

What is the Palmetto Grotto?

The Palmetto Grotto is an upstate South Carolina caving group that aims to contribute to the caving community by supporting recreation and fellowship, peer learning, cave exploration, and cave conservation.

Do I need to be an experienced caver to participate?

Definitely not! We believe caving is cool and it is one of our main goals to help interested people get into caving. As a grotto, we often organize caving trips specifically for beginners, and the best way to get started is to come to a meeting and meet us.

When and where are your meetings?

We usually meet the first Friday of every month at 7pm at [ProjectROCK in Easley](#) (upstairs). Occasionally, we move these meetings due to conflicting caving events. The December meeting is on 12/4.

What's the best way to learn about upcoming events?

The very best way is to come to a meeting. If you are unable to attend in person, you can reach out to us on social media to find out more: [Click here for Facebook](#) | [Click here for Instagram](#)

How does membership work with the Palmetto Grotto?

You do not need to be a member to begin joining grotto events. However, after joining us for two cave trips you must be a member to join for a third trip and beyond. Our membership costs \$20, with all proceeds going back into the grotto to help support things like communal gear purchases. We also require prospective members to hold [National Speleological Society](#) membership and meet two of the following criteria:

- Has been a participant on at least one official Palmetto Grotto cave trip
- Has attended at least two general meetings of the Palmetto Grotto

- Has been caving at least twice with an active Grotto member outside of a Grotto trip
- Has learned vertical techniques and/or passed an evaluation of vertical caving ability with an officer of the Grotto
- Is a member of a member of a local chapter of the NSS other than the Palmetto Grotto
- Attains a 2/3 majority vote of the executive committee in favor of gaining membership