Bike305 & Bike New York collaborate on “Learn How to Ride a Bike” Training

Who can teach me how to ride a bike? I never learned.

This is a frequent question I get asked from adults of all ages in Miami-Dade County. As the county’s Bike305 Manager, it’s a question I couldn’t answer and I felt badly every time I had to say, “I don’t know.” That is, until now.

As the lead of the county’s cycling initiative, Bike305, I knew I had to help these people. Riding a bike all my life has opened a world of freedom, independence and utter joy for me. I wanted others, especially the adults who never had that experience, to finally feel what it’s like to ride a bike.

So, my mission began.

I started looking for experienced teachers who would help me train county and municipal parks’ staffs to teach a “Learn How to Ride a Bike” program. It wasn’t long before I found an organization that leads the nation in this curriculum: Bike New York.

Bike New York, a non-profit group, offers free “Learn How to Ride a Bike” courses for adults and children in all five boroughs, and sustains itself through sponsorships and the world famous, annual TD Five Boro Bike Tour. In 2018 alone, the organization taught more than 28,000 New Yorkers beginning and continuing bike skills through its extensive range of programs.

It was a no brainer to call Bike New York for help.

One call was all it took to entice Bike New York’s Director of Education, Rich Conroy, to agree to travel to Miami on Saturday, October 5th, to teach 44 trainees and equip them with not only great information, but hands-on experience teaching their first group of adults and children who had never ridden a bike before. It was full day.

The trainees were eager, a little nervous, but very prepared to teach. Their students were just as eager and maybe a bit more scared to ride solo. Some caught on quickly, others will have to practice before they will be able to take their first real bike ride. But, at the end of the day, 11 adults and children coasted, if not pedaled, on a new life path and a wonderful journey on two wheels.

Bike305 will be implementing a “Learn How to Ride a Bike” program in one county park, to start, and spreading the program to other county parks throughout 2020. The five municipalities will likewise start the program in their own parks.

Never again will I need to say, “I don’t know” when someone asks, “Who can teach me how to ride a bike?”

Bike305 thanks all the wonderful organizations which also participated in the training including the Florida Bicycle Association, Black Girls Do Bike – Miami Chapter, University of Miami’s BikeSafe program, the Everglades Bicycle Club, and Bike Coconut Grove.

Together we will share the joy of cycling with others.

Support Florida Bicycle Association Inc.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com
Amazon donates

Go to smile.amazon.com

Happy Holidays from Florida Bicycle Association
We Love Our Members!

Join FBA Today!

Your membership makes a difference for all bicyclists in Florida.

Visit: www.fbamembership.org
Student/Living Lightly ........ $15
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Family ........................ $35
Bicycle Club .................. $100
Bicycle Shop .................. $100
Business/Organization ...... $100
Government Agency .......... $100
Higher donations are most appreciated!
Pay conveniently online or make check payable and mail to:
Florida Bicycle Association
P.O. Box 2452, Oldsmar FL 34677

Individual/Family High Donor Memberships:
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Champion ($5,000-$9,999)
Patron ($2,500-$4,999)
Advocate ($500-$2,499)
Member Clubs & Shops ($100)
Memberships include a subscription to the quarterly Messenger, access to online member forums and general sense of satisfaction for supporting bicycle education and advocacy in Florida.

Stay in Touch with FBA!
Subscribe to our weekly blog from the FBA website:
www.floridabicycle.org
Like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/FloridaBicycleAssociation
Follow us on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/FloridaBicycle

Building a Bicycle-Friendly Florida
Thanks to the Support of our Donors and Members

North Florida Bicycle Club
Ocala Mountain Bike Association
Orange Cycle
Sarasota Manatee Bicycle Club
Spacecoast Freewheelers Bicycle Club

New Clubs/Shops/Business
Adrenaline Bike Works
Pedal Power Promoters
Scarborough Attorneys at Law
Wheels of Wellington

New Members
Edwin & Donna Allen
Victor Anthony
Clive Bailey
Edward Beattie
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Sunil Wani
Akram Weheba

SUPPORT EDUCATION
AND ADVOCACY
HELP MAKE FLORIDA A BICYCLE-FRIENDLY STATE WITH THE PURCHASE OF A “SHARE THE ROAD” LICENSE PLATE.

Share the Road specialty plates are available at your local Tax Collectors office or online at ShareTheRoad.org.

PROCEEDS BENEFIT BIKE FLORIDA AND THE FLORIDA BICYCLE ASSOCIATION
Meet and Greet with FBA

Below is our Board of Directors quarterly meeting tentative schedule for 2020:

January 17/18 – Winter Haven
April 23/24 – South Florida
July 24/25 – St. Petersburg

(in conjunction with our Annual Membership meeting)

October 23/24 – Jacksonville

If you are in the area, please join us. If you would like to assist with coordinating the meeting, comprised of a Friday evening social, Saturday morning Board business meeting and Saturday afternoon meeting for regional presentations, please contact Becky@floridabicycle.org. Details for these upcoming meetings will be posted on the FBA Facebook page once finalized. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Advisory Board

Chris Burns, Chair, Jacksonville Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee, chris@floridacyclinglaw.com
Keri Caffrey, Co-Founder, CyclingSavvy Program Consultant, American Bicycling Education Association, keri@abea.bike
Dan Connaughton, Director Florida Traffic & Bicycle Safety Education Program, danc@hlp.ufl.edu
Steve Diez, Hernando County MPO, stevendiez@fastmail.fm
Jim Dodson, Past Secretary, FBA, jim@jwodsonlaw.com
John Egberts, Past Vice President, FBA
David Henderson, Past President, FBA, david33146@aol.com
Henry N. Lawrence, III, Past President & Founding Member, FBA, hnibicycle@gmail.com
Steele Olmstead, Past President, FBA, floridabicyclelaw@jsteelaw.com
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Julie Christesen, City of Tallahassee Planner, julie.christesen@talgov.com
Lucy Gonzalez-Barr, Safe Routes to School, lucygbarr@gmail.com
Chris LeDew, City of Jacksonville Chief of Traffic Engineering, cledew@comcast.net
Laura Minns, Transit/Rail Lead Planner, laura67@gmail.com
Dan Moser, Bike/Ped/Traffic Safety Consultant, bikepedmoser@gmail.com
Yvonne Nyakana, Black Girls Do Bike/Miami, gobavm@gmail.com
Roger Pierce, Florida Bicycle Touring Calendar, roger@piercetrip.com
Paula Saracci, FBA Messenger, paula@impactgrafx.com
Lisa Walker, Public Affairs, pedalpusher25@gmail.com

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Jim Dodson, Past Secretary, FBA, stevendiez@fastmail.fm
Steve Diez, Hernando County MPO, stevendiez@fastmail.fm
Dan Connaughton, Director Florida Traffic & Bicycle Safety Education Program, danc@hlp.ufl.edu
Jim Dodson, Past Secretary, FBA, jim@jwodsonlaw.com
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Steele Olmstead, Past President, FBA, floridabicyclelaw@jsteelaw.com
Hugh Aaron, Bike Walk Indian River Count, hugh@theaaron.com
V Christiansen, East Coast Greenway Alliance, v@greenway.org
Julie Christesen, City of Tallahassee Planner, julie.christesen@talgov.com
Lucy Gonzalez-Barr, Safe Routes to School, lucygbarr@gmail.com
Chris LeDew, City of Jacksonville Chief of Traffic Engineering, cledew@comcast.net
Laura Minns, Transit/Rail Lead Planner, laura67@gmail.com
Dan Moser, Bike/Ped/Traffic Safety Consultant, bikepedmoser@gmail.com
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Lisa Walker, Public Affairs, pedalpusher25@gmail.com

Working Together to Build a Bicycle-friendly Florida

OUR MISSION: is to encourage more people to bicycle through education and advocacy.

OUR VISION: is for bicycling to be safe, accepted and encouraged in Florida.

OUR PURPOSE:

- Protect and advance the interest of bicyclists
- Educate the public about sharing roadways and paths with people on bicycles
- Encourage the creation of great places to ride
- Continue to grow as a financially stable, well-managed organization

Help Us Grow the Base! Give to FBA

The Florida Bicycle Association was founded by people like you who want to make Florida a better place to ride a bicycle. Our projects and programs that benefit bicyclists are made possible primarily through membership and sponsorship to our organization. Simply put, without membership, sponsorship and donations, the Florida Bicycle Association would not exist. Keep bicycle enjoyment alive in Florida and help us in the fight against bicycle fatalities, Join FBA!

Did you know your membership donation to FBA is tax-deductible?

FBA is a 501(c)(3) education and charitable nonprofit corporation. You can join FBA online or download and mail an application from our website, www.floridabicycle.org. You can request an application to be mailed to you by contacting Becky Afonso at 813-748-1513.

Does your place of employment offer matching gifts to non-profits? Think FBA!

Bicycling is one of life’s simple pleasures to enjoy, not fear. Join or donate to the Florida Bicycle Association and let’s ride together for Florida bicycling excellence. Contact Becky Afonso at becky@floridabicycle.org for more information on ways to donate to FBA.

Meet and Greet with FBA

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Marco Island to Everglades City

Marco Island is a popular place to visit in south Florida with its good restaurants, beautiful beaches, hotels and a bicycle friendly community. For information about Marco and its bike path map, visit www.cityofmarcoisland.com.

During the fall to spring seasonal months, many cyclists enjoy riding the Tamiami Trail (US41) from Marco Island to Everglades City. Biking on CR92 to US41 is nine miles from Marco Island and 6.5 miles from the tiny historic fishing village of Goodland. Please be aware that there are no shoulders along this road, so take caution.

Turning east at the intersection of US41/CR92 you’ll find one of the largest mangrove swamps in the world - Collier-Seminole State Park - with camping and kayaking facilities. The park was established by Barron Collier and is the site of the historic Bay City Walking Dredge that was to build the Tamiami Trail (www.floridastateparks.org/park/Collier-Seminole). Back on the Tamiami Trail, less than a mile from Collier-Seminole, is a rest stop with picnic tables and another one-half mile is an airboat ride facility. Continue to cycle for 1.5 miles east to the biking/hiking Marsh Trail, a 2.5 mile round-trip off-road spur located in 10,000 Islands National Wildlife Refuge with an observation tower and many migratory birds to photograph (www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=41555).

From the Wildlife Refuge, continue cycling another three miles east on US41 to reach Port of the Islands and enjoy a pleasant lunch overlooking the garden and swimming pool. The expansive hotel lobby is worth a visit. The marina has access to the coastal waters and is a destination for eco-tours of the Everglades with one of Florida’s largest concentrations of wild manatees. Port of the Islands Resort was an odd Florida real estate project started in 1963 called Remuda Ranch used by Gulf American Corporation to promote Golden Gate Estates. Around 1980, it was purchased by Bill Ray of California and renamed Port of the Islands. In 1984, he began a multi-million dollar redevelopment that included residential living to the community. In 1994, his family auctioned off the remaining property to private individuals and developers. Since that time, the completion of dozens of new homes has taken place as well as renovation of the hotel and marina.

Back on US41, continue cycling east for three miles to one of the most popular hikes along the Tamiami Trail - the Big Cypress Bend Boardwalk in the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park. An Indian Village with Native American crafts is located at the entrance to the Boardwalk and is well worth a visit. Cycling is not allowed on the Boardwalk, but take time to hike through the cypress trees to the alligator pond at the end. You may see wildlife along the way with an eagle’s nest high in the cypress dome. The area is a bird-watcher’s paradise with red-bellied and pileated woodpeckers, catbirds, osprey, red-shouldered hawks, swallow-tailed kites, blue heron, egrets and wood storks. Future plans include an expansion of the Boardwalk with a new parking area, an interpretive center, shell pathways and an elevated walkway. For more information visit http://orchidswamp.org/plan-your-visit/the-boardwalk.

A rest stop with picnic tables is about two miles east of the Boardwalk, then it's (continued on page 11)
Executive Director's Corner...

**Surveys and Shelly**
by Becky Afonso, Director

FBA recently held a survey on November 1, 2019, primarily distributed to members as part of our email quarterly update, and results were telling. The survey was comprised of three questions. For those of you who Talk Up FBA with your cycling friends (our first question and which rated #1 on our survey), please get these cycling friends to join! It might seem like preaching to the choir, but if the choir doesn’t show up and join FBA, we might as well be talking to ourselves when it comes to state legislation. We need members, and more members, and more members still.

The second question addressed FBA Brochure distribution. Someone suggested we distribute at the Department of Motor Vehicles, adding that bicycle safety needs to be on the Florida Driver License test. Great idea! And here’s more good news: BIKE/PED QUESTIONS ARE PART OF THE FLORIDA DRIVER LICENSE TEST. In fact, Bike/Ped information is in the Florida Driver’s License Handbook – pages 39 through 47 cover “Sharing the Road” to which pedestrian and bicycling information is covered. And if it’s in the book, it’s on the test. This information is reviewed annually after every Florida legislative session (in the event of new laws) and is reviewed by the Florida Department of Transportation’s Pedestrian and Bicycling Focused Initiative, also known as the “safety coalition” under Alert Today Florida. In fact, give the AlertTodayFlorida.com website a look. It is full of information, public service announcements (PSAs) and data resources solely focused on bicycling and pedestrian safety.

Our third and final question asked if work in Tallahassee to create life-saving legislation is worth FBA’s time. We are happy to see that no one thinks we are wasting our time. In fact, not only did the majority agree for FBA to ‘stay the course’, we had 40% offer to help FBA spread the word by communicating with elected officials. YES! This is exactly how change begins – hammer home life-saving fundamentals – like our Move Over for People initiative – with the decision and lawmakers. We truly appreciate those that volunteered to help and I will be in touch. (By the way, it’s not too late to help, just send me an email.)

Well, that covers the survey. So, what’s with Shelly? I mentioned Shelly last year in this column (Messenger Winter 2019, page 5). Shelly is an egg. I use Shelly and one other egg, Egbert, to demonstrate the importance of helmet use to the 2nd and 3rd graders at Oldsmar Elementary as part of the Great American Teach In. I credit Lisa Indovino, a Safe Routes to School educator, for the “egg drop” demonstration. It’s simple: draw faces on the eggs (one for Egbert, one for Shelly), let the kids tell the story for why Shelly wears a helmet and Egbert doesn’t, then have a student drop Shelly in a tub of Styrofoam peanuts (representing a helmet) and finally, have a student drop Egbert on the floor (no helmet for Egbert). The eggs are in zip lock bags so there’s no mess, but there is plenty of reaction when Egbert breaks because he doesn’t wear a helmet.

This year I was called back to the school after the Teach In day for thank you notes. Yes, thank you notes. Addressed to my name, or “Bike Lady” or “Safety Girl,” all conveyed the same thank you and what stood out to them the most – wearing a helmet. One student drew a face, with a helmet on and hands with “thumbs up” written and pointing to the hands. Here’s another thank you note that also had a drawing with thumbs up:

Dearest Ms. Afonso,

I really learned a lesson from Eggbob or whatever his name is. My brother goes here and I think he learned a lesson to wear a helmet. (my sister does not wear a helmet and she is in middle school)

It’s one day, one morning really, to visit four classes at 20 minutes a piece to talk bicycle safety. The memories, we hope, especially regarding helmet use, will last a lifetime.

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**Worth the Wait, The SJR2C Loop**

**Trail Northern Connection**

by Heather Neville ~ Mom, Planner, Cyclist, Runner, Lover of birds, dogs, children, the elderly, good lattes and anything to do with the ocean. Find on Facebook @VRUMPlanning and soon @ThePedalPress

I remember hearing Herb Hiller at Rotary lunch club 11 years ago in St. Augustine. I was inspired then but did not understand that just a few years later I’d find myself enthused in this fascinating, and sometimes painful project, the St. Johns River to Sea Loop.

For 8 years I’ve worked with many locals, some in our county, some in others. Some local elected officials, some state, some out. St. Johns County has had a funny reputation amongst statewide advocates and those around the Loop. A place so rich in tourism, historically unapologetically against trails. I’ve had the opportunity to befriend trail champions like Craig McClane, Bill Zeits, Karl Soderholm and Rep. Cyndi Stevenson. I’ve also had the pleasure to meet trail town locals like Melinda Peoples and Nancy Quantraro. And to my surprise, I’ve been able to cultivate a few new soles to advocate including Rodney Cooper, Reuben Franklin, Jen Hand and Maury Kaiser. To say it takes a village doesn’t begin to explain it. Sometimes rallying upwards of 100 people to meetings to positively pitchfork in favor of these amazing public spaces.

Considering our only public trail was conceived in the late 70s and finally constructed in 2019, it may seem too big against trails. I’ve had the opportunity to maintain our status as Florida’s healthiest preserve our livability? And how will we maintain our competitive advantage? How will we compete in tourism, historically unapologetically entrenched in this fascinating, and sometimes painful project, the St. Johns River to Sea Loop.

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(continued on page 12)
Are You Calling Out Road Conditions On Every Ride? by Jim Dodson – experienced bicycle accident lawyer, cyclist and bicycle safety advocate who has been representing accident victims for over 25 years. His primary office is in Clearwater and he represents injury victims throughout Florida. He is the author of the Florida Bicycle Accident Handbook which answers the most commonly asked questions by injured cyclists and former FBA Board Secretary. This valuable resource is available free at jimdodsonlaw.com.

Legal information is not legal advice. Nothing in this article may be considered legal advice. If you have specific questions for Jim, call his office at 1-888-340-0840. There is never a charge to talk about your case.

Organized bicycle club rides routinely practice the courtesy or custom of calling out obstructions, debris, or dangerous road conditions. I want to give a big shout out to the clubs that routinely enforce this best practice. Based on the calls we get, however, it doesn’t always happen in situations where people are riding with pickup groups or people they don’t know or don’t generally ride with.

Another important consideration is whether the warning about an obstruction or danger is conveyed all the way through the line to those towards the end. Every rider needs to be informed—front to back. Here are some instances that have been conveyed to us illustrating potential dangers for someone not in the lead.

The first two involve bollards. These are generally poles installed on a trail for the stated reason of preventing vehicles from riding onto the trail. When these bollards are installed, they are required by code to be marked in a way to give someone reasonable notice that an obstruction is in the path ahead. These requirements are not always practiced, and many bollards have no surface warnings painted on the trail.

Consider a situation where two people are riding together, one slightly ahead of the other. They are approaching a bollard in the center of a trail. It’s well seen by the lead. The first rider, however, is situated so as to perfectly block the view of the bollard by the rider behind. As both riders get close to the bollard, the lead cyclist simply turns slightly to avoid it while the person following has no opportunity to react and strikes the bollard at cruising speed. This scenario can turn into a disaster, as I have personally witnessed.

In another bollard occurrence, a person is riding along with a group of people on a charity ride, and the riders are not previously acquainted with one another. The person involved is the last cyclist in a rather large group. As the group approaches the bollard, no one calls it out, and the last person in line hits it squarely at cruising speed. This accident could easily have been prevented. If the lead rider assumed the bollard was clearly in plain view and avoidable, he or she also needed to consider riders following behind that may not have had the opportunity to see it.

The same concern exists for road debris:

League of American Bicyclists (LAB) Release State Report Cards and Rankings

The Bicycle Friendly State report card is based on over 100 data points for each state and input from state agencies and advocates. Based on the information obtained, the League of American Bicyclists has ranked Florida #10 of 50 states nationally. The last time Florida made the top ten was in 2011.

Florida had the best score in the Infrastructure & Funding category reflecting a strong statewide commitment to building bicycle infrastructure and using state and federal funds to do so. While Florida continues to suffer from very high rates of bicycle crashes, deaths and serious injuries, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is the only department of transportation that has reported a goal of zero deaths to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and has committed to spend $100 million on street lighting for people biking and walking to improve safety.

The Florida Bicycle Association is proud to serve as Florida’s state advocacy group for LAB. FBA acknowledges the efforts of FDOT, members of the Alert Today Alive Tomorrow coalition, city and county governments and countless individuals in reaching this honor. Working together is getting the job done. Let’s keep up the good work!

Weekend Warrior

So, what is it like to cover the state of Florida for FBA? Sometimes, you have to be a weekend warrior. It starts with a rental bike ride in Key West on Thursday during the BubbaFest Florida Keys Bike Tour (yes, the tour is called BubbaFest).

Then you head north to talk bike at the Alafia Fat Tire Festival on Saturday (and catch up with SWAMP Mountain Bike Club’s Grand Pooh Bah and First Lady, Wes and Marty Eubank).

Finally, you head north a little further and spend a Sunday morning at Lake Apopka for the Connect the Trails Ride, hosted by the Friends of Lake Apopka.

Whew!
Whether you’re cycling along side the horses and carriages near Nazareth, PA…

…or strolling along the ancient roadways in Jerusalem, Israel…

…it’s a small world when it comes to the common courtesy of SHARE THE ROAD.

Scearce, Satcher & Jung, P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Kenneth L. Scearce, CPA
David A. Satcher, CPA
Carla M. Hansen, CPA

(407) 647-6441 Office  (407) 645-0099 Fax
1030 W. Canton Ave., Suite 210, Winter Park, FL 32789

Discover a different side of Florida on our many pristine trails as they wind through friendly, vibrant communities along the magnificent St. Johns River and through our abundant and beautiful parks. One things for sure, when you bicycle here, you’ll experience miles of smiles.

Explore our shopping, dining, arts and history.
Or, just relax and spin your wheels.

Get yours today from Florida’s Pedestrian & Bicycling Safety Resource Center by visiting https://www.pedbikesrc.ce.ufl.edu/pedbike/ or FBA by using the Contact FBA form at https://floridabicycle.org/contact-us/.

The Florida customized version of the 2019 Bicycling Street Smarts CyclingSavvy Edition is now available. The traffic laws section reflects 2019 Florida Statutes including the addition of Micromobility Devices and Motorized Scooters. Every cyclist deserves to discover the joy of riding confidently, legally and safely. All new in 2019, John Allen’s classic work has been thoroughly updated to incorporate best practices for easy bicycling, wherever you ride. This edition is replete with strategies for handling today’s multiple roadway and bikeway configurations and packed with illustrations by CyclingSavvy co-founder and FBA Advisory Board member Keri Caffrey.

Whether you bike for transportation, fitness, or recreation, Florida Bicycling Street Smarts CyclingSavvy Edition is a “must have” for your library. You deserve the best booklet on bicycling ever created!

Get yours today from Florida’s Pedestrian & Bicycling Safety Resource Center by visiting https://www.pedbikesrc.ce.ufl.edu/pedbike/ or FBA by using the Contact FBA form at https://floridabicycle.org/contact-us/.

Explore our shopping, dining, arts and history.
Or, just relax and spin your wheels.
It’s time to nominate worthy individuals and organizations to acknowledge their significant service and contributions to bicycling in Florida during 2019. Categories include but are not limited to:

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Advocate
- Citizen Bike Advocate
- Promoter
- Bicycle Friendly Community or Business
- Supporting Agency, Program or Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Bicycle Club
- Off-Road Club or Advocate
- Enforcement Officer or Agency
- Educator or Regional Trainer
- Trail Manager or Developer
- Elected Official Champion
- Volunteer
- Special Recognition


Recipients announced March 1, 2020 to kick off Florida Bike Month!

AAA Bicycle Service is a new benefit with every membership, that provides transportation for you and your bicycle if it breaks down on your ride. It’s one more way AAA helps members relax and enjoy the ride!

Take the worry out of your journey — even when you’re on a bike. AAA now offers roadside assistance for bicycles.

Not a member? Join today!

Biology Makes Biking Better

By Eric Draper, Florida State Parks Director

Riding down the Talahassee – St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail, I saw blackened tree trunks from prescribed fire that had burned up to the grassy area next to the trail. The St. Marks State Trail runs alongside a longleaf pine forest managed by the U.S. Forest Service. I had never considered using a trail as a fire break. I thought it was a remarkable example of bicycle infrastructure interfacing with the forest management that happens on Florida’s public conservation lands.

From our very first steps, walking has been a symbol of independence. And for most of us, a bicycle was our very first mode of transportation. Yet every year there are thousands of crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists in Florida. Even more alarming is the 75% of all fatal pedestrian and bicyclist crashes occur after dark.

Motorists often say they never saw them. But why?

1. Headlight covers that are faded or yellowed can reduce nighttime visibility by up to 80%. Make sure yours are checked and cleaned routinely.
2. Carry a light when walking at night. Walk in well lit areas and always cross in the crosswalk.
3. Always use bike lights at night.
4. Pedestrians and bicyclists are the most vulnerable people on the road. You can reduce the risk of a crash by reducing your speed and focusing on traffic laws.
5. Use lights and reflectors on your bike and always obey traffic laws.
6. Areas with bikes are checked and cleaned routinely.

WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO SEE THEM?

Headlight covers that are faded or yellowed can reduce nighttime visibility by up to 80%. Make sure yours are checked and cleaned routinely.

Carry a light when walking at night. Walk in well lit areas and always cross in the crosswalk.

Use lights and reflectors on your bike and always obey traffic laws.

Slow Down! Pedestrians and bicyclists are the most vulnerable people on the road. You can reduce the risk of a crash by reducing your speed and focusing on traffic laws.

Let’s all be:

Alert Tonight Florida. Because Safety Doesn’t Happen By Accident!

FBA’s very own Patty Huff (far right) joined a group of 40 cyclists plus support staff as they reached Key West, Florida, on Friday, Nov. 15 to conclude the final leg of the East Coast Greenway Alliance’s Week-A-Year (WAY) Tour, a 9-year journey along the entirety of the 3,000-mile Greenway.

About the East Coast Greenway Alliance – David in Durham, North Carolina, the nonprofit East Coast Greenway Alliance leads the development of a walking and biking route stretching 3,000 miles from Maine to Florida. The East Coast Greenway is designed to transform the 15 states and 450 communities it connects through active and healthy lifestyles, sustainable transportation, community engagement, climate resiliency, active tourism, and more. Learn more: greenway.org.

Alert Tonight Florida. Because Safety Doesn’t Happen By Accident!
In 2020, the Florida Freewheelers will be hosting the 40th edition of the Florida Bicycle Safari. Over the decades, the Safari has built up a reputation to deliver 3 or 6 days of great cycling, games, fun activities, and catered meals in North Florida and South Georgia that will have you licking your chops long after the event is over.

To learn more about this annual getaway, visit https://www.floridabicyclesafari.com/ or email FloridaBicycleSafari@FloridaFreewheelers.com for more details and information.

If so, spin down to Central Florida’s Polk County—your hub for some of the best and most diverse cycling experiences in Florida. Road, mountain, single track, rails-to-trails, bikepacking— with some surprisingly heart-thumping elevation changes.

Why not stay here and ride them all? Plan your velo-escape at ChooseEverything.com
There are several obstacles you may encounter if you are injured while cycling. Understanding how to assess the cause is key to overcoming obstacles that may keep you from proper treatment and/or compensation.

First, there is the initial embarrassment of something going wrong. You may feel that somehow you are at fault for getting knocked off your bicycle. You may feel you somehow contributed to the incident. It has been my experience that the person riding a bicycle did everything possible to avoid the crash.

Second, you may be unaware of your rights, or worse, the motorist isn’t aware of your rights. The bicycle, by law, is a vehicle and as such, the driver of a vehicle is entitled to be on the roads under Florida Statute §316.2065(1) or that the driver of a bicycle on a sidewalk is considered a “pedestrian” under Florida Statute §316.2065(9).

The thought you might be at fault is reasonable. However, unless you talk to a lawyer, you may not realize that you are not at fault. Some folks, who commute exclusively on bicycles, feel like “lesser entitled” users of the road. Again, the law says you are out there with every single right as a driver of a vehicle (and then some).

Third obstacle – people on bicycles after a crash sometimes don’t acknowledge a) that they are hurt, or b) the extent of their injuries to which they may be entitled for reimbursement. The Florida Standard Jury Instruction 501 provides that after an injury you are entitled to get repayment for “Any bodily injury... and any resulting pain and suffering, disability or physical impairment, disfigurement, mental anguish, inconvenience, loss of capacity for the enjoyment of life.” This is what judges read to juries to tell them what they can award. If you’re hurt, you get these damages. Not only that, but your bicycle gets fixed completely, including labor.

Fourth, insurance adjusters are prejudiced against bicyclists. They’ve been trained by managers, team leaders and regional supervisors that people on bicycles aren’t going fast so they “don’t get hurt” or “don’t get hurt very much.” I have two cases right now where the insurance companies are about to learn the extremely painful injuries my clients have sustained as vulnerable road users.

Fifth, property damage of the bicycle is covered, but documentation must be kept. Sometimes a cyclist pays cash or fixes their own bicycle so the documentation is lacking to prove the damages. There are several ways around this and an experienced bicycle lawyer can help you.

Sixth, there’s a broad lack of understanding among people who ride bicycles of how personal injury works.

Looking for a Cycling Adventure? Why not Venture to Polk County

The races start at 8 a.m., with a seven mile timed trial at 4 p.m. But on Sunday, the game will all be about speed – and not wiping out. The criterium – everyone just calls it a crit – is a Winter Haven favorite. For those unfamiliar with this type of event, it is a bike race that consists of several laps around a closed circuit –think NASCAR on two wheels with pedals. And what better place to hold the race than downtown Winter Haven, just named the 2019 Great Places in Florida People’s Choice Winner by the American Planning Association’s Florida Chapter. Just last year the start/finish line for the crit was moved to be adjacent to the epicenter of town, the apt named Central Park.

Perhaps the greatest small town criterium courses in the state, this venue offers great viewing opportunities. Locals, family members and fans can line the street to catch a view of the cyclists as they speed by, or enjoy local businesses while the race occurs, including local micro-brewery favorite Grove Roots Brewing Company, the breakfast specialists at Egg Haven and The Bike Shop of Winter Haven. Parking is available, just follow the signage along Avenue C SW and SE, which will direct attendees to spots with the shortest walking distance possible.

For those looking for additional cycling action this weekend, come in early for the Friday morning group ride with The Bike Shop of Winter Haven. And remember the mountain bike ride mentioned earlier? You can always head on over to Lakeland to Joyce E. Harpe Park, or take in some gravel by Jack Cormier, Communications Specialist Central Florida’s Polk County Sports Marketing

by J. Steele Olmstead, Esq., practicing law statewide from offices in Tampa. He has been helping bicyclists back on the road since he was a tech in his brother’s shop in Tallahassee. Instead now he does it in front of a jury.

Believe it or not, if you don’t own a car you are entitled to have your medical bills covered by car insurance.

Finally, the worst thing you can do after sustaining a bicycle injury due to a crash is assume somebody else is going to take care of the claim. The at-fault motor vehicle insurance company will do everything possible to minimize or defeat your claim. Assuming that their adjuster is out to protect you instead of their at-fault motor vehicle client, because you are injured, is a serious mistake.

After a crash, your best bet is to talk to a personal injury lawyer. We all work on commission, so the consultations are free. Make sure you talk to one who is also a cyclist. All the billboard/TV settlement lawyers want your injury case, but unless they’ve been out on the roads experiencing what a cyclist experiences, you are hiring the wrong lawyer.

Marco to Everglades Cycle Tour (from page 4)

just another five miles to the entrance of Everglades City at SR29 in Carnestown. Along the way you will ride past two airport facilities and beautiful prairie lands. Culverts under the road have provided more water to the south side of the Tamiami Trail, allowing for wading birds to return to the area, including roseate spoonbills, egrets, wood stork, ibis and herons. Turn right at SR29 to cycle the final four miles to Everglades City, a designated Florida Trail Town, with its wide range of restaurants, hotels, a bike repair station and other amenities. This historic coastal Florida town is the home of the original Collier County Court House, Museum of the Everglades, Rod & Gun Club and the Smallwood Store in Chokoloskee. With little traffic it is a great place to cycle. For more information about Everglades City, visit www.visitevergladescity.com.

Along this route, you will be traveling on shoulders but be cautious cycling around the narrow bridges. Between Collier-Seminole and Port of the Islands the shoulders have RPMs (raised pavement markers) which were placed there as a safety measure to notify motorists of the upcoming narrow bridges. However, they are a hazard to cyclists so take care. After Port of the Islands the road has been resurfaced so cycling on the shoulders offers a smooth surface. Convenience stores are located at the CR92/US41 intersection and at Carnestown (SR29/US41). For a more detailed map of this tour, download a map/brochure on website https://evergladesrogo.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/FROGG-Map-April-2017.pdf.
Join FBA Today!

Your membership makes a difference.
Add your voice for the future of all bicyclists in Florida.

Name __________________________________________________________

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Business/Club/Agency _______________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________________
City _________________________________________________________________________
State _____________ Zip ______________________________________________________

Phone _______________________________________________________________________

Email ________________________________________________________________

Membership type:

☐ Individual ($25) ☐ Family ($35)

☐ Student/Snowbird ($15) ☐ Supporter ($50)

☐ Club/Business/Agency ($100) ☐ Benefactor ($100)

☐ Champion ($250) ☐ Legacy ($500)

☐ Other/additional donation ________________________________________________

Membership includes a FREE subscription to the FBA Messenger!

Join FBA Today!

Please mail check to: Florida Bicycle Association
PO Box 2452, Oldsmar, FL 34677
Or go online to: www.floridabicycle.org

SJR2C Loop Trail Northern Connection from page 5

our communities and will be a huge cycling tourism asset,” Kraig McLane declares frequently while ensuring the Putnam County portions are equally represented.

What once was a vision, will be our future. The trail project will add nearly 31 miles once complete providing a safe place for cyclists, pedestrians, commuters, children, families and aging residents and visitors to enjoy the self-powered transportation. Recreational users will have continuous service from the existing Palatka to St. Augustine Trail and reach destinations such as the Lightner Museum, St. Augustine Amphitheatre or St. Augustine Beach Pier. Residents can make one to three mile trips, enjoying this unique place we call home while millions of visitors flock here for the annual Nights of Lights, Spring Break, summer waves and 4th of July. Our existing community of small businesses will be supported by slower moving patrons and added access for employees. And our school children can enjoy the wonderful and glorious independence that is riding your bike to school.

For me, I am committed personally and professionally to aiding this project in any way I can. The dream is to have it complete before 2031 when I turn 50 years young. I hope you will join me and my friends for a ride in St. Johns County real soon.

FBA Positive Spin

BONITA BAY BICYCLE CLUB

On Saturday, November 2, the Bonita Bay Bicycle Club held its annual membership meeting at Estero Bay Park. The agenda contained annual membership items such as elections, introduction of new members, season stats updates and a review of upcoming events.

The Positive Spin here and much like other bicycle club membership meetings is the reiteration of group ride safety. Bonita Bay Bicycle Club may be located in a gated community, but they take their safety seriously and insist on the best practice of communication up and down the pace line, in addition to limiting their groups to eight cyclists.

It’s not often the FBA Executive Director is available to attend annual membership meetings (being a member of 35 bicycle clubs around the state has its limitations), but to the delight of current President David Timm and former President Robin Tucker, it was much like all other bicycle club membership meetings - a reunion of old and new friends.
Questions about the laws related to bicycling?

Ask Geo @ FLBikeLaw.org*

by George Martin

As part of the Bicycle Law Enforcement Program, FBA maintains FLBikeLaw.org to provide a place to ask questions about the laws. Questions come direct to FBA via the “Contact FBA” form from floridabicycle.org as well as other sources. Herein is a very limited sample of questions and answers found on the site. Go online for more.

Obstruction in Bike Lane

Howard asked: I notice that trucks not parked in the bike lane frequently place cones in the bike lane or on the edge of the bike lane adjacent to the main road. This implies that the bike riders must leave the lane and ride in the street. Are there rules about traffic cones being placed in the bicycle lane?

A

The bicycle lane is part of the roadway, which is part of the highway. The state statute, which applies to all roadways, is clear:

s. 316.2035 – Injurious Substances Prohibited; Dragging Vehicle or Load; Obstructing, Digging, etc.

(3) It is unlawful to obstruct…. any street or highway.

It is also possible that this criminal statute might apply.

s. 861.01 – Obstructing Highway.

Whoever obstructs any public road or established highway by …. willfully causing any other obstruction in or to such road or highway, or any part thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree ….

There may also be a county or municipality ordinance concerning obstructing the roadway. One such county ordinance indicates that it is unsafe to place residential waste materials within three feet or as near as safely possible.

This county ordinance indicates that it is unsafe to place the cans too close to the roadway, so carried a step further, it must be unsafe to place them in the roadway. Although not stated, the implication is clear, that any closer (or in the roadway) would be unsafe.

(f) Placement of residential waste materials and recyclables…All consumers shall place residential waste materials and designated recyclables within three (3) feet, or as near to the paved or improved roadway abutting the consumer’s property as safely possible.

Your county or municipality may have a similar ordinance.

Direction in Bike Lane

Janie asked: Are cyclists in a bike lane required by law to travel in the same direction as the traffic they are next to?

A

Yes. The bike lane is part of the roadway. If the bike lane is properly marked, it will have arrows for direction of travel.

s. 316.2065 – Bicycle Regulations

(1) Every person propelling a vehicle by human power shall have all of the rights and all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle ….

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (Adopted by the Florida Department of Transportation)

Bicycle Lane – A portion of the roadway that has been designated for the preferential or exclusive use by cyclists by pavement markings and, if used, signs.

Group Rides

David asked: On Sunday, April 1 on the Rickenbacker Causeway in Miami, a police officer was getting all upset about a group of about 50 – 100 cyclists taking up a whole lane of the road. He was screaming out of his window for us to “keep right.” The Rickenbacker causeway also has a bike lane painted on it. Could you please discuss the legal status of a group of cyclists taking an entire lane in a double-lane road? From reading your site, I believe a) that we are not impeding traffic because there is still another lane for vehicles to pass. b) we are indeed violating the “two abreast” rule. c) We are not obligated to be in the bike lane because we are passing a steady stream of slower cyclists who are in the bike lane. d) If (hypothetically speaking) the bike lane was empty, we’d still spill over into the road lane, this time violating the statute. So, what rights does a large group of cyclists have to cycle as a group in the road?

A

Short answer: None. A cycling group is not a defined entity in the statutes. Rather, each cyclist is operating a vehicle and has the same rights and duties as other drivers while in the roadway. A bicycle lane is part of the roadway.

Cyclists do have some advantages not applicable to drivers of motor vehicles, such as no requirement to have a driver’s license, no points for a violation of traffic laws and legally impeding traffic under some circumstances. On the other hand, they are also required to “keep right” and in the bike lane under some circumstances. There are many other posts on this site about the exceptions to the “keep right” rules and impeding traffic.

The premise of your question is already answered in your statement, “We are indeed violating the ‘two abreast’ rule.” If you are admittedly operating unlawfully, how can we devise a statutory justification?

The provisions in the statutes that apply are:

s. 316.2065 – Bicycle Regulations

(1) Every person propelling a vehicle by human power has all of the rights and all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle ….

Let’s not conveniently forget the part about “all the duties” of other drivers.

One of those duties is to comply with the provision that cyclists

(6) …. may not ride more than two abreast at any time except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

Another is the requirement to ride within a single lane. A bicycle lane is a lane.

(6) (Cont.)Persons riding two abreast may not impede traffic when traveling at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing and shall ride within a single lane.

Cyclists when traveling in a group do not have any special privileges. In fact, they have a greater responsibility to ride lawfully since their presence creates problems for others. I am aware of numerous situations throughout the state in which cyclists traveling in large groups routinely run lights and unlawfully take up a full lane and overflow into the adjacent lane, even the lane for on-coming traffic. Among other locations, I have heard the complaint about Rickenbacker Causeway that groups sometimes overflow into both main travel lanes. Some groups seem to feel that the roadway is their own personal racing venue, and that the laws do not apply to them.

I fully understand the fact that some cyclists travel in groups for a feeling of security that is not necessarily provided by a respect for the laws and cycling rights by others and full and fair enforcement of the laws that should protect cyclists.

Another consideration that is not addressed in the statutes is that when large groups of cyclists do ride legally, single file and taking the lane in standard-width lanes, the line can be so long that it becomes virtually impossible for motorists to legally and safely overtake and pass.

Bicycle Crash in a Crosswalk

Natalie asked: If a cyclist is riding their bike down a sidewalk and crosses a side street are they considered to have the same rights as motorists or as pedestrians? A cyclist was possibly hit while crossing a side street coming off the sidewalk? The cyclist was on their phone talking to someone. The motorist was at a complete stop and went to let go of the brake. Motorist did not put foot on gas before they heard the cyclist saying stop. The cyclist fell down. The motorist is unsure if the cyclist was lightly struck by their vehicle or if they cyclist swerved. The cyclist admitted to the cop that they did not stop before crossing or made sure the motorist saw them. No fault was mentioned on the crash report. The cyclist filed a claim against the motorist car insurance company. Who would be at fault? What should the motorist do?

A

Bicyclists on the sidewalk or in a crosswalk have the same rights and duties as pedestrians.

s. 316.2065 – Bicycle Regulations

(9) A person propelling a vehicle by human power upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, has all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances.

A crosswalk may be either marked or unmarked.

s. 316.003 – Definitions

(16) Crosswalk

(a) That part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway, measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway.

A bicyclist is not required to stop before entering a crosswalk from a sidewalk. The cyclist (having the same rights and duties as a pedestrian) may not leave a place of safety in circumstances placing the cyclist in danger.

s. 316.130 – Pedestrians; Traffic Regulations

(8) No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield.

On this site we do not give legal advice or assign fault. Fault for incidents is determined by law enforcement and the courts.

*DISCLAIMER: The purpose of this column is to inform about bicycling laws. The material provided here and through other means is for general informational purposes only and shall in no way constitute or be construed as legal advice by the officers, directors, agents or employees of the Florida Bicycle Association. If your experience in a court of law or on the streets differs from that presented, we want to know about it, but George Martin and FBA are not accountable for a ruling contrary to our interpretation of Florida Law or other consequences of cycling. You should seek legal advice on a particular situation.
Upcoming Bicycle Touring Events in Florida

**JANUARY**

January 5 (Sun) Venice
Piggy's Revenge Endurance Challenge
Starts at 8:00 a.m. at 1800 Mabry Carlton Pkwy, Venice. 10, 20, 40 & 60 mile off-road options. https://www.bikereg.com/puggys-revenge

January 19 (Sun) Gainesville
Battle of Olustee
Starts at 9:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn – University Center, 1250 W University Ave, Gainesville. 113 miles. https://www.facebook.com/events/2602684386462559/

January 19 (Sun) Cape Coral
Tour de Cape
Starts at 8:00 a.m. at Fathoms Restaurant & Bar, 5785 Cape Harbour Dr #106, Cape Coral 15, 31, 62 & 100 mile options. https://www.athlinks.com/event/2018-tourdecape-5k-bike-ride-26361

February 3 (Sun) Marco Island
Tour de Marco
Starts at 8:00 a.m. at Marco Island YMCA, 101 Sand Hill St, Marco Island. 5, 15 & 30 mile options. https://www.active.com/marco-island-fl/cycling/tour-de-marco-9-2019/int=

February 23 (Sun) Clermont
Tour Latino
Starts at 7:30 a.m. at Waterfront Park, Palm St, Clermont. 10, 25, 62 & 100 mile options https://raceroster.com/events/2020/25431/2020-tour-latino

February 29 (Sat) Lake Worth
Loop for Literacy
Starts at 7:00 a.m. by Bryant Park, Lake Ave, Lake Worth. 24 miles. https://www.literacypfbc.org/event/loop-for-literacy/

**FEBRUARY**

February 1 (Sat) Ocala
HuRaCaN 300
Starts at 9:00 a.m. at Shangri La Trailhead & Campground, 12788 SW 69th Ct, Ocala. 3-300 miles. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/huracan-300-x-tickets-65095862477

February 8-9 (Sat-Sun) Sebring
Bike Sebring 12/24 Hours
Starts at 6:30 a.m. at Sebring International Raceway, 113 Midway Dr, Sebring. 100 miles. https://runsignup.com/Race/Event/FL/Sebring/BikeSebring

February 8 (Sat) Arcadia
Ride for Tiny Town
Starts at 7:45 a.m. at Arcadia All-Florida Championship Rodeo, 2450 NE Roan St, Arcadia. 10, 31 & 63 mile options. https://raceroster.com/events/2020/26420/ride-for-tiny-town

February 15 (Sat) Sanford
Mardi Gras Pizza Fondo
Starts at 7:30 a.m. at Sanford Pizza Company, 350 East Seminole Blvd, Sanford. 25, 38, 80 & 100 mile options. https://raceroster.com/events/2020/28076/mardi-gras-pizza-fondo

February 15 (Sat) Boca Raton
Ride 4 Orphans
Starts at 7:30 a.m. at Spanish River Church, 2400 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 15, 30 & 62 mile options. https://events.hakupp.com/ride-4-orphans

February 23 (Sun) Melbourne
Cycle 4 Alzheimers
Starts at 7:00 a.m. at Brevard Alzheimer's Foundation, 4676 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne. 10, 62 & 100 mile options. https://raceroster.com/events/2020/25117/cycle4alz-2020?aff=0CWS4&aff=0CWS4

February 23 (Sun) Havana
Havana Hills Spring Classic
Starts at 8:30 a.m. at Wanderlings, 312 1st St NW, Havana. 25, 51, 92 mile options. https://raceroster.com/events/2020/25320/havana-hills-spring-classic?aff=0CWS4&aff=0CWS4

**MARCH**

March 7-8 (Sat-Sun) Champions Gate
Bike MS: The Citrus Tour
Starts at Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate, 1500 Masters Blvd, Champions Gate, 23, 50, 75 & 100 mile options. https://secure.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR/Bike/FLCBikeEvents?pg=entry&ff_id=30905

March 7 (Sat) Monticello
Dirty Pecan
Starts at 8:00 a.m. at Jefferson County Extension Office, 2729 W Washington St, Monticello. 60, 80, 100, 150 & 200 mile options. https://www.facebook.com/events/414060819365925/

March 7 (Sat) Ocala
Santos Fat Tire Festival
Starts at 8:00 a.m. at Cross Florida Greenway, Santos Trails, 3080 SE 80th St, Ocala. 50 miles. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-santos-fat-tire-festival-tickets-67884098165

March 14 (Sat) Plant City
Dean's Ride
Starts at 7:30 a.m. at Hillsborough Community College - Plant City Campus, 1206 N Park Rd, Plant City. 19, 39, 46 & 62 mile options. https://raceroster.com/events/2019/18660/deans-ride

March 14 (Sat) Dunedin
Ride 4 the Animals
Starts at 8:30 a.m. at Highland Park & Aquatic Complex, 1937 Ed Eckert Dr, Dunedin. 12, 31 & 62 mile options. https://raceroster.com/events/2020/25313/ride-4-the-animals?aff=0CWS4&aff=0CWS4

March 21 (Sat) Inverness
Clean Air Ride
Starts at 7:00 a.m. at Inverness Trail Head, 1270 N Apopka Ave, Inverness. 14, 28, 48 & 100 mile options. https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/Inverness/CleanAirRide

March 22 (Sun) San Antonio
Gran Fondo Florida
Starts at 8:00 a.m. at V2max Cycles, 32807 Pennsylvania Ave, San Antonio. 36, 55 & 96 mile options. https://www.bikereg.com/florida-gfns

**Biology Makes Biking Better**

On my ride, I appreciated the chance to spot red-cockaded woodpeckers and blooming blazingstar flowers through the tall pine trees. I ride my bike so that I can connect with nature and experience the outdoors. Florida State Parks and other public lands offer trails set against a background that makes you want to hit the brakes and enjoy the view.

On another recent ride, I explored the loop trail at Fort Clinch State Park. It’s a winding up-and-down singletrack ride in an unlikely location near the beach. Park volunteers Ken, Joyce and Freddie do a terrific job maintaining the trail. The maritime hammock, or coastal forest, at Fort Clinch is some of the best preserved in the state. This habitat forms on old dunes that have been stabilized long enough for a forest to grow. These same dunes make the trails punchy and exciting, while migrating songbirds use the forest for resting and feeding.

Florida State Parks are the only four-time winner of the National Gold Medal Award for best park system in the nation. This printed version is ABRIDGED from promotional material provided by tour organizers. We’re not responsible for accuracy of information or quality of these rides. Use the contact information for more details about each ride. Data are gleaned and summarized from an online calendar database maintained by Roger Pierce and published on the FBA website. To add an event to this (and our) calendar, e-mail to fbtc@piercepages.com or go online to post your own entry. See complete calendar, including many out-of-state rides we don’t have room to print here, at www.floridaebicycle.org/touring.

In October, I joined dozens of Florida Park Service land managers for our annual natural resource management meeting. The best part of the meeting was visiting state parks alongside staff who are driving ecological restoration efforts. On trips to Torreya State Park and Deer Lake State Park, I saw habitats that were well-cared-for and vibrant.

In Florida, we can ride through unique landscapes that are some of the most beautiful in the nation. We owe thanks to the trail-builders, and also the land managers who work to make Florida a great place to enjoy the outdoors. Your state park entrance fees help support their work, so the best way to ensure the future of public lands is to visit and enjoy these places. You can find parks, trails and public conservation lands for bicycling at FloridaStateParks.org or OutdoorFlorida.org.

Eric Draper is a member of FBA and the director of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Florida Park Service. The Florida Park Service manages 175 state parks and trails and helps plan for the future of outdoor recreation in Florida. Florida State Parks are the only four-time winner of the National Gold Medal Award for best park system in the nation.
FDOT Districts

District 1
Cities: Bradenton, Fort Myers, Naples, Sarasota
Counties: Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Manatee, Okeechobee, Polk, Sarasota
FDOT Bike/Ped coordinator: Deborah Chesna, 863-519-2562, Bike/Ped Safety Specialist: John Kubicki, 863-519-2447; SUN Trail Coordinator: Deborah Chesna, 863-225-1959
FDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator: Derek Dixon, 904-360-5653; FDOT Bike/Ped Safety Specialist: Jennifer Graham, 904-360-5636; FDOT SUN Trail Coordinator: Barney Bennett, 386-961-7878
FDOT Statewide Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator: Mary O’Brien, 850-414-4283

SQB LLC Electric Bicycles, Road & Trail Bicycles, Bicycles International, Naples Cyclery, Bike Route Naples

District 2
Cities: Gainesville, Jacksonville, Lake City, St. Augustine
FDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator: Olen Pettis, 850-330-1543; FDOT Bike/Ped Safety Specialist: Andrew White, 850-330-1653; FDOT SUN Trail Coordinator: Olen Pettis, 850-330-1543

FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Caloosa Riders Bicycle Club, Highlands Pedalers Bicycle Club, Peace River Riders Bicycle Club, Sanibel Bicycle Club, Sarasota-Manatee Bicycle Club, Gulf Coast Velo, Bonita Bay Bicycle Club, Coastal Cruisers Bicycle Club
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: Acme Bicycle Shop, Fort Myers Schwinn Cyclery, Pedelec

District 3
Cities: Destin, Panama City, Pensacola, Tallahassee
Counties: Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Wakulla, Walton, Washington
FDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator: Olen Pettis, 850-330-1543; FDOT Bike/Ped Safety Specialist: Andrew White, 850-330-1653; FDOT SUN Trail Coordinator: Olen Pettis, 850-330-1543

FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Capital City Cyclists, Emerald Coast Cyclists
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: The Great Bicycle Shop

District 4
Cities: Fort Lauderdale, Fort Pierce, Palm Beach, Stuart, Vero Beach
Counties: Broward, Indian River, Martin, Palm Beach, St. Lucie
FDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator: Larry Wallace, 954-777-4208; FDOT Bike/Ped Safety Specialist: Thomas Miller, 954-777-4073 and Tracey Xie, 954-777-4355; FDOT SUN Trail Coordinator: Wibet Hay, 954-777-4573

FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Boca Raton Bicycle Club, Vero Cycling Club, Treasure Coast Cycling Association, South Broward Wheelers Bicycle Club
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: Orchard Island Bikes and Kayaks, Conte’s Bike Shop (Boca Raton, Ft. Lauderdale), Bike Tech, Wheels of Wellington

District 5
Cities: Cocoa Beach, Daytona Beach, Kissimmee, Melbourne, Ocala, Orlando
Counties: Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, Volusia
FDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator: Michael Ziarnek, 386-943-5251; FDOT Bike/Ped Safety Specialist: Chad Lingenfelter, 386-943-5336; FDOT SUN Trail Coordinator: Heather Garcia, 386-943-5077

FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Florida Freewheelers, Sumter Landing Bicycle Club, Spacecoast Freewheelers Bicycle Club, Ocala Mountain Bike Association
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: Village Cycles (2 locations), Orange Cycle, Fox Firestone Bicycle Shop, The Ride Xperience, Adrenaline Bike Works

District 6
Cities: Key West, Miami
Counties: Miami-Dade, Monroe
FDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator: Sherleen Yee Fong, 305-470-5308; FDOT Bike/Ped Safety Specialist: Isis Sotolongo, 305-470-5187; FDOT SUN Trail Coordinator: Sherleen Yee-Fong, 305-470-5393

FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Key West Bicycle Association, Everglades Bicycle Club
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: Key West Bicycle Association, Everglades Bicycle Club

District 7
Cities: Brooksville, Clearwater, Port Richey, St. Petersburg, Tampa
Counties: Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas
FDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator: Alex Henry, 813-975-6405; FDOT Bike/Ped Safety Specialist: Ginger Regalado, 813-975-6970; FDOT SUN Trail Coordinator: Alex Henry, 813-975-6405

FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Florida Panthers Tandem Club, St. Petersburg Bicycle Club, Suncoast Cycling Club, Swamp Mountain Bike Club
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: Bike Sport, Chainwheel Drive (Clearwater, Palm Harbor), Jim’s Bicycle Shop

HAVE YOU BEEN INJURED WHILE CYCLING?
(I have. That’s why I’ll fight so hard for you.)

Chris Burns is not your typical personal injury attorney. As an avid rider, he combines his experience on the road with his expertise and insight in the courtroom. This unique perspective provides cyclists across Florida with the representation they deserve.

Your race for compensation begins here.

904-632-2424

Where My Ride Takes Me

Patty Huff bicycled 500+ miles with her husband Steve around eastern North Carolina which included sections of the East Coast Greenway, pictured here along The Neuse River Trail.
DISCOVER outdoor recreation and wild nature experiences — on foot, by kayak, on horseback, on a bicycle, on a fishing expedition, or with your camera.

Start at the Welcome Center in downtown Titusville. Get a map and hiking and kayaking tips for Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and Canaveral National Seashore. Discover equestrian trails at Scottsmoor Flatwoods Sanctuary and Fox Lake Sanctuary. Ride our expanding cycling trails to Sand Point Park, Marina Park, Draa Park, Chain of Lakes and beyond. Check the space launch schedule and be here for the roar of a rocket launch. Adventures big and small launch from here.

RIDE THE TRAILS

Converging Trails: Three major trails converge in Titusville, FL — the 250-mile Coast-to-Coast Trail, the 5-county St. Johns River to Sea Loop, and the 2,900-mile East Coast Greenway. Titusville was officially designated a Florida Trail Town in 2018.

LEARN MORE & SHARE YOUR ADVENTURE AT:
LaunchFromHere.com

Launch From Here is a local campaign created by the people who love to live here for the people who will love to visit here.