



# BREAKDOWN

Volume 15, Number 1, April 2000

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 \$5 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 \$5 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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## MAR Spring Field Meet set for May 19—21, 2000 PCC Breakfast Sunday A.M.

### *Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy T-Shirts*

White Fruit of the Loom 'Lofteez' Shirts  
Hand silk screened with the conservancy logo  
Available in medium, large and X-large  
\$8 plus \$1 shipping for each shirt ordered

Order form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

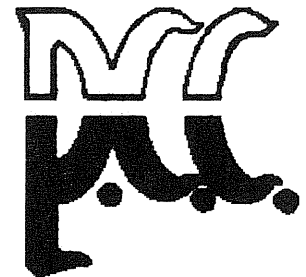
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_ Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

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Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_



Make checks payable to: PA Cave Conservancy  
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Neffs, PA 18065

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# Minutes of the MAR Business Meeting

February 26, 2000

The meeting was called to order by MAR Chair, Paul Hinnebasch at 1:40 PM at the home of Jay Herbein, Harrisburg, PA.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the 1999 meeting were read by MAR secretary Rich Rosevear. A motion to accept the 1999 minutes was made by Bob Gulden and seconded by Doug Medville. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report was read by treasurer Bette White. Printed copies of the report were distributed. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Kim Kehs and seconded by Pat Minnick. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

**MAR Breakdown:** Karen Bange reported that she is the new editor of the "Breakdown" and that reports could be e-mailed or snail mailed to her.

**1999 Field Meets:** Hosted by York Grotto, celebrating their 40th anniversary, on the property of George and Karen Bange. There were 170 registrants. Bette White stated that the Nittany Grotto's payment was larger than the York Grotto's. Bette has submitted a qualified correction: "When the York Grotto profits from the Field Meet are resolved, then they will have had the highest account generated from a MAR Field Meet to date. For this we congratulate all the York Grotto members and thank Karen and George Bange for the use of their property."

Dale Ibberson said that financial matters relating to the event would be brought up under new business.

**1999 Spring Meet:** Hosted by Commander Cody Caving Club at the Lazy "A" Campground, Martinsburg, West Virginia. Thanks for the success of this meet go to both the Commander Cody and Philly Grottos.

## Old Business:

**MAR Bulletins:** Will White reported on the status of the following bulletins:

**CCLUM** (Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Union and Montour): Keith Christenson will be finished with this project in the fall of 2000.

**Fayette County:** Jim Kennedy is working with Kim Metzgar on this bulletin and it is halfway completed.

**Huntington County:** More work needed to be done on this bulletin.

**York County:** Patti Anderson reported that this bulletin is still in progress. A first draft has been completed.

**Sinkholes of Pennsylvania:** Jay Herbein reported this publication is available free of charge from Pennsylvania Geological Survey, P.O. Box 8453, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8453. The publication is ESII "Sinkholes of Pennsylvania".

**Pennsylvania Cave Database:** Keith Wheeland reports no news. Updates are received and entered in the database. Current count of Pennsylvania cave in database is probably the same as last reported.

**Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy** meeting will follow the MAR business meeting.

**Cave Conservation:** no report

**Maitland Cave** is under contract for sale. \$79,900 is being asked for the property. Keith Wheeland was contacted for reference.

**Spring 2000 MAR:** The Pittsburgh Grotto has stepped in to host the event which will be held the third weekend in May (19-21) at Little Meadows Lake and Campground, Grantville, Maryland. Registration will begin after 6:00 PM, May 19.

**Fall 2000 MAR:** Loyalhanna Grotto tentatively agreed to host this meet. Kim Metzger reported status unknown.

**Spring 2001 MAR:** Franklin County Grotto will host. Pat Minnick reported this meet would probably be held at Green Castle Legion in Williamson, PA. The date will be based on the VAR schedule.

**Fall 2001 MAR:** Central Jersey Grotto volunteered to host. Status unknown.

**COG:** No report. Carol Tilderman mentioned that the COG website is linked to the NSS website.

**Bette White** stated that she is not pulling \$2.00 of the sale of every

Bulletin #20 because the cost of producing this bulletin is not yet paid for.

Craig Hindman pointed out that, according to the minutes of the 1996 MAR business meeting, the money to be donated to MAKC from the sale of Bulletin #20 was to be put into a fund.

Kim Metzgar contended that expenses of producing Bulletin #20 did not have to be paid before MAKC received its monies. The \$2.00 from the sale of each bulletin should be taken for this donation at the time of every sale.

A motion was made by Craig Hindman to ask the PCC and MAKC to return to the MAR treasury funds misappropriated to them. The motion was seconded by Dusty Gulden.

Discussion ensued and Hazel Medville proposed that all previous motions regarding this matter be rescinded and the MAR would give monies to the conservancies without attachment to the sale of Bulletin #20.

Hazel Medville put this into a motion seconded by Pat Minnick. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

**Pennsylvania Game Commission:** Dale Ibberson has been in constant contact with the PGC trying to establish and maintain good relations. He presented the commission with a map of Shofer Cave aiding in this effort.

**Indian Cave:** Dean Snyder reported a retraction by the "Bath Home News", Bath, PA taking credit for the map of Indian Cave and giving rightful credit to Bert Ashbrook.

Break- 2:55-3:30 PM

Bette White thanked Kim Metzgar for her efforts in selling many copies of Bulletin #20.

**New Business:**

**MAR and York Grotto** faced a financial problem regarding the Fall 1999 MAR meet. The MAR also needs an attendee list from the event.

Dale Ibberson reported because of accounting shortcomings of a previous York Grotto treasurer, the grotto appeared to have no funds. As a result York Grotto held up sending MAR the money from the 1999 Fall Meet. Dale took full responsibility for the matter. York Grotto has sent \$600.00 (approximately half of what is owed) to MAR and will forward the balance as soon as Dale notifies the York treasurer of the remainder dues. A list of Fall 1999 MAR attendees has been sent to Keith Wheeland.

George Bange suggested the matter be settled as soon as possible to avoid complicating accounting. To this end, Patti Anderson proposed a York Grotto member meeting to resolve the situation and pay the MAR in full.

Karen Bange mentioned the possibility of a problem in regards to a rental tent that was used at Fall 1999 MAR. The tent rental people did an unsatisfactory job and, to date, have not billed the York Grotto for the tent used.

**Salute:** In regard to the problems associated with MAR Bulletin #20 and the question of whether York Grotto or

Nittany Grotto made the most money sponsoring an MAR meet, Kim Metzgar and Dale Ibberson respectfully, mooned, officially and in tandem, the MAR and Bette White.

**MAR Meet Finances:** Pat Minnick observed that any profits made from an MAR meet go to the MAR and any deficits are absorbed by the hosting grotto. He proposed that effective with the Spring 2000 MAR any profits from an MAR meet would not be a mandatory donation to the MAR.

Carol Tiderman suggested that 100% of the MAR meet profits going to the host grotto was a big step and that instead 50% should go to the MAR and 50% would be used at the discretion of the hosting grotto.

Harris Martin questioned the impact of this concept on future finances of the MAR. Kim Kehs and Bette White attested that few if any profits are ever made on MAR meets and Will White stated that MAR bulletins account for the MAR's resources.

Patti Anderson's request that this policy be made retroactive to the Fall 1999 MAR was denied.

Pat Minnick made the motion that beyond the \$5.00 collected for the MAR Breakdown, all profits made from MAR meets be divided 50/50 between the MAR and the hosting grotto. The motion was seconded by Kim Kehs. A vote was taken and the motion was carried to be effective immediately.

Pat Minnick made a motion to allow Pittsburgh Grotto to retain 100% of any profits from the Spring 2000 MAR since

they stepped in as host at the last minute and were unaware of the procedure regarding profits.

The Pittsburgh Grotto declined and Pat withdrew the motion.

It was established that all MAR grottos receive the MAR Breakdown and any grotto hosting a meet receives guidelines for the procedure.

**MAR Website:** There are several volunteers to build an MAR website. The cost of the site will be \$12.00 a year and it will be linked to the NSS site.

Carol Tiderman made a motion to establish a MAR website at \$12.00/year. Kim Kehs seconded the motion, a vote was taken and the motion passed.

It was established that the webmaster needs to be an NSS member and will submit the site information to the NSS. Keith Wheeland, Karen Bange and Carol Tiderman agreed to be advisors to the webmaster.

**Cleversburg Sink:** Pat Minnick reported a problem with the keys/lock for the Cleversburg Sink gate. There seem to be different locks and the owner and various grottos now possess several different keys. Pat will follow up on this situation.

**PCC Website:** Dave Fricke has established a PCC website linked to the NSS website:

[www.cave.org/conservancy/PCC](http://www.cave.org/conservancy/PCC).

Karen Bange had a sample of the PCC website and thanked Dave Fricke for his effort on this project.

**Miscellaneous:** Copies of the PA Cave laws and landowner liabilities act were available as well as cave protection signs.

The After meeting party would be at Dale Ibberson's.

Bette White has order forms for MAR bulletins.

Dave Fricke made a motion to adjourn seconded by Pat Minnick. A vote was taken and motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Rosevear  
MAR Recording Secretary

Representatives at the meeting:  
Baltimore Grotto, York Grotto, Nittany Grotto, Greater Allentown Grotto, Franklin County Grotto, Philly Grotto, Pittsburgh Grotto, Commander Cody Caving Club, Central New Jersey Grotto, Mid Atlantic Karst Conservancy, Wvass, Seven Valleys Grotto, DC Grotto.

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## Mark Your Calendars

**Spring MAR May 19 – 22**

hosted by Pittsburgh Grotto at Little Meadows Campground, Grantsville MD

**Fundraiser Breakfast**

sponsored by the Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy on Sunday morning at the MARmeet



# Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy Corner

*This is a summary of the minutes of the meeting.*

PCC Minutes, Feb. 26, 2000  
The meeting was called to order by President, Pat Minnick at the home of Jay Herbein, Harrisburg, PA., at 5:06 p.m., Saturday, February 26, 2000.

The following officers were present.

President: Pat Minnick  
V. Pres: Karen Bange  
Secretary: Keith D. Wheeland  
Treasurer: George Bange

Representatives were present from Baltimore Grotto, Bucks County Grotto, Central New Jersey Grotto, Commander Cody Caving Club, Franklin County Grotto, Greater Allentown Grotto, Nittany Grotto, Philadelphia Grotto, Seven Valleys Grotto, and York Grotto. There were no representatives for Bald Eagle Grotto, Huntingdon Co. Cave Hunters, Loyalhanna Grotto, nor Pittsburgh Grotto.

Other individuals present were George Bange, Tom Metzgar (MAKC), David Fricke, Andrew Churlik, Carol Tideman, Alan Horn, Bob McLaughlin, Pat Taylor, and Anne Shepard.

The secretary, Keith Wheeland, read the report of the previous meeting. No corrections were offered.

The treasurer, George Bange, reported a balance of \$248.00 in the checking account, and \$1,394.63 in the savings account for a total of \$1,642.63.

## OLD BUSINESS:

The secretary reported that Pittsburgh Grotto has responded, and is interested in the PCC.

**PROJECT LIST:** Only caves where anything new to report have been included.

**Deerbone Cave, Centre County, Pa.**  
The owner is working with his surveyor to have the land subdivided and get the necessary approvals. The PCC is still in line to purchase the tract of land containing the cave entrance.

**Devil's Den, Sussex County, N.J.**  
John Tudek reported that there has been some activity near the cave entrance. A proposal to build a sewerage treatment plant near the site has been made. John will attend an upcoming public meeting concerning this issue.

John was instructed by the PCC to inform the owner that the PCC would be willing to accept rights to cave access and manage access through the Central New Jersey Grotto.

**Dragon Cave, Berks County, Pa.**  
Mike Mostardi reported that a development has been proposed for the site near the cave entrance. The township supervisors want the cave gated or closed off.

**McClure Cave, Snyder County, Pa.**  
Karen Bange sent a copy of Living on Karst to the owner on November 1, 1999. She has had no response.

**Peiper Cave, Cumberland County, Pa.** The property (five acres) on which the cave is located is for sale. The cave has been added to the project list. Jean Hartman of York Grotto offered to get information about the status.

**Web Page:** The PCC website is at [www.caves.org/conservancy/pcc](http://www.caves.org/conservancy/pcc)  
Thanks to David Fricke for a job well done.

**Land-Owner Relations:** Karen Bange reported that she had sent PCC Christmas cards to the owners of seven caves. If you would like the PCC to send a card in the future to a cave in your area, please contact Karen.

**Section 501(c)(3):** The application was filed with the IRS.

**Fund Raising T-Shirts:** Dean Snyder has PCC T-Shirts for sale at \$8 each. Dean reported that all proceeds from this point will be profit which will be turned over to the PCC. This will be reflected in the next treasurer's report.

**Quorum:** The By-Laws were amended to change the size of a quorum from the present requirement of two-thirds of the Voting Grottos to one-half of the Voting Grottos.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Seven Valleys Grotto:** The Seven Valleys Grotto was recognized as a Voting Grotto of the PCC.

**Election of Officers:** Elections were held and the current slate of officers was re-elected.

**Official Bank of the PCC:** Action was taken to designate the Juniata Valley Bank as a depository of the PCC.

**Fundraising:** The PCC will be announcing several fundraising activities. Look for them in the future.

**Next meeting:** To be held Sunday, May 21, 2000 at 10 a.m. at the site of the MAR Spring Meet.

Respectfully submitted, Keith D. Wheeland, Secy.



## **Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy Breakfast Fundraiser**

7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning at the Spring MAR  
\$5 per person 12 and over  
\$3 per person under 12

***All profits will benefit the Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy***



# MAR 2000 is HERE???

May 2000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Join us at Little Meadows Campground for a weekend of fun and lots of caving!

Registration begins Friday, May 19 after 6:00 pm. Your registration fee includes campsite facilities and campground, beverages Saturday night, Appalachian music, a bonfire, and lots of caving! Guide books and cave maps will be available upon registration. Bring your own meals, or enjoy a fundraising dinner Saturday night and Sunday morning, both for a nominal charge.

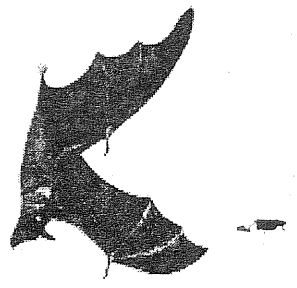
Campsite checkout is Sunday morning, May 21. Please plan to stay and enjoy the entire weekend!

## Little Meadows Campground

Little Meadows is located on Chestnut Ridge Road, Exit 22 off of Interstate 68 in Grantsville, Maryland. Non-cavers can enjoy the stocked lake (additional fee for fishing). Miles of hiking trails are also available. Pets are welcomed as long as they are leashed. For additional information, please contact a Pittsburgh Grotto Member or call Little Meadows directly at (301) 895-5675.

## Directions to Little Meadows

From Pittsburgh, take PA Turnpike (I-76) east to Somerset exit. Take Rte 219 south to I68/40 and follow MAR signs. From DC, take 495 west to 270 north. Follow I 70 west then take I-68 to exit 22 and follow MAR signs.



## Registration

The cost for the weekend is \$25.00 per adult, \$20.00 for ages 12-21 and \$5.00 for children under 12 (in same tent as adult). Register prior to May 1, 2000 and receive a \$3.00 discount.

Yes, I want to cave the millennium! Please register me for MAR 2000. I have enclosed my check.

# of Attendees \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Registrant #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. Type \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Grotto Affiliation/NSS # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Registrant #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. Type \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Grotto Affiliation/NSS # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

The Pittsburgh Grotto Presents  
MAR 2000

Please make checks payable to:

The Pittsburgh Grotto  
C/O Patricia Taylor  
366 Ridgewood Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15229

For more information contact  
Paula Bradley (412) 243-9958 or  
Bob McLaughlin (724) 285-8310

# MAR 2000

The Pittsburgh Grotto was founded in 1947 as a chapter of the National Speleological Society. It is the only organization in the Pittsburgh area dedicated solely to the exploration and study of caves.

Please join us in welcoming a new millennium of caving as we kick off the year 2000.

Little Meadows Campground offers an easily accessible central location with many interesting caves within a short drive. Brush up on the area before you head to the 2000 NSS Convention!



Little Meadows Campground  
Exit 22 off Interstate 68  
Grantsville, MD  
(301) 895-5675

The Pittsburgh  
Grotto Presents

**MAR 2000**  
**May 19-21**  
**Little Meadows**  
**Campground**



**Cave the Millennium**

**MAY 2000**  
**Pittsburgh Grotto**

Visit the Pittsburgh Grotto on the web at  
<http://members.aol.com/midoet/grotto2.htm>

  
**Pittsburgh Grotto**  
**MAR 2000 Coordinator**

Please make checks payable to:  
The Pittsburgh Grotto  
C/O Patricia Taylor  
366 Ridgewood Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15229  
For more information contact  
Paula Bradley (412) 243-9958 or  
Bob McLaughlin (724) 285-8310

***New! New! New!***

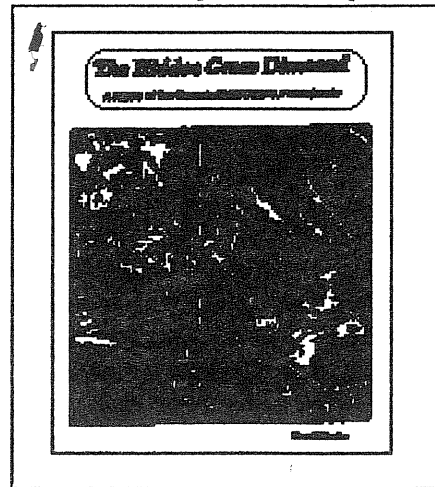
***The Hidden Green Diamond***  
***A History of the Caves In Berks County, Pennsylvania***

by Dean H. Snyder

*74 pages!*  
*72 illustrations!*  
*150 references!*

This book narrates the history of discovery and exploration of the caves in Berks County, Pennsylvania, from the time of its earliest inhabitants, the Lenni Lenapes, to the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Some of the caves described include Crystal, Shofer, Dragon, Dreibelbis, and Onyx, and also the lesser-known Merkle, Shearer, and Morgan.

***The Hidden Green Diamond*** is the result of fieldwork and over five years of research at libraries, museums, and historical societies.



\$15 plus \$2 shipping (\$1 shipping for each additional copy)

\_\_\_\_ Copies

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Send to; Dean H. Snyder  
3213 Fairland Drive  
Schnecksville, PA 18078

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**The Conservation Code**

From the Internet

- Clumsiness can wreck cave formations
- Observe set routes - they are there to safeguard the cave
- Never leave litter or spent carbide in a cave - pollution kills cave life
- Set a good example for others when caving
- Enlist the help of experts to record anything new you may find
- Responsible leaders will avoid taking novices where they may accidentally cause damage
- Vandalism means damage to stals, mud floors, rimstone pools etc.
- Alert your local grotto to developments that may possibly damage or destroy caves
- Take care not to disturb cave life, especially bats, or remains that may be of archaeological or historical mining interest
- Initiate measures to help look after caves and mines - collect litter, clean off graffiti, etc
- Offer your support to others who initiate conservation measures
- Natural caves and old mines are part of our natural heritage - help protect them

MAR Breakdown  
 RR 2 Box 360  
 Mt Pleasant Mills, PA 17853

**Mid-Appalachian Region Bulletins**  
 NSS Member Price List

1-4	REPRINT VOLUME: Constitution and Caves of Shippensburg	7.00+ postage*
8	REPRINT Caves of Blair Co., PA 89 caves, 40 maps	6.50+ postage*
9	Caves of Huntingdon Co., PA	OUT OF PRINT
10	Caves of Snyder Co., PA 20 caves, 14 maps	2.00 +postage*
11	Caves of Centre Co., PA 71 caves, 56 maps/1 large map	9.00+ 1.75 each postage♣
12	Caves of Mifflin Co., PA 47 caves, 31 maps/5 large maps	7.00+1.75 each postage♣
13	Caves of Perry Co., PA 13 caves 6 maps	5.00+postage*
14	Caves of Bucks, Co., PA	OUT OF PRINT
15	Caves of Lehigh Co., PA 25 caves, 13 maps	3.25+postage*
16	Caves of Northhampton Co., PA 24 caves, 13 maps/1 large map	5.50+postage*
17	Caves of Northumberland Co., PA 20 caves, 10 maps	5.00+postage*
18	Caves of Berks Co., PA 64 caves, 32 maps	7.00+1.75 each postage♣
19	Caves of Bedford Co., PA 54 caves, 33 maps	5.50+postage*
20	Caves of Westmoreland Co., PA 337 caves, 187 maps/10 large maps	29.50+3.00 each postage♦

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

♣\$1.75 postage each bulletin

\*Non-U.S. Postage Handling: \$2.00 for each copy; \$1.50 each additional copy

♦\$3.00 postage each bulletin

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