

Newsletter of the *River City Grotto* –

Jacksonville, FL *An NSS Affiliated Grotto*

August, 2016

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events – NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY** September, 21st 2016.

UPCOMING TRIPS

Bat Cave: Members of RCG will be leading Boy Scouts through Bat Cave on September 10th and 17th.

TAG Fall Cave-In: The TAG Fall Cave-In will take place from October 6th-9th. Pre-registration ends on September 1st; after this, the price goes up \$10. If you are an NSS member, you can sign up yourself. If you are not an NSS member, talk to one the NSS members in River City Grotto and they can sign you up as their guest. You can register at http://tagfallcavein.org/registration.asp

Lubee Bat Festival: This event will take place on October 22nd from 10am-4pm. It is held by the Lubee Bat Conservatory and is an opportunity to view and learn about fruit bats and tour the conservancy grounds. Children 4 and under: FREE, Ages 5-12: \$5 & Adults: \$8.

Targeting NCRC Orientation To Cave Rescue Class: The cave rescue class will take place November 11th-November 13th at Bat Cave in Newberry, FL.

Over the Edge: This event will take place at the Omni Hotel in downtown Jacksonville on November 19th. It will be 190' repel for charity. We need RCG members to volunteer to help with vertical support. A link for volunteer sign-up will be posted on the RCG Facebook page in the near future.

TRIP REPORTS

There have no recent trips.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

GROTTO T-SHIRT

Our new shirts have been ordered and will be available for purchase soon.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Annual membership payments are due. To pay your dues, please go to http://rivercitygrotto.com/shop/. We have no new members.

SCCi CORNER

Support SCCi: If you are interested in supporting SCCi or helping to preserve caves, there are several ways to do so. Go to the SCCi website to get more information: http://www.scci.org/support/.

SCCi Announces Bats, Beer, & Bluegrass Anniversary Party: The Southeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. is planning its 25th Anniversary celebration and fundraiser titled Bats, Beer, & Bluegrass. It will take place at Fricks cave Preserve on September 24th 2016.

NSS CORNER

A Guide to Responsible Caving: Being a responsible caver means showing respect for the cave, and its challenges, environment, and creatures, as well as for cave owners and their property. Learn more about responsible caving through this guidebook published by NSS. (article)

CAVING IN THE NEWS

Tourist Vanishes After Entering Cave in Chiang Rai: A search team is scouring a deep cave in a forest in Mae Sai district after a foreign tourist, believed to be either Chinese or Japanese, entered it a week ago to meditate and failed to return to his bicycle. (article)

Three College Students Found Safe After Going Missing in Arkansas Cave: Three Arkansas State University students were found alive in a cave on Thursday, a day after going missing while on spelunking trip, authorities and the university said.