

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

Rod Doty <roddoty@roadrunner.com>

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Hello All:

Last Weekend: Despite the growing restrictions and roadblocks, some of our members continue to get in some rides. Last Saturday was the "Rose Bowl Century." I wasn't even sure the road around the Rose Bowl would be open since it is a very popular jogging site, but it was open and five riders showed up. **Phil Whitworth** took this photo.



That's **Rafi Karpinski**, **Gary Murphy**, **Dale Aaronson** and **Jacques Stern**. As is often the case, everyone did their own thing. A few got in their century by riding from home. Others did less than the full century. I think Phil may have been the only one to do an entire century in laps around the Rose Bowl. Phil said there were fewer joggers than usual, but still quite few. They got the ride in the nick of time because I heard on the news that the Rose Bowl loop was closed the very next day.

Here is a shot taken by Gary of some of the riders at the south end of the loop.



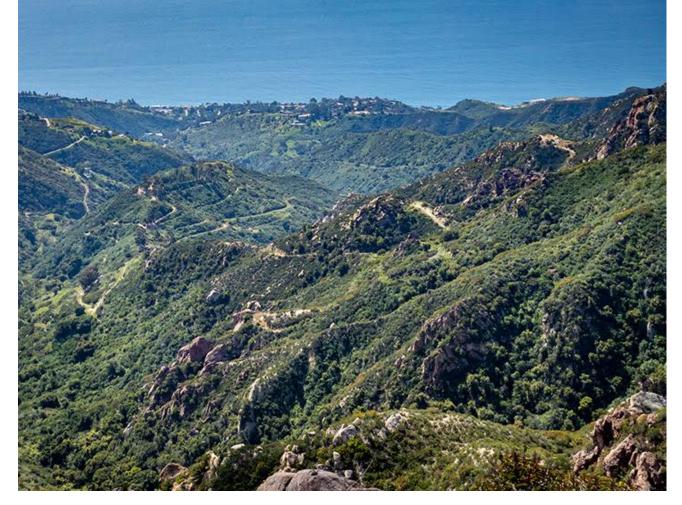
On Sunday we were riding "Corner Caper II" which starts at the "Corner." Only two riders showed up at the scheduled start time -- Rafi and Nancy Domjanovich. They stayed together up to the top of Benedict Canyon where they took this selfie. Their routes split after that.



Although they were the only two to show up at the scheduled start time, **Mel Cutler, David Nakai** and **Dale Aaronson** had arranged among themselves to begin at a different time (I guess to avoid any group riding). I'm not sure what route they took. It might have been a hybrid of the scheduled routes. They took this selfie



As he did last week, **Thomas Knoll** did his own ride in the Santa Monica Mountains and he sent this photo.



There's a thing on Facebook right now where people are posting landscape photos (I think as an antidote to all the lousy virus news). This would be a good one to post.

This Sunday: Well, it's good to see that at least some of our members are getting their exercise in. Maybe there will be some takers for this Sunday's ride which is "Long Beach Boogie. This is actually a re-do because the ride was rained out a couple of months ago. Although starting in Long Beach, the routes head inland with the long going all the way to Brea. These are nice routes, but see below.

Route Caveats: I feel like these days, our route descriptions have to come with a bunch of caveats -- sort of like commercials for drugs. First, a lot of our routes use bike paths and these are increasingly being closed. I noticed today that Ballona Creek is still open, but the beach bike path has been closed. As I mentioned, the loop around the Rose Bowl has been closed. Sunday's ride uses both Coyote Creek and the San Gabriel River trails. I don't know what their status is. Second, designated lunch locations may not be available and if they are it will only be for take-out and you will have to find some place else to eat whatever you carry out. Finally, with both restaurant and park closures, it might be difficult to find open restrooms. Riders will just need to be flexible and approach the routes with a spirit of adventure.

Triple Dipper Ride in the Time of the Virus. Some of the usual Thursday riders are still showing up for this ride, although now that the beach bike path has been closed, it will become even more difficult. I suspect they will simply switch to the streets. The usual break location is the Starbucks in Golden Cove in Palos Verdes, but that is closed. The nearby Yellow Vase remains open, but you can't sit there. Here is a photo from **Gary Murphy** from last Thursday as they adapt to these restrictions.



Parting Note: I don't have a parting photo today, but I would like to end on this bit of news which is not virus related at all. I got this from former member Tad Daley. For those who don't know, former members Karen & Barry Mason used to own a book store called Circus of Books which closed last year. For many years it served the L.G.B.T.Q community and was very well known by that community. Their daughter has now made a documentary about the store and her parents and it is being shown on Netflix later this year. It's always nice to see some our members (even if they are former members) get a little fame.

As they used to say on Hill Street Blues --

Let's be careful out there.

Rod Doty, VP