
IKC Update

NUMBER 41

JUNE 1996



INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY

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.

* * * * * EXECUTIVE BOARD * * * * *

President	Bruce Bowman	... (1997)	.....	(317)	276-4098(W)	/(317)	539-6935(H)
Secretary	James Adams	.... (1997)	.....	(317)	263-1611(W)	/(317)	882-3724(H)
Treasurer	Keith Dunlap	... (1997)	.....	(317)	242-2505(W)	/(317)	882-5420(H)
Director	Joshua Abdulla	.. (1997)	.....	(317)	334-9952(H)		
Director	Larry Bundy	.... (1998)	.....	(317)	736-8841(H)		
Director	Bruce Devore	... (1997)	.....	(219)	428-6645(W)	/(219)	639-7249(H)
Director	Dave Haun	..... (1997)	.....	(317)	464-9090(W)	/(317)	781-1996(H)
Director	Larry Mullins	.. (1997)	.....	(812)	275-5987(W)	/(812)	834-5313(H)
Director	Tom Rea	..... (1998)	.....	(317)	653-4423(H)		
Director	Eric Schmidt	... (1998)	.....	(317)	233-1056(W)	/(317)	745-6739(H)
Director	Bob Sergesketter	(1998)	.....	(812)	482-5517(H)		
Director	Clyde Simerman	.(1998)	.....	(219)	422-3030(H)		
Director	Tom Sollman	.... (1997)	.....	(812)	753-4953(H)		
Director	Bill Tozer	..... (1998)	.....	(317)	778-3259(H)		
Director	Betty Watson	.... (1997)	.....	(317)	891-7008(H)		

* * * * * COMMITTEES/CHAIRPERSON * * * * *

Cave Management & Landowner Relations/	Keith Dunlap	.....	(317)	882-5420
Land Acquisition/	Hank Huffman	.....	(812)	876-9645
Membership/	James Adams	.....	(317)	882-3724
Publications/	Keith Dunlap	.....	(317)	882-5420
Hoosier Forests Project/	Kevin Komisarck	.....	(812)	339-2394

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

Coon Cave/	Keith Dunlap	.....	(317)	882-5420
Grotto Cave/	Keith Dunlap	.....	(317)	882-5420
Shaft Cave/	Jeff Cody	.....	(317)	888-9898
Shiloh Cave/	James Adams	.....	(317)	882-3724
Suicide Cave/	Ronnie Burns	.....	(812)	883-6252
Wayne's Cave/	Serena Smith	.....	(812)	339-2394
Woodard Cave (TN)/	NIG - contact John Simerman	.....	(219)	424-0361

* * * * * GROTTOS/LIAISONS * * * * *

Bloomington Indiana Grotto/	Anmar Mirza	.....	(812)	339-1506
Bloomington Indiana Grotto/	Kriste Lindberg	.....	(812)	339-7210
Central Indiana Grotto/	Keith Dunlap	.....	(317)	882-5420
Dayton Underground Grotto/	Mike Hood	.....	(513)	252-2978
Eastern Indiana Grotto/	Brian Leavell	.....	(317)	552-7619
Evansville Metropolitan Grotto/	Ernie Payne	.....	(812)	477-7043
Harrison-Crawford Grotto/	Dave Black	.....	(812)	951-3886
Louisville Grotto/	Richard Newton	.....	(812)	365-2495
Mid-Hoosier Grotto/	Jeff Cody	.....	(317)	888-9898
Northern Indiana Grotto/	John Simerman	.....	(219)	424-0361
Stygian Grotto/	Richard Orr	.....	(314)	521-0355
Windy City Grotto/	Gary Gibula	.....	(708)	778-6747

Cover - Director Bob Sergesketter having a little too much fun carrying split cedar rails for the Gory Hole fence (see article on page 11).
Photo by Bill Tozer.

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



QUARTERLY MEETING REMINDER

SATURDAY, JUNE 8th, 7:00 PM

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

IU GEOLOGY BUILDING, ROOM 143

(SAME ROOM AS BIG MEETING)

The quarterly meetings are 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: brief recaps of last quarter's activities; Hancock Property workday summary; Wesley Chapel Gulf homestead workdays; Sign painting at Orangeville Rise; Suicide Cave lease; Wayne's parking problem; Coon Cave cleanup; Shiloh pollution; Hoosier National Forest cave activities; IDNR activities; TNC activities; Land Acquisition Committee activities; and much more....

Meeting directions: The Geology Building is located at 10th and Walnut Grove. Tenth Street runs east/west and is one of the major streets that cut across the IU Campus. Park behind the building, parking permits are not enforced at night. Enter the building from the rear at the west end. The room is halfway down the hall on the right.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- 08 JUN = HANCOCK PROPERTY WORKDAY, Bloomington (see page 10)
- 08 JUN = IKC QUARTERLY MEETING, Bloomington (see above)
- 22 JUN = LOST RIVER TOUR, Orange County (contact Bob Armstrong)
- 23 JUN = INDIANA CAVE SURVEY MEETING, Stage Stop Campground
- 03-09 AUG = NSS NATIONAL CONVENTION, Salida, Colorado
- 17-18 AUG = OVR CONSERVATION PROJECT, Rockcastle County, KY (see page 5)
- 31 AUG = COON CAVE RESTORATION TRIP, Bloomington (see page 4)
- 07 SEP = LOST RIVER TOUR, Orange County (contact Bob Armstrong)
- 14-15 SEP = HNF KARST VALUES INVENTORY SEMINAR (contact Larry Mullins)
- 12 OCT = LOST RIVER TOUR, Orange County (contact Bob Armstrong)

Membership to the Indiana Karst Conservancy 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.

IKC Update (ISSN 1076-3120) copyright © 1996 by the Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc. Excluding reprinted material and individually copyrighted articles and artwork, permission is granted to National Speleological Society affiliated organizations to reprint material from this publication, with proper credit given to the author/artist and the *IKC Update*. Articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the IKC, the National Speleological Society, or their respective members.

RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT...

There are some activities going on right now that have me very excited. I'm always excited by the work of the IKC, but in particular I like what's happening for our organization this year. If things go right, it looks like the IKC will become landowners before the end of 1996.

In the past, the IKC has largely pursued leasing opportunities with the current landowners. However, the limitations of this approach are evident. Our leases are generally non-binding, and can be terminated in very short order by the landowner (this has happened more than once, although never due to shortcomings in our management practices). We are also limited in our ability to enforce legal action or to perform restoration/improvements to the property. It's clear that the best way to protect karst features in perpetuity is the own the property outright.

There are also other ramifications of owning a karst property: liability, taxes, loans, and insurance are all issues we will have to deal with. I won't go into details on how this will be addressed, since much of it was covered in a report from the Land Acquisition Committee published approximately two years ago. Nonetheless, this

is going to pose some new challenges to our Board in making the right decisions along the way. Also, we will need more help from our members to support hands-on field activities and fund drives associated with acquiring new properties. We also need to become more active in pursuing grant funds. In the past, IKC members have been very active and I'm sure that will continue as we take this step forward.

You'll have to forgive me for not mentioning the names of the actual properties in question, as this could compromise our ability to bring these efforts to completion. Suffice it to say that we have very promising leads for no less than four significant karst properties in Indiana. It is doubtful that all four will be successful, but I feel confident that at least one of them will be wrapped up by the end of the year.

I hope that acquiring a property or two will be just the beginning as the IKC expands our influence and becomes recognized as a leader in environmental activism. I view property ownership as a powerful statement of our commitment to karst protection. Thanks to each of you, the IKC continues to make our presence felt.

- Bruce Bowman

COON CAVE CLEANUP - SATURDAY, AUGUST 31th

The IKC will be sponsoring its 10th annual cleanup into Coon Cave on Saturday, August 31th. As in past several years, our main activity will be graffiti removal and/or mud-washing in the lower levels, and of course, having fun.

Coon Cave is approximately 1200 feet long, but has multiple levels which make the cave seem much bigger. There are numerous climbable pits and breakdown crawls, possibly even virgin passage for the more determined. The entrance is a 22 foot pit which will have a cable-ladder rigged for belayed entry (no vertical experience is required). Some may wish to do the entrance "on rope" with their own vertical gear.

Plans are to meet in the Bloomington west side K-Mart parking lot (directly behind Bob Evans) by 9:30, or at the cave parking lot (at the end of Spicer Lane) by 10 AM. The cave is easy and appropriate for novice and experienced cavers alike. **Everyone must wear a hardhat with chin strap** and sign a waiver before entering. This will be the last day to visit Coon until May 1st, 1997 because of the bat hibernacula closure.

Anyone needing more information or directions, please contact Keith Dunlap.

NEWS BRIEFS...

- The primary function of the IKC's March Annual Business meeting is to hold elections for the Executive Board. The Board consists of the three officers (President, Secretary, and Treasurer) elected annually, and twelve Directors serving two year terms with half of the positions up for elections each year. The 1995 officers (Bruce Bowman, James Adams, and Keith Dunlap) were unopposed and thus re-elected. Ten members sought the six available Director's positions. Re-elected were Larry Bundy, Tom Rea, Eric Schmidt, Bob Serges-ketter, and Bill Tobzer. Newly elected was Clyde Simmerman. See page 2 for the complete list of Board members and their phone numbers.

Over 50% of the membership cast ballots this year which is a significantly higher rate of participation than most volunteer organizations see. Thanks should go to all the nominees that allow the membership to have a choice. Appreciation should also be given to out-going Director Hank Huffman who elected not to seek a third term, but plans to remain active, especially in the area of land acquisition.

- As reported in the March *IKC Update*, the owner of Suicide Cave passed away. At that time, conversations with his daughter indicated that regulated access via the IKC would continue under our lease agreement. However, in recent communications with the daughter, she has become very concerned about liability and it is unlikely we can satisfy her requirements to continue the agreement. Thus, Suicide Cave should be considered closed.
- There have been two recent changes of IKC liaisons to affiliated grottos. The liaison for the North Indiana Grotto is John Simerman (219) 424-0361. The second liaison for the Bloomington Indiana Grotto is Kriste Lindberg (812) 339-7210 (Anmar Mirza is still the BIG's other liaison). Members of the NIG and BIG can make most their access arrangements for IKC managed caves directly through their respective liaison. The liaisons also serve as a grotto contact for disseminating information between the IKC and their grotto.
- The Ohio Valley Region is once again sponsoring a regional conservation project. The project will be a restoration weekend in Climax Cave, Rockcastle County, Kentucky. The cave is large with lots of walking passage and massive formations. Unfortunately, the cave has suffered from vandalism, especially graffiti, which will be the focus of the restoration. The more volunteers, the better. The tentative date for the project is August 17/18th. Contact John Cole for more details (home: 606-245-3383, work 606-252-6612, x8097).
- Over the past six years, the IDNR and the IKC have been monitoring Coon, Grotto, and Ray's caves for winter disturbances of these critical Indiana bat hibernacula. This monitoring is done with passive electronic "spelloggers" which record the date and time of each disturbance event triggered by light hitting a photocell sensor. The information collected is to provide a means of determining the effectiveness (or ineffectiveness) of the closure methods used (fence, signs, etc.) to discourage unauthorized entry. This past winter saw nine disturbances in Coon, four in Grotto, and three in Ray's cave.

Winter	Number of Disturbances		
	Jim Ray's	Coon	Grotto
95 / 96	3	9	4
94 / 95	9*	9*	6**
93 / 94	--	--	--
92 / 93	8*	4*	9*
91 / 92	6	1	6
90 / 91	5*	9*	n/a

* Includes one disturbance for bat census
 ** Spellogger failed on day 182 of 227 days
 -- Data loss due to improper batteries



- ❑ At the same time the three speloggers were removed from Coon, Grotto, and Ray's caves, fourteen temperature dataloggers were also recovered. The dataloggers are part of an Indiana DNR sponsored project to collect temperature signatures in several bat caves throughout their hibernation period. While it may be a number of years before any real trends, hypotheses, and conclusions can be formulated, data from the first three years is showing greater temperature dynamics and gradients than would have been anticipated. Hopefully a summary of the data will be presented in the next *Update*.
- ❑ On Saturday, April 20th, the sixth annual Earth Day Indiana festivities were held at Military Park in downtown Indianapolis. As usual, the IKC was represented by a booth which prominently displayed our concerns about protection of karst geology, hydrology, and biology. This year the weather was cooperative and a great number of people attended the event — a couple of IKC members also stopped by. Thanks to Nick Noe and Bruce Bowman for manning the booth, answering questions, and handing out informational flyers.
- ❑ On April 21st, thirty-four cavers gathered to participate in the 7th annual Under Earth Day at Sullivan Cave in Lawrence County. Restoration in the form of trash and graffiti removal were the main affair of the day, as well as a little enjoyable caving. Participants included Bill Baus, Bruce Bowman, John Danovich, Bruce Devore, Amy DeWitt, Michael DeWitt, Keith Dunlap, Patrick Eaton, Sam Frushour, Tom Gangloff, Chad Haffner, Diana Karns, Matt Keele, Larry Mullins, Dan Nelson, Bryant Payne, Ernie Payne, Mike Payne, Ray Rough, Dean Schmidlapp, Walt Serabian, Bob Sergesketter, Barry Smith, Tom Sollman, Michele Threlkel, Bill Tozer, Debbie Tozer, Chris Warren, Michele Warren, Steve Weinzapfel, Elizabeth Winkler, Kitty Woolridge, and Cynthia Yuan.
- ❑ On May 13th, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and the Hoosier Environmental Council organized a media tour of the Jefferson Proving Ground to renew interest and attention on the Jefferson Wildlife Refuge proposal. Print and TV media were invited to learn more about the various aspects of the environmentalist's backed reuse plan for the now closed munitions test facility. Subject experts including Scott Johnson (IDNR), Scott Pruitt (USFWS), and Ray Sheldon (IKC and Indiana Cave Survey) discussed the various unique resources the JPG has to offer. Ray has been instrumental in organizing the cave/karst survey on JPG; locating, mapping, and inventorying over thirty caves during the past two years. Hopefully the positive media coverage will garner added support and will convince the US Army that the wildlife refuge proposal should proceed.
- ❑ On May 16th, the Hoosier National Forest announced their Decision Notice to proceed with the proposed property exchange with US Gypsum. The exchange will convey 1,163 acres of gypsum rights under HNF owned land in Martin County to USG in exchange for outright ownership of five properties totaling 694 acres. USG will be allowed to mine the gypsum, located approximately 400 feet below the surface, via their existing tunnel system. The only surface disturbance allowed is selected exploratory core drilling to quantify the resource. The new properties for the forest include a 20 acre in-holding in the Deam Wilderness in Lawrence County, a 40 acre in-holding on Nebo Ridge in Brown County, a 97 acre tract along the Lost River in Martin County, a 348 acre tract along the Lost River in Orange County, and a 189 acre tract containing Wesley Chapel Gulf (and several caves) in Orange County. Assuming the Decision Notice is not appealed, the deed executions and transfers should be completed by early 1997.
- ❑ The Indiana Department of Transportation has finally released their Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Southwest Indiana (I-69) Highway Corridor. The DEIS has been in progress for several years, attempting to address numerous environmental concerns posed by this massive project. The proposed interstate would cut a new path from Bloomington to Evansville. The IKC's primary concern is the potential karst impacts from the section of the highway in Monroe and Greene counties. No known caves will be destroyed, but hydrologically-related problems could exist. The DEIS is available for review at a number of locations including the Public Hearing office in the State Office Building (RM N755). Also a number of



public hearing meetings are scheduled for late May. Cost for the project is estimated to be \$730 million, excluding the upgrade of SR 37 from Indianapolis to Bloomington. A 1990 study commissioned by InDOT questioned the economic justification of this project, but after all, it's only your tax dollars. Less expensive, alternative solutions such as upgrading existing highways have been rejected because they do not provide the level of construction activities for maximum political exposure and "economic development."

The Citizens for Appropriate Rural Roads (CARR) has taken the lead in opposing this development. If you would like to support their effort, you are encouraged to write opposition letters during the comment period (ending August 1st). Letter should be addressed to: Stan Smith, Commissioner, Indiana Department of Transportation, Room N755, Indiana Government Center North, 100 North Senate Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2249. For more information, contact Sandra Tokarski (CARR) at (812) 825-9553, the Hoosier Environmental Council at (317) 685-8800, or Bruce Bowman at (317) 539-6935.

- In the March *IKC Update*, there was an article detailing last summer's vandalism in Floyd Collins Crystal Cave in Mammoth Cave National Park. Three "locals" were arrested for the massive and irreversible destruction. They subsequently plead guilty, but in their own words, they "just took some rocks." The Park estimates the damage at \$270,000, but how do you really put a value on a quarter mile of rampant and malicious damage including huge sheets of gypsum crust being smashed and helictites shattered.

On May 22nd, the three men were sentenced. One of the three had a previous criminal record and received 33 months in prison. The other two received 21 months. All three must also perform over 500 hours of community service. The sentences were more severe than anticipated and were based upon the fact that the judge felt the damage was greater than \$100,000 (providing stiffer penalties under federal guidelines). The defense argued that the three men only got about \$600 for the cave formations they sold as a result of the six trips they had made into the cave. The judge stated that "they took something that cannot be replaced," that the dollar value was secondary, and that he could not think of a clearer situation when the value did not reflect the true extent of the damage. By imposing stiff sentences, the judge stated he wanted to send "a lesson to all that cave vandalism should not and cannot be tolerated."

- The last task of the 1995 National Cave Management Symposium is about rapped up. Tom Rea and Bruce Bowman have been working diligently over the past six months to put together the 1995 NCMS *Proceeding*. With 48 papers, totally 320 pages, this book contains a wealth of information dealing with cave management and protection. The book is ready to go to the printer and should be available by late July. The price has not been finalized, but IKC members will be offered a special discount.
- The next IKC Special Reprint is in the works and should be distributed with the September newsletter. The reprint is entitled *The "American Bottoms" Region of Eastern Greene County, Indiana — A Type Unit in Southern Indiana Physiography* by Clyde Malott. This extensive and detailed paper, written in 1918, is Malott's doctoral thesis. We would also like to acknowledge IKC member Don Peters for his interest in this paper and the caves in the American Bottoms area, and for his generous offer to completely fund this reprint.
- General donations continue to be an important funding mechanism for IKC projects. The IKC would like to thank the following individuals for their added support: Jackie Bellwood, Martin & Alice Church, Bob Decker, Dave Haun, Dan Lucas, Steve McKenzie, Gene Pelter, Robert Roundy, Mark Sheehan, Tom Sollman, and Dick Vernier. We would also like to thank Marengo Cave for their continued support and donations, as well as United States Gypsum for their recent donation.
- Four new members have joined the IKC since March. Welcome Bob Armstrong, Tom Craven, Gina Turner, and Derk Walker. Membership now stands at 134 paid members.

WORKDAY AT WESLEY CHAPEL GULF

by Bruce Bowman

It's fairly well-known that the Hoosier National Forest is involved in an exchange of several parcels of land with the US Gypsum company. Forest service land borders on property owned by the Shoals plant and they wish to expand their mining operation under this property. Although the Environmental Assessment was reviewed last year and things are running smoothly, it often happens that the wheels of progress turn slowly. One of the properties involved in the exchange is Wesley Chapel Gulf, currently owned by US Gypsum.

Wesley Chapel Gulf, also known as Elrod Gulf, is a large oval depression, from 65 to 95 feet deep, in which a portion of the underground Lost River rises and sinks. The rise pool is large, roughly conical in outline, and lies at the southern end of the gulf. The water rising in this pool is typically serene and a clear green in color. However, during heavy rainfall, the water becomes very turbulent and the pool overflows, only to sink in any one of a great number of small swallowholes along the west side of the gulf. The entire gulf is alluviated and quite large — over 1000 feet long and about a third as wide — and the property contains two caves as well. The gulf was the subject of the IKC's 6th Special Reprint, and is arguably the single most significant karst feature in the Lost River drainage.

It's little wonder that the Lost River Conservation Association expressed interest in doing some property maintenance while the exchange is pending, and approached the IKC for help. The homestead remains in good shape but needed some work to help keep it looking "lived-in." A storm also went through the property last year and felled several large limbs and some entire trees in the lawn. After approaching both US Gypsum and the Forest Service, the IKC secured permission to hold a workday on the property, which occurred on March 17.

The day dawned very foggy which caused some delay in getting everyone there; however, the fog burned off and we were treated to a beautiful spring day. Soon we had a couple of chain saws going to clean up the limbs in the back yard. With 19 people working, progress was very

rapid. One fallen tree took out the power to the barn, so the wire was removed. With one saw cutting limbs and another one doing the trunk, we made quick work of the tree while others hauled off the brush. Another crew started to trim the hedges and a third group broke out a ladder and proceeded to clean out the gutters on the house. Fortunately, we also had someone with the wherewithal to bring a mower who started to tackle the fairly high grass. By about noon we had already made more progress than I had expected to accomplish.

After a quick lunch break, we started on the fallen limbs in the front yard. In about two more hours all the wood was cut to length and stacked, and everything was completed with the exception of a very large oak tree that had up-rooted in the front yard. This tree was no easy task but I do believe we could have taken care of it — if the chain oiler on my saw hadn't decided to call it quits. Throughout the operation several neighbors stopped by to ask about and admire our handiwork. By about 4 o'clock things were winding down and most of the workers went for pizza near Mitchell while I checked out the condition of Orangeville Rise.

This kind of volunteer effort always amazes me no matter how many times I see it happen. It's one of the things that makes me proud to be associated with the IKC... and makes a positive impact on both the karst and the relationships the IKC enjoys with a number of organizations, public and private. Depending how quickly the land exchange occurs, it may be necessary to have more excursions to this property this summer to help maintain it; but the workload is unlikely to be this daunting again. Special thanks to the following people for coming and helping out: James Adams, Bob Armstrong, Ted Bice, Bruce Bowman, Ronnie Burns, Craig Cannello, Bruce Devore, Mark Dibble, Keith Dunlap, Larry Mullins, Gene Pelter, Ray Rough, Dave Seng, Dee Slater, Tom Sollman, Renee VanVeld, Floyd Waldrop, Angie Waldrop, Tara Waldrop, Christa Waldrop, and Kitty Woolridge. Thanks also to Mike Cunningham, plant manager at Shoals, for helping secure permission.

Cutting up one of several down trees at the Wesley Chapel Gluf homestead.



Tom Sollman mulching the overgrown yard around the house.



Ronnie Burns and Jim Adams trimming the hedges and picking up debris around the house.



1996 INDIANA CAVE SYMPOSIUM

by Dave Black

The fourth annual Indiana Cave Symposium was held on Saturday, April 20 at the Donaldson Cave shelter house in Spring Mill State Park. Approximately 35 cavers attended the event. The weather was near perfect. The hot-dog roast was at 4:30 PM and the talks began at sun-down. There were seven presentations this year.

David Black, President of the Indiana Cave Survey began the symposium with a welcoming and a brief explanation of the goals of the Indiana Cave Survey. He had an overhead summarizing the total number of caves for each county. Harrison County had the most with 595 caves. The total for the state was 2,459 caves. Dave welcomed anyone interested in joining the ICS.

Ray Sheldon, Bruce Trotter, and Kevin Wools of the Central Indiana Grotto, gave a status report and slide show on their cave surveying within the Jefferson Proving Grounds, a 55,000 acre ammunition testing base near Madison, Indiana. They showed some beautiful shots of cave entrances and the surrounding countryside. On each trip they had to be led by an ammunition specialist in order to prevent any accidents. This is quite an interesting project they have undertaken.

Harold Geick, of the Windy City Grotto, started his talk by giving an overview on GPS units. He then showed examples on how GPS units can assist a caver in plotting locations. He ended his talk by summarizing his ongoing dye tracing in the Tincher area of the Hoosier National Forest.

Scott Fee, of the Central Indiana Grotto, gave a slide show and talk on the exploration and mapping of Kool Spring Cave in Orange County, Indiana. The cave was first entered

by Don Ash and a map was started by Don. Scott took Don's old survey notes and continued the mapping project. The final cave length was over 8,300 feet. Scott even touched upon the interesting hydrology of the cave when it is in flood.

Dr Jerry Lewis, a Biologist at the University of Louisville, gave a talk and slide show summarizing several of his recent biological inventories in Indiana. These studies were in the Lost River drainage basin for the Corps of Engineers, Crosley Fish and Wildlife Area for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and the Indiana Army Ammunition Plant for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. The last study was extremely interesting because it shows the effect of the cave and its life due to heavy industrialization of the karst. Dr Lewis also touched upon an upcoming study, which will be a cave biology inventory for the Blue River drainage basin.

Chris Schotter of the Harrison Crawford Grotto, gave a talk and slide presentation on Eric's River Cave. Members of the Harrison Crawford Grotto dug into this cave in April 1995. They found nearly 8,000 feet of walking passage. The surveying of side passages will continue after the Spring floods.

Bill Baus of the Bloomington Indiana Grotto, gave a slide presentation on the exploration and survey of Whistling Cave in Spring Mill State Park. He showed photographs of nearly every passage in this 7.8 mile long cave.

Plans are already underway for the 1997 symposium. If you are currently working on an Indiana cave project, you might think about taking a few extra photos to share next year.

HANCOCK PROPERTY WORKDAY - SATURDAY, JUNE 8th

Prior to the IKC Quarterly Meeting in Bloomington on Saturday, June 8th, the IKC will be working on the Hancock property (off of Spicer Lane), starting at 1 PM (we will finish up around 5 PM). There are no specific known tasks needing attention other than our usual activities which include walking all the trails to collect trash, replacing as needed "No Trespassing" signs on the trail to Salamander, and performing whatever other maintenance needs to be done. Grotto Cave will most likely be open and available for those wishing to make a quick trip into this cave.

Anyone needing more information or directions, please contact Keith Dunlap.

GORY HOLE FENCE

by Keith Dunlap

The Hoosier National Forest and cavers have been partnering on projects for more than a decade. Cavers have offered volunteer labor, while the Hoosier has become a leader in protecting caves and karst on public lands. With the enactment of the Federal Cave Resource Protection Act, many federal agencies looked upon caves as one more "headache" they now have to worry about. In contrast, the Hoosier embraced the values and uniqueness of caves, karst, and their related resources. As part of their land acquisition priorities, the HNF started searching for appropriate cave properties on the market to acquire.

One of the first opportunities was Gory Hole in Lawrence County, noteworthy because it is Indiana's deepest free drop at 137 feet. After purchasing the cave property, the Hoosier crafted a management plan to protect the cave and encourage research, while still allowing recreational opportunities.

Because the Gory Hole property is public land with hikers, hunters, and others free to visit, some means of notifying the unaware of the pit's entrance was probably

prudent. While signage may have been sufficient, it was decided a natural looking split rail fence could be installed without diminishing the visual aesthetics of the wooded surface around the entrance.

Now came the fun part... on March 30th, twenty-two volunteers, led by Larry Mullins, gathered to constructing the 100 foot diameter (300+ foot circumferential), by six rail high (approximately four feet) fence. However, before construction could start, all the split rails and "hinge" stones had to be transported from the road to the pit. This didn't take much skill or intelligence (see cover photo), just a lot of persistence to haul the 300 heavy ten-foot cedar rails and about 50 even heavier stones the eighth-mile to the cave.

The fence was assembled using the old criss-cross construction technique (see photo below). To keep the bottom rails from rotting, they were elevated off the ground using large sandstone blocks. Because there might be a temptation by some visitors to lob a rail or stone into the pit to

continued on page 19...

photo by Bill Greenwald



1996 FIFTH ANNUAL WYANDOTTE CAVE CLEANUP

by Thomas Sollman

Several Indiana cavers gathered for another annual cleanup day at Wyandotte Caves State Recreation Area on the morning of April 6th. Wyandotte Caves SRA graciously supplied a bag lunch and our choice of a T-shirt or a neato hat (I grabbed the hat).

Roger Gleitz, Assistant Property Manager, had gathered together an amazing collection of cave cleanup paraphernalia consisting of scrub brushes, spray bottles, PVC pipes, sponges, packs, buckets, water bottles, trash bags, coat hangers(!), meals, and even a large sliding impact type sledge hammer. After loading up his pickup and delivering everything to the mouth of the cave, Roger gave us a safety and conservation reminder as well as explaining the goals for the day.

We would concentrate on the "Old Cave" this year, removing those signatures that were more recent than 1947, with the exception of some significant names. Additional duties were scraping off "mudballs" people had thrown on the ceiling and picking up non-historic trash. We would end at the Pillar of the Constitution where we would be removing soot and dirt from the Pillar itself. Shouldering packs, sacks, and hard hats, we entered the cave.

Washington Avenue

Passing through the latest "bat friendly" gate, we descended down the trail that had been conveniently bulldozed by the state shortly after the purchase of the cave (I would have liked to have seen that — a bulldozer in a cave — well maybe not). Washington Avenue is a giant 40 foot wide, 30 to 50 foot tall passageway with a beautiful white ceiling. We noticed clusters of *Myotis sodalis*, the Indiana bat, near the end. The latest bat census recorded almost 21,000 bats, 86.5% of the cave's population, in this one passageway (Brack, Tyrell, Dunlap 1995). We did not observe that many as late as it was in the season, but we also weren't using binoculars, a 1.25 million candlepower spotlight, and a team of four people to look either. The bat population has been rebounding from a low of approximately 2,000 bats in the late 1970's when the old stone gate which restricted air flow was replaced, but modern management techniques are helping too (dimmed lights, reduced

noise, closure of the Rugged Mountain area, etc.).

Passing the descent to the right and the "New Cave", we labored up the 80-foot climb up to:

The Old Cave Route

The Old Cave Route has been used by humans for over 2,000 years. Cave boots and electric lights merely follow the bare feet and torches of the original explorers along the dry, dusty passage ways.

Looking closely you can still see black smudges on the walls where the early explorers tapped their shagbark hickory torches to make them flameup. Pieces of the torches themselves can be found by a careful search. Nineteenth century explorers have left their trace too, as you pass through a series of fancifully named features — Pigmy Dome, Debris Dome, Continental Arch, The Canopy, Lucifer's Gorge, The Natural Bridge, and more. The faded but still readable names were painted in large white letters on some features.

Odd Fellows Hall and Facilities

We suddenly entered an enormous room, at 100 foot wide, 80 foot high, and 225 foot long, Odd Fellows Hall is the second largest room in the cave. Massive ledges form the walls, tapering off towards the oval shaped ceiling which makes the room appear even larger. The room was named for the organization that held meetings there long ago. While the room is memorable, an unforgettable experience awaits you if you enter the stone outhouse on the right. This solid structure is complete with a stretcher and first aid box nearby, which are, I assume, for any unfortunate soul that might succumb to the stench.

John Benton pointed out the opening to Rothrock's Secret Straights, an arduous, some say tortuous, connection to the New Cave that exits at the base of Monument Mountain.

Graffiti & Mudballs

Proceeding on we climbed a steep natural rock stairway to where we would begin our



clean-up. A few signatures were removed using a spray bottle and a soft scrub brush, which is sufficient to remove candle and carbide lamp soot. Older, historic graffiti was usually carved into the rock itself. Roger kept a careful eye on us so that we wouldn't remove any historic or significant names and dates.

I noticed Samuel Rothrock's name on the left wall. He was the cave manager from 1911 to 1917 and co-discovered the Double Pit connection into the Long Route Air Torrent Crawlway with A K Sears (Jackson 1977).

William Henry Harrison's 1806 signature was pointed out by Roger at the top of a steep climb on the right wall. Harrison was appointed the territorial governor in 1801 and was the ninth president of the United States. George Jackson reported that George Jones found this signature in 1920 but couldn't locate it again as late as 1971 (Benton 1983). It is partially obscured by later signatures and hard to decipher. A help is the "toma-hawk" carving just after it.

Along Fossil Avenue, Francis Ignatius Bentley's signature was brought to our attention by John Benton. Bentley's signature, with the same distinctive flourishes, appears other places throughout the Old Cave, but this is his only known dated signature. The signature was first reported by George Jackson as the oldest known signature in the cave, with a date of 1801 (Jackson 1947). Angelo George questioned whether the "01" might be a "07" and noted the handwriting script closely resembled Civil War era writing (George 1990). Roger Gleitz has recently proposed that the "0" is really a "2" that someone has changed to look like a "0" (Gleitz, 1994). For the record, I think it's 1821.

The three preceding examples of significant names demonstrate how carefully restoration work in this cave must be done. All activities must be pre-approved by the IDNR's Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology as well as by the Division of Forestry. Wire brushes are not used, great care is taken to keep historic names and dates, and photo documentation of removed graffiti is sometimes utilized.

Moving on we found our first mudballs. A strata of clay is conveniently exposed in parts of the walls, proving irresistible to some people. Mudballs are destructive because historic signatures are covered, gypsum and delicate features are destroyed, and the practice feeds upon itself. We used two ten-foot PVC pipes stuck together, with a coat hanger at

one end to plop them down. Great concentration is needed, using a wobbly 20-foot pipe, to determine just which mudball to scrape off and hit that unsuspecting caver below. The interesting reactions were their own reward.

Dozens, perhaps hundreds, of mudballs were knocked down and thrown off the trail. One small passageway along Fossil Avenue was literally covered with them.

Very little trash was found throughout the trail. The majority was broken glass from the lanterns used by guides in the past.

Working our way forward we reached the "Archimidean Screw Hole." Pushing through this small portal, we entered the Senate Chamber.

The Pillar

As you enter the Senate Chamber from the confines of the Screw Hole, you are immediately struck by the size of the room. Even as enormous as the room is, your eye is drawn to the most immense formation. At 35 foot high with a 75 foot circumference, the Pillar of the Constitution is awe inspiring. It dominates, it fills the room. Our final task was to remove some of the hundreds of years accumulation of soot from countless fires built to mine the formation itself for its beautiful, creamy-white aragonite.

A large cavity on the north face of the Pillar shows the extent of the quarrying. Fifteen hundred to 2,000 years ago, during the Terminal Archaic to Middle Woodland Periods, Indians toiled here to remove over 1,000 cubic feet at the base of the Pillar for its aragonite (Tankersley, Munson, and Munson 1983).

It is believed that large fires were built to heat the rock, causing it to crack which enabled them to pry and break chunks of it off. The huge debris pile to the north attests to the amount of work done here. "Blanks" were carried out and finished outside the cave. This relatively rare form of speleothem material has been identified from burial and earthwork mounds from Central Ohio to Western Illinois, shaped into pipe bowls, ear spoons, amulets, gorgets, platform pipes, etc (Munson and Munson 1990).

Blatchley in 1896 conducted extensive excavations in the spoil pile and found layers of charcoal, ashes, numerous hammer stones, and deer antler wedges (Blatchley 1897). More modern excavations confirm Blatchley's observations and noted a film of greasy black residue from historic fires in various layers (Munson and Munson 1990).



All of these layers of history, countless hours forever unknown to us, and yet we were attempting to restore it to its "natural" condition? Daunting indeed!

Using our spray bottles and soft brushes, we started shoulder high working downwards directly into the excavations. It quickly became apparent that the sponges worked better than the brushes but they soon "clogged up." The soot had a slick, greasy feel, much like the bottom of a skillet when washing it after cooking over an open fire. An area perhaps 8 foot long and 4 foot high was all we could complete before our water was exhausted. The few gallons Ronnie Burns had so laboriously carried in didn't go very far.

Looking up at the Pillar and the ceiling overhead, we wondered what beauty lay hidden beneath the centuries of soot. Glancing at our small, cleaned patch and then around the room, I realized here was a lifetime of annual clean-ups. No, it would take generations of cavers to accomplish this monumental task.

We ate lunch which was kindly provided by the Wyandotte management and rested awhile. Some had already moved out to remove more mudballs on the way. One small group had been removing a dangerous rock somewhere behind us in a crawlway and had left to clean-up also. We packed up and headed back toward Odd Fellows Hall where we were to meet at four o'clock for a specially lead trip.

Lost Beyond the Senate Chamber

Odd things sometimes happen to your senses in a cave. Even experienced cavers can become temporarily turned around, bewildered, even "lost." That must have happened as we turned to leave. Instead of the Screw Hole we found ourselves in a steadily lowering passage. The left wall was a crumbly shale. Smoked on the solid right wall was a barely readable notation — "Operation Exit." Mystified we entered a crawl and stood up in another huge room. What had we blundered into?

An old George Jackson story came to my mind of how Bob Loudon and Marion Sibert, decades ago, were searching for the extension of the cave that everyone knew lay beyond the Senate Chamber. Marion squirmed through a hole, somewhere, to a room where his three-cell flashlight would barely show the ceiling. He returned for Bob but never found his way back to the new

room again (Jackson 1972).

The flagging tape stretched out on the breakdown covered floor told of more modern visitors. It was then that we realized that we must have accidentally stumbled into the Hall of Aeacus, the recently named addition to Wyandotte Cave, discovered by the Wyandotte Ridge Exploration Group in 1995. Dave Black sadly noted he had only a couple more feet to go when he surveyed that entrance crawl a few years ago.

Numerous gypsum minerals and formations could be seen in the room which is 100 foot wide, 200 foot long, and 70 foot high. Flagging tape marked the trail which comes to a "Y". Going toward the left is another dig where we found a spent plumbers candle being consumed by mold. A bat skeleton lay nearby on the same ledge. At the "Y" going to the right, you descend a steep breakdown slope. Beautiful gypsum flowers were seen where the flagging tape ended.

Before we left the room to exit the cave, we played one light about, silently memorizing this spectacular discovery.

Another cleanup completed.

References

- Benton, J M (1993). "William Henry Harrison-Cave Owner, Cave Explorer, and President", *Journal of Spelean History* 17(1-2):19-20 January-June 1983.
- Blatchley, W S (1897). "Indiana Caves and their Fauna", *Annual Report of the Indiana Department of Geology and Natural Resources* 21:121-212.
- Brack, V Jr, K Tyrell, K Dunlap (1995). *A 1994-1995 Winter Census for the Indiana Bat (Myotis Sodalis) in Hibernacula of Indiana*, Unpubl. Report to Indiana DNR, Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program, Indpls, Ind, 66 pp.
- George, A I (1990). "Wyandotte Cave Chronology of Historic Events: A Preliminary Assessment", *Journal of Spelean History* 24(4):14-21 Oct-Dec 1990.
- Gleitz, R (1994). Unpubl. presentation at the Indiana Cave Symposium, April 23, 1994, Spring Mill State Park.
- Jackson, G (1947). Letter to the Editor, *NSS Bulletin* #9, Sept. 1947 pp 60-61.
- Jackson, G (1972). *The History and Exploration of Wyandotte Cave*, Personal Publication.



FENCE REPAIRS AT SULLIVAN CAVE

by Brian Leavell

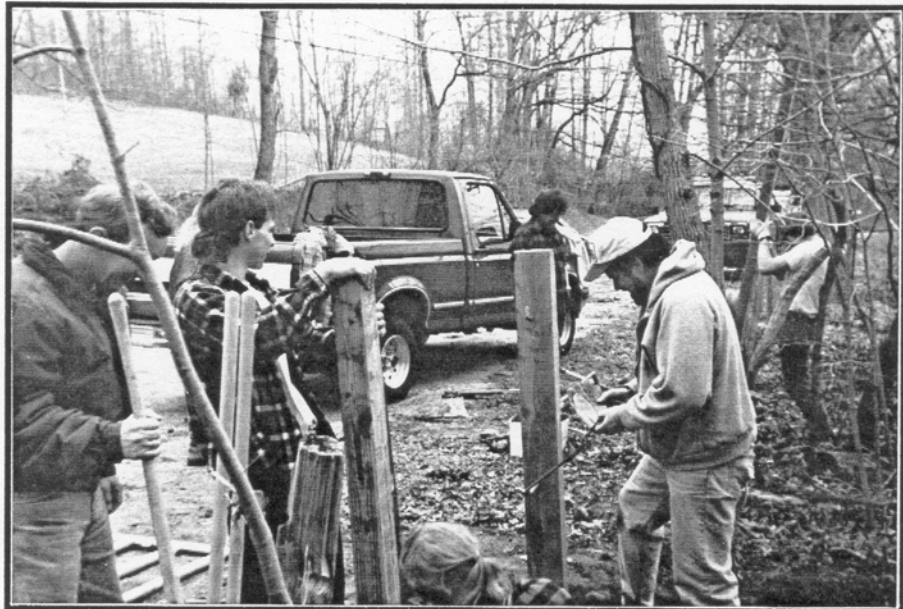
On Saturday, March 30th, members of the Eastern Indiana Grotto gathered at the Sullivan Cave parking area. Our goal for the day... to demonstrate our appreciation of owner Janet Stewart for her understanding and considerable patience towards cavers over the years.

Over the next five hours, approximately 150 feet of dilapidated fence was removed. The fence row was then cleared of trash and overgrown brush, and posts were replaced where necessary. New fence fabric was then stretched into place and a metal gate was installed at the trailhead. The

new gate will allow access without the destructive necessity of climbing over the fence. Landscape timbers were placed at and below the gate to inhibit soil erosion.

Thanks and a "tip of the hardhat" to all involved including EIG members Billy Cathy, Brian Leavell, Jim and Sharon Lewis, Jerry Lewis, Jerry Litaker, David Randall, and Tom Reynolds. A special thanks should go to Tom for initiating the project and assembling the materials. Also, thanks to former EIG member Mike Jackson for the much appreciated use of his chain saw.

The Eastern Indiana Grotto replacing the fence at Sullivan Cave's parking area.



The finished fence and gate at the trailhead to Sullivan Cave.



IKC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, March 16, 1996

Indianapolis, Indiana

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Bowman	Larry Bundy
Bruce DeVore	Keith Dunlap
Dave Haun	Hank Huffman
Eric Schmidt	Bob Sergesketter
Tom Sollman	Bill Tozer
Larry Reece (proxy for Tom Rea)	
Clyde Simerman (proxy for Larry Mullins)	

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joshua Abdulla	James Adams
Betty Watson	

The annual business meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM by IKC President Bruce Bowman at the Indiana War Memorial, Indianapolis, Indiana. Introductions were made with 20 members and 4 visitors present. Keith Dunlap served as Acting Secretary for the absent James Adams. Larry Reece and Clyde Simerman were accepted as proxies for Tom Rea and Larry Mullins, respectively.

The December and February meeting minutes were accepted as published in the March *IKC Update*. Keith Dunlap reported a balance of \$7778.22 in the treasury, excluding non-IKC funds in our banking accounts. Starting at the beginning of Q2, the Indiana Cave Survey's treasury will be maintained in the IKC's bank accounts, but the funds will be tracked separately. The arrangement is purely for the convenience of maintaining a larger minimum balance while minimizing bank service charges for the two organizations. Earned interest will be split proportionally.

Elections were next with Larry Reece acting as the Ballot Teller. Sixty absentee ballots were accepted along with twenty members casting votes in person. The three Officers were unopposed and were re-elected: President Bruce Bowman, Secretary James Adams, and Treasurer Keith Dunlap.

For the six Director's positions available, there were ten nominees on the ballot, plus two write-ins. Neither write-in nominee was present, so their nominations were declined. Re-elected for new two-year terms were Larry Bundy, Tom Rea, Eric Schmidt, Bob Sergesketter, and Bill Tozer. Newly elected to the Board was Clyde Simerman, replacing Hank Huffman who chose not to seek another term. [Note, at this point, the new Board was seated and Larry Mullin's proxy was rescinded.]

As has been done in the past, Bruce Bowman distributed Certificates of Appreciation to the 1995 Board.

Kathy Logan won the fabulous door prize offered by the Treasurer....a Huntington Bank mini-flashlight which the IKC received for opening a new saving's account.

Bruce Bowman discussed the planned activities for the March 17th workday at the Wesley Chapel Gulf homestead. Tree and branch removal, yard care, and other external house maintenance were to be completed.

There was open discussion about the proposed US Gypsum/Hoosier National Forest exchange for Wesley Chapel Gulf. While everyone seems to be in favor of the exchange, some present thought the valuation of the mineral rights to be obtained by USG was too low. Assuming comments raised during the public comment period can be addressed adequately, the exchange is expected to be completed later this year.

Bruce Bowman continued discussion of the Indiana Environmental Fund, a workplace donation system similar to the United Way, except directed towards environmental organizations. The Fund is soliciting the IKC to join in exchange for volunteer time. Printed material was passed out to the Board with further discussion tabled to the June meeting.

Keith Dunlap led a discussion on the continued trespassing observed on the Hancock property near Bloomington. Most of the illegal visitation was from people going to Salamander Cave on an adjacent property despite the cave being heavily posted. The owner of the Hancock property has once again asked the IKC to step up efforts to discourage trespassing. From previous communications, IKC member and State Police officer Ronnie Burns and several other members have volunteered to "stake-out" the property on selected weekends to get the point across that the IKC is serious about trespassing.

Keith Dunlap reports no progress on the MOU between the IKC and Spring Mill State Park. The previous MOU has expired and a new one needs to be drafted to cover information sharing, data protection/ownership, and volunteer activities related to the caves in the park.

Bruce Bowman gave an update of the progress made towards an MOU between The Nature Conservancy and the Indiana Cave Survey. The



MOU will cover data sharing and data protection between the two organizations. A draft version of the MOU is being reviewed and should be ready for implementation by June.

Bruce Bowman gave an update on the industrial park being constructed near Mayfield Cave, west of Bloomington. Bruce and attorney Bill Baus have been reviewing and critiquing the developer's plans to minimize impact. The developers have been somewhat open to suggestions.

Tom Sollman expressed his frustration over getting the Shiloh Cave dye-tracing results confirmed. Tom's preliminary data would indicate that a septic system is leaking into the cave, but he was attempting to get an independent verification via IU. The dye was introduced by the Lawrence County Health Department into the suspected homeowner's toilet with activated charcoal "bugs" placed in the cave.

There was discussion over contacting the new owners of Porter's Cave in Owen County. Bruce Devore and/or Eric Schmidt would like to do this, but their schedules have not allowed this to occur thus far.

Bruce Devore and Keith Dunlap discussed conversations they each had with Pat York of the Hoosier National Forest. Pat is leaving the HNF, and was trying to tie up various projects, one of which is Hemlock Cliffs. Per her conversation, she was recommending that all of the traditional rappelling sites in the box canyon be closed due to observations of vegetation impacts on the cliff face and concerns over archeological implication related to the rock shelter at the base of the cliff. It was just one year ago that the HNF closed another site on the same cliff and offered the current site as the preferred alternative. The IKC supported the previous closure deemed necessary to protect a small patch of Wintergreen, unique to the HNF and the area. However, both Bruce and Keith expressed many concerns with this latest proposal. This latest closure recommended has *not* been acted upon by the District Ranger.

Bill Tozer is to contact the owners of Buddha Cave in Lawrence County to determine it's current access. Unconfirmed information was that the owners, previously hospitable to cavers asking permission to visit, now had some concerns. Bill will attempt to find out the cave's "official" visitation status and see if there is anything the IKC can offer/do to maintain/improve landowner relations for this popular cave.

Keith Dunlap and others discussed numerous upcoming karst-related projects on the Hoosier National Forest needing volunteers. Larry had provided several handouts describing the activities needing accomplished. Foremost is the split-rail fence construction around Gory Hole on March 30/31.

Bruce Bowman solicited volunteers to help him with the IKC booth/display at Indiana Earth Day on April 20. The IKC display promotes environmental awareness of karst terrain and fauna unique to caves.

Also on April 20th will be the 4th annual Indiana Cave Symposium. Presentations related to exploration, conservation, and cave research will promote continued cooperation among the various groups and individuals working in Indiana caves. Proceeding the presentation will be a pitch-in cook-out. The symposium will be at the Donaldson shelter at Spring Mill State Park starting at 4:30 PM.

On April 21, the IKC will host the 7th annual Under-Earth Day at Sullivan Cave in Lawrence County. Continued graffiti and trash removal will be the primary focus.

Bruce Bowman discussed several cave related activities The Nature Conservancy is currently pursuing. These include negotiating a conservation easement along Indian Creek in Harrison County to protect the Sinks of Indian Creek; contracting with Dr Jerry Lewis to perform biological inventories in caves in the Blue River drainage basin; collaborating with Wyandotte and Marengo caves on a "sinkhole dumping" educational brochure; and working on protecting/purchasing several other properties with caves/karst features.

Hank Huffman reported on recent progress being made by the Indiana DNR study group working on cave management issues. Tom Rea is serving on the committee to represent cavers. Other cavers have been involved to a lesser degree, acting as subject experts in such areas as rescue.

Bruce Bowman led a relatively long discussion on the recent increase in natural gas exploration in southern Indiana. The fear is that indiscriminate drilling could impact known caves, compromise water quality, and cause surface erosion. The buried gas pipe infrastructure to support these wells could also have a great impact. Bruce has had several conversation with Jim Slutz, Director of IDNR's Oil and Gas Division, the regulatory agency responsible for permitting gas wells and drilling. Bruce and Keith Dunlap will be meeting with Mr. Slutz next week to discuss possible new regulatory rules that might be implemented to minimize impact.

Keith Dunlap brought up the subject of installing alarm systems in Coon and Grotto caves to stop unauthorized traffic in these caves during the bat hibernacula closure. The proposed systems could be based on cellular phone technology, triggered by light. They could be battery powered and completely self-contained. Cost is a major factor, but the technology is getting cheaper and better all the time. The IDNR may be able to help fund



the project. Currently, passive monitors are being used to quantify the number of winter disturbances in Coon, Grotto, and Ray's caves.

Keith Dunlap brought up several membership related items for discussion. The first was the possibility of having different membership "levels" to encourage and distinguish those who renew their membership at above the basic dues levels. Many members are currently providing additional donations with their renewals and some sort of formal recognition might be appropriate (note: we currently acknowledge their donations in the *Update*). The discussion also expanded to offering IKC "merchandise" for sale or as an incentive for donations. Suggestions of

embroidered polo shirts or hats seemed popular. Keith had a catalogue or "personalized" items available including mugs, clocks, calculators, and clothing.

Feedback on content and expense of the *IKC Update* was solicited. Keith was concerned that the costs (now approximately half the annual dues) was a greater percentage than it should be. The general consensus was that the newsletter was meeting the expectations of the members present.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30.

Submitted by Keith Dunlap, Acting Secretary.

continued from page 11...

hear them crash to the bottom, the stones and rails were tightly wired and nailed together.

Due to the terrain around the pit, the actual fence ended up being a slight oval and closer to 250 feet in length. Thus, at the end of the day, the volunteers were rewarded by having to carry about fifty rails *back* to the road. For those who stayed until the end, Larry Mullins treated the hungry volunteers to chili.

Having worked on a number of similar projects, it is always interesting to see volunteers pitching in together. While there

will often be initial differences of opinions on how to proceed, the diversity of ideas seem to provide an overall better solution and sometimes some unique features. For the Gory Hole fence, we ended up with a built-in bench.

In addition to Larry and Phil Cummings from the HNF, the workers for this project were Bill Baus, Ty Boofer, Bruce Bowman, Larry Bundy, Keith Dunlap, Harold Geick, Josh Graham, Bill Greenwald, Betsy Kelson, Steve Lockwood, Dan McDowell, Red Neitherly, Tom Rea, Larry Reece, Bob Sergesketter, Tom Sollman, Bill Tozer, Dick Vernier, Sue Vernier, and Kitty Woolridge.

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

I would like to help the IKC protect Indiana's unique caves and other karst features. Enclosed is:

\$ _____ for IKC membership dues at \$15 per year (dues expire March 31st of each year, please pro-rate @ \$1.25/month).

\$ _____ donation to the general IKC fund.

\$ _____ donation restricted to a specific IKC project. Please specify: _____

_____ I know of an area worthy of protection. Please contact me.

_____ I would like to volunteer to help. Please contact me.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

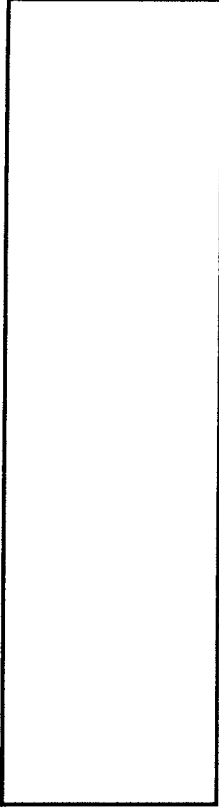
CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE # _____

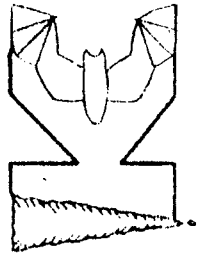
Make checks payable to the Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc. and mail to the IKC Treasurer, c/o Indiana Karst Conservancy, PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206-2401. The IKC is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with membership dues and donations fully tax deductible.

Indiana Karst Conservancy
PO Box 2401
Indianapolis, IN 46206-2401

FORWARD & ADDRESS CORRECTION



NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
INDIANAPOLIS, IN
PERMIT NO 8781



PROTECTING CAVES THROUGH ACTIVE CONSERVATION

