

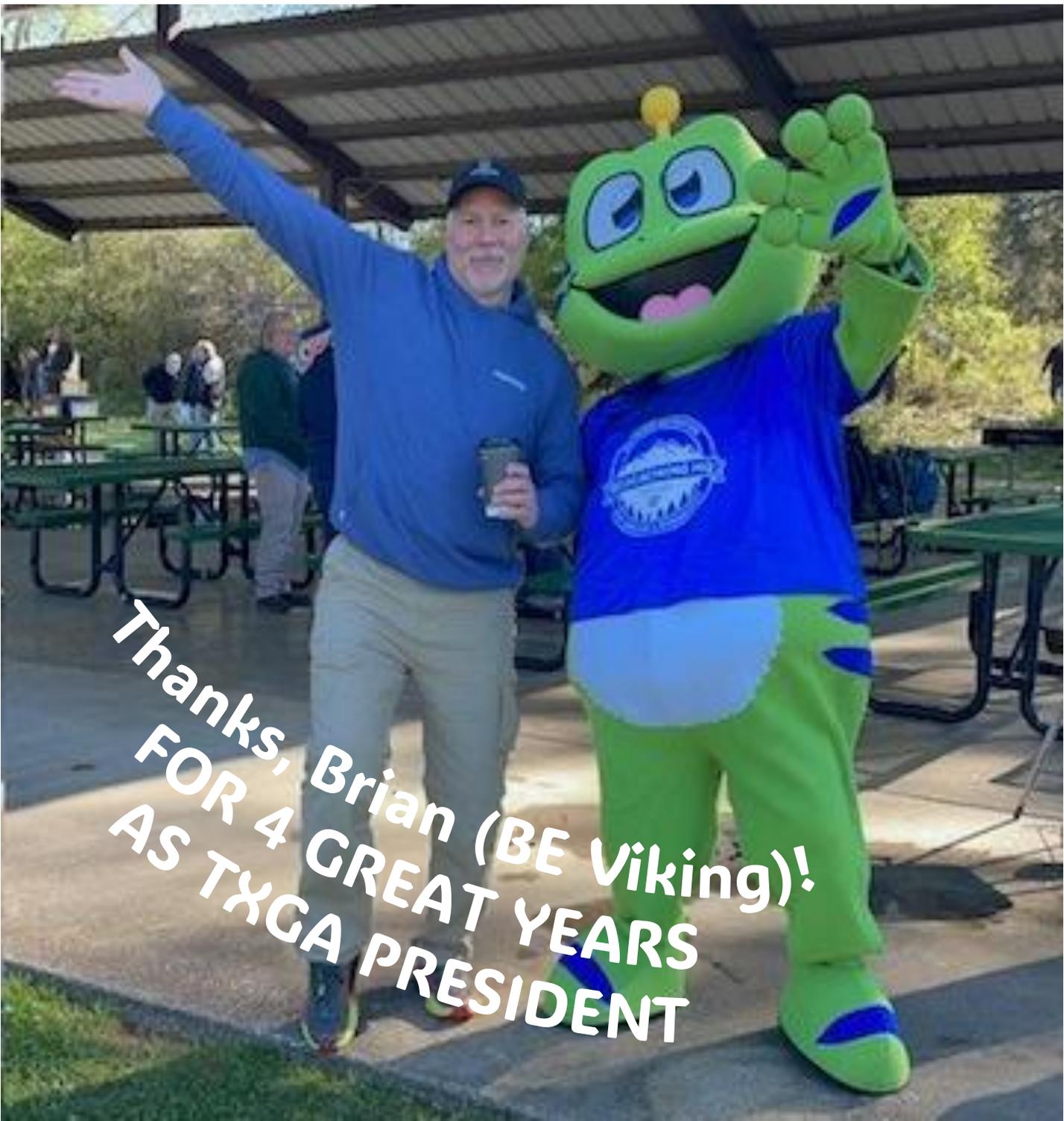
- Block Party & Challenge
- New at Challenge
- Texas Escape Room!

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

Geocaching News Around Texas

- Geoart Galore at Challenge
- Cacher of the Month
- Cache of the Month



**Thanks, Brian (BE Viking)!
FOR 4 GREAT YEARS
AS TXGA PRESIDENT**

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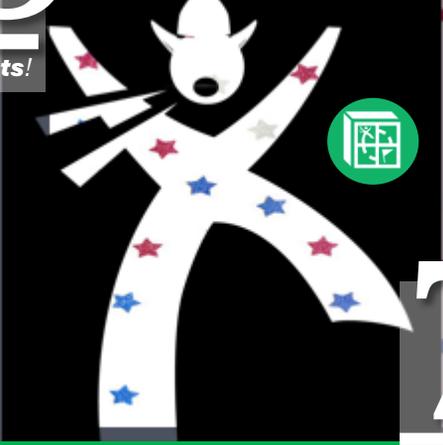


Explore Geoart at Challenge

Learn about the geoart located near Floresville

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Get the latest on the 23rd Texas Challenge & 25th B-day Block Party



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New for the Block Party! A Texas-themed escape room! Join the fun!



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Geocache of the Month

Our cache of the month comes from our Central Region. Check it out!

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Geocacher of the Month

This month's geocacher is from the East Texas Region.

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TXGA Around The World

A new feature about TXGA travels around the world!

Lucky



You!

BE Viking
Brian Erickson
TXGA President
March 2021 ~ March 2025



Challenge 2025 marks my official retirement from the TXGA Board after an incredible 8-year journey. I served first as the NTX Regional Representative for four years and then as President for another four, and what a ride it has been!

When I first ventured into geocaching, I was a solo player—focused on the hunt and not particularly interested in the social side of things. That all changed when I was introduced to Texas Challenge. Despite the cold and rainy day, I was completely hooked. I began attending local events and connected with fellow cachers in the DFW Metroplex. Then, a call from De Vickery asking me to represent NTX on the TXGA Board opened up an entirely new chapter—one filled with friendship and community, aspects of the game I never expected to embrace so fully.

Reflecting on my caching career, I treasure not only the memorable caches and adventures but, most of all, the enduring friendships forged along the way—all thanks to TXGA. The past 8 years have truly been a labor of love. I am deeply grateful to the TXGA Board, our members, and all the friends who have helped make our organization stronger and more vibrant. Your support has been instrumental in our shared journey.



I am proud of what we have accomplished together:

We've built a solid financial foundation to support future efforts.

- Our membership roster remains as strong as ever.
- Events like Challenge and RoundUp continue to draw in the Texas caching community and beyond.
- We continue to expand our activities to include initiatives such as Texas 2-Step, the TXGA Newsletter, and CITO Across Texas.

As I hang up the Viking hat, I am excited for the future of TXGA. Rest assured, I'm not going anywhere—I will continue to support and celebrate the growth and success of geocaching and TXGA in Texas for years to come.

Ride safe - until we cache together again!

BE Viking





MISSION STATEMENT

The Texas Geocaching Association (TXGA) is a volunteer organization. We strive to be the foremost advocate for Geocaching in Texas and to promote the family-oriented activity of geocaching through a central website, social media, workshops, events and information displays, while encouraging responsible stewardship of public lands. TXGA is committed to celebrating the diversity of our membership in all regions of Texas and beyond. From finders to hidiers, veteran to novice geocachers, our differences allow us to serve and support each other while building a dynamic geocaching environment in Texas and the greater community.

JOIN NOW

[Click here to join](#)

Story Board

East Texas Rep – K13 - Kevin Boatman

One of the things I love most about Geocaching is that it doesn't require planning to have a great adventure. One of mine started with a coin flip. It involved high altitudes, meeting geocachers from all over the country, being awakened by the local police at 3am, running up over 2,300 miles on the rented car, all while visiting 4 other states.

In early July of 2016, I was working in Midland and had the idea of going to Guadalupe Peak and on to El Paso for the holiday weekend of the Fourth of July. A couple weeks earlier, I had looked at the geocaching website for caching opportunities further out west, and saw something about GeoWoodstock in Denver. The idea of going to my first Geocaching Mega Event was interesting, but I dismissed it.

I had already rented a car and packed for some light camping on Thursday, so when I finished at the courthouse in Pecos, I was ready for adventure. When I got in the car, the idea of GeoWoodstock came back. Hmmm. I flipped a coin, heads: El Paso, tails: Denver. The quarter showed I was heading North instead of West. GeoWoodstock was now my destination.

I made it to Roswell before it was time to sleep. Roswell had their "Alien Festival" on Saturday, so I was lucky to find a motel room. I checked the phone app for geocaches along my route toward Denver. The next morning, I grabbed a couple local caches, then headed for an event atop Pikes Peak.

After a few caches and a few hundred miles, I arrived at Pikes Peak just in time to sign the log for the event. After finding all the available caches nearby, I amassed seven different cache types above 14,000 feet elevation. On the way down, I stopped for a cache and met some geocachers from Nebraska.

When I got back down to the park entry, I helped them hook to their camper, and we parted ways for the evening. I figured I would find a hotel near the Woodstock location. For most of the way from Colorado Springs to Denver I tried to find a hotel near my destination. LOL! (Note to self: impromptu excursions on major holiday weekends are not advisable if you want a hotel.)

With the lack of hotel availability, I decided to sleep in the car. A Sports Authority parking lot called out to me. Around 2:30 am, I was awakened by a loud alarm in the building. I look around, but didn't see any other vehicles, so I wasn't concerned. Just as I got back to sleep, the police came knocking on my window. They had me get out, prove my identity and explain my presence. About thirty minutes later, they left me alone and I tried to get back to sleep.

Around daybreak, I headed over to GeoWoodstock and got in line to park. While waiting, I walked around talking to others and finding a few geocaches before they finally opened the gates to the parking lot. I had a fun day at the event, meeting folks from all over the place, and finding some of the various caches placed in the Park. I even found one of the no-longer-allowed Traveling Caches, some of the first iteration of Lab Caches, and saw the OCB (Original Can of Beans). It was a fun day.

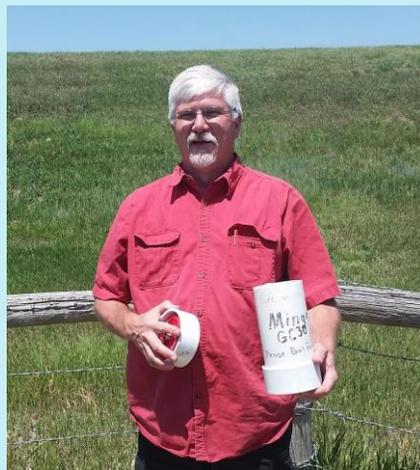
I caught up with my Nebraska friends from Pikes Peak, and we headed for a tree-climb cache across Denver. After that fun, we said goodbyes, and I headed toward Mingo. I made it to Limon, Colorado and stopped for the night.

Monday morning took me to Mingo, then it was a right turn, South toward Midland, and a very long day of driving to get back home. The words from the America the Beautiful monument atop Pikes Peak played through my head. This Fourth of July weekend, I had been upon the purple mountains majesty and had driven through amber waves of grain.

When I returned the rental car, the counter agent at the rental office was quite surprised to see that I had driven over 2,300 miles in four days. I told her it would have only been about 700, except for the flip of a coin.

I have other such tales to tell, like the trip to Ft. Jackson, South Carolina when I found some tough old caches - Octopus Garden, Lake Lanier, LPS001, Lara's Tomb and a few others - all while on a knee scooter due to recovering from a cut Achilles tendon, or my 15-state journey to the Indy 500 last year.

I know I will have more adventures. I hope you get out there for adventures of your own, whether planned or on a whim. I'll wager your odds of a great time are better than a coin flip.



TXGA Board Members

President

Brian Erickson (BE Viking)

Vice President

Patricia Elkins (MsPatt)

Finance & Compliance Director

Michael Cash (mijkie)

Secretary

Patricia Maldonado (Ca\$hQueen)

Membership Director

Teresa Hall (TxHistLady)

Education Director

Wayne Lind (The Outlaw)

IT/UX Director

William Davis (TerraViators)

Region Reps

Central

Marcellus Cadd (atreides)

East

Kevin Boatman (K13)

North

Michael McKinney (McKsix)

South

Cheri Tummelson (CrazyChickC)

Southeast

Elisa Reynozo (georeyna)

West

Alicia Mullins (BigDaddy_BabyDoll)



TEXAS 23RD CHALLENGE

HAVE YOU LOGGED YOUR "WILL ATTENDS"?

 3/11: Flashmob at the Alamo	<u>GCB13V4</u>
 3/11: Launch Party*	<u>GCAWOKZ</u>
 3/12: Early Bird	<u>GCB13VP</u>
 3/12: In Memoriam	<u>GCB13VZ</u>
 3/13: Texas Longhorn Museum	<u>GCB13W5</u>
 3/13: Circle the Wagons	<u>GCB13W9</u>
 3/14: Happy Pi Day, Texas Style*	<u>GCATNBP</u>
 3/14: Meetups & Greetings	<u>GCB13WF</u>
 3/14: GPS Adventures Maze	<u>GCB16WC</u>
 3/14: Signal to the Rescue*	<u>GCATP13</u>
 3/15: Block Party/Challenge	<u>GCAMM1H</u>
 3/15: Finishers' Event*	<u>GCAYMP3</u>
 3/16: Schmoozing w/Signal	<u>GCB13YP</u>
 3/16: CITO & Goober Olympics	<u>GCB13Z2</u>

*Community Celebrations

25TH B - DAY BLOCK PARTY

CHALLENGE WEEK EVENT SCHEDULE

	TUESDAY 3/11	WEDNESDAY 3/12	THURSDAY 3/13	FRIDAY 3/14	SATURDAY 3/15	SUNDAY 3/16	
6:00AM		EARLY BIRD					6:00AM
6:30AM							6:30AM
7:00AM					TEXAS CHALLENGE	SCHMOOZING 	7:00AM
7:30AM				HAPPY PI DAY	- Teams gather	WITH SIGNAL	7:30AM
8:00AM				TEXAS STYLE	- Challenge Starts		8:00AM
8:30AM				π	  	CITO & GOOBER	8:30AM
9:00AM					BLOCK PARTY	GAMES 	9:00AM
9:30AM							9:30AM
10:00AM				MEETUPS & GREETINGS 			10:00AM
10:30AM	ALAMO FLASHMOB						10:30AM
11:00AM							11:00AM
11:30AM			TEXAS LONGHORN 		GPS MAZE		11:30AM
12:00PM			MUSEUM				12:00PM
12:30AM							12:30AM
1:00PM	LAUNCH PARTY 						1:00PM
1:30PM							1:30PM
2:00PM							2:00PM
2:30PM							2:30PM
3:00PM							3:00PM
3:30PM							3:30PM
4:00PM		IN MEMORIAM		MOBILE ESCAPE ROOM			4:00PM
4:30PM							4:30PM
5:00PM					SIGNAL TO THE RESCUE and FOOD TRUCKS 		5:00PM
5:30PM			CIRCLE THE WAGONS 				5:30PM
6:00PM						FINISHER'S REUNION	6:00PM
6:30PM							6:30PM
7:00PM							7:00PM
7:30PM							7:30PM
8:00PM							8:00PM

Plan your trip now!

Cacher of the Month

East Texas

SEE YOU AT THE MAZE!



