

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

**Last Weekend:** Again we had rides on both Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday our 2nd trainer of the season was Piuma which did some climbing in the Santa Monica Mountains and then returned through the Valley. I started early but was caught by **Gary Murphy** and **David Williams**. Those were the only other riders I saw all day although I did have an e-mail from **Thomas Knoll** who said he had ridden the bulk of the route from his home. The day was hot and speaking for myself, I did not have a good day, but was happy to finish the ride. On the way up Piuma it is something of a tradition to stop and take a photo of the little dam in Malibu Canyon. Despite the lack of rain this year, this photo by Gary shows a little trickle of water pouring over the left side of the dam.



Here's another photo from Gary showing David on the climb along with some spring flowers



Finally here is a photo I took of an unusual structure near the top of Piuma. It was next to a normal looking house, but I'm not sure what it is supposed to be.



On Sunday we were down in Orange County for "Winding Roads of Orange County I." There were only 6 riders. The problem with this time of year is that we end up splitting our riders between two days. I try to set a good example by riding both days, but I don't seem to inspire any others. **Phil Whitworth** took this photo at the start:



That's **Nancy Domjanovich**, **Chris Hedberg** (in the distance), **Rafi Karpinski**, me, and **Jacques Stern**. We all rode the long. It was cooler than on Saturday and the ride went well. The route took us up past Soka University where they have a vaccination site. We did the same climb a few weeks ago, but I think there were even more cars this time lined up and waiting to get their shot. Rafi was not having the best of days -- he had 3 flats. After the third one his hands were showing the result as this photo from Nancy shows:



We stopped for ice cream about 1 mile from the end which made for a pleasant end to the ride.

**Other Ride:** Concerns about the pandemic had seriously reduced ridership on the usual Thursday ride in recent months, but now as things are starting to loosen up and (more importantly) the fact that almost all of our usual Thursday riders have been vaccinated, we are starting to get more riders again. **Ann Trank** took this photo last Thursday which shows the result



I think we took a poll and only one person in this photo had not been vaccinated, but I'm not sure which one it was.

**This Week:** This Saturday is our third Grand Tour trainer. Traditionally we extend one of the early trainers to a century, but keep it relatively easy. This Saturday's trainer is the **Laguna Canyon Century** which has less than 3000 feet of climbing in it's run from Torrance down to Laguna and back. This is also our century of the month, so we will be offering a metric century which starts and finishes with the full century, but turns around early.

On Sunday we will be riding "Hills of the South Bay." This is sort of a counterpoint to Saturday's ride. Instead of long and relatively flat, Sunday's ride is short but hilly. The long is only about 50 miles but racks up over 4000 feet of climbing. The medium and short routes simply cut off earlier than the long, but are hilly as well. Unlike most of our routes with a lot of elevation gain, the climbing on these routes is all in many, many, many short hills. Some are only a block or two long, but there are a lot of them. This may sound like a horrible ride, but I have enjoyed it in the past. You just have to come with the right attitude. A GPS unit wouldn't hurt either because the route is rather convoluted. Again, I hope to ride both days. I look forward to seeing some of you out for at least one day.

**Monthly Meeting:** This Thursday at 7:00 p.m. we will be holding our monthly club meeting. As usual, it will be on Zoom. Things may be getting back to normal for our rides, but I think it will be a while yet before we return to in-person meetings. I'm not sure what will be up for discussion. The only topic this time of year is usually the Grand Tour, but since it will again be "Virtual" there won't be a lot of planning to be done. Still, it is nice to get together on Zoom and swap stories. So why not join us. Contact me or our host **Mel Cutler** ([cutlerme@earthlink.net](mailto:cutlerme@earthlink.net)) if you need the log on information, but please don't wait until the last moment to do so.

**Parting Shot:** This week's photo is not so much funny as it is just cute. **Gary Murphy** spotted this family out for a walk on Lincoln Blvd while on his way home from last Thursday's ride. Hope they got to where ever they were going.



See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP