



P.O. Box 1547, Orlando, FL 32802

Vol. 3, No. 1

WINTER/SPRING 2000

Florida Bicycle Messenger

Advocating a bicycle-friendly Florida

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA BICYCLE ASSOCIATION, INC.

FBA Begins 21st Century with FDOT Safety Office Grant

FBA has received a significant grant from the Florida Department of Transportation Safety Office. The grant commenced January 3 and runs until September 30, 2000.

The start-up grant of \$49,600 will be administered through the University of Central Florida. The grant enables FBA to launch into an ambitious agenda of programs including:

CONTINUATION OF THE BIKE ACTION WORKSHOPS

FBA will endeavor to conduct more Bike Action workshops in cities where we have not previously held a workshop. We will also follow up needs with Bike Action participants and bicycle/pedestrian coordinators from the 1999 workshop series. One objective will be creating web pages on the FBA web site for local advocacy groups to post their activities and share information with

other local advocacy groups.

MORE COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE FLORIDA BICYCLE MESSENGER AND THE FBA WEB SITE

Look for more information on safe road riding issues, the availability of the Share the Road tag, and about how to get the Florida Traffic & Bicycle Safety Education Program in your local schools.

A BOOKLET FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

A "user friendly" booklet will provide guidance on traffic laws pertaining to bicyclists and also on how to complete crash reports.

DEVELOPMENT OF A BASIC BICYCLING COURSE FOR ADULTS

RISE LEADER TRAINING MATERIALS for bicycle clubs.

To help make it all happen, FBA has added new staff person to be Program Director — Paul Hardy (see story at right).



Paul and Linda Hardy

FBA Welcomes Paul Hardy as New Program Director

Florida Bicycle Association is growing. As part of the year 2000 grant from the Florida Department of Transportation Safety Office, FBA now has a budget for a full time Program Director.

Filling the newly created position is Paul Hardy, an avid cyclist with a strong background in sales, sports (especially bicycling) and small business.

Paul knows what it takes to create a successful organization, in essence, a network of people who can work together toward the accomplishment of common goals.

He lives with his wife, Linda, in Apopka with their children Helen, age 12, and Kate, age 9. They also have two adult children, Christopher, age 21, a firefighter-paramedic with the Cape Canaveral Fire Department, and Patrick, age 18, who is in the Army stationed in Germany.

Linda will be assisting Paul, which is wonderful because there is probably more than enough work for two people!

Paul and Linda have been members of FBA for over a year, and have also worked as volunteers for FBA. You have probably seen them on their tandem at many cycling events around the state. They are members

of the Florida Freewheelers and the Suwannee Bicycle Association, where Paul also volunteers as a ride guide.

Paul's desire is to promote safe bicycling and to promote cycling as a family activity. Paul brings experience and enthusiasm that seem to fit him perfectly to the challenging tasks ahead!

Share The Road tag update...

License Plates May Be Available as Early as February

By TJ Juskiewicz

The "Share The Road" specialty license plate cleared its final hill on November 23, 1999, as Governor Jeb Bush and the Cabinet unanimously approved the design work of the new specialty plates.

It's downhill from here as the "Share The Road" plates are being manufactured and will become available throughout the state by February or March, 2000.

To obtain a "Share The Road" specialty license plate, call or visit your local tag

agency. The specialty license plates will cost an additional \$15 over the regular state license plate fee.

These extra fees are split equally by Bike Florida and the Florida Bicycle Association to promote bicycle, pedestrian and motorist safety education.

The "Share The Road" license plate legislation was filed and sponsored by Representative Bob Casey from Gainesville

Please see Update, page 4

Response to Year-end Appeal is Heartening

By Carol Wilson, Executive Director

We asked you for your help and you answered!

FBA members responded strongly to the request for funding to help with the new Florida Department of Transportation grant. You may wonder, if FBA received a grant, why do we still need money? Because FBA is paid based upon the performance of work as out-

Please see Appeal, page 5



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Advocating a bicycle-friendly Florida

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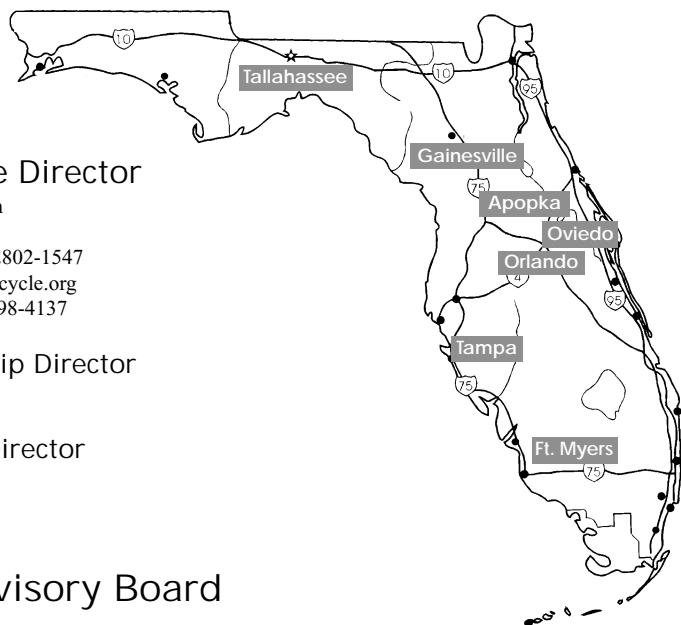
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Mr. and Mrs. H. Middleton Raynal
dB Technologies

Paceline Leaders (\$1,000 +)
Tampa Bay Freewheelers
Kimberly Cooper
Anonymous Donor of Stock

Titanium Partners (\$500 - \$999)
West Palm Beach B/C
Joseph Warren, MD

Golden Gears (\$250 - \$499)
Orange Cycle Works
Bob Michaels
Gene Randall & Marianne McKinney

Silver Spokes (\$100 - \$249)
Bicycle Generation, Inc.
Bike Florida, Inc.
City of West Palm Beach
Coastal Cruisers B/C
Fools Crow Cycles
Hillsborough County MPO
Seidler Production, Inc.
Spacecoast Freewheelers B/C

Streits Cyclery
Rob DeGraaf
Stephen Finn
Tom & Laura Heine
Richard Johnson
Thomas Katheder
James Nash
Donna O'Neal
Carol Pulley
Chris Sands
John & Kathleen Stamp
Peter Tattersall

Bronze Pedals (\$50 - \$99)
Champion Cycling & Fitness
Rebecca Afonso
Nancy Allmaras
Darlene Archer
Rick & Debbie Brackett
Patrick Donovan
George Edwards
Stephen Finn
Morris & Mikki Futernick
Murray & Susan Hann
Barry & Cynthia Hersh
Edie Howland
John Howton

Wendy Katz
Herbert & Joyce Linne
Bruce & Tricia Martin
Patrick McNulty
Richard & Carolyn Pickard
Gary & Kathy Rief
Kevin & Timons
Dave & Carol Warren
Randall & Valerie Williams

Clubs with a Heart for Advocacy
Thanks for your support in 1999

Caloosa Riders	\$100
Capital City Cyclists	\$100
Coastal Cruisers Bicycle Club	\$100
Emerald Coast Cyclists	\$100
North Florida Bicycle Club	\$100
Polk Area Bicycling Association	\$100
St. Petersburg Bicycle Club	\$50
Sarasota-Manatee Bicycle Club	\$130
Suwannee Bicycle Association	\$100
Tampa Bay Freewheelers	\$4,000
UCF Cycling Team	\$20
West Palm Beach Bicycle Club	\$1000

Welcome New Members!

Club & Corporate

Bicycle Generation, Inc.
Champion Cycling & Fitness
City of West Palm Beach
Coastal Cruisers Bicycle Club
Fools Crow Cycles
Hillsborough County MPO
Spacecoast Freewheelers Bicycle Club
Streits Cyclery

Individuals

Geneva Keene Acor	Mary Ellen Howald
Nancy Allmaras	Julie Howard
Bob Andrews	Michael Johnson
Juan & Elisa Atan	Thomas Katheder
Lewis Barger	Wendy Katz
Charles Barson	Kevin Keating
James Bent	Vicki Klein
Michael Bierds	Joseph Kruger
Donald Braverman & Marianne Coulton	Jack Martin
Robert Brown	Debbie McElhiney
Susan Brown	Thomas McMullan
Ana Camacho	Thomas McNally
George Carr	Max Minkin
John & Chris Christensen	Thomas Mixon
Melissa Claessens	Everett Osterud
Bradley Clark	Norman Padgett
Elisabeth Collins	Richard Paiva
Andrew Combes	Michael Pendleton
Susan Cone	Mary Porterfield
Ted Conner	Michael Reynolds
Deb DeVoe	Robyn Reynolds
Philip & Lucie Dlugasch	Mark Schmitter
Philip Doll	Art & Linda Tenenbaum
Mitch Edney	Paula Thompson
Steven & Paula Fee	Philip Turgati
Stephen Finn	Whitney & Valerie Turner
Chris & Jeannie Fooshee	Jean Vallery
George & Diane Gandero	Dave & Carol Warren
Kenneth Gordon	Steven Watsky
George Gozdz	Grant Wenrick
Kevin & Joann Gulliver	Susan White
Jeri Houle	Scott Witter
	Don & Wanda Woodard

Join FBA

Use the application form on the last page. Suggested contributions (tax deductible):

Individual	\$20
Family	\$30
Supporting	\$50
Bicycle Club	\$100
Corporate	\$100

Higher donations are greatly appreciated!

Make check payable and mail to:

Florida Bicycle Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1547
Orlando, FL 32802-1547

Visit FBA's website

www.floridabicycle.org

Subscribe to the FBA and FORBA e-mail lists

Stay up-to-date on bicycle issues with these statewide communications exchanges.

To subscribe to Florida Bicycle Association's FBALink, send an email to: fba-subscribe@topica.com or forba-subscribe@topica.com (for daily digest, email: fba-subscribe-digest@topica.com or email forba-subscribe@topica.com).

Taking Responsibility for Your Passion

At the FBA annual meeting last October I became the new president of the board of directors for Florida Bicycle Association, replacing Linda Crider who served the prior year.

Everyone is very grateful for the leadership provided by Linda, and we are especially grateful that she has opted to continue to serve on the board!

As for myself, I am very honored to be given the responsibility of being president. Bicycling is my passion, and I have come to believe more firmly than ever that as a bicyclist I must take responsibility for my passion. Serving as the president of Florida Bicycle Association will allow me to do just that.

What do I mean by "take responsibility for my passion?" First, as cyclists we must ride in a responsible manner. That means

lawfully, courteously and respectfully of others and the environment.

Second, as cyclists we must share in the responsibility for creating quality riding facilities, whether they are single-track trails, paved trails, or on-road facilities.

Most great facilities for bicyclists did not just pop up out of thin air. Chances are a person or group of people worked very diligently to make that facility happen.

Most bicycle facilities are public property and government managed, so by working through the public planning processes in your local communities you can make change happen!

That is what FBA's Bike Action workshops are all about, and that is part of the reason I am so committed to FBA.

Third, we must learn to understand and respect the needs of other types of cyclists.

Some people identify themselves as off-road riders, some as road riders, and others as trail riders or even "around-the-neighborhood-block" riders! The needs of each of these groups are valid, and each group should have the full support of the other groups.

Imagine bicycles everywhere ...if we all can work together!

The greater the challenge the greater the reward. Isn't that why most of us ride?

Here are a few things we all can do—road riders, off-road riders, and trail riders—to become

more responsible cyclists:

1. Wear a helmet. This is the no-brainer one, no pun intended!
2. Obey the laws and rules of the road and trail, not just the ones you think are right!
3. Become a member and get involved in

*...from the President
Tina Russo*



your local bicycle club.

4. Volunteer time with your local bicycle club.
5. Become involved in your local Bicycle Advisory Committee.
6. Volunteer to do trail work or adopt a road.
7. Purchase the "Share The Road" tag.
8. Volunteer to work at least one Bicycle Rodeo a year.
9. Become a member of FBA, if you are not a member already. If you are, get a friend to join!
10. Help support FBA. (Support comes in all shapes and sizes.)

Responsible cyclists will get more out of their riding, and also will make things change for the better. I'm looking forward to working with you in 2000 to make Florida a better place where we can all share our passion for bicycling!



*Carol Wilson,
Executive Director*

FBA 1999 Annual Report

(see update on page 1)

- o Hosting of Bike Action workshops in cooperation with local governments in Jacksonville, the Panhandle (Destin), Broward County (Davie), Orlando, Pinellas County (St. Petersburg) and Key West, reaching over 130 people with the "how to" of bicycle advocacy
- o Hosting a Bicycle Friendly Communities roundtable in conjunction with Bike Florida's Share the Road Rally
- o Production of four quarterly issues of the *Florida Bicycle Messenger*, sent to all members plus a courtesy mailing list
- o Set up of FBA's new web site at www.floridabicycle.org
- o Successful application to the Florida Department of Transportation Safety Office for continued funding into 2000 (see article on page 1)
- o Participation by FBA in the update process of the State of Florida's long range transportation plan, the 2020 Florida Transportation Plan (see story on page 5).

The FBA board was expanded from a maximum of seven members to 11 members. New board members in 1999 are Randall Williams from Casselberry who is also production editor of the *Florida Bicycle*

Messenger, and Hal Downing, an attorney in Orlando. It is notable that all of the six board members who served in 1999 wished to continue on the board in 2000! The FBA board ended 1999 with eight members.

If you have an interest in serving on the FBA board, I encourage you to contact any member of the current FBA board. One of the board's chief responsibilities is setting FBA's direction and programs, a most important task!

FBA also grew by two staff members. Paul Hardy is FBA's new Program Director (see story on page 1). Deb DeVoe is FBA's part time membership director, handling individual and family memberships (see page 4).

I am pleased to continue as part time executive director. My thanks to each and every one of you who contributed in so many ways, including sharing of your ideas and volunteer time.

FBA's success reflects a team spirit, and the resolve of the Florida bicycling community to mold a new future for bicycling.

Florida Bicycle Association, Inc. Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 1999

REVENUE

Contributions-individuals	..\$ 24,780
Contributions-bike clubs	..... 5,900
Contributions-bike shops	..... 788
Contributions-other corp & govt	2,800
Grants - State of Florida	.... 14,985
Fundraisers & other	..... 1,799
TOTAL REVENUE	..... .51,052

EXPENSES

Share The Road campaign	... 1,984
Bike Action workshops	.... 17,516
Member communi- cations/education	..... 8,285
Other programs	..... 1,024
Membership and general management	..... 7,910
TOTAL EXPENSES	..... .36,719
NET INCREASE	..... .14,333
NET ASSETS-BEGINNING OF PERIOD	..... .8,639
NET ASSETS-END OF PERIOD	..... \$ 22,972

1999 turned out to be a banner year for the Florida Bicycle Association! We entered the year with 179 members, including club and corporate members.

By the end of 1999, membership had increased to 345 individual and family members, 13 bicycle clubs and 13 other corporate or government members for a total of 371 members.

Most notable among the club contributors are the Tampa Bay Freewheelers who donated \$4,000 and the West Palm Beach Bicycle Club who donated \$1,000.

Many individual donors also provided significant support for FBA in 1999, and we recognize their contributions in the table on page 2.

The financial support and the enthusiastic involvement of members and the FBA board of directors combined to produce successful results including:

- o Partnering with Bike Florida, Inc. to obtain the signatures, funding and legislation necessary for the Share The Road tag

Update *from page 1*

and Senator Donald Sullivan from St. Petersburg.

During the 1999 legislative session, both the House (113 to 4) and Senate (38 to 1) approved the "Share The Road" license

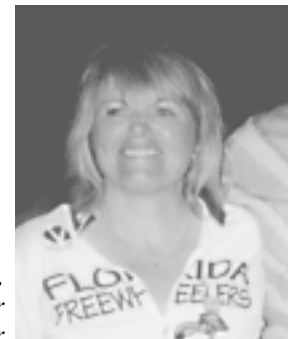
plate. On June 8, 1999, Governor Jeb Bush signed the "Share The Road" specialty license plate bill into law, making the State of Florida the first state to have a specialty license plate dedicated to cycling and the promotion bicycle and

pedestrian safety education.

For more information about the "Share The Road" campaign, contact Bike Florida at (407) 343-1992 or info@bikeflorida.org.

Bike Fla. 2000
Springs ad

Deb DeVoe Is New Membership Director



Deb DeVoe, right after completing her

first century ride on the Florida Freewheelers' Safari in April 1999.

FBA is pleased to announce the addition of Deb DeVoe to the FBA staff. Deb is now working part time for FBA as Membership Director to handle correspondence with members and keep up the membership database.

Deb grew up in Jordan, New York, near Syracuse, in the Finger Lakes area. She moved to Florida and has been living in the Altamonte Springs area for about ten years.

She only began bicycling about two and a half years ago.

Deb said her first ride was one of "...Frank's famous social rides around UCF, and I just about died! It was all I could do to keep up." But she stuck with it.

"I enjoyed the people, and it was a personal challenge," she adds. Now Deb regularly joins the Florida Freewheelers in 30 - 40 mile rides.

"I'll never be an 'A' rider," she says, "I like to ride slower so I can socialize!"

Deb has become very involved in bicycle advocacy related activities in her short time as a bicyclist.

She attended Bike Action Orlando in February 1999 and became one of the founding members of Central Florida Bicycle Advocates. Now Deb does the web page for CFBA (<http://hometown.aol.com/topgear730/myhompage/business.html>).

She also is the Advocacy Director for the Florida Freewheelers.

"I saw a need for people to become involved in bicycle advocacy," Deb says. "I saw the attitudes of motorists and people who were getting hurt.

"People can complain, but what are they doing about it? I have two granddaughters, and I would like to see the roads be safer for them when they are old enough to ride on them."

Deb claims that she is just helping "in a small way." But those who know her can see that she is helping out in a very big way indeed!