

# Happenings

## Dec 1-3 Armstrong/SEA Community Festival Bike Camping Trip

GCC rides to the 6th Annual SEA Community Rails-to-Trails Festival in Armstrong, FL. We ride on Friday (12/01), either self-supported, or with gear support provided, to attend the 6th Annual SEA Community Festival celebrating the area's Gullah-Geechee heritage! Festival is from 11 a.m until 7 p.m. on Saturday (12/02). Bring a tent, sleeping bag, folding chair, and plan to enjoy a bike ride on the Palatka-St. Augustine Trail on Saturday before the all-day live music begins! Bathrooms, hot showers, and electric outlets available to campers. Food vendors will be there on Saturday, and some communal meals will be prepared and shared with the group at our campsite at other times. We may even opt to ride to a nearby restaurant for pizza. We will ride back to Gainesville on Sunday 12/03. Distance is 62 miles each way. We will ride on rail trails when available, and on roads the rest of the time. Conversational/touring pace. No rider will be left behind. Contact Ally at (352) 745-2011 for more info.

## December 9 (Sat) Holiday Gathering



Join your fellow cyclists for a holiday gathering at the Cypress & Grove Brewing Company (1001 NW 4th St) at 7 pm. The club will provide an assortment of snacks and hors d'oeuvres; craft beers, wine, and soft drinks are available for sale at the Brewery.

Please RSVP in the Members Area so we know how much food to bring!

## January 6 (Sat) 200 K Brevet

Quality Inn, 2435 SW 13th Street, 7 am. See full information and register at <http://gccfla.org/brevet/brevets.html>.

## January 20 (Sat) Chilly Chili Picnic



The Gainesville Cycling Club (GCC) will have it's best picnic of the year at Oleno State Park. It's our annual Chili contest. Bring your best chili (meat or vegetarian) or bring a salad or desert to round out the feast. GCC will provide a mild meaty chili, (so mild it will offend no one) a vegi chili and gumbo.

RSVP and see much more information in the Members Area, News page.

## February 10 (Sat) 300 K Brevet

Quality Inn, 2435 SW 13th Street, 5 am. See full information and register at <http://gccfla.org/brevet/brevets.html>.

## March 10 (Sat) 400 K Brevet

Quality Inn, 2435 SW 13th Street, 4 am. See full information and register at <http://gccfla.org/brevet/brevets.html>.

**President**

Ally Gill [president@gccfla.org](mailto:president@gccfla.org)

**Vice President**

Vacant

**Secretary**

Bob Stevens  
[gataback@hotmail.com](mailto:gataback@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer**

Dave Wagner [treasurer@gccfla.org](mailto:treasurer@gccfla.org)

**Chief of Staff**

News Editor, Webmaster, List Manager, Event  
Equipment & Supplies Manager, Gainesville  
Cycling Festival Director, Membership Secretary  
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Chandler Otis [Chanbike@aol.com](mailto:Chanbike@aol.com)

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**Director at Large**

Joseph Floyd  
[jfloyd0379@gmail.com](mailto:jfloyd0379@gmail.com)

**GCC Web Page**

[gainesvillecyclingclub.org](http://gainesvillecyclingclub.org)  
[gccfla.org](http://gccfla.org)



**T**oo much stuff this month for a simple eNews, so here's a full newsletter!



**G-DO REDO LLC**  
Service & Installations  
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**GATOR CYCLE**

**CHEVRON AT HUNTERS CROSSING**  
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**Bike Works**  
Gainesville's #1 Bike Shop  
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352-225-3585

**Greg Grooms**  
Independent Branch Leader  
**charles SCHWAB**  
(352) 792-1614  
[greg.grooms@schwab.com](mailto:greg.grooms@schwab.com)

**DARRYL J. TOMPKINS P.A.**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
**BOARD CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE LAWYER**  
386-418-1000 Over 25 Years Experience  
1420 NW 151st Blvd Alachua, FL

# Gainesville Cycling Festival

## IMPORTANT!

We will be forming a committee to oversee the 2018 Festival, to start meeting in January. We need around 8 club members to join so that we can put on a successful event. Call Roger Pierce (or email [roger@gccfla.org](mailto:roger@gccfla.org)) if you want to contribute.

We have a good core of volunteers who are adept at running rest stops, deploying SAG vehicles, and doing registration. But to be a successful event, we need to up our overall game, both in publicity and the ambiance at our venues.

## 2017

Despite threats from the weather man, we had good weather for great riding at this year's events. We expect that Irma had an impact on our overall attendance, which took a dive (especially the Horse Farm Hundred). Due to this, we were unable to maintain the level of support we have provided to the Boys and Girls Club for the past decade (though they still got a nice check).



For 2017, we had 317 riders sign up for the Santa Fe Century, and 394 for the Horse Farm Hundred. For comparison, in 2012 we had 444 for the Santa Fe, and 732 for the Horse Farm.

The Club relies on proceeds from the Festival to support our yearly budget and keep dues low. This year, we cleared about \$2250; while this was not our worst fiscal performance, we have done better than \$7000 a couple of recent years.

Perhaps one of the biggest problems we are facing with the Festival is that most members of the Club do not participate. In 2017, we had 211 members register, which is less than a quarter of our membership. Over half of these were volunteers (121!), without which we could not put on the event. If you are in the majority that stayed home, make plans to join us next year for the premier cycling event in Gainesville!



## Got Yours?



Proceeds from the sale of the Share The Road license plate support the bicycle safety education programs of Bike Florida and the Florida Bicycle Association.

## Bike 4 Vets Program on WUFT

Check out [WUFT's coverage](#) of the Bikes for Vets Program. See more info about our Service Group [here](#). If you can help, join the group in the Members Area, Me page.



## Need Kids Bikes

by Diann Dimitri

**N**eed kids bikes -- donate to a good cause. Your old kid's bike will be rehabbed and given to low-income kids throughout the year. Anyone wanting to help rehab kids bikes can show up at the Freewheel Project at 618 S. Main St every Saturday from 10-1pm. There will be someone there to show you all the basics. It's fun, you're helping fix bikes for low-income kids and you'll discover what a cool place the Freewheel Project is!

Drop off at the Freewheel Project (Tue - Fri from 1 to 6, Sat 10 - 6), at 5015 NW 19th Place, or call Diann at 378-7063 for pickup.



## Gator Cycle to Move North

### We're "Wheelie" Excited!

Since 1990 we've been serving you and the Gainesville cycling community at 3321 SW Archer Road. We've grown and what has been home to Gator Cycle for nearly three decades can no longer contain all the exciting things we have going on. We're thrilled to announce that Gator Cycle is bringing in the new year at a new location!

Beginning January 1st, Gator Cycle will be located at [1700 NW 13th](#)

Street. Moving to this up-and-coming area of town will open us up to a world of new opportunities and allow us to better serve your needs. We're working hard to get things ready and bring you an experience unlike anything else in Gainesville!

It's business as usual until then, so be sure to visit us at our current location for all of your holiday shopping and bicycle service needs!



# Calling all new members!

By Jeannie West, Membership Services Director

I hope you will all come to the annual club Holiday Gathering on December 9. I'm looking forward to meeting all new members who have joined in the last year and putting faces with names. This is a casual friendly event so check out the party info in the center column on this page, register and come mingle. If you haven't started riding with us yet, let's talk about that over some refreshments and beverages. Maybe I can introduce you to some ride leaders. Hope to see you there!

See full detail about the event and RSVP in the Members Area.



## GCC 101

By Roger Pierce

On the Club web site ([gccfla.org](http://gccfla.org)), in the Info dropdown menu, check out GCC101, a series of short articles that provide information about how the Club operates. Here are a few samples:

### Life Memberships

When you renew your membership, and the term will end after your 75th birthday, you'll get a membership card with "LIFE MEMBER" on it.

If you're eligible, you'll see the cost to extend your membership to your 75th birthday when you click the Renew button in the Members Area. Individual members and families with two persons are eligible.

It's important that your birthdate on the club records be correct, as otherwise you might receive a fraudulent life membership. (Birthdates can be hidden from other club members if you are sensitive.)

### How To Find A Ride

- GCC rides are announced on our Ride Schedule in the Members Area.
- We email a snapshot of the Ride Schedule to GCCMail at 3 pm each afternoon.
- The next ride for each group is listed on the group's web page (on the main site).
- Group members can elect to receive an email announcement whenever a non-recurring ride is posted or any ride is updated for their group.

## Gainesville Cycling Festival

The Gainesville Cycling Festival is the major event produced by the Gainesville Cycling Club each fall. Relatively unique among such events, it is two full-blown century rides on back-to-back days. It is usually scheduled in October on a weekend the Gators are not playing a home game (so that our guests can find motel accommodations). A small group of members get together to do the up-front planning and are augmented by many other club members on the event weekend to make the rides a success.

The weekend kicks off on Saturday with the Santa Fe Century, which showcases the best roads to the north of Gainesville.

On Sunday, the Horse Farm Hundred is one of the longest running of the Florida centuries, first run in 1981. The ride is known for its outstanding scenery, especially in the areas of northern Marion county that are crammed with horse farms.

Both rides are known for having the best on-the-road feed of any century that we know of.

Net proceeds from the weekend allow us to make a generous contribution to the Boys and Girls Club of Alachua County, and to augment our club dues.

Let's face it, the 3-foot rule is a mess. First, who decided 3 feet was enough room? It isn't. When drivers miss it by being too close they can be 12 to 18 inches or less off our left handlebar at 35 or 45 MPH or higher. To make matters worse, it is unenforceable and unenforced. Most police have no way to measure or prove a violation absent actual contact. As a result, it is rare to see it cited.

There is a better solution. Florida already has a very easily understood and well known "Move Over" law which requires drivers to move over when they approach an emergency, sanitation or utility service vehicle. Bills have been filed in both the House and the Senate to also require drivers to move over for "vulnerable road users." This is a simple but critical amendment to the statute because under current law "vulnerable road users" already includes cyclists, pedestrians, and several other similar vulnerable users.

Every motorist can grasp what it means to "move over." The Move Over law would require motorists on a four-lane road to "vacate the lane closest to the vulnerable road user," meaning move over into the adjoining lane. When passing a vulnerable road user on a road with only one lane in each direction, the law forces drivers to "slow to a speed that is 20 mph less than the posted speed limit" even on roads with speed limits as low as 25 mph. In addition, in that situation the proposed amendment also requires that these drivers "shall pass at a distance not less than 4 feet from the vulnerable road user."

The next legislative session begins in January. The bills to amend the Move Over law are supported by the Florida Bicycle Association (FBA) as well as law enforcement and many others. Senate Bill 116 was filed by Senator Baxley, District 12. The companion House Bill 117 was filed by

Representative Charlie Stone, District 22. Work is being done to secure additional sponsors to each of them in order to get them passed this next session.

*Jim Dodson is an experienced bike accident lawyer, cyclist and bicycle safety advocate who has been representing accident victims for over twentyfive years. He represents injury victims throughout Florida. He is the author of the Florida Bicycle Accident Handbook, relied upon by hundreds of cyclists across the state. If you have a question about a cycling accident, contact Jim at [www.jimdodsonlaw.com](http://www.jimdodsonlaw.com). There is never any charge to discuss your case.*

*\*\*Legal information is not legal advice. Nothing in this article may be considered legal advice. If you have specific questions for Jim Dodson, simply call his office at 1-888-340-0840. There is never a charge to talk about your case.*

Originally published in the Florida Freewheelers' "Spoke'n Word".

## Gainesville Cycling Club Policy on Official Club Rides

1. Rides posted on the Club's Ride Schedule are official club hosted rides (the criteria for being covered by our insurance).

2. Rides posted to the Club's Ride Schedule must be planned and hosted by the posted Ride Leader. Group Captains may also post Show and Go rides using start locations listed on the GCC web site.

3. Ride Leaders may coordinate their rides with rides of other Clubs. These rides must be club rides (not general invitational rides). The riders who are members of the other club will be covered by any insurance that their club may have.

4. Ride Leaders may post rides where their group participates in a GCC produced or supported invitational event.

5. Participation in non-GCC general invitational events can not be posted as a GCC ride. Those wishing to encourage participation in such events can use articles on the GCC web site, Facebook postings, and group member mail to get the word out (providing the events are insured).

*This is an official document adopted by the Board of Directors on November 14, 2016.*

For questions about this policy, contact the Ride Captain.

### Email Note

GCC administrative emails (ride notices, ride group emails, renewal notices) are frequently blocked by AOL and Earthlink, and occasionally by other ISPs.

If you have gmail, you may find that these emails wind up in your SPAM folder; you can tell gmail that they are OK to keep them from going there in the future.

The GCC elects its Board of Directors each January. In our history, we have had two contested elections; all others have been by acclamation.

We invite all members (who will have been a member for at least a year by January 1) to compete for a position on the Board.

The Board consists of the officers of the Club, most of whom have specific assigned duties. The current Board will select 11 of the following positions to comprise the 2018 Board:

### **President**

Responsible for the overall operation of the Club. Conducts meetings of the Board of Directors and the general membership.

### **Vice President (OPEN POSITION)**

Assumes the duties of the President when the President is not available, and performs other duties as assigned by the President and/or the Board.

### **Secretary**

Maintains the legal records of the Club. Takes minutes at Board and Club meetings. Supervises the Historian.

### **Treasurer**

Maintains the financial records of the Club. Manages the Club funds. Manages the governmental requirements of the Club (annual corporate registration, sales tax, tax returns). Supervises the financial record keeping functions.

