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Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

I couldn't think of a song to accompany tonight's e-mail, but it's after Thanksgiving and from here until Christmas, stores, malls and some radio stations will be playing nothing but holiday songs. So I thought I could do the same. Here is a classic:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xam01uaj6Vg>

We had two rides last week. First:

Thanksgiving Ride: We had 12 riders for our annual Thanksgiving Day ride, which is better than some past years. **Ann Trank** took this photo at the start:



That's **Edwin Dair**, **Julie Shishino**, **Lewis Singer**, **Gary Murphy**, **Andy Pollack**, **Me**, **Howard Wedin**, **Jacques Stern**, **Ray Gross** and **David Nakai**. **Rick Gordon** joined us just after the photo was taken and of course Ann was taking the shot. BTW:

Ray Gross was a member many years ago who decided to join us on Thursday for the first time in many years. Ray and I started off on the short, but he had to cut off after only a few miles. The rest did a mashup of the long and medium routes, which are very similar anyway. They gathered at the overlook in the palisades for the usual group shot. Julie sent me this one:



This photo includes Ann and Rick who didn't make the photo above but for some reason Howard is missing. Meanwhile, the short route took me directly to the Marina where everyone usually meets up for a break, but only Gary and David showed up. I guess everyone else had to get home. You can see that the weather was great. It was my first regular club ride since sometime in August, and it went very well for me.

Sunday: The Sunday ride was "Reseda Park - Phase I" There were only 4 of us at the start and I took this shot:



That's relatively new member **Matt Krantz** in the center and non-members **Joe** and **Charleen**. I had originally thought Matt had gotten the other two to join him, but during the conversation at lunch, it didn't seem like they knew each other very well, if at all, so now I'm not sure how it came that they showed up. In any case, we all rode the short route together. I was thinking this is probably a first in the entire history of the club -- that everyone who showed up for a ride did the short route. But, as it turned out, 3 other riders had started an hour early and rode the medium route. They were **Dale Aaronson**, **Julie Shishino**, and **Edwin Dair**. Dale took this selfie of Julie and him at the start:



They opted to do the optional climb up Kagel Canyon and sent these photos. The first is from Julie and the second is from Dale



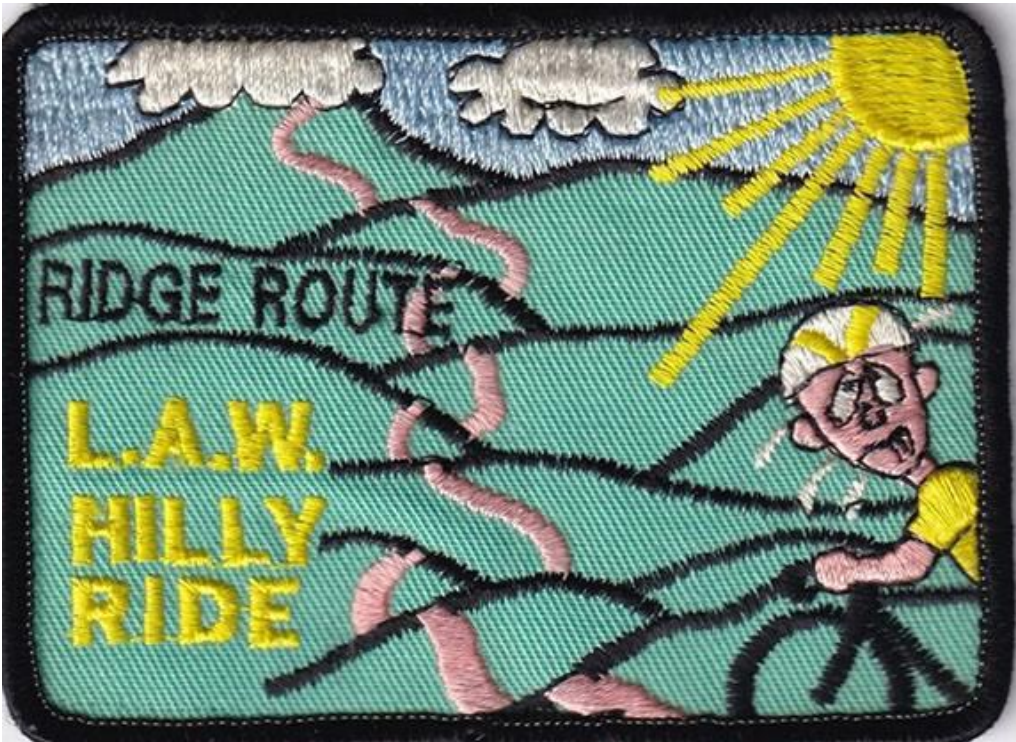
You can see Dale and Edwin near the bottom



This is "The Hideaway" which I have noticed before and have always thought it would be an interesting place to stop, but I never have.

This Week: On Sunday we will be riding "Revel the Rollies - Corona." All routes start from a park in the city of Orange and ride to Corona and back. That's just about all the short route does. The medium adds a loop in Corona while the long adds a run out to Tom's Farm" for lunch and back. All nice routes which don't have an excessive amount of climbing and which ride an area we don't get to very often. Although it's a long drive to do only a short ride, I plan to do the short route again because I don't think I'm ready for the medium yet. I hope to see some others there. **NOTE:** The start location is slightly different than in the past. It's in the same park, but a different parking lot in that park.

Patch of The Week: This patch comes from **Nancy Domjanovich**.



This is a fairly rare patch. I think the basic patch was provided by the National League of American Wheelmen to any club holding a "hilly ride." But we modified the patch by embroidering the "Ridge Route" on it to make it specific to a ride the club used to offer. This was a route going up the old Ridge Route from Castaic to near Gorman. The road has been closed to traffic for years but before Hwy 99 (later to become the I-5) was built, it was the only route up and over the Tejon Pass. Once it was closed to traffic, it started deteriorating and by 1992 when Nancy did this ride, it was in pretty bad shape, although still passable by bicycles. Nancy says the elevation gain on the ride was 5230 feet. Although I didn't ride with Nancy that day, I did the Ridge Route a couple of times but now it has deteriorated to the point they don't even want bicycles up there. There is an organization that has been trying to restore it, but I don't think they have made much progress. You can read about them here: <http://www.ridgeroute.com/index.html> There are some interesting photos on that site including many of the damaged areas that prevent us from going up there any longer.

Parting Shot: I took this photo last Sunday because the sign tickled my fancy:



I hadn't realized this was now a selling point for commercial real estate. Sign of the times I guess.

See You On the Road

Rod Doty, VP