

Driver & Navigator

The official newsletter of the Touring Club of New England

Volume L, number 1 – September, 2002



Train Wrecks & Automobiles

A review of the Hurdle road rally, by Nicholas Shectman

I came back from vacation on the Wednesday night before Jon Lamkins' Hurdle rally to no email from any of my usual rally partners. I did have voicemail from my friend, Essex Ramble worker, and soon-to-be-first-time-rallyist Brendan Quinn, though, so I called him back and arranged to run together. Then I called the headquarters hotel, which was full, and one of the backup hotels, which had space.

We headed down Friday afternoon after some snafus but did make it just in time to register. A couple of the pre-registered A cars just missed registration, which as it happened was much more of an inconvenience than you'd think. More on that later. But Brendan and I got our routes and went over to the diner across the street from the HQ hotel and then to our hotel to annotate and do data entry. There were, as last year, a number of key times that could be calculated, including two single-CAS-change legs where the position of the CAS change could be determined beforehand. I think Jon is onto this because he made the calcs easy in both cases. Also we calculated the length of a free zone, being sure to note that it included the pause at the beginning, which had zapped a few cars last year. Anyway hiliting and data-entry and such took most of an hour, and then we went to bed and got a decent night's sleep before heading back to the HQ hotel to get official time.

I got good time into all my digital devices and off by one second on the analog before deciding that setting the analog exactly too was just silly and gave up. The A car crews were all there and, having gotten their routes, were in the process of realizing the number of calcs that could be done beforehand and the limited time they now had to do them. But that's not the inconvenience I was talking about earlier. More on that later,

really. Our Övningskörning teammates Will Turano and Andy Boardman showed up around an hour before first car off and drew the last car number, 23. Brendan and I were 15, which I was pleased with as it made the math easier.

We headed out, got a good odo factor, and proceeded to get what we thought were zeros or ones on the first couple of controls. We did take a bunch of TAs, though: 1.5 and then 2.5 between controls 1 and 2 for reasons we understood, mysteriously up to 4.5 at the restart before control 3, and then up to 8.5 before control 4, which meant we ran half of the six-control morning section far enough back that Will and Andy could have taken time hacks off us if they weren't on a 1.5 TA themselves. We got to the first break, got some pizza, and then before handing in the TA request forms I thought I'd see if I could see where the extra two minutes had come from after control 2. A bit of prodding at the logs and I realized: I'd scheduled myself out of the free zone at a time that included that first 1.5 TA, and then added another 1.5 on top of it for a 3.0 TA! The additional minute between then and control 2 meant we were running at 4.0 minutes -- and you're not allowed to take TAs in even minutes, only half minutes. Doh! With the TA penalty this was going to be worth 100 points, and put us out of contention. I didn't have a good idea whether we were early or late at control 2, so I filed a 4.5 TA there so as to avoid an additional penalty at control 3, where we really were 4.5 past our key time. Turns out this made us 54 early, and we zeroed control 3 so doubling it wouldn't have been a problem, but 8 points was not going to decide this rally.

Having committed this train wreck,
continued on page 4

Upcoming Events

Sep. 22: Annual Grand
Leominster, MA (TCNE)

Oct. 19: The Search
Sturbridge, MA (TCNE)

Nov. 2: Covered Bridge
Killington, VT (SCCA)

(flyer for annual grand unavailable in electronic format)

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

The Search for The Great Pumpkin

October 19, 2002

Driver _____ Navigator _____

Street _____ Street _____

City/State _____ Zip _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Telephone (_____) _____

e-Mail _____ e-Mail _____

Member of: SCCA _____ TCNE _____ Member of: SCCA _____ TCNE _____

Class: A _____ B _____ C _____ D _____

Vehicle: Year, Make, and Model _____

Color _____ Registration Plate _____ State _____

Entry Fee Enclosed: \$ _____

(SCCA or TCNE members by October 1, 2002, \$35. Non-members and late entry, \$40.)

