



NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024



Geocaching News Around Texas

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Coin Design Contest**

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August 25th!*

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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.

“

*Membership fees
help TXGA host
events and
activities
throughout the
year.*

”



[Click here to join](#)

Story Board



Geocaching has given me the opportunity to go on some amazing adventures. At least two have required a visit to the local ER, but those are far from the most entertaining stories. This is the abbreviated version of BE Viking's greatest caching adventure. Buy me an adult beverage and I will give you the full version. Trust me, it will be worth it!

On a work trip to Las Vegas, I had some time off and decided to head to the desert to do a little caching. As my trusty Hertz Toyota Yaris and I clipped along a gravel road, I realized it was time to turn around and head back to the airport to catch my flight. The only issue was the trusty Yaris was no longer so trusty – I couldn't get back up a very small little hill. *Swear words were spoken out loud!* Now what? Well, I could see another road about 5 miles away that crossed my trail. So, I pointed the Yaris south and prayed that the gravel road would get me there. It didn't. About 2 miles from the road, the Yaris said, "No more!", and I was now truly stuck in the middle of the desert. I had missed my flight and it was getting dark. *More swear words were spoken at a higher volume level.* With no other options, I grabbed my bag and started walking to the road through the desert in the dark.

After reaching the road somewhat unscathed – I headed to the nearest town 10 miles away – Searchlight, NV. Upon arrival, I engaged in fascinating banter with the hotel proprietor, and then tossed and turned until the next morning, contemplating my next step. As dawn broke, I was thinking, "Surely my luck is about to change – right?" Wrong! Things got worse quickly. After more frustrating banter, I was able to procure the services of one of the finest rescue drivers in the state (let's call him Jerry Garcia for chuckles). After more logistics issues, Jerry and I head out for Day 2 of my little adventure.

After three hours of trying to reach the stranded Yaris, we finally found the target, and Jerry turned to me and asked how someone could possibly get a Yaris here? I just ignored his questioning and implored him to get me and my Yaris back to a paved road. The trip out was uneventful, except for the stops we had to make to pick up a few parts that had become separated from the Yaris on my journey. I paid Jerry a king's ransom for his service and incredible company and headed back to the airport. After a quick stop to clean up the Yaris, I drove into the rental car center, parked, and ran away from the evidence of my little escapade. It took several weeks before I "confessed" to my wife about my little mishap in the desert. To say that she was not pleased is an understatement, but she continues to let me go on my adventures. I just have to take my emergency beacon. It's a small price to pay, I would say! No harm – no foul! I love Geocaching. Anyone want to go on an adventure with me?

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

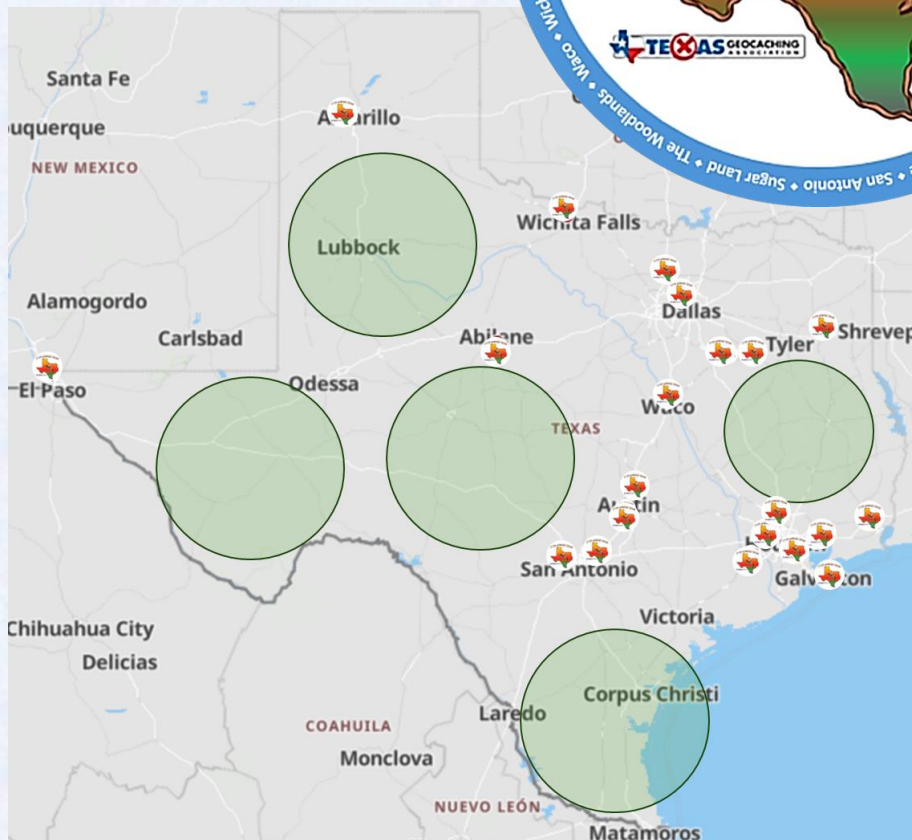
Tony Mollhagen (shellbadger)

CITO ACROSS TEXAS – SEPTEMBER 21st 9AM

Our *CITOs ACROSS TEXAS* are growing in numbers! As of the date of this newsletter, we have published 20 CITO locations across our Great State of Texas! Yee haw! 🤠

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

[CITOs Across Texas](#)



National Cleanup Day is fast approaching!

We've reached our goal of 20 events across our great State! Great job, everyone! Don't see one close to your home? Help us fill in those gaps in the green circles! Let's get your *CITO ACROSS TEXAS* published! Send a note to Brian Erickson at bevikingtex@gmail.com and we'll help you set up your own satellite event with funds for supplies and pathtags to give away!

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

Cacher of the Month

AUGUST

This nomination is to belatedly honor Robert Pearce, who passed away last month. He had been a Professor of Mathematics at South Plains College, in Levelland. His employment was the source of his caching name, Espy Seay, on logs written as SPC. Espy, as he was known to West Texas Cachers, achieved his goal of placing a thousand caches (final total 1,376), from which he achieved 750 favorite points. He also had 11,469 finds, while living in a region with great distances between caches (nearly 80% in Texas and New Mexico). He was especially known for three things: Firstly, his single-minded pursuit of FTFs over a wide area was impressive. Secondly, his willingness to take new cachers under his wing spoke of his generosity. They traveled with him when he placed caches. He also passed out containers and supplies to newbies at events. Thirdly, he placed caches at the large metal arrows donated by artist Charles Smith to commemorate Quanah Parker and the Comanches who roamed over the South Plains before the area was settled. The arrows are displayed in community parks all over the South Plains. We thank Espy Seay for his contributions to the West Texas caching community.



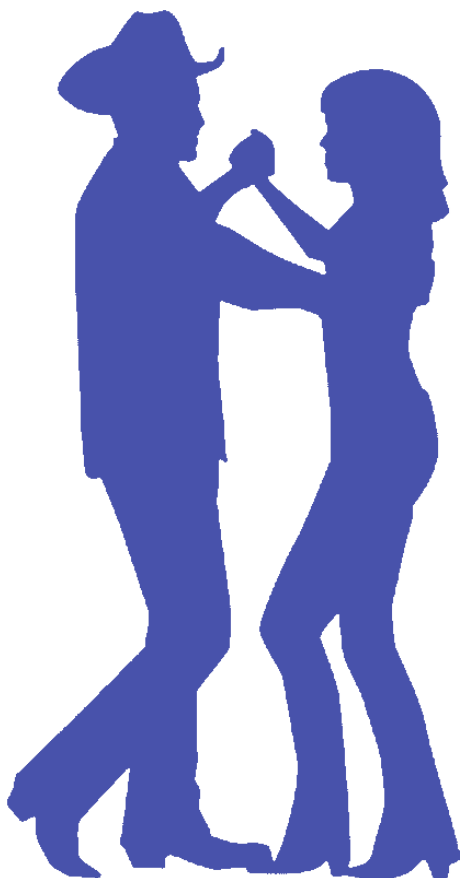
Espy Seay
West Texas



Join us on
August 17, 2024
for two
Texas 2-Step events!

8am - [GCARXPK](#) – Texas 2-Step County Challenge Kickoff The Texas 2-Step Challenge Cache will publish (GC9TREF) and the first Finishers will be revealed and will receive their commemorative coin!

1pm - [GCARZ8D](#) – Texas 2-Step County Challenge Lunch
BBQ and 2-Steppin' go together!



☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Check out the new
and improved
checker with
completion map!

Texas 2-Step
Challenge Checker



Finisher coin (front & back)

Cache of the Month



Southwest Region

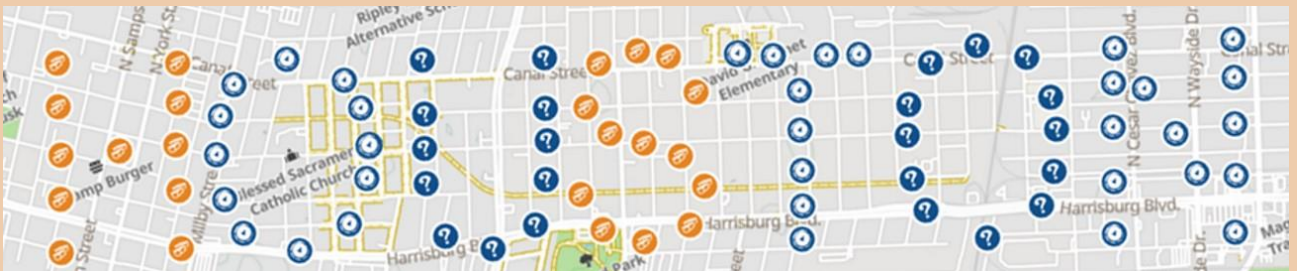
This month's 'Cache of the Month' for the Southeast Region is 'Houston Geo-Art' by NanoBanana. The geo-art consists of 81 various-type caches spelling out "Houston". When this geo-art was published, many people flocked, not only from Houston, but from other cities, to find what NanoBanana had in store for the Houston Area.

The making of this geo-art introduced all geocachers to the East End, also known as EaDo (East Downtown), which has multi-cultural neighborhoods, historical areas, and legendary eateries that were important in making the city of Houston what it is today. Each cache is one of NanoBanana's hand-crafted caches placed close to areas of historical value and will introduce you to the legacy that is EaDo.

SETX welcomes all to check out this outstanding geo-art. The first cache in the geo-art series is provided below. If you enjoy being challenged by puzzles and wherigos and like on-site solving of multi-caches, the 'Houston Geo-Art' is for you!

Please use the bookmark list provided below for the list of caches in the series and start your journey today!

Houston Geo-Art



GC Code: GCAJ113

Name: HOUSTON 🚂 #1 (First in the series)

Cache Type: Multi-Wherigo-Mystery

Region: Southeast Texas

County: Harris

Cache Owner: NanoBangana

Published: 01/26/24

Favorite Points: 153 (cumulative)



Lone Star Roundup!

Davis Mountains State Park

Earth date: 10/19/24

Stardate: -359674.06

New Events Added!

GCAQDIT

Book Now!

Click links for info:

Lodging options

List of hotels to check:

[Davis Mountains State Park Facilities](#)

[Balmorhea State Park Facilities](#)

Fort Davis

- Ft Davis Inn & RV Park 432-426-2112
- Mountain View Lodge 432-249-1024
- Mountainside Inn 432-426-3252
- Harvard Hotel 432-426-2500
- Tiny Town RV Park 432-249-0106
- McMillan RV Park 432-426-2056
- Hotel Limpia 432-426-3237
- Limpia Creek RV Park 575-201-8699
- Fort Davis Drug Store Hotel 432 426-3929
- Prude Ranch Lodging & RV Park 432-426-3201

Alpine, TX (30 min away)

- Oyo 432-755-0233
- America's Best 432-837-3363
- Hampton Inn 432-837-7344
- Travelodge 432-294-5112
- Quality Inn 432-827-1530
- Holiday Inn 432-837-9597

Marfa, TX (20 min away)

- Tumble Inn RV Park
- text 432-301-9860
- El Cósmico 432-729-1950
- Thunderbird Hotel 432-729-7777
- Hotel St. George 432-729-3700

Marathon, TX (1 hour away)

- Marathon Motel & RV Park 432-386-4241
- La Casa Vieja B&B 310-560-8758
- Sunset Ranch B&B (VRBO only)
- La Loma del Chivo B&B 432-244-7144

TEXAS CHALLENGE AND GEOCACHING FESTIVAL MARCH 15, 2025



Join our multi-day festivities:

- Geocaching Contests for Groups and Individuals
- Texas County Challenges Finishers
- Meet & Greet Events
- Trackable Discovery and Trading
- Challenge within a Challenge
- Area Geocaching
- Lab Adventures
- Community Service Opportunity
- Family fun!

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



Hey, TXGA members!
We're holding a contest for best design for our 2025 Membership Coin.
If you are a current or new member, you are eligible to submit a design by email to bevikingtex@gmail.com by August 25th! Winners will be announced in the next issue of this newsletter!



Click here



Become a Member!

Upcoming Geo-events by Region*

Mark your
calendar!

CENTRAL

08/01/24	<u>GCAVBR3</u>	End of Summer School!
08/03/24	<u>GCAVA9N</u>	GeoTx Geocachers Breakfast August 2024
08/03/24	<u>GCATDYH</u>	Lunch at Brookshire Brothers
08/04/24	<u>GCAV7C2</u>	Pizza Night!
08/12/24	<u>GCAVPXK</u>	Sweet Treats XIV
09/06/24	<u>GCARJDV</u>	Black Friday
09/07/24	<u>GCARJDG</u>	Texas Geocampers at Lockhart State Park

EAST

08/17/24	<u>GCAVF30</u>	A Splashin' Movie Night
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NORTH

08/04/24	<u>GCATYTV</u>	TOGA Meet & Greet – August Meeting
08/05/24	<u>GCARH9N</u>	VODOO BREW Geo Meetup VI
08/05/24	<u>GCATJJG</u>	D.A.W.G.S. in August
08/08/24	<u>GCATE29</u>	How to Socialize & Make Friends
08/11/24	<u>GCATF81</u>	McCray Park CITO II
08/12/24	<u>GCATE1Y</u>	Surrounded by Heritage II
08/12/24	<u>GCAV011</u>	GeoBookClub - The Gold Bug (August 2024)
08/12/24	<u>GCAV9W6</u>	Plano Parks and Trails Tour 001
08/14/24	<u>GCAVCG4</u>	Plano Parks and Trails Tour 002
08/15/24	<u>GCAVKPN</u>	Meade us here for a Meade or three!
08/16/24	<u>GCAVCGA</u>	Plano Parks and Trails Tour 003
08/20/24	<u>GCAVGEE</u>	Plano Parks and Trails Tour 004
08/22/24	<u>GCAVGF1</u>	Plano Parks and Trails Tour 005
08/23/24	<u>GCAV3AD</u>	Farewell, but not forever
09/09/24	<u>GCAV0FH</u>	Reunion with the Dutch
09/21/24	<u>GCAVET3</u>	TXGA and Troop 4118 Badge Event
10/19/24	<u>GCAVHF9</u>	Garland GeoTour 2.0 Kickoff Party

SOUTH

08/01/24	<u>GCAV5X3</u>	20 Years on the Trails
08/02/24	<u>GCAVDD1</u>	Geo 411: Geocache D/T Rating Meet & Greet
08/09/24	<u>GCAVDF0</u>	Geo 411: Geocache Etiquette Meet & Greet
08/11/24	<u>GCAV4XW</u>	LinemanPower Celebrates 1000 Finds
08/17/24	<u>GCAVJYA</u>	International Geocaching Day 2024
09/21/24	<u>GCAT8BQ</u>	Our First CITO (hosted)
03/15/25	<u>GCAMM1H</u>	23 RD Annual Texas Challenge

Upcoming Geo-events by Region*

Mark your
calendar!

SOUTHEAST

08/03/24	<u>GCAV5X3</u>	mmmmm donuts XCVIII
08/03/24	<u>GCAV60Q</u>	Hey, Buddy, Let's Clean Up Another Park – XCVIII
08/05/24	<u>GCAV96A</u>	Will Cache for Food #164 – GeoDeli
08/05/24	<u>GCATX69</u>	First Monday in Mid County August 2024
08/07/24	<u>GCAV7CB</u>	Club UFO – National Preposterous Packaging Day
08/09/24	<u>GCAV4M6</u>	The Table with the Hole in the Middle (VI)
08/10/24	<u>GCAVR81</u>	Geocaching 204 - How do I Solve that Puzzle? 🌱
08/13/24	<u>GCAVC4T</u>	W.A.L.K ! Woodlands Area Lunch Klub #39
08/13/24	<u>GCAVG7X</u>	SE GeoFriends FTF #24
08/14/24	<u>GCAVGQW</u>	Club UFO: Cosmic Quest
08/17/24	<u>GCARQN0</u>	BB's Big Fish Baytown CITO!
08/20/24	<u>GCAVAPN</u>	Third Tuesday Eat & Greet in August
08/21/24	<u>GCATRJ0</u>	34th Wednesday of 2024!
08/21/24	<u>GCAV98E</u>	KAWSGE 30
08/22/24	<u>GCAVQZP</u>	Woodlands Area Thursday Pizza Meetup - WATPM 1.11
08/27/24	<u>GCAVEC8</u>	Park & Gab: 196 Edition
08/28/24	<u>GCAVC5Z</u>	Club UFO – National Wine Day
09/04/24	<u>GCATQG7</u>	Club UFO - The Other Star Trek Day
09/07/24	<u>GCAT8HV</u>	CITO: Stephen Woodring Park II
09/14/24	<u>GCAVBWQ</u>	BB's World-Wide Flash Mob (WWFM)
09/14/24	<u>GCAVB02</u>	WWFM XXI at the Sam Houston Statue
09/18/24	<u>GCATRJF</u>	Rice Crispy Treat Day!

WEST

10/17/24	<u>GCAVQWM</u>	Locks of Love Flash Mob
10/18/24	<u>GCAVRZT</u>	TXGA Roundup - Marfa Lights Viewing
10/19/24	<u>GCAQD1T</u>	Lone Star Roundup
10/19/24	<u>GCAVT03</u>	TXGA RoundUp - Ice Cream Social
10/19/24	<u>GCAVT0X</u>	TXGA Roundup - Cookout/Pot Luck
10/20/24	<u>GCAVT12</u>	TXGA Roundup - CITO

HIGHLIGHTS OUTSIDE OF TEXAS:

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

See page 5 for
CITO ACROSS
TEXAS
events info

See page 7 for
TEXAS 2-STEP
events