

The Berkshire Blast

WE HAVE MOOOVED TO A NEW LOCATION!

The two biggest news items from 2018 are that (1) Meghan Markle married Prince Harry, and that (2) **THE BERKSHIRE GEOBASH HAS MOVED TO THE 4H FAIRGROUNDS JUST OFF OF HOLMES ROAD IN PITTSFIELD!** So, for those of you who carry your GPS or Smartphone with you at all times, duh, the **COORDINATES FOR THE NEW LOCATION ARE: N 42° 24.608' W 073° 14.754'**. If you can find a Nano in the woods, you'll be able to find the 4H Fairgrounds! There will be NO BGB#7 events held at Bousquet Mountain Ski Resort.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO FOR LUNCH?

This year there will not be a pre-ordered picnic meal during the Berkshire Geobash, so **YOU DO NOT NEED TICKETS FOR LUNCH**. Volunteers from the local 4H will prepare sumptuous breakfasts and lunches to purchase. Of course, attendees are welcome to bring their own picnic baskets, too. But as a reminder, all food sales will benefit the local 4H Fairgrounds and Programs.

WOOF WOOF

The Berkshire Geobash is a dog friendly event, so **feel free to bring your furry four-legged family member**. Just remember that all dogs must be on leashes, and please follow the proper etiquette for cleaning up after them.

THE CONTESTS

For all of you cachers who love the challenge of the contests, please check out the updated information on our website!!! <http://www.berkshiregeobash.com/contests-1.html>

We will once again have the famous "**FTF Frenzy**" beginning July 18 and ending on July 20. Over 100 caches of all different difficulties and terrains have been placed for your pleasure!!! At least 50 of them are P&G's!!! Each cache has a prize certificate in it to be turned into MsGwozdz during that time. Some

will have \$5 off coupons to be used at the store - only on Saturday, July 21.

The **Cache-n-Dash** is back on Saturday, July 21. This year there are 10 caches placed (RT is 4 miles). Registration opens at 9AM, contest starts at 9:30AM. Cachers will be given the coordinates/punch cards at 9:30AM to enter coordinates into their GPSr's. Although the caches are numbered 1-10 they have not been placed in that order, so be sure to enter all coordinates before going out in the field!

Contestants will have 1 hour to complete the challenge & turn in their punch card by 10:30AM. The top 4 cachers who complete the challenge with the most cache finds/punches in the shortest amount of time will win a trackable plaque. The coordinates will be handed out to any geocacher not participating in the Cache-n-Dash after 10:30AM. The caches will go live after 11:30AM.

There will be 2 sets of **Lab Caches** again this year. As in the past, one of the sets will be a driving tour of Berkshire County giving cachers an opportunity to go back in time, visiting some of our favorite venues where BGB events were previously held. It will go live at 10AM on Saturday, July 14 and be available for 10 days. The second set will be a walking tour on and around the 4H Fairgrounds which will go live at 10AM during the Berkshire Geobash. Someone asked about lab caches counting as part of the Hidden Creatures Challenge. The answer from HQ is that Yes, Lab Caches count for the Hidden Creatures challenge.

TIME TO THANK OUR SPONSORS

Well, it's getting close and in just a few days geocachers from around the world will be moving into the Berkshires for a little while! We can't wait to get this party started!!!

While you're visiting the area, we'd like to help make your planning a little easier. YES, there will be geocaching events daily, BUT, we've also built in some free time for you to go exploring the Berkshires on your own. Of course, we have a lot of great geocaching opportunities for all levels and interests, plenty of great hiking trails, lakes for kayaking/canoeing, a fantastic bike trail (Ashuwillticook Rail Trail), and park & grabs.

But, for those folks who would like to take advantage of other great activities in the Berkshires, we also have wonderful art venues, theatres, adventures, and food.

We are very grateful to all of our sponsors who help us to make your visit to the Berkshires memorable. So, if you get the chance please stop by and thank them for helping us to make the Berkshire Geobash an awesome experience for everyone!

CAMPING:

Mt. Greylock Campsite Park, Lanesboro,
MA <http://www.mtgreylockcampsitepark.com/>

ACTIVITIES/ADVENTURE:

Valley Park Bowl & Bounceland, North Adams,
MA <https://explorenorthadams.com/item/valley-park-bowl-bounceland/>
Mass MoCA, North Adams, MA <https://massmoca.org/about/>
Ramblewild, Lanesboro, MA <http://ramblewild.com/>
Pittsfield Suns, Pittsfield, MA <http://pittsfieldsuns.com/>
Bousquet Mountain, Pittsfield, MA <https://www.bousquets.com/summer>

FOOD & BEVERAGES:

Bight Ideas Brewing, North Adams, MA <http://brightideasbrewing.com/>
Freight Yard Pub, North Adams, MA <https://www.thefreightyardpub.com/>
Pedrin's Dairy Bar, North Adams, MA <https://www.yelp.com/biz/pedrins-dairy-bar-north-adams>
Bigg Daddy's Philly Steak House, Adams,
MA <http://berkshiremenus.com/Restaurants/Adams/BiggDaddy-s-Philly-Steak-House.aspx>
Bigg Daddy's Philly Steak House, Pittsfield, MA <https://www.yelp.com/biz/biggdaddys-philly-steak-house-pittsfield>
Zucchini's, Pittsfield, MA <http://zucchinisrestaurant.com/>
The Roasted Garlic, Pittsfield, MA <http://www.theroastedgarlic.com/>

