

BEEMER ZEITUNG

FEBRUARY 2021



CAT 1

ARMANDO & PAULA IN S DAKOTA

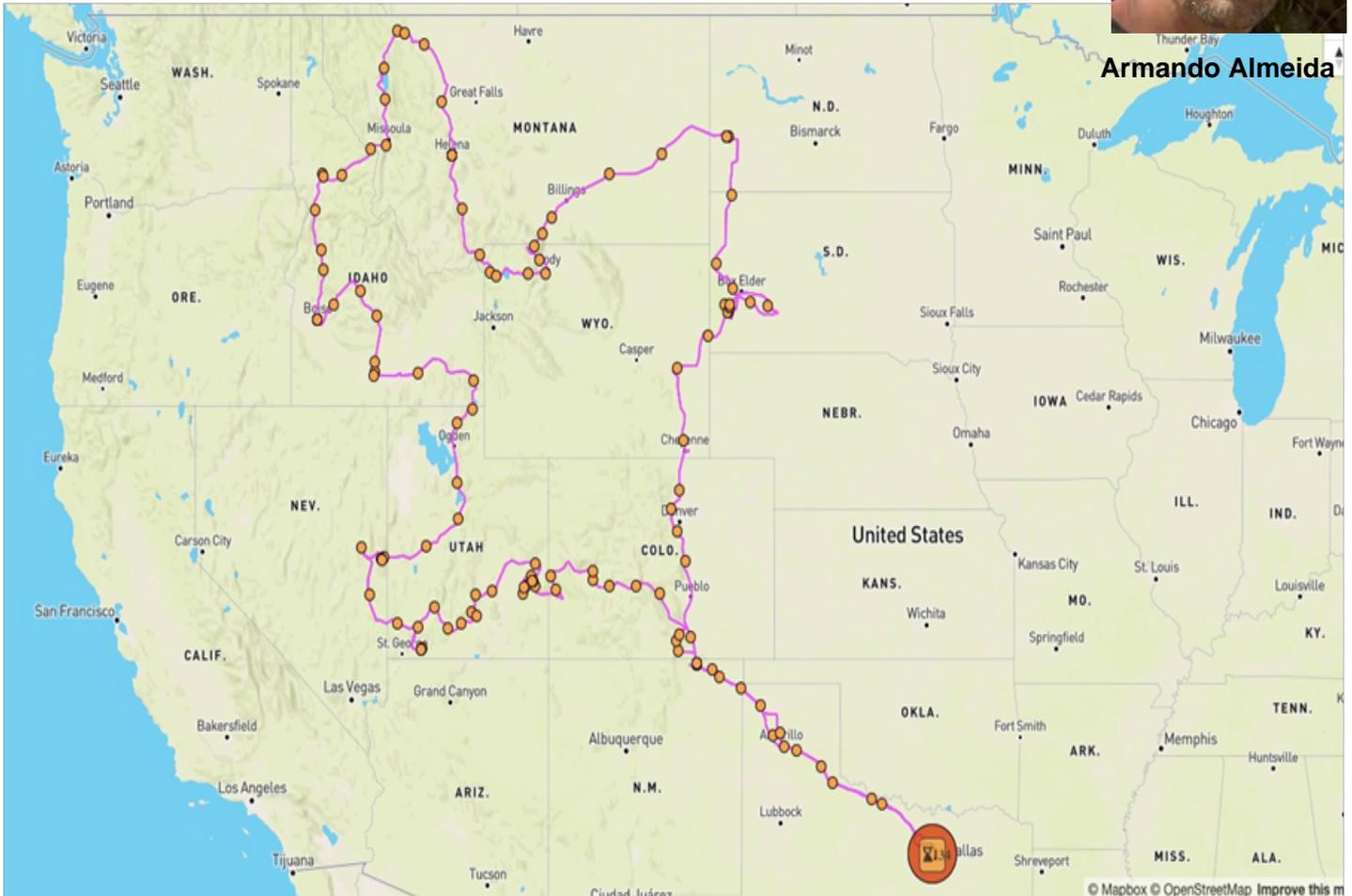
Contributed by ARMANDO

GOING WEST AND THEN NORTH

Our 5-state Odyssey, covering over 10,000 kms. continues... In the December issue we zipped into a bit of Idaho and ending up in Kamaih, ID where we slept soundly to the rolling sound of the Cleanwater River. In the morning we stopped for breakfast at a bakery we had spotted the night before.



Armando Almeida



.After breakfast we rode one of the most peaceful roads we have ever been on. It is **Idaho Highway 12** that runs parallel to the Clearwater River for miles and miles. It is impossible to describe the peace we felt and the pleasure we got from the morning's ride. The route we took is **part of the Lewis and Clark Highway** and in Lowell we continued on Hwy 12, which now bordered the Lochsa river, headed towards **Lolo Pass**.

There are numerous pullover spots, which allow for excellent access to the river and for photographing the heavily forested and scenic countryside. We decided to stop in one of these pullovers and just enjoy the calmness that arises from being next to a river and hearing its peaceful sounds.



Next came **Lolo Pass**, an historical landmark off Highway 12, with an elevation of 5,233 feet (1,595 m), bordering Montana. The weather started to change dramatically as we started up the pass and we crossed it enduring heavy rain and very low temperatures

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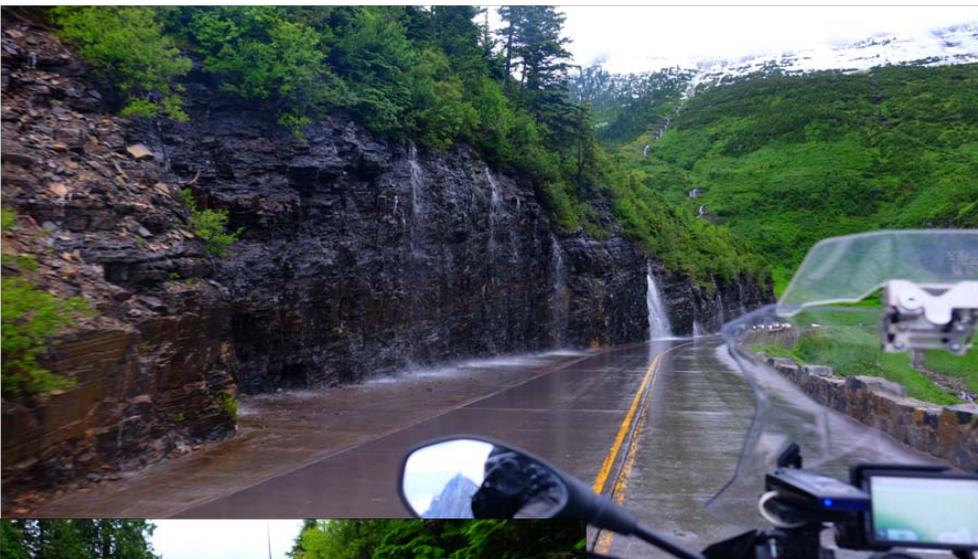
so, unfortunately, we were unable to take photos as we quickly made our way down the pass towards Lolo, MT.

MONTANA

As we arrived in Lolo, MT we spotted a very nice looking steakhouse that seemed to have a lot of cars outside. We needed lunch and also to dry out from our adventure through Lolo Pass, so we decided to stop and pay quite a lot for a steak lunch... well worth it.

We had already ridden in Montana before and were looking forward to riding it again as we would be visiting one of our preferred National Parks, **Glacier NP**. More on that later. For now we still needed to ride East to get to city of Kalispell, MT. Nothing special about this city and we stayed in our hotel for the night a Best Western Plus. This placed us very close (35 miles or 56 kms) to the West gate of **Glacier NP**.

Apart from being a National Park, Glacier NP is also a **World Heritage Site** and it seems to have everything: pristine forests, alpine meadows, rugged mountains, spectacular lakes and, for motorcyclists, the famous **Going-to-the-Sun Road** is a must-do, at least once in a lifetime. The Going-to-the-Sun Road, is the only road that traverses the park, crossing the Continental Divide through **Logan Pass** at an elevation of 6,646 feet (2025 meters), which is the highest point on the road. The road is approximately 50 miles (80kms) long and spans the width of the park between the west and east entrance stations.



If you google Top Sights in Glacier NP you will get over 120 hits giving you tens of lakes (the largest being Lake McDonald), Mountains, Glaciers, Falls etc etc. We only had a day to see the park but you can probably easily spend two weeks and only skim the surface. We spent an outstanding day here, amazed by beautiful greenery, the blueness of the lakes and the whiteness of the ice and snow that was still lingering in Logan's Pass.



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ARMANDO(Continued from page 3)

When we stopped for lunch at the lodge, we were even presented with a Bear encounter. I jumped off the bike quickly and gave chase to be able to get a good picture and was able to catch it as it crossed a nearby stream.

The ride from Glacier NP to Helena, MT took three and half hours, which I don't remember much about as my mind kept going back to the images in the park. Even now, many years later, as I look at the pictures I can still visualize

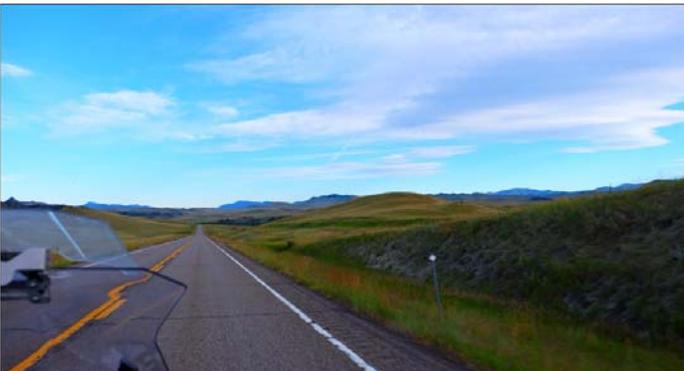


this beautiful day and I am reminded by the quote by John Muir: **“Give a month at least to this precious reserve. The time will not be taken from the sum of your life. Instead of shortening it, it will indefinitely lengthen it and make you truly immortal.”** We only gave it a day and my life has surely been lengthened by it.

We dined with Montana friends (now from Texas) in Helena then awoke the next day ready for a visit to another favorite National Park, **Yellowstone NP**.

It took us about three hours to cover the 170 miles (273kms) to the park and we crossed it West to East towards Cody, WY.

WYOMING



Yellowstone is in the state of Wyoming which adjoins Montana on the south. There, we rode among wide-open fields, cultivated on both sides of the road, and very long straights. We entered The Park through the West Gate where signs warned to watch out for wild life everywhere, bears, bison etc.

Yellowstone NP was the World's First National Park and it is thus a favorite of many people and visited by millions. It is also the site of America's greatest concentration of geysers and hot springs, which form a visible and spectacular link with the primeval forces of the Earth's creation.



We lunched in the park and walked to see Old Faithful, the world's most famous geyser, which erupts around 20 times a day. These eruptions are predicted with a 90 percent confidence rate, We spoke to a friend who loves the park and from his home in Germany he was able to spot us on the webcam web page. Riding on we rode the **Grand Loop Road** and saw various species of animals.

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We spent the night in **Cody, WY**, founded by Buffalo Bill (yes, that one) and where the surrounding areas boast superb scenery. The road from Yellowstone NP to Cody, WY is nestled between the Beartooth and Absaroka Mountains and follows the Shoshone River. We woke up very excited as we knew day 15 would be another epic riding day. We started our morning riding the **Chief Joseph Scenic Highway** which links Cody, WY to the **Beartooth Highway**. It is breathtakingly beautiful with high peaks and deep gorges. The road is the path Chief Joseph led his tribe away from the US Calvary to save them from being forced onto a reservation. The road is winding with many switchbacks and steep grades. There are several scenic spots to pull off and view the scenery which we did. There are no gas station for a long stretch so we filled up at Cody, WY and were happy we had the GSA's large 8 gallon tank.



BACK IN MONTANA



Next we rode back into Montana and up towards **Beartooth Pass**, which is on the **Beartooth Highway**, a 68-mile stretch which climbs 5,000 feet through lodgepole pine forests leading to an enchanting world of alpine lakes, 20 peaks over 12,000 feet and glacially carved cirques. The temperatures dropped dramatically and the pass still had a lot of ice on the side of the road.

One of the most fascinating sights that we saw along the way is a near-perfectly carved pyramid rising up between the granite mountains. It almost looks as though someone picked up one of the great pyramids of Egypt and placed it among the Beartooth mountain range. Carved exquisitely by glaciers, its unique shape led the Crow Indians to name it "bear's tooth," which is how the mountain range and highway got its name. As we rode over the Pass, we found ourselves at the exact halfway point between the North Pole and equator. Yes, we had crossed the 45th parallel, we felt as though we were hovering above the Earth with a bird's eye view of Montana's alpine country.

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We stopped at the Vista Point Rest Area that sits at 9,190 feet and walked along the trail and read the series of interpretative panels that highlight the area's natural history, as well as the highway construction. We lunched in Red Lodge, MT a charming, historic town that does an incredible job celebrating its Wild-West past, then made our way towards Miles City, MT where we spent the night.

NORTH DAKOTA



We made our way from Miles City, MT on Interstate 94 into North Dakota (a new state for us) and into the **Theodore Roosevelt National Park**.

The National Park is named after the 26th President of the United States who first came to the North Dakota Badlands in 1886 to hunt bison. Our first real glimpse of the Badlands was from the overlook at the Painted Canyon Visitor Center on Interstate 94, east of Medora, ND. The canyon stretches as far as the eye can see into the rugged North Da-

kota Badlands. We loved the park and can fully understand why Teddy fell in love with the rugged lifestyle and the "perfect freedom" of the West. We traveled the scenic loop drive and stopped at pullouts and read the interpretive signs to better understand the park's historical and natural features. Wildlife was abundant along the route and the highlight was a large herd of bison that crossed the road just in front of us. We also visited Prairie Dog Town and saw its inhabitants communicate with each other by a number of sounds called "barks" or "yelps.". We also rode the 14-mile **Theodore Roosevelt North Unit Scenic Byway**, which provided the colorful North Dakota Badlands as a scenic backdrop with its sweeping vistas of one of the last remnants of wilderness in the Northern Great Plains.

We had a very late lunch in the small Badlands town of **Medora, ND** which is an Old West cow-town and gateway to the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. After lunch we made our way south towards Deadwood, SD.

SOUTH DAKOTA

This was one of the states I was very much looking forward to visiting. Home to the town of **Sturgis, SD** where the world's largest motorcycle rally takes place annually in August, during which more than 500,000 motorcyclists meet in this little town of 7,000 people. But I am getting ahead of myself.



We rode the plains of the Dakotas and arrived in **Deadwood, SD** for the night. It's a Wild West town born in 1876, close to a creek full of gold. But we were here to ride a motorcycle in one of the most iconic places in the world, the Black Hills.

We woke up early and our first stop was in the town of **Sturgis, SD**. Without the rally it did look like a town where 7,000 people lived, small and uninteresting. But the remnants of the rally were everywhere, with plenty of rally related souvenirs and photos to buy.



Next we made our way to **Mount Rushmore**, America's Shrine of Democracy, which features the 60-foot faces of four great American presidents who represent the birth, growth, development and preservation of this country. They are George Washington (1732–1799), Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826), Theodore Roosevelt (1858–1919), and Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865).

It is an amazing site to visit not only for what it represents, the triumph of modern society and democracy, but also the amazing engineering feat involving the use of dynamite, followed by the process of "honeycombing", a process where workers drill holes close together, allowing small pieces

to be removed by hand. In total, about 450,000 tons of rock were blasted off the mountainside.

Next stop was **Crazy Horse Memorial**, the world's largest mountain carving. It is considered The Eighth Wonder of the World in progress (as it is not finished yet). It will depict the Oglala Lakota warrior, **Crazy Horse, riding a horse and pointing into the distance**. The sculpture's final dimensions are planned to be 195 m long and 172 m high. The arm of Crazy Horse will be 80 m long and the head 27 m high; by comparison, the heads of the four U.S. Presidents at Mount Rushmore are each 18 m high.



The history of this sculpture is amazing specially the perseverance of the Polish-American sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski and his family which have insisted that the memorial is a non-profit undertaking, and does not accept federal or state funding. This has, of course, delayed the undertaking and the monument has been in progress since 1948 and far from complete.



Our last visit for this Day 17 was to the **Badlands National Park**. Some describe the Park as "surreal" or "otherworldly," but the Native Americans were the first to call it "**mako sica**" or "bad lands." It takes about one hour to drive the 39-mile loop of South Dakota Highway 240 between the towns of Cactus Flat and Wall without stopping, but it took us longer. Breathtaking rock formations and native grasslands filled with numerous species of plants and animals made us pause to enjoy the view. There are 16 designated

scenic overlooks that make for outstanding photo opportunities. Twisting curves climb through passes in the Badlands "wall" of rugged rock pinnacles, buttes and mounds. This is one of those roads that motorcycle riders and sports car enthusiasts love so much that it has been featured in driving video games.

Unfortunately, as we were leaving our first stop where we saw bighorn sheep, we were caught in the worst storm we have ever encountered in our motorcycle travels and we are glad we are here to tell the story. We will never forget the Badlands because we rode it and survived it.

For the night we stayed at the **State Game Lodge** in **Custer State Park**, built of native stone and wood in 1920. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. At dinner that night our waiter explained to us that the formal ambiance hearkened back to the State Dinners of the 1927 summer White House.

The next day we first rode the State Park and saw the "buffalo roam" up close. Then, it was the iconic **Needles Highway**, full of switchbacks, tight curves and pigtailed all while climbing and descending almost 2,000 ft. The **Iron Mountain Road section** of this ride is 17 miles long and contains 314 curves, 14 switchbacks, 3 pigtailed and 3 tunnels that are designed to frame Mount Rushmore. Unforgettable ...



Towards the late afternoon we made our way south towards Wyoming as we were staying the night in Cheyenne, WY, then home.

We picked up the car and trailer the next day, in Raton, loaded the motorcycle and headed to Dallas, Texas, arriving after dark after driving 900 kms.

The Ride was outstanding and we were able to achieve our two main objectives (1) to visit the remaining states we hadn't visited, and (2) to visit a number of amazing national parks. We also met people from different backgrounds and states that in one sense were so different but in another so similar and at the end of it all, as I unpacked the bike a quote came to mind: "To move, to breathe, to fly, to float...To gain all while you give,

To roam the roads of lands remote,

To travel is to live."

(Hans Christian Andersen)



CAT 2 PHOTO FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY



LOG FENCE

Contributed by STEPHEN SLISZ

The Last Gallon (dba) True North

I recently read an automotive magazine article that asked: *“You’re in possession of the last gallon of gas you’ll ever burn. Do you savor it over as many miles as you can and stretch it or burn it off in one last blaze of glory?”*

The article asked other automotive magazine editors how they would live out their answer. One editor learned to drive in his mother’s small car and instead of painting the high-school parking lot with burnouts, he spent his teenage years practicing various tricks for maximizing mpg. *“I wanted my last fling with internal combustion to end the same way it started, sure that my hyper-miling expertise would come back to me.”* Editor One chose the 68mpg Toyota Prius as his last fling with fossil fuel.



Stephen Slisz

(Continued on page 10)

TRUE NORTH(Continued from page 9)

The next editor wanted not to be limited by track boundaries and traffic laws, and wanted to revel in the raw adventure and excitement made possible by internal combustion. His ride would be with a roll cage and seatbelts, in the powerful yet minimalist Honda Talon side-by-side ATV. His Honda Talon ran for a little over 55 minutes on a gallon of premium and covered 12.1 miles and delivered all the thrills that he wanted to remember.

Third editor chose the Blaze-of-Glory, a new mid-engine Chevy Corvette. That blaze came sprayed in radioactive-yellow paint that was nearly as loud as its 6.2-liter V-8. With the roof open, he turned the final throes of internal combustion into an unholy external racket... heading straight for a tunnel. In a longer tunnel, he played the shift paddles as if they were percussion instruments and filled the tunnel with music. Singing to the scream of eight cylinders running hard and memorable echoes bouncing around his skull, the Corvette stumbled into a silent slumber with eight miles on its trip meter.

The entire time I was reading the Last Gallon of gasoline magazine story, I imagined how we motorcyclists would do it. Where would we do it? You are in possession of the last gallon of gas on earth. For discussion sake, let's get 50mpg out of it. Where are you going to burn your last 50 miles of precious fossil fuel?

The famous scenic byways? Would you try 50 miles down the Blue Ridge Parkway or maybe up the Natchez Trace and take in the beautiful scenery of Tennessee? Maybe you would be a "Blaze of Glory" rider and hit Push Mountain in Arkansas. How about The Dragon or the Cherochala Skyway? Who could go wrong in the Rockies by doing the Million Dollar Highway, or Highway 92 along the Black Canyon of Gunnison Colorado? Maybe touring some serious scenery like the Going to the Sun Highway or over Bear Tooth Pass or through Yellowstone National Park would be a lasting memory of your gallon of gas. Then there are a few souls that would like to burn up 50 miles on the Circuit of the Americas speedway in Austin Texas or historically, 50 miles of the old Laguna Seca race circuit in California.

My selection isn't particularly famous. It's not epically scenic. It's not even hardcore twisty like the Dragon or the Million Dollar Highway. But it is one of the true loves of my riding bucket list... Highway 16 in Arkansas from AR123 eastward toward Greers Ferry Lake. I could ride that one road for the rest of my life and be perfectly happy. **AR16** is definitely the spot I'd burn my last gallon of fossil fuel.

Ride 'Em - Don't Hide 'Em because you've only got one more gallon to burn.

"Yeeha" Stephen Slisz#



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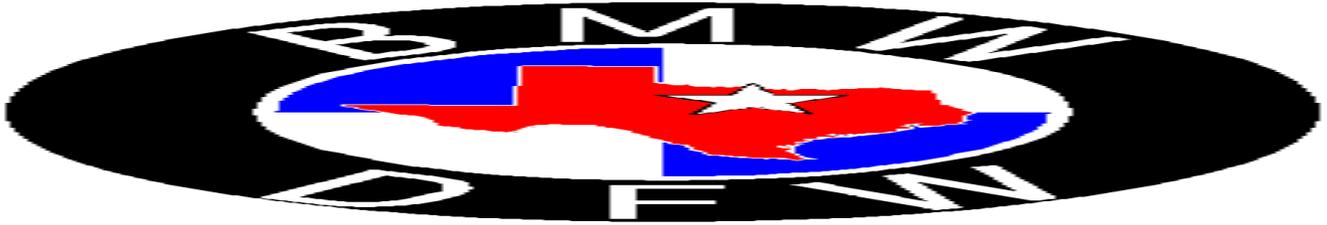
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2021 PREMIER CLUB RIDES - *maybe*

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

May 1-2, Fredericksburg, TX. - "Roads of Spring"

"Thank God It's Spring" - TBD

Farewell to Summer Rally - TBD

BMWDFW Annual "Fall Color Tour" -
Oct 21-24 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 ACTIVITES DETAIL - **On Hold due to CoVid**

BMWDFW Club Forum

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



VINCE BRECKNER

2021 UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Sweetwater Rattlesnake Roundup Ride March 13 - March 14

Sweetwater Rattlesnake Roundup Ride March 13/14 2021

Sat 3/13 – 8am – Ride to Mary's Brazos Café/Tin Top for the ride start/breakfast

9am – Meet at Mary's for breakfast

10am – Stands up! Ride leaves Mary's for Buffalo Gap lunch.

2pm – Lunch @ Perini's Steakhouse

3:30pm – Ride to overnight hotel @ Comfort Inn Regional Medical Center Abilene. www.choicehotels.com/texas/abilene/comfort-inn-hotels/txb57

Sun 3/14 – 8am – Stands up/ride to Sweetwater Rattlesnake Roundup @ Nolan County Coliseum

9am – Attend roundup. 12pm...

[Find out more »](#)

2021 BMWDFW Roads of Spring Ride May 1 - May 2

May 1 & 2, 2021 5th Annual Fredericksburg Vintage Motorcycle Show& Ride-In Pecan Grove Store May 1, 2021 Admission = a donation of three cans of food or cash donation for the local food bank. Open class Vintage Bike Show \$20 entry fee per bike. All entries receive a souvenir koozie and sticker. Registration will be at the store Saturday 10:00-11:30am. Showtime is 12-3:00 pm. We are an official stop on the Hill Country Run. For more info call: 830-990-4433. (not...

[Find out more »](#)

OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS DETAIL

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.

Third Annual Medicine Park Street Taco Run April 10

Third Annual Medicine Park OK Street Taco Run (Day Ride) Saturday April 10, 2021 3rd Annual Street Taco Run - The Annual Street Taco Run in Medicine Park, OK has become a tradition for Long-distance riders from around the country. Expect great street tacos, live music, lots of motorcycles, and camaraderie. All are welcome to attend! <https://www.facebook.com/events/612765752727382> <https://www.ridetexas.com/event/3rd-annual-street-taco-run/>

Sat 4/10 – 8:30 am – Stands Up. Taco Run ride leaves from the 7/11 on 114 at Trophy Club.

11am – Arrive...

[Find out more »](#)

Ozark Escape April 16 - April 18

Ozark Great Escape - Eureka Springs, AR Moto Adrenaline Tours -This is a MTSA kick off event for the new year. This is a Just For Fun event. There is no fee for this event. Just show up and Ride. All fees for lodging, fuel and food are your responsibility. This is a MSTA (Motorcycle Sport Touring Association/Arkansas) event but it's put on by our friend and former Dallas-ite Jerry James and he's inviting us without our having to become an...

MOA Getaway Santa Fe – Tentative for May 20-23 May 20 - May 23

The Kerrville MOA Getaway conflicts with our annual Fall Colors Ride in October. But, this year there is a Getaway in Santa Fe NM that does not conflict with anything we have on our calendar so far... May 21-23. These rides are very similar to our weekend overnights and the MOA has done all the leg work for us. The fee is \$99 for the event and includes two meals. Hotel rooms are your responsibility. I'm thinking of putting a...

[Find out more »](#)

BMWMOA National Rally – Great Falls, MT.

June 24 @ 8:00 am - June 27 @ 5:00 pm

Montana Expo Park, 400 3rd St NW

Great Falls, MT 59404 United States + [Google Map](#)

The MOA Saddle Up and Ride 2021 National Rally will be held in Great Falls Montana.

**Membership
Meeting**

**Tuesday
CANCELLED**

7:30 PM

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

**At Forest Ridge & Air-
port Freeway (Hwy
121)**