

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

Rod Doty <roddoty@roadrunner.com>

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### Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - March 17, 2020 - Virus Edition

Hello All and Happy St. Patrick's Day

**Sunday:** Last Sunday we were riding "Revel The Rollies II" starting down in Tustin. It could have been the threat of rain or it could have been the threat the Coronavirus, but there were apparently only 2 riders. I had a report from **Thomas Knoll**. He was the only one at the start and took this selfie.



He had planned to employ "social distancing" and ride alone anyway, so it worked out fine for him. He said the streets were wet during the first half of the ride but that he never encountered any rain (or any virus that he knows of). He later found out (via Strava) that **Rafi Karpinski** had ridden to the ride and was probably somewhere behind him all day. By riding to and from the ride, he got a total of 154 miles. Awesome.

**Mel Cutler** also led a newcomer ride on Sunday. There was only one participant named Ed. They rode up Franklin Canyon and did not encounter any rain either. Here is a photo Mel took of Ed at the top of the short steep section of climbing on the way up to the lake.



And here is a selfie of the two of them at the lake.



**Next Sunday:** Well, the Coronavirus isn't getting any better right now and we are all being told to avoid gatherings. Perhaps we should just cancel our entire ride program for a while. But it doesn't cost the club anything to keep posting our ride schedule, and I think we can just leave it up to individuals to decide on their own whether they want to ride or not. After all, our events take place in the open air and don't really involve large groups. Furthermore, if you want to simply ride alone, you can do that and the club will still be providing you with routes. So, I'm sure we will discuss this at the meeting this week (see below), but for now, I think I'll keep offering the routes for those who want to ride. The only issue may be lunch. Many places won't be open and you will have to carry-out from those that are. It might be desirable to bring your own lunch. That said, our route this Sunday is "Pico Rivera & Bike Trail." These routes start at Pico Park and spend much of the day on river trails. The long does a little climbing first and then heads down to the Santa Ana trail which it takes to the coast. It rides north up the coast to finish with a ride back up the San Gabriel River to the start. The medium and short only use the San Gabriel and Coyote Creek trails to head down to Long Beach and back. I think if it weren't for my broken arm (which is getting better by the way), I would ride. I think the benefits of continued exercise would outweigh the risk of the virus. I might ride alone however and I'm not sure what I would do for lunch.

**Meeting:** There is a club meeting scheduled for this Thursday. However we have decided to do the meeting by teleconference. So, if you were planning to attend **DO NOT** drive to the designated meeting spot. If you want to be part of the the conference call, contact **Ira Kuceck** ([ikuceck@gmail.com](mailto:ikuceck@gmail.com)) He has already put together the conference call with the usual attendees, but could probably add you to the list.

**Fargo Hill Climb:** The Fargo Street Hill Climb which was scheduled in two weeks (March 29th) has been cancelled. We could just say that it was cancelled because of Covid-19, but actually, we were unable to obtain the necessary permit. Either way, we will be substituting different ride on that date.

**Members & the Virus:** Former members **Mike & Kate Lampi** (former newsletter editor and Jack Flynn Award recipients) were two of the passengers caught on the Grand Princess which was not allowed to dock in San Francisco. When they finally were let off the ship, they were sent down to Miramar for their quarantine period, but I believe they are now being sent back to Washington State (their home state now) to finish out the quarantine. With nothing much to do while on the ship or in quarantine, you can imagine that Mike has been posting on Facebook a lot. Many photos of their meals, which haven't looked too bad. Neither Mike nor Kate has been sick and they seem to be taking the situation in stride. Let's hope they don't get sick and are able to return to their normal lives soon -- or what passes for normal now.

**Summary:** Reading over this e-mail, I see that the virus plays a part in every paragraph. That just shows how much it is dominating our lives right now. Let's hope it won't be for long and we can bet back some semblance of normalcy in our cycling.

**Parting Shot:** **David Nakai** did his own ride (a brevet) last Sunday. He send me a photo of his lunch at a Chinese Seafood Buffet. He said this was just his "starters." Not sure what that means.



Wish I Was Seeing You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP