

Minutes of WSGA Board Meeting

15 March 2017

Princess Trouble called WSGA's 15 March 2017 Business Meeting order at 6:30 pm.

Board Members in attendance: Broncos Fan 4 Life (Chandra Day), FenchurchE (Fen Eatough), Geek&Gopher (Ray/Brenda Harrison), Ham_sters (Crystal Stidham), Martin5 (Jerry Martin), Mr. Gadget #2 (Gene Reed), Mizdirection (Toni Westgarth), Princess Trouble (Jacquie Vaughn), Rambudo (Russell Brendel), SirKarp (Rob Norenberg), Sproutter (Seth Dedmon), Tumbleweed Pirates (Mike Lowery)

Also in Attendance: AndrewRJ (Andrew Johnson), Avroair (Mark Clemens), jtcoffee (Jessie Maxwell), Lizzy (Lisa Wasser), Mc3cats (Chris Brue), Mr Boo, Moun10Bike (Jon Stanley), NepoKama (Mitch Eatough), NWStinkerbella, Panitaliemom, PeachandPete (Annette Bailes), Winos_Seattle (Antoine Pin)

Princess Trouble welcomed the board members, appointees and visitors in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes from 18 January 2016 were approved unanimously

Comments: None

Financial Report

Report by Broncos Fan 4 Life

January 1, 2017 starting balance: \$10,161.24

Income:

- Sales: \$163.70
- Membership: \$1,088.00
- **Total: \$1,251.70**

Expenses:

- PayPal Fees: \$32.21
- USPS: \$430.41
- Supplies: \$148.16
- Dues/Licenses: \$32.66 (Groundspeak Renewal)

• **Total (\$643.44)**

January 31, 2017 ending balance: \$10,769.50 (\$608.26 increase)

February 1, 2017 starting balance: \$10,769.50

Income:

- Membership: \$493.00

• **Total: \$493.00**

Expenses:

- PayPal Fees: \$25.54
- USPS: \$227.15
- Internet: \$479.40 (Go Daddy.com fees)

• **Total (\$732.09)**

February 28, 2017 ending balance: \$10,530.41 (\$239.09 decrease)

March 1, 2017 starting balance: \$10,530.41

Income: (as of 3/2/17)

• **Total: \$0.00**

Expenses:

- WA State Annual Filing Fee: \$10.00
- Helfrich Insurance Association: \$458.40 (APE Insurance Premium)
- Chapter Allocation: \$33.37

• **Total (\$501.77)**

March 2, 2017 ending balance: \$10,028.64 (\$501.77 decrease)

Comments: None

Membership Report

Report by Avroair

310 members, down 70 from this time last year, with 12 pending.

Comments: Geek&Gopher asked about a breakdown by chapter, which Princess Trouble provided:

Puget Sound – 161
48 North – 37
Inland Empire – 43
South Central – 19
Olympic Peninsula – 12
South West – 13
CacheCadia – 14
Unaffiliated – 1
Pending – 12

Election Results

The results of the elections were as follows

President: Jacquie Vaughn (Princess Trouble)
Vice President: Seth Dedmon (sproutter)
Secretary: Fen Eatough (FenchurchE)
Treasurer: Chandra Day (Broncos Fan 4 Life)
Puget Sound Chapter Rep: Rob Norenberg (SirKarp)
48 North Chapter Rep: Russell Brendel (rambudo)
Cache-cadia Chapter Rep: Gene Reed (Mr. Gadget #2)
South Central Chapter Rep: Mike Lowery (tumbleweedpirates)
Inland Empire Chapter Rep: Jerry Martin (Martin 5)
Southwest Chapter Rep: Ray Harrison (Geek&Gopher)
Olympic Peninsula Chapter Rep: Jeff Caulfield (gearguru)

Princess Trouble thanked the departing board members and welcomed the newly elected members to the board.

Comments: None

Ape Mega-Event

Report by AndrewRJ

The [2017 Ape mega-event](#) is Saturday, Aug. 19, at Hyak in Iron Horse State Park. The event page is up, and we have signed the Mega Event agreement with Geocaching HQ. We have obtained our insurance binder, and I have applied for the park permit.

As you are all aware the original Ape Cache was located by a team of cachers and Geocaching HQ has put out a survey to determine what to do with it. Two of the options will directly impact the event (return and unarchive) and one specifically directly impacts the WSGA (active during the week of the Ape Event). It is my belief that one of these two options will be chosen as they are the two options that allow for getting the Ape Icon. Based on what I have been told, it seems likely that we will know by the end of the month the results of the vote. If either of these come to pass we will need to ensure that the Ape cache will be in place and available this year before advertising that fact on the cache listing and to our social outlets.

If this does happen by the event this year we will most definitely have a spike in attendance as many cachers have been unable to travel to Brazil to find the last remaining Ape Cache. Luckily, we have had large numbers before and know how to adjust for them.

I have been informed that Mitch (Nepokama) is a bit swamped this year and Mark (Avroair) has contacted Chris Mackey about designing the coin for the event. I have not heard anything additional about this at this time.

I have received several offers of help at the event and have begun developing a list of offers. All of the crew chiefs have agreed to come back so we are already doing well. However, my primary assistant (effectively the co-director) has gone silent and I have not heard from her in some time. While this event is well established and we have a plethora of return volunteers who know what to do, this is likely to be my last year as the director of the event and I would like to insure that any transition is as smooth as can be.

Costs to date remain identical to last year and we are ahead of schedule when compared to this time last year.

Comments: AndrewRJ added: "We are ahead of schedule and on budget. We have the insurance, the mega agreement and the venue likely has the final check so that should be locked down as well. The coin design is finished and we have received quotes. The coin cost will be significantly lower than last year. As you all have heard the Ape cache will be reestablished for the event so the number of attendees will go up significantly. We will have to adjust some of our plans. I have received several suggestions that will be logistically very difficult and the team will have to do some thinking about how we may get them to work and the costs associated with that."

AndrewRJ also asked whether the board has advanced the possibility of 501c3 status further. Broncos Fan 4 Life reported that it would not be done prior to the APE event this year.

Outreach

Report by Mc3cats

HippyChick1620 has recently requested use of the club's GPS units for a "Day of Science Event" at Machias Elementary on 4/27/17, I will be handing over the GPS units for use at this event. She is also looking for volunteers to help at the event.

Comments: None

Website Committee

Report by NepoKama

Member accounts have been imported to the new site, I'm verifying settings against the current membership list. Now that we're past that major hurdle we're working on finalizing the layout and content. We should have it ready for launch by May. The site is available at <https://wp.wsgaonline.org> if anyone wants to look at the work in progress.

Comments: Princess Trouble thanked all the members of the website committee for their work.

Spot the Ape

It was proposed that we continue with Spot the Ape leading up to the APE event this year, with an eye toward running it annually. Vote was called and approved unanimously.

Funds Request

HippyChick1620 has requested funds to pay for a CPA to work on the IRS issue from her term as Treasurer. At this time, we are still awaiting documentation from the IRS and PayPal.

CITO Events

Princess Trouble proposed having every chapter sponsor some sort of CITO event during the upcoming CITO weekends and asked if anyone needed any assistance in making that happen. Martin5 reports that IE has scheduled their event for 4/29.

Membership Level Revision

Avroair proposed a \$25 Premium Membership that would include a Geocoin and a passport to a statewide game, while Basic Membership would be \$15 with no coin or game. Martin5 proposed replacing the Family Membership with an option to purchase extra club nametags. Princess Trouble suggested having one person and two person memberships with the option of

buying extra tags. Avroair then suggested a Family Basic Membership at \$20 and Premium at \$50.

Avroair reported that membership cards cost \$5.27 to process and additional ones cost \$4.09.

The cost of the proposed new membership levels was discussed with nearly everyone in agreement that the proposed Premium Family Membership was too high. Discussion moved to ideas on how to bring down the cost of nametags. It was proposed that further discussions on the matter take place in email to be reported on later.

WSGA GeoArt

The caches in the WSGA GeoArt in Lake Washington are owned by individuals and are beginning to be archived. Princess Trouble asked if we should consider finding someone to manage the GeoArt and potentially find cachers to place new caches to fill in the ones that are missing in the art. It was also proposed that we set a date to archive them and close down the GeoArt in favor of something new.

Mc3cats mentioned that the Lake Washington GeoArt was originally placed in honor of the WSGA's 10th Anniversary and to document some of the history behind the club. PeachandPete suggested that we come up with something new to honor a new upcoming anniversary. Rambudo suggested finding someplace on the Eastern side of the state for the new GeoArt. NepoKama and Mc3cats volunteered to work on an idea for the new art.

Tri-Cities Mega

It was proposed that the club donate some WSGA swag to be used as prizes at the upcoming Tri-Cities Mega event. A vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Summer Campout and Annual General Meeting

It was proposed that we cancel plans for a Summer Campout this year as we do not currently have anyone organizing the event, which leaves us without a venue for the club's annual General Meeting. SirKarp volunteered to look into a private campground near Monroe to possibly organize a campout for the club. Discussion was tabled until then.

Cache of the Month

Broncos Fan 4 Life proposed retiring the Cache of the Month, since Favorite Points can be used to find popular caches, or possibly having it fall to each chapter to choose a CotM in their own areas. Rambudo mentioned that the new website does not currently have anything set up to do a Cache of the Month, but that it has been planned to have featured caches through social media. Martin5 liked the idea of each chapter having its own CotM if there could be a way to feature them on the website. NepoKama said the committee will look into getting it in place for the new site.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Cache-Cadia Chapter Report by Mr. Gadget #2

I have nothing to report for this meeting. There have not been any events planned or held since our Christmas party in early December 2016.

Checking with some of our local geocachers some have not been out since fall. Some have been active in other warmer states.

This has been a long cold almost brutal winter over here this year. We have not had a winter like this long before the conception of Groundspeak and WSGA.

Needless to say we are ready for Spring and Summer to get here.

I will be putting together our annual CiTO event for the later part of April.

On a sad note many have already heard the passing of one of our dear friends DeWayne Lann. He and his wife Sue made up the geocaching team of LanSearch They really enjoyed doing Power Trail caches mainly being limited to some physical activities. DeWayne was the driver for his wife and her caching partner WillDolt.

His services will be held on March 10, 2017 with Military honors by the USAF at 11:00 , at the Wenatchee Cemetery followed by the memorial service at 12:00 an King Orchard Church of Christ in Wenatchee.

I will miss his friendly greeting and firm hand shake, along with that smile. Going to miss giving him bad time about his favorite college LSU.

Inland Empire Chapter Report by Martin 5

During our 11th Annual Winter Party event our local board officers were announced.

For the current year they are:

President: Tim Turner (Blue Meanie)

Vice President: Steve Heid (Mr & Mrs Parts)

Treasurer: JD Parkman (KidVegas19)

Secretary: Mandy Smith (WrongWayMommy)

Quartermaster: Lisa Breitenfeldt (Lookout Lisa)

Social Media Manager: Deven Smith (D'Dawg)

Webmaster: Derek Fisher (CacheDFish)

Historian: Maggie Fisher (Shrimala)

The Social Media Manager position was added this year and will allow us to catch up with times as to ways to communicate with our local geocaching community. D'Dawg has already created an IE Chapter Instagram Account and Twitter Account.

Twitter: https://twitter.com/wsga_ie

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/wsga_ie/

Lookout Lisa and KidVegas19 helped to promote the WSGA and IE Chapter recently at the Spokane Great Outdoors & Bike Expo in Spokane. Our WSGA banner brought a lot of interest, especially as the other WSGA (Washington State Golf Association) also had a booth at the event. Lisa was contacted by someone from the Idaho Trails Association who asked if we would be interested in partnering with them doing trail maintenance. As a result of my talking with the ITA about this idea we now have an April 1st CITO scheduled to join them at the English Point Trail System in Hayden, Idaho. Most local geocachers are familiar with English Point due to the large number of caches present there. There is even a Moun10Bike Christmas Cache final in them there woods!

Cache Advance and Lookout Lisa are looking into creating a 2017 GeoTour in our area. No specific information on a theme has been released as it is still in the early planning stages and may not be as large as the previous two geo-tours. If anyone has any suggestions or would like to help with it, please contact Lookout Lisa directly.

I noted over the weekend in an email to Princess Trouble and avroair, that if there is still a vacancy for someone to run the WSGA Cache of the Month program, I am interested in taking that on to help ensure the program continues.

Finally, this is an unprecedented year for the IE Chapter in that there is a contested race between CacheDFish and myself for the position of Chapter Representative for the upcoming year (April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018). I hope to continue serving in this capacity; however, at the time of this report the polls are still open and the ballots have not yet been counted. With any luck, this will not be my final chapter report!

Southwest Chapter Report by Geek&Gopher

New Business:

Ray is continuing to work on the Website Committee.

What about making the elections coincide with the memberships? Right now, memberships go from Jan 1 thru Dec 31. The elections as they are now go from Apr 1 thru Mar 31. Just a thought.

Past Chapter Events:

12/3/16 – Vancouver, WA

Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Christmas is coming! (GC6VFAP)
Hosted by Bearsandme & WSGA SW Chapter
Round Table Pizza
5016 NE Thurston Way
Vancouver, WA
12PM - 2PM
50 logged attended including family members
Upcoming Chapter Events

2/18/17 – Longview, WA (Cancelled as only one person signed up for it)
2017 Academy Awards Meet & Greet (GC6ZB6D)
Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter
Sizzler
936 Ocean Beach Hwy
Longview, WA
11:00AM - 12:00PM

4/22/17 – Vancouver, WA
2017 Lake Vancouver CITO (GC6ZB76)
Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter
Vancouver Lake Regional Park
6801 NW Lower River Rd
Vancouver, WA 98660
10AM – 12PM

5/6/17 – Vancouver, WA
Maintenance Madness 2017 – Kickoff Event (GC6ZPFE)
Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter
LeRoy Haagen Memorial Community Park
13198 NE 9th St
Vancouver, WA
9:00AM – 10:30AM

Upcoming Area Events:

5/6/17 – Portland, OR
Maintenance Madness 2017 – Wrap Up Celebration (GC70ZG6)
Hosted by GEOregon
Jimmy John's
12154 N Pavilion Ave
Portland, OR
4:00PM – 6:00PM

June 24, 2017
Tri-Cities 2017 Geocoin Challenge (GC6MGZP)
Sacajawea State Park
2503 Sacajawea Park Rd

Pasco, WA
8:00AM – 8:00PM

Puget Sound Chapter Report by SirKarp

Events Held:

On January 21st we held the P/S chapter holiday party GC6QC0T. It was year two at the Maple Valley Community Club. The theme was game night and we played a fun trivia game where attendees teamed up with other attendees to answer questions. The winners received a certificate and a prize. As is tradition we had a potluck dinner, holding a WSGA members drawing and an early bird drawing and the annual gift exchange. We also managed to put together 50 small lunch boxes, each with a flashlight, tweezers, log book, pen and small DNA tube with log, most of which was donated to the chapter. These were raffled off to WSGA members as a thank you for supporting the club and coming out to chapter events.

On February 12th we held Vampy Valentines afternoon tea event, at the Cold Creek Park picnic shelter. We supplied the hot tea, water and cookies, attendees were asked to bring something to share. We had 19 posted will attends and I think that for an outdoor meet & greet event in the winter time that we had a pretty good turn out. We held a WSGA members drawing as well as a general raffle.

Up and Coming Events:

The 2017 It's almost Summer Picnic will be held on Saturday June 3rd 2017, at Point Defiance Park in Tacoma, at the Fort Nisqually Picnic shelter. The event should be published on geocaching.com soon.

Meeting was adjourned by Princess Trouble at 8:27 pm.