

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - January 17, 2017

Hello All

Sunday: Last Sunday we caught a break in the weather and were able to ride "Bike Trails Galore" as planned. I think there were 10 or 11 riders. If memory serves they were: **Sheila Szymanski, Thomas Knoll, Lee Meller, Chris Hedberg, Jacques Stern, Hoy Quan, Dennis Miller, Me, and Kit Gray** who was accompanied by one or two women whose identity I did not get. Sheila & Thomas took off before the rest of us, but I assume they did the long. Kit and all the remaining women did the medium which left a stag group of 4 (Jacques, Dennis, Hoy and me) doing the long. There was some concern that the recent rains had flooded portions of the bike trails we would be riding, but it turned out to be fine. The tunnel on the San Gabriel River was dry. There was some water under one underpass, but we were able to ride through it. We did have to detour around a large pond on the Rio Hondo trail in the Whittier Narrows area, but we were able to take nearby Lincoln Ave. around this problem. Here's a photo Dennis took of the snow covered mountains reflected in the reservoir behind the dam near the top of the Rio Hondo.



I had been concerned that if this reservoir was too high, it would cover the bike path which crosses behind the dam, but it has a way to go before it gets that high.

It was the usual long slog into a headwind getting down to Long Beach on the LA river trail. I was beat and was really looking forward to some of those Five Guys french fries. I was amazed that the other 3 opted to skip lunch and continue on to

the finish. My hat is off to them -- I needed my fries. Fortunately, the remaining 14 miles back up the San Gabriel River was with a tail wind all the way and made for a nice finish to the ride.

Here's another shot taken by Dennis along the Long Beach bike path. I liked it because it shows a nice contrast between a cruise ship of the past and a cruise ship of the present.



Next Weekend: This Saturday and Sunday we will be running our annual "Janus Sequential Centuries." This is a century on Saturday and then the same century on Sunday but in the opposite direction. The route is essentially the center of the Grand Tour Highland route without Casitas. That means it is somewhat hilly. Most notably, you climb up Potrero on Saturday's route. But of course you go down on Sunday. This year we have added a metric century version of Sunday's route. Right now, the weather looks questionable for the weekend, but it might be good for one of the days. If it looks good for one of the days I plan on riding the metric century even if that means riding it on Saturday instead of the scheduled Sunday. So, just because the metric is only scheduled for Sunday doesn't mean you have to ride it that day. So, check the weather on Friday and I hope you will be able to join me.

Weather: The way it has been raining so much this year, I think you just have to grab a ride whenever you can. Our routes for the weekend are always available on the web all week, so you could always download them and ride them on your own

when you can. In keeping with this "ride when you can" philosophy, today many of the Thursday Triple Dipper group decided it was probably going to rain this Thursday, so we got together and rode the usual ride today. We were joined by a few members of Dennis Miller's "Friends of Flomax" group who often ride on Tuesday. Here is a photo of the combined group at our break at Golden Cove in Palos Verdes. (photo sent by Phil Whitworth)



Meeting: There is a monthly club meeting this Thursday. It will be at the home of **Laverne Boethling** in Redondo Beach. Nominations for club officers for the coming year will close at this meeting, so if you don't want to see the same gang running the club next year, show up and nominate yourself. At the meeting we usually approve the minutes of the previous meeting, so please see the attached copy of those minutes.

Installation Lunch Venue: We are still looking for a venue for our annual Installation Lunch which will be held Sunday, March 5th. If you have any ideas for this, please contact one of the club officers or come to the meeting.

See You On The Road
Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area