

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

Rod Doty <roddoty@roadrunner.com>

Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 10:51 PM

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - February 1, 2022

Hello All and Happy Lunar New Year

Welcome to the year of the Tiger and early best wishes for a good Ground Hog Day tomorrow (I'm sure they will be showing that movie on some channel).

Sunday: On Sunday we were riding "The Amazing Maze." I found this for our theme music tonight. I think I saw the movie I took this from, but I don't remember this music.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F02UqbAGgOo>

We had 7 riders at the start and **Phil Whitworth** took this shot of the group:



From the left: **Thomas Knoll**, **Me**, **Nancy Domjanovich**, **Chris Hedberg**, **Rafi Karpinski** (behind Chris) and **Gary Murphy**. All routes met up at lunch which allowed for a mixing and matching of routes. Some did the long to lunch, but the medium or short route back. Some rode the medium all the way. Gary rode the medium to lunch and the long route back. I rode the entire long. It was a beautiful day for the ride. Gary took this photo of me struggling up one of the steep hills after lunch, but you can also see what a nice day it was and a snow covered peak on the far right (we think it is Baldy)



We all rode a stretch on the Santa Ana River and apparently we were all struck by how much water was flowing down the stream because Phil, Rafi and I each independently took the following 3 photos:



The long route after lunch proved to be more difficult than I remembered, but like all difficult rides, as much as I suffered during the ride, I felt really good about myself when I finished. I think it is that sense of self-satisfaction that keeps me doing the longer rides. And I was still home in time to catch the wild finish of the Rams game.

This Week: On Sunday we will be riding "Exploring the Environs" which starts at the "Corner." The long and medium both head out to the Valley, go west across the Valley and then return over Topanga Canyon to the coast and back through Santa Monica. However, they do this by two almost completely different routes. For example, the long takes Old Topanga while the medium takes "New" Topanga. As you might expect the long is a bit longer and does more climbing than the medium. Meanwhile, the short doesn't go to the Valley, but does climb to the Franklin Canyon Nature Center and does a loop through Santa Monica. I plan to be there and hope many of you will join me.

This week is also the monthly Newcomer Ride. This month the ride starts from the LA Zoo parking lot in Griffith Park and explores areas near downtown. These Newcomer rides have been very popular and are a good option if you don't feel up to the regular weekly ride. You don't have to be a newcomer to join in.

Triple Dipper Thursday Ride: The weekly Triple Dipper Ride on Thursdays continues to go strong. Here is a photo of the group taken two weeks ago by **Lora Chen**:



That's quite a group. On last week's Thursday ride **Emma Pham** had a flat on the return and fixed it herself. Apparently this was the first time she had done this unassisted. **Nancy Domjanovich** captured the moment in this photo:



Other Ride: **Ira Kuceck** completed the "Badwater 267" in January. As I understand it, this is a virtual running event in which participants run the equivalent of the 3 Badwater running events for a total of 267 miles. For cyclists, they must ride 4 miles for every mile the runners do, so they ride a total of 1068 miles, which is what Ira did. They have the entire month of January to complete it, but Ira finished 5 days early and finished 1st in the cycling division. Way to go Ira!!

Parting Shot: On Sunday's ride Rafi took this shot:



At first glance I thought it was a dog, but then I noticed the hooves. The photo spawned a spirited discussion among the ride participants as to what exactly this was. I believe Rafi finally solved the problem when a co-worker referred him to this web site:

https://www.thebatt.com/news/mini-cattle-becoming-a-popular-household-pet/article_0c537e90-ed8a-11ea-b9c6-b75e0d0d90de.html

Apparently miniature cattle are now the rage as pets. I didn't even know there was such a thing.

See You On the Road

Rod Doty, VP