

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Tue, Dec 27, 2022 at 11:00 PM

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Happy New Year Everyone (since this will be my last report of the year)

Our only ride last week was the annual Christmas Day ride, so I guess I have to use a Christmas song for the theme music tonight. I've selected one from my childhood which I think a lot of you will know, but haven't heard in a while. I've picked a video with lyrics included since I was never quite sure what some of them were.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJ2rzHqGeal>

**Sunday:** I had hoped that with Christmas being on Sunday and with great weather predicted, we might have a good turn-out for the ride. I was wrong. There were only 3 of us. I took this shot at the start:



That's **David Nakai** (with antlers) and **Russ Brynes**. There might have been a 4th because we saw an unknown rider with an LA Wheelmen jersey ride past the start a little before 8:30, but they did not stop and we never saw anyone again. We were behind the toilet building and maybe the person thought no one else was there. The three of us stuck together and therefore the usual group shot up on Carroll Ave is the same two riders. By then it was getting pretty warm and we had removed our jackets.



David said one of the houses on Carroll Ave had been used in Michal Jackson's Thriller video, but we weren't sure which one. There are several of the old Victorian houses that haven't been restored and could easily pass for an old haunted house. Chinatown was as busy as usual. Russ and I had a snack there, but David planned to have a full Chinese lunch and then go his own way back. He later sent me this photo which I assume is his lunch.



I'm always amazed at how much David can eat..

**This Week:** We have two rides this week. First, on Sunday (New Year's Day) we have our annual "Kick-off Centuries." This is either a full century or metric century each starting from Malibu and heading north. The metric makes it to Camarillo for a break and then returns. The full century makes a loop around Ventura, stopping for lunch in Ventura, before returning back down the coast. These are fairly easy centuries with no hills larger than the ones along PCH. Right now they are talking rain on Saturday, but I'm optimistic that Sunday will be a clear day, so I hope to be there.

On Monday, January 2nd, we have our annual "Rose Parade Ride." This year the parade is on the 2nd because they never hold it on a Sunday. This is good for me because it means I can do the century on Sunday and still see the parade on Monday. This year we will be joined by the newcomer group.

**Hoy Quan** says quite a few riders have signed up for this one so it should be a good group. It's really the best way to see the parade. No traffic and parking hassles getting to the parade and we ride down Orange Grove Ave. where you can preview the floats before the parade actually starts. You won't get that close to the floats while watching the parade. Conventional wisdom says it never rains on the Rose Parade, so I plan to be there.

NOTE: We start at Alhambra Park, but will be starting from the West side of the park rather than the East side as we usually do.

**Santa Slaughter:** Last week I mentioned seeing a lawn with multiple "dead Santas" (deflated Santas) but I didn't stop to take a photo. This week **Gary Murphy** passed a different Santa massacre and sent me this shot:



Looks like a regular bloodbath. Also looks like maybe some elves or maybe some Christmas trees got caught in the shootout as well.

## IMPORTANT!

**Holiday Party.** We are planning to once again hold our annual holiday party on Thursday, January 19th at Dukes Restaurant in Malibu. (21150 E. PCH, Malibu -- near the intersection with Las Flores Canyon) from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. All members are invited along with spouses, significant others etc. We will have our own room at the restaurant and food will be from their Hawaiian Luau menu. We need a minimum number of people to secure the room and **Kermit Ganier** needs a count before finalizing the reservation next Tuesday. Therefore, if you plan to attend, please contact Kermit with the number of people in your party. Kermit would prefer you text him at **310 367-0458** or you could e-mail him at [kimkong@aol.com](mailto:kimkong@aol.com). Before you ask, we are holding this on Thursday because there was more availability than on weekends and it was cheaper. Also, maybe more of you will be able to attend during the week than on the weekend when you may have other plans. So please, if you plan to come, confirm with Kermit now.

**Parting Shot:** Member **Steve Benhoff**, who moved out Beaumont a few years ago, sent me this photo of a sign he often sees while riding in Redlands.



Seems they don't know which way they are going out there.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP