

# CBTC NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Coastal Bicycle Touring Club, Savannah GA

CBTC, Post Office Box 14531, Savannah GA 31416 [www.cbtc.org](http://www.cbtc.org)

## CBTC Monthly Meeting

Carey Hilliard's Restaurant  
11111 Abercorn Street  
Monday 5 November 2018  
5:45pm Board Meeting  
6:15pm Social Hour/Dinner  
7pm Program

## 2018 Board of Directors

President: Ken Robichaux  
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## 2018 Committee Chairs

Ride Director  
John Girardi  
[johngerardi@hotmail.com](mailto:johngerardi@hotmail.com)  
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Margie Robichaux  
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[r02581@icloud.com](mailto:r02581@icloud.com)  
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Education/Safety  
Ken Robichaux  
Social Rick Royer  
[rickroyer2@gmail.com](mailto:rickroyer2@gmail.com)  
Merchandise John Arney  
[johnarney@gmail.com](mailto:johnarney@gmail.com)  
Publicity Mike & Deb Grtiffith



Following is a recap of the remaining CBTC social events for 2018. For more details, go to: <http://cbtc.org/social/>

Saturday, 17 November, Butter Duck Winery

Sunday, 9 December, Savannah Christmas Lights ride

There are open dates for anyone who would like to be a ride leader. Contact John Girardi to find out more. johngerardi@hotmail.com

## CBTC November 2018 Ride Schedule

Helmets are required on all rides, and rear view mirrors are highly encouraged. Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled departure. CBTC members and guests must sign the waiver prior to departure.

Date/ride	Mileage	Directions	Ride Leader
3 November Ellabell ride	39/32/25/17 B/B-/C`	Ellabell, GA. 3960 Wilma Edwards Road. I-16W to exit 143, TL on Highway 280 for 2.2 miles, then TR on Wilma Edwards Road for 1.5 miles. Hendrix Park on the left`	John Arney 912-660-4088
10 November		There will be no club ride this weekend as many CBTC members will be participating in the 23rd annual Claxton ride	
17 November Harris Neck ride	41/30/21 A/B/B-/C	Riceboro GA 35 Montague Street. I-95S to exit 67, TL on Highway 17/25 south, pull into McDonald's and park in the gravel lot behind the restaurant	Deb Wharff 410-905-1690
November 24 Skidaway Island ride	30/25/20 B/B-/C	8 Meeting Street, Skidaway Island GA. Meet at parking lot on Skidaway Island Village opposite BP gas station	Deb Wharff 410-905-1690

Ride classifications: A=19+ mph. B=17-18 mph. B-=15-16 mph. C=10-14 mph. S=9-11 mph

If there is a ride cancellation, the CBTC web site will be updated with a cancellation notice at least one and a half hours prior. An email will also be sent to club members by the ride director.

## Least we forget

It has been slightly over two years since we lost CBTC member Deborah Wilkowski. It was at 5:44pm on 22 October 2016 when we learned Deborah had suffered cardiac arrest after having been struck by a hit-and-run driver during a CBTC Saturday ride.



We will always hold Deborah in our hearts and memory. She was a vibrant and energetic presence at club rides.

A ghost bike was erected at the point she was struck, and remains to this day as a reminder to motorists to be alert for bike riders.

While we remember Deborah, it's appropriate to note a recent spate of near-misses among various CBTC members. It is extremely important for all club riders to adhere to safety measures, to include rear-facing mirrors, and be aware of your surroundings, especially vehicles overtaking riders that fail to observe the 3-foot law. And equally important, if possible identify drivers who endanger riders and report them to the appropriate law enforcement entities.



## Bike Ed

This month's edition of Bike Ed categorizes bike frame materials. Over the years, there have been quite a few materials - some odd - used to manufacture bike frames and forks. Wood, bamboo, and plastic have all been used for bike frames over the years. However, current bikes are made of one or blends of four materials: steel, aluminum, titanium and carbon fiber. However, realize that fine bicycles are build of all these materials. Also, frames can be manufactured from the same material yet have different ride qualities due to differences in geometry, assembly, tube shape and material manipulation.

### Steel

The most traditional frame material, steel has been used by frame builders for over a century. Many types of steel tubing are available and the material is easy to bend and shape. Plus, there are myriad methods of assembly making steel very adaptable to cyclists' needs. It also offers excellent ride quality, durability, is easily repaired and affordable. If there's a knock on steel, it's that it tends to be heavy when low-quality tubing is used (found on bikes sold at department stores). And steel can rust if treated carelessly (protect that paint job!). Steel is an excellent fork material. It can be formed into any shape; even aero ones. It's plenty strong. And, it also absorbs shock to soften rough roads. Steel forks are heavier than those built of lighter materials such as aluminum and carbon fiber.

### Aluminum

Aluminum was first used in frame construction in 1895. But, it didn't come into wide use until the 1980s when large-diameter tubing was conceived and construction processes were perfected. Now, it's the most popular of frame materials. It's subject to the same variances in assembly and quality as steel. And, like steel, as you spend more, you get higher quality tubing and better construction. The buzz about aluminum is that is has a more jarring ride than the other materials. But, while this used to be the case in its early years, it's not a problem today thanks to new aluminum alloys, tubing enhancements and improved construction techniques. These allow the frames to absorb shock better than ever while still offering the wonderfully lively ride that makes aluminum all the rage today. Aluminum forks are generally stiff and light, and can be shaped aerodynamically. They also offer excellent compliance for comfort on rough roads.

### Titanium

Titanium is one of the longest lasting, strongest, and most expensive frame materials. Many cyclists and experts feel that it combines the best characteristics of all the other frame materials. It rivals aluminum in weight, is as comfortable as steel and it has a sprightly ride and electric handling that many riders swear by. The frames feel "alive," as if each pedal stroke gets a boost from an inherent springiness in the frame. Titanium is hard on metalworking tools, requires expensive titanium welding rod and must be joined carefully in a controlled environment. Consequently, titanium frames are very expensive to produce, which explains their high purchase

price. Only a few companies manufacture titanium forks and they are very expensive due to the additional costs in material and construction. Also, because extra strength is needed in the fork steerer (the upper tube), titanium forks usually outweigh other high-tech tillers. These two considerations are why most titanium frames come with carbon forks.

### Carbon fiber

Carbon fiber is a relatively new material and unique because it's not a metal. It's a fabric that's impregnated with a glue called resin that allows shaping and joining the material. Carbon frames are extremely light, stiff and durable. Its greatest advantage is that carbon can be manipulated essentially in endless ways (because builders can orient the fabric strands however they want), which means it can be fine-tuned to provide just about any ride qualities desired. It's also impervious to corrosion and can be built into beautiful shapes producing Ferrari-like looks. Carbon is a popular material for forks due to its natural ability to absorb shock while offering fine handling. Although, they're not the best choice for heavy or aggressive riders, there are even all-carbon forks (weighing less than a pound). These are great if you want a super light road bike.

If you are in need of bikes, bike equipment or repairs, visit any of these shops and receive 10% discount of parts and accessories.

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