

2021 Senior Butt Rally / Junior Butt Rally
Sunday, October 10, 2021
Epilogue

(With Big As Texas SS1000 and BBG Results, Plus Ride Around Texas Finishers)

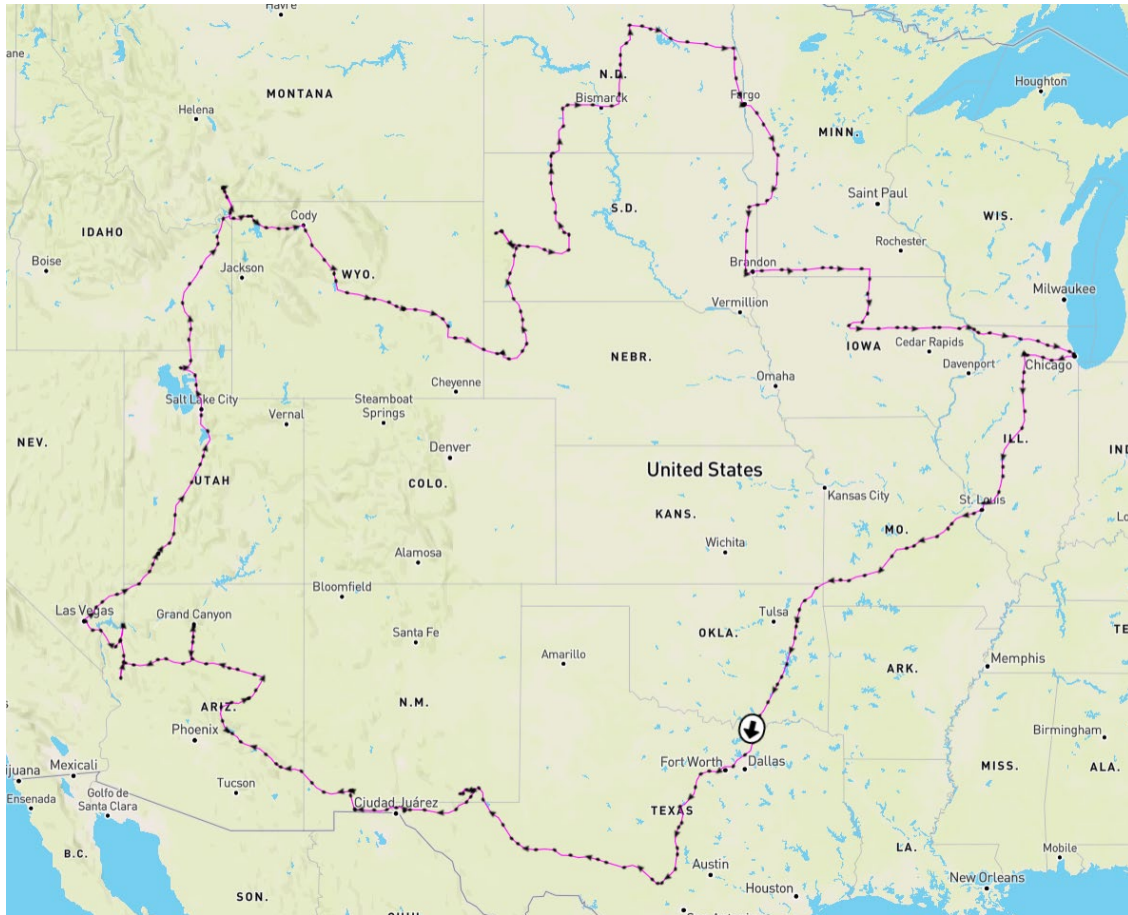
The Senior Butt Rally Winners

James Owen and teammate Greg Rice, aka the “Top Guns”, took first place in the 2021 Senior Butt Rally. I’ll bet that bit of news surprised you. Right? Ok, maybe not. It was James’ second time at the top of the podium, and Greg Rice’s first, coming in his first ever appearance in the event. This victory means no team has ever won the SBR unless it had Mr. Owen on board. The retired airline pilot seems to have a lock on the senior rally circuit and he hasn’t let go of the Iron Butt Rally either, continuing to do well there every time he saddles up. With two IBR victories and two SBR trophies to his credit, James is without a doubt one of the best of all time when it comes to the rally game. Mr. Rice, a winner of numerous past rallies, and now of the SBR, is considered one of the “Big Dogs” in the long-distance riding community. For these two to claim victory is, well, I’m sorry, no surprise at all. Congratulations guys. Well done.

Here they are receiving their first place hardware at the BAT/SBR/JBR/RAT Finisher’s Banquet.



And if you are curious how a winning SBR route looks, it goes something like this:



The Podium

You might say that the Owen/Rice team victory would be a given. That sentiment was reflected most eloquently by the words of 2nd Place finisher Danny Dossman. “I view losing to those guys as a win”, he told me after the awards were handed out. He and teammate Matt Wise (of 45,000-mile fame) returned to wipe out their DNF of 2019 due to a mechanical failure. All parts worked flawlessly in 2021 and but for the entry of the Top Guns they would have been atop the podium at the SBR. Their team name, “The Test Dummies”, may need to be revised should they pair again in 2022. Perhaps “The Other Guns” would be more appropriate as they were indeed the best of the rest, so to speak, in the 2021 SBR.

In 3rd Place was a team that almost wasn’t in the rally. Marc Beaulac was originally teamed with Alex Schmidt for the 2021 SBR. Alex had some last minute issues that knocked him out of the rally. The word went out that Marc was looking for a new teammate. That call was answered by James Handley who previously had not entered the rally because of a heavy workload. Somehow, he cleared those issues in about 30 minutes. It must not be hard work he does, or he is a master delegator. Marc later said he knew the pairing was going to work out ok when he found that James and he enjoyed the same beer, Yuengling. I can’t even pronounce it, but if these big dogs drink it, I may have to give it a try. Their team name, “Team Big Chungus”, has to do with be cute and chunky. I will let you be the judge.

Danny Dossman and Matt Wise
2nd Place



Marc Beaulac and James Handley
3rd Place



The Big Dogs



The Big As Texas Ride-a-Palooza, Ride Around Texas, and SS1000 and BBG Rides

With all the heavy SBR hardware awarded, let's take a break to reflect on the week that is now known as "The Big As Texas Ride-a-Palooza". One definition I found of "Palooza" is "an exaggerated event". I'm not sure the BAT RAP (my new shortened version) is exaggerated at all. The week kicked off with the SBR/JBR rally, followed by the Ride Around Texas (RAT), and finished, riding wise, with the BAT SS1000 and BBG rides. Absent this year, but returning for 2022, will be the Memorial Ride series and the BAT Ride In opportunities. The Memorial Ride series allows riders to dedicate a Saddlesore 1000 (or more) ride to a loved one or friend who has joined the great body of long-distance riders in the sky. And, the BAT Ride In's allow BAT attendees to earn an IBA certificate for their 1,000 mile or more ride to the event. The Big As Texas part of this refers to the grand banquet for all participants on the final Saturday night where we eat, guess what, Bar-B-Que. Pile all of this together in a great venue in Texas and you have the Big As Texas Ride-a-Palooza. It's not exaggerated. As we like to say in Texas, "No brag, just fact." The dates and the location for 2022 are expected to be the last week in September, with a return to Denison, Texas. Look for the announcement in all your favorite media places.

The Finishers for 2021 BAT and RAT Rides

Stars of Texas Bun Burner Gold

Crystal Sabas	10/02/21 H-D Heritage	1,545 TX-BBG
Ray Bearden	10/02/21 Honda ST1300	1,545 TX-BBG

Stars of Texas 1000

Bradyn Crider	10/02/21 H-D Street Glide	1,079 TX-1000
Chase Eskelsen	10/02/21 Vespa GTS300	1,079 TX-1000
Edward Feyereisen	10/02/21 Suzuki DL1000	1,079 TX-1000
Charles Gatecliff	10/02/21 H-D Road Glide Limited	1,079 TX-1000
Glen Glasscock	10/02/21 H-D Road Glide Limited	1,079 TX-1000
Loren Grimes	10/02/21 Suzuki DL1000	1,079 TX-1000
Elmer Larry Kratz	10/02/21 H-D Road Glide CVO	1,079 TX-1000
Matthew Payne	10/02/21 BMW R1200RT	1,079 TX-1000
Marcus Reynolds	10/02/21 H-D Road King	1,079 TX-1000
Philip Sears	10/02/21 BMW K1600GTL	1,079 TX-1000
Richard Terry	10/02/21 Kawasaki Concours 14	1,079 TX-1000

Other finishers of a Texas 1000 ride:

Texas 1000 finishers

Donald Deuel	10/02/21 Honda Gold Wing	1,075 TX-1000
George Doughty	10/02/21 BMW R1200GSA	1,075 TX-1000
Greg Hintz	10/02/21 Honda Gold Wing	1,075 TX-1000

2021 Big As Texas Ride Around Texas Finishers

Tommy Craft	10/21 Honda Gold Wing Tour	3,141
Dennis Peters	10/21 BMW R1250RT	3,236
George Mowry	10/21 Yamaha FJR1300ES	3,399

2021 Big As Texas Party Ride Around Texas - GOLD

Lance Corley	10/21	H-D Road Glide CVO	3,122
Nathan Stueber	10/21	Yamaha FJR1300	3,128
Kimberly Walling	10/21	H-D Road Glide Special	3,093
Mark Campbell	10/21	BMW R1250GS-Adventure	3,083
Jim McCrain	10/21	Triumph Trophy SE	3,075
Robert Long	10/21	Victory Vision	3,005
Doug Vance	10/21	H-D Ultra Limited	3,150
Greg Fizer	10/21	Honda Gold Wing	3,204
Patrick Nijsters	10/21	BMW S1000XR	3,071
Kith Burkingstock	10/21	Yamaha Super Tenere	3,201
Wendell Cofer	10/21	H-D Ultra Classic	3,170
Larry Telling	10/21	H-D Ultra Limited	3,154
Lynn Behrens	10/21	H-D Pan America	3,133

The Junior Butt Rally

Now back to your regular programming. The other new rally that runs together with the SBR is the Junior Butt Rally. To participate in the JBR, both members of the team must not have earned Finisher status in the Iron Butt Rally. Early on, during the sign up period, the JBR reached a total of 12 teams, all looking to vie for two no-draw spots in the 2023 IBR that would be awarded to the winning team. For one reason or another, the teams began to dwindle as the rally grew closer. Perhaps a case of the “oh sh*ts” hit a few. Perhaps some developed conflicts. But, mostly I lay the problem with the Rallymaster’s often use of the admonition, “Please do not shave your head yet. I have not determined how many points that will be worth.” To someone not familiar with this crowd, that might set you on edge. And, it should, since this very action has taken place in rallies before, including the IBR. Just ask that Dossman fella.

The day before the rally, we were down to five teams in the first JBR. By the time the wheels were rolling out of the parking lot the total was at four. All four teams managed enough points to earn Finisher status including the “Rolling Stones”, whose original team name was “Bitdog”. Their plight and heroic rebound has been covered in previous Daily Reports so I won’t repeat it. The big winners in the Junior Butt Rally were Scott Durham and Herakles Boardman, riding as “The Dukes of Haphazard”. A big concern with awarding no-draw entries to the IBR is whether or not the awardees will show up ready to make a serious effort at the Big Dance. Knowing this concern, I immediately directed them from the stage after handing them their awards, to the table at my far left. There sat two people they will get to know very well in the coming months, Lisa Landry and Mike Kneebone. Here they are just before having their first “oh sh*t” moment. You can almost imagine what Herakles (on the left) is saying to teammate Scott Durham. Be careful what you ask for guys.

Herakles Boardman and Scott Durham
Winners of the first Junior Butt Rally 2021



How It All Works...

The Senior Butt Rally and Junior Butt Rally used the exact same bonuses and basic rules. We created one small but significant difference in the scoring of the two rallies to keep them distinctive from one another. While the bonuses all carried the same point values, certain bonuses in the SBR carried a “doubling” effect with them. Basically, if an SBR team scored one of the doubling bonuses, the next bonus they scored would have its point value doubled. JBR riders did not have this feature incorporated into their rally scoring. The feature, and non-feature, were hard-wired into the separate SBR and JBR scoring spreadsheets so the process would be automatic at the scoring table. Although simple by design, it produced quite different ride results for the two rallies, as what an SBR team might see as rally gold, was just plain silver to the JBR riders.

Another common feature to the two rallies, and common to the 2019 and 2021 rallies, was the use of a high point mid-rally group photo bonus combined with a high point meal bonus at roughly the same location. The points are so attractive for both that passing them up puts a big dent in a team’s point total. It is so important that no winner or podium finisher of the SBR has ever missed these bonuses. The winners of the first JBR were there as well. The idea of the dual bonus group photo and meal is to give the riders a chance to rest, refresh, and regroup with fellow riders. Unlike an IBR checkpoint stop where you are rushing to get scored and get to sleep before a 4am bonus point distribution, the SBR/JBR mid-point stop is all about getting the group together in a distant location for some fun. Expect more of the same in 2022. A huge thanks goes out to Bob and Sylvie Torter (the “V Twins”) for pulling this year’s group photo and meal bonuses together in Big Sky, Montana.

Winner, winner, chicken dinner...
Can you spot all the winners with Bob and Sylvie Torter in Big Sky, Montana?



A Tribute to the Past...

Another central point to the SBR/JBR rally book is the use of bonuses that have been featured in past Iron Butt Rallies. In the 2019 SBR, the focus was on the five IBR's from 2011 to 2019. In the 2021 version of this event, we reached further back in time to the 2001 to 2009 IBR's. Simply doing a cut and paste from an old rally book is not adequate for modern day rallying. And, the further back in time you go, the less useful information you find provided in the original bonus. The standard bonus information many years ago (long before I can remember, of course ☺) did not include GPS coordinates. Most did not include pictures. While yours truly, the SBR/JBR Rallymaster, may take some pride in handpicking the bonuses from the large menu in front of me, all of the credit for cleaning them up must go to Iron Butt Rally veteran Dave McQueeney (IBA #29). Dave is the master for locating accurate coordinates and photos to bring the bonuses up to date.

The original Routemasters and Rallymasters, who were the brains and heavy lifters for our featured rallies, are listed below. Without their time, efforts and creativity, the SBR/JBR Rally Book would not be possible. Also listed are the winners of each rally:

2001 Iron Butt Rally - "North to Alaska"
Winner - Bob Hall / Routemaster Mike Kneebone / Rallymaster Mike Kneebone

2003 Iron Butt Rally - "Matrix – Red / Blue"
Winner – Paul Taylor / Routemaster Mike Kneebone / Rallymaster Lisa Landry

2005 Iron Butt Rally - "Water"
Winner – Shane Smith / Routemaster Lisa Landry / Rallymaster Lisa Landry

2007 Iron Butt Rally - "Monuments"
Winner – Marty Leir / Routemaster Lisa Landry / Rallymaster Lisa Landry

2009 Iron Butt Rally - "Crime Scenes"
Winner – Jim Owen / Routemaster Bob Higdon / Rallymaster Lisa Landry

Continuing the Tradition

The Senior Butt Rally borrowed a tradition from the Iron Butt Rally when the SBR debuted in 2019. As many followers of the IBR know, once you reach the status of "Finisher" of the IBR you are assigned a new IBA number. Since these numbers are now only at the three-digit level (the highest to date is #647 held by 2021 Finisher Dannette Sifford), they are often referred to as the "coveted three-digit number". Of course, some IBR Finishers have even more prestigious two-digit numbers, like Dave McQueeney (#29) and Al Greenwood (#18), from having achieved IBR Finisher status back in 1986 and 1985, respectively. To earn the SBR version of the number you must be an IBR Finisher, be of age to lead an SBR team (this year 55 years), and successfully finish the SBR.

So here is the list of Senior Butt Rally Finisher "three/two/one-digit numbers" so far. Of note, the great five time IBR Finisher Bill Thweatt says of his three-digit IBR number (#207), "I still have to buy my own beer." That is also true with our less prestigious SBR numbers, except you must buy your own beer and one for the Rallymaster. ☺

2019	001	James Owen
2019	002	Terry Lahman
2019	003	Lynda Lahman
2019	004	Art Garvin
2019	005	Margaret Peart
2019	006	Dan Crowley
2019	007	Dennis Cunningham
2019	008	Marc Beaulac
2019	009	Mike Hutsal
2019	010	Pat Ford
2019	011	Marty Cover
2019	012	Dave Biasotti
2019	013	Cathy Davies
2021	014	Greg Rice
2021	015	Danny Dossman
2021	016	Peter Green
2021	017	Ken Andrews
2021	018	Ken Cowart
2021	019	Leon Begeman
2021	020	Al Greenwood
2021	021	Mike Hall

A Few Closing Thoughts From 2021...

A special thanks to all the volunteers who helped out this year and in the beginning in 2019. You've been mentioned before so I won't repeat the list. But just let me say, you all know who you are, and you know how much you mean to me personally. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for helping this little dream of ours come true. I hope to see you back in 2022.

And so much must be said of the early IBR Finishers who have embraced this year's rally – (in order from #18 to #281) - Al Greenwood, Dennis Cunningham, George Barnes, Leon Begeman and of course the great James Owen. Your support means the world to the event and to your fellow riders.

I will end on a humorous note, which is only fitting for this event. There is one record I want to bury, and bury for good. By mentioning these hapless, DNF slackers (seen here accepting the “Bike Diversity Challenge Award”), in this final report for the 2021 Senior Butt Rally, they will hold an unbeatable record of having been mentioned in every single Ride Report for the event.



I received in the mail yesterday the notarized Rider Forms for David Uhl of Team Perfecto, who mailed them originally to the wrong address. A fitting final miscue for an utterly forgettable performance in a rally by himself and teammate Paul Meyer. Perhaps knowing it was time to put an end to the negative juju that surrounded Team Perfecto from start to finish, the return address on the envelope read, “Team Fried Pickles”. I believe you have something fried for sure, but it is not a pickle. I look forward to not mentioning you next year, unless of course it is for a Podium Finish.

I have thoroughly enjoyed sharing the 2021 SBR/JBR with you all. See you again in 2022!

Cliff Wall
IBA #459