Fern Cave Utilization Form

This form must be completed and returned to the Fern Cave Access coordinator within one week of your trip. Return to [stevepitts597@gmail.com](mailto:steve@symmetricaluniverse.com).

NSS/SCCi Number: \_\_\_\_37961/5631\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: 12/30/2022

Trip Leader Name:\_\_\_\_Marion Akers\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_3400 Mathis Road SW\_\_\_

City: Corydon State: IN Zip: 47112-6407

Daytime Phone: 740-604-0075 Evening Phone: same

Trip reason (check all that apply):

Surveying/ Mapping: \_\_X\_ Research/ Monitoring: \_\_

Scientific Project (specify):

Number of hours in cave: \_12\_\_ Total people entering cave: 6\_

Time entered: 12:00 pm

Time of exit: 12:00 pm

Did you visit Helictite Heaven? \_no\_\_

List all entrances you entered and all areas of the cave you visited. Please note anything unusual you encountered (vandalism, evidence of unauthorized entry, dead bats, etc.)

From the Johnston entrance, the teams traveled down the West Passage, then down Pit Melissa, a 150’ pit, to the side passages at mh25. Two teams surveyed in this area. One passage (k) became too tight after 88’. The other side passage was surveyed 316.7’ in a north-eastern direction (z), ending in a high breakdown climb. No fresh dead bats were seen. We did see some evidence of vandalism, some old graffiti drawn on a mud slope in the Guano Rooms. It had said “CAREY 85”, but we removed it by hand, and the graffiti is now undetectable.

Trip participants

Name City/State NSS/SCC

Rand Heazlitt Corydon, Indiana 63086/

Kevin Mulligan New Jersey 59274/5756

Marion Akers Corydon, Indiana 37961/5631

Val McNamara Avon, Indiana 45632

Greg McNamara Avon, Indiana 20250/2636

Stephanie Suen Cincinnati, Ohio 70119