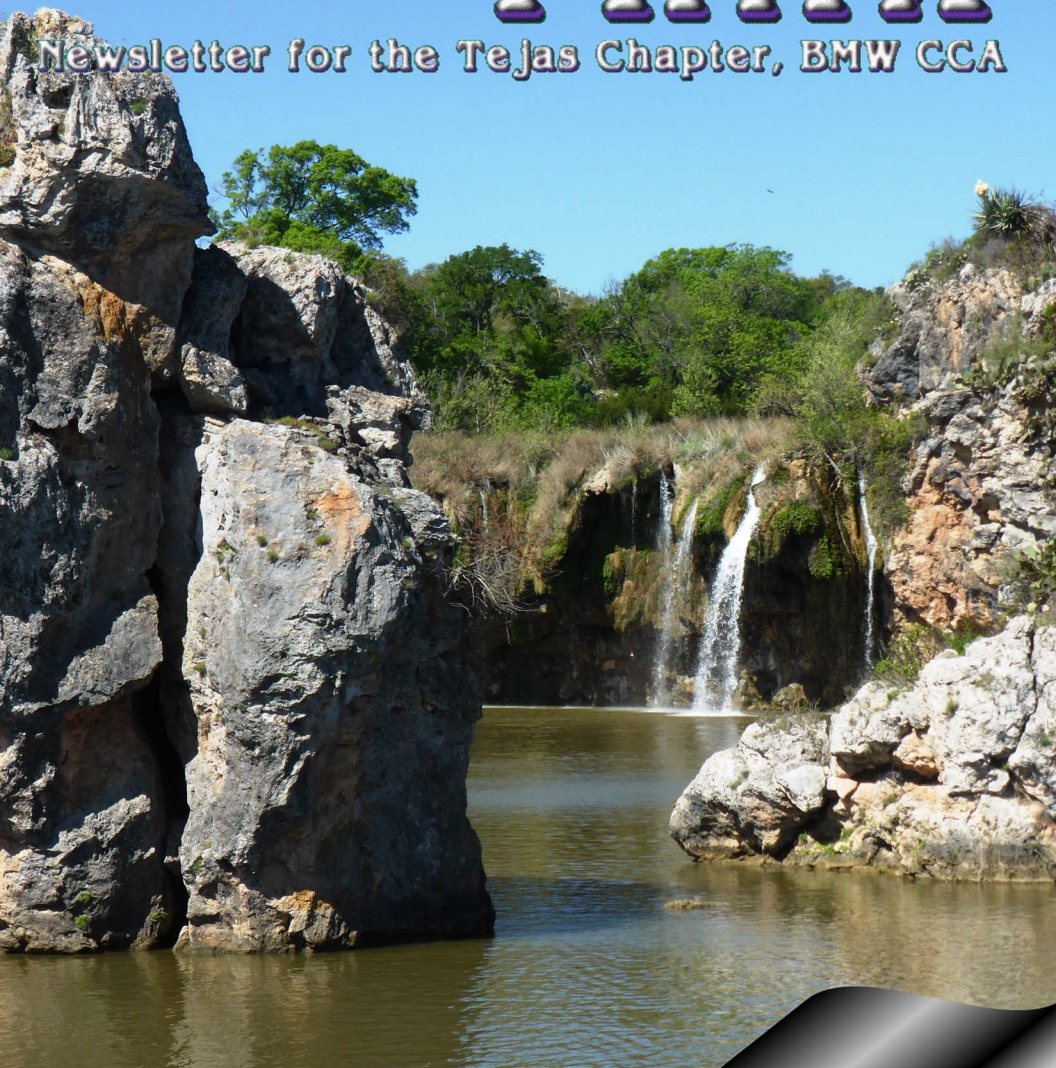




# TEJAS TRAX

Newsletter for the Tejas Chapter, BMW CCA



## Vanishing Texas River Cruise

Photo by Jonna Clark




May  
June  
2017

What's Inside

Upcoming Events  
Garage Italia Customs  
Bluebonnet Drive Review  
Vanishing River Cruise Review


### Tejas Chapter Officers

	<b>President</b>  Glenn McConnell Austin gmconn535@aol.com	<b>Vice President</b>  Josh Butts Austin josh@joshbutts.com	<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>  Sandy McConnell Austin ZeeYa3@aol.com
<b>Membership</b>  Raquel Robles Round Rock rakaerobles@gmail.com	<b>Driving Events</b>  Scott Bowman Leander brglotus@fastmail.fm	<b>Events Coordinator</b>  Vacant	<b>Driving Instructor</b>  Jeff Conner Austin jeff.conner@yahoo.com

### Project Coordinators, Chapter Email and Newsletter

<b>Austin Area</b>  Vacant	<b>San Antonio Area</b>  Herb Looney San Antonio loonjak@svbell.net	<b>Boerne Area</b>  Jonna Clark Boerne jonnakc@gmail.com	<b>San Marcos Area</b>  Jack Laumer San Marcos jacklaumer@yahoo.com
<b>Corpus Christi Area</b>  Vacant	<b>Chapter Mail</b>  P.O. Box 17216 Austin, Tx 78760	<b>Chapter Email</b>  TejasChapter@aol.com	<b>Tejas Trax Editor</b>  Glenn McConnell Austin gmconn535@aol.com

### BMW CCA

	<b>Vice Pres. South Central Zone</b>  Tim Jones 10296 W Ottawa Ave Littleton, CO 80127 303-946-4588	<b>Technical Service Adviser</b>  see the Roundel for current advisers	<b>Membership Information</b>  \$48 per year 1-800-878-9292 VISA or MasterCard www.bmwcca.org
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Visit the Tejas Chapter Web Site at <http://www.tejaschapter.org/tejas.html>

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***From  
The  
President***

## **Of Memories, Dumber Days and Laughs .....**

At a recent event, Phil Nybro brought his “new” 1976 2002 to the event and it reminded me of an earlier time when I was ambitious, had dreams and even completed some ambitious projects. One of my projects that came to mind was when I converted my 1970 2002 from an automatic to a 4-speed.

The 2002 sat with the front wheels on ramps, while I was under the car on my back, trying to get the automatic to come loose after I had loosened everything. I pulled and I pulled and nothing happened! About the time I was ready to give up and try it at a later time, I decided to give one final Herculean effort. What I hadn't planned for was what I was

going to do if and when it did come loose. Yep, you're right .. you guessed it!!! The final pull worked and down it came. Kathunk!!!.. a 150lb automatic transmission right onto my chest. Amazingly and despite my stupidity, I was unhurt, but now trapped under the 2002 with a transmission pinned to my chest.

After a few minutes of contemplating my situation, I decided to call for help. I yelled .. no help. Yelled louder .. no help. Ahh .. screaming worked!! Sandy came running to my aide, greeted by the site of her screaming husband lying under the car covered in red fluid, with a transmission pinned to his chest. When she finally realized that what she was looking at was transmission fluid and not blood, and I was not hurt, we both laughed until the tears flowed... oh yeah, then we moved the transmission.

Ever have one of those days?

**Until next time ....**

**Glenn McConnell**

### ***Welcome New Members***

#### **Austin**

*Richard Ary  
Julian Belk  
Karim Almrabet  
Mike Ferreria  
Colleen Henshaw-Lasnier  
Derek Hinch  
Steven Holzman  
Gregory Klipp  
Selva Kulasingam  
Rick Larsen  
Francois Lasnier  
David Lim  
Cory Loflin*

*Richard Maier  
Chuck McVey  
Krishnadas Murthy  
Michelle Norris  
Scott Porter*

*Kenneth Ramoin  
Bart Romanwicz  
Evan Schneider  
Peter Sharkey  
Spencer Stewart  
Jill van Voorhis  
Timothy Wing*

#### **San Antonio**

*Jesus Hernandez  
Max Niedorf  
Michael Peitowski  
Fred Schwarz*

#### **Round Rock**

*Anthony Johnson  
Michael Miranda  
Timothy Murphy  
Joy Paul  
Luis Torres  
Ted Vanderlaan*

BMW Car Club  
of America  
Tejas Chapter



#### **Georgetown**

*Walter Bayliss  
Will Wright*

#### **Bulverde**

*Jacob Nelson*

#### **Corpus Christi**

*Stephen Johnson*

#### **Hico**

*Jonathan Linsey*

#### **Kyle**

*Frederick Cariaga*

#### **Lago Vista**

*Michael Gray*

#### **Liberty Hill**

*Todd Clanton*

#### **New Braunfels**

*Valerie Davisson*

#### **Paige**

*Donald Dahl*

#### **Pflugerville**

*Sonja Gaines*

#### **Washington DC**

*Austen Unzeitig*

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Austin special offers, schedule test-drive appointments, discuss details on any  
vehicle/trade-in or to research the finance/lease options on your next BMW.





# **Tejas Chapter** **Southern Comfort** **and Wine Tour** **Saturday, May 20, 2017** planned by Paul Goldfine



**8:00am** - Meet at the HEB Plus in Kyle  
 609 Centerpoint Rd

Driver meeting at **8:30am**;  
 Take off driving at **8:45am**.  
 Food, fuel, coffee, and bathrooms available.



**11:30am** - Lunch at Dixie Grille in Seguin followed by **1:00pm** tour of the Blue Lotus Winery and Texas Mead Works



## **Dixie Grille**

Roadside country kitchen serving Southern comfort food with a Cajun spin, including catfish & steak. They do a grilled cheese and meatloaf sandwich (?) and the word is, they've got the best banana pudding in Texas!

After lunch, it's less than a 15 minute drive to the winery.

## **Tour of the Blue Lotus Winery and Texas Mead Works**

Born out of our love of fine wines, Michael and Melissa Poole have created the premier fine wine location in Central Texas. After traveling the world and sampling different wines and meads, head wine maker and owner Michael Poole decided to make his way back home to Texas and bring the world of great tasting wine with him.

### **Winery tour is \$10 which includes:**

- Wine glass with logo
- 5 tastings
- Tour of the winery
- A visit to the barrel room with some sampling directly from the barrel

The tour should take about an hour



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



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## Tejas Chapter Wildlife Ranch African Safari

**Saturday, June 10, 2017**

Planned by Raquel Robles



**8:30am:** Meet at Cabela's Parking Lot

**8:45am:** Driver's Meeting

**9:00am:** Depart Cabelas



**10:30am:** Arrive at Wildlife Ranch African Safari

\$18.50 per person / Children 3-11 yrs \$10.50  
(This includes park entry and bag of feed)

Upon entering the ranch, restrooms are conveniently located in the Safari Camp Grill and Safari Trading Post gift shop.

All convertible tops must be closed before entering park.



**12:00noon:** Lunch inside park at Safari Camp Grill

**Adult Lunch will be \$9.75 and Kids Lunch will be \$5.00**

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





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# Drive Planning

By Paul Goldfine

I've been away from the Chapter, so it's been a while between planning events. During the February event, I had several people approach me and ask about the process of putting together one of our monthly drives. I realized a few people may not have done it because they feel intimidated by the complexity. I wanted to take a



minute to dispel that myth.

The planning can be broken down into three easy steps - pick a destination, plan the route, test your plan. It doesn't need to be any more complicated than that. In fact, the whole process can be accomplished in a couple of days thanks to the miracle of the internet. So let's break it down.

**Pick a destination:** To accomplish this part, you only need to use a little imagination, and the internet. There are several ways to do this step. If you already know of somewhere you'd like to visit, or would like to share with your friends, mission accomplished. If not, I like to look at a map and pick a town within easy driving distance and use the internet to explore the attractions and nearby restaurants. Once you've found something interesting, call and make certain they can accommodate a large group. That's it, one third of the process complete and you haven't left

your chair.

**Planning the route:** I think this may be the part that scares people the most. The most common thing I was asked was, "How did you find these roads?" Back to my old friend, the internet. I enter starting location and the destination and then zoom the map in and drag the route line around to roads that go in the same general direction but are off the main route. It's that simple, no magic, no special talent, just me and my mouse. It does take a little tweaking to work in a rest stop and keep the route within a schedule but it's certainly not rocket science.

**Testing the plan:** This is the fun part. Grab your significant other or a friend, print out the directions, and take a drive. Make sure you don't rush through it, stay near the speed limit to simulate trying to keep 25-30 cars



together. Bring a clipboard and note actual distances, the time the drive takes, and ways to clarify the directions. For example, Google says to turn on Road A, which changes name to Roads B and C without making a turn, you might want to list the turn onto Road A and the total mileage until the next turn. Be prepared to adapt. I've been testing

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## Drive Planning

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routes and found the planned route went through gated property or construction that necessitated an adjustment.



A couple of notes. It's nice if you can test the drive with the same person who'll be accompanying you on the actual drive. They'll be familiar with

the route, will recognize the landmarks, and can call out the turns before you reach them. Also, whether you're planning the drive or following along, get a radio. You can pick up a two-pack at the local big box store for under \$30. I didn't carry one for a long time and didn't know what I was missing. The group does communicate throughout the drive. They call out sights along the route, hazards, and unexpected changes. For example, we took a drive following heavy rains and found one of the roads was unpassable due to water. The route had to be changed on the fly and those with radios were able to follow the new directions.

Most importantly in all of this, have fun. You're bringing a group of people together to share an experience. Make it a happy one.



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The Teen Street Survival Program is supported and organized by the BMW CCA 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, then a 2014 event, then a 2015 event, then a 2016 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 2017.

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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## **BMW i joins forces with TED in search of visionaries with powerful new ideas about mobility.**

Munich / Vancouver / New York. With its all-embracing approach to sustainability extending far beyond electric vehicles alone, the BMW i brand has established itself as a pioneering influence in the future face of mobility. And now BMW i is teaming up with TED, the non-profit organization dedicated to Ideas Worth Spreading whose conferences have earned a worldwide following. The alliance was announced yesterday during the annual TED Conference in the Canadian city of Vancouver. BMW i is launching a unique, global search for ideas with TED entitled

“NextVisionaries”. Here, pioneers, strategists and creatives from around the world are invited to outline their ideas for mobility. Applications can be submitted now at the [www.nextvisionaries.com](http://www.nextvisionaries.com) microsite. During a multi-phase selection process over the next four months, a panel of mentors will choose the most impressive, most promising and most groundbreaking proposals. The winning entrant will be given the opportunity to present their visionary idea from the TED stage in New York in November 2017.

### **BMW i and “NextVisionaries”: aiming to completely rethink personal mobility.**

BMW i sees the collaboration with TED as presenting a unique





opportunity to help bring visionary ideas for personal mobility to the world's attention. With BMW i Ventures, the brand already helps selected initiatives and start-ups to develop and implement trailblazing ideas in the organisation of personal transport. And now, "NextVisionaries" is providing a platform that is open to everyone and has been designed to enable free exchange of ideas. "Ever since the founding of project i ten years ago, BMW i has been a visionary pioneer. This spirit of visionary thinking and pioneering action unites BMW i and the TED community. For all pre-thinkers of inspiring and iconic visions around the mobility of tomorrow, we offer a great stage with this unique cooperation," explains Hildegard Wortmann, Senior Vice President Brand BMW. Lisa Choi Owens, Head of Global Partnerships at TED, adds: "TED Talks give the most creative minds and their most fascinating ideas a way to reach curious audiences around the world. The collaboration with BMW i gives us the chance to unearth some of the most exciting new thinking in the field of mobility."

