

BEEMER ZEITUNG

A Publication of...

BMW Motorcycle Club
Dallas - Fort Worth



FEBRUARY 2020



CATEGORY 1 PHOTO FOR FEBRUARY

PAUL & HIS VALENTINE

SUBMITTED BY PAUL LANGE

Membership
Meeting

Tuesday
FEBRUARY 11
7:30 PM

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

At Forest Ridge & Airport
Freeway (Hwy 121)

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Points of Interest this Issue

- *Photos OTM* - Category 1 (front cover) and Category 2 (sans m/c - Sometimes) elsewhere within.
- *Ed Sass* - **ONE MEMORABLE RIDE**
- *Stephen "Yeeha" Slisz* - **True North**
- *Mike "Crunch" Crenshaw* - **The "Other" Team**
- *Don Mills* - **Texas Forts Trail**
- *Club Events* - Vince mesmerizes us with all our options

CATEGORY 2 - PHOTO FOR FEBRUARY



PIKE NAT FOREST ON BOREAS PASS - CDR

by ANDY JONES

Tech Day 2020

A Tech Day for the New Decade

10am to 4 pm

Sunday, 15 March, 2020

Hosted at Cycle Center/BMW Motorcycles of Denton

521 Acme St, Denton, TX 76205

You read that right! Tech Day in the Denton's dealership's professional shop!

Meet the Denton BMW Techs!

**Got any questions you've been dying to
ask a BMW expert?**



We'll have the club's mechanical cognoscenti there, too. You definitely need to know them, if you don't already.

Come join us!

Lunch will be available for a small donation, too. Be sure to RSVP to yeeha.stephens@gmail.com at the Calendar event (Click here) so we'll know how much to bring. **And there's so much more...click on the link above and get all the information on the event.**

A Memorable Memorial Day Trip



ED SASS

It was supposed to be an easy trip.

I had planned this trip several years back. The original idea was to travel up the Mississippi river from its mouth to near where we live in the summer in western Wisconsin. Along the way we would take in music, Mississippi history and motorcycle races. The original trip included the Springfield Mile and Elkhart Lake races. An abbreviated trip would eliminate some of the miles and attractions, but would still be fun.

Each year I try to take my RT up to Wisconsin where I can enjoy riding it in more tolerable temperatures. Taking it near Memorial Day seemed the best time. My good friend, Scott Shirk, from Texarkana planned to join me in Louisiana on his Yamaha FJR. We would spend the first night in Vicksburg, then head north along the Mississippi River to the Delta Blues Museum then stay on Beale Street in Memphis. The next day we would follow the river north then head over to Springfield for the evening TT races; then north, after Sunday's Springfield Mile, making it to our lake cabin early on Monday.

It was supposed to be an easy trip.

Fully gassed I left DFW on Thursday trying to make my way through the early rush hour traffic. I had planned to meet Scott in Minden Louisiana about 240 miles away. I was surprised to see the low fuel light on at 200 miles and stopped for gas. Perhaps I didn't get it topped up. After our meet up in Minden, we headed to Ruston for lunch. As we pulled off the Interstate, Scott pointed down to fluid dripping from my bike. Gas!! We did a quick lunch and made a beeline to the auto parts store. The temperature was in the mid-90s with same numbers for humidity. It was Louisiana brutal.

We found an auto parts store that let us park the bike on the center stand under their awning (a life saver). After removing the plastic on the RT I discovered a leaking quick disconnect on the gas line. Trying several different O-rings did not solve the problem. What to do? I had Joel Watson's number on my phone and rang him up. He said the most likely problem was a faulty plastic disconnect, a common problem on the BMW. Joel was right and saved our trip.

I decided to ride Scott's FJR back to Shreveport to the nearest BMW dealer. Roundtrip was over 140 miles!! The dealership fortunately had a metal replacement. They also gave me a fuel hose for the repair. After several attempts at repair we were successful. We had to zip tie some of the fairing in place as the replacement part did not have the required 90-degree bend to fit under the fairing. So, with the sun going down we headed 30 miles down the road to Monroe to nab a motel within walking distance of a restaurant.

Friday was new day. It was still hot as the blazes when we drove down the street to McDonalds for our regular breakfast. As we left the parking lot, the bike started gushing (not dripping) gas. With no shade in sight we pulled off the plastic and found the new fuel hose had split. The BMW dealer had not given us a high-pressure fuel line. Scott headed to the auto parts for the proper hose and clamps. He also picked up extras of both. By now we were pretty adept in removing the plastic needed for the repair.

Having lost another hour and a half, we took a little more direct route to the Mississippi. We

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MEMORABLE(Continued from page 4)

were a bit disappointed when we finally reached the nearest point on the road. The only time we saw the River was when we crossed into the state of Mississippi. The river is just not visible from the road in Mississippi.

With a watchful eye for fuel leaks we headed to the Delta Blues Museum which was the highlight of the day! This is a fantastic museum showcasing the history of the blues in the Mississippi delta region. Onward to Memphis we were looking for a good night of food and Blues on Beale Street. Our hotel was fine but expensive. Parking a motorcycle in downtown is not high on my list. The food did not disappoint, but Beale Street and the music did. Beale Street, the home of W.C. Handy and the Blues, with dozens of live music venues mostly offer R&B and other popular music genres. There is also an admission charge and a security check just to get on the street. Mr. Handy would be embarrassed.

Leaving Memphis on a Saturday morning is a piece of cake. With the Mississippi now visible, we tried to run as close to it as possible every chance we had. There had been major rains and flooding and some roads were closed. The actual miles we'd traveled were much greater than we had planned so we had to hit the Interstate to make Springfield for the night-time races. I had attended the Saturday TT races before and found the venue excellent and perfect for viewing the races. Little did we know that these would be the only motorcycle races we would see on the trip.

It rained Saturday night. I mean REALLY rained. The races were postponed til Monday. Since we were there and had ridden three days to get there, we decided to stay over. Sunday was a nice weather day and we enjoyed Springfield, Lincoln's Memorial and the not-to-be-missed Abraham Lincoln Library and Presidential Museum. When we returned to our hotel, we found out that the races had been cancelled for Monday and were to be rescheduled on Labor Day! Did I mention this was supposed to be an easy trip?

We rose Monday before dawn as we had over 500 miles to ride and were going to face some very severe weather. The rain had at least cooled the temperatures down. There was a major front headed our way and no way around it. The sooner we were on the road, the less time we had to ride in the rain. The driving rain and 50-degree temperatures hit us 200 miles from our destination. It was raining so hard that you could barely see. With heated grips turned to the max our hands could only last about 30 minutes until we needed a rest stop. Before it was over, there was not one article of dry clothing on our bodies... Not one. This was the most miserable time I have spent on a motorcycle. I never thought we would make it home. When we finally did, we just put the soaked motorcycles in the garage, changed clothes, and stood by the fire. It rained for the next two days. Did I mention???.....

It was supposed to be an easy trip.

A special shout-out to Joel Watson for saving our trip! Thanks Joel! I think....



True North

Localizing

Ellis Boyd Redding, the Morgan Freeman character 'Red' in the 1994 film version of Stephen King's *Shawshank Redemption*, claimed that if you get used to staying in one spot too long you get "Institutionalized". First you hate it. Then you get used to it. Enough time passes you get to depend on it. That's Institutionalized.

In the February 2020 issue of Rider magazine the editor, Mark Tuttle, adapts that condition to motorcyclists that have ridden every road, taken every ride within a day's ride of home, and suddenly find themselves less interested in riding. They use too many excuses for not gearing up, throwing a leg over their bike and just going. It's too hot. It's too cold. The bike needs an oil change or a new set of tires. And there are other chores to do – The yard needs attention, the cat needs vacuuming and the dog needs polishing. Mark states "It's a perfectly natural reaction to repetition, like riding an exercise bike everyday" – pretty soon it becomes a clothing tree. He says you've been "Localized"!

Watching 20 or 30 BMWDFW club members (half of them in their cars) vanish into thin air after the Grapevine Original Pancake House breakfast every Saturday I'd say we are seriously Localized. I think we need a little stronger word to hang on our "ized" and I pray none of us are Terminal-ized! We are afflicted and in need of a serious cure. Saying they are numerous, cheap and simple, Mark's suggestions for a cure list "joining a riding club". Sharing the ride is sometimes more fulfilling than the ride itself, so he says. His next trick is to break up the routine and put miles on before breakfast or try a new place so once you're finished with breakfast you'll be at a new starting point. Mark's fool-proof cure of banishing some of the roads from your repertoire seems like a good idea as it's getting increasingly harder to find nice riding spots with the new tollways in our area are opening up our old haunts to new housing and increased traffic. My favorite of Mark's cures is jumping on the road at 7a.m. and doing 250 miles before stopping for lunch in the middle of a brand new-to-you riding area.

Though I didn't know it had a name, several years ago I volunteered for the Tourmeister spot in our club with the ambition of keeping everyone from catching this dreaded motorcycle disease. I've got to believe there just has to be a cure. We just can't let you fade into obscu-



Stephen "Yeeha" Slisz

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TRUE NORTH(Continued from page 6)

ity as one of those motorcyclists that “used” to ride. Take a look at our club’s website calendar and the Events Listing that Vince posts in the monthly newsletter and you’ll see dozens of events that should motivate you to dose-up on a Mark Tuttle-type cure. Take a closer look and you may see there are some events that may qualify as “Baby-Steps” to getting you rolling again.

Our newest Baby-Steps are the monthly Saturday Tourist Series where we ride to see some of the local tourist attractions you may have previously ignored. Recently we hit the Billy the Kid museum in Hico, the Vernon Castle airplane crash site in Benbrook, the Mammoth Dig in Waco, the International Motorcycle Show in Dallas, the Edgewood Heritage Festival, the Pancake Fly-In in Granbury and many more. Other spots on that bucket list include: Ripley’s Believe It or Not, Haas Motorcycle museum, Waco Dr Pepper museum, 6th Floor Kennedy museum, Log Cabin Village, the FTW Stockyards Cattle Drive and much more!

While you’re at home this week start with some stretching exercises. Maybe some deep knee bends. Definitely work on your breathing and build yourself up to swinging a leg over your motorcycle. Grab the grips and make some vroom-vroom noises and recite aloud the catch phrase – *You Don’t Stop Riding Because You Get Old, You Get Old Because You Stop Riding!* Close your eyes and remember the wind in your hair. Let’s get De-Localized!

“Yeeha”



While on our Continental Divide ride this last week, Team 3 met up with a group just outside of Breckenridge. The organizer, Tom Larson, sets up motorcycle rides for first responders and former military personnel with PTSD. He provides the bikes, gear and an environment for them to decompress. As dual sport riders, we all understand the feeling of freedom that riding in the wide open country provides. The group we met was mainly firefighters from across the country.

Here is an opportunity to support like minded folks who support our sport and the sponsors who support them. "Crunch" Crenshaw





TEXAS FORTS TRAIL

Following the Civil War, Texas seethed in conflict. Settlers streamed west into the historic homeland of Native Americans, buffalo hunters slaughtered the great South-western herd and socially starved drovers sought diversion in every settlement along the cattle trails. Increasing raids by Comanche's, Kiowas and Kiowa-Apaches had all but depopulated the northwestern frontier of Texas and threatened to halt the entire western settlement. Responding to the outcry of settlers and travelers, the Federal Government decreed that a line of forts be established from the Red River to the Rio Grande following the approximate frontier line of defense established before the Civil War. In fact the U.S. Army began building forts in Texas as early as 1848, ultimately constructing 44 major posts and over 100 temporary camps. For a time such enterprise comprised the largest budget segment for the Army in all the United States. During the 1800's the soldiers themselves constructed the forts when not patrolling Indian territory. Consequently, many of the structures never evolved beyond primitive picket style buildings, using thin vertical strips of raw timber for walls and canvas and earth for roofs. When the soldiers had time and the funds were available, they built permanent buildings using native stone quarried near the respective forts.

The forts I visited were in varying states of rehabilitation and were located, wherever possible, near rivers or creeks that contained running water year around and possibly a water table close to the surface for wells. Contrary to my expectations, none were fortified with walls. Instead they were built as Cantonments, the buildings spread out on large tracts of land, not intended to withstand siege warfare. Rather the forts were a haven where soldiers could retreat to mend wounds, gain a little weight and otherwise recuperate, attended by lusty laundresses, for another foray into the field.

I once journeyed to 8 of these installations all west of a line between Fort Worth and San Antonio...Essentially Comanche Country during the period these forts were active. The Comanches had ruled for about 200 years in these parts and, thanks to the Spanish invaders who provided

horses, became the finest light cavalry the world has ever known.

