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- TXGA + YouTube

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2026

- Texas Challenge
- Hall of Fame
- Board Elections

Geocaching News Around Texas



TRADITIONAL

MYSTERY

VIRTUAL

OK

GE SWITCH DAY

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Happy New Year



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.

TXGA Board Members

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Vice President

Patricia Elkins (MsPatt)

Finance & Compliance Director

Michael Cash (mijkie)

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Greg Liffick (Texas Greg)

Education Director

Wayne Lind (The Outlaw)

IT/UX Director

Greg Lawn (travelingGeek)

Region Reps**Central**

Marcellus Cadd (atreides)

East

Michael Chanler (Fire2Water)

Region Reps**North**

Michael McKinney (McKsix)

South

Cheri Tummelson (CrazyChickC)

Southeast

Elisa Reynozo (georeyna)

West

Alicia Mullins (BigDaddy_BabyDoll)

[Click here to join](#)

Cacher of the Month

North Texas

Geonick:	Einstienium99
AKA:	Jacob Cronin
Region:	North Texas
Finds:	14,000 +
Hides:	616
Profile:	Click here



Our Geocacher of the Month hails from Collin County in the North Texas Region.

He started geocaching with his family as the TX Cronins in 2011, and their first find was [GC1M90M](#). In 2013, he got his individual caching name, Einstienium99 (“E99” for short), and his first find under that name was [GC23CFJ](#).

He doesn’t quite recall exactly how he came up with his geonic, other than it was originally his Minecraft username. Einsteinium is the 99th element on the periodic table, and he happened to misspell it when he registered on Geocaching.com and decided to run with it.



Among his accomplishments, he has over 14,000 finds and over 600 hides. In the profile link above, you will see a long list of geocaching highlights, listed by year, including recent accomplishments, like winning the 2024 Texas Geocaching Individual Challenge overall (only the fourth unique individual to do so), and at Texas Challenge 2025, helping the North Texas Team grab the Golden Ammo Can.

One of his favorite geocaching memories is completing the Texas County Challenge in 2021 (finisher 282). His parents and he were able to drive around Texas for a week to finish the vast majority of it, and he says it was great to be able to spend that time with them.

E99 says his 2026 caching goal is to continue enjoying the game in whatever form it takes!

CACHE OF THE MONTH

WEST TEXAS



Photo courtesy of UTPB

GC CODE:	<u>GC9TX3Q</u>
NAME:	STRAGGLERS
CACHE TYPE:	MYSTERY
REGION:	WEST TEXAS
COUNTY:	ECTOR COUNTY
CACHE OWNER:	GRUMPYOLDTEXAN
HIDDEN:	05/17/2022
FAVORITE PTS:	1

The West Region is vast and rich with interesting geocaches so picking just one to highlight is always challenging. I settled on Stragglers ([GC9TX3Q](#)) in Odessa hidden by grumpyoldtexan in May of 2022. It is a statue depicting a cowboy and some cattle, representing the beginning of the cattle industry in Texas, as well as the life of a cowboy. This one will get your Ector County nontraditional if you still need it. We needed it, so after I dropped family off at the Midland airport, I had some time available to grab it and a few other caches in the area. I had solved this mystery cache a while ago and it was on the list to log before I headed home. As I sat in the Jimmy John's parking lot eating my Veggie/no cheese sandwich I stared at the statue trying to decide what would be the best way to approach it. It sits on the corner of a very busy intersection. It is the only thing there with a line of trees behind it. The closest place to park was in an overflow lot next to the football field at UTPB. I wasn't brave enough to try to cross the intersection, so I contemplated my options. Also, one of the attributes was stealth required. Crossing that intersection definitely would not be stealthy. So, park in the overflow I did. It had rained the day before, so I went slip sliding and mud puddle dodging across the field toward the area where the cache was located. I didn't feel very stealthy, but I did my best to look inconspicuous. I found the cache fairly quickly, logged it, and got the smiley. The big smiley is always in the adventure, and this one led me to a beautiful piece of art I never would have seen otherwise. Isn't this the case in so many of our geocaching adventures?

Alicia Mullins – TXGA West Texas Rep

24th Annual Texas Challenge

Taylor, TX March 14, 2026

GCB4F75



"Will Attend" Today!

Check out the published events!

Wednesday, 3/11

6pm GCBAEAY: Welcome Wednesday - with Pie!

Thursday, 3/12

8am GCBAEAZ: Not Your Usual Lamppost Cache (Event!)

6pm GCBAEB0: Here's To Dear Old Taylor...

Friday, 3/13

6pm GCBAEB2: Friday Night at the Cathedral of Smoke

Saturday, 3/14

7am-3pm GCB4F75: Texas Challenge & Geocaching Festival

6pm GCBAEB3: Texas County Challenges Finishers' Reunion

Host Hotel: Holiday Inn Express & Suites
180 Carlos G Parker Blvd. NW
Taylor, TX 76574

Conveniently located a short walk from the site of the Mega:
The Williamson County Expo Center
Click [here](#) for TXGA Special Pricing.



