

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - March 12, 2024

Hello All:

On Sunday our ride took me over Santa Susana Pass twice (over and back) and that put me in mind of this song for our theme music tonight. Interestingly, the first version I found came with a warning at the beginning that it might be offensive to some people. I played the song and yes indeed, I could not include that version here. Here is a more sanitized version

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jYiXyZwgPB8>

Sunday: On Sunday we were riding "Reseda Park - Phase II" which started in Reseda and headed for points west. There were 6 of us at the start and **Phil Whitworth** took this photo:



That's **Julie Shishino, Mario Solano, Edwin Dair, Me, and Dale Aaronson.** The bike in middle is Phil's I did the medium route and everyone else did the long. That meant they rode up and over the dreaded Box Canyon, but apparently they all made it in good shape because here is a photo Julie took of the group at the bottom of the canyon.



Box Canyon is the home of one of the flying pigs which I have featured here before (and in this month's ride schedule), but apparently there is now a new second flying pig up there. Phil included this photo in his Strava post:



There is also a white elephant which might have been there the last time I went through there, but I can't remember. Dale included a photo of that:



Always a lot to see in Box Canyon. Maybe next time I'll feel up to doing that climb.

This Weekend: We have two rides this weekend. First, on Saturday we have the "Rose Bowl Century." This is a novelty ride which we started some years ago, but we only ride it every two years. The challenge is simple enough -- ride laps around the Rose Bowl until you have ridden 100 miles. It takes about 33 laps to do that. It's more of a mental challenge than a physical one. Can you deal with the boredom of riding round and round and can you avoid the temptation at the end of every lap when you pass your car and want to just call it a day. Actually, I don't find it all that boring because you pass different joggers all day long. You don't have to ride 100 miles. I plan to shoot for only a metric century (62 miles). There is limited food available in the area but since I pass my car every 3 miles, I usually just bring my own lunch and snacks and stop for a break or lunch whenever I feel like it. More riders make it more fun so I hope to see

some of you out there.

On Sunday, our regular ride is once again "The Amazing Maze" which starts down in Tustin. Yes, this is the third time it has been scheduled this year, but it has been rained out the first two times. Fortunately, there is no talk of rain this weekend, so we should be good to go. All routes head to the Yorba Linda area for lunch and then on to the "maze" in Villa Park before returning to the start. The long takes a roundabout way to lunch with some additional climbing and a more hilly return after the maze. The short and medium take shorter routes to lunch, using the Santa Ana River Trail for much of the distance, and then an easier route back. I don't know how tired I'll be after riding 62 miles around the Rose Bowl on Saturday, but I hope to show up and do the medium route on Sunday. I'll certainly be slow, so why not join me for a slow and easy ride on Sunday.

SAVE THE DATE: Awards Lunch and Ride: Our annual Awards lunch is set for Sunday, April 7th. As usual, we will have a short ride prior to the lunch and then a nice lunch and awards ceremony. You will want to be there to see who wins this year's awards, including the coveted Jack Flynn Award. The lunch will once again be at a park in Culver City, but a different park from previous years. I'll have full details next week, but for now, save the date and plan to be there. This is our big annual event at which we like to see everyone including those of you not riding with us any longer.

Patch of the Week: This past Sunday **David Nakai** rode an International Women's Day ride. Sounds like he had a good time spending most of the ride with four women riders. The event gave out a patch, which is very unusual these days. Very few events give out patches any longer. So, here is the newest patch available almost anywhere:



Parting Shot: Hoy Quan has been riding at a mountain bike festival in Sedona this past week and he sent me this photo, which I assume he saw somewhere at the festival. I thought it was cute.



My sentiment exactly.

See You On The Road,

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Traditional American Song - Oh Susanna

For I come from Alabama,
with my banjo on my **knee.**

