

Anger Management On A Sunny Saturday

Fussin' N Cussin'. This is a phrase that makes people frown, smile and groan. Fussin' N Cussin'. This is a rally that makes people frown, smile and groan. Fussin' N Cussin'. Sometimes, you are just along for the ride.

The Tenth running of this well known rally was held with a minimum of bloodshed, a maximum of fun roads, a stop at the horse track, and the usual assortment of tricky clues.

The "Anger Management" edition started at the McDonald's lot at I-74 and Post Road with 25 cars showing up to test themselves against all the challenges that Rally Masters Bob Wiley and Jim Nutt would throw at them. The President's Trophy was on display for the ralliers to admire and covet.

After a short meeting (interrupted by the manager of McDonalds, who wondered if we were going to leave our cars parked there all day...fat chance, Burger Boy!), drivers and navigators went to their car to await the start.

Jim and Bob first asked to see a baseball card and the team was awarded a point if there was one in their possession. A bonus point was awarded if the car's occupants could name the player on the card. The navigator was then handed the instruction / clue sheet and told to be at the end point by the drop dead time. Some cars stopped immediately to read the instructions, others hit the road like a scared chipmunk crossing an interstate.

Answers to the clues were everywhere...on buildings, semi trailers, tombstones, signs, electric transformers, written in spray paint on guard rails and on the road. An answer could be very obvious to one person, and the next person would look at it and not even see it. The newsletter editor looked right at the RV with "Open Road" on it, and much to her chagrin couldn't answer the question of what nearby object might remind you of the Indy Miata Club. Such is the nature of the Fussin' N' Cussin'.

All the cars arrived at the Golden Corral in Franklin. Answer sheets were handed (tossed, thrown, etc.) to the Rally Masters for grading and ralliers headed for the food and drinks. The Rally Masters had posted pictures of each answer (along with the Yellow Pages listings for divorce lawyers and counseling agencies) and many a groan was heard as participants saw the answer they had overlooked.

The total number of points possible were 52, the winners scored 35 and the lowest score was 3. (Like we said, sometimes, you're just along for the ride!) All the questions were answered correctly by at least one team.

First place and possession of the President's Trophy for one year was awarded to Steve and Tom Jacobson. (Hmmm, Steve was a Rally Master for last year's F & C, guess he learned a lot from Bob!) There was a tie for second place and an impartial drawing gave the prize to Rick Morris and Sara McBride. Third place went to Gary and Kathy Collings.

Chances were sold at a dollar each to win two Indy Miata Club T-shirts and club president Rick Morris walked away with them. A red rose was given to Shelley Durrel who said she had to have received the most verbal abuse from her driver during the rally. Two full color Miata history books were also given away.

Many thanks go to the Rally Masters, Jim Nutt and Bob Wiley, for their time and effort in putting together this event. It was a glorious day to be driving a Miata top down and it was another well planned rally. We're already looking forward to next year's edition of the most loved/hated rally.



First Place winners, Steve and Tom Jacobson



Kathy and Gary Collings tied for second place

"Of course I know who's on the card! I collect them!"

