



BMWDFW

# BEEMER ZEITUNG

March 2009

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH



### CITY LIGHTS

SUBMITTED BY BO GRIFFIN

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This time of year we must keep two piles of riding clothes stashed and ready for each new day. A high of 90 one day followed by a morning low of 39 the next morning requires a broad selection of riding apparel from electric liners to short sleeve micro fiber T-shirts. For most BMW riders that is not a problem. With all the cargo space we typically ride with we can dress for the non-temperate moment and change as we go. Some of us out there on the BMW fringe with 1200S bikes are not so equipped. Zero storage means we are cold in the morning and hot in the afternoon for the sake of....

## RALPH SCHWARTZ

sportdom and vanity, but the fun to comfort ratio is still very high. It is definitely not too early for those spring rides. I write this on the last of February having just returned from an east Texas ride where the grass is brown the pines are green and the spring wild flowers and wild fruit trees think it is spring with early, vibrant color. It is definitely time to ride!



## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *President's Report*
- *Cross Threads*
- *Planning*
- *Awards Banquet*
- *And Much More...*

## Membership

## Meeting

**Tuesday**  
**March 10th**  
**8:00 PM**

**Spring Creek BBQ**  
**1509 Airport Freeway**  
**Bedford, TX**  
**817-545-0184**

**At Forest Ridge & Airport Freeway (Hwy 121)**



*President's (Continued on page 2)*

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### *President's (Continued from page 1)*

BMW has made yet another step or two up in 2009. The new K1 300GT and K1 300S bikes have made the boat ride across the pond and two each can be found at BMW of Ft. Worth. The S in "Fire Breathing Orange" goes fast even while standing still. HmMMM. I think a test ride is in order here.

For those with any coins left in your pockets these days BMW has some promotional pricing going on with \$1000 off on several 2008 and some 2009 models...not the 1300s of course. If you have a few smaller coins left you may want to opt for a good value at BMW Ft. Worth. They currently are offering a full dino oil change with filter for \$49 out the door; synthetic \$69 out the door. This is great timing to help us prep our bikes for the serious riding months in our immediate future. Give Leo a call at 817-595-000 and tell him I sent you.

The February Tin Top ride was a Moon special. Mike led us onto lots of tiny roads through the pastures of Parker, Palo Pinto and Tarrant counties. We stopped at the House of Knives on west Loop 820. Amazing! Whatever it is you want to cut; they have a knife made especially for that job. You can outfit yourself as the culinary master of a standing rib roast or as a Samurai warrior!

I have now ridden on two of the several legs of my 2009 Individual Challenge Ride (ICR), the "I've Been Everywhere" ride. This is tremendous fun! I never ceased to be amazed at the new and unusual things that I see while riding around this state. Scenery varies from farm fields to mountains to pine forests and you can find interest and beauty in all of it if you are looking to be educated or entertained. And sometimes you see something completely unsuspected. Take for example the 30 foot tall sculpture of a deity and atten-

dant angels in a horse pasture northwest of Ft Worth (see photo). I do want to remind everyone to be extra careful while riding on their ICR. As we search for those city defining signs we must stay alert and cognizant of traffic however light. Other drivers are not expecting sudden stops or U-turns or other maneuvers we may use to put us in position to take the verification photos. Use your hazard warning lights when stopped on roadways. Hint; it is usually safer to stop in town at the US Post Office, or other city building than on a roadside. There is lots of time left but I encourage you to get out soon and enjoy the beautiful spring weather and capture your own ICR.

Don't miss the March club meeting as Bob Day will present a narrated slide show of his amazing R1200GS ride around the Eurasian part of the world last summer visiting numerous countries over thousands of miles. The TGIS ride is coming up on the last weekend in March; contact Tourmeister Don Mills for information and room availability. The Spring Picnic and ride is May 30, mark your calendar. See Moon's Event Calendar on the Website for all upcoming motorcycle events in the universe.

Keep taking those photos and sending them to George Tuttle at [webmaster@bmwdfw.com](mailto:webmaster@bmwdfw.com) and keep writing those articles and send them to Don Mills at [don\\_mills@sbcglobal.net](mailto:don_mills@sbcglobal.net). You make our newsletter great.



THE LAND OF RIGHT ANGLES

The February after breakfast group ride started from Mary's Brazos Café and headed west. Led by Mike Moon, we numbered about 12 riders on 10 bikes. I'm not sure what routes we took to get to Mineral Wells, because I didn't start my GPS tracking until we stopped for a gas station break. The roads were mostly dry, but occasionally found some wet areas that were holding on from an unexpected early morning shower. It really didn't affect the riding, just had to be more vigilant in the turns. After the break, I couldn't believe how many 90° turns were on our route. It was all open land, but

just every mile or so, there would be another 90° turn. After we traveled east, out of the Land of Right Angles, we made our way to the House of Blades, which some claim is "the biggest knife store in the world". They had swords, folding knives, combat knives, just think of anything with a sharp blade and it could be found there. With this group, it didn't surprise me when I overheard someone in the next aisle exclaim in their best Australian accent, "That's not a knife. Now, that's a knife." I took that as an exit cue to let me know it was time to get back home (back to the land of dirty diapers).

CROSS-THREADED SPARK PLUGS

BY MIKE CRENSHAW



A few weeks ago, I wrote to the BMWDFW Yahoo Group Forum and asked if anyone had any knowledge of how to repair a cross threaded spark plug hole without pulling the heads. There were a few responses with no specific solu-

tions, but my general perception was that the question left most people scratching their heads. Not one to be easily discouraged I asked around on another internet forum, "The Unofficial and Purposely Disorganized R65 Forum" and received pretty much the same response.

The situation came about when I was attempting to perform a

compression check on a 1983 R65 that I had recently acquired. A compression check can tell a lot about the health of an engine. After removing the spark plug I was unable to thread my compression tester into the right cylinder. Moreover, I could not re-insert the spark plug back into the cylinder. This did not bode well, and visions of pulling the heads, new helicoil inserts, and lots of \$\$\$ flashed through my mind.

The R65 came with NGK spark plugs that had been installed by the previous owner. My experience with NGK plugs is that they are as good as they come but something in the reptilian portion of my brain recalled an incident with my very first BMW, an R60/6, back in the early '80s. I had replaced the

*Cross Thread (Continued on page 4)*

## CATEGORY II— PHOTO OF THE MONTH



### SIGN OF THE TIMES

BY DON MILLS

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#### **Cross Threaded (Continued from page 3)**

Bosch plugs with NGK's. When I had the bike in for an annual service I was told by the authorized BMW dealer in Fort Worth to never use any spark plug other than Bosch.

Whether this bit of advice was true or not, \$400 later and a new set of helicoil inserts in both heads, I resolved to follow his advice.

So, back to the problem at hand. I had a couple of options. I could try to chase the threads but run the risk of some metal chips or filings falling into the cylinder head, or pull the head off in order to chase the threads safely. Then the heavens opened and I came across a tool called a "back tap". See this link, for a picture and description of how it works.

<http://www.back-tap.com/>

The "back tap" is a hollow rod threaded to 14mm (or also available in 12mm) spark plug threads, with four longitudinal slots milled into the threads. The threaded end is tapered to

clear the threads in the hole. A mandrel runs through the tool and when retracted opens the threads so that it can engage the lower internal threads and the tool can be backed out, thus chasing the damaged threads usually found at the top of the hole.

I found one at Northern Tool in Bedford for \$50, but they can be purchased at NAPA, or even on eBay. Using a generous supply of grease, I ran the tool through the spark plug hole several times, enlarging the diameter a little each time. After about five passes I was able to re-insert the original NGK spark plug with no difficulty. Once I was satisfied that I had the threads sufficiently chased I performed the compression test with satisfactory results.

I think the little guy is going to be fine, but before I turn "El Luche Libre" loose on the streets I will replace the NGK plugs with Bosch. MC

## ON ROAD ADVENTURE

### A LITTLE PLANNING TO GO A LONG WAY

RANDY MASTERS GEARING UP FOR SUMMER '08

The master plan is a long, interrupted motorcycle trip from the DFW Metro-Mess north to the doorway of Alaska in Banff, Alberta, Canada.

Again this year I'll position the bike in U-Store-Its along the way, but new this time will be moving storage from one state to another, one country to another. As in the past, one of my children, Emily (now 16,) will accompany me.

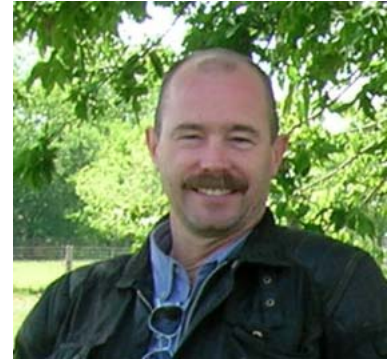
Coordinating her schedule and mine has been the biggest obstacle. Behind the weather, either can make or break the trip.

This year's vehicle, new to the stable, is a 1984 BMW R80ST, purchased in Livermoore CA and ridden back to DFW by buddy Wolf Thiel. Though I flew out and did the pre-purchase inspection and tune-up, it was he who endured a mysterious and annoying chugging (similar to running out of gas or hitting deep water) virtually the entire way back. In doing the post purchase major maintenance I discovered that the needle bearings in one rocker arm were falling out and breaking. This was corrected, but did not solve the issue. Then the ignition coil was replaced, along with the spark plug wires. Again, no help. Finally the electronic distributor itself was inspected, and a bad connection found. Since replacement there has been no trouble, but that was only a hundred miles or so back.

Long way to say that the bike is not as completely reliable as I would like, but, as Sir Edmund Hillary once noted: "Any endeavor who's outcome is assured cannot be called an adventure."

The old reliable Coleman Peak One Apex two-man tent has been replaced with a three-man Taj-3 from REI (on sale, 160\$, how could I pass it up?). Emily felt that a little 'personal space' would be a good thing. Did I mention she's 16 now? This tent also has 2 doors, so one of us can answer nature's persistent call during the night (without reverting to the Gatorade bottle). Also new is a set of tank panniers from Tractor Supply Company (my new best friend). These are designed for an ATV, but fit the large tank well enough. They also have document pouches on the top (for hunting

and fishing licenses, I suppose) into which I have inserted metal electrical junction box lids to allow my magnetic tank bag to take hold. This will allow a better distribution of the load.



I have obtained paper maps of the northern states (CO/WY, and WY/MT), and utilized <http://www.maps.google.com/> for route planning. My old Garmin GPS III+ still functions, but is unsupported (even by Garmin), and will not allow direct downloading of waypoints and routes. I will still use it, though, for track logging, mileage, and time of day. Since the trip meter and odometer on the ST speedometer are inop, the GPS will allow me to keep track of miles traveled and, more importantly, miles remaining in the tank! If (soon? I hope) the III+ takes a header a new 60Cx is in order.

Also we had to pick up a new passport for Emily. That evolution provided an opportunity to discuss with her the differences between local bribery (typically in Mexico an official or policeman will tell you a supplement is required for expedited handling) and governmental bribery (processing 'fee').

First push will be from DFW to Salt Lake City, UT. Second from SLC to Jackson WY. Third ride will be with Emily in the JAC area enjoying the Teton National Park and Yellowstone NP. Fourth run up through Glacier NP in Montana to Calgary, and finally touring Banff and Lake Louise with Emily before hightailing it home (dogging it solo) ahead of old man winter.

But plans, as they say, are out the window once the motors start.

### "So far, so good"

Not the earliest start, but I filled up at the corner station at 0730 and was on I-20 heading west with rush hour traffic. Continued past town and out to Thurber and the old Thurber Brick Factory ruins. It once was a thriving company town, complete with schools, company store, etc, but all that remains now is a tall brick chimney and the New York Hill Cafe, where I stopped for

*Planning (Continued on page 6)*

breakfast. I feel like I have too much stuff - every packing place is full, and I know I'm only going to use half of it. Need to pare down at first campsite. Bike is running fine—so far—though the left valve cover is leaking just a tad. Wonder why I was so slow out of the blocks this morning? Daunted by the over all plan of Calgary Canada and back? Old? Tired? I think if it worked, leaving the night before and stopping at the first State Park (SP) along the way would be a good idea.

The wind is unbelievable. I was to find out later it blew hard enough to suspend traffic at the DFW airport for a time, and I know it was 35-45kts out here on the road. I hopped off I20 onto TX180 for a change of pace. Had lunch in Post with a former Marine named Gene who was enroute from Oregon to Bryan TX for his 50th high school reunion.

On to Snyder, where the blowing red earth brought back that black and white dustbowl photograph of a mother holding her child. Visibility would go down in a flash to less than 1/2 mile, allowing a semi to virtually disappear before my eyes. Bike seems to be ok, but the wind makes it really hard to be sure. It's like riding a bucking bronco in slow motion.

Stopping every 100 miles for water, and every other stop for gas, we consumed 48oz of water each stop. Copious and Clear, Sarge, Copious and Clear! Made it to Sumner Lake SP in New Mexico by 2030. Fee was only \$10 for the night, though it was a ways out of town (10 miles out, 6 miles over). It's a treat to camp next to a lake in the middle of nowhere. Cannot get over the wind/temp/dust. If I have to pay this price to leave TX, then this might be a heck of a trip!!

The wide open spaces west of Lubbock were eerie at first. After the crunch of the metro-mess, being alone for miles kinda puts a man ill at ease, like setting sail into the ocean, but feeling better and better.

## **Day 2 and "Houston, we have a problem"**

Well, the tent was nice - no fly (no chance of rain). Also no stakes! the ground was rock. Not rock hard, just, ah, rock. I held the tent in place, thanks to the diminishing wind, with my hard bags and helmet. Started the night lying atop my therma-rest, then inside the silk bag liner, then finally inside the sleeping bag itself. Temp was 64 degrees before morning.

16 miles back into Ft Sumner for breakfast... was that a hint of a stutter? Hmmmmm. This will either drive me nuts or make me let it go. Although Hico Texas claims to have the grave of Billy the Kid, folks around here know that it's really in the Ft Sumner graveyard out back. So I go check it out. Seems to be right, as he is still behind bars, along with a couple of his best buddies. I should wish the same for some folks I know.

Again, the vastness and solitude make me uneasy. Starting to miss friends and family and conversation. You have to work to start up interaction out here on the road. Stopped in Clines Corner on I-40 heading west. Man the wind! Even the trucks were slowed down - though still passing me. I tried to get a weather report from travelers, but no one was bothering to find out or monitor. "We feel invincible in our steel cages. Why worry about Mother Nature?" Literally, the only time people seemed aware was crossing the 10 yards between the cars and the shop. Finally a BLM guy arrived with a report, followed by 2 riders on V-Stroms reporting falling snow in Santa Fe and high winds...of course.

North of Albuquerque on I-25, I got off at NM550 for my run into the Jemez mountains and stopped at a Burger d'Roi for lunch. I was attracted by a young-ish woman wearing a long skirt and working on her car radiator. I wandered over to watch and maybe help, and noted her putting in water and pepper. Pepper? She said it swells and stops the leaks. She said she drove the old car because she could 'fix' it and didn't want to be stranded with the kids. Patched, maybe.

After my sumptuous repast I headed up 550 towards my turn-off, the reward for the ride at San Ysidro. Then I thought I began to feel the stutter and stumble again.

Not like before for Wolf or me where the RPM's and speed would drop, but something amiss. So I pulled into an AutoZone (in case I need a tool) to change the Ignition Module - the last of the original ignitions system. Must've been an impressive sight, seat and tank off, tools laid out, removing electrical components, etc. About 30 min later I'm back in business, riding up 550 trying to convince myself it wasn't STILL doing it...but I couldn't.

I'm less than 1/2 way through the first 1/3 of the first 1/2 of the trip to Canada and on remote roads with my daughter on a bike that has had issues before. If this were a 777 enroute Moscow over

the Pacific it would be the same decision. At a gas station I give Bruce Davidson, BMW guru, one last call and we got no ideas between us. So, back down NM550...back across I-40...back down TX287...back to metro-mess. So, now what????

Randy's odyssey continues next month



**ICR .... Or ... I SEE WHAT?**

**RALPH SCHWARTZ**

The 2008 club officers invented the Individual Challenge Ride to give members an excuse to get out of the house and take a few rides during the year. We crafted the rules so that it was not a race or an endurance contest but a personal challenge in which each rider could set his own goals and pace over the entire year.

I admit to letting 60 percent of the year go by while I was still in the planning phase, but I have an excuse. I was not just looking for some cities to capture. I was the self-appointed researcher responsible for finding all of the Texas Cities with names in common with foreign cities or countries. Since there are 2070 cities on the official Rick and Anita Perry Travel Map, this research took far and away much longer than actually riding to capture the few cities that I did. I also wanted to get the most bang for my bucks (of \$4.30 gasoline) so I did the typical thing. I broke out the spreadsheet. I entered all qualifying cities into my GPS software and laid out some route options among the several groups of cities constraining them to one or two day rides. Three routes stood out as having both a high number of cities and low capture time. These three routes were each roughly shaped like loops from DFW; one south to Belton, one west to Abilene and one east to Deadwood. What I liked best was they were all one day rides. This may sound complicated in explanation but it was a piece of cake and probably doubled the number of cities I had time to capture. It turns out I only did three one day rides.

I knew how many cities were qualifying cities, a surprisingly large number, so I had no intention of trying to capture the most cities in this contest. I would leave that to the younger riders and the hard core Iron Butts. I started each day ride early to reach the first city by daylight so the photography would be better. But here's the good part. I have ridden over a lot of Texas in major and not so major rides in the last 40 years and yet on this ride I still saw new sights, rode new roads and thoroughly enjoyed the entire event far

beyond the reward of capturing cities. I experienced the peace of country roads, the imagined history of a "living ghost town", the power and images of ethereal cirrus clouds above the parched Texas ranchland, the bold colors and forms of a fabulous sunrise over Stephenville, the abandoned stone buildings of Carlton, and many other old cities, a Case tractor with longhorns mounted to the front, a restored 1950 Hudson pickup in Hamilton, a depiction of the crucifixion on a hill near Priddy, and my favorite... discovering what people will actually put on signs. I never cease to be amazed. So how many cities did I capture? A whopping 49. How many cities in the state actually qualify for the ICR? How about 435? That's right 435 out of 2070 official Texas cities qualify. And our winner of the 2008 ICR was a tie between Neil Quigley and Dave Duperré who rode together and each captured 50 cities. Yeah, one more than me. But that's OK. The ride was the point. The ride is always the point; the contest was intended to be a stimulus to ride.

Go to the club website and check out my 2008 ICR Photo album. In that album I have included a sample of some of the cities I rode through or captured, the Texas countryside and some hopefully entertaining photos taken along the way.

Give the 2009 ICR some serious consideration...and then act. It is different than 2008, much easier in a sense, but it is another opportunity to set your own goals and reap some unexpected benefits too. Ride it solo, two up, in a group, it doesn't matter, just ride.

As a side note you might be interested in where in the world the common named cities were located. This is a bit skewed because many Texas cities had common named cities in multiple countries. In those cases I only recorded one on the countries. I found common name for eight cities in Canada-94, England 90, Australia-79,

ICR (Continued on page 8)

Argentina-12, Germany and Scotland-10, New Zealand-9, Ireland and Italy-8, Spain-7, France, Netherlands and South Africa-6, Colombia and Mexico-5, Israel, Paraguay, Switzerland and Wales-4, Greece and Philipines-3, Bolivia, Chile, Guatemala, India, Norway and Panama-2 and all the following have 1; Africa, Algeria, Bahamas, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ecuador, Hong Kong, Hungary, Micronesia, Nepal, New Guinea, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Poland, Romania, Russia, Tasmania, Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, Venezuela.

Ride Texas, see the world. RS



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## 2008 BMWDFW ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The 2008 Banquet is history and a pleasant memory. I want to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the event. Many of you were involved in planning and executing this year's bash as is the case every year. Thanks to members and volunteers who staffed our tables, solicited and purchased door prizes from 11 businesses, made personal donations for door prizes, created and presented the 2008 slide show, managed ticket sales and created reservations lists, made special presentations to notable members and friends of the club, distributed door prizes, made award presentations, narrated the event, entertained us with song and music and recorded the proceedings in digital photography for posterity. Take a few min-

utes and review the photos at [bmwdfw.org/photos/albums/2008 BMWDFW Awards Banquet](http://bmwdfw.org/photos/albums/2008%20BMWDFW%20Awards%20Banquet)

Our survey of the 121 attendees resulted in some good ideas as to how we might improve the experience for 2009. We will be improving the reservation process. When 17 people showed up the night of the banquet without reservation an extremely difficult situation arose for our host regarding both seating and food supply. We will also streamline our processes for entry, door prize distribution and food service. We look forward to providing an even more enjoyable experience next December as we close out 2009 with our friends. RALPH



## THE LAST PAGE

REMEMBER

ROBERT EDMUND GRINNAN, JR.

January 15, 1951—January 31, 2009



Bob, favorite beverage in hand, visiting with Jay Schillinger at our annual TGIS Ride near Nacogdoches

**Bob loved people and he loved to ride. On many of the rides he took with us, I encouraged him to go on ahead as he was conflicted with wanting to ride with the group but frustrated with our pace. It never failed that we would soon pass him parked beside the road talking to some total stranger, usually on a bike. Several times he raced on ahead and missed the turn off we'd planned and spent the afternoon trying to find us....but find us he always did and was as jovial as ever. During the past several years he lived in South America, brushing up on his Spanish, then moved on to Spain. He returned to Dallas last year, forsaking his dream of retiring in Spain. He took his Last Ride on January 31, 2009, on a farm road in east Texas. Safe Journey, Bob.**

**Don Mills**

# STREET RIDING SCHOOL AT CRESSON

TO BE HELD ON MONDAY MAY 11

PRICE IS \$150 FOR THE DAY ... INCLUDES LUNCH AND WATER.

TONY LEWIS OF EUROSPOORT CYCLE WILL CONDUCT THE SCHOOL.

CONTACT DON MILLS AT [don\\_mills@sbcglobal.net](mailto:don_mills@sbcglobal.net) TO SIGN UP.

SPACE WILL BE LIMITED TO 30 RIDERS

## 2009 Calendar of Events

**Mar 07, Saturday;** LUNCH AT RATIBOR, BMW CLUB RENDEZVOUS, 12 noon, at the Ratibor Country Grill, 11226 FM 2086 (254.984.2255) 2miles north of TX Hwy 53 east of Temple, TX. GPS N31 06 55.61 / W97 18 06.79. This is the fifth annual gathering of BMW clubs in Texas for lunch. In previous years we've met at the Old Store in Westphalia, but the Old Store is currently closed! Each club plans a group ride from their area for the rendezvous. Weather contingency: if the weather is cold and rainy, the event is cancelled.

**Mar 08, Sunday \*\*\* Daylight Saving Time Begins \*\*\***

**Mar 08, Sunday;** BMWDFW 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY BREAKFAST, 8:30 AM, Mary's Brazos Café, Tin Top, TX, 15 miles south of Weatherford, TX. A ride is planned after breakfast, weather permitting.

**Mar 10, Tuesday;** BMWDFW CLUB MEETING, 8 PM, Spring Creek BBQ, 1509 Airport Freeway, Bedford, TX. On the west-bound access road of Airport Freeway at the corner of Forest Ridge Drive in Bedford. Dinner and social begins 7 PM.

**Mar 12, Thursday;** BIKE NITE AT EUROSPOORT CYCLES, 6 to 8 PM, 3100 Airport Freeway, northeast of downtown Fort Worth. Food and cold drinks, movies, and social gathering with other riders.

**Mar 13/15, Fri/Sun;** FOOLS ON A HILL X WINTER RALLY, Mt. Nebo State Park, Arkansas. Sponsored by the Arkansas Rider's Guide. A no frills camping rally on the last weekend of winter; only motorcycle nuts sharing a big camp fire on a 1900 foot bluff, overlooking the Arkansas River valley. Motorcycles only; cars, trucks, and trailers tolerated if carrying firewood! Questions and to attend, contact Mario or Ann Caruso, [guinzomoto@arkansasrider.com](mailto:guinzomoto@arkansasrider.com) / 501.318.5233 or Jim King, [jking1@cox.net](mailto:jking1@cox.net) or [www.members.cox.net/fools/](http://www.members.cox.net/fools/) / 479.233.9376.

**Mar 14, Saturday;** TEXOMA BMW RIDERS BREAKFAST, 10 AM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, Ponder's Restaurant, I-35 and Hwy 142 (I-35, exit 33), Ardmore, Oklahoma, north side of town.

**Mar 15, Sunday;** BREAKFAST RIDE TO WHITEWRIGHT, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Monthly. 10 AM ETA at CJ's Restaurant, 124 Grand St, Whitewright, TX75491. The ride starting point, route, and time vary monthly with details posted at [www.bogriffinrides.com](http://www.bogriffinrides.com).

**Mar 16, Monday;** LONE STAR BMW RIDERS CLUB MEETING, 7:30 PM at Humperdink's, 1601 N Central Expressway, Richardson, TX, 75080 (972.690.4867). Dinner and social at 6:30 PM. [www.lonestarbmwridders.org](http://www.lonestarbmwridders.org)

**Mar 27/29, Fri/Sun;** BMWDFW THANK GOD IT'S SPRING (TGIS) RIDE. A weekend gathering at the Pine Creek Lodge on FM2782 southwest of Nacogdoches, TX and riding a portion of the Texas Forest Trail and other great roads in the national forests of Texas. For details and lodging information, contact Don Mills at [don\\_mills@sbcglobal.net](mailto:don_mills@sbcglobal.net) or 214.366.9988. Space is limited.

**Mar 27/29, Thu/Mon;** EUROSPOORT CYCLE BIG BEND RIDE, hosted by Eurosport Cycle. Space is limited! Call Tony Lewis, 817.838.8135 to reserve your spot or get more information. [www.eurpsportcycle.com](http://www.eurpsportcycle.com)

**Mar 28, Saturday;** 4<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY RIDE, BMWDFW Club, superceded by the TGIS ride this month!

**Apr 02/05, Thu/Sun;** TEXAS ADVENTURE RIDE, Junction, Texas. [www.texasadventure.net](http://www.texasadventure.net)

**Apr 02/05, Fri/Sun;** 17<sup>TH</sup> DOGWOOD TRAIL RALLY, BMW Riders of Mississippi. Askews Landing Campground, near Vicksburg, MS. [www.bmwridersofmississippi.org](http://www.bmwridersofmississippi.org).

**Apr 03/05, Fri/Sun;** 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BUZZARD RALLY, Sanderson, TX [www.sandersontx.org/buzzardrally](http://www.sandersontx.org/buzzardrally)

**Apr 03/05, Fri/Sun;** '09 TEXAS AIRHEADS, SOUTHWEST FESTIVAL OF FIVES, and BLACK SHEEP FLOCKING, Quiet Valley Ranch, Hwy 16, approximately 10 miles south of Kerrville, TX ([www.qvranch.com](http://www.qvranch.com)). For more info, contact Dan Greenlee, [dngreenlee@yahoo.com](mailto:dngreenlee@yahoo.com) or 713.252.3768.

