

DATES EVENTS

Better Late than Never Ride
Sunday March 6, 2005 – 9:00 AM

Meet at Lowe's located at Barnes Bridge and Galloway, in Mesquite for this 65 mile ride.

We've missed John's annual Birthday by less than two weeks. But when you're as old as he is, it makes little difference. Who's counting? So join us for a new ride and new route, so new that even the leaders may get lost. But who'll know they're lost since they'll be at the back of the pack anyway?

Some cyclists may think "Better Late than Never" is a long ride for so early in the spring. But we suggest you think of it as a training ride for HELL WEEK (see <http://www.hellweek.com/texas.html>) Be there or be square. Place our bets: Can the "old geezer" can really ride this distance?

**St. Patrick's Day Ride**
Sunday, March 13 – 9:00 a.m.
Lancaster Town Square

Join Team HudsonCroy as they attempt to fill the chief leprechaun's shoes by hosting the annual St. Patrick's Day Ride. Meet at Lancaster Town Square, located at Highway 342 and Main Street in Lancaster, TX. We haven't scouted the route yet, but last year's notice said it is a rolling route of 47 miles without much traffic. We'll also try to come up with a shorter and a longer option – probably by borrowing from the Lancaster County payride routes. And of course, we will follow tradition and celebrate St Pat with a late lunch and a beer after the ride. Why tempt fate? Call Bruce or Carol at 214-320-8708 (cell: 214-674-2610) for more information or if the weather is inclement that morning.

April 2005 DATES-LINE Schedule:

Mailed by: March 26, 2005

Notices & Articles due by: March 22, 2005

Collin County Ride
Sunday, March 20th - 9:00AM

Kevin and Linda Vinson will host the Collin County Ride on Sunday, March 20th. The route includes part of the Collin Classic course and features plenty of rolling hills on country roads. We will start at Erwin Park in McKinney and ride approximately 30-40 miles (2 routes/distances available). Meet at 9:00 a.m. and ride at 9:30 a.m.

To get to Erwin Park in McKinney: From US 380, head north on FM1461 (about 7.1 miles east of Preston Road, SH289 and 2.4 miles west of US75). Proceed approximately 1.9 miles on FM1461 and turn right onto CR162 and then another quick right onto CR164. Go 1 mile and turn left onto CR1006. Follow CR1006 approximately 0.3 of a mile and make a right into Erwin Park. Follow the road through the park until you come to a T and then turn left. Continue on until you see the first sheltered picnic area on the restrooms (on the left).

If anyone has questions, please contact Kevin or Linda at 972-625-6110 or via email at linda.vinson@eds.com

Two Flags In the Springtime
Sunday April 3 - 8:30 am

Grayson County Court House - Sherman, Tx

Meet Herb and Sandra Bloomer (214-321-6398 email heb@gte.net) at 8:30 am at the Grayson County Court House in Sherman for a 48 mile route that rolls through the hills of Grayson County and across the Indiana Jones bridge that takes you into Oklahoma. This is the same great route that Tom and Brenda Shaddox do in the fall.

Dates Business Meeting
Sunday April 3, 5:30 PM

To be held at the home of Roane and Juanita Logan in Farmers Branch, 3403 Summer Place Court. Please call 972.620.1882 to RSVP. Final preparations for the SWTR and the summer riding season will be hot topics. Please join us.

12th Annual DATES SAR!

Saturday and Sunday, April 9 - 10, 2005

This ride is the favorite of so many long time DATES teams that it would be easy to "preach to the choir" in announcing this year's edition. But if your team has never attended, we really want you along this year! It's a quiet ride over a scenic route during a pretty time of year - but that's not why the SAR is so popular. This ride is the one time every year when we captains take the time and effort to tell our stokers how much we appreciate them. We put them up in romantic B&B's, take them out to dinner, and - gasp- read them poetry we've written for them (but not until we've gotten some champagne in them!) It's a fun, happy time that teams return again and again for. Hope to see you there!

This year's ride is scheduled for (Saturday and Sunday). We will as always have:

- ✓ A SAG van for overnight luggage w/ ice chest for the bubbly.
- ✓ Detailed, entertaining, semi-accurate maps of the classic, award winning SAR route.
- ✓ A beautiful, quiet, scenic route lined with flowers from Weatherford to Glen Rose on Saturday.
- ✓ Group dinner in Glen Rose Saturday night.
- ✓ Champagne and Stoker Poetry (tm) after dinner.
- ✓ Overnight in Glen Rose, North Texas' most romantic little town.
- ✓ A lovely ride back on Sunday.

