



Volume 20, Number 3, January 2007

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.

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MAR Business Meeting set for February 24, 2007 PCC Meeting to follow

The Mid Appalachian Region Business Meeting will be held at the home of Jay Herbein on February 24, 2007 at 1:30 p.m.

You will find a map to the meeting on page 2.

A meeting of the Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy (PCC) will follow the MAR Business Meeting.

Elections were held at the Fall MAR field meet. The newly elected MAR officers are listed to the left on this page.



Inside

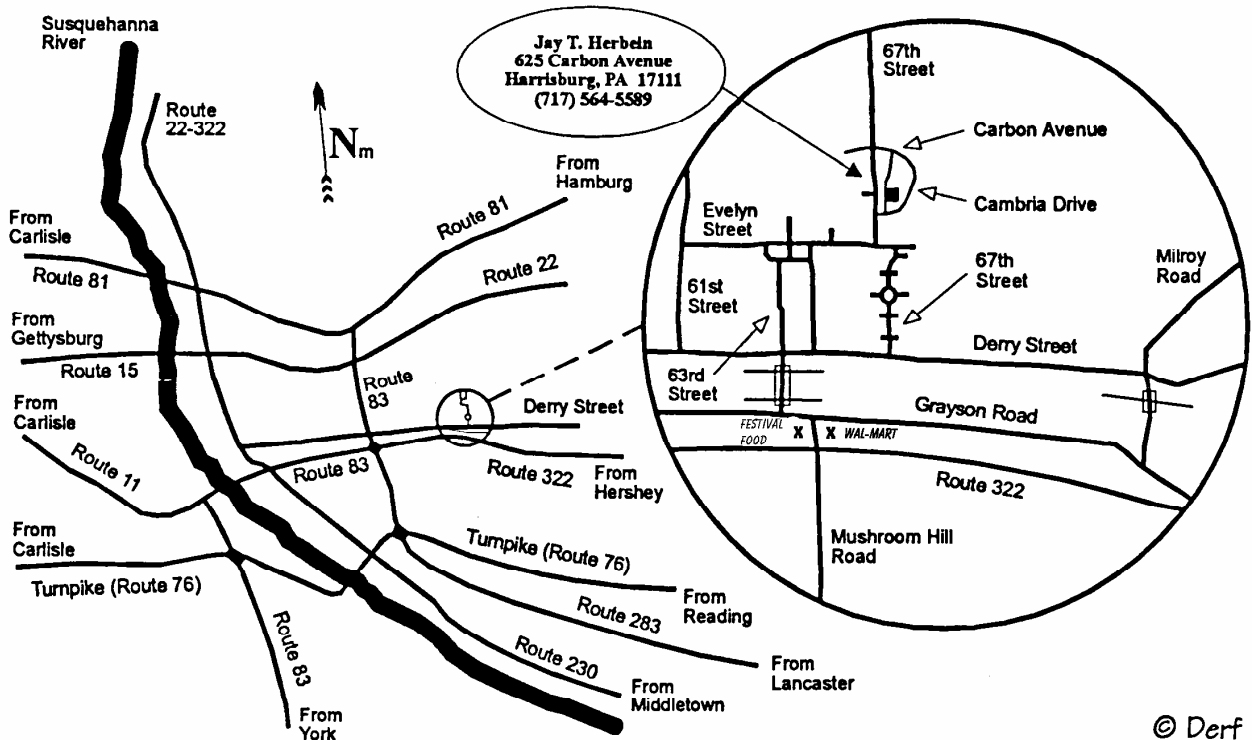
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Map of Business Meeting Site

Maps to Dale Ibberson's will be available at the business meeting



From the East on Route 322:

Turn right on Mushroom Hill Road (look for the Wal-Mart and Weis Markets Store) at the second traffic light after Hummelstown.

From the West on Route 322:

Intercept Route 322 toward Hershey. Turn left on Mushroom Hill Road (look for the Wal-Mart and Weis Markets).

Once on Mushroom Hill Road, proceed one block to Grayson Road (T-intersection) and turn left. Travel one more block and turn right onto a bridge which crosses the railroad tracks. Turn right on Derry Street. Follow Derry Street to 67th Street which will be a left hand turn up the hill. Follow the inset map above to reach Jay's house.

Note: If you are driving from the West on I-83 N., there is no exit at Derry Street. Use the Route 322 exit.

FALL 2006 MAR Field Meet

*By Tom McNerney
Chairperson, Bald Eagle Grotto*

During the 2006 Columbus Day weekend, cavers from all over the Mid-Atlantic Region gathered at the KOA Campground near Bellefonte, PA. A total of 97 cavers gathered for this weekend of cold and sunny weather, caving, and entertainment. This auspicious occasion happened to be the Bald Eagle Grotto's 20th Anniversary.

Cavers started to roll in early Friday afternoon to start setting up for the weekend. As day turned to night, most of the registrants had arrived, and set up camp. Unfortunately, our Guidebooks had not arrived from the printers yet, so a lot of cavers were milling about in anticipation, and waiting for the lead trips to be posted. Who knows? Anyways, once the books arrived, the guided trip lists were soon posted afterward, and quickly filled. A large bonfire was built, which proved to be the gathering point for most of the weekend.

Early the next morning, cavers were up and about to get ready for the early trips. The guided trips for the day included: three trips to Alexander, McAlisterville, Chime and Millers #1, #2, Rupert, and Kookan. Approximately 65 cavers had signed up for these guided trips, and most left the campground on time. There were a few self-led trips also this weekend. During the course of the day, a few late registrants trickled in.

As the day wore on, various trips returned to the campground to warm showers and the catered meal. A dinner of chili, rolls, and chips was served promptly at six pm. A few vegetarian chili dishes were also served up. Once dinner had been served, and as the crowd grew restless, door prizes were given away. This went longer than expected due to the overwhelming amount of door prizes. Finally,

after all of the prizes were given away, we had our guest speaker for the night. Chris Nicola gave a very powerful and interesting talk titled "The Hell Above, Salvation Below." Although Priests Grotto had been known for a long time, what wasn't known was the history of a group of Jews and how they survived the Nazis in the Ukraine during WWII by living in Priests Grotto. Mr. Nicola talked from a first-hand experience of the cave explorations, and the developing story of how these Jews survived in the cave. Fortunately this story has not ended, and Chris continues to do work with the survivors and documenting the history of this true story. After the talk, we concluded our celebration by having delicious cake for everybody. A bonfire ensued, and the night was finally winding down.



Cavers enjoying dinner at the Fall MAR

Finally, on Sunday morning, cavers had started to break down camp, and head for home. The Bald Eagle Grotto would like to say thanks for everybody who attended this event. We received nothing but positive feedback from our fellow cavers. We would especially like to thank the staff at the Bellefonte KOA, Chris Nicola, and especially the attendees who made this a safe and successful MAR event! Thank You.

Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy Corner

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by President Pat Minnick at the KOA Campground in Bellefonte, PA Sunday October 8, 2006.

The following officers were present.

President	P. Minnick	Vice President	C. Catherman
Secretary	K. Bange	Treasurer	G. Bange

Representation was as follows:

Bald Eagle Grotto	JD Lewis
Baltimore Grotto	---
Bucks County Grotto	Pat Richard
Buffalo Valley Grotto	Matt Neyhart
Central New Jersey Grotto	---
Commander Cody Caving Club	---
Franklin County Grotto	Pat Minnick
Greater Allentown Grotto	Dean Snyder

Huntingdon Co. Cave Hunters	----
Nittany Grotto	Gary Dunmire
Philadelphia Grotto	Amos Mincin
Pennsylvania Inner-Earth Grotto	----
Pittsburgh Grotto	----
Seven Valleys Grotto	Joe Schock-Proxoy
York Grotto	---

There were only 7 grottos represented which is not enough representatives for a quorum. There was an unofficial meeting of the PCC

Secretary Report: Pat Minnick reviewed the minutes from the May 2006 meeting as published in the Breakdown.

