



BMWDFW

# BEEMER ZEITUNG

JULY 2008

Photo of the Month Contest (Category I, with Motorcycle/Member)



*Relaxing at Lake Bridgeport Wise County Park. It is a pleasant, well kept destination whether for a day visit or overnight. My approach from the south was via 920, a most pleasant and gentle rural ride. Photo taken by Ron Bleau on 6/22 while riding his Silver 2000 R1100RS.*

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *President's Report*
- *Upcoming Events*
- *Not All Freeways Are Bad News*
- *Blue Moon on the Mezzanine*
- *And More Photos!*

## Membership Meeting

**Tuesday**  
**July 8th**  
8:00 PM

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

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



## President's Report

## Ralph Schwartz

Half a year has passed since we embarked on our 2008 Club Goals. Where are we along our plan? What have we accomplished on our journey? And most importantly, have our accomplishments as officers and a club made your club membership a better experience for you?

In our first 2008 monthly club meeting, I announced the annual plan for the club. My three objectives for the club in 2008 were: 1) Increase the social interaction among our members, 2) Increase knowledge about our sport and 3) In-



crease enjoyment of owning and riding our BMW motorcycles. My three goals to effect those club objectives were: 1) Make valued additions and enhancements to the club (Add a program director, Add friendly competitive events, Establish and Events Planning and Coordination Team) 2) Increase our recruiting activities (Practice an "Engage any Rider" policy, Provide BMWDFW "business cards") and 3) Update our club operationally (Establish a categorized annual budget, Update obsolete Bylaws, Update our Club website with features and functions valuable to members and po-

*President's (Continued on page 2)*

## **BMWDFW OFFICERS**

### **President**

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### **Vice President**

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*President's (Continued from page 1)*

tential members).

Here is my assessment as of the end of the first half of the year. In the newly created office of Program Director Andy Jones has brought us relevant programs at each of the five club meetings. Presenters have ranged from our own members' excellent coverage of battery and charger types to the Executive Director of BMWMOA informing us of the state of the MOA. We have created numerous Friendly Competitions for 2008 in hopes of bringing out some previously undiscovered talent. These are the Monthly Photo Contest, Monthly Restaurant Report and annual Photo and Newsletter Article competitions. Participation has ramped up substantially in all these particularly the Photo of the Month Contest. Newsletter Editor Ted Shannon administers these contests in addition to the demanding editor's job. Tourmeister Don Mills leads the Event Planning and Coordination Team (EPaCT) that is responsible for coordinating all the riding and social events in 2008. In addition to our favorite established rides and events, we have introduced the "Individual Challenge Ride", an event every member can easily participate in. We also had a Winter Tech Day and Spring Picnic each extremely well attended. In 2008, I encouraged a broad based involvement in recruiting new members. We issued BMWDFW Business Cards to anyone wanting them to aid in this process. Successful recruiting has brought over 20 new members to our club at mid-year. I re-ask every member to be as much of a recruiter as fits your comfort zone to bring quality folks into club.

Our Annual Budget is status is favorable to plan. Thanks to successful advertising solicitation, membership growth and prudent spending, we are on track to provide the club services planned and still exit the year with an increase in our bank account. The club bylaws that define the organization and operation have not been updated since 1987. A draft update has been prepared and is in final review. The intent is to bring it before

the membership for adoption in the second half of the year. We have been updating our website during the entire first half of the year. George Tuttle initiated several changes early on and after I provided the overall Website Master Plan he has continued to add features for all of us to use. We now have both an open and a secure area on our website. We have and are adding Members' Photo Albums, Classified Ads, Archives of Newsletters, links to sites of common interest and the very important Mike Moon Future Events Calendar is being posted each time Mike issues an update. The major accomplishment is the Web based Membership Roster containing the names, photos and email addresses of all members in good standing. With this accomplishment, Dennis Bufton and George now devote the time required to keep it current. A big "thanks" go to them for this continuing activity. We have implemented most of the functional improvements planned for 2008 while other informational pages are in work with the intent of completing them by year end.

OK, so what? If the answer to "So What?" is, "Hey, I enjoy the previous newsletters on the website." or "I had a great time at the Tech Day and actually learned something too." or "I finally have a face to put with that name since I can see them on the 'Members' page." or I enjoyed taking and entering my photo in the PotM Contest." Then I would suggest we have had a successful first half. Please tell me or any other officer if you are not satisfied with any part of the club. If we've done something you like we could use that positive feedback too. That will give us an understanding of what the membership is looking for in the club.

Don't forget that I have donated my copy of ***BMW MOA The First 35 Years*** to the club and I will serve as librarian for any member who wants to check it out. Call or email me to schedule it.

Looking ahead to July, one notes many new events during the month as well as the recur-

*(Continued on page 4)*

# NOT ALL FREEWAYS ARE BAD NEWS

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By Don Mills

Those of you who have been to Steve Holtsclaw's garage over the past several months will agree with me that it has become increasingly difficult to find room to work on our bikes, change out tires, etc because so many of his bikes have been in various states of disassembly. I had come to the conclusion that the reason he had purchased so many bikes recently was to have at least one bike that he could ride to breakfast at Le-Peep on Saturdays. Then, I happened onto the "key"... give the boy a purpose for completing repairs/upgrades on his RT. Take a quick 1,000 mile ride and become members of the Iron Butt Association.

Louise was out of town for a week visiting her daughter in Pittsburg, so that set me free, and gave Steve time to put his RT back together again. An early Sunday morning departure seemed advisable to avoid traffic and heat in the major cities along our route. The heat thing worked out, but 3:00 AM on that fateful Sunday morning found us sandwiched between cars parked on the south end of the North Dallas Tollway. Emergency lights flashed ahead, and smoke billowed up from burning vehicles. The occupants of the cars nearest us (they may not have been the only ones) made the most of the opportunity, making steady tracks back and forth to the trunks of their cars for more of that old demon beer. Finally, about an hour later, a way for us to pass was cleared. However, the police had to exert great pains to revive a driver who had passed out in front of us so that we could move.

Moments later we entered the ramp onto I-35 E only to pause for wreckers to move another set of mashed automobiles that had shut down that freeway. Several miles south of Waco, we topped a hill to find... I couldn't believe my eyes... a huge, orange eighteen-wheeler jackknifed across our lanes of traffic. Another wait in traffic before the police would let us dodge around the mess and continue south. Dios mio! This was Sunday morning! Then it came to me... It wasn't Sunday morning for most of these folks. It was still Saturday night!

The sun was just showing itself when we pulled in for gas and breakfast in Temple. We hadn't gone very far but we'd been up since 2:00 AM. Our 1,000 mile goal within a reasonable time seemed to be a stretch, if our luck held out the way it had over the past 4 hours. Then we hit I-10 stretching northwest out of San Antonio. If you've never ridden it, you should! Great sweepers, nice elevation changes, sweet scenery and an 80 mph speed limit with almost no traffic all the way to Balmorhea, just north of the Davis Mountains. We caught a catnap on the cool, concrete pad of a roadside rest area near Junction in spite of the signs warning about the presence of snakes. We survived with no venomous encounters, and went on to Sonora where I had a fantastic Sunday brunch of chicken fried steak with fresh green beans and mashed potatoes at the Sutton County Steakhouse. Reluctantly we left I-10 and turned northeast at Balmorhea to pick up I-20 back to Dallas. Thanks to a great freeway, we'd had a blast, made up our lost time and had traveled over 600 miles.

We "slummed" eastward along I-20. It lost its 80 mph speed limit advantage west of Odessa. Meanwhile, isolated coveys of State Troopers flew past us heading west. I guess there was a DPS convention in El Paso or another drug cartel uprising in Juarez. Of



**Steve, at breakfast in Temple, TX**

*Bad News Freeways (Continued on page 7)*

ring ones we all enjoy. Many of our members are off on various treks about the country including the Great Divide Ride, Top of the Rockies Rally, Black Hills Stampede Rally and the MOA National in Gillette WY. We wish them all a safe and enjoyable trip. And for you youngsters in the club that still work for a living don't forget that July 16<sup>th</sup> is Annual Ride to Work Day. Check out Mike Moon's Calendar on the Website and get the details on July events and others coming up in future months too.

REMINDERS...we have numerous contests underway this

year, check the website for descriptions, rules, recognitions and registration forms. And please, step up and write a brief motorcycle related article for our newsletter and submit it to Ted Shannon at [slashsixer@tx.rr.com](mailto:slashsixer@tx.rr.com). Photo of the Month Entries should also be sent to George Tuttle so that he can post them on the website allowing everyone to see all the entries not just the winners that make the newsletter.

Go. Ride. Enjoy. Return.

Ralph

**Other great shots entered into the July Picture of the Month contest. From the upper left, going clockwise:**



• "Stopped for a fill-up...Where's the pump?" Orr Rd, Lucas TX, June 30, 08, Ralph Schwartz

• This picture was taken during a 6-day ride (June 7-13) to Kans. City, back through the Lake of the Ozarks, and Eureka Springs. A friend of mine (non BMW rider) and I were on Arkansas Highway 125 in the middle of one of the beautiful Mark Twain Forests, when we came upon this free ferry crossing on Bull Shoals Lake. It runs approx. every 40 minutes (daylight only) and is the only way to con-



tinue on the road. A pleasant surprise that only added to a great ride. Photo taken by Ben Langley.

- "Yeeha! Stephen" Slisz and "Miss Vicki" Mansfield rode to Mount Scott in Oklahoma along with Dallas Club member Byron Lawrence, his SO Brenda, and one of his co-workers

Russell. Beautiful April day and



visibility all the way to Kansas! Miss Vicki appears to be day dreaming about being out on the lake, when in reality we were watching Fort Sill. We kept hearing the report of big guns and when we focused towards the base, we could actually see the dust clouds kick up as the shells impacted down range. Spent more time watching Artillery Practice than gawking at the scenery. Only long enough though, to get hungry for a Meers Burger, and off we went.

Photo by Stephen Slisz April 18, 2008 (editor's note: since this picture was taken in April, it is not eligible for the July Picture of the Month contest.



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# 2008 MOTORCYCLE EVENTS

By MIKE MOON

**Jul 13/15, Sun/Tue;** BLACK HILLS BMW STAMPEDE, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual, Chris Campground, Spearfish, South Dakota. [www.blackhillsbmw.com](http://www.blackhillsbmw.com).

**Jul 16, Wednesday;** ANNUAL RIDE TO WORK DAY. [www.ridetowork.org](http://www.ridetowork.org).

**Jul 17/20, Thu/Sun;** BMW MOA 2008 INTERNATIONAL RALLY, Gillette, Wyoming [www.bmwmoa.org](http://www.bmwmoa.org)

**Jul 20, Sunday;** SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST RIDE TO WHITEWRIGHT, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Monthly. ETA of 10 AM at CJ's Restaurant in Whitewright, TX. Address is 124 Grand St, 75491, near the intersection of FM898 and FM151 in the center of town. Ride coordinator is Bo Griffin, [bo@bogriffinrides.com](mailto:bo@bogriffinrides.com). The ride starting point, time, and route varies monthly but details are posted at [bogriffinrides.com](http://bogriffinrides.com).

**Jul 21, 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 begins at 6:30 PM. [www.lonestarbmwridders.org](http://www.lonestarbmwridders.org)

**Jul 24/27, Thu/Sun;** TOP O THE ROCKIES RALLY, 36<sup>th</sup> annual, Paonia, CO [www.coloradobeemers.com](http://www.coloradobeemers.com).

**Jul 25/27, Fri/Sun;** AMA VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE DAYS, Lexington, Ohio [www.amavintagemotorcycledays.com](http://www.amavintagemotorcycledays.com)

**Aug 02, Saturday;** 100,000 FOOT COLORADO PASS RIDE, 9<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 07/10, Thu/Sun;** STANLEY STOMP RALLY, 35<sup>th</sup> annual, Grandjean, Idaho. [www.idahobmwridders.com](http://www.idahobmwridders.com)

**Aug 08/10, Fri/Sun;** WEST FEST 08, Adventure Riders Rally, Lake City, Colorado. [www.avrider.com](http://www.avrider.com)

**Aug 12, 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.

**Aug 14, Thursday;** BIKE NITE AT EUROSPORT CYCLES, 6 to 8 PM, 3100 Airport Freeway, northeast of downtown Fort Worth. Food and cold drinks, movies, and social gathering with other riders.

**Aug 14/17, Thu/Sun;** DANIEL BOONE RALLY, 31<sup>st</sup> annual, Boone, NC. [www.carolinasbmwmoa.org](http://www.carolinasbmwmoa.org)

**Aug 16/17, Sat/Sun;** COLORADO CLASSIC 1000, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual, a 1000 mile long distance rally. [www.coloradobeemers.com](http://www.coloradobeemers.com)

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**Aug 21/24, Thu/Sun;** BEARTOOTH RENDEZVOUS, 10<sup>th</sup> annual, hosted by the Beartooth Beemers #303. Lions Camp 10 miles south of Red Lodge, Montana. [www.treasurestate.com/btbeemers](http://www.treasurestate.com/btbeemers)

**Aug 26/29, Tue/Fri;** CURVE COWBOY REUNION, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual, Zermatt Resort and Spa, Midway, Utah. [www.curvecowboyreunion.com](http://www.curvecowboyreunion.com)

