
Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

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Hello All:

Last Week: Last week we were riding our monthly century and metric century which was "Bikeways of Orange County." I started early and spent a good chunk of the day riding alone, but I did run into other riders from time to time and they also told me about other riders they had seen. **Nancy Domjanovich, Chris Hedberg** and **Phil Whitworth** started even earlier than I did because Chris needed to be finished by 5:00 p.m. **David Nakai** started a little after I did but soon caught me and later met up with the early group and mostly rode with them. **Gary Murphy** started even later, but I knew he was out there and I waited for him to catch up so I would have a companion for lunch. When I got back, I found **Jacques Stern** in the parking lot having just completed the metric century (plus a few extra miles) He told me he had seen **Ben King** at one point. So, with me, that makes 8 riders that I know of. It was a nice day for the ride, although a bit cool and we had a headwind for the 14 mile trip back up the coast near the end. The route took us past Soka University which is a Covid vaccination site. The entrance is on top of a short climb and the cars were backed up all the way down the hill. I was impressed with how fast they were processing them because the line of cars was keeping pace with me as I climbed the hill.

I don't have any photos, but here's a funny little story from the ride. At one point the road was closed where they are building a new bridge over a freeway. The street just turned to dirt for a short way up to where the street ended where the new bridge will some day be. When the first group got there (Nancy et al) they walked up to the edge to see if there was any way through but there wasn't. David and I got there next and David said "Look -- there are bike tracks in the dirt -- maybe we can get through." So we walked up to the edge and back too. Then Gary got there and he saw all our previous tracks and also thought there must be a way through. So we were all misleading the next riders. Fortunately, once we got turned around, there was a marked detour route.

This Week: This week we are back at the "Corner" for "Corner Caper I." These routes go way back and basically take us from the "Corner" in Beverly Hills out to the valley and back. Both the long and medium climb Benedict Canyon on the way out and both return back over on Sepulveda but out in the valley they make two different loops. Naturally, the long route makes the larger loop. The short doesn't go to the valley, but tours the westside. All routes are relatively easy with the only major climbs being the trip over and the trip back. Hope to see you out there and if you don't see me -- send me a note so I can include you in this report.

Minutes of the Meeting: The minutes of the meeting held last Thursday are attached. We actually did conduct some business. The big news is that **Ira Kuchek**, who has stepped down from being our Treasurer, has agreed to become the Director at Large. The Director at Large position was open because **Mel Cutler** has become our new Treasurer. So basically, the two just swapped jobs, but at least we have a full board.

Covid News: Also at the meeting we discussed returning to the scheduling of our rides on specific dates. Los Angeles County has issued a protocol for youth and adult recreational sports activities and based on this protocol, we felt we could recommence scheduling our rides beginning in April. However, in order to discourage large groups, we will not schedule specific start times. Thus, the regular rides will be scheduled on Sunday, the training rides (beginning in April) will be scheduled for Saturday and the Triple Dipper ride will once again be scheduled on Thursday, but without specific start times. I think it is assumed that small groups of riders will agree on start times, much as it happened last Sunday. The protocol still requires the use of masks and social distancing. A copy of the protocol can be found here:

http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/docs/protocols/Reopening_SportsLeagues.pdf

Bike Path News: There is a new access ramp being built to the beach bike path from Imperial Blvd where the entrance to the RV park is located. This ramp (pictured below) will allow access to the beach bike path without riding through the RV park. This will be particularly useful during the few weeks each year when the RV park is closed for annual maintenance.




Parting Shot Tonight's parting shot didn't turn out. As we approached Soka University there was a sign that simply said "Covid Vaccine Ahead." I thought that sounded funny because it was like seeing a sign on an interstate that said "Rest Stop Ahead." Like people would just be driving around and see the sign and say --- "hey -- vaccine ahead -- lets get some." Well, I thought it was funny. Anyway, I took several photos of the sign but they all turned out like the one below. Gary also took photos of the sign and he had the same problem. Not sure why it turned out this way because I would swear all the lights were lit when I took the shot.



See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

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