

# SUMMERTIME

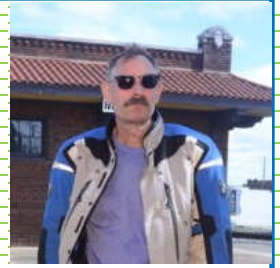
BEEMER ZEITUNG

AUGUST 2024



CATEGORY I Photo for AUGUST  
LIGHTNING MOUNTAIN MONUMENT  
by David Frankenfield

# THE TRIP TO REDMOND



The trip to Redmond Oregon for the MOA Annual Rally actually started back in June of 2023, when the MOA announced the next location for the 2024 Rally. As soon as I got home from the 2023 Rally in Doswell (Richmond), Virginia, I knew I was going and started planning. The direct route from DFW to Redmond is about 1900 miles and should take 29 hours, not including breaks. The planned route ended up being 2524 miles out, and 2728 miles back. The original plan was to start from and end at Raton, New Mexico as many members had indicated they would most likely trailer to Raton, with a Sunday departure and a Thursday arrival. As plans materialized, it looked like a small group of us would be departing from Raton. Having never been west into the panhandle and hearing all the stories about the heat, I contemplated slabbing it all the way to Raton in one day. When the “stops” came out for the Grand Tour of Texas (GToT) and being committed to that challenge, I didn’t want to waste the opportunity to visit the stops, so I decided to take two days to get to Raton.

So the group riding with me decided to ride to ride to Raton over Friday and Saturday. The group was made up of Leslie Hillhouse, Paul Hill, Larry Thomas, Grant Mathews and Eugene Haas who joined us in Amarillo at the Cadillac Ranch. Most of the accommodations on the trip out were at KOA’s and those that didn’t stay at the KOA’s, for the most part, stayed at the same hotel near the KOA, which worked out great for meeting for dinner as well as departing in the mornings.

**The Plan** was to depart Fort Worth on Friday, June 7, and arrive in Redmond on Thursday, June 13, covering approximately 2500 miles. The routes followed a lot of the Scenic Byways between Raton and Redmond. **Silver Thread Scenic Byway, Dinosaur Diamond Scenic Byway, West Elk Loop, Grand Mesa Scenic Byway, Flaming Gorge-Uintas Scenic Byway, Sawtooth Drive** and a portion of the **Journey Through Time Scenic Byway**.

**June 7, 2024 – 398 Miles, Ft Worth, TX to Pampa, TX:** On Friday morning, we actually departed at 0702, just 2 minutes late for KSU! What a great way to start the trip. As we were joining US 287 in Vernon, a solo rider blew past on an R1150RTP headed west. I only know of one person who has an RTP, Mike Secor. He was traveling too fast for our group to catchup to him, weaving in and out of traffic. I did confirm it was him at the Rally. He wondered why we didn’t catch up to him. He



arrived in Redmond on Monday for the Rally prep. We, however, saw the **Royal Theatre in Archer City**, which was featured in “**The Last Picture Show**”. This was one of the GToT stops. In **Childress** we got another photo op at the **Childress County Heritage Museum**. It’s a shame we were on a tight schedule, as it would have been nice to spend some time in the Heritage Museum instead of just stopping

*(Continued on page 3)*



REDMOND(Continued from page 2)

for a photo. We had lunch at the **Wheat's Artisan Bakery in Childress** and what a great place for sandwiches. They are also known for great pizzas. That's what the locals appeared to be getting - a-lot-of-pizza, where we all got sandwiches that were big enough to feed 2 people. The next stop was at **Wheeler County Courthouse** for yet another photo op on the GToT. Wheeler made a TOP 25 PIES List a few years back, so we stopped by **Mel's Diner** for a slice of pie. As we walked in, a waitress greeted us and I explained that we were there for pie. She had a disturbed expression and excused herself for a minute. When she came back, she stated that they only had 1 piece of Cheesecake left and apologized. She sort of got the sense that we ridden all the way from Dallas for a slice of pie. So, we took the one slice of Cheesecake, and we each got 1 bite of it. We also drank plenty water and were able to cool down. Mel's sold BBQ sauces and rubs that got us all laughing, with names like "Aw Shit", "Chicken Shit", "No Shit", and "Good Shit".... you get the picture. It was after 2pm by then, so Paul and Grant headed to Pampa and Leslie, Larry and I headed for the last GToT photo op in **Canadian** at the **River Valley Pioneer Museum**. We took this great little road out of **Miami** to **Pampa, FM 282**, that had some great views and twisties. Unfortunately it was a narrow road with gusty winds from the south, which didn't make for a pleasant ride. We were in constant prayer that we wouldn't get blown off the road in the curves. We dined at a great little steak house across the street from the hotel, which was real convenient.



