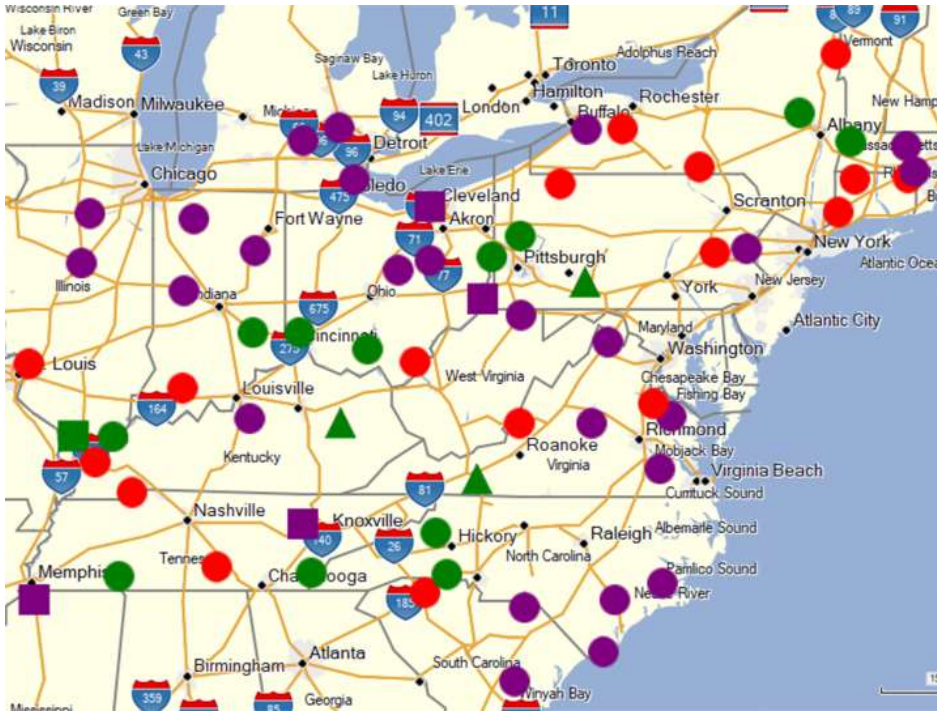


Hoagy's Heroes T-N-T Rally



Rally Bonus Locations

Hoagy's Heroes is a charity group designed to raise money through long-distance motorcycle events. Hoagy Carmichael is the man behind this organization that has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years for military veteran's and children's organizations.

This year was the 20th anniversary of Hoagy's Heroes. Karen and I wanted to support his T-N-T (This-N-That) rally and help Hoagy in any way we could!

The format for this long-distance rally was an "anywhere" start. All of the information concerning the

event would be emailed out to the participants at least a week prior to the start.

There were two rallies, a 12-hour version or 36-hour version. We chose the 36-hour version

Troy Martin was the rally master. He designed the rally and had it ready to go until he was involved in a tragic accident 3 weeks before the event that left him hospitalized.

Fortunately, Lionel Ramos and Nicole Meuse stepped up and ran the rally! With the help of Troy's wife, Amanda, they were able to get all the rally information and continue on with the event.

A week before the rally, the rally book and flags were emailed out. The rally book consisted of hundreds of bonus locations.



Laminated Rally Flag

The rally theme was an assortment of all different kinds of interesting roadside attractions, thus the T-N-T (This-N-That) rally. But, it also included reminders of one of our long-distance friends, Peter Green, who passed away earlier this year.

After reviewing the rally book, I decided the winning route would include the only combo bonus "PETER" (a combination of 4 specific bonus locations). To complete the combo bonus, the best starting location would be in the northeast at Hubbardston, Massachusetts.

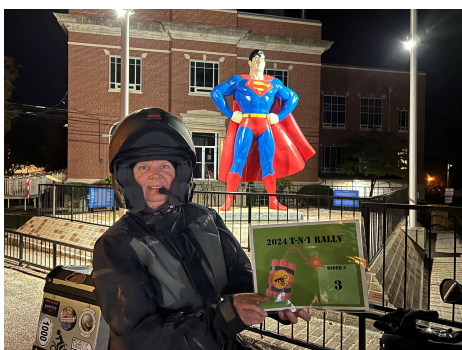
Karen and I had just returned from a 3 ½ week trip to Alaska. No way were we ready to ride to the northeast to start the rally! We'll design a competitive route where we could start not too far from

home. And, have fun riding it! Metropolis, Illinois met those criteria!

The 36-hour rally started at 6:00 am ET on Friday, August 30 and would end at 6:00 pm on Saturday, August 31, 2024. That Thursday, we rode to Metropolis to stage ourselves for the rally start.

As Karen was reading through the rally book, she realized a very important detail! To start the rally, you must obtain a DBR (Dated Business Receipt) no earlier than 6:00 am Eastern Time! We were in Central Time! Ah Ha! Good catch, partner!

We were up at 4:00 am and at a gas station at 5:00 am for our start receipt! Once we acquired it, we emailed it to rally headquarters as we would do with all bonuses! Next stop, Superman!



First Bonus

Note: When there is just a solo rider, only the flag is required in the picture with the bonus. When there is a two-up couple, the pillion is required to be in the picture too!

Now, we had 36-hours to claim as many bonuses as we could and arrive in Moundsville, West Virginia on time!

Our route took us from Metropolis across Indiana to Louisville, Kentucky, then back up through Indiana to Indianapolis, over through Illinois and up to Chicago collecting bonuses.

It was hot as we rode through Indiana! We stopped for a break at Chick-fil-a. This little break allowed us to cool down. Other than that, we rode!



Jasper, Indiana

Chicago traffic was not good to us on the Friday night before Labor Day! At 7:30 pm, it was stop and go for miles! Once we crossed into Indiana, the traffic vanished! Full steam ahead!

A rest bonus was required. You had to stop for a minimum of 4-hours up to 8-hours. You would earn 8 points per minute during that time. And, you had to start the rest bonus between 8:00 pm and 11:59 pm.

We decided to stop at 11:00 pm in Rochester, Indiana. This was the only town with a hotel for miles. We

didn't want to DNF (Did Not Finish) due to going past the rest bonus requirement start time! Good choice!



North Judson, Indiana

To claim the rest bonus, you are required to get a DBR at the beginning and then another DBR at the end. During that time, you couldn't move or claim any other bonuses. Since we have satellite tracking systems on our bikes, the rally staff can see our locations real time!

Since the point value was so high, we wanted to maximize our rest bonus time, but, the Chicago traffic ate up some time, so we had to cut it 30 minutes short for a total rest of 7 ½ hours or 450 minutes for 3,600 points.



Karbers Ridge, Illinois

We continued on to Warren, Indiana for a bonus. This was about 30 miles from where we grew up! From there, we headed north into Michigan, around Detroit, then south into Ohio and over to Moundsville, West Virginia.

We arrived at 5:42 pm. 18 minutes to spare! We checked in! Nicole Meuse gave us a copy of our bonus sheet to confirm that we agreed on the bonuses that were scored. We did!

Hoagy had a spread of BBQ with all the fixin's for the rally participants! Hoagy and his crew had been working all day cooking. It was great!

All in all, there were 10 bikes in the 36-hour rally and 12 bikes in the 12-hour version. We came in 6th place!

Wendy Crockett (the first lady to win the Iron Butt Rally) was there to greet everyone!

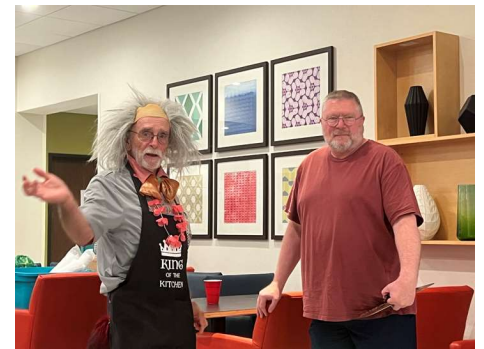


Wendy Crockett

Scott Durham won the 36-hour rally. Alex Alpert and Vivki Leroux came in second. Steve Giffin was third. These are some great rally riders! Our hats are off to them!

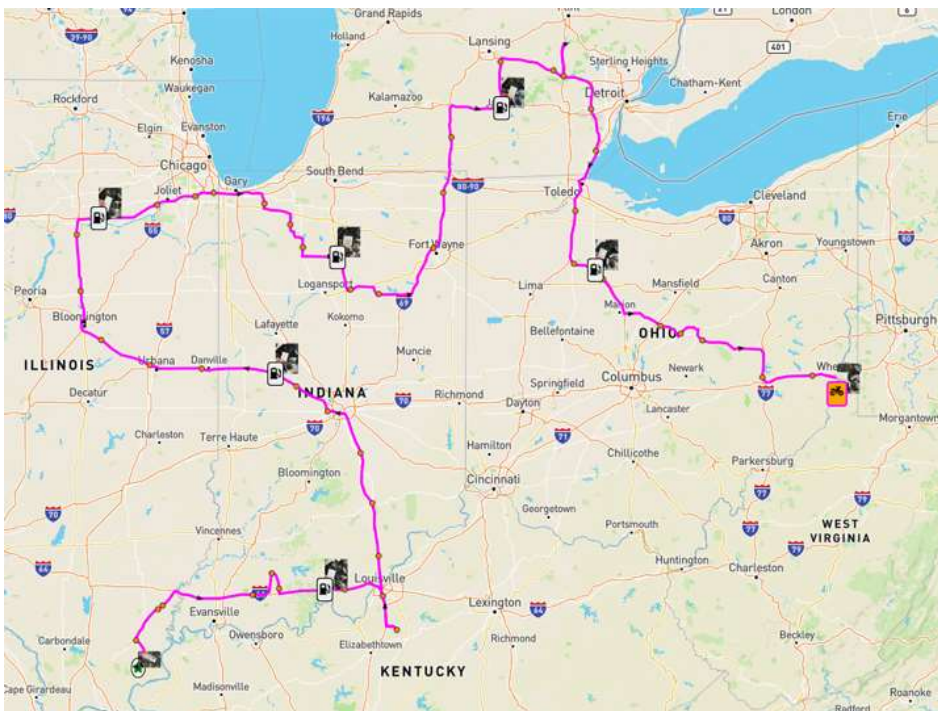
What a great event! Hoagy and his crew did an awesome job! Lionel and Nicole were great last minute rally masters!

Karen and I had a ball! It's fun to ride around the country, stopping at roadside attractions, riding through small town and big city USA! That's what rallying is all about to us! Also, meeting other long-distance riders at the end and sharing stories! It doesn't get much better than that!



Hoagy and Scott Durham

Thanks to Hoagy's Heroes for all they do to support Military Veteran's and Children's charities! They do make a difference!



Our Route 1,583 miles in 35 Hours and 42 Minutes

2024 BMW R1250GSA

Distance: 1,583 miles

Time: 35 hrs, 42 min.

Average Speed: 44 mph

Fuel Used: 45.142 gal

Fuel Mileage: 35 mpg

High Temperature: 98°

Low Temperature: 74°