
Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

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Hello All and Happy St. Patrick's Day (tomorrow)

Last Sunday: We were out at Reseda Park last Sunday for the scheduled ride. Not a very big turn-out. **Thomas Knoll** was there but started early and rode alone -- I'm not sure which route he did. **Kit Gray** was also there, but rode the short route alone. That left **Nancy Domjanovich, Rafi Karpinski, Phil Whitworth** and me. Although I had thought of doing the long, the others were doing the medium and I was easily persuaded to do that as well. I later learned that **Gary Murphy** had ridden from home and was spotted later in the day. I believe he did a portion of the long. Amazingly, Rafi had started riding around midnight the previous evening and joined us after having ridden through the night. Of course, due to the switch to daylight saving, the night was one hour shorter than usual, but still quite an achievement. He told me he had ridden up the coast to Oxnard and back. I planned to go to an alternative lunch off the course, so I separated from the rest after the initial climbing and finished the ride by myself. Although cloudy most of the morning, the sun came out for lunch which was good since we were still eating outdoors on Sunday. Next week maybe we can eat indoors if we want.

Unfortunately, I didn't receive any photos from the ride and I only took one myself. Here it is



I took this because I don't recall seeing a home decorated for St. Patrick's Day before. A number of years ago about all anyone would do for Halloween was put out a couple of pumpkins and now houses decorated for Halloween sometimes rival Christmas decorations. Who knows -- maybe

St. Patrick's Day decorations will catch on and in a few years we'll be seeing houses with strings of green lights all over the place and large inflatable leprechauns on the lawn.

Next Week: This week the scheduled ride is our monthly century and metric century. This month the ride is "Bikeways of Orange County." As the name implies, these routes ride a lot of bikeways. The primary one ridden on the century is the Aliso Creek trail, but there are bits and pieces of several other lesser known trails. The century throws in a couple of hills, but the metric is fairly flat. The good news is you don't have to drive all the way down to Orange County to start these routes. We start in Long Beach. Also both routes end with a long but usually fairly fast run along the coast back to the start. The days are getting longer and with daylight saving, it doesn't get dark until almost 7 p.m. now, so I don't feel the pressure to start at the crack of dawn any longer. I'm thinking of starting around 7:30 myself but you may want to start later.

Other Ride: Some of us rode last Thursday despite the possibility of rain in the forecast. In fact, we did get sprinkled on for a bit, but we waited it out and it was sunny for most of our return. **Gary Murphy** sent me this photo of some of the dark clouds we were contending with.



Meeting: Seems like we just had a monthly meeting but that was a week late and February is a short month so what do you know -- it's meeting time again. Once again we will be on Zoom. Contact me if you need the log-on information. I recently saw a cartoon of a man sitting at his desk with a large box of donuts and he is saying something like "Welcome to the Zoom meeting -- I brought donuts." Well, no one has to bring donuts, but we would like you to attend. We never had an installation of officers this year, so maybe we will officially do it at this meeting. You wouldn't want to miss that.

Parting Shot: So few photos tonight. I hadn't planned on using this one since I already put it on Facebook, but what the hell. Back when the pandemic started I vowed I wouldn't get my hair cut until there was a vaccine. I don't think I thought it would take this long. Anyway, I'm finally vaccinated so I got my hair cut last week. But before it was cut, I had the woman who cuts my hair take this photo.



I will say this -- it gives me new respect for women with long hair. It took me a year to get it this long -- how long must it take women with hair down to their waist? Also, it's really a pain to wash -- it would get all tangled up and would take twice as long to dry. And I only had long hair on the back of my head. If I still had a full head of hair it would have been worse. I didn't take an "after" photo, so if you want to see that, you'll have to see me on the road.

See you on the Road

Rod Doty, VP.