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July 2024 Newsletter

Geocaching News around Texas

TXGA Board



TXGA Board at GeoWoodstock XX

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South

Cheri Tummelson (CrazyChickC)

Southeast

Elisa Reynozo (georeyna)

West

Tony Mollhagen (shellbadger)



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Texas Geocaching Association 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

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Texas Two-Step

Set to Publish!

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Geocacher of the Month

Meet our Geocacher of the month from the North Texas Region

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CITO Across Texas Worldwide Cleanup Day

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GC9TREF

Challenge Cache
will publish Aug 17

Greetings TXGA Members and Friends!

There are 254 counties in Texas. Finding a cache in every county requires more than 12,000 miles of driving and, literally, weeks of time. The Texas County Challenge is a Texas legend and every cacher who has completed the challenge will point to that cache as one of their favorites. Every year at the Texas County Challenge Finisher Reunions, people proudly display their finisher numbers.

As impressive as that cache is – TT02 wasn't satisfied and brought an audacious idea to the TXGA Board: What if we up the ante and create something even bigger, better and more challenging? What if we created a challenge where cachers would have to find TWO caches in every county – a traditional and a mystery/wherigo/virtual/multi or an earthcache? Thus, the idea of the Texas Two-Step was born!

The first obstacle in bringing this idea to reality was making sure every county had the required cache types. Wildrosetexas put out some calls and created a Beta Team to populate the state with even more caches and make this idea possible. As word started to spread about this crazy idea, cachers got back on the road and started once again to criss-cross the state, collecting caches along the way.

One of the rules of creating a Challenge cache is that 10 local cachers need to meet the criteria before a cache can be published. Well folks, the good news is that the final hurdle has been cleared and [GC9TREF](#) – Texas Two-Step Challenge will publish August 17th on International Geocaching Day!

To celebrate another great Texas caching milestone, TXGA is going to hold some special events:

- [GCARXPK](#) – Texas Two-Step County Challenge Kickoff – At 8am, we will celebrate the first finishers and the Beta team at the Heart of Texas Roadside Park (The perfect place for this cache!). As an added bonus the first 50 finishers will receive a commemorative coin!
- [GCARZ8D](#) – Texas Two-Step County Challenge Lunch - At 1pm we will meet at Underwood BBQ in Brownwood, TX to break bread and enjoy some great Texas BBQ!

Come out and celebrate another great milestone in Texas caching with TXGA!



*Click here to check
your progress:*

[Texas Two-Step
Checker](#)



Texas' 254 Counties

Geocacher of the Month



July's geocacher of the month hails from the North Texas Region.

She has traveled extensively thanks to her work. Every time we see her, we learn something new! She is a wealth of knowledge and quick to help. Her willingness to share information, with both new cachers and veterans, makes her a special asset to our community.

Michael McKinney – NTX Rep

TXGA: How did you choose your geonick and what does it mean?

Av8mxgrl: My geonick is related to my job. AV8MXGRL - Av8 (Aviate) MX (maintenance) GRL (girl). In the last statistic I read about aircraft mechanics, women represent only 2.6% of the population.

TXGA: Where is your home area?

Av8mxgrl: Fort Worth

TXGA: How did you get started Geocaching?

Av8mxgrl: I was working in Seattle and learned about geocaching at an event information table - 14 years ago. I set up an account on 7/19/2010.

TXGA: What was your first cache find?

Av8mxgrl: GC10J4W - Hangin' Around in Electric Park on 9/25/2011 (in Plainfield, IL)

TXGA: What is your favorite geocaching experience?

Av8mxgrl: I have a lot of good experiences. One of my favorites was while working in Calgary, AB. I rented a car & drove to Banff & Lake Louise. The views were incredible! I walked across the frozen Lake Louise to get the virtual caches at the tip of the lake.

TXGA: How many caches have you found? How many do you own?

Av8mxgrl: I have found around 8,200 caches. I own only 17.

TXGA: What geocaching goals are you working on?

Av8mxgrl: I am currently working on the Santa Fe Geotour (when I have time).

CITO ACROSS TEXAS – SEPTEMBER 21st

Hey cachers! Do you want to be part of something as big as the State of Texas that promotes geocaching and gives back to our communities? Well, mark your calendars and signup for the TXGA CITO Across Texas.

World Cleanup Day is held annually on the Third Saturday in September. Volunteers in 180 countries will stand up against the global trash problem and clean up waste, making it the biggest positive civic action the world has seen.

This year, TXGA has decided to throw our cowboy hats and GPS devices in the ring, and join the efforts.

On Saturday, September 21st at 9am, geocachers will be hosting CITO events across Texas to pickup trash and help keep our geocaching game board clean. This event was the brainchild of Elisa Reynoza (georeyna), TXGA's Southeast Texas Regional Representative. So, we have decided that the primary event is going to be in Houston ([GCAR8NB – TXGA CITO Across Texas – Houston](#)). This page will have a link to the list of ALL of the other locations that will be part of the *TXGA CITO Across Texas* initiative.

Here is the list in progress. Click on it to see if there is one near you!

[List of CITO Across Texas](#)



If you don't see a location close to your community – don't worry! We are trying to host more than 20 different locations across the state. If you want to host a CITO event and you think you can attract 5 or more people (we expect that we will have several events in each of the big metroplexes) send a note to Brian Erickson at bevikingtex@gmail.com and we will help you setup your own satellite event. TXGA will help with creating the webpage, some financial support and some giveaways. If you want to be the Primary event owner, we have options for that, too, that will help us make it a united front!

Help us make this the biggest CITO event in Geocaching history!

Do you like LARGE geocaches? Do you like figuring out how to access a geocache? How about discovering and moving Trackables? This geocache has all these things, and more. It is also a great example of how to do one in your own front yard.

The Cache Owner, djbtex, has invited you to her front porch and yard for a fun (and maybe a little bit frustrating) find. This geocache requires you to think and search for the way to get into the creative container. With over 75% of the finders giving a Favorite Point, it is well-deserved that this Mystery cache hidden by djbtex is the TXGA July Cache of the Month.

"TFTF!! SO
FUNNY!!
TRIPLE
LOVE IT! "



Birds and bugs, there to challenge you!



GC9ECNV

**Don't Let the Birdies (or Bugs) Fool You
TB Hotel**

Cache of the Month

East Region - Nacogdoches

GC Code: GC9ECNV

**Name: Don't Let the Birdies
(or Bugs) Fool You - TB Hotel**

Cache Type: Mystery

Region: East Texas

County: Nacogdoches

Cache Owner: djbtex

Placed: 07/26/2021

Favorite Points: 24

"That was an
adventure for sure.
We tried all the tricks
before we found the
treat. What a roller
coaster of fun."

"This one had
me going in
circles looking
for the right
answer."





Earth date: 10/19/24
Stardate: -359674.06



Lone Star Round Up!

Davis Mountains State Park

Around Round Up:

- Prada Storefront
- World's Smallest Buccee's
- Marfa Art Scene
- McDonald Observatory
- Chihuahuan Desert Center
- Guadalupe National Park
- Big Bend National Park

Log your "Will Attend" here:

GCAQD1T

*G'all come out West and
make some progress on your
Texas Counties!*



Log your "Will Attend" here: [GCAMM1H](#)

**Do you think your team has
what it takes to win the
Golden Ammo Can?**

About Texas Challenge:

The TXGA Texas Challenge weekend is centered around an exciting contest that pits geocachers from across the state, across the country, or across the globe, in a friendly competition to see which team can find the most caches and accumulate the most points during a 3-hour time crunch. The winning team takes home the coveted Golden Ammo Can.



Click here



[Become a Member!](#)



Upcoming Geo-events by Region*

Mark your
calendar!

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07/06/24	<u>GCARDPR</u>	GeoTx Geocachers Breakfast
07/20/24	<u>GCARCVB</u>	Welcome Back, Memorial Park!
07/13/24	<u>GCARB14</u>	Lunch at Brookshire Brothers
07/13/24	<u>GCARPTR</u>	Lions of July
09/06/24	<u>GCARJDV</u>	Black Friday
09/07/24	<u>GCARJDG</u>	Texas Geocampers at Lockhart State Park

**S
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07/04/24	<u>GCA6Y0</u>	Fourth of July
07/04/24	<u>GCA6YB</u>	Kick Litter
07/05/24	<u>GCARXWA</u>	#10 thru #1 Top Favorite USA Caches Event
07/12/24	<u>GCA6NJ</u>	Geo 411: In the Beginning a Stash a Meet & Greet
07/20/24	<u>GCARVXB</u>	Cibola Trail Clean-up #1
07/20/24	<u>GCARVXG</u>	Post-CITO BBQ
07/22/24	<u>GCA6DB1</u>	Cosmic Quest Kickoff
03/15/25	<u>GCA6M1H</u>	23 RD Annual Texas Challenge