### **Chief of Staff**

Responsible for the day-to-day administrative operation of the Club. Performs or supervises the following functions: Membership Secretary, Membership Card Laminator, Bookkeeper, Webmaster, Data Base Manager, Web Content Manager, Warehouse Manager, News Editor, Advertising Manager, Jersey Manager, Bike Store Liaison, Email List Manager, Photographer, Insurance Manager, Bike Case Manager, Facebook Admins, Storekeeper.

### **Picnic Manager**

Responsible for the overall process of supplying and staging GCC picnics. Activities include proposing picnic dates and venues to the GCC Board, arranging for use of facilities at picnic venues, coordinating with the Equipment and Supplies Manager and the Fluids Manager, finding a Venue Manager for each picnic, publicizing the picnic, and arranging for or providing a main course food item.

### **Ride Captain**

Supervises the riding programs of the Club. Performs or supervises the following functions: Club Safety Officer, Insurance Officer, Group Captains.

### **Gainesville Cycling Festival Director**

Puts on the Gainesville Cycling Festival. Supervises a vast staff of volunteers.

### **Brevet Administrator**

Puts on the Gainesville Brevet Series.

### **Education Director**

Establishes and conducts an education program for the club and the community.

### **Membership Services Director**

Contacts all new club members to welcome to them to the club and answer questions about how to participate in club activities.

### **Publicity Director (OPEN POSITION)**

Has primary responsibility for coordinating Club publicity efforts through external social media channels as well as developing visual and text content for the GCC website and Facebook page. The primary focus will be upon promoting club invitational events - Gainesville Cycling Festival and others - as well as general club efforts to maintain/expand its membership base. As this is a new director position, specific duties and strategies will be developed in consultation with the Board. Candidates should possess strong written communication skills, be adept with various social media platforms, and have familiarity with a broad range of GCC activities.

The Board meets monthly, currently on a Monday evening at 7 pm.

*Contact any Board Member if you are interested in running.*



**The Gainesville Cyclist** 5015 NW 19th Place Gainesville FL 32605-3435

**EDITOR**  
 Roger Pierce 378-7063  
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The Gainesville Cyclist is published occasionally. All submissions are welcome.

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**BUSINESS SPONSORS**

These businesses provide discounts to club members who present their yellow membership card:

Bike Works	10%	225-3585	2300 SW 34 <sup>th</sup> St	<a href="http://gobikeworks.com">http://gobikeworks.com</a>
Bikes & More	15%	373-6574	2113 NW 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	<a href="http://www.bikesandmoregainesville.com">www.bikesandmoregainesville.com</a>
Chain Reaction	10%	373-4052	1630 West University Avenue	<a href="http://www.chainreactionbikes.com">www.chainreactionbikes.com</a>
Coach K Fitness	20%	246-5514	519 NW 10th Ave Suite B	<a href="http://coachkfitness.net/">http://coachkfitness.net/</a>
G-DO REDO (plumbing)	10%	494-2695	8630 NW 35th Rd	<a href="http://plumbinggainesville.com/">http://plumbinggainesville.com/</a>
Gainesville Cycle	10%	374-2064	919 W University Ave	<a href="http://www.schwinnshop.com">www.schwinnshop.com</a>
Gainesville Eye	15%	333-1186	12921 SW 1 Road, Ste. 107	<a href="http://www.eyecare4all.com">http://www.eyecare4all.com</a>
Gator Cycle	10%	373-3962	3321 SW Archer Road	<a href="http://gatorcycle.com/">http://gatorcycle.com/</a>
Goodbike	10%	792-6600	425 NW 13 <sup>th</sup> Street	<a href="http://goodbikeshop.com/">http://goodbikeshop.com/</a>
Pedalers Pub & Grille	15%	353-8712	(Exotic cycling tours)	<a href="http://www.pedalerspubandgrille.com/?club=GCC&amp;prct=15">http://www.pedalerspubandgrille.com/?club=GCC&amp;prct=15</a>
Specialty Machining	10%	472-5130	25430 NW 8th Lane Suite 100	<a href="http://www.specialtymachining.net">http://www.specialtymachining.net</a>
Super Cool Bike Shop	15%	371-2453	3460 W University Ave	<a href="http://www.supercoolbikeshop.com">www.supercoolbikeshop.com</a>
The Athletes's Den	10%	514-1784	3417 NW 97 <sup>th</sup> Blvd	<a href="https://theathletesden.com/">https://theathletesden.com/</a>
Trailside	10%	327-3727	210 NW 10 <sup>th</sup> Ave	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/trailsidebikeshop/">https://www.facebook.com/trailsidebikeshop/</a>

**Some restrictions apply, ask for details at the stores.**