Treasurer Report: George Bange reported on the PCC financial status. PCC has a total of \$6,414.70

Treasurer Report: George Bange reported on the PCC financial status. PCC has a total of \$6,414.70

Web Page: No report

PCC Breakfast: The Spring MAR will be hosted by Buffalo Wings (a joint effort between Bald Eagle Grotto and Buffalo Valley Grotto) at Woodward Cave with date TBA. Buffalo Wings asked the PCC to put on a breakfast. This will be discussed at the next official PCC meeting. The representatives present were not interested in doing a PCC breakfast at the 2007 Fall MAR/VAR.

PCC Brochure: Mike Spencer has the correct labels and PCC brochures with the incorrect address. George Bange has approximately half a dozen packs of brochures with all the correct information. At the next official meeting PCC will discuss whether to have the brochures reprinted.

Chris Nicola, the program speaker Saturday night at the MAR, reminded the group about making donations on the behalf of the Ukraine caver injured while working on scientific studies of the caves in the Ukraine where 5 Jewish families hide during World War II. The caver, an NSS member, was severely burned and is facing extensive surgery.

OLD BUSINESS:

Baker Caverns: Franklin, County, PA- No change in status or access; the property remains for sale.

J-4: Centre County, PA-No change in status

Red Church Cave: Schuylkill County, PA- No change in status

Merkle Cave: Berks County, PA.- No change in status

Cleversburg Cave: Franklin County, PA.- Pat Minnick reported on the success of putting in steps down to the cave in June. South Hampton Township has reviewed the list of key holders and voiced concern about liabilities. Franklin County Grotto gave a cave presentation to the township and FCG is now rewriting the management policy. Contacts listed on the key holder list will be asked to complete paperwork to update contact information. Key status will remain the same. The cave is still sumped.

Corker Hill: Franklin County, PA- Amos Mincin reported the landowner has changed. There is now a chain across the lane to the cave and No Trespassing signs are posted. WASCHO LLC is the current landowner. Frustration Pit is on the same land which is in Green Township. Pat Minnick will try to locate the solicitor for more information on the status of the caves and property.

Schofer Cave: Berks County, PA- no report
Durham Cave: Berks County, PA- No action known

Penn Aqua: Mifflin County, PA- The landowner has changed. Nate Hirneisen was in contact with the new landowner. The new contact information was available at the meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

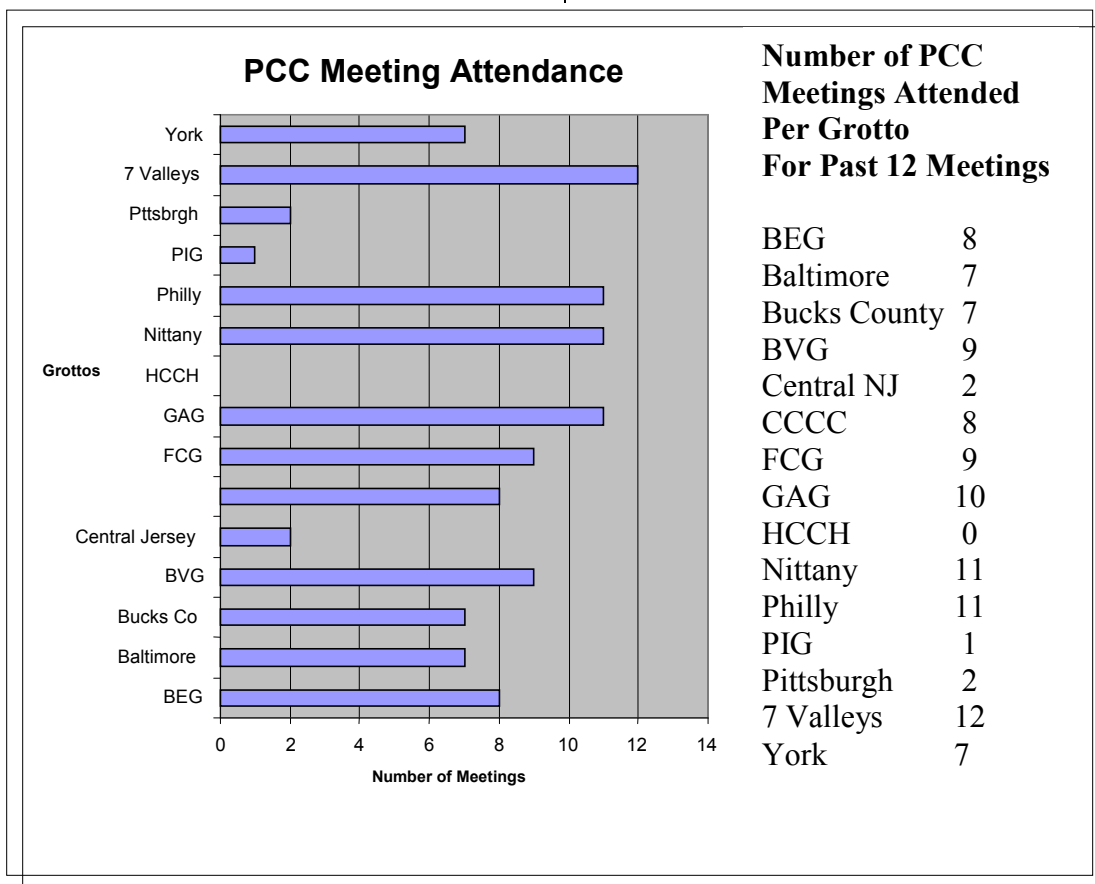
Karen Bange reported that her presentation in May for *WOMEN OF THE OUTDOOR* was well received. Karen will be doing a bat presentation October 29, 2006 for a church youth group.

Christmas Cards: Anyone wanting to add a landowner to the PCC Christmas card list should contact Karen Bange.

Termination of Inactive Members: The group discussed termination of inactive PCC members in hopes of obtaining a quorum at meetings. The by-laws on this subject were reviewed. The group decided to post past meeting attendance in the Breakdown to identify inactive/infrequent members. The list will be reviewed at the next official PCC meeting and letters will be sent to inactive members notifying them of termination from the PCC unless action is taken by the member.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the PCC will be on Saturday February 24, 2007 following the annual MAR Business Meeting

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



Mid-Appalachian Region of the National Speleological Society, Inc.
Articles of Incorporation
Discussion Draft 10/03/06

The undersigned incorporators desire to incorporate a nonprofit corporation under the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Act of 1988 and state in accordance with 15 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 5306:

1. The name of the corporation is the Mid-Appalachian Region of the National Speleological Society, Inc.
2. The corporation's initial registered office is 625 Carbon Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 197111.
3. The purposes for which the corporation is incorporated are exclusively charitable, educational, and scientific within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code or the equivalent section of any future federal tax code (the "Code"), including without limitation to promote interest in and advance in any and all ways the study and science of speleology and the protection of caves and their natural contents, to promote fellowship among those interested therein, particularly within the mid-Appalachian region, and to promote the charitable, educational, and scientific purposes of the National Speleological Society, Inc., a District of Columbia nonprofit corporation, to the extent those purposes fall within the Code.
4. The corporation is organized on a nonstock basis.
5. The term of the corporation is perpetual.
6. The corporation shall have members, directors, and officers as provided by its bylaws.
7. The corporation does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit, incidental or otherwise, and no part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of its members, directors, or officers or other private persons, except that the corporation may pay reasonable amounts for goods and services provided to it and make payments in furtherance of the purposes set forth in paragraph 3 above.
8. The corporation may engage in all activities consistent with its purposes set forth in paragraph 3 above, subject to the following restrictions:
 - a. The corporation shall not participate in political campaigns of candidates for public office;
 - b. The corporation shall not lobby, carry on propaganda, or attempt to influence legislation, except as permitted by the Code.
9. Upon dissolution of the corporation, its net assets shall be distributed for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Code. The surplus funds of the corporation are prohibited from being used for private inurement to any person in the event of a sale or dissolution of the corporation.
10. The incorporators constitute a majority of the members of a committee authorized to incorporate the Mid-Appalachian Region, an unincorporated association authorized by the National Speleological Society, Inc., under the organic law of that association for the amendment of its organic law.
11. The names and addresses of the incorporators are:

Keith D. Wheeland, 2191 Mountain View Ave., State College, PA 16801
William B. White, 4538 Miller Road, Petersburg, PA 16669
Bette L. White, 4538 Miller Road, Petersburg, PA 16669

In testimony whereof, the incorporators have signed these Articles of Incorporation on the date(s) below:

Dated: _____ Dated: _____ Dated: _____

Mid-Appalachian Region of the National Speleological Society, Inc.

Bylaws

Discussion Draft 10/03/06

Article 1. Members.

1.1. The Members of the Mid-Appalachian Region of the National Speleological Society, inc. (the "Corporation") shall consist of the members of each particular grotto (chapter) of the National Speleological Society, Inc., a District of Columbia nonprofit corporation ("NSS"), which is chartered from within the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, or Pennsylvania (collectively, the "MAR Grottos"), and of the members of the NSS who reside in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, or Pennsylvania but who are not a member of any MAR Grotto. A Member of the Corporation who is a member of an MAR Grotto need not be a member of the NSS.

1.2. The Members of the Corporation shall meet annually to elect three nominees for officers of the Corporation and for such other business as may be placed on the agenda by the Regional Council. The annual meeting shall be held in person at such time and place as determined by the Regional Council or by the Chairperson. The MAR Grottos, the Representatives of the Regional Council, and the officers of the Corporation shall be notified of such time, and place of such other meeting at least one month in advance.

1.3. Nominees for officers of the Corporation shall be members of the NSS and Members of the Corporation. Candidates shall be selected in such manner as the Regional Council shall determine. Such election shall be conducted in such manner as the Regional Council may determine, which may include without limitation, acclamation, voice vote, show of hands, or secret ballot.

1.4. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 above, where the only business before the Members for their annual meeting is the election of nominees, and where the Regional Council determines that an in-person meeting of the Members is not practical, the Regional Council may conduct such election by mail or email in lieu of an annual meeting of the Members of the Corporation. The manner of such mail or email election shall be determined by the Regional Council. Where such election is to be conducted by mail or email, the Regional Council shall solicit nominations from, distribute a slate of candidates to, and collect ballots from the Members through the MAR Grottos, allowing sufficient notice for each. The Regional Council may also solicit nominations directly from, distribute a slate of candidates directly to, and/or collect ballots directly from the Members who appear on any mailing list maintained by the Corporation.

1.5. The Regional Council shall resolve any dispute or tie vote arising in connection with the election of nominees.

1.6. The Members of the Corporation shall hold such other meetings at such time and place as determined by the Regional Council. The MAR Grottos, the Representatives of the Regional Council, and the officers of the Corporation shall be notified of such time, and place of such other meeting at least one month in advance.

1.7. At least one Member from a majority of the MAR Grottos shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the Members.

1.8. [need a section regarding Members' ability to amend bylaws per 15 Pa. C.S. § 5504.]

Article 2. Regional Council.

2.1. The business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a board of directors known as the Regional Council.

2.2. The Regional Council shall consist of two individual Representatives selected annually by each grotto (chapter) chartered from within the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, or Pennsylvania by the National Speleological Society, Inc., a District of Columbia nonprofit corporation (the "MAR

Grottos”). The method of selection of any Representative shall be determined by the MAR Grotto represented. Representatives’ terms shall begin upon actual notice of their selection to the Secretary of the Corporation. Vacancies in the Regional Council shall be filled by the MAR Grotto from whence the vacant position arose. The remaining Representatives to the Regional Council shall be the final authority in any controversy regarding the selection of any Representative.

2.3. The Regional Council shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as the Regional Council shall decide. Such annual Corporation, and each MAR Grotto shall be notified of such time and place at least one month in advance. Any Member of the Corporation shall be entitled to attend the annual meeting of the Regional Council.

2.4. The Regional Council may hold such other meetings in such manner, time, and place as determined by the Regional Council or by the Chairperson. Such other meetings may be conducted in person or by telephonic, electronic, internet, or other means which allows virtually-simultaneous communication among Representatives, or any combination of any such means. The Representatives of the Regional Council and the officers of the Corporation shall be notified of such manner, time, and place of such other meeting at least ten days in advance, or some reasonable period in advance if emergent circumstances warrant less than ten days’ notice.

2.5. Representatives may be represented by proxy at any meeting of the Regional Council. Where only one Representative from an MAR Grotto attends a meeting of the Regional Council, that Representative shall be presumed to hold the proxy of the other Representative from that MAR Grotto, unless the Secretary of the Corporation has been informed otherwise. No person may hold more than one proxy.

2.6. At least one Representative from a majority of the MAR Grottos which have selected at least one Representative to the Regional Council shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the Regional Council.

2.7. Any action that may be taken by the Regional Council at any meeting may be taken by the written consent of all Representatives on the Regional Council.

2.8. Representatives to the Regional Council may be removed by the MAR Grotto which they represent in a manner determined by that MAR Grotto. The remaining Representatives to the Regional Council shall be the final authority in any controversy regarding the removal of any Representative.

Article 3. Officers.

3.1. The officers of the Corporation shall be a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as the Regional Council may establish from time to time. Officers shall be members of the NSS and Members of the Corporation, but need not be a Representative to the Regional Council. No two offices may be held by the same person.

3.2. The Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, and the Secretary shall be natural persons selected annually from amongst the three nominees for officers of the Corporation elected by the Members of the Corporation. Such selection shall be made unanimously by the nominees themselves, or if they are unwilling or unable to do so, by the Regional Council.

3.3. The Treasurer such other officers shall be appointed by the Regional Council and shall serve until removed or replaced by the Regional Council.

3.4. The Chairperson shall act as president of the Corporation. He or she shall serve as the chair of meetings of the Members of the Corporation and of the Regional Council. The Chairperson shall supervise the day-to-day affairs of the Corporation, consistent with the policies and directions of the Regional Council.

3.5. The Vice-Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson in the performance of the Chairperson’s duties and shall perform those duties when the Chairperson is absent or unwilling or unable to do so.

3.6. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Members of the Corporation and the Regional Council and shall have charge and custody of all records of the Corporation.

3.7. The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of all funds of the Corporation and shall maintain an accurate account of all such funds. The Treasurer shall present

3.8. Officers may be removed by the Regional Council at any time.

Article 4. Indemnification.

[Mandatory, permissive, prohibited, advances]

Article 5. Miscellaneous.

5.1. "Annual," as used herein, refers to once per fiscal year of the Corporation.

5.2. The Corporation's fiscal year shall be a calendar year.

5.3. Notice, where required herein, shall be deemed complete by mailing, delivering, completing a telephone call, or emailing a notice to the current mailing address, address, telephone number, or email address, respectively, of the person or MAR Grotto to be notified in the records of the Corporation, except that mailing shall be by first class mail and shall be deemed complete five days after the mail is deposited. Notice to all MAR Grottos shall constitute notice to all Members of the Corporation, including Members of the Corporation who are not members of any MAR Grotto.

PCC Officer Elections

There will be a PCC meeting February 24, 2007 following the MAR Business Meeting. It is at this meeting that PCC officers are elected. Anyone wishing to run for office can put their name on the ballot by contacting any PCC officer.

Cave conservation and protection can only happen if we all work together towards the same goals.

Get involved with PCC!

Put your name on the ballot and run for office

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 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

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