

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - January 31, 2017

Hello All:

Sunday: Last Sunday was a beautiful day after so many rainy days -- warm and clear -- the first time I've taken off my jacket during a ride in a while. After we were joined by Mel Cutler (riding from home) I think we had 15 riders, but I have since found out that Kit Gray started about a half hour after the rest of us, so I guess we had 16 riders. That's pretty good. Here's a very unposed photo taken by Phil Whitworth at the start near the Rose Bowl.



Kit said he rode the medium, but I think the rest of us did the long. There was only a 3 or 4 mile difference between them. Here are a couple more shots taken along the San Gabriel River. The first was taken by Dennis Miller and the second by Phil.





That's Nancy Domjanovich and Dennis Miller in the second photo. It seems like I keep including photos of the snow covered mountains in these e-mails lately. I think it has been so long since we have seen the mountains like this that we just can't get enough of them. When we got back to the Rose Bowl, quite a few of us went for a lap around the Rose Bowl to get our mileage for the day up to Metric Century level. I just checked the Century Challenge stats on the club web site and it does appear that there was a sudden surge in reported metric centuries. You can view the site here: <http://www.lawheelmen.org/los-angeles-wheelmen-century-challenge/>

Next Sunday: Next Sunday we will be riding "David Does Descanso." David Nakai, the originator of these routes, has said he plans to be there, so you can complain directly to him when the hills get tough. Yes, these routes are hilly, but they are also very short, so you can take your time on the hills. Actually, except for one climb on the long route, none of the climbs are really too hard. The climbs through Elysian Park and through Mount Washington are rather pretty. The one hard climb on the long is pretty too I think, but I'm usually breathing too hard to notice. These routes were rained out last October, so I rescheduled them for this week. Looks like we will be in luck and have good weather this time, so why not come out and join us.

Triple Dipper Ride: Last Thursday the Triple Dippers had heard that the Space X booster rocket which had been recently launched from Vandenberg and then successfully landed on a barge in the ocean was now on a transport truck in San Pedro awaiting it's trip back to the factory to be refurbished. Most of the group decided to ride on down and take a look at it. Here's a shot from Phil Whitworth of the group in front of the booster.



Unfortunately it had been wrapped for travel, so the group couldn't get quite the view hoped for. I didn't go with them, but based on this photo, it seems smaller than I would have expected.

David Nakai has indicated that he is already working on his presentation for the Installation lunch. Sounds like it will be very entertaining. But a word to the wise: It will probably be funnier if you have already seen the movie "La La Land".

See You On The Road
Rod Doty, VP