



BREAKDOWN

Volume 3

Number 1

CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

Warm weather has given us the hint that winter is history and its time for all of you to make plans to join in on the good times at the Spring M.A.R. Meet. The Franklin County Grotto has promised us a wide variety of activities to occupy our days and they are tempting our taste buds with a bountiful feast in the form of a PIG ROAST with all the trappings. Bring along a friend. Bring two. Just be sure you don't miss this event.

Those of you who are looking for a productive way to use your caving time should contact Will White (814)237-3187. Will still has counties that need work to be done in the form of surveying known caves and in searching for and documenting new caves.

On the lighter side, many region grottoes are planning social/caving weekends. We have the details on some of these in this issue.

Whatever you choose, I wish you all a great Spring and Summer caving season.

1988 M.A.R. OFFICERS

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The M.A.R. BREAKDOWN is the official newsletter of the Mid-Appalachian Region of the National Speleological Society. Information within is contributed by members and grottoes of the REGION., and might not represent the official position of the M.A.R. or the N.S.S.

Grottoes or members are invited to send in information they would like others in the region to know about. We will gladly post events, notices, cave situations or other important information. Art work and cartoons would also be welcome. Subscriptions are available at \$1.00 a year for 3 issues.

STATUS OF PA. CAVE PROTECTION LEGISLATION 2/88

1. A committee has been formed and is now an official task force of the NSS [Pennsylvania Cave Law Conservation Task Force]. The address is: 445 Hale Ave.
Harrisburg, Pa. 17104
Phone is (717) 238-2198
2. Fund raising has been initiated, with \$ 405.00 in cash and pledges received so far from York Grotto (\$155.00), Franklin County Grotto (\$50.00), Pa. Cave Conservancy (\$100.00), and the Central Pa. Conservancy (\$100.00). No other groups have responded to date. If groups do not feel comfortable making outright donations, they should consider making a pledge which may be called in as the need arises in the future.

Expenses to date have totaled \$128.05 as follows: Postage (50.28), tape cassettes (13.39), and slide duplication (64.38)
3. A mailing was made to all PA. grottos, asking for input, help, money, and a representative to the task force. Most grottos have not responded.
4. Legislation has been drafted and revised several times after being reviewed by legal and legislative experts, cavers, the NSS Legal Committee and the NSS Conservation Committee. It has been tailored to comply with existing Pa. law regarding liability and trespass. The 5th draft was presented at the PCC / MAR meeting last fall and was favorably received.
5. A mailing was done to all commercial cave owners in Penna. requesting input and support. Only one response has been received; this being favorable but asking for an exemption regarding the sale of speleothems.

We have heard via the grapevine that the Pa. Cavemen's Assoc. met recently. This is an organization of commercial cave operators. This meeting was not known to the committee so no presentation was made, but the issue of cave protection legislation came up. Rumor has it that, due to the objections of one member, the PCA has decided to neither endorse nor oppose our bill. This matter is being looked into by the committee, and all attempts will be made to rectify this situation, as we want and need the support of this group.

6. Approximately 100 of some of the best slides ever taken of Pa. caves have been assembled into a slide show to be presented to legislators, environmental groups, and other potential supporters. This has now been completed and is available for showing. It has a taped narration and musical accompaniment. Four copies of each slide have been made at no charge by a former caver. Upon successful enactment of this legislation, these slides could be turned into an NSS slide show, MAR slide show, etc.

7. A mailing was attempted to as many of the 900 plus cave owners as possible, asking for input and support. Much of the data in the files is 20-30 years old and usually does not include addresses and zip codes. The committee is hard at work trying to update this information. Cavers and grottos with up to date information on cave owners in their areas are asked to contact the committee.
8. A massive mailing was done to conservation groups and government agencies. The results have been favorably, and much valuable input has been received.

The above mentioned slide show was presented to the Penna. chapter of the Sierra Club, whose 75 elected delegates voted unanimously to support the cave bill. The Sierra Club is very powerful in Pa., with a paid lobbyist, who is now able to work on the cave bill.

9. The next step is to find (powerful) legislators who are willing to co-sponsor this legislation. John Rosenfeld has "mapped out" the state, matching legislators with grottos. Since legislative districts are assigned in proportion to population, most are located in Philadelphia, with Pittsburgh being a close second. A few remaining legislators are scattered throughout the rest of the state. Cavers are asked to contact the committee if they know of any legislators who would be willing to co-sponsor this legislation.

AVAILABLE MID-APPALACHIAN REGION BULLETINS

#10	Caves of Snyder co., PA	20 caves	14 maps	1.25 + postage*
#11	Caves of Centre Co., PA	71 caves	56 maps + 1 pocket map	4.75 + postage*
#12	Caves of Mifflin Co., PA	47 caves	31 maps + 5 pocket maps	5.50 + 1.00 postage
#13	Caves of Perry Co., PA	13 caves	6 maps	1.50 + postage*
#14	Caves of Bucks Co., PA	24 caves	6 maps	3.00 + postage*
#15	Caves of Lehigh Co., PA	25 caves	13 maps	3.25 + postage*

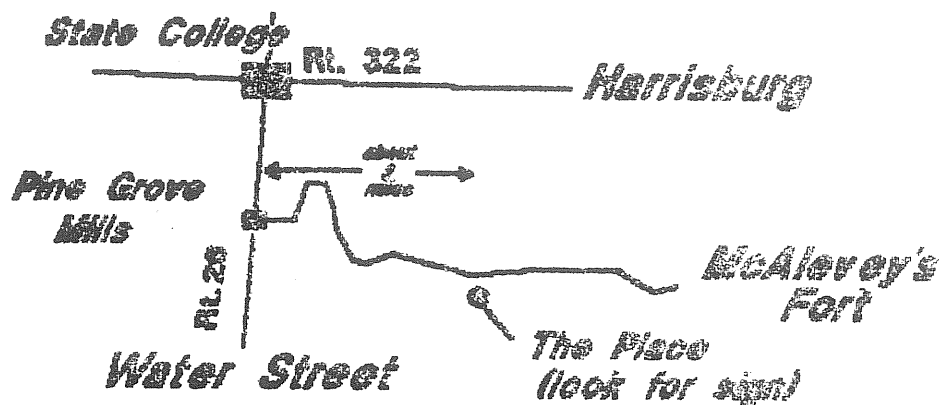
POSTAGE: 75¢ for each copy; 25¢ each additional to same address
Overseas postage \$1.00 for each copy, 25¢ each additional copy.

Please make checks payable to: M.A.R.

NITTANY GROTTO PICNIC

When: 16-17 April

Where: The Usual...



What: Pig, Beverages,
Auction, Speleo-Olympics,
Heated Water-Vapor Hut.

Contact: Keith Wheeland

814-238-2057

SPRING M.A.R. '88

APRIL 22 THRU 24

Hosted by The Franklin County Grotto

The spring M.A.R. will be in Franklin County PA. with easy travel by Interstate - 81, Rt. 11 or Rt. 30, there is a pre-registration form to tear off at the bottom of this sheet, and there is a map on the back for your convenience.

There are two state parks in the county, that offers many hiking trails, boating and many other features, there is a large variety of antique shops and Gettysburg is about 40 minutes away with history and its antiques. There are many other stores and the Chambersburg Mall for shopping. Franklin County has well over 120 caves with Fulton and Huntingdon counties with caves and fossils areas as well, Maryland and West Virginia (panhandle) are within 20 minutes. If your into peddle power bring your bikes and you can take a cruise thru the slow rolling to level county side and there are numerous small caves you can bike to easy.

PIG ROAST

YES there will be a PIG ROAST, all you have to do is stuff your face, this will be a complete meal and it is going to be catered.

Save some money now and help us to get a estimate on how may faces we will need to feed at the pig roast Saturday nite, register ahead, also there will be a guide book that will be sold separate for \$2.00 and you can order one with your pre-registration form weather or not you are coming to the spring M.A.R.

SPRING M.A.R. '88 PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

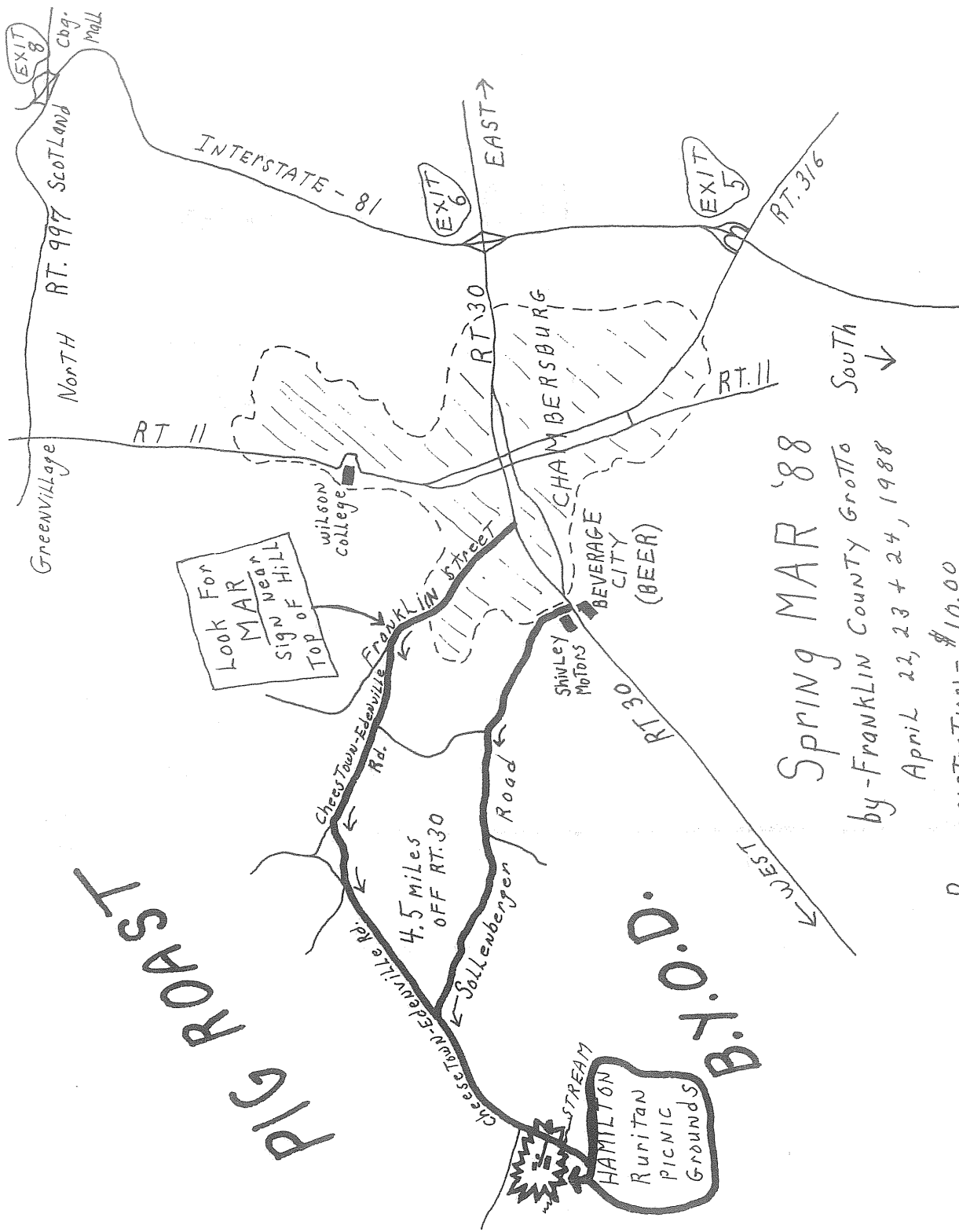
Number of persons attending- X \$10.00 each = \$.....
\$11.00 at the gate.

Spring M.A.R. '88 GUIDE BOOK, No. of booksX \$2.00 each = \$.....

Total \$.....

Make check out to and send to:
FRANKLIN COUNTY GROTTTO
c/o Lou Ann Jones
4446 Duffield Rd.
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Deadline for Pre-registration:
March 31, 1988



Spring MAR '88

by - Franklin County Grotto South
 April 22, 23 + 24, 1988

Pre-registration - \$10.00
 At Gate - \$11.00
 Guide Book - \$2.00

BALTIMORE GROTTO PRESENTS THE 1988 SWINE & DINE AT FRIAR'S HOLE MAY 27,28,29 & 30

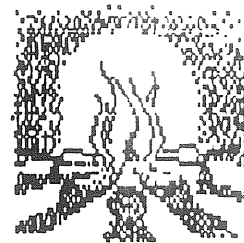
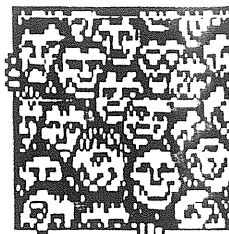
This is going to be the third year since the SWINE & DINE tradition started and as in the past we are looking for another great success! As in the past years we will roast oink & moo over the traditional Walker inferno with the help of Robbie's rotisserie. The menu will be the same as in the past with the addition of keg beer. We will once again be serving the saiad a ia trough and Barb's world famous campfire cooked taters. Pit soda will also be available! We do not supply cups, mug, knives, forks, spoons or plate so remember to B.Y.O.C.M.K.F.S.&P. We will also have a very special dessert as soon as I figure out what it is? Don't forget to bring a beach chair if you so desire! Hopefully Rodney and His World Famous Air Bladder w/ Multiple Qrifices will once again serenade us from the mountain up on high! A special surprise is included in this years package price that being, a high quality tee shirt adorned with beautiful and fantastic art work by Allart the High Courts Jester & Artist commemorating this memorable event! There is one small catch that being that in order to get the shirt I must recieve you registration postmarked no later than April 25 this allows us enough time to order the shirts. Orders recieved after that date will cost the same amount however you will not recieve the shirt! So fill out the attached form and mail it today with your check! This will assure you the tee shirt! Also don't forget to fill in the appropriate names, phone numbers and tee shirt size for all people who you have included bucks for! Cut off date to end registration is May 13 after that time no futher orders will be taken this allows me the time to order supplies! On the back of this sheet you will find a map to the Friars Hole Cave Preserve!

This is the small print no reason to read it! Believe me I'm in sales! The cost for this gastronomical delight is a mere \$15.00 per adult, \$10.00 per rugrat under the age of 15 and free to kids under the age of 2 months

for futher info or if you have a question call Anthony at 235-1777!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Mail your registration to:

anthony glab
4154 falls road
baltimore, maryland
21211



GREAT CAV'IN, FOOD & BEST OF ALL FRIENDS!

1988 FALL BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

Hosted by: Tomm Pollock and the Central New Jersey Grotto

The 1988 Fall Board of Governors meeting will be held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. on October 28, 29 & 30, 1988. These dates were confirmed by the B.O.G. at their February meeting in Springfield, Ohio. This B.O.G. meeting on Saturday, 29 October, is open to all cavers and your input will be welcomed. A banquet on Saturday evening celebrating this B.O.G. and the 10th Anniversary of the Central New Jersey Grotto is open to all cavers by reservation. Location and costs are yet to be determined. All M.A.R., Southern N.R.O., Northern V.A.R. Grottoes will be receiving a flier with complete details.

M.A. R. BREAKDOWN
7600 Pindell School Rd.
Fulton, Md. 20759

FIRST CLASS MAIL