

IKC UPDATE

A Quarterly Publication of The Indiana Karst Conservancy
June 2004 Number 73



INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.

PO Box 2401, Indianapolis, IN 46206-2401
Affiliated with the National Speleological Society



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

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Sub-Urban Chicago Grotto

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Western Indiana Grotto**

to be determined

Windy City Grotto

Ken Redeker
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*grottos with liaison agreements

**grottos with agreements pending



QUARTERLY MEETING REMINDER

SATURDAY, JUNE 19th, 7:00 PM

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

IU GEOLOGY BUILDING, ROOM 143

(SAME ROOM AS BIG MEETING)

The quarterly meetings are for the elected Board to conduct business and for our members and other interested persons to have an open forum to talk 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. The IKC Board *wants* your input.

Preliminary Agenda Items: Brief recap of last quarter's activities; Wayne Cave Preserve work-days (day's accomplishment and work left to be done); Wayne Cave fund-raising status; Treasurer's Report; HNF inventory project; Buddha Karst Preserve tree maintenance; Grotto Liaison agreement; and 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.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- 19 JUN = IKC QUARTERLY MEETING, Bloomington (see above)
- 19-20JUN = WAYNE PROPERTY WORK WEEKEND, Bloomington (see page 6)
- 26 JUN = WAYNE PROPERTY WORK DAY, Bloomington (see page 6)
- 12-16JUL = NSS CONVENTION, Marquette, MI
- 21 AUG = HENDERSON PARK WORK DAY, Salem (see page 5)
- ?? SEP = IKC QUARTERLY MEETING/COOK-OUT (location and date TBD)
- 25 SEP = LOST RIVER TOUR, Orleans

For more information on the Indiana Karst Conservancy, visit our web site at <http://www.ikc.caves.org> or write to our PO box. Membership to the IKC is open to anyone interested in cave and karst conservation. Annual dues are \$15. Please see inside back cover for the membership application form or to make a much appreciated 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.

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RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT...

"All's Well that Ends Well"

-- Shakespeare



In the March *IKC Update* I related the on again - off again saga of the NSS grant for the purchase of Wayne Cave. You may recall that we had turned down the \$5,000 grant due to concerns by our

Board about the requirement that we assign a Right of First Refusal to the NSS as a condition of the grant. The majority of the Board felt that this requirement potentially imposed too many restrictions on our future management of the property and wasn't fair to others who had made comparable grants without expectation of any entitlements.

After our February Board meeting, Bill Tozer, a member of both the IKC Executive Board and the NSS Board of Governors, prepared a motion for the BOG which would change the requirement from the assignment of a Right of First Refusal to a promise to repay the grant in full should we transfer or sell the property in the next ten years or fail to manage it per the approved management plan. We agreed with Bill that this approach offered the NSS the most assurance that its funds would not be misappropriated and at the same time provided some measure of protection from sale or mismanagement by some hypothetical hostile takeover of the conservancy. This motion was accepted and approved at the March NSS BOG meeting.

Soon after the meeting I was contacted by Tom Lera, Administrative Vice President of the NSS. Tom let me know that the \$5,000 grant was still available if we were interested. I assured him that we were and with the IKC Board's approval, drafted a formal agreement to the new conditions.

I would like to thank the NSS and particularly Tom Lera and Bill Tozer for their efforts on our behalf in the matter. It is indicative of the respect that the NSS has for the IKC that they would listen to our issues and take action to meet our needs. We share the same goals regarding cave conservation and will continue to support one another in future efforts.

As you will see in this issue we have met our initial goal of bringing the Wayne Cave/Land Acquisition Fund back into the black. However, we are still about \$11,000 short of raising the full purchase price of the property and returning our Acquisition Fund back to its pre-Wayne level. So, we still need your help. We need to get the fund up so that we are prepared to act quickly should there be another sudden opportunity. There is also acreage available adjacent to the Wayne Cave Preserve. This land would make a good buffer against future development. Look for more on that in the future.

On another matter, Robert Sollman - boy scout and co-manager of the Wayne Cave Preserve needs you, or at least your assistance, on June 19/20 (see page 6) to upgrade the driveway and create a parking area. Mark the date on your calendar - hope to see you there.

Richard Vernier

NEWS BRIEFS...

- ❑ IKC elections on March 27th yielded a few changes to the Executive Board. Dick Vernier and Keith Dunlap were re-elected President and Treasurer, respectively. Bob Sergesketter was elected Secretary, replacing Jim Adams who decided to "retire".. Directors re-elected to three-year terms were Don Ingle, Steve Lockwood, Nick Noe, and Jamie Winner. Sue Vernier was elected as a Director to serve out Bob Sergesketter's remaining one year term. The other Directors remaining on the Board include Bruce Bowman, Bruce Devore, Dave Haun, Kriste Lindberg, Tom Sollman, Bill Tozer, and Bob Vandeventer. We would like to express our appreciation to Jim Adams for his eleven years of service on the IKC Board.
- ❑ On Memorial Day weekend, a tornado literally blew through Marengo, Indiana. Very significant damage occurred to the town, destroying and/or damaging the majority of homes there. Marengo Caverns was in the direct path and while the cave itself was obviously not dam-



aged, essentially all of the trees on the property and in their campground were flattened. The commercial operation has resumed, but obviously the tornado put a major damper on their business during the busiest time of their year.

- ❑ The Nature Conservancy, in cooperation with the city of Salem, has been restoring a limestone glade within Henderson Park (a 400 acre tract of land containing several popular caves). This requires occasional burning and the removal of encroaching cedars and other overgrowth. Their next work day is August 21 and volunteers are needed. If interested, contact Bonnie Wolf for more details (812-972-1506 or bwolf@tnc.org).
- ❑ As the IKC acquires more properties, our schedule of stewardship activities continues to grow, especially in the spring months. Practically every weekend since late March has had some type of major or minor project going on. You will read about some of them elsewhere in this issue. Additionally on March 28th, Steve Lockwood, Keith Dunlap, and Everett Pulliam installed concrete survey monuments at the Orangeville Rise Property; on May 2nd, Keith Dunlap mowed the parking area and the trails at the Buddha Property; on May 8th, Bambi and Keith Dunlap mowed and performed tree maintenance/weed control at the Sullivan Property; May 22, Keith Dunlap, Everett Pulliam, and Dick Vernier completed the tree maintenance at the Sullivan Property; and on May 29 Keith Dunlap mowed the parking area and trails at the Buddha Property as well as initiated tree maintenance there.
- ❑ Every May, the Hoosier National Forest sponsors a volunteer service day called "Take Pride in America" day where scout groups and the public in general can participate in various work projects on the Hoosier. These often include shoreline clean-ups, picnic table assembly, trail maintenance, and other simple tasks that are labor intensive and only require minimal skills. Usually, one of the projects will have a "karst" emphasis which will be co-promoted by the IKC. This year's project was manual tree planting on the Wesley Chapel Gulf property. Forty-two acres (40,000 trees) were planned for planting. Most of planting would be done mechanically by a contractor but several acres necessitated hand planting and that is where the volunteers came into play. Participants included some regular IKCers, many cavers from the St Joseph Valley Grotto, a Scout group from northern Indiana the SJVG had recruited, and another Scout group from the Bloomington area. In all there were over 30 people planting over 3000 trees. Volunteers included Ryan Anderson, Bill Baus, Mark Deebel, Keith Dunlap, Devon Fegan, Doug Fitzgerald, Steve Harriss, Don Ingle, Alex Johnson, Mark Kraus, Steve Lockwood, Gary Maloney, Nick Manolovits, Russ Manolovits, Travis Miller, Jake Morris, Luke Morris, Eric Paul, Billy Pea, Tom Rea, James Smeltzer, James Smeltzer III, Mark Sparks, and Andy Tankersly.

- ❑ Over the past fourteen years, the Indiana DNR and the IKC have been monitoring Coon, Grotto, and Jim Ray's caves for winter disturbances in these critical *Myotis sodalis hibernacula*. This monitoring is done passively with electronic "speloggers" which are installed near the entrances of the caves and record the date and time of each human disturbance (triggered by light). The information collected is providing a means to determine the effectiveness (or ineffectiveness) of our closure methods in discouraging unauthorized entry. In the fall of 1996 we installed new signage and other deterrents. As you can see, since that time there have been *no* unauthorized visits into Grotto Cave and only one in Coon Cave. Ray's Cave has had a few more disturbances, but few have been during the core winter months when the greatest impact would occur. This was the sixth year the DNR used the new speloggers designed/constructed by IKC member Dick Vernier. The DNR is also monitoring several other caves using these speloggers.

Number of Disturbances			
Winter	Jim Ray's	Coon	Grotto
03 / 04	2 ⁽²⁾	0	0
02 / 03	5 ⁽¹⁾	0 ⁽¹⁾	0 ⁽¹⁾
01 / 02	0	0	0
00 / 01	0 ⁽¹⁾	0 ⁽¹⁾	0 ⁽¹⁾
99 / 00	2 ⁽²⁾	0	0
98 / 99	3 ⁽¹⁾⁽³⁾	0 ⁽¹⁾	0 ⁽¹⁾
97 / 98	1	1	0
96 / 97	0 ⁽¹⁾	0 ⁽¹⁾	0 ⁽¹⁾
95 / 96	3	9	4
94 / 95	8 ⁽¹⁾	8 ⁽¹⁾	5 ⁽¹⁾⁽⁴⁾
93 / 94	-- ⁽⁵⁾	-- ⁽⁵⁾	-- ⁽⁵⁾
92 / 93	7 ⁽¹⁾	3 ⁽¹⁾	8 ⁽¹⁾
91 / 92	6	1	5
90 / 91	4 ⁽¹⁾	8 ⁽¹⁾	n/a

1) Excludes one visit for biennial bat census

2) Includes two visit for landowner's relatives

3) Excludes one visit for anabat testing

4) Spelogger failed on day 182 of 227 days

5) Data loss due to improper batteries



- ❑ The IKC recently sponsored an education opportunity in cooperation with Bloomington's WonderLab Museum of Science, Health, and Technology. The activity was a presentation entitled "Going Batty Over Bats" by Laura Hohman of WildCare, Inc. Over ninety visitors (a capacity crowd) learned about bats and then got to see a live bat (Luna, a big brown) close up. Participants also learned about bat houses and hopefully left with a better appreciation of our flying friends.
- ❑ Over the past two decades a number of conservancies have formed in many states and regions of the country. There are now over twenty active non-profit groups focused on buying and/or managing caves and karst properties. A number of years ago the NSS established a committee to synergize these groups, promoting information sharing and networking (visit www.caves.org/committee/ccc). Several months ago, the committee established an e-mail server to facilitate communication between the groups and others interested in the conservancy movement. If you are interested in such things (obviously you are if you are reading this newsletter) than you may wish to "subscribe" to the list. To do so, simply send an e-mail to conservancy@wingedseed.com with the word SUBSCRIBE in the subject line and a blank message. You will then receive any messages posted to the list.
- ❑ The IKC covers most of its basic operating expenses and obligations with membership dues. However, we are greatly dependent upon additional donations to supplement and support the many projects and initiatives the IKC takes on. Since last June, twenty-seven individuals/organizations have made *general* donations (exclusive of the Wayne Cave donations detailed on page 7) for a total of \$1885. We'd like to recognize those members/contributors who have given a little extra. They include David Anderson, Aaron Atz, John Benton, Ted Bice, George Brutchten, Bruce Devore, Joey Fagan, Tim Heppner, Brian Hoogeveen, Tem Hornaday, Mark Kraus, Glenn Kotnik, David Lasser, Nick Noe, Sue O'Sheilds, Ernie Payne, Russ Pusilo, Steve Ragsdale, Kelle Reynolds, Robert Roundy, Ralph Sawyer, Gordon Smith, Susie Strickland, Bob Vandeventer, Norbert Welch, Scott Worpell, and Bluesprings Caverns.
- ❑ One new member has joined the IKC in the past quarter. Please welcome Doug Winburn (437). The IKC membership now stands at 196.

WAYNE CAVE PRESERVE WORK DAYS

JUNE 19, 20, and 26, 2004

It has been eleven months since the IKC took ownership of the Wayne Cave property, west of Bloomington. During that time we have concentrated on raising funds, but we have also been slowly, but deliberately planning for improvements to the property including an off-street, private parking area, a trail to the cave's entrance, and a few primitive camping sites. Executing the plan will start on June 19th (10 AM). Activities to be undertaken include regrading the existing driveway to prepare it for re-hardening with crushed stone. Also a small parking area will be graded and hardened. The old culvert under the driveway along Gardner Road will also be replaced and other drainage diversions will be constructed. There is also a large pile of tree trunks that we plan to disassemble, salvage what we can for fire wood, and burn the rest.

What we don't get done on the 19th, we will continue on the 20th. The following week, we will have the stone delivered and on the 26th we will final grade the stone as well as install a driveway gate/support posts.

Please contact Property Manager Robert Sollman (see page 2) if you have questions, suggestions, or need directions. Camping on both weekends will be available. So come to the workday, stay for the IKC quarterly meeting (in Bloomington at 7 PM), camp out, and stay for day two. Then return again the next Saturday. See you there.

WAYNE CAVE PRESERVE DONORS	
\$10,000 or more	
IPALCO Golden Eagle	
\$5,000 to \$9,999	
Dick Blenz	
Bob Decker	
Central Indiana Grotto	
National Speleological Society	
\$1,000 to \$4,999	
Bruce Bowman	
George Brutchen*	
Keith Dunlap	
Eric Higbie	
Kriste Lindberg	
Steve Lockwood	
Tom Rea	
Bob & Phyllis Sergesketter	
Tom Sollman	
Kevin Strunk & Jeanette Holland	
Bill Tozer	
Bruce Trotter	
Dick & Sue Vernier	
National Speleological Foundation	
The Robertson Association	
\$250 to \$999	
Ray Beach	
Dave Black	
Barb Capocy	
Keith Calkins	
Tony & Leslie Cunningham	
Mark Deebel	
Bambi Dunlap	
Dave Haun	
Tem Hornaday	
Donald Peters	
Everett Pulliam	
Peter Shirley	
David Weliever	
Bob Zatarski	
Eastern Indiana Grotto	
Evansville Metro Grotto	
Saint Joseph Vally Grotto	
\$100 to \$249	
David Anderson & Susan O'Shields	Don Martin
Bob Armstrong	Dan McDowell
John Basset	Nick Noe
Pat & Debbie Burns	Eric Rasmusen
Steve Cahill	Kelle Reynolds
Chris Carpenter	Russ Romme
Larry Coker	Russel, Susana, and Kristie Schavey
Rane Curl & Alice Rolfes-Curl	David Taylor
Jeff Farr	Steve Taylor
Jaime Fee	Richard Van Rheenen
Scott Fee	Jamie Winner
Jack & Sandra Hissong	Jack Wood
Don Ingle	Bluespring Caverns Park
Patrick and Nathana Jarboe	Dayton Underground Grotto
Paul Johnson	Greater Cincinnati Grotto
Thomas Lera	Northern Indiana Grotto
Mark Kraus	Western Michigan Grotto
Jerry Lewis	Windy City Grotto
\$50 to \$99	
Jeff Cody	Andrew & Shavon Peacock
Jack Dorsey	Jennifer Reiss
Dave Everton	Gary Roberson
Tim Heppner	Robert Roundy
Dwight Hazen	Josh Rubinstein
Ken Huffines	Ralph Sawyer
Lynn & Jane Miller	Dave Tibbets
Carl Nelson & Loui Lord Nelson	Norbert Welch
Carita Noe	Kevin Wools
Donations/Pledges:	\$64,222
Acquisition price:	\$75,468

WAYNE CAVE PRESERVE

by Keith Dunlap

This will be the last full article on the fund-raising activities related to the Wayne Cave Preserve. While we are still short by about \$11,200 from raising the full purchase price, we have reached our original goal of bringing our Land Acquisition Fund back into the positive territory. From this point on we will not actively solicit donations for Wayne Cave, but we will still encourage donations for those wanting to be listed as a Wayne Cave Preserve donor on the planned permanent plaque, or those wanting to "upgrade" their level of giving. You can also make donations now to the Land Acquisition Fund and your donation will be acknowledged on our next acquisition's donors list. Regardless, any donation made and specified for land acquisition is tracked and used strictly for that purpose.

From a fund-raising standpoint, in the past three months we have received an additional \$10,712 in donations and grants. This includes \$5,000 from the National Speleological Society and \$1,000 from The Robertson Association. It should also be noted that Dick Blenz's offer to match individual (non-grant) donations netted \$7,480.

\$5 to \$49	
James Adams	David McGowan
Ron Adams	Tom & Kim Metzgar
David Anderson	Jon Miller
Bill Baus	Robbie Miller
John Benton	Jacob Morris
Jim Braswell	Kevin Morris
Chris Brown	George Mundy
Larry Bundy	Ernie & Jacqueline Payne
Paul Butler	Anthony Pope
Chris Carpenter	Danny Rice
George Cesnik	Patty Ruback
Thomas Chenier	Steve & Diana Schuh
Steve Clark	Ray Sheldon
Jeff Cobb	Bruce Silvers
Jim Crouch	Noel Sloan
Patty Cummings	Mark Sparks
Jack Derry	Brandon Stephens
Bruce Doezeema	John Stigall
Mike Dowden	Susan Strickland
Allen Goodcase	Carla Striegel
Scott Hammon	Mark Webb
Horton Hobbs III	Kathy Welling
Brian Hoogeveen	Rich Whisler
Crystal Jenkins	Kevin Wyatt
Paul Lundberg	Lost River Conservation Association
Adam Manship	Sub-Urban Chicago Grotto
Bill Morrow	Tri-State Grotto
Robert Masta	Western Indiana Grotto
Amount remaining:	\$11,246
As of date:	June 6, 2004

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY SPRING FLING

by Don Ingle

On April 24th, I had the pleasure of once again representing the IKC at The Nature Conservancy annual open house held at Wyandotte Woods SRA's Nature Center. This was the second one of these events that I have attended, and I must say, I certainly enjoyed this one much more than my first one. Last year I decided to drive down to the area at night... a decision I was soon to regret. On the way there, I was passing the Crane Naval Base heading south, when a deer quite casually walked into the road and offered his/her services as an auto body detail technician. I was not really prepared for this generous offer, and swerved to avoid him/her, with a rather limited amount of success. I'm afraid I hit the poor thing. Bummer. As the kids say, it sure stinks to be you. And I am reasonably sure I scared him/her more than I was at the time, because when I got out to check the car for damage, I noticed that I had, among other things, acquired a nice little deer feces racing stripe down the passenger side of my car. And so it was that when I finally arrived at my destination last year, ready to represent the esteemed and serious minded cave conservation organization that the IKC is, and also being surrounded by nature and animal lovers and sundry tree huggers on all sides as I was, I showed up in a vehicle decked out in the latest in deer executioner regalia, covered in deer blood and excrement (mostly the latter), with nifty little deer fur tufts sticking out of the top of what was left of my shattered headlight on the passenger side. Kinda looked like eyelashes, it did. Life is sometimes soooooo ironic, if you think about it, isn't it?.... But I digress.

And so, if I managed to make it there without hitting anything this year, then I would have to say that I would call the event an unmitigated success. And it was. Though I did have a quick moment of paranoia as I came over the top of the hill, when just before the road that leads to the Nature Center, I happened to see a dozen or more joggers headed up the hill right toward me.

This was how I had found out that The Nature Conservancy was going to be sharing the event this year with the Pacers and Racers fun run. Pacers and Racers, as near as I was able to figure out, is a local business

specializing in joggers and runners equipment and apparel. And, over the next hour, after all had a chance to cool down a bit, door prizes ensued, and Cassie from The Nature Conservancy distributed the prize swag. As if surviving my arrival was not enough. The first hour was hence, somewhat hectic.

But after that, it quieted down quite a bit, and I got to know a lot of the DNR staff present, talked to the nice folks there from Marengo Cave, and generally smiled much, much more than I usually have a habit of doing. I had our display set up adjacent from the haypress there inside the new barn and in between changing the cave conservation videos I had brought, and picking up the photographer's abandoned display repeatedly (a chore I shared with the nice folks from Marengo Cave, who did their share as well), I answered any questions that the people had.

It was difficult to tell just how many people remained after the door prizes, because they were offering a slide show presentation in the front part of the barn that folks were wandering in and out of all day, so not many folks were out and about at any given time, but my best guess would be about 30. For those that stayed, though, they were treated to free drinks and food, some of which were donated by many different local businesses, but two large pots of vegetable soup, vegetarian and otherwise, came courtesy of Cassie and her sister. Free trees were even offered by a local nursery and the DNR.

The Open House ended at 1 PM when all the folks there, presenters included, could go on either a nature walk, or a trip to Jewel Box Cave, if they had not had quite enough fun, or enough communing with nature. Guess which venue I chose. I am sure the nature walk was splendid as well, though. The event was, in whole, well-organized and kudos to should go to both the DNR and The Nature Conservancy for their efforts in sponsoring this annual event. The open house was a fine example of why contributing a little time every now and then to represent the IKC can reap so many benefits. Every year you get to meet a few more new people and touch base with old friends, and sometimes you might even get a pair of free trees out of the bargain to plant in your front yard... Sometimes.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

by Kriste Lindberg

This spring has seen more and more public involvement in our pursuit of karst and related natural resource protection.

We with the City of Bloomington and various partners are working on what are called "citizen scientist" (or "service learning" in a broader sense) programs. These programs revolve around involving the public in pursuits related to the sciences. Locally, we are focusing on Project Underground, Hoosier Riverwatch, the Storm Drain Marking Program, and Adopt-A-Trail. Several workshops have been scheduled already and we will be doing more. We are starting to partner with more agencies and related organizations such as Monroe County and WonderLab. Stay tuned! We will also be offering Citizen Scientist Certification.

Back in early March, I attended the Service Learning Conference in Indianapolis. There were many familiar faces present such as our partners in the Natural Resources Education Center (www.in.gov/dnr/nrec) in Ft Harrison State Park.

In mid-March, Bob Vandeventer and I led a tour for a regional conference of the National Association of Interpreters at Leonard Springs Nature Park. While Bob and I took the interpreters in Shirley Springs Cave, Lise Schools showed them around the trail and then we switched groups. It was the best-attended field trip of the conference!

Later that day, four of us from the Storm Water Quality Group's subcommittee, the Storm Water Environmental Education Team (SWEET), led a public information forum on storm water quality - both natural (karst) and manmade (storm sewer systems). It was held at the Monroe County Public Library and hosted by the League of Women Voters. The speakers included Todd Stevenson, Monroe County Drainage Engineer, speaking on the need for storm water quality awareness, Sharon Hall, Stormwater Specialist with the IDNR, speaking on erosion control, myself speaking on what the individual can do to improve stormwater quality, and Jamie Palmer speaking on funding sources to improve stormwater quality. The program was televised on Bloomington's cable access television network.

Later in March, a few of us did a flyover of the Monroe County area to assess drain-



Kriste Lindberg giving a presentation at the National Cave Conservancy Forum in April.

age patterns from the air.

As far as Hoosier Riverwatch is concerned, the IU Biology Club has officially adopted the Leonard Springs Nature Park outflow as their site to monitor. Thanks to them for helping to improve the park's water quality!

In mid-April, Bob Vandeventer and I attended the first ever National Cave Conservancy Forum (NCCF). It was held in Lewisburg, West Virginia. As requested at the National Cave and Karst Symposium 2003, I presented, "Creative Partnerships for Karst Protection - How To". The forum was very well-attended and extremely well-run. Thanks to the organizers, including Jeff Bray and Mike Warner, and the IKC for helping to sponsor us on this endeavor.

While Bob and I were at the above forum, Don Ingle manned the IKC exhibit at The Nature Conservancy's Spring Fling 2004 at Wyandotte Woods (see article on page 8).

Right after we returned from the NCCF, the Indiana Cave Symposium took place in Milltown. It, too, was very well-attended and extremely well-run. Once again, I presented, "Creative Partnerships for Karst Protection - How To". It's becoming quite popular! Several have asked me to expand it into an actual full-blown session rather than just a presentation for conferences and the like. I may do that in the future...

Later in April, as with the previous year, I once again presented a Project Underground workshop at the Hoosier Heartland



Resource Conservation and Development environmental education event, Camp Galahue, in Brown County. As always, this event was well-attended and well-run. Folks really liked and got a lot out of Project Underground. I'm sure we'll do it again next year (side note: Jim Rogers of IU's Bradford Woods and I are talking about expanding Project Underground in Indiana).

Not too long after that, Anmar Mirza and I worked with television station, FOX 59, on a little piece regarding karst safety and education. They did a beautiful job on production! Copies are available and are starting to be shown at grotto meetings and the like. The station would also like to work with us on doing a drainage piece regarding Bloomington's premier stormwater park, Miller-Showers Park. The park is set for a grand opening this fall.

At the beginning of May, I once again presented "Creative Partnerships for Karst Protection - How To". This time it was for a regional group of US Fish & Wildlife and related personnel. The event took place at Spring Mill State Park. I also coordinated the karst tour which took place after the presentation. Jeff Cummings, Naturalist at the park, conducted a karst tour of the park and I continued on with taking them to Wesley Chapel Gulf, culminating in a tour of Elrod Cave. A great time was had by all! They commented that it was the favorite field trip of the event.

More recently, I have been working on a couple of highway-related projects. One is to assist a contractor on the I-69 karst study and the other was to help with yet another "breakthrough", this time a contractor excavating for installation of water pipeline in Lawrence County broke through into a void. As with the previous "Orange County Breakthrough" in December of 2002, I was called on to help coordinate exploration and remediation efforts. Thanks to cavers Anmar Mirza and Tymme Laun for their exploration contributions! Fortunately, the hole didn't "go" and was able to be filled with a minimum of effort.



Jeff Cummings, Naturalist at Spring Mill State Park, leads a karst tour of the park for US Fish & Wildlife Service personnel.

As always, we are continuing to work on bridging the gap between the conservation and development worlds. New middle ground is being found that makes it a much more beneficial and sometimes even fun challenge. For example, we are currently working on revising ordinances for the City of Bloomington. I'm on the committees for karst, stormwater, and erosion control through the Environmental Commission. We have also discussed the possibility of doing a karst workshop for the development community in the future.



Cavers Tymme Laun and Anmar Mirza check out a void at an excavation site in Lawrence County

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR DUES

12th ANNUAL INDIANA CAVE SYMPOSIUM 2004

by Dave Everton

Ah, the smell of bratwurst, hot dogs, and hamburgers wafting through the pleasant spring air on a Milltown afternoon! Had canoers been on the river, they may have been tempted to pull out and wander into the Cave Country Canoe campground along the Blue River for a savory treat. If that had happened, they also would have encountered a picnic table full of other delectable delights. Although that canoeing crowd didn't show up (and perhaps wouldn't have been served even if they had!), there were plenty of people on hand to attend the annual Indiana Cave Symposium on April 24, 2004, which included the picnic prior to the presentations. The Indiana Cave Survey and Indiana Karst Conservancy sponsored the event, once again at good 'ol Milltown in Crawford County, Indiana. Some traditions just don't need changing, and the food portion of this event resembles that remark. The table reserved for food continued to grow with chips, side dishes, desserts, and other goodies placed there by attendees, while the meat, cheese, buns, condiments, soft drinks, ice, paper plates, plastic ware, & napkins were provided by the two host organizations. Chef Dunlap stayed busy at the grill cranking out meat for the hungry crowd.

As the presentation start time rolled around, everyone migrated to the nearby Milltown Community Center, where "Slide Show Bob" Vandeventer had arranged his vast array of high-tech equipment in order to support the programs. Master of Ceremonies Jim Adams cordially started things off in his usual pleasant fashion with a welcome and introduction. The presentations given were:

Wayne Cave Preserve Management Plan: Robert Sollman, the Property Manager for this most recently-acquired Indiana Karst Conservancy cave/property, gave a brief history of the acquisition process and an overview of some planned improvements to the property, including a couple of upcoming work days during this summer.

Clark County Cave Projects: Todd Webb and Jamie Winner have been active in Clark County, and had cave maps and photographs to prove it! The more they work, the more caves they find. You've heard of job securi-



John Benton (assisted by AV-guru Bob Vandeventer) giving a slide show on Floyd Collins during the Indiana Cave Symposium.

ty? I believe they've got it, with very little danger of caver turf wars!

Cave and Karst Networking Process: Kriste Lindberg shared some methods and examples of the wide variety of opportunities she has had to both influence and share knowledge with different agencies in an effort to spread the understanding of karst through education and collaboration.

Floyd Collins' Presence in the Mammoth Cave Area: Today, Current, Recent, and Faded (CRF!): John Benton took everyone back in time and brought them back to the present again with an insightful 35mm slide show on some aspects of the Floyd Collins story and how it still lives and affects lives today.

The Exploration and Survey of Allens Lost Cave: Brian Killingbeck and company were at it again last year; this time with a 4500+ foot cave not previously known to cavers. Brian retraced the exploration and subsequent survey of the cave with many photos and other graphics, including the very detailed map.

Indiana Cave Data Collection: Past, Present, & Future: Rob Jarboe and Dave Everton detailed some of the history of Indiana cave data collection and briefly covered some thoughts on where the ICS may go in



the future, including an on-line, up-to-date database, complete with maps, library references, and other potential goodies.

HNF Cave & Karst Inventory Project:

Bruce Trotter took the presentation helm next. He and Ray Sheldon have been very busy since agreeing to take charge of the administration aspect of the project. Record keeping hasn't been what it should, but they have already done a bunch of fieldwork and filework in efforts to get the data to an appropriate level of accuracy and order.

NSS Convention 2007: Convention Chairman Dave Haun discussed the recent proposal submission to the NSS Board of Governors to have the national convention in Indiana in 2007. Aaron Atz had started the effort, but Dave and Bob Vandeventer have picked up the ball and run with it. The proposal won't be voted on until the upcoming Michigan convention in July, but everything at this point seems favorable. Various situations and issues can arise before 2007, but the annual Cave Capers is at the proposed location this year and should provide a sneak peek of at least some aspects of having the event there.

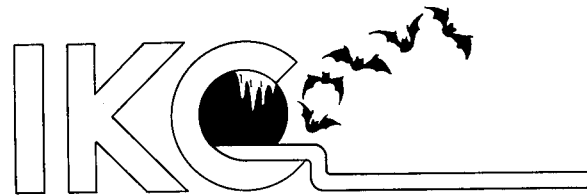
Caves of Harrison-Crawford and TAG:

Chuck Perkins mellowed out the crowd with

the final presentation of the evening. He put on some music and let the photos fly through PowerPoint of some of his various adventures in Indiana and TAG.

A few other items of note: Tony Cunningham was scheduled to present a Lost River Cave System update but had a work conflict and nobody to fill in for him. Although we missed his presentation, we can hope to enjoy it that much more next time! Also, Brian Leavell had a family emergency the day of the presentation and was unfortunately unable to attend to give his presentation on the Carcass Crypt Pit cleanup of 2003. Hopefully, he will be willing to do it next year. Finally, Dr Jerry Lewis wanted to present, but had a conflict with the date. We'll also look forward to seeing his return in 2005.

Thanks to everyone who made the 12th annual Indiana Cave Symposium a success and a extra special thanks to Gordon Smith for providing the wonderful facilities at Cave Country Canoes.



UNDER-EARTH DAY AT THE SULLIVAN CAVE PRESERVE

by Keith Dunlap

On April 3rd, symbolic of Earth Day, eighteen volunteers met at the Sullivan Cave Preserve. The tasks at hand were varied, but all added to the stewardship of this property in one way or another.

Everett Pulliam and Mark Kraus took on the task of planting 100 Ash seedling to replace trees that had not survived the previous year.

Bruce Bowman and Bob Vandeventer did a little chain sawing, cutting up downed trees that had fallen on the trails over the winter.

Keith Dunlap, Steve Lockwood, and Bob Sergesketter worked most of the day severing wild grape vines in the woods. The vines grow to the tops of the mature trees and vig-

orously compete for sunlight, stunting and in some cases killing their host.

Finally, a team of a dozen or so volunteers spent much of the day re-flagging all of the trees in the back field (planted three years ago). The new flagging allows for easier locating and weed maintenance later in the summer. Also the old flagging was removed as some of it was tight enough to be restrictive on the growing trees.

Other participants not already mentioned include George Cesnik, Jason Dennison, Bambi Dunlap, Jaime Fee, Sam Frushour, Ernie Payne, Jacqueline Payne, Don Paquette, Mark Sparks, Greg Tucker, and Rolie Tucker.

ANNUAL CAVE PATRON / PROPERTY MANAGER REPORTS

Each year at the Annual Business meeting, the Cave Patrons and Property Managers are asked to submit a written report summarizing activities and incidents. The following is a compilation of these reports for CY2003:

BUDDHA CAVE PATRON - Jeff Cody

This year fourteen visitation permits were written for a total of seventy-four people. Most cavers were from Indiana with a few from Illinois. The highlights for the year were two IKC property maintenance days, one on April 12 and the other on November 8. During the April workday, eight people from the northern Indiana area were inside the cave. On that day another small group went to the entrance area. A permit was written for a group in late July but they did not go because they were concerned about high water.

In late September, I made a trip into the cave with two others to inspect the cave. During this trip I did not see anything unusual -- the cave looked to be in good shape. I visited the property on the April workday and stopped by on two other occasions on my way to Cave River Valley. Each time the property appeared to be trash free. No accidents or incidents were reported to me by any of the trip leaders.

SULLIVAN CAVE PATRON - Bob Vandeventer

It was another active year of cave trips and contacts for information about Sullivan Cave. There were many return visitors and people wanting to explore it for the first time. It's good to see the younger generation showing an interest in learning proper caving practices and conservation. We had a good flow of scout troops, school science clubs, geology clubs, and new cavers. I was able to go on many of the trips this year and I must say I enjoyed every one of them. I hear many compliments on the condition of the cave especially from those who remember it from years past.

There were 36 trips scheduled, but 5 later canceled. A total of 395 cavers visited Sullivan last year. Most of the contacts and trip set ups were conducted with email communication, but I still had quite a few telephone calls and of course last minute cell phone details to work out. I do want to thank Keith and Bambi Dunlap for being my backup again to field any requests while I was traveling.

I have made countless trips into Sullivan cave, but I never get tired of going there. The cave is in very good shape and visits have gone well this year. I'm looking forward to another good year in 2004.

SULLIVAN PROPERTY MANGR - Keith Dunlap

During the IKC's fifth full year of ownership, a number of stewardship projects continued.

On April 5th, Everett Pulliam and myself re-

planted and mulched about 100 hardwood seedlings (Chinkapin and White oaks), replacing trees that had not survived the previous summer (flagged in the fall of 2002). The replanted trees did very well due to a favorable spring.

The summer months saw mostly tree maintenance. About 75% of the trees had one spot application of weed control (RoundUp). Some of the Tulip trees from the 2000 planting are now 8-12 foot tall with 4" diameter stems compared to some Hickorys planted in 2001 which are still only 6 inches tall with pinky-size stems. Bambi re-flagged all the trees in the smaller field.

The "camping/clearing" area was mowed three or four times as was the area adjacent to the driveway out by the road.

A large over-hung limb in the clearing fell and Bob Vandeventer and I cut it into firewood.

The vinca treatment done in December of 2000 (approximately half of the infested area) is still very noticeable compared to the untreated area. Retreatment needs to be done and the other half of the infested area needs to be treated.

The driveway and parking areas remained in good shape. People still seem determined to drive off the hardened areas and rut up the grass. Delineating the parking area with the previously used yellow plastic chain may still need to be used.

Several members took advantage of the camping area and firewood over the past year. Several firewood donations were received as well as other donations from those who visited the cave.

A new house lot was cleared just east of our boundary near the cave. A modular home is likely to end up there.

There were no major problems or concerns encountered during 2003. Activities planned for 2004 include weed control around the trees, re-flagging the remaining trees, replacement of dead trees, grapevine removal, perhaps working on the loop trail, and of course mowing the clearing and driveway area.

WAYNE CAVE PATRON - Tom Willett

Trips into Wayne Cave were about normal this year. Nothing outstanding to report. There were a total of 20 groups with 110 cavers.

WAYNE PROPERTY MANAGER - Robert Sollman

The Wayne Cave Preserve Property was purchased July 2, 2003 by the IKC. The Management Plan was approved at the Fall Board Meeting. I was elected the Property Manager on December 6, 2003.

A temporary cable with a combination lock was installed across the driveway before the February meeting. While installing the cable, I noticed several deer carcasses to the left of the driveway along with various garbage bags. The cable was installed by Robert and Tom Sollman, Keith Dunlap,

and Bob Sergesketter.

Much initial work needs to be accomplished including clearing brush and dirt/stump piles around the parking area and driveway; replacing the culvert pipe at the end of the driveway; making a hardened driveway and parking area; installing a gate towards the end of the driveway; marking a camping area and making fire rings.

The board approved \$2,500 for the driveway work on February 21, 2004. The work will be done over several weekends in June of 2004. The dates will be dependent on the weather.

COON/GROTTO CAVE PATRON - Keith Dunlap

There were no incidents/problems reported to the Patron during CY2003.

There were only two authorized recreational trips to Coon Cave involving seven cavers. There was at least one unauthorized trip - Bob Simms from Michigan took a church group without permission. He also cut ruts in the neighbor's yard when turning around his bus. Dave Everton volunteered to repair the physical damage. I notified Bob that visiting the cave without permission (and not signing waivers, especially with minors) was completely unacceptable and totally irresponsible.

There were only two recreational trips to Grotto Cave involving nine cavers.

There were three trips into each cave for scientific/conservation purposes (the bat census in January, and trips to remove and then re-install various monitoring equipment/service the alarm systems).

The annual report to the property owner was drafted and mailed on 12/27.

I made several "drive-by" checks of the property during the past year.

There were no unauthorized visits recorded in either cave by the monitoring speloggers during the hibernacula closure period (9/2002 to 4/2003). In the past seven years since the alarm systems were installed, there has only been one violation.

The temperature monitoring project continued in both caves (started the 10th -year deployment on 9/21/2003).

The caves remain in good condition and no in-cave clean-ups are planned. There were no surface workdays either.

Traps were installed in both caves in September to collect guano for a USFWS pesticide study.

Both caves showed very significant Indiana bat population gains in 2003, totaling over 13,000 combined. These are "historic" record numbers.

SHILOH CAVE PATRON - James Adams

The system of permitting up to six trips into Shiloh Cave for the general caving community continued in 2003. Each trip was limited to ten participants. Six trips were taken this year into Shiloh Cave -- five of these trips were recreational and one was a survey trip.

On March 29, 2004, a group from the Western Indiana Grotto visited. In May, a follow-up survey

trip was planned to search for additional passages near the sinkhole entrance. In July, a group of non-cavers visited from Belmont, Michigan. On October 4, the Cave Patron led the annual Central Indiana Grotto trip. A second trip in October was scheduled on October 25 when a group from the St Joseph Valley Grotto visited. The final recreational trip took place on December 6, led by a member of the Central Indiana Grotto.

SUICIDE CAVE PATRON - Ronnie Burns

I am happy to report that the management plan for Suicide Cave is continuing to work well. The year 2003 passed with no unfortunate mishaps at the cave. Visitation was fairly light, with only four trips for the year. I personally led two, one in March and one in June, with five cavers on the first trip and seven on the second. The last two trips were during the weekend of Cave Capers with ten on one trip and eleven on another.

The condition of the cave remains excellent. There is no trash, litter, or graffiti in the cave. I have done no official biology surveys, but the population of bats, salamanders, and other cave fauna looks good. Dr Jerry Lewis inventoried the cave about four years ago as part of the Blue River Project and I still see some of the things today that we found then.

The condition of the cave can be attributed directly to the gate. Limiting access has successfully protected the cave while not keeping legitimate cavers out. I would, however, like to recommend that the IKC have a work day there this year. The gate has trapped some rubble and debris that has now built up to the bottom of the door. I believe that five to ten people could dig it out in an hour or two. Afterwards would be a good time to visit the cave or camp at Delaney.


I have in my file signed waivers for all visitors. In reviewing the contract with the property owner, I believe we are entirely in compliance. I will be forwarding a copy of this report to the property owner, the husband of the late Jill Biel.

SHAFT CAVE PATRON - Jeff Cody

In 2003 there were a total of fifteen permits written for visitation to the cave. Of the fifteen, I know of one trip that did not go. All but two of the trips went during warm weather months. No accidents or incidents were reported to me on any of these trips.

Several times during the year, while in Bloomington for work, I drove by and checked the parking area for excess trash or anything out of order. I did not see anything out of the ordinary for the visitations.

I would like to note in this report that we have an old bolt at the top of the second drop. This bolt has been at this spot for at least fifteen years. I do not know who set it but I have used it on several

...continued on page 17 

INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY TREASURY REPORT

Income/Expense Statement From January 1, 2004 to March 31, 2004

INCOME:

Dues Apportionment and Residuals	727.50	
Donations - General	885.00	
Donations - Wayne Cave Acquisition	16590.00	
Interest	18.19	
		\$18,220.69

EXPENSES:

IKC Update (printing, production, mailing)	282.10	
Stewardship/Conservation	41.95	
Donation (WonderLab)	100.00	
Membership	124.36	
Business (credit card fees, property taxes)	9.10	
Transfers to/from restricted funds/other adjustments	16606.43	
		(\$17,163.94)

NET OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIT) THIS PERIOD: \$1,056.75

Balance Sheet March 31, 2004

ASSETS:

Cash in Checking/Saving Accounts/CDs	40140.16	
Accounts Receivable / Pledges	5600.00	
Wayne Cave Preserve (20.00 acres)	75000.00	
Sullivan Cave Preserve (28.00 acres)	72000.00	
Buddha Karst Nature Preserve (36.84 acres)	29000.00	
Orangeville Rise Nature Preserve (3.01 acres)	7000.00	
Indian Creek Conservation Easement (valued at \$1/acre)	13.16	
		<u>\$228,753.32</u>

LIABILITIES & OPERATING EXCESS:

Land Acquisition Fund	5243.96
Deferred Dues Fund (195 members)	2850.00
Stewardship Endowment Fund	10968.51

Previous Operating Excess	25634.10	
Net Excess (Deficit) This Period	<u>1056.75</u>	
Current Operating Excess		26690.85
Real estate liquidity		<u>183000.00</u>

Total Liabilities & Operating Excess \$228,753.32

IKC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, March 27, 2004
Greenwood, Indiana

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Vernier, President
James Adams, Secretary (proxy Bambi Dunlap)
Keith Dunlap, Treasurer
Bruce Bowman
Dave Haun
Kriste Lindberg
Steve Lockwood
Nick Noe
Don Ingle
Bob Sergesketter
Tom Sollman
Bill Tozer
Bob Vandeventer
Jamie Winner

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bruce Devore

The Indiana Karst Conservancy Annual meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM, President Dick Vernier presiding.

The Executive Board elections were the first order of business. Bowman asked for clarification on write-in ballots and reminded everyone that all members vote. Tozer was the Election Teller with assistance from Phyllis Sergesketter. Since there were no contested positions for the three Officers, Bowman moved that these positions be approved by acclamation. Ingle seconded. Unanimous except for one abstention. The Officers for 2004 are Dick Vernier, President; Bob Sergesketter, Secretary; and Keith Dunlap, Treasurer.

Voting for the five open Directors positions was then completed. Tozer announced the results as follows: Ingle, Lockwood, Noe, and Winner elected to the full 3-year terms. Sue Vernier will fill the one-year term vacated by Bob Sergesketter (who became Secretary).

Bowman moved the ballots be destroyed, Bob Sergesketter seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The teller reported that of the 195 ballots eligible, 65 ballots were cast (33%) with 22 of those power voting.

Minutes of December and February meeting minutes were accepted as published in the March *IKC Update*.

Treasurer's Report: Total assets of \$222,480 of which \$31,665 is liquid. The General Fund is approximately \$26,000. There are currently 195 members with 131 of those already renewed for 2004.

There was discussion on membership cards. Keith Dunlap questioned if they were necessary and a value-added expense (our supply has run out and we need to re-order). The consensus was that we

should continue distributing cards so Dunlap will procure new cards.

The next order of business for the annual meeting were the Cave Patron and Property Manager Annual Reports. Patron reports were presented by Bob Vandeventer (Sullivan), Keith Dunlap (Coon and Grotto), Jeff Cody (Shaft and Buddha), and Ronnie Burns (Suicide). No Patron reports were provided by James Adams (Shiloh) or Tom Willett (Wayne). Property Manager reports were given by Robert Sollman (Wayne), Steve Lockwood (Orangeville Rise), and Keith Dunlap (Sullivan). No Property Manager report was submitted by Tom Rea for Buddha.

During the open discussion of these reports, the issue of bolts at the second drop in Shaft Cave was brought up. It was decided to modify the release form, cautioning the use of natural and unnatural anchors and to back-up all rigging. Keith Dunlap made the motion and Haun seconded that we remove the existing bolts and have new bolts installed in a more appropriate location. Motion passed: 7-4-3. Dunlap will take on this action item with Haun's assistance. Jeff Cody and Brandon Stephens are willing to help coordinate the project.

Keith Dunlap reports that during a visit to Sullivan Cave in January, it was confirmed by Dr Virgil Brack that approximately two dozen Indiana bats use the cave (along with several hundred Little Brown and Pipistrelles).

Robert Sollman announced Wayne Property workdays are set for June 19-20 (for grading/preparing the driveway and parking area, and disposing of the large wood pile) and June 26 (for final grading of the base stone and installation of the driveway gate).

Haun made a motion and Noe seconded to reimburse Vandeventer and Lindberg for up to \$100 for gas expenses to attend the Cave Conservancy Forum in West Virginia (representing the IKC). Motion passed 9-1-4.

Tozer, a NSS Director, shared information regarding recent changes with grantee requirements for the NSS Land Acquisition Grant program. In July of 2003, the requirements were changed to require a Right of First Refusal. His motion to the NSS Board in March removed the new RFR language and substituted a simple repayment clause if a grant was given, then the property was sold or not managed as agreed upon. His motion passed 15 to 2.

In light of the NSS grant requirements change, Haun moved and Sergesketter seconded that the IKC re-apply for the \$5,000 grant we previously declined. Motion passed unanimously.



Keith Dunlap discussed the Wayne fund-raising status. As of the beginning of the meeting, we were \$26 short of our initial goal to bring the Land Acquisition restricted fund back to into the black. The hat was passed around the room to generate the shortfall with a total of \$128 collected.

A proposed by-laws change was discussed. Dunlap moved and Vandeventer seconded a change to Article XI that would list the NSS, The Nature Conservancy, and other non-profit land trusts as the preferred recipients of the IKC assets should the IKC

dissolve. The motion carried by the majority of the membership present.

Our next meeting is scheduled for June 19, at 7 PM at the Geology Building in Bloomington, Indiana. Meeting adjourned at 12:45 and members interested were invited to have lunch immediately following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Bambi Dunlap (for Jim Adams)

Continued from page 14....

occasions. I know the IKC does not want bolts on any of their managed caves. Unless you rig from the drop in the entrance shaft, there are no natural rig points in this area. A bolt is very useful here. I feel we need to have this bolt inspected or replaced by a qualified person.

ORANGEVILLE RISE - Steve Lockwood

After the property was re-surveyed in 2001, it was apparent that the old fence on the western side of the property was not on the property line as assumed previously. On May 17, 2003, nine volunteers constructed a new fence on the re-surveyed property line. The adjacent property owner to the west (Mr Collins) had already removed the existing fence. Twenty holes were dug over approximately five hundred feet using a power auger. Wooden posts were set into the holes and 5 strands of high tension wire were strung between the posts on the northern section of the new fence line. The remaining poles (without wire) were used to mark the property line due to the seasonal flooding that occurs at the south end of the fence line and the concern with flood debris. Thank you to the volunteers that participated and Mr. Collins for removing the existing fencing.

The property continues to attract trash due to

the large road frontage but is remaining relatively clean between trash pickups. Trash was collected from the property in June 2003, September 2003, December 2003, and February 2004. Every quarterly cleaning yielded a large garbage bag full of trash or more. The trash consisted of glass bottles, plastic bottles, plastic jugs, signs, and plastic bags.

A small project is scheduled for March 28, 2004 to place concrete posts on the southwest corner of the property to permanently mark the property line due to the flooding and erosion occurring in this area.

INDIAN CREEK CE - Fig Newton

On Friday, April 2, John Benton and I hiked down to the sinks of Indian Creek for inspection purposes.

The field to the south of the sinks had been brush hogged last fall. Mostly fescue is growing. The picnic area had a few pieces of trash similar to years past. The fire pit had been cleaned of trash and was now filled with mostly charcoal from wood fires. Across the creek looked exactly the same as last year. No trees had been cut or fallen into the creek on either side. The banks were in good condition with no erosion. Water was up so the actual sinks could not be seen.

There does not seem to be anything that needs to be done at this time.

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.

