

CBTC NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Coastal Bicycle Touring Club, Savannah GA

www.cbtc.org

CBTC Meeting

Members agreed to schedule at least two general memberships per year. The next meeting will be held 11 December prior to the "Holiday" social ride and dinner.

2022 Board of Directors

President: Deb Wharff
deborahwharff@icloud.com
 Vice President: Kathy Schaefer
kwillyschaef@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Christine Drillsam
christine.drillsam@fisglobal.com
 Secretary: John Arney
johnaarney@gmail.com
 Member at Large: Roy Reynolds
royreynolds59@hotmail.com
 Member at Large: Eric Holmes
eric@howardsheppard.com
 Ride Director:
 Kim Turner
kimbooskie@gmail.com

2022 Committee Chairs

Advocacy & Outreach: Kathy Schaefer
kwillyschaef@gmail.com
 Merchandise: John Arney
johnarney@gmail.com
 Communications/Marketing:
 Rich Wharff r02581@icloud.com
 Education and Safety:
 David Jackson
davidcjackson@yahoo.com



Holiday ride & meeting

Mark your calendars: The club's annual Holiday ride in and around the historic district of Savannah will be held on Saturday, 11 December, starting at 5pm. John Arney will lead the group of riders along the many squares downtown, and participants are encouraged to wear their ugliest holiday sweaters (and other attire) and illuminate themselves and/or their bikes. We'll gather afterwards at Mellow Mushroom, 11 West Liberty Street, for good eats and drinks, and hold our official quarterly club meeting. Look for details in the December ride schedule.

December Ride Schedule

Helmets are required on all rides. Rear view mirrors are highly encouraged. Please arrive at least fifteen minutes before scheduled roll-out. Guest riders must sign the club waiver prior to roll-out. Club members acknowledged the waiver when they joined or renewed membership in the club. Enjoy the rides and the company. And if you have an idea about a new ride, contact Kim and she'll work to make it happen. **By the way, we'll revert to 9am start beginning 19 November with the Islands ride.**

Ride leaders for each category will be assigned. Ride director: Kim Turner
kimbooskie@gmail.com

Date/Ride	Mileage	Directions	Ride Leader
Saturday, 3 December, 9am, Hardeeville Ride	27/34/42	Meet/park at the Millstone Landing boat launch area, 55 Millstone Landing Road, Hardeeville, SC. Out-and-back ride along good quality back country roads with little-to-no traffic	Cathy Reiman, 239-293-7118, creiman16@icloud.com
Sunday, 11 December, 5:00pm, Holiday ride and club meeting	Not much	Meet/park at Chatham Square, corner of West Gordon and Barnard Streets. Bike lights are required, holiday music and attire are encouraged. A slow pace line in and around the squares of the Historic District. Meet and greet at the Mellow Mushroom (11 W. Liberty Street) following the ride.	John Arney, 912-660-4088, johnaarney@gmail.com
Sunday, 17 December, 9am, Ellabell Ride	23/34	Meet/park at Hendrix Park, 3960 Wilma Edwards Road, Ellabell. Post ride eats at Sandra's Seafood Restaurant, 4644 US Highway 80, Ellabell	Deb Wharff, 410-905-1690, deborahwharff@icloud.com
Saturday, 24 December, 9am, Islands Ride	27/34/42	Meet/park at the Millstone Landing boat launch area, 55 Millstone Landing Road, Hardeeville, SC. Out-and-back ride along good quality back country roads with little-to-no traffic	Kim Turner, 214-725-2490, kimbooskie@gmail.com

Date/Ride	Mileage	Directions	Ride Leader
Saturday, 31 December, 9am, Skidaway	19/24/33	Meet/park in The Village parking lot, across from the BP station, left at second stop light on Skidaway Island. Normally two groups, one at moderate speeds/distance, the other a little faster and longer. Post ride eats and treats at Your Pie in Sandfly	David Taylor, 714-322-1173, d3taylor@live.com

Member Focus

This column shines a light on individual club members. The intent is to introduce individual club members to the membership writ large, with a focus on each person’s passion for cycling.

This month’s Member Focus is on John Jensen. John joined the club in October of this year, although he’s been a very active and avid cyclist in the area for years (well, actually, decades).

John Jensen

John, 72, is one of the newer members of CBTC. John grew up in northern Wisconsin, one of 7 children. He earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point earning the Chancellor’s Award and a graduate degree in ceramics, sculpture and painting from the University of Arizona - Tucson. In 1985 he was hired by Armstrong State University primarily to teach ceramics and figure sculpture and retired as Professor Emeritus in 2020.

John has been an active runner for 50 years participating in many races including marathons. His best marathon time was 2 hours and 58 minutes. In 1980 he did his first triathlon (olympic distance) and finished 31st out of 450 participants with minimal biking and swimming experience. He continued running but gradually increased his time and speed on the bike and improved his swimming. He has done over 100 triathlons often winning first place in his age group. Circa 2000, there was a small group of triathletes including John, who trained together for about 20 years - often on Skidaway Island. The training rides were usually 35 miles, followed by a 6 mile trail run in Skidaway Park - often jumping in to the Skidaway River half way through the run swimming across the river and back. That led to more active swimming in the river which morphed into more organized open water swim events which began with a 3 mile open water swim in the Skidaway River from the Isle of Hope to Butterbean Beach. In a few years a number of us were swimming 6 miles from Modena Island to Butterbean Beach. In October 2021 John did a solo,



with kayak support a 10 mile swim. This swim started at the Landings Harbor on Skidaway, down the Wilmington River, around Modena Island, down the Skidaway River to Butterbean.

John continued to bike, usually with a faster group averaging 20 -24 mph, the ride originated at Perry Rubber Bike Shop and was usually 50 miles. For the past 6 or 7 years rides of 60 - 90 miles were often done on Sundays, originating downtown.

Currently I ride 30 - 50 miles 3 or 4 times a week often on Skidaway Island, and recently frequently with the CBTC riders. I believe that my cross training primarily swimming and a little yoga has been very helpful to my overall fitness.

Ten years ago I came up with the idea of doing a long distance ride around the time of my birthday - January 25th. The ride would be double my age and had a silly title: "The Pink Cupcake Ride." At the time I was only 61, we rode 122 miles, each year we added two miles. I often told young people, "I would sign up now, every year is 2 miles further". The last year we did it was 2021 - we did 143 miles.



The Pink Cupcake Ride



Self-portrait

During this time I continued meeting people who bike, many members of CBTC. I found members to be friendly, inclusive, social and just plain fun..... all centered around the beautiful world of biking. The CBTC rides were well organized, routes and distance varied on a regular basis, designed to accommodate all levels of riders and always with a strong component of bikers caring for one another. I have been happy to be a member of CBTC and appreciate the warm welcome.

John lives on the Isle of Hope, is married to Linda Jensen, retired professor and they have two children. John maintains an active art studio the Isle of Hope, called the Isle of Hope Art Studio.

Savannah Police Department - Bike Unit

Officers with the Savannah Police Department are trying to get out in the community in a different way. The department is starting a bike patrol unit for the first time. Soon downtown and around Savannah, you'll see more police officers on bikes. SPD officers say this is about them having better access to the community. Twenty-five officers stepped up to the plate to be a part of the unit.

SPD has had a few bikes, but this is the first time they have a unit for bike patrol. They say they've been successful in catching some suspects on the bikes in the past.



POLICE BIKE UNIT SAVANNAH POLICE INTRODUCES NEW BIKE UNIT WJCL 22 abc

These bikes are clearly less noticeable than police cars which they say can be helpful.

"It gives us the ability to be more versatile when patrolling particular crimes such as package thefts, burglaries. And then, it allows us to be more in touch with the community, more approachable being that we're not in a vehicle. We're out. We can be in the elements," said Cpl. Joshua Flynn, a neighborhood resource officer.



Also, when they are responding to calls, officers say the bike unit will help them maneuver through crowds of people during big event. It will also be easier for them to ride through alleyways and squares downtown.

You should see them pedaling around town in the coming weeks. If you encounter them while riding, give them a big shout-out!

New member update

We have two new members to introduce. The first is Adam Gutstein, who splits time living on Skidaway Island and Vermont. Adam is a very serious cyclist, having logged nearly 6,000 miles this year. The second new member is Denise Donnelly, who joined the club on 12 November. Welcome to both of our newest club members - we look forward to riding with you both!

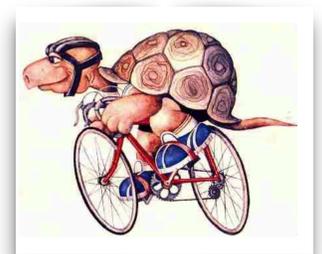


Bike Ed

This month's Bike Ed column isn't really educational. Departing - at least for this month's newsletter - from the traditional informative narrative, this end-of-2022 edition is nothing more than a compilation of humorous - and oftentimes true - quotes regarding cycling.

Cycling quotes to inspire you

1. "Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving".
2. "It never gets easier, you just go faster".
3. "Crashing is part of cycling as crying is part of love".
4. "A bicycle ride around the world begins with a single pedal stroke".
5. "Cyclers see considerably more of this beautiful world than any other class of citizens. A good bicycle, well applied, will cure most ills this flesh is heir to".
6. "Like dogs, bicycles are social catalysts that attract a superior category of people".



7. "Beyond pain there is a whole universe of more pain".
8. "Nothing compares to the simple pleasure of riding a bike". - John F. Kennedy

Bike Walk Savannah Holiday Bike Event



Our partner organization Bike Walk Savannah will once again sponsor a Holiday Bike Giveaway on 17 December. Donated bikes are refurbished by Bike Walk Savannah volunteers (some of whom are CBTC members) and brought into Savannah and given away to kids who might otherwise not receive any holiday gifts.



Kid's bikes and gear - please donate if you can

Each year, club members canvas their respective neighborhoods for children's bikes that can be donated to this more-than-worthy cause. This means everything from entry level tricycles for the very young, all the way up to junior bikes for older children. The bikes do not have to be in pristine condition, but they should not have serious rust or other weather induced damage that is impossible to repair. A good example of a donated bike appears to the right. If you have or can acquire a kids bike for this cause, contact John Arney, Kim Turner or Jackie Black for further details.



Recent "Away" Rides

On three consecutive weekends, there was significant club participation in three "away" rides, traditional end-of-the-year cool temperature rides in Florida and rural Georgia. Following is a short summary of each ride.

Inter Coastal Waterway Century (ICWC) - Cocoa Florida

A smaller-than-usual number of CBTC members journeyed to Cocoa, Florida, on 30 October to participate in the Inter Coastal Waterway Century (ICWC) ride. Chris Seale, accompanied by his son, along with John Arney and Rich and Deborah Wharff were among the approximate 150 participants in the ICWC. One of the highlights of the metric ride was a view of the Artemis moon exploration rocket on the launch pad of the Kennedy Space Center.



The weather cooperated, with less-than-normal winds, bright sunshine, well stocked SAG rest stops, and post-ride pizza and cold drinks at the Cocoa Civic Center.

Three Rivers Ride - Saint Mary's Georgia



Another less-than-usual club participation was in this year's Three Rivers Bike Ride, held on 5 October in Saint Mary's, Georgia. Ken Pierce, Cathy Reiman, Kathy Schaefer, John Arney and Rich Wharff rode the metric century route, which took the riders along the Crooked, Satilla and Saint Mary's rivers. Temperatures were cool, winds were reasonable, and of course the



post-ride chili was outstanding! Mark Schaefer joined the riders after the ride as all enjoyed the chili at the waterfront park along the Saint Mary's river.

Cruisin' in the Country Ride - Claxton GA

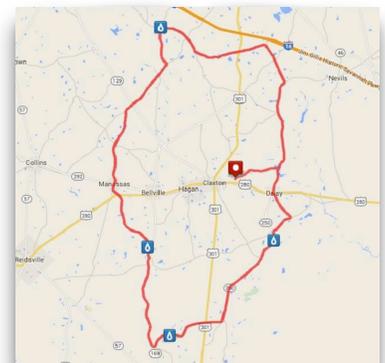
Now that's more like it! A large contingent of CBTC riders turned out on Saturday, 12 November, for the Cruisin' in the Country ride. Four club members completed the 50 mile route (Kim Turner, Jackie Black, Roy Reynolds and Eric Holmes), a hefty number



rode the metric century (Ken Pierce, Mike McFadden, Kathy Schaefer, Glen Toth, Cathy Reiman, Dave Taylor, Rich & Deb Wharff), and some members rode the full century (100 mile) route - Jean Toth, John Jensen and Adam Gutstein. Every rider enjoyed some of the best SAG rest stops in the world - and voted for the "Best in Class" after completing their ride routes. Not surprisingly, the rest stop offering hot grits, pigs-in-a-blanket, breakfast burritos and other treats received the most votes.



Cruisin' in the Country has become the club's year-end final "away" ride, given the fairly close proximity to Savannah, the great back country roads, and some of the best country scenery available anywhere. That scenery included a humorous static display outside of RK's Shade Tree Garage, with butt-crack mannequins performing maintenance on a vintage pickup truck that was loaded with pumpkins, all giving new meaning to "Cruisin' in the Country".





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