

Dave Everton called the meeting to order inside Ray Sheldon's basement at 8:00 PM.

A. Intro

1. Dave Everton has all of Monroe & Owen county entered.
2. Dave Tibbets has been very communicative. He's now the Martin County Director. Dave Tibbets met with Dave Everton and they went over database:
 - a. Dave Tibbets is creating excel spread sheet to help him keep track of caves in Martin county.
 - b. Dave Tibbets alphabetized all his files and put them in the folders.
 - c. Dave T. bought maps for all of Martin County.
3. Keith and Kevin are having trouble with CD installation.
4. Archivist is having trouble because caves online keep switching identities.

B. Reports

1. Keith Dunlap provided the treasurers report.
 - a. Keith stated that as of 6-30-05 the ICS had 51 members and 1 subscriber which is a record high.
 - b. We recently added 2 new members: Mark Kraus and ?
2. Brian will set up email list on Yahoo by next time.

C. Old Business

1. The ICS Newsletter was published on the internet.
 - a. The Archivist said the PDF looked good and that the newsletter should have been published online several years ago.
 - b. Keith said labels got pushed to Bruce instead of John. In the future, give Keith a list of who wants the electronic newsletter link emailed to them.
 - c. The newsletter creation process was the same except for the labels.
 - d. FYI- Bruce, John, or Keith connect between Columbus and Greenwood and Bruce puts newsletters together.
 - e. Printing problems experienced by members were probably due to user error.

D. New Business

1. Ray wants to make sure the PDF isn't available to everyone.
 - a. The link to the newsletter is currently hidden, ie there is no link from the website; you have to type the url address or look through the website directory to access the newsletter.
 - b. Keith believes the newsletter is a draw for members.
 - c. Keith can send the electronic newsletter out a few days before the hard copy.
 - e. The membership agreed that we will use a hidden link so that the website isn't as easily accessible to non-members.
2. We may want to have the newsletter available to members in the members section of the website.
 - a. The ICS directors would like to be able to access the members area using their county director login and passwords.
 - b. Having the newsletter available on the website for the public to view could generate interest.

- c. Rarely, can you determine a cave location based on the information provided in the newsletter.
 - d. Kevin can go either way. He's undecided whether the newsletter should be available to the public or not.
- 3. The maps in the newsletter are too small.
 - a. Dave likes small caves to have small sized maps. He thinks the person publishing should let the publisher know what size they would like the maps published.
 - b. Bruce and Keith think maps should be larger than 2 x 2.
 - c. Ray stated that the font size on the maps should at least be 10.
- 4. Do we need to rein verse the newsletter creators and printers for their cost?
 - a. Bruce stated that right now the system is fine but may need changed in the future.
 - b. Dave questioned whether a copy machine should be purchased for the archivist.
 - 1) Keith commented that the CIG did that 10 years ago and its copy machine hasn't been utilized much.
 - 2) Also, copy machine durability is poor.
 - 3) Keith thought a scanner and laser printer would be a better idea.
 - 4) Keith thought Bruce should be rein versed for postage.
- 5. Brian Killingbeck spoke on how he and Nate Newkirk use Terrain Navigator.
 - a. Brian and Nate plotted every quarter, quarter point in the database alongside GPS points in Terrain Navigator. They used different symbol and colors to differentiate approximate points from GPS points.
 - b. Plotting the points in such a manner provides many benefits.
 - 1) If you want to check and see if a recently visited cave is new then you can quickly reference the map which displays all known caves.
 - 2) Having the quarter, quarter information plotted is beneficial because it lets you know that there is a cave somewhere in that area which helps you make the determination whether the cave you visited is truly new.
 - 3) Having the points plotted this way also helps the user determine which areas are worth ridge walking because they can easily scroll around the state and see where all known caves are.
 - 4) Having approximate points is again beneficial because without them you'd think there wasn't a cave there. It's much better to know that there's a cave somewhere in the vicinity than to not know at all.
 - 3) Having all of the quarter, quarter points plotted in front of you is a real time saver because otherwise you'd have to manually plot them each time you wanted to see what caves were in that area. Looking for dots on a map is much more intuitive.
 - c. Dave would like to share the plotted points that Brian and Nate provided him. Brian consented.
 - d. Dave thought that in the future the ICS should provide GIS or topo software to county directors.
 - 1) Ray is in favor of all county directors being provided with software.

6. Ray Sheldon thinks that we should have a field containing UTM points for approximate locations in the database. The attending members liked the idea.
 - a. Ray mentioned that we should continue to keep township and range in the database because it's widely used.
 - b. Having a field for approximate locations may be beneficial because there are many entries in the database with quarter, quarter information even though a point on a map was provided. In this case, an approximate location would be more accurate than quarter, quarter.
 - 1) Keith thought it'd be nice to know which points provided on submitted map are gps points and which were hand plotted.
 - 2) Dave recommends putting dots from submitted maps into UTM coordinate and entering them into an approximate location field.
 - c. Kevin commented that quarter, quarter should still be in the database.
7. Dave gave John Hill from the IGS an updated database.
 - a. The IGS partnered with BHE consultants to identify caves that might have bats.
 - b. The IGS has been cleared to share the info they collected with us.
 - c. The IGS used our database to figure out which cave they were at and accumulated lots of info.
 - e. The county director will eventually receive information collected for their counties. The area of concentration was Monroe, Lawrence, and Greene county.
8. Keith stated that the mapping project contains 1,000 maps and is now a little over halfway done.
 - a. He would like to see the project completed by the end of this year.
 - b. Dave and Brian will try to have maps updated for their counties by Christmas.
9. Bruce is combing the Hoosier National Forest quad by quad.
 - a. He's currently working on the Georgia quad and plans to work that area the rest of the winter.
 - b. Ray encourages county directors to go out and visit caves in their counties. Everyone makes mistakes. It's important to be able to find caves in the field using ICS data. GPS locations are usually pretty accurate.
 - c. Bruce fills out a report form each time he visits a cave
 - d. Dave thought that something regarding this discussion should be submitted in the notebook.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:58 PM. The next meeting will be at Nick Noe's on 12-12-05.