

# Driver & Navigator

The official newsletter of the Touring Club of New England

-- September, 2001 --



## Computer Meltdown!

Essex Country Ramble Road Rally Report  
by Doug Hagerman

In the good old days, before the Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer was invented, "scores of 'human computers'--young women with mathematics degrees, supplemented by specially trained recruits from the U.S. Army's Women's Auxiliary Corps, were engaged in the ballistics computation work..." (A Short History of the Second American Revolution, <http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/v42/n18/eniac.html>)

A navigator in a Class B rally is in the same position as these human computers, attempting to calculate times quickly enough to provide useful feedback to the driver--who is concentrating on staying on course. In the Essex Country Ramble rally, held June 10th, we suffered from a meltdown of our human computer.

Several factors combined to cause us trouble. The weather was sunny and HOT--a nice contrast from much of what we've had here in New England this spring, but not conducive to navigator comfort. The speedometer leg was run as a Free Zone rather than as a transit zone, so to find your out time from the end of the odometer check you needed to calculate the times between NRIs. This wasn't too difficult since all the delta mileages were given, but we (I say "we", but it was actually the driver's fault...) managed to get lost and getting found again took precedence over calculations.

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## Hurdle Rally Review

by Steve McKelvie

I have been navigating with my daughter but she likes shorter rallies (the NE Novice Series rallies are just the right length for her) so through a computer post with some local northeast rally people, Jon Butzke and I agreed to team together for the Hurdle. Jon has an out-of-spec 79 Saab former Pro Rally car that he has rally crossed. The roof bears a scar from a past rolling. The car handles great, but is conspicuous with the lettering all over it.

I had an enjoyable early morning motorcycle ride from Franklin MA to Groton CT, where I met Jon. From there we drove his car to Cromwell CT to the start of the rally. We would both qualify as novices but Jon's odo doesn't work. We didn't think we'd do well as novices against other novices who had odos. We therefore entered in Class C, the taped odo class.

During the "odo check" we were able to calibrate the speedometer thanks to distances being provided between signs along a limited access road.

Prior to the start of rally I was able to work out some additional times for some of the NRIs. The key times provided and the closed controls certainly made my job easier.

Our exhaust came apart after the noon hour break while traveling along a gravel (cobble) road in a state park. The Saab motor really started to cackle. Jon was able to fix it at a break which eliminated the shouting we were doing in the car. People along the route appreciated it as well, I'm sure.

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### Upcoming Events:

September 15: Lighthouse Depot  
Bath, ME (CMC)

October 13: The Search 2001  
Sturbridge, MA (TCNE)

Nov. 3: Covered Bridge XXXV  
Fairlee, VT (SCCA)

Nov. 10: Pine Barrens Express  
Whiting, NJ (RVSCC)

## Computer Meltdown! (continued from page 1)

Ten cars entered the event, and we were assigned number 1 as a drive/work car, along with car 3 of Stephanie Gosselin and Fred Mapplebeck. The other cars were given numbers 5 through 12, which only left one spare minute for each of the run/work cars to get into position at their assigned checkpoints. As if it mattered...

Cool car of the day was the Ford Taurus station wagon of Laura and Steve McKelvie. I have a soft place in my heart for these, because ours has about 150,000 miles on it and is still going strong. Not strong enough for a rally, but still strong.

So anyway, we left the end of the odometer check at more-or-less our correct out time, with James adjusting our odometer factor as we drove off. Getting lost on the odometer check is not a good idea.

We did ok for the first half of the event, with 58, 28, and 44 leg scores--which were pretty pathetic but we go for consistency rather than good scores. Our checkpoint work went smoothly, but then we managed to get lost and recorded a 2.5 Time Allowance. Then we got REALLY lost, and the only thing that saved us was the Afternoon Break.

The Afternoon Break was a Pause 3000, so without a key time we still needed to figure out when to

leave. The calculation, plus the time wasted getting lost in the first place, plus the TA we had planned to take, meant that we left the afternoon break just in the nick of time. Then after the next checkpoint we got lost again and took a 4.5 TA, then we got lost again and took a 1.5 TA. If you notice a pattern here, it seems as if the driver was not paying attention too well. This is not a good idea, because it tends to get the navigator mad when his nice neat calculations get messed up because of an off-course excursion.

In the midst of all this, there were lots of CAS changes and pauses, which stressed the navigator's time management. Just when he had things under control we would hit another CAS change, which meant that the pressure was pretty high. After the last little unplanned tour, there was a bit of a revolt and we ran seat-of-the-pants class for the last leg. Of course, we got a 10 on that leg, so perhaps we should have run that way all day.

So we decided that we need two things: A remote split button for our odometer, and a driver who can manage to follow the course. This may be difficult to arrange, given the personnel involved.

Thanks to Nick Sheckman, rallymaster, and numerous workers whose names I forgot to write down. We had a good time, and James says that next time around HE's driving because my mind tends to wander... :\*)

<b>Essex Country Ramble 2001 Results</b>																
10-Jun-01 Danvers, Massachusetts																
Driver	Navigator	Car	Make / Model				Score	Leg 1	Leg 2	Leg 3	Leg 4	Leg 5	Leg 6	Leg 7	Leg 8	Leg 8
Stephanie Gosselin	Fred Mapplebeck	3	Audi 90Q	A	1	1	59	11	13	1	11	10	7	5	1	
Adam Brodeur	John Howard	9	VW Passat	A	2	2	156	48	5	1	4	76	18	2	2	
Doug Hagerman	James Hagerman	1	Mazda Miata	B	3	1	333	58	88	24	43	22	30	58	10	
Adam Brickett	Alex Brickett	11	Mazda RX-7	D	4	1	728	61	30	64	300	183	18	69	3	
Richard Steele	Forest Duplessis	12	VW GLX	A	5	3	738	157	2	60	300	82	110	14	13	
Lillian Hastie	Don Hastie	8	Honda Del Sol	D	6	2	741	247	14	14	233	149	82	1	1	
Tom McCarthy	Jody Lamscha	7	Mercury Tracer	D	7	3	894	235	31	187	300	21	99	17	4	
Laura McKelvie	Steve McKelvie	10	Ford Taurus	D	8	4	1173	119	123	3	300	300	300	2	26	
Dennis Rousseau	Melissa Sauro	6	Nissan 240SX	D	9	5	1251	300	14	72	300	274	48	146	97	
Joe Sauro	Therese Sauro	5	Nissan Sentra	D	10	6	1298	300	76	1	300	300	300	3	18	



## **Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**

May 30, 2001

Held at the Hagerman's house.

In attendance: Fred Mapplebeck, Paul Gosselin, Stephanie Gosselin, Andy English, Doug Hagerman, Natalie Shrader and Bill Shrader and Nick Sheckman by phone.

President: Paul called the meeting to order at 7:26 PM and presented the agenda for the meeting.

Secretary's Report: The secretary's reports for the February and April meetings were accepted with one correction: The 2001 TCNE equipment officer is Fred Mapplebeck. Also, a correction on the annual report: Karen Fagley was in attendance.

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

Membership Report: N/A

Activities Report:

- Essex County Ramble – checked and mileage, needs 2 experienced workers; Andy offered to work, Hagerman's offered to run/work.
- Big Lap – Great turnout, the event went very well.

Publicity: Flyer and letter sent to The Boston Globe for Nick's rally. Information was also sent out by email and placed on 3 websites.

Equipment Report: The battery has been fixed on one clock. All are working fine.

Statistician's Report: Worker credits for Snow & Ice and First Day Out need to be added.

Newsletter Report: The last newsletter will be sent to the rest of the Snow & Ice participants.

Other Business:

- Some suggestions were made about different types of rallies:
  - Economy Run – Participants predict their average miles per gallon.
  - Class C Rally (modified) – Statute miles are used and there is a speedometer check instead of an odometer check.
  - Overnight Monte Carlo – about 500 miles traveling to a different mountain top in RI, CT, MA, NH, and VT.
  - Production Car Trials – going uphill on a grassy field to see how far up you can get.

The next meeting will be on July 21 at 12:00 at the Shrader's in Meredith, NH. As usual, all members are welcome.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Stephanie Gosselin

# THE SEARCH for The Great Pumpkin



Saturday, October 13, 2001

*The Search for The Great Pumpkin* is a TSD Road Rally in NER/SCCA's 2001 Road Rally Championship hosted by the Touring Club of New England. In addition to TSD competition in Classes A, B, C, and D, the tradition of *The Search* as a trap rally will be retained by inclusion of several **simple traps & failsafe off-course loops**, which will present occasions to visit/miss that Halloween favorite, The Great Pumpkin. These visits are monitored by special passage *controls* along the route. Whether or not contestants execute the traps correctly, and visit/miss The Great Pumpkin at passage *controls*, TSD timing/scoring will not be affected. A separate scoring system and special awards apply to visits to The Great Pumpkin at these passage *controls*.

## RALLY HEADQUARTERS, ACCOMMODATIONS, START, & FINISH

The Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center, U.S. 20, Sturbridge, Mass., will serve as the start/finish location. A small block of overnight rooms will be held until September 12, 2001; \$129., single or double occupancy plus tax. Call the Reservations Dept., 1-800-582-3232 or 508-347-7393 x700, and mention New England Region of Sports Car Club of America. Reservations must be received by September 12, 2001 to receive the special rate. Alternate accommodations nearby include Comfort Inn (508) 347-3306 (\$109./ double incl. complimentary Continental breakfast) & Best Western (508) 347-9121(\$95./dbl). All rally related activities at the Sturbridge Host take place in the Charlton/Brimfield Room.

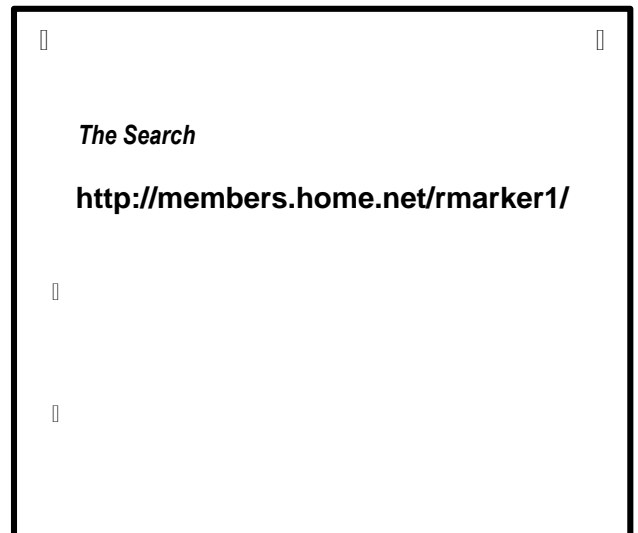
## THE SCHEDULE

### Friday, October 12, 2001

7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Rally Registration

### Saturday, October 13, 2001

7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Rally Registration  
7:31 a.m. Car 1 receives Route Instructions  
8:11 a.m. Car 1 begins *The Search*  
~ 10:26 a.m. Car 1 arrives at morning break  
~ 11:45 a.m. Car 1 arrives at lunch break  
1:01 p.m. Car 1 continues *Searching*  
~ 2:10 p.m. Car 1 arrives at afternoon break  
~ 4:38 p.m. Car 1 arrives at the final *control*  
~ 4:45 p.m. Car 1 arrives at the Sturbridge Host  
~ 6:30 p.m. Awards in Charlton/Brimfield Room



## SPECIAL FEATURES

- 1996 NER/SCCA Road Rally Regulations (Amended) & sanctioned additions and changes to the Regs apply.
- Open and DIY timing controls, on-course and off-course Passage (Pumpkin) controls.
- Out markers will be used at Open controls; odometer zeroed at all Out Markers.
- Less than three (3) miles of unpaved roads on the 185-mile route largely in northeastern CT.
- Assigned speeds are moderate; liberal use of pauses, free zones and transit zones.
- NRIs are frequently referenced to Official Mileages. Several LRIs are used, including LRI TRI.
- General Instructions mailed to driver for entries received by October 8, 2001.
  - Placement awards in NER Classes A, B, C, and D.
  - Distinctive brass tri-color dash plaques for both driver and navigator.
  - Special Dead Last But Finished (DLBF) trophy for driver and navigator for entrant car finishing in last place overall.

**LRI TRI:** Pause 20 at trivial.

# OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

## *The Search for The Great Pumpkin*

October 13, 2001

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, 2001, \$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 3, 2001.

Mary Beth Folsom, Registrar  
212 Castlewood Drive  
Bloomfield, CT 06002-1370  
(860) 243-8557

code: dn

## 2001 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	srcntech@nh.ultranet.com	(603) 880-1620
Doug Hagerman	371 Oak St, Shrewsbury MA 01545	douglas.hagerman@compaq.com	(508) 797-0165
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

## 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
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
Activities; Equipment:	Fred Mapplebeck	147 Millville St, Salem NH 03079	DerfRally@aol.com	(603) 898-4778
Historian:	Bill Shrader	144 Harvard Rd, Stow MA 01775	shrader@prodigy.com	(978) 897-3058
Statistician:	Max Logan	5 Boulder Circle, Nashua NH 03087	max_logan@psdi.com	(603) 886-6550
Publicity:	Andy English	181 Littleton Rd. #302, Chelmsford MA 01824	AEngli622@aol.com	(978) 256-7285
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.

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### 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 2001



In this issue:

- Reviews of *Hurdle* and *Essex Country Ramble*
- Flyer for *The Search for the Great Pumpkin*