

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

2 messages

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### Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - December 3, 2019

Hello All:

**Last Week:** Last Thursday was Thanksgiving and we had scheduled our usual Thanksgiving Day ride. Unfortunately, it was raining in the morning and rained on and off during the day, so as far as I know, no one attended the ride. I think this is the first time in many years that this ride has been rained out. We had better luck on Sunday when the scheduled ride was "Santa Anita Canyon." Although it was overcast most of the day, there was no rain in the forecast. We had 8 riders show up and I took this photo at the start:



That's **Mel Cutler**, **Nancy Domjanovich**, **Sheila Szymanski**, **Dale Aaronson**, **Phil Whitworth**, **Rafal Karpinski** and **Jacques Stern**. I had planned on riding the medium up to Chantry Flats, but I want to make a mileage goal by the end of the year and decided I needed the extra miles of the long. Jacques and I did the long. I believe most of the others did a modified medium which took them up to Chantry, but then they tacked on at least a portion of the long route to increase their miles. **Rafal** sent me some photos. This first is of Mel and Dale climbing up to Chantry.



This second photo was taken out towards Claremont and shows how low the snow on the mountains was. These are the lower mountains in front of Baldy. Baldy wasn't visible because of some low clouds.



I was struck by all the snow on the mountains too. I took this photo of Mount Wilson from down in Pasadena. It was only a little over a month ago that we rode up there, but I was thinking I was glad I wasn't riding up there this week.



**Next Sunday:** This Sunday we will be riding our (now) traditional December century and metric century: the "Foothill Foolsie." The full century starts at Crescenta Park in Glendale and rides out to Upland and back. The metric century does the center portion of the full century (the better portion) by starting an hour later in Pasadena and riding to Upland and back. I always enjoy this century. The holiday season is in the air. Homes are being decorated and the tree lots are in full swing. Right now, the weather forecast is a bit up in the air. They are predicting rain on Saturday, but if it moves in and out more slowly than expected, it could still be rainy on Sunday. We will just have to wait and see. I am cautiously optimistic. If the weather is good, as usual I plan to start early (pretty much at the crack of dawn) because the days are getting short and I'm not riding any faster. Anyone who wants to join me for the early start is welcome.

**Riding After a Rain:** Although the Thanksgiving day ride was rained out, I did go out for a ride on Friday. It stuck me how nice it often is to ride the day after a rain. The air is so clear and fresh. I was in Palos Verdes and was looking out over the Santa Monica Bay. This is a sight I've seen hundreds of times, but it stuck me how pretty it was after the rain. It was so clear you could see detail of buildings all the way to Malibu. **Mel Cutler** also rode on Friday and he sent me this photo (I think taken in the Palasades area):



I've never seen such a complete rainbow Looks to me like the pot of gold would have been somewhere in Westwood.

**Solvang Century:** I used to ride the Solvang Century all the time, but haven't for several years. Anyway, SCOR sent the club some promotional materials for this year's event. This will be the 38th year the event has been held and it will be on Saturday, March 14, 2020. They have provided a discount code to our club members. So, if you plan to ride this year's event, when you register at [www.BikeSCOR.com](http://www.BikeSCOR.com) enter this code in the discount box: "SPIZ10"

**Making it a Habit:** On last Sunday's long route I switched the official lunch stop on the route sheet (which was a Carl's) to a nearby Habit Burger. As Habit Burger keeps opening new locations, I've been doing this more and more. I think maybe at least a dozen of our routes have been switched from Carl's to the Habit now. I've been doing this because, not only do I like the Habit more, but I know several of our members do too. It makes me reflect on the history of our lunch stops. Back in the dark ages when I first joined the club, many (maybe most) of our routes stopped at McDonalds for lunch. Then Carl's came along and people thought that was better than McDonalds. So, I think it was **Hal Munn** who took it upon himself to switch most of our routes over to stops at Carl's and that's where we have been for quite a while. Now we are switching to the Habit, but I have to wonder if at some future time, someone will wonder why we go to so many Habits and will begin switching to some new and better place chain.

**Parting Shot:** On Sunday I saw this campaign lawn sign. I think it perfectly captures the frustration a lot of people are having with politics today.



See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

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