



BREAKDOWN

Volume 15, Number 3, January 2001

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 Business Meeting set for February 24, 2001 PCC Meeting to follow

The Mid Appalachian Region Business Meeting will be held at the home of Jay Herbein on February 24, 2001 at 1:30 p.m. A meeting of the Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy will follow the MAR Business Meeting. You will find a map to the meeting on page 2.

Fall MAR Meet was held at the Seven Mountains Campground Story on page 3

Newly elected officers are listed to the left on this page. Elections were held at the Fall MAR meet.

Inside

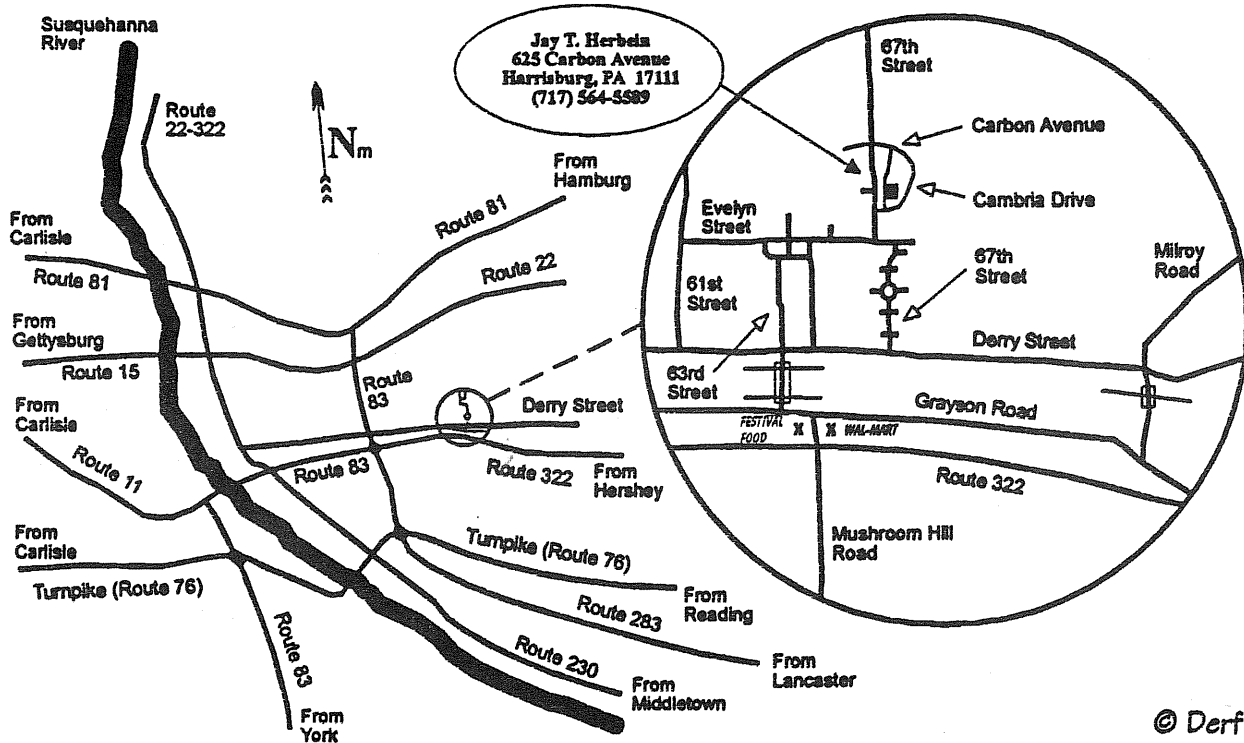
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Map of Business Meeting Site

Maps to Dale Ibberson's will be available at the business meeting



From the East on Route 322:

Turn right on Mushroom Hill Road (look for the Wal-Mart and Festival Food Store) at the second traffic light after Hummelstown.

From the West on Route 322:

Intercept Route 322 toward Hershey. Turn left on Mushroom Hill Road (look for the Wal-Mart and Festival Food Store).

Once on Mushroom Hill Road, proceed one block to Grayson Road (T-intersection) and turn left. Travel one more block and turn right onto a bridge which crosses the railroad tracks. Turn right on Derry Street. Follow Derry Street to 67th Street which will be a left hand turn up the hill. (The street sign has been missing for several years so watch street numbers.) Follow the inset map above to reach Jay's house.

Note: If you are driving from the West on I-83 N., there is no exit at Derry Street. Use the Route 322 exit.

MAR 2000 Field Meet

by Keith D. Wheeland

The MAR 2000 Fall Field Meet was held September 15-17, 2000 at the Seven Mountains Campground near Potters Mills, Pa. It was hosted by Nittany Grotto. Keith Wheeland was Event Chair. The event was scheduled on a date when the Penn State football game would be out of town.

There were 35 persons who pre-registered. On-site registration opened at about 3:30 p.m. on Friday. In total, 63 persons registered. Fifty-six of those paid the \$5 MAR fee in their registration. Some of the registrants signed up for the meal only. Help at registration was provided by Keith Wheeland, Andrew Churlik, and Tim Roberts. Larry Moore provided general help along with other volunteers.

A guidebook with a cover printed in color was prepared by Keith Wheeland. The color cover may have been a first for an MAR field meet.

Soda was served beginning Friday evening and lasting through the event.

Assorted wet suit parts, gloves, and booties were provided free for the taking, compliments of Nittany Grotto.

On Saturday morning there were guided trips to the following caves. The list shows the cave and leader.

Kooken trip 1 - Bryan "Crow" Crowell
Kooken trip 2 - Pat Minnick
Alexander Caverns boat tour - Dave Hollick
Alexander Caverns wading - J.D. Lewis
Rupert - George Bange
Milroy #2 - Steve Shawver

Other cavers went shopping and enjoyed other activities.

Saturday evening, a meal was served which was prepared by Andrew Churlik. His helpers were Keith Wheeland, Bob Gulden, and Dusty Gulden. Servers were Andrew, Keith, Tim Roberts, Bob Gulden, and Alex Hofler. The menu was vegetarian sweet and sour sauce with stir-fry vegetables with or without added chicken. This was served over rice. A fruit salad with fresh apples and bananas was also served. In addition there was bread & oleo, coffee, tea, cupcakes, and fortune cookies.

Gary Dunmire was in charge of the keg which was opened about 5 p.m.

Door prizes were provided by B&C WunderWear, Gangsta Mappers, Karst Sports, Motrin Grotto, Nittany Grotto, On Rope 1, Inc, and SpeleoBooks. Ramona Josefczyk was in charge of soliciting door prizes.

Small fire-ring fires and hot spiced cider (furnished by Chris "Foom" Sanders) provided warmth against the cool temperatures (down to 38 degrees F.)

On Sunday morning there were plenty of sweets along with hot coffee, tea, and hot cocoa.

A PCC meeting was held on Sunday morning. Other cavers went into McAlisterville Cave.

Elections were held for MAR Officers. The top vote getters were Bob Gulden, Steve Shawver, and Joe Schock. They decided upon the following positions:

Chair	Bob Gulden
Vice Chair	Steve Shawver
Secretary	Joe Schock
Bette White is the permanent Treasurer	

MAR's income from the event totaled \$286.96 (\$280 from registrations and \$6.96

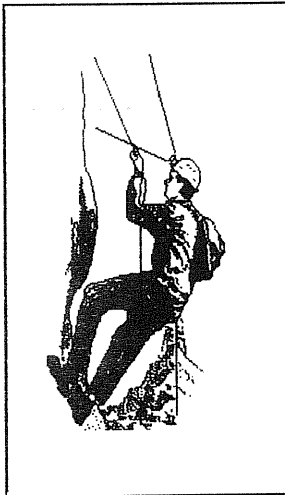
which was half the profit realized by Nittany Grotto, the host).

The maintenance man at the campground expressed his surprise at the tidiness and cleanliness of the cavers. This is in total contrast to the mess which is made by football fans (win or lose) who stay at the site during Penn State home games.

Thanks to all of you who attended this event, and to you who volunteered. You made it another successful MAR field meet.

MAR Spring Meet

Hosted by Franklin County Grotto



Keep on the lookout
for specific dates and location

Details will posted in the
Spring 2001 MAR Breakdown

Contact the FCG if you have questions

Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy Corner

The meeting was called to order by President, Pat Minnick at the Seven Mountains Campground near Potters Mills, PA, at 9:39 a.m., Sunday, September 17, 2000.

The following officers were present.

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

Representatives were present from Bald Eagle Grotto, Baltimore Grotto, Commander Cody Caving Club, Franklin County Grotto, Huntingdon County Cave Hunters, Nittany Grotto, Philadelphia Grotto, Seven Valleys Grotto and York Grotto. No representatives were present from Bucks County Grotto, Central New Jersey Grotto, Greater Allentown Grotto, nor Pittsburgh Grotto. Other individuals present were Larry Moore, Josh Rubinstein, Steve Shawver, Carol Tideman, Nathan Hirneisen, Cary Shafer, Frank "Roo" Yoder, Kelly Moore, and Anne Shepard.

The treasurer, George Bange, reported a balance of \$236.00 in the checking account, and \$1,875.57 in the savings account for a total of \$2,111.57.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Secretary reported that he had sent proxy forms to all representatives. He received one for York.

Loyalhanna Grotto resigned from the PCC.

PROJECT LIST:

Deerbone Cave, Centre County, Pa. - Keith Wheeland reported that he had spoken with the owner, John Ellenberger. The owner decided not to pursue the matter further with the Planning Commission. The person living next door wanted the property between the cave tract and the highway. Without a deeded access to the cave tract, the Planning Commission would not approve the subdivision. This item will be dropped from the list.

Devil's Den, Sussex County, N.J. - No report.

Dragon Cave, Berks County, Pa. - Mike Mostardi reported that it appears that the cave now is on a 20 acre plot in a subdivision. The owner doesn't want to close the cave, but must do something to restrict access to appease the Planning Commission. The gate which was placed in the cave has already been breached. Mike will contact the owner.

Lime Sinks Cave, Mifflin County, Pa. The owner contacted Seven Valleys Grotto to express concern that many persons were visiting the cave and to inquire whether something could be done about it. Seven Valleys will contact the owner to explore gating and other options.

Smith Cave, Blair County, Pa. Derek Flaig will contact the mining company which owns the cave to explore options.

Duffield Cave, Franklin County, Pa. Pat Minnick reported that the owner had contacted Ken Jones of Franklin County Grotto to ask for ideas in setting up a management plan for the cave. This after an accident in the cave where a young girl who had permission to visit the cave became stuck and had to be rescued. Grottos should send copies of management plans which they use for other caves to Ken. This way he will have other ideas which he may be able to incorporate into a plan for Duffield. Franklin County Grotto made a motion to add this to the project list. Baltimore seconded. Motion passed.

Web Page: David Fricke, the web master, provided a written report.

NEW BUSINESS:

South Jersey Grotto was accepted as a member of the PCC.

Karen Bange will serve as Chair of an *ad hoc* committee to develop a brochure for the PCC.

Dean Snyder has PCC T-Shirts for sale at \$8 each.

The Treasurer's Report showed that one of our fund raising efforts raised \$138. The breakfast brought in another \$115.15.

The next meeting of the PCC will be after the MAR Business Meeting at the home of Jay Herbein on February 24, 2001.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m., Sept. 17, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith D. Wheeland, Secy.

PCC Officer Elections

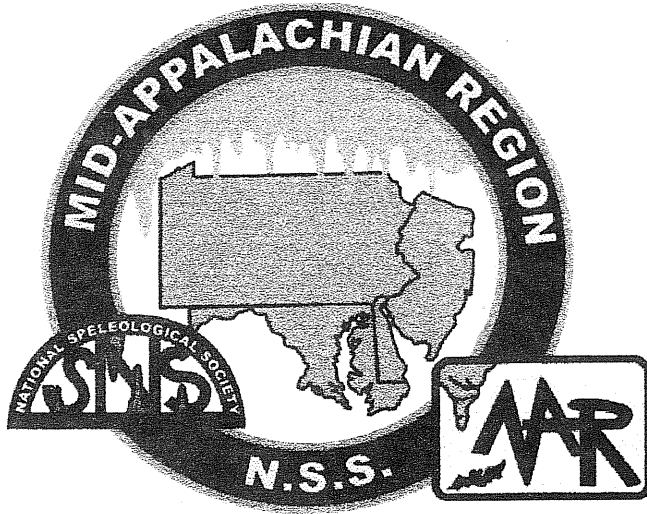
The PCC will be electing new officers at the February meeting. If you are interested in having your name added to the slate, please contact a current officer.

Even if you are not interested in being an officer, plan to attend the February meeting and see what the PCC is all about.

Get involved in cave conservation!

Unofficial MAR Logo

Design by Chris Catherman



Chris Catherman designed the unofficial MAR logo shown on the left. The logo is on the MAR web site, also designed by Chris. A vote will be taken at the upcoming MAR Business Meeting on making this logo the official MAR logo. Let the MAR know what you think of the logo.

Don't forget to check out both the MAR web site and the PCC web site for the latest information and upcoming events!

The MAR web page is at: www.caves.org/region/mar/

The PCC web page is at: www.caves.org/conservancy/pcc

The IT Committee is responsible for the NSS Internet presence. In addition to maintaining the NSS Web Page, members of the IT Committee will be asked to develop a variety of linked Web Pages to benefit the membership. Do you have the talent and the time it takes to be a dedicated NSS Volunteer? Are you dependable, reliable, and able to effectively communicate? Do you like to be given a task or create the task to be accomplished? If you are interested in joining or leading the NSS IT volunteer team, please contact NSS OVP Scott Fee: scottfee@pipeline.com.

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	OUT OF PRINT
9	Caves of Huntingdon Co., PA	OUT OF PRINT
10	Caves of Snyder Co., PA	2.00 +postage*
11	Caves of Centre Co., PA	20 caves, 14 maps 71 caves, 56 maps/1 large map
12	Caves of Mifflin Co., PA	9.00+ 1.75 each postage♣
13	Caves of Perry Co., PA	47 caves, 31 maps/5 large maps 13 caves, 6 maps
14	Caves of Bucks, Co., PA	7.00+1.75 each postage♣
15	Caves of Lehigh Co., PA	5.00+postage*
16	Caves of Northampton Co., PA	OUT OF PRINT
17	Caves of Northumberland Co., PA	25 caves, 13 maps 24 caves, 13 maps/1 large map
18	Caves of Berks Co., PA	3.25+postage*
19	Caves of Bedford Co., PA	5.50+postage*
20	Caves of Westmoreland Co., PA	54 caves, 33 maps 337 caves, 187 maps/10 large maps
		7.00+1.75 each postage♣
		29.50+3.00 each postage♦

* U.S. Postage Handling: \$1.25 each copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address
 *Non-U.S. Postage Handling: \$2.00 for each copy; \$1.50 each additional copy

♣\$1.75 postage each bulletin
 ♦\$3.00 postage each bulletin

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Order from: Bette White, RR 1 Box 527, Petersburg, PA 16669-9211