



The River City Caver

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

April, 2019

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –
NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY** May 15th 2019, at R.E.I. in the St. John's Town Center

EVENT REPORTS

Briar Cave: A few RCG and FRG members visited Briar cave on 4/14/19. We had two different groups; one primarily explored and the other group took some great photography. Everyone enjoyed looking at some great formations and swimming in the water.

Day at Jerry's Place: RCG made a lot of money from the cavort and all the proceeds are being donated to Jerry and Sheryl Johnson so a cabin can be built for future caving events. Members of RCG and FSS met at Jerry's farm on 4/14/19; we hung out with each other and presented a check to Jerry and Sheryl.



FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

If you want to renew your RCG membership, membership dues are due in May. You can pay in person at the May meeting or pay online [here](#).

CAVING IN THE NEWS

Diver Who Helped Save Thai Soccer Team Rescued From Underwater Tennessee Cave: Josh Bratchley, a U.K. diver who helped save a Thai youth soccer team and their coach from a flooded cave system last year, was rescued himself this week from a Tennessee cave after being trapped there for more than 28 hours. [\(article\)](#)

Mount Sedom Hides the Longest Salt Cave on Earth: Malham Cave sits under Mount Sedom, just southwest of the salty Dead Sea. A team of 80 cavers from nine countries explored the cave's many crevasses using laser measurement tools and they believe it is the longest salt cave in the world, measuring more than 6 miles in total length. [\(article\)](#)

Bones Discovered in an Island Cave may be a New Human Species: The teeth and bones of a new species were discovered in an island cave. Scientists are calling it *Homo luzonensis*, after Luzon, the island in the Philippines where the remains were found. [\(article\)](#)

SCCi CORNER

Stephens Gap Fatality: Sadly, a man fell to his death on at the Stephens Gap-Callahan Preserve on 04/11/19. Due to this, SCCi suspended permits to Stephens Gap from 4/12/19-4/20/19. [\(article\)](#)

NSS CORNER

2019 NSS Convention in Cookeville, TN June 17 - 21, 2019: Tennessee cavers are proud to be hosting the 2019 NSS Convention which will be held in Cookeville, Tennessee on June 17-21, 2019. Cookeville is located in the center of the Highland Rim of the Cumberland Plateau. From this location, Cookeville is the near centroid of Tennessee's 10,000+ cave locations. There are literally thousands of caves within a 50 mile radius of Cookeville and many of them are showcase caves. You can find more information [here](#).