

## Indiana Caves Survey, Inc. Quarterly Meeting

December 10, 2001

President Bruce Trotter called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at the home of Nick & Carita Noe, Southport, Indiana.

In attendance were Vice-Chairman Ray Sheldon, Treasurer Keith Dunlap, Board Member Randy Jackson, Editor John Danovich, Database Custodian Dave Black, and members Nick & Carita Noe.

Trotter thanked Nick & Carita for hosting the meeting.

The September minutes were approved as published in the December *Notebook*.

Dunlap provided a brief Treasurer's report with a balance of \$2,033.99 prior to the start of the meeting.

County Directors reports:

- Nick Noe (Washington) – Jerry Bailey has been active in the county. Noe also reported that Wittenberg Univ Speleological Society (WUSS) has been surveying in Rose Cave (it was questioned if this is a new cave in Washington Co or the Rose Cave in Martin Co).
- Sheldon reported that he has located the last 3 known caves in Ripley County plus one spring. Ripley has a total of 37 entrances/karst features. Ray also reported that Bartholomew is also at 100% with all known caves located. Ray will be working on Jefferson Co this winter.
- Black reported nothing new found in his counties (Crawford, Floyd, Harrison) but has 2 or 3 forms to process.
- Jackson reported 12 new report forms in 2001 for Orange County, most from the St Joseph Valley Grotto. Randy also indicated that Bill Baus provided him with approximately 70 forms for Monroe County which need to be entered as part of the transition of responsibilities from Bill to Randy.
- Bruce reported for Jim Adams that there has been no activity in Martin County over the last quarter and that only one map and GPS location had come in for Greene County.
- Bruce reported that one cave location was verified in Jennings County with three duplicate locations were eliminated. Likewise, in Decatur County, one location was verified and two duplicates were eliminated.
- Bruce reported for Kevin Wools that one form for Lawrence County was turned in by Chuck Perkins. Of interest was that in addition to the form, Chuck supplied a map and photo images on a CD.

Dave Black, Database Custodian, indicated that the deadline for turning in the annual database update will be the end of January with the consolidated database returned to the County Directors by the March ICS meeting.

There was continued discussion of adding file links into the database so that scanned maps, photos, and related articles can be attached to individual cave records. This would add much functionality to the database, but also could become a problem in managing these large files (especially when the total exceeds the capacity of a single CD. Dave indicated he has not gotten the links to work properly because the paths appear to be hardcoded such if the linked files are not in the same drive/directory as the master, the links will break. Some means of providing a dynamic/relative path is needed as part of the installation process. Dave will explore further.

There was also continued discussion on trying to select one or more suggested standard file formats and scanning resolutions. Dave like GIF files because they can easily be displayed on the web (thinking of the future). Dunlap expressed his preference for compressed TIF for black and white maps.

There was also a discussion concerning the assignment of ICS numbers. Some County Directors assign numbers to every entry (caves, karst features, springs, and man-made entities) while other Directors assign numbers to *only* caves. The consensus was that numbers should probably be assigned to everything, but no formal decision was made. It was pointed out that springs were becoming an important feature to track and County Directors should make an effort to actively pursue cataloguing them.

Trotter presented the Archivist's report by passing out the updated activity list. There have been eight new entries in the last quarter. Bruce also reminded the County Directors that everyone needs to turn in copies of all of their additions to the archive to keep the files sync'ed.

Bruce asked about exchanges with Indiana grottos. Currently only the CIG and IKC provide newsletters to the ICS. Dunlap will pursue exchanges with the EMG, EIG, NIG, WIG, and SJVG, all which publish occasionally.

Jim Adams was not in attendance to give the Webmaster's report..

Sheldon reported on the Indiana Geological Survey activities (per John Hill). The IGS (Sam Frushour) is currently working on spring map. No progress report on the cave density map.

Ray informed John that the ICS's Service Agreement for licensing the database to selected outside clients was available, should one of the IGS clients needs such information. Noe is to finalize the draft version and provide it to Trotter.

Under new business, it was discussed that there may be renewed interest in gas well drilling in Harrison-Crawford and that the Oil & Gas Div of the DNR might be interested in licensing the ICS database.

The Indiana Cave Symposium was the next item of discussion. Various locations were suggested and the consensus was to pursue Milltown. Black will contact Gordon Smith. The date selected was April 20<sup>th</sup>. Ray suggested the responsibility of organizing the Symposium be delegated to a committee rather than fall on the shoulders of the President as has been the past practice. Tasks were assigned as follows: Program/talks to be handled by Sheldon with assistance from Trotter; food will be procured by Dunlap; Jim Adams was volunteered to MC the event.

Another topic of discussion was the need to capture the various officer's responsibility in an "operation's manual" so as to better assist with an orderly transition of new officers. This would include a timeline of necessary actions such as organizing the Symposium, filing corporate papers, and other functional requirements.

Carita Noe gave an informative summary of recent educational activities she has been involved with, specifically she attended a workshop in Kentucky which provided numerous educational materials. The focus is to educate school age children on caves and karst. Twenty-five percent of the population lives in karst terrain.

The elections were next on the agenda. The results were as follows:

- President – Bruce Trotter
- Vice-President – Nick Noe
- Secretary – James Adams
- Treasurer – Keith Dunlap
- E-Board Members – Randy Jackson and Dave Black

The next meeting will be held on March 11<sup>th</sup> at the home of Bruce Trotter. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 for Christmas snacks prepared by Caritia.

Respectfully submitted by Keith Dunlap, acting Secretary.

*[Secretary's Note: These meeting minutes were approved by the membership at the March 11, 2002 meeting with one correction as noted in the March 11, 2002 meeting minutes.]*