There's no room left in this month's publication to tell the whole story, so I'll do it next month.

dm



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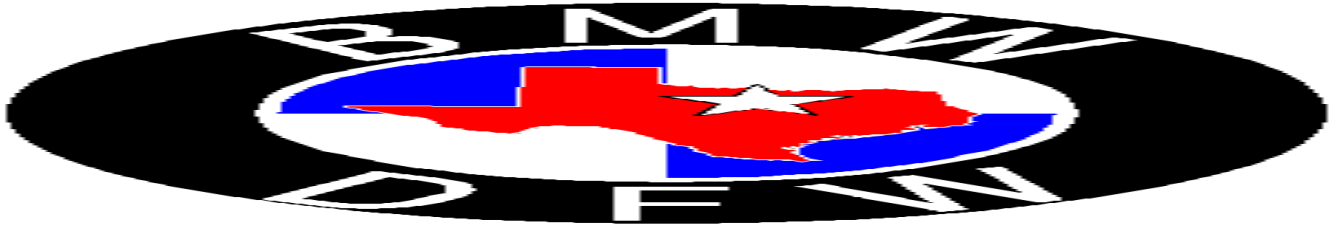
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2020 PREMIER CLUB RIDES

All the details for each of the Club Events are available by going to the Event Calendar [Click here](#)

May 21-24, Paris to Dakar (Texas) Rally 2020

“Thank God It’s Spring” -

“Farewell to Summer”

BMWDFW Annual “Fall Color Tour”

Oct 22-25, Eureka Springs, AR

**** No Club Hotel Room Block**
“Ride ‘em - Don’t Hide ‘em”

THE WORLD’S MOST INTERESTING MOTORCYCLE CLUB

RECURRING CLUB ACTIVITIES DETAIL

BMWDFW Club Forum

Our members’ forum is at the BMWDFW Yahoo Group. [Click here to join](#)

CLUB MEETING, 7:30 PM, 2nd Tuesday, MONTHLY, except December

Spring Creek BBQ, 1509 Airport Freeway, Bedford, TX. Located on the westbound access road of Airport Freeway at the corner of Forest Ridge Drive in Bedford. Dinner and social begins 6:30 pm.

CLUB BREAKFAST / RIDE, 2nd Sunday, MONTHLY

AM/10 AM, Mary’s Brazos Café, Tin Top, 15 mi south of Weatherford, Texas. A ride follows, weather permitting.

CLUB BREAKFAST, Saturday, 7:30 AM/8:45 AM

WEEKLY. Original Pancake House in Grapevine, 1505 William D Tate Avenue, Grapevine, TX 76051, (817) 421-3444.

AD HOC RIDES

These will be announced as they come up on the Members Forum at Yahoo Groups. [Click here to join](#)

2020 UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

For future and most current updated Event information, go to the Club Event Calendar [Click here](#)



VINCE BRECKNER

Saturday Tourist – FTW Stockyards and Cattle Drive

February 1 @ 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

Number 8 in the Saturday Tourist series and the second of 2020 is headed downtown to the Fort Worth Stockyards. We will visit the Stockyards Museum and then watch as the Old West comes to life before our eyes during the world's only twice-daily cattle drive presented by the Fort Worth Herd. Real Texas cowhands drive a herd of Texas longhorns down East Exchange Avenue every day at 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Every detail of the cattle drive—from the...

[Find out more »](#)

Ducati Red Tour

February 8 @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Ducati's Ready 4 Red tour is taking the country by storm and stopping in 29 cities to bring you an evening experience Ducati style. Please join in on the fun Saturday, February 8th at 7pm for Ducati's 19th stop with Advanced Motorsports Ducati Dallas in Dallas, TX. Come preview the new Ducati models of 2020 like the Streetfighter V4 S, Panigale V2, Panigale V4 S, Multistrada 1260 Grand Tour, Diavel 1260, Hypermotard SP and Scrambler Icon Dark before they hit the...

[Find out more »](#)

2020 Texas Motorcycle Safety Forum

February 22, 2020

Last year Chris, Rick, Mike, Tom, Johnny, Leon and I spent a weekend at the YO Ranch hotel in Kerrville TX attending the 2019 Texas Motorcycle Safety Forum. The full-day conference centered around several speakers in the motorcycle safety field giving a background on their particular agencies, the current safety programs they are involved with and a taste of things to come from those agencies. Motorcycle safety program updates and hints of future motorcycle safety programs were given by the...

[Find out more »](#)

Saturday Tourist Series – Haas Motorcycle Museum – Dallas

March 7 @ 9:30 am - 1:00 pm

Last time we hit the Haas Motorcycle Museum it was a weekday and many people could not attend. This time we'll attend as part of the Saturday Tourist Series and ride over from the Saturday Original Pancake House breakfast so everyone can go! Haas Motorcycle Museum Ride Saturday March 7, 2020 Stands up about 9:30 am Museum opens at 10:00 am Admission - \$10 (\$7 Seniors, Free for Military and First Responders) We'll find a spot nearby for lunch.

