



The
**River City
Caver**

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

January, 2022

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –
NEXT MEETING: **THURSDAY** February 3rd 2022, Location TBD

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuck's Cave Trip: We are going to Tuck's Cave on Saturday, February 5th. Details for this trip will be provided as we get closer to the date of the trip.

2022 Florida Cave Cavort: After two years, the Florida Cave Cavort is back! FSS is hosting this year's cavort March 4th-6th at Jerry's Farm. You can find more information on the cavort [here](#).

Boy Scout Cave Trip: We will lead a Bat Cave trip for a group of Boy Scouts on Saturday, April 9th.

TRIP REPORTS

Karstmas Party: Thanks to Mike and Connie for hosting another great Karstmas Party. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed some delicious food.

NEW T-SHIRTS

We are still hoping to order some new shirts. If you are interested in designing an image for the shirt, please bring your design to our next meeting or submit it to board@rivercitygrotto.com.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

MEMBERSHIP

We have no new members.

NSS CORNER

The Story Behind The Famous Yellow Bat Sticker:

Many of us have the famous yellow bat sticker on our cars or caving equipment, but do you know the story behind the sticker? It was originally designed by Earl "Biff" Biffle for the Middle Mississippi Valley Grotto; the design was rejected by the grotto and eventually adopted by the caving community as a secret ID to distinguish cavers from cave vandals. You can read more about the history of the symbol [here](#).



White Nose Syndrome: White-nose syndrome (WNS) is a disease caused by the fungus *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*, that affects hibernating bats. Many of us went to TAG in October. With RCG resuming cave trips in Florida next month, it's important to make sure our caving gear is decontaminated so WNS does not spread to Florida. You can read more about WNS and how to decontaminate caving gear [here](#).

CAVING IN THE NEWS

Ceremonial Cave Site from Postclassic Maya Period Discovered: Archeologists from the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia have discovered a ceremonial cave site in Chemuyil on the Yucatán Peninsula, Mexico, that dates from the Postclassic Maya period. [\(article\)](#)