

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

Sunday: Last Sunday the scheduled ride was "Pico Rivera & Bike Trail." I wasn't sure anyone would show up given the Covid-19 situation, but it turns out a few riders did decide to ride. I had reports from **Gary Murphy, Phil Whitworth, David Nakai** and **Mel Culter** -- about half the riders on the ride. Phil took the usual photo at the start:



That's **Rafi Karpinski, Mario, Gary Murphy, Nancy Domjanovich** and **David Nakai**. Also on the ride, but starting from home and actually intending to ride alone was **Mel Cutler**. All riders started out on the long, but Nancy and Gary cut it a bit short in order to beat the rain forecast for later in the afternoon. As expected, lunch was tricky with so many places closed (particularly those places favored by Mel). But The Habit was open for take-out. Here are some of the riders maintaining "social distancing" while eating their lunch. (photo by Phil) Apparently there were no chairs -- I guess to discourage group dining.



As luck would have it, on their shortcut back to the start Nancy and Gary ran into **Lynn Katano** and **Jackie Royer** at a bathroom stop along the San Gabriel River. Then Mel showed up (ruining his plan to ride alone). Lynn took this photo. (By the way -- Lynn's membership lapsed a while ago -- someone should give her a nudge to renew.)



According to reports, almost everyone beat the rain back or only encountered a bit of rain, so it seems like it was a good day despite the looming pandemic.

Thomas Knoll did a ride on his own going up Latigo Canyon and he sent me this photo.



This is the area that burned last year. Clearly all the rain has really helped green up the hills.

This Weekend: Well a few riders showed up this past week, so maybe there will be some takers for this week's scheduled rides. On Saturday we have the "Rose Bowl Century." This is a real favorite of mine and I'm sorry I won't be riding it. The idea is simple -- you ride laps around the Rose Bowl until you reach your desired mileage. It takes about 33 laps to get in a full century. There might be a lot of joggers there if the usual hiking trails are closed. Might be hard to maintain your distance, but I'm sure everyone will use their own discretion.

On Sunday, we were to have held the Fargo Street Hill Climb, but that was cancelled. So instead, we will be riding "Corner Caper II" which starts from the "Corner" at Olympic and Le Doux in Beverly Hills. The long and medium head out to the Valley and then east with the long making it all the way up to the Rose Bowl before returning. The short stays on the West Side. These are nice routes although the long does a fair amount of climbing. Again, I wish I was riding.

Meeting: We held our monthly meeting by telephone conference. It worked out pretty well. The minutes of the meeting are attached.

Grand Tour: The only topic of discussion at the meeting was the Grand Tour. It was decided to cancel this year's Grand Tour. Even if restrictions are lifted by June, we wouldn't have time to put it together. I've taken the Grand Tour training rides out of the schedule as well, but I'm wondering if I should have done that. Many people like those routes even though they have no intention of riding the Grand Tour. So, if you really want to ride one or more of those routes, send me an e-mail and I will provide the routes to you. You would have to be aware of certain potential problems. I would hate to get all the way up to Baldy Village only to find the restaurant closed. The same with the Cosmic Cafe up at Mt. Wilson.

Arm Update: I just got a message that my next doctor's appointment has been cancelled. But he would have just X-rayed the arm and told me it is still healing and to come back in 3 weeks, so I don't think I'm missing much. I was supposed to start physical therapy to get my range of motion back, but they are closed too. But things are getting better. I'm typing with two hands now and I can raise my arm almost as high as my shoulder.

Parting Shot: Well we are certainly living odd times. As it turns out, I couldn't have picked a better time to break my arm. I was pretty much stuck at home anyway. One of the ironies of this time is that gas is as cheap as it has ever been in years, but there is no place to go. **David Nakai** sent me this photo from The Habit this past Sunday



I can't quite figure out why. I guess they are thinking that if you have the virus and you transferred it to your cup, you might then transfer it to the soda machine when you refill the cup. But that doesn't seem very likely to me since you don't really touch the cup to the machine when you fill it. You would be more likely to transfer the virus to the machine with your fingers. But like I say, it is an odd time we are living in.

Be Safe

Rod Doty, VP