[Find out more »](#)

BMWDFW Tech Day 2020 – a Tech Day for the New Decade

March 15 @ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Cycle Center/BMW Motorcycles of Denton, 521 Acme St
Denton, TX 76205 United States + Google Map

So, you think last year was indeed the Tech Day of All Tech Days. Well, it was, but that was last decade. Bring on Tech Day 2020 - a Tech Day for the New Decade. Right now, this is a placeholder event, but the date, location, and times are solid. Put this one in your calendar for Tech Day 2020. More information will be added to this event as it becomes available. Here's what we know so far: Location: Hosted...

[Find out more »](#)

Queen Wilhelmina Lodge

April 16 2020, Mena, AR

I added one night to my trip to the Spring Ozarks Ride. I wanted leave a little early and have an extra full day of riding in Arkansas, so I booked a room at the Queen Wilhelmina Lodge for Thursday night, April 16th 2020. I will

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leave for Eureka Springs from the Queen on Friday. <https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/queen-wilhelmina-state-park/accommodations/lodge> See ya' there! SS

[Find out more »](#)

Arkansas Ozarks Great Spring Escape Ride

April 17 @ 8:00 am - April 19 @ 5:00 pm

OZARKS GREAT ESCAPE EUREKA SPRINGS, ARKANSAS Motorcycle Sport Touring Association - Arkansas Chapter <https://www.motoadrenalinetours.com/ozarksgreatescape2020> We love to do Arkansas/Missouri in the Fall. It's just as fun in the Spring. I did this one last year and had a great time meeting new MSTTA riders and riding my favorite roads. Don't be afraid to ride with this group, they are a lot like our club. Besides, I can show you the way ifin' you be skeert! [Find out more »](#)

BMWDFW Cool Your Rocks Annual Picnic

May 16 @ 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

White Rock Boat Club, 340 E. Lawther Drive

Dallas, TX, TX United States + [Google Map](#) Join us at the White Rock Boat Club on White Rock Lake in Dallas from 6pm to 10pm for free hamburgers, hot dogs, soft drinks and music. This is our annual picnic and a family affair. Bring your spouse or significant other and spend time with your fellow BMWDFW members. Please RSVP by May 12 so we have an accurate headcount for the food. We ask you to please bring a dish to share with your fellow members. [Find out more »](#)

Paris to Dakar (Texas) Rally 2020

May 21 - May 24

Join us for a little-ole Texas sized 4-day Paris to Dakar Rally. Pavement ride runs from the Eiffel Tower replica in Paris Tx to and thru Decatur, Abilene, Kerrville, Austin and Red Oak. Ride leaves from the Route 66 Classic Diner in Rockwall Tx at 8am (come earlier for breakfast) <https://foursquare.com/v/route-66-classic-diner/4b9b9987f964a520951236e3/menu> OR Meet us at the Eiffel Tower replica in Paris Tx - Ride leaves from Paris at 9:30am. 5/21/2020 Thursday hotel is the Abilene Best Western at 350 Overland...[Find out more »](#)

BMWMOA National Rally – Great Falls, MT

June 25 @ 8:00 am - June 27 @ 5:00 pm

Montana Expo Park, 400 3rd St NW

Great Falls, MT 59404 United States + [Google Map](#) Great Falls Montana offers all the best of Montana recreation: fishing, hunting, hiking, and more. Added to that, a rich history and arts community that caters to enthusiasts. We welcome you to come experience Great Falls' spectacular unspoiled nature, our charming tree-lined streets, our breathtaking experience by day and our relaxing hospitality at night. It is True Montana and True to Expectations. Registrations started Jan. 1, 2020.

[Find out more »](#)

OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS DETAIL

Listed below are select other events that are not club sponsored but may interest our members. These may not be listed on the Club's website calendar.

Feb 28-Mar 2, Fri-Mon; Big Bend, Texas. Eurosport Cycle's Big Bend Ride

Departs from Eurosport Cycle – 3100 Airport Freeway Fort Worth. This ride leaves on Friday morning and returns on Monday afternoon, riding 400 – 500 miles per day with a stop in a different town each night. Hotel list will be sent to you after you register! [Click here](#) to register.

Mar 1 – Nov 15, Sun-Sun, Texas; Motorcycle Grand Tour of Texas

This tour is a self-guided motorcycle tour that has stops throughout the state of Texas. Of course, the great back roads of the Hill Country are among them. The tour is open to **all brands of motorcycles** (two wheeled and three wheeled), as long as the vehicle does not have a steering wheel and/or is not designed for an operator and passenger to sit side-by-side. The tour is not open to cars and autocycles. [Click here](#) for registration and all the information.