

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All and happy Columbus Day (traditional date) if you are still celebrating the holiday

Sunday: We had two rides this past Sunday: Our century of the month and a newcomer ride.

The century was "Beaches to Brea Canyon" and started in Manhattan Beach. We had 6 riders and everyone rode the full century. I took this photo at the start:



That's **Mario Solano**, **Dennis Kokas**, **Phil Whitworth** and **Nancy Domjanovich**. Riding from home and joining us a few miles into the route was **Rafi Karpinski**. It was nice to see Dennis out since he doesn't often ride with us on Sunday. It was a beautiful day for a century. It got a little warm as we got to Brea Canyon, but then we soon turned and were headed for the coast again and that gave us a cooling breeze (although at times an annoying headwind). The group stopped for an early bathroom break but Mario and I continued on. I expected the group to catch us soon enough, but to my surprise we never saw them again. At lunch I texted Rafi to see where they were and they were still about 9 miles back, but they had stopped for an earlier lunch. Here's a photo Phil took of them at lunch:



I still thought they might catch us since by the time we finished our lunch they should have been close and we took a final break with about 15 miles to go, but we never saw them. I assume everyone had a good day. I noticed a number of homes already have their Halloween decorations up. I didn't take any photos, but Rafi did snap this one



Looks like a donkey cart carrying a large pumpkin and being driven by "death" but I'm not sure what it means. I hope to see some more interesting displays in the coming weeks.

The newcomer ride was very well attended with 12 riders. **Hoy Quan** took this photo of the group:



They started at LA State Historical Park near downtown LA and did a 20 mile ride together. The route was planned so riders could continue their ride at the CicLAvia which was taking place nearby. The newcomers were well taken care of by 5 club veterans in the group: **Hoy Qual** and **Mel Cutler** (co-newcomer ride chairs) as well as **David Williams**, **Jacques Stern** and **Dale Aaronson**. That's a pretty good Senpai to Kohai ratio.

This Sunday: Our ride this Sunday is "Revel the Rollies - Corona" which starts in the city of Orange. All routes head out to Corona. The short just reaches the edge of the city and returns. The medium does a loop around the city before returning and the long adds a run out Temescal Canyon to Tom's Farm for lunch before returning. These are some nice routes -- especially if you make the loop out to Tom's Farm. We haven't ridden this one since the pandemic started -- maybe the name "Corona" put us off. But there is nothing to fear from the city which was actually named for the circle drive at the heart of the city. So why not join us. I look forward to seeing some of you there.

A Couple of Observations: On Sunday's ride I noticed a couple of things that have been in the news lately. First, I could smell the "rotten egg" odor that people have been complaining about in Carson. Our route back took us over the channel where the odor is apparently originating. Second, when we passed over the Alameda Corridor railway, it was packed as far as the eye could see with parked trains full of shipping containers. It would seem the bottleneck is not just at the port, but also in getting the containers out to their destinations around the country. I wish I had taken a photo because it was an impressive number of containers sitting there going nowhere.

Parting Shot: I don't really have a very good photo here tonight but I took this at the beginning of Sunday's ride:



As I was getting my bike ready, this goose came over and seemed very friendly. I imagine it is used to seeing people in the park who often feed it. I didn't have anything but a Clif Bar and I wanted to keep that for myself.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP