



BREAKDOWN

Volume 28, Number 2, August 2013

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 \$3 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 \$3 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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Fall MAR 2013 September 27-29 Lincoln Caverns Huntingdon, PA

Hosted by:
Nittany Grotto
Grotto's 65th Anniversary

*****NOTICE*****

The MAR Breakdown will be going "digital" in the near future. To ensure that you receive notification of the latest MAR Breakdown publications, please provide your email information to George Bange (riverbat@eawireless.net) making the email title "MAR Breakdown"

-OR-

subscribe to the MAR Listserv:
<http://nss.caves.org/region/mar/listserv.htm>



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Spring 2013 MAR Field Meet

May 3-5, 2013 by Bill Schultz, NSS 44166

The Spring 2013 MAR Field Meet was held at Woodward Cave Campground the weekend of May 3-5. The event was co-hosted by the Commander Cody Caving Club and Philadelphia Grotto. The event kicks off the celebration of 60 years of the Mid-Appalachian Region of the National Speleological Society. 119 cavers from eight different states attended the event. The states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia were all represented. The temperatures were a little chilly at night but otherwise it was a beautiful spring weekend.

Friday afternoon registration opened. A few of you may have noticed the new MAR banner hanging at the registration tent. This project was spearheaded by Amos Mincin. The banner will be displayed at the upcoming NSS convention in Shippensburg and can be used for subsequent MAR events for years to come.

Friday night, cavers were treated to a showing of the horror movie, *Descent*, complete with big screen and audio through the PA system. Plot synopsis - hot chicks go caving, they get trapped in the cave, the cave is inhabited by creatures that hunt them down and kill them all. Other folks gathered around the bonfire that burned next to the pavilion. Barry Duncan's Cavers Connection business was going well. Cave trip signup sheets went out around 10:00 PM. Quiet time came way too early and the campground manager had to ask us to refrain from celebrating so enthusiastically.

Saturday morning, cavers were treated to coffee with fresh donuts from Burkholder's Country Market in Millheim. Yummy! The led cave trips went out as early as 8:30 AM and as late as 10:30 AM. There were led trips to Alexander Caverns, Big Ridge Cave, Blacklog Cave, Hennigh Cave, Kookan Cave, Seawra Cave and Tytoona Cave. Cavers were able to decontaminate their caving gear after the trip at a decon station set up in the campground. Woodward Cave offered reduced admission for MAR attendees and there were two guided trips into the cave that day.

The dinner Saturday evening was catered by none other than the famous Clem's BBQ. Clem's has provided food to many caving events in the area over the years. They arrived right on time and commenced to serving up. Unfortunately during the serving they ran out of food. They made a relatively quick trip in the van to get more food from their kitchen location and were back to serving. This delay was only slightly annoying to those waiting in line. All were fed and

full that night. After dinner some awesome door prizes were awarded to some lucky cavers. Thanks to Cavers Connection, Hodag Video, On Rope 1 and Speleobooks for graciously donating door prizes for the event. A 60th anniversary cake complete with the MAR logo topped off the dinner activities with Pat Minnick blowing out the candles.

Our guest speaker Saturday night was MAR Chairman, Paul Winter. Paul gave cavers a fascinating presentation on recent exploration and digging projects by the Butler Cave Conservation Society in the Burnsville Cove area of Virginia. Many event attendees had no idea of the amazing speleo-engineering efforts going on down there and were quite impressed by the presentation. Thanks again to both Paul Winter for presenting and Phil Lucas for the digital content for the presentation. After the presentation the disco balls were fired up and folks danced to the sounds of DJ Bill until quiet time shut us down again. Cavers gathered at the bonfire until the wee hours telling stories and planning their next adventures.

Sunday morning, cavers were treated to a delicious pancake breakfast organized by the Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy (PCC). The PCC meeting was held afterwards. Cavers started packing up to go home. There was a Penn Aqua Cave trip Sunday afternoon for a few of the MAR cavers.

We would like to thank Woodward Cave for use of their facility for the event. We would also like to thank the following cave trip leaders - Sara Ulrich (Alexander Caverns), Ed Kehs (Big Ridge Cave), Tim Long (Blacklog Cave), Ken Leipert (Hennigh Cave), Dave Bookhammer (Kookan Cave), Andy Field (Penn Aqua Cave), Allen Maddox (Seawra Cave) and Mike Mostardi (Tytoona Cave). Thanks also go out to Andy Field for organizing the door prizes, Kathy Schultz and her crew for registration, Amos Mincin for setting up the decon station, Joe and Roseanne Lugg for making the porta-john arrangements and making the new MAR event direction signs, Jess Wilson for making the catering arrangements, Rob Wehde for getting the cake and Dan Lanciault for procuring the beverages. The event guidebook was a group effort and we want to thank Landon Woodward, Mike Mostardi and Ken Leipert for all their efforts. I did not mention everyone involved but we want to thank everyone who contributed to making this event a great success. Happy 60th Anniversary to the MAR!

Spring MAR 2013

Financial Report

May 3-5, 2013

Revenue:

Pre-registration	1,404.00	
on site registration	2,128.00	
Dinner only	10.00	
Guidebook only	5.00	
Total Revenue		3,547.00

Expenses:

MAR fee (112 adults *\$4)	448.00	
Shawley's Port - O- Pots	230.00	
Burkholder's Donuts	72.00	
Coffee & fixin's	68.22	
Cakes by Cannon	100.00	
Firewood	97.50	
Ice & Drinks	235.45	
Ice	18.00	
Clem's Catering	1,388.55	
Guidebooks	312.70	
Camping Fee	870.00	
MAR signs	22.93	
Dessert fixins	13.00	
Name badges & Sharpies	79.57	
Public Address	75.00	
Door Prizes	30.00	
Total Expenses		4,060.92

Profit (Loss)		(513.92)
Proceeds from the 50/50		118.00
Net Loss		(395.92)



Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy, Inc.

P.O. Box 373, Neffs, PA 18065

Minutes of Regular Meeting - May 5, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 am by President Pat Minnick at Woodward Cave Campground, Woodward, PA on Sunday, May 5, 2013.

The following officers were present:

President	P. Minnick	Vice President	C. Catherman
Secretary	G. Schock	Treasurer	G. Dunmire

Representation was as follows: (***) Note – 100% Grotto Participation! (***)

Bald Eagle Grotto	Brian Ulrich	Greater Allentown Grotto	Dean Snyder
Baltimore Grotto	Kim Fleischmann	Huntingdon Co. Cave Hunters	Derek Flaig
Bucks County Grotto	Steven Warneck	Nittany Grotto	Paul Winter
Central New Jersey Grotto	Amos Mincin	Philadelphia Grotto	Amos Mincin
Commander Cody Caving Club	Mike Mostardi	Seven Valleys Grotto	Gretchen Schock
Franklin County Grotto	Pat Minnick	York Grotto	Randy Hurst

Secretary Report: The minutes from the February 2013 meeting were read and accepted as published in the April 2013 MAR Breakdown.

Treasurer Report: Gary Dunmire reported that earned interest was added to the account and a \$400.00 fee was paid for the PCC tax exempt status.

Web Page: The PCC web page continues to be up and running. The county stewards have been posted as well as the latest PCC meeting minutes. The Restricted Cave Listing has been updated with the PA Longest and Deepest Cave listings from the PA Cave Database provided by Tony Canike. Any comments or corrections should be directed to Dave Fricke and Tony Canike.

PCC Breakfast: Despite some temporary equipment malfunctions, the PCC breakfast was a success with 65 people served and \$305.00 donated to the PCC. The pancake grill will require some maintenance prior to the PCC breakfast during the upcoming Fall MAR Field Meet. Pat Minnick will transport the equipment and supplies to Gary Dunmire's home to be stored until the fall. A special thank you goes out to Philadelphia Grotto and Commander Cody Caving Club for donating extra food for the breakfast.

PCC Brochure: Anyone interested in obtaining brochures should contact George Bange.

Mail: Dean Snyder stated there was nothing new to report.

Christmas Cards: Karen Bange continues to manage the yearly distribution of Christmas cards to cave landowners. Contact Karen if you have a landowner you want added to the Christmas card list.

T-shirts: Gary Dunmire continues to have PCC 25th anniversary T-shirts available at \$15 each (approximately \$17.65 with shipping). Dean Snyder also has older PCC shirts available for sale at \$5 each.

PA Cave Database: Tony Canike provided information to Dave Fricke which was posted on the PCC web site. Amos Mincin has reviewed the published list and provided corrections to Tony.

OLD BUSINESS:

Project List:

Dragon Cave (Berks County, PA) – Dean Snyder stated there is nothing new to report. Relations with the cave owner continue to be good.

Red Church Cave (Schuylkill County, PA) – Dean Snyder indicated there is nothing new to report. Dean has the key to the cave gate and is available to lead a few trips per year. Interested individuals must be NSS members.

Merkle Cave (Berks County, PA) – Dean Snyder reported ongoing attempts are in process to contact the cave owner and gain visitor access to the cave.

Cleversburg Cave (Cumberland County, PA) – Pat Minnick reported that Tom Feeney, the lead for ongoing scientific study in Cleversburg cave, will be leading a geology bus tour during the upcoming NSS convention.

Schofer Cave (Berks County, PA) – Dean Snyder acquired new contact information from the Game Commission and is attempting to obtain a face to face meeting to discuss gaining access to the cave.

Corker Hill and Frustration Pit (Franklin County, PA) – Amos Mincin has recently done some surveying of the cave. He reported that more work is required to complete the survey and he hopes to complete the survey prior to the upcoming convention.

Peiper Cave (Cumberland County) – No new issues to report. Joe Schock will be on site to monitor the cave during the upcoming 2013 NSS Convention. Anyone interesting in gaining entry into Peiper Cave should **ALWAYS** contact the cave owners, Kim and Ed Kehs Sr., for entry permission and to complete the required waivers prior to gaining entry to the cave.

Dreibilbis Cave (Berks County) – Owner relations continue to be good and the cave is available for trips. Mike Mostardi or Bill Schultz can be contacted and will act as a trip leader when needed.

J4 Cave (Centre County) – Gary Dunmire has requested some information from Graymont and is awaiting a response.

PCC Tax Exempt Status: Gary Dunmire has filed the forms to re-establish the PCC's tax exempt status and is awaiting a reply/confirmation.

PCC Grotto membership: Any grotto is welcome to apply to join the PCC. The PCC would like to stress the importance of a grotto representative being present at all meetings in order for the PCC to obtain a quorum and continue to conduct business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fall MAR 2013: Nittany Grotto will be hosting the Fall MAR field meet on September 27-29, 2013 at Lincoln Caverns in Huntingdon, PA. Additional information and details can be found on the MAR website.

2013 NSS Convention: Amos Mincin and Kim Metzger are compiling a list of available caves and related information including travel times for the upcoming NSS convention literature. Volunteers are still needed for the convention! Please contact co-chairs Gordon Birkhimer or Craig Hindman (chair@nss2013.com) if you are available to help. Additionally, Matt Saltzer and Gordy Ley are still looking for volunteers to lead caving trips during convention. If you are available to lead a trip, please contact them as soon as possible (cavetrips@nss2013.com).

PCC presence at 2013 NSS Convention: Amos Mincin reported that a 29" flat screen television will be set up on the PCC table which will display a continuous loop of PCC related activities. There are also plans to create a large PCC banner for the front of the table. If anyone will be available to man the table during convention please contact Amos.

CaveSim: Dave Jackson of CaveSim LLC in Colorado sent a request to local caving organizations requesting donations to offset traveling expenses associated with transporting CaveSim to the upcoming 2013 NSS convention in Shippensburg, PA. Amos Mincin moved and Kim Fleischmann seconded that the PCC donate \$100.00 to CaveSim. The motion passed. Gary Dunmire will contact Dave Jackson to obtain information regarding where to send the check. Additional information about CaveSim can be found at www.cavesim.com/news.

DCNR Karst Maps: Christopher Catherman reported that DCNR quad karst maps are available to be downloaded from the DCNR website free of charge.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the PCC will be held at the Fall MAR field meet at Lincoln Caverns in Huntingdon, PA on Sunday September 29, 2013. Meeting time 9:30 am.

Amos Mincin moved and Derek Flaig seconded to conclude the PCC meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen (Red) Schock, Recording Secretary

Fall MAR 2013
Sept. 27-29th
Lincoln Caverns, PA



Hosted by
The Nittany Grotto

Registration Fee Includes:

- Bonfire both nights
- Dinner Saturday night
- Nonalcoholic beverages throughout the MAR including coffee in the morning. BYOB!
- 2013 Fall MAR Guidebooks
- Free Camping
- Free Guided Cave Tours of Lincoln Caverns

Registration Information:

- Register before September 7th and get a discount
- Refunds available, if requested by September 7th, 2013.
- Make checks payable to Nittany Grotto c/o Fall MAR 2013 and mail to:
PO Box 676, State College, PA 16804-0676

Questions? caverjoet@verizon.net

Directions

LINCOLN CAVERNS is located directly on U.S. 22 (William Penn Highway), 3 miles west of Huntingdon, PA.

From the PA Turnpike:

Using Ft. Littleton Exit, U.S. 522 North, then 14 miles West on U.S. 22; or Using the Breezewood Exit, West on U.S. 30, North on Rt. 26, then 2 miles West on U.S. 22; or Using the Bedford Exit, North on I-99, then East on U.S. 22.

From I-80:

Using the Milesburg Exit, South on Alternate U.S. 220/ I-99 to Tyrone Exit, South on Rt. 453, then 7 miles East on U.S. 22. Using the Clearfield or Woodland Exit, East on U.S. 322, South on I-99 to Tyrone Exit, South on Rt. 453, then 7 miles East on U.S. 22.

2013 Fall Field Meet – MAR 60th Anniversary Registration Form

September 27-29, 2013 Lincoln Caverns, PA



Principal Registrant's (for MAR database)

Name: _____

Address: _____ Daytime Phone: (____) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Evening Phone: (____) _____

Email Address: _____ Primary Grotto Affiliation: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Contact Phone: (____) _____

Additional Registrants

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address, City, State: _____

Relationship to Principal Registrant Above: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address, City, State: _____

Relationship to Principal Registrant Above: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address, City, State: _____

Relationship to Principal Registrant Above: _____ Email: _____

Registration		Unit Cost	Quantity	Cost
Adult (Through September 7, 2013)		\$30.00		
Adult (After September 7, 2013)		\$35.00		
Child (Ages 6-17)		\$20.00		
Child (Under 6)		Free		
Vegetarian Meals (Must Pre-register)	Portabella Mushroom	No Extra Charge		
	Italian Veggie Sausage	No Extra Charge		
Total:				

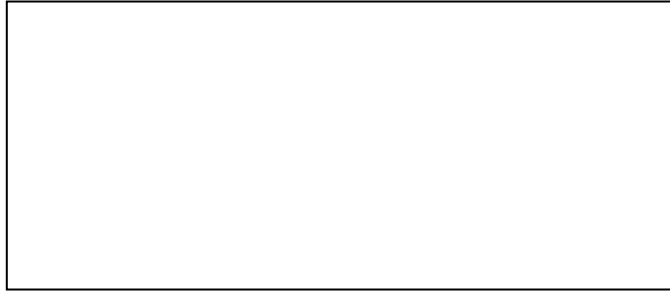
Nittany Grotto, Inc. (NGI), its members, the MAR and private landowners take no responsibility for any injuries or losses that might be sustained during the 2013 MAR Fall Field Meet and any associated activities. Participation by the undersigned is at their own risk, and they accept responsibility for the safety of all other participants (children and adults) who are listed on this registration form under "Additional Registrants".

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please make check payable to **Nittany Grotto** and send form with registration fee to:

Nittany Grotto c/o 2013 Fall MAR
P.O. Box 676, State College, PA 16804-0676

MAR Breakdown
81 Appalachian Drive
Carlisle, PA 17015-8515



Mid-Appalachian Region Bulletins [including reprinted Bulletins]

NSS Member Price List

Effective March 2012

1-4	Bulletins Caves of Shippensburg Area #1-4 REPRINT		7.00 + postage A
5	Caves of Western PA REPRINT	29 caves, 19 maps	8.00 + postage A
6	Caves of S. Cumberland Valley REPRINT	93 caves 69 maps+6 large maps	17.00 + postage B
7	Caves of Fulton Co, PA REPRINT	4 caves, 4 maps	5.00 + postage A
8	Caves of Blair Co., PA REPRINT	89 caves, 40 maps	7.00 + postage A
9	Caves of Huntingdon Co., PA REPRINT	94 caves, 36 maps	10.00 + postage B
10	Caves of Snyder Co., PA	20 caves, 14 maps	5.00 + postage A
11	Caves of Centre Co., PA	71 caves, 56 maps+1 large map	10.00 + postage B
12	Caves of Mifflin Co., PA	47 caves, 31 maps+5 large maps	10.00 + postage B
13	Caves of Perry Co., PA	13 caves, 6 maps	5.00 + postage A
14	Caves of Bucks Co., PA REPRINT	24 caves, 6 maps	5.00 + postage A
15	Caves of Lehigh Co., PA REPRINT	25 caves, 13 maps	6.00 + postage A
16	Caves of Northampton Co., PA	24 caves, 13 maps+1 large map	6.00 + postage A
17	Caves of Northumberland Co., PA	20 caves, 10 maps	5.00 + postage A
18	Caves of Berks Co., PA	64 caves, 32 maps	10.00 + postage B
19	Caves of Bedford Co., PA	54 caves, 33 maps	7.00 + postage A
20	Caves of Westmoreland Co., PA	337 caves, 187 map/10 large maps	29.50 + postage C
21	Karst of Sinking Valley and Kookon Cave Huntingdon and Blair Counties	103 pages with color photos, 4 fold-outs, 2 large maps	27.50 + postage B

U.S. Postage: **A** \$2.00 postage first copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address
 B \$2.50 postage first copy; \$0.50 each additional to same address
 C \$3.00 postage for each bulletin #20

MAR Bulletin Orders: Please make checks payable to **MAR**. All checks must be payable in US dollars on US bank or US money order

Order from: Bette White, 4538 Miller Road, Petersburg, PA 16669-2711 U.S.A.