

There was Fussin', There Was Cussin'

The most loved and hated rally of the Indy Miata Club season took place on July 20th. Twenty-four cars with drivers and navigators showed up in sunny Danville in a futile attempt to outwit this year's F&C Rally Masters, Steve Jacobson and Bob Wiley. The usual greeting of old friends and greeting new members, looking at everyone's car and chatting started things off.

A quick speech by Chuck Wills, (who claimed he was "just too busy" to participate...cluck! cluck!), Claude Counciller gave details on his August World Series rally, the coveted President's Cup was displayed to the crowd, then the Rally Masters started the driver's meeting. Extra points were handed out to those who read the flyer and showed up with masks, then everyone got into their cars for the start. Those who didn't read the instructions on the rally sheets, immediately were behind in the points race as the first clue was hidden there. ("Gosh, our sheet doesn't have the first question" one navigator was heard to say.) There were Miatas circling around the lot, going back to find the first clue, but finally most zooming down the road.

Our route took us north, east, south and south...but not everyone had the same route. The Barrick's reputation preceded them, of course. "Look, there's the Barricks! They took off first, so they must be running the route backwards to find clues they missed!". Some cars (such as the Barrick's) ran portions of the route in the opposite direction, so you didn't know if a car had circled back for another look see for a clue(which was done quite often) or were just running the route. The Rally Masters were keeping us guessing all day. Besides visual clues, we had to answer brain teasers. (Such as "What football team is this? TTTTRRRRRRRRR" and "What word starts with an 'E', ends with an 'E' and contains only one letter?").*

Drop dead time was 1:00pm and we were warned not to show up before noon...fat chance of that! All cars but one made it to the Mayberry Cafe before the cutoff time and as our answer sheets were graded as food orders were taken from hot and hungry ralliers. Photos of the correct answers to the clues were posted so that ralliers could see what color of pants the fisherman wore, who had the "hots" for Lindsey and all the other devilish answers.

When the all the scores were tallied, the winners were as follows: 1st place - Lisa and Bill Hurley 2nd place - Kathy and Gary Collings 3rd place - Sara and Ken Koehler. A last place award was given to Steve Asay, who received what has to be the tiniest Miata ever made.

A big thanks to Steve and Bob for a great rally. And as we always say, "You should have been there!"

Steve and world's smallest Miata.



Fussin & Cussin' ralliers still smiling as they eye the President's Cup and get ready to rally!



Bill and Lisa Hurley with the President's Cup.



Ron and Phyllis Hanson (we think) score extra points by having masks (we think).

* **Answers to brain teasers:** Forty Niner's and an envelope. Go ahead, we groaned, too.