

Minutes of WSGA Board Meeting

16 November 2016

Princess Trouble called WSGA's 16 November 2016 Business Meeting order at 6:30pm.

Board Members in attendance: Avroair (Mark Clemens), BroncosFan4Life (Chandra Day), FenchurchE (Fen Eatough), GeekandGopher (Ray/Brenda Harrison), Ham_sters (Crystal Stidham), Martin5 (Jerry Martin), Mr. Gadget #2 (Gene Reed), Mizdirection (Toni Westgarth), Princess Trouble (Jacquie Vaughn), SirKarp (Rob Norenberg)

Also in Attendance: AndrewRJ (Andrew Johnson), Mc3cats (Chris Brue), NepoKama (Mitch Eatough), jtcoffee, Peach and Pete (Annette Bailes), Rambudo (Russell Brendel), Terrible Ts (Jim Tollefson), Winos_Seattle (Antoine Pin)

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

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes from 21 September 2016 were approved unanimously

Comments: None

Financial Report

Report by BroncoseFan4Life

September 1, 2016 Starting balance: \$7,836.94

Income:

- Misc sales: \$6,564.82
- Total: \$6,564.82

Expenses:

- PayPal Fees: \$2.76
- USPS: \$2.60
- Chapter allocation: \$850.00

• Internet: \$17.39

• Total (\$872.75)

September 30,2016 ending balance: \$13,529.01 (\$5,692.07 increase)

October 1, 2016 Starting balance: \$13,529.01

Income:

• Membership: \$36.00

• Misc Sales: \$36.75

• Total: \$72.75

Expenses:

• PayPal Fees: \$3.90

• USPS: \$12.83

• Chapter allocation: \$517.13

• APE Event: \$243.60

• Total (\$777.46)

October 31,2016 ending balance: \$12,824.30 (\$704.71 decrease)

Remaining Chapter Allocations:

Chapter allocation reimbursements must be submitted for by 12/20/16. Please submit a receipt copy with Event GC and where the reimbursement should be mailed to by 12/20/16. Please submit a receipt copy with Event GC and where the reimbursement should be mailed to by either A.) email to dayo@centurytel.net or B.) USPS mail to WSGA Treasurer, PO Box 2252, Issaquah, WA 98027.

	Puget Sound	48 North	Olympic Peninsula	Cache-Cadia	Inland Empire	Southwest	South Central
3/16/16 Start Total	\$1,025.00	\$503.50	\$269.50	\$226.00	\$441.00	\$249.00	\$300.50
9/1/16 Additional Funds	\$186.50	\$44.00	\$35.00	\$18.00	\$61.00	\$9.00	\$50.50
Used	\$1,000.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.65	\$256.54	\$75.60
Remaining Funds	\$211.50	\$247.50	\$304.50	\$244.00	\$451.35	\$1.46	\$275.40

Comments: None

Membership Report

Report by Avroair

12 new members. 3 renewals.

Comments: None

Ape Mega-Event

Report by AndrewRJ

The 2017 Ape mega-event is Saturday, Aug. 19, at Hyak in Iron Horse State Park. Planning for the 2017 Ape mega-event is underway. AndrewRJ has been asked and has agreed to return as the Going Ape Event Director.

The Washington State Parks Special Use Permit has been submitted earlier this week and we are currently working on publishing the Event listing and submitting the Mega Event agreement with Groundspeak.

The event page should be up by the end of the month. I will be submitting the Mega-event agreement shortly.

Following the New Year we will obtain our insurance binder. I will begin working with Mitch and the board to develop new ideas for the Ape Coin.

The current event format is working well, so we won't be making big changes from the attendee's point of view.

At this time we are all aware that the original Ape Cache Container has been found and determinations as to the final dispensation of the cache are being considered. Congrats to those who finally went looking and found it!

I feel that this will increase attendance to some degree no matter what, as the publicity will keep the event on Cacher's minds. If the container and icon are restored all bets are off so the sooner we get a decision from Geocaching.com the better.

Comments: Congratulations to the team who found the original APE cache!

Park Liaison

Report by Peach&Pete

There are no Park Liaison issues at this time, which is a good thing. Please let me know if you hear of a Parks issue that I need to be aware of.

I (along with Pete) attended the King County Parks Volunteer Awards Dinner with WSGA President Jacquie Vaughn and David. WSGA was once again recognized for our annual work with them at Cougar Mountain. Slide display showed several pictures of our group on its April

2016 work project. Jacquie and I took the opportunity to brainstorm a bit about how we can better use some of the Parks Liaisons and other WSGA personnel to facilitate the betterment and growth of WSGA as a whole, not just related to Parks.

As the Auburn Parks Liaison, I worked as Project Manager for the 2nd Annual Auburn Geocaching Adventure, held October 15, 2016 as a kick-off. A terrible weather front which moved through (although it was not as severe as originally predicted) greatly hindered the attendance on day of event, but many did attend and enjoyed the weather as it cleared during the day. Many coins are still available, and geocachers continue to find the caches, so we should be distributing coins for a long time. We encourage cachers to come check out our historical and parks caches that have a variety of location and type of cache. Last year, we used a small grant amount from the WSGA to help with event costs, but no funds were received from WSGA for this year. However, I still had the coin imprinted with WSGA on the back because I volunteer so much of my time (on behalf of WSGA) for this event, along with support from other sponsors, who also received credit on the coin.

It is a pleasure to continue to serve as the WSGA Parks Liaison and ask that you please let me know of any Parks issue that I need to address.

Comments:

None

Merchandise Report

Report by NepoKama

Online store

Current stock levels and pricing for all merchandise in the online store are listed below. For shirts this is the total inventory available, for all other tiems we have reserved a small number of each item that is not listed in current store stock levels as a buffer for order issues, etc..

Proposal: It was proposed in a discussion with Jacquie, Mark, Fen and Chandra that we hold a "Cyber Monday" sale and then a pre-Holiday sale in December to help drive store sales.

Membership Yearly Gift

Based on discussion in the forums the consensus is that the gift this year be a pocket multi-tool. Proposed gift needs to be finalized and final order count determined from current membership numbers. In previous years we have sent individual members one gift item each, and family membership have received two items. Board will need to determine if the want to continue at this gift level for this years gift and approve the budget for the purchase.

New Merchandise Proposal

I would like to propose making an order of the WSGA trackable vinyl decals for putting in the Online store for sale. We would not want to place an order of 600 for this, so if approved we will

need to follow up with the supplier (Cache Advance) to see how a smaller quantity will affect the pricing. Note that similar decals sell for \$8 on average - our pricing for sale should fall in line with that.

Comments: The details for the member gift were finalized and approved unanimously by the board.

It was proposed that we hold a sale on APE swag in honor of the retrieval of the original APE cache. Proposal was approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual General Meeting

Discussion was held on whether it was requirement to hold the Annual General Meeting during the Campout event, as fewer people have been attending in recent years. Several other events were proposed as possible candidates to replace the Campout for the meeting with further discussion of the idea moved to the forums to allow for more brainstorming on the subject.

Dues Bylaws Change

An update to articles 3.4 and 4.3 of the Bylaws as proposed, that would change the club dues to run a year from the date they are paid, rather than following the calendar year, which would eliminate the need to track the prorated rates as we currently do.

Current:

“3.4 - Membership is on a calendar-year basis, beginning January 1 and expiring December 31. New Members may join throughout the year, with dues prorated per Article 4.”

“4.3 - Dues for new Members may be prorated the first year based on join date, following a fee schedule determined by the Board. Renewing Members pay full dues. New and renewing Members who pay during the second half of the dues period may be required to provide the following year's dues as well.”

New:

“3.4 - All membership is on a calendar-year basis, beginning on the date the dues are paid and expires 1 year from that date.”

“4.3 - Renewing Members pay full dues.”

Comments: Discussion was moved to email with a vote to follow.

Webmaster Committee

The new Webmaster committee was introduced to the board. The committee consists of Geek&Gopher (Ray Harrison), NepoKama (Mitch Eatough) and Rambudo (Russell Brendel). It was proposed that the board approve a budget to create a new hosting account, which would remove the limitations on the current hosting account and allow the committee to set up a new site without breaking the existing one. The budget was approved unanimously.

Grant Request

The board received a request for a grant of \$500 from Rey del Roble to purchase t-shirts for volunteers at the Great Balls of Fire event. The request was rejected with a vote of eight nays and one yay.

CHAPTER REPORTS

48 North Chapter Report by mizdirection

The Holiday Hoopla event is moving forward and should have the receipt in hand by Wednesday. It is currently scheduled for Saturday 17th between 4-6. Lots of good food and giveaways all in the holiday spirit.

Following that the committee for Great Balls of Fire on February 11th has been working very hard to get the plans finalized. As it stands now, it is a 3 day event. Planned events are a meet and greet at Pub 282 on the Island, followed by a night cache hike along the beach on Friday. Saturday is a CITO at Camano Island State Park, multiple classes all revolving around Geocaching 101, When Your Smartphone is your only GPS, and puzzle classes. Followed by the big dinner and event at the Cama Center. Sunday will have another CITO at Cama Beach. All CITO's have inclement weather plans in the work. There is also geoart in the works and creative caches are the theme this year.

On March 31st, we start a free camping weekend at Rasar State Park, where this year we will have 22 RV sites with power and water plus 50 tent spots. At the time of this writing, 2 cabins are still available at \$62.50/night. Planned events are trail maintenance up at Rockport State Park on Saturday afternoon along the Evergreen Trail where there should be at least 3 new caches placed. Sunday's CITO will be a beach walk to pick up litter and remove debris. A breakfast on Sunday and a potluck dinner on Saturday are also planned. 5 to 10 new caches are planned for the parks.

Inland Empire Chapter Report by Martin 5

Past Chapter Events:

Cave Trick-or-Treat / GC6VC58
10/31/2016 Approximately 20 attendees

Upcoming Chapter Events:

5th Annual IE Chapter WSGA Christmas Party / GC6X119
12/18/2016

Upcoming Area Events:

Go Fish! FISH ON! – Spokane / GC6W63F
by CacheDFish 11/19/2016

Go-Outside Black Friday Trailhead Meetup / GC6WV6T
by Cache.Advance 11/25/2016

Game Day At the Cave / GC6WXQT
by Lookout Lisa 11/26/2016

Nov-END-ber #2 / GC6WQX4
by Martin 5 11/30/2016

Santa's off his rocker! / GC6VTD8
by KC7DQM 12/10/2016

Additional Chapter Area Information:

We had four of our members (Blue Meanies, CacheDFish, Swiss Cheese Brain and Trevor and Kate) in the local news all around Washington after they found a lady who had been trapped in a car for over 14 hours. They were out geo-caching near Benton City when they came across the vehicle over the side of the road they were on and down in a ravine. More information about it can be found on our Facebook page.

Southwest Chapter Report by Geek&Gopher

Past Chapter Events

11/22/16 - Ridgefield, WA
Fall Into Autumn with Night Cache (GC6V0FE)
Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter
Windmill Corner
17919 NE 29th Ave

Ridgefield, WA
5:30PM – 7:00PM
38 logged attended including family members

11/5/16 – Vancouver, WA
GIFF Film Screening 2016 – All Access Pass (GC6T9FG)
Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter
WSU Extension Office
1919 NE 78th St
Vancouver, WA
1PM - 3PM
80 logged attended including family members

Upcoming 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

Vancouver Coin Challenge TBD 2017
Sponsored by the Vancouver Chamber of Commerce
Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter

Puget Sound Chapter Report by SirKarp

Events Held:

September 16th, GC6R482 Rootbeer Float event. We held this at Wilmot Gateway park in Woodinville. We had good turn out for sunny Friday mid- afternoon event. There were a number of new or newer cachers that attended the event. It was good to get to meet them, answer questions about caching and tell them about WSGA. Thanks to Jim of Terrible T's we had an impromptu lesson on Whereigo caches for those that were interested in finding the one there in the park.

October 22nd, GC6PEVQ Nightmare in Preston III Event. We had great turn out to the event with 38 posted attend logs. We had the hall decked out in our theme - carn-evil. This year thanks to BroncosFan4Life we had 13 new caches themed to our event placed a few weeks before the event. Finders who stamped their passports with all 13 caches were awarded with a pathtag that she designed and had made. A big round of thanks go out to her for that. We had a potluck dinner, played theme carn-evil games with prizes outside under the “big” tent. There

was a mini-haunt setup outside where folks could get a little scare. Shame on the Ape Man (Sproutter) who scared poor Winos Seattle so badly he sent both Winos and Ann Scout to the ground. The hearse was out front, with Earl sitting up in his coffin for photos, Madame Fate the fortune teller inside read everyone's Geocaching fate. Lastly Lizzy who last minute set up a selfie photo area complete with oversized clown arms.

We held an early bird drawing for those who logged a will attend a week before the event. There was the our usual WSGA members drawing which included the information to find and FTF a not yet published cache held as that special thank you for being a member. All and all it seemed like everyone had a ton of fun.

As we all know where it comes to bigger more intricate events where there are multiple activities going on it is the volunteers that help make it happen. Nw Stinkerbella, Broncos Fan 4 Life, Winos Seattle, Captain Trevos and Crew, Jwolfooggs and Ann Scout. I cannot Thank these people enough because without their aid this event could not have happened. I also want to Thank the folks of Vasa who without the Fantastic Rental agreement doing this event would have been impossible.

Though not technically a geocaching event Duvall has an annual trick or treat event on main street on Halloween afternoon. For the past 2 years the Chamber of Commerce has been thrilled to have us park the hearse in front of the visitor center. This year we flew the WSGA- Puget Sound banner, handed out candy and WSGA branded geocaching how to pamphlets to those interested. Last year we only printed up 25 or so and ran out within an hour. This year we printed 150 pamphlets and still ran out before the end of the night. NwStinkerbella and I met a few folks that already cache, but not ware of WSGA, some who had heard of Caching but wanted more information, some who never heard of it but seemed interested and of course the one who knew about it and didn't like it. Can't please everyone.

Up and Coming Events:

The next event will be the second annual Krampus event GC6W3AB Though I try really hard to rotate the location of events, we will be reprising last year location which is the Izzy's Pizza in Lacy. They have a banquet room, and cooks that can handle us so that's a huge plus. Last year's event overflowed the room a bit and they were able to still accommodate us all. The event will be Sunday the 4th of Dec from 2:30pm – 4:30pm and I will be reminding folks that it is membership renewal time as well, as well as doing a small raffle and a Members only thank you drawing.

The 2016 Holiday party is set for Saturday January 21st it's GC6QC0T. It'll be held at the Maple Valley Community Club, as it worked out really well for us last year. After proving ourselves last year to be very good renters this year they have been kind enough to extended our rental hours PLUS allow us to rent the hall on a Saturday for their Sunday rate. As is tradition we will be eating a potluck dinner, holding a WSGA members drawing and an early bird drawing and the annual gift exchange. The theme for this year will be a winter's Game Night, since this is the 10th annual Puget Sound holiday party we will have a fun geocaching / WSGA related trivia game to play with the hope of prizes for the winning team. (If you know of a company or individual willing to donate geocaching items for prizes please let me know)

We are looking at holding a low cost outdoor event mid-winter, perhaps in February or March.

Though I have not declared if I will run again for Chapter Rep I have been looking for a location for the 2017 Puget Sound Summer picnic. As some of you know the good locations in the P/S area book up early so it's necessary to be looking now. After having considered several possible locations (I try to move it around within the boundaries of the chapter) we have settled on the Fort Nisqually Picnic Shelter at the Point Defiance Park in Tacoma. The proposed date would be Saturday June 3rd, at the time of this writing we are still firming up the rental agree and rate (they give non-profit discount) with the park.

Meeting was adjourned by Princess Trouble at 8:20 pm.