



**Picture from SWTR 2007**



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***15<sup>th</sup> Annual Stoker Appreciation Ride*****Saturday & Sunday May 5 & 6**

Rainbow, Texas

Tom &amp; Brenda Shaddox

SAR 2007 begins in Rainbow, Texas (just east of Glen Rose), and runs about 50 miles to the overnight in Granbury, over the back roads (all paved) of Somervell and Hood Counties. Sunday return over slightly shorter mileage on a modified route, with optional group lunch. We'll gather about 9:00 in Rainbow and shove off about 9:30 or whenever the stokers are ready. SAG provided for dunnage\*, with ice chests for the champagne. Captains RSVP, and make overnight accommodation reservations in Granbury. Our "headquarters" hotel will be the Holiday Inn Express in Granbury (817-573-4411), but teams are welcome to stay anywhere in Granbury they wish.

Highlights include Fossil Rim Wildlife Preserve, the 2<sup>nd</sup> steepest hill in Texas, the 3<sup>rd</sup> most out-of-the-way roadside BBQ joint in Texas for lunch, the famous wild flowers, low water bridge crossing of the Paluxy River, quiet back roads, group dinner in Granbury, and "Champagne and Stoker Appreciation Poetry"™ after dinner Saturday night, where the bubbly flows and captains read a poem they've written for their stokers. You can't imagine how special and fun this is until you've participated in it!

I'm looking forward to riding with long-time SAR teams once again, but would like to include as many first-timer teams as possible. For captains that are not familiar with the SAR, our tradition is to show our stokers a good time on a weekend ride. The captains make the motel/B&B reservations and take care of details for the weekend.

Our theme for the 2007, 15th edition is "Shared Adventure". The mileage is a little shorter this year, and we'll start just a little bit later in the morning and a little later in the spring calendar, all of which should assist participation. The route is different but includes some of the best roads of past years and some great new territory. We will stop at Fossil Rim Wildlife Center's overlook late Saturday morning. Teams will receive a Pass Hunting certificate for crossing Bowden Gap. Ride concludes Sunday with group late-lunch.

Please RSVP to  
Tom Shaddox  
972-517-4534 or [res1rrzj@verizon.net](mailto:res1rrzj@verizon.net)

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***England Training Ride*****Sunday May 13, 2007 – 8:30 am**

Dallas, TX

John McManus &amp; Brenda Cole

Experience John & Brenda's 50 mile training ride - no maps and no drop. Leave from 922 Easton Place, Dallas 75218. Please be on time. Lunch after the ride.

*Ride of Silence*  
**Wednesday May 16 – 7:00 pm**  
Dallas, Texas  
Gail Spann

**DATES Members -**

The Ride of Silence will be held this year on Wednesday, May 16, 2007, and will start at 7:00 PM. This is a great and moving event that is very positive for cycling. Gail Spann, Dallas Site Coordinator for the Ride of Silence, has asked tandems to take a leading roll in the ride. Your officers have fully endorsed this idea! We will lead the ride with Captains only on the tandems to signify the loss of riders to accidents. We will need to meet at the start location around 6:30 to get organized and set up. My suggestion is to park well away from the start, and ride to the start. Audre and I have done the Ride of Silence parking at Fair Oaks Tennis Center, and riding down. We will pick a place and publish this later.

**DATE:** Wednesday, May 16, 2007

**TIME:** Meet at 6:30 to get organized at the starting point.

**START:** White Rock Lake.

**Start Location:** Parking lot in 3800 block of W. Lawther, between Branchfield and Fisher Roads.

**LEADERS:** The officers of DATES, and Warren & Audre Casteel

**WEBSITE:** <http://rideofsilence.org/main.php>

Gail Spann's e-mail: [BikinGail@aol.com](mailto:BikinGail@aol.com)

Following are excerpts from Gail's e-mails on the topic:

Thank you one and all!

I think it should make quite a statement with tandems being involved. I will give tandems a special place near the front to line up, along with your own ride marshals to protect you while you ride stokerless. I am hoping to get some captains to hang a helmet from the stoker seat to signify the loss of bicyclists over the years, perhaps with black ribbons to hold them on? I am open to any sort of inspiration for ideas? I should imagine the news media will be interviewing, not only me, but tandemists as well. Let me give you a heads up, there will be just around a thousand riders this year, or possibly more. That is why, as a tandem captain myself, I will keep the tandems protected. May I suggest that non riding spouses/significant others sign up as the ride marshals? Ride Marshals get to ride, wear a ride marshal paper placard on their backs with DO NOT PASS and SHHHHHHH on the back. That way you are protected by stokers who truly know how to do the work? Keep the family "feel" going? And, you can all line up side by side at the end...with those you love. And, thank YOU all for providing the black ribbon...if you need a helmet to hang on the back of your saddle, let me know...I have a few extras here at home. I am open to suggestions on other concepts of memorial, thoughts?

Once again, what a pleasure to work with DATES.....!

Gail Spann

**Road Kill Rally & DATES "Day After Road Kill" Ride****Saturday & Sunday June 2 & 3, 2007****Ardmore, OK****Rick & Kay Watson****Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00am - (new time) - ANNUAL ROADKILL RALLY****Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 8:30am - DATES CLUB RIDE in SOUTH CENTRAL OKLAHOMA****TOP 10 REASONS TO COME TO ARDMORE, OKLAHOMA FOR TWO DAYS OF RIDING--  
SATURDAY, JUNE 2 AND SUNDAY, JUNE 3**

10. GREAT PLACE TO RIDE BIKES – GOOD ROADS, LOW TRAFFIC, BEAUTIFUL SCENERY
9. EAT SOME ROADKILL AFTER THE ROAD KILL RALLY SATURDAY
8. FREE BEER TO HELP THE ROADKILL GO DOWN EASIER
7. SAVE MONEY - MAKE THE SHORT TRIP (>100miles) TO OKLAHOMA AND BUY CHEAPER GAS (well maybe cheaper)
6. POSSIBLY WIN A GREAT BIKE LIKE DATES MEMBER PAT JENKINS DID IN 2006
5. SATURDAY NIGHT EAT FROG LEGS AT TWO FROGS GRILL
4. GORGE YOURSELF ON DESSERT AND COFFEE AT THE WATSON'S
3. LOOK DOWN ON A 77 FOOT WATER FALLS
2. EAT A PICNIC LUNCH IN A TREE CANOPIED NATIONAL RECREATION PARK
1. MEET OLD FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES FOR YOUR FAVORITE PASSTIME FUN, FOOD & RIDING

Register for Road Kill Rally – day of the event or contact Ardmore Main Street 580-226-6246 or email [mainstreet@ardmore.com](mailto:mainstreet@ardmore.com) for registration forms and information. Early (by May 25) \$25 adult-single \$30 tandems \$5 child....Late \$30, \$35 & \$5 respectively. 20-40 & 60 mile routes. Packet pickup and \$2 Spaghetti dinner Friday night 5-7P at Santa Fe Depot, 251 East Main Street, Ardmore, OK. Ride **start 8A** same location.

Join DATES and friends for a group dinner at Two Frogs Grill, Saturday evening, dessert at the Watson's (580-223-8180 or [cw7540@cablone.net](mailto:cw7540@cablone.net) for reservation and/or information).

Sunday's DATES club ride will start north of Ardmore at Springer school – 8:30A. Directions to start – I35 North of Ardmore to Exit 40 (Hwy 53 East) – go 1 mile and turn left on Hwy 77 – then ½ mile to Springer school parking lot on right. Route distances, 35, 53 or 63 miles. Dutch treat picnic lunch in the park at Sulphur, OK

**Ardmore Hotels near I35 –**

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 580-223-7976, Microtel 580-224-9465, Lake Murray Lodge (4 miles east off I35 at Exit 27) 223-6600.



*TROLS Big Adventure of 2007***September 14 - 16****Jefferson, Texas****Linda & Reggie Bowers**

Hello, Fellow Furry Footed Friends!

The following is the announcement that the TROLS are now officially taking registrations for the Big Adventure of 2007. Please pass the word on to your tandem club members and anyone else wishing to be a part of our tandem weekend in Jefferson, TX.

The Tandem Riders Of Longview (TROLS) are hosting another tandem weekend in Jefferson this September 14-16. If you have a tandem bike and like to cycle the rural wooded roads around Jefferson, visit our web site at <http://trols.esawireless.com> for details and a registration form.

Due to accommodation limitations, registration must be limited to 50 teams, so register early to assure a spot. For a snail mail copy of the information and registration form, you can contact:

Reggie or Linda Bowers:  
(903) 663-2144  
[txhobbit@yahoo.com](mailto:txhobbit@yahoo.com)

Hope you can make it!

Linda & Reggie  
Longview, TX

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**June 2007 DATES-LINE:**

**Notices & Articles due by: May 28, 2007**

**Send us your notices, articles & PICTURES**

## How to Deal With Bad Dogs

By Fred Matheny and Ed Pavelka of [www.RoadBikeRider.com](http://www.RoadBikeRider.com)

Dog attacks are high on the list of cycling fears. Maybe you can't stop Fang from giving chase, but you can outsmart him if you know how dogs think—assuming that stinkin' mutt even has a brain!

- **Know dog psychology.** The majority of dogs who chase cyclists are merely defending their territory. When you pedal off the section of road that they consider their turf, you no longer pose a threat to their ancestral instincts and they lose interest. Incidentally, this is why you'll rarely be chased by a dog you encounter way out in the boonies. He's not on his turf so he couldn't care less about you
- **Know dog tactics.** Dogs want to attack from the rear, coming up from the hindquarter. Even one who sits up in his yard ahead of you may wait till you pass before giving chase. You can use this to your advantage in the next tip because it gives you a head start.
- **Sprint!** You often can outsprint Fido when he's more interested in fooling around than in actually attacking. You can tell his intent by how hard he's running and his expression. An easy gait with woofing and ears and tail up, no problem. A full-out sprint with ears back, tail down and teeth out, problem. Still, the territorial gene can save you. If the road is flat or downhill, stand up and sprint to get past the dog's invisible boundary.
- **Guard your front wheel.** When a dog sees you coming, he might make a beeline for your bike, then attempt to turn up beside you. The danger here is that his poor little paws will skid on the pavement and he'll plow into your wheels. If he hits the front one, you'll crash. Sprint so that you move forward faster than he expects, and give him a margin for error by steering farther into the road—if traffic permits!
- **SCREAM!** Most dogs know what happens when a human is angry with them. A sudden shout of "No!" or "Git!" or "Stay!" will surprise Fluffy and probably make him hesitate for just the second you need to take the advantage. If he's hard of hearing,

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raise your hand threateningly as if it contains a rock. Outlaw mutts usually have had experience with bad things flying at them when a human makes a throwing gesture.

- ***Play douse the Doberman.*** If you see big, fast Prince up ahead and know that he sees you, sprinting might not work. Especially if the road is tilting up. Take out your water bottle. Just having it in your hand may make him stay away. If he does come near you, give him a faceful and a loud yell. This distraction will slow him down, though he may come back for more. Just don't distract yourself and ride off the road.

Some riders swear by Halt pepper spray that they clip to their handlebar. This stuff works great—if you hit your target. That's a big if when you and Spot are going different speeds, the air is moving, and you're trying to stay on the road. Pepper spray stings a dog's eyes, nose and mouth, but it doesn't cause lasting damage. It also works on human attackers, but that's a different story.

- ***Give up and get off.*** If nothing works and Toodles has the upper hand, dismount quickly and hold your bike between you and those sharp teeth. Swing it like a weapon if necessary, and start calling for help. Someone may eventually come out of a house and yell, "Oh, he won't hurt you!"
- ***Call the cops.*** If you are attacked and bitten, report it to the county sheriff or other authority immediately. Include the location, a description of the dog and the owner's name and address if you know them. Get medical attention without delay. If the dog was rabid, you are at risk of serious illness or even death. Demand proof of rabies vaccination or insist to authorities that the dog be quarantined.

If the same dog accosts you every time you ride the road, report this to the authorities, too. You have a right to use public roadways free from fear for your life, liberty and pursuit of cycling happiness. Keep following up with calls to make sure steps are taken to put PupPup on a rope.

If the same dog accosts you every time you ride the road, report this to the authorities, too. You have a right to use public roadways free from fear for your life, liberty and pursuit of cycling happiness. Keep following up with calls to make sure steps are taken to put PupPup on a rope.

*Receive a FREE copy of the eBook "29 Pro Cycling Secrets for Roadies" by subscribing to the RoadBikeRider Newsletter at [www.RoadBikeRider.com](http://www.RoadBikeRider.com). No cost or obligation!*

## 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](http://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](mailto:warren@casteelsign.com).

## DATES Rides and Activities

RIDE	DATE	START TIME	START PLACE	RIDE HOST	PHONE # / EMAIL	DISTANCE	DETAILS
<b>Stoker Appreciation Ride</b>	Saturday May 5 Sunday May 6	9:00 am	Rainbow, TX to Granbury, TX and return	Tom & Brenda Shaddox	972-517-4534 <a href="mailto:res1rrzj@verizon.net">res1rrzj@verizon.net</a>	About 50 miles each day	RSVP Captains make your reservations (as soon as Tom tells us where), chill the champagne and write your poem
<b>England Training Ride</b>	Sunday May 13	8:30 am	922 Easton Place Dallas, TX	John McManus & Brenda Cole	214.321.6085 <a href="mailto:john_j_mcmanus@yahoo.com">john_j_mcmanus@yahoo.com</a>	50 miles	no maps and no drop. Please be on time. Lunch after the ride.
<b>Ride of Silence</b>	Wednesday May 16	7:00 pm	White Rock Lake	Gail Spann	<a href="mailto:BikinGail@aol.com">BikinGail@aol.com</a>	10 miles	<a href="http://rideofsilence.org/main.php">http://rideofsilence.org/main.php</a>
<b>Road Kill Rally: and the Day After</b>	June 2-3	8 am Sat 8:30 Sun	Ardmore, OK	Rick & Kay Watson	580-223-8180 or <a href="mailto:cw7540@cablone.net">cw7540@cablone.net</a>	Various	See Newsletter for full details
<b>TROLS</b>	September 14 - 16	TBA	Jefferson, TX	Reggie & Linda Bowers	(903) 663-2144 <a href="mailto:txhobbit@yahoo.com">txhobbit@yahoo.com</a>	TBA	<a href="http://trols.esawireless.com">http://trols.esawireless.com</a>
<b>English Castles &amp; Gardens Tour</b>	June – July 2007	TBA	Wimborner England	John McManus & Brenda Cole	<a href="mailto:John_J_McManus@yahoo.com">John_J_McManus@yahoo.com</a>	40-50 miles each day	See DATES website

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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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