

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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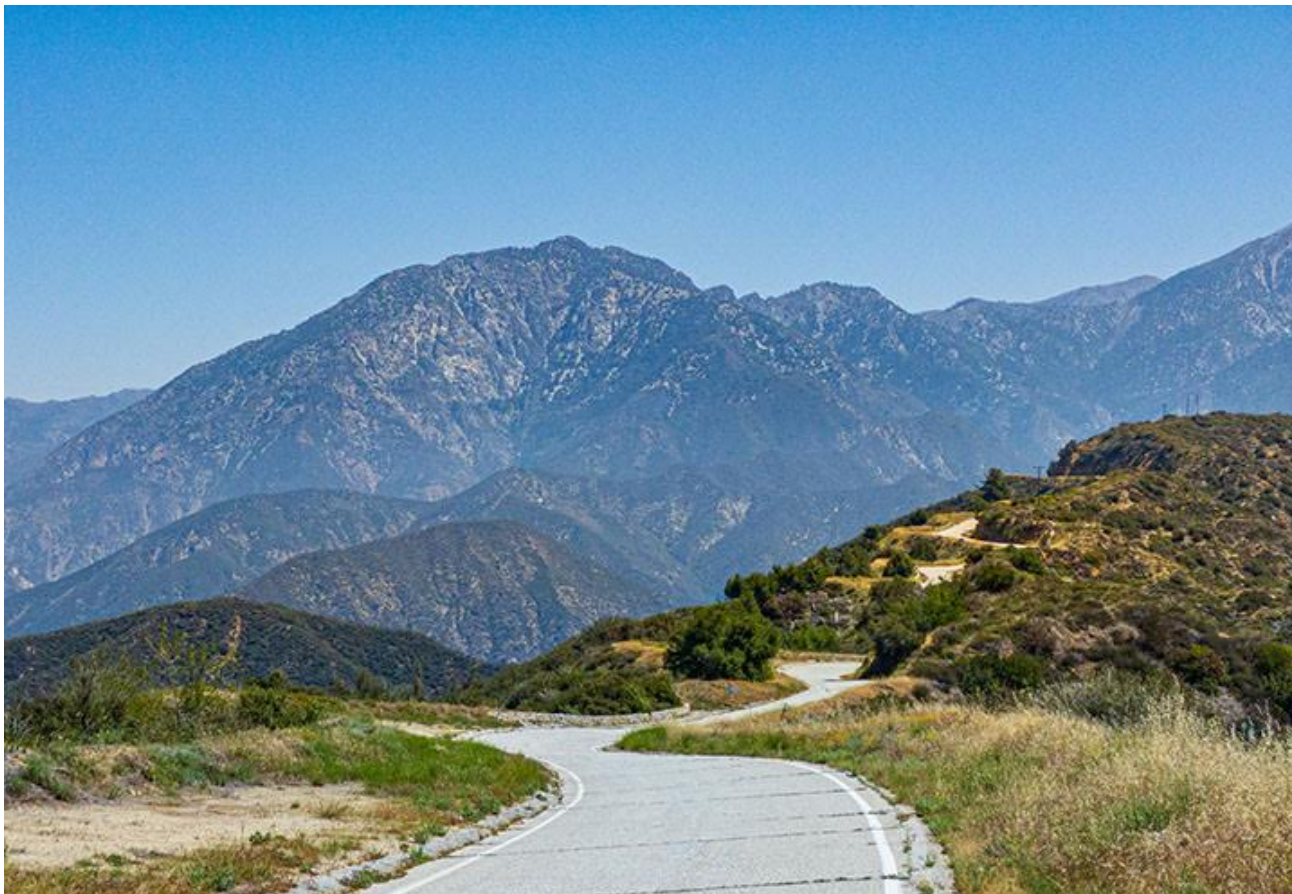
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### Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - May 11, 2021

Hello All:

**Last Week:** Last Saturday, our 6th Grand Tour training ride was our annual trip up to Mount Baldy -- always a favorite of mine. Unfortunately, we again had very few riders. I started early because I wanted to give myself time for the optional trip up to the ski lift. However, **Greg Analian** was also there early. We both were doing the Baldy Road Challenge and started together. However he was clearly much faster than me and was soon out of sight. I thought I might see him in Baldy Village, but didn't. The trip up to the village was much harder for me than two years ago when I did go on up to the ski lift and it dashed my hopes of going to the ski lift this year. I felt grateful I just made it to the village. I was too early for lunch, but after a late breakfast I waited around a while to see if any others would show up. Finally I started back down where I saw **Thomas Knoll** on his way up on the traditional route. He was apparently the only other rider to go to Baldy that day. I later learned that **Jacques Stern** rode up to the intersection of Glendora Mountain Road and the Glendora Ridge Road but then turned right to go back down instead of left to go to Baldy. **Gary Murphy** did the same thing on Sunday.

It was a shame more people didn't ride because it was a great day in the mountains. It started out overcast down below, but once I started climbing, it was a very nice sunny day and not too hot. There were plenty of other riders in the village. I always consider that the downhill on the way back is well worth the work of getting up there. Especially the last 9 miles doing down GMR -- perhaps my number one favorite downhill in Southern California. Thomas says he likes the beauty of the Ridge Route and sent this photo:



Gary took this photo of the East Fork of the San Gabriel River where it runs into the San Gabriel Reservoir. It's just a trickle this year. Usually this time of year there would be a lot more water from snow melt.



I took this photo of the Morris Reservoir (the one below the San Gabriel) from up on Glendora Mountain Road. It also shows that the water level is fairly low for this time of year.



On Sunday, the scheduled ride was "Arcadia - La Tuna Canyon." It was Mother's Day and perhaps that cut down attendance. I took this photo of everyone besides me who showed up:



That's **Russ Brynes**. We both rode the long route. It was overcast for the first couple of hours, but then cleared off to a very nice day. The long route includes a one mile climb to the top of Lake Street in Pasadena and, after going to Baldy the day before, I was pleasantly surprised that my legs were able to make it at all. Fortunately, it was still overcast for that climb. Once that was over, the rest of the ride was a piece of cake. The 4 mile downhill on La Tuna Canyon was as fun as ever.

**Other Rides:** The weekend rides might not be drawing a very good turn-out, but the Thursday ride is still going strong. Below is a photo from **Emma Pham** of the group last week and a photo from **Gary Murphy** of our shadows as we rode. I thought the shadows photo was interesting because we don't look quite human and yet all the shadows have the same basic shape.



**This Week:** This Saturday is our 7th Grand Tour Trainer and also the Century and Metric Century of the month. We will be riding the "Dam Corner Century." This is basically the club's "Santa Fe Dam" ride but starting from the "Corner" in Beverly Hills rather than Monterey Park to increase the miles to a full century. The full century makes the same trip to the top of Lake Street I did just last Sunday, but I don't mind and since almost no one else did Sunday's ride, I guess no one else can complain. The metric century is a cut down version of the full century. It still goes to the Dam, but by a

shorter route and it cuts out much of the climbing. Since it is a full century and I plan to ride from home, I plan to start very early, but I hope to see some of you out on the road.

Next Sunday the ride is "Capistrano Caper" which starts down in Capistrano. It's a long drive, but we don't ride down that way on any other rides. The long takes you south along the coast through San Clemente, past the closed San Onofre power plant, through Camp Pendleton and into Oceanside for lunch. The medium and short routes are similar but turn around sooner. There is an optional climb in San Clemente which is somewhat steep. NOTE: If you do the long, you need a permit to ride through Camp Pendleton. If you don't have this, you can ride the shoulder of the freeway. I'll be taking the freeway. It's not as nice as going through Pendleton, but it's just too much red tape for me to get the permit. As usual, I hope to ride both days.

**Parting Shot:** I don't have anything else to report this week. I guess that's because everything is going so well. (Well, I would like to think that.) **Dale Aaronson** sent me this photo from out in Malibu. He knows I'm a Cubs fan. It just shows that there are plenty of other Cubs fans in Southern California. It doesn't look like the Cubs will do all that well this year, but they did beat the Dodgers 3 straight last week.



See You On The Road,

Rod Doty, VP