

2014 FBA Annual Awards

Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee: *Jacksonville BPAC, Chris Burns, Chairperson*

For the last four years, Jacksonville Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee has worked towards establishing the Cyclist's and Pedestrian's Bill of Rights as BPAC policy, building a relationship with City of Jacksonville Transportation Planning Division, proposing a Department of Transportation operation and land use feasibility study, and complimenting the introduction of context sensitive design policy within the city. The Jacksonville BPAC continues to update its bicycle master plan and supports the adoption of complete streets policy by the City of Jacksonville. A year ago, Mayor Alvin Brown and City Councilperson Don Redman participated in a Bike to Work Day event. The Jacksonville BPAC remains diligent in turning conditions around for their city. Through the BPAC's efforts in following the 5 E's – education, engineering, enforcement, evaluation and encouragement - the Transportation Planning Organization has committed funding to a downtown bicycle plan; the City of Jacksonville and the Mayor have secured the city's first full-time bicycle pedestrian coordinator; the City Council has created a Context Sensitive Streets Committee and Bike to Work Day is now looking toward being an annual city event.

Bike Club: *North Florida Bicycle Club, Mark Atkins, President*

The North Florida Bicycle Club, working in conjunction with Flagler College, created and is executing "One Road, A Cycling Safety Campaign." This two-year media campaign is to educate motorists and cyclists in order to improve cycling safety in Jacksonville and all of northeast Florida. NFBC is working to raise \$150,000 for paid public service announcements to be run during times that people will actually be listening and also to put "One Road" billboard ads at key locations. Jacksonville has recently been ranked third among the ten most dangerous cities for cyclists in the United States according to a Dangerous by Design, 2014 study. Through its diligence, the club has recently been given a \$10,000 grant from CSX and a \$2000 grant from Bike Florida in support of this campaign. The North Florida Bicycle Club is working hard to be a good community partner and to reduce the number of cyclist crashes in this dangerous city.

Off-Road Bike Club: *Club Scrub at Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Juliana Catalfumo*

Club Scrub was organized in May 2000 in conjunction with Jonathan Dickinson State Park officials to coordinate and promote off-road bicycling. The southeast portion of the park was designated for phase one and named "Camp Murphy Off-Road Bicycle Trail" as a reminder of the parks usage during WWII. In December of 2000 the club became a "special committee" operating under the Friends of JDSP, a non-profit organization with a mission to assist park management in meeting the natural and cultural resource management objectives established for the park. Since then many volunteers have helped build and maintain the approximately 8-mile trail system into what it is today...a destination for cyclists of all ages. No money from the park is used for the trails and so membership dollars help develop new trails and support trail maintenance. In October 2014, Club Scrub hosted a free event, "Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day," especially for novice riders. Hundred of riders attended the grand opening of the new trail sections for kid's "Little Cat" and

"Bobcat." Club Scrub also created fantastic practice pits with log and dirt jumps to sharpen the skills before heading out onto the trails. No other trail system in Palm Beach County has been as considerate for new MTB riders. Club Scrub continues to maintain and improve the MTB trails at Camp Murphy in JD State Park, as well as hold events and fundraisers as part of their outreach to encourage off-road riding for children and adults.

Enforcement Agency: *Punta Gorda Police Department, Chief Albert Arenal*

The Punta Gorda Police Department has shown, since the first outreach by a bicyclist, that they are willing to partner and work towards better cycling in the city. For example, the Peace River Riders Bicycle Club Wheels and Wings event uses police radar equipment to gage speeds for cyclist awareness and the club donates proceeds from the event to the department's "Do the Right Thing" program for kids. The department asked the PRR bicycle club for assistance in a 3-foot passing law traffic enforcement program, and the club asked for the department to display the 3-foot law on patrol cars; both objectives were met. PRRBC president Court Nederveld speaks highly of the department and how they respond to his phone calls and emails. Chief Albert "Butch" Arenal takes pride in his department and their achievements to build relationships with the bicycle community. The Bike Team Leader of the Police Department is a member of the Bicycle Friendly Communities Committee. The agency hosts bicycle rodeos, safety classes and routinely provides bicycle law/safety presentations to local civic organizations. The PGPD management philosophy consists of one simple statement – they are committed to providing superior and extraordinary customer service to their residents. Chief Arenal and the Punta Gorda Police Department philosophically believe in and enthusiastically support the share the road concept, the right of all bicyclists to utilize public traffic ways, and have the goal of making Punta Gorda the bicycle mecca for Florida.

Educator: *Lisa Indovino, Safe Routes to School Educator, All Children's Hospital*

Lisa is a Community Educator for the All Children's Hospital Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Program. The program operates in seven counties, and Lisa heads up the Lee County branch. The primary focus of the program is to combine classroom instruction, educational outreach, and experiential learning to educate children and parents how to walk and bike in a safer way. To do this, the program uses developed classroom lessons, conducts safety assemblies at schools, presents at PTA/PTO meetings, coordinates walking schools buses and walk/bike to school days, conducts bike rodeos, and participates in various community and school events. The Lee County program started in 2013, making it one of the most recent additions to the All Children's Hospital Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Program. While the Lee County program is new, Lisa has taken initiative and turned the program into a success. Lisa has met with key stakeholders in Lee County and received tremendous buy-in and support from the Lee County School District. She has provided lessons and bicycle rodeos in 16 schools and reached over 8,000 students so far this school year. One student was the winner of the State-wide Florida Department of Transportation SRTS/Alert Today Walk to School Day poster contest. Lisa's passion and drive to teach pedestrian and bicycle safety

education is evident in the success of the Lee County program. With the program as a resource in Lee County, many children will receive much-needed pedestrian and bicycle safety education.

Supporting Agency: *FDOT Safety Office, Trenda McPherson, State Bicycle/ Pedestrian Safety Program Manager*

In November 2011, Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Prasad charged District One Secretary Billy Hattaway with the task of championing Florida's Bicycle/Pedestrian Focused Initiative. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) 2010 data showed that Florida bicycle and pedestrian fatalities accounted for over 22% of traffic fatalities. In May 2012, Trenda McPherson was appointed by FDOT Chief Safety Officer Lora Hollingsworth as the State Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Program Manager to develop Florida's Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategic Safety Plan, form a Florida Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Coalition, and lead the coalition to vigorously implement the plan as part of the focused initiative. Adopting a data-driven approach, the program focused resources where opportunities for bicycle/pedestrian safety improvements were the greatest by using crash data to identify the top 10 highest priority counties in Florida. Another of the outstanding efforts was to create, brand, and promote an educational campaign, called *Alert Today Alive Tomorrow* via various paid media and outreach activities. Members hosted and participated in numerous community events across the highest priority counties to distribute logo t-shirts, tip cards, and conduct safety surveys for further research. Reaching out to the bicycle community, the *Alert Today Alive Tomorrow* education campaign has partnered with Florida Bicycle Association to have the Governor proclaim March as Florida Bike Month and co-created the *Pause for People Day* as an annual event for the third Wednesday of March.

Program: *OnBikes, Inc., Julius Tobin, Executive Director*

OnBikes, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2011 as a result of a couple friends reminiscing of the thrill of riding a bike. That first year they organized a community bike ride during the holiday season with about 150 riders to raise funds to purchase 100 new bikes and helmets for at-risk children. They believe it is their responsibility as members of the Tampa Bay area and Hillsborough community to make sure every child, regardless of their social economic status, experience their first bike. Their efforts have more than doubled each year and in 2014 found 400 bikes to be built at the 4th Annual "Big Dance" bike build, a 24-hour marathon bike building event with nearly 75 volunteers. An additional 100 bikes were donated and built by a supporting company. These bikes were then distributed to Eckerd Youth to be delivered to at-risk and foster children. Their efforts go well beyond the children's thrill of first receiving the bikes by giving them an opportunity to experience the sense of freedom, self-reliance, mobility and a healthy lifestyle for years to come. The 2014 Winter Wonder Ride fundraiser had an incredible estimated 1,500 riders in downtown Tampa to help support their amazing goal of delivering 500 new bikes and helmets to the children. The commitment and passion this organization has for children and bike riding is apparent in everything they do. Their motto, "You can't buy happiness but you can buy a kid a bike and that's pretty close" indicates their level of dedication. It is inspiring to see this group of enthusiastic young adults so passionate about their cause, helping create a generation of future bike riders.

Bicycle Professional: *DeWayne Carver, State Bicycle/ Pedestrian Coordinator, FDOT Roadway Design Office*

The Florida Department of Transportation hired DeWayne Carver as the new Statewide Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator in late 2013. FDOT is a de-centralized agency and most programmatic decisions are made at the District level. Each District Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator is responsible for working with city and local governments, various Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and individuals within the District on related pedestrian and bicycle issues. The Statewide Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator, located in the central Roadway Design Office in Tallahassee, works with and through the FDOT District Coordinators. DeWayne's background in transportation planning for both the public and private sectors are essential to guide the district coordinators as Florida implements the recently adopted Complete Streets policy. Within his first year, DeWayne initiated face-to-face meetings for the district coordinators every six months. These meetings move throughout the state, giving the coordinators the opportunity to experience different regions and share best practices. DeWayne knows that to improve the conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians in Florida, not only do physical changes need to be made to the roadway environment, cultural changes within FDOT will require a sustained effort over a long period of time to be effective. His work with the district coordinators is off to a great start.

Citizen Bike Advocate: *Court Nederveld, President, Peace River Riders Bicycle Club*

As a member of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee of the Charlotte County MPO and president of the Peace River Riders Bicycle Club, Court led a project to put four signed bike routes in southern Charlotte County totaling 118 miles, started the Peace River Riders mini grant fund to provide seed money for county projects that promote cycling for all riders. He worked with Punta Gorda Police Department to put bumper stickers on all cruisers stating the "Give three feet it's the law," as well as expanded the project to put the same message on all City owned vehicles. Court launched the Wheels and Wings Event now in it's 6th year bringing hundreds of cyclists to Punta Gorda each July, and worked with Punta Gorda Police to run a three foot sting operation in Punta Gorda. He is the co-chair of Team Punta Gorda's Bicycle Friendly Community committee working for recognition as a League of American Bicyclist Bicycle Friendly Community award. And last, but certainly not least, he arranged for the Three Palms Race track to open the track to cyclists.

Citizen Bike Advocate: *Ryan Scofield, Bonita Springs commuter*

Ryan Scofield is a name you might have seen pop up in social media and on YouTube. His GoPro videos of being pulled over by law enforcement for cycling in the middle of the lane for his legitimate safety or of being harassed by a truck driver have sparked a flurry of discussion. Ryan decided to use GoPro cameras on his bike after having experienced several incidents with

aggressive motorists. He also began researching safe cycling on the Internet, in particular, the CyclingSavvy education program. Here, he learned how to prevent accidents from ever happening. By positioning himself in certain places, he is able to eliminate right hooks, left hooks, in-lane passing, and most other common crash causes. Cyclists need to obey the rules of the road as well. Ryan prefers to wear a reflective vest, and has two flashing lights for safety, in addition to his helmet, while riding early in the morning to his Crossfit class or work. He never ventures out during the 11PM to 2AM time frame when drunk drivers are more likely to be on the roads. Ryan says that he usually prefers not to “rock the boat” or “start any drama”, and is generally calm when confronted during his bicycle rides. Ryan is a true role model for cycling in Bonita Springs.

Bike Business: *Bike Walk Coral Gables, John Swain, Chair*

The organizers of Gables Bike Day, first held on October 23, 2011, and now an annual event, formed the advocacy organization known today as Bike Walk Coral Gables. BWCG promotes a safe and friendly environment for cyclists and pedestrians by providing programs and events to educate the community. BWCG promotes the accessibility of streets and trails for cyclists and pedestrians so they may enjoy the City’s beauty and lush canopy. In partnership with Coral Gables Museum, BWCG provides family-friendly bicycle tours to places of interest, led by experienced bicycle leaders to varied destinations. Spring Pedals Bike Tours, Summer Spokes Bike & Swim Series, Autumn Trails and Winter Wanders Bike Tours provide year-round cycling opportunities in Coral Gables, The City Beautiful. Gables Bike Tours, held every third Sunday of the month, start at the Museum and includes Museum admission. These tours offer a different theme, route and a little history of The City Beautiful, all while having bicycling fun.

Bicycle Friendly Community: *South Lake County*

South Lake County is home to the municipalities of Clermont, Groveland, Mascotte, Minneola, and Montverde and proclaims to be the Center of Health, Wellness and Fitness. South Lake Chamber's Sports & Tourism Committee along with South Lake Hospital and The Cycling Hub, a gold-level bicycle friendly business, led an initiative to make Lake County as bicycle-friendly as possible. These efforts paid off when South Lake County earned the League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community designation at the bronze level. The next initiative is called “Pedaling to Platinum”, making *people* the top transportation priority in Lake County and setting even higher goals to demonstrate achievements in LAB’s “Five E’s” evaluation system: engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement and evaluation. Clermont, the self-designated ‘Choice of Champions’ is confidently encouraging future Coast-to-Coast Connector trail users to “Meet us in the Middle.” South Lake County Chamber of Commerce has identified over 20 community partners to help accomplish what’s next.

Trails Manager: *Mickey Thomason, Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway*

With more than 20 years as a trails advocate, Mickey is one of the champions for connected trails

in Florida. He has particularly demonstrated his ability as the Park Manager for the Cross Florida Greenway, crossing Central Florida from the Gulf of Mexico to the St. Johns River, which occupies much of the land formerly known as the Cross Florida Ship and later Barge Canal projects. A series of historic events transformed this corridor from one of the nation's largest uncompleted public works project to a world-class greenway. At 80,000 acres, this 110-mile corridor is the largest managed area in the Florida State Parks system, and a major backbone spine in the Florida Greenways and Trails System. Most recently, Mickey is responsible for the new bridge over the Withlacoochee River near Dunnellon. Mickey has also affected significant, long-range positive change in public policy to benefit the Florida Greenways and Trails System by establishing and promoting the CFG as a model linear conservation and recreation area. He has assisted in the establishment of policies and programs that help guide local communities in planning multi-modal, healthy and environmentally friendly places, even beyond the boundaries of the CFG. Mickey takes every opportunity to not only further the development of trails, but helps to educate the public about their importance, and how they benefit health, the environment and the economy.

Volunteer: *Dr. Mickey Witte*

As a neuroscientist, triathlete and advocate in Miami, Mickey helped develop the University of Miami's BikeSafe® Program, and served on Miami-Dade County's Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee. During this time, she became increasingly aware that Miami-Dade County could do a lot better for its citizens in terms of providing safe infrastructure that is characteristic of Complete Streets, i.e., designed to allow pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicle drivers to co-exist in a safe, seamless manner. In the wake of another cyclist fatal tragedy occurring in the bike lane on Key Biscayne, she helped launch the Aaron Cohen Road Safety Initiative with others in the community who wanted to do something tangible to make a change and help stop the unnecessary tragic deaths of cyclists on the roadways. As a team and a community, they worked hard to ultimately change the law in the State of Florida by way of the unanimous passage of the Aaron Cohen Life Protection Act in 2014 legislative session. The passage of the new law effectively: (1) imposes a four-year mandatory-minimum prison sentence for drivers convicted of leaving the scene of a crash that kills someone, (2) boosts the mandatory-minimum prison sentence from two years to four years for a convicted DUI driver who leaves a fatal crash scene, (3) revokes the driver's license for three years of a person convicted of leaving a fatal crash scene, and (4) increases the potential penalties for convicted drivers who injure or kill "vulnerable road users" (defined as anyone who is not confined by the metal exoskeleton of a motor vehicle). Since the passage of this law, Mickey has not rested on her laurels but continues efforts to make roads safer for cyclists and pedestrians through her involvement with the Dolphins Cycling Challenge and Plan Z for Miami, an initiative to convert Rickenbacker Causeway into Rickenbacker Park.

Elected Official Champion: *Senator Miguel Diaz de la Portilla, District 40*

In February 2012, a hit and run car crash killed 36-year-old Aaron Cohen, father of two young children, and severely injured Enda Walsh early one morning on Key Biscayne. Eleven months later, the driver was sentenced to only 364 days in county jail. Local advocates were horrified and

after examining the facts of this case and the sentencing guidelines, the group learned that an unintended consequence of current Florida law is that there exists an incentive for people to leave the scene of an accident. Instead of remaining at the scene to render aid or calling 911, the driver avoided a minimum mandatory sentence of four years for DUI manslaughter by not being around to allow investigators to obtain potentially damaging blood alcohol evidence. The group was able to rally not only local support, but also recruited Senator Miguel Diaz de la Portilla to sponsor a bill to be known as the Aaron Cohen Life Protection Act. This bill would provide harsher penalties to drivers found guilty of leaving the scene of a crash so they mirror the penalties for DUI crashes. With the help of co-sponsor Senator Rene Garcia, Representative Bryan Nelson (sponsor) and Representative Irv Slosberg (co-sponsor), the bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Scott. Additionally, for the first time in Florida Statutes, bicycles and pedestrians are defined as “vulnerable road users,” which is a necessary strategy to increase penalties, and hopefully serve as a deterrent for errant drivers.

Special Recognition: *Dan Moser*

Dan has worn many hats during his association with FBA that began in 1998 when joined the board of directors. His leadership and expertise helped pave the way for the many successes FBA has achieve over the years. In 2008 he resigned from the board but was quickly put to work on a contractual basis as the conference director for FBA’s 2008 ProBike/ProWalk Florida conference. His duties expanded to the role of program director, a position he held until the fall of 2014. Dan’s outgoing personality, tireless energy, especially at special events, and overall knowledge of bicycle education are just a few of his strengths. In addition to Dan’s FBA duties, he consulted with a variety of organizations throughout Southwest Florida to teach injury prevention, driver education and bicycle/pedestrian education. As a regional trainer for the Florida Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education program, League Cycling Instructor and CyclingSavvy Instructor, Dan has taught 100’s of students of all ages. Along with Dan’s teaching skills, he is a founding member of BikeWalkLee and serves on its steering group. He has served in leadership positions on the City of Fort Myers Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board, Lee County BPAC, Lee MPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinating Committee, Lee County Injury Prevention Coalition, Healthy Lee Coalition and the Fort Myers Track Club. He also writes a column for The News-Press and is involved with the organization of just about every running, biking, walking or festival throughout Lee and surrounding counties. As a Lee County resident for over 40 years, 25 of which as a devoted advocate for biking and walking, Dan has influenced positive change throughout Southwest Florida.