

Show 31.0 - Big News!

Date: January 8, 2023

Show hosts: [Emily McConathy](#), Tim Green

Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/1MKGmMyqr-8?feature=share>

Contact: challengetalkpodcast@gmail.com

Show playlist: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlyQyaP7GhZu-8r_0JcRWz4D1lxtmJ7lY

Part of the [Geocache Talk Network](#)



SHOW NOTES



- **Intro tidbits**

- **BIG REVEAL - Tim Green (merlin1392) is the new Challenge Talk Co-Host. Welcome, Tim!**
- How's your month been?
 - Emily
 - 2022 best numbers year
 - New GeoRig - celebrated by finding a challenge cache
 - Tim
 - 200 caches minimum per month in 2022
 - 4022 caches total in 2022
- Email any of your challenge caching questions, big or small, to challengetalkpodcast@gmail.com

- **Challenge Statistics update % Project-GC:**

- **Some of the old Challenge stats were not well understood, or went deeper than the average challenge cacher wanted to go. However, we're still numbers based geeks! Maybe it will help you seek out where the challenges are!**

- 36,018 active challenge caches worldwide (by attribute [search](#)) up from 35,711 +307 (as of 1/2)
- USA has 15,399 active challenge caches, followed by Germany, Canada, Norway, France
- Australia sits in 8th position
- Top US States are: California, Texas, Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, Arizona, Utah, Wisconsin, Kentucky, & Oregon.

- **News items:**

- New 2023 Hider souvenir - make your first hide a Challenge Cache!
- New Host - new features? We welcome your feedback and ideas for the show

- 2023 Souvenir dates - Are you challenged by them or not?
<https://www.geocaching.com/blog/2023/01/2023-geocaching-hq-souvenir-moments/?newsletter=PM>

- **TOPIC: Memorable Challenges**

- What's your favorite challenge that you've completed and why?
 - Tim
 - Romeo Bravo: BaBBB Red Baron Challenge: Not the 20 Mystery Cache" [GC73KFN](#)
 - Fizzy BINGO - Types Challenge Mystery Cache [GC5BRMD](#)
 - Emily
 - Utah's Trackable Icon Challenge <https://coord.info/GC1D075>
 - Challenge 40 tribute to Emily <https://coord.info/GC8G3HK>
 - Louisiana Purchase Challenge <https://coord.info/GC7A1XW>
 - 22 Years of Geocaching Challenge <https://coord.info/GC9RMZN>

- **Community Q's**

- "Do you have any questions you'd like answered, talk about, explore? Big or small, email them to challengetalkpodcast@gmail.com

GAMETIME

- **Wheel Of Challenges!**

- One live viewer each month will be selected to face off against the wheel to have a chance to win the grand prize (1 year membership on Project-GC)
- **Limit of three wins**
- To enter, send an email with a subject containing "SPIN ME" followed by your geocaching username in brackets and the answer to the following question. The first verified user *gets the wheel*. Your profile will be checked live on Project-GC, and if you qualify, you win!
- Here is your question: "What country comes in 4th for largest number of challenge caches?"
- The answer to the question was: "Norway"
- Congratulations!" The first to answer by email correctly was **Gary of the GB's** who successfully qualified for [GC53GPC](#) (1.0D) "Mega rare" challenge (2x 5T's in one day, no 5/5).

- **Monthly Challengers**

- Every month we give a congratulatory shoutout to listeners who email us proof of qualifying and logging a challenge cache since the last show. Anyone who sends an email to challengetalkpodcast@gmail.com with the GC code having a Found it log (including a photo if you'd like to share) for that month will be entered for the prize giveaway for a **Challenge Talk Pathtag**.
- Here are a few of the interesting challenges we heard about from our listeners:
 - **zippertiff**: <https://coord.info/GC8C5KK> **State Capitals Challenge** - log a find in ten (10) counties which contain a state capital
 - **Acornmama**: <https://coord.info/GC4WC6Q> **Challenge- 100 Words or More** - "I hid a boring cache in a boring spot. The challenge is, you MUST write 100 words or more in your found log."

- **Simmsquest:** <https://coord.info/GC9HZ1F> **From Sea to Shining Sea Challenge** - find one cache in each of the states The 39th parallel goes through: New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Nevada and California. In 2019, we moved from California to Maryland with four months spent living in Northern Virginia.
- **Starkacher:** <https://coord.info/GC4Q4AG> **Periodic Table of Caching Challenge** - Find 110 of 118 elements with their chemical symbol in the GC code. (Jim notes: Since there are certain letters that are needed for the periodic table that are not in allowed GC codes, there is a list of acceptable substitutions. I have found 116 of the 118. I may someday try to find the two that I did not have (Uut and Uup). One interesting note is that the Checker appears to be looking for only 100 out of the 118, instead of the 110 in the description. So, I wonder how many people are slipping through with 100 to 109 codes instead of 110+?)
- **bedstefader skjule:** <https://coord.info/GC8004V> **W \$CWLD\$ - LPC CHALLENGE #6 - T. G. I. F. !!!!** - Find a cache on a Fri. on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, thru the 31st of any month. That's a total of 31 caches.
- **GB's:** <https://coord.info/GC72KR1> **401 Challenge - This Fizzy is 'Available 24-7'** - filled a complete Fizzy Grid (Difficulty and Terrain) with caches that contain the 'available 24-7' attribute.
- **Kitty Katch:** <https://coord.info/GCY98X> **Victoria Country Road Atlas Challenge** - *Grab yourself a copy of the UBD Victoria Country Road Atlas and log a cache on every map page, all 38 of them. (Kitty notes: I haven't seen one like this in Australia before. The hint is the CO's mobile phone number. Once you qualify you call them and they give you final coords.*
- **Kitty Katch:** <https://coord.info/GC4RBRF> **5 Consecutive Year Geoversary Challenge** - find a cache hidden on your geocaching birthday ('geoversary') and repeat for five consecutive years. So, 6 finds are required to qualify for the final challenge.

- Remember, to enter for next month, send in your email before next month's show.
- This month's winner is: GB's!

CLOSING THOUGHTS?

- Feedback! We'd also love your feedback about the show. What do you like; What would you like to see different; What would you like to see more of; How can we make it better for YOU!

REMINDERS

- Next show is the first Sunday of February, the 5th
- Show notes will be posted shortly after the show airs in the video description.

THANKS FOR WATCHING AND LISTENING!

And remember, it's not about the numbers, it's about the challenge!

"Challenge accepted!"

LINKS AND RESOURCES

Helpful browser plugins:

- Project-GC browser helper: <https://project-gc.com/Home/UserScript>
(Requires TamperMonkey or GreaseMonkey)
- GME Geocaching Map Enhancements: https://openuserjs.org/scripts/JRI/Geocaching_Map_Enhancements
- GC1h (Little Helper) extension: <https://github.com/2Abendsegler/GC1h>

[Challenge cache guidelines - Section 2.12](#)

Challenge Cache Moratorium?!!

A 1 year halt on all challenge cache publishing gave GCHQ time to rework the rules and guidelines for challenge caches. Post-moratorium challenge caches abide by different restrictions than pre-moratorium challenge caches, which have been 'grandfathered' as is.

Moratorium started: April, 2015

Moratorium ended: May 25, 2016

Past shows with introductory topics:

[2.0 - Statistics and you!](#)
[3.0 - Challenging etiquette](#)
[4.0 - Strategies for tracking progress](#)
[8.0 - Challenge badges and souvenirs](#)
[9.0 - Hiding Emily's first challenge cache](#)
[14.0 - Challenge caching on the road](#)
[15.0 - Ask a reviewer: CacheShadow](#)
[19.0 - Lackey interview: Rock Chalk](#)
[21.0 - Fully Themed Challenge Caches](#)
[25.0 - Tools of Project-GC](#)
[32.0 - Preparing Challenges](#)