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.

Chair: Paul Winter
State College, PA 16803
(412) 849-6824
paw5051@psu.edu

Vice Chair: Gary Dunmire
657 Valley View Road
Bellefonte, PA 16623
(814) 357-1134
mudtube@yahoo.com

Secretary: Hope Brooks
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(443) 510-0312
hzb5048@psu.edu

Treasurer: Bette White
4538 Miller Road
Petersburg, PA 16669
(814) 667-2709
wbw2@psu.edu

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redcaver@verizon.net

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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, Kooken 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 (Kooken 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 Lancialult 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)
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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>P. Minnick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>C. Catherman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>G. Schock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>G. Dunmire</td>
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Representation was as follows: (**Note – 100% Grotto Participation! **)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grotto</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bald Eagle Grotto</td>
<td>Brian Ulrich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greater Allentown Grotto</td>
<td>Dean Snyder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltimore Grotto</td>
<td>Kim Fleischmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Co. Cave Hunters</td>
<td>Derek Flaig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bucks County Grotto</td>
<td>Steven Warneck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nittany Grotto</td>
<td>Paul Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central New Jersey Grotto</td>
<td>Amos Mincin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philadelphia Grotto</td>
<td>Amos Mincin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commander Cody Caving Club</td>
<td>Mike Mostardi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seven Valleys Grotto</td>
<td>Gretchen Schock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin County Grotto</td>
<td>Pat Minnick</td>
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<tr>
<td>York Grotto</td>
<td>Randy Hurst</td>
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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 Synder 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 Synder stated there is nothing new to report. Relations with the cave owner continue to be good.

Red Church Cave (Schuylkill County, PA) – Dean Synder 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.

Dreibiblis 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
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: _____________________

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<th>Registration</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult ( Through September 7, 2013 )</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult ( After September 7, 2013 )</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child ( Ages 6-17 )</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child ( Under 6 )</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegetarian Meals</td>
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<td>(Must Pre-register)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portabella Mushroom</td>
<td>No Extra Charge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italian Veggie Sausage</td>
<td>No Extra Charge</td>
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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
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 Kooker Cave  103 pages with color photos,  
     Huntingdon and Blair Counties  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.