

Over the three days of October 18 to the 20th, the Washington, DC region of the Sports Car Club of America hosted the 2013 National Road Rally Championship's season's premiere event, the United States Road Rally Challenge, or USRRC. This event consists of three separate rallies, a GTA rally run Friday the 18th, a course or "trap" rally run Saturday the 19th, and a tour rally run Sunday the 20th.

The name of the GTA rally was the Virginia Map GTA Rally. GTA is an acronym for "Game, Tour, Adventure." This rally was definitely a tour, since it traveled over a good portion of rural roads west of Fredericksburg, Va. A GTA is probably a lot like some non-SCCA rallies that proclaim themselves "fun" rallies and have you looking at landmarks and filling out questions about them. This rally added an element of determining your own course via 3 methods. One was known as a herringbone concept, where a straight, horizontal line is drawn, and then vertical lines are drawn to indicate what to do at an intersection. If the vertical lines form a cross, that means to keep a road to the right and a road to the left, such as going straight at a crossroad. A single line coming in from the top would, since you're going from left to right, indicated that you should keep a road to the left, such as straight at a sideroad to the left, or right at a T. The 2nd concept was to connect snippets of a Virginia DOT map to form a route, and drive on all existent roads in the pictures, and again answer questions about what you saw along the route. The 3rd method was to use roads whose numbers totaled a given number. For instance, if you were to travel on "14", you could encounter road 608 and turn on it, or 239, or 86. Again, you would fill in answers about questions along your route to determine whether you went the right way.

The course, or "trap" rally was not unusual for its type, having mostly fairly simple traps with four good "zingers." It traveled east of Fredericksburg to the area mostly between route 301 and Colonial Beach, Va. There is a network of both paved and unpaved roads there that are well suited to direct rally contestants along a route, and offer both beauty and competition. The traps, for those who have ever rallied and may remember a few, were old reliable formulas such as curve arrow traps, "onto" traps, overlap traps, and quick sign traps. The 4 not so easy traps were one where a transit zone started way earlier than expected because it started at 3, and contestants encountered route 3 in King George, far before they got to numbered route instruction 3, which is what they were probably expecting. Another was a situation where rallyists approached a "Y" intersection in Colonial Beach that ended in the McDonald's straight ahead, but the intersection was not a "Y" because the general instructions said that the parking lot of the break, the McDonalds, was an existent road, making the road a crossroad. Main road determinants were Right at Y and Right at T, but higher than those was Left at Crossroad, where the winners went left, turned on route 632 that circled behind the McDonalds, and then used the Right at T main road determinant to get back to the McDonalds to be directed into it by the next instruction for lunch. The third big nasty was where a Do It Yourself Control (DIYC) ended at a sign reading "Speed Limit 45", but the next leg also started at a "Speed Limit 45" sign that was 0.66 miles down the road. Max late for missing this and starting at the same sign that was the DIYC. And finally, the nastiest trap was a "Turn on Oak Brow" that, due to an intricate arrangement of road marking signs and carefully worded general instructions, allowed a sign on the left side of a sideroad intersection to mark the road on the right side of the sideroad intersection. That surprised the most teams of the rally, causing the most penalty points of any trap.

The Magical History Tour had us all biting our nails, since the route had been wrecked by the government shutdown that closed the military parks around Fredericksburg that the rally used. On Thursday, the shutdown was over, the original set of route instructions, rather than the backup set that I had created to bypass the closed roads, was sent to the printer and we didn't spend \$50 to print route instructions we didn't need. The rally ran east of Fredericksburg, circled south, then west, and came back into Fredericksburg while "hitting" places like Lee Drive in Fredericksburg that contained some cannons and "Meades Pyramid," the Stonewall Jackson Shrine south of Fredericksburg, and then the Spotsylvania Court House Battlefield, Wilderness Battlefield, and Chancellorsville Battlefield where Stonewall Jackson was mortally wounded by "friendly" fire. The rally itself was fairly brisk, entertaining contestants while offering some challenge. The scores were incredibly low, with just 6/100ths of a minute penalty over all 24 controls.

Below are the results for the Virginia GTA Map Rally:

2013 US RoadRally Challenge

GTA Car #	Driver	Navigator	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total Score	Place Overall
7	Jim Crittenden	R. Bruce Gezon	2	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	
9	Jack von Kaenel	Stu Helfer	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	1	11	
14	Jeanne English	Dave Kolb	3	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	12	
2	Chuck Larouere	Karl Staab	3	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	0	13	
5	Bob Morseburg	Sue Stewart	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	2	3	13	
10	Kevin Poirier	Rick Beattie	3	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	2	13	
6	Jim Miner	Scott Forehand	2	5	2	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	18	
12	Ted Drummond	Charles Hanson	1	2	1	0	1	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	2	20	
4	Wendy Harrison	Craig Beidelman	2	4	1	1	0	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	2	21	
13	Will Moser	Kyle Rand	1	2	1	1	3	3	0	2	2	1	2	2	3	23	
8	Mike Thompson	Fred Rosevear	2	0	1	0	3	1	2	3	1	4	3	2	2	24	
3	Nathan Harris	J Toney	3	3	2	1	2	3	1	3	5	6	7	5	5	46	
11	Kirk Binning	Clayann Binning	4	1	3	1	3	2	4	1	4	6	7	5	5	46	
1	Dave Jameson	John Sears	3	5	2	2	5	5	4	3	5	6	7	5	5	57	
MAX	Max Driver	Max Navigator	6	7	4	2	5	5	4	3	5	6	7	5	5	64	

And for the Virginia Reel Course Rally:

**2013 US RoadRally Challenge
Virginia Reel Course Rally**

VaReel Car #	Class	Driver	Navigator	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Score	Place in Class	Place Overall
10	E	Chuck Larouere	Karl Staab	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	8	1	1
13	E	Jack von Kaenel	Stu Helfer	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	13	2	2
6	E	Dave Jameson	John Sears	1	0	0	1	1	3	3	0	100	0	0	1	100	0	1	1	2	0	214	3	3
11	L	Jim Crittenden	R. Bruce Gezon	1	0	1	1	1	0	5	1	100	2	0	6	100	1	0	1	0	0	220	1	4
8	E	Jim Miner	Scott Forehand	2	1	0	1	1	2	3	100	100	12	0	2	0	2	1	0	2	0	229	4	5
12	E	Mike Thompson	Fred Rosevear	1	0	1	1	1	10	39	14	2	1	1	1	100	1	1	100	3	1	278	5	6
5	E	Kevin Poirier	Rick Beattie	1	0	0	0	1	15	0	6	1	100	0	1	100	1	0	100	2	1	329	6	7
14	E	Bob Morseburg	Sue Stewart	1	0	1	0	1	3	44	1	3	90	0	1	100	1	1	100	2	0	349	7	8
2	S	Jim Wakemen	Mark Haas	4	0	6	0	3	100	3	100	7	2	0	19	3	1	55	100	9	5	417	1	9
4	L	Jeanne English	Dave Kolb	30	0	100	20	6	2	74	9	100	100	0	12	11	37	2	1	3	0	507	2	10
16	S	Nathan Harris	J Toney	38	0	7	100	5	15	12	100	62	3	100	3	29	3	2	91	100	1	671	2	11
7	E	Ted Drummond	Charles Hanson	100	100	1	100	1	0	3	100	100	91	1	32	100	66	0	100	0	1	896	8	12
1	S	Wendy Harrison	Craig Beidelman	100	100	13	100	10	100	100	100	100	100	0	100	28	22	100	100	100	100	1373	3	13
17	S	Charles Inderrieden	Michele Inderrieden	8	64	100	100	36	100	100	100	100	100	50	36	100	55	100	100	100	100	1449	4	14
9	S	Will Moser	Kyle Rand	100	100	100	53	60	100	100	100	100	6	46	100	7	100	100	100	100	100	1472	5	15
3	S	Gale Walker	Bob Atkins	45	100	100	100	16	100	100	100	98	100	71	100	100	84	100	100	100	100	1614	6	16

And the Magical History Tour rally:

**2013 US RoadRally Challenge
Magical History Tour Rally**

MHT Car #	Class	Driver	Navigator	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Score	Place in Class	Place Overall
13	E	Bob Morseburg	Sue Stewart	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	1
7	E	Chuck Larouere	Karl Staab	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	1
14	E	Kevin Poirier	Rick Beattie	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1		0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	10	3	3
5	E	Jack von Kaenel	Stu Helfer	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1		0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	11	4	4
15	E	Dave Jameson	John Sears	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	0		0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	4	4
16	L	Jeanne English	Dave Kolb	2	4	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	5		1	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	24	1	6
12	E	Mike Thompson	Fred Rosevear	1	1	0	1	2	2	5	1	0	0	0	1		0	0	1	3	0	22	0	1	0	1	0	42	6	7
6	E	Jim Miner	Scott Forehand	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	30		0	1	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	47	7	8
1	E	Ted Drummond	Charles Hanson	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	0	1	50	1	0	1	0	0	1	67	8	9
2	L	Jim Crittenden	R. Bruce Gezon	0	50	1	0	0	1	1	1	7	1	1	1		1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	69	2	10	
4	S	Jim Wakemen	Mark Haas	1	50	7	4	2	3	6	5	2	8	4	16		0	1	4	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	125	1	11	
9	S	Nathan Harris	J Toney	2	5	1	3	6	2	1	2	6	5	17	10		2	4	5	2	3	50	0	1	40	3	9	179	2	12
11	S	Gale Walker	Bob Atkins	24	20	3	7	21	36	1	4	6	1	29	16		2	0	6	20	8	4	7	0	12	6	8	241	3	13
3	S	Will Moser	Kyle Rand	14	15	24	50	2	18	17	24	11	11	32	34		9	32	15	12	15	40	14	6	24	16	13	448	4	14
10	S	Irving Pritchett	Kathy Pritchett	27	42	22	50	22	18	20	11	28	38	38	41		6	11	19	4	24	50	27	48	17	15	10	586	5	15
8	S	Kirk Binning	Clayann Binning	27	3	50	50	2	7	15	30	7	5	28	50		4	29	50	8	50	41	50	17	22	29	16	590	6	16

Finally, the overall weekend for the USRRC is awarded from the combination of the 3 rallies. The results are here:

**2013 US RoadRally Challenge
Overall Results**

Class	Driver	Navigator	Friday GTA	Saturday VaReel	Sunday Mag Hist Tour	Total	Place in Class
E	Chuck Larouere	Karl Staab	8	10	10	28	1
E	Jack von Kaenel	Stu Helfer	10	8	5	23	2
E	Bob Morseburg	Sue Stewart	8	2	10	20	3
E	Kevin Poirier	Rick Beattie	8	3	6	17	4
E	Dave Jameson	John Sears	1.9	6	5	12.9	5
E	Jim Miner	Scott Forehand	4	5	2	11	6
E	Mike Thompson	Fred Rosevear	2	4	3	9	7
E	Ted Drummond	Charles Hanson	3	1.9	1.9	6.8	8
L	Jim Crittenden	R. Bruce Gezon	10	10	8	28	1
L	Jeanne English	Dave Kolb	8	8	10	26	2
S	Nathan Harris	J Toney	8	10	10	28	2
S	Will Moser	Kyle Rand	10	8	8	26	1