a small town there should be no problem finding the bunkhouse, right? Well, we drove into Milltown, down the hill through town and past the Cave Country Canoe manager's residence. Since we knew that Cave Country Canoes was managed by the same people that managed Marengo we knew the bunkhouse had to be nearby. We drove around behind the manager's house, back through the main part of town and up a hill on the other side without any luck. After a block or two we knew we were going the wrong way and guessed the bunkhouse should be near the river. With a name like the Old Mill

Bunkhouse it just had to be near the river. One more trip through town knowing as a last resort we could stop at the manager's house and ask. As we made the turn at the bottom of the hill on the main street there it was. In front of a two story house was a sign about four by eight feet proclaiming "Old Mill Bunkhouse". We had driven past it only minutes ago and how we missed it is still a mystery.

Several cars were parked beside the bunkhouse so we grabbed our sleeping bags and clothes and headed in to claim a prime sleeping spot. The advance information had advised that the bunkhouse had lights but no heat. No problem, Matt and I had both received new zero degree sleeping bags for Christmas and were looking forward to testing them. Inside we found several cavers all in one room where someone had a kerosene heater going and it was very comfortable despite the outside temperature. There were still open bunks in the room and we were invited to sleep there if we wished. After about fifteen minutes of conversation, old war stories and so forth, we quickly decided that an unheated room would be preferable to the kerosene fumes. We checked out the rest of the house, finally claiming bunks in the back room upstairs. Then we went back downstairs for another hour or so of conversation before deciding it was time to see if these new sleeping bags would actually keep us warm. I'm happy to report that they did a fine job. I'm not sure what the outside temperature was but I think it was somewhere between 30 and 35 and probably the inside temperature was even warmer. I doubt that these sleeping bags would keep me warm at zero but they would probably do fine down to 20 or so. In any case I don't expect to be sleeping outside when its zero.

Saturday morning Matt and I got up early. Well, I got up early and after about half an hour managed to convince Matt to get up to go find some breakfast or be left behind. There were two small restaurants in Marengo so we chose one and went in. No one there except a few locals who were swapping lies. The breakfast was pretty good and the price reasonable. After breakfast we had an hour to kill before the gate to the cave park was to be opened so we drove about 10 miles south to the interstate to see what was there. When we returned we noticed several

cavers vehicles at the other restaurant in town so we stopped and talked for a while.

Arriving at the cave about 8:45 AM or so, we checked in and picked up a registration package provided by the organizers. Inside was a T-shirt, some information on the project, and several souvenirs of the cave including a booklet on the cave and its history which was quite interesting. About 9:30, all of the participants were assembled in the ticket office where Gary Roberson and Gordon Smith outlined what we would be doing along with safety and operational information. We were divided into groups of about ten people and went off into the cave to work on various projects.

Matt and I went with the group working in the Crystal Palace area. I spent most of the day cleaning out dirt and mud that was packed down over an area of small rimstone formations. This area was about 8 by 10 feet and the rimstone was about half an inch deep. We picked the dirt loose with small nails and screwdrivers (see photo below) then used small paint brushes to brush it into piles to pick up and remove from the area. Matt and Larry Bundy started working on a ledge about fifteen feet up on one side of the Pipe Organ formation where some broken glass and other discarded material needed to be removed. We had been cautioned to avoid the wiring and lights in that area. As the rest of us were working suddenly there was a loud pop from the ledge. Our inquiries were answered by "No problem, its just an old burnt out light bulb that broke when we moved it." About five or ten

minutes later we had another loud pop when Matt threw some debris into a bucket containing another dead light bulb. After the ledge was cleaned Matt and Larry joined the other half of our group who were cleaning a larger rimstone formation in front of and below the Pipe Organ formation.

During the morning we were visited by a TV cameraman from Louisville who shot a lot of video in the area that we were working in as well as some of the other work areas. He took several hours of tape and maybe a minute or so of it may actually get on the air. Hopefully, the part that does get on the air presents the correct message to the public of what we were doing and why.

As tours came through our area we stopped work and removed our lanterns down the passage since the area that we were working in was where the commercial tours see a light and music show near the end of their tour. Some of us made the long walk outside the cave to replenish our nicotine supply. It was quite a task as it took at least two or three minutes to make the walk.

Around noon different work groups started coming out of the cave for lunch. The Marengo staff provided a free lunch of ham and/or barbecue sandwiches, chips and soft drinks. Since most of the participants had signed up to take trips through the recently discovered (June 1992) section of the cave the next day we were asked to try to finish our projects today or at least leave them cleaned up enough that it wouldn't be necessary for the staff to follow behind us next week to restore the areas for tourists.

Scott and Jaime Fee uncovering a delicate rimstone floor during the Marengo Cave Restoration weekend.

photo by Larry Reece



Late in the afternoon the areas in the Crystal Palace we had been working in were finished enough that it was time to wash down the rimstone to see the final results. We carried water from a short way down the passage and washed down the rimstone with brooms and brushes. Where there had been smooth mud packed down by the passage of many feet you could now see the rimstone that had been buried. It looked pretty good but I feel that you could have spent days working on this to make it even better. Gary seemed to be quite satisfied with the results of our labor.

Other groups had worked in other parts of the cave cleaning off non-historic signatures and markings, removing debris from formation areas and other fairly easy cleaning projects. On Sunday I did see some of the areas where other groups had been working, but since I was not familiar with what it looked like before it was difficult to see the change. I guess this is good because it means that the results of their labors didn't leave anything that detracted from the view.

Saturday evening we made a trip into Corydon with the Fees', Blacks', and Keith Dunlap (all wimps who were staying at Blacks' with heat and toilets) to check out the Ponderosa Steak House. Following a filling meal Matt and I returned to Marengo for a visit with some of the Michigan people (more wimps) staying in the local motel. From there it was back to the bunkhouse for

more conversation and then an early retirement to check out our sleeping bags insulating qualities again.

Sunday morning the trips into the new area were staggered one hour apart with fifteen or less on each trip. Knowing my limitations and not wanting to ruin my reputation as an armchair caver, I had not signed up for a trip. I made a short trip back to the Crystal Palace for a few photos and then helped to remove some tools from the other end of the cave where the other groups had been working.

About 1:15 PM it was close to the time for Matt's group to be coming out of the cave, so I positioned myself near the entrance so that maybe I could get a few quick pictures as they exited. Up to this point there had not been any tourists at the cave this day. About 1:30 just as a group of four tourists and a guide approached the entrance, the door opened and about ten or so completely wet and mud covered cavers exited. I heard one tourist say "We're **NOT** going to look like that when we come out, are we?" I didn't see the new section of the cave, but from Matt's reports it is very nice. It sure sounds like it was worth the effort to see.

Overall it was a really fun weekend. Our efforts to help restore a small part of the cave was easily offset by the enjoyment we had. The hospitality extended to us by the management and staff of Marengo Cave was exceptional. It was a true pleasure to participate in this event.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

by Joshua Abdulla

I am a member of the Brebeuf High School Conservation Club. The faculty advisor to the club, Mr. Greg Foote, asked me to invite a guest to speak on the conservation of the environment. Because of my interest in caves, I decided to ask James Adams, a member of the IKC, to give a talk on cave conservation.

Mr. Adams gave a very interesting view of how important caves are to maintaining a healthy environment. This was probably the first time that many of the students in the club became aware of the problem facing caves and the effects of these problems on the above ground environment. Without realizing it, many of the issues that the club deals with coincide with the efforts of the

IKC. These include water pollution, the expansion of SR 37, and the illegal dumping of trash in sinkholes.

Mr. Adams speech made many of us realize how important caves really are to the environment as a whole. All of the club members gained a new insight into why it is necessary to keep our caves clean and beautiful.

[Editor's note: The IKC receives several requests per year for educational presentation such as this. Several years ago, an IKC slide show was produced to address such requests. If you would be interested in being a presenter, please contact Jim Adams.]

1993 LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

by Keith Dunlap

The 1993 Indiana Legislative Session is in full swing at the State House. There are literally hundreds of bills and legislative actions being introduced, debated, amended, and eventually passed or voted down. While many of these legislative decisions effect us as citizens and cavers, this article will focus on just four that are of particular interest for one reason or another.

The first is House Bill 1527, better known as the New Markets Recycling Bill. This bill is a revolutionary step beyond previous recycling bills that just banned recyclables from landfills. It proposes to develop local markets for the recyclable materials, making it cost effective to recycle. The forms of development are through low-interest loans and grants for small businesses and preferential purchasing by the State of products made from recycled materials. The bill would be self-funded by a \$1.00/ton increase in landfill tipping fees, but since the overall volume of solid waste being dumped would be reduced, the citizens of Indiana would not see any additional costs. Passage of this bill is the number-one priority of the Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC). The IKC has officially signed-on as a supporter.

The number-two priority of HEC is to obtain funding for the Indiana Heritage Trust. This Trust was created last year by our state government to purchase additional public lands including land for state parks, nature preserves, wetlands, and wildlife areas. While the Trust creation was a significant step, it is nothing more than political lip service without any dedicated funding from the budget. The proposed funding is \$10 million per year (currently the only monies this Trust has received are from the sale of the environmental license plates which only amounts to \$50,000/year).

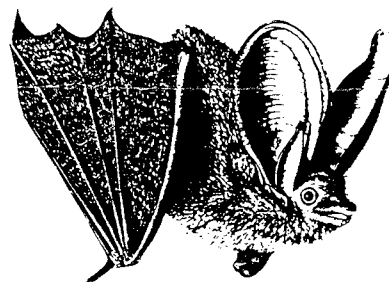
The third issue of interest is a resolution to increase the pay of DNR wildlife biologists. Currently, these trained professionals, many with masters or Phd, earn an average salary of \$24,100 per year. This is the lowest average pay in the nation (Michigan's average salary is \$44,500; Illinois: \$37,100; Ohio: \$31,700; and Kentucky \$27,100). Because of the low pay, many of our biologists are fleeing

the state, taking years of experience with them. Indiana is becoming the training grounds for college grads, spending two or three years here before moving on to better opportunities. The worse part of it all is that the money for these raises is available in dedicated funds collected from hunting and fishing licenses and from donations to the Non-game Fund. The resolution simply request the Governor and DNR Director to approve the raises.

All three of the above legislative items need your support with a call or letter to your state representative and senator, and to the Governor. Just a few contacts can make a significant difference.

The final bill of interest is House Bill 1540, the Sinkhole Protection Act introduced by Representative Mangus of South Bend. The bill proposed the protection of sinkholes and required a permit review prior to any disturbance effecting sinkholes. Failure to obtain a permit would be a Class A infraction. Money collected from the permits would be used to purchase sinkholes for public enjoyment.

While the bill seems logical, it would effectively prohibit any development in southern Indiana's karst region. Furthermore, it would be a nightmare for the responsible agency (the DNR) to regulate. For these reasons, it had no chance of passing. Discussing the bill with Representative Mangus, he said he had the bill drafted after driving along SR 37 south of Bedford. He thought the destruction being done by INDOT was criminal, and decided he would introduce the bill simply to draw attention to their activities. While this bill was unrealistically overly-regulating, it does show that a better crafted bill some time in the future might have support.



1993 INDIANA BAT CENSUS

by Keith Dunlap

As part of the USFWS's Recovery Plan to protect and increase populations of the federally endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis Sodalis*), a census is conducted biennially to monitor the status of the species. The census is conducted by several individuals and coordinated by Richard Clawson from Missouri. For consistency, the goal is to get the same biologists to survey the same caves each time. Richard, the Recovery Team leader, conducts the census of the seven major (Priority I) caves including Twin Domes and Batwing caves in Indiana. The census of the remaining caves (Priority II and III) in each state are generally carried out by the states' respective natural resource agency. In Indiana, that responsibility falls on the IDNR's Non-game Section, which contracts this work out to Dr. Virgil Brack who has conducted the survey since 1981.

The goal of the census is to collect long term trends on the *sodalis* populations to see if the protective actions being taken by the USFWS and others are having any positive effects. While it would be nice to have data each year, the count is performed only every other year to minimize disturbance. The actual survey is pretty straightforward to perform. In most caves, the individual bats are identified by species and counted. In the few caves where large clusters are present, the area of the clusters are estimated and a factor of 300 bats per square foot is applied. Additional information collected includes the various locations of the bats within the cave, the temperature at these locations, and the number of bats per cluster. Occasionally, a banded bat will be found and the band number and color are recorded.

To minimize the overall time in the cave, the count is generally performed by a team of three or four as follows: the identifier/counter (Dr. Brack), the "spotter" to assist the counter in systemically keeping track of what has or hasn't been counted, the data recorder who transcribes the information from the counter, and usually a fourth person who records temperatures, scouts side leads for bats, and does whatever else needs to be done.

Assisting this year at one or more caves were Scott Johnson (IDNR non-game biologist), Bob Madej (IDNR intern biologist),

Dr. Karen Tyrell (a bat biologist from Knoxville, TN), Steve Collins (IKC) and myself.

The caves visited this year included sixteen caves that have been previously censused and known to have *sodalis*, plus four caves that were suggested by cavers as potential hibernacula. The following, in order of visitation, is a brief log of this year's activities:

Wyandotte Cave (Crawford) 13JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Johnson, Tyrell, Richard Clawson, and Ron Ressenider (USFWS) . Usually, about 90% of the bats are in Washington Avenue, which because of its ceiling heights, requires binoculars and a high-powered spot light to count the bats. This year, however, a large number of the bats had moved to the Rugged Mountain area which is closed to commercial tours during the winter. The observed relocation is probably due to the mild winter or improved airflow of the new gate rather than tourist disturbance. The population in Wyandotte continues to increase with over 17,000 bats counted. The new bat gate was obviously was successful.

Saltpeter Cave (Crawford) 14JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Tyrell, and Madej. This cave is just up the valley from Wyandotte with approximately 300 *sodalis*. This is down a little from 1991 and 1989. Roger Gleitz (Wyandotte Cave manager) and Hank Huffman (IDNR) assisted Dr. Julian Lewis (biologist) with the investigation of invertebrates in the cave.

Wildcat Cave (Crawford) 14JAN - Brack, Dunlap, and Tyrell. This cave is also located near Wyandotte and was found to have approximately 60 *sodalis* and over 300 little browns (*Myotis lucifugus*). Gleitz, Huffman, and Lewis checked for invertebrates in the stream but did not find much of interest.

Wallier (Harrison) - 14JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Tyrell, and Madej. Approximately seventy *sodalis* were found which was twice the number noted in 1991, the first time it was surveyed. The southern section of the cave appears to have been used by a great number of bats in the past (probably a summer roost).

Leonard Springs (Monroe) 16JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Tyrell, Johnson, and Madej. Approximately one hundred *sodalis* and one hundred *lucifugus* were counted, both down slightly from previous counts in 1991 and 1989.

Buckners (Monroe) 16JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Tyrell, Johnson, and Madej. As amazing as it may seem, there is still a small colony of Indiana bats in the entrance room of Buckner. Approximately 25 *sodalis* were found hiding in cracks and crevices. However, just ten years ago, there were almost twenty times that number.

King Blair/Brinegar (Monroe) 16JAN - Brack, Dunlap, and Tyrell. This was one of the bigger surprises of this year's survey. Entering from the King Blair entrance, approximately 400 *sodalis* were found just a few hundred feet in. Another fifty or so, along with approximately 400 *lucifugus* were found in the rest of the cave (up to the Reid Room). The only previous visit to this system was in 1987, and then only the Brinegar section was surveyed. It is interesting to note that all three entrances to the Blair System were dug open only about 25 years ago, showing that bats will adopt to new hibernacula under the right conditions (possibly Buckner refugees). It is suggested that visitation to King Blair should be avoided during the winter months.

Robinson Ladder (Crawford) 17JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Tyrell, Johnson, and Madej. This cave had approximately 400 *sodalis* in its entrance room, about the same number as in 1991. Of interest are the large guano piles in the back of the cave showing extensive recent summer usage. There was also evidence of eastern woodrat usage not too many years ago.

Salts Cave (Lawrence) 17JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Johnson, and Tyrell. This cave was suggested by Dave Haun. No *sodalis* were found, but approximately 100 *lucifugus* and 20 big browns (*Eptesicus fuscus*) were noted.

Endless Cave (Washington) 17JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Johnson, and Tyrell. This cave is another interesting hibernacula of growing importance with approximately 350 *sodalis* and over 600 *lucifugus* counted. In 1982 and 1987, only a couple of *sodalis* were found and only a few hundred *lucifugus*.

Jim Ray's Cave (Greene) 23JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Johnson, Madej, Jennifer Szymanski (USFWS), and Scott Pruitt (USFWS). Over the past ten years, this cave has become the second largest hibernacula in Indiana (second only to Twin Domes). This year over 38,000 *sodalis* were counted, down slightly from the 1991 record of almost 42,000, but still three times as many bats as just ten years ago. For the first time since 1985, the "albino" bat was not found, but several of his half-breed decedents were observed. This cave is scheduled to have gates installed on its three entrances sometime next year.



Biologist Scott Johnson measuring *Myotis sodalis* clusters in Ray's Cave.

Ashcraft Cave (Greene) 23JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Johnson, and Madej. Ashcraft is a cave that the IDNR just inherited. It was included in this year's census just to see what kind of biota used the cave during the winter. Much to our surprise, a small cluster of approximately twenty *sodalis* were found. There were also about 100 *lucifugus* noted. Because of higher than anticipated water, the biota inventory was terminated at the "Y", approximately 500 feet into this 6000 foot cave.

Clyfty Cave (Greene) 23JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Johnson, and Madej. This cave has one of the more scenic entrances in Indiana. Approximately 300 *sodalis* and 170 *lucifugus* were counted, down slightly from the last two counts.

Parker's Pit (Harrison) 24JAN - Brack, Dunlap, and Collins. This was the fourth time this cave has been surveyed with approximately 1000 *sodalis* found, most being in the e¹ Room at the bottom of the third drop (beyond the X-canyon). The population appears to be relatively stable in this cave.

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.

Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance for the Quarter Ending 12/31/92

GENERAL FUND		
RECEIPTS		
DUES	76.25	
DONATIONS	195.00	
PUBLICATIONS	117.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		388.25
EXPENDITURES		
UPDATE	263.87	
POSTAGE, GENERAL	29.00	
SECRETARY EXPENSE	30.03	
COPYING, COVERS,	26.59	
HEC BUSINESS MTG	15.00	
WOODARD LEASE	1.00	
P O BOX RENTAL	49.00	
BANK SERVICE CHAR	0.51	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		415.00
EXCESS TO FUND BALANCE		-26.75
FUND BALANCE 09/30/92		2571.20
FUND BALANCE 12/31/92		2544.45
HANCOCK PROPERTY		
RECEIPTS		
		0.00
EXPENDITURES		
HANCOCK LEASE	1.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1.00
EXCESS TO FUND BALANCE		-1.00
FUND BALANCE 09/30/92		326.22
FUND BALANCE 12/31/92		325.22
TOTAL BALANCE - ALL FUNDS 12/31/92		2869.67

continued from page 5

spot new, or at least relocated, trash that wasn't previously there. After my Wayne's trip about four weeks ago, [I was told] that the key had only been given out a few times, besides my three trips.

Is there any way to restrict entrance into Wayne's to these probable cave trashers? I'm positive that the lantern I found, at the bottom of the crevice of the crawlway, was not there on my trip four weeks ago. If the key was only out once or twice between those dates, is it possible to find out who left it there and deny them future access to the cave?

Wayne's is currently my favorite cave and

I feel very protective of it. If recent groups could be contacted and questioned about trash they may have seen, maybe it could be determined which group were most probable to have left the trash.

I'm not suggesting that you restrict any unknown cavers or deny keys to groups with only a slight suspension of littering the cave. I just wanted to share my concern with the IKC and urge that the IKC explore better ways of protecting the cave without making it virtually impossible for anyone to get in.

Sincerely,

Scott David Webb

IKC QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, December 5, 1992

Bloomington, Indiana

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Adams	Keith Dunlap
Jane Miller	Lynn Miller
Jeff Cody	Ernie Payne
Tom Rea	Eric Schmidt
Bill Tozer	

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Glenn Lemasters

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. by IKC President, Keith Dunlap at the IU Geology Building. Introductions were made.

Keith reported on the annual Wayne's Cave cleanup which was scheduled for the following day (12/6). More complete details can be found in the *IKC Update* (December 1992, Number 27, Page 14).

The IKC might want to pursue a management agreement with the new landowner of Suicide Cave in Washington County. Carl Nelson and Keith will contact the landowner and discuss an access policy. One proposal might be that the IKC and/or the CIG make signage available similar to that used at Shaft Cave on the Hancock property.

The IKC holds the lease on the Woodard Entrance to Dunbar Cave in Tennessee. The NIG is actually managing the cave. The lease was recently renewed for another five year period. The NIG has recently seen some additional vandalism in the cave. They will attempt to discover how the gate is being breached and work to solve the problem.

The publication *Bats Of The Eastern United States* by Michael J. Harvey, published by the Tennessee Technological University was distributed to all directors for a brief review. A motion was made to purchase a quantity for the membership at a cost not to exceed \$1.25 per copy. These would be distributed with the March *IKC Update*. Motion passed 9-0.

Keith also noted that we have already received eighty copies which we may or may not be charged for.

The focus of the donation letter discussed at

the last meeting has changed. This is due, in part, to the fact that the legal action against INDOT will probably not require the large sums of money as first thought. Jim Adams will prepare a membership solicitation letter to be mailed in late January to NSS members in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois and Michigan.

INDOT legal action status - Keith recapped recent events. The *IKC Update* has the full story (December 1992, Number 27, Pages 3 - 6). A pre-administrative hearing will be held next Friday (12/11). It is not open to the public.

Larry Mullins announced the beginning of the KARST season on the Hoosier National Forest properties. The first Karst Rendezvous of the season will be held on Saturday and Sunday, December 19 and 20 at Tucker Lake in Orange County. The Tincher Lake area will get a lot of work this Spring. Bruce Slover also reported that the HNF land acquisition program is off and running.

Shaft Cave signs - They are at the printer.

The IKC has collected \$255 for the DNR Non-Game Fund. We have not yet decided how to turn this over to the DNR due to their involvement in the SR 37 mess. The issue remains tabled.

The annual bat census is underway. Many caves remain to be checked. It was reported later in the meeting that the bat population of Brinegar Cave in Monroe County seems to be increasing. It will be examined this year.

Shiloh Gate - Keith has produced a drawing of a proposed gate design for the cave. It will need to be reviewed with the owner. Otherwise, no further activity. The installation is set for May or June, 1993.

Rays Cave in Green County recently changed owners. It is the second largest Indiana Bat hibernacula in the state and it is unprotected. Gating of the cave will be a major project with three entrances and the somewhat remote area complicating the situation. Materials may need to be airlifted to the site. There is also an old cabin nearby which needs to be

torn down and removed. The IKC seems to have gained some favor in the eyes of the landowner. Gating is scheduled for July or August, 1993.

The status of Ashcraft Cave was also mentioned. The DNR owns the entrance and about three acres. As soon as the paperwork is finalized, access to the cave may be permitted. There was some discussion concerning the IKC pursuing a lease agreement.

Elections are coming up. Start thinking about candidates. Ballots will be mailed out 30 days before the March meeting. The Directors will meet to prepare a slate on Friday, January 29, 1993 at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Jane and Lynn Miller.

The next regular meeting will be on Saturday, March 20, 1993 at 7:00 P.M. in Indianapolis.

Discussion from the floor included the following items:

- Salamander Access - No change. No parking, no access.
- A case of batteries has been donated to the IKC for fund raising.
- The Hancock property tenant is actively discouraging trespass.
- Queen Blair has received some damage. There was some discussion about gating the Spring Entrance.
- The Garlow Spring property is for sale, including the cave entrances.
- Interest in the cleanup at Heavenly Hole is waning. Cleanup would be difficult. Keith Dunlap examined the site. No access, no progress.
- Pless Cave is "pretty" closed. Owner does not want anyone there.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

Submitted by James Adams, IKC Secretary

Jughole (Harrison) 24JAN - Brack, Dunlap, and Collins. This is also the fourth bat census for this cave. A gradual increase was noted from 1987 to 1991, but this year the population of *sodalis* nearly doubled from 1991 with almost 14,000 bats.

Saltpeper Cave (Monroe) 30JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Johnson, and Madej. Approximately 250 *sodalis* were counted, primarily in a single room several hundred feet from the historic entrance. Historic evidence of woodrats in this cave were also noted.

Grotto Cave (Monroe) 30JAN - Brack, Dunlap, Johnson, and Madej. This IKC-managed cave was the biggest disappointment of the year, as its population continues its downward trend with only 1600 *sodalis* found (compared to 4200 bats in 1985). However, the number of *lucifugus* increased to over 300, the highest count since 1982.

Coon Cave (Monroe) 30JAN - Brack, Dunlap, and Madej. This IKC-managed cave is doing just the opposite of Grotto with an all time high of 4,450 *sodalis* and 400 *lucifugus*. This is approximately an eight-fold increase since 1982. It should be noted that part of this year's increase is due to counting bats located in a previously uncensused room (about 300 bats were located there).

Dixon Pit (Lawrence) 31JAN - Brack and Dunlap. This was another cave suggested by Dave Haun that contained numerous bats. Approximately 200 bats were found, but none were *sodalis*.

Sexton Spring (Greene) 31JAN - Brack and Dunlap. Tom Bertolacini reported clustering bats here in 1989. This was the third attempt in as many years to visit this cave with high water thwarting the previous two trips. This time the water was low enough to enter and 67 *sodalis* were counted along with a couple hundred individuals of other species.

One additional cave, Nichols, known to contain a small Indiana bat colony (discovered last year by Scott Fee) was to have been included in the survey, but the landowner denied permission at the last minute.

It should also be noted that many of these caves are closed to protect the bats from September 1st to April 30th, and some of the caves are off limits year around at the request of the landowners.

Editor's note: In the next issue of the Update, a complete summary of the 1993 population results and trends over the last decade will be presented.

IKC DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 29, 1993

Indianapolis, Indiana

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Adams	Keith Dunlap
Jane Miller	Lynn Miller
Jeff Cody	Tom Rea
Eric Schmidt	Bill Tozer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ernie Payne	Glenn Lemasters
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The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by IKC President, Keith Dunlap at the home of Lynn and Jane Miller. This was a special meeting called primarily to nominate candidates for 1993 officer positions.

