



The River City Cover

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

JUNE, 2015

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –
NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY** July 15th, 2015, at our Richard Street Branch.

UPCOMING TRIPS

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

~~[Jennings Cave Trip](#)~~: June 27th, has been cancelled.

Crumbling Rock: June 27th, Facebook evite by TBAG.

Bat Cave: some discussion is about...

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

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid, and the Board purchased 32 rechargeable batteries and a 16-bay charger for the current lights.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

No new Members, but renewal ON!! This year we are able to accommodate online registration and payment. Surf on over to <http://www.rivercitygrotto.com/membership.html> and re-up!!

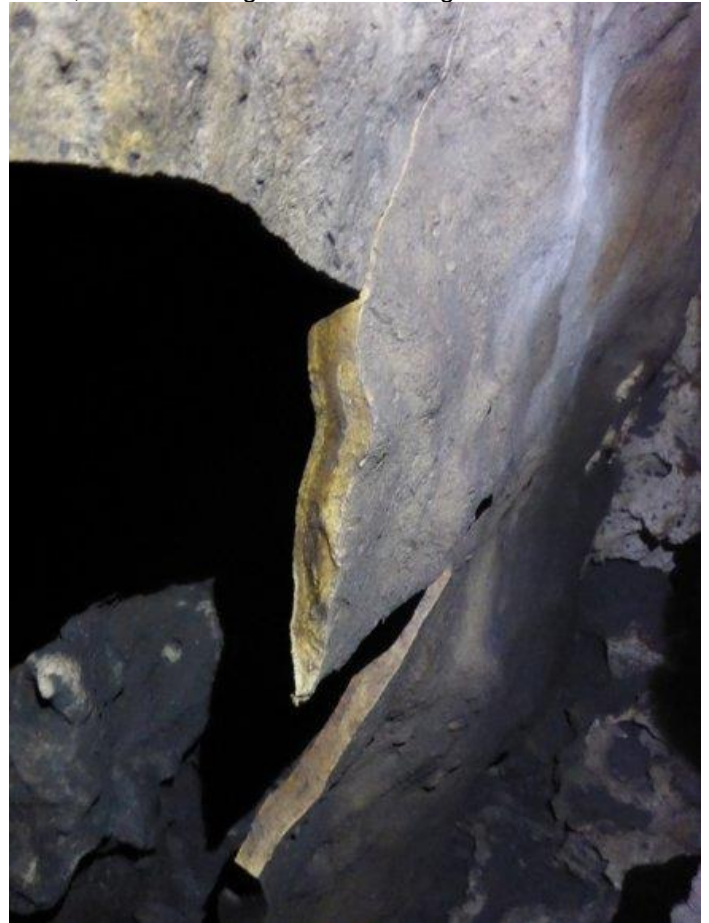
TRIP REPORTS

Our trip to Tucks and Lundys caves on Saturday May 23rd, was great fun and very productive. One of our intended tasks was to clean up a little, but there was nothing to cleanup! Matt blew down top down and set the Bat Signal up, checked in with the owners, and met with Bill to rig the pits in Tucks. Pictures are online at <http://www.rivercitygrotto.com/gallery/index.php?album=20150523TucksCave>

Not long after, Mike and kids, Larry and kids, and Obis no kid showed up, and then Carrie with her shiny new gear. Bill and Matt hit the western pit entrance, while David and Carrie worked the inside pit to try out her new gear.



Carrie's work at the climbing practice paid off, and she was like a pro soon. After that, we all met at the bottom of the pits, only to discover that the water was way down, and we could explore the "basement" more than usual. We found much chert ("Ouch!!), in blades and slabs and bulbs, and some bugs and much fungus.



After slipping about the muddy basement, we began the climb out. Bill and Matt got to take advantage of the rare Florida Vertical Through Trip that Tucks allows, with everyone else heading back the way they came.





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After derigging the pits, we explored the horizontal section for a while. We pushed the Highway 27 lengths, going vertical there when needed. Matt and Carrie tried Keith's Extension, making it almost to the first T-Junction before deciding the chert was too much. And we have the bruises to prove it!!

On the way out, we found much fauna, including this very spiny cave cricket.



Some of the family crowds toured Lundys also, and reportedly had great fun! Afterwards, some of us hit the Mojo Grill in Belleview for some fine victuals.

TAG Fall Cave-In

Is not too far away to plan! October 8th-11th, 2015
<http://www.tagfallcavein.org/> Start thinking about it!! Some folks may just be campers, and some caves to do were discussed.

- Iron Hoop: Horizontal and Wet (a Glenn special!)
 - Cedar Ridge Crystal Cave: Not extensive but pretty
- We'll be Vertical, Horizontal, just chillin'... GO!!

SCCI NEWS AND UPDATES

The SCCI is hiring!! You too can be paid to cave... well, paid to promote and administer the SCCI. But we bet caving can fit in there somehow. So, if you are interested, click on over to http://www.scci.org/scci_news/ and read up.
This has a ring to it...

Fischer... Matt Fischer. Professional Caver...
At your service!

CAVING IN THE NEWS

When you think of caves, [Sweden comes first to mind?](#)
Cave salamander, "[Eurycea lucifuga](#)", in the Ozarks



[Strange things are afoot](#) near Nellis Air Force Base...
This should [stir up the cave-diving pot](#) a little!
Big [cave rescue in Spain!](#)
Get your [own copy of The One Ring](#) from WETA Cave
(\$4875, solid gold, uninscribed)

NSS CORNER

Speaking of renewing, don't forget to renew (or join) your NSS membership. Benefits abound!!
<http://caves.org/info/membertypes.shtml>

Also, Your NSS News is now digital! The [JUNE ISSUE](#) is now available. Only current NSS members can access it, by logging in. Earlier issues may be [found here](#).

