



The River City Cover

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

April, 2015

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events – **NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY May 20th, 2015**

UPCOMING TRIPS

Jennings Cave Trip: Florida Caving Club heading one up on April 25. See their Facebook Page for details.

Climbing Practice: Saturday May 2nd, 9AM-1PM, at Obiville. New climbers and old alike.

Bat Cave: May 8th, school trip, we can use some help even though it's Friday.

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

[Kentucky Speleofest:](#) May 22-25, 2015

Tucks and Lundy's: May 23, FSS may be in too, vertical if you want, and we'll do a little tidying.

[Karst-O-Rama:](#) June 25-28, 2015

TAG, Jack, Byers? July 4th weekend, plans are afoot...

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

2015 CAVE CAVORT

Still thinking about it! Things are pretty much squared up and put away. After all said and done, we even made some money. Check out the [online gallery](#). So far we only have a few cave trip pix available (Tuck's, Lundy's, and Hitchhiker), so if you have any other caves' worth, [let us know](#).



Since the Cavort many of us have run into [Firewater Tent Revival](#), and even they are still talking about it!! Remember, there is another Cavort coming up in about a year. Flint River Grotto will be hosting the **2016 Florida Cave Cavort** in Havana, so keep your calendar open for March-ish next year. The River City Grotto has volunteered to do the Sunday Morning breakfast (a tradition we are trying start, last year's Grotto does breakfast), as well as Bad Caving Movie Night on Friday.

Extra Cavort T-shirts: There has been some call for some more, and we can easily run another batch. If you want one, get your name, size, and \$10 to the [Powers That Be](#) by May 20th, and we'll make it happen. You need to be able to pick it up, or make other arrangements.

GROTTO ELECTIONS

The Secretary and President positions are up, so we posted calls for nominations, and none came in. Survey says... David and Matt continue on.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid, and after the Cavort, it appears we profited somewhat. We had many more registrations beyond the breakeven point, and the raffles were very well funded. With our new found wealth, the board discussed more helmets and lights, and possible other gear. The Board did authorize the purchase of 32 rechargeable batteries and a 16-bay charger for the current lights. This will save wastage and the environment. Some other ideas to spend this new found grotto wealth on include:

Cave Cleanups	Cave Gatings
Educational ventures and/or materials	
Cave digs	Expeditions Gear!

After our Treasurer had to tender his resignation, Teresa Fischer has stepped up for remainder of Treasurer's term (Thanks a bunch!).

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

No new Members, but renewal is just around the corner, so be ready! Letters and such will be coming. This year we should be able to accommodate online registration and payment.

RCG SHIRTS

We are almost out, so we're fixing to print up some more. If there are any new ideas out there for design, colors, etc., let the board now.



The River City Grotto Cover

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

April, 2015

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

AMAZON SMILE

If you Amazon shop via "Amazon Smile", 0.5% of the sales will go to your listed charity, which can be the River City Grotto. Go to <http://smile.amazon.com/> and search for and select "River City Grotto". Easy-peasy!

FLORIDA CAVING CLUB

All the caving, 78.2% less bureaucracy! This is basically a Facebook page of people who like to cave. They have approximately monthly trips, and are just in it for the fun. Check them out on Facebook! They have a Jennings trip Saturday, April 25th, and are looking at a June-ish Crumbling Rock trip.

CLIMBING PRACTICE – MAY 2nd

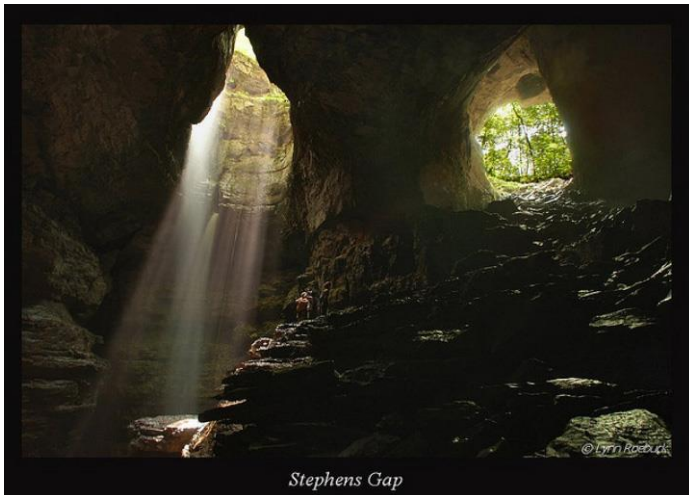
For members with new gear and newer members and experienced climbers alike. It's happening May 2nd, 9AM to 1PM at Obiville. Experienced climbers: we'll need help with rope, paperwork, poo patrol, and training and guidance. New Climbers: come and learn! We'll need waivers, wristbands, and participants will need to be RCG members. We'll work on basic skills, and the 200 foot timed climbed for experienced members.

TRIP REPORTS

Cara Cave: in Bluff River area near Scottsboro, Alabama. David S. reported finding a new cave, with a 20' drop in entrance, and lots of formations. Put it on the list!

SCCI NEWS AND UPDATES

You can own some Stephen's Gap! The [Buy a Piece of Stephens Gap Cave Preserve eStore](#) is now active. Named features are first come, first served so don't delay if you have one in mind! Follow the link to see what features are still available or to reserve a slice of the Pit or Walkdown Entrances.



CAVING IN THE NEWS

Broken Cave Formations [can date earthquakes](#)



Sicilian Luxury Cave, [with a view!](#)

Howe Caverns (New York) [reopen historic section](#)

Da' Bears! Da' Badgers! [Neanderthals' friends?](#)

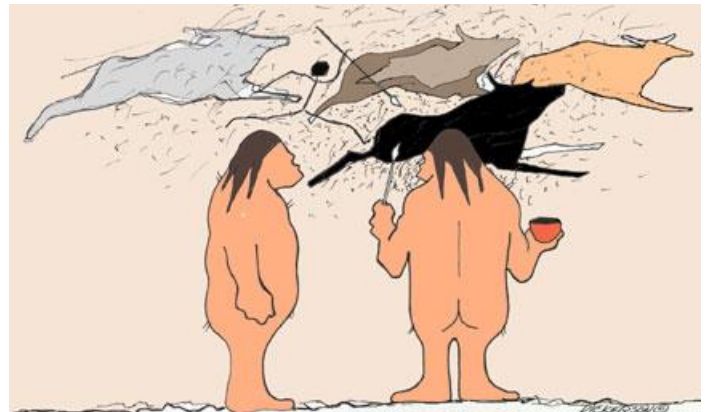
Don't Drink and Cave... [or drive!](#)

Qing Dynasty sculptures [found in China cave](#)

NSS CORNER

Did you know that the NSS owns some caves? Even two in Florida! The NSS owns fourteen preserves and manages another. Each preserve is cared for by a local Management Committee, and each management committee has overall responsibility for the upkeep, security, and general well-being of the property. Check out the "The NSS Nature Preserves" at their website.

<http://caves.org/preserves/index.shtml>



"YOUR CLICHE RIDDEN INTERPRETATION OF THE HUNT IS SHALLOW AND WON'T STAND THE TEST OF TIME."