



The
**River City
Caver**

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

May, 2022

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –
NEXT MEETING: **THURSDAY** June 4th 2022, Location TBD

UPCOMING EVENTS

White Cliff: We have a trip to White Cliff planned for May 14th. Email board@rivercitygrotto.com, if you'd like to come.

Florida Panhandle Weekend Trip: RCG is planning to take a weekend trip to Marianna over the summer or fall to visit some caves in the Florida panhandle. Details regarding this will be provided through email and the RCG Facebook page.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Dues: It is time to pay membership dues for 2022. Dues are \$15.00 (plus \$5.00 for each additional family member). There are three ways to pay: in person with a check/cash, mailing a check to Phil, or through pay via Paypal [here](#).

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are solid financially.

TRIP REPORTS

Bat Cave: Several RCG members led a Boy Scout Troop through Bat Cave. We had a great time. The water level was very high, so we got very wet. We saw several cave creatures in the cave and we even found some mice! Thanks to Neil for the picture.



NSS CORNER

2022 NSS Convention: This year's convention will take place July, 13th-17th in Rapid City, South Dakota. If you're interested in going, you can find more information on the convention's [website](#).

NSS Webinar Series - CaveSim: Cave-inspired STEM

Learning: A presentation about the trailer-bound simulated cave that is a learning tool for teaching young people of all ages about the importance of the under-ground, how to appreciate a cave and its contents, how to navigate it, and some of the mathematical and engineering concepts employed. CaveSim is the brain-child of Dave Jackson, who not only designed and built 66 feet of cave passage into a 12-foot box trailer, but also filled it with cave features, including stalagmites, stalactites, and even bats. The object is for the caver' to wriggle through without disturbing any of the pretties and the critters along the way. There are ultra-violet cameras throughout the cave, which allow visitors to watch as a 'caver' makes his or her way through the maze (yes, there are choices to make!), and sensors to score the disturbances to the cave that occur. Dave even wrote the code used to make all the features respond to touch and tally up the number of disturbances as the caver passes through. It's a teaching tool for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, not to mention caving appreciation. You can view the presentation [here](#).

CAVING IN THE NEWS

Frail Dog Rescued After Days Inside Cave: A location scouting trip turned into a major rescue operation when a group of hikers in Indiana found a dog who had been stuck in a cave for days. One of the hikers, Trent Heinke, was an experienced caver. Using a rope, harness, and helmets, the group was able to bring the dog safely out of the cave. The dog was malnourished and was possibly in the cave for a couple of weeks. The dog was later reunited with his owners. Read the article [here](#).