

Summer 2015

# dbR

The Official BMW CCA Lone Star Chapter Magazine

# Big Bend



# Meeting Minutes

---

5-10-15

## Old Business:

DBR is sent out  
Contacts with BMW Dallas, BMW Arlington, Classic BMW  
no update(dallas)  
Still need to complete BMW Arlington  
Can we supply 2 instructors for this Wednesday? Different email lists.  
Maybe inform them about our events, help with customer appreciation events, etc.  
Facebook and communications – seems to be working better now.  
all Facebook posts now also tweet  
Nick Bristow a liaison to the old cars? Marc L was to contact and find out  
We should contact George Zimmerman(Ray to call and ask)

## New Business:

Pass-out Calendar of Events (for next 6-months or even 1 year)  
Combined event in Sept  
Establish a Chapter Store Online  
EMG Marketing; aligned with CCA  
\$2000 in the store, we want \$100 in hats, X T-Shirts, number of jackets, key rings, megaphones.  
Setup to the logo  
Chapter Address Changed – DBr to update it

## National Updates:

Discussed Social Media  
Member Recognition program; recommend a chapter member;  
Nominate people per region, Nominate up to next year  
Sarah to save space in DBr for membership recognition

## Autocross Status:

NOVICE CLASS IS WAY UP  
3 events, novice class is huge  
Future Events – Listing them into Facebook now  
No real new issues; Considering upgrading some of the timers  
Live Timing: \$\$ bucks; new timers 4k+ and will need board approval

## DE / Club Racing Status:

COTA - T-Shirts - shirts sold out. But did not order extra. Order more shirts.  
Would like to more people to participate in these events  
Cancelled April event: TWS (Texas World Speedway) was closing; Missing instructors  
Bruce is our Club Race Chair  
Why no more events at MSR? Could not provide enough people to make it work. MSR has so many events and may need to combine with Classic BMW to get more people out there. Losing money

Board Meetings are held at 2p.m. on the Second Sunday of each odd numbered month at Jack Mac's Swill and Grill in Plano, Tx.

# From the Editor

What is with all this rain? I know that the last two letters from me were about the weather, but it **has** been crazy this year, and I don't really think anyone reads this little section anyway.

Making the weather even more important is the fact that I just bought a house, **without** a garage. This means that my Bimmer Baby has to sit outside exposed to the elements. It also means that I will be building a garage soon. It seems to me that the DBR is the perfect place to feature a reader poll about their favorite garage features. So I ask, what do you think I should most definatley include in my future garage? I just may use your advice!

Again, I would like to open the dBR to **all** members as a place to promote and engage others of a like mind. If you have an event, idea, opinion, or business that you would like to promote, please let us know.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Sarah Hamilton  
Editor  
Click

# In this Issue...

Big Deal in Big Bend Mark Williams	4
New Chapter Online Store Gerald Wineinger	12
Upcoming Events	14

# **SPEC** **MOTORSPORTS**

SALES • SERVICE • RACE • PERFORMANCE



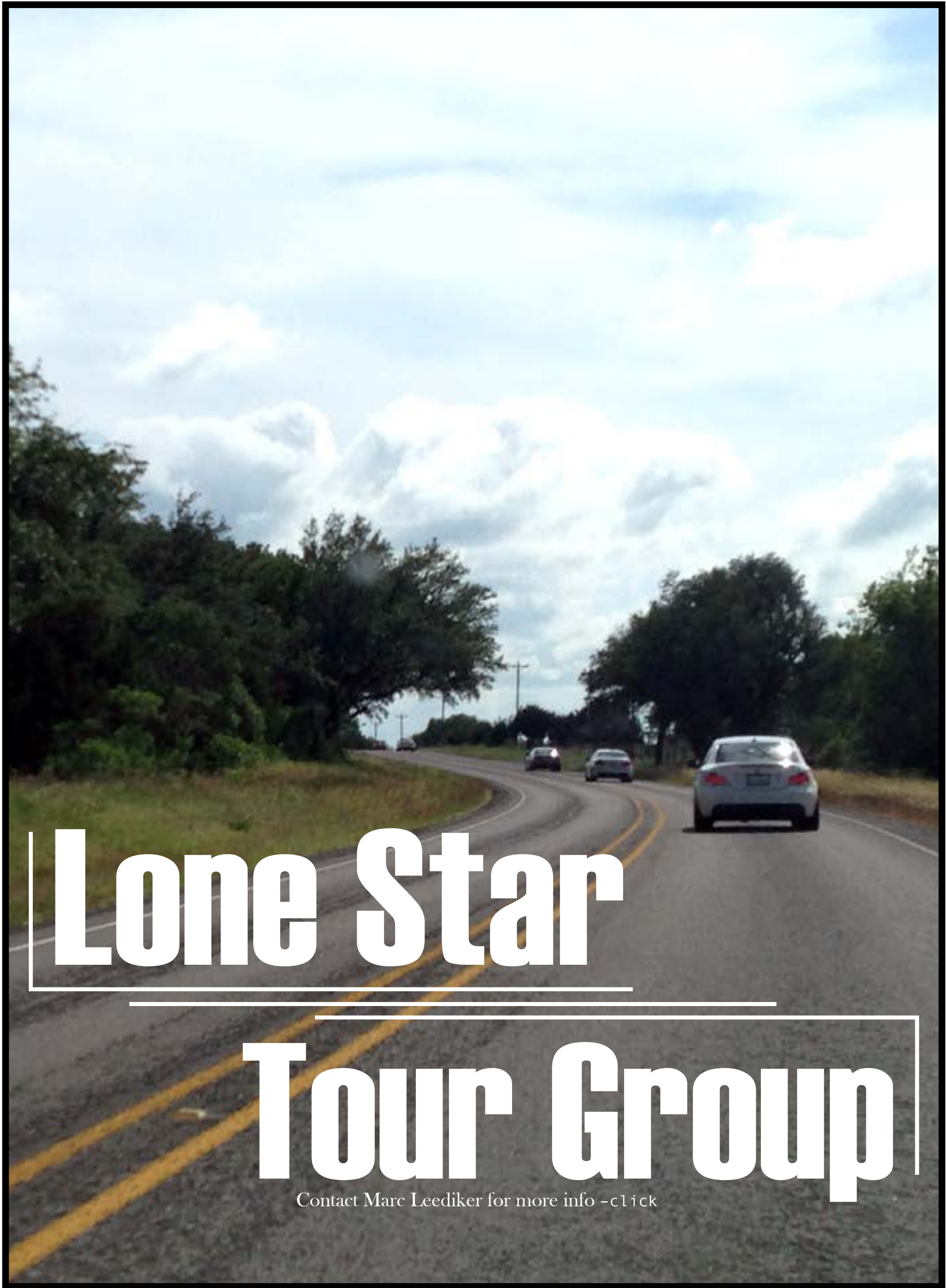
**SPECIALIZING IN BMW SERVICE AND CUSTOM HIGH-PERFORMANCE**

**CUSTOM EXHAUST  
SUSPENSION  
ENGINE DESIGN  
DYNO TUNING  
RACE CAR PREP**

**6335 N FM 2478 (Custer RD) McKinney TX**

**972-542-7732**

**[specmotorsports.com](http://specmotorsports.com)**



# Lone Star

# Tour Group

Contact Marc Leediker for more info -click





# Big Deal in Big Bend...

Mark Williams

Photos by Mark Williams, Karren Card, and Ray Mimick

**H**ave you taken your BMW on a road trip recently?

While this winter has not been particularly harsh in Texas... we did get our additional "6 weeks" of winter, as predicted by Punxsutawney Phil, and the cold weather has held on as long as possible. A few months ago... when the Lone Star Chapter TourMeisters set the spring Driving Tour schedule... I was excited to see that the West Texas Driving Tour to Big Bend National Park was on the schedule.

Over the years, this event has been held every third spring, however the economic downturn in recent years along with sky high gas prices has shelved this event in favor of more budget friendly half- and single-day events. With gas prices low, and a burgeoning oil and gas industry having sparked the construction of several new hotels in West Texas, this seemed like the perfect time to make this my first trip to West Texas.

As the days counted down to the event, I consulted more experienced tourers and decided I would purchase a CB and an antenna.... Yes... that's correct... A Citizens Band Radio? and an Antenna... on my BMW.... hmmm..

I was advised it really is recommended, so I obliged and made a few quick moves on Amazon and the day of the trip I was armed with a handheld cb radio, and within minutes I was able

to mount the antenna on the rear decklid. A small BNC antenna adapter was sourced from a local truck stop in order to connect the handheld radio to the external antenna. Total cash outlay... approx \$75.

Our group met on the south side of Dallas at 9am.... we were disappointed that there were some late cancellations due to illness, reducing the group to 5 cars, but our group somehow ended up being all N5X motors - an E46 330, two 1Ms, a Z4 3.0 and a 535 sedan. Our Tour Meister Ray took the point, and fellow 1M pilot Mike took the tailgunner position and we headed out onto the open road!

It wasn't long before we hit construction. It was unique to see this portable, manned, stoplight for a single lane section of roadway.





Once past the construction, the roads became a little more fun!

Small towns are quaint! We wondered how they survive when so many main roads bypass the small towns!  
(answer: the town is better off without the congestion of trucks and the wear and tear from heavy machinery, as well as noise and air pollution.)



## Day Two: Destination.. Big bend!

Last stop for fuel before the park is Marathon, TX. Marathon, TX, of course, is home to Big Bend Pizza. A Google reviewer says.. *"this place makes some fantastic pizza -- don't be put off by the exterior. Made quickly and with some very apparent talent. Yes you should stop here."* We arrived early in the morning before 10am, so it was closed, naturally.



Much of our route was on Hwy 67. We went through Stephenville, past Brownwood, and Coleman.

We stopped in San Angelo for lunch at THE GRILL... a surprisingly classy place .. with excellent service..ask for Benjy.

We continued on after lunch, and the further west we went, the flatter it got.

We reached our evening destination at around 5:30 pm; the Candlewood Suites in Fort Stockton.

Another notable landmark in Marathon is the Gage Motel. *"This upscale property offers lodging in a pueblo-style adobe brick building, a restored 1927 Mission-style hotel and an 1890 Colonial-style building. It's a 5-minute walk from Gage Gardens."* Unfortunately I have no photo of the hotel.

As we headed west from Marathon, suddenly things got really pretty. It seemed like every time we crested a hill, there was a change to the topography and another amazing view.



North Texas wildflowers; normal, North Texas bluemomnets.





A short while later we reached the entrance to the park.

At this point, part of our group headed to Mexico to shop, and those that did not want to cross the border, or were more interested in hiking the trails, headed on to Santa Elena Canyon

The roads were twisty on the way and SMOOTH on the way there, the landscape continued to change by the minute, and the bluebonnets got taller.

