



The
**River City
Caver**

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

August, 2021

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –
NEXT MEETING: **THURSDAY** August 5th 2021, Kickbacks Gastropub

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ocala Caverns: We're taking a trip to Ocala Caverns on Sunday, August 16th. If you're interested in going, email board@rivercitygrotto.com. You will get wet in this cave, so be sure to bring a full change of clothes, if you plan to come. As a reminder, no one under the age of 18 is allowed in this cave per the landowner's rules.

TAG Fall Cave-In: The 2021 TAG Fall Cave-In will take place October, 7th-10th! It will be great for us to finally get back to the TAG area for camping and caving. You can find information regarding this year's cave-in [here](#) and register for the cave-in [here](#).

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

MEMBERSHIP

We have five new members!

NEW T-SHIRTS

We are planning to order some new shirts for the grotto; if you are interested in designing an image for the shirt, please bring your design to our September meeting or submit it to board@rivercitygrotto.com.

TRIP REPORTS

Warren's Gating Project: On July, 17th, FSS installed a new gate at Warren's Cave; RCG members, Phil and Bill, assisted FSS with the project. Phil reported that it went well. Thanks to FSS and all who helped install the new gate!

NSS CORNER

NSS Webinars-Moon Diver: Descent into the Ancient Lavas of the Moon, Presented by: Dr. Laura Kerber: In 2009, several deep volcanic collapse pits were discovered on the Moon by the Japanese spacecraft SELENE. The Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter Camera subsequently captured high resolution oblique images of the pits, revealing that some of them opened into subterranean caverns, and that the walls of the pits exposed up to 40 meters of pristine lava stratigraphy. The Moon Diver mission concept proposes to send an extreme terrain rover into one of these pits, rappelling down the wall to expose the history of the lunar mare, and to illuminate the workings of the flood basalt eruptions that created them: eruptions on a scale never before witnessed in the history of humankind. This seminar will describe the science behind Moon Diver's goals, explain some of the engineering challenges that must be overcome to make it possible, and provide a window into how NASA mission concepts are developed from idea to reality. You can watch the webinar [here](#).

CAVING IN THE NEWS

Prehistoric Cave Paintings in Spain Show

Neanderthals Were Artists: Red ochre pigments were discovered on stalagmites in the Caves of Ardales, near Malaga in southern Spain. These cave paintings were created by Neanderthals about 65,000 years ago. Modern humans did not exist at the time these images were made and the paintings indicate that Neanderthals may not have been the unsophisticated relatives of Homosapiens they have long been portrayed as. [\(article\)](#)