Guidelines for Geocaching Experience.

A dedicated handheld GPS receiver or a wireless device with the appropriate GPS app installed will be necessary for this event. Participants should have loaded the Geocaching app into their wireless device (cell phone) before arriving at the event.

The appropriate app for Android is: **GPS Waypoint Finder** by Keuwlsoft. The appropriate app for iPhone is: **Free GPS** by Code Burners.

Participants should have taken some time to become familiar with the app by loading it and running it just to become familiar with the screens. Coordinates for each cache will be available online and at the registration desk. Loading the coordinates beforehand will save time on event day. Listed coordinates are in the format: DD.DDDDDD. Both of the above listed apps can accommodate this format.

A word about accuracy. No civilian GPS unit has perfect accuracy due to environmental “clutter” such as trees, buildings, cliffs, power lines, etc. The GPS receiver will bring you NEAR the cache and then you must ignore the GPS receiver and begin to use your senses to look for and find the cache.

A map showing the placement of the caches will be available at the registration desk. This map will indicate the general area of the cache and is not intended to give away the exact placement of the cache. For example, the cache that is labeled “Manor House” is in the vicinity of the Manor House but may not be right AT the Manor House.

Participants should dress for “off road” walking in a wooded area, but not necessarily “bushwhacking”. A walking stick may prove useful as well as high energy foods and a water supply.

All caches are placed in easily accessible areas and are easy to locate. All Knox caches are within easy reach of the registration building. Participants should bring a pen or pencil so that you may log your visit at the cache site. Since all wireless devices (cell phones) already have cameras built in, bringing a dedicated camera may not be necessary.

Participants may want to choose a “user name” what was once referred to as a “nick name” as a way to sign the log book at each cache.

One of the fun parts of Geocaching is trading what is called “swag”. These are small pocket items that can be exchanged at the cache site for something left in the cache container by a previous visitor. It is not polite to take something without leaving something. Therefore participants should bring a few small baubles such as tokens, party favors, coins, polished stones, beads, buttons, stickers, marbles, small toys, etc. for trading. Paper items, money and food should be avoided.

Once a cache is found, the log book is signed by all members of the party, swag is exchanged if you have something to trade, the cache is closed and sealed and placed back where it was found, making sure to hide it well so others will have the fun of looking for it.

All caches are placed out in the open. It is not necessary to enter any building or caves or to crawl under any fallen trees or raised buildings. It is not necessary to dismantle any stone walls or overturn any loose objects. It is advisable to have a pair of gloves just as a safety precaution.

Any and all feedback left on the WHOA website will help us improve this event. Thanks for your participation and we hope that you have enjoyed your time with us and perhaps discovered a new hobby.