



The  
**River City**  
**Caver**

Newsletter of the *River City*  
*Grotto* – Jacksonville, FL  
An [NSS](#) Affiliated Grotto

January, 2018

[www.rivercitygrotto.com/](http://www.rivercitygrotto.com/)

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –  
NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY** February 21<sup>st</sup> 2018, at R.E.I. in the St. John's Town Center

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Rock Climbing Night:** RCG will have a rock climbing night on 2/23/18 at 7:00 at The Edge Rock Climbing Gym.

**Florida Cave Cavort:** TBAG is hosting the Florida Cave Cavort from 3/16-3/18 at Holder Mine Campground. You can register [here](#).

**Briar Cave:** RCG is looking into scheduling a trip to Briar cave. Date is TBD; check your email and the RCG Facebook page for updates.

**SRT Class:** RCG is planning to host a Single Rope Techniques class. This class will be taught by Tim White, who conducted the NCRC Orientation to Cave Rescue Class in November of 2016. The class will take place from June 8th-10th. Please check your email and the RCG Facebook page for updates.

### TRIP REPORTS

**Karstmas Party:** Mike and Connie hosted the RCG Karstmas Party in December. Everyone had wonderful time; we enjoyed great food and great company.

**Climbing Class:** In December of 2017, Phil conducted a climbing class with cave divers at Jerry's Farm.

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We have no new members.

### CAVING IN THE NEWS

**World's Largest Underwater Cave System Found in Mexico:** Explorers with the Great Maya Aquifer Project discovered a connection between two large underwater caverns on the Yucatan Peninsula. Combined, these two system create 215-mile long cavern. [\(article\)](#)

**Eight Remained Trapped in Western Europe's Longest Cave:** Eight men have been trapped in Switzerland's Hölloch cave network since January 21st. Due to heavy rainfall, the earliest the men can be rescued is this weekend. [\(article\)](#)

**Lava Tube Skylights On The Moon Call to Caving Astronauts:** A recent study from the SETI Institute and the Mars Institute is looking at a series of pits seen by NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter. These pits might actually be lava tube skylights, which could lead to accessing usable water on the moon. [\(article\)](#)

### NSS CORNER

**Call for Candidates for the Board of Governor Elections:** The NSS is searching for candidates for the Spring 2018 Election of Directors. Find more information [here](#).

**NSS Webinars: Cave Resources of Tennessee, Presented by Chuck Sutherland:** Chuck Sutherland gives a photographic exploration of Tennessee caves, with an emphasis on their physical and cultural resources, including unusual geology, amazing formations, early human exploration, ancient artwork and Pleistocene megafauna. [\(article\)](#)

**2018 NSS Convention:** The 2018 NSS Convention will take place in Helena, Montana from 7/26-8/3. You can register and find more information [here](#).