



- Block Party & Challenge Pics
- Our New TXGA President
- Challenge Winners & Scores
- Story Board with Atreides

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2025

Geocaching News Around Texas

- Milestone Memories
- Cacher of the Month
- Cache of the Month
- TXGA on the Road



Contents

Click on any page numbers to navigate to that page!

4



Introducing our new TXGA President

Get to know a little more about K13 (Kevin Boatman)

7



Geocache of the Month

Our cache of the month is a multi series from the North Region. Check it out!

8

See pictures from 23rd Texas Challenge & 25th B-day Block Party

Start here



Winners & Scores



30

Milestones!

We asked if you hit a milestone Challenge Weekend! See who answered!

6



Geocachers of the Month

This month's geocachers are from the West Texas Region.



22

Meet our International Visitors to Challenge!

TXGA Mission/Membership
TXGA Board Page /Story Board
Geocaching with myrthman
Geo-events Calendar

3
5
16
17-18

TXGA On the Road

32



MsPatt shares Her Mega adventures!





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 hiders, 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](#)

Introducing... TXGA President K13 – Kevin Boatman

I'm Kevin Boatman, or K13 in Geocaching circles, and I'm the new President of the Texas Geocaching Association. I started geocaching nineteen years ago when I accidentally found an ammo can outside a cemetery. After finding a few, being Dad and Scout Leader kept me away from the hobby for a few years, then our Boy Scout Troop began working on the Geocaching Merit Badge. I started geocaching again, and a few years later as a Scouter I was given the Vigil Honor name that translates to "Loud One Who Searches".



I've taken a casual approach to geocaching over the years, as reflected in my smiley tally of just over 4,000. Most would consider that a low number for as long as I've been involved. I have been somewhat selective in the geocaches I go looking for, usually concentrating on the mid to high D/T ones, or those that are highly favored by other geocachers. I target only certain caches when I travel and have 13 State's Oldest Geocache out of the 24 states where I've cached. Quality over quantity could be a way to describe it, but I think of it as smiles over smileys.

I look at geocaching as a hobby for my enjoyment and find ways to make it fun for me. Sometimes that means I drive through Memphis, Tennessee on the way to Columbia, South Carolina, just to go out through a wetlands area on a knee scooter for an old cache. Or drive through Colorado to Montana on the way to Sioux Falls, South Dakota then on to Indianapolis, Indiana - Geocachers can understand those types of trips. Other times, it means I'm in the car with a few other cachers working our way through a list of 150 caches for the day, telling stories and either solving or ignoring the world's problems. A few times, I've driven three hours to an event because it is the first one hosted by a friend.

Maybe one of my favorite ways to enjoy geocaching is being involved in hosting events. If you've been to Tatum in the latter part of April over the last dozen years, you know. Next month will be the 8th time I've hosted a Fish Fry as part of that weekend. It's always a good time, even in a downpour. I helped out when Lone Star RoundUp was in Palestine in 2019, and got more involved TXGA at that time. I became the East Region Representative which led to working on Texas Challenge in Longview. I guess that's how I got to this point today. I'm just under 40 counties away from completing one of the very few Challenge caches I plan to sign, so you never know where I'll be next, but there's a strong chance it will be along the coast or around the Panhandle. Look me up at an event or maybe out at a geocache somewhere.

I've met some great folks through geocaching, and I'm looking forward to meeting more – that includes you. I look forward to serving you as President of the TXGA.

Story Board

Central Region Rep – Atreides Marcellus Cadd

Sometimes, adventure sneaks up on you when you least expect it, at the strangest times and in the dumbest ways. I am a county cacher and several years ago, I found myself in Burt County, Nebraska, at about 10:30 PM. The county was quite cache poor, only having eight caches in the entire county. My first attempt to find a cache was at a park, but I was having trouble finding a nano in the darkness, especially not knowing whether it was on the gazabo or one of the many benches and tables in and around it. After twenty minutes, I decided to abandon the search and try another one. There was one at the closest town's library that looked to be more suited to my needs. I was originally wary of it because of its location (a library), but the description made it clear that it was outside the library, not inside.

When I arrived at the library, I began to question if this was the cache for me. The town bar (it was a small town) was right next door and in full swing. The last thing I wanted was to run into a bunch of drunk strangers with questions while I was nine hundred miles from home. Luckily, GZ was on the other side of the library from the bar, so I breathed a sigh of relief, parked and began my search. I looked behind landscaped bushes against the building, at a tree a little farther away than expected, and around the ground in the area. Something wasn't right, though. GZ didn't seem to fit the description on the cache page, and the hint seemed very, very far off. There was no place to fit, much less obscure, the regular-sized cache I had expected. I started looking back through the logs. People had been finding it for the past six months, so what was I missing? And then I found the magic log that explained it all: a cacher (not the CO) noted that there was some landscaping work being done at the time that they were there, so they moved the container *inside the library*. I looked over into the locked glass vestibule and saw a clear plastic box, filled with swag, with a logbook inside.

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? WHO DOES THAT?!?!

Seriously? I would totally understand if the cache owner decided to move it because of the landscaping work or because it was generally safer indoors. I could understand if a cacher returned it to the wrong place because for some reason they didn't know exactly where it had come from. But who decides to take an outdoor cache and move it inside? I was so angry that it felt like there were flames shooting up the sides of my face! I did the only thing I could do: return to the car and look for another cache. As I previously mentioned, the county is cache poor. I had already DNF'd two of the eight caches. Four of the remaining all had a bunch more DNF's and one was a high D/T Multi in a nature preserve that was no doubt closed at that time of night. The only one left in the county did not enthruse me in the least: a micro in a tree ... beside a cemetery ... at a church ... on some crazy backroad about five miles outside of town. It had turned after midnight by that point, meaning it was running afoul of two of my caching rules (no cemeteries at night, no churches on Sunday), but I started driving. Sure, it was bending two of my rules, but there were two other immutable facts beating in my head: 1) I was so livid that I felt like an engine of destruction guided by Shiva and 2) I was not, I repeat, not coming back to Burt County.

I was soon driving on the back roads of Nebraska. Did you know that Nebraska has a designation called "minimum maintenance roads," something existing somewhere between dirt roads and the caliche roads of West Texas? I didn't until I started driving on them once I got out of town. And you know the maps didn't tell me? That five miles I had to drive was up and down hills, so I was constantly going up, over, and down twenty-degree grades. I was more than happy to slowly traverse them, at least until the big white truck started following on my bumper because my rented Corolla wasn't taking the minimally maintained hill roads fast enough for their liking. Finally, I made it to my destination. I parked by the side of the road and got out of the car. The sound of the wind filled my ears. The full moon, slightly dimmed by light cloud cover, was bright enough to make me cast a shadow while standing on one corner of a crossroads. The white wooden church loomed across the road, stately and overbearing, next to the field of gravestones, cold and menacing. I didn't know what kind of monster or cryptid was going to get me in that moment, perhaps a werewolf or sasquatch. As I took in the landscape, I knew from a lifetime of movies that if a monster was going to get me, this would be the time and the place. And my imminent demise was only slightly less palatable than the idea looking through an evergreen for a micro in the middle of the night.

I crossed the road, walked up to an evergreen, and, with nothing to lose, pulled out my maglite and started pulling apart limbs and branches. Perhaps my mood tightened my focus, or maybe it stared glaring at my luck, intimating that if something good didn't happen real quickly ... Whatever it was, after a few moments, I found a green pill bottle with a white cap ziptied to a limb. I signed that log quicker than I had ever signed a log in my life. And with that, I headed back into town, got on the highway, and continued to the next county for the night.

Adventure is what happens when the actual plans you made fall apart. Maybe adventure is what happens when you're open to new experiences. Maybe it's what happens when you put yourself somewhere and go where it takes you. Or maybe it's a mix of all three. The only thing I know for sure is that I've never been back to Burt County.



