

Sunday June 25 Day -1 Anticipation, admonition, calculation

Saturday's Day -2 report ended with the following:

There are at least three options to choose from Sunday night:

Option 1: Sleep too much and miss out on significant planning and points-gathering opportunities.

Option 2: Spend so much time producing a plan that looks great on the laptop, but results in getting too little sleep to be able to ride that plan.

Option 3: Know when good enough is good enough for a short leg, save the file, and get some good rest to be fresh.

As of Sunday night, the riders had enjoyed a great meal and received their rally packets. This rally is shaping up to be another epic adventure. Routemaster Jeff Earls has designed a puzzle that should allow a rookie to achieve a route plan containing enough points to be a finisher, yet challenge the top competitors with a variety of combinations and permutations available to refine a route for maximum points. It also appears, at least to this rally vet, that the design of the rally may give pause to riders that rely too heavily on spreadsheet programs for routing. Riders that can look at a map and "see things" may find that ability useful for Leg 1. There is something for everyone, which was the intent of the Routemaster.

All bonus locations for the *ENTIRE* rally were given to the riders today. All bonuses are available on *EVERY* leg, within the time restrictions shown in the rally book. However, only the point values for Leg 1 were provided at this time.

The bonuses are divided into five categories, with a twist in the puzzle. There are "strings". If a rider can create a string by visiting 3 bonuses in a row from the same category, the third bonus value is multiplied by two. Multiple, separate strings are allowed.

But before getting too deep into the rally details, let's back up and review what has been happening at the Rally hotel today.



A couple of riders were making last minute repairs to their bikes. Dan Crowley was correcting some electrical gremlins in his Cagiva Gran Canyon. And yes, it appears that the megabrella will be hauled on the bike.

Because the registration process was completed on Saturday, many of the riders enjoyed a somewhat relaxing morning visiting with old friends, making new ones, and even enjoying the great weather. The RallyMom must be saving the weather card for later.



The mandatory rookie meeting took place at 10:00 a.m. Arriving late or missing that meeting carried a penalty of having to attend a second meeting, which would start after all of the other riders departed Monday morning. No riders were late.



All riders attended the mandatory rider's meeting at 2:30 p.m. The same penalty that loomed over the rookie meeting also loomed over the rider's meeting and proved effective, as everyone was present to hear some straight talk from from Kneebone, Landry, Earls, and Warchild.



Most riders repositioned their bikes in the parking area during the break between the meeting and the banquet.



One C14 was put away with lights on and shining through the cover... but thanks to an observant Nancy Lefcourt, Sjeff Vanderaa from Nova Scotia was notified and able to correct the oversight before the battery expired.



Old school ST1100 ...



Owning the night ...



Two "triple" threat adventure bikes that could not be more different. Phaser Phil's modern Hinkley Triumph 800 DOHC four stroke triple from across the pond. It is chain drive, but definitely not hopeless. Jerry Anderson's Adventure GT750, a screaming three cylinder two-stroke, vintage 1974. Jerry rode the Haul Road in Alaska on it, so he definitely doesn't consider it hopeless. Mosquito control at no extra charge.

1977 GL1000, perhaps the most talked about bike in the parking lot. Numerous hand built farkles were on display with impressive workmanship.



Is it really a hopeless class bike just because it is 40 years old and being piloted by a rookie that is clearly a very talented young man? We will be watching Dylan Spink. The bike is older than the rider. Someone asked if this was a first. I did not think so, remembering Leonard Aron finishing on the 1946 Indian in 2001, but it is not as clear cut as I initially thought. Ira Agins noted that Leonard was born in 1946, so it would come down to the month he was born and the build date of the Indian. Either way, hopeless bikes tend to have hopeful riders ...



I liked the juxtaposition of John Coons old school 1994 Beemer beside the modern GS ... tradition!



Somewhat of a British invasion this year ...

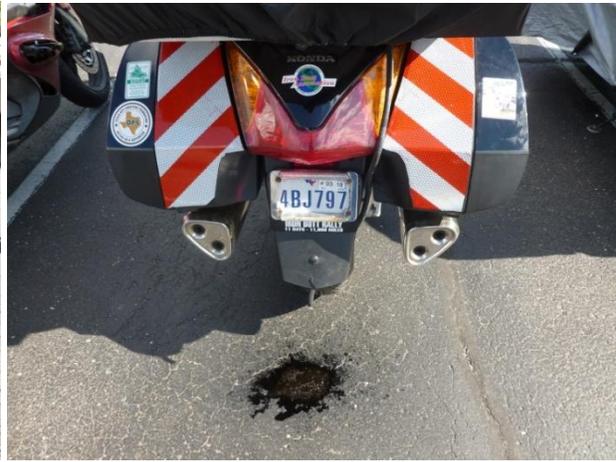
The Boge family's home away from home for the next two weeks, complete with chrome leaf springs:



Safety reminder ...

Everything is bigger in Texas!





These tires will not be looking quite as fresh in just a few short days ...

The riders were anxious to get the banquet started and just get on with the evening. Anticipation was running at full steam as the riders speculated on what manner of mayhem was about to be revealed.





Bonus Safari Routemaster Jeff Earls.

He was in character as the North American Safari theme was revealed and the riders received their packets after the banquet.

The following is the list of starters that picked up their packets and are expected to be by their bikes at 8:00 a.m. in the morning (** V-vet, R-rookie, UB- unfinished business):

Last Name	First Name	**	Home	Bike Year	Bike Make	Bike Model
Rice	Greg	V	FL	2016	BMW	R1200RT
Wilensky	Rob	V	PA	2017	BMW	R1200GSA
Carrel	John	R	AZ	2015	BMW	R1200RT
Hayosh	Tim	R	TX	2012	Kawasaki	Concours-14
Mahoney	Timothy	R	AZ	2013	Honda	F6B
Boge	Michael/Anavel/Laura	VR	ID	2006	HD	Road King
Tong/Green	Paul/Peter	VR	NM	2012	Honda	GL1800
Winterer/Erbes	Jim/Lisa	VR	MN	2008	Yamaha	FJR1300

Weller	Kevin/Lynda	V	UK	2014	Yamaha	Super Tenere
Liles	Sam/Sydney	VR	VA	2016	BMW	R1200GSA
Legnosky	Dave/Danielle	VR	VT	2003	Honda	GL1800
Schleman	Ed/Linda	RR	SD	2014	BMW	K1600GTL
Huval	John/Nadine	RR	LA	2012	Honda	GL1800
Ihlo/Schneiter	Peter/Connie	RR	CH	2003	Honda	ST1300
Anderson	Jerry	R	MD	1974	Suzuki	GT750
Spink	Dylan	R	NH	1977	Honda	GL1000
Owen	Jim	V	PA	2015	BMW	R1200RT
Crockett	Wendy	V	CA	2005	Yamaha	FJR1300
Brooks	Craig	V	CO	2011	BMW	R1200GS
Lipps	Erik	V	CA	2012	Yamaha	FJR1300
Hutsal	Michael	V	MB	2013	BMW	K1600GT
Talken-Spaulding	Kirsten	V	VA	2009	BMW	R1200RT
Bray	Eric	V	VA	2015	BMW	R1200GSA
Lilley	Bob	V	PA	2016	BMW	R1200GSA
Meese	Ken	V	OR	2009	BMW	K1300GT
Coons	John	V	MN	1994	BMW	R1100RSL
Roth	Daniel	V	GA	2011	BMW	R1200GSA
Slaton	Paul	V	TX	2008	Honda	GL1800
Weston	Philip	V	UK	2014	Triumph	Tiger 800
Crane	Mark	V	CA	2015	BMW	R1200GSA
Walters	Brian	V	TX	2014	Yamaha	FJR1300
Memmen-Krueger	Gerhard	V	Germany	2014	BMW	R1200GSA
Bowman	Bob	V	MO	2007	Honda	ST1300
Nye	Rob	V	CT	2015	BMW	R1200RT
Heitkamp	Mike	V	MN	2014	BMW	R1200GSA

Edelman	Eric	V	NY	2014	Yamaha	FJR1300
McPhee	Ian	V	AU	2000	BMW	R1100RT
Mackey	Andy	V	CA	2009	BMW	R1200GSA
Gabrick	Connie	V	MN	2009	Victory	Vision
Springgay	Garry	V	AZ	2005	Honda	ST1300
Lenentine	Gregg	V	VA	2010	Yamaha	FJR1300
Wise	Matt	V	TX	2015	BMW	R1200GSA
Wilson	Jeffery	V	VA	2010	BMW	R1200RT
Moon	Olaf	V	AU	2014	BMW	R1200GSA
Hatcher	Allen	V	VA	2009	Honda	ST1300PA
Worden	Kurt	V	CA	2003	Kawasaki	EX250
Dossman	Danny	V	TX	2010	Honda	ST1300
Duck	Don	V	OK	2014	Triumph	Trophy
Ross	Christopher	V	TX	2012	BMW	R1200GSA
O'Connor	Phillip	V	WA	2008	Yamaha	FJR1300
Purney	Chris	V	NV	2016	Yamaha	Super Tenere
Monroe	Lyle	V	TN	2014	Honda	GL1800
Riley	Mike	V	OK	2012	Kawasaki	Concours-14
Chunhawong	Kit	V	UT	2013	Yamaha	FJR1300
Lefcourt	Nancy	V	CA	2013	BMW	R1200RT
Gatensby	Maura	V	BC	2008	Honda	ST1300
Farmer	Greg	V	CO	2016	Honda	GL1800
Comly	Chris	V	PA	2006	Harley-Davidson	Sportster
Kerkhof	Michiel	V	PG	2014	Harley-Davidson	Ultra Classic
Ford	Patrick	V	AZ	2007	Honda	GL1800
Bolger	Robert	V	TX	2008	Kawasaki	Concours-14
Walls	David	V	AZ	2014	Yamaha	FJR1300

Dent	Bucky	V	VA	2014	Yamaha	Super Tenere
Snyder	Richard	V	PA	1995	BMW	R1100GS
Peart	Margaret	V	AU	2007	BMW	R1200GS
Jaime	Rob	V	ME	2014	Honda	NC700XD
Cooper	John	V	CA	2006	Honda	GL1800
Wall	Cliff	V	TX	2006	Honda	GL1800
Doughty	George	UB	MN	2016	BMW	R1200GSA
Koeber	Robert	UB	BE	1996	Honda	ST1100
Martin	Troy	UB	LA	2016	Triumph	Trophy SE
Aman	Ken	R	NY	2016	Yamaha	FJR1300
Blevins	Kevin	R	PA	2017	Harley-Davidson	Road Glide
Bonham	Wolfe	R	ON	2003	BMW	R1150GSA
Bracken	Steven	R	OK	2005	Yamaha	FJR1300
Bundy	Dale	R	PA	1990	Honda	GL1500
Burriss	Jim	R	SC	2013	Victory	Cross Country Tour
Buskell	William	R	FL	2017	Harley-Davidson	Road Glide Ultra
Byrd	Andrew	R	OH	2012	Kawasaki	Concours-14
Church	Brian	R	PA	2015	Yamaha	FJR1300
Connacher	William	R	CT	2016	BMW	R1200GSA
Cook	Ken	R	GA	2008	BMW	R1200RT
Cover	Martin	R	MD	2016	BMW	K1200GTLE
Crowley	Dan	R	NC	2000	Cagiva	Gran Canyon
Cumbie	William	R	TX	2017	BMW	R1200GSA
Diederich	Steve	R	CA	2013	Honda	GL1800
Fizer	Greg	R	GA	2014	Honda	GL1800
Hall	Andrew	R	LA	2013	Honda	GL1800
Ishii	Yohinori	R	MI	2008	Suzuki	Bergman 400

Kerr	Jon	R	UT	2013	Yamaha	FJR1300
Kjendal	Roy	R	NH	2015	BMW	K1600GTL
Lackey	Chuck	R	GA	2008	Yamaha	FJR1300
Liechty	Dale	R	KY	2015	BMW	R1200GSA
Little	Martin	R	AU	2005	BMW	R1200RT
Long	Justin	R	WA	2015	Yamaha	FJR1300
Madson	Scott	R	MN	2007	BMW	R1200RT
McCoy	Lonnie	R	TX	2015	Yamaha	FJR1300
Miller	Scott	R	CH	2016	BMW	R1200RT
Myren	Mike	R	MN	2015	Yamaha	FJR1300
Park	Dace 'Raven'	R	AZ	2006	Aprilia	Caponord
Parker	Jeff	R	CT	2002	BMW	R1150RS
Partin	Paul	R	OK	2008	Honda	GL1800
Salman	Felipe	R	MX	2015	Yamaha	Super Tenere
Spearman	Tom	R	IN	2013	BMW	K1600GTL
Turnpenny	Michael	R	UK	2017	Yamaha	FJR1300
Vanderaa	Sjef	R	NS	2009	Kawasaki	Concours-14
Venters	Tina	R	VA	2015	BMW	R1200GSA

The riders did not hang around to socialize after receiving their instructions. The game is on now. Efficient evaluation, strategizing, and routing are their priorities, before getting a few hours of rest. It is a tradition for Mike, Lisa, and the Routemaster to visit a few riders after they have some time to evaluate their packets. It is always fascinating to see the different approaches to planning and get some feedback from the riders.



Eric Bray looking under control ...



John and Nadine working together ...



Jim Owen laughing with Mike ...



Jim relating his strategy to Jeff ...



Brian Walters fitting data into his program ...



Kirsten Talken-Spaulding planning ...



Bob Lilley contemplating options ...



Wendy Crockett getting things done ...



Erik Lipps showing Jeff his status ...

The rally start is just a few hours away!

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Photos by John Harrison, Greg Blewett, Kathy Engholm, Tim Masterson