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## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

I know, it's Wednesday but I was tired when I got home from the ride yesterday and then I watched the day's stage of the Tour de France and by the time that was over, it was late so I put off this e-mail until today. While I was driving down to the ride yesterday I heard this song on the radio and decided it would make good theme music for a 4th of July e-mail. Can't say it's real patriotic, but the video does sort of celebrate working class America

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPhWR4d3FJQ>

**Sunday:** Before the July 4th ride yesterday, we had a regular ride on Sunday: "South Bay Ramble." We had a nice showing at the start. **Phil Whitworth** took this shot:



From the left: **Thomas Knoll**, **Mario Solano**, **Julie Shishino**, **Michael Doyle**, **Dale Aaronson**, **Nancy Domjanovich** (barely visible), **Me**, And **Edwin Dair**. **Jacques Stern** started late but caught us at lunch. With Phil, that makes 10, which is pretty good. We split between the long and medium routes. The long riders made a loop around the Palos Verdes Peninsula and took time to stop at the Wayfarer's Chapel. Edwin sent this shot



Despite the stop at the chapel, the long riders still caught up to the rest of at lunch where Phil took this photo:



It was a nice day for eating out on the patio at Golden Cove. The plan was for us to meet up for ice cream at the end of the ride. A few skipped this,



but most of us were there. Here's a final shot from Phil:



Playa Provisions worked out as a nice place for ice cream at the end of the ride, so we will definitely do it again next time.

**The Fourth:** Although we had a good turn-out on Sunday, I was disappointed yesterday. Our annual 4th of July ride used to draw quite a few. I took this shot at the start:



From the left: **Chris Hedberg**, **Bill Faulkner** (barely visible) **Edwin Dair**, **Mike Wapner**, **Ben King** and **Jacques Stern**. That makes 7. We all did the long route. We got split apart for a while because of a detour in Orange County, but managed to come back together for lunch. Then it was off to the traditional trip up to the top of Signal Hill. Ben said this was the first significant climb since he had his pace-maker put in, but he beat me to the top, so I guess that was not a problem. I took this shot at the top



I'm sorry for my poor photography. We needed Phil or Dale. Well, it was a nice day. We all went home to listen to the roar of fireworks though the night. It was the first 4th of July with my new cat, but she took it like a trooper.

**This Sunday:** This Sunday we will be riding "Orange Coast Tour." It will be our second weekend in July and it looks like I switched to coastal routes at just the right time. Last weekend it was very hot in the Valley or Eastern LA County, but our coastal rides were very pleasant. Looks like it might be the same thing this weekend. The routes start in Huntington Beach and wind around the area before heading down to Balboa for a ride on the ferry. The long is the only route that gets away from the coast as it makes a loop over to Old Town Irvine and back but that is mostly flat riding and shouldn't be too bad. I plan to be there and maybe this week I'll move up to doing the long.

**Tour de France:** I never miss watching the Tour de France. We are only 5 days into the race but it's shaping up to possibly be an interesting year. A newcomer won the first mountain stage today and that could shake things up. Unfortunately, the only way to see the entire race this year is to sign up to stream it on Peacock (NBC's streaming service). The good news is that I get to see the entire stage (coverage in past years often picked up the race part way through the stage), but it's a bigger time commitment. If I watch the commentary both before and after the stage, it's about 5 hours a day. Fortunately, due to the writer's strike, there isn't much else on TV.

**Parting Shot:** Can't think of anything else to add tonight. Phil took the photo below on Sunday. I noticed a lot of houses had a few decorations for the 4th, such as little bunting, but this guy really went to town. Maybe the 4th will become a big house decorating holiday like Halloween and Christmas





See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP