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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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2012 MAR FALL FIELD MEET

September 28-30, 2012 Crystal Cave Kutztown, PA

Hosted by Greater Allentown Grotto

MAR OFFICER ELECTION AT THE FALL MEET

Anyone wanting to run for office should contact a current officer to have his or her name put on the ballot.



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<i>Cumberland County</i>	Ken Jones, Pat Minnick, & Don Arrowood
<i>Franklin County</i>	Ken Jones, Pat Minnick, & Don Arrowood
<i>Fulton County</i>	Ken Jones, Pat Minnick, & Don Arrowood
<i>Huntingdon County</i>	Garrett Czmor
<i>Lebanon County</i>	Brett Johnson
<i>Lehigh County</i>	Mike Spencer
<i>Lycoming County</i>	JD Lewis
<i>Mifflin County</i>	Todd Hancock
<i>Northampton County</i>	Mike Spencer
<i>York County</i>	Brett Johnson

OLD BUSINESS:

Project List:

- Dragon Cave** (Berks County, PA) – Dean Snyder stated he has received reports the cave owner is both friendly and unfriendly. Dean expressed an interest in obtaining access to the cave for the upcoming Fall MAR.
- Red Church Cave** (Schuylkill County, PA) – Dean Snyder indicated that there have been discussions regarding constructing a retaining wall to prevent dirt from sliding down and covering the entrance. Currently, the entrance must be dug open each time a trip is planned. Dean stated he has plans of constructing the wall this summer then approaching the PCC for reimbursement of the material costs.
- Merkle Cave** (Berks County, PA) – Dean Snyder continues to have access for work at the cave but has not visited recently.
- Cleversburg Cave** (Cumberland County, PA) – The scientific study is ongoing and the water levels are being actively monitored. A geology trip is planned for the 2013 NSS convention.
- Schofer Cave** (Berks County, PA) – Dean Snyder stated there were no known trips recently.
- Durham Cave** (Bucks County, PA) – Dean Snyder reported that the cave is open and available for trips.
- Corker Hill and Frustration Pit** (Franklin County, PA) – Pat Minnick reported the current landowner is using the property for agriculture. No formal agreement has been established with the landowner at this time. It is requested that all cave trips be arranged through Franklin County Grotto via their website.
- Tippery Cave** (Huntingdon County) – No update was given.
- Peiper Cave** (Cumberland County) – No update was given.
- Dreibilbis Cave** (Berks County) – Cave is open and will be available for trips at the Fall MAR.
- J4 Cave** (Centre County) – Gary Dunmire reported Graymont did not reject the adjustments made to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Nittany Grotto plans to make arrangements for a meeting with Graymont in the near future to possibly finalize the contract. The MOU will be between Graymont and Nittany Grotto. Some of the expected costs that will result from the proposed agreement will be the initial cost of a cave gate, annual cost of insurance, and annual survey expenses. Contributions to offset these costs can be routed through the PCC.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fall MAR: The 2012 Fall MAR will be hosted by Greater Allentown Grotto at Crystal Cave in Berks County, PA on September 28-30, 2012. Primitive camping will be available on site. Event T-shirts will be available for purchase for \$8 each. There will be a PCC Breakfast available for purchase on Sunday morning. Additional information about the upcoming MAR field meet can be found on the MAR website: <http://www.caves.org/region/mar>

Next meeting: The next meeting of the PCC will be at the Fall MAR field meet held at Crystal Cave, Berks County on Sunday September 30, 2012. Meeting time 9:30 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 am. Motion made by Paul Winter and seconded by Bryan Crowell.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Schock, Recording Secretary

2012 MAR FALL FIELD MEET

September 28-30, 2012

Crystal Cave
Kutztown, PA

Hosted by
Greater Allentown Grotto



Registration Fee Includes

- Primitive Camping on Site
- Friday Night Cave Movies & Popcorn (weather permitting)
- Catered Dinner on Saturday Night
- Great Door Prizes
- Program Saturday Night by Professor Schnitzelbunk: "**Crystal Cave: the Good, the Bad, the Bizarre**"
- Soft Drinks included Saturday Night (BYOB)
- Bonfire Saturday Night
- Field Guidebook with Updated Information
- Guided and Self-Guided Wild Cave Trips (Bring Clean Cave Gear)
- Guided Trips Into **Cystal Cave** (Limited Numbers on Saturday Morning)

Absolutely No Pets: Please kindly leave pets at home as a "No Pet" rule is being enforced by the event organizers.

The Pennsylvania Cave Conservation (PCC) will be sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning as a fund raiser, followed by the PCC Meeting. Please help support the PCC by purchasing a ticket for a hot breakfast upon on-site check-in!

Directions

[Crystal Cave](#) is located in the heart of *Pennsylvania Dutch Country* in northern Berks County, near Kutztown, PA.

From Allentown: Travel West on Interstate I-78 (US 22) to US 100 South (Exit 49). Proceed south on 100 to 222 South. Continue on 222 South (Bypass) to Virginville Exit (Crystal Cave Road). Turn right onto Crystal Cave Road and follow signs to Crystal Cave for approximatley 5 miles to site.

From Harrisburg: Travel East on Interstate 78 (US 22) to Exit 35 (Lenhartsville). Proceed South on Route 143 approximatley 10 miles through the towns of Lenhartsville and Virginville. In Virginville, follow signs to Crystal Cave.

Fall Mar 2012 Field Meet Registration Form

September 28, 29, 30 Crystal Cave PA

Principal Registrant

Name _____

Address _____ Daytime Phone _____

_____ Cell Phone _____

Primary Grotto Affiliation _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Contact Phone _____



Additional Registrants

Name _____ Age _____

Relationship to Principal Registrant _____

Name _____ Age _____

Relationship to Principal Registrant _____

Name _____ Age _____

Relationship to Principal Registrant _____

Registration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Cost
Adult (before September 7, 2012)	\$ 28		
Adult (after September 7, 2012)	\$ 31		
Child (ages 6-17) no guidebook	\$ 20		
Child (under 6) no guidebook	no charge		
		Total:	

The Greater Allentown Grotto, its members, the MAR, Crystal Cave, Inc., and private landowners take no responsibility for any injuries or losses that might be sustained during the 2012 Fall MAR Field 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 form under "Additional Registrants."

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Please make check payable to "Greater Allentown Grotto" and send form with registration fee to:

2012 Fall MAR,
 c/o Doug Soroka
 1008 W, Schwenkmill Road
 Perkasie, PA 18944-2104

MAR Breakdown
81 Appalachian Drive
Carlisle, PA 17015-8515



Mid-Appalachian Region Bulletins [including reprinted Bulletins]

NSS Member Price List

Effective March 2012

1-4	Bulletins Caves of Shippensburg Area #1-4 REPRINT		7.00 + postage A
5	Caves of Western PA REPRINT	29 caves, 19 maps	8.00 + postage A
6	Caves of S. Cumberland Valley REPRINT	93 caves 69 maps+6 large maps	17.00 + postage B
7	Caves of Fulton Co, PA REPRINT	4 caves, 4 maps	5.00 + postage A
8	Caves of Blair Co., PA REPRINT	89 caves, 40 maps	7.00 + postage A
9	Caves of Huntingdon Co., PA REPRINT	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	Caves of Bucks Co., PA REPRINT	24 caves, 6 maps	5.00 + postage A
15	Caves of Lehigh Co., PA REPRINT	25 caves, 13 maps	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 map/10 large maps	29.50 + postage C
21	Karst of Sinking Valley and Kookon Cave Huntingdon and Blair Counties	103 pages with color photos, 4 fold-outs, 2 large maps	27.50 + postage B

U.S. Postage: **A** \$2.00 postage first copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address
 B \$2.50 postage first copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address
 C \$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 U.S.A.