

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

**Last Week:** Last week we were riding our monthly century and metric century. As it has been for many years now, the December century was the "Foothill Foolsie." I was worried about finishing in daylight so I started very early. I had thought other riders would catch me at lunch, but it turned out I was in better shape than I thought and I left lunch before anyone else arrived and I never saw any other riders. However, I did get a report from **Gary Murphy**. It would appear there were 10 other riders out there. **Chris Hedberg** and **Jaimie Lee** (our visitor the last few weeks) rode the metric which started from a separate location. Besides Gary, the following rode the century: **Phil Whitworth, Nancy Domjanovich, Rafal Karpinski, Mario Solano, Ben King, Jacques Stern, and David Nakai**. It was a nice fall day -- cool enough that I never took my jacket off, but not cold. San Bernardino County may have different rules because patio seating was still available at lunch. That was nice. All in all a nice day and I believe everyone got in before dark (except David -- see below) Gary sent me this photo showing the fall colors (I believe that is Phil in the photo).



I was impressed with the amount of holiday decorations on the homes we passed. I wish I had taken more photos, but I did take this one



I started seeing a lot of pigs as holiday decorations last year and I'm still a bit mystified by them. But I also saw two homes with dinosaurs as part of their decorations and Gary mentioned that he saw Darth Vader as part of another. It's hard to figure out how either of those fit into the Christmas story. At least pigs might have been part of the manger scene (though not Kosher).

David took some detours to take in some of the holiday lights in Pasadena after dark. He rode up famed Christmas Tree Lane. We rode this a month or two ago during the day (they were putting up the lights that day) but here is what it looks like at night.





Quite a string of cars going up the hill, but David said there was room for him to ride past them.

**Other Rides:** Although not an official club ride these days, some of us are still showing up for a ride on Thursday. Maintaining proper social distancing is not a problem while riding, but it's harder to do when we stop for a break. However, we manage. Here is a shot **Ann Trank** took of **Howard Wedin** and me keeping our distance.



On Sunday, **Mel Cutler** rode a RUSA 200K Permanent from Altadena down to Newport Beach and back. Mel has a knack for taking artistic photos. Here is one he sent me.





At first glance I thought it was a bunch of leaves, but upon closer examination I realized those are orange sandbags used to hold down the tarp. What I thought were the stems on the leaves are stakes holding the bags in place. This was taken on a hillside down in the back bay area near Balboa.

**Next Week:** The scheduled ride for this week is "David Does Descanso." These routes start at the Zoo and head up to Descanso Drive and on to Montrose for lunch. All routes return together but use different routes to get to lunch. The short takes a relatively easy way up. The medium adds in a climb through Mount Washington and the long adds in a climb in Elysian Park and a **very steep** climb over Camino San Rafael. That final climb on the long is a killer, but the entire long route is only 37 miles so I figure if I have to stop and walk a bit or rest a couple of times on the hill, so what -- I have plenty of time. Sometimes doing a tough ride is all a matter of attitude.

**Meeting:** I jumped the gun last week, but our next club meeting is definitely this Thursday at 7 p.m. As usual (now) it will be held on Zoom. As a reminder -- nominations for next year's club officers will open at this meeting. If you would like to attend, the meeting ID is **822 465 9666** and the password is **LAW** (all caps)

**Personal Goals:** It is almost the end of the year and many of you will be hitting some personal goals -- number of miles, feet of climbing or number of centuries etc. Please let me know how you did this year. **Mel Cutler** and **Dale Aaronson** have already reported some very impressive numbers to me, but I'm going to wait until the year is over before giving them to you. Don't worry if your numbers aren't impressive. I think we would still like to hear them. Because I was off the bike a lot this year, I'm not likely to hit 4000 miles which is a very low year for me, but I'll report my numbers. So, after the end of the year, send your numbers in to me.

**Parting Shot:** On Mel's Sunday ride mentioned above, he got a late start because he first had to untangle his chain. Here's his photo:





I am at a total loss as to how this could have happened. Sometimes when I would take my rear wheel off to get my bike in the car, the chain would end up with a loop in it, but never anything like this. I'm not sure Mel could duplicate this if we wanted to.

See You On the Road (after I get my vaccine)

Rod Doty, VP