



**EZ Riders**  
ezridershhi.org

## Ride Plan

***Important – If you plan to ride, please notify the Ride Leader (not the Webmaster) by the TUESDAY before the Thursday ride. Also please indicate if you are staying for lunch or not.***

**Ride Location: Skull Creek**

**Date: February 19, 2026**

**Time: 10:00 a.m. please arrive by 9:45 to gear up**

**Max Speed:** 12 mph

**Ride Length:** 12 miles

**Directions to Start:** Our ride will start in the Hudson/Dockside parking lot. 2 Hudson Rd.

**Ride Description and/or Information:** We will ride along Skull Creek and stop several times to talk about some history related to Skull Creek. We will then visit a couple of new parks and return to Hudsons. See ride notes below.

**Lunch Restaurant and Directions:** Hudsons

**Ride Leader Name, Phone & Email:** Diane Dunning, 843-298-0777  
[diane.dunning@hotmail.com](mailto:diane.dunning@hotmail.com)

### **Ride Notes:**

Talbird Tree

- Oct. 1781 Royal Militia of Daufuskie ordered to burn homes of known patriots between Savannah and Beaufort
- Talbird home, wife was alone and 9 months pregnant. Her husband John imprisoned in Charleston after serving with Francis Marion (Swamp Fox)
- The officer in charge of the burning was Mary Ann Talbird's brother-in-law, Capt. Martinangele
- Martinangele reasoned that he had been told to burn homes but not contents

- His troops moved household goods to Talbird tree before burning the house

Cotton Hope Plantation also known as Seabrook Plantation

- Thomas Henry Barksdale accumulated 2,600 acres on the island that he called Skull Creek Plantation
- House built of tabby



— Cotton Hope Plantation © Bill Segars, 2010 —

- 1000 of the 2600 acres sold to Squire Pope after the death of Martha Stoney Barksdale in 1832. The original Skull Creek plantation house was also included. Squire Pope named his plantation Cotton Hope
- Robert W. Barnwell became owner of Cotton Hope. Mr. Barnwell is a direct slave descendant of the plantation
- Tom Barnwell acquired the property and as of 2010 had leased this property for 50 years to Spinnaker Resorts

Ft. Mitchel

- Earthen fort built in 1862 by the U.S. army to control Skull Creek and protect the approach to the Navy coaling station and ship maintenance

Shell Ring

- Dates back to 1300 AD
- It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1974 after being documented in 1967 by Alan Calmes

## Sailing and rowing Center

- Original site of the Fishing Cooperative
- Captain David Jones president of the Fishing Cooperative got shrimpers into action to protest BASF \$100 million chemical company on Victoria Bluff
- BASF site approved in October 1969 and applauded by state and county government who gave major concession to BASF to lure them to Beaufort County. Claimed to provide
- 650 non-manufacturing jobs
- \$7 million more in personal income
- 1,000 new vehicle registrations
- Population growth of 3,700
- Shrimpers led by Davy Jones sailed to DC to meet with the newly appointed Secretary of Interior Walter Hickel to whom they gifted 25 lb shrimp
- Captain Davy Jones addressed Secretary Hickel: "Secretary Hickel, I wish to present to you, from the depth of the cool, clean Atlantic Ocean, food for the body, as well as the brain. We are depending on you to see that the waters remain as they are, so that we can continue to enjoy the natural resources of nature."
- Other opponents include Orion Hack and Fred Hack who organized a conservation symposium for 50 scientist, journalists and environmentalists all expenses paid. Conference attracted national attention. Cost of his support was in excess of \$750,000 and almost broke the Hilton Head Co.
- Jan 14, 1971 BASF announced it would no longer come to Victoria Bluff but plan to move to Geismar, La in an area now dubbed "Cancer Alley"