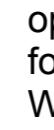
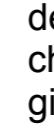


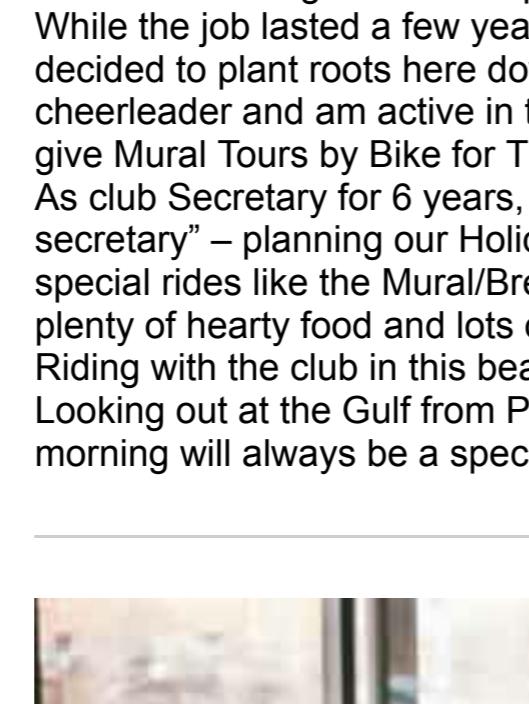
SPBC 

ST. PETERSBURG BICYCLE CLUB
FLORIDA'S #1 BICYCLE CLUB 

April 2021

In this Issue

-  Meet Our Board of Directors - Kris Woodcock
-  2021/2022 SPBC Board of Directors Elections
-  Saturday Club Rides
-  2021 Ride of Silence
-  Commission Votes For Expanded And Permanent Ferry Service
-  Florida's Texting While Driving Law
-  Distractions Happen to Cyclists Too
-  Is Cycling Bad For Bones?



Meet our Board of Directors

Kris Woodcock
Secretary
St. Petersburg Bicycle Club

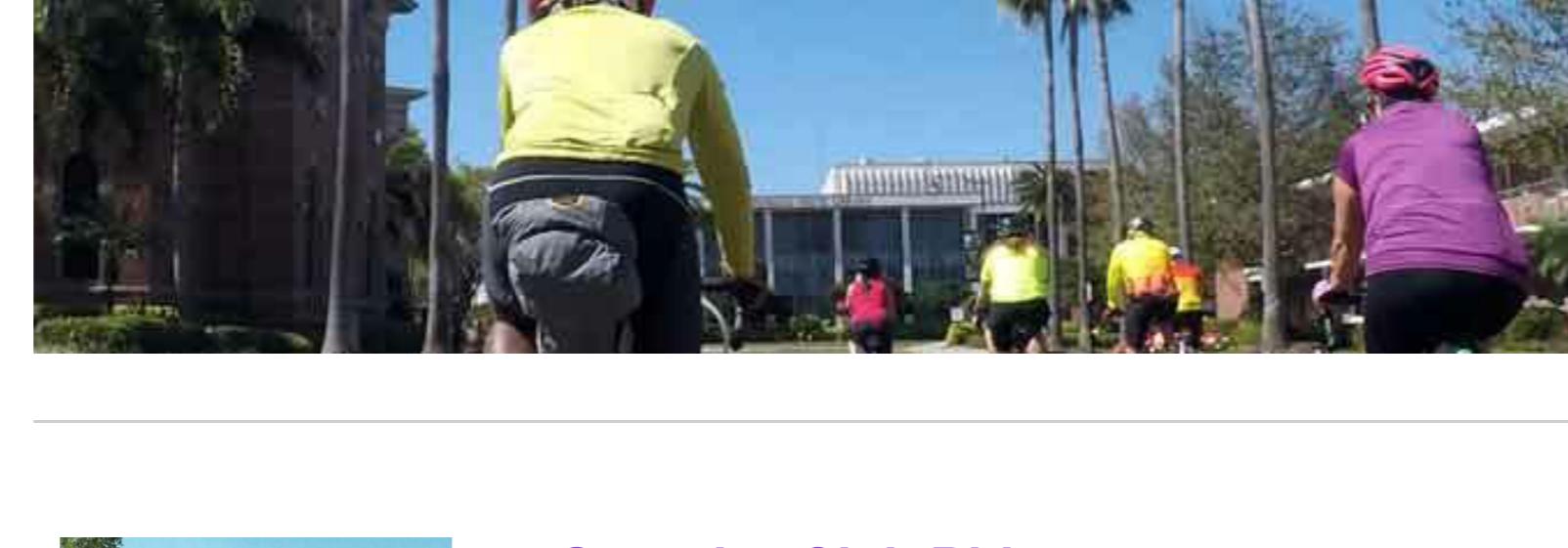
Kris Woodcock

I'm a relative newcomer to the Florida scene, having arrived in 2009 from Chicago for a job opportunity. My bike arrived on a Friday and Saturday I was down at North Shore Pool looking for a ride. Joining the club helped the "new girl" in town make friends and discover the area. While the job lasted a few years, my love for St Pete was sparked and my husband and I decided to plant roots here downtown. As anyone who meets me knows, I'm St Pete's biggest cheerleader and am active in the arts and mural scene as a docent for The Dali Museum and give Mural Tours by Bike for The Bikery.

As club Secretary for 6 years, besides documenting our meetings, I've become the "social secretary" – planning our Holiday Party, Volunteer of the Year event, as well as organizing some special rides like the Mural/Brewery Tour. I've learned the key to a successful cycling event – plenty of hearty food and lots of beer!

Riding with the club in this beautiful place has become a real high point of life in retirement.

Looking out at the Gulf from Passe a Grille Beach with my fellow riders on a quiet Sunday morning will always be a special thrill!

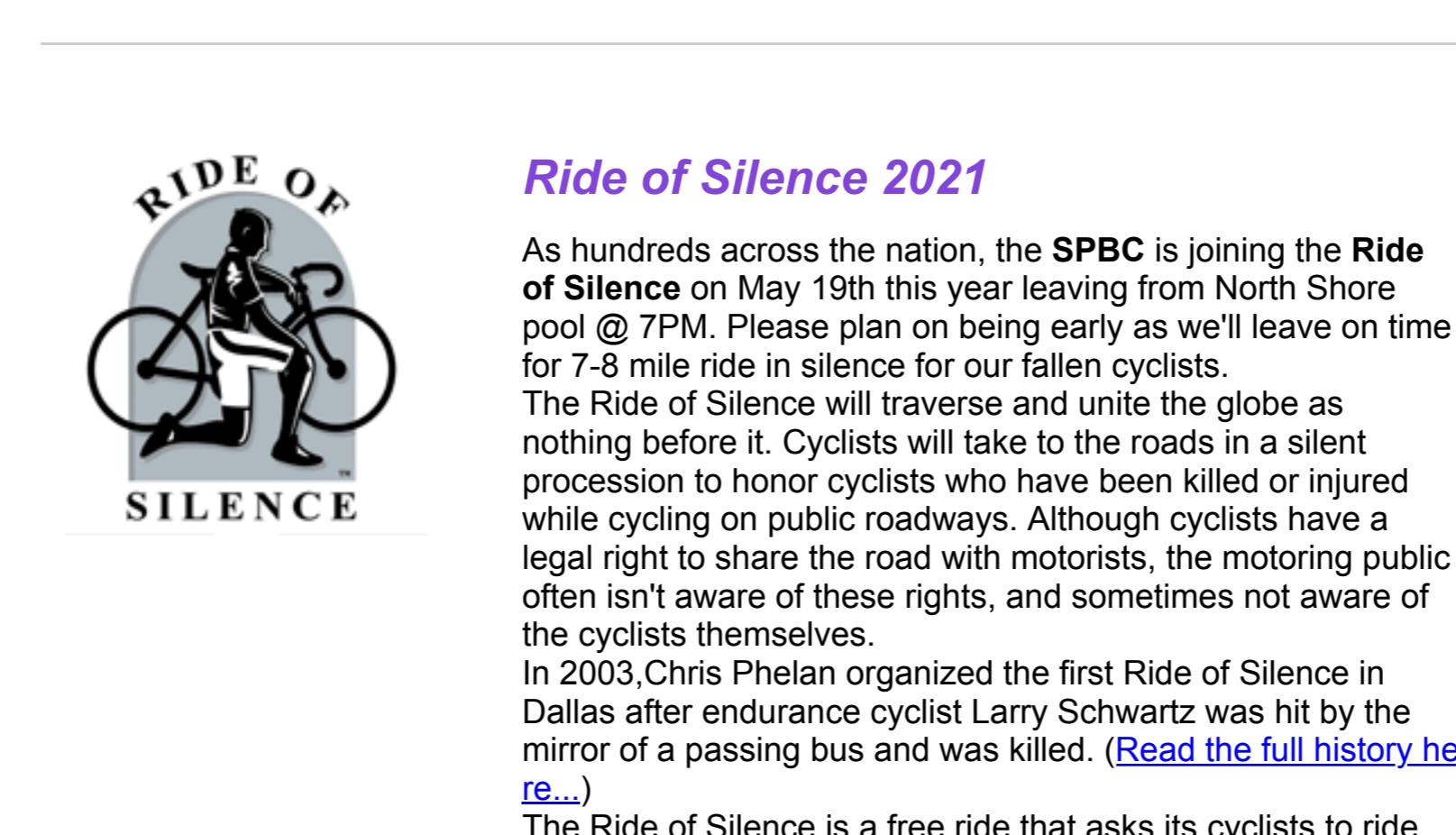


2021-2022 SPBC Board Member Elections
May 22, 2021

2021-2022 SPBC Board Member Elections

SPBC Board of Directors Election is coming up May 22nd! We have openings for new members this year so if you enjoy your club and would like to be a part of the team, we welcome your new ideas and energy! We plan events like our exciting new Sunshine Classic in March/2022, social events, safety initiatives, city/bike planning and charitable giving. We meet via either ZOOM or in-person on the 2nd Saturday of the month post-ride. If you would like to join us, please speak to any board member or send an email to secretary@stpetecycling.org.

Join us May 22nd after the ride to cast your vote and enjoy a brunch social along with our election. We will serve an array of brunch dishes along with coffee and drinks.



Saturday Club Rides

Everyone is welcome on rides facilitated by SPBC; membership is not required. Of course, we hope that after you ride with us and will want to join and help keep the club rolling!

With limited exception, all of these rides are "Show and Go."

Unless otherwise noted, these rides start at 8:30 AM (8:00 AM

beginning May 29th, 2021 for the summer months). Rides

meet between the parking lots in front of North Shore Aquatic

Center, 901 North Shore Dr. MAP. Check our [Facebook group](#)

for the latest updates.

Helmets are required for all riders and use of tri-bars are prohibited within the group. Follow traffic laws and use

established group riding techniques. If you are unfamiliar with group techniques, please ride to the rear and observe. Review

group riding techniques [here](#) and how we ride [here](#). Safety is

everyone's priority and you may be asked to leave the group if

you exhibit unsafe habits. Be aware that cycling is a

dangerous sport. You ride at your own risk.



Ride of Silence 2021

As hundreds across the nation, the SPBC is joining the **Ride of Silence** on May 19th this year leaving from North Shore pool @ 7PM. Please plan on being early as we'll leave on time for 7-8 mile ride in silence for our fallen cyclists.

The Ride of Silence will traverse and unite the globe as

nothing before it. Cyclists will take to the roads in a silent

procession to honor cyclists who have been killed or injured

while cycling on public roadways. Although cyclists have a

legal right to share the road with motorists, the motoring public

often isn't aware of these rights, and sometimes not aware of

the cyclists themselves.

In 2003, Chris Phefah organized the first Ride of Silence in

Dallas after endurance cyclist Larry Schwartz was hit by the

mirror of a passing bus and was killed. ([Read the full history here](#))

The Ride of Silence is a free ride that asks its cyclists to ride

no faster than 12 mph, wear helmets, follow the rules of the

road and remain silent during the ride. There are no

registration fees. The ride, which is held during [National Bike Month](#), aims to raise the awareness of motorists, police and

city officials that cyclists have a legal right to the public

roadways. The ride is also a chance to show respect for and

honor the lives of those who have been killed or injured.

Please check the resources on this site. If there is a Ride of

Silence in your area, we encourage you to join them. If there is

not a ride planned in your area, please consider adding your

city to the ever-growing list of sites.

For more information, take a look at the ride's [FAQ](#).



Commission Votes For Expanded And Permanent Ferry Service

The Hillsborough County Commission voted by 6-1 to expand

ferry service and make it permanent on April 7.

Under the ferry plan, seasonal service would be expanded to

operate year-round on weeknights and weekends between

Tampa and St. Petersburg, with added service to South

Hillsborough County. Weekday commuter service would run

between South Hillsborough County and MacDill Air Force

Base. Look for improved seasonal service starting this

October.

Permanent ferry service will take thousands of cars off our

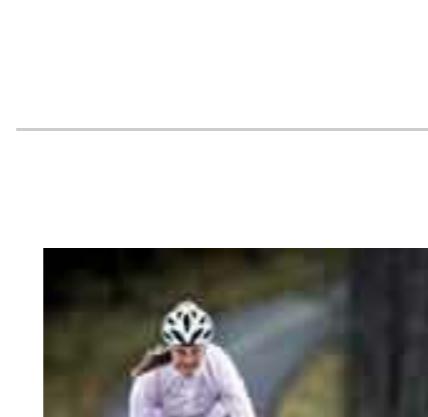
crowded roadways and bridges every day. It will connect our

region with a fun, easy, congestion-proof travel option.

Future votes remain, but the November 2020 elections

resulted in a County Commission that wants to get this done.

More to come!



Florida's Texting While Driving Law

by Jim Dodson

Texting while driving is incredibly dangerous. Although nearly

everyone is aware of this fact, many of us are guilty of doing it.

In my tidbit last week I mentioned that in the time it takes to

send or read one text, a car can travel the length of a football

field at 55mph. In addition, in 2016, texting while driving in

Florida was responsible for 50,000 crashes. That's the

equivalent of 5 crashes every hour.

Importantly, texting while driving is not only dangerous, it is

also illegal in Florida.

Texting while driving has been illegal in Florida since 2013.

Initially, it was only a "secondary offense." This meant that if a

police officer saw a motorist texting while driving, he or she

was legally unable to stop that driver. The officer would need

to see the driver speeding, swerving or performing some other

illegal act in order to intervene.

This changed in 2019 with the [Wireless Communication While Driving Law](#) (F.S. §316.306). The official "warning period" for

this law expired January 1, 2020. This law allows law

enforcement to stop motor vehicles and issue citations to

motorists who are texting and driving without any other traffic

violation.

Specifically, the law says that a person may not operate a

motor vehicle while manually typing or entering multiple letters,

text, email, and instant message.

It's important to note, GPS or other directions commonly

driven's eyes off the road, is another dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a

dangerous maneuver. It is a dangerous maneuver. It is a