2015 Florida Bicycle Association Annual Awards

Congratulations to our 2015 Florida Bicycle Association Annual Award recipients!

Bike Club: Sanibel Bicycle Club

In 2014, Sanibel Bicycle Club proposed to the City of Sanibel that it apply for a Tourist Development grant to support the development of a tourist-focused “Cycling on Sanibel” safety video. The City applied for the TDC grant, which was awarded in the Fall of 2014. They received $4,000, which provided the seed money to get started. The City turned the project over to SBC to manage the project, with Tom Sharbaugh and Patti Sousa serving as co-leaders. This team went door to door to businesses and organizations on the island to raise over $20,000 to pay for the production of the video, which they successfully raised by January 2015. This fundraising effort also got community buy-in and support for the project resulting in a finished video in mid 2015 to widespread critical acclaim. These efforts to improve the safety and the biking experience for visitors on Sanibel are serving as models for other Southwest Florida communities. Currently, Cape Coral and Fort Myers Beach are both exploring the possibilities of replicating the safety public service announcement boards in their local businesses. SBC has a long tradition of building successful public/private partnerships to improve the island’s shared use path system and this latest effort is yet another stellar example of what can be accomplished through this approach.

Off-Road Bike Club: SORBA Orlando

SORBA (Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association) Orlando is one of the newest and most up and coming off road bicycle clubs in Florida. This non-profit 501(c) (3) organization is working with state and local governments to establish a network of off road trails in Central Florida. Former president Mitchell Greenberg and current president Mark Leon are leading the way to improve the trail systems of Snow Hill in Oviedo, Soldiers Creek Park in Seminole County and adding more trail to Markham Woods in Seminole County. With the opening of the Orlando Mountain Bike Park at Lake Druid Park, SORBA Orlando’s efforts to establish facilities and networks of off road trails continues to grow and thrive throughout Central Florida.

Enforcement Agency: Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office, Major Alan Hill

The Florida Department of Transportation 2015 Highway Safety Plan outlines a pedestrian and bicycle safety program to which law enforcement is key. The Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office (HCSO) Safety Afoot campaign of high visibility pedestrian and bicycle enforcement (HVE) countermeasures is highlighted in this plan. HVE is a three-phase approach to pedestrian safety: education of good behavior, warning of bad behavior, citation for bad behavior. In November of 2015, HCSO put a spin to HVE with positive reinforcement. Rewards in the form of food gift cards were distributed for safe behavior. A total of 152 motorists, 247 bicyclists and 535 pedestrians were approached through 16 HVE details. This yielded 634 warnings, 34 citations and 216 gift cards (rewards for doing it right) distributed. Enforcing laws is a tough job, but the HCSO takes the job seriously and thankfully is making a difference to lessen bad behavior with positive results.
(continued on page 5)
We Love Our Members!

**Lifetime Members**
Duke Breitenbach  
Kimberly Cooper  
William R. Hough  
Walter Long  
James Nash  
Mr. & Mrs. H. Middleton Raynal  
Earle & Laura Reynolds  
Dr. Joe Warren  
Mighk & Carol Wilson  

**Individual/Family High Donors**
Legacy:  
Thomas DeMarco  

Champion:  
Richard & Belinda Carlson  
David Henderson  

Benefactor:  
Jason Aufdenberg  
Peter Davitt  
Tom Ferraro  
Laura Hallam  
Connie Hendy  
Daniel Lehmann  
Michael & Ann Megler  
Terri Parrott  
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Deborah and Gary Testa  
Matthew Walthour  
Tom & Linda Wentzell  
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**Club/Business High Donors**
Premier Partners:  
Polk County Sports Marketing  

Champion:  
Boca Raton Bicycle Club  
Florida Freewheelers Bicycle Club  

Advocate:  
Jim Dodson Law  
Panther Medical Inc.-Richard Rappaport  
Florida Greenways and Trails Foundation  
Friends of River of Grass Greenway (FROGG)  
Orange Cycle Works  
Gainesville Cycling Club  
Ocala Mountain Bike Club  
North Florida Bicycle Club  

**New Businesses/Clubs/Orgs.**
Angco Striping  
Bike Walk Coral Gables  
Bike Works of Gainesville  
Friends of River of Grass Greenway (FROGG)  
Island Bike Shop  
Marathon Bike Rentals  
MetroPlan Orlando  

**Supporter:**  
Hugh & Laura Aaron  
Monique Damiano  
Steven Diez  
Mary Beth & Gerardo Garcia  
Fifi Huang  
Sandra Jolly  
Daniel McWhertor  
Al & Heidi Parker  
Michael Rubin  
Phillip Scanlan  

**New Members**
Thomas & Becky Batcheller  
Brad Berkstresser  
Edgar Blanks  
Chuck Butterfield  
Monique Damiano  
Peter Davitt  
Gerald Ellis  
Stephen Finn  
Mary Beth & Gerardo Garcia  
Judy Gardner  
Jared & Jennifer Hartman  
Robert Ingel  
Jim and Lisa Jagodzinski  
John Komoroske  
Meghan Lane  
Robert Lee  
Glorida Lopera  
Clifford Maker  
Glenn Marquis  
Austin Marsh  
Stephen & Carla Martin  
Ute Metzger  
Heather & Todd Neville  
Julia Peck  
Gail Picking  
Gerald Sushil  
Peter Van Susteren  
Deborah and Gary Testa  
John Trahan  
Matthew Walthour  

Pedelec SQB LLC Electric Bicycles  
South Broward Wheelers  
Two Foot Drive, Oral Shaw Director  
Young American Conservation Corps,  
Susan & Stephen Murphy

**Business/Organization Categories**
Premier Partner ($10,000+)  
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.
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Please email:
Membership@floridabicycle.org

Mailing address:

Our Mission: for Florida bicycling is to network and share best practices, to educate and advocate and to build awareness as a unified voice.

Our Vision: for Florida is to be a state where bicycling is safe, respected and encouraged as a means of transportation and recreation.

Our Purpose:
• To educate bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists about safely sharing roadways and paths
• To be a powerful, influential voice that protects and advances the interests of bicyclists
• To encourage the creation of great on-road and off-road places to ride
• To provide a statewide communications network for bicyclists
• To encourage more people to bicycle more often

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.

The Florida Bicycle Association (FBA) was incorporated in 1997 for educational and charitable purposes. FBA is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations, including membership dues, are tax deductible. A copy of the current financial statements may be obtained by contacting FBA.

To become a member supporter of FBA, join online at www.fbamembership.org

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www.floridabicycle.org • e-mail: Becky@floridabicycle.org • Phone: 813-748-1513

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Please see the website for rates and specifications or e-mail: Becky@floridabicycle.org. Publishers reserve the right to review advertising content and to reject advertising that, in their opinion, would compromise the FBA’s mission or its goals and objectives. Although we carefully review articles and information submitted, FBA is not responsible for the information or opinions contained herein unless explicitly stated as official policy of FBA.

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Remember Your Tribe
by J. Steele Olmstead, President

There is a school of thought in business circles, anthropology, social psychology and popular memes revolving around the concept of the “Tribe.” The urban dictionary defines tribe as: “Close friends, group of people who are loyal to you, care for you like family” or “A group of friends that becomes your family.” Names for Tribes in common culture are: “peeps,” “homeboys,” “dawgs,” “gang,” “pack.” Scientificaly tribes are called: “clan,” “blood,” “caste,” “timeage,” “horde,” “kindred.” Each of us belongs to a tribe of some kind whether we like it or not. The school you went to, the place you got your degree, the circles you run in, the activities you participate in. You graviitate toward people with whom you are familiar and may have some connection as a result of maybe being in a tribe to which you presently or once belonged.

Cycling can be a team or solo sport. You can ride solo and have an exhilarating experience. If you’ve ever had occasions to ride in a pack of cyclists that are trying to keep the pace up, you will know the exhilarating experience of pulling several riders behind you. The lead rider just out of your way and now you get the privilege of pulling the pack behind you. You know they expect you to keep up the pace. This is not daunting because after you pull hard for two tenths of a mile, you will go to the back of the peloton and hear “nice pull,” “good job,” “nice one.” So you really want to pull for the team while you are at the front of the peloton. This is your tribe. They love what you love. They have invested their money and time in what you love. You are out on this road or track together.

Florida Bicycle Association, fellow members, shop members, board members, staff and Executive Director are your tribe. All of us love what you love. All of us have invested time and money in the same thing that you love. We are on those roads, sidewalks, multiuse paths, and trails out there with you. When you see someone with a Share the Road license plate, that person is your tribesman too.

Remember your Tribe anytime you think you are out on the road by yourself. All the efforts of your fellow Tribe members in the Florida Bicycle Association are there to make your ride safer. Your fellow tribe members are out there for you educating and explaining to the City Council, County commission, state government and state agencies how cycling, what you love and what we love will save the state of Florida.

President’s Message...

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? Florida Bicycle Association, Inc. was incorporated in 1997 for educational and charitable purposes and is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Does your place of employment offer matching gifts to non-profits? Think FBA! Does your place of employment have a United Way campaign? Think FBA! All you need to do is designate Florida Bicycle Association, Inc. as your charitable organization on your pledge form.

These are great ways to stretch your contribution to FBA even further! Joining is easy. Just visit our website at www.floridabicycle.org. Click the “Join Us” link at the top of the page, use the online or download a brochure option, or you can request an application to be mailed to you by contacting Becky Afonso at 813-748-1513 or becky@floridabicycle.org.

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.

Badges of Honor or Graffiti?
by Earl Lang

What are these crude marks painted on the road? Have you seen them on our streets? What do you think? Are they an eyesore? Is someone defacing public property? Or could they be a sign of something more, perhaps a blaze, like the pioneers used to mark the way West?

When I travel across this country, whether by bicycle or by car, I am gladdened to see these blazes on the road. These blazes say to me that this is a community where active people live. Communities with bicycle riders, who embrace life, work on their health and exercise regularly. A community dedicated to promoting a healthy environment.

Are dedicated bicycle riders good for the community? Bicycle Clubs and groups are strong advocates for healthy lifestyles. Bicycle riders enjoy riding for pleasure, exercise and utility transportation and this joy is contagious throughout the community. Some citizens may think that people on bicycles obstruct traffic, are unsafe, run stop signs and are a nuisance. Dedicated riders are a great asset to a community. Yes, an asset that works to improve the quality of life for every citizen.

These pavement blazes are “Welcome” signs to like minded people. They say, “Here is a vibrant community that is healthy and active.” These crude marks are free advertising that brings in tourist dollars, and new residents. Tourist dollars have been proven to provide a continuing and large return on money invested in outdoor activities.

Bicycle riders are good citizens and active in the community. They set a healthy, active example for others. Beyond that they become a voice, speaking to their government officials asking for safer roads and better outdoor facilities to be enjoyed by everyone. These efforts soon translate into more parks, trails, and other amenities that enhance everyone’s outdoor experience.

Simply said, “Bicycle riders are the kind of people you want for your neighbor.” The next time you see a bicycle route blaze painted on a street; think of it as your Community’s Badge of Honor. It is truly a sign of a community that is alive, vibrant and a great place to live.

Session ‘17

A Florida Bicycle Association legislative committee has been identified! New FBA Board Director Patty Huff, Sunner Landing Bicycle Club President John Komoroske and Velofest (St. Augustine) Director Heather Neville will serve on this committee. The priority initiative will be passage of a vulnerable road user bill. The language of this bill for 2017 does not yet exist, but will be based on previously filed bills (2016 session HB 253, for example). In preparation for Session ‘17, FBA is currently conducting a pre-session strategy. The premise of this pre-session is to educate legislators on cycling basics. We call it “educate your delegate”. We look towards our membership and any other interested parties to help implement this strategy.

The first part of this strategy is for membership and other interested parties to start a habit of sending emails to legislators. These 3-5 sentence emails are a great way to build a relationship with the legislator and their staff and to ask for their help.

For example, I sent the following email to my House Representative James Grant:

Hi, my name is Becky Afonso. I live in Oldsmar and enjoy active transportation by riding my bicycle for short trips of less than 5 miles. I’m concerned with bike/ped crash fatalities. There has been a Vulnerable Road User bill before Florida legislators in the past two years but it has yet to pass. Please consider doing what you can to save the lives of vulnerable road users in the next session.

Thank you for your time, Becky
Meet New Board Member Patricia (Patty) Huff

Originally from Nashville, Patty moved to the Florida Keys in 1984 to marry Steve Huff, a sports fishing guide. After visiting the Everglades City area for 10 years, she and Steve purchased an original 1920s “Collier” home and moved there permanently in 1998. Patty received an M.B.A. from Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University and was a Financial Advisor and Vice-President of Investments at Raymond James & Associates from 1985 until 2002 when she became publisher and editor of the local Everglades area newspaper The Mullet Rapper. Just recently Patty retired in order to spend more time with her grandchildren and on her volunteer activities.

Patty’s love of the environment and beauty of the Everglades’ surrounding parks enticed her to become an active board member in many local and regional organizations including the Friends of Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, the Everglades Area Chamber of Commerce, the Everglades Association, the Museum of the Everglades, the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, the Collier County Historic and Archeological Preservation Board, and the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Collier County MPO.

Patty and her husband have always enjoyed running and cycling. They began touring long distances in 2000 when they rode across the United States from Everglades City, Florida to Astoria, Oregon; then again in 2002 from Port Townsend, Washington to Jacksonville, Florida. They have also bicycled through Europe on four different occasions.

Patty’s commitment to safe alternative transportation and her appreciation of the splendor and culture of the Everglades encouraged her to help establish the Friends of the River of Grass Greenway in 2007, initially a committee of the Naples Pathways Coalition and now its own separate non-profit organization focusing on safety and environmental education and stewardship for those hiking, walking, or cycling through the central area of south Florida.

Where My Ride Takes Me

Patty Huff took these photos during her August 2015 bike ride in Scotland with her husband Steve.

The photo to the right was taken in front of the ruins of the Kilwinning Abbey, founded between 1162 and 1188, and located southwest of Glasgow.

The photo below is of their bikes in front of the Pollok House outside of Glasgow and was built by successive generations of the Maxwell family who are known to have lived there since 1269.

AWARDS (continued from page 1)

Educator:
JoJo Sturm,
Crossing Guard Supervisor,
Seminole County Sheriff’s Office

The Seminole County Sheriff’s Office, under the direction of Program Supervisor JoJo Sturm, has gone above and beyond for student safety. JoJo is to be commended for her innovative effort and steadfast dedication to child and pedestrian safety, the education of elementary students in safe pedestrian/bicycling habits, conducting school safety zone awareness campaigns, and to providing hundreds of bicycle helmets to local children in need. The School Crossing Guard Program is responsible for ensuring the safe crossing of over 4,000 children at 190 school crossings with a staff of over 120 crossing guards throughout Seminole County each and every day. The SCSO’s School Crossing Guard Program has also been awarded the Crossing Guard Program of the Year, three of the last four years (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015), by the Florida Department of Transportation. Additionally, JoJo received the Sarah Griffin Hughes Award from the United Safety Council this year. Seminole County children are a lot safer with JoJo and her team of school crossing guards on hand throughout the year.

Supporting Agency: FDOT
District 7, Paul Steinman, Secretary & Stephen Benson, Bike/Ped Safety Specialist

Complete Streets policy rights the admitted wrong of auto centric design by addressing the needs of every road user: motorist, cyclist and pedestrian. The Florida Department of Transportation adopted Complete Streets policy nearly two years ago; District 7 has embraced this policy from the start. District 7 has held not one but three Cyclovia’s – open street celebrations that have shut down major road thoroughfares to motorized traffic to allow this public space to be enjoyed at the speed of people. A highlight for District 7 in 2015 was the dedication of the Courtney Campbell Causeway Trail in Pinellas County, signifying the completion of what was to be a 15-20 year project. This trail quickly became it’s own destination for both cyclists and pedestrians. Through the efforts of the Department’s Safety Office, District 7 holds the unique honor of being the first district to conduct the Walk Wise program, the first district to focus on positive reinforcement through the High Visibility Law Enforcement program and hosts three of the four Department safety coalition meetings at the USF Center of Urban Transportation Research. District Secretary Paul Steinman and Bicycle/ Pedestrian Safety Specialist Stephen Benson are to be applauded for their efforts in leading the way for District 7.

Program: Couch to Century, Leslee Mitchell, Florida Freewheelers President

As a second term president of the Florida Freewheelers, Leslee is a passionate advocate for bringing new cycling enthusiasts into the sport, while maintaining high standards for biking safety and citizenship. Her most significant contribution has been her leadership in (continued on page 10)
Bicycling Off-Road in Wonderful Wild Florida

by Patty Huff

Fakahatchee is beautiful any time of year, but in the spring and the summer the cool shade from the cypress trees lining Janes Scenic Drive is a welcome relief from our Florida heat.

To celebrate the beginning of May a friend and I bicycled out of Everglades City, crossing US41 (Tamiami Trail) and headed north on SR29 just 2 1/2 miles before taking a left on Janes Drive. After stopping at the Ranger Station ($2 bicycle entrance fee is requested to help maintain the park), we continued through the Marl Prairie to reach the sheltered canopy for a pleasant ride on a beautiful morning. Although the weather seemed humid in Everglades City, in the wild there was a cool breeze and no bugs (which is rare this time of year). There are many advantages of bicycling off-road in the Everglades, but one of the best things about Janes Scenic Drive is that you have several options: ride all the way up to Picayune Strand State Forest (just a little over 11 miles) or stop and enjoy the side trails (called spurs) are also accessible for hiking and biking; the first is just 4.5 miles from the Ranger Station, known as west main or Gate 12. If you take this particular route, you'll ride an additional 4 miles round trip deep into the Fakahatchee. The path leads to a private cabin called the "Fakahatchee Hilton" adjacent to a lake (you'll be sure to see gators here if you miss them along the trail). As with all wildlife, treat them with respect and give them a lot of space.

This tour into the Everglades has been one of our most popular during the annual spring bike ride. Participants have the advantage of experiencing this off-road route with a guide and SAG support (visit www.evergladesROGG.org for more information).

Remember, all our unique parks in south central Florida are part of the greater Everglades ecosystem, one of our State's greatest treasures (the REAL Florida!).

Patty Huff has lived in the Everglades for over 20 years and is a board member of the Friends of the River of Grass Greenway as well as the Florida Bicycle Association.
Let’s try a business metaphor to demonstrate advocacy and education, shall we? For this exercise, “Sales” will be advocacy and “Service” will be education.

In business, say a bicycle shop business, Sales and Service complement each other. Sales listens to the customer’s needs and matches those needs to the product. Service backs up Sales by taking care of the customer and the product with maintenance and repair.

Simple enough, right? OK, now let’s look at the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). For this FDOT example, I’ll be using information taken directly from their website. (Would it surprise you that each of these FDOT components has a Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator?!) One function of the FDOT office of Roadway Design concerns Bicycles and Pedestrians, Lighting, Maintenance of Traffic, Pavement Management, Signalization and ITS, Signing and Pavement Marking and Quality Assurance and Engineering Support. If you look at just this one function in terms of Complete Streets policy, the Roadway Design office addresses the needs of the customer (road user) and designs facilities to match those needs (Sales if you will). OK, the needs may have been one-sided in the past, but Complete Streets policy was adopted in 2014 and implementation will take time.

Now take a look at the FDOT Safety office. Their mission is to continually improve the safety of Florida’s traveling public and FDOT employees. They work with communities to identify and help resolve traffic safety issues; gather, analyze and report data on traffic crashes, injuries and deaths in Florida; distribute state and federal traffic safety funds; and conduct public education campaigns. In a manner of speaking, this is taking care of the customer, thus, Service. Did you notice the mention of education?

Admittedly, thoughts of FDOT on occasion give me headaches. Don’t get me wrong, I have nothing but respect for the people working there and can’t imagine a harder job than to provide transportation Sales and Service to nearly 20 million Floridians, and this does not include tourists. That’s the thought that gives me a headache, the numbers. The endless number of road users, the crash numbers, the bike/ped fatality numbers; when will we get to the only number that matters – Vision Zero?

**Executive Director’s Corner...**

**Sales / Service**

by Becky Afonso, Director

Advocacy? Well, if you consider Bike Florida in the Sales position of cycling, their tours in and of themselves are advocacy for Florida cycling. They say advocacy is a tough sell, and yet bicycle tourism is a huge draw. People want to ride bicycles in Florida and Bike Florida offers great tours and events for that very reason.

