



LOS ANGELES WHEELMEN SCHEDULE



APRIL 2024

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. Each week the routes offered will be available on the Web. Go to 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.

Thursday, April 4 – 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 for details.

April, 7 – 8:30 a.m. AWARDS LUNCH PRE-RIDE. (31 mi & 1200 ft) Today is our annual Awards Lunch (formerly our Installation Lunch, but since the officers haven't changed, we will dispense with their installation and just focus on awards). As usual, we will have a short ride prior to the lunch. This is essentially the same route we rode as our pre-ride for last year's Awards Lunch, but this year we had to change the location of our lunch to another park in Culver City (due to renovations at Lindberg Park) so we had to make a few changes to today's route. It's a few miles longer and I've straightened out a few long sections, but it still hits the highlights of the previous route. It still gives you the option of climbing to the Baldwin Hills Overlook for the view. It still rides through the USC campus and downtown past Crypto.com Arena, Grand Park and the Disney Concert Hall. You might get a close-up look at those half-completed buildings which were recently in the news when they became covered in graffiti. The route starts and ends at our lunch location and is a relatively simple loop taking us downtown and back. We start by riding down to Ballona Creek and take that east a few miles. We get off to do the climb up to the Baldwin Hills Overlook. This is the only significant climb of the day and it's optional (the 1200 feet of elevation gain for this route includes this climb). We then continue east to the USC campus and on to the downtown area. Sunday is the best time to ride downtown since traffic is minimal. After a brief tour of downtown, we head back west mostly on Beverly Blvd, 4th St. and Venice Blvd. A short jog over to Washington Blvd and we are back at the park and ready for lunch. Even if you do not ride, we hope you will come to the lunch. It will start at noon with awards being given out after lunch but before we cut the cake. We have a new MC for the program this year and we hope you won't curb your enthusiasm for him. **RIDE START & LUNCH LOCATION: CULVER WEST ALEXANDER PARK in Culver City** (4162 Wade Ave., Culver City, 90066). The park is at the end of Wade Ave. which is a dead end street which can only be accessed from Washington Blvd. Take Washington Blvd west from the 405 to a few blocks past Centinela Ave. Turn left on Wade Ave to end. **NOTE:** there is very limited parking at the park and on Wade Ave. You can also park on Moore St on the west side of the park or on McConnell Blvd on the east side of the park (and access the park through a walkway. **We recommend parking on Moore St.**



Hoy Quan – 2023 Jack Flynn Award Recipient with Mel Cutler, the Previous Recipient

Thursday, April 11 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE See April 4th for details.

Sunday, April 14- 8:30 a.m. TRI-COUNTY SAFARI (Long 54 mi & 2700 ft, Medium 46 mi & 2800 ft, Short 38 mi & 1700 ft) I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but tomorrow is tax day. So how does that affect your riding today? Here's a rundown of some of the possible scenarios. If you are some sort of tax nerd and you got your taxes done early, you can show up today and smugly ride with a clear conscience. If you are like most true Americans, you still need to do your taxes. You have all day tomorrow to do them, so why not ride today. It will clear your head and the exercise will sharpen your mind for the job ahead. If you think your return is fairly

simple, you can do the long. If you want to get a head start on them tonight, do the medium or short to give yourself a bit more time to rest up and hit the books tonight. If there is no hope getting your taxes done on time, you might as well resign yourself to taking the automatic extension. You can ride today and worry about taxes months from now. So you see, there is no reason not to ride today. Here's a rundown on the routes. Although called the "Tri-County Safari," only the long hits three counties. From West Covina, the long and medium start by heading out to Claremont and then head south to Chino Hills for lunch. Then, for the long, it's over Carbon Cyn, Brea Cyn (two of the easiest canyon climbs in Southern California) and then over Grand Ave. to the finish. Not up for that? The medium skips some of the post lunch climbing (and one county) but somehow still ends up with about the same total elevation gain as the long. Sound like too much? Well, the short goes out towards Claremont with the others, but simply returns via Puddingstone to the start. **START: CORTEZ PARK in WEST COVINA.** From San Bernardino Frwy (I-10), off & South ½ mile on Citrus to Park on right at Cortez.

Thursday, April 18 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE See April 4th for details.

Sunday, April 21, 8:00 a.m. EAST ROAD, WEST ROAD, ALL AROUND DOWNTOWN (Century 96 mi & 2500 ft, Metric Century 63 mi & 1600 ft, Half Century 56 mi & 1400 ft) **(NOTE EARLIER START TIME)** This is the official century and metric century of the month for April and this year we have added a half century route. These are distinctly urban routes, but I have always found them fairly pleasant. Despite staying close to the city, they find a lot of open areas to ride. Even riding through downtown in the early hours of the day is nice. You get to see some of the newest building and some of the oldest. Later the full century rides some semi-rural areas such as Brea Canyon Cut-Off, Fullerton Road and East Road/West Road. All routes start in Culver City and first head downtown to ride through the heart of the city in the early morning hours. You ride along Broadway and can see all the old theaters that line that street. Some of them are still being used as theaters on one kind or another. Then it's on to Alhambra and West Covina where the routes begin to diverge. The long continues east as far as Walnut. It then climbs Brea Canyon Cut-Off and a bit later Fullerton Road to the top of East Road. East Road and West Road are always fun. After lunch in Whittier, the return is fairly flat as it heads west through Lakewood and then north to complete the loop. The metric and half centuries are somewhat similar except that the metric century heads a little further east before turning back. They join up again for lunch and then make a direct return taking them back through downtown. The metric and half centuries miss the Brea Canyon Cut-Off, Fullerton Road and East Road/West Road hills done by the full century. Don't be scared off by the urban riding. I think you will be surprised how nice these routes can be. **START: CARLSON PARK in Culver City.** From San Diego Frwy, off and east on either Culver or Washington (careful--neither exit actually put you directly on those streets). Right on Overland and Left on Braddock a few blocks to park. We will meet near the restrooms. **(Check parking signs around park – if you drive, you may need to park a block away.)**

Thursday, April 25 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE See April 4th for details.

Sunday, April 28, 8:30 a.m. – CANYON LAKES (Long 65 mi & 4800 ft, Medium 49 mi & 3500 ft, Short 39 mi & 2400 ft.). For years this has been our first Grand Tour training ride of the year, but we are not holding the training rides any longer. However, this route is too nice to simply abandon, so I have converted it to a regular Sunday ride by the addition of a medium and short route. All routes have a fair amount of climbing (including the short) but the scenery is so spectacular, you really won't want to miss it. Last year, due to a road closure, we couldn't ride the full long which made it difficult to view the many poppies along Elizabeth Lake Road which is one of the more spectacular sights on this ride. However, I just checked and it appears the roads are open this year. So, unless they get closed by a late spring storm, we should be good to go. All routes ride Bouquet Canyon. I remember my first time going up that canyon and it blew me away how nice it was. We start by climbing up Bouquet Canyon to the reservoir which should be full this year. We then do a second climb up and over Spunky Canyon to Green Valley where we usually stop for lunch or a break. The long



View from the Puddingstone Dam on Tri-County Safari Short Route



One of the Old Theaters on Downtown's Broadway on The East Road/West Road Ride

then climbs to the top of San Francisquito Road which includes a rather tough last mile. From there we ride Lake Elizabeth Road where we pass hills which are often covered with poppies this time of year. With all the rain, this could be a great year for the poppies. It really is a sight to see. We then ride the nearly 13 mile downhill on Lake Hughes Rd to our final climb of the day (which we call Calvary) before we finally descend past Lake Castaic and take the Old Road back to the start. The medium follows the long to Green Valley, but then takes San Francisquito down (instead of up) back to Santa Clarita and the start. You miss a couple of major climbs, but also miss the poppies. I wanted everyone to experience Bouquet Canyon, so the short follows the other two routes up to the Bouquet Reservoir, but then turns around and rides back down to have lunch in Santa Clarita. It cuts some miles and a major climb off the medium. It makes for a late lunch, but once you get to the top, you can practically coast back down to lunch. I hope to see a lot of you out for this one because it's such a nice area to ride and very few of our Sunday rides get out this way.

START: NEAR DENNY'S in Valencia Take Golden State Frwy (I-5) North, Exit R on Magic Mtn. Parkway, R



Bouquet Reservoir Last Year. How Full Will It Be This Year?

Tourney Rd (1st R) and R Wayne Mills Pl (1st R) toward Denny's - Park along street in front of Denny's.