



Firecracker

THE OFFICIAL NTXB NEWSLETTER

In this issue sent out just before the damn event, 2014:

- ★Volunteer Stuff
- ★Gate Stuff
- ★Burning Stuff
- ★Sean's Stuff
- ★LLC Stuff

THE BIG VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENT YOU WERE WAITING FOR!!!

From Emily, your helpful volunteer coordinator:

The volunteer check in process will go as follows: I will be arriving to the land afternoon Wednesday and I will have a Volunteer HQ set up next to Ranger HQ (at some point Wednesday, you know like after I get myself situated) When you arrive on the land, please come by Volunteer HQ to say 'Hi' **AND** to get your bad ass laminate (compliments of the lovely Sheri Hall) This will help me get a good idea as how many people show up on each day, what shifts to cover if people don't show up, etc. I will have a HUGE SHIFT SCHEDULE somewhere at Volunteer HQ for you to come and verify where and when you are volunteering and you can see what shifts may be open if you decide you wanna pack on more volunteering! Also, I have a gift for each and every single volunteer.*

*This plan is always subject to change

GATE HOURS— WE MEAN IT!

Wednesday 10/8: Only those on the Early Arrival list

Thursday 10/9: 12 noon - 12 midnight

Friday 10/10: 12 noon - 12 midnight

Saturday 10/11: 9am - 6pm, Effigy Burn Night

Sunday 10/12: 9am - 6pm, Temple Burn Night

Monday 10/13: 9am - 5pm, Participants off the land by 5pm

Gate Hours apply to arrival AND departure, so please plan accordingly.

If you arrive after hours, you will spend the night in "D LOT," and we'll check you in when Gate opens. **STAY IN D LOT.** If you are found on the property without a wristband, you are

TRESPASSING and you will be **EJECTED** from the event!!

If you jump a fence into the neighbor's property, you will risk getting shot.

Again, STAY IN D LOT. We'll see you really soon, hang in there!

STAYING WARM

Per the landowners, **NO FIRE PITS** can be dug at Myschievia.

Aboveground fires only. Here are some guidelines from your friendly Fire Team:

- ★ No unattended fires
- ★ Burn barrels must have a grating cover. "Expanded metal" is perfect: [check it out](#)
- ★ Area clear of flammable material (e.g., tents) for 5 yards. This includes tree branches overhead.
- ★ Fire extinguisher visible and within 5 yards
- ★ Accelerants should be 10+ yards away
- ★ Only wood may be burned
- ★ No burning of paper, leaves, or other light materials that can fly away lit
- ★ No burning of trash
- ★ LNT - Ashes must be packed out
- ★ Camp lead is ultimately responsible for fires in their camp

Only YOU can prevent wildfires!

PLAYING WITH GUNS

As we gear up for All-Out War, NTXB LLC would like to remind our participants that **NO FIREARMS** are allowed at Myschievia.

While we're at it, let's talk about *replica* firearms:

We are defining replica firearms as anything that is indistinguishable from a real firearm from any distance. This includes real firearms that have been disabled, and non-functional replicas. This does NOT include obvious toy guns like water guns, nerf guns, etc.

For Myschievia, we are asking that replica firearms be left at home. We also are asking to please not bring "toy" guns that shoot anything harder than water or nerf bullets, so

NO PAINTBALL GUNS, BB GUNS OR AIRSOFT GUNS.

If you have any questions about what is appropriate or inappropriate to bring, please contact llc-2014@ntxb.org. Thanks for your help!

AND NOW, A WORD ABOUT THE THEME FROM SEAN

Ever since All Out War was selected for Myschievia 2014, there have been dissenters who have voiced concerns about this theme's hypothetical implications. Buttons have been pushed, boundaries tested--and subsequently, our community's awareness surrounding a theme's power has significantly increased. Issues have been raised, discussions had, and new agreements have been reached.

This is a good thing. It's striking how many events forego their opportunity to play with dangerous and meaningful ideas. Too often they can defer to pandering. Instead of daring to challenge and prompt, they broadcast uplifting, inane, or self-referentially humorous themes that are ignored almost immediately after they are born. Fellow Myschievians, this is not our path, for we do not lack the sex-specific reproductive orbs.

Our community seized an opportunity to break out of a mold, and the subsequent chaos and reordering is wonderful and exciting. Burn events are not intended utopias, they are experiments, where we can choose ideas as thematic inspiration and do something with them. As a community, we should always strive to seek and confront the uncomfortable, to face it with genuineness and courage, and understand the why's and how's of it.

ALL OUT WAR!

War is. It has been a part of human existence for all of documented history; as a mechanism of social systems, it spreads tendrils throughout every aspect of our interactions: culture, philosophy, religion, media, and every facet of identity politics.

War is. It is where the inherent elements of courage are explored and defined; it is where we cast the molds that shape our heroes, and dictates the qualities by which we measure them. War is courage in the face of danger, courage in the face of defeat, courage in the face of death, and courage in the face of true and deep meaninglessness. War is purpose in the void.

War is where we carve out--in our collective psyche--the very deep well from which hope springs; it is where we find the strength to stand at the raggedy edge of everything and scream "Come at me bro!"

War is. Throughout history, war has brought a profound sweetness to otherwise mundane romances, and has given color to stories as monochromatic as the neighborhoods of "Leave it to Beaver." War presses us to carve the qualities of every lived moment with our beloved(s) into memory, so we never forget our way to a happiness so profound and affirming. In war our heartstrings thicken and grow, and come to resonate so profoundly that existence itself ripples in empathy when they are plucked.

War is. As participants, game-players, shape-makers, volunteers, artisans of experience, cultivators of creation, war lies in wait--for us to seize upon it, take it apart, make something new. In this opportunity of interaction, for the five days we spend at Myschievia--the days we go to considerable effort to set apart from everything else in our respective worlds--we have the chance reform the thing that rules the very world we live in, and mold it as our own. We can use it as a medium for our growth, a prompt for our clarification, and an opportunity for shifting perspectives.

War is our responsibility, and it is our charge to face it with courage, love, and awareness.
To use this opportunity and choose to grow.

ALL OUT WAR....ON SILENCE

North Texas Burners (NTXB), acting as one community, do hereby declare All-Out War on Silence.

Fear and complacency have been our prison. We knew right from wrong -- yet when we saw wrong, we were silent. We didn't want to harsh anyone's mellow. We reassured ourselves, "No one else is saying anything. Maybe it's okay."

NO. It's NOT okay. We will not accept any more casualties. This "culture of silence" is baggage carried from our pre-burn lives. It is a festering wound, and left untreated it will get worse. To heal, we must shine a light in all the dark places. We must take a stand as a community, and show our members that they have our full support. Only then will the silence be broken.

Look to your friends who speak without fear. Inside they may be terrified, but they make their needs known. We all have this ability. To get better, we must practice -- even if it feels awkward. Negotiate how many peas will touch the rice on your plate. Declare which parts of your body are ok to kiss. Any burn event can become a safe place to practice these skills. Continued practice will make speaking up a natural reaction to a true threat.

We WANT you to speak. We don't care if it makes some people uncomfortable. NTXB makes this promise to our community: You can talk to any volunteer about any problem. Serious grievances may be brought to a member of the Batcave or NTXB, LLC. We will act swiftly and fairly, and keep all parties informed throughout the process.

Myschievians, we are asking you to support NTXB in this War on Silence. Help us transform a culture of silence into a culture that speaks up for what is right. We do not exaggerate when we say that our lives -- and our event -- depend on it.

In Solidarity and Respect,

Jerome, Nameless, SoccerMom, Geo, and Moonshine
NTXB, LLC

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

WHAT IS THE FIRECRACKER?

A periodically pushed-out publication pertaining to public propaganda about Myschievia penned by people who purposefully provide their time. (it's a volunteer gazette, ya'll)

I HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN ARTICLE TO PUT IN THE FIRECRACKER, MAY I SUBMIT IT FOR CONSIDERATION?

YES! YES! By the old gods and the new, YES!

Please send them to: firecracker-2014@ntxb.org

WHAT IS THE BATCAVE?

A group of volunteers that act on the behalf of the NTXB Community that actively work with the LLC to ensure that everything involved with making Myschievia run smoothly gets done in a organized and timely manner.

WHAT IS THE LLC?

A secret tribunal of warlocks who summon forth a legion of minions that carry out their unscrupulous deeds to incinerate all of mankind; OR they're some friendly folks that file the necessary paperwork for securing land, filing liability insurance, and all the other boring stuff you never think about that it takes to put an event like this together. I never remember which it is, but it's definitely one of those two groups. Either way, they handle the money.

HOW TO I CONTACT THE BATCAVE OR THE LLC?

Any questions or comments you'd like to share with the Batcave can be sent to batcave-lead@ntxb.org and the LLC can be reached at llc@ntxb.org

You can find more info about both groups on our website at <http://myschievia.ntxb.org/about.html>