**TXGA
NEEDS
YOU TO
NOMINATE!**



**TXGA BOARD POSITIONS
UP FOR ELECTION:

VICE-PRESIDENT
CENTRAL TEXAS REP
SOUTHEAST TEXAS REP
WEST TEXAS REP**

**DEADLINE TO
SEND IN BOARD
NOMINATIONS IS
JANUARY 31ST.**

It's that time again. Board Nominations are open through the end of January. Ballots will be sent by email to TXGA Members for the election in February.

A TXGA Member in good standing can nominate any TXGA Member in good standing (including themselves) for one of the offices up for election this year, subject to certain restrictions.

For the office of Vice President, the person nominated must be a resident of Texas. For Regional Representative offices, both the Nominator and the Nominee must be a resident of that Region. Central, Southeast, and West Reps' offices are up for election this time.

Please submit nominations in the following format:

Nominator Name & Username:

Nominator Hometown:

Nominee Name & Username:

Nominee Hometown:

Send your Nominations to: president@texasgeocaching.com by January 31.



TXGA, through the efforts of our Education Director, Wayne Lind (The Outlaw), has launched a YouTube channel with educational videos about Geocaching.

[Click here](#) to join the geocachers in the know by going to the TXGA Channel and clicking on “Subscribe”.

Subject matter covered so far
(and check back often for new videos):

- Introduction
- Getting Started
- Configuring Your Profile
- Traditional Caches
- Events & CITOs
- Virtual Caches
- Earthcaches
- Multicaches
- Letterbox Hybrid Caches
- Puzzle Caches
- Challenge Caches
- Trackables & Collectibles
- Understanding Global Positioning

Please hit the like  button on any videos you appreciate!



HALL of FAME



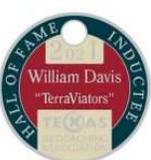
Nominations for Hall of Fame have closed.



Thank you to all who participated in the nominations process!



New Hall of Fame inductees will be announced at Texas Challenge 2026!





More of myrthman's (Sean Rackley's) comics can be found at <https://myrthman.blogspot.com>.

2026 Geocaching Goals (We asked you and here's what you said!)

Make progress on my Jasmer Grid!

Find more Lab Adventures!

Work on the Texas 2-Step!

Go on more road trips!

Attend more events and meet new people!

Reach 10,000 finds!

Finish the Texas County Challenge!

Go to the Texas Challenge Event for the first time!

Beat last year's find count!

Attend a Mega!

Get the oldest caches in several states!

Create new Earthcaches!

Visit new areas and make memories!

Mark your calendar!

Upcoming Geo-events by Region*



Region	Geocache Name	GC Code	Event Date
C	And So, It Begins...	GCBFER1	1/1/2026
C	Geocaching Christmas White Elephant event	GCBFP56	1/3/2026
C	GeoTx GeoCachers Breakfast January 2026	GCBG7AR	1/3/2026
C	Post CITO Breakfast	GCBG74H	1/6/2026
C	Pfluger Park CITO	GCBG0W8	1/6/2026
C	Beware the Ides of January 2026	GCBG7ZD	1/13/2026
C	Halfway to BASH Waco, Texas	GCBGA1R	1/24/2026
C	Welcome Wednesday - with Pie!	GCBAEAY	3/11/2026
C	Here's To Dear Old Taylor...	GCBAEB0	3/12/2026
C	Not Your Usual Lamppost Cache (Event!)	GCBAEAZ	3/12/2026
C	Friday Night at the Cathedral of Smoke	GCBABE2	3/13/2026
C	24th Annual Texas Challenge & Geocaching Festival	GCB4F75	3/14/2026
C	Texas County Challenge Finishers' Reunion	GCBABE3	3/14/2026
C	So Long, Farewell, Announcements and Goodbye!	GCBGEE8	3/15/2026
C	Thanks for all the fun, Taylor, here's some ART!	GCBGEE0	3/15/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #01	GCBG2B4	1/10/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #02	GCBG2BF	1/11/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #03	GCBG3DV	1/24/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #04	GCBG3GV	1/25/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #05	GCBG4KB	1/31/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #07	GCBGBFT	2/7/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #08	GCBG6EP	2/8/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #09	GCBGFG8	2/21/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #11	GCBGGWB	2/28/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #12	GCBG82C	3/1/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #13	GCBG82H	3/7/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #14	GCBGBG2	3/8/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #15	GCBGDG5	3/14/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #16	GCBGNVH	3/15/2026
W	24 hrs of Event-ing #17	GCBGNWD	3/21/2026
S	E99 visits The Crossroads of South Texas	GCBZHD	1/1/2026
S	Say Hello to 2026	GCBE0TB	1/1/2026
S	2026 - A New Beginning Pizza Event	GCBG1AH	1/1/2026
S	Geo NY Resolutions, Jan. 2, 2026 – a Meet & Greet	GCBGECJ	1/2/2026
S	New Years Cache Planning	GCBGGF1	1/3/2026
S	Trail Magic Stone Oak	GCBFH9H	1/4/2026
S	Who Likes Brunch? Part 2	GCBGJ75	1/9/2026
S	2026 Souvenirs, Jan. 9, 2026 – a Meet & Greet	GCBGPWG	1/9/2026
S	January Geochat - A New Year!	GCBGPTG	1/11/2026
S	January Meet and Greet	GCBGK51	1/13/2026
S	Let's Talk Geocaching - Lunch Time Edition	GCBGR5K	1/14/2026
S	Northeast Side Geocaching Chat	GCBG4G6	1/15/2026
S	This Day in History, Jan. 16, 2026 – Meet & Greet	GCBGPWQ	1/16/2026
S	Trail Magic Pearsall Park	GCBG691	1/18/2026
S	Northeast Side Geocaching Chat Part 2	GCBG4GK	1/29/2026
S	Just a little Geochat	GCBGC96	2/8/2026
S	❄️ 🗺️ 🗺️ ❄️ 10th Annual Texas Winter Games ❄️ 🗺️ 🗺️ ❄️	GCBDHWX	2/14/2026



Upcoming Geo-events by Region* (cont'd.)



Region	Geocache Name	GC Code	Event Date
SE	mmmmm donuts - CXVIII - End of the year	GCBG37E	1/1/2026
SE	SpringTime Fun 1000100 - Hello 2026	GCBG3AE	1/1/2026
SE	CITO - National Drinking Straw Day	GCBGE4P	1/3/2026
SE	Breakfast with a Geocacher #9	GCBG4J7	1/4/2026
SE	WCFF #181 - A Palindromic "Becks" Prime	GCBG4N3	1/5/2026
SE	FIRST MONDAY IN MID COUNTY JANUARY 2026	GCBG75H	1/5/2026
SE	Club UFO - The Thomas Mantell Incident	GCBGE2J	1/7/2026
SE	WATPM January 2026 - a new year is here!	GCBG777	1/15/2026
SE	Third Tuesday Eat & Greet in January	GCBGB1N	1/20/2026
SE	KAWSGE - 47	GCBGHZZ	1/21/2026
SE	First 21st of the New Year!	GCBFFY2	1/21/2026
SE	Hey Buddy, Let's clean up another park CXVIII	GCBGMWQ	1/24/2026
SE	mmmmm donuts - CXVIII	GCBGMWB	1/24/2026
SE	Park & Gab 213: Happy New Year 2026	GCBG79D	1/27/2026
SE	Club UFO: Happy 2026 to all Aliens!	GCBGKT7	1/28/2026
SE	Pluto discovered Feb 18, 1930	GCBFFYE	2/18/2026
N	Start 2026 with a CITO!	GCBF6Q8	1/1/2026
N	Happy TOGA New Year 2026!	GCBFXHP	1/1/2026
N	Guideline Review: Logging As Found	GCBG2K3	1/2/2026
N	Dont be Bitter... Well .. you know ...	GCBFPBX	1/3/2026
N	903 at 1200	GCBGGKH	1/3/2026
N	🔥 Bonfires & Bison Tubes – Texoma Geo Gatherin	GCBFJFW	1/3/2026
N	D.A.W.G.S. keep traditions	GCBGG9A	1/5/2026
N	Motor with Maple and PAG	GCBFPD8	1/8/2026
N	Guideline Review: From the top	GCBG7QH	1/9/2026
N	The Key to happiness is ... (attend to find out)	GCBFPC1	1/10/2026
N	The New Frontier II	GCBD907	1/11/2026
N	DAWGS go to county	GCBGBV4	1/12/2026
N	Don't lose PAG at Burger House: Candy Dice Roll	GCBFPD2	1/15/2026
N	Guideline Review: Reviewers	GCBG9VE	1/16/2026
N	Be Stelle and enjoy a coffee with PAG	GCBFPC6	1/19/2026
N	The Sky (rocket burger) is the limit with PAG...	GCBFPCV	1/22/2026
N	DAWGS Celebrate New Beginnings	GCBGBTA	1/26/2026
N	Thursday night at Edmonds with PAG: Texas Songs	GCBFPCH	1/29/2026
N	Redneck Roll-In & BYOB Adult Skate-n-Cache!	GCBFXCP	2/7/2026
N	Thursday night at Edmonds with PAG: MAD LIBS	GCBGNFQ	2/12/2026
N	PAG nighttime scavenger hunt	GCBGNFJ	2/17/2026
E	Coona\$\$ Smorgasbord	GCBGAFQ	1/3/2026
E	Will Cache for Food!?!	GCBEE3G	1/3/2026
E	Hello Texas !	GCBEV43	2/1/2026