

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

Rod Doty <roddoty@roadrunner.com>

Tue, Dec 22, 2020 at 9:47 PM

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - December 22, 2020

Hello All:

Last Week: Last Week we were riding "David Does Descanso" which started from the Zoo. Our first surprise of the day was that the Zoo lot was closed. It had been open only about 3 weeks ago for the "Sierra Donut Ride." Fortunately, other nearby lots in Griffith Park were open and those who drove were able to find parking. Only 4 of us were there around the usual start time: **Gary Murphy, Mario Solano, Rafal Karpinski** and me. It turned out that **Jacques Stern** started only a short time after the rest of us, but he rode the medium and I didn't see him until the end of the ride. We were also joined mid-route by **David Nakai** who is the "David" of "David Does Descanso." Turns out David had done a RUSA ride down in Orange County the night before and had then taken the train up to LA in order to join our ride. Here is a photo David took down in Dana Point on his first ride.



The weather on Sunday was typical of this time of year. It was so cold in the morning I put on most of my cold weather gear, but by afternoon, it was like a nice summer day. I hate that because I end up carrying all that extra gear for just the first few hours of a ride. First up on the long route was a trip through Elysian Park where we got our second surprise. The route takes us past a back gate to Dodger Stadium which I have never seen in use, but it turns out it is the main entrance to the Covid testing site at the stadium. A double row of cars was already lined up extending back for about half a mile. Gary took this photo:



It appeared the testing site was not open yet. I took this photo of the site from the hills above the parking lot



We think they probably opened at 10 a.m.

The highlight of the ride for me was the difficult climb up Mountain St./Camino San Rafael in Glendale. I rested once on the way up, but I still took it as a good sign I'll be ready for Portrero on the Janus Century in January. Gary took this photo of me just as I made it to the top.



Looks like I was about to fall over which is probably true. I like the way you can see downtown in the background. The good news was that the return from lunch was almost entirely downhill. Too bad all rides can't end that way.

This Week: We have two rides this week. The first is our annual Christmas Ride. There is only one route for this one. Starting from the "Corner" we head up to Mulholland which we ride over to Griffith Park. From there we head into Elysian Park and then onto downtown for our break. Just before getting to downtown we ride Carroll Street with its restored Victorian homes. Gives the ride a nice Dickensian feel. The return is along 4th Street which also has a lot of nice homes, but not as old as the ones on Carroll St. The ride is designed to be ridden on Christmas day when traffic is low downtown, but since Christmas falls on Friday this year, any day of the weekend would probably be good.

The second ride of the week is "John's River Ride" which starts at Boysen Park in Anaheim. For this one we have the usual long, medium and short routes. All routes ride the Santa Ana River. The long and medium take it all the way to the coast while the short doesn't go quite that far. The long and medium loop back through Irvine and the long adds a loop with some climbing through the Tustin Hills. If you ate too much on Christmas day, this could be a good way to work some of it off before you overeat again on New Year's Day.

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held December 17th are attached.


In Search of a New Treasurer. If you read the minutes mentioned above, you will see that **Ira Kucheck** has declined to run for club treasurer again. So, we will be looking for a new treasurer. If you would like help your club out and fill this position, it would be greatly appreciated. Let us know.

Parting Shot: Here is another photo David took on his night ride down in Orange County. I like this one because it is a true Southern California Santa with the surf board and shorts.



See You On The Road (or in line waiting for my vaccine)

Rod Doty, VP

 2020_12_17.pdf
73K