



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024

Geocaching News Around Texas

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Lone Star Roundup Scrapbook

Texas Challenge & Block Party

Cacher of the Month

Cache of the Month

Geocaching with myrthman

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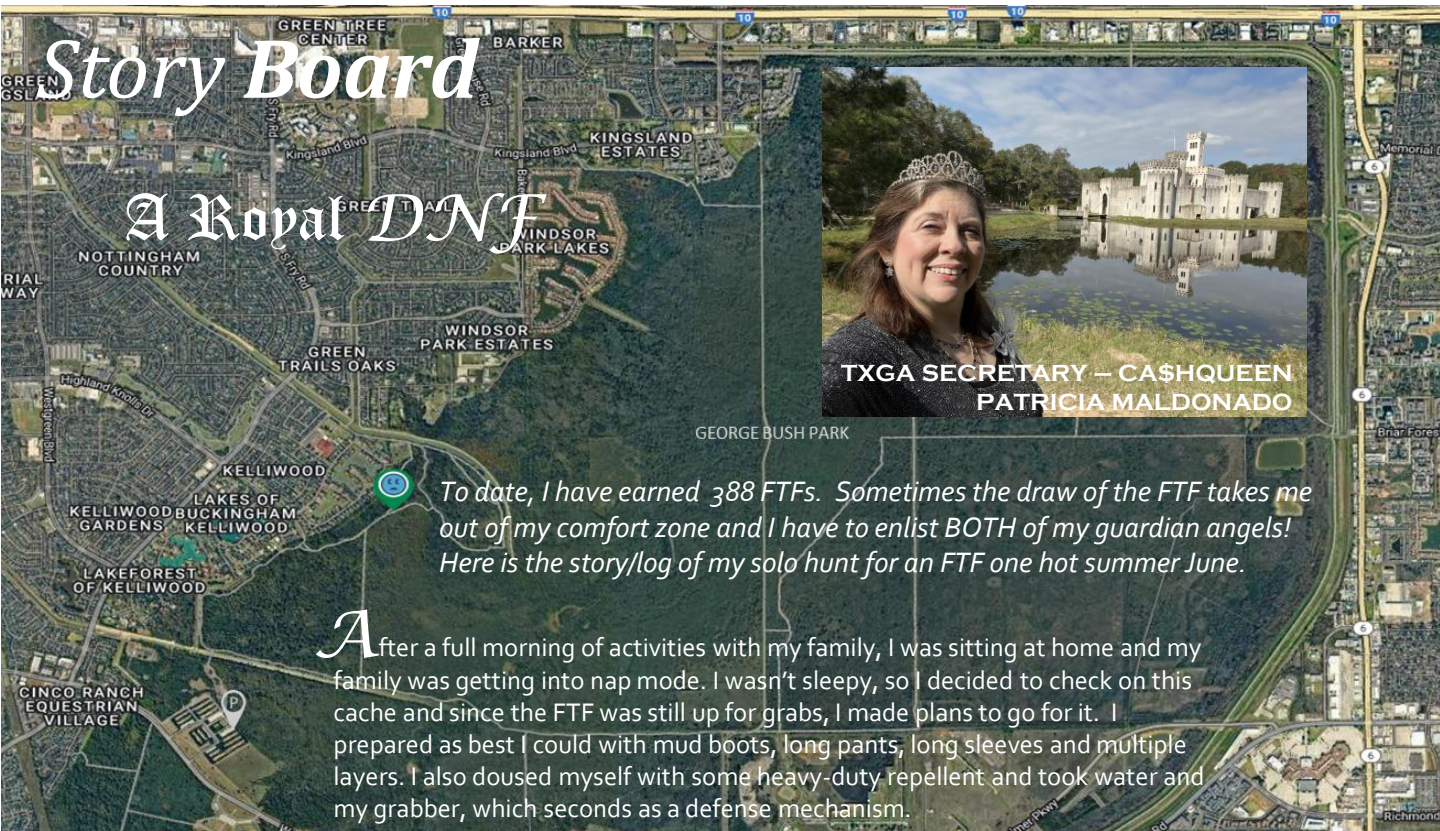


MISSION STATEMENT

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.

JOIN
NOW

[Click here to join](#)



TXGA Board Members

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Michael Cash (mijkie)
- Secretary**
Patricia Maldonado (Ca\$hQueen)
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- Education Director**
Wayne Lind (The Outlaw)
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Marcellus Cadd (atreides)
- East**
Kevin Boatman (K13)
- North**
Michael McKinney (McKsix)
- South**
Cheri Tummelson (CrazyChickC)
- Southeast**
Elisa Reynozo (georeyna)
- West**
Tony Mollhagen (shellbadger)

To date, I have earned 388 FTFs. Sometimes the draw of the FTF takes me out of my comfort zone and I have to enlist BOTH of my guardian angels! Here is the story/log of my solo hunt for an FTF one hot summer June.

After a full morning of activities with my family, I was sitting at home and my family was getting into nap mode. I wasn't sleepy, so I decided to check on this cache and since the FTF was still up for grabs, I made plans to go for it. I prepared as best I could with mud boots, long pants, long sleeves and multiple layers. I also doused myself with some heavy-duty repellent and took water and my grabber, which seconds as a defense mechanism.

I tried to find entry closer to GZ than the obvious parking lot. I even lucked out and made it past the gates of the gated community, but, alas, despite the map showing a connecting trail from the neighborhood, there was none.

So, back to the parking lot and to psyching myself into the ~1.5- mile hike to GZ. It will take me 30 minutes to walk there. It's about 7:15pm and I am estimating sunset will occur at 8:15pm. I'll have just enough time to find it and get back.

I decide to say a Rosary on the way to GZ to help make the time pass faster.

There is a cyclist that rides pass me twice. I start thinking I should have brought my bike for this nice path. I had studied the map and knew the hide was just off the trail. The path was dry and clear. This should be good.

At about .5 mile from GZ the paved trail disappears. Now what? Do I dare? This is what I prepared for. I decided to proceed. The trail was now as wide as a bicycle tire. At about .3 of a mile, I seriously consider turning back, as the bike trail has turned into a tiny brook. I hear noises all around me. Are those cicadas, alligators or frogs? I squeeze my water bottle to make noise to make my presence known. I enlist my guardian angels and forge ahead, through swarms of mosquitoes, rising waters, and slippery mud banks. I use my grabber as a forest saber of sorts, warding off the blasted bloodsuckers. I convince myself that any dangerous creatures would only come out at night. I keep telling myself it's only .2 of a mile, now only .1. My mud boots get me through liquid terrain like a charm.

I read the hint (incorrectly) and set my sights high. The sun has started to set and is blinding me as I hunt. I reposition myself to observe from multiple angles. Nothing. I decide to TACO (text a CO) and recheck the hint and realize my error. I am worried that I will run out of daylight. I expand my radius and come up empty. I don't hear back from the CO in the short time it took me to assess my situation. I regretfully abandon my hunt. I see the CO's reply too late.

As I head back, I see a beast in the distance. Fortunately for me, it's a deer that prances off in the opposite direction.

After that, every little bird chirp and a butterfly that flies by me gives me confidence that I will get out of there fine.

Back through the flooded areas and mud I go, back through the mosquito swarms, finally back to the paved path. I make it back to my car 5 minutes before the sun sets.

I may not have found the cache, but the story was worth the hunt!

I may come back with re-enforcements!

TFTH, Cyberperk!



It is that time of year again!

It is time to nominate candidates to succeed outgoing Board Members.

Board Members serve two-year terms that start at Challenge and end at Challenge two years later. Each year, we hold elections and elect people to fill half of the positions on the Board to help support continuity.

Here is an excerpt from the By-Laws on the process:

Section 3 (a) Term Durations

The President and Vice President terms are two years. They may serve no more than two consecutive full terms, or until they decide to leave the Board, or until they are asked to vacate the position.

Section 4 (a) Election of President, Vice President and Regional Representatives

During odd numbered years, the offices for President and Regional Representatives for North Texas, East Texas and South Texas will be elected. Any voting member may be nominated for President or Vice President. Any voting member living in the region they intend to serve may be nominated for Regional Representative. A nominated person must accept the nomination before being placed on a ballot.

For more information on Board Elections, please consult TXGA's By-Laws, Article III [here](#).

TXGA
NEEDS
YOU TO
NOMINATE!



**TXGA BOARD POSITIONS
UP FOR ELECTION:**

**PRESIDENT
EAST TEXAS REP
NORTH TEXAS REP
SOUTH TEXAS REP
*WEST TEXAS REP**

***1-year term due to resignation**

TXGA's TEXAS 23rd CHALLENGE & 25th BIRTHDAY BLOCK PARTY MARCH 15, 2025

GCAMM1H



Let's get to know Floresville's mural artist!



Claudio Aguillón is originally from San Luis Potosí, México, where he started his art career. At the age of 14, he and his brother convinced their mother to allow them to move to San Antonio to learn English. He started in 8th grade, graduated from Southwest High School, was accepted to Palo Alto College in San Antonio, and graduated in 2000 from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. His artwork paid for much of his schooling.

Aguillón's work can be found all over Texas. He has several works at San Antonio restaurants, including at La Gloria at the Pearl, their location in the San Antonio Airport, and a sister restaurant in Las Vegas. You can also see his work at the Dominion and in La Panadería in Downtown S.A. His work is also part of the Art Collection at UTSA. Additionally, he collaborated to re-envision La Villita at the Riverwalk. Closer to Floresville, look for a beautiful mural complete with Texas Longhorns and bluebonnets in Kennedy, Texas in a local meat market called La Carreta.

Aguillón cites world-renowned Mexican artists Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozco and David Alfaro Siqueiros as his inspiration for their work in large murals. He loves the earth and incorporating natural elements in his work. For outdoor works, such as the Floresville mural, he uses acrylic paint. Local antiques store, Finders Keepers Market, hired Aguillón in 2022 to paint a mural representative of the town and the finished product is perfect! Don't miss an opportunity to visit and get that great selfie!

LONE STAR ROUNDUP

Locks of Love Flashmob



LONE STAR ROUNDUP

Friday Night Meet & Greet



Marfa Lights



After Hours





Ice Cream Social



LONE STAR ROUNDUP

Cookout/Potluck



CITO





Seen While Geocaching

LONE STAR ROUNDUP

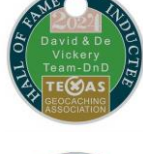




• Beautiful
Landscapes!



LONE STAR ROUNDUP
Davis Mountains State Park



In recognition of the work that various people have done to serve geocaching in Texas, the Texas Geocaching Association continues to seek valued Texas Geocachers for the TXGA Geocaching Hall of Fame (HOF). Selections are based on service to geocaching in Texas.

Each TXGA Member can nominate one geocacher by sending an email with the following information to bevikingtex@gmail.com:

- Nominee Name
- Nominee GeoNick
- Nominator Name
- Nominator GeoNick
- List of the specific accomplishments of the nominee that you want the Board to consider (Why do you believe this person should be included in the TXGA Hall of Fame?)

Nominations start November 1st.

Submissions must be received by December 15th.

Election results will be shared at Challenge.

For more information on the process, click [here](#).

Cachers of the Month

Southeast Texas

TXGA: Tell us a little about yourself.

Nov64: Originally from Lakewood, California. Moved to Texas in December 2005, with my Mom. Met Scott (Pritzen) in March 2006, and we have been together since February 2007. I started Geocaching in April of 2005, so next year will be my 20th anniversary of Geocaching.

Pritzen: I'm just a guy who likes to travel.

TXGA: How did you get started caching?

Nov64: After the death of my father, my mom and I went on a cruise with a friend. When we were in St. Thomas, our friend said he wanted to find this cache that was near the port and asked if I wanted to go. I had heard about Geocaching, so I was curious about it. It was an LPC. After I got home from the cruise, I found a couple of virtuals, and then I bought a GPS.

Pritzen: I found Geocaching in 2000 through the forums of another hobby of mine: WheresGeorge.com. I signed up and bought a GPS and found 4 of the 5 caches that existed at the time within 50 miles of where I lived.

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

Nov64: Climbing Mt. Guadalupe in 2016; Finishing the Texas County Challenge; Finishing the Texas 2-Step Challenge; Caching in every county in 14 other states.

Pritzen: Lately my focus has been on county runs. I have currently found a cache in 45% of the counties in the U.S.



Nov64 and Pritzen



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

Nov 64: I was born in November of 1964, so... Nov64 (Don't do the math! LOL)

Pritzen: I am fortunate enough to have a last name that is fairly unique, so I started using that.

TXGA: What do you most enjoy about geocaching?

Both: There is a long list of things we love about Geocaching, but what we enjoy the most is seeing new places Geocaching takes us to. We've cached in all 50 states (plus D.C.), 1,695 counties, and 22 countries. We also enjoy the friendships we've made along the way.



TXGA: What else would you like to share?

Looking forward to the next adventure!

CACHE OF THE MONTH

WEST TEXAS



The Cache of the Month is in San Angelo, in the eastern part of the massive West Region. It is the work of mommio, who has placed over a thousand caches that have accrued almost 1500 favorite points. Located in a residential neighborhood, Jacki's Toy Box (GC1F8K8) is a huge Premium Member Only cache placed on private property with permission. The container features a mound of stuffed animals and toys and is great example of a means to introduce children to geocaching. At this writing, the cache has received 74 favorite points from 347 visits.

GC Code:	<u>GC1F8K8</u>
Name:	Jacki's Toy Box
Cache Type:	Traditional
Region:	West
County:	Tom Green
Cache Owners:	mommio
Published:	August 15, 2008
Favorite Points:	74



Happy Thanksgiving!

Check out these Thanksgiving-themed Caches in Texas

San Antonio Area

Thanksgiving Fun Facts Series

Here's #2 in the series: [GC9J0F1](#) ?

McKinney

A Golden Thanksgiving [GC8GFXH](#) 

Cypress

Thanksgiving [GCAGQPX](#) 

Fort Worth

#123885 A QCache Thanksgiving -2020: forbidden year [GC92X00](#) 

Austin

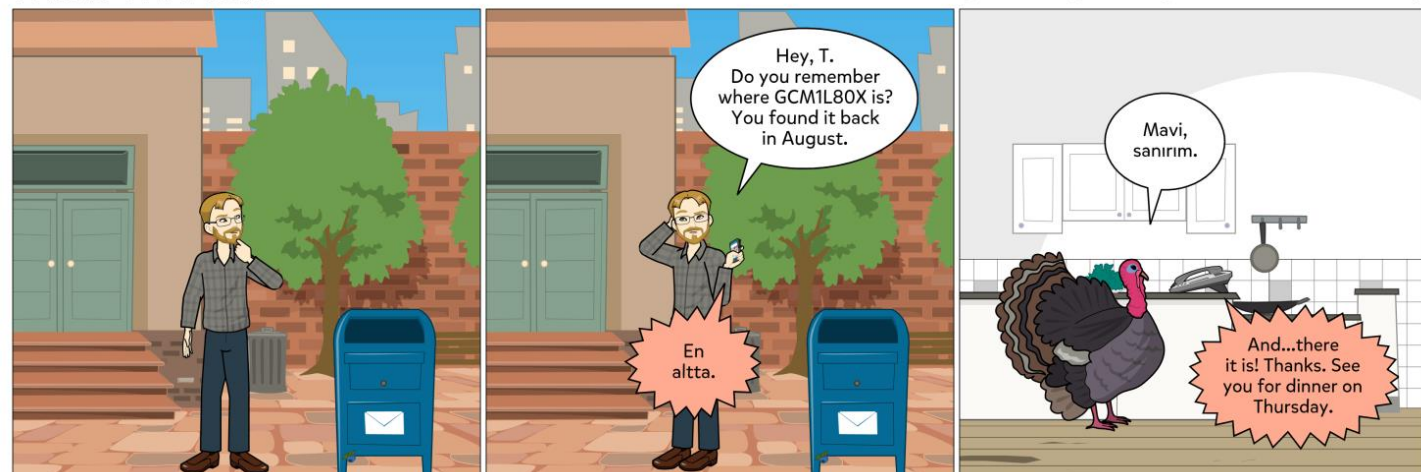
Thanksgiving Feast [GC8NE1Q](#) 

Flower Mound

Thanksgiving Tree Climb [GCAGQPH](#) 

Phone A Friend

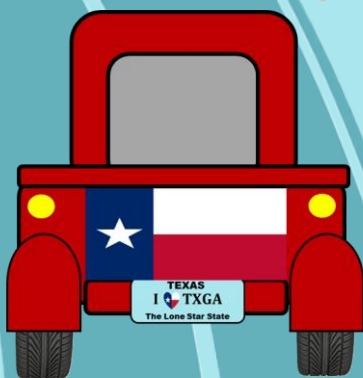
geocaching with myrthman | Sean Rackley



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

TXGA on the Road!

The State Fair of Texas
Texas Parks & Wildlife Pavilion
Sept 28-29



Baytown Nature Center
Oct 12



Upcoming Geo-events by Region*

Mark your
calendar!

SOUTH

11/02/24	<u>GCAIWCD</u>	Geocaching United Bavarians in Texas
11/02/24	<u>GCAIVHH</u>	McAllister Park Cleanup
11/07/24	<u>GCAZBDH</u>	Ubiquitous
11/08/24	<u>GCAZ6D1</u>	Welcome Back 11/08/24 Meet & Greet
11/13/24	<u>GCAZBQ2</u>	Oooooooooooooo! It's a Friday the 13th CITO!
11/14/24	<u>GCAZBEQ</u>	Zippy
11/15/24	<u>GCAZ6DA</u>	First Smiley 11/15/24 Meet & Greet
11/16/24	<u>GCAZB9E</u>	NoDNF November
11/21/24	<u>GCAZ6X7</u>	Respect Connect Protect
11/22/24	<u>GCAZ5ND</u>	Texas Winter Games Launch Event
11/24/24	<u>GCAXT2F</u>	Hey Buddy - How About a Treat - IX
11/24/24	<u>GCAXT23</u>	Hey Buddy - Let's Clean Up the Beach - X
11/26/24	<u>GCAXT2T</u>	Park & Gab: Pizza - VIII
11/28/24	<u>GCAZBKY</u>	Pumpkin or Pecan
12/05/24	<u>GCAZBMH</u>	Xanadu
12/19/24	<u>GCAZBMY</u>	Voracious Reader
12/21/24	<u>GCAZ9Z5</u>	11th or 12th Season in Texas-AKA Winter Solstice
12/25/24	<u>GCAZBQJ</u>	Happy Christmas
12/26/24	<u>GCAZBPR</u>	A Very Happy Birthday to Me
12/31/24	<u>GCAZ5G2</u>	Goodbye 2024
01/01/25	<u>GCAIWGH</u>	Say Hello to 2025
03/15/25	<u>GCAIM1H</u>	23 RD Texas Challenge & 25 th B-day Block Party*

NORTH

11/01/24	<u>GCAZ6AN</u>	Welcome Back 11/01/24 Meet & Greet
11/02/24	<u>GCAZAHG</u>	Finish up where Tri City left off
11/04/24	<u>GCAWH8Q</u>	D.A.W.G.S. Chillin'
11/05/24	<u>GCAIWQ7</u>	Plano Parks and Trails Tour 029
11/05/24	<u>GCAZFMN</u>	Election Night's a Drag!
11/07/24	<u>GCAIWQA</u>	Plano Parks and Trails Tour 030
11/07/24	<u>GCAZ5BX</u>	PAG visits Edmond's Burgers
11/10/24	<u>GCAIWRO</u>	Plano Parks and Trails Tour 031
11/10/24	<u>GCAIYTB</u>	True or False Idol
11/10/24	<u>GCAZ2X4</u>	Birthday & Bocce Party
11/12/24	<u>GCAZGF0</u>	Truck Yard
11/14/24	<u>GCAZ5C8</u>	Wayback when PAG peeps ate burgers ...
11/21/24	<u>GCAZ5CG</u>	PAG does Burgers, 82 times.
12/02/24	<u>GCAIKPQ</u>	D.A.W.G.S. December Meet
12/05/24	<u>GCAZ5CQ</u>	PAGS eats burgers. The Sky is the limit!
12/08/24	<u>GCAZ6QA</u>	Turn! Turn! Turn!
01/06/24	<u>GCAIKPM</u>	D.A.W.G.S. Ring in the New Year

Upcoming Geo-events by Region*

Mark your
calendar!

SOUTHEAST

11/04/24	<u>GCAZANG</u>	WCFF #167 - Honor Your Loved Ones
11/04/24	<u>GCAZ1ZI</u>	FIRST MONDAY IN MID COUNTY NOVEMBER 2024
11/05/24	<u>GCAYBWQ</u>	ABC: Lunchtime Event - Mexican
11/06/24	<u>GCAXZ2G</u>	Club UFO - Two Trips 'Round the Sun
11/08/24	<u>GCAYCK7</u>	This Event Will Hit The Spot
11/08/24	<u>GCAZHH0</u>	The Unmentionably-Named Pizza Event (IX)
11/09/24	<u>GCATMZJ</u>	Texas Geocampers at Lake Somerville
11/12/24	<u>GCAZHW1</u>	SE GeoFriends FTF 27
11/12/24	<u>GCAZ00F</u>	W.A.L.K. #41 - What? No Anchovies?
11/16/24	<u>GCAZ462</u>	mmmmm donuts - CI
11/16/24	<u>GCAZ45V</u>	Hey, Buddy, Let's Clean Up Another Park – CI
11/17/24	<u>GCAZ467</u>	Sweet Thing has a Sweet Tooth – XCIII
11/19/24	<u>GCAYPT0</u>	Park & Gab - 199th Edition

CENTRAL

11/02/24	<u>GCAYY4V</u>	GeoTx Geocachers Breakfast November 2024
11/14/24	<u>GCAYVRW</u>	Sweet Treats XVII
12/21/24	<u>GCAYB3V</u>	Winter Solstice 2024

EAST

11/30/24	<u>GCAYKPP</u>	20th Annual Down Home Gathering
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HIGHLIGHTS OUTSIDE OF TEXAS:

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
07/12/25	<u>GCAVHMK</u>	CacheFest Hawaii
08/16/25	<u>GCAPFHC</u>	2 nd Annual Rocky Mountain Geo-Rendezvous

