

Hello All:

Previous Sunday: Last Sunday we met at the Zoo for "Bobbi's Birthday Beach Bash." **Phil Whitworth** sent this shot of most of the group at the start:



On the left, that his **Hoy Quan** who is still recovering from his accident a few weeks ago. He came out to see us off. He is looking pretty good, but it will still be a while before he is back on the bike. It was good to see him. Also out to see us off (but not in the photo) were nearby residents **Richard and Nancy Wedeen**. It is always nice to see them out. I count nine riders in the photo (which I think was taken by Hoy's wife), but I think there were one or two missing from the photo. Also, I later heard from two riders who rode from home, but never met up with any of us.

Most riders did the medium. Two rode the long and two rode the short. Here is a shot Phil took of the medium group up at the top of Topanga:



Notice anything unusual? That's five women and one man (plus Phil who took the shot). Plus a sixth woman was one of those riding the long. It is pretty rare that we get that many women out on a ride or that women out-number the men. It would be nice if that happened more often.

The route took everyone along the entire length of Ventura Blvd which I find interesting for the variety of businesses along the street. **Kit Gray**, one of the riders who rode from home, sent me this photo of two businesses which he thought made an unusual pairing:



Maybe before you plunk down a sizable amount of money for a wedding dress, it wouldn't hurt to see a psychic first.

Next Week: This weekend we have rides Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday we will be riding our traditional December Century -- "Foothill Footsie" put together by **Dennis Miller**. This is a fairly simple route from La Crescenta out through the San Gabriel Valley all the way to Claremont and back. As usual, I will be doing my annual Christmas Tree count where I keep track of how many trees I see tied to the tops of cars. It's a prime tree-buying weekend, so the count is usually pretty high. I hope to see a lot of you out.

On Sunday we will be riding "Brentwood Flyer" which starts at the Corner. The long is a fairly simple ride out to the Valley and back without actually going to Brentwood. The medium and short routes do go to Brentwood and explore the westside and the Palisades before stopping for lunch in Santa Monica. Both are about the same length, but the medium does more climbing. Assuming I ride the century on Saturday, I'm not sure I'll make Sunday's ride, but I will try. I have a mileage goal in mind before the end of the year and I still need about 400 more miles. So I'm motivated to ride.

License Plate Game: On last Sunday's ride I played another little game I play this time of year. About now, license plates with next year's sticker start showing up on the streets. The game is simply to find one and see what color next year's sticker is going to be. Last Sunday I saw two and the color for next year is . . . ORANGE!!.

What is amazing it that when you start scanning all the cars you see for their license plate, you realize how many people are way past due. I think I saw a couple of plates with an April renewal month but which still had last year's sticker.

Meeting Refreshments Update: Good news -- we have a volunteer to provide refreshments at the December 15th meeting. **David Williams** has graciously stepped forward to provide this service. Thank you David.

See You on the Road
Rod Doty, VP