**June 8, 2024 – 315 Mile, Pampa, TX to Raton, NM:** This was to be an easy day where we could take our time and do a little sightseeing, you know touristy stuff. We still had a couple of more GToT stops, so as we departed Pampa, we headed over to **Antelope Creek Leather in Borger** where they happened to be having a Memorial Run for Earl, who was the founder of Antelope Creek Leather. We passed a lot of bikes headed north for the event. Looked like it was going to be a great

turnout for Earl. As planned, we met up with Eugene at the **Cadillac Ranch** and I had the opportunity to tag one of the Caddi's, I should have used a different color but if you look closely, you can see it. Then it was the dreaded I-40 to **Vega** to get the last of the GToT "stops", the **Milburn-Price Cultural Museum**. There's



is a lot of neat and weird stuff outside the building. Since we arrived at brunch time and found this neat little café on old **Rte. 66** called **Hickory Inn Café**. From there we ventured a couple a blocks north to the town square where the **Cultural Museum** was as well as **Mama Jo's Pies and Sweets**. Lessons

(Continued on page 4)

REDMOND(Continued from page 3)

learned from my trips to both the Springfield Rally and the Doswell Rally was to call to make sure places are still in business and that the hours haven't changed. Joann at Mama Jo's confirmed she would be open, when we were scheduled to be riding through. Wow, what a gem in Vega! I think we all ordered slices of different kinds of pie. No complaints, and everyone left with a big smile on their faces.

Then off to **Capulin Mountain Nation Monument**, an extinct volcano in the NE corner of New Mexico. We learned something at the park if you have a lifetime National Park Pass and you read the back of your card it states that the passholder and occupants of a single vehicle OR the passholder and three persons. So, each passholder is good for 4 people. So, we all rode up to the top free and hiked up to the top to check out the great views. We quickly realized that we were more than 6600' above sea level. "Slow and steady" was necessary. Once on top, we saw the



threat of rain coming our way, so we retreated back down and headed to **Raton**. On our way there, a tractor trailer rig seemed to have it in for Grant, who swore the driver tried to run him off the road. Fortunately we all arrived safe without any further incidents.

**June 9, 2024 – 324 miles, Raton, NM to Gunnison, CO:** The day started off with a great breakfast at the **Oasis Café** which seemed to be the only place in town for breakfast on a Sunday morning. Good, filling meal to start the day on a long ride. We headed up I-25 to Trinidad, then west on CO 12, then CO 160, and finally CO 149 into **Creed** for lunch at **Kip's Grill**. But I'm ahead of myself. Going up over the mountain through the **San Isabel National Forest** I missed a picture-perfect photo of a lake. I didn't have my point-and-shoot camera around my neck, lessoned learned. There were a lot of people up there fishing. The ride down through the



small community of **Buttercup** and then into **La Veta** was a beautiful ride with some nice twisties to get us ready for what was to come. At the Sinclair in town, we met this guy from Virginia who happened to have just purchased a R1200 GSA. He didn't know anything about the BMW community or the National Rally. We encouraged him to at least look into it. The scenery around La Veta was nice rolling hills. (From La Veta to Creed the terrain changed to more of a high plains or high desert.)

We got into the mountains in the **Rio Grande Forest**. As we were pulling into Creed we got a light mist which was fine as we were stopping for lunch anyway and we could wait it out if it was going to rain. Grant was right about **Kip's** being a great place to eat and being a small town in the middle of nowhere.



(Continued on page 5)





When we left **Kip's** there was still the threat of rain as we continued on CO 149 to Lake City. It took us about 1 ½ hours to get there for our rest stop including an ice cream break at the **San Juan Soda Co.** We arrived just in time for the rain to start. The ice cream shop was a perfect place to wait but it was pretty busy, so we



decided to gear-up for the rain and head north to **Gunnison**, where we arrived just ahead of the rain. As it turned out there were some pretty bad cells to our west, and some were starting to pop up to our east. At the Gunnison KOA we were greeted by **3 of the local residents** and we just prayed they didn't leave a calling card outside our cabin.

**June 10, 2024 – 352 miles, Gunnison, CO to Vernal, UT:** The day started off interestingly. While I was in the bathroom washing up before departure, there was a guy in there who asked me if I was a rider. My guess is my riding pants gave it away. He said that he was headed up to Oregon and I admitted we were headed that way as well for the MOA Rally in Redmond. Guess what? He was headed to the same place and planned to follow a route that he had found on another club's website. It turned out the route he was following was from the BMWDFW website. He was going to be staying at the KOA in Vernal as well so we swapped contact information. The W Café was closed for a deep clean of the kitchen and the help told us about **The Back Country Café** just a block away.



While we were waiting for the restaurant to open, another BMW rider planning to eat at the W Café, showed up so we invited him to join us for breakfast. Turns out the guy was retired from the Coast Guard and was training to be a motorcycle mechanic. After he retired, he went to Vietnam for a motorcycle vacation. If I remember correctly, he rented

a bike, hired a tour guide for a couple of months and it only cost him \$3000. Since he'd saved so much money in Vietnam, he picked up our breakfast. Oh, the cinnamon rolls were awesome. Our original plan was to head west on US 50 to CO 92 and then to CO 65 but the bridge was closed across the reservoir so we headed north to Almont then cut across over to Cotton Pass and on to Buena Vista.



The first stop was the **Taylor Park Reservoir**, and the views did not disappoint.



The road from the reservoir to **Cottonwood Pass** was the sweetest road of the trip so far. Smooth clean asphalt with wide shoulders and nice sweepers with some tight curves, and no cars. When I got to the **overlook** at Cottonwood pass, I know I had a giant grin on my face. The ride down to Buena Vista was just as fun. The ride up US 24 to CO 82 was boring compared to what we had just ridden. CO 82 west took us over **Independence Pass**, which was still covered in snow.

The roads were clean, but the facilities at the top were closed because it was still freezing at night, and the ranger stated that it was a heat wave up there. We had to walk on top of the snow to get to the overlook. There was an early 60's Mini Cooper up there, a precursor for our ride down into Aspen. A parade of cars was coming up out of Aspen; all late model cars, and even some old open wheeled cars, mostly British and European.



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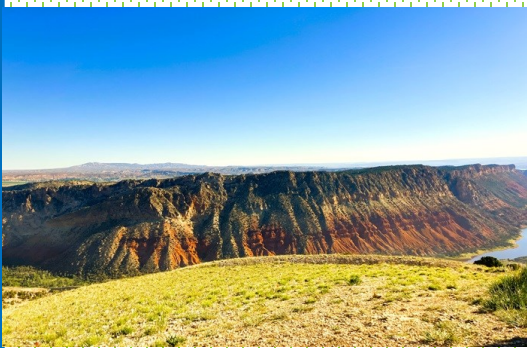
REDMOND(Continued from page 6)

Aspen was busy so Grant guided us up to Snowmass for lunch and we basically had the place to ourselves. The food was good but we were a little rushed as it was going to be a long day. We got off of I-70 at New Castle CO and continued up to **Rifle Gap Reservoir** and then to CO 13, CR 5 and then CO 64 where we took a well needed break at the **Kennedy Reservoir** just east of Rangely CO. We crossed into Utah at around 6 pm I believe. When we finally arrived at the Vernal KOA, John and Greg were already there with tents set-up and Chris was getting his tent set-up. We were all in the same area of the KOA, and met for dinner at the **Vernal Brewery Co.** Being late arrivals we basically closed the place down.



**June 11, 2024 – 405 miles, Vernal, UT to**

**Lava Hot Springs, ID:** This day would take us from Vernal, UT up into Wyoming and eventually into Idaho, and Chris from Florida joined us for the day. Our route was north up US 191



into the **Ashley National Forest**, skirting the southern edge of the **Flaming Gorge Recreation Area**, then west on UT 44 to **Sheep Creek Bay Overlook**. The road on either side of the overlook was being resurfaced with chip seal which sucked. The views from the overlook, however, were pretty neat with the changing colors of the rock formations. Coming off the overlook into the valley we joined the **Flaming gorge Scenic Byway**. The scenery was very flat without much to look at, and some pretty straight roads. So,

what does one do when bored on a straight road? Hmm, how fast can my bike go? Well, mine topped out at 125 mph and I wasn't the fastest bike. It was pretty smooth at that speed, and I must admit I was impressed. We passed through **Green River, WY** which had a cliff that the road ran along as well as some interesting rock formations like what you would expect to see in Monument Valley.

WY 351 to **OBO's Market and Deli in Mableton, WY** was flat again with no real relief. But Mableton had fuel, a laundromat, and a pretty good deli with both prepared food or made to order sandwiches and homemade pies and baclava.



From there we headed north into the **Bridger-Teton National Forest** where we picked up US-26 along the Snake River into Alpine. The mudslide and collapse on WY 22 from Jackson to Victor didn't have any impact on US 26. There was light traffic and we were able to enjoy the ride along the River.

(Continued on page 8)



REDMOND(Continued from page 7)

Once we crossed into Idaho, the terrain changed to rolling hills with vistas. We followed ID 34 which was a portion of the Oregon Trail, how apropos. Another lesson learned, when taking pictures on a digital camera make sure you have enough memory, enough said. Once we hit the Snake River my memory was full and couldn't take any more pictures. The area around **Greys Lake National Wildlife Refuge** was one of the most peaceful looking places on our trip. It's definitely worth another visit.

After arriving at the **KOA in Hot Lava Springs, ID**, we went out to dinner at a new brew pub. Let's just say the staff needed serious training. They couldn't get the drink orders or the food orders correct. The blessing was the beer ended up being free and we only needed to pay for the meals. They snuck the tip into the bill and the machine still asked you for a tip. On the walk back to the KOA and we saw Chris's tent pitched right next to the stream that ran through town. Probably the best spot in the whole KOA.



**June 12 – 417 Miles, Lava Hot Springs, ID to Meridian, ID:** Today we split into 3 groups and met up in Meridian. Instead of slapping on I-15 we took a road that paralleled I-15 but ran through the foothills. It was great with good pavement and great twisties. There were some areas with more condensed residential areas where we needed to slow down, or at least I did. We did have to ride I-15 from **Pocatello** up to **Blackfoot** for only a few miles then we went west into the high desert toward **Craters of the Moon National Monument**. What an interesting park with all of the black lava formations. We could've been in a volcano in Hawaii or at Mt. Etna in Sicily.



(Continued on page 9)



REDMOND(Continued from page 8)

After our visit at the park, we drifted west into the small town of **Carey**, not much there but I had to laugh at the sign when leaving Carey. Instead of a “Thanks for Visiting” it simply said, “**Carey On**”. Just up the road was **Picabo** and the **Silver Creek Store** and **Picabo Angler** with gas at the store and lunch in the grill inside the angler shop, which also provided fishing guides and everything needed for fly fishing. The food was good.

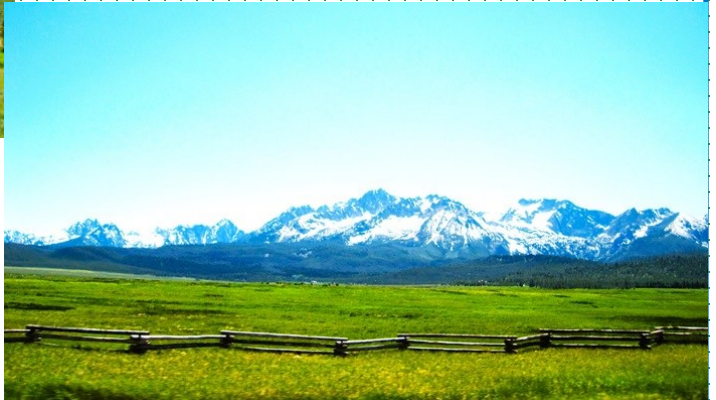


Leslie’s rear tire was getting close to the wear indicators and the rest of the ride was going to take us through the **Sawtooth National Recreation Area**. So shortly after lunch, Leslie decided to take the more direct route to Meridian while we contin-

ued the route. We saw Paul as we were going through the construction detour traffic in Ketchum. He had decided to head back to Meridian instead of going through the mountains and was basically following the same route as Leslie. This was a day we split into multiple groups riding around Idaho. Once we got through Ketchum and the folks going to Sun Valley, the traffic disappeared. **ID 75**

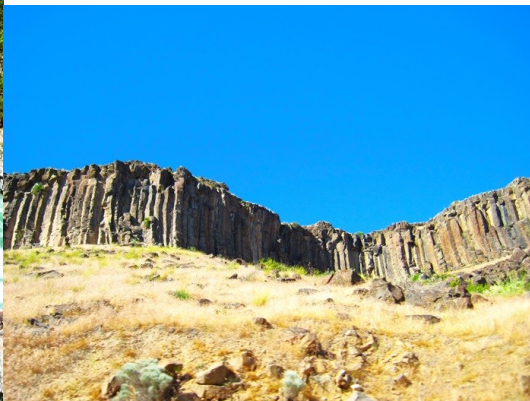


took us to **Stanley** where we got onto **ID 21**, the **Ponderosa Pines Scenic Route**, which led to **Boise-Meridian**. In Stanley we had joined with John and Greg as they had been ahead of us and riding the same route. **ID 21** is a must



ride, if you ever get into the area. Larry and I pushed it as hard as we could and all I can say is that it was blast. There were parts of the road without guard rails and the drop-offs were pretty steep. It was one of those roads where you couldn’t sightsee or look down into gully as your bike would follow your eyes; so, eyes on the road, low gear, and twisting the throttle, what an adrenaline rush!

Once we got down closer to Boise there were a lot of public campgrounds and other recreation areas which allowed us to decom-



(Continued on page 10)



press and take it easy. Although we must not have been taking it too easy because Larry and I pulled into the Hilltop Way Station to take a break and get some fluids in us. We had slowed down, seeing some bikes behind us and expecting Eugene and Grant to be among them. Well, it was, but it was also John and Greg and Eugene, who was the only one that saw us. It's a good thing the K1600 has a reverse gear because he needed it backing up to the store. I think he was happy since it was also a liquor store, and he needed to replenish his stock. We ended up arriving in Boise-Meridian at rush hour which made for a hot and slow ride. At least it didn't last too long before we got to the hotel. Another awesome day with some great views, good eats and most of all, great riding.

**June 13 – 313 Miles, Meridian ID to Redmond, OR:** This day was going to be an easy, relaxing day compared to the others. Paul decided to bail on us and ride with John and Greg again, so we were back down to 5 in the group. The first stop out of Meridian was in Vale, OR and as we were approaching Vale, we started to see larger groups of BMW riders heading to Redmond. At the gas station in Vale a pretty large group had pulled in while we there. Lets just say the gas station was filled with Beemer's.



As we got closer to the **Whitman National Forest**, rolling hills



and some interesting washes surrounded us. We were able to pull into a few overlooks like the **Eldorado Pass Overlook**, and the **Strawberry Mountain Range Overlook** in the **John Day Valley**. Ever-



everything in the area is named John Day and the town of that name is the only source for dining in the area. Grant made Randy proud at the **Grubsteak Restaurant Saloon**, where he consumed a One Pound burger. An



older gentleman joined us for lunch and regaled us with tales of his riding adventures. The people we met along the way were friendly and interesting. We ended with the **Journey Though Time Scenic Byway** and the **Ochoco National Forest** with its nice and green valleys and



pinetrees that put us in the outskirts of Redmond. The final stop of the day was the **2024 MOA National Rally** at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds, having traveled 2,524 miles of awesome roads, great scenery and fellowship.

**TO BE CONTINUED**



## CATEGORY 2 - Photo For AUGUST



**WHO KNOWS .....**

**SCOTT MILLER**



# 2024 Calendar of Events

BMW Motorcycle Club  
Dallas - Fort Worth



## RECURRING CLUB ACTIVITES DETAIL

### BMWDFW Club Forum

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

### CLUB MEETING, 6:30 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> **SUNDAY**, 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 5:30 pm.

### CLUB BREAKFAST / RIDE, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, MONTHLY

Destination to be announced each month. Watch BMWDFW at Groups.io

### CLUB RIDE, 4<sup>th</sup> Friday, MONTHLY

Destination to be announced each month. Watch BMWDFW at Groups.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.

### Various Member Rides

These will be announced as they come up on the Members Forum at BMWDFW at Groups.io



VINCE BRECKNER

## THE OLD EVENTS LISTING IS DEAD LONG LIVE THE EVENTS LISTING.....

### On the website

A couple of the things the website provides are up-to-the-minute Event Listing detail and calendar updates for all the club activities, events and scheduled rides the expanded Event and Calendar updates in the newly designed website. Upcoming Events for the next month are listed on the opening page of the website. Click on any one of those and it will take you directly to the calendar event. And by clicking on the "Meetings and Events" tab just below the header picture, you'll be taken to the club calendar where you can explore future rides and events by calendar format or list format. You can also search for events and drill down to the detail for each event by clicking on the event. The best part is that you'll be getting up-to-the-minute information on the ride or event. Any change to the event by the Tourmeister or owner of that ride or event is immediately available in the detail of that event. Enjoy the new website and its benefits! VB

## HOWEVER..... NOTABLE EVENTS FOR 2024 :

SEPT 21	COOL YOUR ROCKS—WHITE ROCK LAKE BOAT CLUB IN DALLAS, TX
OCT 11-14	BARBER VINTAGE FESTIVAL IN BIRMINGHAM, ALA
DEC 15	ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET



## Contest Reminders

[Click here](#) for all the contest information and forms

### Mileage Contest – Nov 15 to Oct 15

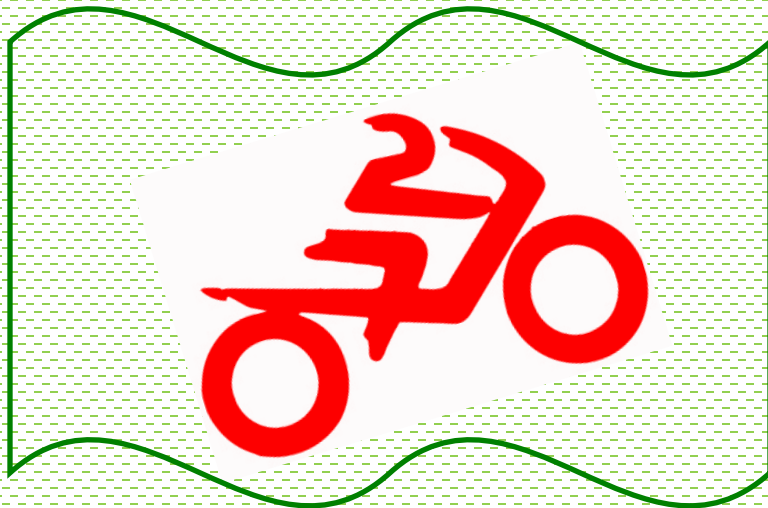
Grab your gear, ride the miles, get recognized! The annual mileage contest celebrates your willingness to enjoy the open road. Download the [rules](#) and the [entry form](#) to get started!

### Photo of the Year

Did you snap the most unbelievable image that you can't wait to share? Enter our photo of the month and photo of the year contests to win some great gear for BMW DFW members. Download the contest rules for the [monthly](#) or [annual](#) contest and submit your favorite image.

### Newsletter Article of the Year

We're always looking for the next great writer. It might be you. Enter our newsletter article of the year contest and help promote the riding community. Download the [contest rules](#) to get started.



## 2024 BMWDFW OFFICERS

### President

David Frankenfield

### Vice President

LESLIE HILLHOUSE

### Secretary/Treasurer

Dennis Bufton  
Bedford, TX  
817-475-2413

### Tourmeister

David Frankenfield

### Webmeister

Art Ullman, Jr

### Safety Director

Tom Manly

### Newsletter Editor

Don M Mills

### Membership

### Meeting

**SUNDAY**

**AUGUST 11**

**6:30 PM**

**Spring Creek BBQ**

**1509 Airport Fwy**

**Bedford, TX**

**817-545-0184**

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