



The
**River City
Caver**

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

October, 2017

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –
NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY** November, 15th 2017, at R.E.I. in the St. John's Town Center

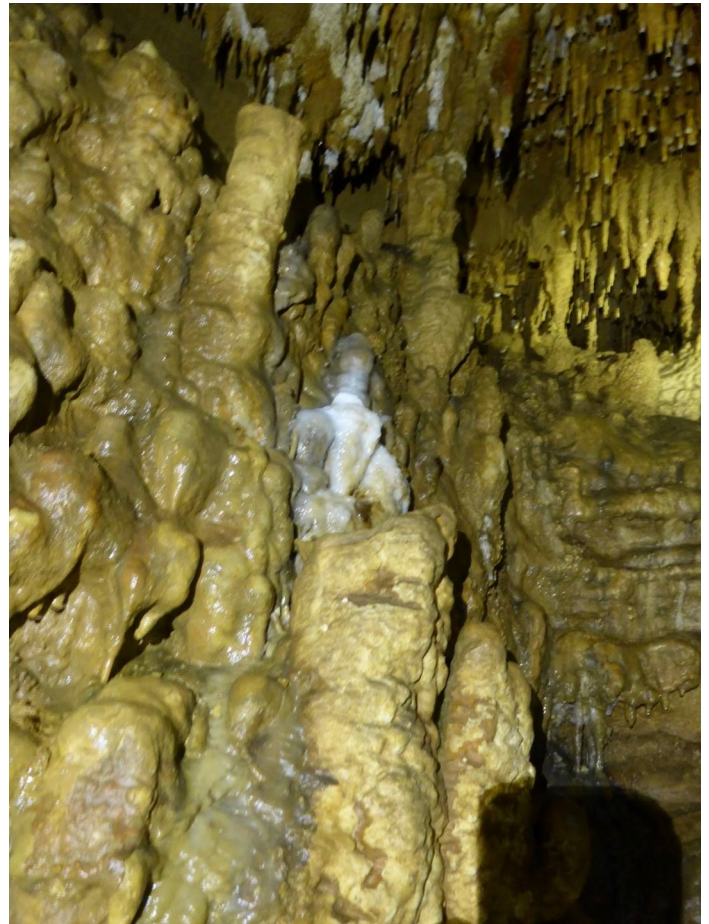
UPCOMING EVENTS

RCG Karstmas Party: Mike and Connie are hosting RCG's annual Karstmas Party on December 8th. More details will be available in the near future.

Boy Scout Trips: We will be leading two Boy Scout trips in the near future. The first is on 1/20/18 with a presentation beforehand; the cave is TBD. The second trip will be at Bat Cave on 2/17/18. Check you email and the RCG Facebook page for updates regarding these trips.

TRIP REPORTS

TAG: Everyone had a great time at this year's TAG trip. RCG visited many caves including Signal Light and Howard's Waterfall.



FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We have no new members.



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CAVING IN THE NEWS

One Cave's Losing Battle Against a Deadly Bat

Fungus: Since the early 2000's, white nose syndrome has been slowly killing off bats. One cave in particular, Laurel Caverns Geological Park, has seen a significant drop in their bat population. ([article](#))

Cave Discovered on the Moon Raises Hope for Human

Colonization: The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency has discovered an enormous lava tube cave under the moon. A cave could shield humans from having to deal with the extreme temperatures on the moon, due to its lack of atmosphere. ([article](#))

NSS CORNER

Bat Ball #2: Bat Ball is the NSS's member appreciation party and HQ fundraiser! Dinner & dancing, souvenir cup, craft libations, and t-shirt! Camping Friday thru Tuesday! Led cave trips and climbing course!
<https://caves.org/BAT%20BALL.pdf>

Helictites: Helictites are contorted depositional speleothems which grow in any direction, seemingly defying gravity. They occur in many forms from tiny filaments to thick, antler-like forms. Most helictites are formed from calcite. ([article](#))

SCCi CORNER

Call for Nominations – 2017 John Van Swearingen IV Stewardship Award: SCCi, in cooperation with the Huntsville Grotto, is proud to announce that nominations are open for the 2017 John Van Swearingen IV Stewardship Award. You can learn more information about this award and submit a nomination [here](#).