

LA Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - July 16, 2019

Hello All:

Last Weekend: On Sunday we were riding "Bikeways of Orange County" which were our monthly century and metric century. We had six riders, which really isn't too bad for our monthly century ride. I took this photo at the start:



That's **Chris Hedberg, Henry Kuwakare, Jacques Stern, David Nakai** and **Lee Meller**. Henry was a visitor from the San Fernando Valley who decided to ride with us because he thought the Valley would be too hot last Saturday. Lee rode the metric century and the rest of us did the full century. It got fairly warm in the middle of the ride -- just about the time we hit the only major climbing on the route -- but then the route turned back towards the coast and there was a cooling breeze for much of the 2nd half. After we hit the coast, it was actually fairly pleasant riding for the last 18 miles. We hung together for the first portion of the ride but then got broken into smaller groups at lunch. Chris and Henry were pressed for time and forged on ahead. Jacques and David explored a new lunch option for our rides -- they stopped at Costco. Although I was tired and wanted to stop for an earlier lunch, I forced myself to keep going so I could eat at Pick-Up-Stix where at long last I earned 100 reward points -- my next entree will be free! I had an OK day, but there were times I kept thinking to myself "How did I ride a double century only a few weeks ago?"

This Sunday: This Sunday will be our annual ride down to Manhattan Beach to watch the Manhattan Beach Grand Prix races. These routes leave from the "Corner." The short route just goes down to the races and back. The medium adds a trip to Palos Verdes and back before stopping at the races while the long adds a complete circuit of Palos Verdes before

returning to the races. These are nice routes, although nothing special. If you have never watched this sort of bicycle racing, it is interesting to stop and watch for a while. They have a lot of different classifications so racing is going on almost all day.

Birthday Ride: This week is my birthday and I was thinking to celebrate I would ride a century of my own on Saturday (which is not my birthday). I was thinking of doing a version of the Coastal Cruise Century which runs from the Marina down to Huntington Beach and back. It will give me a chance to cash in my free entree at Pick-Up-Stix. Anyway, I thought if anyone would like to join me, that would be nice. I hate to pull riders away from Sunday's ride (I plan to ride both days), but there is quite a difference between a century and Sunday's ride, so maybe there won't be much overlap. If you are interested, e-mail me. That way I'll know whether to expect anyone or not. I'll give you the information then.

Monthly Meeting: We have a monthly club meeting this week on Thursday. It is room B at the Culver City Veteran's Memorial Center at 7 p.m. As usual, no one has volunteered to bring refreshments. If you would like to do this, please let me know.

Traveling Club Members: **Mel Cutler** is in France where he will be riding the Etape du Tour. This is an event which allows amateur cyclists to ride one of the stages of the Tour de France. This year they will be riding stage 20 of the Tour which is a mountain top finish in the Alps. The Etape takes place about a week before the Tour de France reaches that stage. Actually there are several days of warm-up rides before the group hits the main event. Mel sent me a RideWithGPS link to the route of stage 20 so I could see what the route looked like. Here's the link:

https://ridewithgps.com/routes/30524905?privacy_code=QUOa3jIWW9uJfbuP

The profile somehow doesn't make it look that bad, but the final climb is almost 2000 meters which is about 6500 feet. Good luck Mel. As an aside, I wasn't even aware that RideWithGPS worked in areas outside the U.S. and Canada. But I tried making a map in Paris, France and it worked! I tried one in London too -- no problem.

Saul Miller is traveling on a hiking trip to the Dolomites in Italy. He sent a lot of photos. Here are a few: The first is cycling jersey he spotted in a window and the other two are picturesque views in the area







The village in the middle photo is very picturesque, but somehow the construction cranes on the left don't fit in.

Parting Shot: Mel send me this photo from France. Apparently before the cycling begins, he has been trying a different kind of two-wheeled transport:



See You On the Road

Rod Doty, VP