

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

Rod Doty <roddoty@roadrunner.com>

Tue, Feb 15, 2022 at 10:36 PM

### Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - February 15, 2022

Hello All and Happy Belated Valentines Day

**Sunday:** On Sunday we were riding "Flintridge Express" starting in Monterey Park, but that wasn't the big event of the day. In honor of the big event I have chosen the following for our theme music tonight. It purports to be the Ram's Fight Song, but if you search for that on YouTube, more than one song comes up. This appeared to be the oldest one:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W6ZqRsrWUFC>

I think we had 5 riders at the start. **Phil Whitworth** took this photo:



That's **Gary Murphy, Me, Thomas Knoll** and **Jacques Stern**. **Rafi Karpinski** didn't make it to the start on time, but later caught up to Phil. Thomas, Jacques and I did the medium route. Gary did the initial hills on the long route, but then joined us on the medium route for the remainder of the day. Phil and Rafi did the long route. As you know, it was an unseasonable hot day -- one of the reasons I chose the medium route -- so I didn't envy those riding all those hills on the long. Here is a shot Gary took of Phil as he topped one of the early hills in Monterey Park



Here is a shot Phil took proving that he and Rafi made it to the top of the toughest climb of the day:

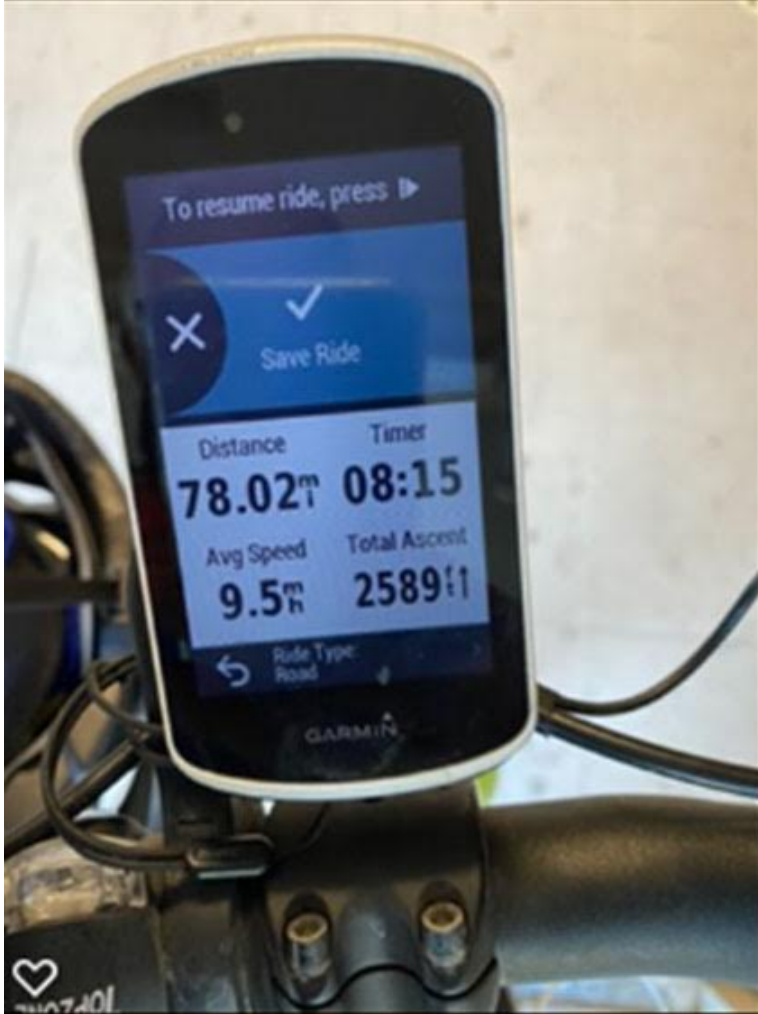


As I remember it, that climb is a killer. I had thought we would escape most of the climbing on the medium, but there was a nasty little climb on La Loma which I didn't remember. All in all, a nice day, despite the heat, and I managed to get home only a couple of minutes after kick off.

I should mention that the reason Rafi was late to the start was that he had been riding through the night. He is preparing for his first double century of the year this weekend and had started riding at 11:30 p.m. the night before for an 80 mile ride before stopping at home and then riding out to meet our Sunday ride. Sounds like he will be in fine shape for the double this week. He sent this photo of the dawn after his night ride:



**Other Ride:** Last Thursday, in honor of his 78th birthday, **Steve Suchard** rode 78 miles. He was joined by **Andy Pollack**. They rode a somewhat convoluted route taking them around Palos Verdes and then north to the Pacific Palisades and then back South to Ballona Creek and inland to Culver City. Steve sent me this photo to document his achievement:



Congratulations Steve! Steve says he is looking forward to his 100th birthday.

**This Week:** This Sunday we will be riding the "Triple Dam Century" which is our monthly century and metric century. This is a relatively easy century which starts at El Dorado Park in Long Beach and manages to ride over 3 dams (only 2 for the metric century). The routes spend a lot of time on river trails so there is not a lot of climbing (although there is a notable hill just before the 3rd dam). The days are getting longer so I don't know that I will need to start ahead of the 7:30 a.m. start time, but I might leave a little early. Most riders will catch me anyway. I hope to see you there.

**Monthly Meeting:** This Thursday will be our monthly meeting via Zoom. The last two months I have been sending out a separate notice on Wednesday (tomorrow) and that seems to have increased participation, so I will be doing that again. Look for the notice tomorrow.

**Parting Shot:** I took this photo on Sunday's ride. I thought, since "Loma" means hill, that it was nice of the city to provide a translation on the spot. They could do that with a lot of other Spanish street names for those of us who, like me, foolishly took French in high school.



See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP