



# The River City Caver

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

**October, 2016**  
[www.rivercitygrotto.com/](http://www.rivercitygrotto.com/)

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –  
**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY November, 16<sup>th</sup> 2016.**

## UPCOMING TRIPS/EVENTS

**Withlacoochee Cave:** Brandon Johnson will be leading a trip to this cave on 11/5/16.

### Targeting NCRC Orientation To Cave Rescue Class:

The cave rescue class will take place 11/11/16 - 11/13/16 at Bat Cave in Newberry, FL. The class size will be ten people. Seven have already signed up, if you are interested in attending the class, please send an email to [board@rivercitygrotto.com](mailto:board@rivercitygrotto.com). The cost will be \$35 for RCG members and \$50 for non-RCG members.

**Over the Edge:** This event will take place at the Omni Hotel in downtown Jacksonville on November 19<sup>th</sup>. It will be 190' repel for Boy Scouts of America. We need RCG members to volunteer to help with vertical support. Here is the link for volunteer sign up:

<http://overtheedgeusa.com/Ropes-Volunteers/Volunteer-Signup>

**RCG Karstmas Party:** This will tentatively take place at David and Katie's house on 12/16/16.

## TRIP REPORTS

**Bat Cave:** Phil Walker led 35 boy scouts through Bat Cave on 9/24/16.

**NFSA Vertical Experience by RCG:** David Obi, Li Loritz, and Emily Magon helped 20-25 NFSA attendees get vertical experience using a tree climbing harness.

**TAG:** Carrie Brown, Venkata Damaraju, Glen Fell, Matt and Teresa Fisher, Drew Dalton, Ben Hart and his friends attended TAG. On Friday, Ben Hart and his group went to Tumbling Rock. The rest of the group went to Ironhoop Cave. On Saturday, Matt Fisher led Carrie, Ben Hart and several of Ben's friends through Bible Springs Cave. Venkata and Drew practiced rappelling and ascending off a cliff in Alabama.



Ironhoop Cave



Ironhoop Cave



Although the Saturday night bonfire was canceled due to dry weather, everyone had a great time.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

## GROTTO T-SHIRT

The RCG T-Shirts are now for sale; both short sleeve and long sleeve are available. You can purchase one here: <http://rivercitygrotto.com/product/t-shirt2016/>

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We have three new members.

## NSS CORNER

### Underground Cave Cities of Central Turkey- By Trevor

**Parker:** Turkey, the area bridging Asia and Europe, has a long and amazing history. It has seen wars, peace, swelling empires, and crumbling governments. One chapter from its long history was the creation of "cave cities". For many years, people actually dug their homes underground. Entire cities were formed that branched off to create a sprawling underground civilization. This wasn't just one city, or even just a few in an area, this is hundreds if not thousands of cities that thrived underground. The numbers of these ancient cities were so numerous that more cities are still being discovered to this day. In this webinar Trevor Parker will take you to Turkey on a trip through the country experiencing culture, history, geology, and exploring several of these cities. [\(webinar\)](#)

## SCCi Corner

SCCi provides information on cave cleaning procedures and preventing White Nose Syndrome. [\(article\)](#)

## CAVING IN THE NEWS

**Despite deaths, here's why scientists still call cave diving 'critical':** The death of two experienced cave divers highlights the perils faced by explorers. However, it's also a uniquely valuable way for scientists to study underwater systems. [\(article\)](#)

**Haitians, Battered by Hurricane, Huddle in Caves: 'This Is the Only Shelter We Have.':** Haitians find shelter in caves during hurricane Matthew. [\(article\)](#)

**World's Deepest Underwater Cave Discovered:** Man and robot teamed up to discover the world's deepest underwater cave in the Czech Republic. [\(article\)](#)