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Membership Benefits:

- **Discounts** on event registration fees
- **Privileges** to use SBA headquarters and equipment
- **SBA open house weekends** and other weekend adventures
- **Rivers** - explore the Suwannee region on land or by canoe and kayak
- **Newsletter**
- **SBA E-mail List Server** for information and activity announcements
- **Membership** in a dynamic, fun-loving group
- **SBA website:**
www.suwanneebike.org

Secret Santa Open House Dec. 9-10

This open house coincides with the White Springs Festival of Lights and Christmas Parade. Instead of gifts, we take a collection to purchase new bikes and helmets for needy kids from White Springs. On-road and off-road rides are available both days.

Friday, 7 p.m., is the Christmas Cookie Exchange and Secret Santa Party at Headquarters. Bring a batch of your favorite Christmas cookies and a cycling-related wrapped gift valued at under \$10 to exchange. Beverages are provided. Help trim the tree and decorate our SBA Parade Float.

Saturday, 8 a.m. enjoy a bagel breakfast at Headquarters. Meet at **9 a.m.** and **1 p.m.** for rides. Groups decide which trail or route to ride in the White Springs area. Enough ride-guides and leaders should be on hand to lead several groups for a variety of lengths, pace and difficulty, from leisurely to fast paced riding. This is an excellent time of year for riding in the woods!

Prior to the parade, at **4 p.m.**, there is a **wine and cheese party** at headquarters. Decorate your bikes and be in the parade. Parade starts at 5:30 p.m. followed by the potluck dinner at Headquarters.

Sunday, 7:30 a.m., enjoy a bagel breakfast at Headquarters. **At 8 a.m.** the **Secret Santa Century**, White Springs Triple Loop, with several mileage options, starts. The 23 and 55-mile options begin at 10 a.m. **Post ride lunch** is served at Headquarters until the last rider is in.

This is a perfect event to invite your road and off road cycling friends who want to experience SBA and get away from holiday rush. Contact Kim Frawley at woodbike@bellsouth.net.

IDIDARIDE – Jan. 20, 2007

Saturday, Jan. 20, White Springs.

IDIDARIDE is a bicycle challenge ride; NOT a race. Approximately 50 miles of single track trails and woods roads running along the Suwannee River are linked to form a continuous route with minimal pavement. At several checkpoints along the route, SBA monitors progress of riders. Food, beverage and mechanical support are available at these stations.

Registration is limited to 300 riders and it has filled for this popular event; however, **volunteers are needed** to help with registration, mark the route, collect arrows afterwards, sag stops, food and clean-up. Volunteers receive a t-shirt. E-mail Bill Wills or send in the registration form asking to be a volunteer.

For more information, visit our Web site at: www.suwanneebike.org or contact event director, **Bill Wills** at billw@leoncountycl.gov.

Suwannee Sweetheart Cycling Weekend and Century

Feb. 10 – 11, White Springs. Saturday rides are 23 or 47 miles. Enjoy a pot luck dinner Saturday night at Headquarters.

Sunday, the rides are 27, 50, 64 and 100 miles. The longer rides start at 8 a.m. The 27 mile ride starts at 9:30 a.m.

Advance registration fee includes t-shirt, breakfast, rest stops, and Sunday ride dinner. Only pre-registered cyclists receive t-shirts. Long-sleeved is **\$15**, short-sleeved **\$10**. Day of event registration is \$20. Saturday only is \$5 or free for SBA members.

Download the registration form from SBA website. Contact Jeanne Hargrave, biknjeanne@aol.com.



Happy Holidays and a Wonderful New Year to our SBA members and volunteers!

Board members

Bill Wills, president,
850.656.7987
billw@mail.co.leon.fl.us
Kim Frawley,
vice president,
904.797.7290
woodbike@bellsouth.net
Jerry Willert, treasurer,
352.344.1004
jwillert@msn.com
Joy Taylor,
secretary,
904.522.0437
taylorj5@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Board members

Tony Beavor, trails
904.813.9612
btonybea@aol.com
Scott Chase, event
coordinator
352.367.4512
sachase@cox.net
Jeanne Hargrave, event
coordinator
904.264.7168
biknjeanne@aol.com
Edwin McCook, liaison
386.362.6154
emccook@alltel.net
Sharon Allen Shea,
newsletter
904.249.1307
sharonallen.shea@gmail.com
Sam Veal
904.285.8392
saveal@bellsouth.net

Advisory board

Lys Burden, advisor
386.454.3304
wpburden@aol.com
Jodi Chase, web master
352.367.4512
jodibeane@cox.net
Gene Currin, volunteers
229.244.1955
gcurrin@automedical.com
Wade McGinty, water
program
904.247.9836
wademcinty@aol.com
Chandler Otis, road ride
coordinator
352.376.4963
chanbike@aol.com
David Pharr, liaison
386.364.4991
outpost1@lani.net
Mari Towle, membership
352.344.1004
met925@msn.com

Oct. Open House

A small group enjoyed a beautiful weekend camping under a sky full of stars. The trails were in great shape so trail maintenance was minimal. Thanks to **Joy Taylor** and **Kim Frawley** for coordinating a fun weekend.

Nov. Fat Tire Festival

Wonderful riding, great food and entertainment provided for a super weekend. Our Friday night wine and chess party followed by the pot luck dinner and movie was great fun. Everybody enjoyed dancing under a full moon on Saturday evening after a great buffet dinner at the Telford Inn. The huffy toss also added to the entertainment as well as the winners of the raffles trying on their new apparel. Our first Beginner Mountain Bike Clinic was well attended and the riders said it made a real difference. Many thanks to **Mike Kelly** for teaching the clinic and his helpers, **Mari** and **Jerry and Rick Shore**. Other first time activities were the Gar Pond Gallop and Try the Triple. Even with low water levels, the water portion was fun as the riders splashed their way up and down the river. Many thanks to **Sam Veal** for his hard work coordinating this big event and for **Tony Beavor**, **Jodi Chase** and everybody else who volunteered their time and energy.

Dauset, GA

Thanksgiving weekend at Dauset offered the gang a wonderful weekend of exciting trails, great weather and campfire camaraderie. This beautiful nature preserve is just north of Macon and offers some of the finest off road riding in the Southeast. If you missed it, look for future Topica e-mail information about our spring trip to Dauset.

2007 MEMBERSHIP

Time to renew your annual membership. SBA is an organization supported by its members. We need you to renew your membership and recruit new members. Use the form included in this newsletter and renew today for a great year of continued riding the country roads, beautiful trails and paddling the Suwannee River.

If you know riders, paddlers or outdoor adventurers that want to join our club and participate in SBA events, give them this newsletter and encourage them to join now. Take advantage of the discounts our members receive on events by becoming a member. For example, our **Dauset** trip is just for members...so make sure you invite

your fellow riders to join the SBA.

Open Houses are always open for members and non-members that want to experience the SBA way!

SBA maintains a free list server through sba@topica.com to inform subscribers of SBA events. If you would like to subscribe, access www.topica.com and follow the directions, or contact Mary at met925@msn.com. If you move and/or change e-mail addresses, let us know your new addresses.

Camping / Cabins

Stephen Foster State Park, White Springs, Reserve America at 800.326.3521 or www.reserveamerica.com

Suwannee Valley Campground (cabins), White Springs, 386.397.1667
www.suwanneevalleycampground.com

Kelly's Campground Cabins, White Springs, 386.397.2616

Ichetucknee Canoe and Cabins, 866.224.2064
<http://www.ichetuckneecanoeandcabins.com>

Spirit of Suwannee Campground (cabins), 386.364.1683 (Suwannee Springs, 15 miles from White Springs)

Suwannee River State Park, Reserve America at 800.326.3521 or www.reserveamerica.com

Bed and Breakfast

Adams House Bed and Breakfast, White Springs, 386.397.1915

Historic Telford Hotel, White Springs, 386.397.2000

Motels

Suwannee River Motel, White Springs, 386.397.2822

U.S. Inn, White Springs, 386.397.2155 (I-75 & CR 136)

Best Western Suwannee River Inn, Live Oak, 386.362.6000 (off I-10, 4 mi. from Suwannee River State Park)

Live Oak Econo Lodge, 386.362.7459 (13 miles from White Springs; 4 mi. from Suwannee River State Park)

Holiday Inn Express Hotel, Live Oak, 1.888.890.0242

Holiday Inn, Lake City, 386.752.3901 (14 miles from White Springs)

Canoe/Kayak Info

Suwannee Canoe Outpost, 386.364.4991 or www.canoeoutpost.com

American Canoe Adventures, 386.397.1309 or www.aca1.com

Jan. Open House – Jan 13-14 Participate in rides, help around Headquarters or just enjoy the camaraderie of SBA. Enjoy a little trail maintenance and ride guide training as we prepare for the upcoming IDIDARIDE. Saturday night is our potluck dinner at Headquarters. These are required weekends for ride guides. All members are invited to ride and enjoy the wide open spaces of winter and cooler temperatures of the Suwannee.

Ride Guides and Leaders

All ride-guides are required to attend SBA Ride Guide Training which is offered during our open houses. Log your hours on the trail or road under the direction of our qualified Ride Leaders (road) or Guides (off road) to accumulate hours toward ride leader/guide status. Ride guides must be a member in good standing who have completed the required pre-event trainings and agree to apply their leadership and riding skills to guide, sag or sweep rides at an event. This qualifies you for a free or reduced event registration. *See event calendar for training weekends.*
Ride Guides: Contact Scott at sachase@cox.net.
Ride Leaders: Contact Jeanne at BiknJeanne@aol.com

Follow the Trail

Trail work is an ongoing club effort. The stretch of Chessum trail in White Springs by Little Shoals is very fun. If you enjoy trail work or would like to learn more about developing trails, e-mail Tony at btonybea@aol.com.

Volunteers Corner

SBA volunteers make up the foundation of this club. Help plan and coordinate events, work a few hours at an event, lead rides. Consider donating your time or special skills to help your club grow. Age is no limit; make this a family volunteer event. When and where you volunteer depends on the nature of the services you want to provide. You may volunteer during certain hours at events, open houses or other weekends. E-mail Gene Curran at gcurrin@automedical.com with "Volunteer" in the subject line. Provide the following information:

- The type of position you want to fill
- Personal experience that will help with this position
- What days/hours you can volunteer
- Your e-mail address
- Acknowledgement that this is not a paid job

SBA Headquarters

Contact **Walter McKenzie** if you would like to use headquarters when there are no events planned. Do you want to help improve our headquarters? Walter can also answer your questions about ways to help spruce up headquarters. **386.397.2420** mckenziw@alltel.net.

SBA Calendar

Date	2006 - 2007 Events
Dec. 9 – 10	Secret Santa Open House and Century Ride; Host: Kim Frawley and Joy Taylor
Jan. 13-14, 2007	Open House & IDIDARIDE Prep; Host: Bill Wills
Jan. 20	Ididaride; Host: Bill Wills
Feb. 10-11	Suwannee Sweetheart Cycling Weekend and Century; Host: Jeanne Hargrave
March 17-18	Spring Equinox Open House (Training and Trail building Weekend) hosted by <u>Jerry Willert & Mari Towle</u> Wild Azalea Festival & Suwannee River Valley Birding Festival
April 14-15	Open House (Training and Trail building Weekend) hosted by <u>Mick & Sharon Shea</u>
May 3-6	Suwannee Bicycle Festival at Stephen Foster State Park - Coordinator <u>Kim Frawley</u>
June 23-24	Open House - no training or trail maintenance, just ride or paddle! Canoe/Kayaking Weekend hosted by <u>Edwin McCook</u>
Aug. 11-12	Dog Days Adventure Event at Suwannee River State Park in Live Oak, Coordinator <u>Bill Wills</u>
Oct. 20-21	Octoberfest Open House (Training Weekend) hosted by <u>Joy Taylor</u>
Nov. 2-4	Florida Fat Tire Festival at Stephen Foster State Park
Dec. 8-9	Secret Santa Weekend

SAB Headquarters Improvements

Thanks to **Sam Veal, Tony Beaver, Mike West, Eric Asbury, Rick Shore, Alan Thigpen** and **Walter McKenzie** for building our backyard patio and redoing the showers. These are great improvements to our building. We still need an electrician to volunteer to install overhead vans in the building.

2007 SBA Membership Application

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Newsletter preference: hard copy of the newsletter online via e-mail

Subscribe to Topica List Server:

I am interested in the following opportunities: Volunteer Ride guide (off road) Ride lead (on road) Trail maintenance

Bike shop liaison for _____ city/ies

Other _____

Membership Type: New member Renewing Member \$25 Individual \$35 Family

Make your check payable to Suwannee Bicycle Association; mail to 12585 East Walton Drive, Floral City, FL 34436

Read and sign below: In submitting this application, I hereby make known that I will hold blameless in the case of accident, injury, or damage of any kind the Suwannee Bicycle Assoc, its officers, members and volunteers. I recognize that bicycling is potentially dangerous, and I represent that I am a competent cyclist with safe equipment. I understand that I participate in club activities at my own risk, further recognize that safety is my personal responsibility and I agree to participate in keeping all Suwannee Bicycle Assoc. rides safe. I agree to hold the club (ride, event) harmless and indemnify the club (ride, event) for all costs, judgments and awards that may be claimed including the cost to defend such claims brought by you or another in your behalf or that of others. I also understand that helmets are required on all club rides and events.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Suwannee Bicycle Association
12585 E. Walton Drive
Floral City, FL 34436**

**Suwannee Sweetheart —
Feb. 10-11
White Springs
Stephen Foster State Park
www.suwanneebike.org**

SBA News Today: Share this newsletter and our web site with your cycling family and friends.