

2022 Senior Butt Rally
Monday, September 19, 2022
Day 2

Photo Bonus #1

How do you get sixteen motorcycles to appear at the same time in Terlingua, Texas? Do it in a rally and assign massive points to the bonus. We have always had a group photo bonus in the SBR/JBR. This year there are two. Today was the first of the two and it honored legendary riders Voni and Paul Glaves. We worked with them over a period of months prior to the event to set up the details which ended up featuring a photo taken on the steps of the Starlight Theatre in the old ghost town of Terlingua. Both Voni and Paul are Iron Butt Rally veterans. Voni is known also for being one of the very few riders on the planet to have ridden over 1,000,000 miles on BMW branded motorcycles. She could do that in part because Paul is one of the most accomplished motorcycle troubleshooters in the world. People often seek him out when BMW doesn't know what to do.

Riders who have made a trip to the region know the Starlight for great food and drink. Another high point bonus was offered for hanging out in the restaurant, as well as several other value rich bonuses in the region, including taking a photo of the stuffed remains of Clay Henry, the beer drinking goat who was the former mayor of the town of Lajitas.



The gathering represents about a third of the field, mostly populated by Junior Butt Rally participants. The other 2/3rds of the field seemed headed north or east, perhaps to escape the heat of the location which clocked in around 100 degrees today. Tonight this crew will be looking for a place to spend a six hour rest bonus for some much needed rest and some big rest bonus points, another traditional feature of the SBR/JBR.



For a lot of people the background of this photo, taken from the front steps of the Starlight Theatre, might look like a barren and foreboding place to be. For most motorcyclists it is riding heaven. Miles and miles of good open roads dominate the region with seemingly perfectly laid out “sweepers” to add to the fun. The famous “River Road”, or Highway 170, is among the most noted destination rides in the world. Riders will have covered at least some part of the road during this bonus hunt. After tonight, we don’t expect any of our riders to be still around as more points are calling to the north.

Thinning the Herd

Attrition is always a factor in any rally. It is perhaps more prevalent in the SBR/JBR where teams of two bikes are required to ride in the event. Naturally, if one biker can’t continue on, the team is doomed. Such is the case for Senior Butt Rally team **BoomChakaLaka**, composed of IBR vet Mike Hall, a finisher of the 2021 SBR, and his riding partner and rookie entrant to the 2023 Iron Butt Rally, Glenn Royal. Mike was not feeling 100% before the rally and the team had elected to ride the Checkpoint Rally Only option, a feature of the SBR/JBR

that strips away bonus hunting and provides a straight forward path to Finisher status by simply collecting Dated Business Receipts (DBR's) from certain predesignated locations. But even that can be problematic if you don't feel good. Before the first day was over Mike had turned back to his home in Oklahoma and their bid was over.

Coincidentally, Glenn's riding partner in the 2021 JBR developed a kidney stone problem that almost unwound their ride. Glenn confided over the phone that he feared these two unrelated illness problems might hamper his ability to attract a partner for future SBR/JBR events. Undaunted by the development, Glenn is riding on solo in hopes of completing some certification miles in preparation for the IBR next year. Here he is in Vegas. I have not checked his SpotWalla tracker to see if he ever left there. Go Glenn go.

Glenn Royal, formerly of now DNF'd team **BoomChakaLaka**, soldiers on in Vegas.



Attrition number two occurred today when a wide-load carrying vehicle moved into the lane occupied by Lynn Behrens and Ed Feyereisen of team **Cedar Beavers** who are/were participating in the JBR. Lynn was able to come to a stop and avoid trouble but Ed was not. The resulting unplanned get off rendered the bike unrideable and did some recoverable damage to Ed's exterior and frame of mind. They made a trek back to the host hotel where Ed is planning the recovery and return home of his bike and Lynn is contemplating attempting the Ride Around Texas (RAT) ride that starts tomorrow. Gotta love these folks that keep on keepin' on.

Which Came First?

The age old question of which came first, the chicken or the egg, has been answered. At least it has for the Senior Butt and Junior Butt crowd. The first year of the event, 2019, we had a somewhat diminutive rubber chicken to serve as our flag. After COVID, in our return year of 2021, our chicken flags had grown to massive proportions due to sitting around eating chicken feed. Well, it seems now those chickens have taken to laying eggs. We picked up a few to use for rally flags. So, now you know. It was the chicken.

A few chicken egg flag bonuses for your viewing pleasure. More when Day 3 unfolds.



