

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - November 22, 2016

Hello All:

Last Sunday: On Sunday we started in Fullerton for our ride out to Corona and back. The threat of rain seems to have limited the number of riders. There were only 4 of us willing to take the risk: **Sheila Szymanski, Jacques Stern, Gary Murphy** and me. I believe we all rode the long route, but after the first few miles, Sheila took off and we didn't see her again. Her car was gone when we finished so I would assume she completed the ride. I don't know about Sheila, but the three of us managed to ride the entire 70 miles without really getting rained on. I felt a drop here and there, but no more. However, it did rain a little while we were at lunch. The timing was perfect because it stopped by the time we left lunch. It wasn't much rain, but the roads were wet for the trip through Carbon Canyon. Here is a photo Gary took before the roads became wet. You can see it was a fairly nice day.



But the wet roads were the only negative aspect of the day. A few years ago on this route, I remember reporting that this route had the worst road I have ever ridden. I think it rattled the computer right off my bike. I'm happy to report that this road has been recently repaved and several other roads on the route have been improved. The bad roads were mostly in the area of Chino where there were a lot

of dairy farms. I think the heavy trucks and farm equipment tore up the roads. But most of the dairies are gone and are being replaced by houses. Kind of sad, but at least the roads are better. There are one or two dairies left. Gary took a photo of one:



This Week: We have rides on two days this week. First up is our traditional ride on Thanksgiving Day (which I think will one day be known as "Black Friday Eve"). These routes start from the Corner and head down to the Marina for a break. The long and medium also take a trip to the Palisades. For several years one of the homes in the Palisades always had a couple of live turkeys in their yard. But it seems to me they told us last year that it was the last year the turkeys would be there. I'm not sure about that, but I guess we'll see. The Thanksgiving ride is always pleasant and short enough to get you home in plenty of time for other holiday activities.

On Sunday we will be starting in Monterey Park for "Flintridge Express." The long route is notoriously hilly, but the medium and short are not so bad. In any case, a hard ride might be just the thing after a couple of days of over-eating. A good ride can work off a lot of stuffing. I plan to be at both rides this week. I hope to see a lot of you there.

December Meeting: We couldn't find a host for the December meeting coming up on December 15th, so we will once again be meeting at the Culver City Veteran's Memorial building which we have used a few times in the past. That provides us a place, but we still need someone to provide refreshments. It would be nice if someone new would step up to do this. Given the timing, maybe just

some holiday cookies would be fine. If you would like to volunteer for this, contact me.

The New Year: 2017 is still a month away, but it's never too early to start thinking about your cycling hopes and plans for the new year. I would like to suggest that you think about participating in the club's Century Challenge. Last year we added metric centuries (any ride of 60 - 90 miles) to the challenge which makes this accessible to many riders who feel a full century is too much for them. In 2017 we plan to further help metric century participants by offering a "metric century of the month" the way we have been offering a century of the month for several years. Generally, this will be offered the same day as the century of the month (usually a Saturday) and will be a shortened version of the full century. It might not be possible to do this with every century, but we will try. We already have January and February set. So why not resolve to ride at least one metric or full century a month for the new year. It's a nice way to make sure you stay in shape the whole year and keep on riding.

Gobble, Gobble and
I'll See You On The Road
Rod Doty, VP