

Bunn November 14, 2021

The RUST BUCKET VINTAGE TRIAL as witnessed by Jim Ellis

A few days after the final CVOTC Regular Season event on October 10th the clearing started for our annual Rust Bucket. Five Sections would encircle the Bowl with ten more beyond the Whale Rock bridge, mainly in the Sandy Creek area.

The event started with group photographs of everyone standing behind John French's immaculate 1961 Matchless 350 Trialer. In AJS trim this model was ridden by Gordon Jackson in the 1961 Scottish Six Days Trial. He, quite famously, had just one dab the entire week! John will forward the photos to Gordon, now 90, as a tribute to his accomplishment 60 years ago. David Webster then related his struggles to just finish the SSDT in 1984 at the age of 26. Four of the six days it rained as he rode 80 to 100 miles daily. Perhaps we should not fret about three loops of 9 or even 15 sections on a two mile loop.

A tradition of the Rust Bucket is riding together like a large family. This meant Triple Riding each Section before advancing. The "A" Class had numbered Gates while the "B" Class rode anywhere. Another tradition to save considerable time and increase the Madness is allowing Multiple Riders Simultaneously.

Sandy's Log had to be crossed in both directions, meaning riders tried to time their approach to avoid collisions. Flat Earth Convention was long and twisty enough that ten riders could be seen progressing through it like scrambling ants. If a rider stopped, the followers could pause without penalty. We eliminated the "Don't Cross Your Tracks" rule and carried our own cards.

Some folks borrowed a Vintage bike such as David on a Honda Reflex. Joe Palrang spent last week preparing a TL125 Honda that had not been started in over twenty years. John Hendricks purchased a stunning TY250 Yamaha a day or two prior to the event, then shared it with son Josh. Two weeks ago CVOTC co-founder Don Wrenn welded the split muffler on my Bill Grapevine modified Reflex. Patrick Tremblay rolled in on the 1966 BMW R27 he bought from me a couple of years ago. Another spectator, Ellis Daw, bought an old TL250 Honda on site. To carry on the British Trials tradition, John French and Will Salter rode 200cc Triumph Cubs. Kenny Gwyn borrowed Pate Keen's spare TL125, now owned by John. Fantic 240s and a 300 were piloted by Alan Hensley, Cristian Alva, and Berndie Lunsford. Mike Griffin brought a Montesa 123 while Michael Friesen rode his Montesa 247. Novice David Jansen tried the "A" line on Kenny's TRS. Dave Snapp's bike would not start.

Jeff Hensley had a sharp looking Reflex. After an accidental clutch-pop on his first ride cost him a "5", Jeff dabled only once in the next 44 rides! After rebuilding his exhaust and installing new tires on his hard tail GRM Maverick/Ossa, Jon Quell nearly snuck ahead of Jeff by tallying just seven dabs.

Scott Porter rode his faithful Bultaco Sherpa-T while helping his Grandchildren, Colton and Aria Fitzpatrick on their Oset Electrics. Lightning Weppeler brought his Bultaco Alpina from Ohio and intentionally did not carry a card. Rick Schill and his TY250 made it through #10 Flat Earth

Convention whereupon his healing right shoulder advised him to stop. I rode Exhibition but kept track of my score.

I did the clearing, ribboning, and marking of 15 Sections over a four week spell of warm weather. Frank Wolff was our test rider and photographer. David Webster moved rocks for #4 Hilltop Ledge. Joe Palrang employed his weed-eater in #1 Spring Hillside. Only the rocky areas in three Sections were raked. Event day started cold...in the 40s, but warmed up to a sunny 60. This 4th Edition Rust Bucket attracted 17 "A" riders and 5 "B", our largest total ever.

As a fund raiser for our Trial Des Nations Team, we collected \$355 in entries and donations. \$150 of which was paid in advance in August through the Maddie Hoover organised GoFundMe campaign. The \$205 balance will be forwarded to Maddie. Basic ribbons took the place of Trophies.

We even attracted a few curious spectators including Kevin Bobal, Martin Sturla, and Leslie Matheson. Thank you everyone for participating and donating!

"A" Class

1. Jeff Hensley 6
 2. Jon Quell 7
 3. Alan Hensley 14
 4. Jon French 24
 5. Joe Palrang 29
 6. Kenny Gwyn 47
 7. John Hendricks 56
 8. Cristian Alva 61
 9. Scott Porter 70
 10. Michael Friesen 80
 11. David Jansen 176
- DNF Rick Schill
DNF Berndie Lunsford
EXH Jim Ellis 31
EXH David Webster
EXH Lightning Weppler
EXH Josh Hendricks

"B" Class

1. Colton Fitzpatrick 81
 2. Aria Fitzpatrick 89
- EXH Will Salter 34
EXH Mike Griffin
DNS Dave Snapp