TXGA Board Members

President

Kevin Boatman (K13)

Vice President

Patricia Elkins (MsPatt)

Finance & Compliance Director

Michael Cash (mijkie)

Secretary

Patricia Maldonado (Ca\$hQueen)

Membership Director

Greg Liffick (Texas Greg)

Education Director

Wayne Lind (The Outlaw)

IT/UX Director

William Davis (TerraViatators)

Region Reps

Central

Marcellus Cadd (atreides)

East

Michael Chanle (Fire2Water)

North

Michael McKinney (McKsix)

South

Cheri Tummelson (CrazyChickC)

Southeast

Elisa Reynozo (georeyna)

West

Alicia Mullins (BigDaddy_BabyDoll)

Cachers of the Month

West Texas - FishingKitty



TXGA: How did you come up with your caching name?

Jonathan (my husband) likes fishing and Teresa (me) likes cats.

TXGA: What do you most enjoy about geocaching?

Making gadget and/or puzzle caches and finding gadget caches. We also love finding lovely places in the outdoors where it's off the beaten path of tourists. Also, we try to make as many events outside our local area as possible because we love meeting other cachers.



TXGA: Tell us a little about yourself.

We are a couple who lives in Merkel, TX outside Abilene. We love traveling, learning local history, experiencing new things, meeting people, and enjoy doing things outdoors.



TXGA: How did you get started caching?

Friends of ours, who were new to the hobby also, introduced us to it in 2011. Funny story is that we first tried using a car GPS and thought we had to use shovels to dig up caches!

TXGA: What are some highlights of your geocaching career so far?

Completing the Jasmer and Fizzy Challenges. Going to Israel and finding a cache at -1341 feet below sea level at the Dead Sea. Finding caches in Hawaii and Alaska. Finding the old virtuals in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma. Going after a lonely cache that hadn't been found in 9 years (GC143A). Being a part of the Museum Adventure Lab event at CacheFest in OKC in 2024.



TXGA: What else would you like to share?

We are excited about hosting our first community celebration event (GCAXGKB) where we put together an escape room experience for the day and celebrating Jonathan's upcoming 50th birthday.

CACHE OF THE MONTH

NORTH TEXAS

WORLD PASSPORT

GC Code:	<u>GCAV4ND</u>
Name:	Passport to the World - Texas Style
Cache Type:	Mystery
Region:	North
County:	Tarrant
Cache Owner:	Mutch & Turnkey
Published:	July 12, 2024
Favorite Pts:	7

In GCAV4ND - Passport to the World - Texas Style, Turnkey2058 has done it again! His World Passport series takes cachers all across the Lone Star State to the Texas counterpart of 14 well known global cities. This bonus cache is the reward for those daring enough to drive all over the state and retrieve the necessary information from these 14 caches. He also has another series in the Hurst area of DFW called Bag O' Bones in which cachers retrieve skeleton parts from 11 caches to assemble an entire skeleton. I guess he realizes cachers love a challenge and are willing to go more than the extra mile to complete a series.

Since its publish date in July of 2024, 7 people have completed the series and found this bonus cache. All 7 have given this cache a favorite point and have had raving reviews of the entire series.

Start working on this series today and someday you too will be able to claim a find on GCAV4ND!

MONDA PASPORTO



Flashmob at the Alamo



23RD TXGA CHALLENGE 🎂 25TH B-DAY BLOCK PARTY LAUNCH



Are You an Early Bird? No? That's OK!!



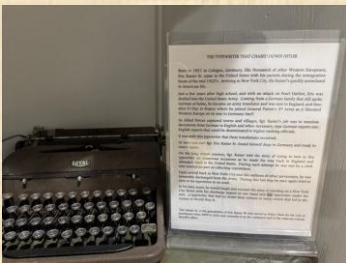
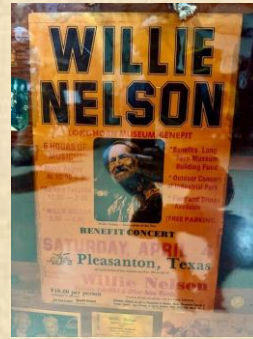
In Memoriam



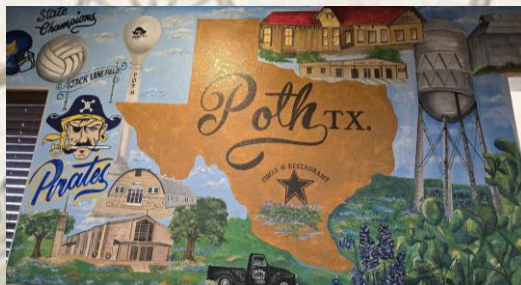
LONGHORN MUSEUM - PART 1

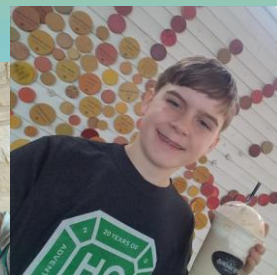
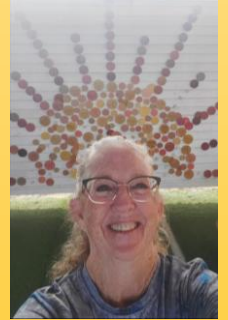


LONGHORN MUSEUM - PART 2



Circle The Wagons





Meetups & Greetings In Floresville



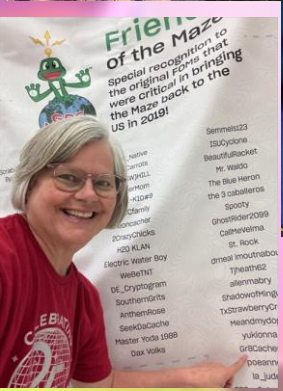
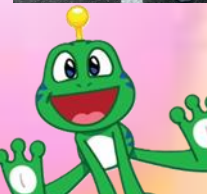




**Friends
of the Maze
2025**

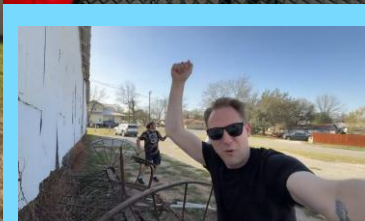
As to those that went above
and beyond to help make the
Maze possible for this event:

Julia Bailey	Jojo
Chris Chronister	Joelys
Elizabeth Cobb	Karen Cobb
Melissa Denning	derobert
Terri Edwards	christopher2025
Gary Erickson	Bill Viking
Gary Hancock	Outlaw
Kevin Jackson	Kelsae
Greg Lison	Traveling
Dean Mordling	Bob Winger
Karla Odal	outdoor
Julie Randall	Kussner2
Mike & Kathy Rust	TID
Ellen Symons	proton
Don & Barb Tarral	Davidette
Dawn Trelorey	Louise2025



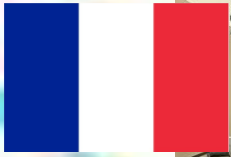


CHALLENGE!



INTERNATIONAL VISITORS TO TEXAS CHALLENGE 2025

France



**Lechercheurlesnsois
Sansnom2
Teddy***

Germany



Belgium



Netherlands



Finland



**MeKa52
Pele53**

**Tiigeri
Kapeka**





Signal to the Rescue

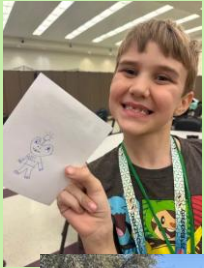


Signal Selfies!





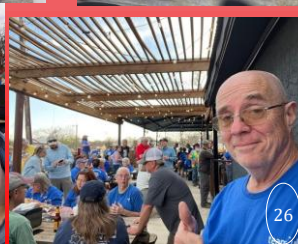
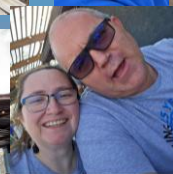
Signal to the Rescue



Good Times



FINISHERS' EVENT

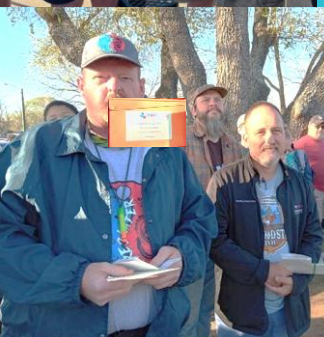
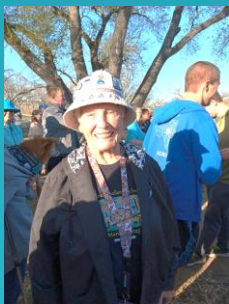




Schmoozing with Signal



Cito & Goober Olympics & Awards



CONGRATS TO ALL WINNERS TEXAS CHALLENGE 2025



TEAM COMPETITION

PLACE	TEAM	TOTAL POINTS	# SCORE CARDS	AVG
1	NORTH	9646	14	689
2	SOUTHEAST	6942	12	579
3	EAST	8015	15	534
4	OUT OF STATE	4794	11	436
5	SOUTH/ CENTRAL	11906	29	411



INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

Highest Overall Scores - Men

- 1) Julien Tagnon - 359
- 2) John Cujo - 339
- 3) Teddy Mouton - 336

Highest Overall Scores - Women

- 1) Patricia Elkins - 309
- 2) Lynn Lary - 287
- 3) Mistie Hall - 286

Male (9 to 20)

- 1) Leif McKinney - 297
- 2) Clark McKinney - 287
- 3) Elliott Connell - 227



Female (21-30)

- 1) Alexandra Tagnon - 213

Male (21-30)

- 1) Julien Tagnon - 359
- 2) Jacob Cronin - 320
- 3) Micah Solly/Elisha Blankenship - 285

Male (31-40)

- 1) Kevin Carlier - 332
- 2) Michael McKinney - 321
- 3) Kiril Kuzmin - 271

Female (41-50)

- 1) Mistie Hall - 286
- 2) Jennifer Mountain - 259

Male (41-50)

- 1) John Cujo - 339
- 2) Greg Boaden - 227

Female (51-60)

- 1) Lynn Lary - 287

Male (51-60)

- 1) Teddy Mouton - 336
- 2) Steve Allen - 296
- 3) Michael Chanler - 279

Female (61-70)

- 1) Patricia Elkins - 309
- 2) Theresa Bauer - 213
- 3) Christa Miller - 163

Male (61-70)

- 1) Harry Smith - 187

Female (71+)

- 1) Sandy Rifken - 223



MILESTONES

We asked you on the TXGA FB page
and you answered!

Jeeperspeepers
8,000



PNUtmom2001

scooby_loves_pooh



Ladybug Karen



KCleave
9,000

TrackerJacker65 **CoolTurtleGamer**
Double milestones! **2,000**



GotYour6
14,000



Dumbell234
2.000



4everlyn
30,000



CashQueen



pjhunters
9,000

MORE MILESTONES Logged

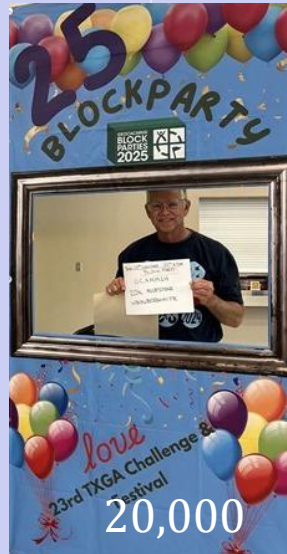
hzoiz
14,000

TXvR
17,000



ElectricCorgi

7,000



wb96bobwhite

20,000



TheMtns

7,000

Imhotwheels
8,000



Soloseeker



4,000



Criffree
8,000

TravelingGeek
8,000



AmalMatt823

4,500

atreides
10,000

TXGA – on the Road, Again!

Read all about MsPatt's adventures at these two Megas:

YUMA



Yuma has a SWAG Mega every February. This year was a quick trip. It was their Mega/Block Party, so how could MsPatt turn down a road trip and 2 days of attending events and geo-arts and part of a power trail?

Soo, my caching buddies and I learned a valuable lesson on the difference between 4-wheel drive and all-wheel drive out there in the open desert after the new Geo-Art. We buried the car. Shortly after, a Jeep came by to see if we needed assistance, and since the car isn't going anywhere, would we like to hop in and go after the FTF's in this geo-art. We, of course, jumped into our new-found friend's Jeep Gladiator and CO-FTF a few. Once back to the car, the boys went on as we had work to do. We Girls dug out the car, and Now what... Other Cachers would stop by and check on us, we felt safe with Our Tribe around us in the field. At one point, a Sheriff stopped, and did a wellness check, and got stuck! At the same time Chuck (the VP of the SWAG Mega) came out and got stuck in the sand. Before long there were 3 Border Patrols parked on the ridge of the highway looking down at our 3 vehicles stuck in the sand.

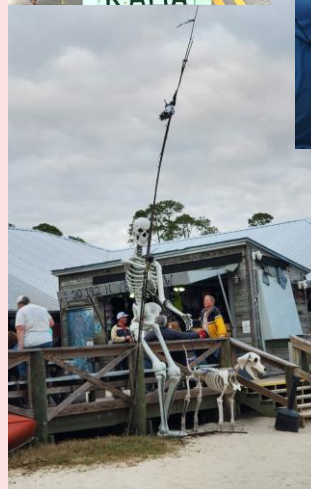
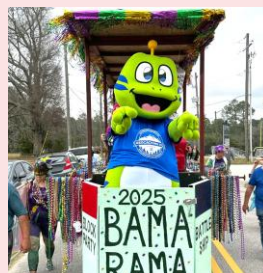
With their help, they got the Sheriff out, next Chuck, then our Geo-mobile (the instruments on the dash thought we had a front collision rear collision and locked 3 out of the 4 wheels.) Once the car was pulled up, all wheels unlocked, and we were out of the sand. At the main event we were invited to come on stage and recount of Geo-adventures...

It's an unforgettable experience... shared with LostnFound28

MsPatt
Live a Great Story



BAMARAMA



This is a new Mega - it's 3rd year - and hitting it out of the ballpark each time.

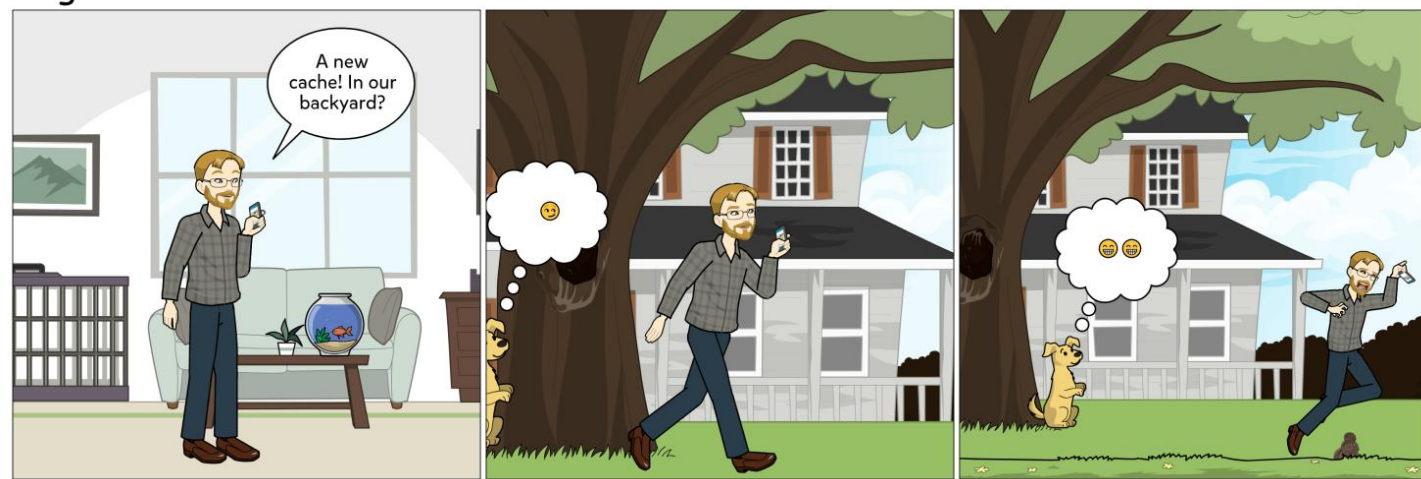
Laura, of the 2 Laura's (Host Team), asked me to attend the Mega and be a part of the "Where Next" Announcement, and bring a Texas Flag. How could I say No?

This was a fast-paced solo trip. I made contact at the first event I've attended on the beach and met so many familiar faces. I had caching plans and caching shenanigans lined up for the days I would be there. Besides a beachside event, they are known for their Bonfire Event. If you ever get a chance to experience BamaRama, you will be hooked -

with lots of hiking, biking trails to geo-arts to a city center full of Adventure Labs to keep you busy for days!!!

Day of Event was busy with running into geo-friends at every turn.

I stood behind Sands Marcus as he made next years Announcements, with my Texas flag, as he promoted TXGA's Challenge/Block Party in March...



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

[Click here to watch the Geocaching Vlogger's Video on Texas Challenge](#)



[Treasures of our Town Podcast - Floresville](#)

[Floresville Adventure Lab TikTok Video](#)



Upcoming Geo-events by Region*

Mark your
calendar!

EAST

04/25/25 <u>GCB2WJH</u>	Dynamite Kinda Night
04/26/25 <u>GCB223Q</u>	13th Annual Tatum CITO Event
04/26/25 <u>GCB4KEN</u>	Fourth Tatum Trifecta Regatta
04/26/25 <u>GCB2BGD</u>	Trifecta Fish Fry - Presidential Style

WEST

04/05/25 <u>GCA XGKB</u>	"East Meets West" 2025 Community Celebration Event*
04/05/25 <u>GCB4P44</u>	After the WhodunithowdidweEscapeFun!!!!
04/16/25 <u>GCB4FTT</u>	Geocaching in Your PJ's
04/16/25 <u>GCB50G7</u>	El Paso Rose Garden Meet n Greet

CENTRAL

04/03/25 <u>GCB266E</u>	Aussie's Semik and Oddiewan Visit Austin Texas
04/05/25 <u>GCB3XQQ</u>	GeoTx GeoCachers Breakfast April 2025
04/11/25 <u>GCB2YC9</u>	Simon says.... Pizza, Pizza!
04/11/25 <u>GCB4P6J</u>	Bubba is calling
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
04/12/25 <u>GCB4P4Q</u>	Scoot Your Boots at the Coupland Dance Hall
04/12/25 <u>GCB4MBZ</u>	Geocaching 101
04/16/25 <u>GCA YQ13</u>	Caching in our Jammies 2025!*
04/27/25 <u>GCB4Z7D</u>	Earth Day - AAH CITO
04/31/25 <u>GCB4Y20</u>	Good Morning Event
05/03/25 <u>GCA TKGM</u>	The Golden Silver Community Celebration Event*
05/17/25 <u>GCAW0MZ</u>	2025 Community Celebration Event in Hearne, Texas*
05/31/25 <u>GCB4Y31</u>	Good Evening Event
06/20/25 <u>GCB4K5W</u>	Summer Solstice 2025
03/14/25 <u>GCB4F75</u>	24th Annual Texas Challenge & Geocaching Festival

SOUTHEAST

04/02/25 <u>GCB4AXZ</u>	Club UFO - April Fools (Are you paying attention?)
04/05/25 <u>GCB42FV</u>	mmmmm donuts - CVIII
04/05/25 <u>GCB42FP</u>	Hey Buddy, Let's Clean Up Another Park - CVIII
04/06/25 <u>GCB42FY</u>	Sweet Thing has a Sweet Tooth - XCVIII
04/07/25 <u>GCB4N8P</u>	Will Cache for Food #172
04/07/25 <u>GCB44VX</u>	FIRST MONDAY IN MID COUNTY APRIL 2025
04/08/25 <u>GCB4RFC</u>	SE GeoFriends FTF #32
04/09/25 <u>GCB4WWM</u>	Club UFO: Hoppy April 🐰
04/15/25 <u>GCB4XBM</u>	Third Tuesday Eat & Greet in April
04/16/25 <u>GCB304B</u>	Third Wednesday in April Event!
04/16/25 <u>GCB4QFJ</u>	Geocaching in Your Pajamas Day- Bunny Slippers 🐰 🐰
04/22/25 <u>GCB2JKM</u>	Hey Buddy, Let's Clean Up Another Park - Earth Day
04/22/25 <u>GCB4RR7</u>	ABC Lunchtime - Country Cookin'
04/22/25 <u>GCB4RNO</u>	Earth Day CITO
04/29/25 <u>GCB506N</u>	Park & Gab: 204th Edition

Mark your calendar!