
LA Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

Rod Doty <roddoty@roadrunner.com>

Tue, Jun 18, 2019 at 10:12 PM

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - June 18, 2019

Hello All:

Last Weekend: On Saturday we were riding our last of the Grand Tour trainers. Traditionally we ease up for the last week and the route was just an easy ride down to Palos Verdes, one loop around the peninsula, and then back. The loop did include 3 trips to the top, but that's still nothing like the climb up Angeles Crest the previous week. There were only 4 riders. Unfortunately I didn't get a photo but they were: **Dale Aaronson, Thomas Knoll, Gary Murphy** and me. Dale, Thomas and I have done all or almost all of the trainers this year so I think we are ready for the Grand Tour. However, I might be the only one riding it. Thomas told me he has a golf tournament that day and Dale has been riding the trainers mostly to get in shape for a tour later this summer. But Dale told me he might consider trying the Grand Tour. The route Saturday was originally put together by **Steve Bowen** and it would stop for lunch at his bike shop in Palos Verdes. His shop is gone and a Habit Burger was put up in its place, but we still have lunch there. I like to think of it as the Steve Bowen Memorial Habit. I took this photo of it:



On Sunday we were riding "Pasadena Passion" which started at the Pasadena High School. There were only 3 of us riding and this time I did take a photo:



That's **Bill Faulkner** and **Jacques Stern**. Bill did the medium and Jacques and I did the long. It was overcast much of the day which really made for pleasant riding. While waiting at a light, Bill and I actually encountered a slow speed police chase. A car with a couple of flat tires rolled up to the light on the cross street followed by about half a dozen police cars with lights and sirens going. It looked like the driver was going to give up at that point, but after a brief verbal exchange with the police, the car continued on and the police resumed the chase. It's a sad commentary on things that police chases have become so common, this one didn't even make the news. I searched around on the internet and finally found this report of the incident: <https://www.sgvcitywatch.com/azusa/category/upland-police>

Other than that little bit of excitement, the ride was just another pleasant day in the San Gabriel Valley. We passed by Cal Poly Pomona and I can never resist taking photos of the farm animals there. This year I was only able to catch a glimpse of some sheep, but here it is:



This Week: Saturday is of course the Grand Tour -- the biggest club event of the year. I plan to be there and (as mentioned above) maybe Dale Aaronson. Not many club riders actually ride the Grand Tour any longer, but I'm told **Dennis Miller** plans to extend his record number of Grand Tours and I imagine **Mike Eberts** will also be riding. I hope many of the rest of you are volunteering to staff the event. I look forward to seeing a lot of you at the rest stops.

On Sunday we usually do a relatively easy ride from the "Corner" as our post-Grand Tour ride. This year the ride will be "Will Rogers State Park." There are only short and medium routes and both go to Will Rogers State Park where they are often playing polo. You can stop and watch for a while. I would like to say I'll be there, but I always say that and then can't drag myself out of bed after riding the Grand Tour. But I will give it a try again this year. If I make it, I will definitely be riding the short.

June Meeting: Just a reminder, the meeting this month is tomorrow night (Wednesday) and will start at 6 p.m. to allow extra time for preparing the rider packets for the Grand Tour. Check the schedule on the web for details.

Nothing else to discuss tonight and I don't have a parting photo. Next week I should have a bunch of Grand Tour photos. Again, I hope to see a lot of you out there on the course. And to those of you riding the Grand Tour -- Good Luck!

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP