2017 GREAT RACE

Following ARC Along the Way!

Wiper Day!

Leaving Slidell, Louisiana DAY 3

The long trek through Texas is over, and the crew bedded down in Slidell, Louisiana Tuesday evening. With another early start, the journey should take about 8-9 hours to arrive in Jacksonville mid to late afternoon. There were heavy storms forecasted in the area today and they proved to be true. Fighting heavy rain, strong winds and tornado warnings, the team pressed on arriving at the Downtown Jacksonville Hyatt Regency around 5:10 PM EDT.   A relatively quiet night and the FUN BEGINS!

Thursday will be busy with Race Registration, Car Inspection, and a Grand Reception Party. There is little time to rest, but ample time to say hello to old friends and make new friends. Being a part of the Great Race is like joining a family. Many of the racers compete year after year not expecting to win, but for the friendships made and the true camaraderie. Need help? They will help! Each year about 25% of the teams are classified as "Rookies." They race the same course and follow the same rules as everyone else. Stu and Gary are Rookies this year. I can tell you first hand they will be nervous. They have trained and they are prepared mentally, physically and mechanically. It is extremely hard to compete against all of the truly experienced teams on the Great Race. I think this team will do well!

On Friday the competition begins. This is the day the racers get a chance to demonstrate their skills. Starting late morning is the "Trophy Run." Many say this is a practice run, but it really does count!   This race is around the countryside for about 150 miles. It follows all the Great Race Rules. The winners receive prizes and money! The score does not count on the official nine day race stats…unless there is a tie when they get to Traverse City. A tie is broken by whomever finished ahead of the other in the Trophy Run. Go Stu & Gary!

If you do not want to receive a daily briefing please let me know.   Herb Clark
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