



Ready to Start the Red River Roadkill Rally!

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Red River Weekend

June 7 & 8

Ride Report

Ride Hosts - Rick and Kay Watson

Report by Chuck Carlson

Why was there such a great turnout for a DATES ride that involved a 100-mile drive? Answer: Mix Ardmore's Roadkill Rally with Rick and Kay Watson's hospitality and ride planning experience to create a great weekend of riding, eating and laughing.

Nine teams decided that this would be a great weekend -- Bloomers, Dixons, Kailers, Minnerlys, Vinsons, Thompsons, Logans, Watsons and Carlsons. And we were dauntless in our ability to keep that nasty hot south wind from blowing smiles off our faces. Even during the 15 miles we rode into the teeth of it on Saturday's 64 miler, we managed shake our heads and laugh.



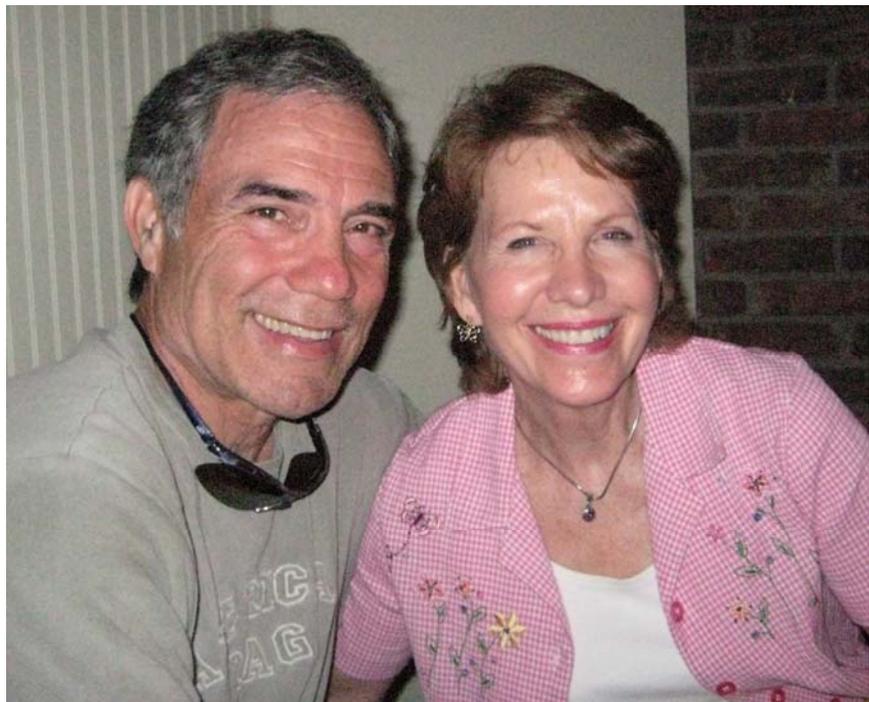
A Tired but Happy Group at the Chickasaw National Recreation Area

The Roadkill Rally, despite a weak (non-existent) web site, was one of the best-supported rides we've done in a while. It started with a ride packet loaded with lots of goodies, including a really cool little LED flashlight; a sane start time of 8 a.m. following the door prize raffles; well-stocked rest stops every 10 miles; a beautiful route through Oklahoma countryside; and ended with free beer and food in air-conditioned comfort. All that for \$30/team?! We felt well-rewarded and none of us won the free bike or any of the generous gift certificates from local sponsors. And then came day 2.

Rick and Kay planned a 41-mile route bordering the Arbuckles from Davis to Sulphur and back. It was a mildly challenging route with some short steepes and great rollers that are ideal on a tandem. The highlight of the ride was the route through the Chickasaw National Recreation Area just south of Sulphur, where we stopped for the photo session by the stone pool. That is a beautiful loop and we exhibited great restraint in not stopping for a quick dip in the crystal-clear Travertine Creek.

On the route back to our cars, we stopped for lunch at Las Cascadas Mexican Restaurant in Davis. They have a huge menu and everyone rode away groaning that it was too good and I ate too much – the ideal cyclist's lunch stop. Well, not everyone rode away on their bike. Team Logan managed to get a flat and then finagled a ride with Kay's son Scott for the final 4 miles back to our cars. Had we not stopped to help Roane pump the tire twice between Sulphur and Davis, we would have doubted the legitimacy of that flat.

