



# BREAKDOWN

Volume 26, Number 1, April 2011

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 \$3 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 \$3 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 Minutes**  
**February 26, 2011**

Meeting was called to order by MAR Chair, Bob Gulden at approximately 1:45p.m. February 26, 2011 at the “new” meeting site of Mount Laurel Community Park, Harrisburg, PA.

**Treasurer’s Report:** The treasurer’s report was read by Bette White. Printed copies were distributed. Bette noted that the 990-N form must now be filed annually by a simple online submission process. Total income of the year was \$1,333.43, with \$503.43 in expenditures. Net income for the year: \$830.00.

**MAR Breakdown:** Send any breakdown articles for publication to Derek Flaig. Material can be in hardcopy or sent electronically to [derekcaver2000@yahoo.com](mailto:derekcaver2000@yahoo.com).

George Bange maintains the mailing list for the Breakdown. All changes to mailing addresses and all MAR field meet registrations should be sent to George at [riverbat@eawireless.net](mailto:riverbat@eawireless.net). Please write neatly when registering for MAR field meets since the mailing list is maintained from the registration forms.

Karen Bange reported that from the Spring and Fall MARs, there were 99 new members and 77 renewals. After Winter publishing and credit due to no Fall breakdown issue, there are 1384 outstanding credits with 25 additional for organizations, which receive the Breakdown.

**2010 Spring Field Meet:** Joint MAR/VAR field meet with Bubble Cave, LLC at the West Virginia State Fairgrounds in Fairlea, WV. 74 MAR registrations.

**2010 Fall Field Meet:** Joint MAR/VAR field-meet with Baltimore & DC Grotto held at Friars Hole Cave Preserve, Pocahontas County, WV. 106 MAR registrations.

**MAR Website:** Christopher Catherman reported that there have been no major changes to the website and it continues to be functional. Work is currently being done in the archives section of the Breakdown page as issues between 1986 and 2004 are being scanned and added to the site as time permits. Pre-1986 MAR Flyers will also be included on the website.

**MAR Bulletins:** Will White reported on the status of three (3) “in-progress” Bulletins. Garrett Czmor reports that the *Huntington County Bulletin* is nearing ~80% completion. *Caves of Clinton, Columbia, Locoming, Union, & Montour Counties (CCLUM)* or *Mid-Susquehanna Valley* is making progress. *Sinking Valley, Kookan, and Tytoona Caves* is about ~75% completed. A sample was brought to the meeting. The Bulletin will include the new Tytoona map, Bryan Crowell’s Kookan Map, as well as scientific information about the karst in the area.

**Pennsylvania Cave Database:** The database has been transferred to Tony Canike, the current Database Steward, but he is looking for more direction from the PCC. The issue will be discussed at the next PCC meeting, following this meeting.

**Game Commission:** Kim Metzgar gave a report on the game commission. There is the possibility that the commission will open caves already infected with WNS. They are actively performing studies, and there has been serious encouragement into more information sharing with the caving community.

**MAKC:** Kim Metzgar gave the update on MAKC’s library established in Blairsville, PA. It is a huge cave information resource. The possible donation of a set of MAR bulletins was mentioned for consideration.

Also, people are encouraged to join the MAKC for only 15\$/year to be a part of managing 5000 acres and 40 caves.

**Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy (PCC):** MOU being discussed on two caves. Also will discuss upcoming breakfasts at the Spring and Fall MAR field events after the MAR Business Meeting.

**MAR Incorporation:** No report.

**2011 Spring Field Meet:** Hosted by the Franklin County Grotto celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary; being held at the Harper's Memorial Park located in Shade Gap, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. There are four trips scheduled so far, vertical demonstrations, and live entertainment. Weekend of May 13-15, 2011. Pre-registration forms are available online at either the Franklin County Grotto's website or the MAR website.

**2011 Fall Field Meet:** Hosted by Bald Eagle Grotto celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary; being held at Woodward Cave. Overall theme will be "*Stalagtoberfest*", with a showing of the movie Sanctum as well as possible vertical workshops and possible PCC breakfast depending on the logistics. Weekend of September 16-18, 2011.

#### **New Business:**

**NSS Convention:** Presented by Russ Kennedy, *2013 NSS Convention Chair*.

The 2013 NSS convention is coming to Shippensburg, PA. Help is needed, especially since there is a convention nearby in WV the previous year. Many key chairmanships need to be filled, some of those mentioned were:

- Gettysburg Trip
- Registration
- Security Chair- includes cave rescue contingencies.
- Facilities Chair – dairy farm cannot be disturbed.
- Chairs to run the Banquet

If interested, please contact [UAIMH@verizon.net](mailto:UAIMH@verizon.net). You will be added to the closed Facebook group with ongoing discussion.

More about the facilities presented by Carol Tideman

- Camping available, Dorms, apartments,
- Rooms available for sessions
- Auditorium
- Vertical Facilities
- Kegs make them nervous
- Wine will be on the table
- Water/porta johns
- Walk on camping, parking provided very close to camping area

**Upcoming events:**

**Spring VAR:**

Hosted by Front Royal Grotto at Durbin, WV. April 29-May 1, 2011

**Spring MAR:**

Hosted by Franklin County Grotto in Shade Gap, PA. May 13-15, 2011

**Baltimore Grotto Swine and Dine:**

Annual event at the Friars Hole Cave Preserve, WV. May 27- 30, 2011

**NSS Convention:**

Glenwood Springs, Colorado. July 18-22, 2011

**Fall MAR:**

Hosted by Bald Eagle Grotto in Woodward, PA. September 16-18, 2011

Meeting adjourned at 2:30p.m.

One of the shortest meetings in recent memory.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Winter, MAR Recording Secretary

**Representatives at the MAR meeting:**

- Bald Eagle Grotto
- Baltimore Grotto
- Commander Cody Caving Club
- DC Grotto
- Franklin County Grotto
- MAKC
- Nittany Grotto
- York Grotto
- Philly Grotto
- Seven Valleys Grotto



## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Project List:**

**Dragon Cave:** Berks County, PA – No update.

**Red Church Cave:** Schuylkill County, PA - Dean Snyder and Allentown Grotto along with the landowner, Jeff Spoule, opened the cave this past fall. It's the first time the cave has been open in 26 years. Soil samples were taken from the cave. Dean had a slide show of the re-opening of the cave.

**Merkle Cave:** Berks County, PA - Dean Snyder met with the trustees of the Merkle estate, Bill Flippin. The focus is open the cave with very limited trips.

**Cleversburg Cave:** Cumberland County, PA - Tom Feeney and Shippensburg University continue to monitor water levels in the cave. Howard White has repaired the contact.

**Schofer Cave:** Berks County, PA - No report.

**Durham Cave:** Bucks County, PA - No changes.

**Corker Hill and Frustration Pit:** Franklin County, PA - Franklin County Grotto has drafted a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the grotto and WASHCO Homes. A motion was made by Joel Jacobs and seconded by Karen Bange to accept the MOU once the draft of the Release of Liability is revised to include addressing minors going into the cave. A vote was taken and passed.

**Tippery Cave:** Huntingdon County, PA - No update

**Peiper Cave:** Cumberland County, PA - Ed Kehs, owner of the cave, reported there has been an increase in cave trips that he isn't aware of prior to the cave trips. Ed asks that cavers contact him before going into the cave. Ed also reported on recent vandalism in the cave. York Grotto and Franklin County Grotto will contact Ed to coordinate a clean up trip into the cave.

**Dreibilbis Cave:** Berks County, PA - Mike Mostardi asked to have the cave added to the list to start discussing long term management of the cave.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Karen Bange reported the Juniata Valley Audubon Society is suing the DEP. This is response to the DEP issuing a mining permit within the Heller Cave Biological Diversity Area in Catharine Township, Blair County.

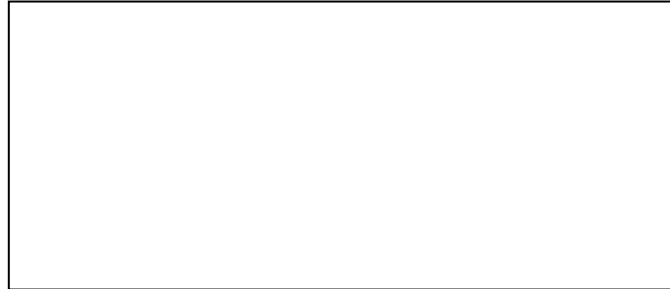
**Elections:** All the current officers were re-elected except for Karen Bange who respectively resigned as the current secretary.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting of the PCC will be on Sunday May15, 2011 at the spring MAR field meet.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Bange, Recording Secretary

MAR Breakdown  
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## **Mid-Appalachian Region Bulletins [including reprinted Bulletins]**

### NSS Member Price List

Effective January 2010

1-4	<b>Reprint Volume:</b> Bulletins #1-4		<b>7.00</b> + postage <b>B</b>
5	<b>Reprint Volume:</b> Caves of Western PA	29 caves, 19 maps 76pp	<b>8.00</b> + postage <b>A</b>
	Armstrong, Clarion, Fayette, Lawrence, Mercer, Somerset, Venango, Westmoreland Counties		
6	<b>Reprint Volume:</b> Caves of Southern Cumberland Valley	93 caves 69 maps 126 pp	<b>17.00</b> + postage <b>B</b>
7	<b>Reprint Volume:</b> Caves of Fulton County, PA	4 caves, 4 maps 17pp	<b>5.00</b> + postage <b>A</b>
8	<b>Reprint Volume:</b> Caves of Blair County, PA	89 caves, 40 maps 90 pp	<b>7.00</b> + postage <b>B</b>
9	<b>Reprint Volume:</b> Caves of Huntingdon County, PA	94 caves, 36 maps	<b>10.00</b> + postage <b>B</b>
10	Caves of Snyder County, PA	20 caves, 14 maps	<b>5.00</b> + postage <b>A</b>
11	Caves of Centre County, PA	71 caves, 56 maps	<b>10.00</b> + postage <b>B</b>
12	Caves of Mifflin County, PA	47 caves, 31 maps/5 large maps	<b>10.00</b> + postage <b>B</b>
13	Caves of Perry County, PA	13 caves, 6 maps	<b>5.00</b> + postage <b>A</b>
14	<b>Reprint Volume:</b> Caves of Bucks County, PA	24 caves, 6 maps 43 pp	<b>5.00</b> + postage <b>A</b>
15	<b>Reprint Volume:</b> Caves of Lehigh County, PA	25 caves, 13 maps 35 pp	<b>6.00</b> + postage <b>A</b>
16	Caves of Northampton County, PA	24 caves, 13 maps/1 large map	<b>6.00</b> + postage <b>A</b>
17	Caves of Northumberland County, PA	20 caves, 10 maps	<b>5.00</b> + postage <b>A</b>
18	Caves of Berks County, PA	64 caves, 32 maps	<b>10.00</b> + postage <b>B</b>
19	Caves of Bedford County, PA	54 caves, 33 maps	<b>7.00</b> + postage <b>A</b>
20	Caves of Westmoreland County, PA	337 caves/187 maps/10 large maps	<b>29.50</b> + postage <b>C</b>

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                      **B**     \$2.00 first copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address  
                      **C**     \$3.00 each copy

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