



BREAKDOWN

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 \$5 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 \$5 to the treasurer. The number of issues you have remaining immediately follows your name on the mailing label.

Meetings and Meets-

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

Chair: **Bob Gulden**
1333 Chapelview Drive
Odenton, MD 21113-2129
(410) 674-4474
caverbob@aol.com

Vice Chair: **Gary Dunmire**
657 Valley View Rd.
Bellefonte, Pa. 16823
(814) 357-1134
mudtube@yahoo.com

Secretary: **Karen Bange**
118 Ridge Road
Centre Hall, PA 16828
(814) 364-1601
riverbat@localnet.com

Treasurer: **Bette White**
4538 Miller Road
Petersburg, PA 16669
(814) 667-2709
wbw2@psu.edu

Editor: **Karen Bange**
118 Ridge Road
Centre Hall, PA 16828
(814) 364-1601
riverbat@localnet.com

FALL 2006 MAR FIELD MEET

Hosted by *Bald Eagle Grotto*
in honor of their 20th anniversary

October 6-8, 2006

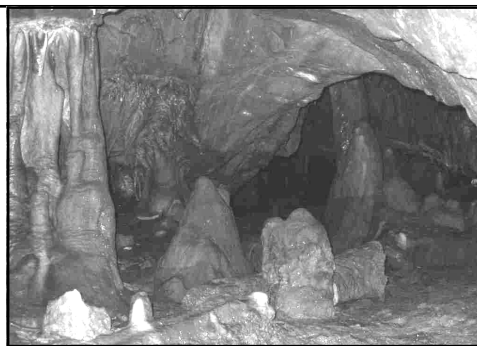
Bellefonte, PA

Details inside on page 5 or
look for registration information
on the MAR website www.caves.org/region/mar

MAR OFFICER ELECTION AT THE FALL MEET

Anyone wanting to run for office should contact a current officer to have their name put on the ballot

Speleothems
inside of
Baker Cavern
Franklin County



Inside

Page

SPRING 2006 MAR FIELD MEET	2
P CC CORNER	3
FALL 2006 MAR FIELD MEET REGISTRATION	5
SPRING MAR FIELD MEET HOST NEEDED	7

Non-copyrighted materials may be used by other speleo publications provided credit is given to the *MAR Breakdown*

Spring 2006 MAR Field Meet

by Pat Minnick

Franklin County Grotto (FCG) hosted the Mid-Appalachian Region's Spring event on May 5, 6, and 7, 2006 at the Greencastle (PA) American Legion picnic grounds. This is the same site that FCG also used for Spring MAR events in May 1997 and May 2001. The MAR in 1997, as some may remember, was unseasonably cold and featured multi-layered cavers huddling around fires and burn barrels, to fight the chill.

This year, however, the weather was quite nice, and attendance was good. Total registration was about 118 and the majority of attendees arrived Friday night and stayed until Sunday morning. Many participated in the guided cave trips and some impromptu, spur-of-the-moment, trips, as well. Guided trips went to Baker Caverns, Peiper's, Corker Hill, Frustration Pit, Carnegie and Whiting's Neck (WV). Cavers were also pointed in the general direction of Buchanan, Woodchuck, Williamson's "P" caves, and Hershey-Coy. Cleversburg Sink, as might be expected, was (and, is as of June 10, 2006), full of water, well above the ladder.

FCG agreed to sponsor this MAR at the February 2005 MAR Winter Business Meeting. However, the Greencastle Legion would not allow scheduling of the site until January 2006. As soon as the site became available, the site was reserved and the flyer was ready by the 2006 MAR Winter Business Meeting. Information was also sent to the NSS News and was listed in the April and May 2006 issues (six week lead time required).

After we nailed down the site, planning began in earnest. We elected to have the Legion provide supper and Charlie, from the Legion, delivered the food, right on time. For planning and budget purposes, we guessed that attendance might be around 100, but at the last minute, with good weather in the forecast, we decided to order approximately 110 meals.

Early site inspections in March and April revealed that the dumpster was full and the Porta-Pots had not been pumped, but the poop pumper truck arrived on Friday afternoon and the dumpster got tipped at 5:45 AM Saturday whilst most of the attendees were attempting to snooze.

Small details aside, everything went **SUPER**. To the best of my knowledge, there

were no cave accidents, no car accidents, no injuries and no incarcerations.

I also want thank the following folks and note their contributions:

Anne Shepard: Site Reservation and program booklet printing

Diane White: Registration and coffee and grotto breakfast

Jim Hart: Presentation on "The Turks and Caicos" and program booklet preparation

Howard White: Facilities, firewood, and video tech, screen assembly and flyer prep

Ken Tayman: Door prizes and NSS News liaison
Gordon Ley : "Name That Cave!" photos and contest

Connie Coover-Hart: Caver Tee Shirt Quilt

Jon Peterson: Baker Caverns and "P" cave trip coordination

Ken Jones: FCG Chairman, and supplies!
supplies! supplies!

Eric and Chris Heberlig: Grotto grub and site work

Don Arrowood: Planning committee and site work

Dave and Sheila Scamardella: Site work, trip leader and tech procurement

Ted Valcis: Planning committee and Baker trip

The Cave Owners: Ed and Kim Kehs (Peiper's)
The Meyers'(Baker Caverns)

Charlie, Greencastle American Legion: The site and the supper

The vendors who attended:

Barry Duncan of "Cavers Connection"

Mike Warner of "Speleobooks"

The PCC Breakfast Crew: Chris and Christine Catherman, Joe Schock, Gretchen Williams, Nate Hirneisen.

The vendors who contributed door prizes:

Bruce Smith **On Rope1**

Diane and Howard White

Where the Sun Don't Shine

Franklin County Grotto PA Caves Book

Other items contributed: Petzel Zoom

Other donors included: Dicks

Gander Mountain

LL Bean

Coleman

Cavers Connection

Bob and Bob

Durham Cave: Berks County, PA- Nate Hirneisen inquired about the status of this old pulp mill and the possibility of the township making the area into a park. Frank Eckert is the contact person for the cave.

Penn Aqua: Mifflin County, PA- George Bange gave an update on the property which remains for sale. George spoke to the owner this past week. The asking price for the house, 8 acres of land and the cave entrance is \$165,000. It seems the neighbor is considering purchasing the land. PCC will continue to monitor the situation.

Karen Bange will be doing a presentation May 13th for *Women Of The Outdoors*. The presentation will be on caving and cave conservation. She has put together a power point present which will be added to the PCC library.

Dale Ibberson gave an update on Stony Creek. Dale has met with Governor Rendell and other top

administration officials regarding the land. It seems all of the coalition's demands are being met except Fort Indiantown Gap will use 1,400 acres of the land 90 days a year for military maneuvers. This area will not be fenced or have signage but the Gap will close road access into the area during these days. Everyone is encouraged to access the Stony Creek website and send emails to the governor in opposition to Fort Indiantown Gap using the land for military maneuvers.

Karen Bange distributed forms for grottos to use to update and/or change grotto representative information.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the PCC will be on Sunday October 8, 2006 at the Fall MAR Field Meet

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am
Respectfully submitted,
Karen Bange, Recording Secretary

For the latest news and information on upcoming events check out the MAR web site and the PCC web site!

The MAR web page is at: www.caves.org/region/mar

The PCC web page is at: www.caves.org/conservancy/pcc

**MAR OFFICER ELECTIONS TO BE HELD
AT THE FALL MAR FIELD MEET**

**Anyone interested in having their name put on the
ballot should contact a current MAR Officer**

Get involved!!



1986 - 2006

Fall MAR 2006

Oct. 6 - 8, 2006
Bellefonte KOA
Bellefonte, PA

Hosted by the
Bald Eagle Grotto
Williamsport, PA



Come help BEG celebrate 20 years of caving, exploring, and conserving karst areas

Fall MAR 2006 Pre-Registration Form

Please print this form out and mail it with your check (payable to **Bald Eagle Grotto** with 'Fall MAR' on the memo line) to:

Fall MAR 2006 Registration
c/o Bald Eagle Grotto
P.O. Box 71
Cogan Station, PA 17728

Use pre-registration prices **only** if your form is **postmarked on or before Sept. 13, 2006**. Thanks, BEG

Name: _____

Others you are paying for: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Do you want a Vegetarian Meal? YES / NO (Please circle one) If yes how many _____

Fall MAR 2006 Fees:

Through Sept. 13, 2006 (We'll use the postmark)

Adults (15+ years): \$25.00 x _____ = \$ _____

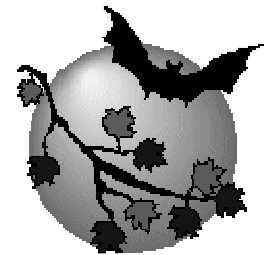
Children (4 - 14 years): \$20.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Babies (under 3) free

Pets: \$5.00 x _____ = \$ _____ (Please, no aggressive pets)

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Cost after Sept. 13, 2006: Add \$5.00 per person (An incentive to pre-register!)



**Fall MAR 2006
Oct. 6 – 8, 2006
Bellefonte KOA Campground (814) 355-7912
Bellefonte, PA**



Hosted by Bald Eagle Grotto, Williamsport, PA

The campground is approx. 14.5 miles NE of State Collage as the bat flies.

