

BEEMER ZEITUNG

A Publication of...

**BMW Motorcycle Club
Dallas - Fort Worth**



MAY 2019



CATEGORY 1 PHOTO FOR MAY

"LONESOME DOVE "
by Steve Johnson

Membership
Meeting

Tuesday
May 14
7:30 PM

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

At Forest Ridge & Airport
Freeway (Hwy 121)

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Points of Interest this Issue

- ***Photos OTM*** - **Category 1 (front cover) and Category 2 (sans m/c - Sometimes) elsewhere within.**
- ***Mike Gragg - Kruisin Kansas - Part 2***
- ***Stephen Slisz - True North***
- ***Rick Kallmayer*** - Slow riding training April 27 w OHP
- ***Club Events*** - **Vince mesmerizes us with all our options**

KRUISIN KANSAS - PART 2

The Middle of Nowhere and Monument Rocks



Every time I view the Kansas map in a Rand McNally Atlas I see, in red type, the words Monument Rocks. It has always seemed to be a place in the middle of nowhere: not a place one simply happens upon while traveling to somewhere else. Monument Rocks really is in the middle of nowhere. Not near a town or even a highway, a deliberate decision is required to visit and see Monument Rocks, the first formation ever to be selected as a National Landmark. The 70 ft tall chalk formations are a rich source of fossils, many of which (including the fossil remains of a

fifteen-foot long fish), are now displayed in the renowned Fick Fossil and History Museum in Oakley, Kansas. During the Cretaceous Period eighty million years ago these fossil-rich chalk formations were laid down in what geologists now call the Western Interior Seaway, which divided North America into two separate land masses. Even after traveling several miles of gravel roads made difficult by recent heavy rains Monument Rocks was worth the effort to visit. As a U. S. National Monument located on privately-owned ranch land, visitors are on the honor system to not damage these fragile formations (and to avoid spooking the cattle who wander freely all around the area).

Only when leaving did I discover that I could have visited the formations from the opposite direction and traveled just a mile down a very good gravel road.



MIKE GRAGG

(Continued on page 3)

Scott City and El Quarteletejo

In the late 1600s the northernmost Indian pueblo in the United States was built. It is the only pueblo ever found in today's state of Kansas. Though its detailed history remains shrouded in mystery, the ruins (near Scott City) have been excavated and determined to have been named El Quarteletejo (meaning *far quarter*) by the Spanish who held dominion over the area. The ruins and a monument can be found in a corner of the Lake Scott State Park.

Lucas

Tiny Lucas, Kansas (pop. 463) bills itself as "The Grassroots Art Capital Of Kansas" and boasts The Garden Of Eden (the unusual home of S. P. Dinsmore), The Grassroots Art Center, the adjacent **Toilet Bowl Plaza**,

and The World's Largest Collection of the World's Smallest Versions of the World's Largest Things Traveling Roadside Attraction and Museum.



THE PULL TAB MOTORCYCLE

Dodge City and Fallen Women



On January 1, 1878 the Washington D.C. Evening Star published a letter from the wife of a U. S. Army Lieutenant Colonel who was stationed at Fort Dodge.

"Dodge City is a wicked little town. Here those nomads in regions remote from the restraints of moral, civil, social, and law enforcing life, the Texas cattle drovers, from the very tendencies of their situation the embodiment of waywardness and wantonness, end the journey with their herds, and here they loiter and dissipate, sometimes for months, and share the

boughten dalliances of fallen women."

No fallen women seemed to be out and about on the day I arrived so no dalliances were boughten, but there did seem to be much more hustle, bustle and traffic than I remember from my last visit several decades ago. With huge feed lots and beef processing plants a common sight and with so many inbound trucks carrying live cattle into Dodge City and outbound refrigerated trucks carrying butchered beef away from Dodge City it certainly remains an important hub of the cattle business. For a small city on the plains it is surprisingly busy twenty-four/seven. The only place a visitor can see any remnants of the legendary town on the plains of the James Arness TV show or the William Conrad-voiced radio series is the **Boot Hill Museum**: a complex of connected buildings reminiscent of Dodge City's frontier days. It was built on the site of the original Boot Hill cemetery. It's a kitschy but fun way to spend an hour or two.

Mullinville and M. T. Liggett

A quick stop in Mullinville to view the metal sculptures of M. T. Liggett made an "interesting" interlude on my way to Greensburg. Mr. Liggett is a man of many opinions and his artwork displays every one of them on the side of KS 400 at the farm where he was born. He skewers Hillary Clinton and Janet Reno

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just as enthusiastically as George and Laura Bush. He's either very political, apolitical or anti-political. It's hard to tell. Mr. Liggett is difficult to figure out but his art made an entertaining pause on my ride to Greensburg.

Greensburg and Rebirth

On May 4, 2007 a 1.7 mile wide EF-5 tornado drew a bead on the center of the one mile wide town of Greensburg, its 205 mph winds killing eleven citizens and destroying an incredible 95% of the town while severely damaging the remaining 5%. Only two of the town's century old historic buildings were eventually salvageable. The rest were leveled. Over half of the town's 1400+ citizens quickly decided to move away from Greensburg while the remaining half decided to stay and rebuild. Determined to turn tragedy into opportunity the city made the decision to rebuild Greensburg green. Every city building was carefully designed and built to receive LEED Platinum certification, including an art center, a business incubator, the city hall, the new hospital and the Kiowa County public school as well as a John Deere implement dealership, making Greensburg host to the highest per-capita concentration of LEED Platinum buildings in the world. I had been to Greensburg just a few days after the massive tornado struck and the scenes of widespread devastation were staggering. The sobering feeling of that visit was in stark contrast to the vision of rebirth of this one.

Hutchinson and the Kansas Cosmosphere

On my first visit to the White Sands Missile Range Museum in New Mexico several years ago I was surprised to see so many of the exhibits displayed outdoors with no protection from the weather. One however, was displayed in a specially-built shelter: **a fully restored V2 rocket**. A bronze plaque revealed that this rare World War II rocket had also been outdoors for many years and had deteriorated to the point that many recommended its destruction. Eventually it was decided that the V2 was too historically important to be destroyed and the fragile rocket was sent to the **Kansas Cosmosphere**, one of the very few places with the knowledge and the skill to properly restore it. (I suspect that the fact that the Cosmosphere had meticulously restored its own V2 some years earlier wasn't lost on the decision makers.) After seeing WSMR's restored V2 and reading the information plaque I added the Cosmosphere to my list of must-see attractions.

In 1962, Cosmosphere founder Patty Carey rented a used Planetarium Projector and rented folded chairs in the Poultry Building of the Kansas State Fair Grounds, creating one of the first public planetariums in the Central United States. Encouraged by the planetarium's popularity, she mounted an expansion campaign to develop a space and science center worthy of international recognition. When it opened in 1980, the 35,000-square-foot facility included the planetarium, a three-level exhibit gallery, new classrooms for expanded school programs and one of the first-ever IMAX® Dome Theaters. In 1997, the facility was expanded to 105,000 square feet, allowing for the display of a flown SR-71 Blackbird in the lobby. In 1998, the Cosmosphere was named one of the first affiliates of the Smithsonian Institution, formalizing a long-term relationship with the Smithsonian's National Air & Space Museum. The Cosmosphere far exceeded my expectations with the depth, quality and breadth of its displays. I spent more than an hour watching a recorded interview with men who had actually flown the Blackbird. A few hours is not nearly enough time to explore the Cosmosphere's breadth and depth of displays.



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Florence and Fred Harvey

Fred Harvey is credited with creating the first restaurant chain in America, beginning in 1875 with two locations. In 1876, he bought the two year old Clifton Hotel in Florence, Kansas, refurbishing and expanding it to include a new restaurant. In 1878, the Florence Harvey House became the **first Harvey House** to offer sleeping accommodations in addition to the excellent food served by the legendary Harvey Girls. Today the museum is operated by the Florence Historical Society and is open by appointment only.



Coffeyville and a deadly shootout

On October 5, 1892 the Dalton Gang, consisting of Grat, Emmett and Bob Dalton, Dick Broadwell and Bill Power set out to simultaneously rob both of Coffeyville's banks: The Condon and The First National. The gang wore fake beards as they rode into town but Emmett was recognized by one of the townspeople who spread the word that the infamous Dalton gang was in town. Exiting the banks the gang met heavily armed civilians and a fierce gunfight exploded in the street. Grat and Bob Dalton, Dick Broadwell and Bill Power were killed as were three townspeople and town marshal Charles Connelly. Emmett Dalton received 23 gunshot wounds but survived. Sentenced to life imprisonment at Kansas State Penitentiary in Leavenworth, he was paroled after serving 14 years and moved to California to become a real



estate agent. Years later he purchased a headstone for his brothers' graves in Coffeyville, which was installed beside the only marker the townspeople had ever allowed: the steel hitching rail to which the gang tied their horses before the robbery. Interestingly, the grave of brother Frank Dalton is just 100 yards away. Frank was killed in the line of duty as a US Marshall. Today one of Coffeyville's historical attractions is

the Dalton Defenders Museum honoring the townspeople killed during the robbery and subsequent gunfight. Just a note: Do not call it The Dalton Museum. You will be emphatically corrected. It is the Dalton Defenders Museum.

Across the State Line and Home

After 1500 miles, Coffeyville was my last stop in Kansas. It's just a bit more than an hour's ride from my house and I was ready to be home. Riding across the state line into Oklahoma I made a beeline to my house with five days' worth of images jumbled together in my head. While Kansas may not be a destination state for motorcycle riders I certainly had a great ride: it was a **Kansas Kruise** to remember.



CATEGORY 2 - PHOTO FOR MAY



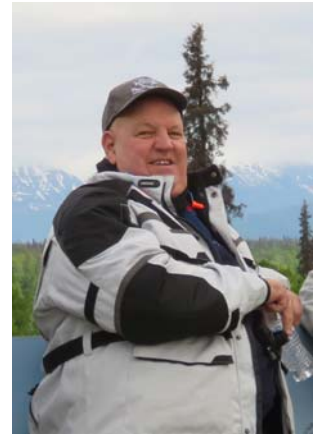
OVER THE HILL GANG CR 310 SOUTH OF SAN SABA

By Joel Watson

True North



I hit the brakes very hard to reduce my speed from the higher West-Texas limits to almost a complete stop. This time, slowing in an area of the highway not usually needing such a strong action on the brake lever, unless, you were zooming down Highway 118 near Fort Davis, you saw this sign and *really* paid attention this time. With no other human-built structures in sight, it's odd that this wooden monument-style sign boldly juts out of the desert scenery to announce the location of the Headquarters of the Chihua-



Steve "Yeeha" Slisz

huan Desert Research Institute and the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center and Botanical Garden. I had to check it out.



Botanical Garden? My image of botanical gardens are the ones I've visited in the DFW area which are lush and teeming with tropical plants like ferns and Elephant Ear plants and surrounded by viewing ponds. Can you have a botanic garden in the desert?

Google it... and Wiki says a botanical garden is a garden dedicated to the collection, preservation, and display a wide range of plants labeled with their botanical names. *Botanical* name is a formal scientific name conforming to the International Code of Nomenclature. "It may contain specialist plant collections such as cacti and other succulent plants, herb gardens, plants from particular parts of the world. There may be greenhouses, shade houses, and visitor services include tours, educational displays, art exhibitions, book rooms, open-air theatrical and musical performances, and other entertainment." A desert garden can be botanical? You bet!

I planned to ride solo that morning and my only date that day was with an early spin around the Fort Davis mountain loop, up and past the McDonald observatory, and meeting the group for lunch in Fort Davis, so I had time for a little side visit. The road to the institute's main building is paved so that fact played into the decision to turn in and roll past the gates. A friendly couple, formerly from Plano Texas, was volunteering the front desk and very politely took my \$6 entry fee and kept me entertained for at least half an hour complaining of DFW traffic, explaining the purpose of



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the Institute and mapping the layout of the desert gardens. An independent nonprofit organization established in 1973, the Chihuahuan Institute promotes public awareness and appreciation, for the natural beauty and diversity of the Chihuahuan Desert region through education with youth and adult activities and the operation of a Nature Center and Botanical Garden. Open nearly every day of the year, the botanic garden hosts 15,000 visitors per year and features a mining exhibit, more than five miles of hiking trails, a cactus/succulent greenhouse, and a gift shop and seemingly checks off all the boxes in that Wiki description.



Wandering aimlessly I hiked many of the trails on the 500 acres of property. Most of the plants along the trails are native to the Chihuahuan Desert, though many have been transplanted here from Mexico or other places in the American desert to enhance the trail experience and are marked with labels or stakes in the ground listing their “botanical” names. Walking the trails is like being allowed to step over the protected boundaries in Big Bend Park and wan-

der the forbidden zones. I also made sure to visit the cacti greenhouse at the rear of the property. Much of the cacti and succulents housed here are from the American Southwest, Northern Mexico and oddly enough - from several foreign countries. The Institute operates a conservation program that grows fragile cacti from seeds, shelters them from harm and preserves those plants for future generations. I didn’t know cacti had seeds! The cacti inside the greenhouse are fascinating and beautiful but there’s a reason greenhouses used to be called hothouses! Looking for a little relief, I found a small elevated escarpment called the Pollinator Garden where the Hummingbird and Butterfly Trail leads to an area densely populated with flowering desert plants. Such a nice spot to take in deep breaths of the high desert air, soak in the cool breeze under the surrounding shade trees and to just listen to the quiet.



With wobbly legs and sore feet from hiking the trails in my motorcycle boots, I spent too much time resting in the shade watching the birds and bugs continue their lifecycle business in the Pollinator Garden. My quick visit to the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute had turned into a full day outing. I missed my ride around the Davis Mountain Loop and my lunch date with the rest of the group in downtown Fort Davis. At a late lunch in the Fort Davis Drug Store, I quietly munched on a BLT sandwich and read through the handful of brochures I had plucked from the Institute.

Next time you’re zooming down that old highway, use two fingers and cover that brake lever. You’re about to pass that little nook n’ cranny you’ve ridden by a hundred times. Stop this time. That couple from Plano Texas is waiting to talk to you!

Ride ‘Em Don’t Hide ‘Em



2019 Oklahoma Highway Patrol Motorcycle Safety Program

BY RICK KALLMAYER

Just before eight in the morning of April 27, six Oklahoma Highway Patrol Troopers confronted 23 members of the BMWDFW motorcycle club in the parking lot of the casino in Durant, Oklahoma. The bikes were parked and the riders were herded into a small area and seated for processing. Passing drivers might have suspected a mass arrest for speeding or other lawless behavior... Nope, it was a Motorcycle Safety Program!



The weather was cool and cloudy most of the day with showers all over the area which magically mostly missed our location. Using alternating lectures, videos, live demonstrations, and lots of practice time on the driving range, the OHP Troopers shared motor officer riding techniques with the club members. Techniques included throttle and clutch control, controlled starts and stops, executing various slow, tight turns, hard braking, u-turns, and picking up a downed

bike. The Event Center parking lot was converted into a huge driving range with skill building exercises set up for our members to ride, closely monitored by the officers. Hundreds of orange traffic cones were used for the conversion and I am happy to report that none were killed or injured during this event! The Motor Unit Commander broke the ice during his first demonstration of throttle and clutch control when he killed the engine of his RT and took some gentle ribbing from his subordinate instructors. A relaxed, no pressure, supportive coaching environment allowed everyone to enjoy the practice exercises as a shared experience.

President Delaplaine prepared a great hamburger lunch for everyone. By lunch time everyone was feeling the relaxed comradery which is the hallmark of BMWDFW. The training was focused on developing skills essential to the safe operation of motorcycles on paved roadways and everyone improved their abilities by the end of the day. No one was injured and apart from a scratch or two no bikes were damaged, nor were any egos bruised. We all got to know each other better and added to our stock of shared experiences; what a great day!



2019

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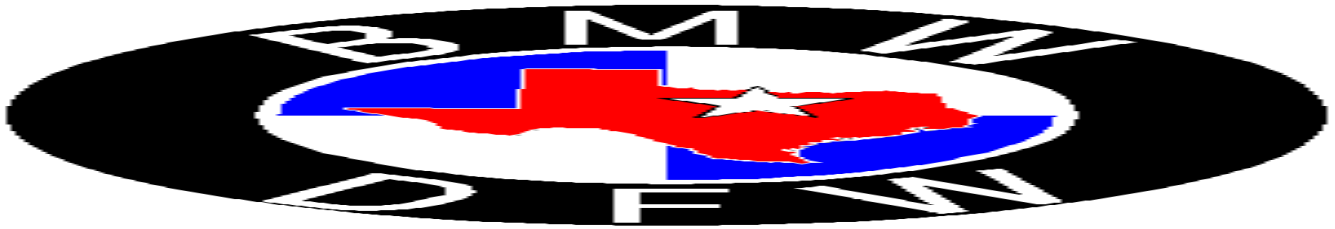
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2019 PREMIER CLUB RIDES

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

April 6-7; Mena, AR. “Roads of Spring”

**May 10-12, Fri-Sun; Natchitoches, LA. “Thank God It’s Spring” -
Natchitoches Jazz Festival & Crawfish Fest****

Sept TBD, Farewell to Summer Tour

**Oct 24-27, Thu-Sun; Eureka Springs, AR.
BMWDFW Annual “Fall Color Tour”**

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

**THE WORLD’S MOST INTERESTING MOTORCYCLE
CLUB**

RECURRING CLUB ACTIVITIES DETAIL

BMWDFW Club Forum

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

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

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

CLUB BREAKFAST / RIDE, 2nd Sunday, MONTHLY

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

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

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

AD HOC RIDES

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

2019 UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

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



VINCE BRECKNER

BMWDFW Motorcycle Club Monthly Meeting – Special Presentation

May 14 @ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Spring Creek BBQ, 1509 Airport Freeway
Bedford, TX United States

There will be a Special Presentation by Becky Walker, the Regional Program Manager for the NHTSA. Click on the link below and get all the information. Dinner and social at 6:30. Presentation & Club meeting begins at 7:30 at Spring Creek BBQ, 1509 Airport Freeway, Bedford, Tx. Come early and enjoy the dinner and social period from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Most all the members come at 6:30, but if you're running late, join us for the meeting and presentation...

Find out more [click here](#)

BMWDFW Cool Your Rocks Annual Picnic

May 18 @ 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

White Rock Boat Club, 340 E. Lawther Drive
Dallas, TX, United States

Join us at the White Rock Boat Club on White Rock Lake in Dallas from 6pm to 10pm for free hamburgers, hot dogs, soft drinks and music. This is our annual picnic and a family affair. Bring your spouse or significant Other and spend time with your fellow BMWDFW members. Please RSVP by May 11 so we have an accurate headcount for the food. We ask you to please bring a dish to share with your fellow members. This really...

Find out more [click here](#)

BMW MOA International Rally Ride

June 11 @ 8:00 am - June 17 @ 5:00 pm

Lebanon, TN, 945 E Baddour Pkwy
Lebanon, TN 37087 United States

2019 BMW MOA International Rally For 2019, the BMW MOA has moved the annual International Rally from last year's flat lands of Iowa to the lush hills of Tennessee. HQ out of Lebanon TN, just a little east of Nashville, this rally is going to be hugely popular and will fill up fast. You need to get your rooms now! We've put together a 7 day ride to the Lebanon rally that takes in some of the beautiful riding areas...

Find out more [click here](#)

BMW MOA National Rally

June 13 - June 16

Lebanon, TN, 945 E Baddour Pkwy
Lebanon, TN 37087 United States

The 2019 MOA Rally will be held in Lebanon, Tennessee, at the James E. Ward Agricultural and Community Center/ Wilson County Exposition Center in 2019. Details for the 2019 Rally are not yet available, but will be added as they are determined. Click here and go to the Rally tab for all the information. The riding in Eastern Tennessee is epic and this rally is bound to attract a larger attendance. Anticipating that, our Tourmeister has already booked a room at...

Find out more [click here](#)

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

OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS DETAIL

May 1-4, Wed-Sat; Bryan TX. NIIT WIT takes on the Heart of Texas Rally

Registration is open in ride master for the next rendition of this Texas classic rally. This year, the "Grapes of Wrath". With start and finish in Bryan, TX, the rally structure which will mimic the checkpoint and mid-rally scoring similar to the IBR or Buttlite and should be a short, inexpensive shakedown rally for those looking to prepare for the 2019 IBR. [Click here](#) for all the information.

May 3-5, Fri-Sun; Hiawassee, GA. Georgia Mountain Rally

Some of the finest and twistiest roads in the southeast make this rally a must. The beautiful North Georgia Mountain location is in close proximity to Deal's Gap, the Cherohala Skyway, Wolf Pen Gap, Two Wheels Only (TWO), Brasstown Bald, Richard Russell Scenic Parkway, Blood Mountain (Hwy 129), Nantahala, Wyah Bald, the Blue Ridge Parkway, and much more. [Click here](#) for registration and more information.

May 6, Mon; Cresson, TX. Eurosport Track Day and Rider Training

Eurosport Cycle's track day is set up with two groups. Open track and riders school. Each session runs thirty minutes. We have taken racing techniques and brought them into the real world for street riders to be better and safer. The riders school group includes both classroom and on track instruction. Riders school riders will be in classroom when the open track day riders are on the track. Water is available, please provide your own lunch. Cost for either group is \$175. [Click here](#) to sign up!

May 10-12, Fri-Sun; Eureka Springs, AR. MOA Getaway Eureka Springs

There's a reason people love to come here! The Eureka Springs story began well over 100 years ago with tales of miraculous healing from 63 mineral springs gushing from a rocky wilderness. Today, Eureka Springs will refresh you as the authentic "America's Victorian Village." [Click here](#) for all the information and registration.

Jun 1, Sat; Graham, TX. 5th Annual Food Truck Championship

Talk about fun! This is the 5th Annual Food Truck Championship of Texas event which runs from 11am to 7pm, or later if you want to attend the concert. [Click here](#) for all the information. This is a free admission event and they will have live bands and art displays from Texas artists and artisans in addition to the Food Trucks. There will be limited seating, so bring a lawn chair if you're going to hang out.

Jun 17, Monday; Annual Ride to Work Day

[Click here](#) for all the information.

Jun 27-30; Thu-Sun; Plain, WA. Tourtech Rally - West

The Touratech Rally is in the mountain town of Plain, WA. This has become the largest gathering of adventure motorcycle enthusiasts on the West Coast. The rally will be held in conjunction with the Washington Overland Rally and will include camping, classes, GPS tracks, group rides and entertaining guest speakers. [Click here](#) for all the information.

Jul 5-7, Fri-Sun; Lexington, OH. 2019 AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days

This event is held at the Lexington, Ohio Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio. It is "...America's largest motorcycle swap meet, national championship vintage racing in numerous disciplines...". [Click here](#) for more information.

Jul 18-21, Thu-Sun; Paonia, CO. Top O' The Rockies Rally

Yes, this is the one you're always hearing about. [Click here](#) for more information

Aug 4, Sat; Lakewood, CO. BMWGCC 100,000 Foot Ride

This ride is structured to take you over enough mountain passes to total over 100,000 feet in a single day. This achievement is not attainable anywhere else in North America and perhaps the world. The 100,000 Foot Ride (TM) provides the participant with the best of Colorado scenery and a broad selection of some of the best motorcycle roads the state has to offer. Registration is required. Get all the info [here](#).



BMWDFW