

GCPC EPISODE 785 - That Needs A Virtual!

SB: Welcome everyone! It's Wednesday, it's 8:30 which means that it is once again time for the Geocaching podcast. My name is Shortyknits, Scott is out on assignment, and please welcome to my virtual left, my other co-host: Chaz427

CC: Howdy All! Let's talk Virtuals!

SB: Tonight's Episode **785** recorded live on **September 27, 2023** is **That Needs a Virtual!**. The phone lines are open so give us a call at 808-468-7924, that's 808 GOT SWAG and for international callers, you can call us for free via the web at callinstudio.com/show/gcpc

SB: Let's talk Patreon. It costs a lot of money to make this podcast work and we really could use your help. Thanks to all of our current subscribers and our new subscribers:

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CC: Tonight's show is brought to you by **Cachly!**

Cachly is an advanced Geocaching app for iOS. It features powerful online and offline features including filtered searches, offline maps and offline saving of caches. Cachly has hundreds of advanced features that will make your Geocaching experience just that much better!" Get more info at cachly.com

SK: And it's also sponsored by **Logwerk!**

Logwerk are the creators of the FANTastic logbook, made with genuine Rite in the Rain paper. The logbooks designed for the micro containers of the present and future, geared towards the hider who would rather go caching than do cache maintenance. Find them at Logwerk.com

CC: It's also brought to you by **FTF Geocacher Magazine!**

FTF Geocacher is the magazine for geocachers written BY geocachers. With 6 issues a year, FTF offers practical advice, hints & tips, cacher bios & milestones, geocaching events, trail tales, and all things geo-related. Find them at ftfgeocacher.com

SK: And by the **MacSuds Body Company!**

MacSuds Body Company makes handmade bath and body products from all natural oils and butters. Items such as, Poison B Gone Soap, Itch spray and two scent choices of Bug Spray are all great for outdoor enthusiasts like Geocachers. At MacSuds Body we have you covered from Head to Toe. Find them at macsudsbody.com

CC: And by **Practical Geocaching!**

Practical Geocaching sells utility items for geocaching. Our items are made in the USA, and we always provide free shipping. Find them at practicalgeocaching.com

SK: And by **ArtEdCraftEd!**

ArtEdCraftEd creates unique geocaching themed tees and custom designs for you or your geocaching group. With Adult sizes ranging from small to 5XL, if you have an idea for a shirt design and cannot find it, then you've gone to the right place. Give them the opportunity to show you how they can enhance your caching experience with your own custom design! Visit them at ArtEdCraftEd.com

CC: And by **Pathtags.com!**

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SK: And by **Geocaching Adventures LLC!**

Geocaching Adventures is a full-service travel agency specializing in creating the ultimate worldwide geocaching adventures for cachers and non-cachers alike! What could be better than having your geocaching bucket list vacation all planned and led by a traveling expert? Learn more by visiting us at geocachingadventuresllc.com

CC: And finally by **Geooh GO!**

Go caching with Geooh GO, the geocaching app for Android that includes a wherigo player, trackable scanner, companion watch app, and county finds database. If you are an advanced geocacher, Geooh GO helps with powerful features like nearby cache notifications, optimized routes, offline mode, bulk TB logging and much more. Learn more by visiting them at geooh-go.com.

You can find links to all our sponsors on our website and in our show notes.

SHOW NOTES:

NEWS:

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EMAIL:

- My geo name is T.R.E.K.
- Hello,
- I am new to your show, and I enjoy it very much. My first show was episode 784.
- I agree with refreshing the game board but also Archiving old caches will make it harder or impossible for new players to fill in the grids.
- I am working on finding caches by months placed, and the early years are getting harder and harder to find. I say save the old caches, maybe just refresh the actual cache or description.
- I look forward to catching up on your old programs as I make my long drives.
Cheers from San Diego

Virtual is a "Legacy" cache type, stopped publishing in 2005.

Since then 3 rounds of "virtual rewards" have been awarded, in 2017, 2019, and 2022
A 4th round will be awarded soon:

<https://www.geocaching.com/blog/2023/06/introducing-virtual-rewards-4-0/>

Geocaching HQ is pleased to announce Virtual Rewards 4.0, an opportunity to reward 4,000 lucky cache owners who create inspired and noteworthy geocaches! Unlike prior Virtual Rewards, there's no need to opt in or apply. Geocachers who meet the following criteria will automatically be eligible for selection on January 17, 2024.

How can I qualify for a chance to hide a Virtual Cache?

- You must have a non-Event geocache published in 2023 that has earned at least 4 Favorite points by December 31, 2023.
- You must have created your geocaching account before June 13, 2023.
- Prior Virtual Reward recipients are eligible to participate.

- Players who opted-in for Virtual Reward 2.0 and 3.0, but did not receive a Virtual Cache will have a higher likelihood to receive a Virtual Reward 4.0

How does the process work?

- On January 17, 2024, Geocaching HQ will randomly select up to 4,000 eligible geocachers, with geographic distribution, to receive one Virtual Cache.
- Recipients will have one year to create their Virtual Cache page and submit it for review (January 17, 2024–January 17, 2025). The caches must comply with [Virtual Cache-specific guidelines](#).
- All geocaching community volunteers (reviewers, moderators, and translators) who qualify will receive a Virtual Reward as thanks for giving their time to support the geocaching community.
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Virtual inspiration:

<https://www.geocaching.com/help/index.php?pg=kb.chapter&id=127&pgid=936>

Websites such as Atlas Obscura

Books such as Oddball Illinois

SB:

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SK:

- Navy Pier - the one there got archived
- Aztec Ruins, National Monument
 - <https://www.nps.gov/azru/planyourvisit/basicinfo.htm>
- Olivastri Millenari, Luras, Italy
 - At an estimated 3,800 years old, this olive tree is one of the oldest on earth.
 - <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/olivastri-millenari>
- Fingal's Cave, Isle of Staffa, Scotland (has earthcache only)
 - This astonishingly geometric cave has inspired everyone from Jules Verne to Pink Floyd.
 - <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/fingal-s-cave>
- [Golden Gate View Point](#)
 - A brief hike leads to this elevated lookout above the Golden Gate Bridge, popular for photos.

- Address: Old Conzelman Rd, Mill Valley, CA 94941
- The Photographer Gargoyle at Palencia Cathedral, Palencia, Spain
 - The camera-toting gargoyle juts out from the exterior of a Gothic cathedral.
 - <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/photographer-gargoyle-palencia-cathedral>
- Spotted Lake, British Columbia, Canada (has earthcache & trad nearby)
 - In the summer the water of the lake evaporates and small mineral pools are left behind, each one different in colour to the next.
- EPIC in Verona, WI
 - Company's headquarters, campus is absolutely insane. You can take self guided tours
 - <https://www.epic.com/visiting/>
 - "We welcome visitors to our Intergalactic Headquarters during specific times throughout the week and on weekends. Stop by our registration desk to pick up a map for a self-guided tour. As you explore, you may encounter magic on our Wizards campus, see some familiar faces on our Storybook campus, or even encounter some furry friends on our functioning farm. Staff use cow bikes, cow golf carts, or cow vans to mooove across campus."
- The Hand in the Desert, Chile (traditional nearby but not close)
 - <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/hand-desert>
- Heidelberg Project, Detroit, MI (has a couple trades nearby)
 - <https://www.heidelberg.org/>
 - Outdoor art exhibit
- All professional sports stadiums! In Chicago, wrigley field has one but not soldier field or guaranteed rate field.
- Webcams! One of the most fun virtual caches that I found made use of an existing webcam.
- Airports ??
- Cemeteries ??
- Universities ??
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CC:

- Monument Circle - Downtown Indianapolis - Soldiers and Sailors Monument downtown built for Civil War Vets, used as tallest faux christmas tree at 280', Ice Skating in the pools during the winter, among other interesting factoids
- Mount Huashan Plank Walk
 - <https://jetsetjansen.com/plank-walk-mount-huashan-china/>
- Christ of the Abyss (Italy or Key Largo) both are Bronze Sculptures that were one of three cast from the same mold. And they'd have a Scuba attribute to boot.

NEXT WEEK'S SHOW:

- October Cacher Coffee
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CLOSING:

 NOW RECORDED AUDIO 