



# BREAKDOWN

October 1995

## Spring Field Meet a Resounding Success!

by Jim Kennedy

The Spring MAR Field Meet was held May 19-21 at Laurel Caverns in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. It was sponsored by Jim Kennedy who was assisted by John Chenger, Patty Kennedy, Chuck Hempel, Keith Christenson, Danny Hamilton, John Long, Pam Long, and other members of the "Fayette Cong".

An excellent guidebook was distributed to each registrant. This guidebook included area facilities and attractions, gave an informative look at local geology, and provided a detailed description of Laurel Caverns and its speleogenesis. Of course, there were maps, directions, and descriptions for several local caves. Some of the caves were old favorites, some were little-known, and some could even be reached by a short walk from the campground!

Camping was divided into a quiet area and a party area this year. The party area was near Saturday night's bonfire. Saturday evening also featured a catered banquet. Danny Hamilton spit-roasted many delicious chickens, aided by several Kennedy family members. After dinner, Jim Brown, an NSS-CDS cave diver gave an interesting slide show on "Cave Dives in the Northeast". More than twenty door prizes were given away before the bonfire.

Many more activities occurred during the weekend. Laurel Caverns' climbing wall was open for MAR registrants. Doug Moore of Karst Sports and Carroll Bassett from Vertical Supply brought their shops with them. They also contributed door prizes, as did Bob & Bob, Chuck Hempel, Pam Long, and Jim Kennedy. Pam

Long also led a fossil-collecting trip. A small team went on a digging trip Saturday. At least one team added to the Laurel Caverns resurvey effort. Kennedy led a two-hour cave-and-surface-geology trip Sunday morning. And of course lots of people went caving.

There were 138 registrants, including three children and three dogs. Only 67 adults preregistered, despite heavy advertisement of the event. This caused some minor problems at the banquet when food started to run out. (Luckily, there was plenty of Danny's delicious chicken available, so nobody went hungry.) Attendees came from nine states. Pennsylvania was represented by 80 cavers, Maryland by 18, New Jersey 10, and eight from West Virginia. New York had seven, Ohio eight, Delaware three, and Virginia two. One lone caver, John Hill, made it all the way from New Hampshire!

Many grottos were represented as well. Pittsburgh, no affiliation, York, Loyalhanna, and Nittany accounted for 73 registrants. Baltimore, Greater Allentown, Helderberg-Hudson, South Jersey, Northern New Jersey, Niagara Frontier, Huntingdon County, D.C., Commander Cody, Tri-State, and Franklin County Grottos all had three or more members at the meet. We also had cavers from Philadelphia, Potomac, Mountain State, WVU, Miami Valley, Western Maryland, Warsaw Underground, NSS-CDS, Smoky Mountain, and Droop Mountain Cave Clubs in attendance.

All together, this was a very good meet. There was great weather, lots to do,

good food, and caves! The MAR made a \$200 donation to Laurel Caverns to install steps near the picnic pavilion. We collected \$524 for the MAR Breakdown and another \$179.38 profit for the MAR. Thanks to everyone who helped and everyone who came.

## Fall 1995 Meet Well-Attended

More than 220 cavers registered for the combined fall VAR/MAR meet sponsored by Tri-State Grotto. Over 40 of them claimed MAR affiliation, despite the slightly higher registration fee and greater distance for most.

The event was well planned by J.C. and Judy Fisher of Tri-State. Camping near Seneca Rocks, a catered Saturday banquet, and Friday and Saturday beverages were included in the registration fee. Numerous folks hiked, climbed, and caved. Much socialization occurred as well.

The regular MAR meeting was held during the meet. Chairman Bill Wolford was the only officer in attendance. The purpose of our fall meeting is to elect officers for the new year. Unfortunately, Chairman Wolford neglected to gather a slate of candidates and no elections were held. Hence the mail-in ballot tucked inside this issue.

Hats off to the Fishers and Tri-State Grotto, who have hosted two meets in two years. Let's all support Nittany Grotto's efforts in the Spring of 1996.

# Pennsylvania's Significant Caves

by Jim Kennedy

Pennsylvania caves need help. They are constantly coming under threats from mining, development, agriculture, and over-visitation. Sure, we have about 1300 caves in the Commonwealth, but which are the most important. In other words, what are the significant caves?

Caves can be considered significant for many reasons: geology, biology, hydrology, history, recreation, or sheer size. By identifying which of the many Pennsylvania caves are significant, we can concentrate on gaining them permanent protection. Of course, all caves are important, but we need to distinguish which are more important. These are the caves of which cavers, governmental agencies, conservation groups, etc. need to be aware. Refer to the current plea for nominations for Federal Significant Caves in the past few issues of the *NSS News*. In order to develop the first draft of the Pennsylvania list, I have adapted Holsinger's definition developed for the Virginia Cave Commission. It is my hope that this list is kept current by an active committee of the MAR, such as the PA Cave Database Committee.

Cavers should keep in mind that this list has not been reviewed and should be considered at least semi-subjective. This preliminary draft is for discussion purposes only, but I urge all cavers to provide input and adopt a revised version as soon as possible. Some caves, particularly new discoveries, may have been inadvertently left off this list. Much of the information on this list is sensitive and should not be distributed beyond the groups it was designed for. Additional information (and protection for such) is the domain of the Pennsylvania Cave Database. The final Significant Cave List should probably not include more than 10% of Pennsylvania's caves. It should also not include caves considered obliterated or mines.

Eleven categories of significance are listed by Holsinger. I have adopted the categories and their definitions outright, with two minor exceptions. Due to the relative small size of Pennsylvania caves, I have used 100' (instead of Virginia's 200') as the minimum for a deep cave, and 1/2 mile (instead of 1 mile) as the minimum for a long cave. Other minor modifications were made to Holsinger's original definitions. The categories are:

**A. Archeological.** Caves that have either provided important sites for early artifacts, or are believed to have important archeological potential.



**B. Biological.** Caves designated by biologists as type localities for species of cave-adapted organisms; or caves inhabited by a high diversity of species or large populations of certain species; or caves inhabited by rare or unique species whose continued existence are considered potentially threatened or endangered by ecologists.

**C. Depth.** Caves with internal relief surveyed at 100 feet or more.

**D. Economic.** Caves utilized commercially as tourist attractions, either

as private enterprises or by state or regional park authorities; or caves utilized for some other money-making purpose.

**E. Esthetic.** Caves that contain a variety of undisturbed or unvandalized speleothems; or caves that contain natural features of great beauty such as waterfalls, domes, canyons, pools, streamways, etc.; or caves that have exceptionally attractive entrances.

**F. Geological.** Caves that exhibit outstanding or classic examples of physical features relative to speleogenesis, geomorphology, or mineralogy, such as maze patterns, modifications by vadose action, evidence of phreatic solution, excavation along joints, bedding planes, or faults, large rooms or passages, dome pits, stratified fill, rare or unusual mineral deposits, etc.; or caves in a unique bedrock or unique to a given area.

**G. Historical.** Caves that were utilized by man for various purposes during critical periods in the history of the state or country and for which good documentation exists.

**H. Hydrological.** Caves containing streams that contribute substantially to the overall drainage pattern of a given karst area, such as major insurgences and karst springs.

**I. Paleontological.** Caves that have yielded the skeletal remains of prehistoric animals and are thus important sites for fossil bone deposits, or sites believed to have paleontological potential.

**J. Length.** Caves with surveyed lengths of one-half mile or more.

**K. Recreational.** Caves developed commercially for tourists; or undeveloped caves frequently visited by organized caving groups or unaffiliated individuals.

Some caves qualify for several of the above categories. These caves are truly outstanding and should receive the strongest protection efforts. These include both caves over three kilometers, as they are on the World Long Cave List. The following are my nominations, listed by county. I haven't been to all of these caves, so I welcome input from others.

<u>County/Cave</u>	<u>Categories</u>	<u>Franklin</u>	<u>Northumberland</u>
<u>Allegheny</u>			
Bellrock	F, K	Baker Caverns	Kiehls
<u>Armstrong</u>		Needy	<u>Perry</u>
Bradys Bend	E, F, J, K	Platter-Persistence	Womers
Hineman	E, F, J	Python	<u>Schuylkill</u>
<u>Bedford</u>		Reichard	Red Church
Coral Caverns	D, K	Welsh Run	<u>Snyder</u>
Davey Lewis	G, K	<u>Fulton</u>	McClure
Hipple	B, E, G, H	Long Quarry	Boyer #2
Lane's Lead Pit	C, F	<u>Huntingdon</u>	<u>Somerset</u>
New Paris Sinks (7)	G, I	Blacklog	Salisbury Mine/Cave
New Year's	C, K	Curfman #1	<u>Westmoreland</u>
<u>Berks</u>		Fantasy	Bear
Crystal	C, D, G	Flemings (2)	Coon
Driebilbis	E, K	Historic Indian	Copperhead
Onyx	D, K	Kooken	Lemon Hole
Schofer	B, G, K	Lincoln Caverns	Loyalhanna Creek
<u>Blair</u>		McFadden	Sandeppley
Arch Spring	C, E, H	Nelsons	<u>York</u>
Blue Hole #1	B, E, K	Petersburg	Crystal Pit
Canoe Crk Mine/Cave	B, E, G	Ruth	North York
Tytoona	C, E, G, H, J, K	Whisper Rocks	Taxville Quarry
<u>Bucks</u>		<u>Indiana</u>	
Durham	G, I	Strangford	There are 105caves on this list. That is only 8% of the total, assuming 1300 caves in Pennsylvania. Another 25-30 caves could be added if they meet the requirements. Of course, some could be dropped from this list after further review. The most prominent reasons for significant status of Pennsylvania caves are Recreation (72%) [note that this may include caves that are currently off-limits], Biological (39%), Geological (37%), Esthetic (33%), Hydrological (30%), Depth (28%), and Length (28%). Very few caves were listed for Archeological, Paleontological, or Economic reasons.
<u>Centre</u>		<u>Juniata</u>	
Alters	C	McAlisterville	
Chime	E, F, K	<u>Lancaster</u>	
Dead Cat	C, F, K	Refton	
Deerbone	H, K	Rohrer	
Hostermans Pit	B, C, E, I, J, K	Wind	
J-4	C, E, F, J, K	<u>Lawrence</u>	
Miller #1	B, G, H, K	Harlansburg	
Penns	B, D, H, K	<u>Lehigh</u>	
Rockview	I	Helfrich Springs	
Sharer	B, C, F, H, K	Koz Pit	
Stover #1	B, F	<u>Lycoming</u>	
Woodward	B, D, J, K	Blessing Mt. Wells (3)	
<u>Clarion</u>		Eiswert #2	
Sarah Furnace	B, F, G, J, K	<u>Mifflin</u>	
<u>Clinton</u>		Aitkin	
Stoltzfus	F, H	Alexander Caverns	
<u>Cumberland</u>		Allensville	
Carnegie	B, K	Big Ridge	
Cleversburg Sink	B, H, J, K	Goss	
Conodoguinet	A, G, I	Johnson (2)	
Hershey-Coy	B, F, J, K	Kerosene	
Peiper	F, J, K	Kooken	
Quarry Hill	C, E, F, J, K	Milroy	
<u>Dauphin</u>		Penn Aqua	
Indian Echo Caverns	D, G, K	Rupert	
<u>Fayette</u>		Seawra	
Askon Hollow	B, C, E	Zook's Pit	
Barton	B, C, F, K	<u>Monroe</u>	
Casparis	A, B, E, H, K	Hartman	
Jumonville	A, E, G	<u>Northampton</u>	
Laurel Caverns	C, D, E, G, J, K	Carpenter	
		Lost River Caverns	

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The Most Significant caves on this list are the ones qualifying in at least five categories. These are Tytoona, Hosterman's, J-4, Sharer, Sarah Furnace, Quarry Hill, Casparis, Laurel Caverns, Baker Caverns, Kooken, Ruth, Harlansburg, Alexander Caverns, Bear, Coon, Copperhead, and Lemon Hole. The 17 Most Significant Caves are about 16.5% of the Significant Cave List, or about 1% of all the caves in Pennsylvania.

Reference:  
Holsinger, John. 1983. "Criteria for Significant Caves and Karst Areas". *1983 SpeleoDigest*. National Speleological Society, Huntsville, Al. pp 313-215. Reprinted from *The Newsletter of Cave Conservation and Management*. 2(1-2):9-12. June 1993.

# Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting

February 25, 1995

The Annual Business Meeting was held at Jay Herbein's house in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Thanks to Jay for hosting us again this year. The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Jim Kennedy. Three of the four officers were present: Vice-Chairman - Jim Kennedy; Secretary - Sarah Gutter; Treasurer - Bette White.

No one had a copy of the minutes from the 1994 meeting so Bette White gave the Treasurer's Report. For the year of 1995 we had a net income of \$1567.96 for current gross assets of \$4481.89, with the majority of income from M.A.R. Bulletin sales. The Treasurer's Report was voted on and accepted as written.

## COMMITTEES

MAR Breakdown Jim Kennedy will accept articles or announcements for a new issue to be mailed around late April or early May.

Legislation Keith Wheeland reports that the Hosterman's Pit (Centre Co.) Unsuitable for Mining (UFM) proposal is sitting in limbo at the State Attorney General's office. It needs the AG to sign it and to be published in the PA Register to become effective. Keith has Hosterman's Pit t-shirts for sale.

MAR Bulletins Will White reports Fayette and Westmoreland county bulletins are in progress as well as the Upper Susquehanna Valley and Ridge Survey (which includes several counties). Huntingdon County is now out of print and badly needs to be updated. Armstrong and Lebanon Counties may be in the early stages.

Bert Ashbrook is working on a history of Durham Cave (Bucks Co.) which may be added to the existing Bucks Co. Bulletin. He also gave us an update on the status of Durham Cave. The cave was offered to be donated to the NSS last year. Before the deal was settled, another party offered to buy the cave. A local philanthropist and an artist wanted to turn the property into an artist's colony

and art gallery. They are interested in preserving the cave and its history, and have been contacted by the Greater Allentown Grotto. If their funding falls through, the cave may still be offered to the NSS.

PA Cave Database Keith Wheeland reports more than 1270 entries in the database. Westmoreland County should add about 100 more. Anyone knowing of changes in a cave's access or having any other updated information should contact Keith.

With the arrival of Chairman (and past Secretary) Bill Wolford, minutes from the 1994 MAR business meeting were read and approved.

Cave Conservation Signs Bert Ashbrook still has five signs available that have already been paid for by the Baltimore Grotto. John Chenger will take a new sign for Caspar's Cave (Fayette Co.) as the old one no longer has any words on it. Franklin County Grotto has placed signs in Carnegie Cave, Cleversburg Sink (both Cumberland Co.) and Long Quarry Cave (Fulton Co.).

Cave Registers John Chenger brought extra books for cave registers that need replaced. John is the Western Pennsylvania cave register coordinator, Garrett Czmor takes care of Central Pa., and Roman Barvinchak covers Southeastern Pa.

Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy (PCC) No formal report. However, we received a letter from Larry Clouser citing new directions in his life and resigning as president of the PCC. The MAR Chairman will send Larry a letter of thanks for his years of service.

Eastern Region- National Cave Rescue Commission (ER-NCRC) Jim Kennedy reported on several upcoming cave rescue classes. They were planned for both Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Flyers were available.

West Virginia Speleological Survey (WVASS) Bert Ashbrook reported on a monograph about caves in the Richlands (Greenbrier Co.) area. They were also available for purchase. Several other publications were in the works. Dug and Hazel Medville mentioned the epic Randolph County bulletin that they have been working on. It was due out during the NSS Convention this year.

An intermission was taken from 2:40 to 3:00 p.m.

## OLD BUSINESS

Fall 1994 MAR Meet A question arose about money owed to the MAR by the organizer. York Grotto members offered to lynch Bob Keintz for the \$81 dollars allegedly owed.

Hillside Area Caves There was a recent public hearing over the quarry permit with over 200 people present. Residents were concerned about traffic and their water supply. DER may send the permit back as incomplete.

PA Cave Biology Bibliography Rich Rosevear is compiling this publication. Rich is encouraged to make it an MAR Bulletin, a break from the typical county-cave surveys.

Newsletter Archives There was a short discussion on microfilm vs. CD-ROM. Carol Tideman moved to recommend to the NSS and the Congress of Grottos to put old newsletters on archivally permanent media. Jim Kennedy seconded and the motion passed. Jim will contact the NSS. [Did I really say that? - ed.]

## NEW BUSINESS

Barberry Rescue The Board of Directors of the Butler Cave Conservation Society sent the MAR a nice thank-you for our efforts during the recent rescue.

Upcoming MAR Meets Carol Tideman and Craig Hindman will approach the VAR about a joint VAR/MAR fall meet.

Keith Christenson said that Nittany Grotto will work on Spring 1996. Pat Minnich pledged the Franklin County Grotto for Spring 1997. No takers on Fall 1996.

Judy Stack was ruled out of order at 3:26 p.m.

Schofer Cave Bert Ashbrook reported that this Berks County cave has recently been gated by the Pennsylvania Game Commission (it is on PGC land). No access would be permitted for two years except for the PGC bat counts. The southeastern region of the PGC has been distributing info packets to the general public that inquires about the cave. Included is a list of Pa. grottos from the NSS Member's Manual and a list of MAR publications for sale (giving the locations to hundreds of other caves). Even though Bette White tries to ensure that persons purchasing those bulletins are cavers, they are not meant for open sales. Carol Tideman moved and Jim Kennedy seconded to respectfully request the PGC to stop giving out our publication list. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Wolford appointed a committee to work up a management plan for caves controlled by the PGC. This plan would be submitted to the PGC for approval and implementation. Bert Ashbrook chairs the committee and is aided by Derek Flaig and Jonathan Daniels.

Fall 1994 MAR Meet Bob Keintz showed up and cleared up the problem with the funds. It seems he claimed more people than were actually there. No money was owed to the MAR, and Treasurer Bette White seemed satisfied.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- P<sup>2</sup>G<sup>2</sup> (Peidmont Penepplain Grottos Group) is having a Caver's Party April 29, 1995 at the West Chester VFW. Contact Mike Mostardi for details.

- Coon Cave (Westmoreland Co.) survey dates are set for May 6-7, June 3-4, and June 17-18. See Bert Ashbrook if you are interested.

- BCCS has one open expedition this year, and that is over Memorial Day Weekend. Check with Keith Wheeland for more info.

- Spring NRO is May 13-14 in Newton, NJ.

- Spring VAR meet is the same weekend in Tucker Co., WV.

- The 1995 NSS Convention is in Blacksburg, Va. Carol Tideman has plenty of pre-registration forms for those interested.

- Keith Wheeland has copies of information packets given to land-owners during the Upper Susquehanna Valley and Ridge Survey work. Each packet contains stuff about cave conservation, gating, the Pa. Cave Law, and the NSS reward fund.

- John Chenger has WV Cave Survey magnets available for vehicle doors. He also has a large supply of vellum, mylar and other drafting supplies.

The business meeting was adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

Sarah Gutter, MAR Secretary

## Representatives to the 1995 MAR Business Meeting

Baltimore Grotto

Craig Hindman  
Carol Tideman

Commander Cody's Caving Club

Mike Mostardi  
Bill Vis

Franklin County Grotto

Don Arrowood

Jonathan D. Daniels  
Patrick Minnick  
Anne Shepard  
Howard White  
Greater Allentown Grotto  
Bert Ashbrook  
Mike Kistler  
Dean Snyder  
Huntingdon County Cave Hunters  
Derek W. Flaig  
Mark Lancaster  
Loyalhanna Grotto  
Bill Wolford  
Nittany Grotto  
Keith Christenson  
Joe Kearns  
Jim Kennedy  
Keith D. Wheeland  
Bet White  
Will White  
Mark Wolfe  
Philadelphia Grotto  
Doug Medville  
WVASS  
Hazel Medville  
York Grotto  
Karen Bange  
Dan Copenhaver  
Dave Gutter  
Sarah Gutter  
Jay Herbein  
Dale Ibberson  
Bob Miller  
Judi Stack  
George Sullivan  
Rebels  
John Chenger  
Patty Kennedy

## M.A.R. Bulletins Available

No.	County in Pennsylvania		Cost (without postage)
8	Blair	89 caves, 40 maps	6.50*
9	Huntingdon	94 caves, 36 maps	(Out of print)
10	Snyder	20 caves, 14 maps	2.00*
11	Centre	71 caves, 56 maps, 1 large map	9.00**
12	Mifflin	47 caves, 31 maps, 5 large maps	7.00**
13	Perry	13 caves, 6 maps	5.00*
14	Bucks	24 caves, 6 maps	3.00*
15	Lehigh	25 caves, 13 maps	3.25*
16	Northampton	24 caves, 13 maps, 1 large map	5.50*
17	Northumberland	20 caves, 10 maps	5.00*
18	Berks	64 caves, 32 maps	7.00**
19	Bedford	54 caves, 33 maps	5.50*

\* Add U.S. Postage \$1.25 each copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address.

\*\* Add U.S. Postage \$1.75 each copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address.

Non-U.S. postage is \$2.00 each copy; \$1.50 each additional to same address.

Make checks payable to M.A.R.: Order from  
Bette White, 542 Glenn Road, State College, PA 16803



# CCLUM Project Update

by Keith Christenson

Back in February of 1995, the Nittany Grotto kicked off the "Caves of the Upper Susquehanna Drainage" MAR Bulletin. Most people thought we were crazy, and some knew we were crazy, because nearly all the caves in the region are small caves with big water. Well, now that we've had some time to work on this area, I agree. We're crazy. Even so, a few interesting things have happened since February. I'm writing this as a brief update on some of them.

Fieldwork has relocated nearly all historical Clinton County Caves. Some, like Tylersville Cave, have undergone entrance collapse and are unenterable. Some, like Spider Sink, have been reopened by digging. Keith Wheeland hammered through a tight spot (Geezer Squeezer) and found a 40' pit leading to more than 100' of new passage in Spider Sink. Recent survey/push trips have mapped about 500' in this cave. Spider Sink was also the scene for a major cleanup October 14-15. Organized by Chris "Foom" Sanders, decades of trash were removed by dozens of volunteers. Landfill fees, materials, equipment, and hauling were all donated.

Boone's Shower Cave (Clinton Co.) was dug open, and is currently being surveyed. This was the first major find of the project. About 475' have been surveyed so far, and there are still multiple leads. The cave is over 85' deep and is traversed mostly by climbing up and down pits. Of course, there is some water and loose rock.

Other new caves in Clinton County include Leaping Trout (40') and Yellow Snail. Yellow Snail cave is a small (100') highly decorated cave in Nittany Valley. Several Caves have been remapped, including Elimsport (by Christenson and some Bald Eagle folks), Eiswert 2 (by Jim Kennedy and John Chenger), and Slab and Fissure Caves (by Kennedy and Christenson). More recently, Loganton cave was remapped and one trip went into Blessing Mountain Wells #2. Many leads are left unpushed in BMW2.

The Bald Eagle Grotto has joined up with the project to help finish up work in Nippenose Valley, Lycoming County. They have been doing lots of field work in this area and finding new (and old) caves. Also, the first round of water sampling has been done in Sugar Valley springs.

If you have old maps or information on caves and karst in the CCLUM project area (Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Union, and Montour Counties), please let me know. Even old trip reports from that area are useful. Contact Keith Christenson, Chairman, Nittany Grotto, 108 East Clinton Avenue, State College, PA 16803.

## EDITOR MOVES AGAIN

The editor of the MAR Breakdown and Vice-Chairman of the MAR is moving. The reason? A real job. Jim Kennedy will be moving to Austin, Texas by the time you get this issue. He will be working for Merlin Tuttle and the gang at Bat Conservation International as Director of the North American Bat House Project. Who says that playing with bats doesn't pay off?

Jim's wife, Patty, will be at their current address until Christmas. She will join him after finishing up some schooling. You can call her there if you need to track Jim down in a hurry. A more permanent address will be forthcoming.

## New Passage Opened

By John Chenger

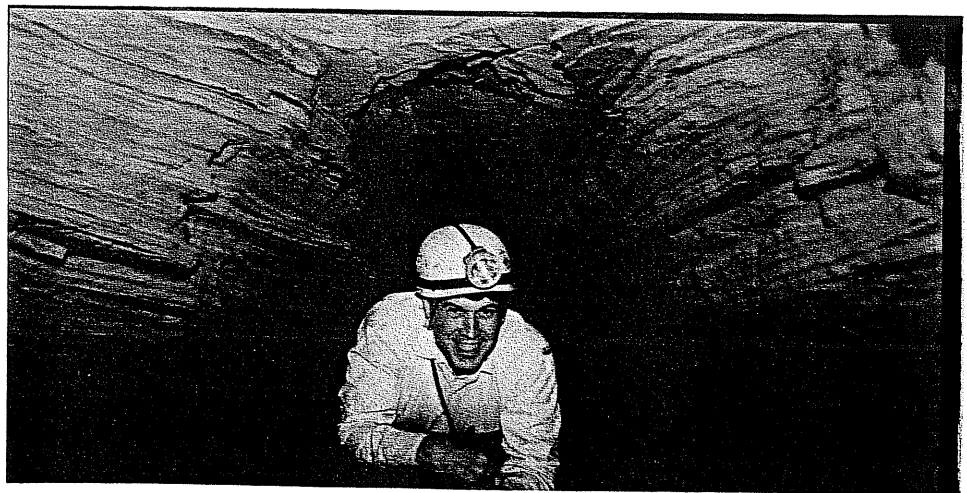
Since the early 1970's cavers and scientists have predicted additional cave passages in certain parts of Laurel Caverns. This prompted hours of tedious digging over the years in various portions of the cave. Although several tunnels were created, no dig ever intersected an air-filled, human-traversable passage.

On a recent Monday evening however, a team of five explorers discovered more virgin cave than has been found since the Civil War.

Using a fire truck's high-pressure water to complement the usual assortment of shovels and pry bars, the group extended a dig which was started nearly twenty years ago by the present owner of the cave, David Cale. After about fifteen feet of hydro-digging, the dig intersected an air-filled cave passage heading southwest for over 600 feet.

The average ceiling height in this new section, tentatively called Cale's Canyon, is about three feet. Plans call for further hydro-digging nearby in an attempt to uncover at least four other predicted passages.

Cale Canyon parallels the Grand Canyon. The passage has more than 100' of relief and the upper portion breaks into a small maze. The location of Cale Canyon is not being disclosed until scientific work is completed.



Smilin' Dave Cale is ecstatic as he scoops booty ahead of the survey team.

# VOTE FOR MAR OFFICERS!

Due to the lack of regular elections at our Fall Field Meet, we are including our first-ever Mail-in Ballot! Vote for no more than three candidates. (You can vote for only one or two, if you wish.) Ballots with more than three candidates will be disqualified. Only cavers belonging to a grotto affiliated with the Mid-Appalachian Region are eligible to vote. You may tear out this page and use as a ballot, OR, you may make a copy of this page, OR, just use a scrap of paper as a ballot. In any case, please include your name on the envelope to discourage ballot-box stuffing. The ballots will be separated from the envelopes before counting begins. Send the completed ballot to **Bette White, 542 Glenn Road, State College, PA 16803**. Bette White and Keith Wheeland will count the ballots. All information, except the results of the election, will be kept confidential. Your ballot must be postmarked by **November 24** to be counted.

The positions available are Chair, Vice-chair, and Secretary. Bette White is our permanent Treasurer. All terms begin after the elections, which means that the first duties of the new officers will be to prepare the *MAR Breakdown* announcing the February Business Meeting. The **Chair** is responsible for presiding over the February Business Meeting, getting someone to sponsor the Spring and Fall Meets, and conducting elections at the Fall Meet. The Chair also represents the MAR to the NSS and the general public. The **Vice-chair** fills in for the Chair if necessary, and publishes the *MAR Breakdown* three times a year. The **Secretary** takes minutes at the Business meeting and transcribes them for publication in the Spring issue of the *MAR Breakdown*. The Secretary may also handle correspondence and routine paperwork (like the I/O report).

**THE CANDIDATES** These are the cavers who have accepted nominations for MAR offices. Write-in spaces are available in case you want to vote for someone else! Bios are by your Editor. **Vote for no more than three!**

- Bert Ashbrook** NSS 25104 Greater Allentown Grotto. Former Chair, Editor of the *Pack Rat Scat*, former MAR officer and probably lots of other things as well. Chairman of MAR committee to develop management plan for Pa. Game Commission caves. Author of at least one MAR Bulletin and a WVASS Bulletin. Caving for at least ten years. Active in WVACS, Westmoreland County (Pa.), and eastern Pa.
- John Chenger** NSS 33295 Mountain State Grotto. Former Vice-chair of Loyalhanna Grotto. Former editor of *Loyalhanna Troglodyte*, now editor of *Joint-Controlled Caver*. Co-author of a book about Laurel Caverns; currently coordinating a new MAR Bulletin. Caving for seven years. CCUS coordinator for PA. Active in Western Pa. and Randolph, Tucker, and Pocahontas Counties, WV.
- Keith Christenson** NSS 33154 Nittany Grotto. Chair of Nittany Grotto. Former Treasurer of Loyalhanna Grotto. Coordinating field work for an upcoming MAR Bulletin. Caving for about seven years. Active in Western and North Central Pa. and the Burnsville Cove (Bath Co., VA.).
- Sarah Gutter** NSS 24175 York Grotto. Current Secretary of York and incumbent Secretary of MAR. Not interested in any other MAR offices. Caving for fifteen years? Active in Central PA., probably other places as well.
- Chris (Foom) Sanders** NSS 39390 Nittany Grotto. No caving offices held now or in the past. Caving for three years. Very active in preparing upcoming MAR Bulletin. Organized major cleanup of Spider Sink in Sugar Valley, Pa. A new kid on the block, but enthusiastic. Active in North-Central Pa.

(write-in) \_\_\_\_\_

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***In  
this  
issue:***

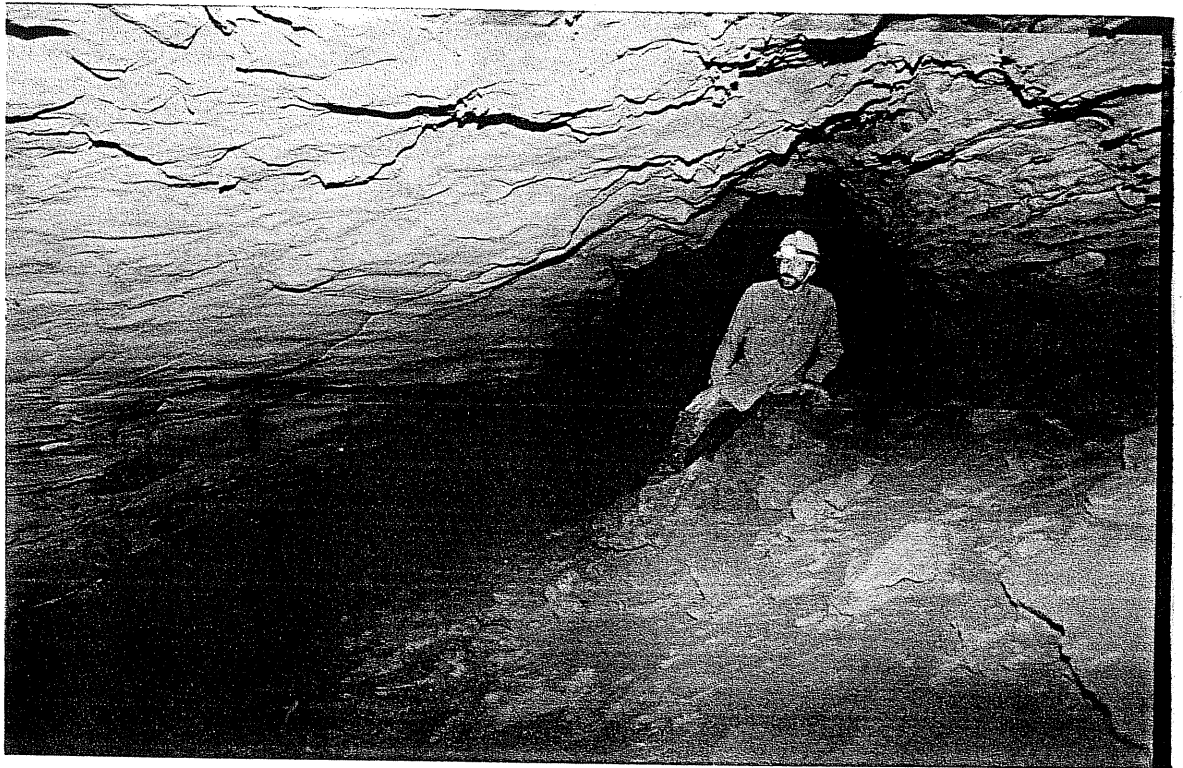
**M.A.R. minutes  
Field meet report  
Significant caves  
Virgin passage  
CCLUM project  
Editor moves  
Election ballot  
Rescue class**

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**Breakdown Editor**  
*Jim "Crash" Kennedy*

**Layout/Design**  
*John "And Burn" Chenger*

**Production/Circulation**  
*Keith "Postman" Wheeland*



***Laurel Cavern's employee Bill "The Hoser" Moser  
pauses during the recon of Cale Canyon.***



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