GPS ADVENTURES MAZE EXHIBIT (GCB16WC)

FREE ENTRY

OPEN

FRIDAY, MARCH 14 11:00AM TO 4:00PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 15 9:00AM TO 3:00PM

**Did someone say
GEOART?**

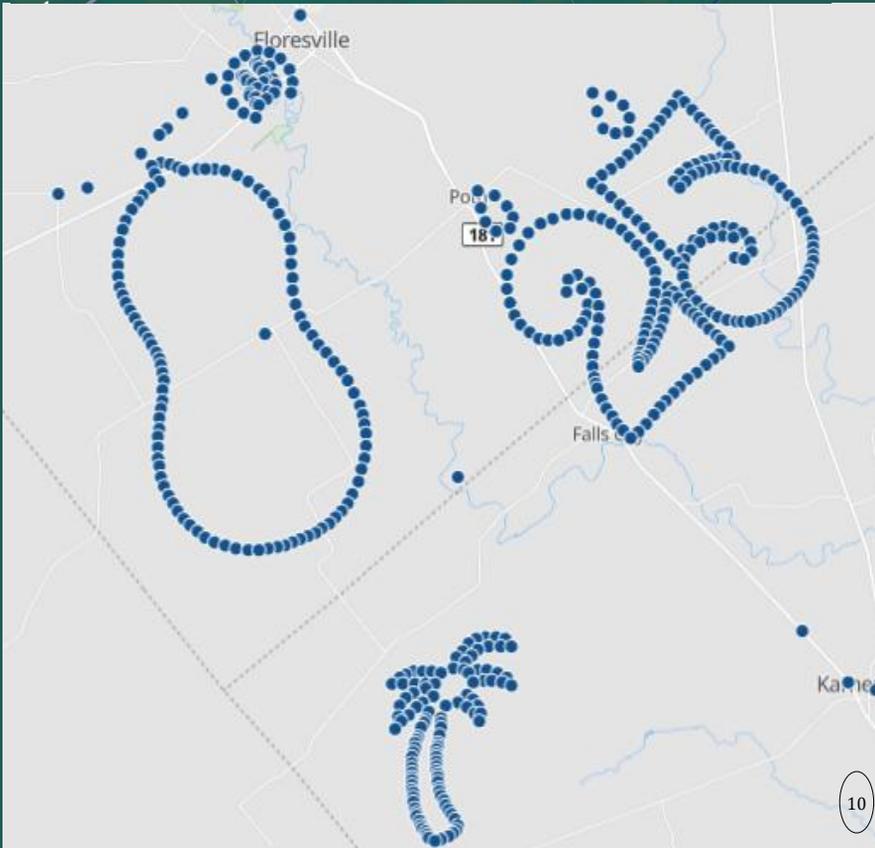
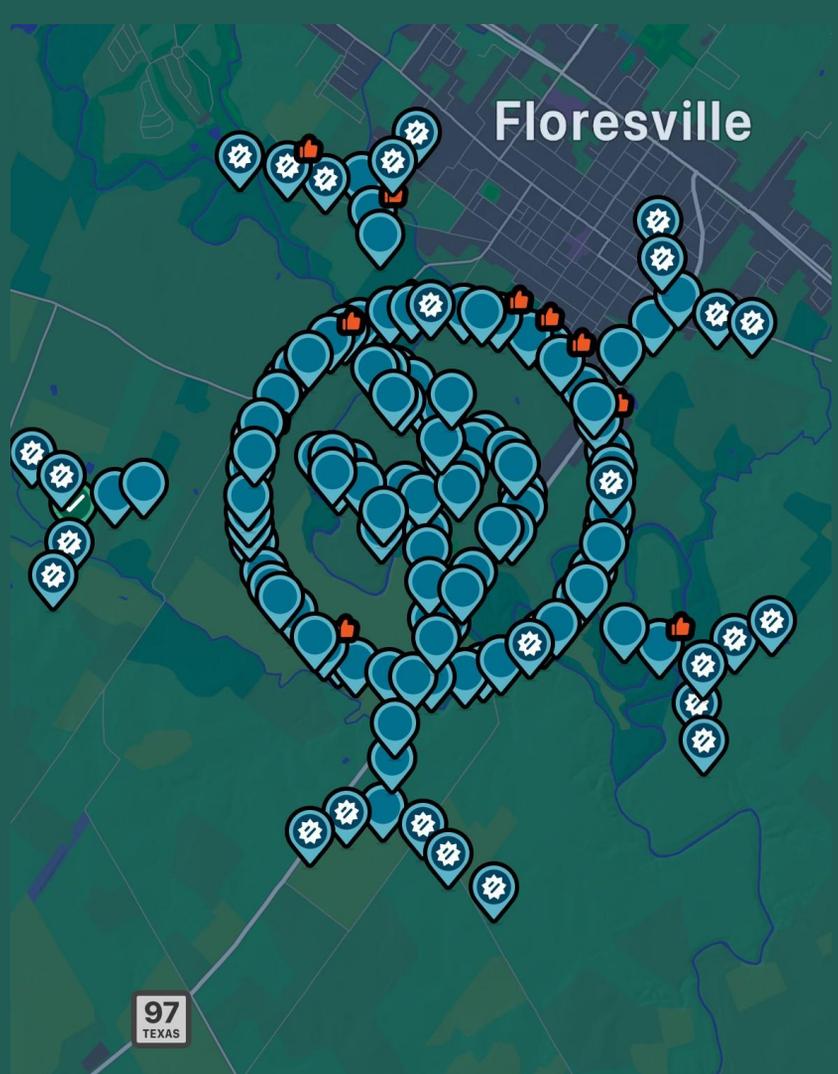
**25th ANNIVERSARY
LAB ADVENTURE
GEOART
and
Lab Bonuses
(Mysteries)
#1 - [GCAX208](#)**

**Power Trails nearby,
too!**

**Peanut Capital of
Texas Geoart
(Wherigos)
#1 - [GCB2T12](#)**

**Happy Birthday
Geocaching Geoart
(Mysteries)
#1 - [GCAYCN9](#)**

**Texas Palm Tree
Mystery Geoart
#1 - [GCB1JZH](#)**



CACHE OF THE MONTH CENTRAL TEXAS



GC CODE:	GCANK3Y
NAME:	JURASSIC TRAVEL BUG HOTEL
CACHE TYPE:	TRADITIONAL
REGION:	CENTRAL
COUNTY:	TRAVIS
CACHE OWNER:	LITTLEBABYBOO & BERCEL
PUBLISHED:	MARCH 29, 2024
FAVORITE PTS:	9



Texas, thanks especially to Dinosaur Valley, is renowned for its many fossils and dinosaur tracks, preserved since the Triassic, Cretaceous, and (most famously) Jurassic periods. Slightly less known is that some of those great beasts live in an Austin nature preserve, guarding valuable trackables!

The Jurassic Travel Bug Hotel (GCANK3Y) has been entertaining cachers for a year with its whimsy. It is a melding of sturdy traditional construction with a dash of modern QR flavor. It's definitely a cache worth making time for when you visit Austin, but watch out for the great scaly beasts!

**More fun at Challenge/Block Party!
Have you bought your tickets to the
Texas-themed escape room?**

In The Race to Liberty, you'll travel back to 1836 on the orders of Sam Houston to retrieve a letter from The Alamo. Upon your arrival, however, you are unfortunately mistaken as enemy spies and locked away. If you are able to escape your wrongful imprisonment in time, you may just be able to change history and save the Alamo!

\$15 pre-sale

\$20 on site

Open Friday, 3/14
at the Event Center
4:00-7:00pm
15-minute sessions



To purchase an entry, click [here](#).

William's parody songs

Luck Of The GPS

geocaching with myrthman | Sean Rackley



More of myrthman's comics can be found at myrthman.blogspot.com.

Are you a Texas County Challenge Finisher?
How about a Texas 2-Step Finisher?

We need to see you at Our Double Celebration!

Texas County Challenges Finishers' Reunion

March 15, 2025

GCA YMP3

Texas



*Finishers,
bring your shirts!*

*Sign the logs!**

**See event page for details on log signing*



Join us at
Challenge



NEW 2025 BOARD
AND HALL OF FAME
ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TXGA 2025
GENERAL BOARD
ELECTIONS**



==== ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ =====
Ten Years of
HALL of FAME
===== ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TXGA Secretary, Ca\$hQueen attended Torreblanca, Spain's Block Party this past February. She celebrated with geocachers from all over Spain and a few from other European countries. Weather was chilly, but the reception was warm!



