

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

Last Weekend: Last weekend our regular ride took us to Will Rogers Park where they are often playing polo and that got me to thinking about horses and that brought to mind this song. There are lots of versions on YouTube, but I picked the one by Peter, Paul & Mary. (If you don't know who they are, you might be a little young for this club).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dM2VN2Hn-Z0>

But before I get into Sunday's ride, on Saturday was the Grand Tour. I haven't heard anything about it, but I'm guessing it went well. The only person I know who rode was **Rafi Karpinski** and I know that because he posted his ride on Strava along with a few photos. Here is a selfie at the turn-around point in Summerland.



He had less than 40 miles to go at this point and he's looking pretty good. Congratulations Rafi!

On Sunday we were riding "Will Rogers Park" which started at the "Corner." I was still off the bike, but I had reports from a couple of the riders. There were only 5 at the start and **David Nakai** took this photo:



That's **Gary Murphy, Russ Brynes, Michael Doyle** and **Jacques Stern**. There are only short and medium routes for this one and it sounds like they all rode the medium, but late in the ride split apart to make their own way home. As mentioned above, the highlight of the ride is the visit to Will Rogers Park where indeed they were playing polo. Gary sent me this photo.



David said he thought the game they were watching ended in a tie, but I looked at the rules and if that were the case, they should have had a sudden death period to break the tie.

On the return, they rode on the street parallel to San Vicente where the giant ficus trees are and Gary took this photo



I used to think a ficus was just a small tree often found in an indoor planter in an office building. These are some of the largest I've ever seen.

This Weekend: With the 4th of July, it's a 3-day weekend and we have rides on two days. First on Sunday our regular Sunday ride will be "Alhambra - Burbank Caper." These routes start in Alhambra and all three routes ride to Burbank and back. The short doesn't go quite as far north as the long and medium. The only difference between the long and medium is that on the return, the long goes through Griffith Park while the medium goes around it.

The trip through the park is nice and mostly on traffic free roads, but it does involve some climbing. It also includes a trip to the Observatory which is always a nice photo-op. None of the routes is very long and, except for the climb through Griffith Park on the long, not very hilly.

On Monday, July 4th, we will be riding our usual Independence Day Ride: the "Firecracker Special." This starts at El Dorado Park in Long Beach. The routes mostly loop around the area with the long and medium making it as far south as Sunset Beach before returning back to Long Beach for lunch. After lunch, the long makes a trip up to the top of Signal Hill where we often try to take a group photo. It's the only hill on the route and really isn't all that bad. The view from up there is nice. I hope to be there for at least the Monday Ride.

Pet of the Week: Since I included a shot of David Nakai's new dog last week, **Paul Haussler** sent me a photo of his cat named Solstice. She is not new, but what the heck -- I'm happy to feature member's pets here.



Event In Griffith Park: The club was sent a notice about an event being held in Griffith Park this Saturday: It is to celebrate the temporary conversion of Griffith Park Drive to bikes & pedestrians only Here's the information:

Celebrate Griffith Park Drive's transformation into a Bicycle and Pedestrian Path without any public vehicles. This is a small but significant step in ongoing efforts to make Griffith Park safer for those who use it most – pedestrians, cyclists, hikers, equestrians, families, and kids.

Date: Saturday, 2 July 2022

When: Meet-up at 8 AM, Start at 9 AM

Where: The start of Griffith Park Dr near Travel Town
Near [5200 Zoo Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90027](#)

Skill Level: All levels

Help us show city officials that we want this temporary pilot to become a permanent closure. **We want FREEDOM in Griffith Park to move and play without fear of speeding cars.**

Parting Shot: This is a photo Rafi took will on the Grand Tour last Saturday. It was apparently taken on Creek Road not far from Ojai.



I don't really have a comment for this one, but it's an interesting photo.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP