



BREAKDOWN

Volume 13, Number 2, August 1998

The *MAR Breakdown* is the journal of the Mid Appalachian Region of the National Speleological Society. It is published three times a year - prior to the annual business meeting and prior to the Spring and Fall field meets.

Subscriptions —

A complimentary copy is sent to each grotto in the MAR. For individuals it works this way. When you attend a field meet, \$4 of your registration fee goes directly to the MAR to pay for three issues of this newsletter and other MAR projects. You may also subscribe by sending \$4 to the treasurer. The number of issues you have remaining immediately follows your name on the mailing label. (Fee goes up to \$5 in 1999)

Meetings and Meets —

The annual business meeting is held the last Sat. in February. Each spring and fall there is a field meet. Watch for dates.

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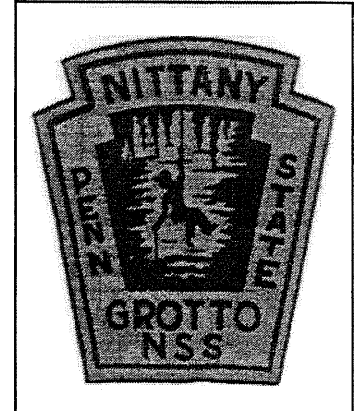
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Fall MAR Field Meet set for October 2-4, 1998

Nittany Grotto to Celebrate 50 Years

The Fall MAR Field Meet will be sponsored by the Nittany Grotto in conjunction with its 50th anniversary at Mountain Acres Lodge near Potters Mills, PA. on October 2-4, 1998. See inside for details.

After fifty years we're still in the dark.



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MAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FEBRUARY 1998

REVISED APRIL 20, 1998

Gross Assets February 28, 1997:

 Checking: 110.49
 Savings: 2837.45

Total 2947.94

Gross Assets February 1998

 Checking: 128.07
 Savings: 5314.72

Total 5442.79

Net Income (Loss) for 1997 +2,494.85

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**ITEM** **INCOME** **EXPENSES** **NET**

**INTEREST** Savings 21.51+21.38+23.77+35.61 = 102.27 102.27

**MAR FIELD MEETS**

Spring '97 ( ) Franklin County Grotto  
    MAR Income: 64 regis @ \$1.00 = 64.00  
    MAR Brkdn: (64 @ \$3. = \$192.00 see below)  
Fall '97 ( ) Woodward Cave, Philadelphia Grotto  
    MAR Income: 153 @ \$1.00 each 153.00  
    MAR Brkdn (153 @ \$3. = \$459.00 see below)

Net ..... 217.00

**MAR BULLETINS**

MAR#20 map printing = \$103.88 103.88  
**Total expenses** Bulletin #20 = \$7,877.34  
Stale check from last year 12.00  
Bulletin sales 2,185.45  
Postage stamps 24.00  
Net ..... 2,045.57

**MAR BREAKDOWN** (prev. bal. = 251.57)

    Subscriptions (Spring Field Meet) 192.00  
    Subscriptions (Fall Field Meet) 459.00  
    Postage for Vol 12(1), 150 printed xxx mailed 104.00  
    Postage+printing Vol. 12(2) xxx printed 137 mailed 159.38  
    Postage+ printing Vol. 12(3) 225 printed xxx mailed 257.61

[Breakdown balance: \$251.57 + 130.01 = **381.58**  
Net ..... + 130.01

**CAVE LAW SIGNS:** [balance = **390.39**]

Totals ..... 3,155.72 660.87 **2,494.85**  
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Elizabeth L. White, Treasurer

NITTANY GROTTO TO CELEBRATE ITS 50TH

After fifty years we're still in the dark.

For more information check
our web page at

<http://come.to/nittany.grotto>



Nittany Grotto will celebrate its 50th anniversary October 2,3,4, 1998. The celebration will be in conjunction with the MAR Fall Field meet which Nittany is hosting.

The event will be held at Mountain Acres, a private lodge in the Seven Mountains near Potters Mills, PA just off US Route 322.

The site is near caves of eastern Centre County and caves of Mifflin County.

The event has been scheduled so that it will not conflict with a home game of the Penn State Football team.

Registration includes tent or car camping at the site (no showers & no RV's). (The Seven Mountains Campground, just a few miles away, offers RV sites with electric, water, and TV hookup at each site. Current rates are \$14 per night.)

Adults	\$20 thru OTR, \$25 after
6-12	\$10 thru OTR, \$12.50 after
< 6	Free

Nittany Grotto encourages all cavers and particularly current and former members of Nittany Grotto to attend.

NEARBY POINTS OF INTEREST



Wineries

Penn State University

Bryce Jordan Centre - Largest indoor arena between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh

Happy Valley Friendly Farm - A country petting zoo.

Two show caves, Woodward and Penn's

Boal Mansion & Columbus Chapel

Bellefonte Historical Railroad

Boalsburg Military Museum

Mid-State Trail

Antique shops

Colyer Lake



MORE ABOUT THE FALL MAR FIELD MEET

We plan to have video tapes of the Gwonk Show available. There will be a special 50th issue of the *Nittany Grotto News* (free to current Nittany Grotto members, a small fee for others).

A geology field trip is planned as well as tours to local caves.

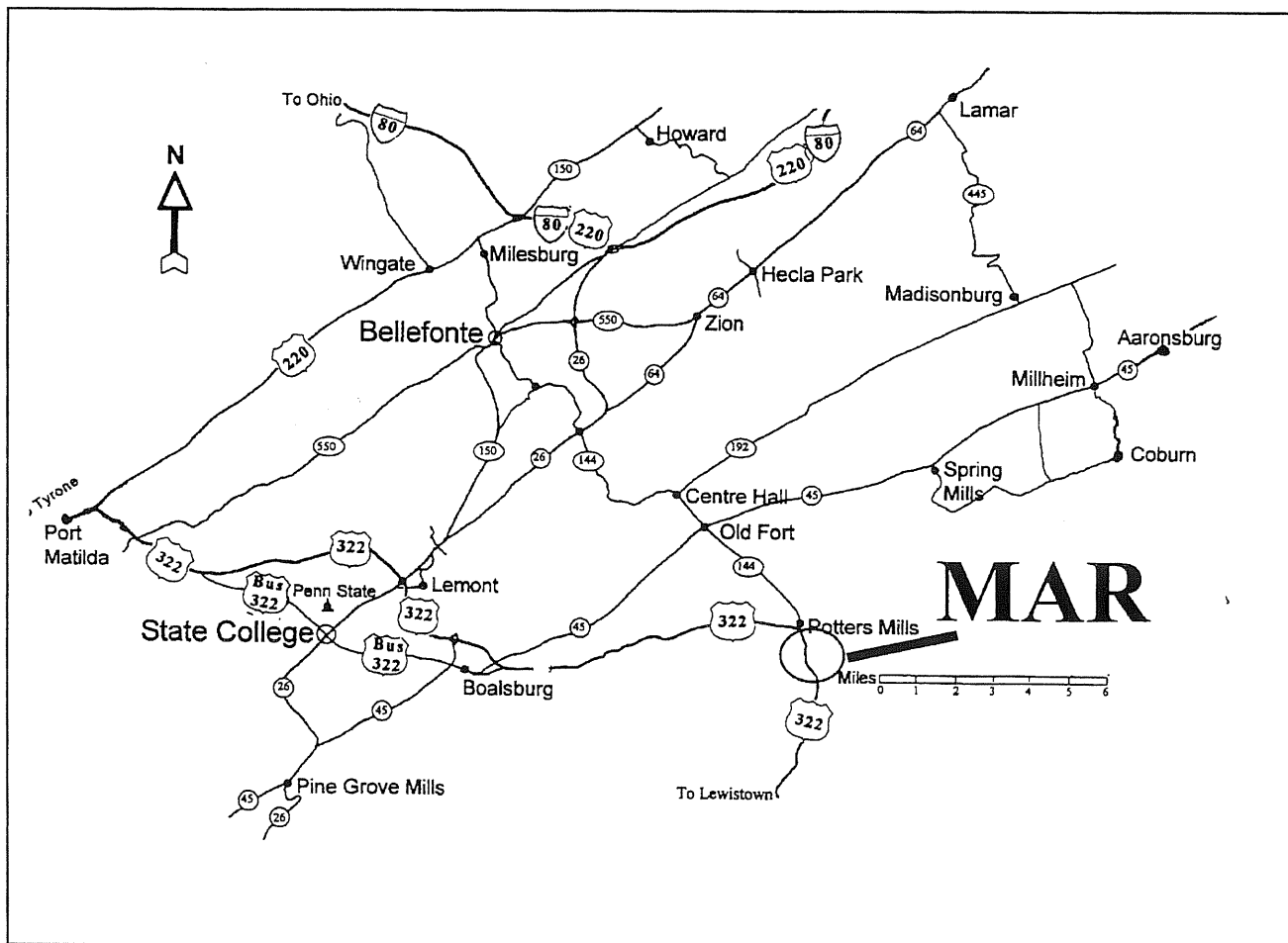
As usual, we plan to have a good meal Saturday evening, the usual beverages, a Nittany Grotto Auction, and a bonfire. Sunday morning we will be providing coffee, tea, and donuts for early risers.

Nittany Grotto members and past members are encouraged to bring pictures and other

memorabilia to share with friends. We will have a display area set up for the material.

Contributions to the Nittany Grotto Auction are welcome. All proceeds will be placed in the Nittany Grotto Conservation Fund.

Please pre-register. Full refunds can be made up to September 25, 1998. Because this event is being catered, it is difficult to plan for the exact numbers. We will be serving pork sandwiches (barbecue and plain) plus side dishes. If you want a vegetarian meal, please notify us in advance. (There is a place on the registration form.)



**50th Anniversary Celebration of The Nittany Grotto
To be held at the 1998 Fall MAR
October 2-4, 1998
Mountain Acres, Potters Mills, PA**

Principal Registrant's Name: _____

Address: _____ Daytime Phone: (____) _____

Evening Phone: (____) _____

Primary Grotto Membership: _____

Are you, or were you, a Nittany Grotto Member? Yes ____ No ____

If yes, Dates of Membership: _____

In Case of Emergency, Please Contact: _____

Daytime Phone: (____) _____ Evening Phone: (____) _____

Additional Registrants

Name: _____ Age: _____ (IF 1-12)

Relationship to Principal Registrant: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ (IF 1-12)

Relationship to Principal Registrant: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ (IF 1-12)

Relationship to Principal Registrant: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ (IF 1-12)

Relationship to Principal Registrant: _____

	Unit Cost	Quantity	Cost
Adult Registration (Before OTR):	\$20.00		
Adult Registration (After OTR):	\$25.00		
Children (Ages 6-12 Before OTR):	\$10.00		
Children (Ages 6-12 After OTR):	\$12.50		
Children Under Age 6:	Free		-----
Totals:	-----		
Vegetarian meals (must pre-register)	-----		-----

