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Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All and Happy Early Thanksgiving:

It's Thanksgiving week and so I was looking for a Thanksgiving song to accompany tonight's e-mail. I found this nice song by Mary Chapin Carpenter. I didn't care much for song actually, but the images contained in the video are rather nice. You should watch it for those alone.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7NSQLMPUK-8>

Sunday: Last Sunday we were riding "Bikeways of Orange County" which was our century and metric century of the month. There were 5 at the start where **Phil Whitworth** took this photo:



That's **Ben King, Edwin Dair, David Nakai** and **Mario Solano**. Turns out **Jacques Stern** also rode, but started a bit later. Here's a selfie he took on the ride:



I'm not sure where he took this, but he included a short video in his Strava post which shows the large ball behind him and it has water streaming over its surface which creates a nice effect.

Although I believe many of the riders wanted to do the full century, for various reasons, they all ended up doing the metric century. Ben had to cut out early, but the rest of the starting 5 stayed together throughout the ride. Here's a selfie of the group coming through Huntington Beach which isn't all that far from the finish.



One final photo from Phil is of this sculpture which I thought was interesting. Not sure where it is.



This Week: We actually have two rides this week. First up is our annual Thanksgiving Ride. As far as I know, we have been doing this ride forever. The routes are easy and short in order to get you home for dinner. Just enough to work up an appetite and not feel too guilty about overeating. The routes start from the corner and the long and medium (which are very similar) head first to the overlook in the Palisades where we usually regroup for a photo. They then head down to Marina del Rey for a break before returning to the start. The short skips the palisades and head directly to the Marina. For any of the usual Thursday Triple Dipper riders who want to ride on Thursday, I would prefer to see you join us on this Thanksgiving Ride. It's a bit shorter and easier than the usual Triple Dipper Ride, but it would be nice to have a larger group for the holiday. For the first time in a long time, I plan to be on the ride, but I only plan to do the short. It will take me a while to get back in shape to do anything more. I don't think very many riders ever do the short, but at least you know I'll be there, so why not join me.

On Sunday, we will be riding "Reseda Park - Phase I." In contrast to the Thanksgiving Ride, the long and medium routes are somewhat more difficult. The long makes the long climb (with two peaks) up Little Tujunga Canyon and down Sand Canyon into Santa Clarita. After lunch, it goes up and over the Old Road back to the Valley. The medium is much the same except that instead of taking Little Tujunga out to Santa Clarita, it takes the Old Road both ways. Definitely easier than the long, but still plenty of climbing. And if you are really up for it, both routes have an optional climb up Kagel Canyon. If all goes well for me on Thursday, I plan to ride the short on Sunday. This is an easy ride around the Valley which does not go out to Santa Clarita. It would be nice to have some company.

Patches of the Week: These patches are from my collection and are all Thanksgiving Day Patches. The first two

were provided (sold actually) by the League to member clubs if they wished. I believe when the League stopped this practice, our club created the last patch on it's own. That's why it says "L. A. Wheelmen" on it and no date. That way they could give it out year after year. I have two in my collection. Don't know when we stopped doing that, but you will not be getting a patch if you show up this Thursday. Sorry.



Parting Shot: Last Sunday I did a short ride on my own (my second since August), and I saw this annual sign of the impending holiday season. This is the Manhattan Beach pier.



Every year they line the pier with Christmas trees and then they hold some sort of lighting ceremony around Thanksgiving but then comes the weird part -- they take all the trees away. Apparently they are only on loan for the ceremony and the nursery takes them back to sell.

See You On The Road (for real)

Rod Doty, VP