**Sep 05/07, Fri/Sun;** BAVARIAN MOUNTAIN WEEKEND,

**TRIUMPH**  
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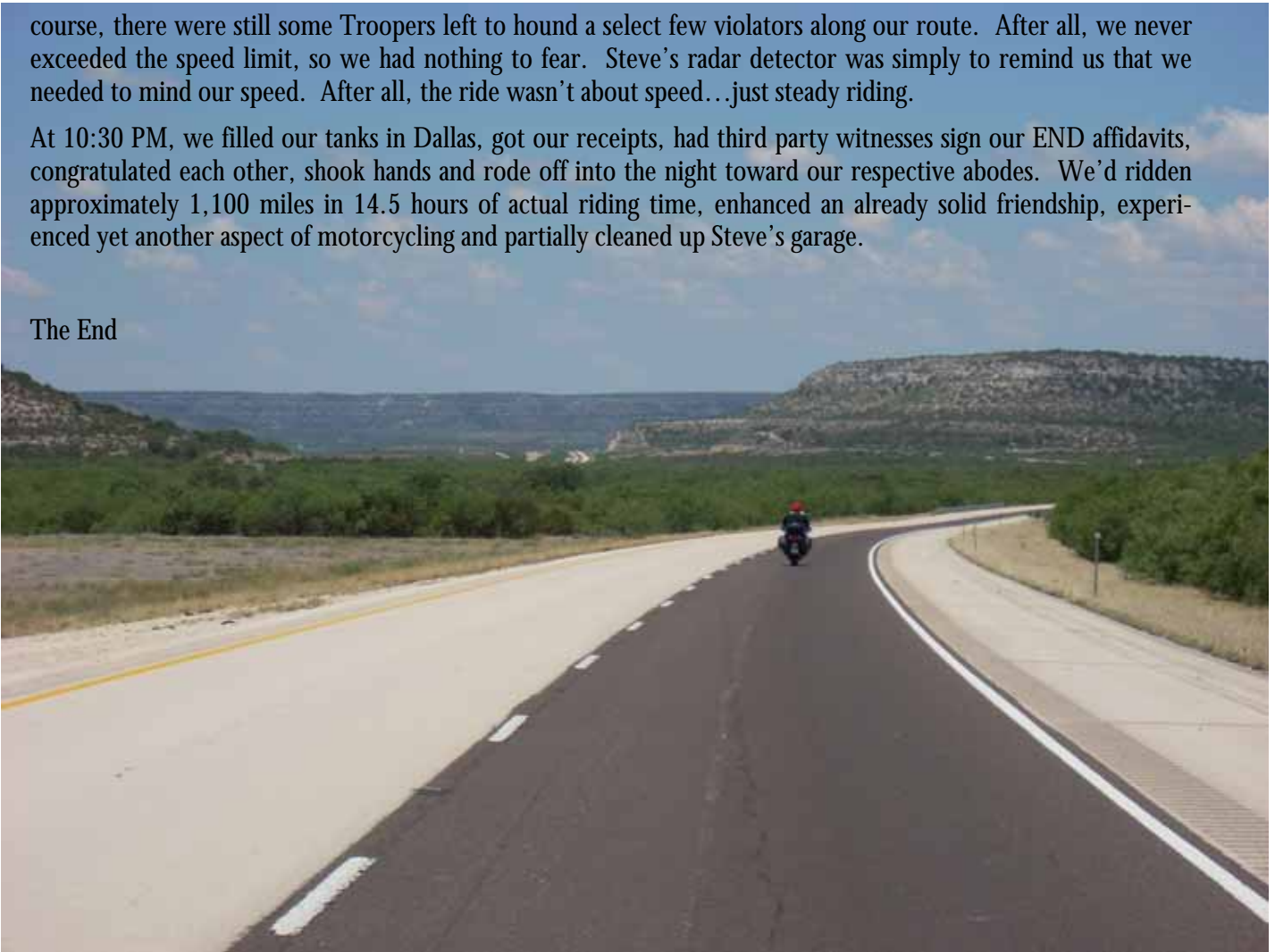
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**Freeways (Continued from page 3)**

course, there were still some Troopers left to hound a select few violators along our route. After all, we never exceeded the speed limit, so we had nothing to fear. Steve's radar detector was simply to remind us that we needed to mind our speed. After all, the ride wasn't about speed...just steady riding.

At 10:30 PM, we filled our tanks in Dallas, got our receipts, had third party witnesses sign our END affidavits, congratulated each other, shook hands and rode off into the night toward our respective abodes. We'd ridden approximately 1,100 miles in 14.5 hours of actual riding time, enhanced an already solid friendship, experienced yet another aspect of motorcycling and partially cleaned up Steve's garage.

The End



**Scenic I-10 West of Sonora**



*(Continued from page 6)*

24th annual, Sipapu, NM. Located 25 miles SE of Taos, NM on state highway 518. Website [www.nmbmwmc.org](http://www.nmbmwmc.org), LOEBMWR

**Sep 20, Saturday;** RTE (Ride to Eat) HAMBURGER COOK-OUT, Chickasaw National Recreation Area, Oklahoma, hosted by the Lone Star BMW Riders. More details at [www.bogriffinrides.com](http://www.bogriffinrides.com).

**Sep 26/28, Fri/Sun;** THUNDER MOUNTAIN RENDEZVOUS, 6<sup>TH</sup> Annual, Hotchkiss, CO, Delta Country Fairgrounds. [www.bmwriders.net](http://www.bmwriders.net).

**Oct 03/05, Fri/Sun;** NTNOA LAKE O THE PINES RALLY, 24th annual, near Jefferson, TX [www.ntnoa.org](http://www.ntnoa.org)

**Oct 10/12, Fri/Sun;** FALLING LEAF, RALLY, Potosi, Missouri. [www.gatewayriders.com](http://www.gatewayriders.com)

**Oct 17/19, Fri/Sun;** BARBER VINTAGE FESTIVAL, 4th annual, Barber Motorsports Park, Birmingham, Alabama. Vintage road races, swap meet, benefit auction, camping, and much more. Info at 205.699.7275 or [www.barbermuseum.org](http://www.barbermuseum.org).

**Oct 24/26, Fri/Sun;** ARKANSAS FALL COLORS RIDE, Eureka Springs, AR.

# BLUE MOON ON THE MEZZANINE

By Ralph Schwartz

If you are a restorer or aficionado of old bikes, or if you've ever lived in Atlanta or even traveled through Atlanta on a bike, then you know Blue Moon Cycle. Actually located on Jimmy Carter Blvd in Norcross Georgia, Blue Moon's restoration and old parts availability reputation is known around the country. I took a terrific week-long vacation over Father's Day and spent it with my daughter and best grandson in the world in Dacula, Georgia. After a couple of days in the North Carolina cabin and the Biltmore, we returned to Dacula, where my son-in-law and I went down for our annual Blue Moon fix. He bought his first bike there, a 2002 R1150RS. I've had my K 1 2 0 0 L T (brakes) and my '79R100RT (oil sender unit) worked on there in the past, bought some T-Shirts and gloves but I never had actually climbed the stairs to the mezzanine. From the first floor, I couldn't really tell if it was old bikes

waiting to be restored or a warehouse of bikes waiting to be cannibalized or if it was a museum. There was no sign to indicate any of these options. This time I took my camera. After briefly checking out the new and used stock, of which they have very little, I introduced myself to the salesman, told him my club affiliation and asked if I could go up on the mezzanine and take some pictures for our website. He said he thought that would be alright but first called the owner just to make sure. The only stipulation was that I give Blue

Moon a mention when I post the pictures. No problem, that was the plan to begin with.

My son-in-law and I went up the stairs and walked through bikes packed in like sardines on three sides of the mezzanine. Many had a card describing the machine or some related facts. It was really hard to take photos. The bikes were so close together that I couldn't take one without including parts of three others in the photo. We had to turn on the lights on the back side of the loft. What a place. A mini-museum stuffed into a loft above a small dealer's store.



*An R62, probably on museum display, but possibly awaiting death by disassembly*

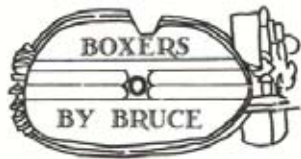
There were many, many different motorcycle ancestors represented, not just BMW. Included were Harley, Indian, Velocette, John Deere, Maico, Wankle powered Hercules, NSU, Cornet, Smith Motor Wheel, and the only surviving BMW open wheel race car of a particular era and 10 vintage model airplanes hanging from the second story ceiling over the main sales floor. Cool! Oh, and several vintage side cars of unusual design, like made of wood. Oh and

gas tanks; you want a gas tank, call Blue Moon. They have rows of them along one wall. There are two photos here in the news letter associated with this article but all the photos are in an album I put on the club website called "Blue Moon on the Mezzanine".

Be sure and stop in at Blue Moon if you're in the Atlanta area. It's worth an hour or two if you like the old and the rare.



*The only surviving BMW open wheel race car of a particular era, located at Blue Moon Cycle*



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Photo of the Month Contest (Category II, without Motorcycle)



*White Donkey, Test Pattern Donkey, Parker Rd, St Paul TX, June 30, 08, taken by Ralph Schwartz*

