

Subject: Great Race 2015

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Greetings Everyone,

Everyone is fine here in Amarillo. It has been very hot and windy but we are surviving. Here goes:

Great Race 2015 - Day 1

Greetings from Springfield, MO. This is day one of the 2015 Great Race which is going from Kirkwood, MO to Santa Monica, CA. We were blessed with beautiful weather today after torrential downpours yesterday when the Trophy Run took place. Needless to say, everyone was in much better spirits today.

The start of the race in Kirkwood, a suburb of St. Louis, was fantastic. Thousands of people came to send the racers off. The people of Kirkwood went way out of their way to make everyone feel welcome in their lovely community. Thank you Kirkwood.

Lets start with yesterday's Trophy Run. ARC's Tom Jones, the navigator for the John S. Chaney Memorial Team, and his son Rod the driver, along with Tom's granddaughter, Taylor, did very well. Their time for the day was 2 min. 13 sec. This put them in 63rd place overall. Great job everyone! The overall winner's time was something like 1.3 seconds. Unbelievable.

Don Kloth and Gordon Monten chose not to race in the Trophy Run because of the heavy rains in the area. Don's Model A, being completely open, would have needed a third person just to bail out the downpours. Gordon's 38 Buick found leaks all along the windshield and the top. So it was the day to get the windshield fixed.

Today, everyone raced. The John S. Chaney Memorial Team bettered their score from yesterday by more than half. Their time was 2 min. 13 seconds. We are looking for great things from them tomorrow.

Don Kloth and his grandson, Christopher, seemed to have a good day too. Don told me

that they had a reasonably good run considering it is their first race and that it was very hilly. He said they saw one of the race cars in an accident, one in the weeds being worked on, and another one off the interstate stalled. They had no problems so felt very fortunate. He said they also met some very nice folks along the way since they were on their tail most of the day. I don't know their time but will try to get it tomorrow.

Mary Jo Monten reports that Gordy and Lauren were pleased with their day. Gordy said, The crowds that gathered in Kirkwood this morning, were energizing. We didn't make any wrong turns. Once we even had a family parked at a countryside intersection, pointing for us to turn there as they didn't want us to make a mistake. Families were out all along the route cheering us on.

Sunshine is predicted for the next couple of days. Tom is replacing his cars motor mounts tomorrow morning. He and Gordon drew last positions for start times tomorrow so he should have time to get this done.

Stayed tuned for tomorrows report. Here we come, Oklahoma City!

Patty and Mary Jo