Well I am so far behind that I did not get to starting this until after the 2024 Election. Anyway please be in prayer for those affected by Hurricane Helene as many of these roads I clinched in eastern TN and western NC were damaged by it (most notably I-40). I also read that US 58 east of Damascus, VA, will have to be realigned due to the stream taking the location of the former roadway so that reclinch lasted about 7 days.

Day 0 (Harrisburg, PA, to Glade Spring, VA) (9/18/2024)

After work I took I-81 SB again with a couple diversions as I headed south. The first one was at WV 45 to see if the west end of WV 243 was now signed (spoiler: it was not). The second one was taking US 11 from Christiansburg, VA, south to Dublin, VA, and taking VA 100 back south to I-81 SB to avoid road work around Exit 109 (VA 177). Due to the Sheetz on US 11 in Christiansburg getting a school bus of high schoolers, I did not get to my hotel until just after 11 PM where I took sign photos of the US 11/VA 91 intersection before heading to sleep.

Day 1 (Glade Spring, VA, to Columbia, TN) (9/19/2024)

I started the morning just after 5 AM taking VA 91 SB to US 58 WB in Damascus. I then took US 58 WB to Abingdon in order to reclinch the route (at least then) due to a realignment at the South Fork Holston River as part of the recently completed four-lane widening project in the area. I got an early breakfast at the Royal Farms on US 11/US 58 in Abingdon before taking US 11 NB to VA 80 WB to US 19 SB before picking up US 58 ALT WB. I generally followed US 58 ALT WB to Jonesville completing my clinch of it with the following exceptions:

- 1. Loop to clinch VA 270 in St. Paul
- 2. Clinched VA 158 and SR 893 in Coeburn (I actually did a project in college related to Coeburn so I was glad to finally visit.)
- 3. Clinched US 23 BUS (Norton) and staying on it to Big Stone Gap to pick up US 58 ALT at the south end. I had clinched the US 23 bypass back in March of this year. I also clinched VA 78 while I was in Appalachia.
- 4. Clinched both OLD US 58 segments in Dryden.

From Jonesville, I took VA/TN 70 SB all the way to NC stuck behind a ton of trucks and then took NC 208 SB to US 25 SB/US 70 WB back into TN. I stayed on US 70 as US 25 became US 25W (with a quick convenience store stop by the I-40/TN 113 interchange) and both US 25W and US 70 joined US 11E. I then clinched TN 168 by taking it south to US 129 and then left US 129 quickly to clinch TN 333. Then I took US 321 NB to Maryville to clinch TN 336, looped for sections of US 129 and US 411, and then took TN 95 NB to US 321 SB. I stopped for dinner at the Zaxby's in Lenoir City along US 321/TN 95 between I-75 and US 11.

I left US 321/TN 95 and turned onto US 70 WB following it all the way to Crossville clinching TN 29, TN 382, and TN 299 south of I-40 along the way. I clinched TN 392 and TN 462 while in Crossville (seeing Bucee the Beaver) before picking up US 70N and clinching it by taking it to Lebanon (looping to clinch TN 291 at TN 56). In Lebanon I looped to clinch US 70 BUS before

taking US 70 EB to I-40 WB to I-840 WB to I-65 SB to my hotel in Columbia at the eastern terminus of US 412.

Clinched: US 58 (VA-reclinch), US 58 ALT (Abingdon, VA), VA 270, VA 158, US 23 BUS (Norton, VA), VA 78, TN/VA 70, NC 208, US 25 (TN), TN 168, TN 333, TN 336, TN 29, TN 382, US 70N (TN-full clinch), TN 462, TN 392, US 127 ALT (Crossville, TN), TN 291, US 70 BUS (Lebanon, TN)

New Mileage: VA 80, VA 71, VA 63, VA 72, VA 68, US 421 (VA), TN 33, TN 66 (Rogersville), US 25 (NC), US 70 (TN/NC), TN 107 (Del Rio), US 25W (TN), TN 113, TN 92, TN 139, US 411 (TN), US 129 (TN), TN 95, US 27 (TN), TN 299, TN 101, TN 298, US 127 (TN), TN 84, TN 136, TN 56, TN 96, TN 53, TN 141, I-840 (TN), I-65 (TN), US 412 (TN)

Day 2 (Looping Around Nashville, TN) (9/20/2024)

Before Blimey Con began, I spent most of the day looping around Nashville. First, I took I-65 NB to I-840 WB (finishing the clinch) to I-40 WB (turning around at TN 46 (Exit 172)) before taking TN 249 NB to Ashland City to clinch TN 455 for the lowest route number game on the AARoads Forum. I then finished clinching TN 249 by taking it to I-24 and went to Downtown Nashville to access I-40 WB to access TN 155 to do a loop of Briley Pkwy/Woodmont Blvd where I found out that <u>Steven Curtis Chapman</u> would be inducted into the Grand Ole Opry on November 1st.

After an interesting stop at Casey's, I got back on I-40 WB to TN 249 NB again to US 70 EB so I could pick up US 70S EB (and of course its long concurrency with US 41) and take it all the way to TN 64 east of Murfreesboro. I took TN 64 to TN 99 and went back to Murfreesboro ultimately taking TN 99 WB back to Columbia (via Chapel Hill, oh wait not that one) to take a shower before heading to Blimey Con. To get to the camp where Blimey Con was, I took US 412 WB to US 31 NB to TN 246 NB (with its own canopener bridge) to Perkins Rd. The way back to the hotel later that night (after remembering I-476 for a specific Blimey Con trivia question) was just TN 246 SB to I-840 EB to I-65 SB.

Clinched: I-840 (TN), TN 249, TN 455, TN 155, TN 99 (segments east of I-65), TN 269 (Eagleville)

New Mileage: US 412 (TN), I-65 (TN), US 70 (TN), TN 49, TN 12, I-24 (TN), US 31E (TN), US 70S (TN), US 431 (TN), US 31 (TN), US 41 ALT (Nashville, TN), US 31 ALT (Nashville, TN), US 41 (TN), US 231 (TN), TN 64, TN 96, TN 246, TN 247

Day 3 (Looping Around Franklin, TN) (9/21/2024)

Most of the day I was at Blimey Con, but I did get a little roadgeeking in. I took I-65 NB to TN 396 WB to TN 247 WB to TN 246 NB to the camp in the morning as I intended to go for a hike that I missed because I did not have the gate code for the camp. When we had a break later in the afternoon, I took TN 246 NB to Franklin and looped around the area a bit mainly to clinch TN 397 and TN 248. After I left Blimey Con for good, I took TN 246 SB to I-840 EB to US 31 SB (with a loop to close the gap on TN 247 between TN 396 and US 31) to US 412 EB back to the hotel.

Clinched: TN 396, TN 246, TN 397, TN 248

New Mileage: TN 247, US 31 BUS (Franklin, TN), US 431 BUS (Franklin, TN), TN 96, US 431 (TN), US 31 (TN)

Day 4 (Columbia, TN, to Clemmons, NC) (9/22/2024)

I started the morning with an early Love's stop just east of the I-65/US 412/TN 99 interchange before taking I-65 NB to Nashville again to I-40 EB and then taking I-24 EB to TN 96 EB in Murfreesboro. In Murfreesboro I would pick up US 70S EB again taking it east to McMinnville. While looping to clinch routes in McMinnville, I ended up with a flat right-rear tire as I turned around on US 70S. Once I stopped at a convenient store on TN 55 BUS in McMinnville (yes, I clinched TN 55 BUS with a flat tire), I looked at my phone and found the local Wal-Mart, and since it was a Sunday Morning, that was where I ended up. While I question whether the tire needed to be changed, I went on with it because I really did not have any other option if I wanted to keep roadgeeking. Once the tire was changed, I went back to US 70S EB clinching it when getting to US 70 in Sparta along TN 111 (maybe Future US 111). After a loop to clinch TN 289 and the solo segment of TN 1 in the area, I took TN 84 north to Monterey to pick up TN 62 EB. I stopped for lunch in Wartburg at a Hardee's (impressing my past high school history teacher and getting out of heavy rain) and continued east on TN 62 to Oak Ridge. In Oak Ridge I took TN 61 EB to TN 95 SB (completing my full clinch of the route now as I did the other missing section I had south of US 321 on Day 1) to I-40 EB (going very slow throughout especially as the I-75 NB traffic merged in to begin the I-40/I-75 concurrency) to TN 162 WB back to TN 62 WB completing my clinch of TN 62 once I got back to TN 61. I took TN 61 EB to US 25W SB (briefly revisiting I-275 as I missed the ramp onto I-640 EB) staying on US 25W until it and US 70 broke away from US 11E. I then took TN 139 EB (yes, driving along US 25W/US 70 again briefly due to a concurrency) clinching it once I got to Dandridge. From there I took TN 92 NB (again briefly concurrent with US 25W/US 70) to I-40 EB staying mostly on I-40 all the way to Winston-Salem. I left I-40 around Asheville due to a closure (unrelated to Helene as it had not come yet, but I already clinched the section of I-40 between both ends of I-240 in May 2022) so I reclinched I-240 on the north side of Asheville. I also left I-40 at Drexel to clinch NC 114, and did a Sheetz stop at the Fairgrove Church Road/US 70 intersection between Hickory and Conover. I did a quick loop via US 421, NC 67, and NC 150 back to I-40 WB to my

hotel at the Lewisville-Clemmons Rd exit (Exit 184). My clinching of I-40 in TN and NC now gives me a full clinch of it east of I-430 in North Little Rock, AR.

Clinched: US 70S (TN-full clinch), TN 380, TN 286, TN 55 BUS (McMinnville), TN 289, TN 1 (Sparta), TN 62, TN 95, TN 139, I-40 (TN/NC), NC 114

New Mileage: I-65 (TN), I-24 (TN), TN 96, TN 53, TN 55, TN 108, TN 56, TN 111, US 70 (TN, NC), TN 84, US 27 (TN), TN 61, US 25W (TN), TN 131, TN 92, NC 67, NC 150

Day 5 (Clemmons, NC, to Harrisburg, PA) (9/23/2024)

I started the morning by taking Lewisville-Clemmons Rd north to US 421, and took US 421 SB to I-40 EB to NC 150 EB back to US 158/US 421 and leaving US 158, NC 150, and US 421 for good by exiting onto US 52 NB/NC 8 NB in Downtown Winston-Salem. I exited off of US 52/NC 8 at US 311 taking it north to Madison. I looped around Madison to clinch US 220 BUS and the west end of NC 135 before continuing on US 311 to Eden where I made another loop for NC 14 and NC 87 via Reidsville. Then I took NC 14 (finishing the clinch)/NC 87 north into Virginia clinching VA 87 when I reached US 220, looping to clinch US 220 BUS in Ridgeway, VA, and driving south to the NC Line and turning around to make sure that I have US 220 done in VA once I got to Roanoke (though I probably should have gone south to Madison, NC, oh well...). After a Sheetz stop on the south side of Martinsville, I took US 220 NB all the way to Roanoke turning around at the US 220 BUS/VA 419 interchange to complete US 220 in VA. I then went back south on US 220 to the Blue Ridge Pkwy briefly so that I could clinch the Mill Mountain Pkwy and finally view the Mill Mountain Star.

I then took the JB Fishburn Pkwy and Walnut Ave into Downtown Roanoke via VA 116 NB and followed US 11 NB to US 220 NB in the Roanoke Area. I continued north on US 220 to SR 870 (former VA 43Y) in Eagle Rock to clinch that and take VA 43 SB to US 11 NB in Buchanan. From there, I got on I-81 NB at Exit 168 by Arcadia, and mostly followed I-81 NB all the way back to Harrisburg. However, I did exit off at WV 51 in Inwood, WV, to check on signage at the east end of WV 243 at US 11 (again WV 243 was not signed).

Beyond clinching US 220 in VA, I also have NC/VA 87 now fully clinched north of I-40/I-85.

Clinched: US 311 (NC), US 220 BUS (Madison, NC), NC 135, NC 14, VA 87, US 220 (VA), US 220 BUS (Ridgeway, VA), Mill Mountain Pkwy

New Mileage: US 421 (NC), NC 150, NC 65, NC 704, US 220 (NC), NC 770, NC 87, Blue Ridge Pkwy