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07/01/24	<u>GCA602Q</u>	WCFF #162 – A Patriotic Hula
07/01/24	<u>GCARPY2</u>	FIRST MONDAY IN MID COUNTY JULY 2024
07/03/24	<u>GCAQQNW</u>	Club UFO – Men in Black
07/09/24	<u>GCA6068</u>	W.A.L.K ! Woodlands Area Lunch Klub #38
07/09/24	<u>GCA6AHM</u>	SE GeoFriends FTF 23
07/12/24	<u>GCARZEB</u>	Ya gotta watch what that t-shirt says! (V)
07/13/24	<u>GCA65J0</u>	mmmmm donuts - XCVI
07/13/24	<u>GCA65HW</u>	Hey Buddy, Let's Clean Up Another Park - XCVII
07/17/24	<u>GCA6QF8</u>	National Lottery Day
07/17/24	<u>GCA6ETB</u>	KAWSGE-29
07/21/24	<u>GCA65TE</u>	Sweet Thing has a Sweet Tooth LXXXIX
07/26/24	<u>GCARKYC</u>	3.G. Galleria Geocachers Gabfest 12.2
08/17/24	<u>GCARQNO</u>	BB's Big Fish Baytown CITO!07/13/

**W
T
X**

10/19/24	<u>GCAQD1T</u>	Lone Star Roundup
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More next page...

Upcoming Geo-events by Region* (Continued)

Mark your
calendar!

N T X	07/01/24	<u>GCANTA6</u>	D.A.W.G.S. in July
	07/02/24	<u>GCAT2DV</u>	Pre-MEGA trackable exchange
	07/08/24	<u>GCARVVR</u>	DAWGS go Cuckoo for Coco
	07/09/24	<u>GCAT2DX</u>	Post-MEGA trackable exchange
	07/10/24	<u>GCAT2E7</u>	Let's Play a Game!
	07/11/24	<u>GCARH9D</u>	Edmond's in July
	07/11/24	<u>GCAT2FM</u>	7-11
	07/12/24	<u>GCAR7ZW</u>	Is there an Echo in Here?
	07/12/24	<u>GCAT2FW</u>	Have a Drink with GeoTwink
	07/13/24	<u>GCATBCC</u>	***Special Event***
	07/13/24	<u>GCAT2EE</u>	Fred Moore Park CITO
	07/14/24	<u>GCAT2DB</u>	South Lakes Park CITO—South
	07/14/24	<u>GCATE1G</u>	Tacos After CITO
	07/15/24	<u>GCARHBP</u>	National Get Out of the DAWGhouse Day
	07/16/24	<u>GCAT3ZT</u>	How About Tuesday in Gainesville?
	07/17/24	<u>GCAT2FA</u>	Let's Play Another Game!
	07/18/24	<u>GCAT2FF</u>	Corinth Needs an Event
	07/19/22	<u>GCAT3Z6</u>	To the Brink With Geotwink
	07/20/24	<u>GCAT2ER</u>	Carl Young Park CITO
	07/21/24	<u>GCAT2DG</u>	South Lake Park CITO--North
	07/22/24	<u>GCAT3ZG</u>	D.A.W.G.S. and D.I.L.L.A.S.
	07/23/24	<u>GCAT639</u>	Calling All Angels
	07/25/24	<u>GCAR802</u>	Siren Call in Rockwall II
	07/25/24	<u>GCAT636</u>	Who is Bruce Lockhart?
	07/26/24	<u>GCAT63F</u>	Too Much Pink with GeoTwink
	07/27/24	<u>GCAT2F4</u>	McKenna Park CITO
	07/28/24	<u>GCAT2EY</u>	Return of the Mack CITO
	07/30/24	<u>GCAT63Q</u>	Leonard L. Woods Park Event
	07/31/24	<u>GCAT63W</u>	Let's Play Yet Another Game!
	08/05/24	<u>GCARH9N</u>	VODOO BREW Geo Meetup VI

See page 4 for
TEXAS 2-STEP
events

See page 6 for
CITO ACROSS TEXAS
events info

HIGHLIGHTS OUTSIDE OF TEXAS:

07/06/24	<u>GCAB90Z</u>	Cachefest Oklahoma
07/27/24	<u>GCAA9KK</u>	Midwest GeoBash 2024
08/10/24	<u>GCADMQT</u>	West Bend \$1000 Cash Bash
10/05/24	<u>GCAJ6MOP</u>	Going Caching 2024
02/02/25	<u>GCAKZ9Y</u>	Yuma Block Party
02/15/25	<u>GCAKV1F</u>	Bamarama
05/10/25	<u>GCAHHQQ</u>	Mingo Madness
05/24/25	<u>GCANXX1</u>	GeoWoodstock XXI