

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

Last Sunday's long route went to Knott's Berry Farm and I found this video to start off tonight's e-mail. It's so bad it's funny. Knotts must have made it to boost employee morale, but I'm not sure it would work on me.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zU4WZtrJ4\\_8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zU4WZtrJ4_8)

**Sunday:** Sunday's ride was "South Bay Surprise" starting from Torrance. Last week I had let a small percentage risk of showers scare me out of what would have been a nice day of riding, and I had vowed not to do that again. So, despite predictions of scattered showers, I showed up. Turned out it was the right decision. It never rained and we even had an occasional glimpse of the sun. Three other riders were willing to take their chances with me. **David Nakai** and **Bill Faulkner** showed up at the start and I took this photo:



**Gary Murphy** had ridden from home and met us on the route. Bill was planning on doing the short, and actually ended up just doing his own ride in the Palos Verdes area. Gary and I did the medium. David had his heart set on eating a chicken dinner at Knotts, so he did the long. He did indeed get his chicken and sent this photo



Looks good, but they charge an arm and a leg for it, or should that be a wing and a leg. Meanwhile, on the medium, we were riding through an upscale portion of Long Beach I was not familiar with. Gary said we had to stop at one particular address because he had read that it was Ferris Bueller's house from the movie. I took this photo with Gary in it since he had missed the photo from the start.





I looked it up on the internet and this is in fact Ferris Bueller's home which in the movie is supposed to be in a Chicago suburb. Near the end of the ride we rode on the LA River for a few miles and I don't think I have ever seen that much water in the channel before. Should have taken a photo, but didn't.

**Meanwhile:** Mario Solano, who was the only one to brave the predictions of rain last week, thought it was too risky this week. However, when he realized it wasn't going to rain, he did his own ride along the San Gabriel River. At one point he was going to go up San Gabriel Canyon, but was stopped by the police who told him there as a landslide ahead. He sent this photo:



I heard about this road closure on the news that night -- somewhere near the Morris Dam I believe. Mario also sent this photo from the top of the Whittier Narrows Dam looking up stream.



That's the bike path on the left. I don't recall ever seeing that much water in this portion of the river.

**This Weekend:** This weekend is our annual "Janus Sequential Centuries." We have been doing this for well over 20 years. The original idea was to ride back to back centuries on Saturday and Sunday with Sunday's route simply being the reverse of Saturday's route. There was a time when riders (including me) rode both days, but I don't think anyone has done that in a while. Over the years ridership for even one day has fallen off. I've considered abandoning it entirely, but it's a nice century route. Maybe next year we will only offer one day. The route is essentially the center portion of the old Grand Tour Highland route (without Casitas Pass) making a large loop around Ventura County. We ride counterclockwise on Saturday and clockwise on Sunday. With all the rain, I haven't done enough riding to tackle a century at this point, but the Sunday metric century isn't too bad, so I plan on riding that. I would welcome some company.

**Holiday Party and Meeting:** Just a reminder that the Holiday Party is this Thursday. I don't know if we can add more guests at this point, but if you want to come, contact **Kermit Ganier** to verify that you can be added to the guest list. Text him at **310 367-0458** or you could e-mail him at [kimkong@aol.com](mailto:kimkong@aol.com). We will be holding a brief meeting at the party where nominations for officers will close. We still have an opening for a new Treasurer. So, why not show up and put your hat in the ring. We will probably also make a few decisions regarding the installation lunch to be held in March or April.

**2022 Riding Stats:** I heard from **Dale Aaronson** who rode 9333 miles in 2022 with a very impressive 619,478 feet of climbing. That's well over a vertical century (100 miles of climbing or 528,000 feet). The International Space Station orbits at about 1,300,000 feet so Dale climbed almost half way to the station.

Just a reminder, it's not too late to send in your totals for last year.

**Parting Shot:** On Sunday's ride I saw this:





It's a very unusual Christmas decoration, but what I really wanted to do was shout at the house: "It's January 15th -- take down your decorations!!!" I once had an idea for a ride where in late January we would ride residential areas as a group and shout at homes that still had their decorations up. It would only work if we got a good sized group to come out. (BTW, this wasn't very far from Ferris Bueller's house).

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP