

Riders for the 96-hour (4 day) event began assembling in College Station yesterday (Sunday). Staff arrived as well with all the stuff we need for the event. Rally central is set up for the most part and we started odo checks at 1PM. For those who are unaware, motorcycle odometers are typically off by a few %. So we have an established, easy to follow route of a known distance. Each rider approached rally staff at his or her appointed time, put the front wheel at the chalk line and show the staff member that their trip meter is set to 0.0. We like for the GPS to also be reset to easily tell if the rider stayed on track. The rider then rides the prescribed route and returns to the same location for the measured distance to be read and recorded by staff. The bike's variance from actual will go into the rally system so that their true event milage will be documented. It's not uncommon for riders to make a wrong turn and must start over. The last bikes out were scheduled for 4PM. But the kind-hearted Paul allowed folks to go early and the last rider departed some time around 3:30 or so. No major hiccups, a couple minor ones. No one deserving of a public shaming. That will surely change as the rally proceeds.

Oh, what is the other event at 5PM? A group tutorial for the rally app. The Rallymaster designed and published a really slick app that riders use to submit their bonuses to staff for review. If someone has done our events before, there isn't much change. But if they're new to the app, it'd be a good idea to attend and ensure that they have everything well understood to be successful on the road starting at noon tomorrow. We say this every time. If you have successfully been using the app in prior events, you really don't need to come. But they always do. We think they are expecting some magic something to have appeared. It hasn't, but they're welcome to join us regardless.

After the tutorial, around 6PM, there will be a no-host meal at a nearby restaurant for everyone to have a relaxed evening together. Perhaps you can imagine that the restaurant was positively thrilled when Nancy walked in to ask if she could bring 50 or so of her closest friends in for a meal on a dead Monday evening. This will be followed by an 8PM curfew for riders. We want them to have a good night's sleep before the fun begins in earnest tomorrow. Riders' meeting at 4:30AM. The riders have been advised that the doors will open at 4:15AM and close at 4:30AM. We do not allow late entry.

While the riders are snug in their beds, staff will be preparing for the morning meeting.

We intend to get a report out each day as requested by several riders. No promises if things get hectic for us.

The only photo for now is the set up where Nancy and Paul will be working all day for the next 4 days. We have a stock of college kid food in our rooms and office so we don't need to go anywhere. There's Paul hard at work. Nancy's station in the foreground. The large monitor will be used for a variety of things. While riders are out, the spotwalla track for the event – <https://new.spotwalla.com/lp/f342-21b96d4-0104/view>. This is live now. Keep in mind that the 48-hour riders may start appearing on the edges, like the guy out in West Texas right now. He'll be back for the 48-hour event.

