

Date: 8/15/2013
To: Yachats City Council
From: Bob Bennett
RE: Report On Yachats Geocaching Event

I am here today to thank the Yachats City Council for their support of geocaching in Yachats. On May 9th, 2013 the City Council approved \$1,050 to cover half the cost of a Yachats Geocoin for use during a Yachats Geocaching Event. The coin will also support an on-going Geocache Tour intended to attract geocachers to explore the Yachats area. Both the event and the on-going geocache are a success with over 100 geocoins earned.

I am presenting The City with a framed set of the Yachats Geocoin showing both the front and back to thank Yachats and the City Council for their support of geocaching. I would hope the coin would be displayed where it can be easily be seen by people approaching the front desk. A Geocoin such as this can be “discovered” and logged by geocachers who may happen to find themselves at the front desk.

Event – Explore Yachats – Gem Of The Oregon Coast

The Event was held on August 10th starting at 9:00 AM and was held in the covered pavilion behind the Commons. The event was a success with over 65 attendees despite the afternoon rain. The event required participants to visit all locations in Yachats which serve food or beverages (14 businesses), 5 points of interest, and 5 of the 9 new geocaches placed inside the city limits.

Part of the event objectives were to introduce people to all the locations to eat in Yachats. This was successful as a brief survey showed all but 2 or 3 ate lunch in the city. There was a drawing for prizes at 1:00PM and at 1:30 the Geocache Tour was released.

Geocache Tour – Scenic Yachats – Get Your Geocoin Here

The Geocache Tour is based on 9 caches located within Yachats and another 17 caches located along the Yachats River Road and back over the ridge to Cape Perpetua for a total of 26 caches. To earn the Yachats Geocoin a participant must find and record the password for 20 of the 26 caches. To date 27 people completed this challenge and collected a Yachats Geocoin.

The Geocache Tour location to receive the coin is at the front desk of City Hall. The office staff reviews the passport completed by the geocacher and if at least 20 of the 26 code words are correct they are invited to sign the log, turn in the passport, and receive a Yachats Geocoin. The geocachers have found the city staff very friendly and helpful and all have come away with a very positive impression of both Yachats and the city staff.

The expectation is that the Geocache Tour will run for about 3 years and will give out about 150 coins over time. This is consistent with the previous geocache located in City Hall which gave out over 110 coins over 2 years.

Summary

The Event was a success.

- Geocachers had an opportunity to see just how many places there were to eat in Yachats.
- Restaurants, beverage locations, and snack foods had an increase in business.
- Many geocachers commented on how friendly the local folks were.
- All of the Yachats high points, Little Log Church, Whale Park, Commons, 804 Trail, Amanda's Trail, Blow Hole, Prospect Trail, and Cleft-In-The-Rock Lighthouse were featured.
- All participants were provided with the recently published "Yachats & Cape Perpetua Trails Map" put together by the Yachats Trails Committee.