



October 2012

Volume 23, Number 9

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October 12 – 14	2012 Gateway to Texas Get-a-Way Tandem Tour
October 21	New Member Ride and Cookout
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**Apparently DATES Hibernated in the Summer and Woke Up for the Fall
We have a great line-up of upcoming rides! Hope to see you there!**

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FRESH DATES

TEAM SIMONS – ROCKWALL, TX

Captain: Joel

Stoker: Barbara

Joined DATES: August 2012

How long have you been cycling?

Captain: Since the age of 5

Stoker: Since the age of 8

How long tandeming? Just started

Why did you decide to start riding tandem? Better as a double and we can be with each other due to our different abilities.

What kind of tandem do you ride? Purple Co-Motion Primera

How often do you ride? Every weekend and with a night light in the future.

How Far? 5-10 miles. We need to get in shape again.

Favorite Ride? It looks like it will be in the Princeton area on 380 with smooth pavement and wide shoulders.

Usual route/area? Rockwall for now. Moving to Princeton in about 2 – 3 months.

Where/How did you hear about Double DATES? Initially from Charlie and Nancy Roach in the mid '9's. And then Plano Cycling and Fitness.

Anything else you'd like your new club members to know about you? We are in our mid '50s, empty nesters with our only daughter married for 6 years. We've lived in the Dallas Area since '86. Both of us are Navy Vets.

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Uptown TOTS (Tour Of The Stars) Sunday, October 7, 2012

TIME: Gather at 8:30 a.m. to start when the stars are aligned
LEADERS: Lee & Beckie Wilson
CONTACT: TheWilsons@purelyonline.com or 972-977-9686
START: Behind Chili's at the NE corner of Travis and Knox – in the Uptown area near Travis Walk (Mapsco 35Q)
DISTANCE: Approximately 30 urban units
ROUTE: The "new" TOTS Route - being updated (GPS file to follow)
LUNCH: After the ride somewhere nearby (group consensus)

DESCRIPTION: An interesting look at North Dallas – not just another urban ride. We'll ride past the homes of celebrities and local personalities as we crisscross an area with the highest concentration of disposable income in the nation. Why drive to the country to ride when Dallas has all this to offer? You'll pedal through well-known neighborhoods and at other times not even believe you're still in the city. Who says Dallas is flat?

POINTS OF INTEREST:

Carl & Peggy Sewell, car dealerships - 4726 Drexel (\$2.3 Million);
Troy Aikman, former Cowboys quarterback - 4425 Highland Drive (\$24 Million);
Jerry Jones, owner Cowboys - 4400 Preston (\$14.2 Million);
Karen Katz, CEO Neiman Marcus - 4369 San Carlos (\$712k);
Hexagon house by Frank Lloyd Wright - 9400 Rockbrook (\$6.2 Million);
Former home of Raymond Nasher, sculpture gardens - 4701 Miron Drive (\$4.9 Million);
Robert Schlegel, owner Pavestone - 4404 Valley Ridge (\$10 Million);
Tom Hicks, owner Rangers - 5555 Walnut Hill (\$35 Million);
Mark Cuban, owner Dallas Mavericks - 5424 Deloache Avenue, Dallas, TX (\$17 Million);
Former home of Norman Brinker - 10235 Strait Lane (\$4.2 Million);
Ross H. Perot - 10444 Strait Lane (\$16 Million);
Charley Pride, legendary country music artist - 5476 Northaven (\$2 Million);
George & Laura Bush - 10151 Daria Place;
Future home of George W. Bush Presidential Library;
Kalita Humphreys Theater - designed by Frank Lloyd Wright;
Former home of Stevie Ray Vaughan, legendary Blues guitarist - 4344 Travis
All are highlighted in Google Maps at this link:
<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=211814531241874238480.0004a7533758517b0fec&msa=0&ll=32.858393,-96.80603&spn=0.126173,0.187626>

2012 Gateway to Texas Get-a-Way Tandem Tour

Clarksville, Texas

October 12 – 14, 2012

It is once again time to start registration for the 2012 Gateway to Texas Get-a-Way *Tandem* Tour. This will be our sixth anniversary for the tour, which is amazing! We are all looking forward to this year's tour. It's always a great time to visit with old friends and make new ones!

What's Included:

The overall format this year will remain exactly the same as it has been for the last several 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. Cabins are in very short supply this year and we are working on some other options. This has been the primary delay in getting the registration notice sent out. We will keep you posted on any additional accommodations!

Schedule:

Friday, October 12th

Check-in/registration will be any time after 12:00 at the Red River County Chamber of Commerce at 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 "Accommodations" 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 at Rio Verde. We will be providing an open bar (beer and wine), at the 101 ½ Saloon, a restored saloon (circa. 1895) in historic downtown Clarksville. The 101 ½ Saloon will be open for mingling and getting acquainted from 6:00 to 7:00 & 8:00 to 10:00.

Note: Availability of the 101 1/2 Saloon is contingent upon the status of the property as of October as it is presently available for sale. Other arrangements will be made, if the saloon is not available.

Saturday, October 13th

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. 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, October 14th

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 other's 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) 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, 2012. 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 your own reservations at the number noted above)

Cabins - (Available to the first 3 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)

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

Red River Chamber of Commerce/Diane Peek 903-427-2645
(redrivercc@windstream.net)

New Member Ride and Cookout **Sunday, October 21, 2012**

Meet at 10:00 a.m. - Ride at 10:30 a.m.

Location - Flag Pole Hill Pavilion at White Rock Lake

Hosts - Mitch and Leslie Frank

One or more loops around White Rock - 11, 21 & 31 miles, suit yourself! We'll ride from the pavilion to the trail - once at the trail it is a pretty flat 10 mile loop. Hill options can be provided.

We will grill hot dogs following the ride - water, soda, and condiments will be provided. If you would rather have something other than a hot dog, feel free to bring your own selection and we can grill it. Regular members, please bring snacks, a side dish or dessert to share. We'll be looking for a few helpers for set-up, grilling and clean-up - light duty! New members - just bring your bike. We look forward to spending time with you!

The Flag Pole Hill pavilion is covered - we can still picnic in a light rain. If it's a poor day for riding, we'll post a cancellation notice on the website. Or you can call Franks early that morning at 214-893-8990 (Leslie) or 214-395-6112 (Mitch).

Mark the date on your calendar - plan to come out and enjoy the day!

We consider new members to be those who have joined the club in the past 12 months or thereabouts. Please RSVP to Mitch and Leslie Frank at leslie@franksalot.net or 214-893-8990, so we can get a count of members planning to attend. Hope to see you there!



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DATES Business Meeting

Sunday, November 4th

Time: 5:30 PM

Hosted by: Jim and Rhonda Hoyt, 1309 Dumont Drive, Richardson, TX 75080

The next DATES business meeting will be held at the home of Jim and Rhonda Hoyt.

We will have a potluck dinner before the meeting, so please plan to arrive at 5:30 pm so that we can get the buffet organized and socialize during dinner. Chuck and Kris will start the business meeting at approximately 7 PM.

Recommended side items to bring: snacks, salads, desserts, and your beverage of choice. Hope to see you there!

Please RSVP to Rhonda at rhonda@bikemart.com.

**Please remember to send your ride reports,
articles & PICTURES for the newsletter,
by the 25th of the month if possible!**

DATES Halloween Ride
October 27-28
Purtis Creek State Park to Tyler
Ride Start - 9:00 A.M.

Time for the annual Halloween Ride through beautiful East Texas. We will again meet at Purtis Creek State Park in Eustace (62 miles from Dallas) and ride to Edom for lunch at the Edom Cafe and Bakery. (Great art and craft shopping opportunity, so save room in your panniers or trailer). We'll then continue on to Tyler, staying at the Comfort Suites Hotel.

There will be a happy hour, and nothing has changed over the years, so you will have to haul your precious cargo (i.e.: booze) with you, since Tyler is dry as a bone. Bring a snack to share as well. There are plenty of restaurants within walking distance for dinner after that. Breakfast is provided by the hotel and we will ride back to Purtis Creek State Park where DATES will have a picnic lunch spread.

Here's the down and dirty:

Ride starts at 9 a.m. To get to Purtis Creek State Park, take US 175 E toward Kaufman. After Mabank take exit to County Road 2938 and turn left. Go about 4 miles and merge onto 316 till you see the park entrance on the left.

There is NO SAG, so you will have to carry your overnight gear, food, water, tools etc....

We will provide maps/cue sheets and if you are late, they will be left on the windshield of our car (silver Lexus SUV). The Saturday routes are 51 and 57 miles and Sunday's are 47 and 60 miles.

I have blocked 12 rooms at the Comfort Suites at \$89.99, and you will need to make your own reservation. 903-534-0999. These rooms will be released 2 weeks prior to the event.

Costumes and bike decorations optional, but we've had some pretty decked out bikes and hilarious costumes in years past!

Post-Thanksgiving Ride?

DATES has scheduled a post-Thanksgiving ride (Fri., Sat. and Sun.) for several years. These have been either in the Hill Country or East Texas. There was no ride last year due to lack of interest. Hopefully, we'll have sufficient interest this year. So if you're interested, send email to john.mcmanus@yahoo.com. Or call John or Brenda, 214-613-2507, to discuss.

DATES McKinney Ride

July 28

Hosted by Heather & Jeff Lingo

Ride Report by Kevin Vinson

This was a first-time DATES ride. The plan was to meet near the historic downtown McKinney square around 7:30 A.M. for an 8:00 A.M. start. Three route options were offered; 31, 41, and 51-mile with the first 19 miles having everyone ride together. This ride report focuses on the 51-mile route since that was the route Linda and I chose. Once everyone arrived and readied themselves for the ride, we gathered for the traditional group picture.



As you can see, we had nine tandem couples. Unfortunately, Jeff Lingo was riding solo this day so he was relegated to photographer. Once the picture taking was completed, we mounted up and began our journey north towards Van Alstyne. We started off with a quick jaunt through part of the McKinney square. It's great to see that the historic McKinney square has thrived so much when so many of these quaint Texas towns have seen the direct opposite with their downtown squares.

We exited the square heading east towards Throckmorton Street where we would make a turn north. It wasn't until we arrived at US 380 / University Street that we were on rural roads. Throckmorton Street turns into Woodland Road when you cross US 380. From this point on, we were out in the country. It was also at this point that teams Dixon and Hopf joined us which brought the tandem couple total to 11 and Jeff on his single. Traversing several country roads, we made our way out to the US 75 service road at the Telephone Road intersection. We took the US 75 service road all the way up to Van Alstyne. I forget how nice of a ride it is along the US 75 service roads. I know Ann & Rick Dixon do a lot of riding on the US 75 service roads for both leisure and training.

Prior to reaching Van Alstyne, the Dixons and Hopfs split off to ride back home and the two shorter routes had split off as well. At this point, we were down to seven tandem couples and Jeff. Our first rest stop coincided with our arrival to Van Alstyne. So far, everyone was enjoying the ride and the route. Motorist traffic was very light. Once everyone refueled, we got back on the bikes and weaved our way through Van Alstyne.

FM 3133 was our route out of town. This route has been used in other DATES rides from years past. We remained on FM3133 until we reached Westminster. Once in Westminster, we took FM 2862 west. Our little peloton had split up prior to reaching Westminster. We regrouped in Westminster and continued on. There's a point on FM 2862 where we veer to the right while FM 2862 heads southwest. Three of the tandems ahead of us missed that turn and continued on FM 2862. The remainder of the group stayed on course veering to the right.

After a few miles, we were back on FM 2862 heading south. All of us regrouped in Anna. From here, we took country roads that ran parallel with SH 5. Again, we had very little motorist traffic to deal with. Once we were south of SH 121, it wasn't long and we hooked up with Woodland Road. From this point, the route took us back the way we had started. Linda and I really enjoyed the ride. The route was great. Once we got back to the starting point, everyone loaded up their tandems (and Jeff's single) and we made our way to the square for lunch.

If memory serves me correctly, our first stop was Square Burger. Unfortunately, the wait was around 30 minutes or so. We decided to put our name in but several people ventured out to check other restaurants. Surprisingly, we found one that could accommodate all of us. Again, going off memory, we ended up at the "Snug on the Square". It ended up being a very good choice. The food was very good. We all left the restaurant and walked through the square.

There is a new bike shop in McKinney called Cadence Cyclery. It was on the way back to where everyone was parked so we all stopped in to check things out. It's a very nice bike shop. After about 30 minutes of checking out the shop, we made our way back to the parking lot. Many thanks to Heather & Jeff for putting on this ride including a great route! Let's hope this becomes an annual DATES ride.



DATES Rides and Activities							
RIDE OR ACTIVITY	DATE	START TIME	START PLACE	HOST	PHONE # / EMAIL	DISTANCE	DETAILS
Uptown TOTS (Tour Of The Stars)	Sunday, Oct. 7	Gather at 8:30 a.m.	Chili's at the NE corner of Travis and Knox	Lee & Beckie Wilson	TheWilsons@purelyonline.com or 972-977-9686	30 miles	See Newsletter for Details
2012 Gateway to Texas Get-a-Way Tandem Tour	Oct. 12 – 14	Check-in any time after Noon, Friday, Oct. 12	101 N. Locust on the Square Clarksville, Texas	Red River County Chamber of Commerce	Rob Rowley 903-249-3483 (rob.rowley@yahoo.com) James Vaughan 903-427-3858 (jwvaughan@cebridge.net) Red River Chamber of Commerce/Diane Peek 903-427-2645 (redrivercc@windstream.net)	--	See Newsletter for Details
New Member Ride and Cookout	Sunday, Oct. 21	Meet at 10:00 a.m. Ride at 10:30 a.m.	Flag Pole Hill Pavilion at White Rock Lake	Mitch & Leslie Frank	leslie@franksalot.net or 214-893-8990	11, 21 & 31 miles	Please RSVP at leslie@franksalot.net or 214-893-8990
Halloween Ride	Sat. – Sun. Oct. 27 - 28	9:00 a.m.	Purtis Creek State Park (Eustace, TX)	Mindy & Scott Mashburn	smashfamily@sbcglobal.net	Sat-51/57 miles Sun-47/60 miles	Please let the Mashburn's know if you are coming smashfamily@sbcglobal.net
DATES Business Meeting	Sunday, Nov. 4	Arrive at 5:30 p.m. for dinner with meeting at 7:00 p.m.	1309 Dumont Drive, Richardson 75080	Jim and Rhonda Hoyt	--	--	Please RSVP to Rhonda at rhonda@bikemart.com
Blue Ridge Ride	Saturday, Nov. 10	TBD	TBD	Marc & Susie Mumby	smumby@mcmumby.com	TBD	Details to come

Get the most recent information on the DATES website: <http://www.doubledates.com>

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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 \$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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