

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

Last Weekend: Again, we had rides both Saturday and Sunday. Saturday was "Looking For Leona," our 7th trainer and century of the month, and on Sunday we were riding the "Brentwood Flyer." I didn't have a good song for tonight, but then when I checked, wouldn't you know it, there is a country song named "Leona" So here it is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAQ-BlkS6X4>

Again, **Phil Whitworth** was the only rider on the trainer. I feel bad for abandoning him to ride alone, but then again, I wouldn't be able to keep up with him anyway. Phil took this photo at the start which shows that the ridership on these rides is just a shadow of its former self.



Phil may have been riding alone, but he did run into a friend.



It was an extremely warm day, and it's amazing that Phil was able to ride the whole thing. Here's is a shot he took in Leona where he stopped for lunch which proves he made it that far.



Not only did he have to contend with the heat, but on the return several miles of Bouquet Canyon had been roughed up in preparation for repaving. That will make Bouquet nice for us in the future, but it must have been a real downer for Phil. Hats off to Phil for sticking to it.

On Sunday, there were 5 of us at the start. **Rafi Karpinski** took this photo:



That's **David Nakai**, **Jacques Stern**, **me**, **Michael Doyle** and **Gary Murphy**. We all started out on the long. The route starts out with a trip through Beverly Hills. Very impressive houses, but a somewhat hilly portion of the route. We lost Michael along here -- he took a phone call, and perhaps had to cut the ride short. We also lost Gary here who decided to only do the medium. I continued with the others, but at the top of Sepulveda, I felt it was getting too hot and my heart just wasn't in going to the valley. (My metaphoric heart -- my real heart is fine.) So I turned back. The other 3 continued the route. They had apparently intended to stop at Pecos Bills for lunch but missed it. (It really is literally just a hole in the wall and easy to miss) so they ended up having lunch at the Habit which was a little later in the route. David took this shot at lunch:



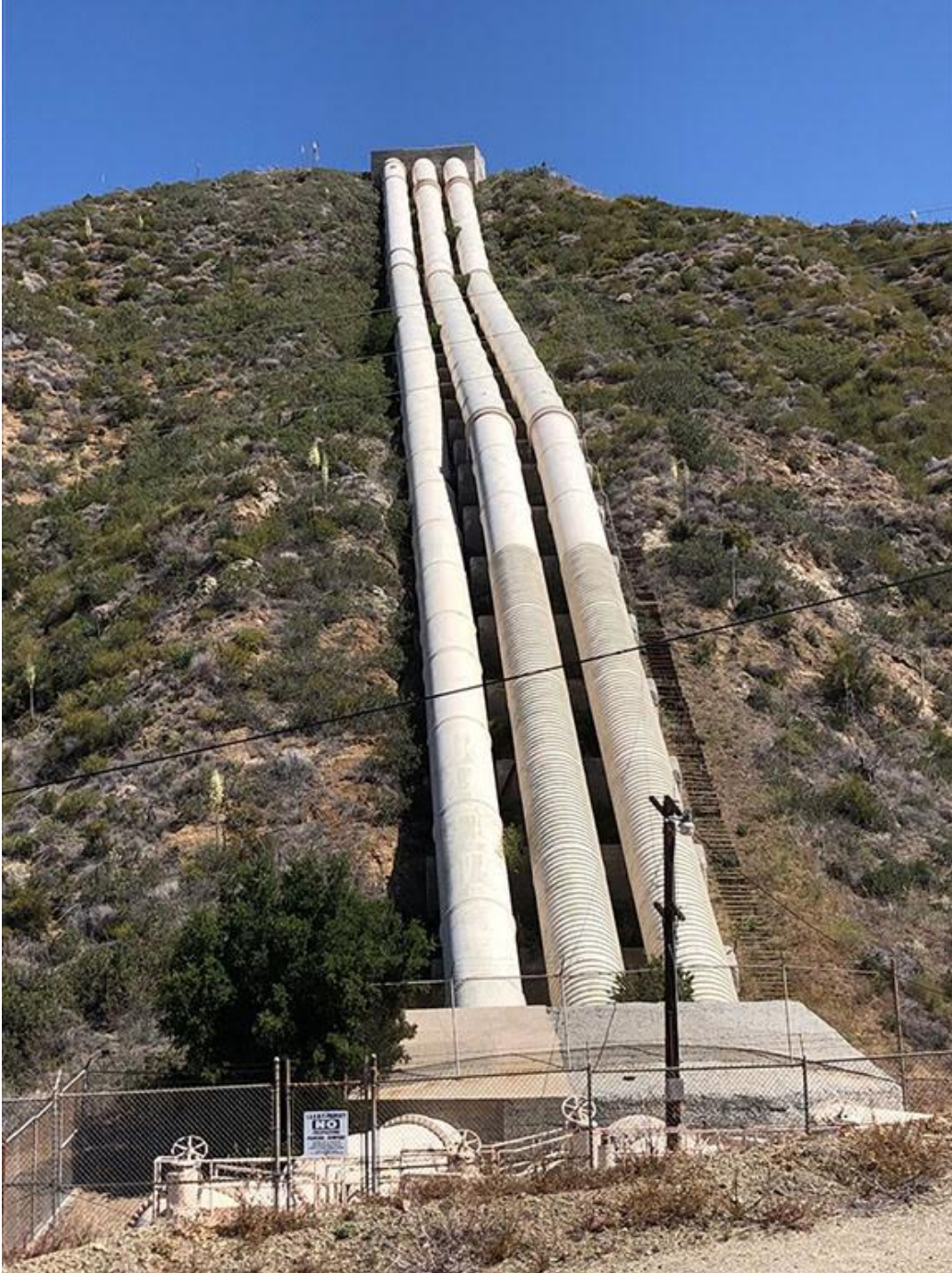
Looks like David was having onion rings. I'll have to try those the next time I go to the Habit. Like Phil on Saturday, they also encountered a repaving project which required a detour from the route. This seems to be happening on our routes more and more. Looks like they had a fine time. Maybe I should have stuck it out.

This Week: This Saturday's trainer is "Two Terrible Tujungas" which takes us out to Acton. It starts with a climb up Little Tujunga. Although the ride is named for that climb, it's not really the big climb of the day. After lunch in Acton, you climb Aliso Canyon and then continue the climb on Angeles Forest up to Mill Creek Summit. The Pacific Crest Hiking Trail crosses Angeles Forest Hwy at Mill Creek Summit and the last time I was up there I saw some hikers crossing over. I thought if they can hike up here, I should be able to ride up. There are too options for completing the full route. One goes down Big Tugunga and an extended route that goes down Angeles Crest. We have added a "lite" version this year which doesn't go out to Acton. After climbing Little Tujunga, it simply swings around on Placerita Canyon and Sierra Hwy back to the valley and back to the start. It is much shorter and has much less climbing.

On Sunday we will be riding "Revel the Rollies" in Orange County. These are nice routes and not too difficult except the long does a climb up Pacific Island Drive which is very steep. Interestingly, Pacific Island Drive passes only a couple of blocks from the burn area in the recent Laguna Niguel fire which burned a number of very large homes. I don't know if the burn area will be visible from the route. That one climb aside, these are nice routes. If you don't want to do the climb, you can always ride the medium.

Monthly Meeting: This Thursday is our monthly members meeting at 7:00 p.m. We will once again be meeting via Zoom. As usual, I will be sending out a reminder tomorrow night. The fate of this year's Grand Tour will probably be decided at this meeting, so you may want to attend.

Parting Shot: Phil took this shot near the top of San Francisquito Canyon on last Saturday's ride.



These pipes are bringing water to Southern California from the north. I've seen them many times before and never really gave them much thought, but now I begin to wonder if they will ever run dry.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP