

Board Meeting Minutes for 18 Sept 2019

Meeting called to order 18:30

Attendees:

mc3cats, Chris Brue, President. Merchandise Mgr
jtcoffee, Jessie Maxwell, Vice President
squirrel50, Deb Cox, Treasurer
Terrible Ts, Jim Tollefson, Secretary

Mr. Gadget #2, Gene Reed, Cache-cadians Chapter Rep
Winos_Seattle, Antoine Pin, Puget Sound Chapter Rep
Martin_5, Jerry Martin, IE Chapter Rep
bluecanoe, Erin Comstock, Olympic Penn Chapter Rep
TeamPAST, Patrick McColley, South Central Chapter Rep
SuperKnotts, Brian and Vickie Knott, SW Chapter Rep

PeachesandPete, Annette Bailes, Parks Liaison, Campout
NepoKama, Mitch Eatough, Webmaster

Absent:

crs98, Cliff Slaughterback, NEW 48 North Chapter Rep

Proxies:

jtcoffee with crs98 proxy

Visitors:

Item: July meeting minutes not approved. Not distributed yet.

Item: Chapter Reports

<Mc3cats> First off, I will comment on the 48 North's paddle event that Cliff had. Great turnout up there at Lake Ballinger. That was a great event with folks being able to rent kayaks to paddle around the lake.

<Mc3cats> I do believe Cliff is planning to do more of these types of event.

<Mc3cats> Any of the chapter reps want to talk up a future event or a past one?

<Bluecanoe> i had my first one last month. It was a great turnout, our furthest attendees came from 3 hours away

<Mc3cats> I will say that I am planning a WSGA GIFF event in Kent on 11/8 at the barn. Similar to what I did last year with the popcorn machine going at our office.

<TheSuperKnotts> We are having a GIFF Nov 9th at the Longview Public Library

<Mc3cats> Outstanding, Erin! We want to make the cachers out there on the OP happy. You have a good sized territory so dont be afraid to spread the WSGA love around.

<Terrible_Ts> Komokino has an entry in the GIFF this year, starring PIR359

<Mc3cats> Excellent, Knotts! Its a lot of fun to do those.

<Bluecanoe> id like to have a gift event, who do I have to talk to to get the videos?

Item: Park Liaison

<PeachandPete> Nothing specific at this time. The GeoTour has been going along rather well and we have a hefty 600++ favorite points in its short life.

<Mc3cats> Annette, thats pretty fantastic that the geotour is doing so well.

<bluecanoe2> you gouys did a wonderful job putting it together

<PeachandPete> Thanks, Erin

<bluecanoe2> you're welcome

<Mc3cats> And to think it all started with Auburn Parks and turned into a multi-jurisdictional geotour!

<PeachandPete> Yep, it did!

<Mc3cats> Big kudos to Annette for her work and dedication to making the geotour a reality.

Item: Treasures Reports

<TheSuperKnotts> Yes , how do we have negative 16 dollars ? Should be 0.00

<squirrel> @thesuperknotts don't worry about that there was a math error before March and I am still working on getting everything right

<TheSuperKnotts> ok , no problem

<Winos_Seattle> has the membership notification glitch from a few months back been fixed?

<squirrel> unsure I am currently not working on anything membership related other than the numbers for your chapter allocations

<Winos_Seattle> I've been speaking with a few people who have been wondering if they should be looking for those.

<squirrel> the issue would have to be fixed by the IT group

Item: Social Media

<jtcoffee> It doesn't have to be now, but anyone is welcome to send me requests of the information/analytics you'd be interested in reading for the social media info. The options are endless, so if you're curious about something, please let me know.

<Mc3cats> Gotta like we are reaching more folks via the Social Media channels

Item: Merch report

<Mc3cats> Any questions for me? Clearly the hot seller, no big surprise is the Ape X coin.

<Mc3cats> We blew through the premium coins and only have a few of the base coin left. Crystal really have a fantastic coin design.

<TheSuperKnotts> need to outdo for next year lol

Item: Old Business

<Mc3cats> Post Ape take aways/wrap up. Jessie, do you have any additional comments you want to share about the Ape X event?

<Mc3cats> What was good, what was bad, what was ugly?????

<bluecanoe2> also, I heard from several coin hunters that there weren't enough and the hidrs didn't like that they couldn't hide them themselves anymore

<jtcoffee> If anyone has anything of note, I am working on creating an Ape binder to keep a central location for planning details. I'd be happy to record anything you'd like me to capture there.

<Mc3cats> Thats a fantastic idea!

<jtcoffee> I included some notes in my report - does anyone have any questions about Ape X that I can clarify or answer?

<bluecanoe2> the coin map, can we go back to the way it use to show locations of the found tags?

<Mc3cats> Erin, we always seem to have folks complain about the spot the ape tags. We certainly can encourage the hidere to spead the love, but theres not much we can do in terms of enforcing that the tags are to be spead out.

<bluecanoe2> fair enough. I was just the messenger

<Winos_Seattle> Being that GrnXham and I were once again sitting on the APE Cache (love it out there), I was hoping for a little more ONSITE Communications.

<jtcoffee> We added a game element this year to incentivize a wider spread. In terms of 'the old way' - I'd love to hear if they had challenges with the snag the tag site - please send them to me for feedback

<Winos_Seattle> Maybe an East Portal Liaison that would check in on us every 2 hours or so.

<bluecanoe2> any suggestions Antoine?

<Winos_Seattle> via CELL PHONE.

<Mc3cats> Did you guys not have a radio, Antoine?

<Winos_Seattle> Radios don't work, quite honestly

<TheSuperKnotts> smoke signals ?

<Winos_Seattle> radios do not work.

<bluecanoe2> that's a great idea Jessie

Item: 2019 Member coin

<Mc3cats> Lets jump to the 2019 member coin. Since Deb is our coin manager, can you give the board a quick update on the 2019 coin?

<squirrel> coin is paid / saw a RAW coin picture while at CDS V and can't wait to see it in color, and it will be here by about 10/5

<squirrel> the RAW coin looked amazing

<Mc3cats> JD did share that image with me. Will look pretty cool when done.

<Mc3cats> Deb, lets talk about the WSGA tag as well.

<squirrel> since we are out of tags from previous years we are looking at a WA State shaped one showing all of the chapters

<squirrel> that is trackable

Winos_Seattle> great idea

<TheSuperKnotts> sounds nice

<bluecanoe2> I love that idea!

<Mc3cats> The tags are inexpensive to make and can be done quickly. Just think a mini version of our chapter map in the form of a trackable tag.

<squirrel> sorry i tried to send the numbers to you all, what we need to decide is the quantity

<Mc3cats> Deb can you share the costs and numbers with the board?

<jtcoffee> How long did it take us to get through the inventory of the old tag?

<squirrel> I tried to share the cost it didn't work so sent it to everyone via an email

<Mc3cats> The small green WSGA logo tags took a few years to work through. Cost wise, they are a lot less than coins and we can afford to carrying them.

<TheSuperKnotts> If the tag doesnt have the date on it , it wont go out of style , can be a nice staple tag of the organization

<Martin5> Similar to the coin of the past? One of the first WSGA state shaped coins from about 13 years ago showed the chapters on it.

<TheSuperKnotts> for awhile anyway

<bluecanoe2> what about maybe having a tag for each region that can be fit together to make Washington?

<Mc3cats> Jerry, this one will look like our chapter map with the different colors representing each chapter and where it is within the borders of Washington.

<squirrel> @bluecanoe2 that would be to expensive for a tag

<bluecanoe2> we could make a challenge or something so there would be different steps to take to get each one

<jtcoffee> General WSGA tags serve lots of purposes, and initially I was thinking we should get a bunch - 250 or so. But I'd hate for them to lay around for years and years

<bluecanoe2> alright. it was just an idea

<Winos_Seattle> Gene has a his own Gadget Coin with his chapter highlighted into it, is these a possibility we could use that mold (die) for a coin in the future to cut down costs?

<TheSuperKnotts> agree with jtcoffee

<squirrel> my thought was 175 to 200 give each chapter 3 for raffle prizes for folks to see and get excited about

<Martin5> I like giving the tags to visitors who host events in our area.

<Winos_Seattle> I agree with jessie too

<TheSuperKnotts> we do too martin5

<jtcoffee> Are you looking for a motion for this?

<squirrel> also a thought was 150 to 175 stock get's low order more they keep the mold for 3 years on tags and coins

<Mc3cats> Heres the coin break down with costs: 100 tags = \$510.72, 150 tags = \$660.87 200 tags = \$795.99 and finally 250 tags = \$942.38

<squirrel> this includes tracking codes and no tax I use my folks OR address

<squirrel> and it is TAGS not COINS all :)

<jtcoffee> Are you looking for a motion on this, or just general thoughts?

<bluecanoe2> how much would they sell for?

<squirrel> depends on how many we buy Erin

<squirrel> and yes Jessie we need to vote for me to purchase them

<Mc3cats> Jessie, while I would normally agree about keeping old stock around is not good, BUT at the same time, having stock to sell on our website and for chapter give aways IS a good thing. Tags cost at lot less than coins. I would rather have a bunch of tags sitting around than a bunch of coins.

<Winos_Seattle> \$7.99 per tag on 250 count

<Mc3cats> Its a smaller amount of money laying around in old merchandise that has not been sold.

<bluecanoe2> good point

<jtcoffee> Ok - I move that we order 250 tags, pending approval of the design, at this time.

<Mc3cats> Ok. then, the "Ayes" have it.

<Mc3cats> Deb, go ahead and connect with JD/Lisa on the tags and lets move forward with them.

<Mc3cats> We will set the pricepoint on those tags, we need to recoup the stripe fee and make a little additional in profit. Gotta make some money off of the tags.

Item: New Business

<Mc3cats> Ape 2020. Jessie, do you want to lead this topic off starting off what you have done so far with the location of the event?

<jtcoffee> Sure. I'll do some inform-parts ... stand by while typing...

<jtcoffee> Due to the high levels of people we'd be expecting at this event, 2020 will look at lot different that it has in the past in a lot of ways. First, we will not be able to host it at the Hyak lot as we have in the past. However, we'll still want it to be in a location nearby and bus people to the trailhead. I am in communication with the ski lodge an

<jtcoffee> d surrounding areas about this.

<jtcoffee> Nothing has been signed and decided at this point, but I will inform (and post the Event page!) as soon as we know, and we'll need all of you to spread the word as well once we have some definite details

<jtcoffee> I have written a bunch of other notes in my report, and the 2020 planning team as it is right now have done some meetings and some trips to the sites for logistical planning. Rest asured that all of that is well under way, and much research is being done in terms of volunteering, merch, coins, security, buses, food, etc.

<jtcoffee> I commit to keeping you all looped in on the progress more regularly than our meetings so that you can have the most up to date information to tell the folks in your chapters since folks are chomping at the bit to participate in this event.

<bluecanoe2> I wonder if a food truck wouldn't be a bad idea?

<jtcoffee> Based on all of that, and my notes in my report, does any one have any questions at this time?

<jtcoffee> Working on food tucks, Erin.

<Mc3cats> I am thinking that the most critical part that needs to be hammered down is the location. This is paramount. Everything else can come later.

<bluecanoe2> oh good

<TheSuperKnotts> it seems weird to not have the event stuff near the tunnel , is it not possible to have it in the lot there and just bus people in from alternative parking ?

<Mc3cats> The location is what is keeping us from listing the event page. Once thats figured out the rest will follow.

<jtcoffee> We'll have volunteers at the tunnel. The event will be as near to it as we can get. The Parks have a limit on the number of people we can host there, and HQ is advising that we plan for 7,000-10,000 people to attend

<jtcoffee> My report has a project management chart commonly used to communicate roles in a big project called a RACI chart - you can see where the board fits into it. I truly don't have a lot to say other than that we've been working on it.

<jtcoffee> And the team will be farming out quite a lot of tasks, for sure :)

<bluecanoe2> have you reached out to any of the local farm owners? they may have an overflow field we could use?

<jtcoffee> We haven't done that, yet - though I do know of one near by that does have camp grounds. The concern with those is that it's quite far from the tunnel/cache. Right now the we're hoping that the Ski lodges will be amenable to the rental

<jtcoffee> We have not had an official meeting yet- Cliff and I are on the team and working on acquiring a few other members. So far folks are considering the ask.
<bluecanoe2> isn't there a lot not far from there that the county uses for winter road maintenance?

<jtcoffee> Erin if you could send me a map or a screenshot of what you're thinking, that'd be great

<Mc3cats> To Erin's question, the Ape event IS the Hyak/Pass area. Anywhere else would take away from the essence of the Ape. That's why N. Bend or Issaquah would not work. PLUS bussing folk up to the Hyak parking lot would be super expensive from that far away. Keeping the location local to Hyak from both a logistical and cost effective point of view makes s

<Mc3cats> sense (and cents)

<bluecanoe2> sure, also the fire department has a pretty big lot as well

<bluecanoe2> yes, the maintenance lot is only about 5 minutes away

<Mc3cats> What Jessie did not mention, is funding.....

<jtcoffee> Since we're going to be hosting a lot of out-of-town folks, one of the big things I am considering is the look and feel of the place.

<Mc3cats> Ape 2020 will be expensive to host. HOWEVER, it has all of the opportunity to make the organization a boatload of money....

<Mc3cats> We will need to look at charging fees for parking with funds going into our account....

<jtcoffee> If you're coming for the great-and-grand Ape 2020 event and it is held somewhere cheap but also shabby looking, it won't look good on the WSGA.

<jtcoffee> We do plan to charge for parking. One of the other key aspects that the location has to have is a threshold so we can charge people for parking

<Gene> As a retired fire chief, Please do not interfere with any parking around the station the next thing they'll be blocked in and hamper N RESPONSE.

<bluecanoe2> I sent a picture

<jtcoffee> Thanks.

<Mc3cats> Starting a sort of "go fund me" but structuring it along the lines of a "Friends of the Ape" league where folks can pre pay for an upper echelon level package that would cost around \$100 where they will be a "Sponsor" of the ape event.

<bluecanoe2> it's the site on the other side of the road from Hyak

<Mc3cats> This would be like they have done at Woodstock and GCF events.

<Mc3cats> Up front funding Ape 2020 will be key to this event happening.....

<jtcoffee> There will be a lot of fundraising needs/opportunities.

<Mc3cats> We can not as this organization runs now, can not in any way put up the funds to run a huge event like this.....

<bluecanoe2> what did we do in the past when the blockparty was still going?

<Mc3cats> HOWEVER the rewards to doing it right can be huge both financially as well as be in an elite league of hosting a GIGA event. It's happened only once in North America.

<Mc3cats> Geowoodstock last year made Giga. We could join the group who put that event on as one of the two organizations that hosted a Giga in North America. That would be huge for us.

<jtcoffee> Does anyone have any additional questions for me at this point? Like I mentioned in my notes, all resources right now are focused on getting the location sealed, and then all of the details will follow.

<bluecanoe2> have you made contact with their organizers to see what they did for crowd funding?

<Mc3cats> One other thing is that Ape 2020 would have to be an all day event. Its the only way we can handle that many event goers.

<jtcoffee> Yep, we're in contact with geowoodstock teams

<bluecanoe2> wonderfull

<Mc3cats> This all starts with an event location then event page.

Item: Should we keep hosting the campout?

<bluecanoe2> maybe we can break into the separate regions for a smaller more local campout?

<Mc3cats> Historically, the camp out is not a big WSGA event. This event tends to cater to folks with RVs for the most part. We tend to sell out of RV spots and rarely sell out of tent sights.

<Mc3cats> These events do not usually pull a lot of attendees.....

<Mc3cats> I have stats on this, The biggest WSGA Camp out was in the OP where 78 folks attended. 48 N had one a few years back with 70. Usually we have somewhere.....

<Mc3cats> around 35 - 50 attendees.....

<TheSuperKnotts> Thats a good amount of cachers

<Mc3cats> From a WSGA standpoint, this event really does not pull a lot of attendees. Its really more of a "special group" event. The money that we put into the event, we do not get a big return on.

<PeachandPete> Sun Lakes/Dry Falls had quite a good attendance also.

<bluecanoe2> how much revenue typically?

<Winos_Seattle> no, I agree! Campout doesn't generate

<jtcoffee2> A message I was designated to communicate from crs98: it makes good sense to have a campout for 2020 in the 48N chapter, to help folks get from Ape 2020 to Geowoodstock. Holding it between these two large events will likely ensure more folks will attend.

<squirrel> here let me give you some numbers hold tight for a second

<Winos_Seattle> However...Campout would allow for folks to have a place to go within proximity of the "SAID EVENT"

<Mc3cats> The other big issue with is its supposed to rotate around the state where ALL chapters get a turn at hosting. That does NOT happen. The PS Chapter has hosted one, the first one. Hasnt been back since due to the lack of group camp sites.

<Winos_Seattle> YES!!! I'm in total agreement with Cliff

<squirrel> 2018 campout spent 1500+ and brought in 800 2017 campout spent 1100 and brought in 700

<jtcoffee2> Net or gross?

<Winos_Seattle> What about a Whatcom County campout just outside the Border?

<squirrel> these are the numbers I am seeing on the previous years spreadsheet bottom line it loses \$\$\$

<Winos_Seattle> That would give all those who are semi-WEST coast Locals to have a landing point

<TheSuperKnotts> what is the costs ? cant the campers pay for there spot

<TeamPAST> Is the campout just about driving funds? Or is it about bringing members together?

<TheSuperKnotts> this ^

<squirrel> they do pay for their spots, the fee's come from food pathtags other stuff overall fee for the site to start and other such things
<TheSuperKnotts> ok
<Mc3cats> Good point, Patrick. It should be both. If we are spending organization funds, we should at a minimum break even but if anything make more.
<Winos_Seattle> Bring members together should be the primary goal, but you still have to make sure it's somewhat profitable. Unfortunately, in the past 3 years, it's been in red. DEEP RED
<squirrel> if you can do a campout to bring folks together and keep it no cost all geocacher sponsored that would be better
<TeamPAST> Agreed
<Winos_Seattle> agreed
<jtcoffee2> I move that we offer at campout in 2020, hosted by N48, and reevaluate future years a year from now.
<bluecanoe2> fair enough
<Mc3cats> The chapters can really have THEIR OWN campout events. Theres nothing keeping any of the reps from doing that.
<Mc3cats> Even if Jerry votes no, the Ayes have it.
<jtcoffee2> Just so folks are aware - it will be a weekday campout event if it is held between Ape 2020 and Geowoodstock.
<Mc3cats> Jessie, pass the word to Cliff he is on point for the campout for next year.

Item: New Webmaster

<Mc3cats> So Mitch let me know some time back that given work requirements, he can not hold the position as lead webmaster....
<Mc3cats> With him being the only webmaster, we were in a bit of a spot
<Mc3cats> (insert English accent)
<Mc3cats> However, I did some digging about and well found a rather local/famous NW Cacher....
<Mc3cats> Geez, there a big hint there....
<Mc3cats> IF you are at all familiar with the Caching in the NW podcast, well you know this cacher.....
<Mc3cats> Witzend (Jim) is a Wordpress master and has expressed interest in helping us as our webmaster....
<Mc3cats> He and Mitch have connected.....Yes?
<NepoKama> Yes, we've connected.
<Winos_Seattle> still, do it. Jim's perfect for it
<Mc3cats> Anywho, Jim is a WSGA member and he has connected with Mitch.
<Mc3cats> Mitch has gotten Jim up to speed on our website.
<Mc3cats> Ok. we got ourselves a new Webmaster!

Item: Video Conferencing

<Mc3cats> Ok. Video conferencing. We have been testing out a platform for doing our board meetings in real time via Microsoft Teams platform.
<Mc3cats> We have had a couple of tests so far....
<Mc3cats> This has worked fairly well.....
<Mc3cats> Our biggest challenge was recordin the meeting....
<Mc3cats> We have a a free open source program used to record the meeting.....

<Mc3cats> and have found a FAIRLY CHEAP voice to text program that can take an MP3 recording of the meeting and convert to text....

<Mc3cats> which is required for keeping the minutes of our meetings.....

<Mc3cats> So far, it has worked pretty well. Cliff and Jim were instrumental in looking at this program.

<Mc3cats> Jim, do you want to add anything to what I have put out so far?

<Terrible_Ts> The transcription server runs us \$0.10 a minute

<Mc3cats> BUT the meetings should move pretty quickly since there won't be a bunch of typing.

<Terrible_Ts> The only issue we have found, is it doesn't know who is talking.

<Mc3cats> SO that's \$6 for a 60 minute meeting, 12 for a 2 hr. that is CHEAP. and will move our meetings at lightning speed vs how we do it now.

<Mc3cats> But that can be addressed Jim

<Terrible_Ts> Yes. We have been thinking about ways around it.

<Mc3cats> For video conferencing, the meetings will be much more formal than they are here. I, as the chair, will have to formally call on you....

<Martin5> Just have to identify yourself before talking

<TeamPAST> Did you look at Zoom?

<Mc3cats> and give you the floor.

<squirrel> for Jim to get the notes we all have to introduce ourselves after Chris gives us the floor

<TeamPAST> Zoom identifies each caller

<Mc3cats> We will have to be orderly. You will be called on to comment. I would have to formally say, Jerry, you have the floor or the Chairperson recognizes Gene etc

<Terrible_Ts> Free zoom has a 40 minute limit on meetings.

<TeamPAST> Correct, the paid zoom has the transcription service

<TeamPAST> and full recordings

<TheSuperKnotts> what about members being able to watch the meetings ? fix for that yet ?

<jtcoffee2> Facebook will allow a "share screen" function through the Live option. Cliff and I are going to test it out

<TheSuperKnotts> nice

<Winos_Seattle> How much is "Paid" Zoom, Patrick?

<TeamPAST> Starts at \$20 a month

<Terrible_Ts> \$14.99 for no transcripts. 19.99 with transcripts

<Terrible_Ts> I am looking at the web page now.

<Gene> from a not to techy guy, what equipment will have to be purchased to make this work?

<Terrible_Ts> Per host.

<Winos_Seattle> Jim, I realize this is \$8.00 more than your 60 minutes and 120 minutes, but man does it have its solutions

<TeamPAST> Per host is the meeting host as in the person scheduling the meeting.

<Terrible_Ts> As long as one person starts the meeting every time we could get away with the \$20 option.

<jtcoffee2> Gene, folks can use their phones, tablets, computers or laptops. All you'd need is a camera on one of those devices which most have these days.

<jtcoffee2> And, a microphone, so we can hear your voice. But again, these devices have those built in

<Terrible_Ts> You don't have to have your camera on to participate.

<TeamPAST> If you dont have a camera on your device you can substitue a photo
<Mc3cats> The key item really is the microphone,
<Terrible_Ts> The 15 and 20 dollar option also has 1Gb of MP4 or M4A cloud recording that can be downloaded and viewed by others.
<TeamPAST> You might consider the trial and test it out and see which one meets our needs.
<Mc3cats> From a cost perspective, would using zoom be more expensive? Even at \$20 a mo, that \$240 a year.
<Terrible_Ts> We have been using Zoom at work to meet with our East Coast counterparts, but we have many hosts so it gets expensive
<Mc3cats> Using Teams and the transcription service, with 6 meetings a year at 2 hrs per meeting, that \$72 a year. A bunch cheaper than \$240.
<Terrible_Ts> I just noticed that the \$20 version requires a Minimum of 10 hosts. \$200 per month.
<bluecanoe2> yikes
<Mc3cats> Ouch!
<Terrible_Ts> Like I said, it gets expensive.
<Winos_Seattle> I don't know. I'd like to make sure we're looking at all our options. With technology these days, something will pop up 2 weeks after we sign up for this.
<Terrible_Ts> The next level up requires 50 hosts @ \$20 a month.
<Terrible_Ts> Teams is free, but who know if Microsoft will start charging for it.
<Mc3cats> It does. Teams will be the least expensive option and so far in our tests, it has worked fairly well. We just need to take it to the next level. We need to try a "mock" meeting with more people to see how it works.
<Mc3cats> Good point, Jim. They might. but for now, its a good option for us.
<Terrible_Ts> Too bad Google hangouts went away.
<jtcoffee2> ^indeed!
<Mc3cats> I thought that was sill active. Did the plug actually get pulled on hangouts?
<Terrible_Ts> Well, in Oct 19 2019...
<TeamPAST> I am still using it
<TeamPAST> but not for long lol
<jtcoffee2> mc3cats, are you going to set another test call with more folks?
<Mc3cats> Jessie, I do think we should. We did it last with 4 folks. We need to try more.
<Terrible_Ts> They are starting something called Hangouts Chat, a Slack clone.
<squirrel> Google hangout will start winding down on Oct 19 2019 and completely expire on Oct 15 2020
<Mc3cats> Really, Jim.
<Winos_Seattle> Will this MS program work with all of our devices and platforms?
<squirrel> Teams works on computers / laptops and smartphones
<Mc3cats> Antoine, I have the app on my iPhone.
<Terrible_Ts> Windows and Apple. No Linux.
<Winos_Seattle> right, but how about a Google chromebook?
<Terrible_Ts> I am not sure.
<NepoKama> Web browser interface for Teams as well
<Winos_Seattle> mine has neither
<Terrible_Ts> You can check the app store for the Teams app on the chromebook.
<jtcoffee2> You can use your phone, Antoine.
<Winos_Seattle> true

<Mc3cats> Mitch is correct, there is a web browser version.
<squirrel> for the chromebook it says to run Teams via the web - exmaple through chrome vs using the app
<Mc3cats> We should definitely try getting folks together and try it out in a mock meeting
<Winos_Seattle> no app. phone it will be. bummer
<Terrible_Ts> I suggest we schedule another test meeting soon to try it out.

Item: Bylaws

<jtcoffee2> I know updating the bylaws have been a top need for a while. To help get some progress on that, I move that the bylaws be reviewed annually and updated annually. Logistically, I think one person should be responsible for a first draft, submit those in October for review so they can be voted on in the November meeting. Feedback, updates, etc. can ei
<jtcoffee2> ther happen via email before the meeting or in the meeting, with the goal of having approved, updated bylaws at the end of the meeting.
<jtcoffee2> I can be the person to take the first stab at it, unless someone else feels passionate about doing it
<jtcoffee2> Thoughts on all of that?
<Mc3cats> Jessie, I think getting our video conferencing up for our meetings will be a huge help in getting the bylaws updated/voted on
<Mc3cats> Its pretty tough to try to do it via email and certainly during our normal business meetings.
<squirrel> I think this is a great idea as we all have busy lives and a committee is time consuming for us all
<Winos_Seattle> yes. been pushing for this for a long time
<Mc3cats> I say we shelve anything bylaws related UNTIL the video conferencing has been tested and tried live for our next meeting in November.
<Mc3cats> I say we shelve anything bylaws related UNTIL the video conferencing has been tested and tried live for our next meeting in November.
<Mc3cats> Gene, its just not moving. Its pending. We need a better way to communicate as a group. Slack didnt always work for all. Its still a text-based platform...
<Winos_Seattle> I don't even know who's on the committee and I haven't seen one email about a committee after being told i'd be put on one since taking over for rob last year.
<Winos_Seattle> Slack is terrible
<Mc3cats> For us to really have a good discussion over bylaw changes, it needs to be live and in person via video conferencing. Not by Slack chat or what we are doing right now. IRC is slow.
<Winos_Seattle> i've offered beer
<jtcoffee2> My motion is to not do the first draft by committee - to have one person do the first go on it, and then we can discuss
<bluecanoe2> does facebook messenger have a group facetime?
<jtcoffee2> to squirrel's point, committees are logistically challenging
<jtcoffee2> Ok since it sounds like there is still a lot to unpack on this topic, I can withdraw the motion and we can revisit later.

Item: Member comments

<Mc3cats> Gene, its just not moving. Its pending. We need a better way to communicate as a group. Slack didnt always work for all. Its still a text-based platform...

<Winos_Seattle> I don't even know who's on the committee and I haven't seen one email about a committee after being told i'd be put on one since taking over for rob last year.

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<Martin5> So with no campout this year, does that mean we still need to schedule a general meeting for this year?

<PeachandPete> Yes, it does

<Winos_Seattle> Jerry, Patrick, Gene, you guys willing to meet us in Ellensburg again?

<Winos_Seattle> I'm willing to host in Ellensburg.

<Mc3cats> Jerry, we do need to hold one. Perhaps when we head over to Spokane next month for our "Executive Committee" visits the Inland Empire event (whenever that happens to be) we could have it there.

<PeachandPete> It needs to be somewhere and available to a large number of members to attend.

<NepoKama> Teh advantage of having it in sync with campout was that moved around the state each year. We shoudl keep it moving around to give all chapters a chance to host it.

<Mc3cats> Jerry, we are talking about coming over to the IE to hand out member coins and have a meet the WSGA Executive Committee event.

<Winos_Seattle> There needs to be better communication about WSGA Board events!!

<Mc3cats> Just a side note with it at teh camp out. Again, not a lot of members attend the camp out so the word does not get out to many folks. Just sayin'

<Martin5> We can definitely host something over here.

<NepoKama> Very true, and if we dont' need the meeting for nonprofit status then converting it to an annual report that is posted/emailed woudl be a lot more effective.

<Mc3cats> I would much rather have it at a bigger holiday part event, like the PS Chapter since it pulls lots of members. I am sure the IEs holiday party pulls lots of folks as well.

<Mc3cats> Rest assured, there will be one there year.

<Gene> Winos, If you do we need it at a better location than the last one. some where that has a private room and NO back Ground noise

<Mc3cats> I am leaning towards IE this year.

<Mc3cats> Thats why I am not a big fan of doing it at the campout. The general meeting needs to rotate around the state. The IE is a good place to start. Its a big

chapter and I am thinking the folks over there do not get to meet WSGA Executive Committee members.

<PeachandPete> Since it was in Inland Empire area last time held, how about Ellensburg area as suggested earlier?

<Winos_Seattle> That's fine. It should be in the IE, but we had all year!

Meeting adjourned

Summary of Reports for 18 Sep 2019

President

Report by mc3cats

No report submitted

Vice-President














































Report by jtcoffee






























Vice Presidents' Report

Social Media

Facebook

Published	Post	Type	Targeting	Reach	Engagement
09/16/2019 1:38 PM	 Tip of the Week: Time to get planning! September 28 is National			302 	9 11 
08/31/2019 8:52 AM	 Our shop is down due to a Stripe outage - we're sorry for the			625 	39 13 
08/23/2019 2:55 PM	 New souvenir alert! If you find a cache each day between August 25-			860 	120 51 
08/19/2019 10:53 PM	 Our friends at Red Hat have reopened the Going Ape store so you			773 	140 17 
08/18/2019 11:15 AM	 A new Spot the APE 2019 Tag: 140 - Wrong Way Ape Hyak Dr E,			489 	26 6 
08/18/2019 10:15 AM	 A new Spot the APE 2019 Tag: 139 - Tunnel Ahead Iron Horse Trail,			379 	12 2 
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Currently at 2346 followers, up from 2285 in July.

For discussion: Is anyone interested in anything in particular with the social media reports? Are they of value?

Ape Wrap up:

333 attended

The ranger gave us great feedback, specifically to the parking crew. He said he gave 20 tickets out during the race before our event, but once our parking team arrived, he didn't give out a single one.

Way to go!

Logs have a lot of great feedback – many thanks to everyone who put in time to make this event great! Adventure Labs were also very successful. Folks inevitably struggled a bit, but fewer so than last year, and the new proximity rules ensured that only event attendees (about 1/3 of them) participated in the Labs.

If anyone has any thoughts which you'd like to be collected in the notes, please send them my way.

Ape 2020 prep:

- At this point, all efforts are focused on obtaining a location. There are several feelers out, and I await a response to my messages. So far, a lot of places I have scoped out will not suit our needs for assorted reasons (too far away, too expensive, won't hold enough people, etc.). Currently exploring what the ski lodges in the area are able to offer/allow.

- A small group will be formed as the Ape Core team, and the core team will assign tasks to other groups as well as keep the board informed. The following RACI model will be how we are assigning roles: (RACI model. (R = Responsible, A = Accountable C = Consult I= Informed)

R - APE planning team

A - WSGA Exec Board

C - WSGA board

I – WSGA board and members, event attendees

This is just a general model; there will be some decisions which the go against this model, but this is a starting point.

,

Treasurer

Report by squirrel50

See attached PDF files:

Chapter Allocation Report up to Aug 2019.pdf

Sept Report.pdf

Treasures report on membership costs

First off I want to give a membership cost break down – where does the \$\$ go?

Basic Membership is \$15

Of that

0.75 is the stripe fee

4.50 is chapter allocation

Premium Membership is \$25

Of that

1.03 is stripe fee

8.00 is chapter allocation

9.00 is coin fee

There is then postage fee's and office supplies for making the badges and sending them out for premium – do we send a badge to our basic members?

What is left over is how we are trying to run our WSGA events

Thank you Deb C

WSGA Treasurer

Social Media

Report by jtcoffee

Included in Vice-Presidents report

Outreach

Report by

No report submitted

Merchandise

Report by mc3cats

See attached pdf file:
Merch Report.pdf

Chapter Reports

48 North Chapter

Report by crs89

WSGA 48 North Chapter Report

For meeting of Sep 18, 2019

Chapter Activities

[WSGA 48 North Paddle Caching Event](#), (September 7th in Lake Ballinger) – this event was the first time we’ve tried something like this in our area (there have been a few at the Lake Washington Canoe House that were organized around Block Parties in the past). I had arranged for [Kayakasha](#) to show up and provide rental kayaks to cachers who don’t have access to their own watercraft. They rented out every boat they owned and two of the double-person kayaks were rented out twice, as a second wave of kayakers embarked after the first group finished. The four new caches on the lake were a big hit, including the first T5 wherigo in the state (which now has 9 favorite points (39%). We had 34 Attended Logs on the event, and I got a lot of very positive feedback on this event. I’d like to hold a cross-chapter event with PS Chapter next year to reprise the event as there are lots of places close to the chapter border line which would make for a good event spot next year.

Upcoming Chapter Events

This isn't officially scheduled yet, but I'm working on creating a CITO event to be held at Birch Bay State Park (just north of Bellingham) on Oct. 26th. Deb has said she would like to go caching with me that day and I've got a couple of spots to host a meet and greet in the Ferndale/Bellingham area for a late afternoon or evening event later that same day.

Upcoming Local Area Events

- [SMF or Bust](#) by Johnny Cache 79 (September 18th)
- [Oak Harbor Parks - Ridgewood Park](#) (CITO) by Team RAC (Sept 28th)
- [Celebrating a Blackout of San Juan County!](#) by las3dogs (Sept 28th)
- [Won't You Be My Neighbor?](#) by paisleykmt (Sept 28th)
- [Taco Tuesday](#) by Johnny Cache 79 (Oct 1st)
- [YYC or Bust](#) by Johnny Cache 79 (October 4th)
- [The GIFF in Marysville & Four to Go!](#) By FluteFace (Nov. 16th)

Other News

Going Ape Lab cache statistics were sent to Jessie so they could be included in her report. In preparing to organize the CITO at Birch Bay State Park, I have been in conversation with Ranger Tina, who is the geocaching liaison for Cama Beach SP. She let me know that she will be retiring from the State Park effective Oct. 31st. As she was the main contact for the immensely successful Washington State Parks Centennial geotour, I would like to send her a small gift bag from the WSGA for the work she put in on that geotour and the great progress that was made for getting geocaches into state parks under her guidance.

Her replacement at Cama Beach as a geocaching liaison will be Ranger Heather. I have not yet met her, but she was one of the few people who did the entire 103-park set of geocaches at that time according to Tina. She doesn't log her finds online but does seem to be quite interested in geocaching.

If we decide to continue the WSGA campout for 2020 and if the decision is made to have it in 48 North next year in the period in between the Going Ape event and GeoWoodstock in BC, then I will propose to see if we can do it at Cama Beach SP. If that is the decision, I'll have a good excuse to talk to Heather soon.

Cache-Cadian Chapter

Report by Mr. Gadget #2

8-10-2019 GC8B5E6 "A Tunk Valley Meet and Greet". Hosted by tv wildfire,

(Bob and Carole Wright). For those who are not familiar with them or where Tunk Valley is located, Tunk Valley is located in Okanogan County 16 miles

East of Riverside, WA. Their user name tv wildfire stands for Tunk Valley, and Wildfire as Bob is a wildland fire fighter owner /operator. During the last wildland fire in the area, Bob and Carole lost their home during the fire. Bob was out fighting fire protecting his neighbors property and homes.

Bob has made son nice unique caches which are located on their property. There was one new one published the day of their event.

Up coming is GC8BZYK “12th Annual To Wheat To Eat” event at Waterville. This annual event is hosted by “Pazooters” and is at their small eatery/ coffee shop. Always a fun gathering and again this year they will have a new cache published just prior to the event.

Gene

Inland Empire Chapter

Report by martin5

No report submitted

South Central Chapter

Report By Patrick McColley (TeamPAST)

South Central Chapter Report

September 2019

By Patrick McColley (TeamPAST)

Past Chapter Events

Future Chapter Events

GC8CY01 - WSGA Unpuzzle Session 10/16/2019

This is an upcoming puzzle solving event, a few of the local puzzle cachers wanted to get an event together to work on solving some more difficult puzzle caches as a collective.

GC8DJ02 - Geocaching International Film Festival 2019 11/16/2019

This is our annual GIFF event and potluck that is going to be held in the same location as last year.

Area Events

FUTURE

PAST

GC8ATD3 - WSGA South Central 2019 Summer Picnic 8/11/2019

The annual picnic had a good turnout this year. We had roughly 30 people attend and get excited to attend APE X.

GC8A15J - Kennewick WA M & G 7/24/2019

Sleepy_hollow is a cacher from Calgary Canada was in the area and planned an evening meetup at an area coffee shop.

SC Chapter News

No new news to report

Puget Sound Chapter

Report by Winos_Seattle

No report submitted.

Olympic Peninsula Chapter

Report by blue canoe

I hosted my first event, gc8bkfd. I had 7 people show up, and three more came later on. Of the 10 total, 7 went ahead to the tin mine located on gold mountain.

At the event I asked if there was anything the event goers would like to see from the WSGA, and they asked to see a CITO ear sequim/port angeles area. I'm in the works of finding a good location for that event.

Out of curiosity, has there been any progress on the letters to send to the cachers who are no longer current in the WSGA?

-Erin

South West Chapter

Report by SuperKnots

SW Chapter report by The SuperKnotts (Brian and Vickie)

We had our chapter picnic

GC89BNW-7/28/19 - Vancouver WA - It was a well attended event , we had burgers and hotdogs and many cachers brought a pot luck dish . The weather was beautiful .We had a nice raffle and bean bag toss. Cache and swag donated some prizes and other members donated some homemade and 3D printed cache containers .Everyone had a good time.

Upcoming -

Our 2019 WSGA SW GIFF Event GC8D8DB 11/9/2019 in Longview WA at the Longview Public Library . We have 7 will attends so far. Working on gathering raffle prizes.

Thinking of something for October but not sure yet

Brainstorming ideas for our December Holiday party

Brian and Vickie

Parks Liaison

Report by Peaches (of Peaches&Pete)

No report submitted

Campout Director

Report by Peaches (of Peaches&Pete)

No report submitted.