



Austin Chapter
Celebrating 12 years
of outdoor fun!

"Our mission is to provide all women the opportunity to learn and experience outdoor activities in natural surroundings through a safe, non-threatening, and supportive environment."

TOWN LEADERSHIP TEAM

Coordinator/President – Jacque Austin
jsaustin54@sbcglobal.net

Membership Chair – Jenn Trivette
jltrivette@yahoo.com

Club Treasurer – Janet Fitzsimon-Barr
janetfb@austin.rr.com

Webmaster - Jacque Austin
jsaustin54@sbcglobal.net

Club Newsletter – Dawn Goodall
2emailDawn@gmail.com

Outings Coordinator – Judy Dunavant
judydunavant@sbcglobal.net

Publicity Chair – June Apprill
japprill@swbell.net

Club Secretary – Helen Sabin
helen_sabin@yahoo.com

Club Historian – Penny Mudgett
pmudgett@austin.rr.com

Austin TOWN P.O. Box 300494
Austin, TX 78703

Tuesday June 24 Next Monthly Meeting

Debbie Main of Ride Like a Girl will join us.

TOWN Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of each month, in conference room 225 at the LCRA Red Bud Center.

Outings discussion at 6PM, meeting starts at 6:30PM.

Directions to 3601 Lake Austin Blvd. The LCRA Red Bud Center is located at the corner of Lake Austin Blvd and Red Bud Trail. Park in front of the building. The front entrance is located on the 2nd floor. We will meet in conference room 225.



Joy and Kim
at start of Texas Water Safari –
Photo by Lisa Marengo

We are so proud of you,
Joy & Kim!



Recap of May TOWN meeting...

We had approximately 27 people (including 3 or 4 guests) enjoy the presentation by **Bob Spain from Texas Parks and Wildlife**. Bob reviewed the numerous paddling trails made available via TPWD. His concentration was on each of the coastal trails, and the related information that can be found on their website. You may want to set aside some time to study all the valuable data available on their website at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/> Bob has been with Texas Parks and Wildlife for 26 years. He discussed the growing popularity of kayaking (as we have witnessed in our TOWN calendar). More Americans paddle than play soccer. Kayaking activity doubled nationwide between 1998 and 2004. He mentioned the abundant supply of waterways in Texas...3700 named streams, 15 major rivers, and 400 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline. That's a bunch of places to explore, so let's get to it!

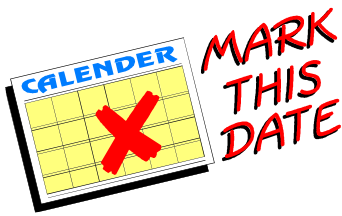
Email Sent by Joy Emshoff on June 19, 2008

To: townaustin@yahoo.com

Subject: We did it!!!!

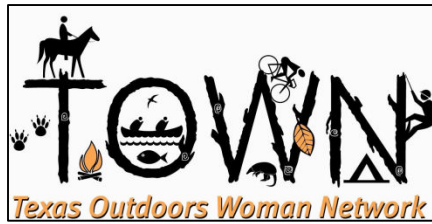
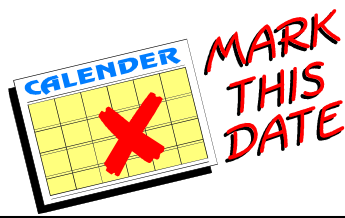
Yes we did it! It was incredibly tough, hot, long and grueling...but we both accomplished the hardest feat we have ever done in our lives. We are very proud! We honestly feel we could not have done it without all the help and support from all our friends and families. All the words of encouragement, the smiling faces, hugs and kisses were wonderful. The crew at the start, the last minute hugs as we were shoving off, the shouts of encouragement and the signs were fantastic. We thought back to that and talked about it those long hours of paddling.

Thanks again to everyone! Joy (see related trip report, pg. 3)



Check website for updated info
www.townaustin.org

EVENT	Date/Time	Contact
<p>Kayaking - Wednesday evenings Paddling begins at the Rowing Dock on 2418 Stratford. Bring kayak, paddle, lifejacket, water, hat, sunscreen, snacks. Rentals available \$10 for the evening. Friends and spouses invited.</p>	<p>Wednesday Evenings 6pm</p>	<p>RSVP to Andra at kaalc00@yahoo.com Directions and information at: www.rowingdock.com</p>
<p>Kayak on Lady Bird Lake Paddling begins at the Rowing Dock on 2418 Stratford. Bring kayak, paddle, lifejacket, water, hat, sunscreen, snacks.</p>	<p>Saturday June 28 9am</p>	<p>RSVP to Andra at kaalc00@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Tubing San Marcos (originally the Guadalupe). What does everyone think about tubing the San Marcos on Saturday instead? It's closer to Austin, it's the river that Joy and Kim conquered, and Lisa and Dawn said that it was a blast when they went. So let's go toobin' on the San Marcos! Where: San Marcos (home of the Mighty Bobcats), Lion's Club Tube Rental, www.tubesanmarcos.com/, Exit IH 35 onto Aquarena Springs Drive, turn left onto Charles Austin Dr., then turn right behind Strahan Basketball Stadium and follow the signs. Everybody is invited, this will be a short and sweet ride down the San Marcos, all your friends, family, co-workers, spouses, whatever you call each other. What to bring: Hat, sunscreen, water, nothing of value that you will care about losing in the river. Whatever you normally bring on the water, if you can drink beer at 10am, more power to ya. I'm not going to worry too much about food, I don't think this is a very long trip, maybe an hour or 90 minutes. Jessie and I will probably go twice if she really enjoys it. Check out their website for prices, if you need to rent a tube: \$9/with a bottom (deposit required), but they have air if you need to blow up a tube, and the shuttle is \$3 if you have your own tube. I think it is included if you rent. Lunch is always an option with me, as is carpooling, just email me or call.</p>	<p>Saturday June 28 10am</p>	<p>RSVP to Jenn at jltrivette@yahoo.com 512.665.8113 (c) 933.0441 (w)</p> <div data-bbox="950 997 1437 1255" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Jessie makes a sand angel during April Port A trip (led by Paulette and CJ) - Photo by Dawn</p>
<p>Hike at Mary Moore Sea Wright Park Details TBD.</p> <div data-bbox="422 1743 625 1932" data-label="Image"> </div>	<p>Sunday June 29 8am</p>	<p>RSVP to Pam lowepg1@yahoo.com</p>



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EVENT	Date/Time	Contact
Celebrate July 4th - See Fireworks / Kayaking on Lady Bird Lake	Friday July 4	RSVP to Lisa lisamarengo@hotmail.com
Kayak Cypress Creek 9am	Saturday July 19 9 am	RSVP to Dawn 2emailDawn@gmail.com
Monthly Meeting Pizza snacks at 6PM, followed by our short business meeting beginning at 6:30pm in conference room 225 of the new LCRA Red Bud Center. Judy Aswell will share her secrets to dehydrating foods for backpacking and camping. Come join us & bring a friend!	Tuesday July 22 6pm	
Wine Tasting - TOWN members, spouses, and SO invited. Meet at Spec's at the Arbor Walk. Time: 6pm (tasting is from 5:30-8pm) Cost: \$10 (you keep the glass) Details: Tasting includes 20 wines (values from \$10-\$100), plus appetizers Perhaps we could go for dessert /coffee/discussion afterwards.	Wednesday July 30 6pm	RSVP to Marie organize4u@prodigy.net

Walsh Landing, 6/21/08 - Four of us (Jacque, Marie, Cindy and yours truly) ventured out to Walsh Landing on Lake Austin bright and early. We beat most of the traffic on the lake and had a fairly cool and wonderful paddle down to a big inlet past a bunch of beautiful homes. On our way back we paddled into another inlet that just looked like a place where boats were parked but as we went around the bend we discovered an opening under a bridge and saw two huge swans and two cygnets. It was a beautiful protected area and everyone wished they had a good camera with zoom lens to take their picture. We didn't want to get too close and scare them (more likely Mom and Pop swan chasing after us if we got too close to their babies). The beauty of kayaking is the exploration and discovering new little passages. Life is a wonderful ride:) We rode a lot of waves on the return (ride'em cowgirl). **June Apprill**

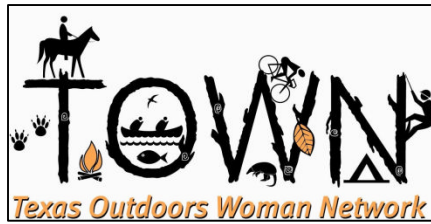


Carrie and Marilyn at Inks Lake outing led by June (May 2 - 4); photo by Dawn

Trip Reports

Texas Water Safari Send-Off & Tubing 6/14/08 - We had a cheerleading squad of 6 for the 262 mile Water Safari. We scored a premier spot on a footbridge which had a great view of the action. Joy and Kim seemed to be the only all woman team on safari! They made a strong start well towards the head of the pack of over 100 boats--WAY TO GO LADIES..wahoo!!! We made quite the ruckus which made them laugh...were we supposed to cheer them up THAT much?! It was interesting to see the various gear and rigs that were used...one team even had on cowboy hats.... S A F A R I .. boys.. that should be pith helmets...geesh!!!! Oh well, it is Texas! The tubing on the San Marcos was the usual peaceful float trip until.....whoa Nellie...they changed the whole structure of the Rio Vista Dam! It is now a series of waterfall slides worthy of Schlitterbahn...we had a blast! The word is that San Marcos plans to extend the action even further. We DEFINITELY need to do this again! **Lisa Marengo**

Trip Reports Continued



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Lady Bird Lake Kayak 6/11/08 - Michelle, Jane, Lisa, Liz, Diana, and Jenn (the last person there I might add) kayaked - on the lovely Lady Bird Lake. We decided to head on over to Barton Creek so we could have the wind at our backs for the trip home. It was a little windy, but a wonderful trip out there. We saw turtles, a very large heron, a snake, some big fish (and a bunch of little bait fish), tons of duck, duck, goose!, lots of other kayakers (amateurs), and some rowers. After a near run in with a sculling crew, I decided to pay closer attention to my surroundings...but, hey, nobody died. (Please don't tell Andra, she wouldn't find that funny.) Just when my arms started feeling similar to Jello, we decided to head back. For our trip back home, I thought this was a nice touch, Asleep at the Wheel decided to play for us. They sang for us the whole trip back, man was that sweet! Maybe next time, Marcia Ball will sing us on home! But that might be too much to ask for, Asleep at the Wheel was cool enough. Overall, it was a very relaxing and enjoyable evening. Carol and I went and walked part of the trail this evening and that was amazing too, but it is totally different to experience the loop from the water, almost serene, you feel closer to nature. I highly recommend the experience if you have not tried kayaking. And those kayakers! Some of the nicest people you will ever meet, not like the surly hikers (just kidding), and don't even get me started on the bikers (not joking). **Jenn Trivette**



Kathryn at **Llano River Outing** in May
- Photo by Dawn

Wimberley Zip lining – 6/07/08

This trip was so AWESOME! 16 of us, Amelia and daughter, Debra and daughter, Crystal, Cate and daughter, Jane, Jacque, Paulette and friend, Susie and sister-in-law, Kathryn, and me and my daughter met Saturday morning at the Winn Ranch in Wimberley despite the rain. It cleared up shortly and the weather was beautiful for our "flight". The people that run the Wimberley Zip line Adventures are very friendly and informative. Not only did they teach us the proper way to zip but we were entertained with information about the land around Wimberley including fossils, plants, trees, and inhabitants. There are 5 zip lines in all. One is over 100 ft HIGH. Another is 875 ft LONG. That's along way to travel! Flight training is given prior to taking on any of the BIG lines. Each person is fitted with a helmet, harness, and gloves. You are then hooked up on a low cable and taught to take off, stop, and straighten your flight in case you start to swivel. Next is the Bunny Run. Still a bit scary for first timers. This is followed by the high and long runs. In all it took about 2 hours. We laughed, shouted, joked, and all around enjoyed each others company and the day was one I won't forget for a long time. Following the zip line adventure, some ladies went into Wimberley as it just happened to be Market Days. Some even enjoyed lunch together. This was my third place to zip and I think it was my favorite. A couple reasons could be the nice folks running the place, and spending the time with some of my favorite people. **Lisa King**

Go Jacque!



McKinney Falls Hike – 6/08/08

What a relaxing and lovely hike this morning. Janet, Dar, and Dar's husband, Michael, joined me on the 3 mile homestead trail loop. The temp stayed below 90, we had mostly shade and cloud cover, a very nice cooling wind, and the hike lasted 90 minutes. Perfect for summertime hiking. Not too many flowers out at this time, but plenty of cool bugs. There was one tree that was covered with a spider web, has anyone ever seen that phenomenon? It was on one side of the tree, from the base up about 8 or 9 feet. Didn't see too many birds, but heard a few. I always learn interesting things when out in the woods (especially when hiking with intelligent and interesting people). When leaning down to ooh and aah over adorable baby skunks, never lean too close and always keep your mouth shut (apparently the babies CAN spray and it will cause your lips to go numb - who knew?). If given a choice between identifying an animal's scat or the animal's dead carcass, always pick the carcass, much easier to identify. If given the choice between staying in bed or going out for a leisurely stroll through the woods, try and pick the stroll...you never know what you will see out there or who you will meet along the way :). **Jenn Trivette**