



Thanks!!

Tim Stewart aka "The Weasel"

Below is my submission from when group of us went out on 01/03/2009 to claim lowa's first 5x5+ cache placement ever (The Seige).

If you know anything about Iowa winters, they can be downright NASTY, and this day was no different.

The temps were below freezing, there was a good couple of feet of snow on the ground, and that day it was actually sleeting on top of it.

The trek to GZ is chalk full of ravines and hills that total close to a .75 walk (one way) to the cache, as the crow flies.

The amount of snow and ice made this a VERY slippery hike, and there were plenty of times that one or more of us ended on the ground.

When we finally made it to GZ, I volunteered to go over the edge of the cliff and rappel down to the cache for the group and bring it back up to the group.

It was a little unnerving, but I wasn't about to pass up the chance to be the FTF on the first 5X5 cache ever placed in Iowa!

We got the cache signed and placed back and headed back, which should have been the easy part right? Wrong. We ended up getting off track and walking an additional .60 miles out of the way.

So, I think you can call me a winter caching fanatic!

Here is the link to the cache .

[http://www.geocaching.com/geocache/GC1K41Q\\_the-siege](http://www.geocaching.com/geocache/GC1K41Q_the-siege)

My log from the trip

***I FOUND MY PRECIOUS!!!***

***It was a FTF, but it is team effort and co-FTF for the group of us!! (Weasel, Busterbabes, Spivababe, Ghost, and SKH) What a walk to the cache to begin with. It felt like I was fighting George Foreman and I hearing was "Down goes Frazier" with all the falling on the ice along the way to and from the cache. I will say I would rather do this in the winter than the summer with the thorns and stinging nettles.***

***I had volunteered before we got to GZ that I would be the sacrificial lamb to the caching gods and go over the edge. It made me feel a lot better seeing the climbing gear come out of Busterbabes car.***

***After an interesting venture to the cache, I get all locked and loaded up...THEN I see the nature of the beast. Did I have second thoughts, for a moment I sure did!***

***With 3 people on the ropes, I felt totally safe (which if anybody does this cache, I strongly suggest!!) I get to the area of the cache and I see NOTHING. "Oh god no" was the only***

*thought in my head. I can't go back w/o the cache, they may let go of the ropes!! I did some more searching and I happened to tap the cache with a finger. Whew, found the cache, now just don't drop it!! I get the cache back to the group and we all sign the log and take several pictures. BB took the 2005 Iowa geocoin and I swapped the 2007 Iowa geocoin that BB gave me with the actual 2007 coin in the cache. Ugh, now I have to go back and put the cache back in its spot. We off I go again..nice and slow. I get back and get the cache back in his cozy little home w/o dropping it. We stopped and did Skywatcher on the way home, but ended up taking the roundabout way. Let's just say we are ready for the Olympics in "fencing". We finally made it to the road about .60 miles away and had a nice walk back to the car. The was by far the craziest and scariest cache I have ever done, but I wouldn't trade it for anything. What an awesome group of people to do this cache with!!!*

*Thanks for the best cache ever!!*

*The Weasel*