Education? Welcome to Florida Bicycle Association. We are all about Service because our mission is education. Our current Complete Streets Savvy outreach program is just one of several means the Florida Bicycle Association is taking care of the cyclist with education addressing the daily ride. But we need your help. Remember those 20 million Floridians out there? As much as numbers give me a headache, having the membership of Florida Bicycle Association rise to even one-tenth of the state population, well, that would be two million in support and in-the-know of cycling education. I believe that number would be a great start to Vision Zero. Two million members of FBA – Wow! Advocacy and Education. Sales and Service. Bike Florida and Florida Bicycle Association. Take a Bike Florida tour, become a member of the Florida Bicycle Association and let’s get to Vision Zero together.

F 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 that 75% of all fatal pedestrian and bicyclist crashes occur after dark.

Motorists often say they never saw them. But why? WHAT WILL IT TAKE FOR THEM TO BE SEEN?

Every crash, every injury, every fatality not only affects those involved, it also affects their families, friends, and community.

How do we resolve this epidemic? By staying alert and avoiding distractions while driving. By using lights and wearing reflective clothing when walking or biking at night. By increasing everyone’s visibility. And by driving, walking, and biking predictably. Be where other road users expect you to be. In the crosswalk. In your lane. Riding in the direction of traffic, not against traffic.

Take the Pledge! Commit to being a safe driver, pedestrian, and bicyclist.

Let Alert Tonight, Alive Tomorrow serve as a reminder to all Floridians to make sure they are ALWAYS visible on the road, and watching out for each other.

Safety Doesn’t Happen by Accident

Funded by the Florida Department of Transportation

The Share the Road Memorial

O

The Share the Road Memorial celebrates the lives of people who have lost their lives while bicycling. A $16,000 restoration effort in 2016 was launched to restore the sculptures. The sculptures will be renamed The Share The Road Memorial. The objective of this year’s Celebration of Cycling is to measure Florida’s success in promoting and attracting cycle tourists through their role in the Florida Bicycle Tourism Strategic Plan. The celebration will feature various events, including a Ride, a Celebration of Cycling, and a Summit. The Ride will be a 20-mile loop around Gainesville, followed by a celebration featuring food, music, and presentations. The Celebration of Cycling will feature workshops, panel discussions, and networking opportunities. The Summit will bring together stakeholders from the cycling industry and local governments to discuss the future of cycling in Florida. The day will conclude with a Night of Lights. Registration is open. For more information, visit wwwSHAREtheroad.org.
developing the Couch to Century (C2C) program. In 2012, she piloted the first C2C team. Her goal was to take novice cyclists, many of whom had never ridden more than a few miles at a time, from the couch to completing a century. Over the 6+ months of training, which included cycling skills clinics, bike maintenance, nutrition, skills for riding in a pace line and on the road, intervals and hill training, she developed a cohesive team of riders who love the sport and are heavily involved in the cycling community. Many of those original C2C members still ride together, and a number of them have served as ride leaders and board members for Florida Freewheelers.

After a great deal of encouragement she revived the program in 2015. Over 80 riders showed up for their first ride and six months later, 35 riders (along with 20 volunteer staff) completed a century at North Florida Bike Club’s Endless Summer Watermelon Ride. Through the Couch to Century program, Leslee has inspired the not-so-active to become active and healthy through cycling.

Bicycle Professional: Lucas Cruse, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, City of St. Petersburg

The City of St. Petersburg, already a Bicycle Friendly Community since 2006, has made great strides in becoming a premier community for bicycling and walking since Lucas joined the team. He played a role in drafting the language for the city’s first Complete Streets policy. This policy provides City staff with positive direction to implement changes to the City’s infrastructure that refine existing bicycle facilities and allow for innovative development of new, context-sensitive bicycle facilities to provide a true network for use by cyclists of all ages and all abilities. Lucas has been instrumental in the City’s efforts toward implementation of a bike share program and amendments to St. Petersburg’s Land Development Regulations that proscribe regulatory requirements for bicycle parking in the city. He serves on

awards (continued from page 5)

Leslee Mitchell and members of the 2015 Couch to Century program accept the award with City of Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer during May’s Ride with the Mayor

BLUE LIGHT CORNER

Punta Gorda Trail Watch Program

Lt. Katie Heck, Community Services/Public Information
Punta Gorda Police Department, Agency member of FBA

With over 18 miles of multi-use recreational trails (MURTs) in our city, our officers and public works employees are faced with a daily concern – are the pathways safe for use? A multitude of things can make a MURT dangerous – standing water, cracks, suspicious persons, or low hanging branches. Many of the MURTs are away from the roadways, making foot patrols complicated for officers who also need to be available to answer calls for service, to include officers in the bike patrol unit. As a department, we recognized the need for assistance from the public, similar to that of our Neighborhood Watch. After all, no one recognizes something out of the ordinary better than community members who travel the area every day.

In the interest of keeping the pathways safe and well-maintained, we have developed the Punta Gorda Trail Watch Program. This extension of the department’s Neighborhood Watch Program educates and supports volunteers who will promote safety and appropriate trail use by providing information and assistance to all Punta Gorda Pathway users. Trail Watch is a volunteer program in which cyclists, runners, and walkers help promote public safety and assist the City in monitoring the trails. Volunteers are identified by a brightly colored shirt, which provides added reminders on the trail to be safe, and deters crime by providing a visual reminder to criminals that law enforcement and the community are working together in this neighborhood. Trail Watch members serve as “extra eyes and ears” on the trails. How many times do we walk past a broken sidewalk, or ride under a low-hanging branch, simply because we don’t know to whom to report the hazard? Trail Watch members in our community are armed with that information so all potentially dangerous situations get reported in a timely fashion.

If you think your community needs a Trail Watch program, we’d love to assist! Inquiries can be sent to me at kheck@pgorda.us.

awards (continued on page 12)
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.

Citation for Careless Driving

Q Denise asked: My son was riding his bike on the proper part of the street. His back wheel was struck by a car and you can guess the obvious, he was knocked off the bike and fell on the car. He was given a ticket by a policeman for careless driving statute 316.1925. The officer was not present when the accident happened. How is it possible it’s his fault?

A There is no way for us to determine the circumstances of the incident or how the officer came to the conclusion that your son violated the statute. It may be that witnesses were interviewed. You may be able to obtain that from the police department. Retaining an attorney may facilitate that.

s. 316.1925 - Careless Driving
(1) Any person operating a vehicle upon the streets or highways within the state shall drive the same in a careful and prudent manner, having regard for the width, grade, curves, corners, traffic, and all other attendant circumstances, so as not to endanger the life, limb, or property of any person. Failure to drive in such manner shall constitute careless driving and a violation of this section.

With or Against Traffic

Q Frank asked: Should bike riders ride with or against the traffic? I have had a lot of close calls as the riders don’t stop for signs and I don’t expect the bikes going in the wrong direction.

A Bicyclists and motorists frequently do not stop for stop signs. Both are violating the law. Bicyclists are operating vehicles and, with few exceptions, have the same rights and duties as other drivers. One of those is driving on the right side of the roadway. A bike lane is part of the roadway.

s. 316.081 - Driving on Right Side of Roadway
(1) Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway.

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.

(5)(a) Any person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall ride in the lane marked for bicycle use or, if no lane is marked for bicycle use, as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except under any of the following situations:

1. When overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction.
2. When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway.
3. When reasonably necessary to avoid any condition or potential conflict, including, but not limited to, a fixed or moving object, parked or moving vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, animal, surface hazard, turn lane, or substandard-width lane, which makes it unsafe to continue along the right-hand curb or edge or within a bicycle lane. For the purposes of this subsection, a “substandard-width lane” is a lane that is too narrow for a bicycle and another vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.

(b) Any person operating a bicycle upon a one-way highway with two or more marked traffic lanes may ride as near the left-hand curb or edge of such roadway as practicable.

Motorist Crash with Wrong Way Cyclist in a Bike Lane

Q John asked: If the operator of a motor vehicle should hit and injure a bicycle rider who is in the bike lane but riding in the wrong direction, would the driver be held legally liable for the accident and or injury?

A There is no way to determine any potential liability without knowing all the details of the incident, which would be determined in court. A cyclist is operating a vehicle and when in the roadway must ride in the same direction as other traffic. A bike lane is part of the roadway.

s. 316.081 - Driving on Right Side of Roadway
(1) Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a vehicle shall be driven up the right half of the roadway.

A A driver may also be at fault if crossing a sidewalk area and entering the roadway from a driveway without ensuring it will not interfere with traffic on the sidewalk or in the roadway, even a cyclist riding in the wrong direction.

s. 316.125 - Vehicle Entering Highway from Private Road or Driveway or Emerging from Alley, Driveway or Building
(1) The driver of a vehicle about to enter or cross a highway from an alley, building, private road or driveway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on the highway to be entered which are so close thereto as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(2) The driver of a vehicle emerging from an alley, building, private road or driveway within a business or residence district shall stop the vehicle immediately prior to driving onto a sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across the alley, building entrance, road or driveway, or in the event there is no sidewalk area, shall stop at the point nearest the street to be entered where the driver has a view of approaching traffic therewith and shall yield to all vehicles and pedestrians which are so close thereto as to constitute an immediate hazard.

A The motorist driving in a bike lane may also be violating the statute that requires driving within a single lane.

s. 316.089 - Driving on Roadways Laned for Traffic
(1) A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practicable entirely within a single lane and shall not be moved from such lane until the driver has first ascertained that such movement can be made with safety.

Although a bike lane is described as “exclusive” in certain statutes, there are circumstances when a motorist will be in a bike lane, such as entering or leaving a roadway. Those instances are not specified in the statutes.

Why Not Gas Assist Motors?

Q Jon asked: Wondering why, according to statute definition, a human pedaled bike with an electric assist motor is still a bike but a bike that is human pedaled with a gas assist motor is no longer a bike but a moped that requires registration. What was the reason/justification behind author of that statute. More logical would be to retain any bike with any type of assist, be it gas, electric, wind, other, as bikes; all should be classified as bikes as long as less than 20mph (or 30mph or whatever max speed limitiation deemed appropriate). Just doesn't make sense…..bike with electric motor assist is bike, but a bike with gas motor assist is not a bike?

A We don't have the precise legislative intent about the gas/electric assist motor issue, but there is a discussion including our best guess at the rationale and a legislative committee decision against changing the present law to include gas motors in the statute in this post:

See this link in the post for the latest information on the issue.
http://flbikelaw.org/2014/07/gas-motors-on-bicycles-at-last-final-answer/

Save the Dates

Cycling enthusiasts have two opportunities this fall to attend these important Florida Bicycle Association events:

FBA Trails and Streets Bicycle Summit, Friday, October 28, 2:30PM – 4:30PM
As part of Bike Florida’s annual Celebration of Cycling this October in Gainesville (see Ron Cunningham’s article, pages 8-9), the Florida Bicycle Association will host a two-hour Trails and Streets Bicycle Summit. This summit is FREE and open to the public.

FBA Florida Bicycle Best Practices Workshop, Saturday, November 19, 2PM – 5PM
We’re back! The annual Florida Bicycle Best Practices Workshop will once again be held in conjunction with the Florida Freewheelers Horrible Hundred this November in Clermont. This workshop is open to anyone who wishes to learn or share ideas with other bicycle enthusiasts to be part of the solution for Florida bicycling concerns. The workshop is FREE and those who register in advance will receive entry to the Horrible Hundred on November 20 – details to follow on our website and Facebook page.

*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.
the Mayor’s Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee and represents the City of St. Petersburg at local, regional and statewide bicycle/pedestrian meetings. Lucas leads by example by remaining an active cyclist and is often a bicycle commuter.

**Citizen Bike Advocate: Hugh Aaron, President, Bike Walk Indian River County**

Since his arrival in Indian River County a few years ago, Hugh Aaron has organized two not-for-profit cycling groups: Vero Cycling, a ride oriented group offering rides for all skill levels and all ages to citizens of Indian River County; and Bike Walk Indian River County, a bicycle/pedestrian/trail advocacy group. Hugh has been a tireless organizer, speaker, advocate, participant, trainer, and attendee at governmental and non-profit cycling functions. His charisma, knowledge, and enthusiasm are inspiring. His leadership has resulted in a set of policies, activities, and projects that have resulted in the League of American Bicyclists recognizing Indian River County as a Bicycle Friendly Community. Hugh gives generously of his own time and money to local cycling causes, from safety training to organized rides to distribution of bikes to the underprivileged. Most importantly, Hugh has almost single-handedly changed the culture of Indian River County from one of indifference to the cyclist to one of recognition and respect for the cyclist.

**Bike Business: Malcolm Allen, Owner, Orchid Island Bikes and Kayaks**

Malcolm Allen owns Orchid Island Bikes and Kayaks, which has been designated a Gold Bicycle Friendly Business by the League of American Bicyclists and is a Platinum corporate member of the Vero Cycling Club. Malcolm’s business support extends beyond the bike club to the community at large. He donates bikes and repair services to multiple groups that provide bicycles to people, including children, who cannot afford them. He provides support for and assistance with community bike rodeos. He sponsored and continues to sponsor, a series of educational workshops on basic bike maintenance, including women-specific workshops. He provides free bike safety checks and, when requested, mechanical and SAG support for community rides such as the Kevin Adorno Memorial Ride. At the request of the community, he became a certified helmet fitter. He served as an active member of the Indian River County Bicycle Friendly Community Working Group and was instrumental in helping the County earn the Bicycle Friendly Community designation. He currently serves as an active member of the board of Bike Walk Indian River County. He provides registration support, SAG services, mechanical support, promotional assistance and other support for the Vero Beach signature bicycling event—the Hibiscus Ride.

**Bicycle Friendly Business: Christine Acosta, Pedal Power Promoters, LLC**

Christine Acosta founded Pedal Power Promoters to spearhead bicycle-friendly initiatives in the Tampa Bay Region. By working closely with private and public sector stakeholders, the company seeks to elevate the area to world-class status for bicycle commuters. Besides providing professional bike valet services via Tampa Bike Valet, Pedal Power Promoters offers educational programs such as BikeSmart to private and public enterprises. More importantly and what has become an incredible claim to fame, is the implementation of Bike-Friendly Tampa as the precursor to the national Bicycle Friendly Business certification program. In one application cycle, the League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Business program awarded eleven Tampa businesses a medal ranking. This placed Tampa as the #1 city in Florida for biker-accessible businesses. This does not happen without the passion and persistence demonstrated by business founder Christine Acosta’s enthusiasm for cycling.

**Bicycle Friendly Business: Karen Kress, Tampa Downtown Partnership**

The Tampa Downtown Partnership fosters Tampa’s vibrant and diverse multi-use downtown neighborhoods and plays a key role in creating a 24-hour urban center where people can learn, live, work and play. Programs such as the Clean and Safe team and transportation initiatives make accessing and navigating downtown an easy and enjoyable experience. In 2015 the Tampa Downtown Partnership sponsored the Bicycle Friendly Business program, assisted with coordination of the City of Tampa’s second Cyclovia, hosted the “Bike and InVision Plan” debriefing meeting, fostered the development of Walk Bike Tampa (a citizen advocacy organization), began an initiative to increase bicycle parking in downtown and launched a regional coalition, Bike Walk Tampa Bay. As the Director of Transportation and Planning, Karen Kress, has done more than any single person in the Tampa area to foster a bicycling culture. She welcomes newcomers and potential advocates and takes the time to help them "plug in" and become effective. She is a League of American Bicyclists Cycling Instructor, strategic in her thinking and a true visionary leader. She promotes cycling as a viable mode of transportation and works tirelessly to improve safety, security and services to riders in Tampa.

**Trails Promoter: Chuck Butterfield, President, Friends of the Legacy Trail**

In 2008, Sarasota County opened the first $30 million segment of the Legacy Trail, a 12-foot wide recreational path that stretches nearly 11 miles from Venice to the Palmer Ranch development. In 2015, the County Commission supported plans to extend the Legacy Trail into downtown Sarasota. The Friends of The Legacy Trail (FLT) was established in 2006 as a Chapter of the Friends of Sarasota County Parks, a 501(c)(3) organization. FLT exists to support, promote, enhance and protect The Legacy Trail now and for future generations. Board president Chuck Butterfield and his team of volunteers have a hefty set of goals that include maintenance and operation, fundraising, advocate and work toward protection and enhancement, educate the public, and cooperate with the County to establish and operate a community watch bike patrol. The Legacy Trail has put Sarasota on the map.

**Volunteer: Tad Diesel**

In September 2014, a 28-year-old man, Kevin Adorno, was completing one of his life goals to ride his bike from Maryland down the Atlantic Coast to Miami. With 160 miles left to go he lost his life in an unexplainable attack in Vero Beach. One year after this tragic loss, the family decided to complete the 160 miles of Kevin’s planned route. Tad Diesel rose to the occasion, showing true passion and commitment for doing what is right. He found homes for the family members to stay, a team of 29 members. He arranged for mechanical support, hosted a cookout the night before the trip and rode the 160 miles with Team Adorno. The Vero Beach Mayor and Chairman of the Indian River County Board of Commissioners welcomed the riders and proclaimed the day Kevin Adorno Memorial Day – turning a tragedy into a triumphant tribute.

**Volunteer: Jared & Jennifer Hartman**

Jared and Jennifer Hartman are a bright spot in the history of the Ocala Mountain Bike Association (OMBA). Historically, OMBA is known for trail building skills and Safety Patrol. As President of OMBA, Jared has maintained and improved
relationships with the land managers during a transition into a Florida State Park with new regulations and paperwork. OMBA has shared its’ experience by loaning their bylaws and Memorandum of Understandings with Brevard Mountain Bike Association (BMBA) and helped Orlando launch its own club and trails, now known as SORBA Orlando. Singletracks.com just listed these Santos Trails as #14 in the world! Like any good leader, Jared is out there after work “tweaking” the latest trail. Complementing Jared is his incredibly talented and warm wife, Jennifer. She served as the club’s secretary before Jared became president. Jennifer revamped the membership forms and database and collects the club’s volunteer hours monthly. Jennifer has recorded approximately 7,000 volunteer hours per year for the last two years including a combined total of 931 hours for she and Jared. She is the grill master on work days and makes sure everyone has great food after working hard out on the trails. The Hartman’s have a positive attitude with everything they do and you can feel how passionate they are about the trail system and the club.

**Elected Official Champion:**
**Commissioner Bob Solari, Indian River County**

In the pursuit of a Bicycle Friendly silver designation, the League of American Bicyclists recommends someone within County government to assume the role of bicycle champion. Commissioner Bob Solari volunteered to take on this role following a presentation by Hugh Aaron, Advocacy Director of Vero Cycling, that announced Indian River County had been designated a “Bronze” Bicycle Friendly Community and steps to be taken to be elevated to the “Silver” level. To help transform Indian River County into a premier bicycle friendly community, Commissioner Solari has made safety a top priority and is working to implement Complete Streets policy. Recognizing a need for infrastructure improvements, the Commissioner championed the project to convert the paved shoulder on 66th Avenue to a designated bike lane. This project will provide bicycle facilities to a major arterial road connecting the southern and central sections of the County. He is also working to develop off-road shared-use paths and increasing citizen access to conservation land owned by the county and/or its partners. At a recent Bike Walk Indian River County board meeting, Commissioner Solari announced that one of his principal goals as a commissioner is to make Indian River County the premier destination for families to take advantage of outdoor recreational activities.

**Elected Official Champion:**
**Mayor Rick Kriseman, City of St. Petersburg**

Mayor Kriseman enacted polices to set the stage for St. Petersburg residents to be safe, respected and encouraged to bicycle for transportation and recreation. The Complete Streets policy authorized by the Mayor and later endorsed by the City Council is now being considered for recognition from the National Complete Streets Coalition as one of the top Complete Streets policies of the year. In addition to the more traditional routes to advance bicycle and pedestrian safety, the Mayor has led the charge to incorporate bicycle transportation in two key initiatives advanced by the City of St. Petersburg in 2015. The first is the Healthy St. Pete program, which encourages St. Petersburg residents and visitors to LIVE, EAT, PLAY, and SHOP Healthy. The other key initiative for which bicycling has played a critical role, and will continue with high importance, is Mayor Kriseman’s Executive Order for a Sustainable St. Petersburg. Systems such as bike share programs fit within this order. Finally, it’s important to note that the Mayor leads by example by remaining an active cyclist. The City has organized and the Mayor has enthusiastically participated in Bike to Work Day each year since he took office. The Mayor can often be seen riding the Pinellas Trail as well as the remainder of the trails in St. Petersburg’s bicycle network.

**Special Recognition:**
**Jeff Hohlstein**

Prior to joining the FBA board in 2013, Jeff served as director of FBAs first chapter, the First Coast Chapter, serving the needs of Duval, Clay, Nassau and St. Johns counties from 2009-2013. Shortly after joining the board, he took on the task of secretary and held the position until he resigned. Jeff was also very instrumental in the implementation and tracking of FBAs 2014 strategic plan, as well as revisions to the bylaws and policies and procedures documents. His attention to detail was second to none as he kept everyone on track. Jeff will stay active as a CyclingSavvy Instructor and along with Jodi, both will continue to serve FBA as members of the advisory board.

**Special Recognition:**
**Jodi Hohlstein**

Jodi joined the FBA board in 2009 after “getting to know” FBA through her affiliation with the North Florida Bicycle Club. During her tenure, she served in a variety of positions from treasurer (2010-2012), vice president (2012-2013) to president (2013-2015). Throughout all her leadership positions, she brought energy, poise and patience to the table. Jodi will be remembered as FBAs heroine at a time of rebuilding and rebranding. She will continue to be active as a CyclingSavvy Instructor, Vice President of the North Florida Bicycle Club, and advocate for cyclist rights.

**Special Recognition:**
**Earl Lang**

During Earl’s time on the FBA board from 2010-2016, his take no prisoners attitude to do what is right for cycling has been an inspiration. He has been the best friend Florida bicycling has had during his eight-year term and served on several significant committees as well as two terms as vice president. There is no denying his intent and passion for a sport, a method of transportation commuting, recreational activity, and general means of fun. On one of Earl’s social pages he lists his bragging rights as, “I have and can still go great distances on bikes.” There is no doubt that Earl will continue to make bicycling safer, better and more enjoyable in Florida.
Upcoming Bicycle Touring Events in Florida

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 web site. To add an event to his (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.floridabicycle.org/touring.

JUNE 4 (Sat) Chiefland FL
TOUR DE MELON
100/50 miles (road) 18-67 miles (paved trail). Registration opens at 6:30 am at Strickland Park. Mass start at 7:30 am. Routes include state highways in rural agricultural areas as well as the Nature Coast State Trail (paved). Well stocked rest stops, marked route with SAG service, t-shirts, lunch at the end of the ride. Put on by Suwannee Valley Rotary Club, PO Box 1039 Chiefland, FL 32644. Proceeds benefit local youth educational programs. Early packet pickup and festive Meet & Greet Friday Night at Beef O' Brady's from 6:00-8:00. 7050 NW 140th st, Chiefland, FL. 32636. BRING YOUR FAMILY and make it a weekend trip! www.tourdemelon.com

June 18 (Sat) Ponte Vedra Beach FL
Bike MS Back to the 80’s Kick-Off Ride
National Multiple Sclerosis Society's North Florida Chapter 30th anniversary Bike MS “Back to the 80s” Kick-Off Ride! Cyclists can help us launch this year’s training ride season starting and finishing at TPC Sawgrass. Ride begins at 7:30 am, registration at 6:30 am. $5 donation required for our totally awesome ride! Food and festivities will follow. All cyclists ages 12 and up are welcome! Three route options that stretch along A1A, each complete with spectacular views and fully stocked rest stops. We offer routes that are 40- and 20-miles, and also have a 10-mile no-drop “rookie ride.” The event is a prelude to our annual Bike MS: PGA TOUR Cycle to the Shore, a two-day cycling fundraiser from St. Augustine to Daytona Beach. Proceeds from the ride benefit the National MS Society. The Society mobilizes people and resources so that everyone affected by multiple sclerosis can live their best lives as we stop MS in its tracks, restore what has been lost and end MS forever. BikeMS.org or call 855.372.1311.

JULY July 3 (Sun) Punta Gorda FL
Wheels and Wings VII
7th Annual Wheels and Wings Bicycle Ride starts and ends at Beef O' Bradys in Punta Gorda. Features ten wings, two Beervidges, tech T-shirt, our infamous collectible 16 oz Beervidge glass, five different rides: 15 mile (Mystery Ride) 32/62 and a 50 mile Gravel Grinder for those looking for something a little different. Gentleman’s Race takes place at start of the 62 mile route. Speed Trap Alley hosted by Punta Gorda Police Department, break the posted speed limit as you go through the radar and receive a Speed Warning Ticket suitable for framing on your brag wall. Breakfast (juice, coffee and pastry), sag stops and more! Vendors of cool stuff and a great photo opportunity that you won't want to miss. It's a Ride, an Event, a Party! Check in and Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. Pre-packet pickup at Acme Bicycle Shop in Punta Gorda July 11th 10 - 2 p.m. Check facebook.com/wheelsandwingsflorida or call 855.372.1311 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.floridabicycle.org/touring.

JULY 9-10 Virginia Key FL
Dirt Devils Mountain Bike Festival
Hosted by Velosport Events.
RESCHEUELED from April 16, 2016
In partnership with Specialized Bikes and Bike Tech. CALLING ALL MOUNTAIN BIKERS! Sat., July 9 – Kids meet up and Dirt Crit Sun., July 10 - Mountain Bike races. In the heart of Virginia Key with a 5 mile loop for our Expert and Sport categories, a 4 mile loop for Base, First Timers and Kids 9-13 and a fun ride for kids 8 and under. All loops are spectator friendly. Festival is free to access both days. Sat. will have the first Dirt Crit in South Florida. Race day Sun.for all categories. https://dirtdevilsmbfestival.eventbrite.com

AUGUST
August 13 (Sat) Warner Robins GA
Warren Robins GA Pedal With A Purpose
Take your pick of 64/32/16 miles through central GA farm countryside. Marked routes with SAG service. Dry-fit shirts for all registrations received by 8/1. Event opens 7 am, all riders leave 8am from Plantation Mill Shopping Center, 4993 Russell Parkway, Warner Robins, GA 31088, one mile from I-75. (478) 328-2474. Benefits The Alzheimer’s Assn. pedalwithapurpose.myevent.com

SEPTEMBER
September 3-5 Sebring FL
34th Annual “Tour of Sebring” Labor Day Weekend enjoy one to three days of cycling in the gently rolling hills of Highlands County, excellent buffet lunch meals by Chef Mac, ice cream socials, door prizes, vendors, lightly traveled back roads, friendly motorsports, citrus groves, cattle ranches, and small towns typical of rural Central Florida. Fully supported routes with cue sheets and maps, on-road route marks, rest stops, and dispatched SAG service vehicles. Daily rides ranging from 10 to 62 miles plus our Sunday Bok Tower Century (100 miles). Massage therapist available after the rides for nominal fee. Daily expanded continental breakfast including scrambled eggs, home fries, cereals, yogurts, fruit and deluxe buffet lunch that includes salad, carving, entree, vegetable, and desert stations. Main entrées on Sunday includes: Carved turkey breast with cornbread stuffing, cranberry sauce & gravy, Yankee Pot Roast, Fried Cod with hushpuppies, and vegetables. Socializing, swimming, parlor games, golfing, Pour House, shopping, visit Legacy Bicycle Shop, Henscratch Vineyard & Winery, Hammock State Park. Event Co-Hosts: Highlands Pedalers bicycle club & the historic Kenilworth Lodge. Early registration deadline Aug. 23, T-shirts will be ordered only for RIDERS PAID UP by deadline. No refunds. http://tourofsebring.com

September 11 (Sun) Fernandina Beach FL
26th Annual Endless Summer Watermelon Ride
Enjoy a wonderful bike ride on Amelia Island through Fort Clinch State Park and points along our coastal roads. Come check out the League of American Bicyclists' 2013 Bronze Level award winner, Fernandina Beach. We’ll provide pre-ride snacks, rest stops, a post-ride lunch, mechanical support, motorcycle escorts, and roving SAGs. This is a great training ride for MS! Make your ride a vacation destination. Check our website for details and prices for hotel packages. Five routes, 21/32/55/75/100 miles. www.NFBC.us

OCTOBER
October 1 (Sat) Gainesville FL
Pink Pumpkin Pedal-Off
Charity bike ride to raise money to support research at the University of Florida on treatment-resistant breast cancers. Choose one of three “scenic routes: 22-, 40- or 64-miles (metric century). Honor a loved one affected by breast cancer by ordering a personalized pink ribbon to wear during the ride. Race complete for great prizes by raising money to support this critical research! http://gccfala.org/pppo/

October 2 (Sun) Lake Mary FL
CF Cycle For Life
100/65/32 - 5th annual bike tour as we ride along the north shore of Lake Monroe, through beautiful Lake Helen and along the wide open roads of Volusia County. CF Cycle for Life is a fully-supported ride with route options of 32, 65 & 100 Miles miles. From breakfast to our cycle post party catered by Tijuana Flats, you can enjoy fully stocked rest stops every 10-12 miles (6 total on 100), bike mechanics for bicycle maintenance and repair, ride marshals to cheer you along the way and plenty of support vehicles to help you complete the ride. This unique event empowers participants to take action and demonstrate their fight in finding a cure for cystic fibrosis in a tangible, emotional and powerful way. http://orlando.cff.org

October 8 (Sat) Tallahassee FL
33rd Annual Spaghetti 100
100 Mile, 65 Mile and 35 mile Paved and Dirt Options. Ride starts at the Miccosukee Community Center at 8 am and rides into the scenic backcountry of North Florida and South Georgia. The road routes take riders through historic Thomasville and Boston in Georgia and through Monticello in Florida. The dirt routes are non-technical, following the beautiful canopyed clay roads through the heart of classic Red Hills plantation country. http://cccyclists.org/spaghetti100/

October 22-23 Gainesville FL
Gainesville Cycling Festival
Two centuries in two days! (Or enjoy the shorter options for a weekend of bicycle touring.) See details in the listings for the Santa Fe Century and Horse Farm Hundred. http://gccfala.org/gcf/

October 22 (Sat) Gainesville FL
24th Annual Orthopaedic Institute Santa Fe Century
A tour through the lush forest and pasture land north of Gainesville up through the Santa Fe River valley. Rides start at 8:30 am from the North West Boys and Girls Club at 2700 NW 51st Street in Gainesville. Enjoy a 100 or a 55 mile road ride, or the 18 or 28 mile Millhopper Ramble family fun ride, with well stocked rest stops. http://gccfala.org/gcf/

October 23 (Sun) Gainesville FL
36th Annual Horse Farm Hundred
The Gainesville Cycling Club tour through the picturesque horse farms of northern Marion County. We have the best stocked rest stops in Florida! The 102 mile ride (and a 57 mile option that doesn't get into horse farm territory) starts at 8:30 am at the First Magnitude Brewing Company. Bagels and muffins will be available before the start. http://gccfala.org/gcf/

October 23 (Sun) Flemington FL
Horse Farm Tours
The Horse Farm Tours start in Flemington on CR 329 (Interstate 75 CR 318 exit). Registration open till 9 am. Start with a group at 8:30 am, or start whenever you wish. With 25, 30, and 45 miles routes to choose from, there should be a distance to satisfy everyone in the family. The terrain that you will encounter as you wind through the horse farms is rolling. If you are from the coast, it will be a different challenge than just riding over the old canal bridge. But many of you will want to make frequent stops to take in the scenery, and perhaps have a conversation with a horse. http://gccfala.org/gcf/
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: Providence Nagy, 239-225-1983
FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Bonita Bay Bicycle Club, Caloosa Riders Bicycle Club, Coastal Cruisers Bicycle Club, Highlands Pedalers Bicycle Club, Peace River Riders Bicycle Club, Polk Area Bicycling Association, Sanibel Bicycle Club, Sarasota-Manatee Bicycle Club
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: Acme Bicycle Shop, Bicycle Center of Port Charlotte, Bike Route (Fort Myers), Naples Cyclery, The Bike Route (Naples), Billy's Bike Shop, Fort Myers Schwinn Cyclery, Ringling Bicycles, Bike Shop of Winter Haven, Pedelec SQB LLC Electric Bicycles, Island Bike Shop

District 2
Cities: Gainesville, Jacksonville, Lake City, St. Augustine
FDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator: Derek Dixon, 904-360-5653
FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Gainesville Cycling Club, North Florida Bicycle Club, Suwannee Bicycle Association
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: Champion Cycling & Fitness (3 locations), Lake Shore Bicycles & Fitness, Bike Works, Bike Works of Gainesville

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
FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Capital City Cyclists, Emerald Coast Cyclists
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: St. Joe Velo, The Great Bicycle Shop (2 locations), Dragon Sports

District 4
Cities: Fort Lauderdale, Fort Pierce, Palm Beach, Stuart
Counties: Broward, Indian River, Martin, Palm Beach, St. Lucie
FDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator: VACANT
FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Boca Raton Bicycle Club, Vero Cycling Club, South Broward Wheelers
FBA Member Bicycle Shops: Bike America (6 locations), Lauderdale Cyclery, Tri Bike Run, Wheels of Wellington, Bicycle Generation, Orchid Island Bikes and Kayaks

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: Deborah Tyrone, 407-482-7897
FBA Member Bicycle Clubs: Florida Freewheelers, Sumter Landing Bicycle Club, Orlando Runners & Riders

Resources by the FDOTs
Coming soon to the Florida Bicycle Association website (if not already up, you never know with our webmaster), a Florida bicycle resource library like no other. Resources by the FDOTs will be our way of housing links to bicycle facilities, trails, bike share, member sponsors, clubs, shops and other cycling information by Florida Department of Transportation districts. Check it out and help populate it with information – send your Florida bicycle facility links to becky@floridabicycle.org

CSS Request
Roy Walters, a longtime Florida Bicycle Association member of over 15 years, recently stopped for a photo prior to the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (R2CTPO) Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting. FBA attended the May R2CTPO BPAC meeting to present Complete Streets Savvy. Thanks R2CTPO BPAC for having us!
Scearce, Satcher & Jung, P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Applauds the Florida Bicycle Association for its efforts in making our community a healthier one by providing education and inspiration of cycling.

See you on the road!

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

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