
Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

Last Week: On Saturday we were riding our 7th Grand Tour trainer -- "The Dam Corner Century." I took off early so, as usual, I didn't see anyone else. But I did get an e-mail from **Greg Analian** who told me he has actually ridden all 7 trainers so far -- I just hadn't seen him except at the beginning of the Baldy Trainer. I also heard from **Gary Murphy** who rode a modified version of the metric. Finally, it is my understanding that **Jacques Stern**, **Rafi Karpinski** and **Chris Hedberg** rode the metric, but on Sunday instead of Saturday. They encountered rain on Sunday (see Rafi's report below). They should have ridden Saturday because we had much nicer weather. It was overcast most of the day, but that kept it cool. Greg sent some photos. The first is from up in Elysian Park near the beginning of the ride. It shows that it was a clear day, even if overcast.



I believe this second photo is of "suicide bridge" near the Rose Bowl which we rode under near the end of the ride.



Greg is clearly a better photographer than I am so I'm glad he says he plans to ride the remaining trainers as well.

Although I didn't have much trouble completing the century, I did find it frustratingly slow due to all the traffic lights. As near as I can tell, I spent about an hour just stopped at lights. I don't think we could ever run this century when the days are short.

On Sunday we had scheduled "Capistrano Caper." I was too beat from the century to face the drive down to Capistrano, so I didn't go. It was probably just as well, because I got an e-mail from **David Nakai** that morning and he said he was at the start and it was raining. Of course, David rode anyway. I believe he was using it as part of a brevet. I don't know if anyone else rode that day. I'm thinking of re-scheduling it later in the summer since it is mostly a coastal route and we need those in the summer. David did send me this selfie when he was riding the freeway shoulder through Camp Pendleton.



The road looks dry in the photo, but I can see beads of water on his helmet and his jacket looks wet. I don't know what to make of the look in his eye.

This Week: This Saturday is our 8th Grand Tour Trainer: "Two Terrible Tujungas Tour." This one really ups the difficulty with about 7000 feet of climbing. We start with the long climb up Little Tujunga (which has two peaks). Then it's the long up-grade out to Acton for lunch. After lunch comes the real challenge -- Aliso Canyon and then on up to Mill Creek Summit. It's mostly downhill from there on the standard route, but there is an extended version that adds a little more climbing to take you up to Angeles Crest Highway at Clear Creek and then down. I think the extended route is worth the extra work because the downhill on Big Tujunga which the standard route does is not much fun -- it's rough and it has a couple of short up-hills in the middle. The extended version gets the much more fun downhill on Angeles Crest and also Chevy Chase. The extended route has a long stretch on Glenoaks at the end which used to be rough, but it's been mostly repaved now, so that's not so bad either. As usual, I plan to start early to keep my options open for doing the extended route.

On Sunday we will be riding "Westlake - Potrero Canyon" which starts out in Westlake Village. the long and medium both ride DOWN the dreaded Potrero. While the medium makes a short loop through Camarillo and back to the start, the long makes a larger loop taking you all the way to Ventura before turning back. The short just stays in the Westlake and Agoura areas. I wasn't able to make it too last Sunday's ride, but I will try again this Sunday. It just depends on how wiped out I am after the Saturday trainer.

Other Ride: I mentioned above that Rafi Karpinski rode the Dam Corner Metric Century on Sunday, but it was actually part of a "Virtual" Double century he put together. He sent me a brief description which I think I will just insert here:

Around 8 pm on Saturday evening I was pondering how many miles I should ride this rainy weekend. I decided to visit the California Triple Crown website to check what DCs are available later this year. The first on the list was Davis which I wasn't planning to ride due to long travel time. I decided to click on it anyway and found out the event was canceled due inability to obtain permits, the virtual option was available. The last day to sign up was today. On a spur of the moment I decide to enter. After paying the \$50 fee, I started scrambling to get ready. I was planning to meet everyone at 8:30 at the Corner so I needed to adjust a route accordingly. I decided to create a route based on the Hemet model, a number 8 loop starting in the middle. I was hoping to avoid rain but I figured it would be impossible. First part of the loop was the same as the last DC, Hills of South Bay, loop around Palos Verdes. This would take care of most climbing. I was able to avoid rain until three o'clock but as I was climbing to "the Domes," a fog rolled in. As I was descending I realized this wasn't fog but an angry rain cloud and by the time I reached Marymount California University, I was soaked. I put on all my rain gear and hoped for the best. I couldn't ride very fast due to darkness and rain but managed to get home roughly on schedule. I changed all my clothes and headed out to meet LA Wheelman. I made oatmeal ahead of time, so I was very happy to have a hot breakfast. Only Jacques and Chris showed up and we rode the Dan Corner Century metric option. Chris discovered a new restaurant Colombo's, I enjoyed the food but it was a little late in the ride so some riders might prefer an earlier option. The last part of the ride was the most difficult, even though it was very flat, I was chasing sunset and time limit, and didn't want to ride in the dark. PCH to Malibu Lagoon and back gave me the required mileage. I was very tired, riding in the dark and the rain was draining. My dinner was a protein drink and a midnight snack was another protein drink, too tired to prepare food. This completes a story of riding a Double Century I never intended to ride an Accidental DC.

Rafi included some photos. The first is Golden Cove in Palsos Verdes at night. I go there almost every week, but never at night.



The second is from up on top of the Santa Fe Dam, for which the ride is named. I figured we should include at least one shot of the dam



Video: **Kit Gray** send me this link to a 360 video he made while riding down a dirt trail which apparently parallels the paved road down Franklin Canyon. I wasn't aware there was such a thing. It's interesting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-E8FJ5PpoQ>

Meeting: This Thursday is our monthly club meeting. As usual, it will be on Zoom starting at 7 p.m. The log-in information is the same as in the past. If you need this, contact me or our host **Mel Cutler** (cutlerme@earthlink.net) but please do not wait until the last minute to do so.

Parting Shot: I saw this near the end of Saturday's ride. I believe it is the new Academy of Motion Pictures Museum still under construction. My photo doesn't do it justice, but it looked to me like they decided to make it look like a small version of the Death Star from Star Wars.



See You On The Road,

Rod Doty, VP