P.S. It was Rick and Ann Dixon's anniversary weekend and we forgot to put that in the report....thought we might add a Happy Anniversary photo!



Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride
Sunday, June 1st
Ride, Cookout, & Business Meeting
Ride Hosted by Ronnie & Nanette Bryant
Cookout & Business Meeting Hosted by
Harry & Janette Thompson
Ride Report by Kevin Vinson

June's Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride was another successful event. For those of you that would like to participate in a DATES club ride but are hesitant due to various reasons, this is a great ride. This has become a monthly tradition and the guidelines are simple. There are no cue sheets or maps due to the fact that we all stay together. The pace is a very comfortable pace where the conversation is lively between the couples.

This month's ride was a combination of riding, cookout, and business meeting. The ride started and finished at the home of Janette & Harry Thompson. The participation for these rides has been very good and this month's ride was no exception. There were nine couples for the ride and one additional couple for the cookout and meeting. The participants were:

Ronnie & Nanette Bryant
Harry & Janette Thompson
Chuck & Kris Carlson
Herb & Sandra Bloomer
John & Stephanie Scott
Tom & Brenda Shaddox
Renee & Alan Kailer
Roane & Juanita Logan
Kevin & Linda Vinson
Bruce Hudson & Carol Croy (attended the cookout & meeting)

Before I go any further, I want to take a moment to give an update on Bruce Hudson. As all of you know, Bruce & Carol took a bad spill down in the Hill Country during the Easter Hill Country Tour. Bruce is recovering nicely. As a matter of fact, Bruce & Carol got in a ride on their tandem that morning. It's good to see Bruce getting around without the aid of a walker. Way to go Bruce!

As for the ride, we all met at Harry & Janette's house around 8:00 AM. It was a great day to be out on the tandem. It was a nice surprise to see Tom & Brenda Shaddox. Linda and I have not ridden with them in quite some time. This month's ride was being led by Ronnie & Nanette and they had a great route for us. After some pre-ride announcements, it was time to make our way out.

Our ride took us through Bedford, Euless, Grapevine, Colleyville, and Southlake. The route was very scenic which took us on remote streets and a very nice bike/hike/running trail. Below is a picture that was taken by a gentleman that was riding his recumbent on the trail that we were on (photos courtesy of Tom & Brenda Shaddox).



This bike trail was in Colleyville. This trail was a very pleasant surprise. It was great seeing all of the other cyclists and runners on the trail. We made our way into Grapevine and in particular, the areas around Lake Grapevine. Our first stop after the photo shoot was a rest area on the lake. The timing was perfect since we noticed that Alan & Renee Kailer had a flat rear tire.

Once the tire was repaired and everyone had a chance to stretch, we got back on the tandems and continued our tour around the lake. Linda and I were so impressed with the areas we rode through. From impressive subdivisions to remote areas near Lake Grapevine, we were definitely not bored with the route. In Linda's words, the homes were quite impressive as well as the flowers and landscaping.

We had one more rest stop on the route before we looped back to Euless. This particular rest stop was a family-owned convenience store that doubled as a bait shop. The owners were so friendly. You could tell that this particular convenience store had been there for many years. It was a nice change from today's oversized convenience stores.

The portion of this route that went through Southlake is also part of the Valentine's Day Ride. Once we made our way through Southlake, we picked up the early stages of the route and looped back to Harry & Janette's home. The remainder of the agenda called for a cookout and business meeting with an option to swim. Several of us took advantage of the pool prior to lunch and the meeting. It was a nice way to cool off.

Hamburgers and hotdogs were served from the grill while a buffet line was formed inside with all of the food that had been brought by the attendees. It was a very nice lunch. I will not go into details on the meeting since the meeting minutes will be released separately from this ride report. Below is a picture that Tom Shaddox took just as the meeting was getting started.



It doesn't get any better than this! What a setting for lunch and a meeting. I strongly encourage everyone to take advantage of one of these Mid Cities rides. The ride offers something for everyone. It's so nice to be able to spend some time on the tandem and also hook up with some of the other members for lively conversation.

Many thanks go to Ronnie & Nanette for a great route and to Harry & Janette for the use of their home, pool, and grill for the post-ride lunch and meeting. Linda and I really enjoyed the ride, the conversation, and the post-ride activities.

Dallas Area Tandem Enthusiasts
(DATES)

MINUTES: Business Meeting & Social, Sunday, June 1, 2008

LOCATION: Home of Harry and Janette Thompson, Bedford, Texas

Nine attending teams, including the following officers: Ronnie and Nanette Bryant, Alan and Renee Kailer, Roane and Juanita Logan, Harry and Janette Thompson, and Kevin and Linda Vinson.

COORDINATORS (Roane and Juanita Logan):

Roane opened the meeting at 1:05 p.m., following a club ride and pool party/cookout. He thanked Ronnie and Nanette Bryant leading the ride and Harry and Janette Thompson for hosting the cookout.

SECRETARIES (Harry and Janette Thompson):

Janette distributed copies of the minutes from the February 10, 2008 annual business meeting and dinner. Janette thanked Carol Croy for substituting for her in the role of Secretary at the February 10 meeting. No one had any suggested corrections or changes and the minutes were approved unanimously.

MEMBERSHIP & WEBMASTER (Kevin and Linda Vinson):

Kevin reported that 67 teams are members of DATES. This number includes 7 new teams who have signed up since the beginning of the year. (A current membership list will be attached to the official DATES minutes.) There was no new business regarding the club's website.

TREASURERS (John McManus and Brenda Cole):

There was no Treasurer's report presented at the meeting.

RIDE COORDINATORS (Ronnie and Nanette Bryant):

Ronnie thanked all the people who had were ride hosts in 2008. He led a good discussion concerning the specifics of many of the upcoming DATES rides.

DATES-LINE EDITORS (Alan and Renee Kailer):

Roane said that Alan spends considerable time each month putting together an excellent club newsletter. He thanked him for all his efforts. Alan requested that ride participants send him photos for inclusion in the newsletter, and, of course, ride reports.

SECOND NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND RIDE (Harry and Janette Thompson):

This July 2 ride is co-sponsored by DATES and the NFB. We plan to have 20 NFB members ride as stokers around White Rock Lake. We have invited them to dinner afterwards at Alfonso's Italian Restaurant. Harry indicated that he'll start a phone campaign

to get captains to volunteer. As they did two years ago for this ride, Plano Cycling & Fitness has promised to provide pedals and some helmets for the ride. Janette will contact the NFB stokers and all the volunteers with specifics about the ride and the dinner. Juanita will look into the possibility of getting publicity on the day of the ride.

SWTR 2010 (Linda Vinson):

Roane commended Linda on her willingness to chair the DATES committee that is organizing the SWTR for 2010. Linda stated that one committee meeting had already been held, and various members had assumed responsibility for the diverse areas that have to be addressed in order to put on the rally. Several possible locations are being investigated and discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

Submitted by Janette Thompson, DATES Secretary



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Red, White & Blue Ride**Friday July 4, 8:30 AM**

Farmer's Branch, TX

Juanita and Roane Logan

Date: Friday, July 4
Time: 8:30 am
Location: 3403 Summer Place Court, Farmers Branch, TX

Get your red, white & blue on for a ride around Dallas on the 4th of July. The ride takes us through Preston Hollow and Highland Park, and we usually catch several 4th of July parades on the route. This ride is more laid back than the other DATES rides. There are a lot of people out on the 4th, which makes it an ideal time to show off your tandem. (Tandems always attract attention anyway.) Wear red, white & blue if you have it. Dress up your bicycle, too. Show your patriotism!

The ride will start at 8:30 am at the Logan's house, 3403 Summer Place Court in Farmers Branch.

Cool off in the pool afterward and have hot dogs and fixin's after the ride (what else does one eat on the 4th of July?), so please RSVP at 214-686-5577 or email jlogan@boardwalkag.com. We'd love to have you.

Directions: From I-635, Exit Webb Chapel. North on Webb Chapel to Oakbrook. If you get to Beltline, you've gone too far. Right on Oakbrook. Right on Gatwick. Follow Gatwick around as it curves to the left. Left on Summer Place, which is a cul-de-sac. Please RSVP to ensure we have enough food.

Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride

Sunday, July 13

Bedford, TX

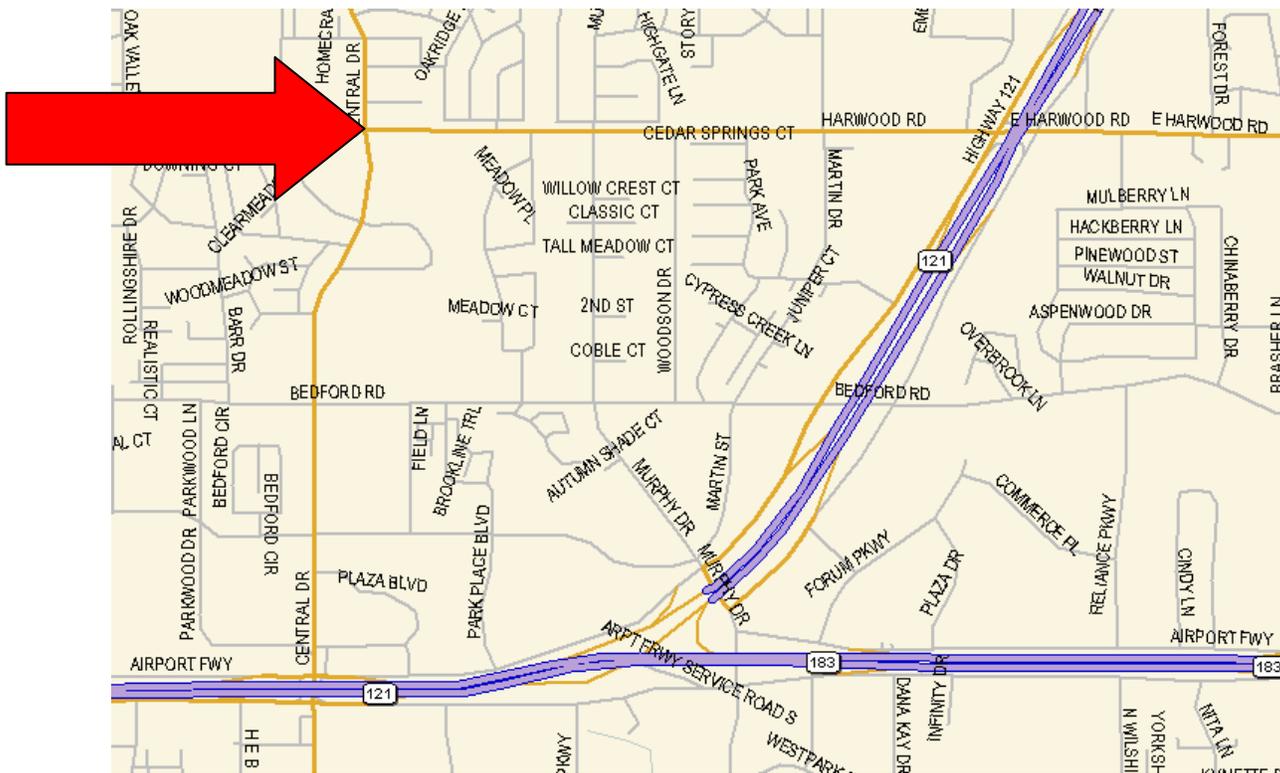
Teams Thompson & Bryant

Leaders: Harry & Janette Thompson, Ronnie & Nanette Bryant
Date: Sunday, July 13
Time: 9:00 am
Location: Bedford, TX

The next Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride will be Sunday, July 13. Meet at 9 am and ride whenever everyone is ready. Distance and route to be determined by the group and the weather. We might stop for a bagel, or we might stop for a donut, or we might stop for a breakfast burrito or might not stop at all. The group will decide. We might have lunch at a local restaurant after the ride.

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.



Mexican Food Ride

Sunday, July 27

Cedar Hill

Alan and Renee Kailer

Date: Sunday, July 27
Time: 8:30 am
Location: Cedar Hills, TX



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Alan and Renee Kailer will lead the second edition of a ride following the routes of the Cedar Hill "Head for the Hills" rally held earlier in the year. Meet at the Minyard's store on Beltline, just East of Highway 67 (From downtown Dallas, go South on I-35, bear right on U.S. 67, exit at Beltline and turn left onto Beltline). There are 64 mile and 41 mile routes. For those interested, we can eat at one of the Mexican restaurants located nearby. Of course, Alan thinks every ride should end with Mexican food.

The TROLS Big Adventure '08
September 19-21, 2008

Jefferson, TX
Kelly & Jimmy Duval

Hello DATES members!

We have taken over the TROLS ride for 2008.

The following is the announcement that we are now officially taking registrations for the TROLS Big Adventure of 2008.

In the early years, this ride was hosted by the Tandem Riders of Longview (TROLS), and continued to be hosted by the two remaining "Tandem Riders of Longview," Reggie and Linda Bowers. This year we are hosting another tandem weekend in Jefferson this September 19-21, and we would like to invite you along on our Big Adventure 2008. We will keep the same name, but we have to change the meaning because we are not Tandem Riders of Longview. For 2008, TROLS now stands for Tandem Ride Outside of Longview.

If you have a tandem bike and like to cycle the rural wooded roads around Jefferson, visit our website at <http://www.trols.org> for details and a registration form.

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!

For a snail mail copy of the information and registration form, you can contact Jimmy or Kelly at 214-277-9952 or email at trolsride@gmail.com

Please pass the word on to other tandem riders you know wishing to be a part of for the TROLS Big Adventure of 2008 in Jefferson, TX.

Hope you can make it!

Kelly & Jimmy Duval

Red River Redneck Roundup
October 10-12, 2008

This is from Rob Rowley over here in remote Red River County. We just completed our 3rd Annual Get-a-Way to Texas Tour, and we have begun to seriously plan for the 2nd Annual Red River Redneck Roundup (a tandem only event, and primarily a DATES event). We are planning the Roundup for October 10-12. We expect to have our plans "finalized" for this years ride by the end of July, at which time we will begin registering teams.

Please email me if you have any questions, or feel free to give me a call at 903-249-3483.

We look forward to seeing you again in October.

Notice:

August 2008 DATES-LINE:

Notices & Articles due by: July 25, 2008

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

DATES Rides and Activities							
RIDE	DATE	START TIME	START PLACE	RIDE HOST	PHONE # / EMAIL	DISTANCE	DETAILS
Second National Federation of the Blind Ride	Wednesday, July 2	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!
Independence Day Ride	Friday, July 4	8:30 am	3403 Summer Place Court, Farmers Branch, TX	Juanita & Roane Logan	(214) 686-5577 jlogan@boardwalkag.com	TBD	See Newsletter for Details Please RSVP
Mid Cities 'Almost Monthly' Tandem Ride	Sunday, July 13	9:00 am	Le Peeps, Central & Harwood, Bedford, TX 76021	Bryants & Thompsons	(817) 680-9404 (Bryant) (817) 358-0820 (Thompson)	TBD	No-Map, No-Drop The group will determine pace and specifics at the start. See Newsletter for Details
Mexican Food Ride	Sunday, July 27	8:30 am	Minyard's on Beltline, East of Highway 67, Cedar Hill, Texas	Alan & Renee Kailer	(214) 208-0267 (Alan) (214) 914-2335 (Renee)	41 and 64 miles	See Newsletter for Details Lunch at Mexican restaurant after the ride
DATES Tandem Tour	September 6 - 18	-	Nova Scotia	McManus Cole	John.McManus@yahoo.com	-	Contact John McManus for details john_j_mcmanus@yahoo.com
The TROLS Big Adventure '08	September 19-21	-	Jefferson, Texas	Kelly & Jimmy Duval	Jimmy or Kelly at 214-277-9952 or email at trolside@gmail.com	-	Visit website at http://www.trols.org for details and a registration form
Red River Redneck Roundup	October 10-12	-	TBA	Rob Rowley	903-249-3483 rob.rowley@yahoo.com	-	Details to come

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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WEB SITE	Kevin & Linda Vinson		http://www.doubledates.com
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

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