

# Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - January 24, 2017

Hello All:

Last Weekend: Last Saturday was day one of our Annual Janus Centuries. Despite all the rain we had been having, predictions were for one clear day before the next storm came in so I was surprised more riders didn't take advantage of the break in the weather. There were only 3 of us there: Jacques Stern, Thomas Knoll and me.

Jacques and I were only there to do the metric century (actually scheduled for Sunday but Saturday looked like the better day). Thomas was prepared to ride the full century, but opted to ride with us. The weather proved to be even better than expected. It wasn't quite as cold as it often is at the beginning of this ride and the sun was out most of the day. There had been talk of winds, but they never materialized. If anything, we had a very slight tailwind pushing us back in the 2nd half of the ride. Snow was visible on the mountains behind Ojai -- it was pretty, but I didn't take any photos. This was a new route this year and it proved to be fairly easy. We all finished in the early afternoon. I was almost wishing I had opted for the full century.

Sunday was day two, but as you all know, it rained and rained and rained. I doubt anyone showed up for the ride. I would be surprised if even David Nakai would have ridden in that weather. I was glad I had at least gotten Saturday's ride in.

Next Sunday: The long term forecasts are for sun, sun, sun, so let's ride while we can and all show up for Sunday's ride. We will be riding from Brookside Park (next to the Rose Bowl) down to Legg Lake. These are not difficult routes. The long and medium are almost the same length and the same amount of elevation gain. The big difference is that the medium actually visits Legg Lake while the long does not. The long is very close to the 60 miles needed for an official metric century for the club's Century Challenge. I'm planning to add one lap around the Rose Bowl at the end of the ride to make up the difference. Why not join me?

Ballona Creek: I didn't get any photos from Saturday's ride, but on Sunday I took some photos of Ballona Creek where it passes my condo near Overland. Lots of us ride the Ballona Creek bike path from time to time, but you rarely get to see it like it was on Sunday.



This is taken from my parking structure. That's the Overland bridge. Once or twice over the years I have seen the river higher. Once I even saw it as high as the green vegetation on the far bank. But this is the highest I've seen in in a few years. The photo doesn't really capture how fast the water is moving or the roar it makes.



This is from the Overland bridge looking west. The pedestrian bridge is in the distance. I'm always amazed that the little stream that you could easily wade across most days can turn into this in a matter of hours. Here's one more photo simply because I don't have any others this week. The building is the county library next to the creek.



Installation: Good news! We have found a location for our installation lunch on March 5th. It will be held at Lindberg Park in Culver City. More good news!! David Nakai has indicated his willingness to act as MC for the event and to provide the day's entertainment. He did this a few years ago and it was very funny.

Palm Springs Century. Our own Dennis Miller rode the Palm Springs Century last Saturday. They escaped the rain as we did here, but, as is often the case out there, it was very windy. Congratulations Dennis! I see by the Century Challenge web site, Dennis has 5 centuries so far this year. Considering the weather we have been having, that's amazing.

See You On the Road

Rod Doty, VP