

# THANK GOD IT'S SPRING

## BEEMER ZEITUNG

APRIL 2023



CATEGORY I Photo  
La Bonette Pass - French Alps

Submitted by PAUL HIRSCH

# Patina and the joy of old bikes

- Mike Crenshaw



CRUNCH

Modern BMW motorcycles are incredible feats of engineering. Smooth, fast, comfortable, by and large, safe to ride. Almost every conceivable mechanical and electrical issue over the last one hundred years has been addressed and resolved. Saddling up on a late model RT or GS bike for a trip of a few thousand miles is pretty easy to do.

But to some of us, it lacks the visceral feel of an older motorcycle that was built forty or fifty years ago. Such is my love for the older BMW Type 247 models known as Airheads. They have a patina that can only come with age and miles and miles of riding in all manner of weather. Chrome develops small spots of rust. Hand painted pin striping where a belt buckle or a boot may have damaged the paint are obvious. Little dings can be found in fenders and tanks where a tool dropped on it, or maybe the bike tipped over at a camp ground in some far away national park in decades past. Some may look at an old bike and call it a beater, but look closer and you can see that the bones and heart of that old machine are still solid and beat with a steady and reliable pulse.

To me, when I look at one of my old airheads it's like looking in the mirror and remembering where that scar came from or when I had a full head of hair. Where did that young man go and where has he been? Remembering when a bike was new and imagining the feeling the original owner had when he, or she, first rode off of the showroom floor is not too far removed from recalling the first time that special lover kissed you. We had not had that first argument or yet experienced disappointment. Chrome was shiny, paint could be polished to a gleam, and the imagination of glorious days and highways to come was exciting to think about.

But as years and miles go by, wear happens and over time, this wear becomes patina. And patina takes on a luster and beauty that no artist can faithfully reproduce. It must be allowed to happen.

These are personal reflections for me, and maybe that 2018 1200RT



in the garage will offer memories like that someday to someone else. But it won't be for me. The bike is too new and I'm too old for that to ever happen.

This may be a bit of a ramble here, but I know that working and caring for an old airhead is one of the joys that I have in my life. And, I know that if I've taken care of this old bike I can still saddle up and go for a thousand mile ride. There may be something waiting to break or fail, but I have the confidence that with a little ingenuity I can fix the problem and continue the journey and return home safely. Maybe just not as fast as a late model BMW will, so I'll keep the old airheads running and keep adding to the patina.





# SPRING RIDING TIPS



RICK KALLMAYER

The last two days have seen epic riding weather for February, and I have been lucky to be able to ride a few hundred miles on the GSA breaking in a new seat. This afternoon I was scouting potential GS roads in the Brazos Valley when I missed a side road and needed to do a turn-about on a narrow one lane road. I managed it but this reminded me that I have not yet spent much time practicing my slow speed maneuvers on the GSA. After I got home, I was paging through the latest BMWMOA News and read Kandi Spanglers excellent article, **Experienced or Profficient**.

Enough with the hints already! Riding season is upon us and it is high time that all of us spend a little time practicing our skills again! Remember, riding your bike at highway speeds is easy; the hard stuff is handling your bike at parking lot speeds. The statistics do not lie, the vast majority of motorcycle accidents for experienced riders happen at very low speeds. Usually there is only minor bike damage and wounded pride, but as we age the risk of serious injury from a tip over fall increases. So, find a dead end street or the corner of an empty parking lot and practice!

**Begin** by smoothly starting from a stop, riding on a straight line, and coming to a smooth stop at a precise point.

**Next** do the same thing at walking speed while controlling your speed by dragging the rear brake and controlling power by the clutch in the friction zone.

**Finish** clutch /throttle control practice by doing multiple starts & stops moving as slowly as you can.

Now weave around small markers in a row without looking down at the ground in front of the bike tire.

If you spread out the markers you can do zig zag turns around them. Keep your eyes on the horizon!

Next ride in a figure eight slowly and gradually decrease the size of your figure.

Practice straight line braking to a stop at max braking before the ABS kicks in ( start at 20mph, then 30, then 40 ) do not grab the brake lever, squeeze it with control.

Try doing practice drills with a buddy who can watch you and give you some suggestions. Also, it is a lot easier to pick up a bike with a helper!

## **Remember these tips:**

1. At parking lot speeds only use your rear brake to slow or stop and apply power only with the clutch in the friction zone.
2. Keep your eyes up looking as far ahead as possible NOT at the hazard you need to miss.
3. When the bike is moving keep both feet on the pegs. Only put a foot down after the bike has stopped moving.
4. Balance the bike with your feet on the pegs, keep your hands loose, bend your elbows, and drop your shoulders and RELAX this is fun!
5. Look where you want to go, not at the stuff you need to avoid.



**CATEGORY II - Photo of the Month For APRIL**



**“SANTA ELENA CANYON”**

A close - up

by Mike Valentin



## “WE ARE IN IT TOGETHER”

I haven't ridden in three weeks. It's killing me! There must be a diagnosis for this. What makes the illness so difficult is the nature of the desire and disorder; the acute and chronic phases especially. You know what I'm speaking of, motorcycle riding road or dirt, clean or soiled. You'll take it anyway you can.

However, we need to characterize our conditions. You can decide where on the disorder-spectrum you reside. The partial list includes; visiting your motorcycle, or checking with a frequency, greater than twice a day; conspiring on a future ride in crayon or pencil; further materializing the routes with fellow acolytes of two wheels, when present in numbers of two or more; or watching a sports channel at 2 AM in the morning and leaning into turns like a pillion with your favorite rider on the track.

On and on it goes where it stops. Nobody knows. But...you do.

Our spouses or friends will easily gage the descent into redline fever based on your skin condition. Perhaps hives will break out and fail to respond to an over-the-counter anti-histamine, or your forehead begins to glisten continuously, suggesting an oily skin condition, which could be your self-anointing with 10W-40 synthetic oil. But it's actually your psyche sweating, providing your never-ending glow.

Further, at home you seek help and receive counseling to say to your spouse, “I'm not mad at you, but I need to get this off my chest! I need to ride!” No question she'll feel better for it because you sought help and the source of the problem is out in the open.

We could take the time honored tradition of sharing our burden with like minded people vis-a-vis phone, in person is better, allowing you and fellow sufferers to gesticulate the angle of attack, position on the road or throttle wrist position. Watch carefully as devoted listeners and practitioners of the Dark Arts lean and sway in syncopation with the expression of your plans or your in-sights regarding decreasing radius turns or how gravity can be bent by will, technology or slathering desire.

Even the accounting of plans and shared emotions can end too quickly. How? When you tell your plans to those who feign interest, Horror's of horror's!, those who may dress or appear like you. But, They THEY! lack the inner white hot glow of passion, true belief and experience.



LISA & MIKE VALENTIN



They experienced the full-size beauty of Texas from low lands to high vistas at 6000 feet, but they also experienced the warmth and grinding, bone-chilling cold of the arid areas day and night. All this, adding to their deepening well of riding experiences. Underway they enjoyed riding American iron (H-D),

I did find a cure recently - focus on quality rides and experiences. The effects are long-term with memories ensconced in my temple of perfect memories. I was invited and rode to **Big Bend National Park** with my son, **Stefan** and his friend (Brian, “adopted son”). It was wonderful.



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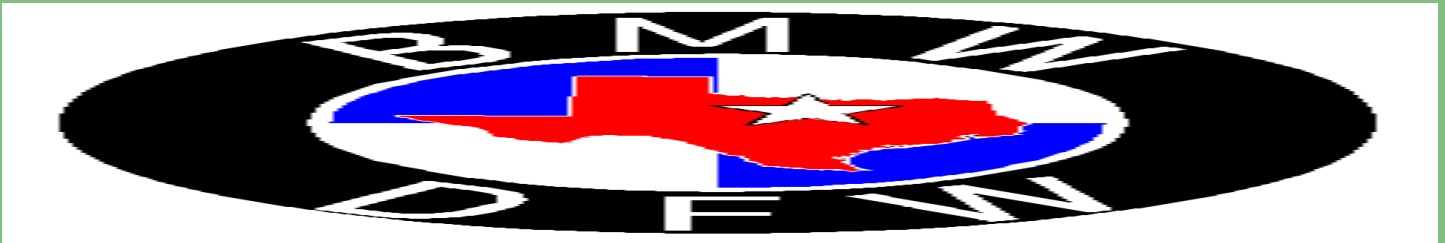
and the Japanese mechanical perfection (Honda VFR). I was content to ride my Teutonic twin cylinder (R1250RT).

Thankfully our preparation included renewing and creating friendships with Vince Breckner in Kerrville. Before concluding the ride each of us rolling, pitching on The Three Sisters. While in those hills I couldn't help recollecting how a BMWDFW member (Tony Obikudu) helped save a Harley Riders foot and ankle as our member provided deeper medical insight to the paramedics tending to the poorly geared rider.

We departed our ways in Austin. They departed strongly inoculated with experiences to hold them, firm and well until their next ride. Me? I was content. I was happy to spend time with my son doing what we both enjoy doing. It's one of the ways we also share our love for one another. No transaction oriented relationship. We are open to sharing and willing to demonstrate who we are.



It's like the whole bunch of us; all of us coming together, working through our plans and efforts for a bigger ride, better rides or memories. All of us leaning into the turn



## MEXICO TEQUILA RIDE

Our first trip as a group to Mexico was called Mexico Post-COVID Ride and, as the name aptly describes, we did it to celebrate the end of being closed up in our homes. On that trip, in April 2021, we stayed mainly on the North East side of Mexico. Then in November 2021, we visited the North West side and rode all the way to the Pacific Ocean and saw the beautiful Copper Canyon. In April 2022, we went back to the North East side of Mexico and visited a number of **Pueblos Magicos**, beautiful, picturesque villages.



Armando Almeida



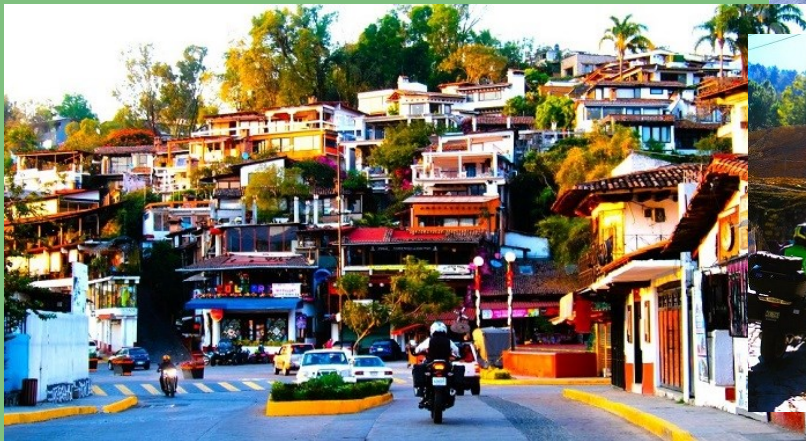
On this trip in December 2022, we transversed Mexico from the Northeast side to the West coast. We decided to call this trip the **Mexico Tequila Ride**, as it started with the idea of having tequila in the beautiful town of **Tequila** in the Jalisco state of Mexico.

Everyone we speak about our trips to Mexico ask us if it is not dangerous and I always say, not the way we travel. So let me explain in a bit more detail what I mean. Usually we travel as a group of motorcyclists with a minimum of 5 ad



venture bikes fully equipped with all kinds of gear. So yes, we look bad arse coming down the road with our lights on and I doubt that any “bandido” will ever mess with us.

First I would like to speak a bit about Mexico and what it feels like to ride there. As in any developing country, the traffic is a bit more chaotic than in developed countries so we need to be very careful how we ride, especially when we get into big cities. All our bikes are equipped with many lights, always on throughout the trip, so we can be easily seen. We usually ride together and, as we all are very experienced riders, we act and behave as a block on the road, rarely allowing any cars in between us.



All foreign vehicles require a temporary import permit which can be obtained online. Each of us are also required to gain entry through immigration, where our passports and a tourist cards are stamped. We are also required to do an exit process for both our bikes and us. We are allowed to stay in Mexico for 180 days which is plenty.

There are many border crossings between the United States and Mexico. About one week before crossing we start checking the various Facebook Groups and we carefully choose the entry and exit borders that are calmer and fastest. By now we have some favorites and usually enter and/or exit at **Piedras Negras** and **Colombia**.

Another important detail is to have the right kind of insurance. We usually buy comprehensive Mexico insurance the night before we travel, which costs about \$150 for the 15 days or so we are in Mexico. Most of us also carry a special insurance that will get our bikes and us back home if something happens in Mexico.

Roads in Mexico vary greatly from very good toll roads to horrendous gravel roads and most of us travel on adventure type of motorcycles which are ideally suited for this diversity. Over the last two trips, one of the participants rode a BMW R1250RT and on both trips bent the front wheel. He probably won't take it to Mexico henceforth. There are toll roads available and, for both the first day in Mexico and the last day, we ride them so we can travel many miles (kms) in a day. They are expensive and cost around \$10 per 50 kms. There are always non-toll roads and those are the ones we prefer. In every entry/exit we come upon signs saying CUOTA (Toll) or LIBRE (Free).

Although there are many reports of police bribery being common, we have never encountered such requests and most of the time we are waved through police and/or military checkpoints. When we have been stopped, they ask us where we are coming from and where are we going. After we respond, they let us go. I have never been asked for one piece of documentation in the 5 trips I have made in Mexico.

There are usually two types of fuel available, Regular (21 pesos or \$1.06/litre) and Premium (24 pesos or \$1.21 per litre). We usually fill up with Premium and pay with Credit Cards.

Another important aspect of travelling in Mexico are the toilet facilities and if you use them at the gas stations they are usually very clean and we pay 5 pesos (\$0.25) per person. Every gas station usually has a small store where we can buy coffee, drinks or food. Sometimes they may also have a taco stand inside. They usually have music blasting and one cannot help but smile when taking a break at these places. We usually do not ride at night and we try to be in our hotels well before the sunset. Hotel prices are very reasonable and rooms in the smaller towns cost as little as \$30 a night and can go up to \$100 in the bigger towns.

When we sleep in a bigger town we will book using **booking.com** and most of the time, these can be cancelled within 48 hours of arrival. In the smaller towns we have to call the hotels directly and most of the time we have to pay at least 50% to book the hotel. We usually look for hotels that have off-street parking and breakfast available. Sometimes parking means inside the actual foyer of the hotel.

Most Mexican towns have a central plaza and we like to book hotels in this plaza or as close to it as possible. We like to arrive in the town, park the bikes, have a shower and change clothes and then go visit the centre of the city on foot. We usually also have dinner in a restaurant in or close to the plaza. Tap water in Mexico is usually not safe to drink so the most well known saying for all of us when we get into a restaurant or hotel is “botella de agua” which means **bottle of water**.

GPS maps of Mexico are readily available so we have no issues setting up the route and following it using our Garmin units or cell phones. Cell coverage is pretty good and as USA residents, our communication service providers treat Mexico the same as the USA, so there are no roaming charges. ATMs are readily available and we can easily withdraw Pesos from them or exchange US Dollars in the Casa de Cambios (Change Houses). Mechanics and tire shops are easily available so if our bikes ever need some tender love and care we can usually find it. Apart from flat tires which we have fixed ourselves, we have not needed any other help.

Farmacias (Pharmacies) are in high supply and it is not difficult to get any type of medication if the need arises. Whenever we have needed to get medical attention, we have been lucky as we were in bigger cities, and it has been easily available, of the highest quality and a great price.

Food is usually very good and diverse and after India and China, I would say the Mexican cuisine has the most choice. We love our different meals in Mexico and we are always surprised at what we can get for the amount we spend.

But I’ve digressed so, lets get back to our trip.

We were on the road for 14 days (2 of them in the USA and 12 in Mexico). We rode 3,000 miles (nearly 5,000 kms) with the longest day being over 700 miles (over 1,100 kms) and the shortest one 75 miles (120 kms) and visited the towns of:

Llano, TX  
Sabinas, MX  
Zacatecas, MX  
Tequila, MX  
Ajijic, MX  
Uruapan, MX  
Zihuatanejo, MX  
Valle de Bravo, MX  
Morelia, MX  
Matehuala, MX  
Austin, TX

Our trips are full of adventure as we try to mingle with the local population and look for action everywhere we go, so it would be impossible to speak about it all in this article. So, I have chosen some of the most special moments to share with you.



(Continued on page 9)

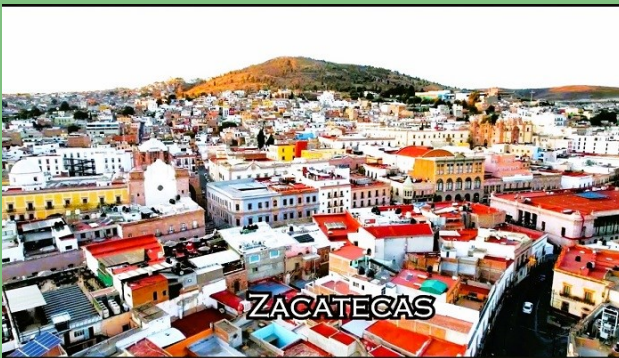


- Sharing Christmas gifts with abandoned and orphaned children in Nueva Rosita, Mexico

We have all heard the saying, "the gift is in the Giving"? Well, nothing could be more accurate than what we experienced during our visit to **Casa Hogar De Nueva Rosita in Mexico**. The Casa Hogar has the mission to shelter minors in extreme situations, offering them housing, food, clothing, education, and medical, psychological, and spiritual support, so that they have a better quality of life. Every time we go to this area of Mexico, we bring, on our motorcycles, a variety of gifts. This time we shared them with over 25 children that were super happy. I can't recall all of the gifts, but it ranged from backpacks, coloring books, critters (Luvies), soap, shampoo, etc., etc. Unfortunately, due to the delicate situation some of these children are in, we cannot show you their faces, otherwise I wouldn't need to write any words. It was a great experience on our part, and one we treasure each time we visit Mexico.



- Tour and theater on a bus in Zacatecas



One of the cities we were very excited to see was Zacatecas, Mexico, a UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

We stayed right in the Centre of the city, within a stone's throw of the cathedral. The Historic Centre of Zacatecas was founded in 1546, after the discovery of a rich silver lode. "Built on the steep slopes of a narrow valley, the town has many historic buildings, both religious and civil. With Guanajuato, Zacatecas is among the most important mining towns of New Spain. It was a major centre of silver production, and also of colonization, evangelization and cultural expansion."

After parking the motorcycles for the night we had a great dinner and in the evening took a bus tour of the city and noticed that instead of having an orderly plan of streets, the Spanish settlement followed the old Indian neighborhoods with narrow streets and alleys.

We saw some of the most iconic places like the **Cerro de la Bufa**, the cathedral with a façade of sculpted pink stone, the **Plaza de Armas**, the **Calderon Theater**. The city still has an aqueduct and very close to it the **Parroquia De Nuestra Señora de Fatima**, a beautiful temple whose construction began in 1950, and concluded in 2000. Its beautiful and colorful stained glass windows show various bible passages and the moment that the virgin from Fatima appeared to the children.





- Drinking my first **Pajarete** made with milk from a cow on the road

We were riding towards Tequila, Mexico when we saw a big commotion on the side of the road. As it was time to stop and take a break, we did so and took the opportunity to ask what was going on. We were told we were close to a man who specialized in making **Pajaretes**.

As this was a word I had never heard before, I inquired further and was introduced to a young man that told me for a mere sum of 40 pesos (\$2), he would introduce me. I asked if it would be worth it and when I got the thumbs up from everyone around me, I soon agreed.

It turned out to be a drink that is made of chocolate, sugar and coffee that are all mixed together with pure alcohol from sugar cane and set on fire so that it caramelizes the ingredients. Once it is caramelized, you add fresh milk which in this case was taken directly from the tits of a cow on the side of the road.

The pajarete tradition is popular on ranches in Jalisco, Michoacán and Guanajuato, where many drink it in the morning for energy. I offered it to all the other people traveling with me and none accepted. Later I would learn that in 2020, the Pajarete became known as the drink of death in the state of Jalisco and over 25 people had died and 20 more have been sickened drinking it mainly due to excessive methanol in the alcohol that was used in the drink. I did not feel any bad after-effects. And what can taste better than fresh warm milk, coffee, chocolate, sugar and liquor? For me it was the perfect comfort drink.



- See the agave fields and learn more about tequila in Tequila



After arriving at the end of the day in **Tequila** (the epicenter of Tequila Country) and going out for dinner and to see fireworks, we went to bed anticipating breakfast and going on a tour of the agave fields and a distillery.

We all boarded a barrel truck (a car in the form of a barrel) to visit one of the many **agave fields**, with the **Tequila volcano** in the background, and to take a ton of photos. At the distillery we learned that tequila can only be made in certain designated

regions in Mexico. We also learned how tequila is made. The biggest surprise to me was that the actual part of the plant that is used is the **bulb** or core rather than the distinctive leaves that we see in the agave fields.



We tried different type of tequilas and noticed their qualities and differences. I learned that the best way to drink tequila is to drink it neat and at room temperature. One should start by sniffing the aroma, inhale before you take your first sip, take a sip and keep the tequila in your mouth. While holding the tequila in your mouth, inhale through your nose, swallow it over the tongue, and then exhale hard over your tongue to really excite your taste buds. This experience has really expanded my love for this drink which I believe is one of the most sophisticated spirits available. As I read about it, I found that in fact, tequila has more than *twice* the identifiable flavor profiles of a really sophisticated, big red wine (the wine has approximately 300 flavor profiles, and tequila has 630)!!

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### - Riding around Lake Chapala

**Lake Chapala** is Mexico's largest freshwater lake offering a near perfect year-round climate to live in, and it is this climate that drives a lot of ex-pats from USA and Canada to move there. It is estimated that out of a population of 50,000 in the municipality of Chapala, 15-20,000 are ex-pats. This number roughly doubles during the cold Canadian winter months, when thousands more migrate to the area for about six months each year. The Lake



is nestled in a 5,000-ft valley in the middle of the Sierra Madre Mountains. Its lush environment, scenic lake and mountain views were a treat for us.

We stayed the night in an hotel bordering the lake and were treated to a grand sunset. In the morning we went to visit the town of **Ajijic**, rode the narrow cobblestone streets and enjoyed the boldly painted houses and colorful murals. Because of its ex-pat population, the area has a nice mix of magnificent homes with award-winning architectural designs. Those interested in something a bit more upscale will have no problem finding spectacular homes set on one of the local hillsides, with a breathtaking, panoramic view.

### - Mingling with Mexican families on a Sunday afternoon on the plaza in Uruapan

We arrived in **Uruapan** on a Sunday afternoon and the town was bustling with activity. We quickly checked in to our hotel, had a shower, put walking clothes on and walked towards the central plaza with the sun still shining. The plaza is quite large and there were many people enjoying the Sunday afternoon. For us, the agglomeration of large families in the plaza, playing, buying ice cream (or whatever else is available) is one of the highlights of our visit to this beautiful country.

“**The Mexican plaza** is the most complete expression of Mexico's rich four-thousand-year-old multifaceted heritage. It is the open-air heart of every Mexican neighborhood, town, and city....its communal living room. The plaza is part of an ensemble of secular and sacred communal open spaces.” From another perspective, one's family is the most important aspect of life for most Mexicans and family relationships are typically very close. One's family tends to have a major influence on the individual, providing a sense of identity, community and support.



There is a general expectation placed upon Mexicans to be loyal and committed to their family by putting the interests of the family above their own. Close-knit family relations provide Mexicans with a network of security and support, particularly in times of need. This is especially relevant to the lower classes as the extended family can be crucial to helping an individual cope with hardships during difficult times. This is very obvious as one walks in these spaces that work as social centers and give plazas the vitality we still see in them today. What we observed in these plazas is totally different from our experiences in the United States and this fascinated and enthralled us.

### - Enjoying Zihuatanejo bay activity from our hotel perched up on the hillside

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When we set up the trip, we decided that of all of the places we would be visiting, **Zihuatanejo** (pronounced as zee-waa-ten-eh-hoe) would be where we would spend two nights. Our decision, in this case, was based on the fact that it is a resort city on the Pacific Ocean so we would be able to enjoy a bit of beach-type lifestyle.

We had also read that this nearly undiscovered city with a white sand beach, waterfront fish shacks and a laid-back vibe is perfect for a quick escape from real life.

We stayed in a hotel that is built into the hill and from where we had a spectacular view of the bay. From our balcony we were able to witness two beautiful sunrises. Some in our group woke up early and went down to the sandy beach to see the fishermen come in with the night's catch. We also walked The **Paseo del Pescador**, specially enjoying watching the pelicans fish in the bay as we meandered by, passing homes, colorful murals and sculptures along the way. After breakfast, we went to look at handicrafts and **artesanias** in the Centro (Downtown).

For dinner we all ate in a restaurant just overlooking the bay. The pescado (fish) and camarones (shrimp) were great. As we dined outside, the moon was quite bright and we sipped our tequila while we enjoyed the gentle rocking of the small fishing boats tethered below. We saw a lot of Canadians, mainly snowbirds that spend about 6 months of their time in this part of the world. They enjoy the mild and quite constant type of weather.

It is rare to find a museum in a Mexican coastal area, but **Zihuatanejo** has a modest archeological museum provided with love by the local government and citizens. We visited the **Costa Grande Museum of Archeology**. Entry is by donation (they hope for at least 10 pesos) and is run almost exclusively by volunteers who wish to keep knowledge of their culture alive.



### - Walking on the beach and wetting our feet in the Pacific Ocean in Ixtapa

By far the most well known resort area in Mexico is Cancun, however in this trip we found another not as well known. **Ixtapa** was nothing more than a coconut plantation until the late 1970s when Fonatur (the Mexican government's tourism development group) decided that the Pacific coast needed a Cancun-like resort. In came the developers and up went the high-rises. The result is a long string of huge hotels backing a lovely beach.

We took a walk down the **El Palmar beach**, which is the primary beach for the hotel zone. Over 2 miles long, it is pretty much the perfect beach - wide, flat, soft sand both above and below the water level. We were very impressed with how clean it is - no seaweed type issues and no trash at all. It was crowded as it is very popular



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with tourists and locals all day and, very family friendly. As with many of the beaches in Mexico, there are many massage places available, the best ones are a series of "huts" where the ladies greet you on the beach and offer their services. (Quick Disclaimer...We did not use them). It is also normal during this time of the year to see baby turtles hatching, and mama turtles laying eggs at night. We put our feet in the water which was quite warm, specially since it was December but we did not swim due to the rip tide as the currents are quite strong. There are a number of watersports rental places and one of the most popular was parasailing over the beach. The sunset was very beautiful.



### - The monarch butterfly 🦋 experience at Sanctuary El Rosario

I have intentionally left the most amazing experience of our trip to the last. After leaving the beautiful town of **Valle de Bravo**, well known as a weekend resort area for people living in Mexico City, we rode for about two and a half hours towards the forested Central Highlands of Mexico, so we could witness one of the world's most astounding wildlife events, featuring the most delicate of creatures. After stopping the motorcycles, we rode on horseback towards a grove of fir trees on a remote mountain top and as we approached this area we started to see a number of butterflies flying around us.

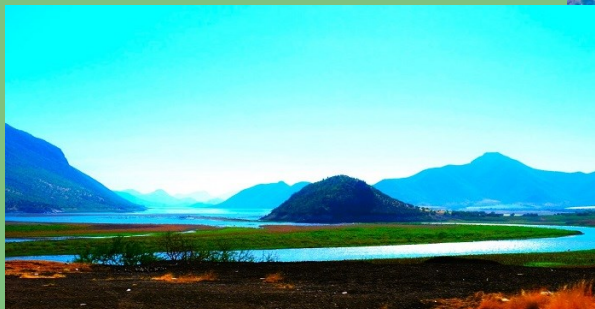


After leaving the horses and delving deeper by foot into the forest we started to notice that all around us the trunks and branches appeared to be blanketed with rusty autumn leaves. A closer look revealed they're quivering. Then, as the sun emerged from behind a cloud to warm them, hundreds of thousands of monarch butterflies took to the sky....so many that we could actually hear the beating of their wings, which glow translucent orange against the blue sky. Sometimes, the monarchs would float down to alight on our hats and shoulders.

We also took the opportunity to record the moment by capturing inspiring butterfly images, from intricate close-ups to great clouds of airborne monarchs. Visiting the monarch sanctuary and being surrounded by millions of butterflies was absolutely magical and as we left this enchanting place, our experience was enhanced by knowing that our presence is essential to the butterflies' continued survival. Visitors demonstrate to locals that ecotourism can be a more viable and sustainable source of economic well-being than resource exploitation. It will be a memory that we will all cherish for the rest of our lives.

I sincerely hope you have enjoyed our adventures in this magical country and maybe it will inspire you to one day visit and enjoy the great Mexican cuisine and hospitality.

Make Life a Ride !





# 2023 Calendar of Events

## RECURRING CLUB ACTIVITIES DETAIL

### BMWDFW Club Forum

Our members' forum is at the BMWDFW at Groups.io [Click here to join](#)

### CLUB MEETING, 7:30 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, MONTHLY

Destination to be announced each month. Watch BMWDFW at Groups.io

### CLUB RIDE, 4<sup>th</sup> Friday, MONTHLY

Destination to be announced each month. Watch BMWDFW at Groups.io

### CLUB BREAKFAST, Saturday, 7:30 AM - 8:45 AM WEEKLY



VINCE BRECKNER

## 2023 Club Rides and Special Events

### April 13 – 16: Tall Ships Galveston

[There has been a change of the Galveston motel to the Baymont by Wyndham in Galveston to secure a better rate.](#) The address and phone are 2826 63rd Street, Galveston, Texas 77551, at 409-744-3000. [Click here](#) for more hotel information. More information on the Jasper motel are under development. Details will be posted here and in the BMWDFW at Groups.io Forum when finalized.

### April 29 – 30: Visit [Dragoo Adventure Rider Training \(DART\)](#)

Visit and tour Bill Dragoo and DART 4141 W Robinson St, Norman, OK 73072. He can accommodate up to 30 bikes and he is offering an evening cookout and opening up his shop, etc. For more info watch the Groups.io Forum. Organized by Grant S. Mathews, 817-807-1460.

### May 19– 21: Thank God It's Spring Ride (TGIS)

This ride is designed to be an attractive destination for both rider and non-riders. Fredericksburg, Tx. provides not only great riding opportunities but is a great all-round shopping, site-seeing, wine tasting, live music, and recreational area. To download the route files [click here](#). We have a block of rooms at the Sunday House, king standard for \$155/night and double queen standard for \$169/night. Call the Sunday House at 800-274-3762 and mention group: BMWDFW to get the rate. Watch for updates posted in the BMWDFW at Groups.io Forum for the most current information.

### June 3 - 13: MOA National Rally Rides To And From Virginia

The route that I have planned begins on Saturday June 3rd and arrives in Thornburg Thursday June 8th. Depart on Sunday June 11th and arrive back in DFW on Tuesday June 13th. I plan on spending 2 days in Cherokee NC to take advantage of the roads in the area. To download drafts of the route files [click here](#). Watch for updates posted in the BMWDFW at Groups.io Forum for the most current information.



### **Sep 23: Annual Cool your Rocks BMWDFW Picnic**

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 Sep 18 to [dtfrankenfield@gmail.com](mailto:dtfrankenfield@gmail.com)** so we have an accurate headcount for the food. We ask you to **please bring a dish to share** with your fellow members. This has worked out well in prior years and we've had some spectacular dishes! If you prefer more adult libations, please bring your own. The White Rock Boat Club is located at 340 E. Lawther Drive in Dallas. For more on White Rock Boat Club, [click here](#).

### **Oct 13 – 15: Annular Solar Eclipse ride, Leakey, Tx.**

Host lodging will be at the Frio Pecan Farm. I have secured the same house as used for the January ride and there is a room available with 2 queens and a private bath. It has plenty of space to socialize, a large kitchen and a fire pit. They also have 2-bedroom cabins available as well. The reservation policy is different here as you need to be committed to your stay 60 days out. Frio Pecan Farm will give you credit that can be used up through the end of the year if you must change your plans. If you are interested in making reservations call and Susan will be able to answer any of your questions. <https://friopecanfarm.com> at 830-232-5294. Lunch is still planned on the 14th to be at the Junction Burger after the eclipse. This is the same weekend as the Lone Star Riders 36th Annual Texas Gathering that is usually in Kerrville. So there's a lot to do that weekend with the main motivation to see the eclipse at noon on Saturday the 14th. Questions - contact Dave Frankenfield at 703 727-5123.

### **Oct 26 – 29: Fall Color Tour, Eureka Springs, AR**

Reserve these dates on your calendar. Host hotel is the Trails Inn, 800-962-4691 / 479-253-9390, <https://www.thetrailsinn.com/>. It would be a good idea to book now. This is a popular weekend in Eureka Springs and rooms will go fast. Further ride details will be announced on the BMWDFW at Groups.io forum.

**Further ride and event information will be posted as it is finalized. Monitor the BMWDFW at Groups.io forum for future club information. [Click here to join](#)**

### **Contest Reminders**

[Click here](#) for all the contest information and forms

#### **Mileage Contest – Nov 15 to Oct 15**

Grab your gear, ride the miles, get recognized! The annual mileage contest celebrates your willingness to enjoy the open road. Download the **rules** and the **entry form** to get started!

#### **Photo of the Year**

Did you snap the most unbelievable image that you can't wait to share? Enter our photo of the month and photo of the year contests to win some great gear for BMW DFW members. Download the contest rules for the **monthly** or **annual** contest and submit your favorite image.

#### **Newsletter Article of the Year**

We're always looking for the next great writer. It might be you. Enter our newsletter article of the year contest and help promote the riding community. Download the **contest rules** to get started.

## **2023 BMWDFW OFFICERS**

### **President**

David Frankenfield

### **Vice President**

Bill Case

### **Secretary/Treasurer**

Dennis Bufton  
817-475-2413

### **Tourmeister**

David Frankenfield

### **Webmeister**

Art Ullman, Jr

### **Safety Director**

Tom Manly

### **Newsletter Editor**

Don M Mills

### **Membership**

### **Meeting**

**Tuesday**

**APRIL 11**

**7:30 PM**

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

At Forest Ridge &  
Airport Freeway  
(Hwy 121)

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