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# CBTC NEWSLETTER

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Official Publication of the Coastal Bicycle Touring Club, Savannah GA

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[www.cbtc.org](http://www.cbtc.org)

## 2023 Board of Directors

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Ride Director:  
Kim Turner  
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## 2023 Committee Chairs

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David Jackson  
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## 2023 Dues

A final reminder to club members. Individual dues are \$25, and family dues are \$30. You can renew in a number of ways. The easiest is to go to the "Membership" page of our website and effect payment through PayPal. But you can also mail in your dues payment, or even pay directly to either John Arney (Secretary) or Christine Drillsam (Treasurer). Whatever your choice, your annual dues go a long way to support the continuance of our Savannah area bike club.

Ride leaders for each category will be assigned. Ride director: Kim Turner [kimbooskie@gmail.com](mailto:kimbooskie@gmail.com)

## February 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.

Date/Ride	Mileage	Directions	Ride Leader
Saturday, 4 February, 9am, Rincon Ride	25/32/39	Meet/park at Macomber Park Complex, 1103 Lexington Avenue, Rincon. Out-and-back route options. Post-ride eats at El Real Mexican restaurant, a short distance from Macomber Park, 105 Wisenbaker Road, Rincon	John Arney, 912-660-4088, <a href="mailto:johnaarney@gmail.com">johnaarney@gmail.com</a>
Saturday, 11 February, 9am, Bean ride	26/35	Meet/park at/near the Sentient Bean coffee shop, 13 East Park Avenue, Savannah. Ride out to Bonaventure cemetery, over to/through Thunderbolt, down to Sandfly, over to Burnside Island and back to Isle of Hope. Post-ride eats at Sly's.	Kim Turner, 214-725-2490, <a href="mailto:kimbooskie@gmail.com">kimbooskie@gmail.com</a>
Saturday, 18 February, 8:30am, Party Gras on the Coast, Darien, GA	25/62/100	Meet/park at Darien River Waterfront Park & Docks, 201 Franklin Street, Darien, GA.	N/A
Saturday, 25 February, 9am, Skidaway Island ride	26/35/42	Meet/park at The Village parking lot, across the street from the BP station, TL at second traffic light on the island. Post-ride eats at Your Pie in Sandfly.	David Jackson, 301-237-1892, <a href="mailto:davidcjackson1219@yahoo.com">davidcjackson1219@yahoo.com</a>

## Away ride - Saturday 18 February

The club's first 2023 "away" ride will be the Party Gras on the Coast, on Saturday 18 February in Darien, GA. Darien is an approximate 45 minute drive south on I-95. The event features rides

ranging from costumed trike rides for kids, teens and adults, all the way up to a full century (100 miles) route. The event benefits the Humane Animal Rescue Team (HART) of McIntosh County, the 200 Club of the Coastal Empire (Families of fallen first-responders) and the McIntosh food programs. Registration is available on-line at: <https://www.partygrasonthecoast.com/race-details>.

The event starts and ends at the Darien River Waterfront Park and Docks, 201 Franklin Street, Darien. Parking will be at the McIntosh County Middle School, 500 Green Street, GA. Look for the signs. The routes takes riders along the beautiful Georgia coast, riding next to pristine marshlands, through live oak forests, and also along some of the East Coast Greenway.



## Away ride - Part II

Another possible “away” ride takes place in Hilton Head Island, on Sunday 7 May. Pedal Hilton Head starts and finishes at Low Country Celebration Park, 94 Pope Avenue, Hilton Head Island SC 29926. Pedal is a charity recreational ride, not a race! Each route/pace group will have ride ambassadors to assist with pacing, entry into the gated communities and safe navigation around the island. For the controlled portions (law enforcement escort) of the 62- and 40-mile routes, riders are to stay with their respective groups until the completion of the escort. Please remember: paces are averages. At times, the groups may be faster or slower than the published paces.

This event raises funds to support the Boys and Girls Club of Hilton Head Island. These are the children in the area that need help, with close to two-thirds of the club’s members are living below the federal poverty line. This event has been a cornerstone for the Boys and Girls Club community for 16 years.



Registration for this worthy event can be accomplished on-line at:

<https://raceroster.com/events/2023/60434/pedal-hilton-head-island>

## Away ride - Part III

Some of the traditional early spring rides are coming up again this year. First up is the aforementioned Party Gras in Darien, GA, on February 18th. A note about this ride: You can register and join the "CBTC" group, which was created by Kim Turner. When you register, you can opt to join a club at the bottom of the registration page. From the drop-down menu, select "Coastal Bicycle Touring Club" and use the password "bikes4us".

Would you like to join or create a Group/Team?  
 Yes  No

In March, the Tour de Low Country, in Walterboro, SC, is scheduled for Saturday, March 25. This has been a staple for away club rides for several years. For those who rode last year, we certainly remember the stretches of rough pavement. This year, the ride coordinator has communicated to club leadership that the ride routes will be changed to avoid such areas. This will be the 8th year for the Tour, which is a part of the larger Rice Festival in Colleton County, SC. On-line registration is available at: <https://www.raceplace.com/events/128387/tour-de-lowcountry-2023>



In April, there are two away options. The Bike Ride Across Georgia (BRAG) spring tune-up will take place April 14-16, at the Sunflower Farm, just outside of Rutledge, GA. For Spring Tune-Up, riders travel at their own pace along a set route which includes rest stops with refreshments. You may choose to ride as many or as few miles as you like ranging from 20 - 100 miles. The start/finish will be at the same location all weekend. At the end of each day's ride, there will be food & drinks, hot showers, live music, and games. Some riders will choose to stay at local hotels. On-line registration can be accomplished via: <https://www.bikereg.com/stu23>



Lastly, the Tour de Forts takes place on Saturday 16 April. This year's Tour will be on Amelia Island, which is much closer to Savannah than the past several years venue, the St. Johns County Fairgrounds, in Elkton, FL. Another great change from past years, this upcoming Tour de Forts will actually ride past Fort Clinch, Fort Caroline and Yellow Bluff Fort. As usual, there are various ride options, ranging from a family fun ride of 10 miles, all the way up to a full century (100 miles). Registration can be effected on-line at: <https://www.raceplace.com/events/128387/tour-de-lowcountry-2023>

## Member update

We began 2023 in the same fashion as we closed out 2022. The club welcomed new members Bill Gleason and David Grubb in January, bringing to overall club membership to 92. We look forward to riding with both, although we have ridden a few times with David over the past couple of weeks.

## Bike Ed

This month's Bike Ed column is about phenomenal explosion of e-bikes. This article was contained in NPR's Technology edition of 15 January 2023, and describes how e-bikes are being used in urban settings as an inexpensive alternative to other methods of transportation. Kudos to NPR technology reporter Adam Bearne for authoring this article.

### These city commuters ditched their cars altogether - for e-bikes

Electric cars are seen as a key way to reduce climate change causing emissions – but they are expensive. The average price paid for a new electric vehicle towards the end of 2022 was over \$65,000, according to [Kelley Blue Book](#). While running costs are typically lower than a gas-powered vehicle, there are tax, insurance and parking costs. Lelac Almagor thinks there's a better way to ditch a fossil-fueled car. "I just really hate driving. The sitting and the being stuck and the waiting is just really not for me," said the mother of three from Washington D.C. She takes her family almost everywhere by electric bike.

She proved it by taking me on a ride, along with her 3-year-old son Oren strapped in next to me, and her infant daughter Tamar snugly secured in a baby seat.

Despite clutching her tambourine, Tamar got a little fussy – perhaps because of the 200-pound stranger now crowding her space – but was quickly lulled to sleep once we got underway. Oren was enjoying the crests and dips of the DC Metropolitan Branch Trail. "I like the up and down and up and down," he squealed.



Almagor had tried other options for commuting, such as public transportation, but that became problematic once she had children. "I used to Metro a lot and take the bus a lot, and then when I had kids, it just became a little bit too complicated to get to where we were going with the kids and the stuff that the kids have," she said. Almagor had also tried to ride with a regular bike in the past, but describes herself as a "failed bike commuter." "I'm not that spandex cyclist type of person, that's not me. I really hate biking up hills," she added.

The [Bureau of Transportation Statistics found](#) that in 2021, 52% of all trips were three miles or less, a distance most people could cover by e-bike. That's why the [City and County of Denver is giving out vouchers](#) towards the purchase of an e-bike. "We have a fairly car-dependent culture, so there's a fairly high rate of single occupancy vehicle trips," said Grace Troccoli Rink, executive director of the city's Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency. Denver residents could get \$400 for an e-bike, or \$1200 if they have a lower income. And that amount is right around the price of an entry-level e-bike, which is expensive than most regular bikes. If they wanted an e-cargo bike, the kind



really suited to replacing car trips, they got an additional \$500. The vouchers were so popular, the city's funding for all of 2022 was quickly allocated.

The program will resume at the end of January 2023, although the voucher amounts will be slightly lower. The city says this will help them make the funding available to more new e-bike riders. Troccoli Rink said the vouchers "got people off the fence" when it came to buying an e-bike. That cost can be sizable, with e-bikes usually costing more than what are becoming known as "acoustic bikes."

But the Denver program has the intended effect, according to preliminary survey results of voucher recipients. "On average, the people who have responded are saying they are biking 26.2 miles overall per week, and they're replacing 3.4 car trips for an average of 21.6 miles of replaced car trips per week. I think that's a pretty good result," noted Troccoli Rink.

## Carlos Evans - Coming to Savannah

Carlos Evans was a United States Marine Corps Sergeant who was deployed in the Global War on Terrorism four different times. A native of Puerto Rico, Carlos will be coming to Savannah in late February, and has voiced interest in bike riding during his time here in the Coastal Empire. Locally, Perry Rubber Bike Shop, members of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), known as the Night Stalkers, and this author are combining efforts to make his wish a reality. Plans are underway to organize rides on Skidaway Island, Hunter Army Air Field, and locally in and around Savannah.

After reading his story, you may want to join in on one or more of the rides and get to know this remarkable person.



### Carlos Evans - USMC

During the fourth and what turned out to be the final deployment, Sgt. Evans stepped on an IED and lost both legs and his left hand while serving in Afghanistan. The date was May 17th, 2010. He woke up seven days later at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington DC. It was just the beginning of the struggle for his life.



For the next two years, he and his wife, Rosemarie, went through the rehabilitation process together. As a nurse and mother of two young children, Rosemarie was used to caring for people, but the task of taking care of her triple-amputee husband brought new challenges every day. In addition to his limb loss, Carlos faced PTSD and developed an addiction to painkillers. He was sure Rosemarie's life would be better without him - and that it might have been better if he hadn't survived at all.

But unlike the majority of marriages put under similar strain, Carlos and Rosemarie stayed together. With the help of family, friends, and - most importantly, a strong faith - they've built a solid marriage and discovered a ministry they never expected.

Not only will disabled veterans and their loved ones find help here, Carlos and Rosemarie’s captivating journey also speaks to those who long for stronger marriages, care for loved ones with disabilities, or are facing a new normal in their own lives, small or large. It is a powerful resource for leaning on God in the midst of life’s great difficulties – and for finding ways that, through faith, profound loss can bring incredible blessing.

Carlos and Rosemarie have written and published a book about their journey. It is entitled “Standing Together, the Inspirational Story of a Wounded Warrior and Enduring Love”. Together they have established CR Evans Ministries, Inc., a faith based organization whose purpose is to minister to the whole person.

Carlos has often been quoted saying “you don’t need feet to touch people”. Together, the couple has launched their web site “Touching Lives, Leaving Footprints”, which describes this amazing couple and their life after Carlos’ injuries.

<https://crevans.org/>

Carlos was among four special guests invited to sit next to Michelle Obama during President Obama’s 2013 State of the Union address.

Carlos rides a modified hand-crank bike, and rumor has it he’s a beast on the roads. As soon as plans are finalized, we will announce the dates, times and venues to the club membership. Please consider participating and getting to know these pretty special people.



Carlos on his bike



Carlos on his bike



President Obama signs Carlos’ prosthetic left arm - March 6 2012



Sgt. Carlos Evans at the 2013 State of the Union address

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.

