



# LOS ANGELES WHEELMEN SCHEDULE



**FEBRUARY 2023**

**VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.** Each week the routes offered will be available on the Web. Go to [www.LAWheelmen.org](http://www.LAWheelmen.org) and click on "Upcoming Rides." Download the routes and bring them with you to the ride.

**NOTE: Recent CDC pronouncements indicate that cycling is safe without a mask for **VACCINATED** people. Most club members have already been vaccinated. We urge all potential riders to become vaccinated before riding with us.**

**NEWCOMER RIDES:** As of this writing, the date and details of the February Newcomer Rides have not yet been finalized. There often will be two rides – an easy ride and a more advanced ride. When available, information will be found via the club web site: [www.lawheelmen.org](http://www.lawheelmen.org)

**Thursday, February 2 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE** Meet on the bridge at end of the Ballona Creek Trail in Marina Del Rey. Riders usually go south to Palos Verdes on the bike path and then do some riding on the Peninsula. There are optional climbs including the 3 "dips" which give the ride its name. The group usually stops for a break at the Golden Cove shopping area. Occasionally the group will decide to vary the route and explore specific sites elsewhere in the city. A typical day is 40 - 50 miles but often individual riders either cut the day short or add extra miles as desired. Contact **Nancy Domjanovich** [nancydomx@icloud.com](mailto:nancydomx@icloud.com) for details.

**Sunday, February 5 - 8:30 a.m. WANDERING TO WHITTIER** (Long 59 mi & 1900 ft, Medium 52 mi & 1500 ft, Shorter Medium 38 mi & 1000 ft, Short 35 mi & 1100 ft) One of my favorite places on this ride (and it's only on the long route) is the intersection of Mar Vista Street and Ocean View Avenue in Whittier. That's two streets with basically the same name and I don't think you can see the ocean from either one of them. You have to wonder if the city fathers weren't exaggerating a little to make the city sound more attractive. In any case, Whittier is obviously where we are headed today. But we don't get there directly. As the name implies, we wander around a bit first. In fact we wander all the way up to Sierra Madre before turning south to go to Whittier. The long makes a loop around and over the hills before getting there while the medium makes a more direct



**Lunch in downtown Whittier in 2021**

approach. They both meet for lunch in Whittier. There is a shorter medium which doesn't actually make it to Whittier but does go as far as Whittier Narrows. The three routes all have similar returns on river trails. The short doesn't really head for Whittier, but does go to the north end of the San Gabriel River and returns through the Santa Fe Dam area. There are a couple of places we don't go today which we usually hit on our other Whittier rides. Nobody goes over Turnbull today and none of us will be riding the Greenway Trail. We do those things on other rides, so why not enjoy a different view of Whittier today. **START: ALHAMBRA PARK.** From San Bernardino Frwy (I-10), off & North on Fremont, R - Alhambra Rd, R - Raymond to Park.

**Thursday, February 9 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE** See February 2nd for details.

**Sunday, February 12 - HOLLYWOOD SIGN RIDE** (Long 44 - 2500 feet, Medium 20 - 1500 feet) I saw on the news that they are thinking of creating a visitor's center for the Hollywood sign. I don't know if this is a ploy to stop tourists from clogging up some



neighborhoods where the view of the sign is particularly good. They don't know where they will put it yet, but it seems to me wherever they put it, it will just clog up that neighborhood. Unless they put it someplace where you can't really see the sign, but then why would people even go there. All this is academic because I suspect the neighborhoods around the sign will fight it and the thing will never be built. None of this will affect our ride today. Today we go closer to the sign than any visitor center will ever go. In fact we go up to the antenna array which you can see above the sign where we are able to look down on the back side of the sign only a few feet below us. (See photo at right) You also have a nice view of the Hollywood reservoir from up there.



**The View from above and behind the Hollywood Sign**

Getting there is not easy however. From the start we almost continuously go up, but it's really only the last 3 miles that are tough. There are some very steep sections in this stretch. The last half of this stretch is on a paved service road with no cars, but usually quite a few hikers. You can always stop to rest once or twice in this last stretch and it wouldn't be the end of the world if you walked a little of it. So why not give it a try. The view is worth it. We only have two routes today. The medium simply goes up to the sign and returns. Ten miles up and ten miles down, but as I said, only the last 3 miles up are really tough. The long starts out going to the sign with the medium riders, but after coming down, does a loop taking you out to the Valley and back. From the Valley, you can look up and see the antenna array where you just were. I'll just end with this – how can you call yourself a true Angelino if you have never been up to the Hollywood Sign? **START: THE "CORNER"**, Olympic Blvd, 1 block west of La Cienega in Beverly Hills. From the Santa Monica Frwy (10), off & north La Cienega 1½ miles, L - Olympic 1 block to R- Le Doux.

**Thursday, February 16 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE** See February 2nd for details.

**Thursday, February 16 – 7:00 p.m. MONTHLY MEMBERS MEETING** At long last we are holding an in-person meeting again. We haven't done this since February of 2020 – 3 years ago. (If you don't count last month's meeting held at the Holiday Party) And we have rarely had meetings at a member's home for four years. In 2019 all our meetings were held at the Culver City Veteran's Memorial Center. We had decided to return to holding meetings in member homes and **Nancy Domjanovich** had lined up volunteer hosts for the entire year of 2020, but after only two of those meetings Covid shut us down. So, it's not surprising that our first host of this return to in-home meetings is **Nancy Domjanovich**. No doubt we will be calling on all those volunteers from back in 2020 to once again host meetings in the future. It will be a real pleasure to no longer suffer through the limitations of Zoom meetings. No time limits. Easier to see and hear all the participants. Refreshments!! We no longer prepare the schedules for mailing, so that will leave more time for discussion of business and gossip. Items on the agenda this month will no doubt be the Awards lunch in April and the possibility of holding the Fargo Street Hill Climb again. So, why not show up and kick off our new era of meetings in person. **PLACE: NANCY DOMJANOVICH'S HOME**, 7221 Ogelsby Ave., Westchester. From San Diego Frwy (405), off and west on Howard Hughes Parkway, L – Sepulveda (At T), R – 77<sup>th</sup> Street, R – Kentwood 1 block to R – Ogelsby. Nancy's house is on the left near the bottom of the hill. For meeting night directions, call **(310) 641-5038**.



**Sunday, February 19 –TWIN PEAKS AND FLYING PIGS** (full century 94 mi & 5700 ft; metric century 65 mi & 4700 ft) This is our century and metric century for February. I was just looking at the profiles for these routes and there are 5 distinct peaks on the full century and 4 on the metric. So which are the twin peaks? On the profile the first two on each route look very similar and you would be tempted to say those are the twins. You would be wrong. The twins peaks are the tops of Old Topanga and New Topanga which are peaks 2 and 3 on the profile. Peak number one, which surprisingly goes just as high as the next two, is the top of the climb on Mulholland Hwy which starts at Stunt Road. OK, now that we have that settled, where do the flying pigs come in. I'll leave that to you to find out. There are two of them. (photo on the left is one of them) We start the day by heading out to Malibu and taking Malibu Canyon inland to Mulholland Hwy. We then go up and over Old Topanga down to New Topanga and take that up and over back into the Valley. After lunch in the Valley, we climb Santa Susana, but near the top we hang a left up Box Canyon for our final major climb

of the day. After that, it's simply back across the Valley and a return over Sepulveda (really the last climb of the day). If that sounds like too much, there is the metric century route. It does the twin peaks with the full century, but then cuts off the loop through Box Canyon and simply joins the full century for the trip east across the valley and over Sepulveda back to the start. The metric keeps one of the flying pigs, but you will miss seeing the second. **START: WESTWOOD PARK Sepulveda & Ohio.** From San Diego Frwy (405), off and east on Santa Monica Blvd, Left on Sepulveda and L on Ohio and R into Park.

**Thursday, February 23 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE** See February 2nd for details.

**Sunday, February 26 - CAPISTRANO CAPER** (Long 67 mi & 3100 ft (2500 without hill), Medium 47 mi & 2400 ft (1800 without hill), Short 31 mi & 1300 ft) The swallows usually come back to Capistrano in March but their timing isn't as accurate as it once was. Who knows – maybe with global warming they head north a little earlier than usual and they will be arriving today. We'll know if we see a lot of bird watchers lining the streets. Today we don't ride to Capistrano, as we do on some of our rides. Rather, we start there. Yes, it's a long drive, but the unique route is worth it. Our routes head south to explore San Clemente, San Onofre, Camp Pendleton and Oceanside. This is our only club ride that hits those areas. The long makes it all the way to Oceanside for lunch. Along the way you get to ride past the closed San Onofre nuclear power plant, through the San Onofre Bluff camp ground and through Camp Pendleton. After lunch, we basically retrace our route back north. The medium is the same, but turns around before going through Camp Pendleton. The short only goes through San Clemente and back. There is a very tough hill on the medium and long, but there are directions on the route sheet for going around it if you wish. Much of the route is either traffic free or very low traffic, so these are very pleasant rides. **NOTE: IN ORDER TO RIDE THROUGH CAMP PENDLETON YOU MUST OBTAIN A PERMIT IN ADVANCE AND YOU CAN ONLY DO SO IN PERSON AT THE BASE.** For information go to:

<https://www.pendleton.marines.mil/Base-Access/Recreational-Bicycling/>

If you do not obtain the permit, you can ride the shoulder of I-5 through the area without a permit. While not as pleasant as riding through the camp, it avoids the red tape involved in getting the permit and we do this only once every two years. I, for one, will probably ride the freeway. Route sheets will be provided for both options. **START: SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO CITY PARK.** From San Diego Fry (I-5), off and R on Junipero Serra Rd, L - El Camino Capistrano .7 mi. to park. Park on street near restrooms.



**Climbing the optional steep hill in San Clemente**