



January 2007
Volume 8, Number 1

Touring Notes

The Newsletter of the Hill Country Bicycle Touring Club A Recreational Club for Central Texas <http://www.hcbtc.org>

Welcome

The Hill Country Bicycle Touring Club welcomes recreational riders of all abilities and experience levels; we are not a racing club. Recurring and scheduled club rides traverse scenic, cycle-friendly routes both in San Antonio and the nearby gorgeous Texas Hill Country area. Most are leader-led, where the group leaves no rider behind. Riders are free to cycle at their own comfortable pace.

In addition to a variety of rides, the club has monthly meetings, an on-line newsletter, and notices of the latest cycling news and information. We are arguably the most social cycling organization in San Antonio. Parties, picnics, overnight cycling events, and a special annual out-of-town trip are part of our appeal to the whole family. We have fun – Come join us!

For more information, call Nolan Kuehn (830) 755-8761, or email nolank@gvtc.com

2007 HCBTC Tour de Cure Team

The HCBTC will again have a team for the 2007 Tour de Cure, May 19-20-2007. The only cycling event in Texas dedicated to finding a cure for diabetes. The American Diabetes Association and AT&T's Tour de Cure will showcase a one and/or two day ride from San Antonio to Austin via San Marcos (Texas State University). Last year we had a team of 17 riders and raised almost \$4,000. I'm sure we can double it this year.

Two members of our team, Mike Thompson and Daniel Tawney, were among the top 100 fundraisers, which qualified them for the Pacesetters Club. I am inviting you to join the team and ask you to encourage your family and friends to join. Training rides will be scheduled at the beginning of the year. Plans are to have a certified trainer on some of the rides to address proper biking techniques, the principles of a good bicycle fit plus some biking maintenance. Several planning parties will be held so that the team may get to know one another and discuss fund raising activities.

We had an awesome time last year, the route was great, superior SAG support and break stops. Once in San Marcos there are so many activities and attractions....Aquarena Springs, Wonder World Park, Historic Districts, The San Marcos River (within walking distance) tubes available for renting or just hang out with friends at one of the parks. We had a delicious evening meal by the San Marcos River and even a free movie with free popcorn held on the campus. Lodging is available on the campus of Texas State University.

Register at tour.diabetes.org – click on “Texas” then “San Antonio”. Registration fee is \$15 before January 27th and \$20 after. The fundraising minimum is \$150.

If you don't plan to ride, the club also has a Tour de Cure volunteer team. Please contact Vern Jeys at vjeys@satx.rr.com to volunteer.

Email me if you need additional information, barsun@sbcglobal.net.

Sandy Barsun, Team Captain

New Club Officers Elected

The club officers for 2007 are: Nolan Kuehn (President), Ken Kanagaki (Vice President), Jackie Jeys (Treasurer), Heidi Lynn (Ride Chair), Diana Valdez (Secretary), Amanda McCoy (Membership), Chris Marsh (Website Editor), Ethel Pedraza (Publicity), Vern Jeys (Tour Director), Lillian LaFave (Beginner Rides), and Mouse Kanagaki (Club Historian).

Club Activities

Recurring Rides

Monday Morning Helotes/ 211 Loop. Ride starts at 7:30 a.m. across from the Helotes Bike Shop and Floores Country Store in Helotes. Join us for an early morning work out of 26 miles. This ride that takes us to loop 211 with rolling hills with a beautiful view in the Texas hill country. Directions to Helotes: Take Bandera Road West to Helotes. Travel through the Helotes shopping area and after passing the last traffic light make the 2nd left (opposite a feed store) onto Old Bandera Road and go two blocks to the meeting site. Ride Leader: Manuel Pena, phone: (210) 435-9237, email: Manuel_Pena@sbcglobal.net

Monday Evening Brauning Lake Ride. Meet 4:30 p.m. at Tom's Burgers for a 16 mile leisurely pace ride with rest stops. Some slight hills, but mostly gently rolling. Dinner at Tom's Burgers after the ride. Take IH-37 Hwy South to Southton. Go Left on Southton to Donop (about 1 block) Left on Donop to Tom's Burgers (about 400 ft) on the right. Ride leaders are Vern Jeys and

Sandy Barsun (210) 635-8777
barsun@sbcglobal.net.

Wednesday Morning Stinson Airport Ride. Meet 9:00 a.m. at Stinson Airport for a 18 to 30 mile leisurely pace ride with rest stops. Take Roosevelt to 99th street. Go East on 99th to Mission Road. Right on Mission Road to Stinson airport. Ride is flexible. We take various routes. Ride leader is Vern Jeys (210) 675-0538
vjeys@satx.rr.com.

Friday Morning Castroville Ride. Meet 9:00 a.m. in the carpool parking area across from Sammy's in Castroville for a 30 mile ride. Ride leader is Vern Jeys (210) 675-0538
vjeys@satx.rr.com.

Weekend Rides

Monday, January 1st, New Year's Day Ride. Let's get the New Year started with Energy & Vitality. Dust off your bike, throw on your biking clothes and join us for our 8th Annual New Years Day Ride. You can sleep in, the ride will not start until 12 NOON, from Bill Millers (Phone # is 372-0760) in Helotes located on 12705 Bandera, corner of Leslie & Bandera. Distance is about 22 miles, ride is mostly flat. (Minor hills). Pace will be leisurely, with every effort made to stay together as a group. Route will go to Exxon Station on 471 & back. Those who feel energetic on the first day of 2007 can do the 211 loop. Ride Leader: Heidi Lynn, phone: (210) 682-8107, email: bikentx@satx.rr.com & Vern Jeys, phone: (210) 675-0538, email: vjeys@satx.rr.com

Saturday, January 6, West Comfort Camp Verde Ride (Map #56). Ride starts at 9 a.m. Speed: 10-12 mph; Distance: 35

miles with rest stops at Center Point and Camp Verde. Directions to ride from San Antonio: (take corresponding exit if coming from the north) IH10 West to exit 524 onto Business 87 (Texas 27). This exit will take you over IH10 so that you are traveling in a westerly direction. Follow the sign straight ahead "Comfort 1 mile". Bear left to TX 27 as you pass a Chevron station on your right. Park in car pool lot at the far side of the junction of TX 27 & 473. Ride Leader: Tommy McMillan, phone: (210) 674-1210

Sunday, January 7th, Ride to Bourne. Ride starts at 9:00 a.m. from behind the What-a-Burger on Loop 1604 and TX16 (Bandera Rd). This will be a 40 mile brisk pace (13 - 15 mph) ride to Bourne back. Ride Leader: Chris Marsh, phone (210) 681-5768, email chrismarsh@satx.rr.com.

Saturday - Sunday, January 13th & 14th, Aransas/Corpus Christi Weekend. On Saturday we will meet at 10:00 AM at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge where we can see one of the rarest birds in North America; the whooping crane. The refuge has a visitor's center, hiking trails and a 16 mile paved road we can ride through. In Corpus Christi, you can see the Texas State Aquarium and other attractions. On Sunday we will ride along Corpus Christi Bay for a short ride before returning home. We are staying at the Holiday Inn in Corpus Christi (361) 289-5100. Ride Leader: Randy Frazier, phone: (210) 237-8740, email: papaastronomer@yahoo.com.

Sunday, January 14th, Castroville Ride. Meet 9:00 AM in the carpool parking area across from Sammy's in Castroville for a 30 mile easy paced ride. Ride Leader: Vern Jeys (210) 675-0538 vjeys@satx.rr.com.

Friday, January 19 – January Club Meeting. Hungry Horse Restaurant, 12333 West Ave. (ph. 210-349-2600). 6:30 PM, social and dinner. 7:15 PM, club business meeting. Guests are always welcome at the club meeting.

Saturday, January 20th , Taft High School Ride. (Map #55). Meet on the west side of the Taft High School parking lot at 9:00 AM. for an easy paced 27 mile group ride over mostly flat terrain. Directions: Taft High School is located on FM 471 (Culebra Road in the city) about one mile west of Loop 1604 W. Ride Leader: Debbie Arriaga, phone: 210-682-0320

Sunday January 21st, Jackie & Ethel's Birthday Ride. Ride starts at 10:00 a.m. Meet at Triple C Steakhouse in Devine for a 30 mile slightly hilly to flat ride. Pace is leisurely (stop & smell the flowers). Directions to Triple C: Take IH-35 South of San Antonio towards Laredo. Take exit 122 at Devine to Hwy 173. Right on 173 to Triple C on the left. (about 200 feet). Lunch will be at Triple C Steakhouse. Ride Leaders: Jackie Jeys, phone: (210)-675-0538 jackiejeys@satx.rr.com & Ethel Pedraza (210) 414-8559, email: azardepe@hotmail.com

Saturday, January 27, Movie Ride from Floresville. Ride

starts at 10:30 a.m., 25-30 miles
Ride Leader: Sandy Barsun
phone: (210) 635-8777, email:
barsun@sbcglobal.net

Sunday, January 28, Fair Oaks Afternoon Ride. Ride starts at 1:30 PM. From I-10 W, take the Fair Oaks Blvd. exit, and stay on the access road ¼ mile past Fair Oaks to Fair Oaks Ranch Center, 28604 I-10 W. Meet at Gotta Ride Bikes in the NE corner of this gated compound. Join us for a 22+ mi. ride at a relaxed pace that will take us through scenic neighborhoods in Fair Oaks with minimal hills and on to Ammann Road that has a couple or three more substantial hills on a quiet country road. Then it's downhill into Boerne, with a return to Gotta Ride Bikes by way of Herff/Old San Antonio/Old Fredericksburg Road that is mostly flat/downhill. There will be a separate Beginner Ride of 8-10 miles that is mostly flat. Look under Beginner Rides for more details. Michael and Betty Pace, owners of Gotta Ride Bikes, will assist in leading these rides, and have been gracious enough to provide some refreshments and food after the rides. Tommy Sales, the owner of Spin Doctor Bicycles repair shop next door to Gotta Ride Bikes, will also lead a short discussion on bicycle maintenance. This should be of interest to the Beginners and the "veterans" as well. Come join us! Ride Leader: Nolan Kuehn, Ph. 830-755-8761, cell 210-355-2645, email: nolank@gvtc.com

Other Cycling Events

February 17th, Jalapeno 100. Harlingen, Texas. See

<http://www.harlingen.com/jalapeno.asp> for more information.

March 10th - 17th, Texas Hell Week XVII. Texas Hell Week is as common to Spring as are daffodils and wildflowers. Nicknamed "The Rides of March," HWTX features 8 days of incredible riding and stunning scenery in Texas Hill Country. For 2007 we're mixing up the routes again and coming up with some more new daily rides. Entry is \$129. See <http://www.hellweek.com/texas.html> for more information.

Friday April 6th – 8th, 2007 Easter Hill Country Tour. Ride is centered in Kerrville, Texas. Hosted by The Houston Bicycle Club. See <http://www.ehct.com> for more information.

April 14th, Pedal Power Wildflower. 9:00 am. Stonewall, Texas. 12, 23, 36, 62 miles. \$30 for T-shirt and lunch. Call (512) 756-2607 for more information.

April 14th – 20th, Adventure Cycling Association - Texas Hill Country Event. Seven day event starts and ends in Austin. Fully supported with Catered meals and camping, Cost is \$849. For more information see the Adventure Cycling Association website at <http://www.advcycling.org/tours/2007texashillcountry.cfm>

April 27th – 29th, Southwest Tandem Rally. Lagrange Texas.

May 19th - 20th, 2007 Tour de Cure. See article on front page for more information.

June 10th – 16th, Oklahoma FreeWheel. Join 1000 riders for

the 29th ride across Oklahoma.
See
<http://www.okfreewheel.com/default.asp> for more information.

Member Discounts

The following Bicycle Shops offer members of the HCBTC a 10% discount. Be sure to ask what the discount applies to and show them your membership card.

BikeWorld, 5911 Broadway, 210-828-5558, 7148 Blanco Road 210-344-2303 and 418 N. Loop 1604 West, San Antonio, Tx 78232, 210-892-0123

Britton's Cycles, 16636 Hwy 281N, 656-1655 and 802 E. Blanco Rd. Boerne, 830 816-2305

Hill Country Bicycle Works, 1412 Broadway, Kerrville, 830 896-6864 and 702 E Main, Fredericksburg, 830 990-2609.

Ride Away Bicycles, Huebner Oaks Shopping Center, 11075 IH-10 West, Suite 305, 696-9925 and 8509 Culebra Road, 520-4789

Cycle Logic, 12319 Wetmore Road, 210-490-8251

Planet Bike, 5819 NW Loop 410, Suite 153, 210-682-2050

Action Bikes, 2921 Pat Booker Road, 104 Universal City, TX, 210-657-0155

Bicycle Shack, 31007 IH10 West, Ste 105, Boerne, TX 78006, 830-755-5369

Gotta Ride Bikes, 28604 IH 10 W #5, Boerne, Tx, 830-755-8039

The Bike Platz, 1312 Common St, Ste 402-402, New Braunfels, TX 78130, 830-626-2453

Charles A. James Bicycle Co., 329 N. Main Ave. (Downtown) San Antonio, TX 78205, 210-226-7812 and 1203 S. W. Military Dr. (Southside), San Antonio, TX 78221, 210-923-3010

Bicycle Heaven, 20323 Huebner Road, Suite 108, San Antonio, TX 78258, 210-494-0035

Also, the Southwoods Bed and breakfast in Fredericksburg offers a 10% discount to members. 632 Southwoods Drive, Fredericksburg, TX 78624, 877-816-9100,
<http://632southwoods.com>

A big thanks for their support to our club.

Club Volunteers

Club Officers

President: Nolan Kuehn
(830) 755-8761,
nolank@gvtc.com

Vice President: Ken Kanagaki,
(210) 341-6883,
kw2405@earthlink.net.

Ride Chair: Heidi Lynn, (210) 682-8107, bikentx@satx.rr.com

Treasurer: Jackie Jeys, (210) 675-0538,
jackiejeys@satx.rr.com

Secretary: Diana Valdez

Membership: Amanda McCoy,
(210) 614-4475,
amccoy@cfhp.com

Website Editor: Chris Marsh,
(210) 681-5768,
chrismarsh@satx.rr.com

Publicity: Ethel Pedraza, (210) 414-8559,
azardepe@hotmail.com

Tour Director: Vern Jeys, (210) 675-0538, vjeys@satx.rr.com

Beginner Rides: Lillian LaFave,
(210) 385-0381,
lalylafave@hotmail.com

Club Historian: Mouse Kanagaki,
(210) 341-6883,
kw2405@earthlink.net

Other Club Volunteers

Backup Website Editor: Mike Thompson,
snorebox@satx.rr.com

Tour de Cure Team Captain:
Sandy Barsun, (210) 635-8777,
barsun@sbcglobal.net