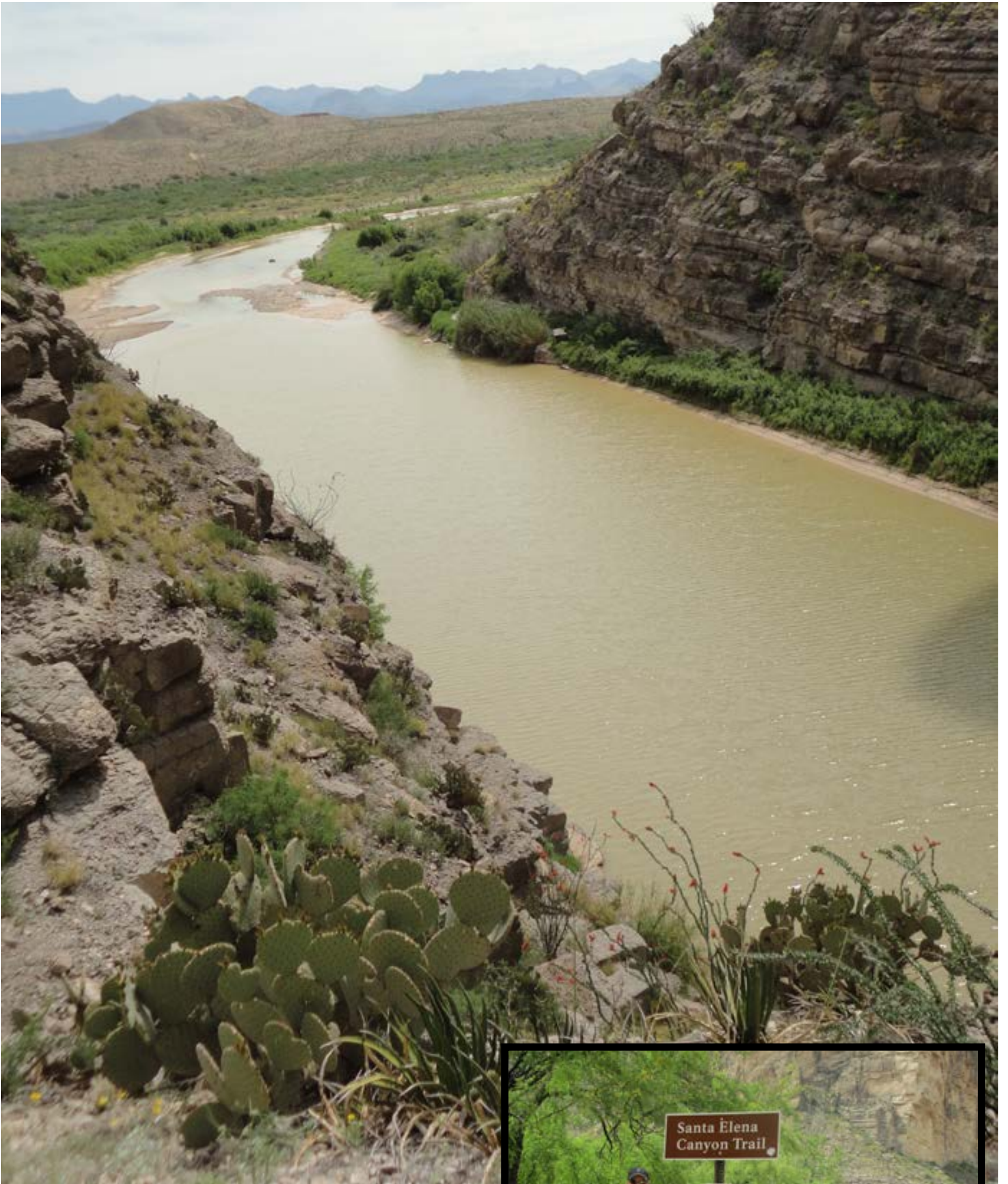
Falling Rock?!?! This is one of the reasons a CB was handy. There actually WAS fallen rock in the roadway. Part of the duties of the lead car is to be a scout and check the roadway ahead, then radio back road conditions (animate, and inanimate) back to the other drivers in the group.











The Santa Elena Canyon is created by the Rio Grande River.... and taking the trail leads to looking directly at Mexico - Yep, that's another country right across that little river.

We hiked back further into the canyon, and the views got better and better. Hikers would consider this an easy trail, but I would say it is a moderate walk.





We stopped at the mountain lodge in the Chisos Basin. There are campgrounds, lodges, and, of course the main lodge restaurant serves beer from Big Bend Brewing company, natch! I had the Porter with my lunch, and it was excellent!

After lunch, the part of the group that went to Mexico arrived at the lodge safely, and we continued on towards Alpine. As we came down from the Chisos Basin... my draw dropped to the floor of my car as I saw this view.



On to Terlingua... via the Famous River Road. FM-170 along the Rio Grande.

We reached Alpine in the early evening, and then went to the Reata Steakhouse for dinner. My steak was excellent, although next time I would leave the Port wine sauce on the side.





## Day Three

We took a trip to town to Marfa; a unique cultural district.

