



News You Might Want to Use

BE SURE TO VOTE

ELELECTRONIC ELECTION

As one member described it, SMBC will catapult into the 21st century with its new Board of Directors electronic election. If you've read anything that has referenced this election you know that you will receive an email from ElectionBuddy (our third- party vendor handling the election) with complete instructions on how-to complete your ballot along with pictures and bios of the twelve members running for the board.

I urge you to check out the bios and then cast your ballot for from one to ten members who you think will best serve the interests of the membership.

Preview the bios [HERE](#).

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

- **WHEN:** Saturday, January 12, 2019
 - Rides start at 9:00
 - Lunch provided by the club follows the rides
 - Annual Membership Business Meeting follows lunch
- **VOTE:** To approve/reject Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation

Review a copy [HERE](#)

- **ELECTION RESULTS:** Board of Directors Election results announced
- **WHERE:** Twin Lakes Park, [6700 Clark Rd](#), Sarasota, FL 34241
- **MORE INFORMATION:** [HERE](#)

Calendar Notables

Saturday, January 12 – Annual Membership Meeting – Rides, food, election results announced, and a short business meeting. All the details are [HERE](#)

Saturday, January 19 - Basic Maintenance Class – Our first of the season held in November “sold” out within four hours of the email announcing the date. At the time of this announcement there were eight spots open for the Jan 19 class. We will offer one more class February 16. Location and time details for the January class [HERE](#).

Saturday, January 26 - Smart Cycling Workshop A workshop targeted towards the new to the sport and returning to the sport cyclist. Taught by Club League Certified Instructors-trained and certified bicycle safety instructors who’ve completed rigorous teaching and bike-handling instruction. More information is [HERE](#).

Sunday, February 3 – Joint SMBC & Coastal Cruisers Ride Our fourth annual ride with our friends from Coastal Cruisers. Lunch provided by the clubs. More information [HERE](#).

RIDE LEADER NEWS

Cindy Mannis, Club Safety and Training Chair put together a team consisting of herself , Tom Krueger and Dick DeBrosse and hosted an eat and work meeting for all ride leaders in November. The group reviewed suggested changes to the Ride Leader Guidelines and sent them to the Board for approval. The board did just that at its December meeting.

From the group of Ride Leaders who attended the November meeting a committee was formed to address continuity in communication among riders both vocally and visually. Be on the lookout for more on this within the next 30

days. Committee members were Phil Lentzke, Doug Francis, Paul Petrus, Mike McElvogue, Tom Krueger, Tom Roberts, and Cindy Mannis.

And, members of this same committee are working on the Club's first ever Ride Leader Training Program.

Everyone who has participated in these meetings is to be both congratulated and thanked by the Club.

Working to improve our safety is one of the key things that makes SMBC the great club that it is.

NEW SAFE CYCLING COALITION

There's a new group forming in the area that hopes to be a voice for bike clubs in the area naming itself the Safe Cycling Coalition with Mark Schiefer of Gulf Coast Velo spearheading the group. Cindy Mannis, Bob Trencheny and myself have attended a second meeting of the group which consists of representatives from six clubs, the Florida Bicycle Association and the MPO.

The coalition hopes that by banding together that we will be able to speak as a group of thousands rather than individually when addressing safety issues at the local, regional, or state level.

On the list of priorities are addressing legislative bills that affect the safety of cyclists, safety training, increasing membership in Florida Bicycle Association (our voice in Tallahassee), and a standard speaker's talk with slides to be offered to groups such as homeowner associations, civic groups, etc.

Stay tuned to see what you can do to help.

HOW DO WE RESPOND

How Do We Respond to the Recent Cycling Tragedies in Florida? The last few weeks have been hard on all of us. The terrible crashes in Venice, Davie and Mt. Dora caused multiple injuries and the deaths of Jack Harrison, Carlos Rodriguez, Denise Marsha and Donald Mosher. How do we process these events and how should the cycling community respond, both individually and as members of our respective clubs? In my view doing nothing is not an option. If we commit to do something, what is the best use[MORE](#)

LINKS TO USE

- [Florida Bicycle and Pedestrian Law](#) click Law Enforcement under publications
 - [Report Sarasota County Road Hazards](#)
 - [Report Manatee County Road Hazards](#)
 - [Florida Bicycle Association](#)
 - [League of American Bicyclists](#)
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Note - As Always, all errors, omissions, & tipos are all Microsoft word errors, I had nothing to do with anything. Seriously, I do know how to spell typo even without spellchuck.

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