



The
**River City
Caver**

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

October, 2022

www.rivercitygrotto.com/

Updates from the latest Grotto Meeting and Events –
NEXT MEETING: November 3rd, Intuition Ale Works

UPCOMING EVENTS

Climbing Practice: We will practice climbing at Seminole Park on November 13th.

Karstmas Party: Mike and Connie have offered to host this year's Karstmas Party. An exact date has not been picked; it will tentatively take place on December 2nd or December 9th. Updates regarding this will be posted to our Facebook page.

Cave Cavort: The 2023 Cave Cavort will be hosted by TBAGand will take place March 24th-March 26th, 2023.

TRIP REPORTS

Ocala Caverns: Phil, Connie, Mike, and Carrie led a group of Jacksonville Boy Scouts through Ocala Caverns. The water level was high, so we were unable to do a lot of exploring, but the scouts still had a great time. They especially loved jumping into the water of The Lake Room.

MEMBERSHIP

New Membership: We have two new members!

Board Elections: Terms for RCG President and RCG Secretary are coming to an end, so it is time to elect some new RCG members for these positions. If you are interested in either of these positions, please email your nomination to board@rivercitygrotto.com; in the nomination include your name, NSS number, the position you're interested in, biography, and the reason you're interested in the position. If you have any questions about the president position, contact Mike Thomas and if you have questions about the secretary position, contact Carrie Brown.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Financial State: We are solid financially.

Amazon Smile Account: Did you know we have an Amazon Smile account? You can support River City Grotto each time you make a purchase on Amazon; with Amazon Smile, 0.5% of eligible purchases will go to your preferred charity. Simply go to [Amazon Smile](#) and when you're directed, pick River City Grotto as your charity.

NSS CORNER

Website: The NSS recently updated their website; you can check it out [here](#).

Vertical Training Commission: In August 2021, the NSS Board of Governors (BOG) approved the creation of a Vertical Training Transition Committee, which they charged with drafting the Vertical Training Commission (VTC) charter. The purpose of the VTC is to create a training curriculum to help interested individuals obtain competency in vertical caving techniques, develop and maintain a vertical training program, and to train competent, safe, and active vertical trainers to be proficient in teaching VTC educational materials. You can read more about the VTC and their 2022 progress report [here](#).

CAVING IN THE NEWS

6,000-Year-Old Skull Found in Cave in Taiwan Possibly Confirms Legend of Indigenous Tribe: A team of researchers with members from Australia, Japan, Taiwan and Vietnam found 6,000-year-old skull and femur bones in a cave in a mountainous part of Taiwan that might prove the existence of an ancient Indigenous tribe. There have been stories of this Indigenous tribe that once lived in mountainous parts of the island, but until now, there has been no physical evidence of them. [\(article\)](#)