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DATES July 4th Ride

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fresh dates

TEAM WARREN

Plano, TX

Captain: Dave Warren

Stoker: Nancy Warren

Joined DATES: July 2011

How long have you been cycling?

Captain: On & Off 30+

Stoker: 10 yrs. Hybrid Fun

How long tandeming? Newbies

Why did you decide to start riding tandem? Dave is working on getting Nancy hooked on riding. Making new friends.

What kind of tandem do you ride? Co-Motion Robusta.

How often do you ride? Tandem 2x per week.

How Far? 20-30 miles. Nancy's longest ride ever was 42.5 on July 4th.

Favorite Ride? All rides as long as the pace is not too fast.

Usual route/area? Plano, TX Area

Where/How did you hear about Double DATES? Other Members: Steve & Sonia Minnerly, Jody & Diane Germain

Anything else you'd like your new club members to know about you? We like to have fun.



DALLAS

9040 Garland Rd.
214-321-0705

RICHARDSON

1451 W. Campbell Rd.
972-231-3993

FRISCO

8820 John Hickman
972-335-7600

fresh dates

TEAM GOFF
Flower Mound, TX

Captain: Steve
Stoker: Theresa
Joined DATES: July 2011
How long have you been cycling?

Captain: 40 years or more

Stoker: 30 years or so

How long tandeming? Just shy of 27 years.

Why did you decide to start riding tandem? To even out the ability disparity and keep us together on the road – besides, the design of the Opus was too unique to pass up!

What kind of tandem do you

ride? Counterpoint Opus II – the picture is from the 4th when we rode over to see our local town fireworks.

How often do you ride? 3-4 times per week

How Far? 40 to 60 miles

Favorite Ride? Don't really have a single favorite. Prefer rides that leave from home so don't have to drive a car, but also like to see new areas to ride. Prefer late fall and late spring rides.

Usual route/area? Flower Mound – Double Oak – Bartonville – Lantana – Argyle – (Denton sometimes) – Papi's Mexican Restaurant for lunch – and back to FM

Where/How did you hear about Double DATES? First ran across you when the organizers lived a few blocks from us in Carrollton (north of Hebron Blvd), but "kid stuff" (read soccer, scouts, horse camp, dance class, robotics, etc. etc. etc.) made joining an organized club pretty much out of the question. Now that we're empty nesters it's back on the bikes after 15+ year hiatus.

Anything else you'd like your new club members to know about you? We are family life members of The League of American Wheelmen (that's what L.A.B. was called when we joined as life members). We were founding members of Carrollton Bike Club (now Carrollton Cycling Club) back in the early 80's.



We have 2 children: Zach is 25, has a Mechanical Engineering degree from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and is a 1st Lt. in the Air Force stationed at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, OH (paying off his ROTC scholarship). We just can't seem to get him on his bicycle anymore – he wants a motorcycle instead.

Hana is 21 and is a Junior at the University of Oklahoma in Norman studying Technical Theater – Stage Design. She is on the 4 ½ year plan but loving every minute of it – of course she is 'cause we're paying for it!

Other favorite pastimes include fishing (mostly fly fishing), gardening (Theresa), and model railroading (N-scale T-Trak).

We are contemplating making a try for the Denver Post Ride the Rockies in 2012, but otherwise restrict our riding to local club and group/charity rides. Our next "big" ride will be in Paris on Saturday.



Can you recognize this handsome cyclist from yesteryear?

Hint: He's still alive.

Send your guess to Janette Thompson at janette.r.thompson@gmail.com." (Answer in next month's newsletter)

The Impromptu Mesquite Ride

July 10, 2011

by Mindy Mashburn



After a call from the Carlsons asking (begging) for some ride leaders to step forward in July, we decided we could at least co-lead our usual Mesquite ride with Pete Holverson and Laura Roberts. Thus, the Impromptu Mesquite ride!

Eight tandems (Teams Bryant, Vinson, Kailer, Yuhn, Wilson, Mumby, Heikkinen, and Holverson/Roberts) and Scott and I on our singles due to a last minute tandem malfunction (I guess that is better than a wardrobe malfunction!) started off from the Lowe's parking lot at the already warm hour of 7:50 am. How does that Sly and the Family Stone song go – "Hot Ride in the Summertime...."?

Two teams, whom we agreed later had more sense than the rest of us, opted for the more rational 37 mile ride, while the rest of us sweated out the 56 mile loop. The Mumbys were test riding a pretty swanky looking Titanium coupled Santana and looked very comfortable on it. As always, there was little traffic, a decent amount of shade, a few rolling hills, and the prevailing south wind.

At around mile 31, we hit the McDonalds for various refreshments and a break from the saddle. We didn't linger long as the temperature was continuing to rise.

Back at the Lowe's parking lot, we handed out some cold water bottles – some being poured into our mouths and others on our heads – packed up the bikes, and headed to Posada's for a Mexican food fix. More heat – just in a different form!

Thanks to all who came out and we'll do it again soon!

BOOK REVIEW: *"It's All About The Bike"*

John McManus

Yesterday a friend from Littleton, Co loaned me a book. Today I finished it. Robert Penn's *"It's All About The Bike – The Pursuit of Happiness on Two Wheels"* details his quest for an ultimate bespoke road bike. Ron is a British lawyer and an avid cyclist who pedaled 25,000 miles around the world when in his twenties. The book takes you through all the decisions required of this process. He often deviates from the main story of selecting the frame and components to tell you a lot about the history of the bicycle. Although this makes the story somewhat disjointed, it adds a wealth of interesting information.

Ron also takes you on a tour of the shops and factories of his suppliers: Brian Rourke's frame shop in Stoke-on-Trent, the Gravy wheel shop at the foot of Repack in California (famous for the birth of mountain biking) – Campy, Chris King and Brooks factories.

This book surely has only a limited market. (Shortly after I wrote that sentence, I learned that the book, published by Penguin Press in the UK was a Sunday Times bestseller on publication in hardback. 'Shows you what I know.) Who is interested in seat tube angles, chain stay lengths, fork rake and trail and spoke lacing? Certainly not everyone. BUT PROBABLY YOU! This makes it worth a read.

The last page contains a humorous paragraph:

'Lance Armstrong was wrong. I realize this is rich – telling the winner of the world's toughest race a record seven times that the title of his global, best-selling book, *"It's Not About The Bike"*, is erroneous – but there you go. I've done it now. Lance, you don't know what you're talking about. It is about the bike. It's *all* about the bike.'

So is Lance correct? Or is Robert correct? Well, probably both.

- Lance's objective is to win the race. He needs a bike that is responsive (quick), light and short-term (get through the race) reliable. A ride on it brings the satisfaction of winning. He can ride one bike today and another tomorrow and not know the difference.
- Robert's objective is to be one with his bike. It becomes part of him – him a part of it. He needs a bike that is a comfortable, responsive (fun) and long-term (life-time) reliable. It must also be a piece of art. A ride on it brings a smile to his face: *"The views into mid-Wales were magnificent. The world lay beyond the handlebars. I was in the best seat in the house; a seat that had cost over \$5,500. That's a lot of money for a bicycle, I thought. Then again, it's not a lot of money for the loveliest thing I've ever owned."*

PS: A Cliff Notes summary of The Bike: Reynolds 953, Campy Record drive train, custom built wheels, Continental Grand Prix 4000 tires, Cinelli bar and stem (Carbon, no less), Brooks saddle.



Group on Ride to Venus, July 24



**John McManus, Brenda Cole and Janette and Harry Thompson
enjoy a Rocky Mountain High in cool Colorado
They have vests on!!**

2011 Gateway to Texas Get-a-Way Tandem Tour October 7-9 Clarksville, Texas

It is once again time to start planning and registering for the 2011 Gateway to Texas Get-a-Way Tandem Tour. This will be our fifth anniversary for the tour, which is hard to believe. We once again had a great tour this past June, which was the sixth anniversary for our four-day tour, and we are looking forward to another great tandem tour in October, along with some cooler weather.

The overall format this year will remain exactly has been for the last two years. The registration fee will cover supper on Saturday evening, entertainment on both Friday and Saturday evenings, an open bar (beer and wine) on both Friday and Saturday evenings, and breakfast both Saturday and Sunday for those not staying at the Courthouse Inn (breakfast is included there), and other incidental expenses. As was the case in previous years, riders will be responsible for lodging (except those camping or staying at cabins), lunch and Friday Night's dinner.

Schedule:

Friday (10/07)

Check-in/Registration will be anytime after 12:00 at the Red River County Chamber of Commerce (101 N. Locust on the Square). Additional directions will be provided at registration to specific accommodations depending on preference (B & B/Red River Inn/Cabins-see below).

A short ride of 20-30 miles will be planned for Friday afternoon, with no specific start time.

Dinner will be on your own, however, we will be providing an open bar (beer and wine) at Rio Verde. A restored saloon (circa. 1895) in historic Downtown Clarksville will be open for mingling and getting acquainted from 6:00 to 7:00 & 8:00 to 10:00. Availability of the 101 1/2 Saloon is contingent upon the status of the property as of October as it presently is available for sale. Other arrangements will be made, if the Saloon is not available.

Saturday (10/08)

Breakfast will be provided at your lodging location between 7:30 to 8:30.

For the ride, we will hold a mass start at 9:30. This will allow any riders who want to drive over from Dallas on Saturday to attend. While there will be a mass start, riders who want to start earlier or later will have that option (anytime between 8:30 to 10:00). Two ride distances will be available for 40-45 miles and 70-85 miles. This is a reasonably flat, but very scenic and fun ride with minimal traffic. The routes will be a marked and SAGed with rest stops every 15-25 miles.

Dinner will be catered and will be served at 7:00 at the loft over the Corner Gallery, which is located on The Square. The 101 1/2 Saloon will also be open from 6:00 to 7:00 & 8:30 to 10:00 or after. Please see note above.

Sunday (10/09)

Breakfast will again be provided at the location of your accommodations, but will be served earlier to allow time for the ride and time to get home at a reasonable time (6:30-7:30).

The ride on Sunday will start at 8:00 and will cover a distance of 25-35 miles.

Accommodations:

The Courthouse Inn Bed & Breakfast located in downtown Clarksville is the most charming option. Space is limited to 6 teams. Please call 903-427-0801 or 903-427-5435 to make your reservations. Please indicate that you will be participating in the Tandem Rally as they have blocked all rooms for us for the weekend.

The Oaks which is B&B style without the breakfast. This a lovely restored old farm house with two bedrooms. It is great for two teams who enjoy each others company. Please call Ann Evetts at 903-427-5570 for reservations.

Cabins are situated on the lake at Clarksville Country Club about 6 miles north of downtown. These will be available at no charge; space is limited to 5-6 teams. Please notify me (Rob) via email of your interest in these accommodations. There are also two camper hookups at the site of two of the cabins at the Country Club as an additional option this year.

Camping at the Rowley Ranch (about 10 miles east of town) which includes space for 3 to 4 campers or tents. All hookups are available including outdoor hot water showers. Campfires/cooking out/grilling out are all OK and one or more grills will be available for general use, if desired. Please notify me (Rob) via email of your interest in these accommodations.

The Red River Inn (903-427-2278) is locally owned and is on par with a Motel 6. They offer remodeled and nonsmoking rooms some with mini refrigerators and microwaves. The rooms aren't plush, but they are nice and clean. My family frequently stays there.

Breakfast will be provided on site at all locations (Oaks Breakfast will be provided at the Red River Inn).

Cost:

\$75 per team which includes breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, entertainment Friday and Saturday evening, and dinner on Saturday.

Support:

Saturday and Sunday rides will be supported (sponsor patrolled) and maps provided. Rest stops will be provided at 15-25 mile intervals on Saturday only.

Clarksville/Red River County:

Population is 3,800 and 12,700, respectively. Clarksville was founded in 1833 and Red River County was the gateway into Texas for the first settlers including Davy Crockett and Sam Houston. The roads are well maintained, reasonably flat, with only minor to modest traffic.

Registration Form:

This ride is limited to the first 30 teams who sign up for the ride prior to October 1, 2011. Registration will be accomplished by notifying Rob Rowley, the ride coordinator, via email (rob.rowley@yahoo.com), with the following information:

Team Name: _____

Captain's Name: _____

Stoker's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

Email Address: _____

Overnight Accommodations:

Bed and Breakfast____(You need to make your own reservations at the numbers noted above)

Red River Inn____(You need to make you own reservations at the number noted above)

Cabins____(Available to the first 5 teams requesting these accommodations)

Camping____(Available for the first 4 teams requesting these accommodations)

A standard release will be required to be signed at the time of registration at the ride.

Contact Names:

Rob Rowley 903-249-3483 (rob.rowley@yahoo.com or
clarksville.admin@lrcmail.com)

James Vaughan 903-427-3858 (jwvaughan@cebridge.net)

Red River Chamber of Commerce/Diane Peek 903-427-2645
(redrivercc@1starnet.com)



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DATES Rides and Activities							
RIDE	DATE	START TIME	START PLACE	RIDE HOST	PHONE # / EMAIL	DISTANCE	DETAILS
Gateway to Texas Get-a-Way Tandem Tour	Oct. 7-9	--	Clarksville, Tx	Red River Chamber of Commerce	Rob Rowley 903-249-3483 (rob.rowley@yahoo.com or clarksville.admin@lrcmail.com) James Vaughan 903-427-3858 (jwvaughan@cebridge.net) Red River Chamber of Commerce/Diane Peek 903-427-2645 (redrivercc@1starnet.com)	--	See Newsletter
DATES Business Meeting	Saturday, Oct. 23	TBD	Wilson's 4611 Travis Street #1400	Lee & Beckie Wilson	972-977-9686 TheWilsonson@purelyonline.com	--	To Come
See more rides on the DATES website: http://www.doubledates.com/							

Notice:

September 2011 DATES-LINE:

Notices & Articles due by: August 25, 2011

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

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 e-mailed by the end of the previous month. Notices and Articles must be received a week prior to the e-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 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 November or December pay \$25 and are paid up for the following year.

DATES is affiliated with or a member of the Tandem Club of America, the League of American Bicyclists, BikeTexas and BikeDFW.



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