

BMW Car Club  
of America  
Tejas Chapter



# TEJAS TRAX

Newsletter for the Tejas Chapter, BMW CCA



**Kick'Z on Route 66**  
Photos by Jonna Clark

BMW Car Club  
of America



**July  
August  
2014**

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The Tejas Trax is printed bi-monthly by Enthusiast Media Group, the Roundel publishers.

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## *From The President*

### **On What's In A Number .....**

It seems to me that back in the mid 70s when I first became a BMW fanatic, life was much simpler than it is today, especially concerning numbers and BMW.

It used to be that the numbers on a BMW meant something. A BMW 533 was a 5-series with a 3.3 liter engine and a 635 was a 6-series with a 3.5 liter motor. Life was just simple like that until BMW started messing with it. A 1980 BMW 320 got a 1.8 liter motor instead of the 2.0 liter motor, but kept its 320 nameplate and the fun began (in Europe it was called a 318). Ever since there has been absolutely no rhyme nor reason to the numbers and the motor size.

Then BMW decided that they would straighten things out for us and use a system that would be meaningful to everyone. BMW models with two doors would be even numbered and BMW models with four doors would be odd numbered. Thus 1-series, 3-series, 5-

series, and 7-series cars would have four doors and 2-series, 4-series, and 6-series cars would have two doors. Wow, that's easy!! I can remember that!! Oh wait, doesn't the 6-series Gran Coupe have four doors? Doesn't the X4 have four doors? Oh, I get it ... it is I before E except after C or when an even numbered BMW model series doesn't have two doors.

My last issue with BMW numbers really has nothing to do with BMW, but more with people that decided that showing off their knowledge was more important than letting people know what they are talking about. I am referring to the E and F code names used by BMW. These were never designed as an identifying term for the general public, but the elitist among the Bimmerphiles decided it was cool to talk about E31s and E90s - made them sound like experts. But it sure doesn't describe what they drive - an E36 could be an M3, a 325, a 318, a 328 or any other 3-series variant between 1990 and 2000. I just feel it is clearer to say that I have a 2001 Z3 3.0 than to tell someone I have a E36/7, but then that's just me!! And besides, what's in a number?

**Until next time ....**

**Glenn McConnell**

## *Welcome New Members*

### Austin

*Peter Aman  
William Carlson  
Pliny Fisk  
Rachel Gorban  
Sarah Gorban  
Hays Hedrick  
Matt Huff*

*Paul Klingensmith  
Isabel Mendez  
Shiv Naimpally  
Joanna Payne  
Emily Russell  
Erik Wilson*

Round Rock  
*Roman Katsev*

### Bee Cave

*Alberto Pena*

Copperas Cove  
*Hailey Walker*

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*Caleb Smith*

Temple  
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vehicle/trade-in or to research the finance/lease options on your next BMW.

# Wimberley Summer Experience

**Saturday, July 19, 2014**

**Planned by Linda Cavzos**

Start Time: 9:00am

Meeting location: Come join us for a Wimberley Summer Experience on July 19, 2014. We will meet at the HEB in San Marcos at 641 E Hopkins Street. There are 2 HEB locations on Hopkins Street and we will be at the one closer to IH35

Drivers Meeting: 9:15am

Leave Meet Site: 9:30am

This will be a leisurely drive that will take us through San Marcos and out to RR12 for our 1st stop at Wimberley Glassworks. There will be plenty of time to view the art in their gallery and catch-up with car club friends prior to attending their hand blown glass demonstration at 10:30am.



We will continue our drive to Wimberley for lunch at Linda's Fine Foods Restaurant and Catering for an international comfort food cuisine at 11:45am. The drive will take us through the heart of Wimberley's downtown shopping area.



There are 3 menus to choose from that include tea as the drink. If you choose to have beer or wine with your lunch, they will have a menu to choose from at an additional price. Lunch seating will be a mix of indoor and outdoor shaded options.

After lunch, the group has an option to head home or go enjoy the shopping and scenery of Wimberley downtown. They do have some wonderful shops, crafts for sale, unique foods, and wine tasting

**RSVP by filling out the RSVP form on the website at**

**<http://www.tejaschapter.org/tejas.html>**

**Much more detailed information on the website**



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# Wine Tour & Hawaiian Luau

**Saturday, August 16, 2014**

**Planned by Linda Cavazos**

It is time to have a Wine Tour in 2014 with a Hawaiian Luau twist. Come dressed with your best Hawaiian attire (shirt, dress, etc). Linda Cavazos will be supplying the Hawaiian Leis.

**9:00am** - Meet at the "Y" in Oakhill (US 290 and SH 71), in the parking lot in front of Gatti's; Driver meeting at **9:15am**; Take off driving at **9:30am**. Coffee and bathrooms are available at several locations nearby.

We will drive on the backroads around Dripping Springs to arrive at Bell Springs Winery at 10:15am for a tasting of all their wines. It will range from 5 to 7 wines depending if they have bottled 2 wines before we get there in August. The tasting fee will be \$10 regardless if it is 5 wines or 7 wines. This will take about 1 hour depending on the size of our group.



We will continue down the twisty backroads of the hill country to arrive at Woodrose Winery for a tasting, tour, and Hawaiian Luau lunch. The tasting will be a selection of 6 different wines from our previous visit of Woodrose Winery. Lunch will be served at 1 or 1:15pm depending on completing the tasting and tour. The fee will be \$25. We will collect the money for the wine tasting and lunch at the beginning of the event. Please have cash or check available. No credit cards.



Menu includes:

Kalua Pig - Traditional slow roasted; Shovv Chicken - Grilled with Soy Sauce and spices; Lomi Lomi Salmon - One of Hawaii's favorite Luau Side Dishes; Hawaiian Macaroni Salad - Main staple of every Hawaiian plate lunches; Haupia - Coconut desert served at Luau's

Prizes will be given for the following: (everyone will get to vote)

- 1) Most Authentic attire
- 2) Most Fun attire

**RSVP by filling out the RSVP form on the website at  
<http://www.tejaschapter.org/tejas.html>**



## GETTING OUR KICK'Z ON ROUTE 66

By Jonna Clark

Fun, fun, fun is the only way to describe driving Route 66 in a Z3! Having driven Route 66 from Chicago to Santa Monica in its entirety in 8 days in 2012 in the '67 Corvette, we had learned that was way too fast. Route 66 is all about the way travel was back in the old days, before the interstate and chain fast-food restaurants – slow, allowing for lots of stops to sightsee and visit with folks. This year's plan was to travel the first half in 7 days, averaging only about 153 miles a day.

Illinois, Missouri & Oklahoma have done the best job of maintaining the history. Many businesses have been repurposed in the original buildings; many old gas stations have been restored and are perfect photo-ops. There are some new places too, but they've all been built in the spirit of the glory days

of auto travel. Many of the funky, the interesting, the unusual, and the simpler life places are being saved. Historic, antique and rust is what it's about. But it's also about the people, those that live & work along the route, as well as those who travel to experience the route. People literally come from all over the world to drive our old US Route 66. You don't have to be a history buff (I'm definitely NOT) to get your kickz on Route 66!

The trip began on the Thursday before Easter when 3 Z3's headed towards Chicago. Our party consisted of Bill & Pam Elwell in ZZZIP-E, Bev & Devon Davis in the DAVIS-M and Brad & I in Brad's "new" M-STER. Since we were all leaving from different cities, we met up Thursday evening in Texarkana for the drive north. By Saturday afternoon, we arrived in Chicago. After being greeted by a mess of confusing streets and lots of tourists, we finally found our hotel.

Easter Sunday morning dawned

chilly and clear, but not nearly as cold as I'd packed for. By 8:45 we were at the starting point. After required pictures under the "BEGIN" sign, we



were off! This day's drive was the second longest, roughly 202 miles, to Springfield, IL. Along the route we saw old gas stations, old drive-in restaurants, garages & motels. We flirted with the law, danced with the Blues Brothers,



Betty Boop and Marilyn, took pictures in front of murals and under giants of all sorts, including the Gemini Giant in Wilmington and the Hotdog man in



Atlanta. And speaking of the people who travel the route, in Springfield we met a group of Australians that had flown over, rented cars & were driving the Route!

Day 2 was Springfield to St. Louis. We visited Abe Lincoln's home and found the loveliest covered bridge you'd ever see! We petted & saddled up on



the bunnies at Henry's Rabbit Ranch, took pictures under a big rocking chair,



and had Ted Drewes Frozen Custard for dessert after visiting the Arch! Yes, the Gateway Arch is not on Route 66, but three of us had never been there, so we couldn't pass it up!

Day 3 took us from St. Louis to Lebanon, MO. The highlights of this day

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## KICK'Z ON ROUTE 66

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were zip-lining at Meramac Caverns, pictures under a giant rocking chair,



lunch in Bourbon at the Circle N, seeing many cool murals in Cuba, and bras hanging from the ceiling of the Devil's Elbow Tavern. We were also disturbed by a haunted appearing place called Trail of Tears honoring the 1830's forced migration of Cherokee Indians from the SE US to Oklahoma.

Day 4's trek from Lebanon to Joplin took us into Marshfield where a model of the Hubble Space Telescope is on display, and the most amazing collection of arrowheads in a gas business. It was in Marshfield that we were approached by a "stranger" who turned out to be a former Tejas Chapter member - Bill Sexton! For those of you that might remember him, he is now the County Director of Emergency Management and still owns 4 BMW's, including his orange '72 2002!

After lunch at an original-style Steak & Shake in Springfield, MO, it was on to Halltown, home of Whitehall Mercantile. The Mercantile is a gold mine of antique stuff. I found an old-fashioned brass oil can – remember the ones with the long skinny spout that you popped the bottom of to pump the oil out (pre-WD-40)? One of those!!! And if you ever have a few hours to spare

(no kidding!), stop and talk to Gary Turner of Gary's Gay Parita store in Paris Springs Junction. Thank goodness



he had a gal from Spain traveling on a Harley to talk to & we got away with only a 45 minute stop. We strolled a very nice make-shift town called Red Oak II that is hard to find, but well worth the detour outside of Carthage. And no visit to Carthage would be complete without a stop at the Boots Court Motel, where every room has a radio!

April 24<sup>th</sup>, our 5<sup>th</sup> day on the Route, was our only day for rain. The shortest section of Route 66 in any State is Kansas – 13 miles. It wouldn't have been Kansas without a thunderstorm warning, tornado watch & hail! Thank goodness it was no bigger than pea size hail, and very short-lived, but it had us scrambling for cover! Despite its short length, Kansas' 66 was a very interesting section. Motormouth Melba greeted us at the Cars on the Route Kan-O-Tex



station as we arrived in Galena. She was all pumped up waiting on the Aussie's

to arrive for coffee. The establishment is claimed to be home to the REAL Tow-Mater – the actual truck that was Disney’s inspiration for Tow-Mater in the movie “Cars”.

In Miami, OK we toured the beautiful & historic Coleman Theater. Very interesting story there! Then we took a drive on a section of the “Ribbon Road”, a National Register of Historic Places. The road is only 9 feet wide, and was only used from 1922 until 1937. We caught up with the Aussies on this road in the rain! After lunch at the ‘Nowhere on 66’ BBQ place (one of those “do we dare go inside” places), we detoured to a totem pole park, where the world’s largest totem pole, built over the course of 11 years back in the ‘30’s & ‘40’s, resides. There were many really neat totem poles in this park. Turns out that the guy that created the totem poles also made fiddles. There’s a collection of 300 fiddles on display, every one made from a different type of wood!

We finally made it to the Blue Whale Swimming Park in Catoosa, one of the



highlights for Brad & I as we missed it in 2012. Now closed as a swimming hole, one can only imagine how fun it was jump off the whale, and to swim in the small lake back in the day. By the time we reached Tulsa, the sun was coming out, and we stopped for another picture under another giant – this time a huge, gold oilman called the Golden Driller. After dinner at the famous, but for sale, Rock

Café (home to “Sally” from Cars), we hit Arcadia and Pops. A new fixture on the Route, Pops is a super cool, ultra-modern gas station, café & store that is home to a 66 foot tall, LED lit soda pop bottle out front. Pops is also famous for its 500+ different types of soda.

Day 6 started out with a short drive back out to Arcadia to visit the famous round barn. Built in 1898, it’s one of the



last surviving round barns in the country, if not the world. In El Reno we had world famous onion burgers at Robert’s, and visited Fort Reno on the way out of town. The section of roadway from El Reno to Hydro, though fairly desolate, is one of the best original drives on Route 66. This is just one of the places that we experienced, believe it or not, old, original road bed. Saying Portland concrete has withstood the test of time is an understatement. Along this section is Lucille’s, an old station built in 1929 that



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# KICK'Z ON ROUTE 66

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also became a spot for overnight stays. Lucille ran the place for 59 years. Clinton, OK, home to the Oklahoma Route 66 museum, was our final stop of the day before driving more original curbed roadbed to Elk City, home of the National Route 66 museum.

The final day began with a short visit to the National Route 66 Museum for pictures. Today we arrive in back in Texas. The towns get a little further apart in these parts. In Erick is the Sandhill's Curiosity Shop in the old City Meat Market building. The place



is an antique sign mecca, including a rusted sign stating the restrooms are certifiably clean, certification number included, and a sign stating this is the home of Insanity at its Finest (we bit)! In Texola, the last town of Oklahoma there's an old one-cell jail still standing, and the old Watering Hole #2 (not sure where #1 is) with an interesting sign stating "There's no other place like this place anywhere near this place so this must be the place". Words to live by.

Texas has the second shortest section of Route 66, but actually has some really neat things to see before Amarillo. The first main town is Shamrock. It is home to a stunningly

restored art deco Conoco station, as well as a lovely restored Magnolia station. In



McLean there's the Devil's Rope Museum. And along the highway is the leaning water tower of Groom. Then in Conway there's Bug Ranch, a takeoff on the more famous Cadillac Ranch west of



Amarillo. By the time we hit this part of Texas it was getting VERY windy and time to put the tops up. It was good timing because along the final leg into Amarillo it began to get dustier and dustier. Winds were reportedly blowing over 50 mph, and the dust was getting thicker by the minute. After arriving at the hotel we decided to tough it out & head out to the Cadillac Ranch. Besides, it was

going to be in the 40's the next morning and the winds were forecasted to actually be worse! The last time we were at the Cadillac Ranch it was so windy that the dirt



stung our legs and some unnamed people wearing a fitting turquoise shirt ended up with smurf hair. The winds this day topped all. But we had a good time anyway, and I even found a partial can of spray paint to add our touch to one of the Cadillacs. Then it

was back into town and to the obligatory dinner at the Big Texan. By now the dust was really obscuring everything!

The next morning was Sunday again, and time to head for home. Although we had an 8 hour drive, Brad & I had never been to the Caverns of Sonora, so we stopped there for a tour. If you've not been, it's well worth the trip to see. The formations are nothing like the caves around here, but more popcorn like. Really neat! Upon leaving, low & behold, parallel parked behind us was a silver M Roadster with Florida plates! I left them a note, but have never figured out who they were. If you're out there & reading this now, now you know how to find us!

See you all next time on the Route!



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# Oktoberfest 2014!

by Scott Bowman

After reading about the BMWCCA's Monterrey O'Fest in Dan McLaughlin's article last fall, I knew we had to make a concerted effort to attend this year's event in Beaver Creek, Colorado. Any excuse to get out of Texas for a few days in June provides a welcome relief from the local weather, plus the scenery driving through New Mexico and Colorado is superb. I had accompanied Helen to a couple of dog shows earlier this year (Westminster and San Juan, Puerto Rico), so it was clearly time to balance those trips with a car outing. And it turned out that she enjoyed the O'Fest as much as I did, which is quite a compliment to the organizers.

Having extended an invitation to Mo Abusalih several months prior to the O'Fest, we agreed to convoy to the event in our mini 1M caravan. Imagine my surprise when our mini caravan became a MINI caravan; Mo showed up in his new MINI GP,



explaining that he needed to get his break-in miles on the car and thought this would be a perfect outing. Many consider the GP to be the ultimate MINI, with its JCW package and a two seat cockpit. Marco Cordon was kind enough to extend an offer for us to join the Texas Road Monkeys, a group

from Houston that makes the annual trek to O'Fest. For that group, the journey is as important as the destination, which means they don't necessarily drive the most direct route. Since going through Wichita Falls and then to Oklahoma is not on my current bucket list, we decided to hook up with the group in Taos, New Mexico on Sunday night. That was a long day's drive from Central Texas, but made for a manageable drive in the next day to get registered and oriented. We met up with not only Marco, but also Dan, who had traveled with the Monkeys to the historic Taos Inn.

From Taos, we drove straight north through the mountains, passing through Leadville, CO and ending up traveling only a couple exits on Interstate 70 before reaching the Avon and Beaver Creek villages. We did take the advice of the Houston group and attended the first-timer's meeting Monday afternoon (hosted by our own South Central Region rep, Dan Baker). The first banquet was that evening at the Gerald Ford Conference Center (next door to the host hotel) and the first two of eight new BMWs were given away to lucky raffle winners. This group doesn't waste any time generating excitement.

On Tuesday, I had signed up for the (non-judged) concours. I had made my way along the golf cart path to the 18<sup>th</sup> hole of the Beaver Creek Golf Club course and was wiping down my 1M when one of the organizers asked if I wanted to park "along the hill" with some of the other interesting cars. I quickly relocated and found myself parked right next to the Austin Yellow M4 that BMW had

brought to the event. As clean as that M4 was while at the show, it was used



later in the day by Mike Renner for a drifting exhibition and some of us had a chance to help get it filthy dirty. By the end of the day, the car was a sad brownish yellow and had badly corded



Michelin tires.

Wednesday began with a drive west on Interstate 70 to Kessler Canyon, where a ranch and a catered barbeque lunch was waiting. We did not participate in the TSD rally (which ended up at the Kessler resort), but enjoyed the drive into the canyon. This beautifully appointed resort and the surrounding thousands of acres were very rustic and quite scenic. The buffet lunch was served by their award winning chef and then we had a chance later to drive one of the X3 and X5 cars on a very steep and dusty ATV trail in the property. I'm sure many of these SUV owners rarely have an opportunity to use the hill descent

features and rely on the traction needed to get through river beds, but we can attest to the fact that the X3 is



much more rugged than it looks. The afternoon ended with a stop in the town of Eagle, which had blocked off Broadway street downtown for the "Bimmers on Broadway" car show. It drew a nice crowd and we enjoyed seeing many cars that didn't participate in the earlier concours.

We ended up having some free time on Thursday, so we drove east to Idaho Springs to visit Tommyknocker Brewery for lunch. We had stayed overnight in Idaho Springs during a trip to the area several years ago and Helen insisted that we go back so she could pick up a six pack of the Maple Nut Brown Ale. Otherwise, it's a 1328 mile trip to Arkansas for the closest distributor to Central Texas. We saw road signs warning that crews were going to begin blasting for a tunnel just outside Idaho Springs around 2:00 p.m., so we took that as our sign to head back to Beaver Creek. We made it back in time to catch a couple more tech sessions and visit some of the vendors.

Friday was the final day and we headed to the nearby Big Bear parking lot to participate in the autocross. There were at least three other 1M

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# Oktoberfest 2014!

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entries in my class, so I was pleased to be leading throughout the morning



practice runs by about one second. We then had four timed competition runs



after lunch and I had a good lead through the third runs, but got caught by 0.2 seconds on the final run. Maybe next time, but it was close competition for a relatively small event!

The week ended on Friday night with another excellent banquet (and guest speaker Bobby Rahal) and more door prizes and car drawings. This year's O'Fest was more social in nature (i.e., no HPDE), but the venue next September is New Jersey Motorsports Park, so get your cars ready for some track time!



# Deep in the Heart of Texas Tour Review

By John Hughan

Two years ago, during a conversation with two of my co-workers, it came out that we shared the car enthusiast gene. One of them drove a 997 Carrera S, and the other a Subaru BRZ. When I divulged that I drove an M3, we realized that between us, we had three fun but very different cars and that none of us had ever driven the other two. I pointed out that the endless Hill Country roads that grace the Austin area presented an obvious solution to this predicament, and a few weeks later, I led them along a route based largely on our very own Bluebonnet Drive, divided into three segments so that each of us could drive the other two cars along the way. Shortly thereafter, they asked me to plan a similar route that ended in San Antonio – and so, after some quality time with Google Maps and Street View, I had devised a route beginning in South Austin that would get us to our destination roughly 3 hours later, having traveled exclusively on back roads. As one of them observed when I shared my plan, “When a route resembles the output of a seismograph, you know you’re in for a good time.”

Not wanting to hold out on the Tejas Chapter, I began investigating the prospects for an event structured around part of this route. First I discovered Jacob’s Well Natural Area, then Pioneer Town in Wimberley, and finally Baja BBQ Shack, situated on Canyon Lake and the perfect driving distance from Pioneer Town. Details sorted, I snapped up the May event slot, banking on that timing affording the best weather for this type of event – and on the morning of

the event, my hopes were fulfilled.

Corey and I arrived early at the “Y” junction in Oak Hill for the event, but not before the large contingent from the “Eurotic” car enthusiast group based out of San Antonio, many of whom had first



attended the Bluebonnet Drive the month before, significantly increasing the overall turnout for that event. With a full morning of activities ahead of us, we set course for Jacob’s Well. Their tour coordinator had previously mentioned to me that he was looking forward to seeing a bunch of nice BMWs in their parking area, and the Tejas Chapter delivered in spades! Packed to the gills with shiny examples of decades’



worth of Bavaria’s finest, the parking area captivated the cameras of staff and members alike for quite some time before we all meandered to the visitor’s area. The staff divided us into four groups due to our turnout, and thus

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**Heart of T**  
**May 17**  
**Many thanks to**  
**Many more great photos are av**





**Texas Tour**  
**7, 2014**  
**John Hughan**  
available on the chapter website



## Heart of Texas Tour Review

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began an educational tour set among beautiful scenery accented by perfect weather. Part of the mission of Jacob's Well is to study and educate the public on all manner of nature concerns, from maintaining clean groundwater to discerning the area's natural history through its present geology to understanding the true impact of removing cedar trees from the local environment, and so the highly knowledgeable staff stopped at points



along our walk to call out interesting geology or species of trees and answered a wide range of questions from members. Finally we arrived at the feature attraction: the well itself. A 40-foot deep underwater cave, Jacob's Well is an artesian spring, which means that water actually flows upward and out of the well, feeding the Blanco River. At one time it served as a sacred meeting place for Native Americans; today it is a popular swimming hole, and the well and its attached network of tunnels are even occasionally explored by scuba divers!

From Jacob's Well we took a short drive into Wimberley to visit Pioneer Town. Hidden just off of River Road is a few blocks' worth of an 1880's town. While some of the buildings were only

facades (albeit authentically recreated), we were able to look into such attractions as a house made entirely of soda bottles, and other attractions such as the opera house and blacksmith shop featured fully recreated interiors open for us to wander inside. But arguably the signature attraction of Pioneer Town was Jack Glover's Cowboy Museum. Not only is the museum packed to the rafters with Jack Glover's personal collection of memorabilia that spans an astonishing range of time and interests, but Jack Glover himself was there to greet us! That meant that not only could we peruse items such as the hand-carved horse-drawn hearse, Jim Bowie's silver mine deed, and wide selection of six-shooters, members who were so inclined were treated to the stories associated with them, which Jack was only too happy to share.

Our trip down Memory Lane complete, it was back to the cars and off to lunch! We crossed the Blanco River at the crossing on River Road and took the Devil's Backbone toward Canyon Lake, bound for Baja BBQ Shack, where the staff had arranged a pair of long tables for us out on their second-story veranda directly overlooking the lake. Perfect visibility was



complemented by a cool, gentle breeze and delicious Tex-Mex fare, creating an eminently relaxing end to a wide-ranging and a very enjoyable event!



## Dr. Beemer Tech Day

By Ken Carson

I remember “back in the day” when BMW of Austin would open its work bays to Tejas Chapter members, loan us a technician, and let us maintain, repair, and modify our beloved cars one day a year. I was able to use those annual events to replace needed suspension parts, put an aftermarket exhaust on, get my power top working, and trace down oil leaks on my then-needs-much-attention E30 cabrio. That car doesn’t need much attention these days; it is fairly pristine in all areas except its 22 year-old paint. But I do have a new-to-me E30 cabrio that has all of its original 22 year-old rubber and plastic bits both on and under it. If only the dealership hadn’t found it too expensive to maintain the tradition of tech days.

Enter Brian McKinney, aka Dr. Beemer, whose business on South 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Austin just north of Slaughter Lane is one of the best-equipped

BMW independent shops anywhere. While talking at last September’s ALMS event at Circuit of the Americas, Brian mentioned that he wanted to host a tech day at his new location once it was finished. On Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, that vision became a reality.



The shop boasts six work bays, including a state-of-the-art alignment bay, a comfortable office area, a nice parking lot in the front and a huge new paved lot in the back. A mere \$20 got participants two hours of work time using a lift and a technician’s advice

continued on page 22

## Dr. Beemer Tech Day

continued from page 21

and tools, allowing any of us to do what we needed with our cars...as long as it fit within the two hour time frame. Lunch from Thundercloud Subs was provided by our host, as was complimentary swag items (caps, notepads, pens, coffee mugs, air gauges, etc.) from Bosch, Akebono, Continental, Mobil 1, and other vendors. Everyone received a raffle ticket for door prizes and additional tickets were available for a mere \$5 each. Door prizes ran the gamut: free oil changes and alignments, nice shop clocks, trick LED lighting sets, and a set of Continental tires! Brian also offered 25% off parts ordered from him for the event and 25% off alignments. Dr. Beemer even offered a free alignment check to anyone wanting one.

Thirteen members signed up to work on their cars. Another five members



signed up to help out. Some members waited too late, trying to make arrangements with Brian late Friday when he could no longer get parts for the next morning. Oil changes, coolant flushes, transmission fluid and filter and differential fluid changes, and alignments accounted for much of the work.

Special equipment such as fluid extractors had to be used on the more modern transmissions as BMW no longer puts drain or fill ports on their “lifetime fluid” creations. That doesn’t mean the fluid shouldn’t be changed, though. Brian offered this advice: if the car has more than 80,000 miles on it and the fluid has never been changed, don’t change it. The reasoning is that fresh fluid at that point may loosen embedded metal shavings and gunk that could damage the transmission. In other words, the old fluid may well be keeping the bad stuff in its place.

Kyle Ray brought his 1993 E30 cabrio in to try to get his power top working again. Kyle brought new rods and levers to put in the mechanism that was either designed by a team of very tired German engineers who had too much schnapps or Rube Goldberg himself. After replacing those parts, it was a matter of resetting the micro switches and resynchronizing the opening and closing dances between the top and tonneau cover. A team effort accomplished just that.

A little creativity allowed at least one member to get more than two hours of work done. Mike Sevel replaced front and rear rotors and brake pads on his 3 series. He and a



Dr. Beemer technician worked on the front brakes, while Josh Butts and I



refreshed the rear brakes. A three hour task was accomplished in only an hour and a half.

After helping out on Mike's and Kyle's cars, I was able to get mine on the lift after lunch. Josh and others helped me change out my original (and worn) front control arms, bushings, and sway bar links with fresh Lemfoerder parts. To avoid the use of a shop press, I ordered the Motorsport control arm bushings already pressed into new brackets from BimmerBumCo. This saved a lot of time. After completing the job, a fresh alignment was in order. I was shown how to properly load the car with weights according to BMW's own specifications. Then the car was aligned exactly to factory specification, not just within factory specifications.

Our first tech day since probably 2008 was a rousing success, thanks to Brian and all the technicians at Dr. Beemer. Jerry, I would never have completed my task without your help. I know when I drove away, my car was better than it had been; my car's ride and handling were noticeably improved. And I had something to do with that. I also know that I shared

this feeling of accomplishment with twelve others who made their cars a little better, too.



# Summer Fun Rally

by Sandy McConnell

And that's what we had... FUN!

On Saturday morning, June 21st, a happy and expectant group of Tejas members and their guests gathered for our 2014 summer fun rally at the Texas Cinema Starplex in San Marcos. We were greeted by the smiling movie "director" Mary Beth Cordon and "producer" Corey Pallatto Hugan,



cloaked with their suspicious, but appropriate mustaches. Perhaps you're beginning to perceive the theme of the rally, as it developed around the popular subject of movies, theaters and cinematography in general. As you can imagine, a lot of interest was generated right from the start for the approximate 30 ralliers in their 16 luxury rides worthy of movie stars!

Have you ever wondered how movie stars come up with their career names? It's just possible that we were guardedly let in on the inside scoop on this, as we began our opening activities that morning. We were mysteriously asked to recall a childhood pet's name and the name of a street that we once lived on. The pet's name became our first name and

the street name became our last name. Amazingly, this created some quite entertaining and movie star worthy monikers. I personally became "Tinker Taylor" and your president extraordinaire became the sophisticated "Jet Jewel." We had another Taylor, a Blinky Taylor, but no relation... And how about these others? Wouldn't you be tempted to watch a movie with the daring Duece Riviera, sexy Bunny Barringer, or dastardly Bandit John! In addition, we were given popcorn boxes which were filled with fun movie star paraphernalia and the props needed for our rallying success!

After our opening activities and a thorough briefing on the expectations



of the rally, our efficient director and producer lined us up, handed out our ominous instructions and sent us out, car by car, with a meaningful "*Lights, Camera, Action!*" Meaningful, as this was a very big hint and the answer to our first rally question! Alas, I don't think we all got it...

Now on our own and in friendly competition, we headed out for the challenge. As the theme was centered around the cinema, most of our activities and questions revolved around movies. Along the way we saw several movie theaters and with a stop

at one of these, we had to provide the name of one of the movies shown there. Then, continuing in the true spirit of movie going, we went to the “Lobby” (Hobby Lobby) and went inside to follow our specific instructions... first, to get a square of toilet paper in... well you get the idea... then we were to buy candy in the lobby, suggested products reminiscent of what you could have/would have bought at a movie concession stand. These items and the receipt went into our popcorn box!



Further down the road, after counting 3 strings of yellow blinker lights, we were to make a left turn. To verify the accuracy of our calculations, we were supposed to be able to see characters from the movie “Happy Feet” on our left. Fortunately, I knew about this movie and sure enough, there were the penguins encouraging us on our way!



At our next stop, we were to get out and collect a souvenir appropriate

for the movie “Romancing The Stone.” All we could imagine this meant was to gather a stone outside this (closed) place of business and as it turned out we were right, but most everyone “got it”, this time.

Obviously, many movies were referred to along the way. A giant pecan seen at one location was the answer to a question about the movie *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* and the department store *Target* was something *Robin Hood and his Merry Men* would shoot at! At another location a question was asked about a motel named similarly to a type of movie camera... would you have known about the *Super 8*?

One of the last instructions, was to find a movie theater that we would “remember” even if we didn’t see it. Of course, every Texan and most Americans would remember the Alamo. At the Alamo Drafthouse, we were to get out, find the movie posters and take a “selfie” with at least one of our movie props. Wasn’t I surprised,



continued on page 26



# 2014 Tejas Chapter Fun Rally

## Post Drive Quiz

answers on page 31

- 1) In the 1968 film “Bullitt”, around what city does Steve McQueen chase the bad guys?
  - A) Los Angeles
  - B) San Diego
  - C) Oakland
  - D) San Francisco
- 2) What type of car do the Dukes of Hazard drive?
  - A) Chevrolet Camaro
  - B) Dodge Charger
  - C) Ford Pinto
  - D) BMW Z3
- 3) What number is painted all over Herbie the Love Bug?
  - A) 53
  - B) 35
  - C) 19
  - D) 77
- 4) How many films in the Fast and Furious canon have been released thus far?
  - A) 8
  - B) 7
  - C) 6
  - D) 5
- 5) Who was Bandit in the film “Smokey and the Bandit”?
  - A) Paul Newman
  - B) Robert Redford
  - C) Steve McQueen
  - D) Burt Reynolds
- 6) The DeLorean was featured in what film?
  - A) “Footloose”
  - B) “E.T.”
  - C) “Back to the Future”
  - D) “Adventures in Babysitting”
- 7) Which marque is considered James Bond’s signature vehicle?
  - A) Alfa Romeo
  - B) Aston Martin
  - C) Maybach
  - D) Lotus
- 8) How many cars were stolen in “Gone with the Wind”?
  - A) 25
  - B) 50
  - C) 75
  - D) 100
- 9) In “The Godfather: Part I”, which Corleone was driving his car when he died?
  - A) Fredo
  - B) Vito
  - C) Michael
  - D) Sonny
- 10) What marque’s vehicle starred in both the original and remake of “The Italian Job”?
  - A) Rolls-Royce
  - B) Mercedes-Benz
  - C) Mini
  - D) Bugatti
- 11) In “Batman Begins” and “The Dark Knight”, what model Lamborghini does Batman drive?
  - A) Aventador
  - B) Murcielago
  - C) Gallardo
  - D) Diablo
- 12) What film based on a Stephen King novel features a murderous car?
  - A) “Carrie”
  - B) “Cujo”
  - C) “Christine”
  - D) “It”
- 13) What color Cadillac did Clint Eastwood drive in a popular film from the 1980s?
  - A) Green
  - B) Pink
  - C) Blue
  - D) Purple
- 14) What actor woke up the morning after partying and said, “Dude, Where’s My Car”?
  - A) Seann William Scott
  - B) Jason Biggs
  - C) Seth Rogen
  - D) Ashton Kutcher
- 15) What model Ford did Starsky and Hutch use to catch Bay City criminals?
  - A) Gran Torino
  - B) Mustang
  - C) Thunderbird
  - D) Maverick
- 16) In “Driving Miss Daisy”, who drives? And who plays Miss Daisy?
  - A) Wesley Snipes; Meryl Streep
  - B) Taye Diggs; Diane Keaton
  - C) Denzel Washington; Kathy Bates
  - D) Morgan Freeman; Jessica Tandy

## New BMW X4

The new BMW X4 (fuel consumption combined: 8.3–5.0\* l/100 km [34.0–54.3 mpg imp]; CO2 emissions combined: 193–130\* g/km) blends the hallmark features of the successful BMW X family with the sporting elegance of a classical coupe, and introduces the unique Sports Activity Coupe concept to the premium mid-size segment. Its dynamic pedigree is underlined by a wide range of cutting-edge high-performance engines, the xDrive all-wheel-drive system and an exclusive spread of standard equipment features such as variable sport steering, Performance Control and a sports leather steering wheel with gearshift paddles.

### **Extrovert and dynamic appearance.**

The new BMW X4 is based on the technical blueprint of the BMW X3, but displays a sporting character very much its own and takes dynamics to another new level. That much is clear when you view the new model head-on. The large air intakes positioned on the outer edges of the front end and the character lines in the front apron allow the BMW X4 – with its signature BMW twin headlights and front fog

lamps (both optionally with LED technology) – to maximise its visual presence on the road. The roofline reaches its highest point above the driver and then swoops down smoothly to the trailing edge of the tailgate, mimicking the design language of a classical sporting coupe. The signature swage line running along the flanks of BMW models is split into two on the X4. The first section rises dynamically from the front wheel arches to the rear door handles, while the second part draws the eye to the muscular sculpting of the rear wings. The rear end, complete with L-shaped LED lights in exclusive X4 design and diffuser-look styling, likewise highlights the outstanding dynamic ability of the new BMW X4 – even before it turns a wheel.

The driver and front passenger sit 20 millimetres lower than in the BMW X3. In conjunction with the two-seat look of the rear, this accentuates the coupe character of the new BMW in the classy and exclusive interior as well. At the same time, the X4 offers generous levels of space for up to five people and – thanks to the standard 40:20:40 split rear seat backrest – impressive variability.



# Tejas Chapter Incentive Points Challenge for 2014

To encourage participation, the successful Incentive Points Challenge began in 1998. The members who earn the highest number of points by the end of the year (up to 10th place) receive valuable prizes at the Post-Holiday Party in January 2015. The Rookie of the Year award is for the member that joined in the current year and earns Rookie Points based on points earned divided by the time as a member during the year.

Activity	Points
Return Survey Form (form available on request or at website)	50
Attend a meeting or event	30
Organize a monthly event, (social/technical etc.)	100
Assist with a monthly event (credited by organizer)	50
Each new member recruited (credited by CCA)	30
Original photo(s) published in the Trax (30 pts max/issue)	10
Original photo(s) published on the website (30 pts max/event)	10
Original Tech Tip published in the Trax	15
Original Article published in the Trax (500 words or more)	60
Original Article published in the Trax (less than 500 words)	30
Recruitment of a commercial ad for Trax	20% of ad cost

## 2014 Incentive Points Challenge Leader Board As of June 27, 2014

<b>590 Pts</b>	<b>180 Pts</b>	<b>Roger Williams</b>	<b>Don Bishop</b>
Scott Bowman	Tom Dawson	<b>110 Pts</b>	Darrin Bostow
<b>430 Pts</b>	Sridhar Kamma	Randy Allen III	Greg Donsbach
Linda Cavazos	<b>170 Pts</b>	Daniel Briggs	Wayne Eltringham
<b>390 Pts</b>	Steve Tatro	<b>90 Pts</b>	Mollie Francis
Ken Carson	<b>150 Pts</b>	Joaquin Aviles	Bob Heimann
John Hughan	Marco Cordon	Armando DiMeo	Ken Hollins
<b>380 Pts</b>	Gay Dawson	Jason Echols	Joe Lupo
Jonna Clark	John Price	Sandra Kennedy	Al Ridgley
<b>330 Pts</b>	<b>140 Pts</b>	Brad Mitchell	Diana Salzman
Ken Carson	Randy Allen	Terry Rawlins	Terry Sayther
<b>310 Pts</b>	Brenya Buchalski	Robert Salzman	Susan Yule
Josh Butts	Don Yule	Daniel Vu	<b>50 Pts</b>
Mike Sevel	<b>130 Pts</b>	Jay West	John Batterton
<b>270 Pts</b>	Brian McKinney	<b>80 Pts</b>	
Herb Looney	Dan McLaughlin	Ron Buchalski	
<b>220 Pts</b>	<b>120 Pts</b>	Louis Wyler	
Mary Beth Cordon	David Francis	<b>60 Pts</b>	
<b>210 Pts</b>	Paul Goldfine	Richard Ballinger	
Philip Nybro	Carl Nybro	John Beneat	

Note: Only those with 50 or more points are shown - currently there are 181 members with Incentive Challenge points.

## 2014 Incentive Points Challenge Rookies Leader Board As of June 27, 2014

<b>10.99 Pts</b>	<b>9.51 Pts</b>	<b>7.05 Pts</b>	<b>6.71 Pts</b>	<b>5.87 Pts</b>
Armando DiMeo	Randy Allen III	Louis Wyler	Greg Donsbach	Diana Salzman

Note: Only the top 5 are shown - currently there are 37 members with Rookie points.

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# STREET SURVIVAL<sup>®</sup>

authorized by **BMW CCA**  
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The Teen Street Survival Program is supported and organized by the BMWCCA to provide defensive driving techniques and actual experience for teenagers with a driving permit or license.

The Tejas Chapter would like to have its 1<sup>st</sup> event. A small team of Tejas Chapter members had been putting the plans together for a 2011 event, then a 2012 event, then a 2013 event, but have run into a roadblock, “the location.” The location has to be a large parking lot with minimal obstructions, such as light poles. Several locations have been contacted with no success. Due to this roadblock, the new target to hold an event will be in 2014.

Please let the Driving Events Coordinator, Scott Bowman at [brglotus@fastmail.fm](mailto:brglotus@fastmail.fm), if you have a contact for a location in the Central Texas area.



**well at least  
a small part of it.**

*The Library, Archives, and Museum Program (LAM) has created a repository for BMW-related historical documents, literature, and paraphernalia, providing the public with access to rare and interesting BMW artifacts while ensuring their continued existence. This archive is housed in Greenville, South Carolina near the BMW CCA National Office and BMW Manufacturing.*

Our growing Archives, Library, and Museum needs your tax-deductible donations.

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**www.bmwccafoundation.org**

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Calendar of Tejas Chapter  
and Related Events



2014

Date	Event	Meet Location
July 19, 2014	The Wimberley Summer Experience see page 5	San Marcos
August 16, 2014	Wine Tour & Hawaiian Luau see page 7	Austin
September 2014	Classics & Wienerschnitzel	Taylor
October 2014	Annual Utopia Weekend	TBD
November 2014	Tri-Marque Concours	TBD
December 2014	TBD	TBD

2014 Tejas Chapter Fun  
Rally Post Drive Quiz

continued from page 27

- |                            |                                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. D) San Francisco        | 9. D) Sonny                          |
| 2. B) Dodge Charger        | 10. C) Mini                          |
| 3. A) 53                   | 11. B) Murcielago                    |
| 4. C) 6                    | 12. C) Christine                     |
| 5. D) Burt Reynolds        | 13. B) Pink                          |
| 6. C) "Back to the Future" | 14. D) Ashton Kutcher                |
| 7. B) Aston Martin         | 15. A) Gran Torino                   |
| 8. B) 50                   | 16. D) Morgan Freeman; Jessica Tandy |

**Free BMW tech help.**

Have a technical question about your BMW or MINI? Our free tech blog – **blog.BavAuto.com** – has a searchable database containing hundreds of tech Q&As, do-it-yourself articles and videos. Just one more way Bavarian Autosport saves you money.



www.BavAuto.com • 800.535.2002

Check it out at [blog.BavAuto.com](http://blog.BavAuto.com)...

# Classified Ads



## 2011 328xi

Take advantage of a fantastic 2011 328xi Sedan. I was a BMW centre employee and got a great deal on this car that was built in December 2011 (would have been a 2012 model if not for introduction of new body style). 26,000 gentle miles, driven by my wife. Purchase of 2012 M3 causes sale. Lease expires in September and we can keep till then but will sell for \$27,900 firm (anything less and I lose money). Jet Black, Black Dakota Leather, Premium PKG 2, NAV, Satellite Radio, Smartphone integration, BMW Apps, Heated Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 17" wheels, Value PKG, and more. Full maintenance and warranty till 3/16/2016. Great car! Contact Terry Rawlins at 302-339-2804 or send email to [terryrawlins@me.com](mailto:terryrawlins@me.com).

## Car Cover

Outside OEM, BMW-branded Car Cover for 1999-2005 E46 Sedan - Used, but in good condition. FREE to a good home, for whomever wants to talk cars for a few minutes. Pickup in Pflugerville. :). Contact Geoff Sloan at 281-229-5474 or send email to

[bearsales1@bearmail.net](mailto:bearsales1@bearmail.net).



## 1981 635CSI

Move to California forces sale of my baby....2nd owner (29 years) of "euro" 635CSI. Very original, very well maintained, always garaged, silver with red leather interior, sunroof, auto trans. Very few miles since partial restoration in 2007 (new paint, suspension, brakes, exhaust, tires/wheels, etc.) Beautiful car...call/write for additional details/photos. Contact Ned Jones at 512-422-9231 or send email to [nedjo17@hotmail.com](mailto:nedjo17@hotmail.com).



## 2001 740 iL

"One-owner-family" of this high performance, luxury BMW, with very low mileage under 82,000; driven 10,000 miles since July 2012 when car was transferred from New Orleans to Austin. Car has been garaged and exterior looks almost new (with one small dent) and runs great. Navigation / Phone / 6 Disc CD Changer System

# Classified Ads

Audio System/ Includes all CD's for Nav system. New tires at 72,000 miles in July 2012. Several repairs / updates have been made during the last 2 years, including new alternator. Receipts and documentation for all work is available (approx. \$6k); work performed by reputable BMW repair facility (non-dealer) in Austin area. Car is in Clean Condition with some slight flaws due to age (minor dent on driver side - see picture; cupholders repaired twice but broken again, hazard button). Car Rated at 23 MPG Hwy / 17 MPG City VIN: WBAGH83461DP28076. Contact Jodi Batten at 512-786-2062 or send email to jodibatten@aol.com.



## 2006 Dinan M3

2015 M4 on order! 55k miles, Factory Options: Imola Red w/black leather interior , M3 Performance package, Premium package, onboard computer, M 19" light alloy wheels, xenon headlights, 6-speed manual, Harmon/Kardon premium sound system, Blue tooth. Modifications: Tinted windows, Dinan cold air intake, Dinan strut brace, Dinan exhaust, Dinan large bore throttle bodies, Dinan short shift, Dinan stage 4 software, Dinan 3.91 limited-slip differential, Dinan badge,

Body color blacked out grilles. New Michelin Pilot Sport A/S 3 tires. Asking \$24,500. Available late August or early September. Call 512-282-8336 or email gmconn535@aol.com. Serious offers only, please.



## 2011 Z4 sDrive35i

Selling because wife wants a four door. Everything works. Under full BMW warranty until July 2015 or 50,000 miles. Six speed manual transmission, straight six twin turbo motor (sdrive35i). Lots of options including: Premium Package (homelink, auto dimming mirrors, dual power seats, driver memory, lumbar support, ambiance lighting, bluetooth, BMW assist), Sport Package (18 inch wheels, adaptive M suspension, sport seats, increased top speed limiter), Premium Sound Package (Logic7 premium audio, satellite radio, iPod adaptor), Walnut Extended Leather (leather seats, full leather dash, full leather door panels), heated seats, Comfort Access, headlights that turn with the steering, automatic headlights, and rain sensing wipers. Note: fresh Sumitomos are quiet, grippy, and not run flat tires. Asking \$41,000. Contact Robert Price at 512-791-2379 or send email to

# Classified Ads

bobprice3@gmail.com.



## Tires

Two pairs (4 tires) of Michelin Pilot Sport 2 245/35/19 in good condition. They came from 2 well cared for 2011 BMW 1M Coupe with mileage between 10,000 and 15,000. Tire treads are as follows: 4/32, 5/32, 6/32, and 6/32. All four tires for \$280 OBO. Each Pair for \$150 OBO. For more info, contact Mo via email at [mhabusalih@gmail.com](mailto:mhabusalih@gmail.com).

## M3 Wheels

NEW 2001 - 2006 PERFECT Condition Genuine OEM Factory E46 BMW M3 18 inch WHEELS. 1 front and 1 rear. Both are still in boxes and never installed on car. \$500 each or both for \$900. Please contact Brad at 512-336-5588 or [atlm3bkg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atlm3bkg@sbcglobal.net).

## Tire

245/40ZR17 Continental ContiSport Contact tire, 4-5/32 tread remaining, \$30. Bob @ 512-327-7522.

## Roundel magazines

from Jan 2005 to date. FREE. Pick up in Austin. Bob @ 512-327-7522



## Rack Support

OEM base rack support part #82710403104 for sale - Fits all E90 3-series. BRAND NEW, NEVER used - Lists for \$200, will let go for \$125 - Local pickup in Pflugerville. Contact Geoff Sloan at 281-229-5474 or email to [bearsales1@bearmail.net](mailto:bearsales1@bearmail.net)



## Wheels For sale

BBS RS-GT, fronts are 8.5 x 19, 35mm offset, rears are 10 x 19, 25mm. Tires are Federal 595 EVO 275/30/19 and 245/35/19 with a lot of meat left. I purchased them recently but decided to stay with my current setup.

# *Classified Ads*

Wheels are in great condition with some very small areas where the clear coat is peeling off a bit on the lips. No bends or nicks, and the clear can be resprayed or removed and polish and they will look new! Will deliver to Austin and surrounding areas or meet halfway for anyone from DFW that may be interested. These wheel sets will normally sell for about \$4600 - 4900 brand new and you can look them up on Tire Rack, Vivid Racing, etc. to verify. Looking to get \$2100 OBO. Feel free to call or email me for more pics. Contact Javier Torres at 210-473-3091 or send email to javistor@aol.com.



**1991 850i,**  
Calypso Red with light gray nappa leather interior. VIN WBAEG2315MCB72191 Offered at \$8,500. Reasonable counter-offers are welcome. Professional inspections are welcome at your cost. Approximately 134,200 miles; motor re-built at

130,000 miles; 4 speed automatic. The car is very strong and is a good candidate for an owner who will complete the repairs and restoration to their level of interest. I no longer have the resources to continue to restore the car. The car is not pristine, restored, or show quality. It's a weekend driver that I was slowly restoring. It is very fast and stable. The original owner's manual is included. Tires: Kumho Ecsta AST 235/45 R17 tires in very good condition. Spare Tire: Full size Michelin 220/55 VR390 on BMW wheel Style 13. Wheels: 17x7.5 Dooray; offset ET21. ECS Tuning hub-centric ring adaptors installed. I have receipts for any work during my ownership. I have some receipts from the previous owner and pictures from the engine re-build. Contact George Ibarra at 254-368-1696 or send email to ibarcomm@gmail.com.

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Classified ads FOR PERSONAL USE items are printed free for current members of BMW CCA. Ads will run for three issues, unless stopped earlier. Ads may be extended by a request in writing to the Tejas Chapter mailbox or by email. Members are limited to five (5) classified ads running at a time. The ad rate for non-member ads or member ads of a COMMERCIAL nature is \$10.00 per issue. These ads will be accepted on a monthly basis and payment must be received before ad is printed. Classified ads submitted for publication in the Tejas Trax are also placed on the Tejas Chapter's website.

BMW Car Club  
of America  
Tejas Chapter



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