The first order of business was a report on the membership solicitation letter. Jim Adams reported that the letter will be mailed to 988 NSS members in Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky (Louisville area) and Ohio (West of Columbus). The letter is ready to go. Larry Reece has helped with copying the brochures and page two of the letter, Keith will print page one of the letter as well as run our address labels and Jim Adams is printing the envelopes with a return address and bulk mail stamp. They should be in the mail next week.

Nominations were received and accepted for the following positions for 1993: President, Keith Dunlap; Secretary, Jim Adams; Treasurer, Scott Fee; Directors, Eric Schmidt, Bruce Bowman, Larry Mullins and Dave Haun. Nominations were also received for the position of Director for Tom Sollman, Joe Norris, Dave Black, Dick Horn, Hank Huffman and Scott Johnson. The nominee's acceptance will be verified by phone.

Tom Rea will serve as "Election Teller."

Jane Miller moved that a nominating committee be formed consisting of three members. The President shall not serve on this committee. The purpose of the committee shall be to verify the nominations for the 1993 elections, continue to seek out possible candidates for future elections and to recommend a slate of officers for future elections. Passed: 8-0.

Tom Rea, Bruce Bowman and Jim Adams will serve on the new nominating committee.

House Bill 1540, the Sinkhole Protection Act, has been introduced into the Indiana State

Legislature. After much discussion, it was decided that the IKC will not support this bill in its present state. We may want to work with the representative (Mangus) to introduce a similar bill in the next session.

Keith updated everyone on the INDOT SR 37 situation. Another pre-hearing meeting is planned for February 5, 1993. These meetings are not open to the public. Keith sent a letter to INDOT and other agencies voicing our concerns on erosion control and possible violations of a new law which went into effect on January 1, 1993. At the most recent meeting (1/8), INDOT tried to explain their erosion control efforts and assure everyone that "all is well." INDOT has hired Tom Aley as a consultant on the SR 37 project. He has spent time at the site with representatives from INDOT, IKC, IDNR and others. Keith says Aley was not pleased by some of the state's activities.

David Black proposes to hold a Cave Symposium at the Hardin Ridge Campground. This will be held in conjunction with the annual Earth Day clean-up at Sullivan Cave on April 24th. He has asked the IKC to co-sponsor the event with the Indiana Cave Survey. Each Indiana NSS grotto would get 20 minutes to talk about recent explorations. The ICS and IKC would also get their own time slots. Tom Rea moved to co-sponsor and donate up to \$50 to help pay for expenses. Passed: 8-0.

The biologists of the DNR are trying to increase their wages through a resolution filed with the state legislature. They have asked various groups, including the IKC, for support. Tom Rea moved to support the resolution and respond by letter in whatever manner the President sees fit after receiving the supporting material from the DNR biologists. Passed: 6-0, 2 abstentions.

Keith Dunlap and Steve Collins have built a stapling machine for the CIG which the IKC will also use.

From the floor: Bruce Bowman will set up an IKC conference on his H.O.M.E. BBS. If there is any interest, he will maintain it.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 P.M.

Submitted by James Adams, IKC Secretary

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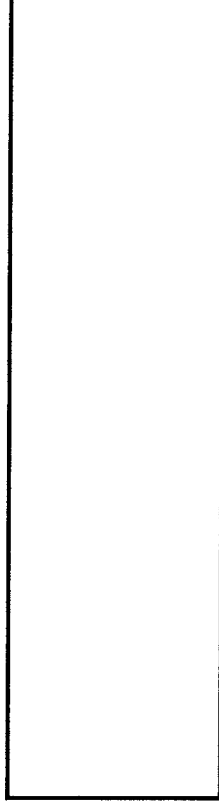
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