

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

Last Sunday: Last Sunday the scheduled ride was "Reseda Park - Phase I" There were only 3 riders at the scheduled start and **Phil Whitworth** took this selfie



Besides Phil, that's **Russ Brynes** and **Rafi Karpinski**. Two others rode but at different times -- **David Nakai** and **Mel Cutler**. Russ did the short, which may have been the smart move. The rest at least started out on the long. David reported that he was so wiped out by the climb up Little Tujunga that he did a rare thing for him -- he turned around and headed for home. Phil and Rafi reported getting pretty wiped out on the last climb of the day -- They had to stop and rest in the shade for a while and then stopped for Gatorade at the next two 7-11s they came to. Clearly the first big heat wave of the year caught them unaccustomed to the heat. Well, usually it's only that first hot ride of the season that gets to me, so the next one shouldn't be so bad for these riders. Here's a shot from David looking back down Little Tujunga.



Other Rides Last Week: Here's a shot from Phil Whitworth of the group at the start of last Thursday's Triple Dipper Ride. This is a bigger group that we sometimes would get before the plague times (BCV).



Once again **Thomas Knoll** did his own ride on Sunday. It was the reverse of the one he did the previous week. He sent me a photo, but it was pretty much the same as the one he sent me the previous week. I just put that on the cover of the Schedule which was just mailed out, so I'm not going to repeat it here.

Mel Cutler and **Dale Aaronson** rode the Fernwood trainer on Saturday. Here's a photo from Mel taken near the top of Fernwood Pacific (actually Saddle Peak I think) where you can sometimes see downtown LA in the distance. Thanks to the lack of smog because no one is driving any longer, it was visible on Saturday. I think that's Century City in the foreground but downtown is slightly visible in the distance.



Mel also sent me this photo of San Vicente Blvd.:



Maybe this is a new plan to keep cyclists and joggers from congregating along this street.

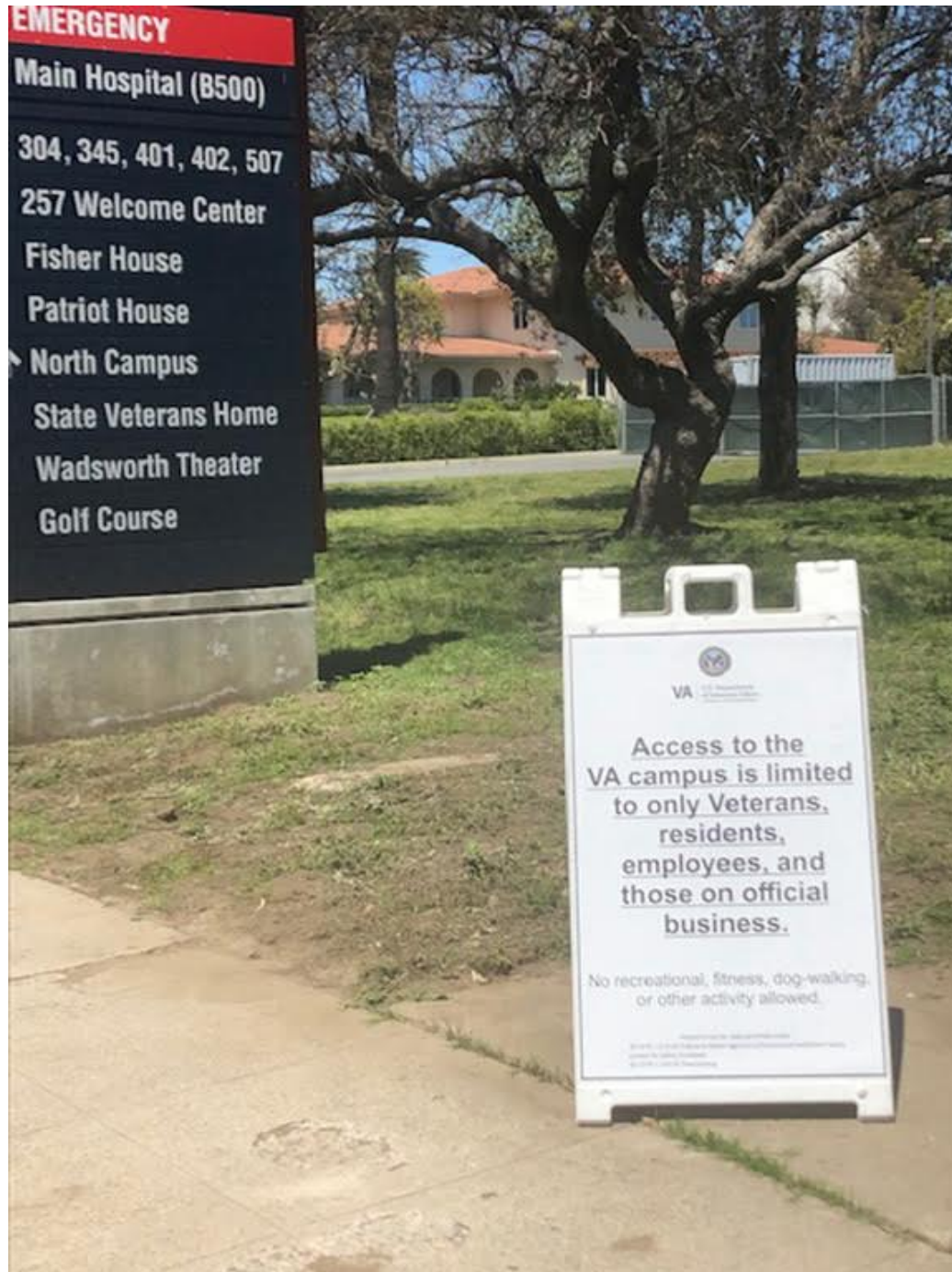
Next Week: This Sunday the scheduled ride is "Huntington Beach Go-Round." These routes start in Long Beach and head down to Huntington Beach. The long goes all the way to Newport Beach for a loop around the Back Bay. The Medium and Short only go as far as Huntington Beach. These are very flat rides and stay near the beach so if the heat wave continues, it shouldn't be as big of a problem as last Sunday.

"Circus of Books" I mentioned a couple of weeks ago that there was a documentary film made about former members **Barry & Karen Mason** and the bookstore they formerly owned. That film (called "Circus of Books") is now available on Netflix. I don't get Netflix, but I notice that they give you a 30-day free trial, so maybe I'll sign up for that to watch the film. Of course they are just trying to suck me into a subscription. You automatically start paying at the end of the free trial if you don't specifically cancel the subscription. Anyway, you can go here to see a preview of the film: https://www.netflix.com/title/81011569?g=B26E27E419D3058F2D8F91791D3844F264553F33&lkid=PRIMARY_TRAILER_PLAY&lnktrk=EMP&trkid=13710079&MSG_TITLE=81127552

Finish The Ride: The Finish the Ride organization is now offering "virtual" half centuries, centuries etc. since group rides are no longer possible. I'm not sure how it works, but you can check it out here: www.finishtheride.org/ftv-virtual

By the way -- I think the word "virtual" is being misused a lot lately. The recent NFL draft was called a "virtual draft" but it was a real draft -- it was just held on-line and by video link. "Virtual" should be used for a simulation but not something that is real. Anyway -- just my opinion.

VA: It would appear that the VA may be closed to cyclists for the duration. (see photo below from Mel Cutler)



Mel speculates that this might be because they have established an encampment on the VA grounds -- perhaps a quarantine area for the homeless or VA patients.

Parting Shot: Gary Murphy sent me this photo of a family in a park near the beach -- definitely NOT observing social distancing, but then they are all part of the same family, so it probably doesn't make any difference.



Hoping to be back on the road soon

Rod Doty, VP