

MARCH SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 1 – 8:30 a.m. 75TH ANNIVERSARY INSTALLATION RIDE & LUNCH. (27 mi & 1200 ft) The club is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year and we are planning a number of events during the year to commemorate this milestone. The annual installation of officers will be the first major event in our year of festivities. We will be having the usual lunch and installation of officers preceded by a short ride, but this year we hope to make it special. There is a new ride and we will be taking a special anniversary group photo. For this we want maximum attendance at the meeting (whether you do the ride or not). We will also be inviting past members to create as large a group photo as possible. As for the ride, it will be a short 25 mile ride starting and ending at the lunch location. Since we don't often ride downtown and Sunday is the best day to do this, we thought we would tour this portion of the city for which the club is named. From Culver City we will head downtown and ride through the USC campus (another place we almost never ride). We continue to downtown past the Staples Center and the new buildings which have sprung up around it. On the way back we will tour some other historic neighborhoods in LA. The ride will not be hilly except for an optional climb to the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook which gives an excellent view of the city (the 1200 feet of gain includes this optional climb). Even if you do not ride, we implore you to come to the lunch. It will start at noon with the group photo being taken right after we finish lunch. **RIDE START & LUNCH LOCATION: LINDBERG PARK in Culver City** (5041 Rhoda Way, Culver City 90230) Lunch will be in the activity building at the north end of the park. From Overland Ave just north of the intersection with Jefferson in Culver City go west on Virginia Ave about 5 blocks to park.

Thursday, March 5th, 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER RIDE See “Every Week Rides” at www.lawheelmen.org/wheelmen-weekly-rides/

Sunday, March 8 7:30 a.m. LAGUNA CANYON CENTURY (Century 96 mi & 2200 ft, metric century 63 mi & 800 ft) This is our official century and metric century for March although we will be riding the Rose Bowl Century later in the month in case you miss this one. Believe me, this is the more enjoyable century of the two, so you should try to make this one. This is about as flat of a century as any we have, even including the trip up Laguna Canyon which really isn't much of a climb. The route is fairly straight forward. From Torrance, we head down the coast (picking up PCH in Seal Beach) all the way to Laguna. Then it's up Laguna Cyn and we make our way back north using a more inland route until we reach Huntington Beach. Then we pretty much retrace our steps back to the start. There will be a metric century as well. This will start with the full century and stay with that route until Huntington Beach. It will then cut inland to pick up the return route of the full century. We have usually used this century as one of the Grand Tour trainers, but they are only a month away, so you might want to start getting in shape for them now. This route would be good for that. **NOTE:** Daylight saving started last night so reset your clocks or you might arrive at the start an hour late. **START: PARADISE PARK in TORRANCE.** From San Diego Frwy (405), off & South on Hawthorne 3.5 miles. R - Torrance Blvd 0.5 mile, L - Anza one block, R - Lee to Park. We usually park on the West side of the park (on Ellenwood) by the school.

Thursday, March 12th, 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER RIDE See “Every Week Rides” at www.lawheelmen.org/wheelmen-weekly-rides/

Sunday, March 15 8:30 a.m. REVEL THE ROLLIES II (Long 56 mi & 3500 feet, Medium 43 mi & 1800 feet, Short 37 mi & 1100 ft) Today is the Ides of March. I suppose there are ides of other months as well, but the Ides of March are famous because that's when Julius Caesar was killed and Shakespeare made the phrase “Beware the Ides of March” famous. So should we beware the Ides of March today. I don't think so. The warning was just for Caesar and not the world in general. So feel free to come out and enjoy our ride today. The main feature of today's route is a trip through Santiago Canyon which goes both up and down. Both the long and the medium do this, but the long adds trips through Trabuco Canyon and Live Oak Canyon. I've always thought the ride through Live Oak Canyon is rather nice and worth the extra miles. The medium route heads fairly directly over to Santiago Canyon while the long makes an extended loop to take in Trabuco Canyon and Live Oak Canyon first. They meet up at Cook's Corner and continue together through Santiago Canyon before circling around back to the start. Meanwhile, the short makes an easier tour around southern Orange County. So no reason to beware the ides today, but just to be

on the safe side, maybe President Kermit Ganier should not show up today. **START: PINE TREE PARK in TUSTIN.** From Santa Ana Frwy (I-5) in Tustin, off & east on Redhill, L- Bryan one block to park.