**Apr 04, Saturday;** OKIETECH in Southern Oklahoma, hosted by the Oklahoma BMW Airhead Riders. At Sydney Holt's place, on Hwy 77, 5 miles north of Marietta, Oklahoma and 14 miles south of Ardmore. GPS: N 34.00.240 / W 097.07.507. For more information contact Sydney Holt, Sydney Holt, 580.276.2564 or [galeholt@brightok.net](mailto:galeholt@brightok.net)

**Apr 10/12, Fri/Sun;** TEXAS NATIONAL BMW RALLY, Lake Belton, Cedar Ridge Park at the Turkey Roost Group Camping area, 10 miles west of Temple, Texas, off TX Hwy. 36. A no frills camping rally organized this year by the BMW Club of Houston. GPS coord N31 10.128 / W97 27.189. No registration fee but camping is \$ 10 per tent for the weekend. Hot showers and coffee, BYOB. Abundant lodging and restaurants available in Temple, Texas. For more info, contact Mike Murphy at [bmwmike@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bmwmike@sbcglobal.net) or 281.413.7042.

**Apr 12; EASTER SUNDAY**

**Apr 24/26, Thu/Sun;** IBMWR 14<sup>th</sup> BLITZ TO BRANSON, Branson, Missouri. Headquarters at the Branson Towers (1.800.683.1122). Reserve your room early, they go fast! Mention the Internet BMW Riders when reserving or they will reply that they're full! [www.ibmwr.org](http://www.ibmwr.org).

**Apr 24/26, Fri/Sun;** GERMANFEST, Muenster, TX. Admission is \$6. Food and entertainment. Downloadable brochure at [www.germanfest.net](http://www.germanfest.net).

**May 01/03, Fri/Sun;** GEORGIA MOUNTAIN RALLY, 19<sup>th</sup> annual, NEW LOCATION; Lake Chatuge at GA Mountain Fairgrounds Music Park, Hwy 76, near the Ramada Inn (1311 Music Hall Road, Hiawassee, GA 30546). \$45 by 01 April, \$55 at the gate. [www.bmwmoa.info](http://www.bmwmoa.info)

**May 15/17, Fri/Sun;** BMOA NEW ULM RALLY, 25<sup>th</sup> Annual, New Ulm, TX [www.bmoaonline.com](http://www.bmoaonline.com)

**May 21/24, Thu/Sun;** ROCKET CITY RALLY, 21<sup>st</sup> Annual, Ditto Landing, Huntsville, AL [www.bmwmoal.org](http://www.bmwmoal.org).

**May 30, Saturday;** BMWDFW CLUB PICNIC, 12 noon, Sharon Seelig's Ranch, 654 CR 514, Bluff Dale, TX, NE of Stephenville, TX. Tourmeister, Don Mills will lead a ride to the picnic after breakfast at LePeep. RSVP by May 23<sup>rd</sup> is advised to Ralph Schwartz, texas254 at [tx.rr.com](http://tx.rr.com) or 972.821.6484. Detailed directions and event specifics available at [bmwdfw.org](http://bmwdfw.org).

**Jun 05/07, Fri/Sun;** RED EARTH RALLY LITE, Red Rock Canyon Park, Hinton, Oklahoma. Hosted by the Oklahoma Airhead BMW Riders and friends. Located 50 miles west of Oklahoma City, south on US 281, half a mile south of Hinton. Same place and venue of the original Red Earth Rally, but now a no frills, bring your own everything (BYOE) rally. No t-shirts, meals, or events. Pay you own camping fee. Hot showers and flush plumbing. Limited beverage availability in Hinton so you may want to BYOB.

**Jun20/21, Sat/Sun;** COLORADO CLASSIC 1000, 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual, a 1000 miles in 24 hours, Denver to Crested Butte the long way around. [www.coloradobeemers.com](http://www.coloradobeemers.com)

**Jun 26/28, Fri/Sun;** MISSOURI STATE BMW RALLY, Springfield BMW Road Riders. Crane City Park in Crane, MO, 30 miles SW of Springfield on ST. HWY 413/265.

