

# Scenic Road Rallies LLC

Specializing in designing and conducting rural road rallies for the automobile enthusiast since 1979.

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## THE RALLY NEWSLETTER

**MARCH 2005**

Welcome back everyone! We hope you made it through the winter OK. This was one of the toughest winters we have had in many years. At some point during the season, I'm sure you were either snowed in, iced over, flooded, stranded at the airport or some combination thereof! By the time this newsletter finds you, we hope that the snow has melted and the muddy waters of the Ohio have receded to a more manageable level.

This newsletter will be shorter than usual with updates on the upcoming rally season. First off, we would like to announce that our web site, [www.SCENICROADRALLIES.com](http://www.SCENICROADRALLIES.com) is up and running! The site features pages on how our rallies are conducted, registration forms, flyers on each rally, updates, the newsletter itself, and eventually over 700 pictures from past road rallies! If you were in a rally last year, your picture will show up in the photo gallery. This will take us about two months to get the photo gallery up to speed, so please bare with us. Let us know what you think about the site or if we need to include additional information.

When you attend the rallies this year, on page one of your direction sheet, you will be asked if you would like to continue to receive the newsletter by mail or if you would prefer to view the newsletter through our web site. You are not going to hurt our feelings if you still want to receive the newsletter through the mail, as we know that many people do not have internet access.

While we are on the topic of newsletters: The newsletters are only sent to people who have attended a road rally within the last twelve months. If you haven't attended a rally in the last twelve months, your name will be dropped from our mailing list and you will need to view the newsletters through our web site.



# COMMEMORATIVE COFFEE MUGS FOR 2005

If you attended any of our rallies last year you are now the proud owner of a very limited edition commemorative coffee mug which was made specifically for the rally which you entered. Only 72 mugs were made for each rally, so the chances of you finding one of these gems in a garage sale or on E-Bay is next to nil!

Last year during the season, we took over 500 photographs during the rallies, hoping to catch a vehicle at the right place, and at the right time, so the picture would be suitable for placement on one of the coffee mugs for the 2005 season. Back in January, Bev and I spent an evening going through the road rally photo albums, pulling out the best pictures from the 2004 season. This was hard work because we had so many great photos of so many really neat cars, but we could only use nine photos for the nine different mugs being produced this year. We placed about 50 of the best photos on the kitchen table and went through the process of elimination, which not only included our likes and dislikes but also the ability of the coffee mug company to produce a good quality silkscreen on the mug. Listed below are the first three mugs for this year, the type of car featured and the owner.

3/19/05	The Northwest Passage	1979 Jeep CJ7	Owner: Jarrod Alig
4/23/05	Hills & Howls	1939 Ford Deluxe	Owner: Bob & Donna Denny
5/21/05	Caesar's Challenge	2000 Ford Mustang GT	Owner: Rick & Kim Kempke

Congratulations to Jarrod, Bob, Donna, Rick & Kim! Your vehicles will now become a part of automotive history!

## UPDATE ON THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ROAD RALLY

In the information packets we mailed out in December, we mentioned that we were still negotiating with several entities for use of a parking lot to start the rally on Saturday, March 19th. We have everything squared away now!

The rally will begin at the Switzerland County Middle School parking lot, Vevay, Indiana, and ends at Clifty Falls State Park, Madison, Indiana. **From Indianapolis**, take I-74 East to the Batesville, Indiana Exit, Exit # 149. Turn south onto State Route 229. Travel 1/4 mile and turn left onto State Route 46 East. Travel 1 mile and turn right onto State Route 129 South. Travel about 30 miles to State Route 56. Turn left onto State Route 56 East. The Middle School is about 1/2 mile down on your left. **From Cincinnati**, take I-275 to the Lawrenceburg, Indiana Exit. Turn left onto U.S. Route 50 West. Travel 6.3 miles and turn left onto State Route 56 West. Travel 38 miles along the Ohio River, on State Routes 56 & 156 to the town of Vevay. At the first and only traffic light in Vevay, State Route 156 ends and State Route 56 West takes over. Continue straight on State Route 56 West for 1 mile and turn right into the Switzerland County Middle School parking lot.

As we go to print with this newsletter on 2/22/2005, we have 39 vehicles registered for this rally with only 11 spots remaining open. Please log onto our web site (Under "NEWS".) for updates as to when this rally is sold out. Due to stream crossings on this route, if we experience heavy rains the night before or the day of the rally, this rally may be cancelled and rescheduled for Saturday, April 9, 2005. Please call or log onto our website on Friday, March 18, 2005 to confirm that this rally will be held.

There are no gas stations along this course, so top off your tanks in Vevay before you get to the Middle School. Please go to our website under "Upcoming Rallies" and then click on "The Northwest Passage" for full details on this event.

For a preview of the roads you will be traveling on and the streams you will be crossing, go to the "Photo Gallery" section of our website and scroll down to "Northwest Passage Preview".

We have a total of three different four wheel drive road rallies mapped out that we can run from year to year. They are "The Bonnell Breakdown" which we ran last year; this years "The Northwest Passage" and an unnamed route recommended only for teams who have competed in one of the above rallies because of the difficulty of the stream crossings. We may run this more difficult road rally next year. We are always interested in old roads which are "rough dirt/gravel" roads or roads that ford stream beds. So if anyone has information they would like to share with us on roads within a 200 mile radius of Cincinnati, that fit this criteria, please give us a call.



## **THE TWO MINUTE DELAY**

As with all past road rallies, we will continue to release teams out of the gate, one vehicle every two minutes. The rallies are conducted in this manner for several reasons. Some rallies, also known as "Road Trips", are conducted more like a parade with an emphasis on "Follow the Leader". We feel that by separating the vehicles at the start with a two minute

delay, we can minimize the “parade” effect. With an average size rally of 30 vehicles, this means that there is a 60 minute time difference between the time that the first vehicle is released and when the last vehicle is released. This can seem like a long time to wait if you are one of the last vehicles to leave, however, we feel that this separation of the vehicles will allow the teams to experience a more unique, fulfilling and relaxing rally if they motor through the countryside with little or no traffic. Please be patient with us at the start of these rallies as we have your best interest in mind. A reminder, we try to release the vehicles in the order that they registered that morning. Therefore, first car in, is usually the first car out.

## **NEW RULE FOR ROAD RALLIES**

After reading over the above article, you may have come to the conclusion that the first few teams out of the gate will have a competitive edge on the remaining teams due to the fact that they have more time to find scavenger hunt items and to answer questions, than the last teams to leave the gate. In order to bring fairness to all involved, we will have time limitations for each team. In short, the first team to leave the gate will receive the same amount of time to complete the course as the last team. For example: If we set a time limit of five hours to complete the course, all teams will be required to be at the finish line no later than five hours after they started the rally. Don't fret! Everyone will receive more than enough time to complete the course. This includes time to stop at the local restaurants for a bite to eat if the rally is setup in this fashion.

## **SUPPORT TEAMS**

We are still in need of support teams for the rallies from April through October. Please see your last newsletter for details. By volunteering as a support team you get the added advantage to view the road rally at the front of the pack and for free. All we need is about an hour of your time before and after the rally to help park the cars and tally the scores. Give us a call if you would like to give it a try.

## **HILLS & HOWLS ROAD RALLY**

We still have a fair amount of spots open for this rally to the wolf sanctuary and the “Rainman” restaurant. If you or your children like animals you won't want to miss this trip! The rally ends at Brookville Lake State Park where we have a picnic shelter reserved that has one of the best views in the Tri-state. There is also a small playground at the shelter for young and old alike.

## **CAESAR'S CHALLENGE ROAD RALLY**

Our third rally of the year features some of the steepest roads anywhere in Ohio! You won't be disappointed with this route as we travel some of the most scenic roads in Warren County. Ask anybody who was in The 2nd Annual Rambler Road Rally last year. They ran this course and really had a good time. Again we have a prime picnic shelter reserved with a great view of the backside of the dam. There is also a stream next to the shelter for anyone who would like to go fishing after the rally.