

DATES EVENTS**Southern Oklahoma Ride Weekend
Saturday & Sunday, June 4-5, 2005
Ardmore, Oklahoma**

DATES Ride in the Hills of Southern Oklahoma:

Sunday, June 5th, 8:30AM – Lead by DATES Members Rick and Kay Watson, Ardmore, OK, 580-223-8180 or cw7540@cableone.net. We will start the ride about 7 miles north of Ardmore at Springer School. Directions to start: Take I-35 North of Ardmore to Exit 40 (Hwy 53 East) go 1 mile turn left on Hwy 77, go ½ mile to Springer School parking lot – on right. Route distances are 35, 53 or 63 miles.

We will ride by beautiful Turner Falls, Lake of the Arbuckles and Chickasaw National Recreation area park.

We invite DATES members to come to Oklahoma one day earlier and join us for one of the “*Best little pay rides in Oklahoma or Texas*” on **Saturday, June 4, 9:00AM**.

Red River Roadkill Rally, Ardmore, Oklahoma (less than 100 miles North of Dallas on I-35).

Routes are 20-40 & 60 miles, early entry (postmarked by May 27) - tandem \$25, single \$20, child under 12 \$5; later entry – tandems \$35, single \$25, child \$5.

Start location Santa Fe Depot on East Mail – call 580-226-6246 or email mainstreet@ardmore.com for registration form and information.

Let's make it a fun DATES weekend – come up for Roadkill Rally ride on Saturday, stay over Saturday evening social time (hotel #'s below), dinner at the ever favorite “Two Frogs Grill” and the Watson's invite you for dessert and coffee afterward. Sunday we will travel a few miles north of Ardmore to ride in the Arbuckle Mountains to the community of Sulphur for lunch and return to our cars in the early afternoon.

Hotels in Ardmore: Best Western 580-223-7525, Days Inn 580-226-1761, Comfort Inn 580-226-1250, Hampton Inn 580-223-6394, Holiday Inn 580-223-7130, LaQuinta Inn 580-223-7976, Microtel Inn 580-224-9485. Lake Murray Lodge 580-223-6600.

**DATES Business Meeting
Sunday, June 12, 2005 @ 5:30 PM**

To be held at the home of Tony and Colleen Hering. The main dish will be ham. Please RSVP and let us know if you will be bringing a salad, side dish, bread, or dessert. 972-396-1694 or thering@directlink.net. Please join us!

Directions:

The address is 1201 Aylesbury Dr., Allen. Take US 75 to the Bethany exit in Allen. Turn east on Bethany. Go 2 miles to Aylesbury/Whitman, which is the fourth traffic light. Turn right (south) on Aylesbury Dr. Go ½ mile to the corner of Aylesbury and Mark Twain. One story house on far left corner.

**Pilot Point Ride, Sunday June 12th
Meet at 8:15, ride at 8:30.**

Start point: Town Square (gazebo) in charming Pilot Point located on US 377 eleven miles north of US 380.

Distance options:

1. **Short** is 20 mostly flat miles through horse farm country.
2. **Regular** is 36 rolling miles through horse farm country and over the Lake Ray Roberts Dam.
3. **Long** can be up to 53 miles by adding a 9-mile eastern loop, an 8-mile western loop or both.

To get to Pilot Point's town square from US 377, turn west on Co. Rd. 1192, a.k.a. E. Liberty St. This is the same intersection where FM 455 goes east. There are restrooms near the town square.

This is a fairly flat, peaceful ride on quiet blacktops that takes us through horse farm country and out to Lake Ray Roberts, where we ride across the dam. There is a rest stop/convenience store at mile 12 in Aubrey, where those wanting only 20 miles can begin their route back to the start. Those going on will discover a few curves and a couple of hills on the way to the Lake Ray Roberts Dam. There are 2 more excellent restroom stops on this part of the ride for those who love their coffee. We'll have a recommendation for a lunch stop at the ride's end.

**A 'Whole Lotta Country' Ride
Saturday, June 25, 2005 @ 9:00 AM**

Join Pat & Charlie Jenkins for a scenic Saturday ride through rural Grayson County. We've mapped routes of 26, 48 & 65 miles. Most of these miles are on lightly traveled country roads. Meet at 8:30 & plan to ride at 9:00.

A few miles from the end, we'll emerge back into civilization so we can enjoy ice cream at the "Cold Stone Creamery". Then we'll return to country roads for the final few miles to our cars.

Directions: North on Hwy 75 to exit # 67 (Loy Lake, in Denison). Go West (Left) on Loy Lake Rd, under 75 & take the 1st right – entrance into Loy Lake Park.

You may contact us at 903-463-1516 (home), 903-624-9744 (cell) or email dates@ntsk8.com.

Mark your calendars & watch for details:

- July 10 → Flower Mount or Cedar Hill
- July 24 → Plano / Lewisville Ride & Pool Party
- August 7 → After Melon Patch Ride
- August 20 → TBD
- August 28 → After HHH Ride
- September 30 – October 2 → STR 2005

Sign up for DATES Email Distribution List

Receive up-to-the-minute information about scheduled & impromptu rides and other events and matters of interest to cyclists in general and tandem riders in particular. Go to web page groups.yahoo.com/group/DATES1 and click on "Join This Group" in the upper right corner of the panel, then click on "Sign Up Now" to go to the sign up page.

If you need assistance in signing up, e-mail Warren Casteel at warren@casteelsign.com.

**The TROLS Big Adventure '05
Friday – Sunday, September 16-18, 2005**

The TROLS is a tandem bicycle club of northeast Texas. We are currently preparing to host a tandem weekend (Sept 16-18, 2005) in the enchanting, historic town of Jefferson, TX. If you enjoy tandeming on scenic, rural country roads, antique shopping, brick downtown streets, good food, and the fellowship of other tandemists, then this is the ride for you.

Due to limited facilities in the small town of Jefferson, we can only accommodate a total of 50 tandem teams.

Saturday morning, a choice of several scenic routes on beautiful, low traffic, rural roads will be offered. We will visit quaint country communities such as Lodi and Bivins. The countryside is magnificent and the cycling is outstanding. A catered box lunch will be provided in route. You're on your own for the afternoon in Jefferson to enjoy whatever activities suit your fancy.

Following a BYOB happy hour social, a buffet dinner will be catered Saturday night in the historic Carnegie Library. The menu is still under construction, but is sure to be delectable.

Sunday morning, we will embark on a picturesque ride to Caddo State Park. Be prepared to dodge the Spanish moss hanging from the ancient cypress trees.

While organizing this "adventure" in Jefferson, the warmth and helpfulness of the residents of Jefferson were readily apparent. They are almost as anxious as we are and have extended every courtesy. This should be a remarkably fun excursion to times gone by. Even though the "official" registration deadline is Aug 15th, prompt registration is encouraged because of the limited number of teams our accommodations can support. So register early and join the fun!

Registration is open NOW!

Questions? Call Reggie or Linda Bowers at (903) 663-2144, or e-mail: txhobbit@yahoo.com.

Or visit our web site at <http://trols.home.att.net>

www DOT planocycling DOT com

605 18th St., Plano, TX 75074
(972) 423-4130
FAX: (972) 516-0598
HOURS: M-F 9:30-7, TUES 9:30-8
SAT 9:30-6
SERVICE OPENS AT 8:00AM M-F

DATES RIDE REPORTS

MS150 Fundraiser**By Roane and Juanita Logan****May 14th – 15th 2005**

Juanita and I had a memorable time riding the MS150 fundraiser. For the past 2 weeks and all of this week we have had a strong south wind. Saturday morning at 3am we were awakened by a big thunderstorm and did not get back to sleep. We got out of bed at 5am to face a 20mph north head wind for our 6:15 picture taking and our 7am start. We had about 2,000 riders—all raising funds for MS. Several of the riders rode for teams and we rode for the Country Wide team with about 80 riders. We gathered at the baseball stadium in Frisco and had a mass start at 7am with fireworks and rock music. Going north into that wind was tough but it got worse riding in the rain for about an hour in 60-degree weather. Uncharistically we could not keep up with anybody the first 15 miles and I thought Juanita was not doing her share on the back of the bike. I stopped and noticed our brake was grabbing our wheel to where I had difficulty turning it by hand. We had a loose spoke and I loosened the brake and we rode on—much easier now. We got to the 20-mile rest stop and got our wheel aligned. Also my rear view mirror that attaches to my helmet came loose and I stopped in a C-store and got some super glue and got that fixed. We had a nice break from the wind for a lunch stop in Sadler, Texas at about 50 miles. We got back in our saddles and inched our way onward drafting behind others where we could. I was down in my drops most of the time to reduce wind resistance which made the trip more uncomfortable. Each rest stop was a theme (pirate, wild west, etc) and had a corporate sponsor. They were spaced about 10 miles apart and had fruit, energy bars, Gatorade, and butt crème. It is amazing how reapplying the crème helped and we are now believers in taking the small packets on long trips. I also had my first (and second) Twinkie since high school. Because of the effort our caloric intake was high, eating something at each rest stop. At the hotter N hell we only stopped at the 30 mile and 60 mile stops before stopping at most of the rest. Because of this wind we made all but one. We finally arrived at 3:30 pm and had 6.5 hours in the saddle with a 14.2 mph average for the 92.5 miles. Our last HHH average was 19mph. If we had had the normal tail wind all it would have been a piece of cake and a 2 hour shorter trip. The fastest riders got there at noon with an 18.5mph average and their normal would have been closer to a 30mph avg. We were still watching riders come in at 7:30pm and the last one was at 8pm. The tenacity and determination of some very new riders was inspirational to watch. For every rider there were people cheering them in as they came in.

When we arrived we found about 25 circus type tents with many corporate sponsors with food, beer, wine and chips. We had a hot dog and chips and listened to the rock bands that played continuously. We took a shuttle to our cabin on at the Lake Texoma Lodge in Oklahoma and took a much-needed nap. We shuttled back to the main area and ate again (4th meal besides snacks)—BBQ, spaghetti, and baked potato with more Gatorade and listened to the band till about 8pm. We headed back to the room but looked back to the main area and watched the impressive July 4th type of fire works as dark prevailed.

We struggled out of bed at 5:45 am on Sunday and used a 4-inch paintbrush to liberally apply more crème. We ate breakfast with 2,000 of our closest friends and we all gingerly got back in the saddles again with tight muscles and the temperature in the 50's. We left the park in mass across a mile long bridge across the lake that they shut to vehicle traffic. It was a relief that we headed east with only a cross wind, then north into the wind about 10 miles, then back west to Ardmore for a 62.5 mile day. It was much easier with a cross wind even though we had some tough hills and also climbed in elevation. We never saw Hershel Walker who rode in it but he was behind us. At least we beat him in something. He had his huge "Dallas Cowboy painted" RV that he was in. We were only 5 miles from finish when I helped Sandy from Country Wide with a flat tire. We got her fixed then rode into the Ardmore HS stadium with cheers from many people and past a lady with MS in a wheel chair thanking us for our efforts. That brought tears. We showered in the gym and felt human again, except for a part that felt like a mandrill monkey looks. We ate and boarded the bus back to Frisco and our bike was waiting for us. We got back to Frisco at 5:30pm and overall had 11 hours in the saddle and 158 miles. As our bus was driving out of Frisco I saw some men picking up the MS lady and physically putting her in a van. That emphasized the effort was all worth while.

Roane and Juanita Logan

Next Business Meeting →

Sunday, June 12, 2005 @ 5:30 PM
 Tony and Colleen Hering's home
 1201 Aylesbury Dr., Allen, TX

RSVP to
 972-396-1694 or
thering@directlink.net

SOUTHWEST TANDEM RALLY 15 WRAP-UP
JOHN MCMANUS & BRENDA COLE
 April 21st – 24th



Malcolm Boyd & Judy Allison
 Tandem Club of America Founders



Bill McCready
 President of Santana



Happy Hour at SWTR 2005

Photos by John McManus & Brenda Cole

For those of you who were at the rally in Fredericksburg, you know it was a great event. Everything went right including the weather. For those of you who missed it, too bad!

We've received compliments from many people. But none could be more complimentary than the note we received from Susan and Mike Mahoney of the Houston Area Tandem Society, who themselves put on an excellent rally:

Mike and I just wanted to express our appreciation to you and all the DATES for a FABULOUS SWTR weekend in Fredericksburg! You stepped outside the box by adding a full day on Friday and we can't imagine the weekend without having all three great rides. We feel certain that the out of area guests left with a true feeling of Texas hospitality and a "respect" for our Hill Country hills!

Knowing that your "plan" for the rally was unexpectedly changed by the Sunday House, you made some tough logistics appear seamless. The happy hour at the Marketplatz was wonderful. We only wish we'd made our dinner plans either earlier or later so as to fully enjoy the outdoor social setting.

Our only complaint is that the DATES have once again set the bar higher for the rest of us! I'm not sure we can arrange another Secret Service visit for you next time in Waco!

Please pass along our good wishes and thanks to your "team".

SOUTH WEST TANDEM RALLY 15 WRAP – UP (CONTINUED)

In addition to a lot of luck, we had a core team plan for almost two years; we had more people do a lot of work in the months leading up to the rally and then even more members worked diligently in Fredericksburg to pull off this event.

- Thanks to the core committee: Chuck and Kris Carlson, Pete Holverson and Laura Roberts, Mindy and Scott Mashburn and Kevin & Linda Vinson.
- Thanks to those who stepped up and volunteered in the months prior to the rally: Don & D'Ann Hunt, Bruce Hudson & Carol Croy, Jim & Rhonda Hoyt, Charlie & Pat Jenkins, Harry & Janette Thompson and Rick & Kay Watson.
- And thanks to those who helped in Fredericksburg: Ton & Diane Glenz, Rick & Tammy Gurney, Tony & Colleen Hering, Tom & Grace Hogan, Franklin & Trish Kemp, Frank & Leslie Mitchell, George & Pauline Patterson and Lee & Becky Wilson.

Special thanks go to Warren and Audre Casteel for donating tandem decals, which we've sold over the past two years to subsidize a first class rally. Also thanks to anyone who we forgot.

North by Northwest Ride

Sunday, May 1, 2005

Valley View, Texas

By Kevin Vinson

This was our first trip to Valley View, Texas. We had driven through Valley View many times via I-35 on our way to Muenster or up to Oklahoma. Anyway, this ride was hosted by Ronnie and Nanette Bryant. It was a beautiful day for riding and it showed by the turnout this ride had. If memory serves me correctly, there were approximately 12 teams for this ride.

Ronnie and Nanette were offering up two distances, 35 and 60 miles. Due to homeowner obligations, Linda made it very clear to me that we were going to have to stick to the 35-mile route (consider the source here). With that in mind, my ride report is based on the 35-mile route. After the greetings and ride briefings were complete, we made our way west out of the Valley View town square.

You knew right from the start that this was going to be a very nice ride. The weather couldn't have been better and the motorist traffic was non-existent. Everyone rode together until the split off for the 35-mile route. At that point, Linda and I made the turn south. As I had mentioned in the beginning, Linda and I had some homeowner commitments that afternoon. Apparently, so did Team Carlson (it sounded like their discussion about which route to do was very similar to the discussion Linda and I had☺).

The 35-mile route was a very scenic route with gently rolling hills and good roads. On the way back to Valley View, Linda discovered a deer along side the road. I was in a groove at that time and was very reluctant to stop. After some gentle persuasion (yeah right), I made a U-turn and made our way back to where Linda noticed the deer. We rode by the deer and made another U-turn. Slowly, we approached the where the deer was. It was amazing. That deer just stood there and watched us. It was probably about 12-15 feet from us. For some reason, Linda thought she might be able to go over and pet the deer. When she began to unclip, the deer took off. My wife is definitely an animal lover. She was so excited to see a deer. When you get her and Chuck Carlson together, the discussion immediately turns to birds. That was the case early on in the ride.

Chuck is very knowledgeable about birds and Linda has become very proficient in picking out birds either by their looks or by the sounds they make. It is interesting to listen to Chuck and Linda discuss birds while riding. One of the joys of cycling is the chance to see wildlife. We definitely saw it on this ride. We arrived back at the square with Chuck & Kris. After visiting with them, we made our way back home to take care of our homeowner commitments☺. Thank you Ronnie and Nanette for a wonderful ride.

Lone Oak Winery Ride & BBQ

Saturday, May 21, 2005

Valley View, Texas

By Kevin Vinson

We have heard so much about the Lone Oak Winery Ride & BBQ that we were anxious to participate in the Lone Oak Winery Ride. Once again, Larry & Nancy Gingerich were the ride hosts while Robert & Jamie Wolf were kind enough to host the BBQ at their Lone Oak Winery.

This ride took place on a Saturday at 1:00 PM. The winery is located north of Sanger and east of Valley View, just east of Lake Ray Roberts on Lone Oak Road (FM 3002). Unfortunately, Linda and I were a little late due to the fact that we rode our singles in the Richardson Wildflower Ride that morning. We apologize for holding everyone up. We decided to get in a warm-up ride on our singles before doing the Lone Oak Winery Ride.

We rode the 20-mile route at the Wildflower Ride. After the ride, we ran into Beth Hobensack. Beth and Yvonne Hensley run Double H Enterprises and are "honorary" members of DATES. After visiting with Beth, we picked up some lunch and made our way home to unload our singles and load up the tandem. After we cleaned up, we made our way up to the winery.

Once we found the winery (we drove right past it on our way there), we quickly got ourselves ready. The weather for this ride was unseasonably warm. There were eight teams that started off from the winery. Larry Gingerich rode his single while Nancy was kind enough to provide SAG service. Also, Team Brock rode their recumbent.

We made our way east from the winery. The route was a 37-mile route that took us as far north as Gainesville. Most of the roads had little or no traffic. When we reached Gainesville, Nancy had a rest stop set up for us at this cute little nursery. Plenty of refreshments and shade. After leaving the rest stop, we made our way south. Making our way back, we noticed the wind had changed direction and speed.

It was coming out of the south and had increased. It was also getting warmer. One by one, each of us made it back to the winery. We were greeted by Team Hudson-Croy. Team Hudson-Croy were unable to ride due to Carol breaking her ankle this past week. I was assuming she would be wearing a cast but they have her wearing a "boot" instead. I was glad to see them make it up for the BBQ.

Once we got cleaned up, we were treated to BBQ and wine. Robert and Jamie Wolf were wonderful hosts. They have a very nice winery. I tried the Dolce (Sweet Red) and it was very good. I ended up buying a bottle of the Dolce and Merlot. The BBQ was also very good. Robert was kind enough to tell us that we had broken a record for the high temperature that was set back in 1996. I guess it's a good thing that we didn't know that before or during the ride.

If anything, we got a good training ride for the Hotter N' Hell Hundred coming up in August. Even though it was hot, the ride route was very nice with some hills mixed in. Larry was great in making sure everyone was doing alright while Nancy made the rounds in her SUV making sure we had everything we needed. The rest stop at the nursery was very nice. We saw some couples we hadn't seen in a while and that was very nice.

Many thanks go out to Larry & Nancy Gingerich and Robert & Jamie Wolf!

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Lone Oak Winery Ride and BBQ

By Colleen Hering

Eight DATES teams accepted Team Gingerich's invitation to the Lone Oak Winery Ride and Barbecue on Saturday, May 21, 2005. The atypically hot weather caught everyone by surprise after weeks of comfortable spring temperatures. Mother nature cranked up the heat, leaping from morning 70's to 101 degrees during the afternoon ride.

Despite the tropical weather, everyone was good-natured. Tony Hering and Larry Gingerich compared leg scars from years of accumulated bike mishaps as other teams arrived. Nancy Gingerich was acting as rest stop and sag support while Larry was leading the group on his single. Nancy encouraged anyone who needed assistance to call her on her cell phone. On that note, we headed out on the 37.7-mile route.

As our tires spun across the road, the gummy pavement mimicked Rice Crispy's snap, crackle, and pop. Larry started at the front of the group and dropped back to each team for a few social minutes, settling in with the last team for several miles. No one seemed to be in a big hurry to sprint to the rest stop, which was at Callalily Nursery in Gainesville, 21 miles into the ride.

Tony and I settled into our usual casual pace (slower than most, faster than some), but even the minor hills seemed more of a struggle than they should have been. I attributed our low energy to the heat and tried to enjoy the country scenery which was enhanced by miniature horse ranches.

Larry and the last team caught up to us three miles from the rest stop. Larry hung with us as the team shot ahead. We cranked up a hill and shortly after Tony announced he was unable to continue the ride. We found a small patch of shade and applied cool-down measures to treat initial symptoms of heat exhaustion. When Larry's attempts to call Nancy failed due to a dead spot, he pedaled off to the rest stop to send her back for us. It took three of us to hoist the tandem on to the roof rack, which resulted in Nancy's midriff getting toasted on the hot SUV. Even rescuers get scarred.

The car's air conditioning cooled us down, and Tony began to recover from his first "bonk" in 17 years of cycling. We happily joined everyone at the very pleasant garden-style rest stop for Gatorade and cookies. After a short visit, the remaining cyclists left to finish the ride and Nancy took Tony and I back to the winery. We waited on the front porch with Nancy who was armed with her cell phone in case of any other casualties. Everyone returned and appeared to be in good shape.

We dined inside the winery where the temperature sank and our comfort level rose. Rudy's BBQ catered the event with turkey, sausage and brisket, accompanied by the usual sides and cobbler. Tales of cycling mishaps and broken bones resumed when Carol Croy, along with Bruce Hudson, joined us for lunch sporting a medical boot to support her broken ankle. We encouraged her to explain her busted bone with an embellished cycling crash chronicle, but she stuck with her "tripped-over-a-stool-chasing-the-cat" story.

Thanks to Nancy and Larry for hosting this enjoyable, scenic, and delicious event. We appreciate Larry's friendly leadership and Nancy's good-natured support and rescue efforts. Also, thanks to the good people at Rudy's BBQ, Lone Oak Winery, and Callalily Nursery for their support.

A Refresher Course in Heat Survival

Initial symptoms of heat exhaustion are pale, cool, and clammy skin, headache, nausea, and profuse sweating. Advanced symptoms are collapse and heatstroke. First aid is cooling down, finding shade, and drinking lots of water.

Initial symptoms of heatstroke are flushed face, headache, nausea, dizziness, hot, and dry skin, no sweating. Advanced symptoms are irregular breathing, full and pounding pulse (then irregular pulse), confusion, delirium, shock, coma, and death. First aid is (edited for cyclists) applying cold compresses (soak kerchief or rag in cold water), finding shade, and calling for medical assistance.

Should anyone decide to tough it out and ignore the symptoms of heat related illness, the results can be deadly. Prevention is hydration and limited time in the sun/heat.

Happy (and safe) Trails!

St. Patrick's Day Ride

Sunday, March 13, 2005
Lancaster Town Square
By Kevin Vinson

My apologies for taking so long to get this ride report out. Due to the planning of the 2005 Southwest Tandem Rally, I kept putting this off. Now that the SWTR has come and gone, I have no more excuses. Sunday, March 13th was a clear day with strong winds out of the north. A weather front had come through earlier in the morning so temperatures had dropped and the wind had picked up.

The ride was hosted by Bruce Hudson and Carol Croy. There were four teams (3.5 since Roane Logan was missing his "beautiful bride") that met at the historic town square of Lancaster. Just to refresh everyone's memory, the town square of Lancaster was hit by a devastating tornado during the mid-90's. It destroyed half the square. To this day, you can see where buildings once existed and where new buildings have been built.

Once everyone was briefed on the routes, we made our way out of the town square. It was pretty clear early on that Linda and I would stick with the 47 miles along with Team Hudson-Croy while Team Holverson and Roane braved the elements and attacked the longer route.

I can't speak for the other teams but, even though the winds were brutal, Linda and I felt we got a good ride in. Like Bruce and Carol promoted, the roads were lightly traveled by motorists. Speaking of Bruce and Carol, they went as far as riding the long distance route on Saturday, dealing with strong southerly winds and then coming back on Sunday and riding another 47-miles with strong northerly winds. My hats off to them!

Linda and I arrived back at the town square with Bruce and Carol arriving shortly after us. The four of us spent some time visiting and checking out the town square while we waited for the hardcore teams (Holverson's and Roane). Considering the wind and Bruce & Carol riding on Saturday, everyone did real well. I really liked the routes and the absence of traffic. Bruce and Carol did a wonderful job with the routes and the cue sheets.

After everyone got back, the topic of lunch was brought up. As our motto goes, we ride to eat. Since Team Holverson had prior commitments and Roane had his "beautiful bride" waiting for him at home, the lunch arrangements were left to Team Vinson and Team Hudson-Croy. Bruce and Carol suggested a Mexican restaurant out on I-35. It was a great suggestion. The food was very good and so was the company. Thank you Bruce & Carol for a wonderful day of riding and eating!

Blue Ridge Ride

Sunday, May 15, 2005
Blue Ridge, Texas
By Kevin Vinson

This year's Blue Ridge Ride was hosted by Jim & Melody Yuhn. For Linda and I, this was our first time riding the Blue Ridge Ride. As a matter of fact, this was our first visit to Blue Ridge, Texas. Team Yuhn ordered up some wonderful weather for this ride. I might be mistaken on this but; I think there were 11 teams for this ride.

We all met at the Blue Ridge Town Square. This was a great meeting place. Plenty of parking and bathroom facilities across from the square. Once everyone arrived and a ride briefing was given, we all made our way out from the square, heading east. For those of you who have never been to Blue Ridge, Texas, it is located northeast of McKinney.

The roads had very little traffic. The weather was gorgeous and the pace was very good. Team Yuhn offered routes of 30, 46, 64, and 74-miles. Since Linda and I had ridden our singles the day before plus got in a 4-mile run, we decided to ride the 46-mile route. We weren't alone. Team Dixon, Bloomer, Carlson, and Thompson also selected the 46-mile route while Team Hering rode the 30-mile route.

The 30-mile and 46-mile routes offered up gently rolling hills. At one point on the 46-mile route, we were on a two-lane road that had no traffic at all which allowed us to really pick up the pace. This road was lined by trees which provided us with some nice shade. As usual, Linda and Chuck Carlson were bird watching. Linda spotted two roadrunners which she promptly frightened away by pointing and yelling. Chuck was keeping track of the bluebirds he spotted. The five teams that selected the 46-mile route made their way back to the Blue Ridge Town Square.

Once we all packed our bikes and accessories, we followed Rick & Ann Dixon on a scenic route to downtown McKinney and the Pantry for lunch. I couldn't begin to tell you how we got from Blue Ridge Town Square to the McKinney Town Square. It's a good thing Rick knows his way around that part of the country. All of us enjoyed a very nice lunch and pie or cake for dessert at the Pantry.

Thank you Jim and Melody for a wonderful day of riding!

July 2005 DATES-LINE Schedule:
Mailed by: June 30, 2005
Notices & Articles due by: June 27, 2005

DATES RIDES and Activities

RIDE	DATE	START TIME	START PLACE	RIDE HOST	PHONE # / EMAIL	DISTANCE	DETAILS
Southern Oklahoma Ride Weekend	Saturday & Sunday, June 4 th & 5 th , 2005	9:00 AM Saturday	Red River Road Kill Rally Ardmore, OK				www.ardmoremainstreet.com for rally info
		8:30 AM Sunday	Arbuckle Mountain Ride Springer School 7 miles north of Ardmore, OK	Rick & Kay Watson	580-223-8180 cw7540@cableone.net	35, 53 or 63 miles	Group dinner Sat: evening at Two Frogs Grill, followed by dessert at the Watson's
Pilot Point Ride	Sunday, June 12 th	Meet at 8:15 AM, Ride at 8:30	Pilot Point Town Square Pilot Point, TX	Chuck & Kris Carlson	972-248-8481 c.carlson@sbcglobal.net	20, 36 or 53 miles	
DATES Meeting & Social	Sunday June 12 th	5:30 PM	Tony & Colleen Hering's home 1201 Aylesbury Drive Allen, TX 75002	Tony & Colleen Hering	972-396-1694 or thering@directlink.net	N/A	Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please RSVP.
A Whole Lotta Country Ride	Saturday, June 25 th , 2005	9:00 AM	Loy Lake Park, Denison TX North on Hwy 75 to exit # 67 Go West on Loy Lake Rd, under 75 & take the 1 st right - entrance into Loy Lake Park	Pat & Charlie Jenkins	903-463-1516 (home) 903-624-9744 (cell) dates@ntsk8.com .	26, 48 or 65 miles	Scenic Saturday ride through rural Grayson County on mostly lightly traveled country roads
Flower Mound or Cedar Hill	Sunday, July 10 th	TBD	TBD - Flower Mound or Cedar Hill	Roane & Juanita Logan	972-620-1882	TBD	TBD
Plano - Lewisville Ride & Pool Party	Sunday, July 24 th	TBD	Home of Tom & Grace Hogan 2200 Woodburn Corners Plano, TX	Tom & Grace Hogan	972-867-9252 tomhogan1@aol.com	TBD	TBD
After Melon Patch Ride	Sunday, Aug 7 th	TBD	Stephenville, TX	Don & D'Ann Hunt	972-442-6622 d2h@airmail.net	TBD	TBD
TBD	Saturday, Aug 20	TBD	TBD	Harry & Janette Thompson	817-358-0820 hthompson@comcast.net	TBD	TBD
After HHH Ride	Sunday, Aug 28	TBD	TBD	Larry & Nancy Pond	larry@piatx.com	TBD	TBD
TROLS	Fri - Sun, September 16 th - 18 th	TBA	Jefferson, Texas	Reggie & Linda Bowers	Reggie or Linda Bowers (903) 663-2144, or e-mail: txhobbit@yahoo.com .		Visit our web site at http://trols.home.att.net
2006 Southwest Tandem Rally	Friday, April 28th to Sunday, April 30th, 2006	TBA	Lake Murray Lodge in Ardmore, Oklahoma.	Rick & Kay Watson	TBA	TBA	For detail information, visit www.doubledates.com/s_wtr2006.html

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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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