

50th Anniversary

BEEMER ZEITUNG

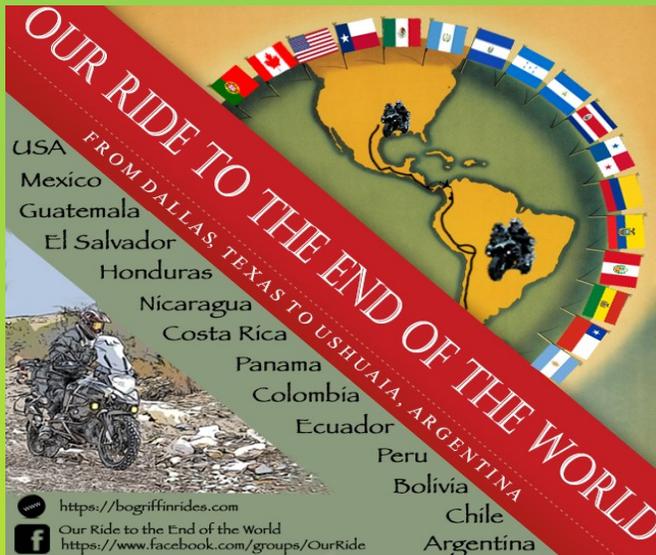
JUNE 2022



CATEGORY I Photo for JUNE

SCHOOL HOUSE near the 666 Ranch

Submitted by: Stephen Slisz



Armando Almeida

ED: In our **OCTOBER** edition of the *Beemer Zeitung* Armando and Crew had just crossed the border from Peru into Bolivia in driving rain to hold up in **Copacabana** on **Lake Titicaca**. They were set to travel through **Bolivia, Argentina & Chile**, and much of his riding alternated between **Argentina & Chile**.

We entered Bolivia through the border at **Khasani** on the south side of **Lake Titicaca**. It was one of the most efficient border crossings we had done and we arrived at the end of the day in **Copacabana, BO** under heavy rain. It was clear to us we were in one of the poorest countries in South America as quality of roads deteriorated dramatically. We visited the Plaza of the town at night and came back early to hotel as next day promised to be a tough one with lots of rain.



Day 35 – Copacabana to La Paz, Bolivia 🇧🇴

Our ride took us around **Lake Titicaca** on the Bolivia side where we experienced rain all the way and it took us 2 hours to get to the hotel once we arrived at the outskirts of La Paz.

Traffic was very heavy and condition of the roads in the rain made it very tricky.

But ...Any of that was nothing compared to the crossing of the **Strait of Tiquina**. To save the distance around Lago Pequeno, we crossed the strait on a wooden barge which runs between the towns of [San Pedro de Tiquina](#) and [San Pablo de Tiquina](#).

Because it was raining the wood on the barge was wet and the process of loading and unloading the bike was nerve-wracking. But eventually we made it to our hotel in **La Paz, Bolivia**, which, with its 2.3M people in the metropolitan area, is a city very different from any other city as it is the highest capital in the world. As an unaccustomed visitor, La Paz can be brutal on the senses: low oxygen levels and low air pressure, and blazing UV exposure during the day with possible freezing temperatures at night. The city lies in a canyon and is structured with the wealthiest neighborhoods lower down, where it's warmer, instead of higher up, where the views are better, as is common in other cities. One of the most impressive sights is the cable car system, which is the world's longest and highest and offers stunning views of the city's many vistas. We had great fun riding it and visiting the different parts of the city.

Day 36 – The Death Road, Coroico, Bolivia 🇧🇴

(Continued on page 3)

For years I had been dreaming of this day. We decided that Paula would stay in La Paz and I would ride by myself. It turned out to be a good decision because, even though the **North Yungas road** or “Death Road” is not as dangerous as it used to be when there was lots of traffic, because it was raining the conditions were treacherous. There were a number of waterfalls from up on high falling on my head and on the bike at times, the wet stones were quite slippery, mud at the bottom was deep and I even had to stop to let a stone avalanche takes its toll. Not for the weak at heart.

Sitting down as I write this article, I now can say that I rode (going down) and thoroughly enjoyed the 43-mile (69-kilometer) switchback with cliffs that drop 2,000 feet (610 meters) at every turn. The road seldom gets any wider than 10 feet (3 meters), and many crosses stand as memorials to those who have perished there.

It was a unique experience and it would take this whole article to explain it in detail. Suffice it to say that I was not disappointed and it turned out to be better than my expectations. I would strongly recommend anyone to do it. If you really want adventure though, wait for a day that is raining. It adds another level to the experience.

Day 37 to 39 – Uyuni, Bolivia 🇧🇴

Another MUST SEE on this beautiful continent is the **Salar** in **Uyuni** which is considered one of the most extreme and remarkable vistas in all of South America, if not Earth. It is the world’s largest salt flat, left behind by prehistoric lakes evaporated long ago.

We were extremely lucky, as at the time of the year we were there (February), it is the rainy season and nearby lakes overflow and a thin layer of water transforms the flats into a stunning reflection of the sky which created this most beautiful and otherworldly terrain.

We stayed for 3 nights in one of the nearby hotels which are made of salt and have beautiful views of the salar. We thought about riding on the salar with the bike but decided against as I had read horror stories of what the high salt concentration do the vehicles. We thus decided to hire a 4x4 with a driver and spent the day in the salar. It was one of the most unforgettable days of our lives and I would highly recommend a visit in your lifetime if you can. We took hundreds of pictures and learned about the history of the salar. During the day we had at least 4 different type of weather patterns where it alternated between rain and sun, sometimes with heavy wind and sometimes total still. At times it felt we were in an episode of Star Trek and we had just been beamed to a new world. Wild

Day 40 – Entering Argentina 🇦🇷



Today we travelled from Uyuni, BO to **La Quiaca, AR**. It was a beautiful ride where we went over many passes on a brand new road. In every town we passed we were reminded of the Dakar rally, as this was part of the route. Upon entering Argentina, we couldn’t find any place to buy insurance, but after committing that we would buy as soon as we could, they let us in.

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Days 41-46 Northern Argentina (Salta, Cafayate, Famatina and Mendonza)

The first thing I need to mention about Northern Argentina is how welcoming the people are of tourists and motorcycles (or **maquinas** as they call them). Everywhere we went we were received with open arms and there was no lack of interest on our trip, ourselves and our maquina. As my knowledge of Argentina until then was based on the portenhos (people from Buenos Aires), who are not known to be friendly and welcoming, this came as a big and very welcoming surprise to me.

There are many things I recall from these five days and here are some of them:

The multicolor (as many as 14) mountains near Pumamarca, AR that 600 million years ago were under water and now are 4,100 meters above sea level as part of the Andes.

The town **Humahuaca**, which is a Unesco World Heritage site and part of the **Quebrada de Humahuaca**

Route 9 from **Jujuy to Salta**. Also know as the **Camino de la Cornisa** which is a long and winding scenic route which goes through tropical woodland up a mountain along some seriously narrow roads. In many parts, the road is actually so narrow that there isn't enough space for two cars to pass each other

The beautiful city of **Salta** with its city centre featuring a number of buildings dating back to the 18th century. We spent two nights in Salta as we took the opportunity to do a service on the motorcycle and change its back tire.

After Salta we joined the **Ruta del Vino** which took us all the way to **Mendonza Nature Reserve**

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Quebrada de las Conchas where rocks of different shapes, sizes and colors dress up for our viewing pleasure.

In **Cafayate** we entered **Ruta 40**, which is the longest route in Argentina with more than 5,000 kilometres (3,100 mi) long. We slept in **Famatina** in a walnut farm and learned about this activity from the owners.

We enjoyed the city of Mendonza, the heart of Argentina's wine country, famed for Malbecs and other red wines, and stayed in a vineyard for the night.

Days 46-48 – San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina

We had heard much about this city so we decided to spend two nights and one full day visiting it. It was a great decision and we loved it. Beautiful city, that is very different of any other city in Argentina (and South America for that matter) and that reminded us of Switzerland.

We took time to walk the city, visit its open market, stop in a number of cafes and also enjoyed their love for chocolate by visiting one of the many chocolate shops and partaking of its delicacies.

We visited Cerro Cathedral aptly named for the granite spires that sit atop the mountain and resemble a gothic church. It is also a "church" for skiers and snowboarders who visit this ski resort to worship the snow god. As we were there in the summer there was no snow on the mountain but the lifts were still working so we were able to go right to the top and enjoy the beautiful scenery from up on high.

Before we left the area we did the **Circuito Chico** which is a popular and scenic route that follows a winding road through one of the most picturesque regions in the world. We enjoyed stunning views, scenic vistas, magnificent mountains and serene forests as we made our way along this breathtaking circuit. We had lunch by the **Bahia Lopez**.

Days 48-50 Patagonia, Argentina



This was one of the most anticipated parts of our trip as we made our way from Bariloche through Esquel, **Perito Moreno**, Rio Gallegos and ended up in **Ushuaia**. We decided to do this faster, most eastward route on the way south as we wanted to

arrive in Ushuaia on the day of **my birthday**.

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It is not easy to explain the Patagonia region because there is no other region like it in the world. On one side, west or our right as we are going south, we have the Andes Mountains, on the other, east or left as we go south, we have the Atlantic Ocean. Due to the different temperatures in these two areas, strong pressure systems develop, high pressure in the Andes and low pressure over the Ocean, which creates extremely strong winds coming from the west, or right as one goes south. These winds are extremely dangerous for motorcycle riding and every morning it became part of our routine to check the Windy website and see what time the strongest winds were going to be blowing. The best is to leave the hotel very early in the morning as the wind picks up towards the afternoon. Unfortunately we learned of at least two accidents due to wind, of people that we had met on the road.



Riding in **Patagonia** for me was one of the places on Earth that I really felt free. The topography includes low-lying mountains, plateaus but it is mainly plain, covered in a sturdy vegetation that needs almost no water. This semi-desert vegetation is low and considerably more sparse so one can see forever. From a fauna point of view one has to keep our eyes open for the guanaco (which is closely related to the llama), who run onto the road totally ignoring the oncoming traffic.

We also got into an interesting habit in this part of our trip, eating **Bife de Chorizo** for lunch. It is a great cut of meat and in my opinion exactly what a steak should be: big, juicy with some tasty exterior fat and literally dripping with flavor. We tried different restaurants, some better than others, but in general I could say you cannot go wrong with choosing this option in Argentina.

Day 50 was an interesting day, where we met a couple from Colombia 🇨🇴 that started in Bogota and had been on the road for over a year. They were each riding a scooter but in Patagonia they decided to ride on the same bike because the young lady did not feel comfortable with the gusty winds. I also rode to the end (or beginning if you are riding north) of the Ruta 40 in **Loyola**.

On day 51, my birthday, we made it to the **End of the World**, we rode until **Ruta 3** (most southern

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road) finished in **Parque Nacional Tierra del Fuego**, just past the city of **Ushuaia**.

The ride from Rio Grande to Ushuaia is epic and on this day we crossed the **Straits of Magellan**, which separates the South America continent from Tierra del Fuego, on a ferry, zigzagged between Argentina and Chile a couple of times, and crossed the **Paso Garibaldi** which is the most southern pass in the world. The approach to Ushuaia is amazing and we did it with the sun low in the sky and were rewarded with stunning views. I will never forget the feeling of arriving at the doors of Ushuaia and even today when I think of it, I get goosebumps.

Ushuaia is a unique city and is set with a mountain range to the north and the **Beagle Channel** to the south, and is nestled amongst some of the wildest and most unforgiving landscapes in Patagonia. One of the must sees in Ushuaia is its prison (that is not operational anymore) and is now a museum. We spent a couple of hours visiting and learned that numerous delinquents who had committed serious crimes came to be incarcerated there through the course of time, some serving life imprisonment and others serving considerably long sentences.

We walked a lot, visited the local market, rode in a bus to see the city tour and had lunch in one of the well-known churrascarias and yes you guessed it, **Bife de Chorizo**.

Day 55 **Torres del Paine National Park, Chile** 🇨🇱

After spending Days 53 and 54 coming north mainly riding in Chile and sleeping in the towns of **Punta Arenas and Puerto Natales**, we were quite excited to visit what some call the eighth wonder of the world.

It is a beautiful place, where one sometimes feels completely insignificant in comparison to the nature all around us. Turquoise waters, check; glaciers, check; towering granite horns, check and so much more. The jaw-dropping landscapes of this place are humbling indeed.

Our highlight of the day was to visit the Grey Glacier on a boat excursion. The Grey Glacier is one of Torres del Paine's most spectacular glaciers, and tumbles into the serene Lago Grey. The boat gets right close to the Glacier and one can feel the sudden chill. Up close, we could appreciate the 30 metre height of this enormous river of ice as it towered above us and that blue colour is just incredible !



Somehow a whole hour in the company of this ice giant feels like just a few minutes and the return journey is the perfect time to contemplate this once in a lifetime experience and enjoy a moment of calm in this most beautiful national park.

Days 56-57 **El Calafate, Argentina**



In the beginning of the day we rode most of the time bordering the Torres del Paine National Park. We arrived at El Calafate towards the end of the afternoon and hurried to see Perito Moreno Glacier inside the Los Glaciers National Park.

ED. This ride ain't over. Check next month's Beemer Zeitung!

CATEGORY II Photo for *JUNE*



CONQUILLO LLIAMA VOLCANO

CHILE

Submitted by: Armando Almeida



BEING SAFE

For those planning on going up for the BMW MOA 2022 Rally in Springfield MO, I have a few thoughts for your trip up and being safe. I am no expert, but these are things to be mindful of on the ride up or on any ride for that matter.

First thing is to plan on the ride being warm since it is in the middle of June and the average temps in the DFW area are typically in the low 90's and Springfield is the mid 80's. Although these temps may not seem that hot you can still get dehydrated. Stay hydrated by beginning to start hydrating 1-2 days before the ride. If you just try the day of the ride you may already be slightly dehydrated and will be playing catchup for the whole ride. If you wear a summer jacket or vented jacket with the vents open, this will suck the moisture out of you quicker and you may not even notice it. This will dehydrate you quicker. Bring water with you so that you can drink fluids at every stop or have some sort of camel pack so you can drink throughout the ride. I carry a camel pack and wear it when I know it will be warm and I want to stay hydrated. Drink plenty of fluids at meals and at bedtime as this will also help. Properly hydrated you stay more alert. At the Rally be sure to go to the "Learn to ride in the heat of summer and become the master of cooling" held on Friday at 11:45 AM.



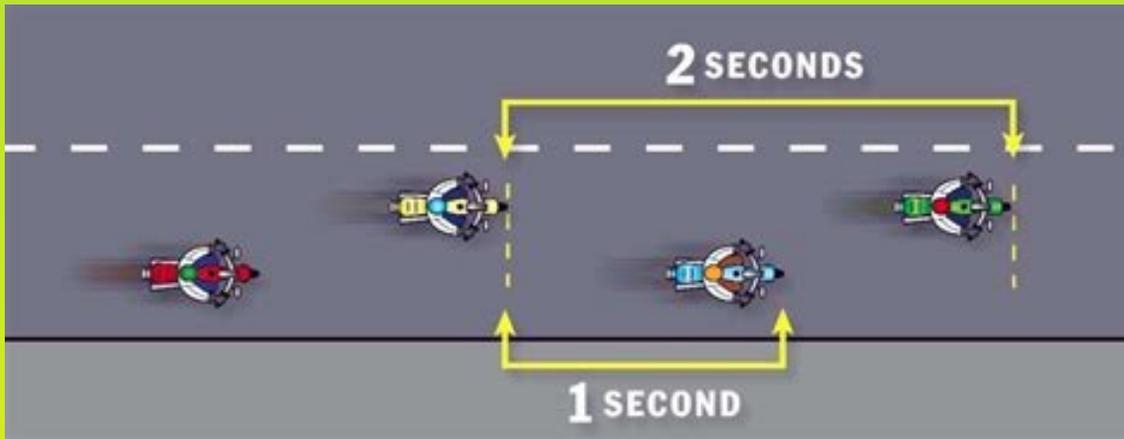
David Frankenfield



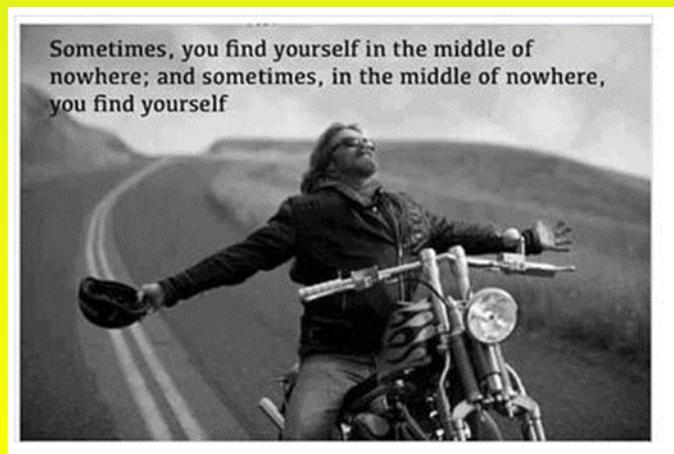
If you're riding in a group, please remember to ride in a staggered formation. This provides for a safer ride for everyone. Once you find your spot in the group, staying in that spot helps the rider in front of you as well as the one behind you. They will be able to observe your riding style and get used to it so that there shouldn't be any sudden surprises. When riding in a group the club does have guidance that can be found on the website. <https://bmwdfw.bmwmoa.org/about/> . Typically, the leader (1 position) will

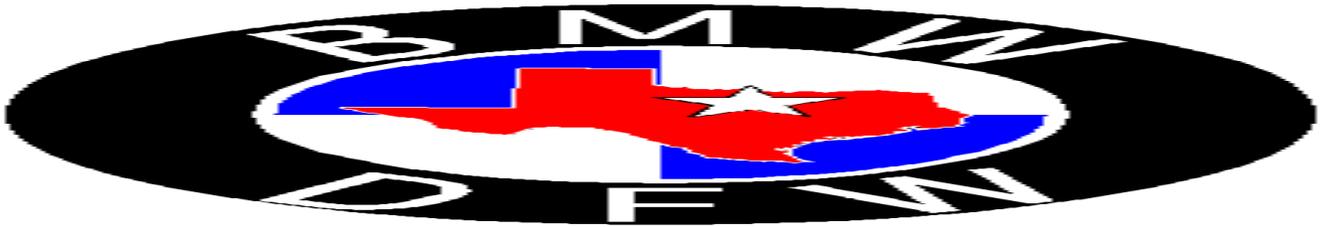
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ride on the left side of the lane and the next rider (2 position) will ride on the right side and about 1 second behind. If you are not comfortable riding on the right side on rural roads where there really isn't a shoulder, then you should ride on the left side being one of the odd numbered positions. Constantly changing positions within the lane can impact the rider behind you or in front of you in an emergency. If you are staggered and then you move to being in a straight line with the riders in front and behind you, you have just reduced your braking distance in half as well as limited your reaction time. If this happens you need to keep a 2 second separation. Always keep the rider in front of you and behind you visible. If the rider behind you starts falling back you may need to slow down so you can still keep them in your mirrors. Remember ride your own ride so if you're not comfortable with the speed and the technicality required for that portion of the ride, ride at your confidence level. If you feel you're going too slow for the rider behind, you wave them ahead so you can ride your ride. When riding in a group the whole group needs to understand these basic principles for a fun and safe ride and remember you're not going to be left behind as the group shouldn't proceed when approaching a turn until everyone has caught up with the group. Each group should have a leader and a tail gunner as well. Leave no one behind.



BMWDFW seems to Ride to Eat, and Eat to Ride. Although those nice big meals at breakfast and lunch can be great, I find that I personally have trouble riding after a big meal. When I let my appetite get the best of me at either breakfast or lunch, I'm not as alert about an hour into the ride. I find myself daydreaming or just getting groggy especially on a long straightaway. Not good. Just like working out in the field on a hot day, graze and eat smaller portions especially on a long ride. Save the big meal for when you reach your destination.





2022 Signature Rides

Landmark Rides for a Landmark Year

Mar 30-Apr 6, Roswell, NM - Thank God it's Spring – The Trinity Site Excursion [Click here for GPX](#)

Apr 21-24, Eureka Springs AR – The Roads of Spring – The Ozark Escape [Click here for GPX](#)

Jun 16-19, Springfield, MO – BMWDFW Ride to the BMW MOA 50th Anniversary National Rally

Jun 19-24, Cape Girardeau, MO - MOA After Ride [Click here for GPX](#)

Sep 15–18, Mena, AR - Rich Mountain Rendezvous at the Queen [Click here for GPX](#)

Sep 28–Oct 2, Kerrville, TX – Texas Spelunker Tour/ MOA Getaway, Kerrville [Click here for GPX](#)

Oct 21-23, Eureka Springs, AR – Annual Fall Color Tour ([Click here](#) for event info)

“Ride ‘em - Don’t Hide ‘em”

RECURRING CLUB ACTIVITIES DETAIL

BMWDFW Club Forum

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

CLUB MEETING, 7:30 PM, 2nd Tues, 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

Destination to be announced each month. Watch [BMWDFWGroup.io](#)

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



VINCE BRECKNER

2022

BMWDFW

OFFICERS

President

Carter Lewis

Vice President

David Frankenfield

Secretary/Treasurer

Dennis Bufton

Bedford, TX

817-475-2413

Tourmeister

Stephen Slisz

yeeha_stephen@yahoo.com

Webmeister

Art Ullman, Jr

Safety Director

Ruben Alanis

Newsletter Editor

Don M Mills

don_mills@sbcglobal.net



2022 UPCOMING CLUB RIDES & SPECIAL EVENTS

Click on the listed event for more information. [Click here](#) for the most current updated event information.

Sunday - June 12, 2022 @ 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

[BMWDFW 2cd Sunday Breakfast and Ride](#)

Thursday - June 16, 2022 @ 8:00 am - June 18, 2022 @ 5:00 pm

[BMW DFW Ride to the BMW MOA 50th Anniversary National Rally](#)

[Ozark Empire Fairgrounds 3001 N Grant Ave, Springfield, MO](#)

Sunday - June 19, 2022 - June 24, 2022

[MOA After Ride – Another 50th Anniversary Celebration](#)

Sunday - July 10, 2022 @ 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

[BMWDFW 2cd Sunday Breakfast and Ride](#)

Sunday - August 14 @ 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

[BMWDFW 2cd Sunday Breakfast and Ride](#)

Sunday - September 11 @ 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

[BMWDFW 2cd Sunday Breakfast and Ride](#)

Thursday - September 15 - September 18

[Farewell To Summer Ride Away – Rich Mountain Rendezvous](#)

Saturday - September 24 @ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

[BMWDFW Cool Your Rocks Cookoff](#)

Wed - September 28 - October 2

[The Texas Hoedown/Thrill In The Hills & The BMWDFW Texas Spelunker Ride Away](#)

Sun - October 9 @ 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

[BMWDFW 2cd Sunday Breakfast and Ride](#)

Thu - October 20 - October 23

[BMWDFW 50th Anniversary Celebration Fall Color Ride Away](#)

Sun - November 13 @ 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

[BMWDFW 2cd Sunday Breakfast and Ride](#)

Sun

December 11 @ 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

[BMWDFW 2cd Sunday Breakfast and Ride](#)

Sun

December 11 @ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

[BMWDFW Annual Award Banquet](#)

**Membership
Meeting
Tuesday
JUNE 14
7:30 PM**

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

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