This event will be conducted in accordance with the 1996 NER/SCCA Road Rally Regulations (Amended). The entrant warrants that an auto insurance policy with liability limits of not less than \$20,000/\$40,000/\$10,000, or the minimum requirements of the state of registry, whichever is higher, is in force for the vehicle entered. Also, said vehicle is in safe operating condition for the state in which it is registered. In signing this form, we agree to abide by all the regulations and decisions of the rally committee. (If either the driver or navigator is under 18, a minor release form must be obtained and filled out before the rally.)

Driver's signature: _____ Navigator's signature: _____

Mail completed Entry Form and check for Entry Fee

[payable to New England Region, SCCA, Inc.]

to the Registrar after September 2, 2002.

Mary Beth Folsom, Registrar

212 Castlewood Drive

Bloomfield, CT 06002-1370

(860) 243-8557

code: dn

Hurdle, continued from page 1

we compared notes with Will and Andy who'd picked up 40 points on a control they'd otherwise have zeroed by putting in a 30 to 25 CAS change a mile late while recovering from a computer crash but were otherwise having a pretty good day, lots of single digit scores. The second section went pretty well for us, with more good scores plus a 5 from not putting the odo into reverse in the right place doing a short excursion, doubled to 10 which we weren't really worried about. We also had a 2 on another section for this same reason, doubled to 4, and other than those and the train wreck scored only zeros and ones which I was very pleased with especially given that the control locations were measured only to hundredths and not to thousandths.

Upon arriving at the second break location we discovered that cars 1 through 5 had been given last year's route instructions! This included both of the other A cars, plus Steve Mauger and Steve Novatne who are leading the Regional and Divisional series in B by quite large margins in both. Jon had found them at the second break and offered to have them run the tail end of the rally and have only those legs count, but apparently they all declined and went home. If any of those cars had made it before registration had closed up the night before, maybe this would have been noticed.

Anyway we were now the only A car on the road, and first overall belonged to Will and Andy so long as they didn't make any more 40-point mistakes and lose it to us. The third section only had two controls which wasn't enough for us to catch up to Will and Andy, especially since they'd gotten into a groove and weren't making even little mistakes let alone big ones. So we all went home with trophies, and Will and Andy are the first Övningsskörning car to take first overall in an NER rally. Congrats! Third overall went to some first-timers who had been told the basics of first-time rally driving: ignore your odo, drive a little over CAS to make up for time you lose in turns, and keep a log with the time you got to each instruction so that you can take TAs. This they did, and took their TAs properly to wind up with something around 20 points per control, which is quite respectable for what amounts to class C navigational techniques when you don't have a lot of mileages. Everyone was impressed, and this made three years in a row that novices have placed in the top five at this rally, which I think is very good for sucking new people in.

Minutes of the Annual Board of Directors Meeting

January 26, 2002

Held at Joe's American Bar and Grill in Woburn, MA.

In attendance: Fred Mapplebeck, Paul and Stephanie Gosselin, Max and Karen Logan, Nick Shectman, Andy English, Maryanne Rhodes, Bill Hall, Nancy May, Bert Bremer, Karen Fegley, Kathy Taylor, Jim Katz, David Lewis and Steve McKelvie.

President: Paul called the meeting to order at 9:07 PM and presented the agenda for the meeting. We had six events this year: Snow & Ice, First Day Out, Essex County Ramble, The Search, and Annual Grand. Thank you to all the rallymasters.

Secretary's Report: The secretary's report for the last annual meeting was accepted with one spelling correction: Karen Fegley was in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was accepted.

Membership Report: As of January 2002 we have 36 full members, 26 auxiliary members, and 10 life members.

Activities Report:

We would like to thank Maryanne for arranging the Annual Meeting this year.

On the calendar for this year we have: Paul Gosselin's Snow & Ice, Karl Baker's Annual Grand, Mark Rerick's The Search, Doug Hagerman's First Day Out, and Nick Shectman's Essex Ramble.

Publicity: Snow & Ice was sent to the usual newspapers.

Equipment Report: We have plenty of working equipment.

Statistician's Report: Class winners:

A: Fred Mapplebeck

B: Nick Shectman

C: no winner

Congratulations to all!

Newsletter Report: Nick is our newsletter editor. Anyone who would like to write articles please send them to Nick.

Other Business:

- The Larry Reid Award will go posthumously to Dee Robinson, for all her work in the rally program over the years. Thank you, Dee. You will be missed.
- The 2002 TCNE Board Members are:
Andy English
Paul Gosselin
Fred Mapplebeck
David Lewis
Natalie Shrader
- The 2002 TCNE officers are: President: Paul Gosselin, Treasurer: Natalie Shrader, Secretary: Stephanie Gosselin, Membership: Karen Logan, Statistician: Max Logan, Equipment: Fred Mapplebeck

The next meeting will be TBD. As usual, all members are invited. If you would like to attend, please contact a board member.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Stephanie Gosselin

2002 TCNE Board of Directors

Andy English	181 Littleton Rd. #302, Chelmsford MA 01824	AEngli622@aol.com	(978) 256-7285
Paul Gosselin	75 Castle Hill Rd., Windham NH 03087	higgsrally@msn.com	(603) 880-1620
David Lewis		wd.lewis@verizon.net	
Fred Mapplebeck	147 Millville St., Salem NH 03079	DerfRally@aol.com	(603) 898-4778
Natalie Shrader	144 Harvard Rd., Stow MA 01775		(978) 897-3058

2002 TCNE Officers & Chairpersons

President:	Paul Gosselin	75 Castle Hill Rd., Windham NH 03087	higgsrally@msn.com	(603) 880-1620
Treasurer:	Natalie Shrader	144 Harvard Rd., Stow MA 01775		(978) 897-3058
Secretary:	Stephanie Gosselin	75 Castle Hill Rd, Windham NH 03087	sgosselin@yahoo.com	(603) 880-1620
Membership:	Karen Logan	5 Boulder Circle, Nashua NH 03087	lkarangel@aol.com	(603) 886-6550
Equipment:	Fred Mapplebeck	147 Millville St., Salem NH 03079	DerfRally@aol.com	(603) 898-4778
Statistician:	Max Logan	5 Boulder Circle, Nashua NH 03087	max_logan@psdi.com	(603) 886-6550
Newsletter:	Nicholas Shectman	75 Lexington Ave., Somerville MA 02144	phi@apocalypse.org	(617) 628-3595

The purpose of the Touring Club of New England, Incorporated, is to encourage the ownership, preservation, and operation of sports cars; to provide and regulate events and exhibitions for sports cars and their owners; to promote motoring for pleasure and sport; and to encourage careful and skillful driving on public highways. The club welcomes guests to all of its events.

Driver & Navigator is published periodically for the members of the Touring Club of New England and entrants from recent Touring Club of New England events. Personal advertisements are free at the discretion of the newsletter editor. Business advertisements are placed at periodic and annual rates.

Membership to The Touring Club of New England is by application to the membership chairperson. Annual dues are eighteen dollars, with membership extending for one year from the last day of the month in which the membership is granted. Each paid membership includes the privilege of naming a spouse, relative or friend as a dues-free auxiliary member.

Touring Club of New England, Inc. Member Application Form

Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

E-mail: _____

Auxiliary Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

E-mail: _____

On request, listings of the membership are made available to the members of the club for publicity and informational purposes. If you do not want your data made available on these lists, please check here: _____

I understand that the membership is for one (1) full year from the date of this application and I agree to abide by the by-laws of the Touring Club of New England, Inc.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

**Please remit with payment of \$18.00 payable to the Touring Club of New England to:
Karen Logan, 5 Boulder Circle, Nashua, NH 03062**

Touring Club of New England
c/o Nicholas Shectman
75 Lexington Ave
Somerville, MA 02144

Driver & Navigator

The official newsletter of the Touring Club of New England

September 2002



In this issue:

- Review of *Hurdle 2002*
- Flyer for *Annual Grand*
- Entry Form for *The Search for the Great Pumpkin*

Visit the TCNE web site! <http://www.tcne.net>