

Thanks for joining us on the 2017 Columbus Day Rally.

19 cars registered YEA!

10 Cars finished RATS!

2 cars called in as DNF - and went home (never a good idea - come have a beer and figure out what happened)

7 cars are still lost in the woods of Westchester County. Always try and call, or show up at the end destination so we know you are still alive.

GOOD NEWS! Lots of fun and great feedback. Awesome rally, great roads and some tricky instructions. Please know, it's difficult to write a rally that helps a novice fare well, yet have our experienced rallyists enjoy a strategic challenge.

FIRST OFF...I'd like to say.....YOU'RE WELCOME for the **LARGE FONT** on the INSTRUCTIONS!

SECONDLY, I'd like to say **THANK YOU** for welcoming Mike and I into Amore with claps and hugs....It's very humbling to know that we actually did **okay** without knowing how it would actually spin out.

And **THIRDLY** - I'd like to congratulate Dave and GJ on a record finish. THEY were one second off on time, scored the most signs (46/50) and were off by less than 1 mile on distance. WOW.

As far as scoring - please note that for the purposes of my Rally, I score on time, distance and sign(s) in this manner:

Official Time: 2:20:09 (scored at 1 point per lapsed second);

Signs: Total 50 (scored at 50 pts per sign); and

Mileage/Distance: 58.9 (scored at 5 pts/per 1/10th Mile).

While the signs were tricky (placed at 'instructions', etc.) and while we may have lost some newbies, it gave you the chance to slow down and **PAY ATTENTION**.

PLUS, the GENERALS are important. I TOLD YOU at the drivers meeting, that my GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS may be different than others in the past, so **REVIEW THEM**.

While one or two of you grumbled about areas that challenged you, I confirm, there were no errors. It's always ironic to discover that where one team was really challenged, another team had no issues, and vice versa.

We hung 50 signs, one team found 46 - quite impressive. One thing a Rally Master has to do, is, after hanging all the signs on Saturday, is to confirm that all signs are still there on the SUNDAY AM pickup. Be that as it may, if the last car in, actually recorded any *one* of them, then it counts regardless if they were in place on Sunday AM. So, for example, if Car # 17 found one that Car #1 did not, it counts, regardless of whether it was there on Sunday AM.

However, after picking up signs on Sunday, we found ALL including the one off course sign, which NO ONE fell for. DARN..... And thank you Kristin Proft for your funny notes on your answer sheet, they were fun to read. Yes, some of them were tricky. OH and a special shout out to my 15 year old daughter, Emmy, who helped pick up signs on Sunday. Yes, she too was cursing Mike out for the placement of signs. Although, unlike Mike, she came away unscathed by poison ivy!

At one point, along Reservoir Road (an old favorite), we hung two (2) sets of six (6) signs, hopefully trying to line 'em up in a row....but also recognize that it would be hard to put that on paper, so if you got all three (BB, XXX, BB) (H,O,G), *I DID NOT penalize you for the order.* But you had to record all six signs. We were not trying to be mean (??), yet some of our signs were strategically placed. One team fell for the Left Arrow sign at "Right @ T" Unfortunately, they went left. **OOPS....**

I was also very lenient **this time** on penmanship. I told you at the drivers meeting that I am VERY strict on this, but most of you were pretty spot on with drawing your symbols. While it didn't change the results it doesn't mean that the next time I will be so tolerant.

Always remember, if you have a true legit **time delay issue**, don't hesitate to ask for a time allowance - this is stated in my generals. We had one team experience a flat tire and that would **and was** counted as a true legit time allowance.

Thanks Folks.....a great Rally for the Fall Season of 2017. Looking forward to next year!

Diane