**Jul 15, Wednesday;** ANNUAL RIDE TO WORK DAY. [www.ridetowork.org](http://www.ridetowork.org).

**Jul 16/19, Thu/Sun;** BMW MOA 2009 INTERNATIONAL RALLY, Johnson City, Tennessee. [www.bmwmoa.org](http://www.bmwmoa.org)

**Jun 18/21, Thu/Sun;** RED ROCK RENDEZVOUS, Beehive Beemers, Panguitch, Utah. [www.beehive-beemers.org](http://www.beehive-beemers.org)

**Jul 23/26, Thu/Sun;** TOP O THE ROCKIES RALLY, 37<sup>th</sup> annual, Paonia, Colorado. [www.coloradobeemers.com](http://www.coloradobeemers.com).

**Jul 23/26, Thu/Sun;** BMW RA INTERNATIONAL RALLY, 37<sup>th</sup> Annual, Canaan Valley, West Virginia. [www.bmwra.org](http://www.bmwra.org)

**Jul 24/26, Fri/Sun;** AMA VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE DAYS, Lexington, Ohio [www.amavintagemotorcycledays.com](http://www.amavintagemotorcycledays.com) or midohio.com

**Aug 01, Saturday;** 100,000 FOOT COLORADO PASS RIDE, 10<sup>th</sup> annual, 500 miles over 10 mountain passes higher than 10,000 feet. Limited to 300 participants. Register online at [www.coloradobeemers.com](http://www.coloradobeemers.com). For more info on the ride call Foothills BMW, Lakewood, CO: 303.202.1400.

**Aug 06/09, Thu/Sun;** STANLEY STOMP RALLY, 36<sup>th</sup> annual, Grandjean, Idaho. [www.idahobmwriders.com](http://www.idahobmwriders.com)

**Aug 13/16, Thu/Sun;** DANIEL BOONE RALLY, 32<sup>nd</sup> annual, Boone, NC. [www.carolinasbmwmoa.org](http://www.carolinasbmwmoa.org)

**Sep 01/04, Tue/Fri;** CURVE COWBOY REUNION, 10<sup>th</sup> Annual, Ramkota Hotel / Convention Center, Rapid City, SD. [www.curvecowboyreunion.com](http://www.curvecowboyreunion.com)

**Sep 11/13, Fri/Sun;** BAVARIAN MOUNTAIN WEEKEND, 25<sup>th</sup> annual, Sipapu, NM. Located 25 miles SE of Taos, NM on state highway 518. Website [www.nmbmwmc.org](http://www.nmbmwmc.org), LOEBMWR

**Oct 02/04, Fri/Sun;** BMW MULTI-CLUB CAMPOUT, Talimena State Park, near Talihina, Oklahoma. A very popular eastern Oklahoma no-cost rally, loosely organized by the Central Oklahoma BMW Road Riders. The only fee \$8 per night for camping. Shower and bathroom facilities on site. Meals are on your own and BYOB.

**Oct 02/04, Fri/Sun;** NTNOA LAKE O THE PINES RALLY, 25<sup>th</sup> annual, near Jefferson, TX [www.ntnoa.org](http://www.ntnoa.org)

**Oct 04, Sunday;** GUZZI RIDER IN TEXAS ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY, TEXAS. From 8 to 4 PM in Italy, Texas, about 45 miles south of Dallas, off I-35E. Coffee and dessert breads, Pasta Run, spaghetti dinner at the high school (11 to 1 PM), bike judging (1 - 2 PM), final gathering (2:15 PM) for Pasta Run winners, 50/50 drawing, and other club announcements. Details at [www.twodown.com/guzzi/](http://www.twodown.com/guzzi/)

**Oct 09/11, Fri/Sun;** FALLING LEAF, RALLY, Potosi, Missouri. [www.gatewayriders.com](http://www.gatewayriders.com)

**Nov, Sunday \*\*\* Daylight Saving Time Ends**

## RECURRING BMWDFW CLUB EVENTS

CLUB MEETING, 8 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, MONTHLY, except December. Spring Creek BBQ, 1509 Airport Freeway, Bedford, TX. On the westbound access road of Airport Freeway at the corner of Forest Ridge Drive in Bedford. Dinner and social begins 7 PM.

CLUB BREAKFAST / RIDE, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, MONTHLY, 8:30 AM / 9 AM winter months, Mary's Brazos Café, Tin Top, 15 mi south of Weatherford, Texas. A ride follows, weather permitting.

CLUB BREAKFAST, Saturday, 7:45 AM, WEEKLY, Le Peep Restaurant, 2113 Harwood Rd, Bedford, TX, 817.858.5532. At the northwest corner of Harwood and Central Drive in Bedford.

4<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY RIDE, follows breakfast at Le Peep, MONTHLY. Ride information published prior to the ride or announced as impromptu. Weather permitting!