

LA Wheelmen VP Report

2 messages

Rod Doty <roddoty@roadrunner.com>

Tue, Jul 2, 2019 at 10:57 PM

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - July 2, 2019

Hello All:

Last Sunday: Last Sunday we were in Alhambra for "Wandering Thru Whittier." I had hoped that now that we only had the single ride on the weekend we might see a few more riders out, but apparently not. We had 6 riders. I took this photo at the start:



That's **Gary Murphy, Sheila Szymanski, Nancy Domjanovich** and **Phil Whitworth**. **Jacques Stern** showed up shortly after I took the photo. Gary did the medium route and the rest of us rode the long. It was a nice day, but it did get a little warm near the end of the ride. Fortunately there is sort of an impromptu rest stop on the San Gabriel River Trail just below the Santa Fe Dam -- shaded benches and an entrepreneur selling soft drinks. Gary sent me a couple of photos from the ride. This is a shot of most of us as we were riding the Rio Hondo trail early in the ride just before it runs into the Whittier Narrows area.



We all remarked about how much water was flowing in the Rio Hondo. This second photo shows this even better



I've never seen anything more than a trickle in that riverbed. Later in the ride when we were at the Santa Fe Dam, there was a good stream flowing out of the dam but the water disappeared immediately and couldn't be seen flowing down the San Gabriel. I'm wondering if there isn't an underground pipe allowing water from the Santa Fe Dam to be shunted over to the Rio Hondo. They might do that occasionally in order to fill the settling ponds further down the Rio Hondo. That would explain all the water we saw in the Rio Hondo. Just my theory.

This Week: This Thursday is the 4th of July and as usual, we will be riding our "Firecracker Special" which starts in Long Beach. These are nice short routes that will get you home in time to go out and watch fireworks someplace. The routes are also very flat. The only hill is a trip up to the top of Signal Hill and that's only on the long route. The climb up the hill isn't that much and the view from up there is really nice. We often gather there for a group photo. I hope to see a lot of you out for this annual ride.

On Sunday we will be riding the "Alhambra - Burbank Caper" which starts in Alhambra (same as last Sunday -- I try not to do that, but somehow this one slipped by me.) As the name implies, the routes go from Alhambra to Burbank and back. The highlight (for me at least) is on the long route return

which rides up and over the hills in Griffith Park. Much of this is on roads closed to traffic and that makes it nice. It also rides past the Observatory and the Greek Theater. Both the medium and short skirt Griffith Park on a much less hilly route. Again, my hopes are high for a good turn-out, but then, I'm always hopeful.

Minutes: Attached are the minutes of the meeting held June 19th. We didn't actually have a meeting because the entire time was spent assembling the packets for the Grand Tour, But you can read the minutes anyway.


Parting Shot: **Ira Kuccheck** send me the following photo and this link to an article about the worst and best bike paths. There are many other photos if you look at the entire article, but the photo below is one of the best. I particularly like the arrow painted on the tree.

<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2019/jun/27/do-i-risk-it-your-photos-of-the-worlds-best-and-worst-cycling-infrastructure>



See You On The Road


Rod Doty, VP

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Tue, Jul 2, 2019 at 10:58 PM

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