

Berkshire Blast - Volume 2016; Issue 2

ONLY 76 DAYS UNTIL THE BASH!

This issue of the Berkshire Blast was sent to all of our subscribers via email on May 1, 2016 at 9:00AM, which is EXACTLY 76 days from the start of the FIFTH Annual **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH** at Bousquet Mountain Ski Resort in Pittsfield, Mass. That means that if you haven't already registered, you now have only **45** days to complete your registration prior to the firm June 15, 2016 deadline. The link to register is www.berkshiregeobash.com. And don't forget that **REGISTRATION PACKAGE PRICES INCREASE AFTER MIDNIGHT, June 1, 2016**. So, if you want to save a couple of bucks, **REGISTER NOW!**

THE TOP 10 REASONS FOR ATTENDING THE BERKSHIRE GEOBASH:

10. What could be better than a weeklong event in the beautiful Berkshire Mountains?
9. Where else can you find 75 new caches published for one Mega event?
8. Where else can you TRY to find caches hidden by his royal evilness, GWOROL?
7. What other Mega event has more than 20 satellite events scheduled for the 7 days before and one day after the main event?
6. What other Mega event gives away countless valuable door prizes to local restaurants, shops, and pubs at every satellite event?
5. What other Mega event has Spoiler?
4. What could be better than New England's First and Only Continuous MEGA Event?
3. What other Mega event has a ski lift that operates in July just for OUR event?
2. Where else can you meet 1,000 geocachers from the U.S. and a dozen foreign countries at one event?
1. What other Mega has workshops, vendors, sponsors, raffles, lackeys, activities, a children's corner, and our pal Signal, all rolled into one huge well run and now our FIFTH annual event? See YOU at the **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH!**

75 FIRST TO FINDS?

Are you interested in becoming part of geocaching history by getting a First to Find (FTF) during this year's **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH**? How about going home with 75

FTF's? Well then, welcome to the **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH "FTF**

Frenzy". This year, as was done in past years, approximately 75 new caches will be placed throughout the **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH** region by the Cache Placement and Maintenance Committee and published during the three days before the **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH**. But this year the Committee is going to make this a more organized and fun-filled event by placing tokens in each new cache, which will be used for scorekeeping. And not all caches will be equal; both terrain and difficulty will affect the score for each FTF. So stand by cachers, the official FTF Frenzy rules will be published in the June issue of the Berkshire Bash. And if you knew the members of the Frenzy Committee like I know the members of the Frenzy Committee, you'll be prepared for anything! So gas up the Geo-mobile, grab the Geopup, put fresh batteries in the GPS, set the Smartphone to alert on new caches, and forget the pajamas, because the first cache COULD be published after midnight, in North Adams...or in Pittsfield...or in Stockbridge...or in Florida (the mountain in Massachusetts, that is!). Be prepared and get a FIRST TO FIND or TWO or TEN!

THIS IS A COPY OF AN ARTICLE THAT WAS RECENTLY PUBLISHED IN THE FTE MAGAZINE ON THE **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH, OR IT'S NOT GOING TO RAIN THIS YEAR ON OUR GEOBASH:**

"Despite a downpour at the precise moment of the group picture (causing a 2½ hour delay), nobody's spirits were dampened at the **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH #4**. The photo was followed by entertainment provided by the appropriately named group "Run for Cover," because that was exactly what everyone did during the storm! Close to 900 people attended the event, enjoying Lab Caches, 19 satellite events, picnics, kickball, bowling, ice skating, hiking (both day and night hikes), wine tasting, dinners and tail gating, kayaking, and a

CITO. **Groundspeak Lackey** Dave Wilson (**Hidden Gnome**) joined in the fun. Attendees came from many of the continental USA states and around the world, including Qatar and Canada. Next year we will be celebrating 5 years of the **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH** on Saturday, July 16, 2016. Follow us on Facebook and our website at www.berkshiregeobash.com.”

Berkshire Blast Editor’s Note: It is with great pleasure that we advise all of our current and future **BERKSHIRE GEOBASH** attendees that we have fired our last weatherman and are now in the process of hiring one who will guarantee that the month of July in the Berkshires will be filled with sunny skies, a slight breeze, and low humidity. Stay tuned for our first weather report.

**AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR MANY SPONSERS (listed in alphabetical order)
THAT WE HOPE YOU WILL PATRONIZE NOW AND THROUGHOUT THE COMING
YEARS:**

<<Platinum>>

4imprint Promotional Products
Bousquet Mountain Ski Resort
Bright Ideas Brewing
County Ambulance, Pittsfield
Groundspeak
Mountain View Creations
Ramblewild
The Berkshires
The Roasted Garlic Bar and Restaurant
Zucchini’s Restaurant

<<Gold>>

Arizona Pizza Company
Bounti-Fare Restaurant & Catering
DebbieDoesDecals
EXTAGZ

Freight Yard Pub and Restaurant
Geocaching Cruise Planners
Lake View Orchards
MassMoCA
Matt Reilly's Irish Pub
Oakcoins Custom Made Products
Pathtags
Pedrin's Restaurant
Pink Cow Pathtags
Red Hat Promotions
Sullivan Station Restaurant
Tampa Bay Geocaching Store
The Real Deal Brazil Fashions
Zucco's Family Restaurant

<<Silver>>

GC64BR7 – Discover L&A County Geocaching Event 2016, MEGA, Ontario, Canada
Gone Cachin'
TeamFly's

Friends of the Berkshire Geobash

Philip Demers, aka phild31
Elaine, Jim, and Jessica Morgan, aka 3Woofs
Jackie Parker, aka ogie623
Thomas Sands, aka Plumb69

Vendors

We'll have an up-to-date list in next month's issue of the Berkshire Blast!

MY FIRST GEO PEEVE

Recently, we have seen a proliferation of cash in caches. More often than not it's just small change, but at times we have seen dollar bills, and even a two-dollar bill stuffed into a container. This isn't a huge issue, but I think it could turn into one. According to Groundspeak,

there are currently over 15 million geocachers and more than 2,800,000 caches throughout the world. I know that when we all first started caching, we were very stealthy, watching out for those dreaded muggles who always seemed to be close by at the most inopportune times. But as time goes on and our numbers increase, we sometimes don't try to hide what we are doing as best we can.

What concerns me is how easy it would be for muggles to discover, and quickly spread the word, that many of our caches contain cash. When a muggle accidentally finds one, or sees cachers honing in on one, they may come back later to see what the fuss was all about. Then when they see that this oddly marked container holds a treasure trove of cash, they may remove the currency, destroy the container and its contents, and pass the word to their friends that Tupperware in the woods is worth finding. Why create an opportunity to have our hobby ruined? Keep your cash!