

# ***BEEMER ZEITUNG***

**AUGUST 2020**



**CAT 1**

**GIVE ME A WINDING ROAD**

**Contributed by BOB MUGELE**

# GOING WEST AND THEN NORTH

The United States of America (USA) is usually regarded as the richest country on earth and is divided into 50 states and one federal district, District of Columbia.

49 of these states and DC are in what is called the Continental United States of America and Hawaii (the remaining state) is a set of islands in the Pacific Ocean.

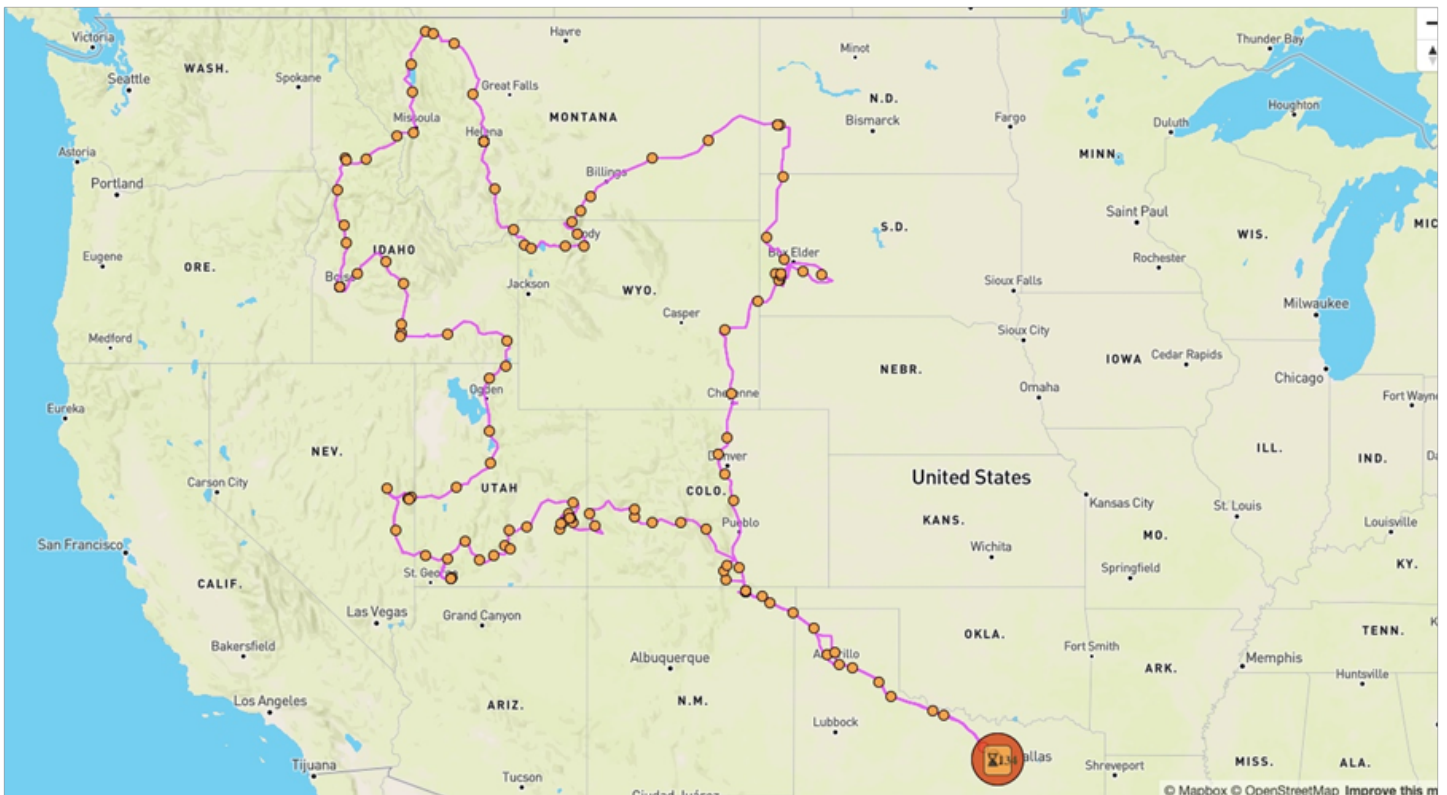
Since I started motorcycling in 2009, one of my dreams was to travel in all of the 49 continental states and DC. By 2016, I had visited 44 of these states and DC so I was missing 5 (Utah, Nevada, Idaho, North Dakota and South Dakota).



**Armando Almeida**

This article is about our trip to see these 5 states and more. We also decided that we would take the opportunity to visit as many National Parks and significant State Parks that we could. The USA has 62 protected areas known as National Parks where we can experience North American heritage and in this trip we visited eleven national parks and two state parks.

Our trip took us on a tour from Texas to New Mexico then to Colorado and then we went West to Utah and Nevada, back to Utah, then North to Idaho, then East to Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota and then back south through Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico and home to Texas.



We did the trip during the month of June, and were on the road for 20 days covering over 10,000 kms.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## TEXAS and NEW MEXICO

June in Texas is extremely hot (temperatures can be above 40C) so we decided that we would trailer the bike from our home in Dallas, TX to the town of Raton in New Mexico, which is on the northern border of New Mexico just south of the Colorado state border. It turned out to be a good idea as on the way we got hammered by a huge summer storm.



As we left Texas going North West towards Amarillo, TX, my mind kept playing a song in my head - - -  
Tony Christie's 1971 hit "**On the Way to Amarillo**"

"When the day is dawning

On a Texas Sunday morning

How I long to be there ... "

After 550kms, we arrived at our hotel and spent our first night in Amarillo, TX, the largest city in the Texas Panhandle and known as "The Yellow Rose of Texas" (as the city takes the name from the Spanish word for yellow).

The next day we had to do 350kms to arrive in Raton, NM. Just before leaving the Great State of Texas, we stopped at Dalhart, TX for a true Texas BBQ experience.

We arrived in Raton, NM mid-afternoon and took the bike from the trailer, left the car and trailer at the camping ground (where they would stay until we came back 3 weeks later) and made our way to see **Capulin Volcano**, the Sentinel of the Plains for 60,000 years. Born of fire and forces continually reshaping the earth's surface, the Capulin Volcano provides access to nature's most awe-inspiring work.



We wanted to ride the park road that goes up and around the mountain to give us a dramatic view of the landscape—a unique place of mountains, (extinct volcanos) plains, and sky.

Returning to Raton for dinner, we went to a local steakhouse, then checked into our hotel. After a long day of driving and riding, at the end of the day we decided to take a stroll through the town.

(Continued on page 4)

## COLORADO

Happy to be back on the bike, we were very excited to be entering one of the most enjoyable states in which to ride a motorcycle. We planned to stay the night in Gunnison, CO, but first there was lot to see in our forthcoming 400km day.

First we did **Raton Pass**. Both going up and the ride down towards Trinidad, CO is very beautiful. Just past Trinidad, we turned West and did the **Highway of Legends** (Colorado State Highway 12). It is a stretch of about 120kms and takes 2 hours to ride. Along this stretch of two-lane highway we viewed unusual volcanic formations radiating outward, like spokes in a wheel, from the direction of the **Spanish Peaks**. The highway rises up through **Cuchara Pass** and below the pass lies the glorious Village in **Cuchara Valley**.



Meandering through ranch-land and forest, Highway 12 eventually leads to **Cokedale**, a National Historic District. Here we saw the surreal sight of what looks like something from the Roman Empire. The arching alcoves are actually the remnants of what used to be coke ovens used for smelting coal from the nearby mine. We had lunch in the **Dog Bar** a favorite for motorcyclists.

Then we rode North on Colorado Highway 69 towards Colorado Highway 50 which enters Colorado from Kansas on the high plains. It climbs the Rocky Mountains next to the Arkansas River and reaches the Continental Divide at **Monarch Pass**. Riding over it was the highlight of the day, but temperatures changed dramatically and we had to put on warmer clothes.

The **Continental Divide** is the principal, and largely mountainous, hydrological divide of the Americas, and separates the watersheds that drain into the Pacific Ocean from (1) those river systems that drain into the Atlantic Ocean (including those that drain into the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea), and (2) along the northernmost reaches of the Divide, those river systems that drain into the Arctic Ocean.



(Continued on page 5)

We slept our third night in Gunnison, CO.

When we woke up on our fourth day, the sun was out and the birds were in full voice. Another 400 km day awaited us and we would be entering Utah, the first new state for us on this ride. It turned out to be one of the best days of riding through the most amazing terrain.

We started on Colorado Highway 92, which crosses over **Blue Mesa Dam** and then goes on the north part of the **Black Canyon** of Gunnison. It is a breathtaking ride, providing gorgeous views at every turn. We rode the **Black Canyon Road** and **Rim Road** to visit the first National Park on our trip, **The Black Canyon of Gunnison NP**.



The canyon is so named because parts of the gorge only receive 33 minutes of sunlight a day. "Several canyons of the American West are longer and some are deeper, but none combines the depth, sheerness, narrowness, darkness, and dread of the Black Canyon." The Rim Road provided access to 6 overlooks and we stopped at two of them where we could see the near vertical canyon walls on the North Rim in addition to some of the most impressive views found in the National Park.

And then we entered an all new world. It is difficult to explain it so, hopefully, photos will help.

Colorado Highway 141, also known as **Unaweep Tabeguache Scenic Byway** was one of the most "wow" roads we rode. Miles and miles of twisties with beautiful mountains on both sides. We just couldn't take enough pictures. At the time we rode it, I wrote, "We have been on many roads and this one makes it to the top 5." The road goes around numerous rock formations, knifing through the soft red sandstone of the Uncompahgre Plateau. The canyon witnessed a copper boom a century ago, and decades later processed ore to produce uranium for the first atomic bombs. There's some natural power at work here.

The wide canyon walls narrow as you meet up with the Dolores River at **Gateway**, and then it hits you—you're on a motorcycle dream road.

(Continued on page 6)



And in the middle of all this amazing nature there is a man-made oasis. **Gateway Canyon Resorts** is a five star resort, established by Discovery Channel founder John S. Hendricks, which blends in naturally to the landscape that surrounds it. We thoroughly enjoyed our time at the resort where we also had lunch at the **Paradox Grille**.



Armando's travelogue continues in  
next month's edition of ....  
**BEEMER ZEITUNG. ED.**



CAT 2 PHOTO FOR MONTH OF *AUGUST*



WINDMILL

CONTRIBUTED BY ANDY JONES

## True North

The first time I heard of club member Rod “The Bod” Mullins I thought people must be mistaken. They must’ve meant Rod the “Odd” Mullins or “Dish Rag” Mullins. I don’t really mean to make too much fun of Rod, but using one of his “episodes” as my lead-in *is* kind of fun!



Yeeha

The Texas National BMW Rally and the Turkey Roost campground on Lake Belton was the setting. Before it moved to Llano with the San Antonio BMW club, and before its current location in East Texas with the East Texas BMW+ Motorcycle riders, the Texas National BMW Rally was hosted by us, BMWDFW, and the Plano based Lone Star BMW riders club as a dual-club event. Our own Mike Moon and Lone Star’s Scott Calabro managed to snag the entire Corps of Engineers Turkey Roost camping area on Lake Belton for the Texas National Rally and in addition to us, invite other Texas BMW motorcycle clubs to the lakeside weekend campout. The “National” was one of our big rides, what we now call a Signature Event and everyone who was somebody came out to camp - a regular must-do weekend for all the clubs.

I was brand new to the club back then, t’was my first big run with the club and my chance to mingle with the players and get to know everyone. On this occasion it had rained the night before and though there weren’t any mud puddles or standing water, the grassy area of the campground was still fairly damp. Rod’s entourage showed up a little late in the evening, arriving as the sun’s afternoon rays were starting to stretch and many of the choice tent spots were already occupied. I wondered how many times this “entourage” of Rod’s had been camping because they picked a low spot in camp to pitch their tents. If it rained again, they were in the camp’s drainage path, right against railing along the service road’s bar-ditch.



For this special trip Rod had purchased a small bivouac, one-person tent about the size of a glorified sleeping bag. The tent had a small A-frame type opening on the front and tapered toward the back like a mummy sleeping bag. As the night progressed, the moisture from Rod’s breath and the excessively damp ground beneath the tent, condensed on the inside of the tiny tent. “The Bod” barely fit the tent anyway, and as he tossed and turned during the night Rod managed to shake all those interior dew drops loose and onto his bedding. The next morning Rod was as wet as a dish rag, needing to be wrung out. He came out of his tent the “center of attention” and, as usual, making a humorous story of his latest adventure. I don’t know if I could’ve come away with such a good attitude.

(Continued on page 9)



I recently made a motorcycle scouting trip down to East Texas and over-  
nighted in a Camping Cabin at the KOA campground park in Rusk Texas.  
The first day's ride was over, dinner was done, and I sipped an adult beverage while sitting on the front porch swing. Appropriately, a gentle rain fell and thunder sounded in the distance. As I sat cozy and dry under the cabin's front porch overhang, happy I was here, I also thought back on Rod's Texas National adventure and, in a way, pined for those old days and all the guys that made 'em special.



Ride 'Em Don't Hide 'Em  
"Yeeha" Stephen Slisz#

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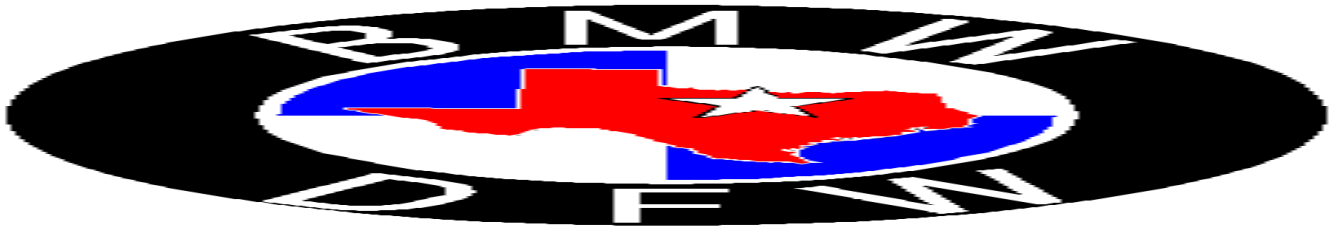
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### **2020 PREMIER CLUB RIDES**

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

**“Thank God It’s Spring” - CANCELLED**

**“Farewell to Summer” - CANCELLED**

**BMWDFW Annual “Fall Color Tour” - PROBABLY CANCELLED**

**Oct 22-25, Eureka Springs, AR**

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

**Cancellations** Resulting from the CoVid Executive Orders. Please Check the Website and Group.io List for Most Recent Updates

### **RECURRING CLUB ACTIVITIES DETAIL**

#### **BMWDFW Club Forum**

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

**Mostly All CANCELLED temporarily  
due to CoVid 19**

#### **CLUB MEETING, 7:30 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, MONTHLY, except December**

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

#### **CLUB BREAKFAST / RIDE, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**With limited attendance**

#### **AD HOC RIDES**

**Still going on**

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

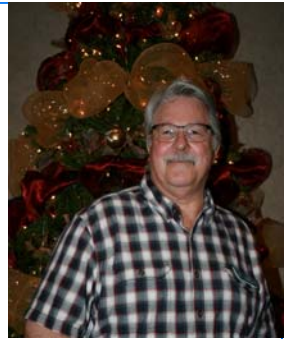
## 2020 UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

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

### NEW! Overnight to Jasper 8/1/2020

August 1 - August 2 [RSVP Now!](#)

SHORT NOTICE - Overnight to Jasper TX The weatherman says there's a rare cold front coming Friday and knocking the temps into the 80's and LOW HUMIDITY for the weekend. I'm making an East Texas run to take advantage of this break in the scorching temps. Leaving from the Forney 7/11 on the North side of US 80 and 740 @ 8:00am (McDonalds next door if you need coffee and a biscuit earlier) [Find out more »](#)



VINCE BRECKNER

### Motorcycle Cannonball Run – Luckenbach TX

September 23 - September 26

Stay Tuned <https://www.rideapart.com/articles/398585/motorcycle-cannonball-2020-north-south-route/>

[Find out more »](#)

CANCELLED

### Ending Date for the Photo of the Year Contest

October 1 @ 8:00 am - 9:00 am

This is the ending date for Photo of the Year (Contest runs to October 1 in any given year. Photos submitted after October 1 will be considered as an entry for the following year.) All Contest forms are available at under the Contests tab. Find out more [Click here](#)

### BMWDFW Annual Fall Color Tour

October 22 @ 8:00 am - October 25 @ 5:00 pm

Edelwiss Inn, Eureka Springs, AR, 2066 East Van Buren  
Eureka Springs, AR 72632 United States

This is our Annual ride to Eureka Springs, AR for some of the best autumn color and riding available. We'll be there for the nights from October 22th to 25th, arriving Thursday and departing Sunday. When you call or email be sure to tell them that you are with the BMWDFW Motorcycle Club. This year, there will be no organized ride to to/from Eureka Springs. The Tourmeister will post several GPS routes on the Yahoo list along with several suggested...[Find out more »](#)

### Ending Date for the Article of the Year Contest

October 31 @ 8:00 am - 9:00 am

For Article of the Year (Submit articles to the newsletter editor, Don Mills at email address don\_mill@sbcglobal.net). All Contest forms are available under the Contests tab.

Find out more [click here](#)

### Ending Date for BMWDFW Mileage Contest Submissions

November 15 @ 8:00 am - 9:00 am

The submission form must be sent to Dennis Bufton at BMWDFW, P.O. Box 132, Bedford, TX 76095-0132. The form is available under the Contests tab.

Find out more [click here](#)

### Starting Date for BMWDFW Mileage Contest

November 15 @ 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Record your starting mileage and submit to Dennis Bufton at BMWDFW, P.O. Box 132, Bedford, TX 76095-0132. The form is available under the Contests tab.

Find out more [click here](#)

For additional future club events [Click here](#)

### OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS DETAIL

(Continued on page 12)

*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.*

**Aug 1, 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](#).

**CANCELLED**

**Aug 6-9, Thu-Sun; Grandjean, ID. Stanley Stomp Rally**

Located about 27 miles northeast of Lowman, Grandjean is a beautiful setting for the Stomp! [Click here](#) for more information.

**CANCELLED**

**Aug 7-9, Fri-Sun; Eureka Springs, AR. MOA Getaway Eureka Springs**

*Revised date – originally scheduled for May 8-10*

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.

**Sep 11-13, Fri-Sun; Sipapu, NM. Bavarian Mountain Rally**

The Land of Enchantment BMW Riders has hosted this September event for nearly three decades at the Sipapu Ski Area in the heart of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. [Click here](#) for all the details and registration information.

**CANCELLED**

**Sep 25, Fri; Mesquite, TX. American Flat Track**

American Flat Track Racing Event at the Devils Bowl Speedway in Mesquite. [Click here](#) for details

**Oct 1-4, Thu-Sun; Jefferson, TX. NTNOA Lake of the Pines Rallye**

*This rallye is still showing scheduled but due to the cancellations up until this month, raffle ticket sales have been adversely impacted. Consequently, tickets, normally sold at spring events, are available individually. For more information [click here](#)*

The rallye draws over 300 people displaying over 150 of the finest vintage motorcycles anywhere in the country. Now held at Diamond Dave's about a mile outside of Jefferson, TX. [Click here](#) for all the information.

**Oct 3, Sat; Cooper, TX. Lone Star BMW Riders Annual Hamburger Cookout – New Location**

This will be held at Cooper Lake State Park - Doctors Creek Unit [Click here](#) for registration and to get all the information.

**Oct 9-11, Fri-Sat; Birmingham, AL. Barber Vintage Festival**

Barber Motorsports Park announced dates for their 2020 Barber Vintage Festival. The festival will take place Oct. 9-11 and include activities such as vintage racing, swap meets, off-road trails and stunt shows. Tickets are on sale now or for more information [click here](#).

**Oct 16-17, Fri-Sat; Luckenbach, TX. 18<sup>th</sup> Harvest Fall Classic**

The Harvest Classic is a motorcycle rally held each fall in Luckenbach, Texas. . Gearheads come from all around to enter their European, Vintage, and Competition bikes in the bike show, participate in or watch the vintage trials, eat home-cooked barbecue, win swag (or a bike) in the insanely good raffle, watch a big-screen outdoor movie, listen to great music, camp under the stars and generally immerse themselves in moto-culture. [Due to the pandemic, the 2020 Harvest Classic Rally is going to be different this year- stay tuned for more details!](#) [Click here](#) for all the information.

**Oct 23-25, Fri-Sun; Kerrville, TX. MOA Getaway Texas**

Welcome back to the Texas Hill Country. Last year's Getaway was good but this year promises to be even better. [Click here](#) to register and for all the details.

**Membership Meeting**

**Tuesday  
CANCELLED  
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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