

## Philadelphia to York PA

The start of the race is always a mixed bag of excitement and uncertainty. Today was no exception. With grey skies looming overhead and the thought of sending the team off across the country in a 77-year-old car and no experience weighed heavily upon my mind. When the announcer called “Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines,” my excitement and relief came at the same time. It is time to head home I told one of the boys. Along the journey we will meet the most interesting people in America. What an adventure for this team!



The car was off in the 65<sup>th</sup> position with Tony and Jeff in control. Lucas took the green flag and flagged the remainder of the cars to their start as the announcer called each one. Lucas needs a little practice in enthusiasm! I got some good pictures of him anyway!

We headed for our trailer nearly 10 miles away through city driving conditions and a lot of stop lights. We had only 100 miles to drive to get to the next overnight stop. A hundred miles in the east are like 200 in the Northwest! Wow! Bumper to bumper and torrential rain along the way made for a very slow drive. The country is beautiful here and we are traveling in Amish country. In fact, the racers encountered the Amish buggies along the route.

It rained all afternoon and as cars arrived at the finish we could see that many of them were extremely wet. The good news is that Abigail made it the whole day. The bad news is that the team got lost a couple of times. A final score of 2:59 did not put us last but only because Philly broke down again. If you look at the X-Cup scores all but one team got lost on this route. In retrospect only one team got better than 2 minutes today. Tomorrow is a new day so we will hope of better weather and better scores.

