Mobile App Scavenger Hunt

Target Audience: Units at all levels

Purpose To encourage collaboration, enhance team building, and foster a greater connection with local community in an interactive and mobile environment.
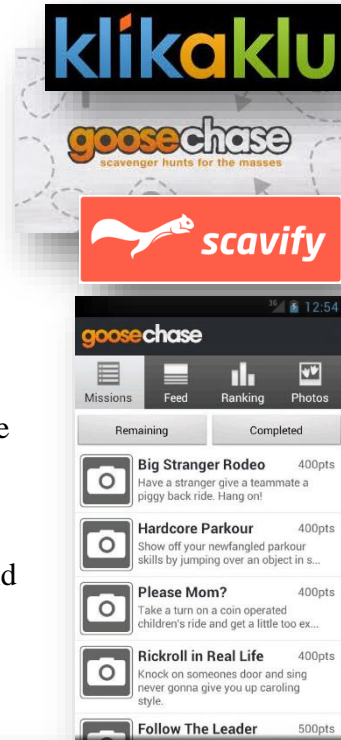
Description Taking advantage of mobile device technology and advancements, a few innovative companies have propelled the simple concept of a scavenger hunt into a tremendous team building event for all ages. Teams complete missions by taking photos and videos, often resulting in fun and hilarious results. Example challenges include: group arm wrestling contests, dance numbers, singing to strangers, finding obscure landmarks in the local area. Remember, *it's not just what you do, it's how you do it!*

History has shown that teams who work, play and go through challenges together tend to build more trust, loyalty and commitment amongst its members. "On the fields of friendly strife are sown the seeds that on other days, on other fields, will bear the fruits of victory." (General Douglas MacArthur). Smartphone mobile app scavenger hunts apply this principle with a challenge task – actually many tasks – that capitalize on a variety of skills and talents within a team, many of which may not be apparent in a normal work environment. As result, each member of the team is given an opportunity to shine. One member could be great at singing while another excels at physical challenges. Additionally, completing a variety of challenges enhances the team dynamic by encouraging rotating leadership and followership roles.

Tailoring a scavenger hunt to a local area or focusing on a heritage theme can enhance the team's connection to our communities, organizations, or heritage (Air Force, national, or other).

Teams are required to always stay together to complete the challenges, enhancing the most important part of the activity – relationship building and collaboration.

Employ
- Establish an Amn, NCO, CGO and/or Civilian Think Tank team to develop the scavenger hunt event(s). Encourage creativity with a purpose to connect team members with each other and community.

- Leverage existing smartphone mobile technology apps to create and share the challenges.

- Promote well. Allow voluntary participation. Schedule during a "down day" and during duty hours if at all possible. Finish with a social gathering where winners are recognized and highlights of the event are shared with all. Food is always a bonus.

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