Directions to the KOA Campground:

From points East: Take I-80 west to Exit 161

**Make a right at end of exit ramp onto SR-26 (Jacksonville Rd.)
Go 1.9 miles to the KOA (on the left)(It's the 2nd campground.)**

From points West: Take I-80 east to Exit 161

**Make a left at end of exit ramp onto SR-26 (Jacksonville Rd.)
Go 2.5 miles to the KOA (on the left)(It's the 2nd campground.)**

**From points North: Take US-15 south to US-220 west to I-80 west
(Then follow directions for 'from points east')**

**From points South: Take I-81 north to US-15 north (or just take US-15 north)
to US-322 west to the first US-220 east /north (bear right)
Go 14 miles; the KOA will be on the left (2nd campground)
(US-220 will become SR-26 as you pass under I-80)
(The KOA is 2.1 miles after passing under I-80)**

Or

**From the S. West: Take US-219 north or US-220 north to I-99 north (also US-220)
I-99 will eventually end and become just US-220 north
Go approx. 27 miles to I-80 east (left entrance ramp)(Exit 159)
Go east on I-80 for 2.5 miles to Exit 161
(Then follow directions for 'from points west')**

Spring MAR Field Meet Host Needed

Do you realize no grotto, or individual, has volunteered to host the Spring 2007 Field Meet?

Below is a listing of the field meets, and their hosts, for the past 10 years. Where does your grotto fall in the schedule? If you are interested in hosting the event, a helpful guide to hosting an MAR field meet can be found on the MAR website. Think about it- can you or your grotto host the event? If there are no volunteers there will be no spring field meet. If you're interested in hosting the event, please speak up!

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SPRING</u>	<u>FALL</u>
2006	Franklin County Grotto Williamson Franklin County	Bald Eagle Grotto Bellefonte Centre County
2005	Nittany Grotto /Seven Valleys Grotto Rupert Cave Mifflin County	Pennsylvania Inner Earth Grotto Lincoln Cavern Huntingdon County
2004	York Grotto Lake Raystown Huntingdon County	Buffalo Valley Grotto Woodward Cave Centre County
2003	VAR/MAR OTR Site Dailey, WV	Greater Allentown Grotto Peiper Cave Cumberland County
2002	Seven Valleys Grotto Rupert Cave Mifflin County	Philly Grotto/Commander Cody Lazy A Campground West Virginia
2001	Franklin County Grotto Williamson Franklin County	Central Jersey Grotto New Jersey
2000	Pittsburgh Grotto Western Maryland	At Seven Mt/Keith Wheeland Seven Mountains Campground Mifflin County
1999	Commander Cody Caving Club Lazy A Campground West Virginia	York Grotto Rupert Cave Mifflin County
1998	Greater Allentown Grotto Berks County	Nittany Grotto Seven Mt Lodge Mifflin County
1997	Franklin County Grotto Williamson Franklin County	Philly Grotto Woodward Cave Centre County
1996	Loyalhanna Grotto Williamsburg	Nittany Grotto Woodward Cave Centre County

MAR Breakdown
118 Ridge Road
PO Box 426
Centre Hall, PA 16828



Mid-Appalachian Region Bulletins [including reprinted Bulletins] NSS Member Price List Effective May 2002

1-4	REPRINT VOLUME: Bulletins #1-4		7.00 + postage
5	REPRINT VOLUME: Caves of Western PA	29 caves, 19 maps 76pp	8.00 + postage A
	Armstrong, Clarion, Fayette, Lawrence, Mercer, Somerset, Venango, Westmoreland Counties		
6	REPRINT VOLUME:	93 caves 69 maps/5 large maps 126 pp	12.00 + postage B
	Caves of Southern Cumberland Valley, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin Counties		
7	REPRINT VOLUME: Caves of Fulton Co., PA	4 caves, 4 maps 17pp	5.00 + postage A
8	REPRINT VOLUME: Caves of Blair Co., PA	89 caves, 40 maps 90 pp	7.00 + postage
9	REPRINT VOLUME: Caves of Huntingdon Co., PA	94 caves, 36 maps	10.00 + postage B
10	Caves of Snyder Co., PA	20 caves, 14 maps	5.00 + postage A
11	Caves of Centre Co., PA	71 caves, 56 maps/1 large map	10.00 + postage B
12	Caves of Mifflin Co., PA	47 caves, 31 maps/5 large maps	10.00 + postage B
13	Caves of Perry Co., PA	13 caves, 6 maps	5.00 + postage A
14	REPRINT VOLUME: Caves of Bucks Co., PA	24 caves, 6 maps 43 pp	5.00 + postage A
15	REPRINT VOLUME: Caves of Lehigh Co., PA	25 caves, 13 maps 35 pp	6.00 + postage A
16	Caves of Northampton Co., PA	24 caves, 13 maps/1 large map	6.00 + postage A
17	Caves of Northumberland Co., PA	20 caves, 10 maps	5.00 + postage A
18	Caves of Berks Co., PA	64 caves, 32 maps	10.00 + postage B
19	Caves of Bedford Co., PA	54 caves, 33 maps	7.00 + postage A
20	Caves of Westmoreland Co., PA	337 caves/187 maps/10 large maps	29.50 + 3.00 each

U.S. Postage:

A \$1.80 postage first copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address.

B \$2.00 postage first copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address.

♦ \$3.00 postage for each bulletin #20

MAR Bulletin Orders: Please make checks payable to MAR. All checks must be payable in US dollars on US bank or US money order

Order from: Bette White, 4538 Miller Road, Petersburg, PA 16669-2711