

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - May 9, 2017

Hello All:

**Last Saturday:** Last Saturday the trainer was Latigo/Stunt. There were predictions of scattered showers and I hate to admit that I violated my own rules about ignoring such reports and I did not ride. I was up however, so I drove over to the start to see if anyone else would ride. Six riders showed up to ride: Thomas Knoll, Sheila Szymanski, James Carter, Josh (whose last name I don't know), Phil Whitworth and Emma Pham. They later reported to me that they either encountered no rain or at most some drizzle. Why oh why didn't I ride? I should have known better.

Anyway, I had several photos sent to me. This first is from James and I think shows the view from Latigo.



This second is from Phil and was obviously taken on Stunt Road, but I can't picture exactly where. That's Emma mugging for the camera.



Finally I have a photo of Phil, taken by Emma. I so seldom get photos of Phil (he's usually taking them) that I thought I should include it.



It looks like it was a nice day to do the ride. I later heard from Gary Murphy, who went out and did the trainer on Monday and said it was a nice day. I hated missing the trainer myself, so I went out and rode it today. The weather was mostly nice today too, but foggy at the tops of both major climbs. Part way up Stunt I stopped to rest in the sun but a mile and a half later at the top it was like this:





Amazing how fast it can change as you climb.

**Sunday:** On Sunday we were down in Orange County. Since I had blown it on Saturday, I was determined not to let another opportunity pass. The drive down made it look like it was going to be a good day to ride, but just as I got to the start, I went through a stretch of rain that got the streets wet. Two other riders showed up: Saul Miller, and Bob Wyman. They decided not to ride since everything was wet. I thought it was supposed to be only scattered showers and it might still be OK, so I decided to ride. After less than half a mile, I decided it was no good and turned around to head back. But when I turned around I saw a patch of blue sky in the distance and I thought maybe I was too hasty. So I continued the ride. I finally got to the blue sky, but only after 13 miles of constant sprinkles -- not enough to really get me wet, but not pleasant. When it cleared off, I decided I might as well keep going. But it was on and off rain the rest of the day. I think I must have ridden about two-thirds of the ride in the rain. Well, David Nakai would be proud of me. At least the last few miles were in the sun and I was nice and dry by the time I got to my car (except for my feet which never dried out). I didn't take any photos. I didn't want to get my camera wet. Well, it serves me right for not riding Saturday.

**Next Week:** This Saturday is Trainer number 7 -- Yerba Buena. (Thanks to a recent LA Times Crossword, I now know that "Yerba Buena" was the original name for San Francisco. I don't think that has anything to do with the name of the road down here, but it's interesting.) There is only one major climb on this one, but it's the long climb up Yerba Buena. There are several

smaller climbs -- especially if you take the inland return option. There is no talk of rain this weekend so we should all feel confident in showing up for this one.

Sunday we will be riding the "Oak Ridge Rides." Starting from Northridge all these routes head west and then return. Originally the long was a century, the medium was a half century and the short was a quarter century. For those wishing to get a metric century in for the century challenge, I have added a metric century which is just the half century route with an extended loop to the west. So, something for everyone. After the trainer on Saturday, I probably won't be up for the full century on Sunday, but I could go for the metric or half centuries. All routes go over Santa Susana both directions, but that's the bulk of the climbing on all the routes except the long, which does a little extra climbing in the ridge west of Moorpark. The weather looks good right now, so I don't think I'll be riding in the rain again. So why not join me.

Spring Love: It's spring and the thoughts of many a peacock turn to love. Last Thursday on the Dipper ride, we encountered this one strutting his stuff. Gary Murphy took the shot:



See You On The Road  
Rod Doty, VP