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(54) **GEO-LOCATION BASED EVENT GALLERY**

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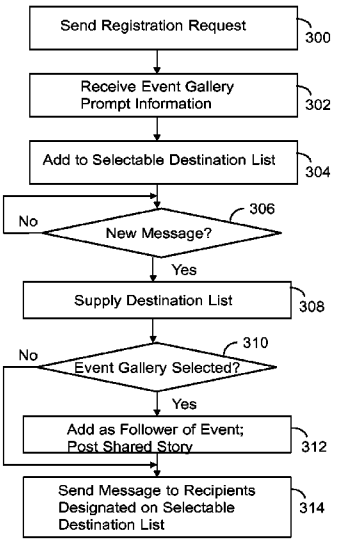
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A computer implemented method may include receiving geo-location data from a device of a user; comparing the geo-location data with a geo-location fence associated with an event; determining that the geo-location data corresponds to the geo-location fence associated with the event; responsive to the determining that the geo-location data corresponds to the geo-location fence associated with the event, supplying user-selectable event gallery information, associated with an event gallery of the event, to the device for addition to a destination list on the device; detecting selection of the user-selectable event gallery information in the destination list by the user of the device; and/or responsive to the detecting of the selection of the user-selectable event gallery information by the user of the device, adding the user as a follower of the event, with access to the event gallery.

20 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



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* cited by examiner

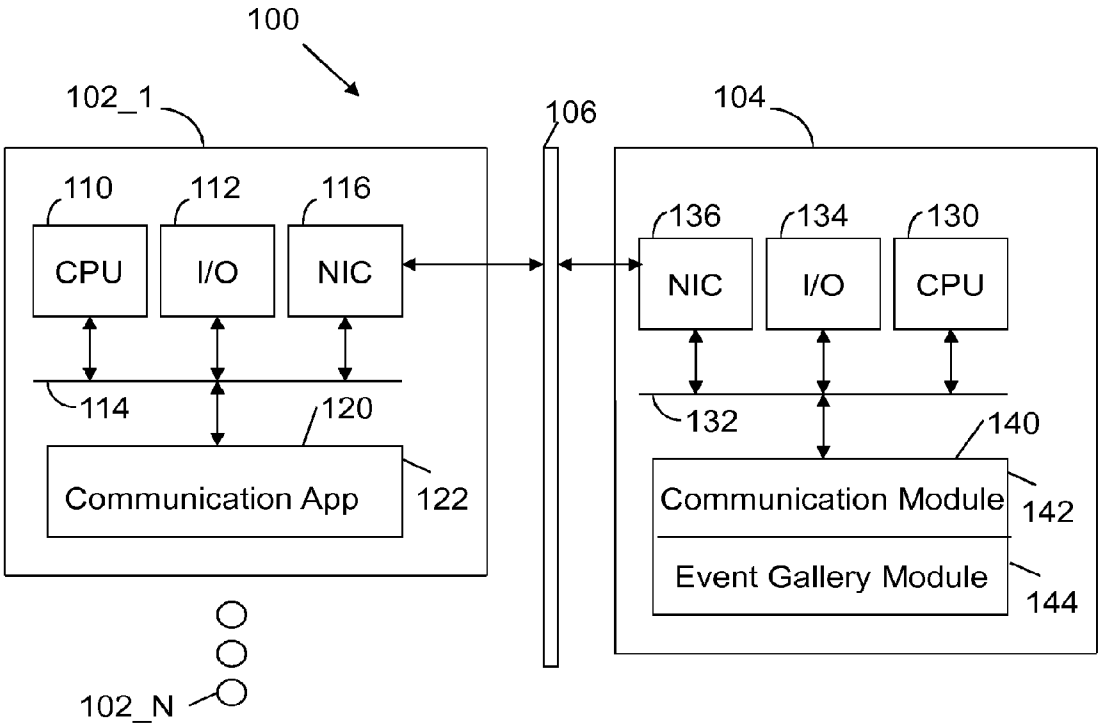
100
102_1
106
104
110
112
116
CPU
I/O
NIC
114
120
Communication App
122
102_N
136
134
130
NIC
I/O
CPU
132
140
Communication Module
142
Event Gallery Module
144

FIG. 1

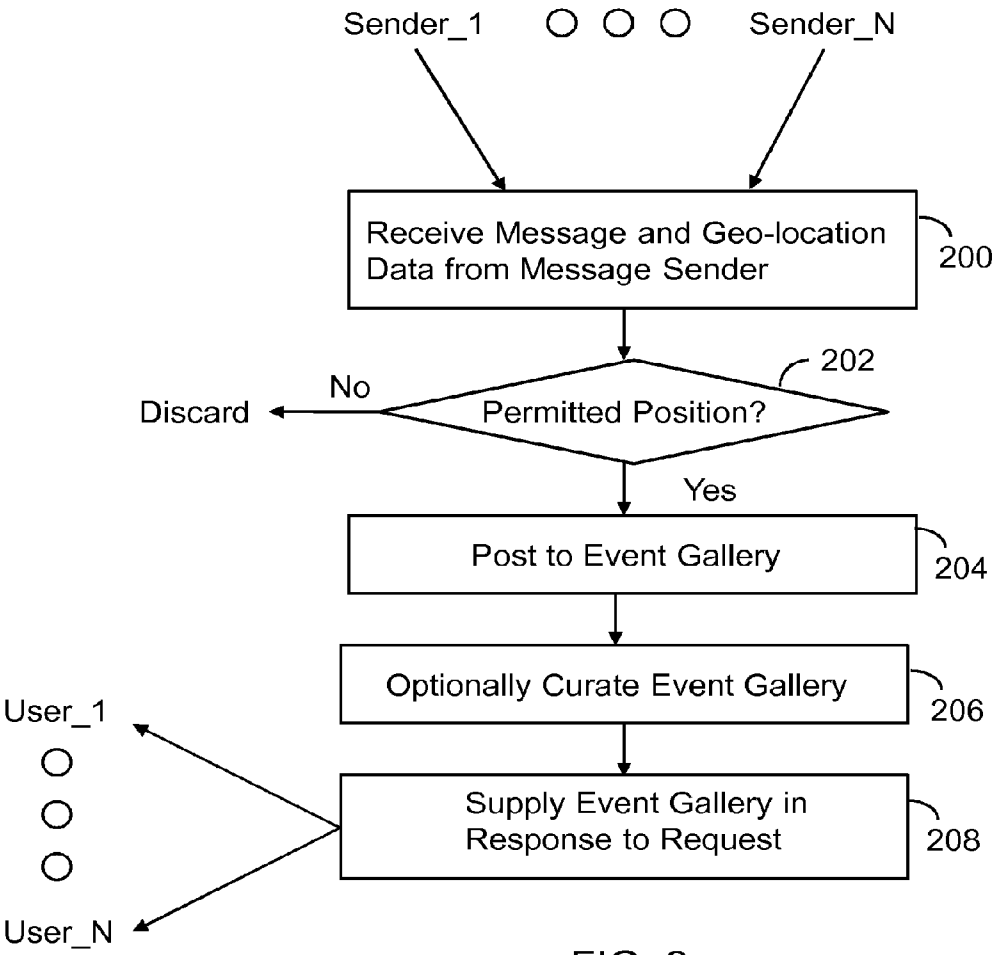
Sender_1
Sender_N
Receive Message and Geo-location Data from Message Sender
200
202
No
Discard
Permitted Position?
Yes
Post to Event Gallery
204
Optionally Curate Event Gallery
206
User_1
User_N
Supply Event Gallery in Response to Request
208

FIG. 2

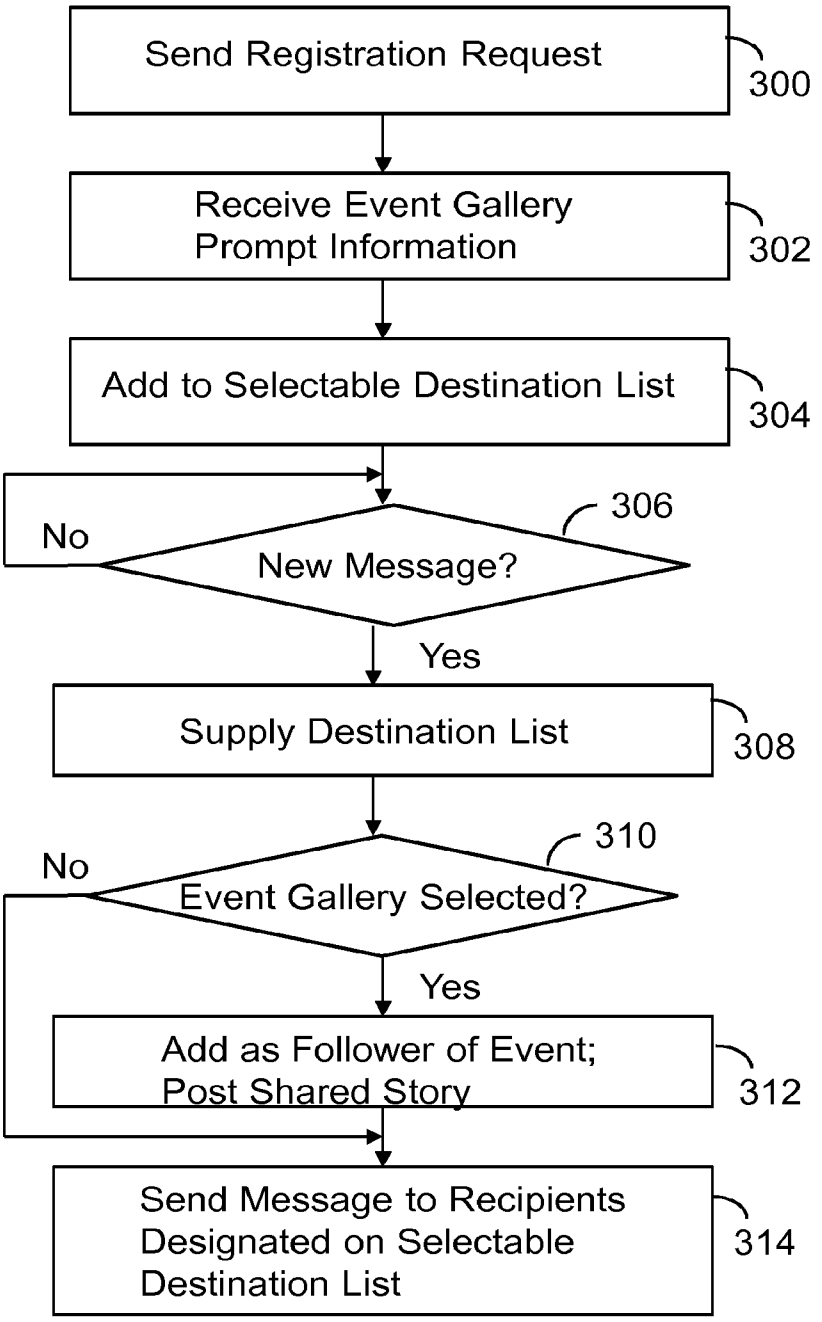
Send Registration Request
300
Receive Event Gallery Prompt Information
302
Add to Selectable Destination List
304
306
No
New Message?
Yes
Supply Destination List
308
310
No
Event Gallery Selected?
Yes
Add as Follower of Event; Post Shared Story
312
Send Message to Recipients Designated on Selectable Destination List
314

FIG. 3

FIG. 4

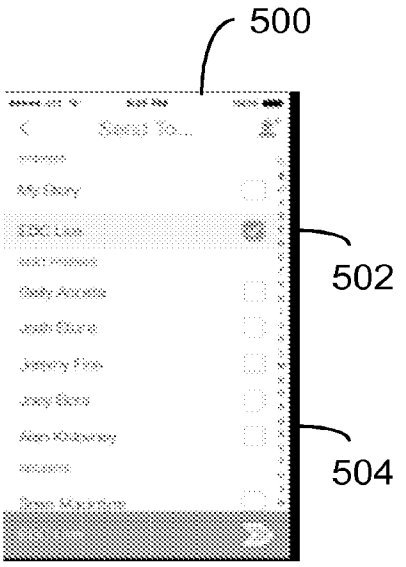

FIG. 5

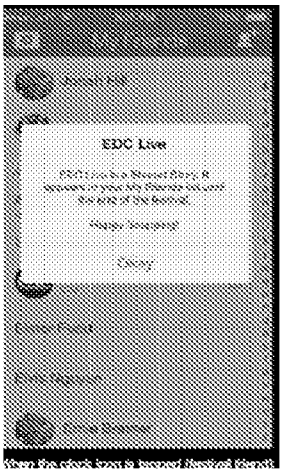

FIG. 6

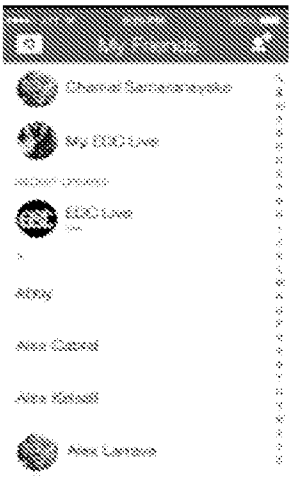

FIG. 7

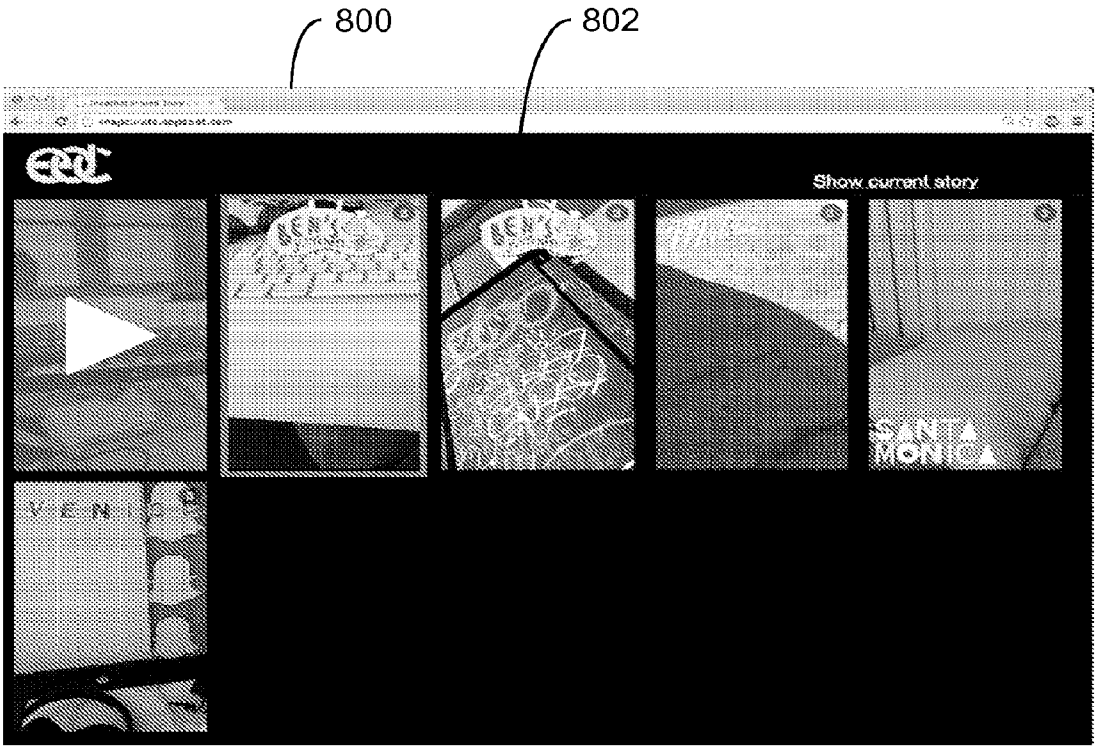

FIG. 8

GEO-LOCATION BASED EVENT GALLERY

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

This application is a continuation of and claims the benefit of priority of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/304,855, filed on Jun. 13, 2014, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention relates generally to exchanging electronic messages in a computer network. More particularly, this invention relates to a geo-location based gallery of messages associated with an event.

BACKGROUND

Mobile devices, such as smartphones, are used to generate messages. The messages may be text messages, photographs (with or without augmenting text) and videos. Users can share such messages with individuals in their social network. However, there is no mechanism for sharing messages with strangers that are participating in a common event.

SUMMARY

A computer implemented method includes receiving a message and geo-location data for a device sending the message. It is determined whether the geo-location data corresponds to a geo-location fence associated with an event. The message is posted to an event gallery associated with the event when the geo-location data corresponds to the geo-location fence associated with the event. The event gallery is supplied in response to a request from a user.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

The invention is more fully appreciated in connection with the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. **1** illustrates a system configured in accordance with an embodiment of the invention.

FIG. **2** illustrates server side processing associated with an embodiment of the invention.

FIG. **3** illustrates client side processing associated with an embodiment of the invention.

FIGS. **4-8** illustrate graphical user interfaces that may be associated with embodiments of the invention.

Like reference numerals refer to corresponding parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Figure illustrates a system **100** configured in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. The system **100** includes a set of client devices **102_1** through **102_N** and at least one server **104** connected via a network **106**. The network **106** may be any combination of wired or wireless networks.

Each client device **102** has standard components, such as a central processing unit **110** and input/output devices **112** connected via a network **114**. The input/output devices **112** may include a touch display, dedicated control buttons, physical connectors, speakers and the like. A network interface circuit **116** is also connected to the bus **114** and provides connectivity to network **106**. A memory **120** is also connected to the bus **114**. The memory **120** stores a communication application **122**. The communication application **122** includes instructions executed by CPU **110** to coordinate communications with server **104** and/or other client devices. The client device may be in the form of a tablet, smartphone, wearable technology, laptop computer or desktop computer.

The server **104** also includes standard components, such as a central processing unit **130**, a bus **132**, input/output devices **134** and a network interface circuit **136**. A memory **140** is connected to the bus **132**. The memory **140** stores a communication module **142**. The communication module **142** includes instructions executed by the CPU **130** to coordinate communications with client devices **102**. The memory **140** also stores an event gallery module **144**. The event gallery module **144** includes instructions executed by the CPU **130** to store messages from participants in a live event. The messages form an event gallery, which may be supplied to a client device **102** in response to a request from a client device **102**.

FIG. **2** illustrates operations associated with an embodiment of the event gallery module **144**. The top of the figure illustrates a set of message senders, i.e., Sender_1 through Sender_N. Each message sender is associated with a client device **102**. The communication application **122** is configured to accompany a message with geo-location information. Typically, the geo-location information will be collected from a GPS chip resident in the client device. However, other geo-location information may also be used, such as cellular network geo-location information, self-reported geo-location information and the like.

The event gallery module **144** includes an administrative interface that allows one to define an event. For example, the administrative interface may prompt an event planner for event name, event description, event date, event time and event location. The event location is specified in physical coordinates (e.g., GPS coordinates) that define a geo-location fence associated with the event.

As previously indicated, messages from senders include geo-location information. The server **104** receives such messages and geo-location data **200** from any number of senders. For each message, the geo-location data is compared to the geo-location fence. If the message was not sent from within the geo-location fence it is not from a permitted position and it is therefore discarded (**202**-No). If the message is from a permitted position (**202**-Yes), the message is posted to an event gallery **204**.

The event gallery module **144** may include a curation interface that allows an event planner to optionally curate the event gallery **206**. For example, the curation interface may allow the event planner to delete inappropriate or redundant messages. The final operation of FIG. **2** is to supply the event gallery in response to requests **208** from any number of users.

FIG. **3** illustrates processing associated with the communication application **122** resident on a client device **102**. The communication application **122** sends a registration request **300**. The registration request may be an explicit request to join or follow an event. Alternately, the registration request may be triggered by sending geo-location data to server **104**. The event gallery module **144** determines whether the geo-location data corresponds to a geo-location fence associated with an event. Event gallery prompt information is received **302** in response to a request. The event gallery prompt information may be indicia of the event, such as a brand, a textual description and the like. The event gallery prompt information is added to a selectable destination list **304**. The selectable destination list **304** includes individuals

in a user's social network. In this case, the selectable destination list is augmented with indicia of an event.

If a user generates a message (**306**-Yes) the destination list is supplied **308**. The destination list includes individuals in a user's social network and indicia of the event and/or event gallery. If the event gallery is selected (**310**), the user is added as a follower of the event **312**. So, for example, in the case where the user received the event gallery prompt in response to simply communicating geo-location data, the user may formally follow the event by posting a message (shared story) to the event gallery. That is, the event gallery module **144** adds the user to a list of event followers in response to the user posting a message to the event gallery. Finally, messages are sent to recipients designated on the selectable destination list **314**. These recipients are typically individuals in the user's social network.

FIG. **4** is an example of a message taken at an event. In this example, the message is a photograph, which may be augmented with text. FIG. **5** illustrates a selectable destination list **500**. The selectable destination list **500** includes an entry for a live event **502** and entries **504** for individuals in a social network. Selecting the live event **502** from the selectable destination list **500** may result in a prompt as shown in FIG. **6**. The prompt may explain terms associated with posting content to the event gallery. FIG. **7** illustrates an interface listing friends in a social network and one or more events that are being followed.

FIG. **8** is an example of an event gallery **800**. The event gallery **800** includes individual posted messages **802**. The messages may be photographs, videos or text messages. The event gallery may be available for a specified transitory period. For example, the specified transitory period may be the duration of an event. Indicia of the event gallery may appear in a list of friends (e.g., destination list) for the duration of the event. In one embodiment, the event gallery has individual ephemeral messages shown in a sequence. For example, a first image is shown for five seconds, then a second image is shown for three seconds, etc.

An event gallery may be open to all event participants. Alternately, an event gallery may be formed for a subset of participants selected from a destination list or some other list (e.g., a list of co-workers at an event). An embodiment of the invention maintains an ongoing event gallery (shared story) for a geo-location. For example, the shared story may extend over months. Alternately, the shared story may be renewed every twenty-four hour period at a specified geo-location.

An embodiment of the present invention relates to a computer storage product with a non-transitory computer readable storage medium having computer code thereon for performing various computer-implemented operations. The media and computer code may be those specially designed and constructed for the purposes of the present invention, or they may be of the kind well known and available to those having skill in the computer software arts. Examples of computer-readable media include, but are not limited to: magnetic media, optical media, magneto-optical media and hardware devices that are specially configured to store and execute program code, such as application-specific integrated circuits ("ASICs"), programmable logic devices ("PLDs") and ROM and RAM devices. Examples of computer code include machine code, such as produced by a compiler, and files containing higher-level code that are executed by a computer using an interpreter. For example, an embodiment of the invention may be implemented using JAVA®, C++, or other object-oriented programming language and development tools. Another embodiment of the invention may be implemented in hardwired circuitry in place of, or in combination with, machine-executable software instructions.

The foregoing description, for purposes of explanation, used specific nomenclature to provide a thorough understanding of the invention. However, it will be apparent to one skilled in the art that specific details are not required in order to practice the invention. Thus, the foregoing descriptions of specific embodiments of the invention are presented for purposes of illustration and description. They are not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the invention to the precise forms disclosed; obviously, many modifications and variations are possible in view of the above teachings. The embodiments were chosen and described in order to best explain the principles of the invention and its practical applications, they thereby enable others skilled in the art to best utilize the invention and various embodiments with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated. It is intended that the following claims and their equivalents define the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer implemented method, comprising:

receiving, at a server computer, geo-location data from a device of a user;

comparing, by the server computer, the geo-location data with a geo-location fence associated with an event;

determining, by the server computer, that the geo-location data corresponds to the geo-location fence associated with the event;

responsive to the determining that the geo-location data corresponds to the geo-location fence associated with the event, supplying, by the server computer, user-selectable event gallery information, associated with an event gallery of the event, to the device for addition to a destination list on the device, wherein the destination list comprises an entry for an individual in a social network;

detecting, by the server computer, selection of the user-selectable event gallery information in the destination list by the user of the device; and

responsive to the detecting of the selection of the user-selectable event gallery information by the user of the device, adding, by the server computer, the user as a follower of the event, with access to the event gallery.

2. The computer implemented method of claim **1**, further comprising;

supplying the event gallery in response to a request from the user, the event gallery including a collection of content relating to the event.

3. The computer implemented method of claim **2**, wherein the collection of content comprises photographs or videos.

4. The computer implemented method of claim **3**, wherein the collection of content comprises a sequence of individual ephemeral messages, the individual ephemeral messages including the photographs or videos.

5. The computer implemented method of claim **1** further comprising, responsive to the detecting of the selection of the user-selectable event gallery information by the user, posting a message generated on the device to the event gallery.

6. The computer implemented method of claim **5** further comprising, responsive to the detecting of the selection of the user-selectable event gallery information by the user, providing a prompt to explain terms associated with the posting the message to the event gallery.

7. The computer implemented method of claim **5**, further comprising:

detecting selection of the entry for the individual in the social network of the user; and

responsive to the detecting of the selection of the entry for the individual by the user, sending the message to the individual in the social network of the user.

8. The computer implemented method of claim **5**, wherein the message includes a photograph or a video.

9. The computer implemented method of claim **1**, further comprising:

maintaining the user-selectable event gallery information in the destination list for a duration of the event.

10. The computer implemented method of claim **1**, wherein the event gallery is available for a specific specified transitory period.

11. The computer implemented method of claim **10**, wherein the specified transitory period corresponds to a duration of the event.

12. The computer implemented method of claim **1**, wherein the geo-location data is received as a registration request from the device of the user.

13. A server comprising:

a processor; and

a memory storing instructions that, when executed by the processor, configure the server to perform operations comprising:

receiving geo-location data from a device of a user;

comparing the geo-location data with a geo-location fence associated with an event;

determining that the geo-location data corresponds to the geo-location fence associated with the event;

responsive to the determination that the geo-location data corresponds to the geo-location fence associated with the event, supplying user-selectable event gallery information, associated with an event gallery of the event, to the device for addition to a destination list on the device, wherein the destination list comprises an entry for an individual in a social network;

detecting selection of the user-selectable event gallery information in the destination list by the user of the device; and

responsive to the detecting of the selection of the user-selectable event gallery information by the user of the device, adding the user as a follower of the event, with access to the event gallery.

14. The server of claim **13**, wherein the event gallery comprises a collection of content relating to the event.

15. The server of claim **14**, wherein the collection of content comprises photographs or videos.

16. The server of claim **15**, wherein the collection of content comprises a sequence of individual ephemeral messages, the individual ephemeral messages including the photographs or videos.

17. The server of claim **13**. the operation further comprising:

responsive to the detecting of the selection of the user-selectable event gallery information by the user, posting a message generated on the device to the event gallery.

18. The server of claim **17**, the operations further comprising:

detecting selection of the entry for the individual in the social network of the user; and

sending, responsive to the detecting of the selection of the entry for the individual by the user, the message to the individual in the social network of the user.

19. The server of claim **13**, the operations further comprising:

maintaining the user-selectable event gallery information in the destination list for a duration of the event.

20. The computer implemented method of claim **1** wherein the destination list on the device comprises indicia associated with the event.

* * * * *