
Revised again

1 message

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Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - December 8, 2020

Hello All:

Last Week: Last week's scheduled ride was the "Saugus Special" which started out in Newhall. I, as well as several others, rode on Sunday. There was sort of a staggered start. **Jacques Stern** took off about 8 a.m. I left about 8:15. There were only two others there when I left so I don't know when they started. But I was eventually caught by 6 other riders. They were **Nancy Domjanovich, Phil Whitworth, Rafal Karpinski, Gary Murphy, Mario Solano** and **Jaime Lee**. Jaime is visiting LA for a few weeks and has joined us on 3 rides now. Nancy, Phil, Rafal and Mario did the long while the rest of us did the medium. Rafal had ridden from home, so he got in quite a ride. I passed **Kit Gray** on Spunky Canyon but he was doing the route in the opposite direction. I also heard from Nancy that **Marc Spigelman** was spotted. He apparently started late and was only doing some version of the short route.

The long climb up San Francisquito was as tough as ever. Gary took this photo as Jaime and Nancy (I think) neared the big pipe that crosses the road near the top.



I used to look forward to getting to this big pipe because I considered it the top. I have since learned that although there is a brief downhill after passing under the pipe, it is still almost 3 miles of solid climbing before reaching Green Valley. So I no longer have quite the sense of relief when I get to the pipe as I formerly did. Later when I was riding down Bouquet Canyon I was struck by how nice all the fall colors were in the canyon. We don't often ride these canyons in the fall, but it is a nice time to be out there. Gary took a few shots of the colors. This one is actually from San Francisquito Canyon:



Finally, I took this photo of Bouquet Reservoir from above on Spunky Canyon Road. It looks very full for this time of year.



Next Week: This week we are riding our monthly century and metric century. As we have for many years now, we are riding **Dennis Miller's** "Foothill Footsie" route as our December century. The full century starts in La Crescenta and rides out to Claremont and back. The metric century rides the center portion of the full century by starting in Pasadena and riding out the Claremont and back. I had hoped to make this my first century since last January, but I wasn't happy with how well last Sunday's ride went. However, unlike last Sunday with its long major climb up San Francisquito and Spunky Canyons, the full century does most of its climbing in short hills or long gentle grades spread throughout the course. No monster climbs. In the past I have generally found it to be a relatively easy century. So I might still give it a try. If I do, I will be starting at first light to give myself as much daylight as possible (It is almost the shortest day of the year) and even then I think I'll carry lights just in case. Just a tip to anyone thinking of making an early start also, it is often very cold at the start and the first several miles are downhill, so you do not warm up. Come prepared.

Ride Reports: Now that we don't always start at the same time, I don't always know who was out on our rides. So, I would appreciate any ride reports from those of you who ride. This includes rides other than the scheduled rides as well. And of course I would always like photos.

Club Meeting: It seems like we just did this, but our next monthly meeting is this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Once again it will be held via Zoom. If you would like to join in, simply go to Zoom on your computer, Ipad or smart phone and click on "join a meeting" When prompted, the meeting ID is **822 465 9666** and the password is **LAW** (all caps). At this meeting nominations for next year's officers will open. So if you want a

change in leadership, maybe you should offer to run. Of course, if recent events are any indication, voting an officer out doesn't necessarily mean the officer will leave.

Parting Shot: I've got nothing else tonight. I took this photo last Sunday on the climb up San Francisquito. It's pretty desolate out there and this tree was no where near a house or any other structure. Nonetheless, someone saw fit to decorate it for Christmas. It seemed so out of place.



See You On The Road (but not if I see you first)

Rod Doty, VP