



BREAKDOWN

Volume 8, Number 1, April 1993

MAR Spring Field Meet set for May 7, 8, & 9, 1993

The MAR Spring Field meet will be held May 7, 8, & 9, 1993 in Chambersburg, PA. It will be hosted by the Franklin County Grotto.

See page 3 for details and directions.

Hosterman's Pit Status Report

by Keith Wheeland

A public hearing has been scheduled by the Environmental Quality Board to discuss the petition to designate the Hosterman's Pit area Unsuitable For Mining. The hearing will be held at the Penns Valley Area High School on April 27, 1993 at 7 p.m.

The Nittany Grotto will be representing the caving community. Interested cavers are encouraged to attend.

If you want to present oral testimony, you must register in advance. Written testimony will be accepted up to May 12, 1993.

[Ed. Con-Stone, Inc. has filed an application for a permit to surface mine limestone. The mine would destroy most of Hosterman's Pit.]

Cave Conservation Signs Placed

Signs have been placed at the following caves (or they have been obtained by Grottos and are going to be placed).

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Bear Cave Parking Lot | Mt. Joy |
| Big Ridge | North York |
| Blue Springs | Peipers |
| Carnegie | Quarry Hill |
| Cleversburg Sink | Refton |
| Halls | Ruth |
| Hershey-Coy | Schofer |
| Indian Echo | Seawra |
| Johnson Caves | Sharer |
| Laurel Caverns | Tytoona |
| Lincoln Caverns | Whisper Rcks |
| Longs Quarry | Wind |
| Lost River Caverns (2) | Womers |
| Mummau | |

Loyalhanna Grotto has another 5 signs which have not been placed.

If your organization would like to learn more about the sign program, please contact one of the following individuals.

Bert Ashbrook
1257 Lehigh Parkway South
Allentown, PA 18103
(215) 797-3981

Keith D. Wheeland
2191 Mt. View Ave.
State College, PA 16801
(814) 238-2057

Why Did You Receive This Newsletter?

Each grotto in the MAR is sent a copy of the *MAR Breakdown*. And a copy is sent to the NSS.

If you attend one of the MAR Field Meets held each spring and fall, you will get credit for three copies of the newsletter. Why three? Because we publish three issues per year.

At the meets, \$4.00 of your registration fee goes back to MAR. This money is used for MAR projects. It helps pay for printing the MAR bulletins and pays for the printing and mailing of this newsletter. If you examine your address label on the newsletter you will see a number after your name.

This number (less 1) tells you how many issues of the newsletter you are entitled to receive.

When you register for a field meet, you are asked to provide your address. This address is used to prepare the mailing labels for the next newsletter.

Send your address changes to the editor of this newsletter, or to the keeper of the mailing labels, Carol Tideman, 7600 Pindell School Road, Fulton, MD 20759

Bernard L. Smeltzer (1930-1992) - A Tribute

by Hope E. Uhl

I find it difficult to convey to you, in a limited article, what Bernie Smeltzer meant to me as a cave cartographer. Some of our abilities are God given, but many more are learned from those who come before us. Bernie was my teacher, but was I the only student? I believe his maps set the standards for so many to follow!

For those of you who missed the Salem, Indiana N.S.S. Convention, the program contained a description of a display which was dedicated to the accomplishments of Bernard L. Smeltzer, N.S.S. #1104. It read as follows.

A Pioneer is a person who originates or helps open up a new line of thought, new methods or ideas, trails blazed for others to follow. Bernie Smeltzer was a Pioneer, a leader in cave cartography. His willingness to share his discoveries and pass on his talents, has opened the doors for so many other cave surveyors and cartographers. No caver from Pennsylvania has ever drawn a map of a cave without referring to a "Bernie Smeltzer" map for guidance. His influences are evident in every cave map drawn today. Bernie was drawing "artistic" maps loaded with detail as early as the late 1940's and early 1950's. His maps not only contain accurate, surveyed accounts of cave passage, but Bernie considered each cave a project worthy of lengthy geologic description.

This exhibition is merely a fragment of Bernie's life as an artist, caver speleologist, geologist, archeologist, paleontologist, father, teacher and friend. For those of you who didn't know him, we hope to introduce you to Bernie and his contributions to our world of caving. For those who personally knew Bernie and caved with him, this exhibition is a tribute to a legend.

The end of a caving era has come. Our friend was taken too soon, this past May [1992], while hiking on a beautiful spring

day. We miss him dearly. Bernie Smeltzer was a humble man, he would be more than flattered with your interest in his life's accomplishments.

I used the term "Pioneer" because he has influenced the way we draw cave maps today. In 1954 when *NSS Bulletin 15, Caves of Pennsylvania*, was published, 92 of the 272 cave descriptions and 22 of the 44 cave maps were done by Bernie. [1] Early publications like these set cave mapping standards. Bernie's detailed cross-sections, profiles and notations are trademarks. He produced "caver maps". They were easy to read and draw with uncanny accuracy and detail. He drew cave location maps for each cave he explored and lengthy historic and geologic descriptions of each cave regardless of its length. Bernie used symbols and a legend as early as 1950. His maps would always proudly display the words "prepared by the National Speleological Society" or contain the NSS Symbol.

Cave scientists Dr. Ralph W. Stone and William Davies prior to Bernie's time drew very simple maps of caves. They relied on lengthy geological descriptions to document their caves. They made great achievements in speleological research, but there was very little emphasis on cartography. Bernie was the first to combine science, survey (engineering), and art. A marriage that is the essence of cartography. His science is in the cross-sections. Dr. Will White (NSS #2237) can give an enduring geology lecture on a cave he has never visited if Bernie Smeltzer has mapped it! [2] Perhaps no other cave cartographer has better illustrated geology in cross-sections and profiles as well as Bernie. Especially as early as 1950!

Certainly there have been those who surveyed more caves or explored in more exotic locales. Bernard Smeltzer blazed the cartographic trail to Kentucky Avenue, Mammoth Cave and El Rectangulo, Costa Rica.

[1] - Obituary, by Dale Ibberson York Grotto Newsletter Volume 28, No. 4 July 1992

[2] - Dr. William White personal communication, Aug. 1992

The Bernard L. Smeltzer Award - A Proposal

by Hope E. Uhl

Perhaps some of you have heard about my campaign to change the name of our most sought-after cartographic award "The Metal Award". I believe it is about time we direct more national attention to all those cavers participating in cave survey and cartography. What better way than to recognize the year's best with an honorary award?

I find it difficult to understand why there would be opposition to renaming an existing award, to memorialize a pioneer in the field of cave cartography. By naming the award for Bernie we are not proclaiming him the greatest cartographer ever, nor are we claiming him as a father of cartography. The Lew Bicking Award, for example, was established to honor Lew's achievements in the field of exploration. Many of the winners of this prestigious award could claim to more accomplishment than Lew Bicking himself. Bernie Smeltzer surveyed and mapped caves. The fact that he surveyed caves in Pennsylvania and not in Virginia or Mexico, or the fact that he didn't enter national contests does not make his maps less reputable.

Bernie received the NSS Certificate of Merit Award at the age of 23. (footnote 1) Bernie's first cave maps were drawn in 1949 and 1950, and he continued drawing maps until 1992. All of Bernie's 145 cave maps were published in NSS Bulletins, Region Reports or local grotto newsletters. I have read through boxes and boxes of beautifully hand written geology reports for every cave he explored. Paleo and historical research is also included for most of the caves. His life was dedicated to caves and cavers, exploration, science and research. He had a museum quality collection of bones, fossils and artifacts he collected from the southwestern U.S., Mexico and all over Pennsylvania. Perhaps his proudest work was the completion of a fully hand illustrated book for his son's Geologic Park in New York state.

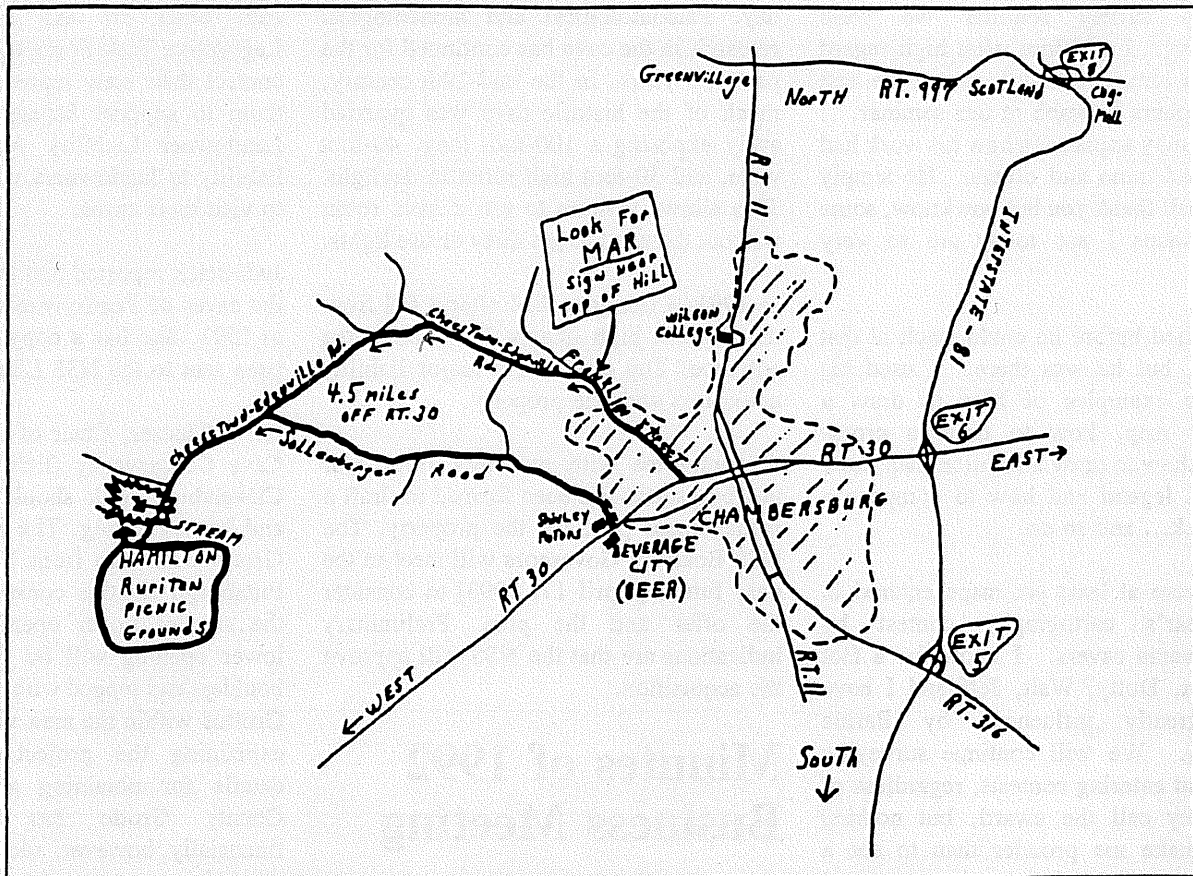
Cont. on Page 4

SPRING M.A.R.'93

Hosted By The Franklin County Grotto of the N.S.S.

MAY 7, 8, & 9, 1993

Directions: From I-81, Rt. 11 or Rt. 30 West to Chambersburg, PA - you will take Rt. 30 West through Chambersburg for two blocks past the center of town (Large Fountain in middle of road), make right turn off of Rt. 30 at signal light (Large Sheetz store on your right) onto Franklin Street, continue out of town and as you head up a small hill make a left turn (Look for MAR sign) and continue on this road (you will pass three intersection that will be on your right on the way out - you will follow the main road which will bear to the left) till you come to the Hamilton Ruritan Picnic Ground approx. 4.5 mile from Rt. 30. The Ruritan grounds will open at 5:00 P.M. on Friday, May 7 and we have the use of the ground through Sunday, May 9. There is a large pavilion with electric.



Full Registration is \$15.⁰⁰ per person which will include Camping, Guide Book, Catered HOT Meal.
 Registration wo/Meal is \$6.⁰⁰ per person - only includes Camping and Guide Book.
 Single copy of Guide Book \$3.⁰⁰ each.

The Catered Meal will be family style at the St. Thomas American Legion Post 612. The meal will be Roast Beef w/Filling and Gravy, Fried Chicken, Buttered Corn, Fluffy Whipped Potatoes, Ice Cream, Rolls, Butter, Tea, Coffee and other Beverages (Please note: other Beverage charges are not included in the cost of the Meal and will be paid for out of purchaser pocket.)

The guide book will contain maps and descriptions of local caves and a Self Guided Geological Field Trip down along the C & O Canal, and we will have persons available for Guided Cave tours. Slide show will be shown, we encourage you to bring along your favorite slides.

Contact Persons:

Pat Minnick
 13954 Mar Penn Ave.
 Waynesboro, PA 17268
 (717) - 765 - 0521

Ken Jones
 4446 Duffield Rd.
 Chambersburg, PA 17201
 (717) - 267 - 2669

Don Arrowood
 401 Hood St.
 Chambersburg, PA 17201
 (717) - 264 - 8978

Emergency Number's.

Bernie cared so much about the young people in the grotto. He was always eager to run a field trip or listen to a new discovery or share one of his. He was a living legend to the cavers who knew him, and if you never heard of him it was because he was a humble man. This past February at an annual Mid-Appalachian Region meet, I asked Bernie to help me teach a survey seminar we were organizing. I told him what high regard I had for him, and how I wanted the best cartographers to teach at our seminar. I continued by explaining how his work had influenced mine and others. He simply said, "well thank you but you know, some of the maps I see today are so very good".

Bernie died before he could teach at that seminar, but he was there. I used his maps as examples of how to draw a working map, how to draw a cross-section, how to draw a location map, how to use a legend and how to compose a title block... and so on.

There were at least six maps entered in this year's cartography contest by Pennsylvania cavers. I know for a fact that Bert, Dotty, Walt, Jeff and I have been greatly influenced by Bernie Smeltzer. We will continue surveying caves and entering contests, regardless of what they call the award, but nothing would make me prouder than to see a deserving cartographer receive an award named for a true pioneer in cave cartography, Bernard L. Smeltzer.

NSS Offered Durham Cave Property

by Bert Ashbrook

International Paper Company, Inc. has offered to donate a piece of property containing Durham Cave to the NSS. The well-known cave, located along the Delaware River in Bucks County,

Pennsylvania, is important historically, archeologically, and paleontologically. The property also includes Durham Cave #2 which has been connected with the historic Durham Cave to make approximately 750 feet of passages.

Because of its location beside the river, the cave was known to be used by native Americans. Printed references to the cave, documenting a rich and varied history, began in 1770 and continue to the present day. Paleontological and archeological research in the cave has continued for the past 135 years. In the mid-19th century, much of the historic cave was quarried away exposing a 100-foot long, 40-foot wide, and 30-foot high room to daylight. This allows visitors to see a cave room without the need to get dirty or use lights.

In 1991, a teenager died after a fall from the 50-foot high quarry face above the entrance. The cliff is the major liability associated with the property.

A committee with members from four nearby grottos has been formed to draft a management plan for the property. The NSS Board of Governors will meet in the near future [April 17, 1993] to consider the offer and the plan. Preliminary indications are that the NSS will approve the acquisition.

Minutes of 1992 Business Meeting

by Bill Wolford, Secretary

[Ed. note. The Minutes are summarized here to save space. The full text is available from any of the current officers.]

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jeanne Wetterling at 1:45 p.m. at the home of Jay Herbein on February 29, 1992. A total of 48 individuals attended representing 17 caving organizations from PA, MD, WV, DE, NJ, MA, and DC. All four officers were present. Jeanne Wetterling (chair), Keith Wheeland (vice chair), Bill Wolford (secretary), and Elizabeth White (treasurer).

Bert Ashbrook's minutes of the Feb. 23 1991 MAR Business Meeting were approved with the following corrections: At the bottom of page 3, "Richard" should be "Robert", as in Governor Robert Casey. Keith Wheeland's name was incorrectly spelled "Kieth" throughout the minutes.

The treasurers report was accepted. The balance stands at \$2,592.70.

Judi Stack of the PA Cave Law Legislative Task Force urged everyone to contact their state representative and ask them to support Senate Bill 1051, the Landowner Liability Act which limits liability to landowners who allow cavers to visit their caves.

Judi Stack reported that the slide show on the caves of Pennsylvania was completed in 1991. She has a copy and a copy has been sent to the NSS Library.

Larry Clauser, Chair of the Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy (PCC), reported that Cleversburg Sink should be under lock and key by spring. The Franklin County Grotto with help from York, GAG, and Pittsburgh Grottos constructed a gate at the smaller upper opening. The larger lower opening will be filled with large boulders and topped with dig-resistant fill. Grottos within the area were sent a letter explaining the project and providing details for obtaining a key. Franklin County Grotto has been assisted financially, however, additional donations are welcome.

Bert Ashbrook reported on the Cave Protection Sign Project. Fifty-five signs were produced. A \$500 grant was provided by The Robertson Association. MAR paid the remaining \$32.65. Additional funds will be requested from the Richmond Area Speleological Society. The signs will be sold for \$10 each, and a record of cave locations will be kept by Bert Ashbrook and Keith Wheeland.

Keith Wheeland reported that there are now 1179 caves in the database. Information from the database is provided on a need to know basis.

Bette White reported that MAR Bulletin 17, Caves of Northumberland County and Bulletin 18, Caves of Berks County were published in 1991. Will White proposed reprinting 50 copies of MAR Bulletins 1-4 in one publication with a new preface. After some discussion, the motion was passed. Approved was a motion to reprint individual copies of MAR Bulletins 5-9 using available extra maps and pages.

Dean Snyder and Rich Kranzel are working on the caves in Lebanon County and asked for comments concerning their idea to publish a bulletin containing the caves of the Susquehanna and the East Branch since there are few caves in individual counties in the area. They were encouraged to do so.

Bill Wolford announced that Pittsburgh and Loyalhanna Grottos were working on an MAR Bulletin to document the caves of Westmoreland County.

Bill Wolford reported on the Loyalhanna Grotto's effort to successfully prosecute cave vandals at Bear and Con Caves. The \$400 reward received by the Grotto will be used for cave conservation.

Loyalhanna Grotto is coordinating an effort to protect the caves of Chestnut Ridge from being destroyed by a proposed massive quarry operation. Approximately 20 caves could be affected. The list includes Bear, Con, and Copperhead.

Will White enlightened the group on the status of Hosterman's Pit which is also being threatened by a proposed quarry. The Nittany Grotto is leading the effort to protect the cave.

Will White reported that Aitkin Cave has been sold to The Nature Conservancy. The gate installed by the conservancy is working and the bat populations are increasing.

Keith Wheeland recommended a voluntary moratorium on winter caving at Sharers Cave because of the large bat population there. The matter was referred to the PCC.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

NSS Member Price List Mid-Appalachian Region Bulletins

	Caves	Maps	Large Maps	Cost	Postage Code
1-4 Bulletins #1-4 in one booklet (Reprint)		Limited number of copies		7.00	A
8 Caves of Blair Co., PA (Reprint)	89	40		6.50	A
9 Caves of Huntingdon Co., PA (Reprint)	94	36		7.50	A
10 Caves of Snyder Co., PA	20	14		2.00	A
11 Caves of Centre Co., PA	71	56	1	5.00	B
12 Caves of Mifflin Co., PA	47	31	5	7.00	B
13 Caves of Perry Co., PA	13	6		1.50	A
14 Caves of Bucks, Co., PA	24	6		3.00	A
15 Caves of Lehigh Co., PA	25	13		3.25	A
16 Caves of Northampton Co., PA	24	13	1	5.50	A
17 Caves of Northumberland Co., PA	20	10		5.00	A
18 Caves of Berks Co., PA	64	32		7.00	B
19 Caves of Bedford Co., PA * NEW *	54	33		5.50	A

Postage codes

- A US Postage: \$0.75 for first copy: \$0.25 for each additional copy to the same address.
Non-US Postage: \$1.50 for first copy: \$1.10 for each additional copy to the same address.
- B US Postage: \$1.00 for the first copy: \$0.25 for each additional copy to the same address.
Non-US Postage: \$1.50 for first copy: \$1.10 for each additional copy to the same address.

Please make checks payable in US funds to MAR. Send to Bette White, 542 Glenn Road, State College, PA 16803

Bernard L. Smeltzer Cave Map Cartography List

Preliminary: 7/10/92

by Hope E. Uhl and Jeff Uhl

County	Cave	Date	Date	Map
Adams	Boxwork	1979		BLS
Bedford	Hipple	1951		
	John Long's	1982		BLS
	Shaffer Farm	1953		PCS
	Wonderland			
	Cavern	1956		
Berks	Crystal	1983		BLS
	Dragon	1956		PCS
	Frazer	1982		BLS
	Hobo	1953		PCS
	Host	1959		PCS
	Noecker	1949		BLS
	Schofer	1978		
	Serafino	1975		
	South Temple	1952		PCS
	Stroudts Bridge	1958		PCS
Centre	Hennigh	1958		PCS
	Millheim	1951		
	Veiled Lady	1949		
	Woodward #2	1959		
Cumberland	Big Spring	1961		
	Boiling Springs, #3, #4	1955		PCS
	Boiling Springs	1950		
	Carnegie	1949	1960	PCS
	Centerville	1953		PCS
	Cleversburg			
	Den	1958		PCS
	Cleversburg			
	Sink	1950	1957	PCS
	Cochlin	1953		PCS
	Conodoguinet	1959		PCS
	Conodoguinet			
	Rock House	1961		PCS
	Craighead	1956		
	Crow-Bait	1961		BLS
	Devils Den	1956		PCS
	Hershey	1955		PCS
	Hershey-Coy			
	Cave System	1960		PCS
	Huber Coys	1955		PCS

Cumberland (Continued)

Marl	1961		PCS
Parker	1949	1952	PCS
Part Time	1983		BLS
Peipers	1949	1957	PCS
Sharp Farm	1959		
Skelly	1961		
Springside Farm	1960		PCS
Stougstown	1961		
Thrush Farm	1961		
Dauphin			
Brownstone	1949		PCS
Indian Echo			
Caverns	1962		PCS
Moyer	1963		BLS
Wildcat	1953		PCS
Franklin			
Aughenbaugh	1950	1957	PCS
Baker #2	1953		
Baker #3	1961		
Baker Caverns	1961		PCS
Blue Spring #1	19??		
Brechbiel	1962		
Buchanan	1961		BLS
Courtney	1981		BLS
Cressler	1958		PCS
Crooked	1959	1962	BLS
Deerdorff	1961		
Duffield	1950	1959	PCS
Goods	1950		PCS
Gorman	1962		PCS
Keefer	1962		BLS
Martin	1962		BLS
McGills Pit	1980		BLS
Needy	1957		PCS
Niswander	1950		PCS
Overcash	1961		PCS
Patience Pit	1981		BLS
Perserverance			
Pit	1983		BLS
Persistence Pit	1981		BLS
Platter Pit	1981		BLS
Python Pit	1983		BLS
Red Bridge	1962		PCS
Reese	1950		PCS
Scotland Bridge	1962		
Scotland	1961		PCS
Shady Grove	1954		PCS
Shively	1952	1953	PCS
Spider	1959	1962	BLS
St. Thomas			
Sinks	1961		PCS
Warren Point	1950		PCS
Welsh Run	1953	1958	PCS
Woodchuck	1955		PCS
Woodchuck Pit	1961		PCS
Zimmerman	1962		BLS

Fulton			
Indian	1964		BLS
Long Quarry	1954	1979	BLS
Huntingdon			
Curfman	1953		
Flemings	1951		PCS
Hall	1955		PCS
Hesston	1952		PCS
Linns	1977		PCS
Lancaster			
Borehole	1992		BLS
Gable	1950		PCS
Mammau	1954	1956	PCS
Pequea Church	1955		PCS
Redhill	1953		PCS
Refton	1967	1982	PCS
Wind	1952	1956	PCS
Lebanon			
Hummer	1953		PCS
Kreider	1953		BLS
Mifflin			
Allensville	1956		PCS
Barrville	1956		PCS
Blue Springs	1952	1962	PCS
Highland Park	1957		PCS
Johnson	1956		PCS
Lime Sinks	1954		PCS
Little Aitkin	1957		PCS
Maze	1956		PCS
Nales #2	1957		PCS
Paintersville	1960		PCS
Rupert	1950	1979	PCS
Siglerville	1956	1957	PCS
Monroe			
Hartman	1978		PCS
Northampton			
Carpenter	1950		PCS
Northumberland			
Bahners	1963		PCS
Bernies	1983		BLS
Buckshot	1983		BLS
Honeydew	1964		PCS
Keils	1963		PCS
Ron Martin	1962		PCS
Perry			
Addisons	1983		BLS
Arnt	1953	1980	PCS
Blain	1983		PLS
Longs	1957		
Quaker Hill	1980		BLS
Womer	1981		
Woomers	1980		PCS
Schuylkill			
Red Church	1981		BLS
Snyder			
Arnold	1951	1959	PCS
Freeburg	1959		PCS

York			
Bootlegger Sink	1950	1958	PCS
Crystal Pit	1949		
Devil's Hole			
Rock Shelter	1963		BLS
East York	1959		
Emigs	1950	1958	PCS
Marble	1959		
North York	1950	1959	PCS
Pigeon	1959		
Railroad Rock			
House	1961		BLS
Sandy	1959		
St. Marks	1964		BLS
Taxville Quarry	1958		PCS
West York	1957		PCS

Totals 145 22

Map storage:

BLS - Bernard L. Smeltzer Files
 PCS - Pennsylvania Cave Survey

1993 BCCS Expedition Schedule

May 29-31

July 24-25

September 18-19

Expedition policy

1. Only experienced and fully qualified cavers will be accepted for caving trips on expedition weekends.
2. There will be no tourist trips during expedition weekends. All trips will be work trips.
3. There will be trips of various lengths and degrees of difficulty.
4. Trips will be made into Butler Cave as well as other nearby caves. In other words, cavers may be assigned to a cave other than Butler.
5. The Expedition Leader is Al Grimm. Call or write him at the address below if you plan to attend.

521 Whiteoak Circle
 Lyndhurst, VA 22952-9716

(703) 943-3766

MAR Breakdown
Keith D. Wheeland, Editor
2191 Mt. View Ave.
State College, PA 16801
(814) 238-2057

The Nittany Grotto has provided funds for
the printing and mailing of this newsletter.