



BREAKDOWN

JANUARY 1990

Welcome new officers of The Mid-Appalachian Region

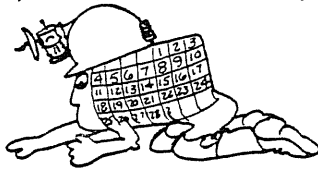
Jeanne Watterling (Chairperson) Keith Wheeland (Vice-Chair)
 41 Hillview Road 2191 Mt. View Avenue
 Birdsboro, Pa. 19508 State College, Pa. 16801

Bert Ashbrook (Secretary)
 443 N. 8th Street
 Allentown, Pa. 18102

Keith will be putting the Breakdown together, so please send exchange newsletters, articles or calendar items to the address above.



CAVER CALENDAR



FEBRUARY 24, 1990 - MAR BUSINESS MEETING AT JAY HERBEIN'S HOUSE, HARRISBURG, PA. A PARTY AT DALE AND JUDI'S WILL FOLLOW THE BUSINESS MEETING. (BREAKDOWN INCLUDES A MAP TO JAY'S)

APRIL 21, 22 1990 - NCRC EASTERN REGION BASIC CAVE RESCUE SHOEMAKERSVILLE, PA. (near Kutztown) FOR INFO- JEFF UHL 1608 Newport Ave. Northampton, Pa. 18067

MAY 4, 5, 6 1990 - THIS IS THE TENTATIVE DATE FOR THE SPRING MAR MEET, TO BE HELD AT THE OTR SITE NEAR BLKINS, WEST VIRGINIA. PLANS ARE IN THE MAKING FOR A JOINT MAR/VAR, THE LAST OF WHICH WAS A GREAT SUCCESS (Fall 89, in W. Va.).

MAY 26, 27, 28 - BUTLER CAVE EXPEDITION WEEKEND

JUNE 23, 24 - BUTLER CAVE EXPEDITION WEEKEND

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

State of the Region Address,

Good day fellow cavers. We have spent a year together in this great Region. 1989 has brought grand performances by speleopoliticians, Supercavers and Armchair cavers alike. The Pa. cave law is in the House, our region members have caved the Mayan hills of Mexico, the rainforest of Costa Rica, uncovered yet more secrets in Virginia and have established strong friendships in Communist Romania and Hungary. The cavers in our region are the Region, their enthusiasm to be active will guarantee meets saturated with activity or cave mud, whichever you prefer. The people will demand it (Ed. note; "the people" often referred to as armchair cavers; "it" meets saturated with activity, probably not cave mud).

In closing I would like to thank those of you who participated in our meets and I hope you enjoyed yourself as much as I did serving as chair of this admirable group of cavers calling themselves THE MID-APPALACHIAN REGION. Best of luck to the new staff, give them as much of your support as feasible.

Happy Caves,
 Hope "SPERANZA"
 UHL

SPELEO-ORIENTEERING-CYCLE-EVENT

by Hope Esperanza Uhl

A lot of thanks have to go out on this one. Thanks to Jeff Uhl who came up with the idea and who did all the research for the orienteering. Thanks to Jeff and Bert Ashbrook for spending hours Friday and Saturday morning setting the course stations. Note that stations were located in caves, creek beds, atop hills (big, steep suckers), and along the cycle route. Thanks Trish, Ed, Ed Jr., Nate, etc., etc. for retrieving the station markers on Sunday. Thanks Bob Keintz for rescuing broken down cyclists. Thanks to the people and businesses that donated prizes (see list in article by Jeff). Thanks to Craig and Carol and Jeff for your hours of tabulating event results.

The meal was great, for their labor, I would like to applaud all those who helped create it. Thanks to the Kehs family who donated their kitchen the weekend before to prepare the "from scratch chili". Ask Kim where we put all the ingredients for mixing... and what we used to stir the amalgamation. Thanks Jeanne for getting it all hot! Thanks Dean for running for salad and Jay Herbein for cutting carrots. Thank you G.A.G. for another enormous success.

In case you couldn't make the event, here is a short summary of the days activities as I saw them (from the disappointing sidelines, for I knew too much about the course for me to fairly participate).

Not everyone was sure they wanted to partake in the Speleo-Orienteering-Cycling-Event, damn, it was hard enough just saying all that. I had to persuade a few people, who by the way after winning all kinds of great prizes, thanked me. The cavers split into teams of two, received their instructions and off they were to cave, stream and many an alien road atop their road and mountain bikes. A few of the teams took the event very seriously, making it to all of the stations. Many of the contestants just had lots of fun wheeling along the Berks County farmlands from cave to cave. Points were given to the team for locating stations and bonus points for correctly answering a speleo-question. Some stations required the contestant to complete a task, such as tying a figure 8 knot.

Tired cavers started filing back to camp late in the afternoon. What could be better after a day full of activity, than to sit down to all the chili, salad, bread and hot peppers (thanks Larry) one could devour. As if that wasn't enough, Kim's pumpkin pie topped it all off!

We moved over to the bon-fire while results of the day's events were tabulated. Prizes were awarded to the winners of the cycling-orienteering and non-cycling category and runners up in each. Some of the prizes included; Nalgene bottles, Mini-mag lights, survey tape, cave gloves, t-shirts, climbing slings, grotto memberships, unique fossils, bike helmet, bike repair certificate, other cave gear and etc.

The top prize winners were;

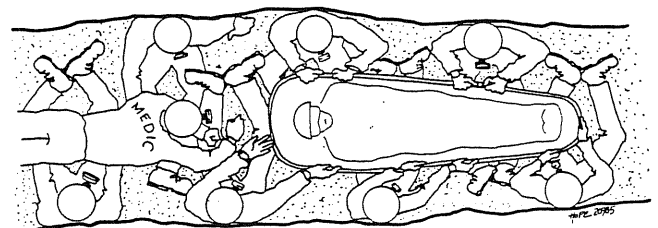
Cycling-Orienteering: The team of Jay Longenderfer and Eric Baish. These guys made it to all the stations and had the most cave questions correctly answered.

Speleo-Orienteering: The team of Steve Luke and Ed Kehs. Both of these guys had to be convinced to enter, guess they didn't expect to end up on top.

Almost everyone who took part walked away with a prize and everyone was pleased with the event that wasn't just a test of physical performance, but a test of outdoor skills and cave knowledge.

For the remainder of the evening we drank, told cave stories, and while we tried to warm ourselves by the fire we were treated to a slide show of the tropical caves of Costa Rica.

I believe we broke a record in attendance with 68 paying participants, 77 including the cave kids. Fun was had by all!



NCRC EASTERN REGION NOTE

A new workbook is about to be published which will be used by participants of the weekend rescue orientations. The book adds a whole new dimension to the teaching and comprehension of knowledge. If you have not taken part in one of these seminars, please try to put one on your caving calendar. Students of past seminars will attest to their value in cave safety. Conceivably the best feeling a caver can have in a rescue situation is that of the successful rescue. This doesn't just apply to "Joe Cave Rescuer", self rescue and the prevention of accidents or proper handling of incidents by "Every-day Cavers", for lack of a better term. Those of us who have benefitted from the seminar may like to refresh, now that the workbook will be used, and can be taken home to be utilized as a study guide.

M. A. R. BUSINESS MEETING

MID-APPALACHIAN REGION ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 1990

TIME: 1:30 PM

PLACE: JAY HERBEIN'S HOUSE HARRISBURG, PA.

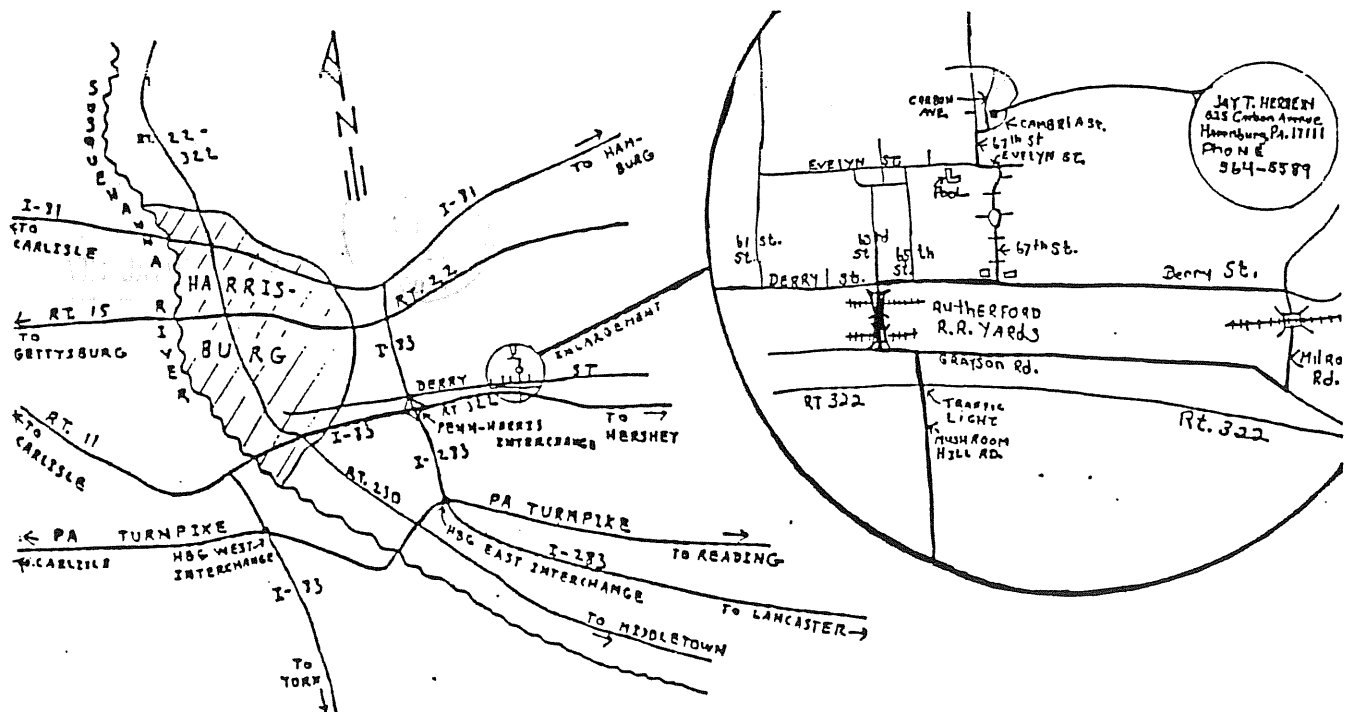
WE HOPE TO SEE REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL THE GROTTOS IN THE REGION. A PARTY WILL FOLLOW THE BUSINESS MEETING, AT DALE AND JUDI'S HOUSE. FOOD AND BEER WILL BE AT EACH LOCATION. DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL JAY AT 717-564-5589 OR DALE AND JUDI AT 717-238-2198.

IF COMING FROM THE EAST ON ROUTE 322 HEADING TOWARDS HARRISBURG, TURN RIGHT ONTO MUSHROOM HILL ROAD AT THE SECOND TRAFFIC LIGHT AFTER PASSING HUMMELSTOWN, PA. GO ONE BLOCK TO GRAYSON ROAD, TURN LEFT, GO ONE BLOCK, TURN RIGHT ONTO THE NEW BRIDGE CROSSING RUTHERFORD RAILROAD YARDS. AT THE OTHER END OF THE BRIDGE IS DERRY STREET. TURN RIGHT ONTO DERRY STREET GO TO 67TH STREET, TURN LEFT, THEN FOLLOW ENLARGEMENT ON MAP TO HOUSE.

IF COMING FROM THE WEST, GET ONTO ROUTE 322 HEADING TOWARDS HERSHEY. TURN LEFT ONTO MUSHROOM HILL ROAD AT THE FIRST TRAFFIC LIGHT, ABOUT 2 MILES AFTER ROUTE 322 BEGINS AT THE BIG PENN HARRIS INTERCHANGE.

IF COMING FROM THE WEST ON I-83 NORTH YOU CAN NOT GET OFF AT DERRY STREET. TAKE ROUTE 322 AND FOLLOW MAP.

JAY'S ADDRESS IS 625 CARBON AVENUE, HARRISBURG



PERSONAL COMMENTS FROM THE FALL MAR BOSS

Mid Appalachian Region Field Meet, good food, good friends, good fun, GOOD TIMES! That's what the field meets are all about, and that's the way it was at the fall '89 MAR region meet. Held at the Old Dutch Mill Campgrounds near Kutztown, Pa. The Speleo-Orienteering-Cycle Event held on Saturday was to fill the gap in an area where caves are small and far apart, but as it turned out the event was quite a success and I'm planing to hold future events. For all the contestants, (all 28 of them) congratulations and I'm sure that ya'all are pleased with the 447.00 dollars worth of prizes that we gave away. To those of you that didn't have the ambition to compete I can only say that you missed out on a day full of good fun and competition, not to mention all the booty, maybe next time.

Next I must say that running a field meet is no easy task and I could not have been successful this year with out the help of the members of GAG and the many other people who generously donated there time and merchandise. Thank you friends!!!!

Last of all I would like to say that the field meets in the past few years have been getting bigger and better each year. This years fall meet had the highest attendance of MAR cavers that I have seen yet. Many of the people there were the regulars that will come under any circumstances, but many were new faces, new blood looking to make friends and be a part of the group. It is to you first timers and to you people that didn't come to the field meet that I want to say that the region is on the move and that the two field meets that we have a year are FUN! Weather you come to cave, or to compete in regional competitions, or just to socialize with other cavers doesn't matter it's the feeling of comradery that you leave with that makes the meets worth being a part of. Hope to see ya'all at the next meet.

Happy Caves, *JEFF UHL*

RETURN ADDRESS:
HOPE UHL
1608 NEWPORT AVE.
NORTHAMPTON, PA.
18067

*** SPELEO-ORIENTEERING-CYCLE EVENT ***

PRIZE DONATORS:

1. MAR	59.00
2. WILDERNESS TRAVEL	50.00
3. NESTORS; FULLCYCLE	40.00
4. THE BIKE CELLAR	30.00
5. JOHN D COOLIDGE III	100.00
6. UHL	25.00
7. GAG	6.00
8. YORK GROTTA	7.00
9. DEAN SNYDER	10.00
10. FRANK HERCEG	20.00
11. JOHN APPLEBY	100.00
TOTAL: \$\$\$\$ UNBELLEEVABLE \$\$\$\$	\$ 447.00



CONTRIBUTE TO THE BREAKDOWN!
WRITE! DRAW! ETC. SEND TO
NEW EDITOR TODAY! KEITH W.
SEE PAGE (1)