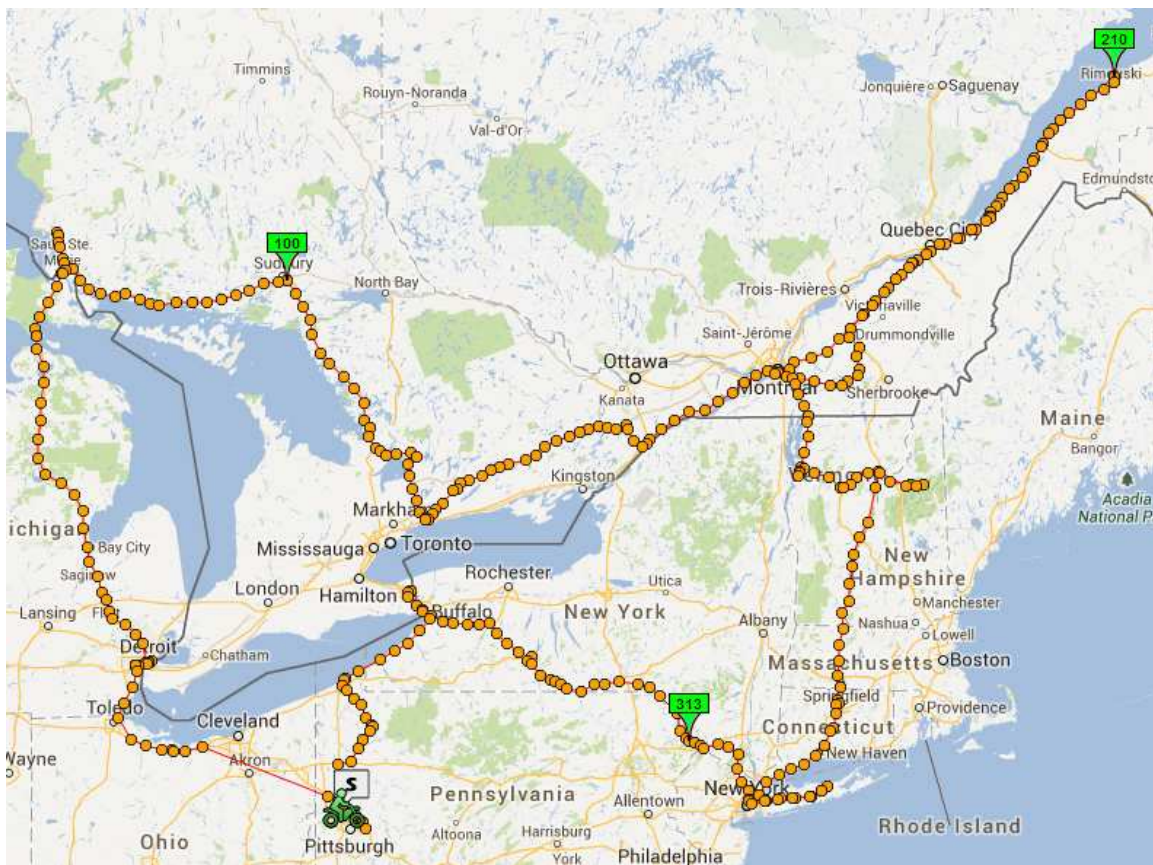


The 2013 Iron Butt Rally: Day 5

Leg 1 Standings

Dale Wilson's Yamaha FJR forum will be a noisy place today. Their beloved bikes crushed the field in the first leg of the 2013 Iron Butt Rally, nailing down 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 9th places. And but for a screwed up call-in bonus, the marque would own four of the top five places this morning.

Derek Dickson, to the surprise of absolutely no one who has followed his adventures in this game over the years, sits atop the field, 491 points ahead of Alex Schmitt. We had some fun with Alex on the first day when he misread a bonus at the Erie Maritime Museum and wasted some time. Good riders shrug off such errors, and few riders shrug better than Mr. Schmitt. Third place belongs to Wendy Crockett, who just a few weeks ago won George Zelenz' Spank rally with ease. The northeast is not in her comfort zone, but she survived it with excellent efficiency. Now the rally turns west to Wendy's backyard. Oh, yes.



How the East Was Won: Derek Dickson's Route (clockwise)

Tim Pawlowski barely nosed out John Coons, Ken Meese, and Bob Lilley for fourth place. Just 288 points separate them. Veteran Eric Jewell, J. P. Mountain, and Craig Brooks round out the top ten.

How good are those riders? This is one of one of the strongest fields I can recall in the IBR's history and they're leading the pack. It will be exceedingly difficult to knock any of them out of the tree, but hovering just below them are some contestants who intend to give it a try.

Tonie Cowen is one. I thought she'd be in 83rd place this morning, maybe worse. In the days leading up to the start of the rally her distress calls were flooding the internet. Broken bike, broken computer, broken software, broken dreams. *This is how rallies are lost before they even begin*, I remember thinking. She's in 11th place. Don't ask me how.

I do know how Jon Good and Ande Bergmann are in 12th place, however: only one other rider in the top twenty (Craig Brooks) is more efficient than they are.

The most inexplicable occurrence in the first leg was Matt Watkins' error on the call-in to Tom Austin's answering machine. He misread the time window, telephoned hours too early, and put further thought of that bonus in the back of his mind. Rookies make such mistakes, not pros like Matt. It was akin to watching Tiger Woods six putt from 20'. It just doesn't happen. When this rally is over, the mayor of Pasco, Washington, will be sitting a lot higher than 13th place, we all know that, but with a field this skilled it's not a recommended strategy to hand your opponents a thousand-point gift on the 4th day of the contest.

At the opposite end of the spectrum we find the five riders who went to Key West. They're in 77th, 84th, 89th, 91st, and 94th places as they start the second leg. I think anything I might add here about their routing strategy would only cause me to be investigated by Amnesty International. Good luck, boys. You're down --- way down, actually --- but not out.

Rob Nye, lounging in 34th place, is down too, but by apparent choice. His technical knowledge is unrivaled and the Star Wars bikes he puts together are always the talk of the parking lot. So when he told us that he was going to be taking it easy this year, we all chuckled because Rob is also a master of brutal gamesmanship. OK, we believe him now, although he did confess to having a resurgence of his old competitive fire yesterday at a service stop on the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

He needed a receipt from a restaurant, but the place was jammed with 4th of July travelers. He thought it might take half an hour just to grab a Coke. What to do? Rob walked straight up to the customer at the head of the queue and offered to buy the guy's hamburger if Rob could have the receipt. The man agreed. Two minutes later Rob was out the door with the ticket, one for \$28.89, because the man was ordering for his family of five. It was a good deal in terms of points per minute, Rob said, but the cost per minute had been a little steep.

Bob Higdon

Place	Name	Rider #	Bike	Points	Miles
1	Derek Dickson	49	05 YAM FJR1300	20651	3735
2	Alex Schmitt	31	98 HON ST1100	20160	3455
3	Wendy Crockett	4	05 YAM FJR1300	20076	3311
4	Tim Pawlowski	73	06 YAM FJR1300A	19888	3347
5	John Coons	48	94 BMW R1100	19815	3567
6	Ken Meese	51	12 BMW K1600	19713	3561
7	Bob Lilley	32	11 BMW R1200GS	19600	4219
8	Eric Jewell	1	07 HON ST1300	19196	4180
9	J. P. Mountain	95	06 YAM FJR1300A	18936	4340
10	Craig Brooks	76	11 BMW R1200GS	18646	2775
11	Tonie Cowen	88	12 YAM Tenere	18555	3420
12	Jon Good/Ande Bergmann	5	13 BMW K1600	18529	2765
13	Matt Watkins	29	05 YAM FJR1300	18483	3361
14	Greg Rice	34	12 HON Gold Wing	18220	3537
15	Kevin Lechner	33	07 HON ST1300	18088	2945
16	Eric Bray	85	12 BMW R1200GS	18040	3400
17	Perry Karsten	36	07 YAM FJR 1300	18024	3293
18	Brian Walters	70	12 BMW R1200GS	18022	2855
19	Daniel Roth	3	05 BMW R1200GS	17794	2966
20	Shuey Wolfe	8	10 HON ST1300	17631	3610
21	John Frick	10	09 BMW K1200LT	17626	3200
22	Don Stadler	84	08 HD	17606	2877
23	Jeremy Loveall	17	07 BMW R1200	17474	2503
24	Greg Lenentine	81	10 YAM FJR1300	17421	3486
25	Todd & Diane LeClair	72	07 HON Gold Wing	17306	3319
26	Scott Thornton	64	78 YAM XS1100	16954	4032
27	Colin Goodall	21	05 YAM FJR1300A	16951	2431
28	Richard Snyder	54	95 BMW R1100GS	16842	3302
29	Anthony Osborne	83	05 YAM FJR1300	16823	3052
30	Philip Weston	13	05 YAM Fazer1000	16822	3203
31	John Bailey	90	10 KAW Concours	16817	2848
32	Alex Ciurczak	62	13 BMW R1200RT	16714	2771
33	Gerhard Memmen-Krueger	11	12 BMW R1200GS	16567	3172
34	Rob Nye	26	12 BMW R1200GS	16426	3710
35	Dave Bourdeaux	35	02 HON Gold Wing	16379	2554
36	Robert Koeber	40	86 HON XBR500	16359	3000
37	Connie Gabrick	71	09 Victory Vision	16281	2547
38	Paul Peloquin	30	03 YAM FJR1300	16271	2838
39	Annette & Shane Cudlins	12	10 YAM XTZ1200	16073	2692
40	Tom Loftus	2	07 HON ST1300	16028	3206
41	Rex LeGalley	94	12 HD	16017	2844

42	Pat & Greg Blewett	9	07 HON Gold Wing	15972	2936
43	Kevin Sawatsky	77	03 YAM FJR1300	15943	2967
44	Roger Allen	15	11 BMW R1200GS	15880	2880
45	Kathleen Allen	16	10 BMW R1200GS	15880	2883
46	Bob Rippy	22	07 BMW R1200	15832	2616
47	Kevin & Lynda Weller	43	11 BMW R1200GS	15826	2742
48	Kendall Anderson	28	07 Moto Guzzi	15820	2583
49	Rusty Bachman	89	12 YAM Tenere	15815	3025
50	Ian McPhee	41	00 BMW R1100	15767	2839
51	Phil O'Connor	92	05 HON Gold Wing	15689	2462
52	Tony Hudson	18	05 HON Gold Wing	15684	2446
53	Rony Baenziger	91	07 BMW R1200GS	15677	2930
54	Mike Heitkamp	93	11 KAW Concours	15647	2903
55	Sal Teranova	47	02 HON ST1100	15646	2936
56	Steve McCaa	82	08 KAW Versys	15586	2994
57	Peter Hogan	38	09 YAM FRJ1300	15574	3100
58	Kurt Worden	37	03 KAW Ninja	15518	2276
59	Mike Riley	57	08 KAW Concours	15488	2496
60	Dianne Fox	65	09 BMW R1200RT	15481	2375
61	Allen Hatcher	68	03 BMW K1200LT	15454	3295
62	Bobby Fox	23	07 BMW R1200RT	15289	2378
63	Tim Masterson	6	13 BMW R1200GS	15164	2934
64	Betsy Young Pat Ford & Becky	58	10 BMW R1200RT	15131	2432
65	Martinez	44	07 HON Gold Wing	15119	2253
66	Eric Vaillancourt	45	12 YAM Tenere	15013	2700
67	Joe Green	63	08 YAM FJR1300	14823	2114
68	Marc Beaulac	86	08 HON Gold Wing	14803	3096
69	Michiel Kerkhof	39	10 HD	14614	3198
70	Mark Starrett	66	05 YAM FJR1300	14495	2804
71	Donald Jones	46	03 HON Gold Wing	14422	2542
72	Steve Bennett	59	10 YAM FJR1300	14002	2691
73	Sanjay Dixit	80	07 BMW R1200RT	13959	2627
74	Jim Abbott	69	03 HON ST1300	13959	3539
75	Cliff Wall	24	06 HON Gold Wing	13717	2432
76	Jeff Miller	53	07 HON Gold Wing	13368	3129
77	Matt Wise	78	12 BMW K1600	13320	3549
78	Byron Scott Jones	96	06 BMW R1200RT	13256	2534
79	Howard Entman	14	13 YAM FJR1300	13200	2644
80	Robert Bolger	52	08 KAW Concours	13118	2291
81	Dennis Powell	19	13 HON Gold Wing	13068	2345
82	Neil Hejny	20	02 HON Gold Wing	12680	1930
83	Robert Reid	87	08 BMW R1200GS	12451	3217
84	John Stanforth	50	08 KAW Concours	12434	3487
85	Dave Legnosky	61	03 HON Gold Wing	12285	2296

86	Mark Crane	27	10 BMW R1200GS	11843	3529
87	Jerome Byrd	74	10 HON NT700	11773	2176
88	Chris Purney	75	07 YAM FJR1300	11607	2733
89	Jerry Runk	56	12 KAW Vulcan	11487	3398
90	Brian Bumpas	67	01 HON Gold Wing	11370	2227
91	Sam Liles	55	08 BMW R1200GS	11024	3134
92	Doug Tessendorf	79	10 BMW R1200RT	11007	2343
93	Nahum Sloan	42	10 BMW R1200GS	10534	2485
94	Keith Keating	25	94 BMW K75	10380	3179