Please make checks payable to
Nittany Grotto

Send to:
Nittany Grotto
PO Box 676
State College, PA 16804-0676

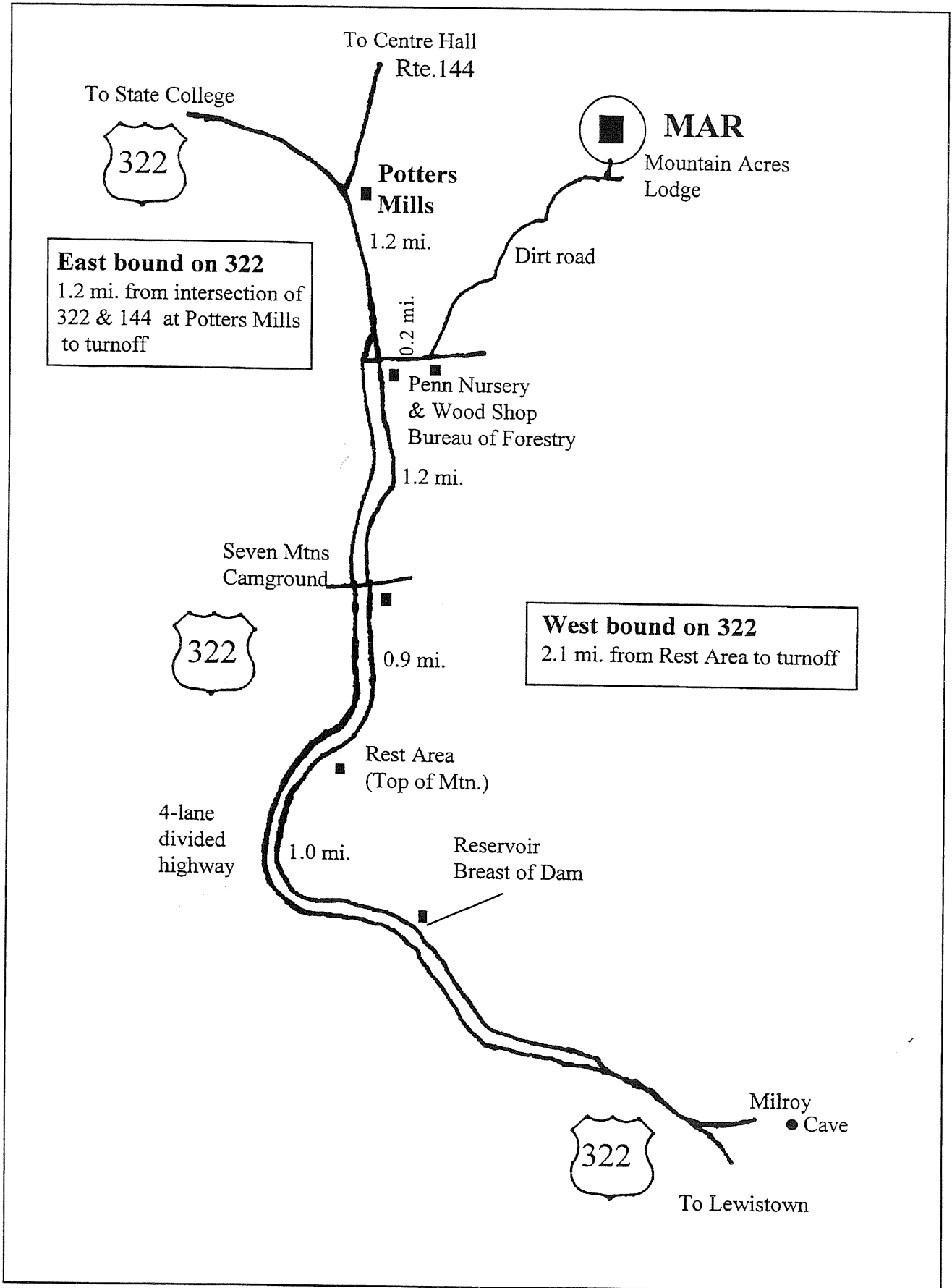
Waiver of Liability

The Nittany Grotto, its members, the MAR, Penn State, and Mountain Acres take no responsibility for any injuries or losses which might be sustained during the Nittany Grotto 50th Anniversary / 1998 Fall MAR meet and any associated activities. Participation by the undersigned is at their own risk, and they accept responsibility for the safety of all other participants (children and adults) who are listed on this registration.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Questions? Call Keith D. Wheeland at 814-238-2057 or e-mail at kwheeland@compuserve.com

MAR - DETAIL SITE MAP



THE MAR REVIEW

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MID APPALACHIAN REGION

Bert Ashbrook

If your newsletter is not reviewed in this column, send a copy to Bert Ashbrook, 1257 Lehigh Parkway South, Allentown PA 18103-3875.

Commander Cody Chronicle

A special 20th Anniversary issue for the Commander Cody Caving Club was published recently. The issue is undated and a bit late (the grotto was founded in 1976), but it contains lots of interesting articles reprinted from the first two decades of the Chronicle. Among them is a survey of the caves of Delaware done by Ray Scheinfeld in 1980. There are evidently three caves in the First State, not just one as is commonly believed.

Baltimore Grotto News

In the March and April 1998 issues, Joseph Kaffl continues the story of the Northeast Sump Exploration Team (NEST) in Alexander Caverns (Mifflin County), which continues to be very exciting.

On 9 August 1997, Kaffl, Tesnau, and David Nicholas did a series of cave radio locations to correlate locations in the cave with the overlying surface. The cave radio was built by Brian Pease and operated by Bonnie Pease. Kaffl and Tesnau dove through Sump J1 (Tesnau for the first time) and did a location at the upstream exit. Next they did one at the downstream start of sump J2, before checking some nearby leads and returning. Then the trio passed Sump E1 and did a third radio location and checked leads beyond the Land of the Straws.

On 19 September, Kaffl had to cut short a survey dive in Sump J1 due to equipment problems. Then Tesnau joined Kaffl in passing Sump E1 and sketching about 1000 feet of survey previously completed.

The February and April 1998 issues report on NEST's work in Locust Creek Cave in Pocohontas County, West Virginia. In May, NEST's work in Trial Side Cave (possibly Greenbrier County, West Virginia).

The May issue also contains Bob Gulden's description and much-reduced map of Mystic Cave, Pendleton County West Virginia. In June, Bob discusses the resurvey of Bowden Cave (Randolph County, West Virginia) and presents his impressive working map.

York Grotto News

The Winter 1998 issue contains an obituary for Dick Bishop, a long-time MAR and West Virginia caver who also hosted the Fall 1973 MAR field meet on his property in the Mountain State.

The Spring 1998 issue features Dale Ibberson's account of the discovery of new passage and "the best display of anthodites in the state" in a Lancaster County Cave.

Pack Rat Scat

Greater Allentown Grotto's colorful Spring 1998 issue features Ed Kehs' article and Bert Ashbrook's map of the Cataracts of Miramar, Puntarenas Province, Costa Rica. The cave is 1,776 feet long and has a vertical extent of 516 feet, including one 115-foot pit.

In the same issue, Dean Snyder's latest historical article concerns Ohnmacht Cave, Berks County. The cave had some of the finest speleothems in Berks County, but was destroyed before being submerged under the Blue Marsh Reservoir.

The MAR Review

Loyalhanna Troglodyte

The Spring 1998 issue has two Kim Metzgar maps and descriptions of Ohio sandstone caves: 300-foot long Mackin's Rock Cave in Tuscarawas County, and 50-foot long Nixon's Cave.

Nittany Grotto News

In the April 1998 issue, Rachel Bosch presents a paper titled, "Clastic Sediment Transport in a Karst System: An Example from the Hawkins-Logsdon River of Mammoth Cave, Kentucky." The paper describes an experiment by Bosch to characterize

both sediment deposits and sediments suspended in flowing water.

Keith Christenson's map of Sewer Cave (Crawford County, Missouri) is the centerfold in the same issue. The 400-foot cave was mapped during the NSS convention last summer.

Potomac Caver

Devin Kouts map and description of Site's Attic (Pendleton County, West Virginia) is featured in the March 1998 issue.

PENNSYLVANIA CAVE CONSERVANCY CORNER

Keith D. Wheeland

A PCC Meeting was held at the MAR Spring Field Meet. This is a recap of the actions taken at that meeting. Minutes were sent to the participants.

The PCC voted to change the By-Laws to allow all NSS Grottos within MAR to apply for membership in the PCC.

A committee was formed to propose specific changes to the By-Laws. The proposed changes

will be sent to the representatives before the next meeting.

A mission statement for the PCC will be drafted and be available for the next meeting.

The next meeting of the PCC will be held Sunday, October 4, 1998 at 9:00 a.m. at the Fall MAR. You don't have to be a PCC representative to attend the meeting.

STATUS OF THE BALD EAGLE GROTTTO

During the MAR Business meeting of February 28, 1998 it was reported that the Bald Eagle Grotto was thinking of ending their affiliation with the NSS. The minutes of that meeting were published in *MAR Breakdown*, Vol. 13, No. 1, April 1998. The allegations are not true.

The Bald Eagle Grotto has informed the MAR Chair, Kim Kehs that the allegations are false. The Grotto is alive and well and is even updating their By-Laws with the NSS.

This from Kim Kehs.

"The Bald Eagle Grotto has informed me that they intend to maintain their affiliation with the NSS. The MAR regrets any problems which may have been caused by the allegations which were published in the *MAR Breakdown*. We are pleased that the Bald Eagle Grotto plans to maintain an active role in the NSS and the MAR."

MAR Breakdown
 Nittany Grotto
 PO Box 676
 State College, PA 16804-0676

Mid-Appalachian Region Bulletins

NSS Members Price List		Caves	Maps	Large Maps	Cost	Postage Code
No.	County					
1-4	Constitution and Caves of Shippensburg	11	7		7.00	A
8	Caves of Blair Co., PA	89	40		6.50	A
9	Caves of Huntingdon Co., PA				OUT OF PRINT	
10	Caves of Snyder Co., PA	20	14		2.00	A
11	Caves of Centre Co., PA	71	56	1	9.00	B
12	Caves of Mifflin Co., PA	47	31	5	7.00	B
13	Caves of Perry Co., PA	13	6		5.00	A
14	Caves of Bucks, Co., PA				OUT OF PRINT	
15	Caves of Lehigh Co., PA	25	13		3.25	A
16	Caves of Northampton Co., PA	24	13	1	5.50	A
17	Caves of Northumberland Co., PA	20	10		5.00	A
18	Caves of Berks Co., PA	64	32		7.00	B
19	Caves of Bedford Co., PA	54	33		5.50	A
20	Caves of Westmoreland Co., PA	Over 300 features.			29.50	C

Postage codes

- A US Postage: \$1.25 for first copy: \$0.50 for each additional copy to the same address.
- B US Postage: \$1.75 for the first copy
- C US Postage: \$3.00 each bulletin.

Non-US Postage: \$2.00 each first copy, \$1.50 each additional copy.

Please make checks payable in US funds to MAR.

Send to Bette White, RR#1, Box 527, Miller Road, Petersburg, PA 16669-9211