We stopped to look at the Prada store, and a few other art-works. Then, we stopped at a food truck for refreshment. The Marfa Food Shark turned out to be a fantastic lunch.

Once we were refreshed, we hit the road to Fort Davis and the McDonalds Observatory. They gave us a short tour of their newest toy, the Hobby Eberly Telescope. After a day spent exploring Alpine, we headed back to the observatory for some evening star gazing.



## Day Four

We left Alpine at 8am, taking more of a direct route, returning to the DFW metroplex around 5pm.. I managed to get my car cleaned up as well as the lawn completed before tucking my pride and joy back in the garage.

Here's hoping you get yours out on the open road soon!







# Out on Adventures?!

Send in your stories.

[Click](#)



# BMW CCA Lone Star Chapter Opens Store

Gerald Wineinger

Finally, there is a place where you can buy all your BMW CCA gear, specific to your local chapter. The Lone Star Chapter has opened a new webstore.

The new, online Club Store will allow members to support the Lone Star Chapter while looking great in BMW CCA Lone Star Chapter gear, accessories and other items! Merchandise has been handpicked to ensure the quality is what members expect! Clothing is easy to care for and comes in a wide size range.

Check out all of our Club Gear specially branded items on our Webstore on our Web site. And be sure to watch for new gear as items come available with each season.

Purchases will be shipped to members within 7 business days directly from the supplier.

Click the link below to browse our current offerings!







# You are invited to attend:

**Saturday, August 1, 2015 from 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Jack and Billie Rogers, members of the Lone Star Chapter since 2008, have offered to open up their home in Arlington to our chapter members for a social event on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 from 4p-8p.

While no alcohol will be served or allowed, this event will feature food, movie time and telling stories and getting to know your fellow members of the club. Jack and Billie have a pool available for members who wish to swim. There is an outside pool bath room but no shower available. Be aware that the pool is deep with little shallow areas. House and pool are not child friendly. We recommend not bringing children to the event as we cannot provide for their safety.

If you can join us, we'd love to have you RSVP to this invite with either a maybe (so they can give a caterer an initial number) or a Yes (so we can get a final count).

**To RSVP for the event, click the link above, or go to:**

[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lone-star-bmw-cca-social-event-tickets-17468374378?mc\\_cid=f1f9503917&mc\\_eid=%5bUNIQID%5d](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lone-star-bmw-cca-social-event-tickets-17468374378?mc_cid=f1f9503917&mc_eid=%5bUNIQID%5d)

# July 2015 Events Update

## BMW CCA Lone Star Chapter's Monthly Events

It's summer and that means we have lots of sunlight. We have a number of activities for July waiting for you to join us in (hopefully it won't be too humid/hot).

### This month's activities:

Sat, 7/4 ~6:30a-10a: Cars & Coffee at Classic BMW in Plano. Early morning (before 9a), all kinds of cars line up to show off. [Dallas Cars and Coffee Website](#)

Sun, 7/12 2:00p: The next board meeting is Sunday, July 12th at 2:00pm at Jack Mac's Swill & Grill (19009 Preston Rd. Unit 209 Dallas, TX 75252-2496) [Facebook Event Page](#)

Sat, 7/18 8a: Auto Cross #5 at Mineral Wells. Registration is now open at <http://www.dlbracing.com/Clubs/Registara.aspx?&EventID=6028>. For more information about LoneStar Auto Cross, see the web site at <http://lscbmwcca.org/motorsports/autocross/>.

Sat. 7/25 All day: Driving Tour Talimena Scenic Drive. From Hugo, TX to Queen Wilhelmina State Park and back again. Book at hotel room for Friday night, 7/24 at HiWay Inn Express of Hugo (2111 E Jackson St Hugo, OK 74743 580-326-5100) and we'll head out 8 a.m. and head to the Talimena Scenic Drive. Please let Raymond Mimick ( [Ray's email](#) ) know if you can attend. (Tour information and maps can be found at <http://lscbmwcca.org/upcoming-events/driving-tours/> )

Sat. 8/1 4p-8p: Social

Jack and Billie Rogers have offered their home in Arlington for a Social Event on Saturday August 1, 2015 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

While no Alcohol will be served, this event will feature door prizes, food, movie time and telling stories (bring your digital or printed pictures or even a video) while getting to know your fellow members of the club. There is a pool available for members who wish to swim. Be aware: The pool is deep with little shallow areas. The house and pool are not child friendly. We recommend not bringing children to the event as we cannot provide for their safety. If you can join us please RSVP at: [This link for RSVP](#) and additional event details. **You must RSVP if joining us.**



BMW CCA OktoberFest (<http://ofest.bmwcca.org/>) is September 21st-27th. If you want to join the Road Monkeys, they will be traveling as a group out of Houston. Contact Valerie Baker if you want to join them ([vbakerbmw@aol.com](mailto:vbakerbmw@aol.com))

We have new email lists – You can join them below:

For those new to the club or unsure if you what these events are, here is short description:

- Auto Cross: Obstacle course for your car on a closed course. You are timed from start to finish and the person with the shortest time is the “winner” in your car category. Over the course of the year, Lone Star BMW schedules 8-10 auto cross events and prizes for each classification are given at the end of the season. This event is open to all makes and models. Beginners are provided an instructor to assist your first time (Email list: [Autocross](#)).
- Driving tours: As a group, we drive on highways and freeways. Those toward the front of the group run closer to the speed limit and those toward the back are catching up. The destinations, scenery and friendship along the way are the enjoyable aspects of a driving tour. (Email list: [Driving Tours](#))
- HPDE: Learn how your car can handle the track. These events are educational and provide classroom and on-track education. ( Contact: Steve Hodges [Steve's email](#) )
- Club Racing: Bring the car out to the track and race other like-minded people. ( Contact: Bruce Heersink, [Bruce's email](#) )

To help stay informed, we have a few social media sites:

1.Website: [www.lscbmwcca.org](http://www.lscbmwcca.org)

2.Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Lone-Star-Chapter-BMWCCA/113629985318448>

3. Twitter: @LSCBMWCCA



LSC BMW CCA presents the first annual

---

# Fun Run Gimmick Rally

300+ Miles  
One Day  
Awesome Roads  
Unknown Adventures  
Amazing Sites and Destinations

---

What is the Fun Run Gimmick Rally? The Fun Run gimmick Rally is sponsored by the Lone Star Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America (LSC BMW CCA). A gimmick rally is essentially a scavenger hunt where a driver and navigator must find their way to an unknown destination using clues along the way to guide them. The route is pre-defined and handed out at the beginning of the event. Along the route, there are clues to decipher in order to "win" the rally.

The Fun Run Gimmick Rally is a self-paced, non-timed, street legal gimmick rally. The organizers of the event have covered thousands of miles choosing the route, selecting the gimmicks, and ensuring that fun will be had for drivers of all types. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

How can I participate in the fun? To participate, the driver must be a member of the BMW CCA and must pre-register. The minimum team consists of two people: a driver and a navigator. Simply email Brian George at [bgeorge0049@gmail.com](mailto:bgeorge0049@gmail.com) the names of your driver and navigator plus any other ride-along participants.

How does this differ from one of the tours that the club does? No leader, minimum of two people in each car, goal is to find the gimmicks along the pre-scribed route.

WHO: You and a navigator  
WHEN: 9:00 am August 29, 2015  
WHERE: Departing Location to be announced soon

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!  
For more information or to register, email Brian George at [bgeorge0049@gmail.com](mailto:bgeorge0049@gmail.com)!



# COMINGHALLOWEEN



THE NEXT HPDE will be at Eagle Canyon on October 31 and November 1; yes, a Halloween Event. Eagle's Canyon is repaving the complex, and registration for the event will open July 28 on Motorsportreg.

THERE MAY BE A CLUB RACE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DE.



The Official BMW CCA Lone Star Chapter Magazine

pp



1096 Annalea Cove Dr  
Lewisville, TX  
75056-4312