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COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE INTERVIEW

BY:KANEBRIDGE

I had the pleasure of interviewing two members of the Community Assistance team, Bunnni and KingCrazy_. CoA is a team where both staff members and community members work together, everyone's main goal is to improve the community through projects. If you're interested in applying, you may go to mineplex.com/communityassistance!

What is the role of Community Assistance in your perspective?

Bunnni: The role of CoA in my perspective is to solve issues and create ideas with help from community members and staff members alike.

KingCrazy_: The role of Community Assistance from my perspective is a way for members of the community to be able to get their ideas and opinions listen to, and see if there is any way that it can be added to the network. It also helps create a transparent system with both community and staff members.

What was the community's reaction to this new team?

Bunnni: They seemed to be really interested and excited for it!

KingCrazy_: The community's reaction to this team was great. When the team was first announced to the community there were a lot of people talking about it and saying how they were excited to apply for the team. The community must still have an interest in this team as we are still constantly getting new members in the community applying for this team.

What projects are you guys doing?

Bunnni: We're doing a lot of different projects relating to some more community to staff interaction, as well as helping work on idea submissions. I don't think a lot of the projects we're doing are known yet, but hopefully they'll bring an effect soon.

KingCrazy_: Right now we have a few projects running and one of them involves the Idea Submissions. Community Assistance took over the Idea Submissions from the Quality Assurance team and we are now looking and sorting through all of the ideas to see if it is possible to be added to the network! We are also working on Gem Usage and asking the community what they would like to be able to use gems for. There are a lot of projects still in the making so be sure to keep an eye out!

What are the goals for the team and/or yourself?

Bunnni: My goals as of now are just to help and make as many people happy as possible, and fix any of the issues they have. I want to help the team sort out issues, and improve the relationship with the staff and the community and make sure all the community members are happy. The team goals are to help improve the server overall through different projects and ideas our members have.

KingCrazy_: One of the main goals of this team is to be a bridge that links the staff and development team and the community. Also to improve the overall relationship and transparency between the staff team and the community members. One of my personal goals for this team is for all members of the community ideas to be heard and also being able to implement their ideas to the network.



CLANS FULL RELEASE AND CHAMPIONS UPDATE!

BY:HAZEAE24

Grab your swords, axes, and bows! Mineplex's most competitive gamemode, Clans, has been fully released! In Clans, you can now challenge dangerous bosses, travel to the Nether to embark on further adventures, and discover many more exciting features! But wait, that's not all featured in this update! Many bugs and balance issues were also fixed in Champions, another community favorite. Members of Clans Management and the Champions Game Insights team worked extremely hard,day after day, for this release. Following this are some of their favorite aspects of the update.

Clans Management

Acaulis: "Bosses. Bosses are by are my favourite addition within this update, from the testing phase I knew they were going to be incredible. It brings a whole new aspect to clans and bring a wider variety of competition, therefore, bosses have to be my favourite addition within this update." mepman9: "For me, it was definitely the bosses and nether. The bosses were something that I'd been waiting to see since the early alpha days, way before I was a C.Mod. To see them get released with all these cool mechanics and seeing people enjoying the event is really cool to me, especially since they were something that I'd been anxiously awaiting. The nether is something that I didn't know would happen until I became a C.Mod just around a month and a half before the full release hit, and I was ridiculously excited for it. The idea of runes that could be applied to weapons was awesome to me, especially when it's no easy task to obtain them. Put the two of those together and you can't lose (unless you get stomped by the bosses, which I have been many times)."

Champions Insights

Silica: "I was very excited about the update overall, this was the first big Champions update that we've been working on with the team. It's definitely been a lot of fun working on the update. The thing I was most excited about is the update for Viper Strikes. As many people know there were a lot of issues with Viper Strikes, especially if used against Immolate, but that's all been fixed now! I'm really glad to see the update turned out well and I enjoy reading all of the feedback from the community as well. I'm looking forward to working on more updates for this gamemode."

xCharlottex: "As for the update, I was most excited to be able to play it publicly with everyone else. I honestly adore some of the changes. My favorite build to run now is a brute kit with stampede and crippling blow, however I also have started using vitality spores on ranger and the infamous viper strikes on assassin. I was somewhat worried about how the community would react to it, but I was pretty confident in our work because everything we did we got from what the community. As for everyone's reactions, it's been positive for the most part which is all we can ask for. If there is anything I'd like people to know, is that we're listening to your feedback with wide ears, and you can expect us to do whatever we can to make it a more enjoyable game."

We'd like to wish good luck to those in the race to becoming the top most powerful Clan. Enjoy the update!



STAFF SUMMER MEMORIES BY: HAZEAE24

As summer comes to a close and the school year draws near, we have gathered some staff member's favorite memories from the summer of 2016! What was your favorite memory of this summer? Enjoy reading some of our staff member's favorite memories!

Moderator - HiddenPixels

"Personally, my favorite memory from this summer was going off to camp to be a Leader in Training. I had a few awesome—and a few not-so-awesome—experiences this summer, but this kind of stood out. It was altogether an incredible & transformative week. I particularly enjoyed the second overnight, during which we didn't have to look over younger kids and got a little break. After a few other very... special activities, to say the least, we all gathered in a circle and just talked. Including the mentors and everyone. It was very sad, in a sense. We got to some pretty dark places. However, it was such an amazing bonding experience. I feel like although I only knew most of those people for about 4 days at the time, I had a true bond with them after that. It was really, really special. Hard to describe, yes, and some things are better left unsaid... but special."

Moderator - Ethyy

"Well.. my favorite summer memory would probably have to be last summer. I went to a local gathering in my town where they played music and set up a festival, we like to call it homecoming. People from all around the state come with their families, but last year in particular was my favorite, since I got to meet one of my best online friends (who does not play MC) at that fair during a meetup in our street dance. It just goes to show that, with a lot of planning and dedication, the best things can happen at the strangest moments."

Moderator - Phamtastic

"My favorite memory for this summer is my internship jobs for the volunteer. This is one of [the greatest] accomplishment that I ever achieved! My two internship jobs were [at] the hospital and the hotel. It was fun there and I enjoyed helping people a lot with the community. My favorite task what I did at the hospital is delivering boxes. I love to deliver their boxes which it tells me that I am helpful. I also like to make new friends because this shows me that I interacted with other co-workers. My favorite task at the hotel is cleaning the guest room. I enjoyed doing a summer internship and I can't wait to do it again next year."



STAFF SUMMER MEMORIES

BY: HAZEAE24

Moderator - Shawnub

"For my favorite summer memory, it would have to be reinstating back as a Mineplex Moderator. It was a major event for me, as I was finally back in a community that I had to leave some time ago. It felt great to be back to helping those all over Mineplex and ensuring that everyone has a fun and enjoyable experience while playing games and chatting with other players!"

Trainee - matthewss

"I have a lot of awesome summer memories, and it's sad to see summer go. A cool summer memory that revolved around Mineplex was when I was recruited by WowKay into the staff team. Mineplex memories aside, I did do some really cool things with my family. I went to Georgia for my cousin's wedding and to Maine for an annual family gathering. Maine has some of the most solid memories in my childhood. We spend a lot of time there, doing things with my dad's side of the family, which is comprised of two sisters and a whole lot of cousins. You can usually find us having fun together, whether it be hiking, on a day trip or playing a family game. I look forward to Maine each year, and spending time with my family was awesome."

Trainee - SteelMerlin

"It all started on this beautiful summer day, of July 30, 2016. The wind was cool and breezy, the sun was hot and grim. I woke up very late because my party was the night before. When I woke up I was surprised to see my room decorated with confetti and streamers. I quickly smiled because I knew that it was in fact my birthday. I then put on some nice clothes to wear just in case we go out to eat. When I went upstairs to go see my parents who were frantically cooking me an amazing and big breakfast. I said hello and good morning to my parents and brother. But I had the feeling of confusion and mischief coming from my parents. I didn't know what they got me this year for my birthday because I saw no wrapping paper or delivery boxes in the house. After I ate my big breakfast I spotted a blind fold slowly being pushed towards my way from my mother. She told me, "Put it on, we have a big surprise for you!" So as anyone in this situation would do, I said "Haha no, why?" Then she replied with, "Just put it on silly!" So I cooperated with them and put it over my eyes so that all I saw was nothing. Then I heard laughter and joy coming from my brother as if he already knew what was happening. I went down all of our stairs and through the back door to be surprised with a letter on our tree in the back yard. I read the note, and it said, "Turn around, but ever so slowly." I quickly grinned because I knew it would have to be something very big and something very expensive. So I turned around, ever so slowly, and when I looked at my present. I was speechless, so many thoughts clashed together in my head. So much that I fell to my knees with approval. I was so happy, I finally had my own car. A 2014 Kia Soul all to myself. I was so joyful, I was as I said, speechless. Nothing could ruin what I just saw, I could finally drive to school, to my friends house, to parties. I could do whatever I want! I am finally free! That was the best present I think I've ever received in my life. That is my favorite memory from this summer of 2016!"



MINEPLEX STAFF STORIES!

BY: SUSPICIOUS

T'was another _lcy_ summer in the xCity of Plobnob. And another average day too. Ashlyn was digging for coolsticks buried under the frozen cement with her fingernails, the PizzaMan139 was delivering Cookiez, RyanTheMlgPro was Gaming_ on his Playbox 360, and the Swimmer_ was CatchingFire in the pool (again). But what the town didn't know, was that this day would be the least normal day of their lives.

Queue Mineplex Theme Music

JOjo was staring helplessly into the sky as one after another, bananas rained down from the Heavens, Blasting the concrete around him. A CombatMedic_Doc was pulling up in her emergency vehicle, siren sounding.

"Are there more of you?" JOjo asked. "No," the medic responded, "They were playing Pokemon GO and spotted a Dogester. As they all tried to turn into the alley, they crashed and exploded."

0h?"

She then ran off to help the injured Wanderers near JOjo.

Earlier that evening...

JOjo was enjoying a nice ProtonOrange on the floor of his kitchen (because no one bothered to buy any chairs or tables in his neighborhood) while watching his favorite show in the whole world, Curious George. JOjo was absolutely fascinated by the Man in the Yellow Hat. Ever since he was 4, he'd been obsessed with the show. And he would watch season after season, over and over again, for 16 years. He drew over 123,000 pictures of the man, and had 14 Man in the Yellow Hat costumes that he would wear every Halloween. Coincidentally, this show had everything to do with the incident, all these years later.

It began with an alert on his phone, warning him of suspicious activity in the atmosphere. JOjo disregarded it within an instant, but a few minutes later he began to notice an Ery yellow glow from the window. He pressed his nose to the glass and looked up, and the entire sky was slowly turning yellow! Next he got a Whif of something awful. The smell of a rotten banana. He motioned to turn off the TV, in case the show was emitting the stench, but it still lingered. In fact, it was only getting stronger.

Soon he heard thumping on the roof, like dozens of rocks falling from the sky; but before he had the opportunity to look, a ripe banana shattered a window and splattered yellow mush everywhere. Then, to top it off, a MonkeyHead2 leaped off the roof and ran into the street.



MINEPLEX STAFF STORIES!

BY: SUSPICIOUS

"I must be dreaming," JOjo thought to himself.

Several more CombatMedic_Docs were pulling up. The deadly bananas had hurt quite a few people by then, and the medics were busy getting them to the AppleG store where the temporary healing center was located.

JOjo knew he had to do something about this mess, but he couldn't stop thinking about Curious George!

"There has to be something... a weakness, or counter for bananas and monkeys," he thought to himself, "What would the Man in the Yellow Hat do?"

As people continued screaming and running, buildings collapsing around them on all sides, JOjo was thinking.

Then it hit him, right in the chest. A hose. _H2O. Wacky Zaakery was washing the bananas off the road with the liquid, but mistakenly hit JOjo with it. He rushed over and grabbed the hose from Zaak.

"Hey!" Zaak whined.

He forgot what he was planning to do for a moment, just standing there with the hose resting in his hands, but he came to again. He was going to stop the bananas from falling by countering it with rain! Using BillNye's tactic, he sprinted forward and shot a stream water into the sky. The clouds over the Horizon_consumed the _H2O and turned grey, promptly before rain began to fall. Slowly but surely, the bananas stopped falling and the Monkeyhead2s ran away. The city of Plobnob was at peace at last, all because of JOjo. The city gathered in the city park to thank JOjo for his heroic efforts and to award him with the traditional cooked Moles.

After the celebration, JOjo returned home to take a long and well deserved nap in his closet. He prayed for no dreams about bananas or monkeys, or even his favorite Man in the Yellow Hat. And after that day, he decided he would never watch another episode of Curious George again in his life.

+-~- THE END -~-+



CAPTION THE IMAGE!

Hey, you there!

Step right up and play our latest game, Caption the Image! The goal of this Mineplex Newsletter game is to create the greatest, most realistic, or just plain funniest caption you can think of for an image we provide! Winners will be shown publicly in the next edition of the Mineplex Newsletter, so make sure to have all your entries submitted by September 15! Please feel free to use more than one response, as long as they share the same submission in this form! If two or more submissions are entered, only the most recent will be counted!

Best of Luck to everyone who enters!

https://goo.gl/forms/gB93f0n8aRCYN7Vw2





GUESS THE LOCATION!

BY: EMILIE

It's time again to play the original game of the Mineplex newsletter - Guess the Location! Whether you're a new player or a returning champion, feel free to give it a try! The rules are simple; we'll provide a screenshot of a random location in the Lobby, and using the google form below you'll submit your answer, guessing where the screenshot was taken! Due to the new Lobby, the screenshot this month will be a bit easier to find!



Submit your guesses here: https://goo.gl/forms/jSOf1M3cM6eMxkZO3

Last but not least, here are the winners from last month!

TryHardSkills sapydousa AAV

Congrats to the winners, and good luck!



FORUMS INTERVIEW!

Being sacred 'warriors' with well-known access to the infamous forum warnings and ban hammers, our forum moderators and ninjas are some of the most recognizable staff members to the community here on Mineplex; especially to those of you who are unhealthily excessive forum lingerers as well. These staff members spend the better part of their time getting to know each of you as community members, whether it be through seeing your individual posts or interacting with the general population of the forums; but, what if you were gifted with the opportunity to know more about a number of the forum gods themselves? The following Q&A will enlighten you to the regular routines, thought processes, and experiences of your typical Mineplex forum moderator or ninja.

How would you describe your experience within the time you've been on forums so far?

Hylore, Forum Moderator: "I'd say my experience has helped me further what I qualify as genuine and raw community interaction. The community isn't always a happy and positive place - but they normally mean well. When a forum mod makes a decision it can either make or break community issues that are sensitive. I've found that this fascinating role can really stress detail and a perfectionist attitude. I love the work ethic of the other team members and I'm really glad to be among them - the team itself has so much to offer and it's up to you to make the difference in the community. In my little experience, I've already seen so many large issues and conflicts arise on the forum. Dealing with these issues helps put the community at ease and furthers our relationship with the community we represent. I love taking initiative on big issues and thus the team is a fun and exciting place to be."

forums experience for different people."

What are your general favorite parts to being a member of the forums team? Which qualities of this team's routines do you enjoy most?

ChibiCrystal, Forum Moderator: "The thing I've probably enjoyed most is the chance to interact with the community. The forums have always been my go-to place for interaction, and I knew becoming a Forum Moderator would take this to the next level. I've met some amazing people on here, and have built relationships with many different individuals. I have also seen a lot of detailed and well constructed idea threads written by community members. While moderating in-game, you don't really have the opportunity to listen to the community, and there is generally no chance for constructive criticism there. On the forums, you can create and contribute to threads that all have the same goal - to better Mineplex. Being on the forums team has overall been a one of a kind experience. The forums has been an important place to me for a long time; It feels good knowing that you're improving the forums experience for different people."



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Which things have you learned from being a member of the forums team so far? What have you picked up and how has it been useful to you as a Mineplex staff member?

JonocraftFTW, Forum Ninja: "I have learned quite a lot of things about the forums. The forums is a great place to share your ideas or constructive criticism for the server. The rules and guidelines for how to make a thread are outlined pretty clearly, and players are expected to follow these rules. I have learned that hard work and determination can get you anywhere. If you spend a lot of time on your idea, it improves the chances of your idea getting accepted. The forums change quite often in their discussion, and the forums team does a great job adjusting to these changes. As a forum staff member for 9-10 months (if you count RP, then 12), you learn a lot about other players and the people you work with. You get to see tips on how to improve your quality and detail and are set to be an example for the community. Taking the things I have learned from other forum staff members, and not being afraid to share my opinion, this has allowed me to reach great heights. I have been on the forums since December 2014, and never would I have thought that I would be a Forum Ninja or even a staff member on a great server like Mineplex."

What do you enjoy most about overall forums administration?

Jarvis, Forum Admin: "My favorite part of managing the forums team would have to be talking to different team members and sharing collaborative ideas among peers, as well as planning and hosting different types of activities for the teams. The forums can get a bit boring after a while, that's why we encourage team members to come up with different type of activities that we can do together as a whole. It's fun and great to be working alongside dedicated staff."



STAFF BIOS

BY: TORTELETT



WebGlitch: Hello there! My name is WebGlitch! I am the Social Media Admin and one of the first Newsletter managers. Hope you like this issue!



Crumplex: Hi, I'm Crum. I have been a staff member on Mineplex since 2014, and I am currently on the social media team. I manage the Media team, Newsletter team, and YT. I also spend a lot of time on the Mineplex Twitter! Follow us @Mineplex :)



Emiliee: Hey! I'm Emilie. If you ever need someone to talk to, feel free to message me on the forums! In my spare time I love playing volleyball and water polo.



iPBJSammich: Heyo! I'm iPBJSammich, and I've been a staff member on Mineplex since June 2015. I am currently on the Karaoke Hosts and Newsletter Teams, and have a lot of fun working with others on the staff team! If you ever see me, don't be afraid to say hello!



PrincessLivi: Hello there! I'm PrincessLivi, a Sr.Moderator on Mineplex! I'm on TM (Recruitment), so I have a hand in the picking of future Trainees. I also participate in the subteams Newsletter (obviously, hehe) and RPA. I also like ducks, ballet, and field hockey. Come say hi to me sometime!



xStar_89: Hey there! My name is Star, and I've been staff since April of 2015. I'm currently a Senior Moderator and a mentor for Mod Coordination, alongside being on 4 different sub-teams, including the Newsletter Team! I love to meet new people and try new things, music, and ice-cream. I'm usually in-game or on TeamSpeak, so I hope to see you around!



Tortelett: Hi! I am a moderator on the Newsletter, Media Team, and Music Management Team! I am in charge of designing and assembling all the written articles and images into this newsletter. Hope you enjoyed reading it!

RediceBergz: I am a Mineplex Moderator on the Newsletter team. I like to help people in-game while also playing mini-games with others. Also, I am a whale.

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BY: TORTELETT



Kanebridge: Hello I'm Kanebridge otherwise known as Kane, I've been a Mineplex Moderator since March of 2016. Other than a Newsletter Writer, I am a Teamspeak Staff, Karaoke Host, Music Moderation Mod and a Reports Patrol member. I love drawing and reading my free time, along with writing stories and articles for you guys!



jOjo: Heyo! My name's jOjo and I'm the worst PvPer in Minecraft. I'm a moderator and work within the Forum Moderation, Reports Patrol and Newsletter teams here on Mineplex. I enjoy interacting with others, writing in journalism and spending time with friends. Thanks for reading this month's issue!



SuspiciOus: Hi there, I'm SuspiciOus! I love writing, animals, reading, and technology. I'm currently a Moderator on Mineplex and on two other subteams aside from Newsletter: Reports Patrol and Music Moderation Team.



Hazeae24: Hello! My name is Haze! I've been a staff member since January 8, 2016. I love reading and writing all forms of literature. I love interacting with players so if you see me around make sure to say hi!



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