Gather at the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce building (Highway 80 @ Santa Fe) around 8-AM ish on Saturday morning, load the SAG, have donuts and juice, get tandem tattoos and leave around 8:30ish, or whenever the stokers are ready. Ride to Glen Rose - 60 miles on the back - and I do mean back - roads. In the afternoon we square everyone away at the hotel, motel or romantic B&B of their choice (see www.glenrosechamber.com/lodging.html) and then gather everyone up for group dinner, champagne and the legendary reading of the poetry the Captains have written for their Stokers.

Sunday morning we gather the luggage up and hit the road about 9ish for the ride home. Often teams have a late lunch together back in Weatherford.

Fine print: DATES member teams only, limit first 20 teams, RSVP ASAP and questions to: Tom Shaddox res1rrzj@verizon.net 972-517-4534

**2004 DATES-LINE
GOLDEN SPROCKET****And The Nominees Are . . .**

Oscar Award night must wait its turn, because it was the Double DATES Annual Meeting that brought out the glitz to celebrate team recognitions and accolades.

Members of the fun loving club were greeted by Kevin and Linda Vinson, the most contemporary of our glamorously dressed event leaders. Our always-chic Linda was captivating in a slender black lace top with $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeves over classic black slacks. Her sparkling personality was matched only by the 2-inch diamond studded hoop earrings on loan from her friends at Harry Winston. Kevin, having stepped right off the front cover of *GQ Magazine*, wore a crisp, mandarin collar white shirt, tailored slacks that revealed the sheen of silk in a fine herringbone weave of dark olive fabric, and of course, his always present and effervescent good guy smile. Linda and Kevin welcomed each guest with warmth and assiduous attention to detail and care for their every need.

While sleek and racy will turn heads, casual and trendy is Don Hunt's favorite blend. His tall, lean build makes a sport coat over black tweed trousers always look sharp. A classic white dress shirt, cordovan belt and matching wing tip shoes were the perfect background for Don's choice of a bold pattern tie. While casual is his preference, glamour was his date for the evening. Don's partner in life and teammate on their tandem, D'Ann chose a beaded chiffon gown that was both as feminine and fun as it was seriously black and lovely. Over 5 thousand tiny beads were hand sewn to a short sleeve, scoop neck sheer chiffon bodice and sparkled like a million stars over the Big Texas sky. An elegant layer of chiffon flowed gently over taffeta from the fitted waist all the way to the floor, but D'Ann kept the full skirts from

brushing the hardwood with 3" heels. D'Ann's jewelry accessories were simple statements in garnet and diamond, and a gold band that matched the one on Don's left hand. This dashing duet reported, entertained, and awarded with grace and style.

And style is Grace, which is what we saw at this year's event. Grace Hogan modeled a lovely ensemble of velvet and satin that fell from capped sleeves just off her shoulders. The bodice of alternating fabrics combined softness and texture in a most attractive V-shaped pattern that was as flattering as it was fashionable. The harmonizing knee length velvet skirt gave way to sheer stockings and sassy sling back heels. And just in case the room was too cool, Grace carried a beautifully embroidered black silk cape. Tom displayed the popular "business casual" style with a deep blue cashmere jacket over classic black trousers and a light blue oxford shirt, open at the collar. The voguish Hogan duo held their own in sophistication and the audience in eager anticipation of the coveted Golden Sprocket Award announcements.

And the winners are:

Most Frequent Contributor
Colleen Hering

Multi-part Series
Warren Casteel, Rolling Along
the Katy Trail

Writing on International
Travel

John McManus, On the road
again, but not on the road

Product Review
Brad Hepler, U2

A special thanks go to all of the nominees as well as contributors to the 2004 Dates-Line without which we couldn't enjoy an exciting and interesting newsletter each month. Keep riding and keep writing so that we can enjoy another year DATES-LINE!

Valentine's Ride

By Kevin Vinson

This ride took place on Sunday, February 13th. This ride is hosted annually by Tom and Diane Glenz and was attended by eight teams.

To start off with, we couldn't have asked for better weather for this time of the year. Last year on Valentine's weekend, we had approximately three inches of snow on the ground. The weather for this ride started out in the 60's with some gusty wind. We met at Dove Elementary School in Grapevine. Linda and I were relegated to our singles since our tandem was in the shop and we no longer have our hybrid tandem.

No matter, we took off at approximately 9:45 AM and made our way through Grapevine, Roanoke, and Trophy Club. Regarding the route, Tom and Diane did a great job of putting together a very scenic route with some nice rolling hills. For anyone that is planning on attending the Southwest Tandem Rally in Fredericksburg, this route would be a very good training route.

As is tradition, at the 29-mile point, we stopped at the Dallas Marriott Solano in Westlake for a wonderful brunch at the Cielo Restaurant. The DATES motto of, "we ride to eat" was no more evident than on this ride. As always, it was a wonderful brunch with great friends. After the brunch, we mounted back up for the remaining 7 miles back to Dove Elementary with the wind at our backs. Tom and Diane couldn't have planned this out any better.

For Team Bryant and their friends, they still had 10 miles to ride back to their starting point. My compliments to Tom and Diane for a wonderful day of riding.

Thank You

Team Carlson, retiring Secretaries
Team Hogan, retiring Dates-Line Editors

WELCOME

Team Kemp, Secretaries
Team Jenkins, Dates-Line Editors

VALENTINES DAY RIDE *Recycled*

by Colleen Hering

For the seven teams who joined leaders, Diane & Tom Glenz, the Valentine's Day Ride commenced on a comfortably cool and partly cloudy Sunday, February 13, 2005.

We have ridden this DATES ride numerous times and it seems to improve with age (or maybe it's the people). Diane promised and delivered good weather, but she forgot to calm the 20 mph winds. The good news is, we rode into the gusts on the way out while we were fresh and got a windy boost up the hills with our stomachs full on the way back.

The well-mapped 36-mile course started in Grapevine and led us through Southlake, Westlake, Roanoke, and Trophy Club. The detailed cue sheet contained landmarks and red-lettered warnings to alert riders to easily missed turns on the course, resulting in zero losses.

The route was picturesque, especially through Mt. Gilead. Three-railed, white fences spanned hundreds of acres of pastures and corralled an assortment of exquisite horses and lazy cows. I actually got one cow to moo back at me (or maybe at the Longhorn across the street who also mooed). Double yellow lines are common on these rural roads due to the hilly and curving terrain. Nonetheless, several vehicles passed us with no apparent concern as we spread out to accommodate individual paces.

A friendly and energetic black Labrador ran along with us for about a mile stretch, before finally falling back in apparent fatigue. Several expressed concern that she might not find her way back home, but I suspect this wasn't her first run-along.

At the 29-mile mark, Cielo's at the Marriott and brunch invited us in. As in past years, the usual line of tables was reserved for us in the elegant restaurant. We unabashedly stormed the buffet and overwhelmed the omelet and waffle chef. A second chef appeared at a second stove to provide faster service.

The eight teams chatted and unguiltily consumed sweetened carbohydrates with a complement of meat and dairy protein in a seemingly short period of time. Then we burned a few calories tackling the remaining eight uphill miles back to Dove Elementary where we started.

Thanks to the Glenz's for hosting this enjoyable and delicious event (for the countless time). We especially appreciate their going the extra mile with the detailed cue sheet. Good job! Happy Trails!

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Ladies Road Bike For Sale: Trek 2000 WSD in Gloss Black with Red, Silver, White - Size: 52 cm

Frame: Aluminum frame with Icon carbon classic fork
Components: Shimano Tiagra (triple crankset), Tire size: 650 x 23c
Extras: Cateye halogen headlight and Specialized cyclocomputer

This was my first real road bike and I got it especially for the hilly Dennison Dash Triathlon in September 2000. Since then it's been ridden in other triathlons and duathlons in the Dallas area, its' light weight makes is an excellent choice. The bike, stored indoors is in excellent condition. I've affectionately named it "Black Beauty". Asking \$500.00 contact Linda at Linda.vinson@eds.com or at 972-625-6110



fresh dates

Team Pipkin Plano, TX

Captain: Ken Pipkin
Stoker: Dianne Pipkin
Joined DATES: January 2005
How long have you been cycling?
 Captain: 20+ years
 Stoker: 1+ years
How long tandeming? 1
Why did you start riding tandem?
What kind of tandem do you ride? Trek T900
How often do you ride? Just getting started
How far? Maximum ride so far is 35 miles
Usual route/area? To La Madeline's for breakfast
Where/How did you hear about Double DATES? Linda and Kevin Vinson

Team Young Lewisville, TX

Captain: Benjamin C. Young
Stoker: Stacy L. Young
Joined DATES: January 2005
How long have you been cycling?
 Captain: 25 years
 Stoker: 12 years
How long tandeming? 1 month
Why did you start riding tandem? In an effort to increase the amount of time we spend exercising together. We also enjoy the amount of teamwork involved and of course how much fun tandeming can be.
What kind of tandem do you ride? 2004 Co-Motion Robusta
How often do you ride? Twice every other weekend
How far? It varies between 20 to 40 miles per weekend. We hope to improve upon this.
Usual route/area? The greater Lewisville, Argyle and Grapevine metro area.
Favorite Ride? Still to be determined
Where/How did you hear about Double DATES? Internet search engine.
Anything else you'd like us to know about you? Not at this time. Thanks.

Remember the registration deadline is March 4. So print the form from and sign up today. We need a lot of club members to make our visitors feel welcome.
<http://www.doubledates.com/SWTR2005/Registration.html>

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2005 DOUBLE DATES RENEWAL

It is time to renew your membership. Renew NOW and participate with DATES members in 2005.

1. Fill in the name and address information below. (PLEASE PRINT)
2. Read and sign the Liability Release. All riders over the age of 18 must sign.
3. Make out a check for \$18.00 payable to "DOUBLE DATES"
4. Send your renewal form to:

Kevin & Linda Vinson
7013 Fox Drive
The Colony, Texas 75056-4458

Captain: _____ Stoker: _____

Street _____ Apt. # _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Ph: _____ Work Ph: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

- Check here to receive an electronic version of DATES-LINE newsletter; hard copy will not be mailed.
- Check here if you are interested in becoming a "Bike Buddy" to a new member team.

LIABILITY RELEASE

All riders must sign a waiver of claim below to become members of Double Dates. Parents or guardians must sign for riders under 18 years of age.

I acknowledge that by signing this document, I am releasing the Double Dates, its members, officers, and agents from liability. This release is a contract with legal consequences, and I have read it carefully before signing.

I acknowledge that cycling is an inherently dangerous sport and fully realize the dangers of participating in group rides. I fully assume the risks associated with such participation.

For myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, assignees, and successors in interest (collectively "Successors"), I hereby waive, release, discharge, hold harmless, promise not to sue, and indemnify the Dallas Area Tandem Enthusiasts, its members, ride leaders and officers (collectively the "Released Parties") from any and all rights and claims including claims arising from the released parties' own negligence, gross negligence or intentional conduct, which I have or which may hereafter accrue to me, and from any and all damages which may be sustained by me directly or indirectly in connection with, or arising out of, my participation in or association with an event sponsored by Dallas Area Tandem Enthusiasts.

I understand and agree that situations may arise during a ride, which may be beyond the immediate control of the leader(s), and I must continually ride so as to endanger neither others nor myself. I accept responsibility for the conditions and adequacy of my own bicycle equipment. I will wear a helmet that satisfies the requirements of the ANSI Snell regulations that can protect against serious head injury, and I assume all responsibility and liability for the selection of such a helmet. I have no physical or medical condition, which to my knowledge would endanger others or myself if I participate in Dallas Area Tandem Enthusiasts rides or would interfere with my ability to participate in such rides. I agree that should I or my successors assert my claim in contravention of this agreement, the asserting party shall be liable for the expenses (including legal fees) incurred by the other party or parties in defending.

I understand that a parent or responsible adult must accompany all riders under the age of 18 on any Dallas Area Tandem Enthusiasts ride. If I am a minor, my parent or guardian also is signing on my behalf and we both agree to be bound by the terms of this waiver and release.

SIGNATURES OF ALL RIDERS

_____, Captain Age _____ Date _____

_____, Stoker Age _____ Date _____

_____, Other rider Age _____ Date _____

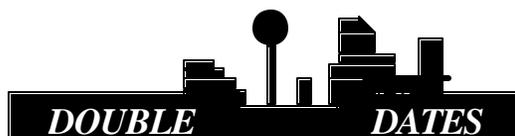
_____, Other rider Age _____ Date _____

DATES-LINE is published monthly during the cycling season (*Ed. Approximately 10 issues/yr*) by and for members of **DOUBLE DATES**. Information contained herein is for the general good of the tandem community and may be copied without permission; credit to **DOUBLE DATES** and **DATES-LINE** is appreciated. **All comments and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit all submissions.** Generally, Monthly Issues are mailed by the **Last Tuesday** of the previous month. Notices and Articles must be received a week prior to the mailing date to be included in the next issue. Exceptions to this schedule are published in the preceding issue of the newsletter. Machine-readable copy is required, preferably in MS WORD. Copy should be e-mailed to ddateseditor@aol.com or mailed on a 3.5 diskette to the editors Tom & Grace Hogan at 2200 Woodburn Corners, Plano, TX 75075-3507.

Advertising Rates (per issue): \$10 - Business card size ads; \$35 - ¼ Page ads; \$50 - ½ Page ads

DOUBLE DATES, the Dallas Area Tandem Enthusiasts, is a recreational club for riders of tandem bicycles. Membership dues are \$18 payable annually in January. If a team joins mid-year, the dues are: Jan – June \$18; July – Oct \$9. Teams joining in November or December pay \$18 and are paid up for the following year.

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	Out of Town	1.800.875.5662 (b)	
	Night (Warren & Audre Casteel)	972.596.8206 (h)	warren@casteelsign.com
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