



The
**River City
Caver**

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

May, 2017

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –
NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY** June, 21st 2017, at R.E.I. in the St. John's Town Center

UPCOMING TRIPS

June Cave Trip: We plan to have a cave trip on 6/24/17. Cave is TBD, but potential caves include Bat Cave or Tucks and Lundy's. Check your email for updates regarding this trip.

TRIP REPORTS

Ocala Caverns: Phil, Joe, Steve and Carrie led a group of Boy Scouts through Ocala Caverns. We first walked through the quarry as Phil gave the history of the cave. We then explored the Uranium cave followed by the wet cave. The guides led the scouts through the Main Room and the Lake Room. After the scouts left, the guides explore the New Section and the New-New Section.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We have no new members.

NSS CORNER

Lava Tubes: Caves can be formed from flowing lava, and are called lava tubes. There are many fascinating things to be found inside. The VirtualLava Tube has 45 "rooms" to explore. Read more about lava tubes [here](#).

2017 NSS Director Election: The results are in; four new directors have been elected and will serve a three year term. You can view the results here: [\(article\)](#)

2017 NSS Convention: This year's convention will take place from June 19th-23rd in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. You can view further information on the convention's [website](#).

SCCi CORNER

The Southeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. (SCCi) is a tax-exempt not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to cave acquisition, conservation, and management. If you are interested in supporting SCCi, you can join SCCi, make a donation or buy a piece of one of their preserves. You can find more information [here](#).

CAVING IN THE NEWS

Scientists are spelunking for cave gunk to fight superbugs: Caves are dark, dank, isolated, and home to very few plants or animals. At first glance they might seem devoid of life. But caves are full of microscopic creatures, bacteria and fungi at home in the gloom. These microbes, scientists are discovering, may be an untapped reservoir of new medicines to fight antibiotic-resistant germs. [\(article\)](#)

Drone Maps Underground Caves by Deliberately Bumping into Walls: The European Space Agency (ESA) has been using Flyability drones to map underground caverns with the ultimate goal being to prove how these flying robots can navigate and map spaces that are too dangerous for humans, like inhospitable environments on other planets. [\(article\)](#)

Seven Spelunkers Rescued From Indiana Cave: A group of seven spelunkers was rescued early Monday morning from the Binkley Cave System near Corydon, Indiana, about 25 miles west of Louisville, Ky. [\(article\)](#)

Spelunkers get trapped inside Jordan Craters: A search and rescue crew was dispatched to Jordan Valley at about 6 p.m. on May 6th when a caller reported members of his party were trapped inside the Jordan Craters. [\(article\)](#)