
LA Wheelmen VP Report

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Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 10:56 PM

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - January 19, 2021

Hello All:

Last Week: Last week the scheduled ride was "Soup To Knotts" which started in Buena Park (within sight of Knott's Berry Farm). I believe there were 11 riders. **Lynn Katano** and **Jackie Burneson** made a surprise appearance, but they were riding the medium route and weren't seen again. The others were: **Nancy Domjanovich, Chris Hedberg, Jainie Lee, Phil Whitworth, Jacques Stern, Rafi Karpinski, Ben King, David Nakai** and me. It was a strange day. I took off a bit early assuming everyone else would catch me, but they didn't until I stopped to rest at the top of Turnbull Canyon (our biggest climb of the day). After that, it seemed like the riders kept getting scattered. I rode mostly alone, but every so often, one or two of the other riders would pass me. Often they were riders I assumed were already ahead of me. No one seemed to know where everyone else was. I had hoped to scout out a new lunch location, but I felt I was running late and just stopped at an In-N-Out which I don't think anyone really wants as the official lunch stop on any of our rides. The menu is too limited for one thing. Oddly enough, despite how the riders got scattered, we all finished close to the same time. At least the early finishers were still loading their cars when I got there.

The weather was nice, but we had head winds much of the morning. The winds plus more climbing than I remembered made for a slow first half of the ride. Fortunately, the last 20 miles were almost entirely flat and the winds were gone. Nonetheless, we finished close to 5:00 -- later than I had hoped. I didn't get many photos this week. As he often does, Rafi had ridden from home and took this early morning shot of some geese along (I think) the San Gabriel River



At the top of Turnbull, Rafi took this photo of Jacques as he completed the climb.



Finally, I took this photo of downtown LA from the top of Turnbull to show how clear the air was.



This Week: This week the scheduled rides are our annual Janus Centuries. These are two centuries and two metric centuries intended to be ridden on two consecutive days. The Day 2 routes (both century and metric) are the same as Day 1, but ridden in the opposite direction. Although that was the original concept, often riders only ride one day or ride a century one day and a metric the other day. You are free to mix and match as you desire. The full centuries have about 5000 feet of climbing so these are not easy routes. Also the Day 1 routes include the dreaded climb up Potrero near the end of the route which makes for a difficult day. Of course the day 2 routes go down Potrero. I had hoped to ride the day 1 century and then see how I felt the next day. But they are talking about rain this weekend, so I will have to play it by ear. I hope to get out there at least one day. Given the difficulty and the still short days, I usually start at first light.

More Personal 2020 Stats: I heard from several more members with their stats for 2020.

Will Cary completed 2,135 miles with 186,797 feet of climbing over 103 rides. He said that at age 75 he is just glad to be out there still riding.

Jacques Stern rode 5669.19 miles with 188,996.06 feet of climbing. I like the way that these days with Strava and Garmin's etc. we can report our miles and climbing down to the hundredth of a mile or foot.

Steve Benoff says that one of the advantages of living out in Beaumont is that there is a lot of good climbing in the area. He reported only 3449 miles but 364,841 feet of climbing, which is very impressive for that distance.

David Pagel reported 8319 miles with 346,504 feet of climbing in 196 rides. That's a lot of rides. I've always wanted to ride at least half the days in the year (183) but have never been able to do it.

Again, I encourage any of you to send me your stats and I'll report them here.

Monthly Meeting: Our monthly meeting will be held this Thursday evening at 7 p.m. It will once again be via Zoom. I believe nominations for next year's officers close at that meeting. At this time we do not have a treasurer for the coming year. We would really love it if someone would step forward to assume this position. If you would like to attend, the Zoom meeting ID is **822 465 9666** and the password is **LAW** (all caps).

Parting Shot: I don't have a funny photo this week, but I thought this shot taken by Rafi in the early morning light last Sunday was particularly striking:



See You On the Road or in line to get vaccinated

Rod Doty, VP