



Start of 2009 Southwest Tandem Rally Kerrville, Texas - April 24 - 26

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Pilot Point Ride
Sunday May 17th
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 50 miles by adding a 9-mile eastern loop, a 5-mile western loop or both.

To get to Pilot Point's town square from US 377, turn west on Co. Rd. 1192, aka 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 few hills along the route that goes over the Lake Ray Roberts Dam. There is at least one additional restroom stop 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.

For more info, call Chuck or Kris Carlson at 972-679-1200 cell, 972-248-8481 hm.

DATES EASY RIDER Ride of Southern Oklahoma **Sunday, June 7th, 8:30 AM**

READ WHAT DATES MEMBERS SAY AFTER 2008
RED RIVER ROADKILL RALLY AND THE ANNUAL DATES
EASY RIDER – DAY AFTER ROADKILL RIDE
ARDMORE, OK

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

*"The Roadkill Rally was one of the best-supported rides we've done in a while. It started
with a ride packet loaded with 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 \$35/team?! We felt well-rewarded, even though none of us
won the free bike or any of the generous gift certificates from local sponsors."*

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN BE PART OF THE FUN THIS YEAR:

DATES ***EASY RIDER*** Ride of Southern Oklahoma – Sunday, June 7th, 8:30am –
Lead by DATES Members Rick and Kay Watson, Ardmore, OK, 580-223-8180 or
cw7540@cablone.net . The ride starts at Cedarvale Fried Pie Restaurant parking lot, just
north (and over the mountain from famous Turner Falls).

Directions to Sunday Ride start: Take I35 North of Ardmore to Exit 51, then go left on Hwy
77 across the Interstate (west) – to restaurant parking lot on the left. Total Ride distance is
approximately 45-50 miles.

We will ride by beautiful Lake of the Arbuckles and Veterans Lake in the Chickasaw National
Recreation area park. We will lunch in or near the park before heading back.

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 6, 8:00A,
Red River Roadkill Rally, Ardmore, Oklahoma (less than 100 miles North of Dallas on
I35).

Routes are 20-40 & 60 miles, early entry (postmarked by May 29) - tandem \$35, single \$30,
child under 12 \$10; later entry – tandems \$40, single \$35, child \$10.

Start location Santa Fe Depot on East Main at the RR tracks – 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 drive a few miles north of Ardmore and start the ride *beyond* the beautiful Arbuckle Mountains near the community of Davis for a new EASIER ride, lunch at some great little restaurant along the way or in the Chickasaw National Recreation Park, Sulphur, OK and return to our cars in the early afternoon.

Please RSVP (cw7540@cablone.net or 580-223-8180) so we can make reservations if you plan to join us for dinner & dessert Saturday evening.

Hotels in Ardmore: Best Western 580-223-7525,
 Days Inn 580-226-1761,
 Comfort Inn 580-226-1250,
 Holiday Inn 580-223-7130,
 LaQuinta Inn 580-223-7976,
 Microtel Inn 580-224-9485.
 Lake Murray Lodge 580-223-6600,
 Springhill Suites 580-226-7100

And away we go,
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Dallas 214-321-0705
 9040 Garland Rd.

Frisco 972-335-7600
 8820 John Hickman Parkway

CO-MOTION CYCLES
 SANTANA
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Mexican Food Ride

Saturday, June 20

Cedar Hill

Alan and Renee Kailer

Date: Saturday, June 20
Time: 8:30 am
Location: Cedar Hills, TX

Alan and Renee Kailer will lead the third 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.

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Jimmy Buffet Concert in Frisco

By Roane and Juanita Logan

If you're a true tandem rider, you should take your tandem everywhere with you. Roane and Juanita attended the Jimmy Buffet pre-concert party in Frisco in April. The ride was short on distance, but long on quality - 4.9 miles - 23 rest stops with refreshments = 5 mph average. Pictured are Roane with Carmen Miranda and Juanita with The King. Jimmy Buffet was not available.



I talked Juanita into going to the 7:30 pm concert at 3:00 so we could see the "real" show. In case you're not a Parrot Head, Jimmy Buffet fans arrive in RVs a full day in advance of his concerts to party. And they are pros. We took our tandem to cover the 4,000+ RV city of party-goers. People were dressed in grass skirts, coconut bras, parrot hats, and shark fins. We tried to dress the part - Roane wore his Rastafarian hat. One group brought their own pirate ship for a party base. There were two sail boats in dry dock, one motorized recliner with tiki lamps, a school bus from Margaritaville ISD holding a party on the roof, a motorized beer cooler race, and on and on. Plus

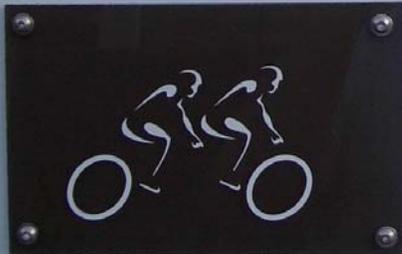
plenty of tiki bars serving margaritas and a cacophony of Buffett music.

Pictures were a must. No one would believe this stuff without proof. Juanita wanted to take a picture of a Carmen Miranda, but she would only grant us a photo shoot if Roane posed with her and held her leg. And to get a picture of The King, Juanita had to kiss his hand. During the concert, revelers wearing lighted shark fins on their heads wandered through the crowd. After watching the fans all day, the concert was anticlimactic. Mr. Buffet had a hard act to follow. And considering the rest stops had margaritas instead of Gatorade, we were proud of our 5mph average.



Tandem & Single Bike Decals Available!
**For a limited time, purchase a tandem bike or
single bike decal!**

THE ORIGINAL TANDEM DECAL



- 1993 SWTR design
- Laser-cut, 3M vinyl
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Price is \$5.00 each + \$1.00 for shipping & handling

Mail check to: Linda Vinson
7013 Fox Drive
The Colony, TX 75056
email: vinsonlj@sbcglobal.net

Proceeds benefit the Southwest Tandem Rally XX in April 2010

BETRAYAL IN LANCASTER – The Few/The Proud

Report by Rick Dixon

What seemed a not uncommon gathering of tandem enthusiasts preparing for an exhilarating ride through meandering roads of beautiful Lancaster was just window dressing for the unspeakable horror that lie ahead. True, it was not an ideal riding day. We were greeted with a gentle breeze from the north that carried a tinge of chill to naked arms and legs. Yes, it was obvious that this ride would require more than a daubing of sun screen and scented lip balm. Four hardy teams of gallant captains and loyal, robust stokers willing to follow their captains into Hell set out for the challenges ahead. Names are unimportant, we know who we are. We looked Mariah in the eye and spat in her face.

We treated the cold with irreverence and persevered. We finished with our heads high and walking proud with the knowledge that we could always depend on one another in the most challenging of times. Our feat was made more remarkable in light of the circumstance that would send most riders back to their cars.

WE WERE ABANDONED. Yes, the ride leader opted for a latte and French crème bun at Starbuck's in total indifference to his responsibility as leader and captain. We can hold our heads up while he has to look at himself in the mirror for eternity. He left us to fend for ourselves. We were left without the comforting knowledge that we had a capable leader who knew the terrain and the pitfalls that lay ahead. We were left not knowing where to seek shelter, food, or find help in an emergency.

WE WERE ABANDONED. We were abandoned by a captain that would likely take the only life jacket or parachute for himself. A captain whose personal comfort was more important than our very lives.



I am sure that years and miles have affected my memory, but I cannot remember in decades of tandem club riding one instance of a leader turning his back on the his troops. What makes it more ironic is that captain is said to be riding across the country in any weather (Hah!). This is a captain that has long spouted the responsibility of being a ride leader (Hah!). And most chilling, this

captain has led? rides all over the world. I shiver to think of all those helpless fellow tandem teams left **ABANDONED** in the likes of Italy and Ireland. This blatant disregard for responsibility and captainship should not go unpunished in the future. I propose that a dubious award be established for this purpose. I suggest a medal of shame that would hang on the captain's neck like an albatross and weigh on his shoulders like a heavy tome. The name of that medal should convey without doubt the shame and indignity that it represents. I submit the following names for consideration, although only one name truly conveys its meaning.

- A) Benedict Arnold Medal
- B) Judas Medal
- C) Cowardly Lion Medal
- D) Fletcher Christian Medal
- E) **McMANUS MEDAL**



Safe Passing Passes Texas Senate!



From Warren Casteel and Juanita Logan:

The 2009 Safe Passing Bill, Senate Bill 488 was recently passed by the Texas State Senate by a vote of 28-2.

Credit should go to BikeTEXAS, Robin Stallings and the staff, to BikeDFW who pushed this very hard, and had by far the largest group for the Cyclists In Suits day in Austin, and most of all, the thousands of cyclists that contacted their Senators on this. Thanks to any of you who contacted your senators regarding the passage of this bill.

We are not out of the woods yet. It must pass the House, and the poison amendments that were attached there but be pulled out!

More information is available at the following websites:

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/81R/billtext/doc/SB00488E.doc>

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/Text.aspx?LegSess=81R&Bill=SB488>

Notice:

May 2009 DATES-LINE:

Notices & Articles due by: May 24, 2009

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

Not Ready For a New Tandem – Upgrade Your Old One !

By Warren Casteel

We ride a 1993 model Co-Motion Titanium tandem. This has been a wonderful bicycle, and has given us many pleasurable and reliable miles since it was new. It still had many of the original components – Sachs / Campy shifters, Phil Wood bottom brackets, XTR derailleurs, Co-Motion steel fork, etc. After 16 years, its moving parts were getting worn out.

We considered a new tandem (Co-Motion & Cannondale – *see inset below*), and also upgrading our current frame. Rick & Kyle at Plano Cycling patiently priced every option for us, and while they would have liked to sell a new bike, they worked just as hard on the upgrade. After much thought, we upgraded. How do you bail on a classic -- one of the only Ti Co-Motions ever made? New components:

- Dura Ace shifters and derailleurs (triple in the front, 10 speed in the back)
- Wound Up carbon fiber tandem specific fork.
- FSA SL-K carbon crankset and bottom brackets
- New style Co-Motion eccentric
- All new chains, cables, even bar tape!

Prior to this we had changed to Velocity Deep Vee rims on Phil Wood hubs. The front hub is original, with well over 20,000 miles. The rear is a bit newer only because we switched from freewheel to cassette years ago. (NOTE: Try what you want, go with lighter weight if you want, but there is no tandem hub that measures up to Phil Wood!)

RESULTS: After learning the shifting differences between Shimano and Campy, and a few test runs, the shifting is excellent. (No tandem shifts as well as a single so don't fret over this!) The Wound Up fork is a superb addition – much better ride, and great response and the crisp handling that Co-Motion is known for. The

Best tandem for the money?

I believe that Co-Motion makes the best tandem that money can buy. We have ridden many brands and many models, and nothing has ever compared. Co-Motions are, however, a pretty substantial sum of money! So if you don't want to spend \$ 4 – 7,000 + for a tandem, what do you do?

While involved in our new vs. rebuild decision we looked at a new Co-Motion. Jeff & Heather Lingo then purchased a new Cannondale Road 2. This bike has great components and is below \$ 3,000.00, tax included. We looked at this bike also. It was very tempting to go for a new complete tandem for only a few hundred dollars more than our rebuild. Jeff & Heather like the Cannondale better than our tandem, which they also rode!

So, if you don't want to sink a lot into a new tandem, or are not sure that you and your partner are into this tandem thing, OR if you have lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in retirement money, the Cannondale should be high on your list. Test ride everything you can, and decide for yourself. Hopefully, Jeff & Heather will do a review on their new bike soon! The Cannondale Road 2 may well be the most tandem you can get for your money!

<http://www.cannondale.com/bikes/09/cusa/model-8RT2.html>

changes dropped a bunch of weight off the bike, for you weight weenies!

While the Co-Motion frame was custom sized, and fit us very well, we adjusted the Captain's position up a bit as a surrender to the Captains age! As Kyle said, you can always cut a bit more off of the steerer, but can't add it back! For some reason, we climb better out of the saddle with the new fork and position.

Our only regret was that we could not go to the new Gates / Co-Motion Carbon timing belt system. Our tandem, being custom, is too short between the bottom brackets for the current sizing. Co-Motion promises larger carbon timing rings soon to accommodate those of us with shorter, non-standard frames. The Longnecks from Colorado had it on their tandem at the SWTR in Kerrville, and Jeff and Darla Hollansworth have purchased the system and are awaiting installation. The system will outlast a chain, is very quiet, stays clean (no oil!), and is easier to maintain, plus you save 13 oz.!

<http://www.co-motion.com/information/faq/carbondrive.html>

This was a "spare no expense – go for quality upgrade" and the cost was well above \$ 2,000.00, but we almost have a new tandem. When you have new tandem envy, consider this as an option!

(Thanks to Rick, Kyle, and the mechanics at Plano Cycling for staying late one night so we could get a test ride done the next morning to get ready for the SWTR in Kerrville. You went way beyond the call!)

DATES Rides and Activities							
RIDE	DATE	START TIME	START PLACE	RIDE HOST	PHONE # / EMAIL	DISTANCE	DETAILS
Pilot Point Ride.	Sunday, May 17	Meet at 8:15, ride at 8:30.	Town Square (gazebo) Pilot Point	Chuck & Kris Carlson	972-679-1200 cell, 972-248-8481 hm	20 - 50 miles	See newsletter for information
DATES Easy Rider Ride of Southern Oklahoma	Sunday, June 7	8:30 am	Cedarvale Fried Pie Restaurant parking lot I-35 North of Ardmore at Exit 51	Rick and Kay Watson	580-223-8180; cw7540@cablone.net	~45 miles	See newsletter for information
Cedar Hills Mexican Food Ride	Saturday, June 20	8:30 am	Cedar Hills	Alan & Renee Kailer	214-208-0267; 214-914-2335 akailer@aol.com	41 - 64 miles	See newsletter for information
Independence Day Ride	Saturday, July 4	8:30 am	3403 Summer Place Ct, Farmers Branch	Roane & Juanita Logan	214-686-5577 or 469-688-0070	30 miles	Hot dogs and swimming afterward
TROLS Tandem Rally	Sept. 18 - 20	-	Jefferson, TX	-	-	-	See www.doubledates.com for additional information
See more rides on the new DATES website: http://www.doubledates.com/							

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



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SECRETARY	Tom and Brenda Shaddox	972-517-4534 (h)	res1rrzj@verizon.net
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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