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**LA Wheelmen VP Report**

1 message

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**Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - June 4, 2019**

Hello All:

**Last Weekend:** On Saturday we were riding the longest of the Grand Tour trainers -- "Fullbore for Fillmore." I got an early start so I didn't see who was at the scheduled start, but **Mel Cutler** took this selfie with the other two riders who were there:



That's **Thomas Knoll** on Mel's right and **Sheila Szymanski** on his left. However, both **Dale Aaronson** and **David Williams** either also started early or started from home and bypassed the start location. So that's makes 6 of us on the ride. Usually the faster riders catch me by lunch, but I never saw anyone all day. Maybe because the weather was cool, I was riding faster than usual. It was June 1st and June-Gloom came in with a vengeance. I think I only saw the sun for a grand total of about 10 seconds and that was spread over 3 different times the sun came out. I suppose the highlight of this route is the twisty climb up Grimes Canyon. Dale sent me this photo showing some of the twists:





I always like to look at the new stone carvings in Grimes Canyon -- the sandstone is so soft there, it is easy for people to carve their names. This looked like a fairly recent addition:





I also took this photo of an orchard near Fillmore. I've never seen the trees covered like this before. I'm not sure what the purpose is -- seems too late in the year to be worried about frost. If anyone knows, let hear from you.





On Sunday we were riding "Arcadia & Stuff." I didn't get a photo of the riders at the start, but there were 6 of us on the ride: **Jacques Stern, Marc Spigelman, Ann Trank, Gary Murphy** (who rode from home and met us mid-route), a newcomer and me. The newcomer had to get home and peeled off early, but the rest of us did the long including the trip up to Chantry Flat. I always thought it was Chantry "Flats" but I took this photo at the top and it says "Flat."



It was another day of June Gloom, but I suppose that made the climbing just that much easier. As usual there were a lot of hikers up there. Cars were parked as much as a mile from the top so I guess if you want to hike, you might get an extra couple of miles in.

**Next Week:** On Saturday we have the crown jewel of our trainers -- "Angeles Crest & San Gabriel Canyon." We climb Angeles Crest all the way up to Cloud Burst Summit which is at about 7000 feet above sea level. It's a lot of climbing, but also an incredible downhill on Hwy 39. Unfortunately, an already difficult ride may be a bit more difficult this year. A portion of Angeles Crest is closed due to a landslide. There is a detour, but it adds about 9 miles and 1000 feet of elevation gain to the usual ride. There is a possibility the closure will be open by Saturday, so the route sheet includes both the usual route and the detour route. You can check out the current status at this Caltrans website: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo/display.php?page=sr2>

I'm hoping it is re-opened, but there is a part of me that likes the idea of an additional challenge. Maybe in future years we will include the detour route as an "extended" version of this trainer.



On Sunday our ride is "Balboa/Newport" These rides start in Tustin and all routes make their way down to Balboa and a ride on the ferry. I'm pretty sure it's \$1.25 for bikes now, so remember to bring change. The routes are fairly easy and there are no big climbs. Should make for a nice ride if you rode the trainer on Saturday and a nice ride even if you didn't. I hope to see you there.

**Parting Shot:** I don't seem to have much else to discuss tonight, so here is a final photo. **Mel Cutler** sent me this photo from Saturday's ride. It was taken outside a gated community at the top of the hill on Mulholland Hwy just south of Calabasas (sometimes called 7 minute hill).



We stopped at this spot a few weeks ago on a different ride and I don't remember the sign being there, but the guard came out and shooed us away from the area where the sign is now. Picky picky picky. It's not like we were going to pee on the shrubs.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