### **Wanted: visions that will move tomorrow's world.**

The "NextVisionaries" ideas competition is aimed at a creative community engaged with various aspects of future mobility. The competition theme of "Visionary Mobility" has been formulated to attract the broadest possible spread of pioneering ideas and concepts. Entrants are asked to propose vehicle

and technological concepts, hardware and software solutions, and ideas for products and services that have the potential to shape the face of personal transport in tomorrow's world. Visions can likewise be based around environment-friendly mobility-related processes that conserve resources, or on strategies for creating a society geared towards personal mobility requirements.

Information on the conditions for participation can be found on the [www.nextvisionaries.com](http://www.nextvisionaries.com) microsite set up jointly by BMW i and TED, as well as on social media channels such as Twitter and YouTube. The microsite also serves as a platform for exchanging ideas about new forms of personal mobility. The entries submitted will first be edited for composition and content, before being narrowed down to a smaller selection. The resultant short-list of six visionaries will then have the opportunity to refine their concepts and ideas with the help of experts from BMW i and TED. The best visions will be presented in public for the first time at the International Motor Show in Frankfurt in September 2017, and a panel of experts will subsequently choose the overall winner of the competition.

### **From visionary to TED speaker.**

Thanks to its alliance with TED, BMW i will help to ensure the winning "NextVisionaries" idea reaches an audience that extends far beyond the company and even the car industry as a whole: the victorious vision will be

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## BMW i joins forces with TED

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presented at a TED event in New York in November 2017. First, though, the competition winner will undergo a comprehensive public speaking coaching.

### About TED

Founded in 1984, the first TED conferences were held in Monterey, California. In 2006, TED experimented with putting TED Talk videos online for free – a decision that opened the doors to a radically new model for sharing ideas: today there are more than 2,400 TED Talks available for free on TED.com, which are viewed about a billion times a year. Thanks to the support of thousands of volunteer translators, there are close to 100,000 published translations of TED Talks in over 110 languages. TEDx, the licensing program that allows communities to produce independently organized TED events, has seen 21,500 events held worldwide.

### About BMW i

BMW i is a BMW Group brand focusing on visionary vehicle concepts, connected mobility services and a new understanding of premium strongly defined by sustainability. BMW i is represented in 54 countries with the BMW i3 electric car for metropolitan areas, BMW i8 plug-in hybrid sports car and plug-in hybrid BMW iPerformance Automobiles. BMW i opens up new target groups for the company and serves as an incubator for innovations. Technologies which have debuted successfully in BMW i cars are carried over to parent brand BMW's other models. BMW i is also associated with enterprises including DriveNow (car sharing in Europe), ReachNow (car sharing in the US), ChargeNow (easy access to the world's largest network of charging points), ParkNow (straightforward location, reservation and payment of parking spaces), BMW i Ventures (investment in start-up companies), BMW Energy Services and the Centre of Competence for Urban Mobility (consultancy for cities).

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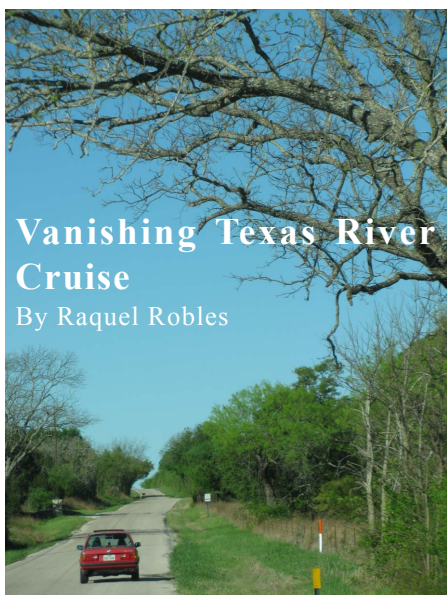
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## Vanishing Texas River Cruise

By Raquel Robles

Finding an idea for an event is usually the easiest part of event planning. The challenges come when you try to make all the pieces of the event fit perfectly, like a horologer ensuring all the parts interact properly to give you the correct time. I found that March is a great month to plan events. You can choose to do almost anything as the Texas weather has not reached its blazing hot point. March 25th was no different and we enjoyed a cool Saturday morning at Rudy's BBQ for our Driver's Meet. This was an exciting meet as we brought Vince's E30 out for the first time. As we made



our way out of Williamson County small patches of bluebonnets bid us farewell. It wasn't until we passed through Liberty Hill and Betram into

Burnet when color of the hill country really came alive. We were greeted with vibrant blues, yellows, and pinks. I couldn't help but wish I had kept the Texas wildflower pamphlet Marybeth had provided us during Marco's 2015 Annual Bluebonnet Drive. It would have been neat to be able to call them out all by name. I remember shouting out "look at that huge purple flower, V!" That huge purple flower turned out to be a Texas Thistle. I had never seen it grow so tall. It was neat to hear members call out the bluebonnets patches through the two-way radio as we passed on by.

At one point during the trip we passed a ranch which housed longhorn cattle and some emus. A bit further down the road we saw some goats and a donkey. I was happy to have been able to take all that in but a bit bummed as the rest of the crew joining

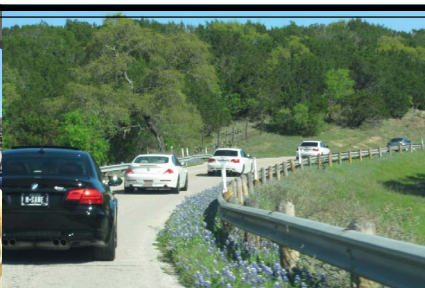


us in Burnet had missed that part of the drive.

We left the Valero in a hurry since the boat would be departing in thirty minutes (with or without us) and our destination was thirty-nine minutes away. On our way up the winding roads to the River Boat Cruise I was left speechless. Vince and I had scouted this route on a rainy and dreary day. It was still beautiful in the

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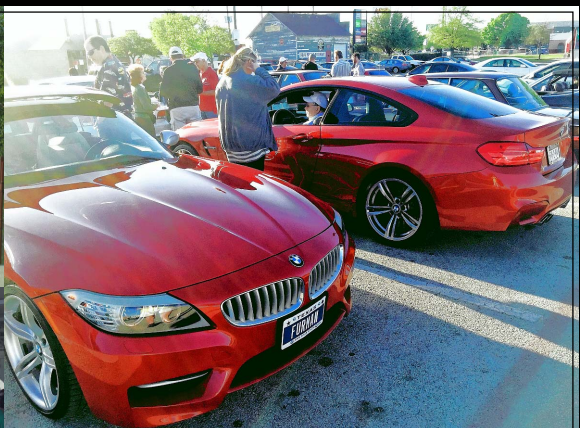




**Vanishing Texas**  
**March 2018**  
**Many thanks to**  
**Many more great photos are a**







**s River Cruise**  
**5, 2017**  
**Raquel Robles**  
available on the chapter website



## Vanishing Texas River Cruise

continued from page 15

rain but what we saw on March 25th could not compete with the scouting trip. My breath was taken away by the amount of bluebonnets spilling onto



the road. Even the prickly pear cactus was in bloom! A wildflower would dance in the wind at every single turn we took. I was happy all of us would be able to enjoy the beautiful hill country scenery on this last stretch.

When we finally reached the Vanishing River Cruise parking lot I was happy to see they had someone directing traffic. I quickly got out of the car and was pleased to see all the BMWs pouring into the lot. After getting our boarding



passes handed out, we were allowed on board. A few minutes after we had Matt from Moe's Grill delivering our catered meal! I'd like to give Matt Evans a shout out as he is a CCA member who was able to help cater our event on short notice after a conflict with the original restaurant. It was great having the ability to enjoy our meal while we cruised on the river and listened to all the

interesting facts the tour guide was giving us.

When we docked and made our way



back to the parking area I was thanked several times. Normally, you get the normal "Thank you, see you next time" goodbyes. This time was different. The thanks were accompanied by hugs which really brought me joy. There's a lot that



goes on behind the scenes when planning these events. All my previous events had fallen into place quite smoothly. The March event came with some challenges which allowed me to gain additional experience and a deeper respect for all who volunteer to execute events for the chapter.

Lastly, I'd like to thank my brother, Vince, who is always up for leading the pack to the next adventure and to all members who continue to show up to our events making them something I look forward to each month. See you all at the next event!

# Tejas Chapter Incentive Points Challenge for 2017

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 2017. 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.

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

## 2017 Incentive Points Challenge Leader Board As of April 28, 2017

<b>510 Pts</b>	<b>110 Pts</b>	<b>Sridhar Kamma</b>	<b>John Hugnan</b>
<b>Paul Goldfine</b>	<b>James Whalen</b>	<b>Harris Katchen</b>	<b>Sandra Kennedy</b>
<b>420 Pts</b>	<b>90 Pts</b>	<b>Mary Lou Katchen</b>	<b>Mark Kramer</b>
<b>Susan Yule</b>	<b>Josh Butts</b>	<b>Geno Marola</b>	<b>Carol Lowery</b>
<b>340 Pts</b>	<b>Ken Carson</b>	<b>Brad Mitchell</b>	<b>Luke Lowery</b>
<b>Raquel Robles</b>	<b>Jonna Clark</b>	<b>Diana Salzman</b>	<b>Joe Martintez</b>
<b>250 Pts</b>	<b>Debra-Lou Lantz</b>	<b>Bob Salzman</b>	<b>Collin Nowak</b>
<b>Don Yule</b>	<b>Connie Stried</b>	<b>40 Pts</b>	<b>Carl Nybro</b>
<b>240 Pts</b>	<b>80 Pts</b>	<b>Dexter Kelble</b>	<b>Dave Rainwater</b>
<b>Herb Looney</b>	<b>David Roseman</b>	<b>30 Pts</b>	<b>Al Ridgley</b>
<b>230 Pts</b>	<b>70 Pts</b>	<b>Randy Allen</b>	<b>Yvette Robinson</b>
<b>Vincent Robles</b>	<b>Dan McLaughlin</b>	<b>Gloria Anderson</b>	<b>Alexandra Roseman</b>
<b>220 Pts</b>	<b>60 Pts</b>	<b>Mike Anderson</b>	<b>Kurtis Seebaldt</b>
<b>Phil Nybro</b>	<b>Alberto Alcala</b>	<b>Fred Brinkley</b>	<b>Maggie Seebaldt</b>
<b>190 Pts</b>	<b>Joaquin Aviles</b>	<b>Charles Brunson</b>	<b>Jon Spagnola</b>
<b>Lenny Zwik</b>	<b>Kathryn Butts</b>	<b>Eric Chang</b>	<b>Steve Tatro</b>
<b>180 Pts</b>	<b>Marco Cordon</b>	<b>Linda Cook</b>	<b>Roger Williams</b>
<b>Scott Bowman</b>	<b>Mary Beth Cordon</b>	<b>Tim Cook</b>	<b>George Wuichet</b>
<b>120 Pts</b>	<b>Gay Dawson</b>	<b>Jennifer Davis</b>	<b>20 Pts</b>
<b>Jeffrey Lantz</b>	<b>Tom Dawson</b>	<b>Helen Dorrance</b>	<b>Peter Coomaraswamy</b>
<b>Chungnam Lucia</b>	<b>Brandon Hardiman</b>	<b>David Francis</b>	
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<b>Michael Miranda</b>	<b>Derek Hinch</b>	<b>Jeff Gifford</b>	
	<b>Terry Jones</b>	<b>Bob Heimann</b>	

## 2017 Incentive Points Challenge Rookies Leader Board As of April 28, 2017

<b>11.51 Pts</b>	<b>6.85 Pts</b>	<b>5.62 Pts</b>	<b>2.57 Pts</b>
<b>Michael Miranda</b>	<b>David Roseman</b>	<b>Derek Hinch</b>	<b>Alexandra Roseman</b>
<b>2.51 Pts</b>			
<b>Jennifer Davis</b>			



# Bluebonnet Drive Review

by Lenny Zwik

As in years past, our meeting location for the annual Bluebonnet drive was the Gatti's parking lot at the Y in Oakhill. It was cool and cloudy



with a slight chance of rain, but that didn't dampen anyone's enthusiasm. We had about 30 cars and 50 people and were thrilled to welcome members



from Boerne to south Austin and one new member newly arrived from Minnesota.

Electronic distribution of maps and directions worked much better this year than last, in part I'm sure to the



large red box on the web site calling attention to their electronic availability. Thanks to Glenn and Sandy at mid pack, Paul Goldfine at the caboose and me at the front, all of us with radios, we were able to keep track of our participants for the most part.

We gathered everybody up and proceeded west toward 281 encountering only one obstacle, the low water crossing at Flat Creek. It had about 7 or 8 inches flowing across



it. Even after a lengthy dry spell, this particular crossing always seems to have water flowing across it and given that we had some recent rains, it was a cause for concern. Turning around a line of over twenty-five cars would have been tricky. No problem though, we all crossed slowly and safely with no one coming close to being swept away. However, one car turned around, not wanting to risk ingesting water into air intakes that were positioned very low on the front of his car.

In spite of a less than a 20% chance of rain in the forecast, we encountered a few light showers and quite a few scattered packs of cyclists along the way. Apparently there was a cancer research fund raising ride taking place so we had to be on the lookout.

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# Bluebonnet Drive Review

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We arrived at our scheduled stop at the Stripes in Johnson City where we were joined by five other cars from the San Antonio area. After a short stop, we headed north up 281 to Farm Road 1323 where we turned west in search of wild flowers. It was here that



we lost a couple of cars. There weren't many flowers out along that stretch, but the road and scenery certainly made including this road a good choice anyway. For those not familiar with that stretch of road, it is deceptively fast, but you've got to keep a lookout for about 4 or 5 cattle guards that appear from out of nowhere, some of which are particularly bumpy.

As we got closer to the heart of our drive, more flowers appeared. Farm Road 1323 heads straight into the southern entrance to the Willow City Loop, as iconic a Texas Hill Country scenic area as there is. Certainly nowhere else will you find a long stretch of fence the posts of which are each topped with a boot.



Not only was there a plethora of wild flowers, the road climbs along several ridges affording spectacular vistas and drops down into several canyons. It was a nice, cool day with light traffic so we had an easy time of it!

We exited the loop at Texas 16 and headed south to where it intersects Farm Road 1323 again and turned left, making a complete loop. I must say that the stretch on Texas 16 had more wild flowers that day than did the Willow City Loop, but no matter. We reversed our path on Farm Road 1323 past the Willow City Loop to Ranch Road 1631 where we headed

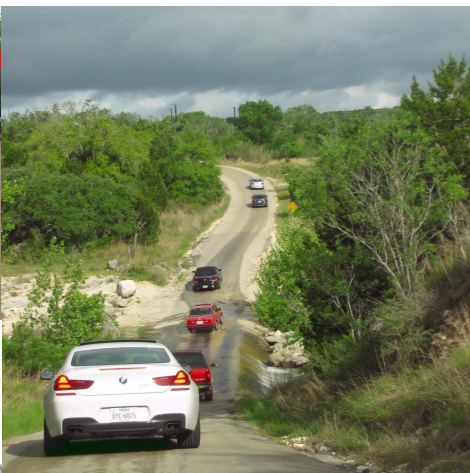


southwest to Fredericksburg and lunch at Auslander's.

Two things, for those of you not familiar with RR 1631, it's a great way to drive into Fredericksburg. Once there, schedule your visit so you can spend a few hours at the Museum of the War of the Pacific. With so many new arrivals to our area, it may not be widely known that Fredericksburg was the home of Admiral Chester Nimitz, the leader of the US Pacific Fleet during WWII. The family home is in the heart of town and serves as the focal point of the museum.







# Leak Detection Pump Replacement

By Paul Goldfine

My daughter recently came home for a visit and, while she was here, she needed a car to drive. Rather than have her rent a car for the week, I offered her the 2011 328xi and I took the 1991 318is out of mothballs. Of course, the first day my daughter's driving the e92, she gets a SERVICE ENGINE SOON light. She called and, after determining there were no other indications, I had her run it to Lee Rector at Black Forest Workshop.

Lee hooked up the reader and I received a screen shot showing fault codes 2B3A DMTL, system fault and 2B3D DMTL, system fault. My daughter texted me and said I needed a new DMTL pump. Of course, I had no idea what that was. A little research told me the pump is part of the BMW Diagnostic Module Tank Leakage (DMTL) / Leak Detection Pump (LDP) EVAP system, which is BMW speak for the fuel vapor recovery system. A little more time on the forums and I found out this is a fairly common failure and definitely something that can be done at home.

You'll only need about 4 tools for this job, an 8mm socket, a 10mm socket, a T-20 Torx bit, and a large screwdriver you can use for leverage. If you're small, limber, and don't have a lowered suspension, this could be done without raising the car but, since I'm none of these, up it went.

Underneath the car, and behind the right rear wheel, there's a plastic panel held by 8mm and 10mm screws that needs to be removed. One of the

8mm screws is in the wheel well, so don't miss it. There are actually 2 panels in that area, only the outer one needs to be removed.



Once the panel is removed, you'll see a large, black canister. This is the activated charcoal canister. Unless your car is over 10 years old, has over 150,000 miles, or you regularly hold the handle and fill the gas up to the neck, this won't need replacing. There are 2 connectors at the front of the



canister. You can complete this repair without disconnecting these. You'll find out later they're not easy to remove.

Remove the 10mm bolts holding the canister and lower it to the ground. You can now easily access the pump. Remove the electrical connector from the front and the hose from the side. This is the same type of connector that's on the canister and it does

require some hard squeezing to remove. Once that's done, remove the 3 T-20 Torx screws securing the pump. Here's where the screwdriver comes in. There's a rubber grommet on the pump that



prevented me from removing it easily. I finally inserted the screwdriver between the pump and canister and pried upward

while wiggling the pump. Eventually, it came loose.

I didn't purchase a new grommet, guessing the rubber piece would not have deteriorated yet. Luckily, I was right. As they say in all the manuals, installation was the opposite of removal. One note, when re-installing the canister, make certain the piece extending from the canister goes into the slot on the body or the canister will flop around.

For my application, I used part number 16137193479, Leak diagnosis pump, which is applicable to many models from the e36 to the f12, some MINI's, and even a few Rolls Royce's. If you want to replace the grommet also, it's part number 16131183912, sealing grommet.

**Calendar of Tejas Chapter  
and Related Events**



2017		
Date	Event	Meet Location
May 19-21 2017	HPDE at COTA Austin Spring Schnell Fest	Austin
May 20, 2017	Southern Comfort and Wine Tour see page 5	Kyle
June 10, 2017	Wildlife Ranch Safari see page 7	Buda
July 2017	TBD	TBD
August 2017	TBD	TBD
September 2017	TBD	TBD
October 2017	Annual Utopia Weekend	TBD
November 2017	TBD	TBD
November 17-19 2017	HPDE at COTA Austin Fall Schnell Fest	Austin
December 2017	Annual Charity Event	TBD



## Garage Italia Customs and BMW i celebrate Memphis Design with a special edition

**Munich/ Milan .** Two new and unique cars have been presented today by BMW i and Garage Italia Customs to celebrate the Memphis Design Group. It was a world premiere in the extraordinary setting of the UniCredit Pavilion in Milan. With the exclusive BMW i MemphisStyle interior and exterior Design on the BMW i3 and the BMW i8, Lapo Elkann's creative hub paid homage to the visionary style of the artistic and cultural movement that revolutionised the world of design in the 1980s.

“Renewing the bond with BMW i is a great pleasure. I fully share their vision of looking at the future and technological innovation as the leading elements in any project.” - says Lapo Elkann, Chairman and Creative Director of Garage Italia Customs. “Creativity, style and innovation have always been the key features of all the work carried out by my team in the field of planning and the study of design. This collaboration has given me the opportunity to

celebrate my great passion for the Memphis artists. I have been collecting significant works of art from this movement for quite a while and they surround me and inspire me in my everyday life. I can't help but be proud of the result achieved by my creative hub. Once again, my designers have beaten every expectation; they managed to transfer the real essence of the Memphis Design onto these futuristic one-offs”.

### The Memphis Group and BMW i

Founded in 1981 by Ettore Sottsass, the Memphis Group was an absolute antithesis to functionalism and any commercial logic. It gave rise to daring lines in furniture that was characterised by unusual materials and original graphic patterns. The style was clearly provocative and was inspired by movements like Art Deco and its surprising geometrical shapes, Pop Art with its bright colours and Kitsch as a way to detach from the minimalist design of the 70s.

Adrian van Hooydonk, Senior Vice President of BMW Group Design: “During the nineteen-eighties, the Memphis Group questioned the formal severity and classic functionality of design artefacts both in a somewhat provocative and



humorous manner. In this way, Memphis became a symbol of contemporary design. With its design drafts, the Group challenged existing dogmas, aroused emotions and created designs with high recognition value.

The BMW Group pursued a similar approach when designing the BMW i vehicles, questioning typical car design language, breaking new ground and redesigning vehicles from scratch. Electric vehicles of the first generation were predominantly intended to attract attention. We also adopted a new approach with regard to materiality. For example, we were the first car manufacturer to use carbon fibre reinforced plastic as new material for industrial series production. We thank Lapo Elkann for the creative and inspiring cooperation and are particularly pleased that, with Michele De Lucchi, we have been able to gain one of the founding members of the Memphis Group for this collaboration with Garage Italia Customs.”

#### **Michele de Lucchi remembers the early days and his reasons for co-founding the Memphis Group:**

“Memphis takes me back in time to my youth”, says Michele De Lucchi, “the early years in Milan and especially me and many of my colleagues’ friendship with Ettore

Sottsass. I was 28 years old and life was different then. We wanted to break with the grand style traditions, to be revolutionaries and prove that revolution is also possible through the creation of objects and their presence. We wanted a new way to define the meaning of our existence. At that time, today’s topics – unsustainable lifestyle, post-post-modern readings, unwanted political assimilations etc. were largely not yet there. However, we already had the desire to stop the logic of rampant consumerism, and we wanted to go deeper. Not with negativity, but with optimism; celebrating decoration, and with a colourful sense of real involvement. In this way, the core of Memphis, of what we did and what we desired, is timeless.”

#### **BMW i MemphisStyle: Hypnotic patterns and bright colours**

Oblique, horizontal and vertical lines along with hypnotic patterns and vibrant colours are the main characteristics of the new liveries created by Garage Italia Customs. A succession of sharp surface contrasts that become pure expression of rebellion and liberation from the rigid standards of traditional design. What catches the eye is that every single element is perfectly aligned and the

continued on page 28



## Garage Italia Customs

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geometrical shapes flawlessly follow the curves of the bodywork of the two cars. The realisation was extremely meticulous and it required over five weeks of work. Before the various painting phases, different masking was applied to each car in order to create the patterns. There are as many as eight layers of colour on the body which proves the complexity of the entire process.

Both interiors clearly confirm and express the same break-through and

colours, from orange to purple, green and yellow are the main features along with the tailored graphic patterns.



Every single element of the cabin thus becomes an integral part of the artistic language that stirred the 80s and influenced design and decor over the following years.

The MemphisStyle Edition BMW i3 and BMW i8 are unique pieces. Garage Italia Customs offers the Design to BMW i customers upon request. After the Premiere of the special edition at Salone del Mobile in Milan, the BMW i8 MemphisStyle will be exhibited at Frieze New York 2017.

### About Garage Italia Customs

Just as a tailor-made outfit follows the lines of the body harmoniously, Garage Italia Customs aims at making



experimenting philosophy typical of the Memphis Design. The different materials chosen for the upholstery (technical fabric, Alcantara® and Foglizzo leather) are in strong contrasting chromatic matches. Bright





any vehicle unique, be it a car, a motorbike, a plane, a helicopter or a yacht. It re-elaborates the clients' very wishes with a service that involves the study of detail, balance of the components and research of materials. The équipe is made up of the best technicians specialised in the field of wrapping, painting and upholstery of interiors. The Style Centre, which is the pulsating heart of all the design activities, it is a meeting place where the ideas of clients intersect with the aesthetic taste of the experts of the Garage. While waiting to move to Piazzale Accursio, the Garage Italia Customs operative headquarters are located at 1 Alfredo Pizzoni street, Milan.



# A Mundane Drive?

by Philip Nybro

One of my four sisters was in Dallas for the weekend, so we arranged to meet halfway in Waco for Sunday brunch. A strictly personal opinion is that modern BMWs do many things well but maybe the best is highway cruising. My E90 2007 328i with sport and manual is an excellent example.



I-35 between Austin and Waco is not on anybody's list of fun roads to drive, with never ending construction, heavy traffic, no scenery to speak of, etc. Blah.

The weather was dreary: cloudy, drizzly, warm, and humid. Blah.

This road trip had the possibility of being seriously mundane, except seeing my sister for the first time in a few months.

Somewhat to my surprise, the traffic at 10:30 on Sunday morning was light. More to my surprise, I quickly found a left lane convoy that was happy to add a

few miles to the speed limit. Finding a nice spot that was mid-pack, I turned on the cruise control and settled in. Safety in numbers. This put a small smile on my face.

With occasional drizzle, I turned on the windshield wipers using the rain sensing function. One swipe every few minutes, automatically. It works so well that it also put a small smile in my face.

The GPS got me to the Hotel Indigo in Waco at exactly the time, five minutes early, that I wanted. Another small smile appears on my face.

After an excellent brunch with my sister, she heads north back to Dallas and I head south to Austin. Halfway home is the inevitable construction zone. I see it up ahead and downshift into 5<sup>th</sup>, then 4<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, an effortless process, all without braking. This puts yet another small smile on my face. Arriving home, the OBC tells me I averaged 78.5 mph and 31.3 mpg for the trip of 197 miles. Hard to believe, yet another small smile appears. Reviewing the day, this drive started with every possibility to be boring and mundane. Was it? No, not at all. Big smile.

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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.



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