
Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

Rod Doty <roddoty@roadrunner.com>

Tue, May 25, 2021 at 9:44 PM

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - May 25, 2021

Hello All:

Last Week: Last Saturday was our 8th Grand Tour trainer -- "Two Terrible Tujungas." As far as I know, the only two riders were **Greg Analian** and me. Unfortunately for me, I broke a spoke on the final climb up Little Tujunga and felt it wisest to cut the ride short. I had been going pretty well up to that point and was looking forward to tackling Aliso Canyon, but it was not meant to be. It was a very nice day for the ride. Not too hot as it often is. Fortunately Greg took many photos. Here are just a few. The first, I believe, is looking back down Little Tujunga. You can see what a nice day it was and the beautiful scenery the rest of you missed.



This next one I believe is where Soledad Canyon Road crosses the tracks just past Tippi Hedron's lions and tigers.



This final one is of the reservoir in Big Tujunga Canyon taken from near the top of Big Tujunga Road. As with most reservoirs these days, it looks low.



It is really a shame more riders aren't doing these training rides because they are beautiful.

On Sunday we were starting out in Westlake Village for "Westlake - Potrero Canyon." For the first time in a few weeks, we had a fairly good turn-out. **Phil Whitworth** took this photo at the start.



From the left: **Sheila Szymanski, Me, Gary Murphy, Bill Faulkner, Rafi Karpinski** and **Nancy Domjanovich**. **Kit Gray** had started early which makes a total of 8 on the ride. Kit and Bill did the medium route while the rest of us did the long (although Gary and I cut a few miles off). It was another beautiful day to be out on a bike. The highlight of the ride is probably the screaming descent down Potrero Canyon. Kit sent me a YouTube video he made of this descent. It is a little sped up, so it may appear more thrilling than it actually is, but it's still a thrill. Here's the link: (Note: it's a 360 degree video, so you can rotate your view as you go down the hill)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdCflItut3E>

As an example of what a nice day it was, here is a shot from Phil as we crossed the boat channel in Port Hueneme where some were enjoying the day by kayaking



Near the end of the ride Gary and I noticed this vegetable farm where it appeared you can come and pick your own. I've seen pick your own strawberries or apples, but never just random vegetables like this.



This Week: On Saturday our 9th trainer is the "Three Hills Trainer." As you might guess, there are 3 major climbs on this one. The first is a fairly mild climb in Griffith Park. The second climbs not much higher than the first, but it is very steep as you go up and over Camino San Rafael in Glendale. These first two climbs are about 2 or 3 miles each, but the third climb, while never steep, goes on for about 20 miles as you ride up to the top of Mount Wilson. Unfortunately, the cafe up at Wilson is not open. It wasn't open the last time I did this ride (although I thought it would be), and I was still able to complete the ride. If you take enough water and some snacks, I think you can do it. Once you are there, you have almost 20 miles of downhill on the way back. In fact, if the going gets too tough, you can always turn around anywhere on this final climb. I'm having my wheel rebuilt and it might not be ready by Saturday. Without that bike (which has very low gears) I won't be able to make this ride. So I may or may not be there.

On Sunday we are doing a favorite of mine -- the "Hollywood Sign Ride." There is only a medium and long route for this one. The medium simply goes up to the sign and back down while the long does this and then adds a loop out through the San Fernando Valley and back. The climb to the sign gets very steep for the last few miles, but the entire trip from the start in Beverly Hills to the top is only about 10 miles. So you can take your time and make it. The views from up there are great. Unfortunately, if I don't have my low gear bike back for the weekend, I won't be able to do this ride either. Even if I do have the bike, I might be too tired from the trainer to show up anyway. We will have to see.


Minutes of the Meeting: Attached are the minutes of the meeting held last week. Very little was discussed, but we will be returning to our regular schedule of rides with start times as well as dates.

Parting Shot: I have nothing else to add tonight. I took the shot below last Saturday on Placerita Canyon Road (which wasn't on the route, but I took it to cut my ride short after I broke the spoke). There used to be a western town movie set out there, but I think it burned in one of the fires. However, they have apparently built this new movie town which appears a bit more modern than the old single street western town that formerly was there. But then they don't shoot westerns much anymore.



See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

 2021_05_20.pdf
71K