Sunday, March 15 – 8:30 a.m. NEWCOMER RIDE This is our occasional monthly newcomer ride which is designed to introduce riders to the joys of club riding. Perhaps you have been riding a bit, but have a hard time sticking with it or motivating yourself to get out on the bike. Riding with a club can help. It provides an established schedule of rides and many like-minded riding companions to help keep you motivated. Club rides take you on time-tested routes which cover a wide range of places so you don't get bored riding your own neighborhood week after week. But if you are not familiar with club cycling, this ride is for you. This ride is meant for those new to club or group riding and who might be unsure about the etiquette or protocol of group riding. It's a chance to learn the ropes on a short ride with a patient leader who will introduce the fun of club riding and answer all your questions. You can expect an easy ride of about 20 miles. This month club Director at Large **Mel Cutler** will be leading this ride. **START: THE "CORNER", Olympic Blvd, 1 block west of La Cienega in Beverly Hills.** From the Santa Monica Frwy (10), off & north La Cienega 1.2 miles, L - Olympic 1 block to R- Le Doux.

Thursday, March 19th, 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER RIDE See "Every Week Rides" at www.lawheelmen.org/wheelmen-weekly-rides/

Thursday, March 19 7:00 p.m. MONTHLY MEMBERS MEETING. We have another new host this month -- **Ann Trank.** Well, not really – way back in 2012 Ann also hosted. It must have gone so well that she has asked us back 8 years later. Well, let's give her such a good experience this time that she won't wait so long to invite us back again. This will be the first meeting of the newly installed officers, but I suspect they will be the same old officers, so I don't expect any excitement on that front. We will do the usual preparation of schedules for mailing and hold a business meeting. The Fargo Street Hill Climb is scheduled later this month, so we will probably be discussing that. As usual we will have refreshments. So why not join us. See what changes Ann has made to her home in 8 years. **PLACE: 465 N. Gardner St, Los Angeles 90036.** It's a duplex on the Southwest corner of Gardner & Rosewood in West Los Angeles. The location is just about in the center of a rectangle bounded by Fairfax on the west, La Brea on the east, Melrose on the north and Beverly Blvd on the south. Last time Ann indicated that parking may be a problem and suggested parking on Gardner north of Rosewood or on Rosewood west of Gardner, but in any case **read parking signs carefully.** Meeting night directions: **(323) 658-6758**

Sunday, March 22 - 8:30 a.m. PICO RIVERA & BIKE TRAIL (Long 75 mi & 2400 ft, Medium 48 mi & 800 ft, Short 36 mi & 400 ft) We are a day or two past the vernal equinox which means it is officially spring. Spring is a time to get out in the air and enjoy the rebirth of nature. What better place to do that than along a river. OK, so most of our rivers are made out of concrete and often have little more than a trickle of water, but it is what it is. Today we ride two or three rivers and they are not all concrete. Not a lot of vegetation maybe, but usually an assortment of birds can be seen. The long makes a big loop by heading into Orange County (over a few hills) to pick up the Santa Ana River trail south to the coast. After lunch in Huntington Beach, it continues north to the San Gabriel River trail and up that river back to the start. The medium travels down to Seal Beach for lunch, going down on the Coyote Creek and San Gabriel River trails and returning back up the San Gabriel. The short never quite makes it to the coast, but travels down and back on the San Gabriel with a loop in Long Beach for lunch. So join us today and welcome spring back to Southern California. **START: PICO PARK in PICO RIVERA.** From San Gabriel Frwy (605), off & west on Beverly Blvd to Park on left. (If coming from the North, the Beverly exit puts you on San Gabriel River Rd which you follow for 1.3 mi. to Beverly).

Thursday, March 26th, 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER RIDE See "Every Week Rides" at www.lawheelmen.org/wheelmen-weekly-rides/

Saturday, March 28 – 8:00 a.m. BIENNIAL ROSE BOWL CENTURY (100 mi & 3400 ft) It is an even numbered year so that must mean it's time for the Rose Bowl Century again. We only hold this one every two years because after finishing it, most people say they will never do it again, but after two years, they forget that pledge. The idea is simple enough – ride 100 miles entirely on the circle road that runs around the Rose Bowl. It takes about 33 laps to make an entire 100 miles. Sounds simple enough, but

most who have ridden this one would say it is harder than you think. There is about 100 feet of elevation gain each lap which means you climb a total of about 3300 feet – that can tire you out. And then of course there is the boredom factor. Thirty three times past the same scenery can wear you down too. Every time you pass your car, you will be tempted to call it a day. Physically it is not that tough of a century, but mentally, it may be one of the most difficult centuries you will ever ride. It is a true test of your mental toughness and determination. That said, it doesn't have to be so bad. You might think the scenery doesn't change on each lap, but that's not quite true. You will be passing an ever changing parade of joggers and other cyclists all day long. With very few cars and nothing but right turns all day, it's a fairly safe course for carrying on conversations with your fellow riders. A few friends can turn a boring ride into a pleasant day. There is a toilet and water stop opportunity every 3 miles. As a final inducement, you don't have to do the whole thing. Come and join us for as many laps as you feel comfortable doing. Just show up and wait the group will be coming around every 10 to 15 minutes and you can join in. A group makes it more fun, so consider joining us. Some ride from home and only ride enough laps to get in a century combined with their miles to and from home. That's fine, but the challenge is not riding 100 miles – it's riding 33 laps around the same course. Therefore I don't consider those who don't do the entire distance at the Rose Bowl to have actually completed an official Rose Bowl Century – they have just done a normal century. NOTE: there is a snack bar at the golf course with a limited selection of items for lunch. In the past some riders have brought their own lunch from home and eaten it picnic-style. You don't have to carry it all day since you will be passing your car every lap. **START: ROSE BOWL PARKING LOT - just south of the Rose Bowl.** From Ventura Frwy (134) or Pasadena Frwy (110), off & north on Orange Grove, L - Rosemont, L - Seco. Park near intersection of Seco and Arroyo .

Sunday, March 29 - 8:30 a.m. FARGO STREET HILL CLIMB (Medium 24 mi & 900 ft, Short 19 mi. & 700 ft). Last year we failed to hold this event for the first time in decades. The problem is that Fargo has been converted into a one-way street in the wrong direction. We therefore need a permit to close the street for a few hours to hold the event. We were not able to get this in time last year, but we have hopes we will be able to obtain the permit this year. **NOTE: AS OF THIS WRITING, WE DO NOT YET HAVE THE PERMIT – CHECK THE CLUB WEB SITE CLOSER TO THE EVENT FOR LATEST NEWS.** It would be a shame if we had to end this event which dates back to the 1970s. It is dedicated to the truism that most cyclists have never seen a hill they didn't want to climb. The question is, "Can you do it?" And the second question is, "If you can, how many times can you do it?" The hill in question is Fargo Street, reputedly the steepest hill in Los Angeles. It's only a couple of blocks long, but at over a 30% grade, it's quite a feat if you can climb it. Many will just want to see if they can make it up the hill at all. Amazingly, others vie to see how many times they can make it up the hill in one day. The record is now well over 100. Even if you don't feel up to the challenge, many show up just to watch the others try. So, come out to cheer them on and maybe you will be inspired to give the hill a try yourself. It's a thrill either way. You don't have to worry about how to get there We have rides to take you there which leave from the Corner. Both go directly to Fargo, but the longer returns through downtown to join the traditional post-hill climb celebration at Philippes near Olvera St. The shorter route goes straight back. Neither is very long or difficult (unless you ride Fargo too). **START: THE "CORNER",** Olympic Blvd, 1 block west of La Cienega in Beverly Hills. From the Santa Monica Frwy (10), off & north La Cienega 1 miles, L - Olympic 1 block to R- Le Doux.