

50th Anniversary

BEEMER ZEITUNG

SEPTEMBER 2022



CATEGORY I Photo for SEPTEMBER

VALLES CALDERA - in Jemez Mtns, N. New Mexico

Submitted by: Jeff Levis

True North

Adios Muchachos! The final Signature ride of our 50th Anniversary celebration, the October Eureka Springs Fall Colors Rally, will be my last as Tourmeister of our BMWDFW riders club. I've got to face the cold hearted truth that my "Usual Suspects" are aging out, the group rides have thinning attendance and my touring style seems to be getting a little stale. The club has signed up many "New Suspects" and it's time for new blood to take the Tourmeister's reins.



I've been the Tourmeister for ten years, dating back from when Don Mills and Arnold Garcia "hired" me after I retired from the City of North Richland Hills. I did the job a few times before 2012 subbing for Mike Moon, Don Mills, and Vince Breckner. In fact, when Mike Moon's friend sold the **Wagner Inn** (our original haunt) to the Red Roof Inn chain and we wanted to move the host-hotel to a new location, I arranged a new deal with the owners of the "famous" **Edelweiss Inn**. I had done some rides out of the Edelweiss with Two Wheeled Texans and convinced the Edelweiss to take a chance on us and they allowed me to book a little more than half of their hotel for our **Fall Colors event**. During the peak era of Fall Colors weekend at the Edelweiss, we often reserved the entire hotel, the Trails Inn next door and most of the Alpine hotel, that's up the street near the Alpine liquor store.



I've had tremendous fun setting up rides for the club, but my first few attempts at putting on bigger rides didn't have the most auspicious start. Early on I set up a ride to Albany Texas to enjoy a private tour of the Fort Griffin State Historic Site. Then I



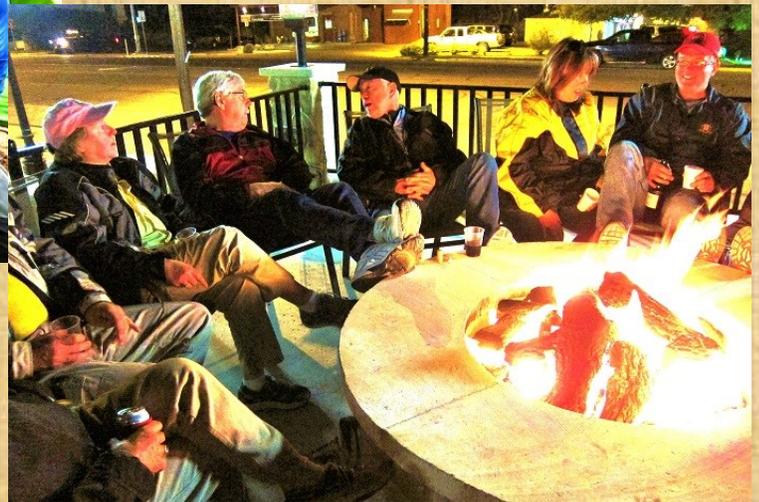
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reserved two box seat sections at the Fandangle outdoor western play located just outside of Albany. (<https://www.fortgriffinfandangle.org>) There was only one nicer hotel in Albany at the time, the Albany Inn, and I talked them into blocking 10 rooms for us on Fandangle weekend. Come the appointed time for kick-stands-up, nobody showed up. Vicki and I sat in the gas station parking lot for about an hour waiting for the BMWDFW crew to follow us to Albany.

What went wrong? Did I have the wrong time? Did I have the wrong Date? Still the days of the flip phone, I couldn't get on a smart-phone to check, so we rode back to our home computer to review the plan I posted to the club. Maybe no one wanted to ride with me and I had taken the wrong job as Tourmeister. Vicki and I did that trip alone.

I've had too many SNAFUS to count since then but there have been so many more rides that were outstanding successes. Other than the Fall Colors weekend, riding to **Fredericksburg** and the **Texas Hill Country** was the second

most popular event on our calendar. A couple of years in a row we had so many riders wanting to attend the Hill Country ride that we almost



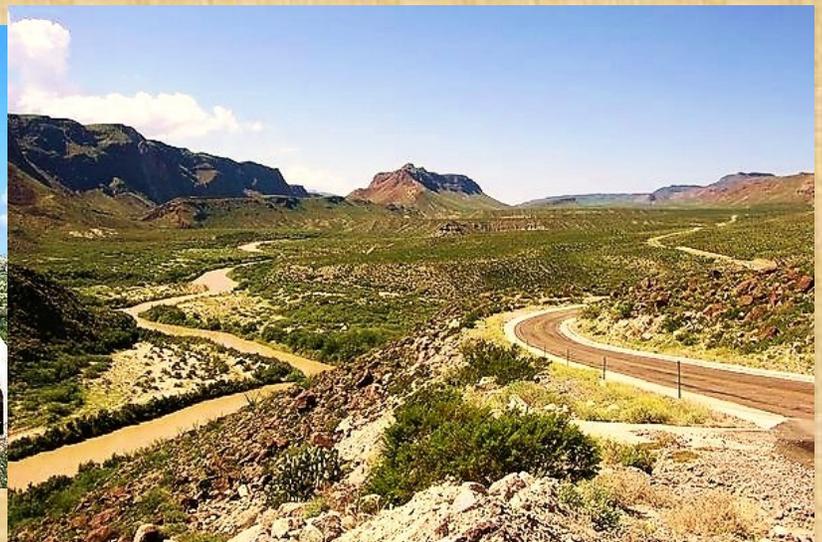
filled an entire Fredericksburg hotel.

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I know the manager of the **Sunday House Inn** and Judy Schorr would allow us to block 30 to 40 or more rooms with no more than just my word that we would all show up. I can't do that now because many hotels want a credit card up front to block rooms for a group.



I looked back through some photos to remind myself on how many rides we've done together over the last 10 years. Wow! How many car shows have we visited? Air shows? Police bike rodeos? Museums? Historic sites? Food runs to Del Norte Taco. Hard 8 BBQ. Meers Burger. Herd's Burger. Bubba Burger. Alamo Springs Burger. And you don't have enough fingers and toes to count the Greenwood Store burger runs!



Not a complete list, but a few of my favorite rides were visiting **Big Bend NP, Fort Davis** and dodging the wild pigs after hours in the dark sky area of the **McDonald Observatory**. The trips

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to Taos, New Mexico. Multiple trips to Colorado and the Top of the Rockies Rally. The Capulin Volcano National Monument. Camping at Sipapu. Twisting up Mount Scott and strolling the Medicine Park river walk in Oklahoma. Joining the MOA on their Getaways to Santa Fe, Eureka Springs, Ft Walton Beach and Kerrville. Catching the historic motorcycle races at Barber Motorsport



Park in Alabama. Riding the Natchez Trace. Traveling up north of DFW to the **Talimena Scenic Drive** and the **Queen's lodge**. Throw in Arkansas' **Pig Trail** and ferrying across the

Peel's gap on **Bull Shoals Lake**. Don't forget the trips to Nacogdoches, Jasper, and Newton in the Toledo Bend Reservoir area of deep East Texas. So many more.

Then there were the events targeted to get you off the couch and rolling your bike out of the garage. Remember the **Friday Night Ice Cream Socials**? How about the Labor Day Taco run and the **New Year's Day Polar Bear ride** for



BBQ? Did you get to make the Holiday Toy Runs to the Austin BMW dealership and to

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Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth?



There were the **Second Sunday rides to Mary's** at Tin Top. And, of course a couple of bouts with silliness like the monthly Pancake House Bike Show where winning trophies were awarded to the Best Appearing Bike. Did you get picked at the monthly club meeting and the 50-50 ticket drawing to carry around **Flat Stanley**? You should've taken him everywhere on your bike and



included him in your photos! A don't forget the **Border Wall in Del Rio...**



Or camping in Oklahoma; Or buying lemonade in Sedona.



There were frequent rides to the **Horny Toad**. I guess we just ran out of time...

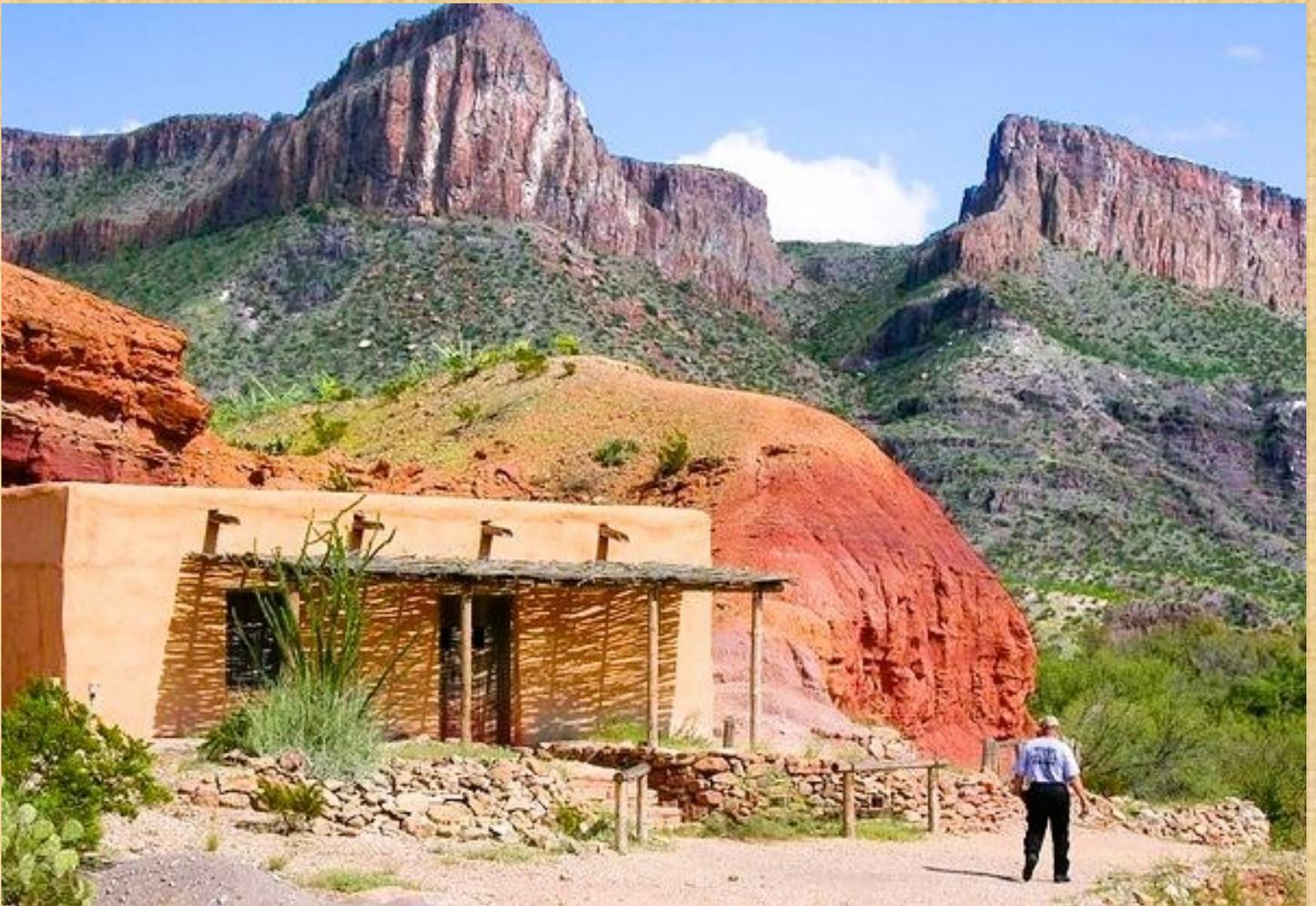
There are tons of places I wish I could've taken you, but now it's time for you to put your heads together and find a new-age Tour-

meister that will fill the Signature Ride list with new and exciting places to ride. I'll still join in the club rides when I can, but for the next couple of seasons I need to knock a few things off my own Bucket List. I'll post a notice every once in a while on the odd chance you'll make a quick run with me. I'm starting to get a nostalgic tear in my eye so I must wrap this up before I start blubbering. As Texas Ranger Gus McCrae says to Woodrow Call in the movie Lonesome Dove: "I-God Woodrow, it's been quite a party."

"Yeeha" Stephen



CATEGORY II Photo for *SEPTEMBER*



ESTANCIA in Big Bend

**by “yeeha”
Stephen Slisz**

If the Shoe Fits.....



VINCE BRECKNER

I floated a thread called “Not an Oil Thread – but could be almost as good”, a while back. I asked about everyone’s most comfortable, favorite touring boot, what they would recommend and why they would recommend them. I was expecting to get back some images of glitter boots, thigh high waders, and such. I mean, it was a perfect “straight-line” ripe with possibilities for our group of quick-witted members. To my complete surprise, I got a good number of responses and all with well-considered advice and recommendations. That information turned out to be key to my selection of a new set of touring boots.

Below are some of the recommendations I found that I thought were a big help and important to me. The responses made me think of exactly what I wanted from the boot and develop a hierarchy of what was most important. Know what your requirements are upfront. Mistakes can lead to a closet full of boots that don’t work and that can get expensive quickly.

Sidi, for instance, does not have width selections but the toe box is tapered to easily fit under the shift lever. But having no width selection and a tight toe box doesn’t work for me over a long ride, especially as my feet tend to swell towards the end of the day. So, I was able to quickly eliminate them from my available selections. In addition, my requirements list included protection, comfort, absolutely waterproof, warm, not too warm, durable, reasonably stiff to ride in, good to walk in all day, inexpensive, and make my butt look smaller. The last two requirements I had to give up. All the salesmen told me every boot I tried fit the last requirement, but personally, I just didn’t see it.

The information from our group is legion. It comes from die-hard and experienced riders with lots of miles and lots of brands. Here are the top requirements recommended from the group for a good all-around touring boot:

- Feet dry means truly “stand-in-water” water proof with a wicking interior. Gore tex was the favorite choice over any of the hybrid materials
- Good traction without heavy lugs
- Tall enough to prevent your pant leg from riding up over the lip of the boot top when sitting
- Waterproof entry flap well above the ankle
- Flexible enough for walking, but some stiffness for riding
- CE protection
- Choice of width of the boot
- Shape and room in the toe box; a tight toe box can become excruciating 4 hours into a ride
- A couple of folks liked rear entry boots and calf adjustability but I found this usually impacts water proofness
- Toe sliders can come in handy for the aggressive riders

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By following the guidelines recommended by our club's riding masters and matching my requirements, I wound up with what I consider the best pair of riding boots I've owned. I can easily and comfortably take my boots on a weeks-long journey in the extremes of summer or winter. And even better, I eliminated a ton of different brands early on to focus on those that best met my requirements. See if it works for you next time you're shopping for boots. *Happy feet VMC*

SPEAKING OF LOOKING BACK....

Any of y'all left who can remember back in 2008, when Yeeha led us regularly to this town of _____?



Who is handing Andy his memorial hat at the end of the TAT West in 2011, at Port Orford,

Or, who are two riders on either side of me on the beach in Port Orford???

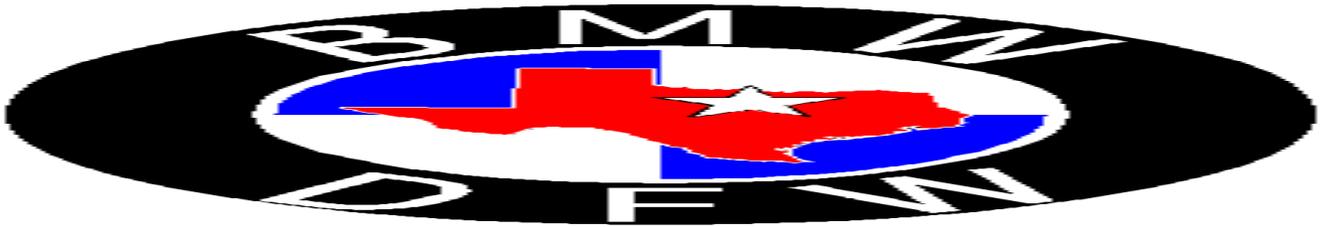
2011



For another great prize....

Guess who this is on US 287 near Amarillo, TX

1975



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

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

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 - 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

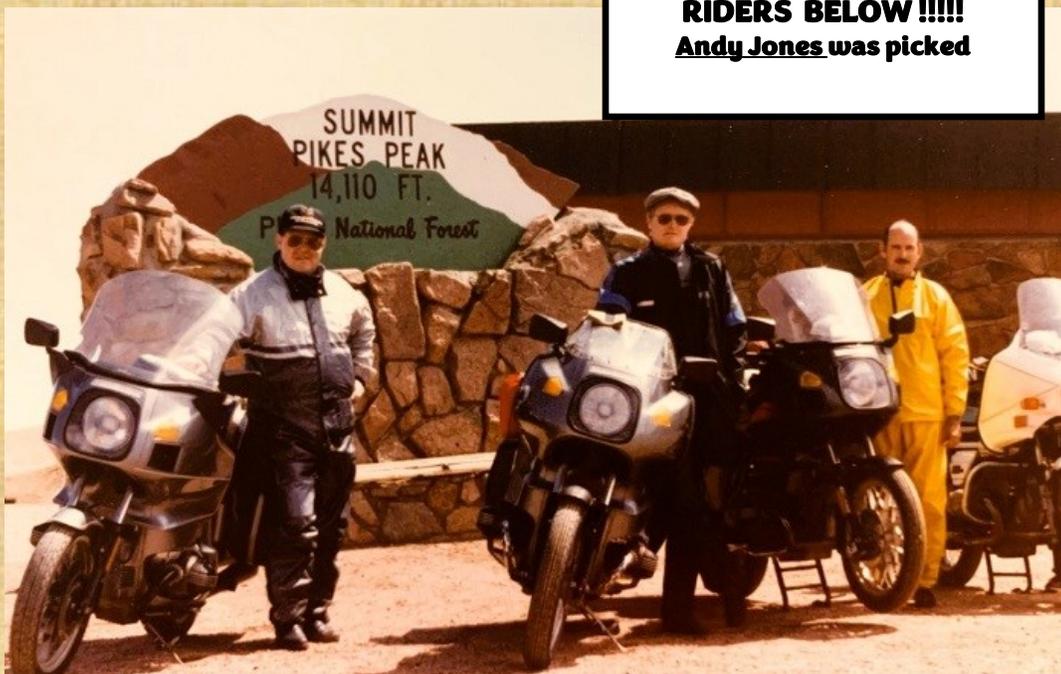
[BMWDFW 2cd Sunday Breakfast and Ride](#)

Sun

[December 11 @ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm](#)

[BMWDFW Annual Award Banquet](#)

NO ONE HAS YET IDENTIFIED 2 OUT OF THE THREE RIDERS BELOW !!!!!
Andy Jones was picked



Membership

Meeting

Tuesday

SEPT 13

7:30 PM

Spring Creek BBQ

1509 Airport Fwy

Bedford, TX

817-545-0184

At Forest Ridge & Airport Freeway (Hwy 121)

