



BREAKDOWN

Volume 38, Number 3, January 2024

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.

MAR Mailing Address-

Mid-Appalachian Region
P. O. Box 685
State College, PA 16804-0685

Chair: Rick Smith (**interim**)
Lewistown, PA 17044
(717) 953-4727
rickbannerville@gmail.com

Vice Chair: (vacant pending election)

Secretary: John Boswell
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
(717) 462-9350
boswellemail@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Paul Winter
1208 W Pine Grove Rd
PA Furnace, PA 16865
(412) 849-6824
pawwinter@gmail.com

Editor: Gretchen "Red" Schock
81 Appalachian Drive
Carlisle, PA 17015-8515
(717) 697-3264
redcaver@verizon.net

MAR BUSINESS MEETING SET FOR FEBRUARY 24, 2024 PCC MEETING TO FOLLOW

The Mid Appalachian Region Business Meeting will be held at Mt. Laurel Church of God, Harrisburg, PA on Feb 24, 2024 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 24, 2024 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 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. 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 pre-COVID), 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-MAR meeting (before PCC 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 Sleepy 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! - 2024 Spring MAR

Bald Eagle Grotto (BEG) will be hosting the 2024 Spring MAR Field Meet on May 17-19, 2024 at the McClure Bean Soup and Festival grounds in McClure PA. More details will be posted on the MAR web site as they become available: <https://mar.caves.org/fieldmeets.htm>

PCC Officer Elections

There will be a PCC meeting February 24, 2024 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!



In Memory of Bette (Elizabeth) Loczi White 1936 - 2023

(Retrieved from <https://kochfuneralhome.com/tribute/details/2992/Elizabeth-White/obituary.html>)

Elizabeth Loczi White Elizabeth (Bette) White, age 87, died on August 29, 2023, following a severe fall with traumatic head injury. She died in the UPMC trauma center in Altoona without recovering consciousness.

Dr. White was born on March, 9, 1936, in Stowe Township, west of Pittsburgh. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in 1958 and took a job with the Pennsylvania Department of Highways. She married in 1959 and moved to State College where she entered graduate school at Penn State. She received a Master of Science degree in 1969 and a PhD in 1975, both in civil engineering. She was employed in research positions by Penn State's Materials Research Laboratory and Department of Civil

Engineering. Her later years were spent compiling three large volumes of family history and extensive traveling.

Elizabeth is survived by her husband, William B. White of McAlevys Fort; a daughter, Nikki E. White of Burlington, VT; a sister, Eileen Elston of Jacksonville, FL and a brother, Victor, of Olney, MD. A son, Brion, is deceased. She has two grandsons, a granddaughter, and a great grandson.

Elizabeth attended the University Baptist and Brethren Church in State College to whom contributions may be made in lieu of flowers. A private funeral was held on September 7 with a public memorial service held at the UBBC Church, 411 S Burrowes St, State College, PA 16801 on Saturday, October 21, at 11:00 a.m. with Reverend Thomas Beers officiating.



Bette and Crash enjoying the MAR slideshow at the NSS Convention in Shippensburg, PA (photo by Karen Bange)

Editor's Note: It has been my observation that Bette White was adored by anyone who was fortunate enough to know her during her amazing and accomplished life. There was no shortage of fond and fun memories being told during Bette's memorial service in October. Bette gave so much of herself in so many ways, and the caving community was one of those groups privileged to benefit from her passion and dedication. Bette fulfilled many roles within our community, one of which was serving as the MAR Treasurer for 56 years, since 1967! For many of us, she was the only MAR Treasurer we have ever known. To say Bette will be missed does not come close to expressing the loss so many of us feel. More than anything, I will miss that welcoming smile that was always there to greet anyone she considered a friend, and that is an incredibly extensive group.

Upcoming Events

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	
2024 Spring VAR Field Meet	May 3-5, 2024
East Fork Campground Durbin, WV Hosted by DC Grotto URL: https://var.caves.org/index.php/events/spring-var	
2024 Spring MAR Field Meet	May 17-19, 2024
McClure Bean Soup and Festival Grounds McClure PA Hosted by Bald Eagle Grotto URL: https://mar.caves.org/fieldmeets.htm	
Speleofest	May 24-27, 2024
Lone Star Preserve Bonnieville, KY Hosted by Louisville Grotto URL: www.louisvillegrotto.org/speleofest-registration/	
2024 NSS Convention	July 1-5, 2024
St. Andrews-Sewanee School Sewanee, TN URL: https://caves.org/convention/2024-nss-convention/	
Old Timers Reunion (OTR)	Aug. 29 - Sept. 2, 2024
OTR Site/Campgrounds Dailey, WV (Randolph County) URL: www.otr.org	
2024 Fall MAR Field Meet	Fall 2024
Location: TBD Hosted TBD URL: https://mar.caves.org/fieldmeets.htm	
2024 Fall VAR Field Meet	Fall 2024
Location: Southwest Virginia Hosted by Eric Landgraff, John King, and friends URL: https://var.caves.org/index.php/events/fall-var	
2023 Bridge Day	October 19, 2024
New River Gorge Bridge Fayetteville, WV URL: www.officialbridgeday.com -or- https://www.nps.gov/neri/	
2025 MAR Annual Business Meeting	February 22, 2025
Mt. Laurel Church of God 1295 Piketown Road, Linglestown, PA URL: https://mar.caves.org/busnmtg.htm	

Host Needed for the 2024 Fall MAR!

As of January 2024 there is no grotto, or individual, slated to host the 2024 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.

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	<u>Revised/Corrected</u>	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 Kookon 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

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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.

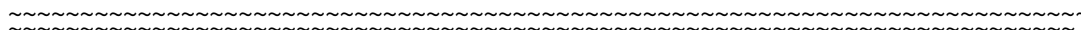
C \$3.00 postage for each bulletin #20.

D \$3.50 postage for each bulletin #22

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



Contact Paul Winter (pawwinter@gmail.com) for additional information on placing an order.