

Driver & Navigator

The official newsletter of the Touring Club of New England

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Blarg!

A Rally Review of The Search for the Great Pumpkin

by Nicholas Shectman

On October 13 in Sturbridge, MA, for the second year in a row, Mark Rerick put on The Search, a revival of the great 1970's and 80's course rallies of the same name. Since trap rallying is no longer so popular in New England, Mark has come up with an ingenious and enjoyable new format which allows trap novices like myself a gentle introduction to course rallying.

This year and last, the rally consisted of about 180 miles of driving with 8 open and 5 do-it-yourself controls. Some of the legs are quickies, and others are longer, but the average competitive distance per control was a fairly typical (for New England) 10 miles per control or so. The remaining 50 miles or so were transit zones, and it was inside the transit zones that Mark hid the traps.

Last year's format had five "pumpkin controls" which rallyists would pass if they were on course, and miss if they were off course. The courses were all failsafed; novices could run the rally with no knowledge that it was a trap rally at all, and the timing worked out because everything was inside a transit zone. This gave a great "rally-within-a-rally" feel, as contestants alternated between timing competition and course competition. The only flaw in the format was that a contestant who could identify the trap but not tell the correct answer could try it both ways and collect their pumpkin.

To fix this, Mark chose a more complex pumpkin scoring system. Some of the traps had a passage control on the correct

course, as before. Other traps had a passage control, called a "Blarg" control, on the incorrect course. Now trying it both ways could hurt you instead of help you. It also made it easier to place traps; if the correct course used busy roads but the incorrect course was suitable for a control, the trap could still be scored. This allowed Mark to put eight traps in the rally instead of just five.

Last year's rally used a few LRIs for failsafing the course, and one automatic pause LRI for spice. At the start of the rally were a bunch of pictures of the course, including a photo of the sign for one of the execution points of the automatic pauses. Paul Gosselin and I missed that execution point anyway. This year there were more automatic pauses (and no photos), and again I missed one. At least this year it was only for 20 points instead of 30.

Mark also used an automatic pause to hide a pumpkin in a DIY leg this year. The correct course was 2.40 minutes longer than the incorrect course, so he put in a "Pause 144 seconds" instruction NRI that only executed for the failsafe. Catching the

conversion (everything else was in hundredths) and a whole lot of other timing traps kept everyone else on their toes. Although the scored part of the rally is still a tour, I don't think Mark can keep calling it a "straightforward" tour with all the timing traps in it.

Certainly all the effort Mark went to in putting the rally together kept me mighty busy,

Upcoming Events:

- Nov. 3: Covered Bridge XXXV
Fairlee, VT (SCCA)
 - Nov. 10: Pine Barrens Express
Whiting, NJ (RVSCC/SCCA)
 - Dec. 2: Annual Grand
Chelmsford, MA (TCNE)
 - Feb. 9: Snow and Ice
Bow, NH (TCNE/SCCA)
- S&I date / location subject to change

(continued on page 2)

The Search Rally Review (cont'd from page 1)

and entertained, during the rally. I don't know if I'd have been able to keep up without the computer. Then again, I don't know if the computer really helped. Laurel Unger and I had 12 really good legs, scoring a total of 70 points, or just under 6 points per control. That would have been good for third overall and an easy win in class B, except for leg three.

All day long, Laurel and I took short excursions -- sometimes to go check out whether a road was really paved, sometimes to return to a questionable intersection for a second look, and sometimes because we just plain went the wrong way. It was on one of those last kinds of excursions that I entered a 0.1 mile excursion into the computer as a 1 mile excursion. Since the 0.1 miles was the one-way distance, this meant my odo readings were 1.8 miles high; at 35 miles an hour this comes to 3.08 minutes early. Laurel thought the new TA was a little high, but I've

been bit before by trying to second-guess the computer, so I ignored her, and we drove on to the control, where we were another 6 points early for a max.

Blarg!

Next time, I'll pay more attention to my driver when she says there's something wrong with my numbers. And I'm sure Laurel will be a little more insistent when she catches me in a mistake.

The weather, which started out foggy during the tire warm-up, turned beautiful for the rally itself, allowing everyone to enjoy the peak foliage and terrific roads that Mark strung together for the rally. Back at the headquarters hotel, Mark presided over a great awards ceremony, with a lot of neat prizes and side contests which did a good job of keeping people around and interested for the awards. Thanks again, and thanks to all the workers, for the best time I've ever had messing up a rally.

The Search 2001 Results																				Position*
13-Oct-01 Sturbridge, Mass.																				Pumpkin
Driver	Navigator	Car	Overall	In Class	Score	Leg 1	Leg 2	Leg 3	Leg 4	Leg 5	Leg 6	Leg 7	Leg 8	Leg 9	Leg 10	Leg 11	Leg 12	Leg 13	Score	Position*
Howard Mikkelsen	Patti Mikkelsen	2	1	1A	55	3	4	31	3	4	2	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	150	2
Steve McLafferty	Pego Mack	10	2	2A	67	1	2	8	2	10	12	1	2	21	2	1	5	0	300	5*
Nancy May	Bill Hall	8	3	1B	135	1	6	28	3	34	5	7	9	18	14	6	1	3	0	1
Gary Urhan	Steve Novatne	12	4	2B	289	1	8	43	2	57	107	7	6	20	2	7	1	28	800	13
Fred Mapplebeck	Paul Gosselin	9	5	3A	293	1	3	96	59	7	9	1	4	21	74	1	2	15	300	3*
Kelli Lamkins	Jon Lamkins	1	6	1C	343	8	88	10	30	30	80	10	21	12	2	13	36	3	750	11*
Laurel Unger	Nicholas Sheckman	19	7	3B	371	5	2	300	2	14	5	4	1	13	20	0	3	2	500	7*
Michael Peterson	Carolyn Peterson	5	8	2C	471	16	10	26	85	63	41	2	96	76	7	18	24	7	750	12*
John Riter	Linda Riter	22	9	3C	557	10	28	115	58	53	51	4	42	56	86	0	25	29	700	10
Ramon Gonzalez	Greg Viscomi	6	10	4B	648	6	38	113	45	20	51	14	119	22	96	83	25	16	1400	22
Will Turano	Andrew Boardman	21	11	5B	697	3	4	62	53	15	141	0	37	3	8	4	300	67	1200	19*
Joe Kwiatkowski	Brenda Carlson	11	12	4C	707	19	12	70	85	117	111	6	33	26	113	93	4	18	300	4*
Matthew Demicco	William Halleck	18	13	1D	789	19	35	81	45	300	26	3	67	67	8	75	38	25	1200	20*
William Butter	Rebecca Gross	23	14	2D	808	0	58	135	45	27	76	4	159	103	34	72	66	29	1000	16
Hal Denham	Marilyn Freeman	13	15	5C	863	7	300	24	63	300	45	9	50	6	10	33	11	5	450	6
Fred Hooper	Paula Hooper	7	16	3D	1034	11	17	93	15	83	96	16	73	41	145	300	128	16	500	8*
Wayne Slaughter	Lauren Slaughter	3	17	4D	1207	11	4	14	300	33	93	58	116	23	170	27	300	58	650	9
Steven Arguello	Walter Alfaro	16	18	5D	1469	19	129	98	45	205	91	22	57	120	39	217	300	127	900	15*
Robin Wilkins	Roberta Wilkins	4	19	6D	1622	1	209	30	125	201	81	4	85	300	300	13	215	58	900	14*
Rachel Silber	Jack Dietz	20	20	7D	2025	22	58	154	11	139	81	12	48	300	300	300	300	300	1100	17*
Jay Modungo	Josh Richardson	17	21	8D	2384	300	300	300	255	300	61	30	150	51	90	300	155	92	1200	21*
Francesco Del Canto	Gaston Serron	15	22	9D	3010	300	300	300	300	300	161	38	137	300	300	213	300	61	1100	18*
Jack von Kaenel	Jim Friedman	14	-	-	DNS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Lowest leg score in **bold**

Averages:

902	35	73	97	74	105	65	11	60	73	83	81	102	44	734
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*Pumpkin Position Uses Tiebreakers

Hi Avg Lo Avg

The Touring Club of New England

presents

the 48th edition of

The Annual Grand



The 2001 edition of The Annual Grand will be a straightforward TSD rally of between 80 and 100 miles, running from Chelmsford, MA to Milford, NH. This rally will be suitable for experienced crews and novices.

Date: December 2, 2001

Time: Registration opens at 10:30AM

First car off at 12:01PM

First car finishes (approx) 4PM

Place: Burger King in Chelmsford, MA

Take exit 32 off of Route 3.

Leave the rotary at Drum Hill Road

Burger King is just ahead (~0.1 mi) on your left.

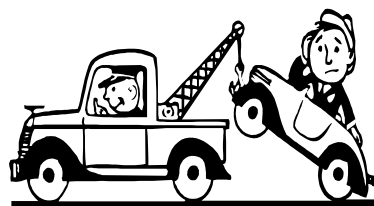
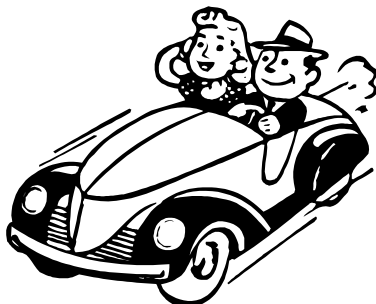
Entry Fee: \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members.

\$25 to join the club and run.

Classes: The usual A, B, and C and a class for Novices.

For additional information, contact the rallymaster, Fred Mapplebeck, at 603-898-4778, or via email at derfrally@aol.com.

In keeping with the tradition of the Annual Grand, the highest placing TCNE member will be awarded possession of the French-Patton trophy, to keep until the next Annual Grand.



Touring Club of New England
2001 Championship Standings

as of 23 May 2001

	Total Points	Credits	Snow & Ice	First Day Out	Big Lap	Essex Ramble		Total Points	Credits	Snow & Ice	First Day Out	Big Lap	Essex Ramble
Richard Anderssen													
Carl Baker							Ellen Mapplebeck						
Pauline Baker							Fred Mapplebeck	24 A	3	W	W	3A	1A/W
David Beaudet							Leeda Marsh						
Kathy Beliveau	4	1				W	Nancy May	4	1			W	
Scott Beliveau	28 A	4	2A	Ck/W	RM		Kevin McCarthy						
Marc Bellerose							Laura McKelvie			5D			4D
Bobbi Bevilacqua							Steve McKelvie			5D			4D
Louis Bevilacqua							James Padian						
Bert Bremer							E Scott Prentice						
Elizabeth Caron							Kay Rerick						
Gerald Caron							Mark Rerick						
Kit Caruthers							Ed Rhodes						
Arthur Chabot			2D		11D		Maryanne Rhodes	12 A	2	W	W	5A	
Carol Chappell					8D		Kate Riley						
Barb Ciesla							Diane Robinson						
Tom Ciesla							Elke-Edda Ross						
Mike Collier							Allan A Ryan Jr			3D		6D	
Glennis Eden-Kilgour							Michael Schwotzer						
Andrew English	12 A	2	W	W	5A		Pam Schwotzer						
Karen Fegley							Nicholas Sheckman	22 B	2	1B	1C	4A	RM
Glenn Folsom							Bill Shrader	14 A	1		1A	W	
Mary Beth Folsom							Natalie Shrader	14 A	1		1A	W	
Seth Gibson							John Sibley						
Paul Gosselin	30 B	3	RM	1B	1A	Ch/W	Marsha Sibley						
Stephanie Gosselin	24 A	3	W	W	3A	1A/W	Walter Smith						
Douglas Hagerman	28 B	3	3B	RM		1B/W	Val Stegemoen	10 C			1C		
James Hagerman	16 B	1	3B			1B/W	George Szeparowycz						
Bill Hall	4	1				W	Joanne Szeparowycz						
Chris Hilton							Tina Toutain						
Mark Johnson	9 A		4A		Ch		Terry Trott						
Michael Johnson	5 A		4A				Jack Woods						
Kenneth Jones							Maureen Woods						
James Katz	14 B			2B	3B								
David Lewis	18 A	1	W		1A	Ck							
Karen Logan	6 B				3B								
Max Logan													
Howie Lyhte	4	1	W										
Lisa Lyhte	4	1	W										
Austin Lyddy III													
Ian MacLennan													
Donald Mann													
Geraldine Mann													

Competition Points	Worker Points
1st 10	Rallymaster (RM) 12
2nd 8	Checker (Ck) 4
3rd 6	
4th 5	Other worker (W) 4
5th 4	
6th 3	Worker Credits
7th 2	RM 2
8+ 1	W 1

Please review these standings and bring any questions or discrepancies to the attention of the club.

2001 TCNE Board of Directors

Andy English	181 Littleton Rd. #302, Chelmsford MA 01824	AEngli622@aol.com	(978) 256-7285
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Natalie Shrader	144 Harvard Rd, Stow MA 01775		(978) 897-3058

2001 TCNE Officers & Chairpersons

President:	Paul Gosselin	75 Castle Hill Rd, Windham NH 03087	srcntech@nh.ultranet.com	(603) 880-1620
Vice President:	Doug Hagerman	371 Oak St., Shrewsbury MA 01545	douglas.hagerman@compaq.com	(508) 797-0165
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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

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October 2001



In this issue:

- Results from *The Search for the Great Pumpkin*
- Flyers for *Covered Bridge* and *Annual Grand*

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