



Volume 37, Number 3, January 2023

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-

Event notices and MAR Breakdown newsletters are distributed electronically. When you attend a field meet, the email address provided on your registration form is added to the distribution list. You may also add yourself to distribution by going to http://eepurl.com/P2f5j and completing a short registration form.

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 25, 2023 PCC MEETING TO FOLLOW

The Mid Appalachian Region Business Meeting will be held at Mt. Laurel Church of God, Harrisburg, PA on Feb 25, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

You will find additional information and directions on pages 2-3

A meeting of the Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy (PCC) will follow the MAR Business Meeting



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MAR BUSINESS MEETING February 25, 2023 at 1:30 pm Mount Laurel Church of God 1295 Piketown Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112

The next MAR annual business meeting will be held at the Mt. Laurel Church of God (the same location as 2020, prior to the COVID impact). The church is located at 1295 Piketown Road, at the intersection with Sleeping Hollow Road and Appalachian Trail, in W. Hanover Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania (just East of Harrisburg). This MAR business meeting will be "in-person", with the option of online call-in. A link for the call in option can be accessed at https://mar.caves.org/busnmtg.htm



The meetings will be held in the Large Meeting Room located down stairs from the main church (not the same room as previous years but the larger room immediately inside the entry doors). The entrance to the room is at the small handicap parking lot on the lower level of the church. Ample parking with snow removal is at the top of the hill across from the cemetery and the church. PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE FIRE HOUSE PARKING LOT!

A path up the steps and to the right side of the church leads down to the handicap parking lot and the hall entrance. Use the side entrance door, it will be marked "MAR".

The MAR meeting attendees will have use of the large meeting room with kitchen and clean modern bathrooms next to the meeting room. The rest of the hall will be off limits.

We do not have use of the small meeting room (previous location), stage, or any equipment we do not own. Tables and chairs will be provided but we must set them up and take them down. Also, no open flames please! Judi Stack will provide the tablecloths for the tables as well as signs for the recycling, trash, and entry door. Recycling containers for plastic bottles and aluminum cans will be placed near the kitchen. PLEASE use them to reduce the amount of trash that must be disposed of. These containers will be marked RECYCLING or TRASH. Everyone's cooperation will be greatly appreciated!

Please don't forget to bring a covered dish for the after-meeting meal. A sign-up sheet is available to help MAR cavers plan for the event. The sign-up sheet can be found on the MAR website (https://mar.caves.org/busnmtg foodsignup.htm). Please consider a dish that you wish to bring to the meeting to share with other hungry cavers. Also be sure to bring your non-alcoholic beverage of choice. The MAR will, once again, be providing warm beverages (coffee/tea/hot cider) for the meeting attendees. Please Note: alcoholic beverages are *NOT* permitted on the church grounds.

Directions:

From the East on Interstate 81 Southbound and/or Interstate 78:

Exit Interstate 81 at Exit 77 (Route 39). Bear right onto Route 39 West (Linglestown Road).

From the West on Interstate 81 Northbound:

Exit Interstate 81 at Exit 77 (Route 39). Bear left onto Route 39 West (Linglestown Road).

Once on Route 39 (Linglestown road), proceed 0.6 mile to N. Fairville Ave. (Pass McDonalds, Perkins, and various truck stops). Make an immediate right onto N. Fairville Avenue at the Hotel/Motel and proceed approximately 2.8 miles from Route 39. Bear left several times to stay on N. Fairville Avenue (there are several jogs in the road). Turn Right onto Piketown Road and proceed up over mountain approximately 0.7 miles to the intersection with Sleepy Hollow Road and Appalachian Trail. The Mt. Laurel Church of God is located on your right side (east of Piketown Road) and the West Hanover Fire Company is located across the street on the left side (west of Piketown Road). Additional church parking is available at the lot diagonally across the intersection from the church. A cemetery is located across the street from the additional Church parking lot area.

From the North on S.R. 322:

Exit S.R. 322 at the North Front Street exit (Fort Hunter). Proceed several hundred feet and turn left onto Fishing Creek Valley Road (S.R. 443 East). Proceed approximately 7.3 miles and turn right onto Sleep Hollow Road. Proceed on Sleepy Hollow Road for approximately 1.8 miles to intersection with Piketown Road. The church is located directly in front of you at the intersection.

Save the Date! - 2023 Spring MAR

Franklin County Grotto will be hosting the 2023 Spring MAR Field Meet on May 5-7, 2023 in Shade Gap, PA. More details will be posted on the MAR web site as they become available: https://mar.caves.org/fieldmeets.htm

Host Needed for the 2023 Fall MAR!

As of January 2023 there is no grotto, or individual, slated to host the 2023 Fall MAR Field Meet. If you are interested in hosting this event, a helpful guide to hosting a MAR field meet can be found on the MAR website (https://mar.caves.org/hosting.htm). Think about it - can you or your grotto host the event? If there are no volunteers there will be no field meet. If you're interested in hosting an event, please contact a MAR officer.

Form 990-N not submitted yet

MAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT: January 11, 2023

Gross Assats: January 11, 2022			
Gross Assets: January 11, 2023 Checking:		459.44	
Savings: 6,142.57 (includes cave law sign money) =		6,642.57	
[\$10,000.00 CD at Reliance Bank]		10,000.00	
Total	17,102.01	,	
Gross Assets: February 1, 2022			
Checking:		143.66	
Savings: 6,142.00 - 690.39 =		5,451.61	
[in savings: Cave Signs 690.39]		690.39	
[\$10,000.00 CD at Reliance Bank]		10,000.00	
Total	16,285.66		04 6 2 8
Net Income (Gain/Loss) for 2022		•••••	816.35
ITEM	INCOME	EXPENSES	NET
INTEREST Savings	0.57	••••••	0.57
Spring MAR income: Fall 2022 xxxxxxxx Grotto No record of field trip MAR Income: xx persons @ \$1.00 = xxx.00 [Regis-Expen = \$xxx.xx. Fall MAR income: \$ Annual Meeting Site Rental			311.39
MAR Bulletin sales			
MAR 20: $\$4,748.14 - (\text{sold } 2 @ 29.50) = \59.00			
\$4,689.14 short of recovering cost	51 5 0		
	517.50	12.11	
Postage USPS		13.11	5 04.20
MAR Bulletin Sales: Net		••••••	504.39
MAR BREAKDOWN NOTE: Breakdown Account close	-	0.00	
[Breakdown balance: = as of Feb 2020: balance in MAR]	Breakdown accou	nt: 0.00	
CAVE LAW SIGNS (previous balance 690.39) [Cave sign balance = \$690.39]			
- 	020 52	12.11	017.25
Totals	829.52	13.11	816.35
Elizabeth L. Wh	ne, Treasurer		

^{*} Post office annual fee shared half with Nittany Grotto

Of Further Interest

Bulletin Sales Feb 2022 – Jan 2023

Bulletin #	Number Sold	Price/Bulletin	Bulletin Income	Bulletins + postage
1-4	3	\$ 7.00	21.00	
5	2	\$ 8.00	16.00	
6	3	\$17.00	51.00	
7	1	\$ 5.00	5.00	
8	2	\$ 7.00	14.00	
9	2	\$10.00	20.00	
10	2	\$ 6.00	12.00	
11	2	\$10.00	20.00	
12	2	\$10.00	20.00	
13	3	\$ 10.00	30.00	
14	1	\$ 5.00	5.00	
15	1	\$ 6.00	6.00	
16	1	\$ 6.00	6.00	
17	1	\$ 5.00	5.00	
18	2	\$10.00	20.00	
19	2	\$ 7.00	14.00	
20	2	\$29.50	59.00	
21	3	\$27.50	82.50	
22	4	16.00	64.00	
Totals	39		470.50	517.50

Fall 2022 MAR Field Meet – Huntingdon, PA

September 16-18, 2022 by John Boswell (representative for Out of Bounds Grotto)



Out of Bounds Grotto hosted the Fall 2022 MAR field meet the weekend of 16-18 September. Ann Dunleavy graciously allowed us to host the event on the grounds of Lincoln Caverns in Huntingdon, PA. This was the first Central PA event held in several years due to the pandemic, so anticipation was high to get back into some of the beautiful caves of Pennsylvania.

Weather was beautiful the whole weekend, with balmy sunshine during the day and a crisp hint of autumn in the air at night. Perfect for snuggling into a sleeping bag.

The first attendee to arrive on Friday morning was Matt Heitmeyer, who drove all the way from New Jersey to set up The Gauntlet ropes course. This was a big hit the entire weekend and included obstacles to climb/descend through,

traverses, and guided rappels. Everything from basic climbing to very advanced SRT techniques were practiced with Matt giving instruction and assistance to all. The course took him all day to rig up (pretty much all by himself) and we really appreciate all the effort he put in to provide this resource!

Several self-led trips went out on Friday to MAKC-managed Hall Cave, Hesston Cave, and the NSS-owned Tytoona Cave Preserve.

George and Karen Bange donated a huge trailer load of firewood for the bonfire, and a nice fire was stoked up Friday evening. Friends old and new gathered around to socialize and catch up while waiting for cave signups for Saturday's guided trips.

Saturday morning dawned foggy and chilly. Hot coffee and donuts were offered to help get the morning underway, and then people grouped up to carpool to their cave trips. Guided trips were offered to some of Central PA's finest caves including Penn Aqua, Rupert, McClure, McAlisterville, Alexander Caverns, Kooken, Allensville, and Sharer.

Following a dinner of tacos and all the fixin's, door prizes were drawn for. Thanks to the generous donation of door prizes by Out of Bounds Grotto members (especially our west coast contingent), every single

attendee was presented with a prize. After the door prizes, we were treated to an excellent presentation on archaeology and folklore of caves of western Mexico by Marlene Campos, a professor at Binghamton University and Out of Bounds Grotto Board member. Ahead of the presentation, Marlene gave a land acknowledgement that reminded us that the lands of the Mid-Appalachian Region were originally home to different indigenous tribes who stewarded and protected the land and caves for generations before Europeans arrived and to aspire to responsibilities uphold our modern stewardship according to their example.





After the presentation, the bonfire was again stoked up and people gathered to enjoy various libations and share stories of their cave trips under a beautiful moonrise. We really missed Joe Schock and his usual role as unstoppable robotic fire-feeder, but enough people pitched in to keep the fire burning bright. There was also the option to watch the Thai cave rescue documentary, which was streamed on a big screen under

the pavilion. All evening activities were accompanied by eerie lights bobbing around high in the trees as people continuing to enjoy The Gauntlet ropes course.

Sunday morning again dawned chilly with an otherworldly thick fog drifting through the trees and across the field. Sunlight filtered through and eventually the mist dissipated. The PA

Cave Conservancy offered the customary pancake and sausage breakfast with OJ and coffee. About half the attendees lined up for breakfast and contributed \$145 to the PCC.

We ended up with 70 attendees at this MAR event. The grotto did not suffer a financial loss, and it seems that everyone had a good time, so I'd call that a success!



Memories of Bob Gulden

By Carol Tiderman

Robert "Bob" Edgar Gulden (NSS 13188) of Salem, VA, passed away peacefully in his sleep on the morning of November 30, 2022. I have known Bob since he joined the Baltimore Grotto. He started caving in Okinawa while his dad was stationed there. When they returned stateside in the 70s he joined the grotto and got involved with sport trips. After a while he was bitten by the cave survey bug. Some projects were completed, some are still a work in process, like Snedegars/Frairs Hole, and others like Cave Hollow/Arbogast were started and then the Forest Service shut us out.

Bob was the secretary (1978-1979), vice-chair (1981), and then chair (1982-1985, 2001-2012) of the MAR for a very long time. At the field events, one thing was certain; he would be the first person in the food line. It became a running joke.

I believe he was inspired by the long and deep cave lists for PA that appeared in the Breakdown, when he started to maintain the long and deep list of the caves in the US and that eventually became an international list. Those lists kept him in contact with cavers all over the world and I think that was a big reward for his efforts.

Bob got involved with CRF and was very involved with the survey of Gap Cave. He was known for taking a table and chair into the cave to record data.

When COVID hit and his health issues interfered with caving, Bob got onto every Zoom meeting he could find. He could and would comment on most any cave that was mentioned during a call. It now seems strange for him not to be on these calls.

Bob is probably off in the big cave in the sky, having a great time there with all those great cavers who have gone before him.



Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy, Inc.

P.O. Box 373, Neffs, PA 18065

Minutes of Regular Meeting – September 18, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 am by President Dave Briggs at the Lincoln Caverns in Huntingdon, PA on Sunday, September 18, 2022.

The following officers were present: President Dave Briggs Treasurer John Boswell

Vice President Amos Mincin

Representation was as follows:

Bald Eagle Grotto -- Huntingdon Co. Cave Hunters -- Baltimore Grotto -- Nittany Grotto --

Bucks County Grotto Steve Warnek Out of Bounds Grotto Talia Sepiol
Central New Jersey Grotto Amos Mincin
Commander Cody Caving Club -- Seven Valleys Grotto Eli Yearick (proxy)

Franklin County Grotto -- York Grotto

Greater Allentown Grotto

Treasurer Report: John Boswell read the full Treasurers report. The present combined balance is \$8,770.04 as of 9/18/2022. See financial summary for details.

Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy

Financial Summary 5-23-22 through 9-18-22

Interest Checking Account

Ending Balance:

Checking Balance 5/22/22	F&M Trust Bank checking	5/22/2022	\$4,707.04
Deposit	Amazon Smile	5/31/2022	\$5.00
Deposit	Spring MAR/VAR B-fast Proceeds	7/6/2022	\$598.25
Deposit	Interest Credit	5/31/2022	\$0.08
Deposit	Interest Credit	6/30/2022	\$0.07
Deposit	Interest Credit	7/31/2022	\$0.09
Deposit	Interest Credit	8/31/2022	\$0.09

SAVINGS ACCOUNT (CDs): Maturity Date

Certificate of Deposit *75	F&M Trust Bank CD	\$1,153.14
Certificate of Deposit *29	F&M Trust Bank CD	\$1,153.14
Certificate of Deposit *65	F&M Trust Bank CD	\$1,153.14

* \$2.30 Interest credit applied to each in 2022

COMBINED TOTAL: \$8,770.04

Web Page: no report.

\$5,310.62

PCC Breakfast: Special thanks to Eli Yearick (Seven Valleys Grotto) and Amos Mincin (Philly Grotto) for cooking and to Dave Briggsfor purchasing the pancake mix, sausage, orange juice and all the fixings and donating the cost. The PCC Breakfast raised \$145.

PCC Brochure: Dave Briggs has the supply of PCC brochures. Anyone interested in obtaining brochures should contact Dave Briggs.

Mail: no report.

Christmas Cards: Kim Kehs assumed the task of sending the PCC Christmas Cards beginning in 2018. Please contact Kim if you know of a landowner you would like added to the PCC Christmas card list.

T-shirts: The PCC t-shirts are available for purchase on the PCC web site for \$15, which includes shipping and handling.

PA Cave Database: no report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Project and Caves of Interest List:

Cold Air Cave (Northampton County) - no report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Open Discussion Items: Quorum was not met (seven required) so no official business was voted on or conducted. An open discussion period was begun by Dave Briggs. His concern for future consideration was as follows:

- 1. Possibly limiting each individual to representation of only one grotto.
- 2. Possible future clean ups at Tytoona and McAlisterville Caves, maybe purchase no dumping and camera signs.
- 3. Continued update of the PCC Website.
- 4. Possible future PCC picnic for member grottos and families.

2022 Fall MAR: Out of Bounds Grotto organized and hosted the well run field meet attended by 74 cavers. An excellent rope course was available. A wide variety of led Cave trips were available, Rupert and McAlisterville were most popular. Kooken, Hesston, Hall, McCloure, McFadden, Sharers Caves were also available. Thank you to Out of Bounds Grotto for a job well done!

2023 NSS Convention: From June 26-30, 2023, the NSS will host the society's annual convention in Elkins, West Virginia. This week-long event includes extensive presentations across all disciplines related to cave science. Camping for the event will be available at the OTR site. Additional information can be found on the convention website https://www.nss2023.caves.org/.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the PCC will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2023 at the Mt. Laurel Church of God, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania following the MAR Business meeting. For directions and details, please see the MAR Web Site (https://mar.caves.org/busnmtg.htm).

Respectfully submitted.

Amos Mincin, Vice-President/Proxy Recording Secretary

PCC Officer Elections

There will be a PCC meeting February 25, 2023 following the MAR Business Meeting. It is at this meeting that PCC officers are elected. Anyone wishing to run for office can put their name on the ballot by contacting any PCC officer.

Cave conservation and protection can only happen if we all work together towards the same goals.

Get involved with PCC!

Upcoming Events

2023 MAR Annual Business Meeting	February 25, 2023
Mt. Laurel Church of God 1295 Piketown Road, Linglestown, PA URL: https://mar.caves.org/busnmtg.htm	
NCRC Orientation to Cave Rescue (OCR) Elkins Fire Department Elkins, WV URL: http://www.er-ncrc.org/	April 21–23, 2023
2023 Spring MAR Field Meet	May 5-7, 2023
Harper's Memorial Park (Shade Gap Fire Station) Shade Gap, PA Hosted by Franklin County Grotto (FCG) URL: https://mar.caves.org/fieldmeets.htm	
Speleofest	May 26-28, 2023
Lone Star Preserve Bonnieville, KY 52 nd Annual Hosted by Louisville Grotto URL: www.louisvillegrotto.org/speleofest-registration/	
2023 Spring VAR Field Meet	Spring 2023
Location: TBD Hosted TBD URL: https://var.caves.org/index.php/events/spring-var	
2023 NSS Convention	June 26-30, 2023
Davis and Elkins College Elkins, WV URL: https://nss2023.caves.org/	
Old Timers Reunion (OTR)	Aug. 31 - Sept. 4, 2023
OTR Site/Campgrounds Dailey, WV (Randolph County) URL: www.otr.org	
CaveFest	Sept. 1-4, 2023
Cavers Paradise Sewanee, TN Hosted by Sewanee Mt Grotto URL: https://smg.caves.org/cavefest.html	
2023 Fall MAR Field Meet	Fall 2023
Location: TBD Hosted TBD URL: https://mar.caves.org/fieldmeets.htm	
2023 Fall VAR Field Meet	Fall 2023
Location: TBD Hosted TBD URL: https://var.caves.org/index.php/events/fall-var	
2023 Bridge Day	October 21, 2023
New River Gorge Bridge Fayetteville, WV URL: uku: www.officialbridgeday.com https://www.nps.gov/neri/	
2024 MAR Annual Business Meeting	February 24, 2024
Mt. Laurel Church of God 1295 Piketown Road, Linglestown, PA URL: https://mar.caves.org/busnmtg.htm	,,

NSS MEMBER PRICE LIST

Effective October 2018

MID-APPALACHIAN REGION BULLETINS (including reprinted Bulletins)

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 Revised/Corrected	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	6.00 + 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	10.00 + 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 maps/10 large maps	29.50 + postage C
21	Karst of Sinking Valley and Kooken Cave Huntingdon and Blair Counties	103 pages with color photos , 4 fold-out maps, 2 large maps	27.50 + postage B
22	Caves of Middle Susquehanna Valley	140 pages with color photos	16.00 + postage D

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.
- D \$3.50 postage for each bulletin #22

MAR Bulletin Orders: Please make checks payable to MAR

NOTE: All checks must be payable in U.S. dollars on U.S. bank or U.S. money order

Order from: Bette White

4538 Miller Road

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