



The River City Cover

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

January, 2015

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events – NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY February 17th, 2015

UPCOMING TRIPS

Field Prep at Jerry's Farm, February 7th: In preparation for the 2015 Cave Cavort, we are heading down to "prep the field" and recon bonfire, bandshell, and food locales. [Come on down](#) and give a hand! INSERT DETAILS.

FINAL SITE PREP at Jerry's Farm, February 21-22: We'll finish up preparations for the 2015 Cave Cavort. Again, [come on down](#) and give a hand! We'll set up venue tents, build the bandshell, and other stuff.

2015 CAVE CAVORT

Cavort Site – Jerry's Farm, *February 27 through March 1*. We have [The Band](#), [The Dinner](#), [The Caves](#), and a bunch of [other stuff lined up](#).

Cavort Web Site – Is up getting close to reality on the details and [registration is live!!](#)

<http://www.cavort.rivercitygrotto.com/>

Check it out, sign on up, tell your friends!

T-shirt: We have a design!!!



February 27 - March 1, 2015

Next! We need "All hands on deck" for the final preparations, and to help run things during the event. So [sign up](#) and get prepared for a good time caving!

PROGRAM NOTE

We are changing our monthly meetings to TUESDAYS to better accommodate schedules. As of February 17th, The River City Grotto meets on the third Tuesday each month.

TRIP REPORTS

Hollow Ridge: The SCCI-driven gating was December 5th & 6th. The FRG led in staffing that one up, and they were very successful. Buford has a [nice write up on it](#).

Cavort Cleanup Day: The [Cavort 2015 Work Day at Jerry's Farm](#) on November 22nd went very well, and the bath-house was cleaned and plans were made for showers.



Weeds were pulled, a gate was repaired, and brush was moved to the fire pit, and Jerry worked with his smoker while keeping an eye on the Florida Gators game.

[Whitecliff Cave Leader Orientation:](#) On December 6th, Phil led a crew through the tricks of trip leading, and the administrative aspect of Whitecliff Cave. It was a great 3-hour trip, and an excellent meal was had in Gainesville afterwards.

Mexican Cave Diving Trip: Tony went to Cozumel with some scientists and got to dive some really neat stuff, and exited on the beach!! It was a paleontology and geology trip, and we are awaiting video!

Post-Christmas TAG!! David S. and family headed to TAG and padded those Freakin' Caver Points. They hit Signal Light, South Pittsborough, Tumbling Rock, Neversink, Moses Tomb, and Rusty's.



The River City Caver

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[Whitecliff Trip for fun!](#) January 4th, 2015, first cave trip for 2015! A bunch of us re-explored the cave, testing our new-found trip leader skills. Again, an awesome meal was had afterwards at Murphy's Oyster Bar.

[Bat Cave Scout Trip:](#) On January 17th, 2015, David, Katie, Matt, Wendy, and a few others led 20+ Scouts and Leaders on a 2-hour tour.



The water was up a little, but all had a great time, and Reggae Shack slaked our appetite. Lots of good fauna and geology was observed.

Water Fall Cave: The Flint River Grotto got special access to the Waterfall Cave in southern Georgia, January 25th. For those not in the know, Waterfall was nice sinkhole with some good sized chambers, some muddy crawls, and a lot of bats. Until 1988, when Ben and Buddy pushed the breakdown pile through the Triangle of Death, opening up miles of borehole, decoration, and caver pipe dreams. At some point it was closed, and FRG has been trying to get back in. Look for a detailed report later.

PAYPAL

We finally have PayPal up and running on the grotto website, where we can renew membership, order T-shirts, and even make a donation! [Check it out!](#)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We have some new Members, so welcome Cali And Mazi. Now paid Membership is at 33.

THINGS ON THE HORIZON

After Party: Post-Cavort debrief and wind down.

Briar Cave: Tabled until at/after Cavort.

SERA Cave Carnival: [May 8-10, 2015](#)

2015 NSS Convention: [July 13-17, 2015](#), in Waynesville, Missouri.

SHOULD HAVE ASKED SANTA ...

Tired of your ropewalker/Frog?

There is an [alternative](#)...



Figure 1 - The Harken Powerseat

CAVING IN THE NEWS

Brit survives [four days in a Turkish Cave](#)

Check out these [Vietnamese Volcanic Caves](#)

Breakthroughs in [White-nose Syndrome](#)

Documentary about [giant cave spiders of Tasmania](#)

"Leprechauns' Cave" [gets the Green Light](#)

Have anything to submit? [Send it on!!](#)