

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

Last Weekend: We had rides on both Saturday and Sunday, but Sunday's ride went down to San Pedro, so I picked this song for tonight's background music.. I don't think she is singing about our San Pedro, but it's funny to listen to the lyrics and imagine that she is: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_-d8NVYmgs

But before Sunday, we had our first training ride of the season on Saturday. As always, it was the "Canyon Lakes" ride which takes us up Bouquet Canyon. Only 4 riders were at the start and **Phil Whitworth** took this photo:



That's **Lee Meller**, **Gary Murphy** and **me**. I believe we all did the full training ride. **Mel Cutler** and **Dale Aaronson** also rode, but had ridden from home and we didn't see them (although Dale says they saw us and called out but we didn't hear them). They did the "lite" version of the trainer, but having ridden from home, they actually did a much longer and more difficult ride than the rest of us. One of the highlights of the trainer is the poppies which are usually in bloom along Lake Elizabeth Road. Some years there aren't many poppies but this was a pretty good year. We all took photos and here is one from Gary:



Another feature of the ride is the lakes we pass by. Bouquet Reservoir was fairly full as shown in this photo from Dale.



However, this photo of Lake Castaic from Phil tells another story



I thought it was a good first trainer. I wish there had been more riders, because if you don't do the easier early ones, I don't imagine I'll ever convince you to come out for the harder ones later.

On Sunday the ride was "South Bay Typical." As often happens with me after a training ride, my mind said "let's go." but my legs said "no." I've got to quit giving my legs veto power. Anyway, there were 7 riders. **Rafi Karpinski** (who, BTW, had ridden the Hemet Double the day before) took this photo:



That's **David Nakai** (who doesn't like to show his face apparently), **Steve** (who's last name I didn't get), **Michael Doyle**, **Ben King**, and **Bill Faulkner**. **Jacques Stern** showed up a bit late for the photo. Jacques, Rafi and David did the medium route and took a short detour up to the Korean Friendship Bell where **David** took this photo which, as luck would have it, contains the two riders not in the above photo.



David said the medium rides waited for the long riders in San Pedro, but they had somehow slipped past and I am unclear as to whether they ever re-grouped. David also mentioned that the new Ports-O-Call is complete. I don't think it is entirely done, but maybe enough new places have been finished that we can find a better lunch location the next time we do this ride. The lack of a single lunch location was the reason the two groups missed each other.

This Weekend: We actually have 3 rides this weekend. On Saturday we will be riding our second trainer: "Fernwood." This trainer rides out to Topanga Canyon, up the canyon to the Fernwood/Pacific climb which continues up on Saddle Peak. From the coast up to the top of Saddle Peak is a long sustained climb, but it sets you up for the great 4 mile downhill on Stunt Road. At this point the "lite" version splits off to head into Calabasas for lunch and a return through the Valley. The full version heads west on Mulholland Hwy to lunch at the Rock Store. We have not stopped at the Rock Store in many years because there was a better location nearby. But that burned down a couple of years ago, so I'll be interested to see what the Rock Store has to offer. After lunch, we climb the "Rock Store Hill" and then the twin peaks of Latigo. But that sets us up for the 7 mile downhill on Latigo which was originally one of the reasons this route was created. Should be fun.

On Sunday our regular weekly ride is "Reseda Park - Phase II." These routes start from Reseda Park and head west. The long and medium both go to Simi Valley, but the long extends the trip west to Moorpark before turning back. The long also adds a trip through Box Canyon on the way to Simi. This has a very steep section, but is also very scenic. The short stays in the San Fernando Valley. If I don't let my legs have their way, I hope to show up.

Also on Sunday is our monthly Newcomer Ride. This month the ride will once again be starting at the Zoo parking lot. There will be a short and easy route, but also one or more longer and more difficult routes will be offered.

Parting Shot: I don't have anything else to add tonight. I took this photo last Saturday in Green Valley. I don't really have a caption for it or anything to say about it other than I thought it was a bit unusual:



See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP