



The  
**River City  
Caver**

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

**August, 2018**

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

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –

**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY September 19<sup>th</sup> 2018, at R.E.I. in the St. John's Town Center**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**SRT Class:** The SRT Class will take place from 11/30/18-12/2/18. It will be at Jerry's Farm. We will provide updates for this class in the near future.

**Catacombs Cave:** We are doing a cave trip and clean-up trip at Catacombs on 9/8/18. If you plan to go inside the cave, you will need vertical experience. We will meet at 10:00 at the Lowes in Ocala, FL.

**TAG:** The 2018 TAG fall cave in will take place 10/4-10/7. Onsite registration is open with special pre-registration discounts only till 8/31. You can register [here](#).

**2019 Florida Cavort:** Mark your Calendars! RCG is hosting next year's cave cavort. It will be at Jerry's Farm February 22nd-24th, 2019.

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We have welcomed a new member! Membership dues are currently due. You can renew your membership [here](#).

### CAVING IN THE NEWS

**Couple Gets Trapped in Cave, Burns Hair to Survive:** An Idaho couple got lost in an ice cave for two days; they burned clumps of hair to stay warm. [\(article\)](#)

**This Luxury Cave House Is Built Into a Mountain — and You Can Rent It for Your Next Vacation:** The Beekman Cave House, which is located in the Arkansas Ozarks, has offered visitors the unique experience of staying inside a natural cavern. [\(article\)](#)

### These Bats Make Tiny Igloos to Survive the Winter:

The Ussurian tube-nosed bat of Japan joins the polar bear as the only animals known to hibernate in snow. [\(article\)](#)

**'Golden Cave' to Boost Meghalaya Tourism:** Shillong, Meghalaya, a place known for its scenic beauty, is home to some of the country's majestic caves. A newly discovered cave has been found in the village of Jalaphet; the stones inside the cave appear golden and villagers call it Krem Ksiar or golden cave. [\(article\)](#)

**Spelunking for Space Exploration:** NASA's Biologic and Resource Analog Investigations in Low Light Environments has been using Valentine Cave to showcase their rover, CaveR, to simulate cave exploration on other planets such as Mars. [\(article\)](#)

### NSS CORNER

**CaveChat Caving Forum:** Are you interested in connecting with other NSS members and discussing various caving topics such as bats, conservation, and rope techniques? If so, go to the NSS's caving forum. You can find it [here](#).

**Cave and Karst Restoration:** Unfortunately, damage can be done to caves due to vandals and careless caving practices. There are volunteers who take the time to restore damaged formations. You can read more about these efforts [here](#).