



**Stoker Appreciation Ride**  
(The guy in the back didn't have a helmet, so Tom wouldn't let him ride)

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# fresh dates

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## ***Team Gray***

Fort Worth, TX

**Captain:** Steve

**Stoker:** Marguerite

**Joined DATES:** March 2008

**How long have you been cycling?**

**Captain:** 7 years

**Stoker:** 4 years

**How long tandeming?** 3 years

**Why did you start riding tandem?** So we could stay together on rides!

**What kind of tandem do you ride?** Trek T2000

**How often do you ride?** 2 or 3 times a week

**How far?** 40 – 100 miles

**Favorite Ride?** Loire Valley, France

**Usual route/area?** Southwest Fort Worth/Crowley area

**Where/How did you hear about Double DATES?** Ronnie & Nanette Bryant

**Anything else you'd like your new club members to know about you?** Can't think of anything noteworthy!

## ***Team Minnerly***

Plano, TX

**Captain:** Steve

**Stoker:** Sonya

**Joined DATES:** February 2008

**How long have you been cycling?**

**Captain:** 18 years

**Stoker:** 15 years

**How long tandeming?** 13 years

**Why did you start riding tandem?** It's Warren and Audre Casteel's fault

**What kind of tandem do you ride?** Co-motion Macchiato

**How often do you ride?** 3 or 4 times a week

**How far?** 50 – 65 miles

**Favorite Ride?** All of them

**Usual route/area?** PBA

**Where/How did you hear about Double DATES?** Warren & Audre

**Anything else you'd like your new club members to know about you?** Not really. Let's go ride.

**Team Scott**

Euless, TX

**Captain:** John Scott**Stoker:** Stephanie Scott**Joined DATES:** April 2008**How long have you been cycling?****Captain:** 3 years**Stoker:** Since I was 12**How long tandeming?** Together? About 3 years**Why did you start riding tandem?** We decided to tandem to spend more time with my Parents, Ronnie and Nanette Bryant.**What kind of tandem do you ride?** Co-motion Big Al**How often do you ride?** On average about 1 time a week**How far?** Anywhere from 30-50 miles**Favorite Ride?** SWTR and SAR**Usual route/area?** We do a ride from my parents to Roanoke and back.**Where/How did you hear about Double DATES?** Ronnie & Nanette

# Stoker Appreciation Ride 2008

April 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>

Rainbow to Granbury Texas

Hosted by Tom & Brenda Shaddox

## Ride Review by Ronnie Bryant

SAR is our favorite DATES ride. This year was no exception. This year's ride was special for us as we were joined by my Daughter and Son-in-law, Stephanie and John Scott.

We arrived at Tres Rios, about a mile outside of Glen Rose, Texas. Besides Stephanie and John we were also joined by Tom and Brenda Shaddox, Harry & Jeanette Thompson, Rick & Ann Dixon, Jimmy & Kelly Duvall, Mitch & Leslie Franks, and Alan & Renee Kailer joined us Saturday Night and for Sunday's ride.

Tom had obtained a U-Haul as sag and to carry our luggage. We loaded up the sag with our bags and libations and were ready to go.

We left Tres Rios on Saturday and rode 10 miles to Dinosaur Valley State Park to view some Dino Tracks and a take a group picture under T-Rex. Next we rode to the low water crossing and I

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found out that the right hand side was too slippery to cross and was saved by Jimmy and our bike! We were able to cross safely on the left side ( by walking the bikes ). Next we rode on some very nice roads to Bluffdale for lunch at "Let's Eat". A trained Chef runs this small restaurant and he food is some of the best you will find in the area.

Leaving Bluffdale we visited a historic bridge that was very interesting. Heading back towards our overnight in Granbury we rode on some more quiet back roads before a tough final headwind the last 4 miles. We cruised into our hotel and Rick Dixon delivered our luggage.

After getting cleaned up we loaded up in the U-haul and Tom drove us to Pasta Fina for some great food and wine.

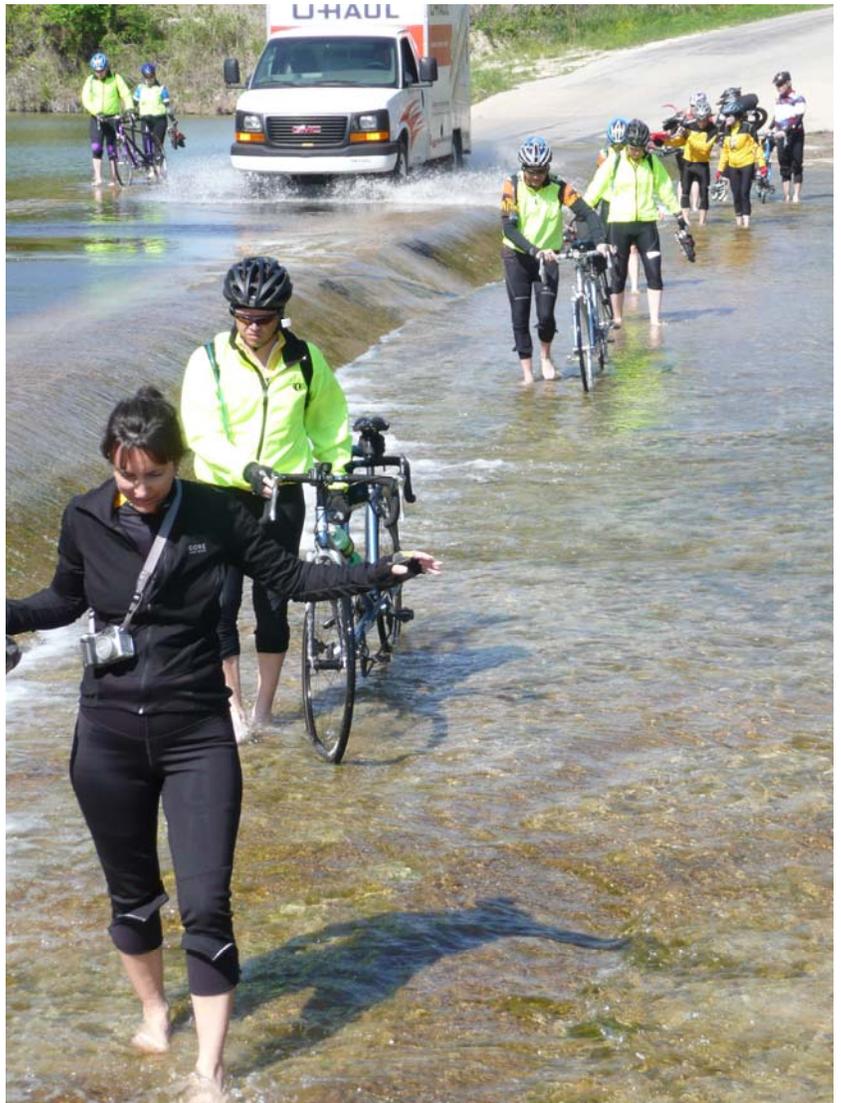
After Dinner we re-convened back at the hotel for Champagne and Stoker Poetry to cap off a wonderful day.

Sunday we were treated to a wonderful tail wind and headed back towards Glen Rose and crossed the same low water crossing. We then climbed Chalk Mountain and when we reached the top, Tom & Brenda had a wonderful picnic lunch for us.

After lunch we headed towards Fossil Rim Wildlife Overlook and crossed another low water crossing where Tom proved that even walking a is dangerous on mossy concrete. Tom, only his pride bruised, was able to continue. Nanette & I and the Dixons missed a turn but were able to capitalize on it by short cutting the route and arriving at Fossil Rim before everyone.

It was a short ride to Tres Rios where Chuck and Kris happened to be there to welcome us back! Seems they had been to Fredericksburg and were driving home on 67, when they spotted us and stopped to say hi!!!

We all enjoyed the ride and must say that if you haven't done SAR, you must put it on your list for next year.



## Southwest Tandem Rally

April 27-29, 2008

Tulsa, Oklahoma

This year's Southwest Tandem Rally was hosted by the Tulsa Bicycle Club and was headquartered at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Tulsa. The SWTR is one of our favorite rides because it is a chance to relax and bike for the weekend with a group of friends. DATES members there included



Jimmy & Kelly Duval, Ronnie & Nanette Bryant, Harry & Janette Thompson, John McManus & Brenda Cole, Alan & Renee Kailer, Marc & Susie Mumby, Herb & Sandra Bloomer, Pete Holverson & Laura Roberts, John & Stephanie Scott, Warren & Audre Casteel, Jim & Rhonda Hoyt, and Paul & Rose Ellenbogen (I'm sure I missed someone- I'm sorry!)

The ice cream ride on Friday was 17 miles on a bike trail along the river. Apart from some confusion when a part of the bike trail was closed, it was a very pleasant little ride. On Saturday, the route options were 35, 53 and 73 miles of rolling hills to the northwest of Tulsa. Renee and I went the short route, but arrived at the lunch stop very early, so rode some additional way out and back on rail-to-trail conversion

that went right by the lunch stop. The Tulsa club had good box lunches for us that we ate on the lawn of the city building for the city of Sperry. About a mile after beginning the return trip after lunch, we had a long steady hill to burn off the chocolate chip cookies that were in the lunch. After returning to the hotel, the hot tub was great. Although the rides started at the hotel in downtown Tulsa, I was amazed at how quickly we got to some pretty quiet country roads. The weather Saturday was also beautiful and we had a great ride.

The dinners and breakfasts were in the hotel ballroom, and the bike storage was in another ballroom, so everything was pretty self-contained. On Saturday night we were entertained by songs from "Oklahoma" from the local Bixby High School and by a demonstration of dancing from some members of the Tulsa club that recently won a major dance competition.



The weather on Sunday morning looked iffy, so Renee and I decided to relax a bit and then head home. Jeannette tells us that she and Harry got in about 35 miles with a group of folks and didn't have any rain. Oh well. We had a nice, relaxing weekend and some great rides in beautiful weather - just what we wanted.

## Notice:

**June 2008 DATES-LINE:**

**Notices & Articles due by: May 25, 2008**

**We NEED your notices, ride reports,  
articles & PICTURES for the newsletter**



**DoubleDATES wants your feedback**  
**Please complete our survey**

This invitation is to participate in our survey to enable us to better serve you. Your feedback is invaluable to us, and we thank you in advance for your help.

**To participate in the survey, if you have not already,  
contact Charlie Jenkins at [sk8erbyker@gmail.com](mailto:sk8erbyker@gmail.com)**

*Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride*

**Saturday May 3, 2008**

Bedford, TX

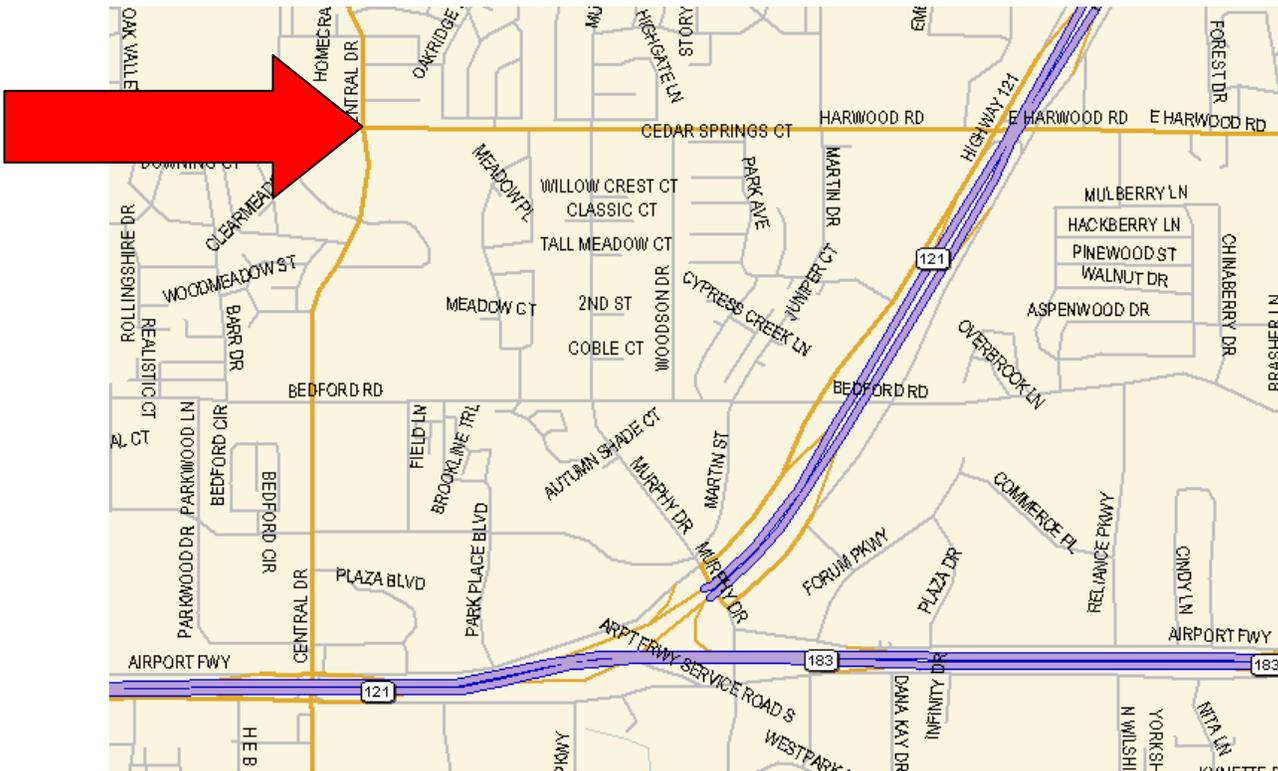
Teams Thompson & Bryant

**Leaders:** Harry & Janette Thompson, Ronnie & Nanette Bryant  
**Date:** Saturday May 3  
**Time:** 9:00 am  
**Location:** Bedford, TX

The next Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride will be Saturday May 3rd. Meet at 9 am and ride whenever everyone is ready. Distance and route to be determined by the group and the weather. We might have lunch at a local restaurant after the ride. This month we will be stopping in Roanoke ( 18 miles out ) for a Breakfast Burrito so eat just enough that morning to keep the bonk away till breakfast.

Meet in the Le Peeps parking lot at the corner of Harwood and Central Drive in Bedford. Take Airport Freeway west of DFW Airport to the Central Drive and go north to Harwood Rd - Le Peeps is in the Kroger Shopping Center on the Northwest corner. If the weather is iffy call the Bryants at 817 680-9404 or the Thompsons at 817 358-0820.

Check the newsletter, web site or emails for the next installment of this ride.



## *Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride*

Sunday June 1, 2008

Ride & Cookout

**DATES Business Meeting**

Bedford, TX

Teams Thompson & Bryant

**Leaders:** Harry & Janette Thompson, Ronnie & Nanette Bryant

**Date:** Sunday June 1

**Time:** 8:15 am

**Location:** Thompson's - 2229 Ridgewood St., Bedford, TX

On June 1, Harry & Janette Thompson are co-hosting a ride and cookout with Ronnie and Nanette Bryant. At last check-in, co-hosts Ronnie and Janette are putting together a good 35 mile route for us. I guess that leaves Harry and Nanette in charge of grilling?

We will meet at the Thompson house at 8:15am and ride at 8:30am. Following the ride, you're invited to stay for grilled burgers or hot dogs and a swim. Bring a towel if you're planning on taking a dip in the pool. We will also have a brief business meeting following the ride.

**If you would like to attend and can bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert, please contact Janette at [Janette.R.Thompson@gmail.com](mailto:Janette.R.Thompson@gmail.com) or phone 817.358.0820.**

**Please RSVP for how many will be attending.**

We look forward to seeing you there.

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***Second National Federation  
of the Blind Ride  
July 2***

Harry Thompson

DATES has agreed to host another ride for the National Federation of the Blind, which is holding its annual meeting in Dallas in early July. The date set for the ride is Wednesday, July 2, 2008 at White Rock Lake. The tentative start time is 6:00 p.m. with dinner afterwards, perhaps at the same Italian restaurant we used in 2006 (Alfonso's).

We will have a real assortment of stokers; from those who have never been on a bike to those who have spd shoes and wear camelbacks. Some will do one lap around the lake and some will do two. Last time some did three. The one consistent thing is that they will all be enthusiastic.

I would like to commit to 20 tandems and captains. (We can get as many stokers as we have bikes.) I know that a Wednesday afternoon is not convenient for everyone, but it is our chance to share our love of cycling with those less fortunate. One evening of riding will go a long way to satisfy the philanthropic needs of our club. When we hosted this event two years ago, everyone that I talked to had a very positive experience and wanted to do it again.

We are not leaving out our DATES stokers. We want them to share the experience. They can ride singles or help with the administration.

I will communicate more details as they become available. If you are ready to commit to this day, please let me know and I'll put you down. If you know someone not in DATES who has a tandem, share the love and get them to sign up. We need to know how many tandems we can count on before we open up registration to the attendees at the meeting of the National Federation of the Blind.

Let's make this a special event for our friends who would otherwise not have the chance to experience the world on a bicycle. I guarantee you will feel good about it.

**If you have not already responded, you can confirm your attendance to Harry or Janette Thompson at [hjthompson@tx.rr.com](mailto:hjthompson@tx.rr.com); or 817.358.0820. Please contact them now!**

<b>DATES Rides and Activities</b>							
<b>RIDE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>START TIME</b>	<b>START PLACE</b>	<b>RIDE HOST</b>	<b>PHONE # / EMAIL</b>	<b>DISTANCE</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>
<b>Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride</b>	Saturday May 3, 2008	9:00 am	Bedford, TX	Thompson & Bryant	(817) 680-9404 (Bryant) (817) 358-0820 (Thompson)	TBD	No-Map, No-Drop The group will determine pace and specifics at the start
<b>Sunday Morning Caffeine Cruise</b>	Sunday May 4, 2008	7:30 am	Starbucks - Legacy & Dallas N Tollway, Plano, TX	Warren Casteel	(214) 352-7446 or (972) 596-8206	12 or 16 miles	See <a href="http://www.planobicycle.org">www.planobicycle.org</a>
<b>Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride, Cookout &amp; Business Meeting</b>	Sunday June 1, 2008	8:15 am	Home of Harry & Janette Thompson, 2229 Ridgewood St., Bedford, TX 76021	Harry & Jeannette Thompson	(817) 680-9404 (Bryant) (817) 358-0820 (Thompson)	TBD	No-Map, No-Drop The group will determine pace and specifics at the start . Grilled hamburgers & hotdogs after the ride. Swimming optional. See Newsletter for Details Please RSVP
<b>Sunday Morning Caffeine Cruise</b>	Sunday June 1, 2008	7:30 am	Starbucks - Legacy & Dallas N Tollway, Plano, TX	Warren Casteel	(214) 352-7446 or (972) 596-8206	12 or 16 miles	See <a href="http://www.planobicycle.org">www.planobicycle.org</a>
<b>Second National Federation of the Blind Ride</b>	Wednesday, July 2, 2008	6:00 pm	White Rock Lake	Harry & Jeannette Thompson	(817) 358-0820 or hjthompson@tx.rr.com	Varied	See Newsletter for Details Contact Harry or Jeannette to confirm participation now!
<b>DATES Tandem Tour</b>	September 6 – 18 2008	-	Nova Scotia	McManus Cole	John.McManus@yahoo.com	-	Contact John McManus for details john_j_mcmanus@yahoo.com

### **Stay informed of ALL the DATES Rides & Events:**

- **See the DATES website:**
  - <http://www.doubledates.com>
- **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](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)
- **Read the DATES Google-Groups discussion forum:**
  - <http://groups.google.com/group/doubledates>

**DATES-LINE** is published monthly during the cycling season 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 **end** 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 <mailto:datesline@gmail.com>, or mailed on a CD or 3.5 diskette to the editors: Alan & Renee Kailer at 1445 Ross Avenue - Suite 3700, Dallas, TX 75202-2785.

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 \$25 payable annually in January. If a team joins mid-year, the dues are: Jan – June \$25; July – Oct \$12. Teams joining in November or December pay \$25 and are paid up for the following year.

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MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR	Linda & Kevin Vinson	972.625.6110 (h)	vinsonlj@sbcglobal.net
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SECRETARY	Harry & Janette Thompson	817.358.0820 (h)	hjthompson@tx.rr.com
WEB SITE	Kevin & Linda Vinson		<a href="http://www.doubledates.com">http://www.doubledates.com</a>
HOT-LINE	Dallas Area	214.352.7446 (b)	
HOT-LINE	Out of Town	1.800.875.5662 (b)	
HOT-LINE	Night (Warren & Audre Casteel)	972.596.8206 (h)	warren@casteelsign.com
DATES1 E-mail Distribution	Warren & Audre Casteel	972.596.8206 (h)	warren@casteelsign.com



**DOUBLE DATES**

Dallas Area Tandem Enthusiasts  
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