



BREAKDOWN

Volume 28, Number 1, April 2013

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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Spring MAR 2013 May 3-5 Woodward, PA

Hosted by:
**The Philadelphia Grotto
Commander Cody Caving
Club**

*****NOTICE*****

The MAR Breakdown will be going "digital" in the near future. To ensure that you receive notification of the latest MAR Breakdown publications, please provide your email information to George Bange or subscribe to the MAR Listserv:

<http://nss.caves.org/region/mar/listserv.htm>



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Mid-Appalachian Region of the National Speleological Society

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

February 23, 2013

The meeting was called to order by MAR Chair, Paul Winter at approximately 1:58 PM, February 23, 2013, at the Mount Laurel Community Park, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was read by MAR treasurer, Bette White. Printed copies were distributed. Total income of the year was \$3,029.22, with \$4,706.17 in expenditures.

Net Income loss for the year was \$1,676.95.

MAR Breakdown: The digitization of the MAR Breakdown was discussed. Digitization is currently a voluntary process. It was suggested that MAR field meet registration forms be used to get more accurate addresses and emails for use of compiling a list of registrant emails to be used for disseminating information in the future, such as the MAR Breakdown. Anyone who would like to receive the MAR Breakdown digitally should give George Bange their email. Overall concerns were raised regarding the cost-benefit and logistics of digitization. After discussion, Paul Winter suggested we continue to collect emails and formalize our distribution next meeting. [1140 credits of breakdowns due.]

Table Fire: There was a small recess at 2:15 when a small fire, started by a Sterno, was extinguished. The meeting resumed at 2:20 pm. No casualties or injuries were reported.

2012 Spring Field Meet: There was no 2012 Spring Field Meet.

2012 Fall Field Meet: The 2012 Fall Field Meet was with Greater Allentown Grotto and was held at Crystal Cave in Kutztown, Pennsylvania. A report of the Fall Field Meet was given by Dean Snyder. [81 MAR registrants.]

MAR Web Site: George Bange reported that the registration template form for MAR field meets should include a line for emails along with the registrant's addresses and contact information. Christopher Catherman indicated that the form available on the MAR website has been changed and reflects the most recent additions.

The MAR webmaster, Christopher Catherman, reported there have been no major changes to the MAR website and it continues to be functional. As of recently, all of the issues of the MAR Breakdown, since its inception in April 1986, have been scanned and are available digitally on the MAR website. Please send any corrections or additions to Christopher at mar_nss@yahoo.com

MAR Bulletins: Will White report that MAR Bulletin #21: *Karst of Sinking Valley and Kookon Cave, Huntingdon and Blair Counties* is complete and is for sale for \$27.50.

It is projected that the MAR Bulletin #22: *Caves of Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Union, & Montour Counties (CCLUM) or Mid-Susquehanna Valley* will be published in the next year. The Bald Eagle Grotto was approached to provide information to the MAR Bulletin #22.

Currently, there have been no updates to the Huntingdon County Bulletin. It was also noted that some bulletins do not contain up-to-date information on cave openings, closures, and access.

Will also reported that the Pennsylvania Cave Survey files have been transferred and currently reside with Kim Metzgar of the Mid-Atlantic Karst Conservancy (MAKC).

Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC): No changes in status of endangered and threatened bat species lists. The subject was tabled at the last PGC meeting.

MAKC: No report.

Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy (PCC): Pat Minnick reported that there will be a PCC meeting, following the MAR Annual Business Meeting.

WNS: Bill Schultz reported that, over a period of fifteen years, the bat population in Driebelbus Cave has dropped from a maximum of 30 bats to a total of 2 bats in 2013. None of the bats exhibit WNS symptoms.

New Business

Cave Hill Grotto: Amos Mincin reported that Cave Hill Grotto has expressed interest in the MAR and PCC and suggested further efforts at outreach.

Convention at Shippensburg: Randy Hurst reported that advertisements for the convention were solicited. The deadline for advertisements is the end of May. Advertisement sheets were distributed at the meeting.

Dean Snyder made a motion that the MAR contributes \$250 to sponsor the MAR's 60th anniversary celebration at Convention. Subsequently, Randy Hurst made a motion to authorize the MAR board to coordinate food donations with the 2013 Convention Committee. Both motions passed.

Banner for Field Meets: Amos Mincin proposed that the MAR should acquire a banner for use at business meetings, at the coming convention banquet, and field meets. The Philly Grotto offered to match half the cost of the banner.

Carol Tideman made a motion that, under Amos Mincin's leadership, the MAR should purchase a banner for use by the MAR. The MAR offered an initial budget of \$200 and agreed that it is the responsibility of the officers of the MAR to get the banner to necessary events. The motion passed.

Mentor Needed: Karen Bange reported that a student in Buck's County is working on his senior project. He needs 20 hours working with a mentor and is interested in geology. Contact Karen Bange for more information.

2013 Spring Field Meet: Bill Schultz reported that Commander Cody and Philly Grotto will be co-hosting the 2013 Spring Field Meet at Woodward Cave. Fliers for the Spring Field Meet were distributed, and the edited registration forms will be available on the MAR website. Pre-registration is open. Barry Duncan, from Caver's Connection, will be a vendor at the Spring Field Meet. A volunteer from the Commander Cody

Caving Club offered to make new signs for the MAR. It was reported that programs are not lined up yet and help arranging cave trips was solicited.

2013 Fall Field Meet: Joe Turchick announced that the Nittany grotto will be hosting the 2013 Fall Field Meet at Lincoln Caverns on Sept 27 – 29. Catering will be provided by Clemm's Barbeque. Registration forms will be revised to contain an email field and will be available on the MAR website.

Rupert Conservation Easement: George Bange announced that the Rupert Cave property now has a conservation easement through Clearwater Conservancy as of September 17, 2012!

Upcoming Events

Spring VAR: Bill Schultz reported that the 2013 Spring VAR will be held on May 18 – 19 in Pocahontas County, WV.

NSS Convention: Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. August 5 – 9, 2012.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Hope Brooks
MAR Recording Secretary

Representatives at the MAR meeting:

- Bald Eagle Grotto
- Bucks County Grotto
- Franklin County Grotto
- Greater Allentown Grotto
- Nittany Grotto
- Philadelphia Grotto
- Seven Valleys Grotto
- York Grotto
- Baltimore Grotto
- DC Grotto
- Commander Cody Caving Club
- Central New Jersey Grotto
- NJ Tri-State Speleological Society
- MAKC



Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy, Inc.

P.O. Box 373, Neffs, PA 18065

Minutes of Regular Meeting - February 23, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by President Pat Minnick at Mt Laurel Community Park, Harrisburg, PA on Saturday, February 23, 2013.

The following officers were present. **President** P. Minnick **Vice President** C. Catherman
Secretary G. Schock **Treasurer** G. Dunmire

Representation was as follows:

Bald Eagle Grotto	JD Lewis	Greater Allentown Grotto	Dean Snyder
Baltimore Grotto	Craig Hindman	Huntingdon Co. Cave Hunters	---
Bucks County Grotto	---	Nittany Grotto	Gary Dunmire
Central New Jersey Grotto	Amos Mincin	Philadelphia Grotto	Bill Schultz
Commander Cody Caving Club	Mike Mostardi	Seven Valleys Grotto	Gretchen Schock
Franklin County Grotto	Pat Minnick	York Grotto	---

Secretary Report: The minutes from the September 2012 meeting were accepted as published in the January 2013 Breakdown.

Treasurer Report: Gary Dunmire distributed a copy of the PCC financial summary. Gary indicated that there was a typographical error in the previous financial summary report. He stated that all three certificates of deposit do have the same maturity date. That information was corrected in the latest distribution.

Web Page: Dave Fricke reported that the PCC web page continues to be up and running. There has been no email activity and there are no issues to report.

PCC Breakfast: George and Karen Bange indicated that they will not be attending the Spring 2013 MAR field meet, therefore the paper products and coffee urns that they usually provide for the PCC breakfast will not be available. Pat Minnick and Christopher Catherman have agreed to coordinate the breakfast for the upcoming Spring MAR field meet.

PCC Brochure: Anyone interested in obtaining brochures should contact George Bange.

Mail: Dean Snyder reported the annual post office box fees have been paid and has requested reimbursement from the PCC. Any incoming mail has been forwarded to the appropriate parties.

Christmas Cards: Karen Bange continues to manage the yearly distribution of Christmas cards to cave landowners. Contact Karen if you have a landowner you want added to the Christmas card list.

T-shirts: Gary Dunmire continues to have PCC 25th anniversary T-shirts available at \$15 each (approximately \$17.65 with shipping). Dean Snyder also has older PCC shirts available for sale at \$5 each.

PA Cave Database: Tony Canike continues to update the database to a more current format. Tony will re-submit the list of Longest and Deepest caves to Pat Minnick, Christopher Catherman, and Dave Fricke for feedback in preparation of it being published on the PCC web site. A committee consisting of Dave Fricke, Amos Mincin, Mike Mostardi, and Paul Winter was formed to assist Tony in finalizing any outstanding database issue including what information qualifies for the "restricted/closed cave list".

OLD BUSINESS:

Project List:

Dragon Cave (Berks County, PA) – Dean Snyder reported that Frank Eckert is the point of contact for the cave. Relations with the cave owner continue to be good.

Red Church Cave (Schuylkill County, PA) – Dean Snyder stated land owner relations are positive. Dean has the key to the cave gate and is available to lead a few trips per year. Interested individuals must be NSS members. There are no plans to construct a retaining wall at this time.

Merkle Cave (Berks County, PA) – Dean Snyder reported ongoing attempts are in process to contact the cave owner and gain visitor access to the cave.

Cleversburg Cave (Cumberland County, PA) – The scientific study is ongoing and the water levels are being actively monitored. There is current activity to assist in resurveying the cave.

Schofer Cave (Berks County, PA) – Dean Snyder continues to attempt contact with the owner in order to gain access to this cave.

Corker Hill and Frustration Pit (Franklin County, PA) – Amos Mincin is requesting access to complete a survey that was initiated over 5 years ago.

Peiper Cave (Cumberland County) – No new issues to report. Joe Schock will be on site to monitor the cave during the upcoming 2013 NSS Convention. Anyone interesting in gaining entry into Peiper Cave should **ALWAYS** contact the cave owners, Kim and Ed Kehs Sr., for entry permission and complete the required waivers prior to gaining entry to the cave.

Dreibilbis Cave (Berks County) – Mike Mostardi reported that owner relations continue to be good and the cave is available for trips. Mike Mostardi or Bill Schultz can be contacted and will act as a trip leader when needed.

J4 Cave (Centre County) –Keith Wheeland reported negotiations were positive and he did not foresee any problems with gaining access from Graymont provided Nittany Grotto is able to fulfill the obligations stipulated by the agreement. Those obligations include a high wall survey, liability insurance, signage and the construction of a gate.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring MAR 2013: CCCC and Philly Grotto are co-hosting the Spring MAR field meet. The spring field meet will be held May 3-5, 2013 at Woodward Cave and Campground in Woodward, PA. More details and information are available on the MAR website.

Fall MAR 2013: Nittany Grotto will be hosting the Fall MAR field meet on September 27-29, 2013 at Lincoln Caverns in Huntingdon, PA. Additional information and details can be found on the MAR website.

PCC presence at 2013 NSS Convention: Amos Mincin has volunteered to coordinate the set-up and decorating of the PCC table at the upcoming 2013 NSS Convention in Shippensburg, PA. Due to various other obligations Amos will be fulfilling during the convention, he will be unable to man the table.

PCC Tax Exempt Status: Gary Dunmire reported that the PCC's tax exempt status has been temporarily revoked. Gary is in the process of re-establishing the status which will cost \$400. Randy Hurst has volunteered to assist Gary with the re-instatement.

PCC Grotto membership: In response to possible interest by Cave Hill Grotto, Karen Bange indicated that any grotto can request to join the PCC. The acceptance of any new grotto request will be voted on during a regular PCC meeting.

Elections: All current officers were re-elected.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the PCC will be held at the Spring MAR field meet at Woodward Cave in Woodward, PA on Sunday May 5, 2013. Meeting time 9:30 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Schock, Recording Secretary

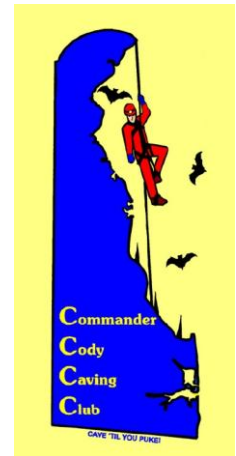
2013 NSS CONVENTION

The NSS Convention is COMING to Pennsylvania! It has been over 40 years since the 27th Annual NSS Convention was held in State College, Pennsylvania in August 1970. The NSS Convention is returning to the MAR as the 2013 NSS Convention will be held in Shippensburg, PA on August 5-9, 2013 (web site: <http://nss2013.com>). 2013 is also the 60th Anniversary of the MAR! If you have questions or would like to get involved, please contact Gordon Birkhimer (birkhimer@cox.net) or Craig Hindman (craighindman@verizon.net), both Co-Chairs of the event.

Your help is greatly appreciated!



Spring MAR 2013
May 3-5
Woodward, PA
Hosted by:
The Philadelphia Grotto
Commander Cody Caving
Club



Come join us for some caving, camaraderie and good old fun at the Big One! Yes, Woodward Cave will be the location for this year's Spring Mid-Appalachian Region Field Meet.

Registration Fee Includes:

- Friday night "Movie Night"
- Guided caving trips on Saturday to some of Pennsylvania's finest caves!
- Saturday night catered dinner with vegetarian option available
- Door prizes
- Saturday night guest speaker (to be announced)
- Bonfire Saturday night
- DJ Music for dancing the night away
- Saturday night refreshments include beer, soda and water

Vendor on Site – Barry Duncan and Caver's Connection

Registration Information:

- Register before 4/12/2013 and get a discount
- Make checks payable to MAR and mail to:

Philadelphia Grotto of the NSS
c/o Bill Schultz
9 Waxwing Court
Wilmington, DE 19808

For more information, please visit the MAR website at:

<http://www.caves.org/region/mar/main.htm>

Directions:

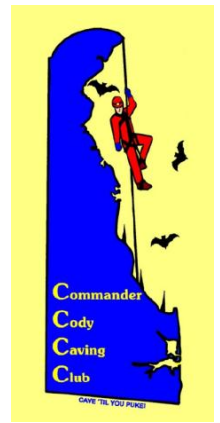
Woodward Cave and Campground is located along Route 45 in eastern Centre County, PA, about midway between State College and Lewisburg.

From the WEST - State College, PA area - follow PA Route 45 East through Spring Mills, then Millheim to Woodward, PA. Turn right on Quarry Road. Follow Quarry Road about 2 miles until it tees at Pine Creek Road. Turn left on Pine Creek Road. Woodward Cave is on your left.

From the EAST - Lewisburg, PA - follow PA Route 45 West through Mifflinburg, then over the mountain to Woodward. Turn left at the Woodward Inn on to Pine Creek Road. Follow Pine Creek Road for about 2 miles. Woodward Cave is on your right.



**2013 Spring Field Meet
Registration Form**
May 3-5, 2013 Woodward, PA



Principal Registrant's (for MAR database)

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (____) _____

_____ Email Address: _____

Primary Grotto Affiliation: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Contact Phone: (____) _____

Additional Registrants (* Only for Registrants with Same Mailing Address as Above)

Name: _____ Age: _____

Relationship to Principal Registrant: _____ Email Address: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Relationship to Principal Registrant: _____ Email Address: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Relationship to Principal Registrant: _____ Email Address: _____

Registration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Cost
Adult (Before April 12, 2013)	\$28.00		
Adult (After April 12, 2013)	\$32.00		
Child (Ages 6-12)	\$24.00		
Child (Under 6)	Free		
Vegetarian Meals	No Extra Charge		
Total:			

Commander Cody Caving Club (CCCC) and Philadelphia Grotto, its members, the MAR and private landowners take no responsibility for any injuries or losses that might be sustained during the 2013 MAR Spring 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 **Philadelphia Grotto of the NSS** and send with this form to:
2013 Spring MAR c/o Bill Schultz
8 Waxwing Court
Wilmington, DE 19808

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.