

# 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

Monday, 7 October 2019  
Carrey Hilliard's  
11111 Abercorn Street

## 2019 Board of Directors

President: Deb Wharff  
[debwharff@verizon.net](mailto:debwharff@verizon.net)  
Vice President: Kim Turner  
[kimbooskie@gmail.com](mailto:kimbooskie@gmail.com)  
Treasurer: Deb Griffith  
[groovygreek05@yahoo.com](mailto:groovygreek05@yahoo.com)  
Secretary: John Arney  
[johnaarney@gmail.com](mailto:johnaarney@gmail.com)  
Member at Large: Roy Reynolds  
[royreynolds59@hotmail.com](mailto:royreynolds59@hotmail.com)  
Ex officio: Ken Robichaux  
[kenrobichaux@gmail.com](mailto:kenrobichaux@gmail.com)

## 2019 Committee Chairs

Advocacy & Outreach: Kim Turner  
[kimbooskie@gmail.com](mailto:kimbooskie@gmail.com)  
Education & Safety:  
Ken Robichaux  
[kenrobichaux@gmail.com](mailto:kenrobichaux@gmail.com)  
Merchandise: John Arney  
[johnarney@gmail.com](mailto:johnarney@gmail.com)  
Communications/Marketing:  
Rich Wharff [r02581@icloud.com](mailto:r02581@icloud.com)  
Ride Coordinator: (Interim)  
[debwharff@verizon.net](mailto:debwharff@verizon.net)



Does anybody notice anything different?

## October meeting

We will forego a guest speaker at the October meeting, and spend time with an open discussion among club members. Results of the most recent survey concerning club rides will be presented and discussed. We'll also highlight our most recent new members and those members renewing. We'll also touch on some recent success stories relating to our outreach efforts to increase club publicity and awareness in the greater Savannah area. We encourage participation in the October meeting so we can hear the views of our general membership.

Ride leaders for each category (A, B, C) will be assigned.  
Ride coordinator:  
Deb Wharff  
[debwharff@verizon.net](mailto:debwharff@verizon.net)

## October 2019 Ride Schedule

Helmets are required on all rides. Rear view mirrors are highly encouraged. Please arrive at least fifteen minutes before scheduled roll-out. All riders, members and guests, must sign the waiver prior to departure. Enjoy the rides and the company. And if you have an idea about a new ride, contact Deb and she'll work to make it happen.

Date/Ride	Mileage	Directions	Ride Leader
5 October, Ft. Stewart, GA, 9am	34.2, other distances TBD	A memorial ride honoring Sergeant First Class Augusto (Tito) Pineiro, who was killed while riding a hand cycle near Ft. Stewart. The memorial ride will be a moderate pace, and access to Ft. Stewart will not require ID/base passes. Additional ride distances will be announced prior to 5 October. Come out and remember a fallen rider.	TBD
12 October, Hospital Ride, Hardeeville SC, 9am	18/32/42	I-95 north to exit 8, onto SC 278, east for a short (1/4 mile) distance to hospital parking lot. Lunch at the Pink Pig in Hardeeville after the ride	Roy Reynolds, 870-310-9868, <a href="mailto:royreynolds59@hotmail.com">royreynolds59@hotmail.com</a>
19 October, Skidaway Island Ride, 9am	19/24/33	Park in the Village parking lot, across from the BP gas station. Post-ride lunch at the Village Pub and Grill.	Deb Wharff, 410-905-1690, <a href="mailto:debwharff@verizon.net">debwharff@verizon.net</a>
26 October, Inter Coastal Waterway Century (ICWVC), Cocoa, FL (Away ride)	14/28/65 100/125	An away event that takes riders through the Space Coast of Florida. Beautiful scenery, superb support and organization.	TBD based on club participation
26 October, Liberty Trail ride, Midway, GA, Home ride for those not participating in the ICWA	31/26/18	Midway, GA. I-95S to exit 76, then TR to Smokin' Pig BBQ on your immediate left.	TBD

If a ride is cancelled due to weather or other considerations, the CBTC web site will be updated with a cancellation notice at least 1.5 hours prior. A club-wide e-mail will also be sent.

### Ride categories: A, B, C

A - Pretty fast - not blazing fast - but pretty fast: 19+ mph, constant pace line, no drops, 1 mile pulls

B - Almost fast, getting better all the time but not quite pretty fast yet: 16-18 mph, constant pace

C - <16, at whatever pace the group wants to ride. Leisurely pace, no drops....just riding bikes.....

Ride categories and pace line speeds will be determined on ride days, based on participation. Each category will have a designated ride leader, so whatever your ride category, rest assured there is a club member who has your back.

### *New member introductions*

In August, we had one club renewal and one new member. We are pleased to welcome back Eric Holmes, and we welcome new members Christine Drillsam and Ben Price. We're pleased to have a continuing increase in membership renewals and especially pleased for new members. CBTC welcomes you and looks forward to seeing you at club activities in the future.

### *Club outreach*

Our efforts to reach out to those living in and visiting the greater Savannah area continue to be successful. This past month, Claudia Chennells, who lives in Cape Town, South Africa, was visiting family in Savannah. Being an avid bike rider, she easily found our website and contacted a member of the Board of Directors. Subsequent to all that, Claudia joined in both club and area rides ridden by club members, and quickly "clicked" with CBTC. Claudia is an accomplished rider, showing her abilities albeit on a rented and not-very-spiffy bike. We thank you Claudia for reaching out to us and sharing your experiences with us on so many rides, so much that some of us are planning on a trip to Cape Town next year so you can show us around. And don't ever forget the penultimate Southern breakfast - chicken and waffles!



### *Moonlight Garden Ride*

The 11th annual Moonlight Garden ride happens on 19 October, from Mother Mathilda Beasley Park, 500 East Broad Street, Savannah. The event begins at 4pm, with food, games and entertainment, followed by a casually-paced police escorted ride that travels through Savannah's most beautiful neighborhoods. All proceeds benefit the non-for-profit (and CBTC partner organization) Bike Walk Savannah. Come out, hang out, have a blast.



## *Bike Ed*

This month we're going to list some of the rides that the club may consider for "away rides". Away rides were something that the membership indicated several months ago were a priority for club events/rides. So we're going to simply list those in chronological order for your consideration, something which can be discussed at the October club meeting.

**26 October, Inter Coastal Waterway Century, Cocoa, FL:** A CAAM tour series event, The 31st annual Inter Coastal Waterway Century (ICWC) offers a wide range of rides. 125/100/63/28/14 miles. Very well supported, flat roads, little to no traffic, and a terrific view of the Kennedy Space Center among other breathtaking sights. Great ride support, and post-ride eats and relaxation. Information pertaining to this event are at: <https://spacecoastfreewheelers.com>

**2 November, Three Rivers Ride, St Marys, GA:** Another CAAM event, the Three Rivers Ride takes you over three rivers in the southern most region of coastal Georgia, over flat roads. Very well supported, this ride starts and ends in historic St. Marys, Georgia, on the riverfront where, after the ride, you'll enjoy scratch-made chili from the many ride volunteers - it is awesome!. You'll also see an SSBN (Sub-Surface Ballistic Missile Submarine) display land-locked during the ride as well as many other historic sights. Come out and enjoy the ride. Complete information and registration is available at: <http://camdencyclingclub.org/hosted-events/>

**9 November, Crusin' in the Country. Claxton, GA.** The 24th annual Cruisin' in the Country cycling event takes place 9 November. An annual event that draws large CBTC participation, this is the first of the "cold" rides that stimulates senses and gets you going, if for no other reason, just to stay warm. Various ride options starting with an 18 mile, going up to 31, 50, 65, and a full century (100). Rest stops vie for "best in category" so expect grits and eggs, homemade sweets, Claxton fruitcakes, dips, wraps, pasta salad and so much more. Come out and ride this amazing event with your club members.

**Pedal Hilton Head, November 17.** Annual event featuring rides ranging from family-friendly 2 miles to 62 metric century and pretty much everything in between. The club hasn't done a lot of rides in the Hilton Head area and this might be the ride to get involved in this bike friendly area of the Low Country. All you need to know is available at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pedal-hilton-head-island-2019-registration-61189700040?aff=ebdsorderfbbutton&fbclid=IwAR0LLOkTaqnSCrVhqWbKICtooVZJiP4r13bari8U29PXZF3poQub4aUnYi0>

**Fall or Spring, Silver Comet.** It's been a long, long time since the club rode the Silver Comet. Mike McAllister has volunteered to help us organize such a ride since he's in Atlanta and frequently rides Silver Comet. We would most likely stage out of Rockmart as that is just about in the middle of the trail. More information on the trail is located at: <http://www.silvercometga.com>

**Early May 2020, Ath-Sav Double Century, Athens to Savannah.** This long-standing ride was suspended in 2019 but will re-start in early May 2010. A large group of club riders participated in

the 2016, 2017 and 2018 rides, and can attest that it's one of the best rides that brings us together after each day to rejoice in the journey. In the past we've arranged for transport of bikes, gear and riders to Athens so that when we arrive in Savannah, we don't have to return to Athens for our vehicles. A ride that should be on every rider's bucket list. Stay tuned for more information.

**Fall or Spring, Jekyll and/or St. Simons Island ride.** A significant number of club members have been riding to Jekyll Island over the past three years. This year, we rode down on a Friday, spent Saturday exploring, and returned on Sunday. Options for this ride abound - it can be a ride-down get a lift back, or any other combination that floats our respective boats. A great way to combine riding with good company in a quiet Georgia island setting.

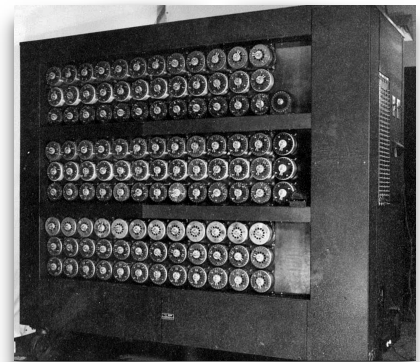
**Tour de Forts, April 2010, St. Augustine, Florida.** Another CAAM event, the Tour de Forts traces the footsteps of history on coastal roads past the Castillo de San Marcos to Fort Matanzas. The Longer routes ride through farmlands, on the Palatka-to-St. Augustine State Trail and along the St. Johns River. Take your pick of five routes, 26, 40, 59, 77 and 100 miles.

### *Betty Robarts - her life in photos*

Betty Robarts was our September meeting guest speaker. Unfortunately she was unable to use her laptop presentation due to a miscommunication between myself and her IT support person Tamika. So Betty provided us with some of the images that captures her remarkable life. As you recall, Betty joined the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) in January 1943, and spent the rest of WWII helping to fabricate components for the "Bombe", a



device which decrypted German Naval communications and allowed us to know their plans and intentions. Measuring 10' wide, 7' tall and 2' deep, the Bombe is credited with shortening the war by two years and saving untold thousands of lives. At the time, Betty and several hundred WAVES worked around-the-clock shifts in the National Cash Register site in Dayton, Ohio. Betty and her cohorts "soldered 26 little wires in a little cog for two years and 10 months and never asked any questions". Those cogs were assembled into the final product of the Bombe, which allowed us to decrypt and read the German messages in real-time. The entire program was codenamed ULTRA, and remains to this day the recognized forebear of contemporary United States cryptology.



Betty remains extremely humble about her wartime experience. She often remarks how she wonders why people are "interested in my story". Having the privilege of hearing that story, our club recognizes her critically important contribution to the wartime effort.

Betty met and married Ed Robarts towards the end of WWII. Ed was a B-24 pilot during WWII. They were married 64 years, with three children, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Ed's

ashes are interred in the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum chapel, and Betty sits next to his ashes whenever she's volunteering her time and "I kind of feel close to him. And it's kind of nice".

Betty was also a national champion swimmer, and was allowed to defend her titles during her time in the Navy. Betty has been honored for her contributions by the National Security Agency, the Library of Congress, was interviewed and featured in the documentary "Dayton Codebreakers", and has been recognized locally by CBS affiliate WTOC and myriad other organizations. As many in attendance said that special evening Betty shared her story with us, we were honored and privileged to have met you and to learn about your remarkable life.

The WTOC story about Betty can be seen at:

<https://www.wtoc.com/2018/11/08/wtoc-honors-our-veterans-betty-robarts-wwii/>



"Code Girls" Betty Roberts and Katherine Fleming along with their loved ones at the Library of Congress, March 22, 2019. Photo courtesy of Shawn Miller, Library of Congress photographer.

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