Zucco's Family Restaurant, Pittsfield, MA <http://zuccosrestaurant.com/>
Arizona Pizza, Lenox, MA <http://arizonapizza.com/menu.htm>

WORKSHOPS

Tenebrus is once again planning 3 very exciting geocaching workshops that attendees will not want to miss!!! He will start the day with a "**Bring Your Own Gadget Cache**" **show & tell workshop**. Attendees are invited to bring their own amazing gadget cache to show off to other cachers that just need to know!!! If someone brings an active cache to demonstrate, please understand that there will be no signing of the log, so that it doesn't get locked out. The other two workshops will be the "**Cracking into Mystery Cache**" and "**Setting Up Your GeoQuest**." All workshops are interactive.

TWO CASHING ADVENTURES (These are not listed as BGB#7 Events)

Vermont 1 – GC86

Around the time of the "Welcome to Vermont" satellite event on July 17 (GC7NCN7), we are planning on trying for Vermont 1, the oldest cache in Vermont. We tried for it last year, but it was raining cats and dogs and try as we might, the final eluded us. If you are not familiar with this one, you either need a 4-wheel drive vehicle or you will have to hike a considerable distance (about a mile) at a great elevation increase (about 300 feet). We will not have our truck this year, so we will have to walk unless someone with a high clearance 4-wheel drive vehicle is willing to join forces with us. The more the merrier! The cache is only about a 30-minute drive from this event. Anyone interested, please contact us thru the message system or email: twokatzhunt@hotmail.com

Tin Man - GC3JAY4

This is a MUST DO cache, if you haven't already found it!!! Hoping that geocachers traveling to the area for the Berkshire Geobash will have the opportunity to take the drive to New York State and visit this amazing cache!!! It is well worth the drive, and if you get to meet Richard E you will definitely enjoy hearing all about the effort and hours he put into making this life size character come to life!!!

SATELLITE EVENTS

Here they are folks! The entire list of our Satellite events. Attend one or attend them all! There is **NO COST** to attend any of these events unless you choose to purchase something from the venue, which would be at your own expense.

Friday, July 13, 2018 - GC7QZ4D - Friday the 13th Haunted Night Event!
Saturday, July 14, 2018 - GC7NZY7 - CITO at Shatford Memorial Park
Saturday, July 14, 2018 - GC7P812 - Still Horsing Around
Saturday, July 14, 2018 - GC7N7PR - Visiting the 3 Girls!
Sunday, July 15, 2018 - GC7NA7Q - Hanging at the Glen 2
Sunday, July 15, 2018 - GC7N9AE - Take Me Out to the Ball Game!!!
Monday, July 16, 2018 - GC7P1MQ - Breakfast at Bob's
Monday, July 16, 2018 - GC7P820 - Sunset
Tuesday, July 17, 2018 - GC7NCN7 - Welcome to Vermont
Tuesday, July 17, 2018 - GC7NAKY - Movie Under the Stars
Wednesday, July 18, 2018 - GC7P82M - The Last Splash
Wednesday, July 18, 2018 - GC7N7NR - Meet Up at Papa Bob's
Thursday, July 19, 2018 - GC7NAM7 - Annual Bowling Bash
Thursday, July 19, 2018 - GC7PJA7 - Welcome to the Berkshires, One More Time!
Friday, July 20, 2018 - GC7P8VF - C&D Finale
Friday, July 20, 2018 - GC7NAJG - The Last Hurrah! Pre-Registration and Swap
[Saturday, July 21, 2018 - GC739AN - Berkshire Geobash #7 - The Last Hurrah!](#)
Sunday, July 22, 2018 - GC7NAK3 - The Last Hurrah! Breakfast After the Bash 2018
Sunday, July 22, 2018 - GC7PQG3 - Winding Down After a Great Week of Fun

RAFFLES

Over 150 items will be raffled off this year!!! Raffle tickets will be sold from 9:15AM to 2:30PM. Some of the awesome prizes that will be available include: 9 complete sets of 7 BGB Geocoins; a handmade trackable Ammo Can Mailbox (there are only 2 in existence to the best of our knowledge) hand made by our own gworol; 2 passes to Ramblewild (high ropes adventures); a barn mailbox

donated from Sheds & Stuff; homemade bird houses and nest caches created by bdubs213; ammo cans ready to hide; handmade fleece blankets; geocaching t-shirt pillows; and much more!!!

THE BGB STORE

We will have items in our on-site store the day of the Berkshire Geobash, BUT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE we'll have what you want AS OUR SUPPLIES ARE RAPIDLY DWINDLING. No purchase is necessary to attend any of the Berkshire Geobash week of events and/or activities.

TWO VISITORS

Jordan (aka LG9000), a lackey for HQ, will be joining us this year to experience the BEST of the BERKSHIRES!!! We are thrilled to have him be a part of our Berkshire Geobash history!!! And, as in past years, our old friend SIGNAL will be hanging around the Berkshires, attending many of our events. So please take a minute to FTF our friends from Washington State.

AND THE OFFICIAL WEATHER FORECAST FROM SUNNY ANN BRIGHT, OUR METEROLOGIST

Saturday, July 21 shows mostly sunny, 88/70 with wind at 8 MPH from the East.

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