

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

We had two rides this weekend, one of which was our annual 4th of July ride. In honor of the 4th, for tonight's music I have selected "I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy" by George M. Cohan, but to make it interesting, this clip is of James Cagney singing the song in the movie biography of Cohan. You don't often get to see Cagney sing and dance.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EKeYS1P9j1c>

Sunday: Before we get to the 4th, we did have a ride on Sunday -- "Alhambra - Burbank Caper" Apparently only 4 riders showed up. I had a report from **David Nakai** who took this photo at the start:



That's **Rafi Karpinski**, **Russ Brynes** and **Jacques Stern**. Rafi needed to fix a flat right at the start, so that is what he is doing in this photo. Here is the same group up at the Griffith Park Observatory:



Since only the long route went to the observatory, it would appear they all rode the long. Looks like they had a good day.

Monday the 4th: We had a better turn-out on Monday. I took this photo:



That's **Jackie Burneson**, a friend of Russ Brynes who I think is named **James** (but I'm not sure), **Bill Faulkner**, **Lynn Katano**, **Gary Murphy**, **Russ Brynes**, **David Williams**, **Chris Hedberg**, **Rafi Karpinski**, and **Ben King**. Showing up too late for the photo was **Kit Gray**. Kit rode the short while the rest of us did the long. On his ride, Kit did take this selfie in front of a home with a lot of bird houses (including those under the eave).



The rest of us gathered for the usual photo on top of Signal Hill. A friendly stranger took this photo for Rafi



Rafi also took this photo of Lynn on the climb to signal hill.



That's me behind -- the last one up the hill. I had been off the bike for 3 weeks so it was tough for me. Lynn had ridden the previous two days and was really feeling it too but she managed to put on a good face for the camera.

This Weekend: On Sunday we will be riding the July centuries of the month: "Poking Around PV" There is both a full century and metric century. Both routes start from west LA and make their way down to Palos Verdes. The metric century makes a brief loop on the peninsula and then returns. The full century makes a loop completely around the peninsula with a little climbing in San Pedro along the way. Both routes include a few short but steep hills, but no long extended climbs. Both routes spend most of their time near the coast, so they should be relatively cool.

Newcomer Ride: On Sunday we also have a newcomer ride leaving from the Los Angeles State Historic Park in downtown LA. I believe the route intends to ride the new 6th Street Viaduct which will be open on Sunday to only bikes and pedestrians. (See below). The route will also offer the opportunity to join up with the CICLAVIA taking place that day nearby. For more details, see the club web site.

Sixth Street Viaduct. The new Sixth Street Viaduct, which has been under construction for years, is finally complete. Here is a photo of it while still under construction



This Sunday, it will be open to only bikes and pedestrians. It's a great opportunity to ride this unique new bridge. The Newcomer Ride (see above) plans to ride it. I was thinking I might ride to it from the "Corner" if anyone is interested in joining me. Contact me if you are interested. I'll put together a route sheet and bring copies.

Injury Report: I am sad to report that while on his way to Monday's ride, **David Nakai**, was struck by a car and is in the hospital. He does not know much about what happened. He was riding and the next thing he knew he was waking up in the hospital. He reports he has numerous broken ribs. He sent a selfie from his hospital bed in which he was wearing a neck brace, but today he said they took that off and confirmed that there is no spinal injury. That, at least, is good news. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Parting Shot: On Monday's ride we saw something I have never seen before -- a large group of squirrels. (I looked it up and a group of squirrels is called either a "dray" or a "scurry." Many of them ran away before I could get my camera out, but Rafi got a shot:



Some of them had run away in this shot, but you can see many of them on the other side of the fence. What you don't see in the photo is the man who apparently feeds them all the time, so they all know to congregate here. It reminded me of the movie "Willard" but with squirrels instead of rats.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP