



BREAKDOWN

Volume 29, Number 2, August 2014

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-

Event notices and MAR Breakdown newsletters are distributed electronically. When you attend a field meet, the email address provided on your registration form is added to the distribution list. You may also add yourself to distribution by going to <http://eepurl.com/P2f5j> and completing a short registration form.

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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Fall MAR 2014

October 10-12

Rupert Cave Preserve

McVeytown, PA

Hosted by:



Valleys Grotto

Grotto's 15th Anniversary



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Spring 2014 MAR Field Meet

May 16-18, 2014 by Amos Mincin NSS 41988

May 16-18 2014 the Spring MAR was held in Daily, West Virginia and hosted by the Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy. The official number in attendance was 76 hearty souls who braved the threat of flood stage on the Tygart Valley River which flows by the TRA (OTR) campground. Thursday evening prior to the field meet, the area was pounded by heavy rain. The river came within two feet of flood stage and portions of the campground around the sauna area were under water. In fact, the sauna roofs were under water before it began to recede. However a dedicated staff of TRA members was on site and had the dry saunas up and functioning by Saturday evening.

Friday night Philadelphia Grotto showed caving movies, including an Expedition to Romania.

Saturday cave trips were led to Billy Clay Pit Cave by Bill Schultz, Sharps Cave by Landon Woodward, Alpena Cave by Gretchen (Red) Schock. Todd (Cave Mud) Hancock was going to lead a cave trip but ended up doing a one man conservation project into Bowden Cave. Denny Nelson also guided cavers in Nelson Cave.

Saturday Evening an excellent Spaghetti Dinner was prepared by Natalie Hernisen with assistance from Joe Lugg, Landon Woodward and others.

Following the meal on Saturday, a featured presentation was given by Mark Minton. Extreme Project Caving was shown and talked

about. Exploration of a raging river in cave while bolt climbing was filmed and thrilled the audience.

After that, many gathered around the campfire on the chilly evening and were treated to singing and guitar playing of Andy McKinnon and friend. Bill Schultz also joined in with his guitar and singing.

Sunday morning the Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy held a pancake breakfast as a fund raiser. This was followed by a PCC Meeting.

Gary Dunmire acted as event treasurer and reported more than a \$300 profit.

Special thanks was given to Mike Mostardi for printing the guidebook (at no cost to the PCC or MAR).

Also recognized were Dave Frickie, Gary Dunmire and Amos Mincin for working registration.

Amos was the Spring MAR Coordinator for the meet and relied heavily on the members of Commander Cody Cave Club and Philadelphia Grotto to help carry out the MAR.

Lastly, Paul Winter handled key facility arrangements for this event and Nittany Grotto members attended in large number with enthusiasm.

Hosts Needed For The 2015 Spring and Fall MAR

As of August 2014 there is no grotto, or individual, slated to host the 2015 Spring or Fall MAR. If you are interested in hosting one of these events, a helpful guide to hosting a 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 field meet. If you're interested in hosting the event, please contact a MAR officer.

OLD BUSINESS:

Project List:

Corker Hill and Frustration Pit (Franklin County, PA) – Pat Minnick reported that Franklin County Grotto has had contact with the land owner.

Dragon Cave (Berks County, PA) – Nothing reported.

Dreibilbis Cave (Berks County) – Nothing reported.

J4 Cave (Centre County) – Gary Dunmire stated that two email attempts for contact with Graymont have been made with no response. They will continue the effort to make contact with Graymont.

Kepler Cave (Centre County) – New addition to the project list. Paul Winter will act as contact for Kepler Cave.

McFadden Cave (Huntingdon County) – New addition to the project list. Franklin County Grotto will follow up on the status of cave.

Red Church Cave (Schuylkill County, PA) – Nothing reported.

PCC Tax Exempt Status: Gary Dunmire reported that the tax exempt status has not been filed to date. Gary is awaiting confirmation from the IRS concerning the status of the request.

NEW BUSINESS:

New PCC Grotto: Cave Hill Grotto has expressed interest in becoming a member of the PCC organization. Amos Mincin moved and Paul Winter seconded to accept Cave Hill Grotto as a PCC grotto member. The motion passed. John Boswell was designated as the Cave Hill Grotto representative with Amos Mincin designated as the alternate representative. Welcome Cave Hill Grotto!

PCC Project List: Amos Mincin moved and Paul Winter seconded to add McFadden cave to the PCC Project List. The motion passed. Franklin County Grotto will follow up on the status of the cave. Paul Winter moved and Amos Mincin seconded to add Kepler cave to the PCC Project List. The motion passed. Paul Winter will serve as contact for this cave.

Loss of a friend: The caving community lost a good friend and active member in Ken Jones, who passed away on March 20, 2014. Ken Jones will certainly be missed by all of us who were fortunate enough to have known him.

Spring MAR 2014: The PCC would like to recognize Amos Mincin for all his efforts and hard work coordinating the event. Great job Amos! Thanks to Paul Winter for his assistance and preliminary site work. We would like to express our appreciation to Mike Mostardi for printing the guidebook at no cost to the PCC and to Landon and Dana for their assistance in the guidebook assembly. Thank you to Dave Fricke, Gary Dunmire and Amos Mincin for your hours of work manning registration. Natalie Hirneisen did an outstanding job coordinating the delicious spaghetti dinner! The Philadelphia Grotto was a huge help pitching in wherever needed. We appreciate everyone with the TRA staff who was so wonderful and helpful! Thank you to all those that pitched in to help make the event a success!

Fall MAR 2014: The Seven Valleys Grotto will be hosting the 2014 Fall MAR field meet. The event will be held the weekend of October 10-12, 2014 at the Rupert Cave Preserve located near McVeytown, PA (Mifflin County). Additional information will be posted on the MAR website as it becomes available.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the PCC will be held at the Fall MAR field meet on Sunday, October 12, 2014 at the Rupert Cave preserve in McVeytown, PA. Meeting time 9:30 am.

Gary Dunmire moved and Christopher Catherman seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen (Red) Schock, Recording Secretary



2014 Fall MAR
October 10-12, 2014
Rupert Cave Preserve
McVeytown, PA

Hosted by
Seven Valleys Grotto



Registration Fee Includes

- Bonfire in the quarry both nights
ABSOLUTELY NO OPEN FIRES EXCEPT AT ESTABLISHED SITES
NEW TO THE PROPERTY- CAMPSITES IN THE LOWER FIELD WITH FIRE RINGS
- Dinner Saturday night catered by SalLees
- Chris Nicola will do a presentation on NO PLACE ON EARTH after Saturday night's banquet
- Beverages to include beer in the evening, coffee in the morning,
and non-alcoholic beverages throughout the MAR

PCC Sponsored Pancake Breakfast on Sunday

Registration Information

- Register before August 25th and get a discount
- Make checks payable to Gretchen Schock,
include on the memo line: **2014 Fall MAR**
Mail to: 2014 Fall MAR Field Meet
c/o Gretchen Schock
81 Appalachian Dr, Carlisle, PA 17015-8515

Questions? riverbat@eawireless.net

Directions

From Lewistown

Take 22W/522S approx. 11 miles to McVeytown
100 yds past graveyard with large stonewall turn right
onto Furnace Road. Go 1.7 mile to the 2nd stop sign
Turn left onto Schoolhouse Road
Go 0.5 mile and turn left onto Kansas Road
Go 0.7 mile to MAR site on the left

From Reedsville

Take south 655 approx. 9.5 miles from 322
Turn left onto Wills Road
Follow the "To 22" signs
Go 6.7 mile, crossing over Jacks Mountain
At the bottom turn left onto Kansas Road
Go 1.4 mile to MAR site on the right

From Mt Union

Take 22E/522N approx. 8.7 miles
Turn left onto Jacks Mountain Road
Look for signs "To 305" and "Belleville"
Go 2.0 mile and turn right onto Kansas Road
Go 1.4 mile to MAR site on the right



2014 Fall MAR Field Meet Registration Form
October 10-12, 2014
Rupert Cave Preserve
McVeytown, PA



Principal Registrant's Name: _____

Email: _____

Primary Grotto Affiliation: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Phone of Contact: _____

Additional Registrants:

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 August 25, 2014)	\$25.00		
Adult (After August 25, 2014)	\$28.00		
Children Under 6	Free		
Total:			
Vegetarian Meals (Must pre-register)	No extra charge		

Seven Valleys Grotto, their members, the MAR and private landowners take no responsibility for any injuries or losses that might be sustained during the 2014 MAR 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.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please make check payable to **Gretchen Schock**, include on the memo line: **2014 Fall MAR**.

Return with registration fee to:

2014 Fall MAR Field Meet c/o Gretchen Schock, 81 Appalachian Dr, Carlisle, PA 17015-8515

New Location for the MAR Business Meeting

The next MAR business meeting will be **February 28, 2015** at 1:30 pm at a **NEW** Location! The location will be at the Mt. Laurel Church of God located just up the street from the former location at Mount Laurel Community Park, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. (see below)

Location

The next MAR annual business meeting will be held at a NEW location at the Mt. Laurel Church of God. The church is located at 1295 Piketown Road, at the intersection with Sleeping Hollow Road and Appalachian Trail, in W. Hanover Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania (*just East of Harrisburg*).

Mt. Laurel Church of God
1295 Piketown Road
Harrisburg, PA 17112



Directions

From the East on Interstate 81 Southbound and/or Interstate 78:

Exit Interstate 81 at Exit 77 (Route 39). Bear right onto Route 39 West (Linglestown Road).

From the West on Interstate 81 Northbound:

Exit Interstate 81 at Exit 77 (Route 39). Bear left onto Route 39 West (Linglestown Road).

Once on Route 39 (Linglestown road), proceed 0.6 mile to N. Fairville Ave. (Pass McDonalds, Perkins, and various truck stops). Make an immediate right onto N. Fairville Avenue at the Comfort Inn and proceed approximately 2.8 miles from Route 39. Bear left several times to stay on N. Fairville Avenue (there are several jogs in the road). Turn Right onto Piketown Road and proceed up over mountain approximately 0.7 miles to the intersection with Sleepy Hollow Road and Appalachian Trail. The Mt. Laurel Church of God is located on your right side (east of Piketown Road) and the West Hanover Fire Company is located across the street on the left side (west of Piketown Road). Additional church parking is available at the lot diagonally across the intersection from the church. A

cemetery is located across the street from the parking lot area.

From the North on S.R. 322:

Exit S.R. 322 at the North Front Street exit (Fort Hunter). Proceed several hundred feet and turn left onto Fishing Creek Valley Road (S.R. 443 East). Proceed approximately 7.3 miles and turn right onto Sleepy Hollow Road. Proceed on Sleepy Hollow Road for approximately 1.8 miles to intersection with Piketown Road. The church is located directly in front of you at the intersection.

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 Kookan 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.