

**NOTE: During the current surge in Covid infections, it has been decided that club does not wish to encourage large group rides. However, it does not want to discourage cycling in a responsible manner. Therefore, we will continue to provide a general ride schedule and route sheets as a resource to our members seeking places and routes to ride. However, specific start dates and times will not be provided. Instead, rides will be scheduled for an entire week and route sheets will be available on the club web site during that week. Two week's worth of routes will usually be available on a rolling basis. Riders are encouraged to ride these routes on a specific day and time of their own choosing. Riders may wish to make their own arrangements to ride with others but should endeavor to conform to current guidelines for group events which suggest groups should consist of persons from no more than 3 households and of course the use of "social distancing" and masks.**

## **DECEMBER SCHEDULE**

**December 1st – 7th SAUGUS SPECIAL** (Long 67 mi & 4100 ft, Medium 56 mi & 4000 ft, Longer Short 39 mile & 1800 ft, Shorter Short 26 mi & 1700 ft) This is a great ride to a fault – the San Andreas Fault to be specific. When the long route rides five and a half miles on Lake Elizabeth Road, you will be riding right on top of the fault. But the fault really isn't the reason to do this ride. The highlight of these routes is the trip up to the fault and then back down. We ride up San Francisquito Canyon and then return down Bouquet Canyon – two of Southern California's more scenic canyons. Both the long and the medium ride both these canyons but the long will go a little further than the medium. The medium will only go up as far as Green Valley (the medium lunch stop) and then cut over to Bouquet on Spunky Canyon. The long will go all the way to the end and cut over to Bouquet on Lake Elizabeth Road (on the fault) with a stop in Leona Valley for lunch. San Francisquito is the site of the famous dam which failed in 1928, but you have to know where to look to see any of the remains of the dam. On Bouquet you will see the picturesque Bouquet reservoir. If all this sounds too tough, there are two short routes which simply ride around the Santa Clarita area without doing as much climbing or going near the San Andreas Fault. We don't get out this way more than once or twice a year, so make your plans to ride this one this week. **START: PARK & RIDE LOT on Newhall Ave near Sierra Hwy in Newhall.** From the I-5 north take the 14 Frwy east for 2 miles and exit at Newhall Ave. Park & Ride lot is at bottom of ramp to the south. Toilets available at nearby Carl's

**December 8th - 14th FOOTHILL FOOTSIE CENTURY & METRIC CENTURY** (Century 92 mi & 3700 ft, Metric Century 66 mi & 2400 ft). This is our 11<sup>th</sup> year in a row riding this century designed by **Dennis Miller** as our December Century of the month. It's only a couple of weeks until Christmas, and typically all the homes we pass on these routes are decorated for the holidays. The pandemic may limit the celebration of the holidays this year, but I suspect it won't limit the amount of decorating that takes place. With nothing else to do, many homeowners may go out of their way to decorate their homes this year. The century is so named because it roughly parallels Foothill Blvd (sometimes actually riding Foothill) from La Crescenta east through the San Gabriel Valley all the way to Claremont and back. Although the route has a lot of short ups and downs, there are no mountain climbs, and that makes for a fairly easy ride. Most of the roads should be familiar to anyone who has ridden with the club a lot or who rides the San Gabriel Valley often. **NOTE:** The metric century has a separate start location. In order to give metric century riders the best portion of the full century, they are starting at the Pasadena High School and riding the center portion of the full century route out to Claremont and back. So come on out and enjoy looking at the decorated houses and the miles will just fly by **FULL CENTURY START: LA CRESCENTA PARK in Glendale.** From the Foothill Frwy (210), off and south on Pennsylvania, R- Honolulu to Park (on left) at Frederick St.

**METRIC CENTURY START: PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL near the intersection of Orange Grove and Sierra Madre Blvds.** From the Foothill Frwy (210), off & north on Sierra Madre Blvd to school on left.

**December 15th – 21st DAVID DOES DESCANSO** (long 37 mi. & 3100 ft, medium 31 mi. & 2300 ft, short 26 mi. & 1500 ft) The David of the title is **David Nakai** and if you know David, you know he goes out of his way to climb hills. All routes head to Descanso Dr. which is up by Montrose. Descanso is a climb itself and you have to climb to get there from the Zoo where we start. There is a fairly easy way to get there, and that's what the short route does. It takes Chevy Chase up to Descanso – the only major climb of the day. But that's not David's way of doing things. He likes to add some hills. So the medium adds a climb through Mount Washington before joining the short route up Chevy Chase. David wouldn't stop there. So the long really piles on the climbing. First it adds a climb through Elysian Park before joining the medium on the trip over Mount Washington. Then, instead of going up Chevy Chase, it adds a rather difficult climb up and over Camino San Rafael between Verdugo and Chevy Chase. This is about a 2 mile climb and is very steep. Once over this hill, the long joins the medium and short at the top of Chevy Chase where they all do Descanso and then stop for lunch in Montrose. After lunch, all routes return together. The good news is that the return is almost all downhill. Note that the distances are very short. The long is only 37

miles, so even with all the climbing, you should have plenty of time. Take your time – catch your breath at the top of each climb -- and you can make it. **START: Los Angeles Zoo parking lot at the NORTH end.** From Ventura (134) Frwy or Golden State Frwy (5), exit near Griffith Park at any exit marked by signs to the Zoo or to the Autry Museum. Follow signs into the park and to the Zoo lot.

**Thursday, December 17 – 7:00 p.m. MONTHLY MEMBERS MEETING.** Once again we will be holding our meeting on Zoom. We will probably be doing this until there is a reliable vaccine, and with luck, that appears to be only a few months away. Normally, we might be discussing our annual holiday party, but that is probably not be happening – maybe in the spring if the vaccine arrives. Anyway, it’s always a chance to swap gossip and tall tales. So why not join us. We hope to see you there. If you would like to join the meeting, contact Mel Cutler at [cutlerme@earthlink.net](mailto:cutlerme@earthlink.net) for the necessary information.

**December 22nd – 28th CHRISTMAS RIDE** (44 mi & 2600 ft). Although traditionally ridden on Christmas day, this year we encourage riders to do this one on any day they please. Since Christmas is on Friday, any of the weekend days would probably provide the low traffic we usually encounter on Christmas day. You should be able to get into that holiday spirit no matter when you do this route. And if you are not into Christmas, don’t worry, we don’t really celebrate Christmas on this ride. We are just taking advantage of the fact that the streets are unusually quiet. What better day to ride Mulholland Drive or head downtown. Things are usually hopping on Olvera Street as we ride through and also in Chinatown where we stop for lunch or a break. But other than those two places, the stillness of the city is really something to see. And of course there is the ride along Carrol Ave with its restored Victorian homes, which we hit just before going downtown. So many nice things to see in one ride. How can you miss it. And if you are having a family gathering, it should get you back in time for plenty for family. **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.

**December 22nd – 28th JOHNS RIVER RIDE** (Long 60 mi & 1800 ft, Medium 56 mi & 1100 ft, Short 36 mi & 500 ft) Last week’s ride was named for **David Nakai** and this week’s ride is named for **John Bauman**. John was a member long ago. In fact, even though I have been a member for about 45 years, I don’t actually remember meeting John, although I probably did. Presumably John created these routes. Perhaps he liked riding the river trails – I don’t know. Today the river in question is the Santa Ana River. All routes head down the Santa Ana River to Huntington Beach. The short simply goes down and back. Both the long and medium take the river all the way to the coast and then head over to Balboa Island followed by the Back Bay and a portion of the San Diego Creek trail. The long makes a few extra loops for added mileage and adds a climb through the Tustin Hills, but both work their way back toward the start, eventually hitting the river once again for the final portion of the return. So what’s not to like? Only the long does any significant climbing and even that is not so bad. The long is a metric century for the club’s century challenge or add a few extra miles to the medium for a metric without the extra climbing. The club ride library also has rides named for **Ivan Gazdik** and **Bobbi Fisher**. Maybe some time I will schedule them all in one month and we will have a “tribute” month. **START: BOYSEN PARK in Anaheim.** From Artesia/Riverside Frwy (91), off & south on State College Blvd, R - Vermont to Park