

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

Last Week: On Sunday we had two rides. First, we had our usual weekly Sunday ride which this week was "North Orange County Trek" With a name like that, of course this is the theme music for this e-mail:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EWSp5ij0Ofk>

We had a total of 6 riders at the start in Fullerton. I took this photo.



That's Rafi Karpinski, Gary Murphy, Lee Meller and Mario Solano. Phil Whitworth showed up a little after the photo was taken but he did take this photo of his own shadow



We all started out on the long, but there were some pretty tough headwinds on our way east to Corona so Gary settled for the medium route which turned back at Corona. The rest of us pushed on into Riverside, but at least once we got there, we began heading back west and had a tailwind. Other than the wind, it was a beautiful day. Snow on the mountains was in view almost throughout the route. Gary took this shot:



That's a lot of snow. The route took us through Norco, where we seldom go. I knew Norco was famous for horses, but I didn't know it called itself "Horse Town, USA" But Phil took this photo:



The route also took us through Chino where once there were many dairy farms. I was looking forward to taking a photo of some cows, but they were gone. Phil said he could see some in the distance, but it looks to me like the last of the dairies is closing up. I think at one time a large percentage of the milk sold in Los Angeles came from this area, but soon it will all be houses. At least the homeowners will never have to fertilize their lawns.

Our other ride on Sunday was the year's first Newcomer Ride. This one started from Culver City. **Kit Gray** took this shot of the group at the start:



Mel Cutler reported that they had the usual regulars but also three actual newcomers, one of which joined the club. Their route took them up Franklin Canyon and also up to the Baldwin Hills Scenic overlook where **Hoy Quan** took this panoramic view:



It was obviously a very nice day. Sounds like they had a good time.

This week: On Sunday we will be riding "Bike Trails Galore" starting from Pico Park in Pico Rivera. Note that this is a new starting location for this ride. The routes are almost all on bike trails which makes for easy riding and facilitates conversation. It should be a nice day.

2021 Achievements: Three members submitted their totals for 2021. **Dale Aaronson** rode 9987 miles in 111 rides. I think I would have ridden in a downpour to get that last 13 miles to get up 10,000, but Dale did climb 594,583 feet which is well over a vertical century (climbing 100 miles) Jeff Bezos used a big rocket and lots of fuel and he only got up about 50 miles. Dale climbed more than twice that all on his own power.

Lewis Singer rode 9060 miles with 236,000 feet of climbing over 275 days of riding. This is the most he has ever done, but he expects this year to be less if Covid allows him to do the traveling he hopes to do.

Steve Benoff reported 3,056 miles which isn't as much as the other two, but he climbed a total of 347,724 feet. On a per mile basis, that is a lot more climbing than the others. If he had ridden 9000 miles at that rate, he would have climbed over 1,000,000 feet. Pretty impressive.

Again, I will repeat that if you submit your 2021 totals or other achievements, I will be happy to print them here.

Accident Report: I am sad to report that **David Nakai** took a spill on his bike this past weekend and broke his hip. He was due to have surgery yesterday (Monday) which I would guess means they have to pin it back together (just my uniformed guess). I don't have any more details, but I'm sure David will give a fuller report when he feels up to it.

Parting Shot: I don't have a photo this week, but here is a link to a new Geico ad for motorcycle insurance.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CuCZGI4-Fgs>

If I'm not mistaken, it was filmed at the Rock Store out on Mulholland Hwy. Take a look and see what you think.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty VP