



The Region Record

Vol. XX No. 3 Summer 2007

Chairman's Column

Thoughts About VAR Meetings

Cavers have always been known to be tolerant of others and to accept most anybody into the community. We are known for watching out for each other and taking care of any problems ourselves.

We have been known for caving hard and partying hard, with the same vigor as when caving. We have not been known for being a hazard to ourselves or a danger to others on a caving trip.

We had a small problem at the last VAR meeting, with a person who was brought into the group by a regular member. The problem arose when the member did not feel he should take responsibility for his guest's actions. Their dues for the *Region Record* were refunded, as they had camped and dined with us. They were asked not to return.

We come to VAR events to see old friends and meet new people. To cave in areas that we may never have had a chance to cave in before. The host grotto busts their butts to set up the meet so we can have a good weekend.

Be respectful of others and take care of your own. If you bring guests, take care of them. Asking people to leave is not what we are about, but if the need arises, I have no problem in setting limits.

This is the first column on this topic I've written and I hope it is the last.

Craig

2007 Grand Caverns Easter Restoration Field Camp

by Jim McConkey

Friday night the volunteers rolled in, pitched their tents, and turned in for some shut-eye before the big work day. Little did any of us expect to wake up to near white-out conditions as one of the latest snow storms in years hit Grottoes! Unfortunately the pastoral scene did not last for long once the sun came out. More volunteers arrived Saturday morning, and everyone chose or was assigned one of the many construction and destruction tasks the Park had requested. In a rare, and somewhat unfortunate, change of events, none of them involved caves! At least it turned out to be a nice day to work outside

One crew set off to clear brush from the overflow channel and from behind

the stone lodge. We pulled vines, collected downed wood, chain-sawed logs, fed brush into a chipper, and collected the mulch for other gardening projects. Twenty cavers can sure move a lot of wood! The chipper left after lunch and the crew reassigned themselves for the afternoon.

Continuing a project begun last summer, another group attacked the remains of the Octagon House house. We demolished and tore down this eyesore and danger trap last June, but it has taken this long to get the park to organize some way to remove it. They finally brought in one dumpster (what were they thinking?!?), and our local friend Jim Battarbee convinced his boss to loan him a giant claw for the project. The first dumpster

(continued on page 3)



Roof work at Grand Caverns during the Easter Weekend. The roof section in the distance has been reroofed by the cavers and they are working on the foreground section. Grand Caverns Park officials were very happy with the cavers' roofing work and have requested help on more park roofs. (Photo by Jim McConkey)

The *Region Record*

The *Region Record* is the quarterly publication of the Virginia Region of the National Speleological Society. Any articles, announcements, or other materials of general interest to cavers in the Region are welcome. **Send all material to Bob Hoke (6304 Kaybro St., Laurel, MD 20707 (301) 725-5877, e-mail editor@varegion.org).** Electronic submissions (e-mail or disk) are encouraged, but any form of input is welcome. Non-copyrighted material contained in the *Region Record* may be reprinted by organizations that are affiliated with the VAR or the NSS, provided that proper credit is given to the *Record* and the author. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual author, and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, the VAR, the NSS, or their internal organizations.

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Region Record Subscriptions

- New NSS members in the Region receive two complimentary copies of the *Region Record*.
- Current NSS members moving into the Region from elsewhere receive two complimentary copies. Current NSS members who move within the Region get no freebies.
- When a subscription is going to expire the last issue will be stamped "Time to Renew." No renewal notice is sent.
- When a person attends a VAR meeting he/she is automatically added to the list to receive the next four issues. If he/she is already on the list, four additional issues are added to the subscription.
- When multiple people live at the same address only one copy of each issue will be sent to the address unless a box requesting individual issues is checked on the VAR registration form or a request is sent to the Circulation Manager.

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Regional Calendar

July 23-27 **NSS convention** in Marengo, Indiana.

Aug. 15 Deadline for submitting material for the Summer issue of the *Region Record*.

Aug. 30-Sep. 3 Old Timers Reunion near Elkins, WV. Join about 2,000 other cavers for a big party and (maybe) some caving. Membership in TRA is required. See www.otr.org for more info.

Sept. 1 WVASS meeting at 7 PM behind Cooters at OTR.

Oct. 12-14 **Fall VAR-MAR meeting** at the OTR site (near Elkins, WV) co-hosted by the Philadelphia Grotto and the Triangle Troglodytes. More information in this issue.

Oct. 6 **Trout Rock Conservation**. Annual clean-up day

June 5-8, 2008 **Joint VAR/SERA meeting** in Bristol, Tennessee. More info later.

Aug. 11-15, 2008 **2008 NSS Convention** in Lake City, Florida (west of Jacksonville).

List Your Event Here

If you have a caving event that is of regional interest please send information to the Editors listed above so it can be included in the calendar.

Grand Caverns

(continued from page 1)

filled in no time. Jim made a few calls and got a second brought in on short notice. When that one was filled, we were reluctantly forced to give up, not even half done. [See next article.]

Work also began early on Shelter #2, our home-away-from-home for the restoration and survey project weekends. The pavilions in the park have had the same roofs since they were built about 40 years ago, and they were really showing signs of their age. The park had planned to contract prison labor to re-roof them, but were forced to settle for us instead because of a bureaucratic mixup. It seems that the State considers the park to be a commercial entity, rather than the county/regional park it actually is. In-mate labor is only available for Government projects. The first crew on the roof had to struggle with slippery conditions from the still-melting snow, but the old roof slowly was stripped away. New tar paper was rolled out, and multiple air guns nailed the new shingles in place. Not a single caver was nailed by accident! By lunch time, half of the pavilion had a new roof. Work continued on until nearly dark, when even the most persistent workers abandoned their efforts when Chef Andy called "dinner!" His fabulous feast of ravioli, bread, salad, vegetables, and a wide array of deserts were well received after a long day of work. For after-dinner entertainment, Paul Stevens' slide show on the original CONCAVE I (1972) was shown. It got really cold around dinner, so we rigged some tarps, turned on "Burnie," Craig Hindman's home-made forced-air heating system, and we huddled around the fire until well into the evening.

The park is so thrilled with the new roof on Shelter #2 that they apparently now want us to re-roof all the other pavilions! That will have to wait until after tourist season, but may commence this fall. The park staff could not offer us enough thanks for all the work that we accomplished that day. Thanks to Meredith Hall Johnson and Andy Reeder for organizing the event, Jim Battarbee and Scott Davis for organizing and running the heavy equipment, and of course the 50 or so volunteers who showed up and did an awful lot of work in one day. See you there next Easter!



Cavers got some mechanical assistance in removing the remains of the Octagon House at Grand Caverns during the Easter Restoration Field Camp. (Photo by Jim McConkey)

Grand Caverns Survey Project Update

by Jim McConkey

Believe it or not, the VAR Grand Caverns Survey Project is still going, even after nearly 3 1/2 years. The project has evolved from simply surveying, and more work is being done above ground these days, but we haven't forgotten the caves.

We have an ongoing dig at the furthest point back in Fountain Cave

through a pile of blasted and piled ex-formations that is leading in some interesting directions. The blasting probably dates from the days of the Grottoes Company in the late 1800s, but no one knows why it was blasted. Some think an owner intentionally blocked the way to nicer parts of the cave, a few think a body might be buried there, and some think the formations were being harvested. There was a lime kiln at the base of Cave Hill below the entrance to Fountain Cave, but it is long way to haul rock from the very back of the cave. We have moved several tons of rock, following some tantalizing air movement, but the cave is not ready to give up her secrets just yet. Perhaps on the next dig...

The resurvey of Madisons Cave is progressing slowly, mostly hindered by diversion of the sketchers to other projects. The survey is nearly complete, and we hope to produce a new map soon. We haven't given up on Grand yet. Just this month a high lead was discovered heading towards Madisons Cave, although a little west of it right now. Cavers are working on a constriction, and we hope to explore this new passage in July. Several other leads have been pushed, and a few digs are still in progress. A significant number of coins and other debris have been pulled from the rainbow lakes. The park found that the local bank will exchange any currency that they can identify, and the significant lake haul will be used to finance a series of bat houses in the park.

This month our good friend Jim Battarbee managed to get his boss to loan us yet another machine, this time a backhoe/front end loader, and we loaded two more dumpsters worth of Octagon House debris. One more dumpster, and the house should be gone! We just hope he can find another machine next time.

We still have more of Cave Hill to explore, including two known caves, but they lie outside the park and the landowners are temporarily keeping us away while they settle some problems with their neighbors. There is known new passage in another cave on the park, but we need a really skinny sketcher to update the map. There is still work to be done and caves to be found on Cave Hill. Consider yourself invited to the monthly project meeting, the first full weekend of every month. We are camping in the ball-field for the summer.

Crossroads Cave Has New Owners

by Ted Andrus
Virginia Speleological Survey

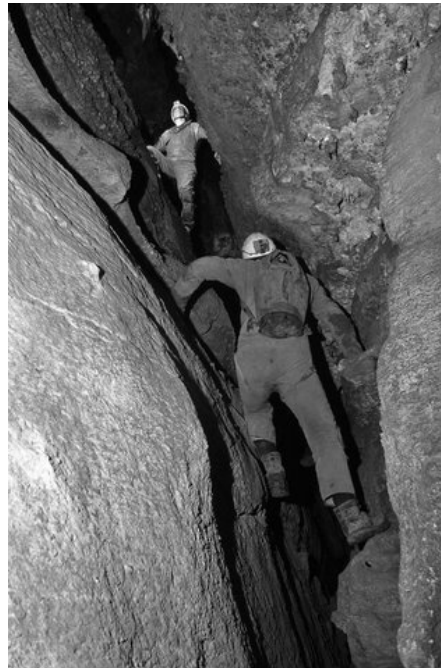
The ownership of Crossroads Cave in Bath County, Virginia was transferred from Robert and Patricia Brooks to the Virginia Speleological Survey (VSS) on December 18, 2006 with the recording of the deed for the 1.885 acres containing the entrance to the cave. Mr. and Mrs Brooks are cave owners (recipients of the Virginia Regions "Landowner Recognition Award") and friends to cavers.

Unfortunately, Mr. Brooks passed away on January 1, 2007, following a long illness. However, he was comforted in the knowledge that the cave is owned by cavers, and trusted that it would remain open to cavers.

The VSS is actively developing a site improvement plan and working on defining a long-term property management plan. In the interim, the cave remains open to conscientious and safety-minded cavers. Parking remains available at the church so long as the church property and community are treated respectfully. Parking is not allowed

along the state highway or (at present) on the cave property.

Crossroads Cave is a complex maze cave with stream passages, pits, breakdown chokes and a few decorated areas. The VSS asks all visitors to conserve the cave, the property and the community relationship.



Cavers traversing a tall canyon in Crossroads Cave. The Virginia Speleological Survey now owns this popular cave. (Photo by Phil Lucas)

VAR Limited Access Cave List

Check the access status of VAR caves on-line at
www.VAR-caves.us

Fall 2007 MAR/VAR Meeting October 12-14, 2007

by Amos Mincin

The joint MAR/VAR meeting will be held at The Robertson Association campground (OTR Site) in Dailey, West Virginia, on October 12-14. Plenty of camping sites and hot showers will be available. However, the sauna and hot tub equipment that is traditionally part of OTR will **not** be available.

The Triangle Troglodytes Grotto is co-hosting the event along with the Philadelphia Grotto, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary.

The latest information and directions can be found at the event Web site www.philly60th.org.

There will be numerous guided and non-guided cave trips. Participants are encouraged to sign up at the event on Friday evening for the guided cave trips they plan to participate in. A guidebook will be provided.

Friday evening a DJ will provide musical entertainment.

Live music for the Saturday Night Philadelphia Grotto 60th celebration will be provided by the music group "Rush Hour."

"Rush Hour" is a West Virginia-based, 5-piece bluegrass band, formed by experienced musicians who have been on the bluegrass circuit. "Rush Hour" has a vast selection of original material, strong instrumentation and spectacular vocals that will be sure to turn heads in the world of bluegrass. They were winners of the 2006 Rising Star Band Competition held at the Springtime in Kentucky Bluegrass Festival, Greenup, Kentucky and other competitions. For more information see their Website: www.unionridgebluegrass.net/Rush_Hour.htm.

A catered meal will be provided Saturday evening. There will also be a Vegetarian Meal option.

Special presentations and activities are planned. International guests will be present.

Caving vendors will be there.

Pre-registration is encouraged. All cavers are cordially invited to attend.

[A pre-registration form for the MAR/VAR meeting is on the last page of this issue. The deadline for preregistration is September 4.]

Ron Simmons' Legacy

by Scott Fee

Cavers who knew Ron Simmons were devastated to hear of his death in Allen Mill Pond Cave in February. A life member of the NSS, Lew Bicking Award recipient, cutting-edge explorer, and accomplished photographer, Ron was of one of the caving community's most outstanding members, contributing significantly to the development of caving techniques and our knowledge of numerous cave systems. He was a hero and friend to many of us and will be missed. However, even after his death, Ron will continue to contribute to cave exploration and speleology, and be a hero to the Society and its members.

The NSS is honored to have received a generous legacy from Ron Simmons. As the beneficiary of his life insurance policy, the NSS International Cave Exploration Fund received about \$105,000. That legacy quadruples the value of the fund and will greatly increase the amount of investment income it will earn annually. This, in turn,

will increase the number and value of Exploration Grants we can award each year to NSS members to support their cave exploration projects.

Additionally, the Society received nearly \$70,000 from Ron's retirement account for the Publications Special Features Fund, which editors may use to print extraordinary issues of the *NSS News* and the *Journal of Cave and Karst Science*.

I want to encourage NSS members to consider following Ron's example. Please remember the Society when you craft your will and establish beneficiaries for your retirement accounts and insurance policies. Like Ron's, your legacy can live on with the NSS, and you can continue to contribute in a meaningful way to caving, cavers, and speleology long after you've left us.

If you have any questions about how to include the NSS in your estate plans, don't hesitate to contact me. Donors designating \$10,000 or more for the Society will become members of the NSS's prestigious Stephenson Group and will be recognized annually in the *Members Manual*.

WVASS Spring Meeting

by George Dasher

The spring meeting of the West Virginia Speleological Survey was held on Saturday, May 5, 2007, at Alpena, in conjunction with the Shavers Mountain Project. It was attended by 20 people, and consisted of officers' and coordinators' reports.

Bill Balfour said that West Virginia has 4,274 known caves at present. He also said that Bob Robins has been making great headway on the

WVASS Web page, and that Dave Culver's biology bulletin should be out fairly soon.

HARDY COUNTY: (Pete Penczer) This county has 38 known caves, 13 with published maps; three with completed, but unpublished maps; and three that have been surveyed but no map has been drawn up. None of the other caves in the county are longer than a couple of hundred feet.

GRANT COUNTY: (George Dasher) Only two people reviewed the draft manuscripts handed out at OTR. Tommy Shifflett is working on the Wind Cave map, additional caving and ridgewalking trips are required, and the bulletin will not be published by the 2007 OTR deadline.

PENDLETON COUNTY: (George Dasher) Not much is happening in most of the county, but the work in Germany Valley is going great guns. The surveys in Schoolhouse and Shovel Eater Caves continue, Hellhole is very active, and Memorial Day Cave is 8.05 miles long at this time.

TUCKER COUNTY: (Doug McCarty) The cave files have been obtained from Doug Moore, and two large caves are currently being surveyed. This group meets on the third Saturday of every month in Parsons.

PRESTON AND MONONGALIA COUNTIES: (Brian Masney and Dave Riggs) We have surveyed 3,500 feet in New Years Day Cave and 2.3 miles in Druid Cave. NYDC is the upper level of the cave system, Druid is the lower level, and the water in the two caves is completely separate, with the NYDC water arriving at the Druid entrance overland.

POCAHONTAS AND RANDOLPH COUNTIES: (Doug Medville) Not much is going on in these two counties, but the survey of Cass Cave is finished, and Greg Springer is again drawing the map.

SHAVERS MOUNTAIN: (Rocky Parsons and Barry Horner) The survey of Panther Camp and County Line Caves are finished, and the flows of seven springs have been measured. The group found a ten-foot-deep, dead-bottom pit that was full of old containers for 60mm and 80mm mortars. These were properly disposed of by the U.S. Army. This project needs a lot of help because they had "A boat load of things to do!"

RENICK AREA: (Cliff Lindsay) Doug Medville has given Cliff everything he has, and Cliff has the text typed up and needs to finish a couple of maps. Bone-Norman will be included in this bulletin, the publication of which is several years down the road.

CULVERSON CREEK CAVE: (Bill Balfour, Phil Lucas, and George Dasher) Bill and Phil have taken over the cartography of the Culverson Creek Cave map, and Roger Baroody will complete the map in CorelDraw. It is about 2/3 finished, and will be a superb map.

WESTERN SLOPE: (Bill Balfour) Mark Passerby and his band of merry men are working primarily in Raders Valley and Zickafoose Blowhole, which is now over three miles long. Once they finish, this bulletin will be ready to be published, as everything else was completed in the 1970s and 1980s.

MCCLUNGS-LUDINGTON AREA: (Ed Saugstad) Work in this area has stalled because of a huge vertical error in the overland survey between the Lightners, McClungs, and main Ludington Entrances.

MAXWELTON CAVE: (Ed Saugstad) This cave is now ten miles long, which is roughly the length of the old Chuck Hempel survey.

DRY CAVE: (John Pearson): The Phil Lucas map is very good, and John needs to get into the cave to check it out.

ORGAN CAVE: (Ray Cole) A large housing development is being constructed southwest of the U.S. Route 219 and State Route 63 interchange. This development will consist of 119 tracts on 245 acres, and it is not known if it will have public sewer and water.

MONROE COUNTY: (Jeff Bray) Telemarketer Cave has been surveyed, and digs are on going in Kessel and Mud Run Caves; however, the group has been defeated in both caves by water and mud.

MERCER AND SUMMERS COUNTIES (Nick Schaer) This group has gotten into three closed caves, and has dropped dye in KFC Cave. This came out in Beaver Hole.

SHARPS CAVE: Bill Balfour read a short report from George Phillips on the status of Sharps Cave in Pocahontas County. He said that George's group, Eight Rivers Safe Development, has been working to protect Sharps and to promote safe construction on the area's karst. The local Public Service District plans to run a five-mile-long, raw-sewage pipeline down the valley in front of the cave, and that a pumping station may be constructed over top of the cave. The report also said that the area's largest spring may be threatened by the proposed plant, and that the project has not been as well studied as it should have been.

Recycling at VARs

by Meredith Hall Johnson

At the Spring VAR, the VAR Conservation Committee began its new recycling program. There were two containers with labels for aluminum, "Cans Only." For the most part, everyone respected this; not too much trash got tossed in. Thanks! Fred Grady, whom you all know is the king of recycling, was

kind enough to haul the two large bags of cans back home. He donated them to the local firehouse, which uses what money it gets for them to help burned children. (Thanks, Fred!)

The Conservation Committee plans to have the recycle containers at every VAR from here on out. Please continue to put cans (not trash) in them and feel good about yourselves.

Spring 2007 VAR Meeting Durbin, WV April 27-29, 2007 Financial Report

by Janet Tinkham

INCOME:	
Pre-registered adults (142 x \$26)	\$3,692
Pre-registered 4-14 (12 x \$22)	264
On-site adults (104 x \$29)	3,016
On-site 4-14 (1 x \$25)	25
Kids under 4 (6 x free)	0
Pets (0 x \$0)	0
Day & dinner passes (12 x \$13)	156
Other income	0
Total Income	\$7,128

EXPENSES:	
Campground rental	1,500
(includes trash removal)	0
Porta-potties	505
Dinner (271 people)	2,600
Soda & bottled water	77
Beer (2 kegs Sat. night only)	181
Wine	15
Program/Guidebook	266
Registration and administration	40
VAR fee (\$3 x 271 people)	813
Firewood	0
Total Expenses	\$5,997
Event Profit	\$1,131

The VAR Mailing List

by Meredith Hall Johnson

Hi VAR! Do you know what a hassle it is to try to decipher bad handwriting on VAR registration forms? It is. I should know!! Both because I can barely read my own handwriting and because I am the keeper of the VAR Mailing List. I have to update it monthly when the NSS sends out address changes or notice of people moving into or out of the Virginia Region. Twice a year is the biggest pain in the patooie ever—updating the list from the registration forms. And think about how many cavers go to VARs... Right now there are 449 people on the list and that is down from 549!

Since I just now finished the updates so you could get the *Region Record* that you are reading right now, I have a couple of figures to share. And this is just from the Spring VAR in April—280 attendees!—two people had such poor handwriting I could barely figure it out, one spelled his name differently than he had before, one spelled his street name differently, two new people did not include their street addresses or full zip codes, two others did not include a zip code or a full zip code, and one new person did not include any kind of address other than a state. If I did not look all of these folks up in the *NSS Members Manual*, there would be 10 fewer names on the list. And that would be a shame because \$3 of your VAR fees are dues that pay for the postage for the *Region Record*. And some of these folks were first-time VAR attendees.

Another neat thing I discovered this time is how many cavers actually come to VARs, very possibly because of the two complementary copies of the *Region Record* we give out. Whenever a caver who lives in our region joins the NSS or a caver moves into our region, they show up on the monthly NSS updates. I

add them to the Mailing List for two free copies. This is a big pain but it obviously pays off.

So anyhow, the point is, please remember me when you are signing up for Fall VAR. If I can't read your handwriting, you risk not getting your subscription extended for another year. Thanks.

VAR Listserver Provides Timely Information

by Bob Hoke

Walt Pirie maintains the VAR listserv. This is a computerized e-mail list that allows any subscriber to easily send e-mail messages to the other subscribers.

The listserv is seeing increased use as a vehicle for quickly disseminating and/or soliciting information from subscribers throughout the Virginia Region.

Anyone is welcome to subscribe. All you have to do is send an e-mail message to:

listserv@listserv.vt.edu

In the body of the message enter:

sub varlist your name

That's all you have to do. You will receive a message asking you to confirm your subscription and then you will be a subscriber. The list is not accessible by outsiders and you will not receive any junk e-mail (spam) from it.

Any subscriber may post messages to the list, but the following rules apply:

1. No flaming (personal attacks)
2. No Spam (commercial messages)
3. Do not redistribute a post without the original author's permission.
4. Posts must be relevant to VAR and to caving.

Virginia Region Caving Accidents

by George Dasher
May 1, 2007

1950

Schoolhouse Cave WV June Accident Body Recovery Unbelayed manila rope broke

1957

Hellhole WV Sept Accident Body Recovery Fall after hand-descend of rope

1961

Cass Cave WV Jan Incident Non-NSS Rescue Caver pulled up Belay Loft drop

1967

Overholt-Blowing WV Feb 25 Incident Self-Rescue Hypothermia, unconsciousness
Breathing Cave VA May 28 Accident NSS Body Recovery Fall while canyon-hopping
Staunton Quarry Cave VA Jul 26 Accident Non-NSS Body Recovery Two died from breathing blasting fumes
Cass Cave WV Nov 23 Incident Non-NSS Rescue Rope tangled, trapping caver

1968

Cass Cave WV Mar 16 Accident Non-NSS Rescue Inadequate belay, fall and hurt knee
Elkhorn Mountain Cave WV Mar 16 Incident Self-Rescue Inexperience, could not ascend
Elkhorn Mountain Cave WV Mar 16 Accident Self-Rescue Caver fell crossing stream
Elkhorn Mountain Cave WV Mar 16 Incident Non-NSS Rescue Cavers unable to ascend pit

1969

Cass Cave WV Mar 7 Incident Non-NSS Rescue Rope knotted, trapping caver

1970

Cassell Cave WV Mar 7 Incident Non-NSS Rescue Inexperience, unable to ascend rope
The Hole WV Apr 27 Accident Self-Rescue High water, caver panicked
Overholt-Blowing Cave WV Jul 12 Incident Non-NSS Rescue Loss of light, stranded in water cave
Organ Cave WV Oct 24 Accident Self-Rescue Short fall while inspecting a climb

1971

unnamed pit WV May 23 Incident No Rescue Ladder broke on descent, belay held
Organ Cave WV August Incident NSS Rescue Caver could not ascend drop

1972

Walt Allen Cave WV Jul 16 Accident Non-NSS Rescue Fall of 55 feet, unknown reasons
Hellhole WV May 28 Accident Self-Rescue Caver hit by falling rock
Moyers Twin Wells WV Dec 3 Accident Self-Rescue Fall after seat carabiner unlocked

1973

Crabtree Cave MD Feb 7 Accident Self-Rescue Dislocated kneecap in fissure cave
Elkhorn Mountain Cave WV Feb Incident Non-NSS Rescue Rope too short for pitch
Hellhole WV Apr 16 Accident Non-NSS Rescue Fall for unknown reasons, broken leg
Organ Cave WV Apr 21 Accident Self-Rescue Caver fell seven feet, unknown reasons
Organ Cave WV Dec 8 Incident Self-Rescue Exhaustion, could not ascend drop

1974

Canterbury Cave WV Jan 25 Accident NSS Rescue Broken rope and subsequent fall
Sinnott-Thorn Mtn. Cave WV Oct 19 Accident Non-NSS Rescue Slip and fall into fissure
Hellhole WV Oct 20 Incident No Rescue Jump from a too-short rope
Hellhole WV Oct 20 Accident Non-NSS Rescue Fall while switching from a short rope
Lewis Cave WV Dec 22 Incident No Rescue Fall after bolt failure

1975

Organ Cave	WV	Jan 30	Incident	NSS Rescue	Cavers lost with no light
Bowden Cave	WV	Feb 9	Incident	No Rescue	Broken ladder, belay saved caver
Dig Spring	WV	May 11	Accident	Self-Rescue	Rockfall while digging open cave
Barnes Pit	WV	July	Accident	Non-NSS Body Recovery	Rockfall in pit entrance
John Browns Cave	WV	Jul 13	Accident	Self-Rescue	No light, caver fell while crossing pit
Norman Cave	WV	Jul 19	Accident	Self-Rescue	Caver slipped on breakdown
Twiggs Cave	MD	Aug	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Loss of light, resulting in fall
Snedegar-Crookshank Cave	WV	Aug 30	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Cavers lost, severe hypothermia
Beacon Cave	WV	Sep 13	Incident	NSS Rescue	Cavers unable to find entrance
Nut Cave	WV	Nov 8	Incident	NSS Rescue	Cavers unable to find entrance
Schoolhouse Cave	WV	Nov 29	Accident	NSS Rescue	Caver hit by falling rock
Bowden Cave	WV	???	Incident	NSS Rescue	Cavers unable to find entrance

1976

Rubber Chicken Cave	WV	May 8	Accident	Self-Rescue	Ladder failure, no belay
Rubber Chicken Cave	WV	May 8	Accident	Self-Rescue	Ladder failure again, no belay
Rubber Chicken Cave	WV	May 8	Incident	Self-Rescue	Ladder and belay rope tangle
Crookshank Cave	WV	Jun 13	Incident	No Rescue	Rockfall from pulled-on rope tangle
Cornwell Cave	WV	Jun 25	Accident	NSS Rescue	Slip on rain-slick rock
Crookshank Cave	WV	Jul 4	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall involving large loose log
Crabtree Cave	MD	Jul 19	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Ten-foot fall for unknown reasons
Crookshank Cave	WV	Aug 7	Incident	No Rescue	Anchor failure resulting in fall
Cass Cave	WV	Aug 29	Accident	NSS Rescue	Loss of control during rappel
Cass Cave	WV	Oct 31	Incident	No Rescue	Flood entrapment
Millers Cave	VA	Sep	Incident	No Rescue	Carbide explosion
Rubber Chicken Cave	WV	Nov 13	Incident	Self-Rescue	Jumars failed on iced entrance rope

1977

Sheepmans Cave	MD	May 23	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Exhaustion, could not exit cave
Organ Cave	WV	Jul 9	Accident	Self-Rescue	Anchor failure, fall from breakdown
My Cave	WV	Jul 30	Accident	NSS Body Recovery	Inexperience, fall off long drop
Canadian Hole	WV	Jul 31	Accident	Self-Rescue	Rappeller used untied belay rope
Cass Cave	WV	Aug 28	Accident	NSS Body Recovery	Inexperience on a wet vertical drop
Twiggs Cave	MD	Oct 14	Accident	NSS Rescue	Bad air in tight fissure

1978

Nut Cave	WV	Mar 25	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Cavers could not locate entrance
Sites Cave	WV	May 28	Incident	No Rescue	Rockfall of unknown reasons
Canadian Hole	WV	Jul 3	Accident	NSS Body Recovery	Strangulation by helmet strap
Bowden Cave	WV	Sept	Accident	NSS Rescue	Fall for unknown reasons from ledge

1979

Pig Hole Cave	VA	Mar 10	Accident	Self-Rescue	Falling rock, fall while downclimbing
New River Cave	VA	May 9	Accident	NSS Rescue	Spelunker fell from mud bank
Schoolhouse Cave	WV	June	Incident	Self-Rescue	Foot wedged in wall crack
Hellhole	WV	Jul 20	Incident	No Rescue	Foot Gibbs harness tore out
Hellhole	WV	Jul 20	Incident	No Rescue	Rain, exhaustion, could not ascend
Organ Cave	WV	Oct 27	Incident	Self-Rescue	Ruptured Achilles tendon
Organ Cave	WV	Oct 27	Accident	Self-Rescue	Rockfall resulting in broken foot
Whitings Neck Cave	WV	Nov 17	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Fall resulting from inexperience
Pig Hole Cave	VA	Dec 1	Accident	Self-Rescue	Inexperience, could not ascend rope

1980

New River Cave	VA	Jan 18	Accident	NSS Rescue	Fall onto sharp rock
Carpenters Pit	WV	Mar 9	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Caver too tired and cold to ascend
Sinnett Cave	WV	May 10	Accident	Second Party Rescue	Fall from steeply sloping tube
Sinnett Cave	WV	Jul 19	Accident	Self-Rescue	Exhaustion, fall from tube
Endless Caverns	VA	Oct 11	Accident	NSS Rescue	Caver walked into a pit

1981

I 81 Cave	VA	Mar 8	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Unknown
Patton Cave	WV	Mar 16	Incident	No Rescue	Fall resulting from carelessness
Clover Hollow Cave	VA	Apr 25	Incident	Self-Rescue	Inexperience, fall during rappel
Nut Cave	WV	May 16	Incident	Self-Rescue	Possible mild heart attack
Robins Rift	WV	Jun 14	Accident	Self-Rescue	Entrapment by entrance rockfall
Hellhole	WV	Jul 12	Accident	NSS Rescue	Fall from breakdown, anchor failure
Big Springs Cave	WV	Aug 12	Accident	Non-NSS Search	Lost caving party
Lost World Caverns	WV	Oct 10	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Electrical loss on commercial tour
Clover Hollow Cave	VA	Dec 12	Accident	NSS Rescue	Fall from ladder, no belay

1982

Just Cave	WV	Jan 24	Accident	Self-Rescue	Iced rope at entrance, could not climb
Patton Cave	WV	Jan 30	Incident	No Rescue	Short fall with no light
Haynes Cave	WV	Mar 26	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall on climb due to loose breakdown
Buddy Penleys Cave	VA	Apr 17	Accident	NSS Rescue	Rockfall caused by rope, two victims
Paul Penleys Cave	VA	Spring	Incident	Self-Rescue	Loss of light on wet ladder drop
Laurel Creek Cave	WV	Jun 12	Accident	NSS Rescue	Party trapped in flooded cave
Organ Cave	WV	Aug 14	Incident	No Rescue	Fall due to loose breakdown
Culverson Creek Cave	WV	Oct 3	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall and lack of belay on ladder pitch
Organ Cave	WV	Oct 4	Accident	NSS Search	Inexperience, party lost, no light
Canadian Hole	WV	Oct 10	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall due to loose breakdown
Friars Hole Cave	WV	Nov 13	Accident	Second Party Rescue	Inexperience on wet vertical drops
Harmans Waterfall Cave	WV	Nov 28	Accident	NSS Search	Party could not find entrance

1983

Simmons Mingo Cave	WV	Mar 25	Accident	Second Party Rescue	Inexperience on ladder climb
Butler Cave	VA	Mar 6	Accident	NSS Rescue	Lost member of the caving party
Devils Den Cave	VA	Mar 12	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall from slippery ledge above pit
W.V.s Cave	WV	Mar 19	Accident	Self-Rescue	Blindness from carbide explosion
Death Pit	WV	May 14	Accident	Self-Rescue	Rock entrapment after blasting
Hellhole	WV	Jun 29	Accident	Second Party Rescue	Rappeller inverted because of backpack
Organ Cave	WV	Nov 12	Incident	No Rescue	Miscommunication
Whitings Neck Cave	WV	Nov 12	Accident	Second Party Rescue	Shock and feigned unconsciousness
Swago Pit	WV	Nov 26	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Pulled muscle, unable to ascend

1984

Rocky Hollow Cave	VA	Jan 15	Accident	NSS Rescue	Fall for unknown reasons
Clover Hollow Cave	VA	Apr 14	Accident	NSS Rescue	Too cold and wet to ascend wet drop
McClungs Cave	WV	May 27	Incident	No Rescue	Carbide explosion
Molers Cave	WV	Jun 17	Accident	Non-NSS Search	Loss of light
Hellhole	WV	July	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Inexperienced, unable to climb
Hellhole	WV	Jul 20	Incident	No Rescue	Worn Jumar teeth, unable to ascend
D.F.T.A. Cave	WV	Sep 1	Incident	No Rescue	Near miss by a fearsome rockfall
Paul Penleys Cave	VA	Oct 31	Incident	No Rescue	Tangled ropes and broken ladder
Nut Cave	WV	Nov 2	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Uncontrolled slide, fall into creek
Breathing Cave	VA	Nov 5	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall for unknown reason into pit
Cass Cave	WV	Dec 1	Accident	NSS Body Recovery	Hypothermia, inability to abort trip
Acme Quarry #5 Cave	WV	Dec 23	Incident	No Rescue	Poorly maintained ladder broke

1985

Bowden Cave	WV	Feb 24	Accident	Second Party Rescue	Trapped by rising meltwater
Norman Cave	WV	May	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall from top of waterfall
Simmons Mingo	WV	Aug 24	Incident	Self-Rescue	Diver incapacitated by hypothermia
Cricket Cave	WV	Sep 21	Incident	No Rescue	Caver fell into water while climbing
Cricket Cave	WV	Sep 21	Incident	No Rescue	Second caver fell from same climb
Cricket Cave	WV	Sep 21	Incident	No Rescue	Caver's legs trapped by falling rock
Cricket Cave	WV	Sep 21	Incident	No Rescue	Carbide explosion
Cricket Cave	WV	Sep 21	Incident	No Rescue	Caught by pack on tight water drop

Cricket Cave	WV	Sep 21	Incident	No Rescue	Passing lip, tip cleaner rammed in eye
Newcastle Murder	VA	Oct 13	Incident	No Rescue	Fall on smooth rock tube
W.V.'s Cave	WV	Oct 19	Accident	Self-Rescue	Uncontrolled slide down a steep slope
Acme Quarry #5	WV	Oct 20	Incident	No Rescue	Fall while climbing to high lead
Organ Cave	WV	Oct 25	Incident	Self-Rescue	Fall from loss of balance
Culverson Creek	WV	Nov 28	Accident	NSS Body Recovery	Rockfall near entrance

1986

Breathing Cave	VA	Jan 1	Incident	No Rescue	Caver fell on short drop
Breathing Cave	VA	Jan 1	Incident	No Rescue	Caver fell on steep clay bank
Bowden Cave	WV	Feb 2	Incident	Non-NSS Search	Inability to locate entrance
Clover Hollow Cave	VA	Mar 6	Accident	No Rescue	Caver cracked ribs while crawling
Cassell Cave	WV	Mar 30	Accident	NSS Rescue	Inability to ascend the entrance pit
Breathing Cave	VA	Jul 19	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Inadequately equipped, loss of light
Stumpbottom Cave	VA	Aug 23	Incident	NSS Rescue	Entrapment from falling breakdown
Arritt Mill Tunnel	VA	Sep 28	Incident	No Rescue	Caver cracked ribs while crawling
McClungs Cave	WV	Oct 13	Incident	NSS Search	Caver separated from caving party
Swago Pit	WV	Nov 1	Incident	NSS Rescue	Inexperienced, unable to climb pitch
Molers Cave	WV	Nov 15	Incident	NSS Rescue	Caver slipped and dislocated knee
Scott Hollow Cave	WV	Nov 22	Incident	Self-Rescue	Short fall, dislocated shoulder
Scott Hollow Cave	WV	Dec 6	Incident	Self-Rescue	Rockfall, deep puncture wound
Rehoboth Church Cave	WV	Dec 28	Incident	No Rescue	Carbide explosion
Rehoboth Church Cave	WV	Dec 28	Incident	No Rescue	Fall into pool

1987

Rocky Hollow Cave	VA	Jan 10	Accident	NSS Rescue	Tired caver, hand-over-hand ascent
Massanutten Caverns VA	Winter		Accident	Self-Rescue	Rockfall, unknown cause
Lowe Cave	VA	May 23	Accident	NSS Rescue	Tired caver could not ascend pitch
Ludington Cave	WV	May 23	Accident	No Rescue	Rockfall at entrance
Lowe Cave	VA	May 24	Incident	No Rescue	400-pound rockfall. Missed!
Butler Cave	VA	May 24	Accident	Self-Rescue	Caver stuck in fissure passage
unnamed pit	VA	Jul 19	Accident	NSS Rescue	Rope-caused rockfall
Bowden Cave	WV	Aug 13	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Caver abandoned by caving party
unnamed pit	WV	Sep 8	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Rope-caused rockfall

1988

New River Cave	VA	Feb 7	Accident	No Rescue	Fall near entrance, unknown reasons
Porters Cave	VA	Mar 5	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Scouts lost, could not find entrance
Scott Hollow Cave	WV	Mar 6	Accident	Self-Rescue	Caver slipped and broke ankle
Scott Hollow Cave	WV	Jun 12	Incident	Self-Rescue	Caver fell after switching to rappel
Cass Cave	WV	Summer	Incident	No Rescue	Required webbing 'missing' from pitch
Grapevine Cave	WV	Jul 10	Incident	No Rescue	Shirt tail caught by rappel rack
Stevens Farm Cave	WV	Jul 23	Accident	No Rescue	Eye gouged by fence wire
Pig Hole Cave	VA	Sep 24	Accident	NSS Body Recovery	Caver killed in unbelayed fall

1989

Paxton Cave	VA	Feb 11	Incidents	No Rescue	Three separate rockfalls
Scott Hollow Cave	WV	Feb 11	Accident	NSS Rescue	Dislocated kneecap
Rimstone Falls Cave	WV	Mar 11	Accident	No Rescue	Ledge broke, fall, knee injury
Rehoboth Church Cave	WV	Jul 15	Incident	NSS Search	Two cavers became lost, light failure
My Cave	WV	Jul 23	Accident	NSS Body Recovery	Caver drowned in deep pool
Ludington Cave	WV	Jul 27	Incident	NSS Rescue	Caver unable to ascend drop
Clarks Cave	VA	Nov 11	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Boy Scout fell and broke his arm

1990

John Browns Cave	WV	Mar 15	Accident	Self-Rescue	Caver fell from unbelayed climb
Devil's Kitchen Cave	WV	May 27	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Caver fall
Bowden Cave	WV	May 27	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Group could not find entrance
New Trout Cave	WV	Jun 18	Incident	NSS Rescue	Loss of light

unnamed cave	VA	Aug 2	Incident	NSS Rescue	Loss of light
Organ Cave	WV	Fall	Incident	No Rescue	Fall from crawlway into large room
Bone-Norman Cave	WV	Nov 10	Incident	NSS Rescue	Miscommunication
Clover Mountain Cave	VA	Dec	Accident	Self-Rescue	Too fast slide, broken wrist

1991

Wildcat Cave	WV	????	Incident	No Rescue	Cave in flood, exciting exit
Cave Mountain Cave	WV	????	Accident	Self-Rescue	Caver fall, ruptured ovarian cyst
Old Mill Cave	VA	Feb	Incident	Self-Rescue	Stuck caver in tight crawl
Organ Cave	WV	April 27	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Confused Girl Scouts lost in maze
Beacon Cave	WV	Spring	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Fall resulting in broken leg
Burnside Branch Cave	WV	Spring	Accident	unknown	Broken leg from unknown causes
Bone-Norman Cave	WV	May 25	Accident	NSS Rescue	Broken leg resulting from fall
Lawrence Domepit	WV	Aug 4	Accident	NSS Rescue	Dislocated shoulder
Spout Cave	WV	June	Incident	No Rescue	Total silting and line entrapment
Roadside Pit	WV	Sept	Incident	No Rescue	Fall with no injury
McFerrin Breakdown	WV	Sept 15	Incident	No Rescue	Fall with no injury
John Brown Cave	WV	Dec 10	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Loss of light
Harpers Pit	WV	Dec 28	Incident	Self-Rescue	Heel-hang on 80-foot drop

1992

Marshalls Cave	VA	May 16	Incident	No Rescue	Ledge and rock fall
Brammer Cave	WV	May 25	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Caver fell about 40 feet
Killiansburg Cave	MD	June	Incident	Self-Rescue	Caver stuck in tight crawl
Carols Crack Cave	WV	Jul 22	Accident	No Rescue	Caver fell about 12 feet
Sharps Cave	WV	Jul 29	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Caver could not ascend tight entrance
Grapevine Pit	WV	Aug 22	Incident	No Rescue	Log fall, missed caver on bottom
Sites Cave	WV	Sep 4	Incident	NSS Rescue	Caver tired and cold, unable to ascend
Portal (The)	WV	Oct 26	Accident	NSS Rescue	Rock fall hurt caver's leg
Fletchers Cave	WV	Nov 14	Incident	No Rescue	Caver fell 12 feet
Organ Cave	WV	Dec 18	Accident	NSS Search	Two cavers lost overnight

1993

Greises Cave	MD	Feb 28	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Inability to ascend drop
Sharps Cave	WV	Apr 3	Incident	Self-Rescue	Exhaustion and unable to ascend
Breathing Cave	VA	Apr 24	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Injury, no other details known
Crossroads Cave	VA	Jun 26	Accident	NSS Rescue	Inverted on rope, dislocated shoulder
Bowden Cave	WV	Summer	Incident	NSS Rescue	Lost teenage cavers, no lights
Marshalls Cave	VA	Jul 3	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall, resulting in hurt foot
Organ Cave	WV	Jul 24	Incident	NSS Rescue	Lost teenage cavers
Porters Cave	VA	Jul 31	Accident	NSS Rescue	Rockfall and entrapment
Bone-Norman Cave	WV	Jul 31	Incident	No Rescue	Great difficulty in getting thru Pinch
Scott Hollow Cave	WV	Aug 5	Incident	NSS Rescue	Illness
Whittings Neck Cave	WV	Aug 19	Incident	Self-Rescue	Possible entrapment, probable panic
Rehoboth Church Cave	WV	Aug 21	Incident	No Rescue	Lost cavers
New River Cave	VA	Sep 18	Incident	No Rescue	Caver fall into water
Humphreys Cave	WV	Sep 18	Incident	NSS Rescue	Miscommunication
New Trout Cave	WV	Nov 4	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Disoriented, could not find entrance
Bowden Cave	WV	Nov 13	Incident	NSS Rescue	Lost and could not find entrance

1994

Bowden Cave	WV	March	Incident	unknown	Lost
Sinnett Cave	WV	Mar 12	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Lost Boy Scouts
unnamed sinkhole	MD	Apr 1	Accident	Non-NSS Body Recovery	Man drove into newly-opened sink
Norman Cave	WV	May 5	Accident	NSS Rescue	Woman fell into hole in breakdown
Bakerston Mine	WV	Jul 17	Accident	Non-NSS Body Recovery	Fatality resulting from air problems
Cass Cave	WV	Sep 4	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Problems ascending Belay Loft Drop
Bowden Cave	WV	Sep 10	Accident	NSS Rescue	Fall from the Hairy Traverse
New Trout Cave	WV	Sep 11	Incident	NSS Rescue	Five spelunkers lost

Greenville Saltpeter Cave	WV	Oct 15	Incident	NSS Rescue	Two spelunkers lost and without light
Turkey Cave	VA	Oct 15	Incident	No Rescue	Bad air
Cass Cave	WV	Dec 17	Incident	No Rescue	Loss of pack, then acetylene hazard

1995

Barberry Cave	VA	Jan 13	Incident	NSS Rescue	Cavers trapped by high water
Bowden Cave	WV	Jun 21	Incident	NSS Rescue	Spelunkers lost in entrance room
Bowden Cave	WV	Jun 22	Incident	Self-Rescue	"Patient" passed out on mock rescue
Rehoboth Church Cave	WV	Aug 22	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall resulting in broken wrist
Owl Cave	VA	Sep 3	Accident	NSS Rescue	Caver stuck in back door entrance
Scott Hollow Cave	WV	Sep 24	Incident	NSS Rescue	Spelunkers lost in cave
Hancock Cave	VA	Oct 21	Accident	Self-Rescue	Rockfall resulting in minor injuries
Pig Hole Cave	VA	Winter	Incident	NSS Rescue	Pull-down rappel, blocked entrance

1996

Flower Pot Cave	WV	Feb 26	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Fall descending pit hand-over-hand
Bowden Cave	WV	Jun 27	Accident	NSS Rescue	Fall at the Hairy Traverse
Lockeridge Aqua Cave	VA	Jul 7	Accident	unknown	Caver fall
Cave Mountain Cave	WV	Oct 19	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall resulting in minor injuries
Saltpeter Cave	WV	Oct 19	Incident	No Rescue	Rockfall resulting in entrapment
unnamed cave	WV	Nov 17	Accident	unknown	Caver fall
Carpenters Pit	WV	Nov 29	Incident	Second Party Rescue	Difficulty on rope, inexperience

1997

Beacon Cave	WV	Jan	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Unknown injury, evacuation required
Norman Cave	WV	Feb 22	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Spelunkers fall, injury requiring aid
New River Cave	VA	Mar 8	Accident	Non-NSS Body Recovery	Fall, inexperience, poor equipment
McClungs Cave	WV	May 31	Accident	NSS Rescue	Boy Scouts fall with injury
Bowden Cave	WV	Summer	Incident	NSS Rescue	Spelunkers lost in entrance room
Cassell Cave	WV	Summer	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Stranded at bottom of pit
unnamed cave	VA	Summer	Unknown	unknown	Unknown
Trout Cave	WV	Summer	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Lost spelunkers
James Cave	VA	Jul 10	Accident	unknown	Fall with injury, evacuation
Hellhole	WV	Jul 12	Accident	NSS Rescue	Slight fall, with injury
Sharps Cave	WV	Sep 13	Incident	unknown	Lost, inexperience, aid required
Crossroads Cave	VA	Dec 22	Incident	unknown	Lost, stranded, inadequate equipment

1998

My Cave	WV	Feb 14	Accident	Self-Rescue	Caver fall, dislocated shoulder
Bowden Cave	WV	Jun 13	Incident	No Rescue	Flooding and brief entrapment
Windy Mouth Cave	WV	Jun 27	Accident	Non-NSS Body Recovery	Drowned after exiting cave
Trout Cave	WV	July	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Fall near entrance
Sharps Cave	WV	Sept	Accident	Self-Rescue	Slight fall with injury
Sharps Cave	WV	Sept	Incident	Self-Rescue	Stuck in entrance
Sharps Cave	WV	Sept	Accident	unknown	Unknown
Bowden Cave	WV	Sep 12	Incident	NSS Rescue	Lost caver, search required
Cassell Cave	WV	Oct 3	Incident	NSS Rescue	Stranded in pit without gear
Bowden Cave	WV	Oct 12	Incident	NSS Rescue	Lost spelunkers, search required
Whitings Neck Cave	WV	Oct 25	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Spelunker fall
3-D Maze Cave	VA	Nov 5	Accident	NSS Rescue	Caver fall, injury, evacuation

1999

Hurricane Ridge Cave	WV	Jan 23	Incident	NSS Rescue	High-water entrapment for 52 hours
Organ Cave	WV	Feb 13	Incident	NSS Rescue	Two cavers lost in lower level
New River Cave	VA	Apr 21	Incident	unknown	Lost caver
Allegheny Blowhole Cave	VA	May 15	Incident	No Rescue	Rockfall with caver
Buckeye Creek	WV	June	Incident	No Rescue	Massive rock fall -- missed!
Bowden Cave	WV	Jul 4	Accident	NSS Rescue	Spelunker fell in back entrance
Bowden Cave	WV	Jul 31	Incident	NSS Rescue	Spelunkers unable to exit cave

Scott Hollow Cave	WV	Aug 28	Accident	Second-Party Rescue	Caver fall, 15- to 20-feet
My Cave	WV	Sept	Accident	Self-Rescue	Rock fall, injuries, stitches required
Cave Mountain Cave	WV	Nov 20	Accident	Second-Party Rescue	Fall resulting in a broken leg
Marshalls Cave	VA	Dec 12	Accident	NSS Rescue	Caver fall resulting in injuries

2000

Cass Cave	WV	Mar 11	Incident	NSS Rescue	Flood entrapment
Birds Drop Cave	VA	Mar 16	Accident	Non-NSS Body Recovery	Fall into deep entrance pit
Doe Mountain Cave	VA	Mar 24	Accident	NSS Rescue	Fall with injury
Fieldhouse Cave	WV	Jun 27	Incident	Second-Party Rescue	Short fall from ladder with no belay
Big Springs Cave	WV	Jul 1	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall resulting in dislocated shoulder
Greenville Saltpeter Cave	WV	Jul 4	Accident	NSS Rescue	Fall resulting in broken leg

2001

Bowden Cave	WV	Apr 7	Accident	Self-Rescue	Fall resulting in dislocated shoulder
Carpenter-Swago Cave	WV	Jun 23	Incident	Self-Rescue	Panic attack and unable to climb rope
Bowden Cave	WV	Jul 28	Incident	NSS Rescue	Flood entrapment
My Cave	WV	Sep 1	Incident	NSS Rescue	Cavers stranded at bottom of drop
John Browns Cave	WV	Sep 9	Incident	NSS Rescue	Two spelunkers lost in cave
Bowden Cave	WV	Oct 20	Accident	NSS Body Recovery	Heart attack in Water Course

2002

Bowden Cave	WV	Mar 17	Accident	unknown	Caver fall and hypothermia
Bowden Cave	WV	Apr 7	Incident	unknown	Lost, stranded, inadequate equipment
Carpenters-Swago Cave	WV	Apr 19	Accident	unknown	Injury of unknown type
Cassell Cave	WV	Apr 20	Accident	Self-Rescue	Caver fall with broken leg
Trout Cave	WV	May 12	Incident	unknown	Illness
Cassell Cave	WV	Sep 21	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Caver fall from rope with injury
Maxwelton Sink	WV	Oct 1	Accident	NSS Rescue	Rock fall with injury and entrapment

2003

Omega System	VA	Sep 27	Accident	NSS Body Recovery	Fall from rope at top of deep pit
Nellies Cave	VA	Sep 27	Accident	No Rescue	Injury from rock fall

2004

New River Cave	VA	Apr 8	Accident	Self-Rescue	Caver fall, with broken leg
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2005

Breathing Cave	VA	Feb 19	Accident	Second Party Rescue	Caver fall, with broken ribs
Sharps Cave	WV	Feb 19	Incidents	No Rescue	Cavers falls, no injuries
Island Ford Cave	VA	May 29	Incident	Non-NSS Rescue	Illness, requiring carry out rescue
Hellhole	WV	Jun 11	Accident	Self-Rescue	Broken finger from rock removal
Greenville Saltpeter	WV	Jul 21	Accident	Self-Rescue	Caver fall, with knee injury
Island Ford Cave	VA	Aug 2	Accident	Non-NSS Rescue	Caver fall, with injury to leg

For the purposes of this report, "NSS" is defined as any organized caving group, and includes WVACS and PSC. A "NSS Rescue" is thus defined as a rescue in which any organized caving group took part in the rescue.

The data is from: *American Caving Accidents*, as published by the National Speleological Society, between the years 1967 and 2007, editors Rane Curl, Jennifer Anderson, Richard Breisch, Steve Knutson, and Bill Putnam; two *NSS News* (V8n8p1 and V15n10p112); recent reports on the NSS' Web site, and personal communication with Mike Balister of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Green Bank, Tom Dunbrack of the Marlinton Rescue Squad, and Doug Moore of the Monongahela Grotto.

Fall MAR-VAR Pre-Registration Form

Fall MAR-VAR Field Meet and Philadelphia Grottos 60th Anniversary Event
October 12-13-14, 2007
The Robertson Association Grounds, Dailey, WV

Current Info and Detailed Directions: www.philly60th.org
 Last Day to Pre-register September 4, 2007.
 Pre-registration also available at OTR, See Philly Grotto.

- Combined MAR and VAR hosted by **Philadelphia Grotto** and the **Triangle Troglodytes**
- Led Trips to many of the local caves
- Live Band and DJ
- The TRA facilities with plenty of camping and hot showers
- Philly Grotto's 60th anniversary party
- Weeklong pre-event caving
- Guidebook
- Speleo-Vendors
- Many other things to do in Wild and Wonderful West Virginia

Adult Names: _____

Child Names: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State/Country: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Primary Grotto: _____ Vegetarian Meal (circle Yes/No) **YES** | **NO**

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Pre Registration Costs	Cost	\$	*Note: Participants must choose MAR or VAR or Both.
Children Under Age 4	Free		
Age 4 to 18	\$20		
Adult	\$24		
MAR Fee*	\$5		
VAR Fee*	\$3		
	Total		

(after September 4, Add \$3 to the registration fee per person)

Please send the completed and signed form along with a check made out to **Philadelphia Grotto**, drawn on a US bank to:

Fall MAR-VAR 2007
c/o Amos Mincin
13 Levis Avenue
Media, PA 19063 USA

International Note:
Cavers from outside of the United States can pre-register with this form and pay in cash at the event

I understand that caving and event participation involves many seen and unseen hazards and risks, carrying the potential for serious or fatal injury. I release all claims against Philadelphia Grotto, the Triangle Troglodyte Grotto, the event organizers, staff, and The Robertson Association, for any injury, damage, or death which may occur to myself or my family participants.

Signature: _____

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