

Scouts Invite Community in 21st Century Treasure Hunt

Scouts in Lewis and Clark Council Use Geocaching to Reach Out to Today's Kids

Scouts in Lewis and Clark Council, along with other Scouts around the country, are bringing 100 years of history into the modern era with a new geocaching program that takes traditional map-and-compass expeditions to a whole new level. These global, high tech scavenger hunts are perfect for 21st century Scouting, as the organization continues to embrace and anticipate the trends of its increasingly tech-savvy young members.

The Boy Scouts of America's nationwide geocaching program, Get in the Game!, launched this spring, as part of the organization's 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Caches have been hidden from Godfrey to Carlyle to Nashville to Waterloo and Millstadt. And everyone (Scout or not) is invited to seek them out. Go to www.geocaching.com, and type in "**LewisandClarkCouncil**" to find out where they're stashed. You can also search by code using GC247PZ, GC247QZ, GC247RE, GC247QA and GC247R5. But, don't venture out empty-handed. Geocaching etiquette states you can take a prize from a cache, but only if you leave another in its place.

The Lewis and Clark Council is also holding a family Cache In Trash Out geocaching event on Saturday, May 15. Parents are invited to bring boys and girls that are interested in learning more about Scouting and to help clean up the environment. Be sure to visit www.lewisandclarkcouncilbsa.org/activities to get more information about all of the Get in the Game Geocaching activities.

We are also in need of your help to get another geocaching game up and running called Cache to Eagle. We would like to place caches at some of these locations to honor the scouts that did them but we have no record of where they are or who did the project. If you know of an Eagle project that has been completed please send us the location of the project and a brief biography of the scout and the information on the completed the project so we can hide a cache near the project. Information can be e-mailed to lewisandclarkgeocaching@charter.net.

On top of introducing youth to Scouting, Get in the Game! and Cache to Eagle teach lessons that parents will appreciate. Lessons like leadership, problem solving, cooperation, teamwork, respect for nature, and— in true Scouting form—orienteeing.

We haven't replaced the map and compass, but GPS is a great addition. We're celebrating 100 years of Scouting in America by showing we're just as exciting, action-oriented, and relevant for today's kids as we were when our journey began.

To learn more about Get in the Game!, Cache to Eagle and all of the programs of the BSA 100th Anniversary Celebration, visit www.Scouting.org/100years or www.lewisandclarkbsa.org/activities