

EGGSANITY 1000

Quoted from the IBA website: http://www.ironbutt.com/eggsanity/

EGGSANITY 1000 – For Egg Lovers - Vegans need not apply

This ride celebrates the longdistance rider's favorite short order grills in classic Waffle House® style and requires you to enjoy an egg dish at each stop.

You will be taking photos at each stop eating, what else, egg dishes with of course your EggSanity flag and collect receipts after each meal.

Your ride starts after you eat (so you are on the clock when you get your receipt for breakfast).

Your ride ends at your last stop, AFTER you eat you final meal.

This past winter, Sammy Estes mentioned that he would like to try an Iron Butt ride (1,000 miles in 24 hrs).

Since Karen and I have completed several, I recommended the EggSanity ride and agreed to organize it. This type of IB ride included an additional element of fun other than just go and pound out 1,000 miles.

From there, we met with those I thought might be interested. I had to keep it small since this is a pretty intense ride. Large groups just aren't as safe or as efficient as a small group. (Keep in mind, most IB riders will ride alone or maybe with one other rider for this exact reason.) I offered the group several route options. We discussed the options and picked the best one for us. Then, I sent the route to the IBA for preapproval (one of the requirements for this ride). The IBA gave us their blessing and told me that our route would be an approved route for any other members in our chapter that might want to try an EggSanity in the future (even 10 years from now! As long as the selected restaurants were still open for business). If anyone is interested, I would be glad to share all the details with you!

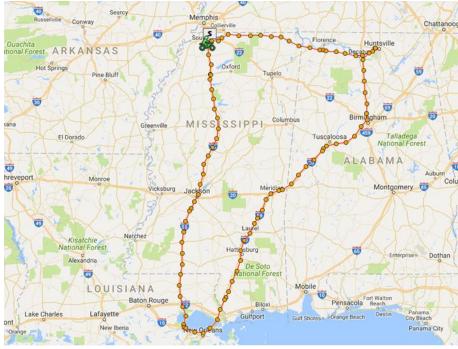
We agreed to meet at the Waffle House in Hernando at 4:30 am, Saturday, May 20. This would be the starting point of our big **EggVenture**! The group consisted of Sammy & Teresa Estes, Ken & Sheri Bobbit and Mark & Karen Campbell. (Unfortunately, Rick & Karen Pate didn't get to make it, due to his father's health.) Everyone was **Egg-cited**! After taking our photos and eating our required egg entrée, we took bathroom breaks and accomplished anything else we needed to do before the ride. Then, we paid for our meal and asked for a receipt. This receipt had the current time on it to document the start of our ride.

5:01 am - We are now on the clock! We have 24 hrs to ride to a Waffle House in Huntsville, AL, then on to a Huddle House in LaPlace, LA, before returning back to the Waffle House in Hernando, MS. According to Google Maps, this route was 1,014 miles.

We head east on Byhalia Rd to Hwy 309. There's an eerie feeling riding through the low foggy clouds of this dark country backroad. From there, we head up to Hwy 302 east to Hwy 72, then on to Huntsville, AL.

The weather is perfect this Saturday morning! To me, there's nothing better than heading out on the motorcycle and watching the sun rise. You get to watch the whole world slowly wake-up!

As we ride into Huntsville, we see the big rocket at the Space Center sticking out of the city skyline. We arrive at Waffle House on University Drive around 8:30 am. I was afraid this could be a busy time of the morning at this Waffle House, but fortunately it wasn't. We got in and out pretty quick but not before eating our required egg entrée, taking the required photos



1,014 Miles

and sending the required email to the IBA.

Our group couldn't believe how quickly we are covering miles along with gas stops and breakfast. This was **Eggstraordinary**!

As we leave Huntsville, the temperature starts to warm up. At 10:00 am it was already in the 80's. This had me concerned. The heat can really wear you down! No problem, thanks to the weather changing as we enter back into Mississippi near Meridian. Storm clouds are looming! But, this really plays to our advantage since the temperature is cooling down too!

We do ride through a few small rain showers so we stop for everyone to put on their rain gear. It was a good call because eventually we ran into some heavy downpours! The one scary incident on our ride was past Meridian, we were riding in the left lane of a moderatly busy highway during the rain. There was a concrete wall between us and oncoming traffic. As big trucks would drive along that wall in the oncoming lane, they would shoot a big rooster tail of water up and over the wall! After getting hit a couple times by the water shooting over the wall, we decided to get over in the right lane. Just as we get over in the center lane on our side, I see what looks like a white Camaro on our side facing us about 100 yards ahead. Immediately, I think this car is in our lane going the wrong way! But, as I watch the Camaro is actually sliding sideways toward the right shoulder! As it slides to the right, it takes out this tall street light along I-20 and slides off the road not to be seen again! Now, I'm searching for the cause of this accident! What caused the Camaro to spin and slide? It must have hit a pool of standing water! As I scan the area, I don't see any standing water, just wet pavement. I don't know exactly what I said over the CB, but I try warn the group of the accident. Now, my concern is for the group's safety! What if other cars hydroplane like the Camaro? This would be a huge risk to us! So, I decided to continue on without stopping. There were plenty of other vehicles to check the status of the accident. My only concern was if the Camaro overturned. Later, Sammy told me that it didn't as he rode over to the right shoulder to see what happened to the Camaro. This was a big relief to Within minutes. me. an ambulance passes us and did a Uturn. We could tell, it was looking for the accident. This was a relief too! It happened so quickly I was hoping that I made the right decision to focus on our group's safety over someone else's! In this particular case, I think I did.

We continued on in the thunderstorm and eventually rode out of it as we entered Louisiana. Now, the temperature is starting to warm up again. The highest temperature I would see on the bike's display was 90 degrees. Shortly after that, we pull into the Huddle House in LaPlace, Louisiana (west of New Orleans at the I-10 & I-55 exit).

Now, we are really hungry! It's 4:30 pm. Last time we ate was in

Huntsville, AL at 8:30 am. As we are eating, we are looking at the weather radar on our phones. We see a large storm heading our way! We decide to take our time and let this storm pass over. Well, after eating, taking required photos and sending required emails, we get ready to leave. Oh no! Its starts pouring down rain! The sky is black and the wind is picking up! We decide to stay another 30 minutes, but it ends up that we stay over an hour extra waiting for this storm to pass. We finally leave around 7:00 pm.

Although still pouring down rain when we left the Huddle House, we rode out of it within 10 to 15 miles. The rest of the ride north through Jackson, MS and on to Hernando was uneventful. The temperature was comfortable. It was a great way to relax and enjoy the final leg of the journey.

We did slow down the pace as darkness set in upon us. Teresa hadn't ridden much in the dark hours of the night. This would be her first long ride in the dark. I'm glad that Teresa has the courage to ride her own ride at her own comfort level. This is one of the most important safety issues when it comes to extreme rides such as this one! Some people let their ego overcome their comfort level, then accidents can occur. Teresa is one of few women that actually attempt an Iron Butt ride as a rider. Sammy should be proud! I know we are! All in all, it had been an Egg-ceptional day!

A big kudos to Sheri and Karen too! Can you imagine sitting on the back of a Goldwing staring at the back of the rider's head for 1,000 miles, especially Ken's! These are very patient and tolerant women! Again, something very few women do is to complete an Iron Butt ride as a co-rider. We are very proud of them too!

As we get off the bike at the Hernando Waffle House, the group is not tired and worn out! No, they are re-energized! They can't believe we started on this journey 19 ½ hrs ago! Yes, we just completed a 1,000 mile ride! It was a major sense of accomplishment for everyone!

Again, we take photos, eat and get a receipt. This receipt would officially stop the clock and end our ride!

Time: 1:16 am - An official time of 20 hrs, 15 minutes to complete all requirements of the EggSanity 1000! Now, we are **Eggs-hausted**! We exchange hugs and handshakes, then head to our own beds for a great night's sleep!



End Receipt: 1:16 am