We'd love to see our TXGA members represent in other countries! Post your international travel pics with a TXGA logo on the TXGA Facebook page for a chance to win a prize!



Upcoming Geo-events by Region*

Mark your
calendar!

SOUTH

03/01/25 GCB0HTX
03/05/25 GCB2N9X
03/07/25 GCB3GVK
03/09/25 GCB3CB6
03/09/25 GCB3KT0
03/14/25 GCB3HBX
03/15/25 GCB2PF9
03/15/25 GCB2PFB
03/17/25 GCB3DH8
03/23/25 GCB3N92
03/24/25 GCB3CBN
03/24/25 GCB3N9G
03/25/25 GCB3N9W
03/29/25 GCB3BA0
03/30/25 GCB36HX
03/31/25 GCB3JH7
04/13/25 GCB36HZ
05/02/25 GCB3FE8

❄️ 🌲 🗺️ * 9th Annual Texas Winter Games 🌲 🗺️ ❄️ 🧊
Jitterbug Litterbug 🧊
The Nones of March: 3/07/25 a Meet & Greet
Oooooo! It's a CITO!
Calling All San Antonio Geocachers
Pi Day March: 3/14/25 a Meet & Greet
Navystud's Meet & Greet - SA Version
Navystud's CITO in San Antonio
5th Annual CITO Celebrating Gr@nny!
Where's Matilda?
XOXO
Anybody Seen Matilda?
Maybe Matilda will show up?!
March March
Sip & Swap
Vanquish Trashish
Are There any Hotdogs in San Antonio
Howdy, y'all! — What's "Yeehaw" in German?



SOUTHEAST

03/01/25 GCB342V
03/01/25 GCB342G
03/01/25 GCB3AVM
03/02/25 GCAXFZQ
03/02/25 GCB3432
03/03/25 GCB375A
03/04/25 GCB39CK
03/05/25 GCB398J
03/08/25 GCB1XZ1
03/10/25 GCB3NF6
03/11/25 GCB3HHV
03/12/25 GCB3NNN
03/19/25 GCB3045
03/22/25 GCB3CFD
03/26/25 GCB3DE0
04/16/25 GCB304B
04/22/25 GCB2JKM

mmmmm donuts - CVII
Hey Buddy, Let's Clean Up Another Park - CVII
Meet and Greet pre-trip
Texas Independence & Happy Birthday Sam Houston
Sweet Thing has a Sweet Tooth – XCVII
FIRST MONDAY IN MID COUNTY MARCH 2025
Will Cache for Food #171 – Laissez Les Bons Temps
Club UFO - Jolene Blalock Turns 50
Navystud's 2025 Community Celebration*
SE GeoFriends FTF 31
W.A.L.K. - Woodlands Area Lunch Klub #44
Club UFO: March is the gateway to Spring 🌸
National Chocolate Caramel Day
Welcome Back, Ingrid!
Club UFO: 25 Years of Geocaching
Third Wednesday in April Event!
Hey Buddy, Let's Clean Up Another Park – Earth Day

EAST

03/01/25 GCB2Z26
04/25/25 GCB2WJH
04/26/25 GCB223Q
04/26/25 GCB2BGD

2025 East Challenge Team Breakfast
Dynamite Kinda Night
13th Annual Tatum CITO Event
Trifecta Fish Fry - Presidential Style

WEST

04/05/25 GCAXGKB

"East Meets West" 2025 Community Celebration Event

Upcoming Geo-events by Region*

Mark your
calendar!

NORTH

03/01/25 <u>GCB2ZMC</u>	PAG does Wichita Falls
03/02/25 <u>GCB24ZF</u>	McCray Park CITO III
03/03/25 <u>GCB2604</u>	2025.03.03 - D.A.W.G.S. Gather at a New Pound
03/03/25 <u>GCB316E</u>	Plano Parks 063
03/05/25 <u>GCB316G</u>	Plano Parks 064 - End of the Blue Bonnet Trail
03/07/25 <u>GCB31Z1</u>	Plano Parks 065 - Coyote Creek Park Trail
03/08/25 <u>GCB2ZKB</u>	PAG does Parker County Brewing (and so should you)
03/08/25 <u>GCB328W</u>	Join us in Celebrating Jonathan... the Eagle Scout
03/09/25 <u>GCB3D0D</u>	TOGA Meet & Greet - March Madness
03/10/25 <u>GCB3CKF</u>	2025.03.10 - D.A.W.G.S. Do Double Dave's
03/10/25 <u>GCB392V</u>	Plano Parks 066 - Hoblitzelle Trail U Route
03/12/25 <u>GCB392Z</u>	Plano Parks 067 - Hoblitzelle Trail Loop Route
03/14/25 <u>GCB393A</u>	Plano Parks 068 - Hoblitzelle Trail (Alma)
03/17/25 <u>GCB393F</u>	Plano Parks 069 - Hoblitzelle Trail (Complete)
03/17/25 <u>GCB3MW8</u>	3*17 DAWGS Paint The Town Green *
03/18/25 <u>GCB335Q</u>	Chicago ~~~ 25 or 6 to 4 ~~~ (The CITO)
03/22/25 <u>GCB2YEY</u>	Garza CITO bucket brigade II
03/22/25 <u>GCB3GGH</u>	Gracie Lou's Berry First Birthday Bash
03/24/25 <u>GCB39E1</u>	DAWGS like choices
03/26/25 <u>GCB3A8N</u>	Plano Parks 070 - Preston Ridge (The Lost Section)
03/28/25 <u>GCB3A8V</u>	Plano Parks 071 - Russell Creek Pond Loop
03/29/25 <u>GCB271M</u>	Semik and Oddiewan Visit Arlington Texas
03/30/25 <u>GCB3A90</u>	Plano Parks 072 - Russell Creek Long Loop
03/30/25 <u>GCB3FVZ</u>	Plano Parks 073 - Start of the Shady Brook Trail
03/30/25 <u>GCB3FW3</u>	Plano Parks 074 - Shady Brook Trail (GeoBirthday)
04/02/25 <u>GCB3FW9</u>	Plano Parks 075 - Shady Brook Trail (April 02)
04/04/25 <u>GCB3FWC</u>	Plano Parks 076 - Shady Brook Trail (April 04)
04/07/25 <u>GCB3FWF</u>	Plano Parks 077 - End to Shady Brook Trail
05/24/25 <u>GCB3PCR</u>	CITO Season 1 / 2025

CENTRAL

03/01/25 <u>GCAINXR</u>	Last Stop Before Texas Challenge 2025 CCE
03/01/25 <u>GCB30XQ</u>	GeoTx GeoCachers Breakfast March 2025
03/20/25 <u>GCB3P38</u>	Sailing into Spring - Vernal Equinox Celebration
04/03/25 <u>GCB266E</u>	Aussie's Semik and Oddiewan Visit Austin Texas
04/11/25 <u>GCB2YC9</u>	Simon says.... Pizza, Pizza!
04/12/25 <u>GCAW143</u>	2025 Community Celebration Event - Pot Luck Picnic*
04/12/25 <u>GCB2YC2</u>	Texas Geocampers at Meridian State Park
05/03/25 <u>GCA TKGM</u>	The Golden Silver Community Celebration Event*

HIGHLIGHTS OUTSIDE OF TEXAS:

05/03/25 <u>GCAZGP9</u>	SEMAG 2025 Block Party
05/10/25 <u>GCAHHQQ</u>	Mingo Madness**
05/24/25 <u>GCANXX1</u>	GeoWoodstock XXI
07/12/25 <u>GCAVHMK</u>	CacheFest Hawaii
08/16/25 <u>GCA PFHC</u>	2 nd Annual Rocky Mountain Geo-Rendezvous**