



Georgia Geocachers Newsletter

April, 2009

The Georgia Geocachers Association (GGA) publishes this newsletter once a month as a way to keep the membership informed of the events taking place each month. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, reply to this message with "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject line. Send comments, complaints, suggestions, and articles to Professor Shorthair through my Geocaching.com profile page or to gganews<at>bellsouth.net.

In This Issue:

- Caching Basics: More About Logs
- The 10 Worst Caches in Georgia (Humor)
- Technical Tidbit
- GGA CafePress Store
- April GGA Meeting
- April Event Roundup

+++++

Caching Basics: More About Logs by DragonFlyDreams

Teenie and tiny; stuffed and packed; large and roomy. One would think I'd be describing what the inside of cache containers were like. That's very true, but this time I'm talking about the MUST SIGN log.

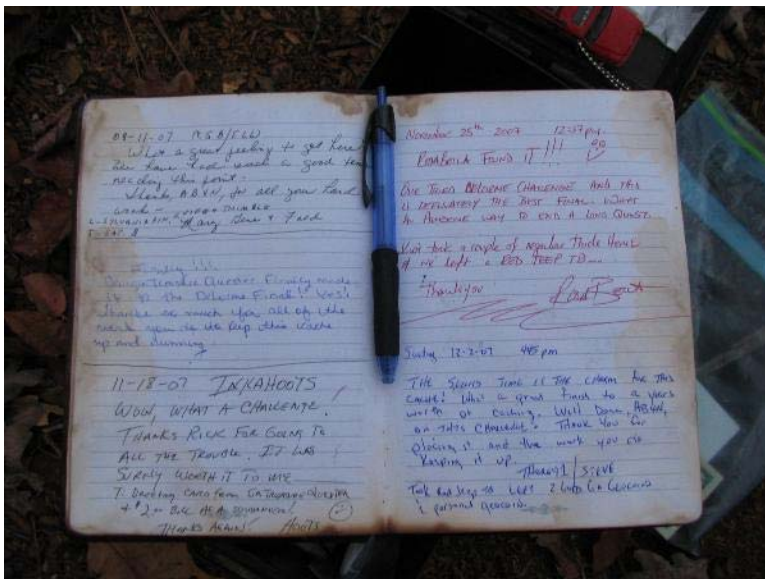
How many times have you gotten into the cache container only to find the log "stuffed" into a baggie or shoved so tightly into a nano that it takes the patience of a saint to get it out?? How many times have you gone to sign the log only to find no room or it's too wet to sign? I believe we have all experienced one, if not several, of these scenarios. I'd like to offer some constructive ideas on how to improve what we find and leave behind:

Mrs. blksmith signing the log of the Georgia DeLorme Challenge.

1. Nano logs are a pain. A pain to roll back up. Sometimes a pain to find a spot to sign. And just a plain pain to find!! Don't we love 'em??? Nanos and even some micro logs are truly NOT suitable for the 'signature' stamps/stickers some of us have come to use. Yup, they sure look pretty in a FULL SIZED log book, but can be a bugger for future cachers to find a spot to log their find.



- a. Consider the size of the log; think of future cachers and leave them a spot to also record their find. If need be, use Geonick initials – I know I must with a Nick of D R A G O N F L Y D R E A M S!!! DFD works just fine and leaves others a spot for theirs. Even the smallest of signature stickers are not appropriate for these types of logs.
 - b. Take the time to properly roll the logs; placing them in the cap FIRST lets them fit right back into them tiny containers just perfectly. I know sometimes we are in a hurry to get to the next find, but the few extra seconds (or possibly MINUTES when it comes to them dang nano rolls....) makes it so much easier for the next finder to get the log out COMPLETELY instead of in pieces which makes it pretty much useless for future finders.
 - c. Micros are similar. Consider NOT using a signature sticker here either because of the lack of space for future loggers. Yup, they may fit across the log just fine, but it also takes up two or sometimes three lines that future finders could fill. Rolling the log up tight and not just stuffing it back in the container also makes it easier for the next cachher to extract it all in one piece. Rolling a log tight enough to fit in the cap of the pill type/bison tube also works the best.
2. When it comes to our traditional containers, it seems just about anything goes for a logbook – from small spiral bound notebooks to pieces of stapled paper to expensive write-in-the-rain logs and everything in-between. It's the "in-between" where we need to be courteous and remember those that will come behind us.
- a. Here is where the TLCC (Tender Loving Cache Care) kits come in handy. Many times we have come upon containers without any sort of baggie to protect the log or find baggies that have seen much better days. Having even just simple sandwich bags (or snack bags for the smaller containers) would keep the log dry and usable for the next cachher. Baggies are flat and small and can be stuffed into your fanny pack or pockets without excess weight, but they sure come in handy.
 - b. Here the signature stickers and log stamps tend to be usable with no space restrictions. I enjoy going thru the logs to see if Smiling in Acworth has been there and see their smiling faces! BUT if the log is getting close to being FULL, consider just a signature with a note to the owner or in your on-line log about the FULL LOG.
 - c. Joebids and I have also found that having the log in a baggie is a great place to put geocoins or pathtags. If you're caching with kids they just want the treasure trove to find a special memento, handing the log over to the parents without a second thought. Hence having a good, in one piece-no holes baggie gets the REAL goodies to the parents.



The log is an indispensable part of caching. Signing it proves "I FOUND IT"; "I WAS HERE". It is a 'must' that tracks the visitors to each cache. We need to take the time to preserve these vital items in each container so that future cachers can also say: "I FOUND IT"; "I WAS HERE". Take the time – it really doesn't take that long – and put the log back in good shape. We 'Future Finders' would sure appreciate the courtesy!!

The charred logbook of the Georgia Delorme Challenge final – photo by Thorny1.

+++++

The 10 Worst Caches In Georgia

Every year the GGA votes on Georgia's Outstanding Caches. But as a public service, we have decided to make a list of the worst caches in Georgia. All of these were just bad ideas, or they would be if they actually existed, which they don't. Here are the 10 worst (nonexistent) caches in Georgia, along with their hints:

10. Blood Everywhere (hint: The title says it all!)
9. Turner Field Men's Room Cache (hint: You're gonna get wet!)
8. Okefenokee Gator Nest Cache (hint: Hope you can sign the log with only one arm.)
7. Savannah River Nuclear Plant Cooling Tower Cache (hint: This might be the last cache you'll ever do.)
6. I-16 Roadkill Cache (hint: Look in the dead pig.)
5. Atlanta Dodge Cars (hint: Median wall of the I-85/I-75 downtown connector. Be sure to cross all seven lanes.)
4. Reidsville Prison Gate Nano (hint: Keep looking! Those are only warning shots.)
3. Publix Enemy #17,629: Dumpster Fun (hint: Keep digging.)
2. Bottom of the Crisco Bucket (hint: Eat your way to caching fun!)
1. Georgia Lamppost Challenge (hint: You must first find all 42,170 skirt-lifter micro caches in the state.)

Thanks to Team Pez for permission to "create" a parody cache in their great Publix Enemy series.

+++++

To create one, go to 'My Profile' and then 'Manage Bookmarks'. Give your bookmark a name and click the 'Create Bookmark List' button.

Of course, there are numerous ways to add caches to your bookmark list. One way is to select the 'bookmark listing' text link on the actual cache page. One way to add a number of caches quickly to a bookmark list is to view a area of caches using the '[Geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com) Google Map'. This will show the caches on a Google map of a given area. From there you can click on a cache icon and a pop up tag will be displayed where you can select the 'Bookmark It' link. From there you'll select the Bookmark you want to add it to.

Technical Tidbit by Joebids

Did you know...

Once you're finished adding caches, you can access your bookmark list, where you can: Edit, View, Create Pocket Query or Download Google Earth KML.

...that Bookmarks are your friends?

Maybe you'll create a Bookmark to identify your favorite caches to find, puzzle caches you're working on, or caches you would like to find while vacationing somewhere. Whatever the reason, Bookmark lists can help you organize and manage a group of caches with the ease of creating pocket queries for your GPS receiver.

Don't forget to visit some of the shared 'Bookmark lists' in the GGA Online Forums under 'Geocaching in Georgia' at: <http://ggaonline.org/eve/forums/a/tpc/f/9426060551/m/9491018031>

+++++

GGA Store at CafePress

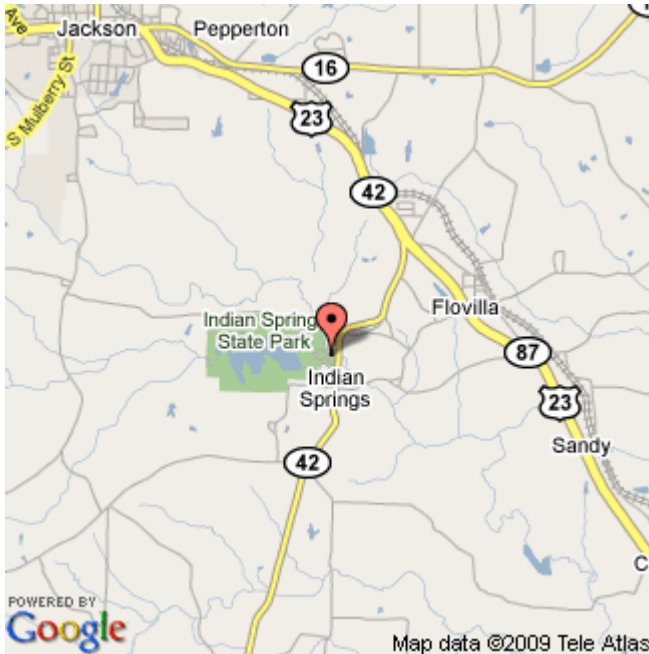
Spring is here – prime time for geocaching. Time to check out the merchandise at the CafePress GGA Store! You'll find shirts, hats, mugs, tote bags, shirts for your geo-dog, and more. Visit the store at <http://www.cafepress.com/gga> and http://www.cafepress.com/_gga.



+++++

April GGA Meeting

<http://coord.info/GC1NTFR>



Join us for the April GGA Meeting at Indian Springs State Park on Saturday, April 11 at 2:00. Indian Springs State Park is near Jackson. A park entrance fee of \$3.00 is charged if you do not have an annual GA State Parks pass. We hope you will come out and join us for the April meeting!

In addition, the Georgia Geocachers Association is hosting a Geocaching information booth at the 9th annual Bluebirds & Bluegrass Festival at the nearby Dauset Trails Nature Center. Come join us before the meeting to talk to people about that thing you love - Geocaching! Free parking, Free admission. Bring your whole family but please leave your pets at home. The festival runs from 10:00 AM until 5:00PM. The location is N 33° 14.157 W 083° 56.535.

+++++

Other April Geocaching Events

[B.Y.O.B.C.F.](#) by CSRA Geocachers and CSRA Cruisers (GC1P7TC) – April 11

[FDR State Park Campfire Social Event](#) by RangerSam_FDR (GC1P5QH) – April 18

[FDR State Park: CITO event](#) by RangerSam_FDR (GC1P5QW) – April 19

[TAG Meet & Geek](#) by Tallahassee Area Geocachers (GC1P64W) – April 25

+++++

March GGA Meeting Notes

The March meeting was at the beautiful Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center on a quite dreary day. The subject were technology use with geocaching. There were presentations about paperless caching and geo-software. In attendance were 16 new members under 16 geonicks; 43 old members under 37 geonicks for a total of 59 members signed in under 53 geonicks. Thanks to everyone who came out, we look forward to seeing you in April at Indian Springs.