

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - April 9, 2024

Hello All:

I don't know why, but this song popped into my head the other day, so here it is as tonight's theme music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9z-Mh9Qeinw>

Sunday: On Sunday we held our annual Awards Lunch and there was the usual short ride before the lunch. I only know for sure that 6 riders did the ride. Here's a photo from **Sandy Weiner** of most of the group taken atop the Baldwin Hills Overlook -- the most scenic site on the route.



That's **Andy Pollack, Mike Wapner, Mario Solano** and **Edwin Dair**. **Jacques Stern** was also on the ride but did not make the photo. BTW, Mike is back on the bike after a recent heart attack -- Good going Mike. After the ride, we had lunch and then the awards presentation. Sandy took this photo of the assembled group.



Awards were given out for the Century Challenge -- once again **Mike Wapner** and **Phil Whitworth** dominated those awards. **Kermit Ganier** honored several people who have been stalwart staff members of the Grand Tour over the years. The big award of the year is of course the Jack Flynn Award. This went to **Phil Whitworth** for his dedication to the club over the years. **Hoy Quan** took this photo of the happy recipient.



All in all, a nice day. I only wish more people had attended.

Other Ride: Four of the five club officers were in attendance on Sunday. The one missing officer was **Ira Kuceck** who was cycling in Giorna, Spain. Here he is atop Sant Marti Sacalm -- which I understand is a locally famous climb.



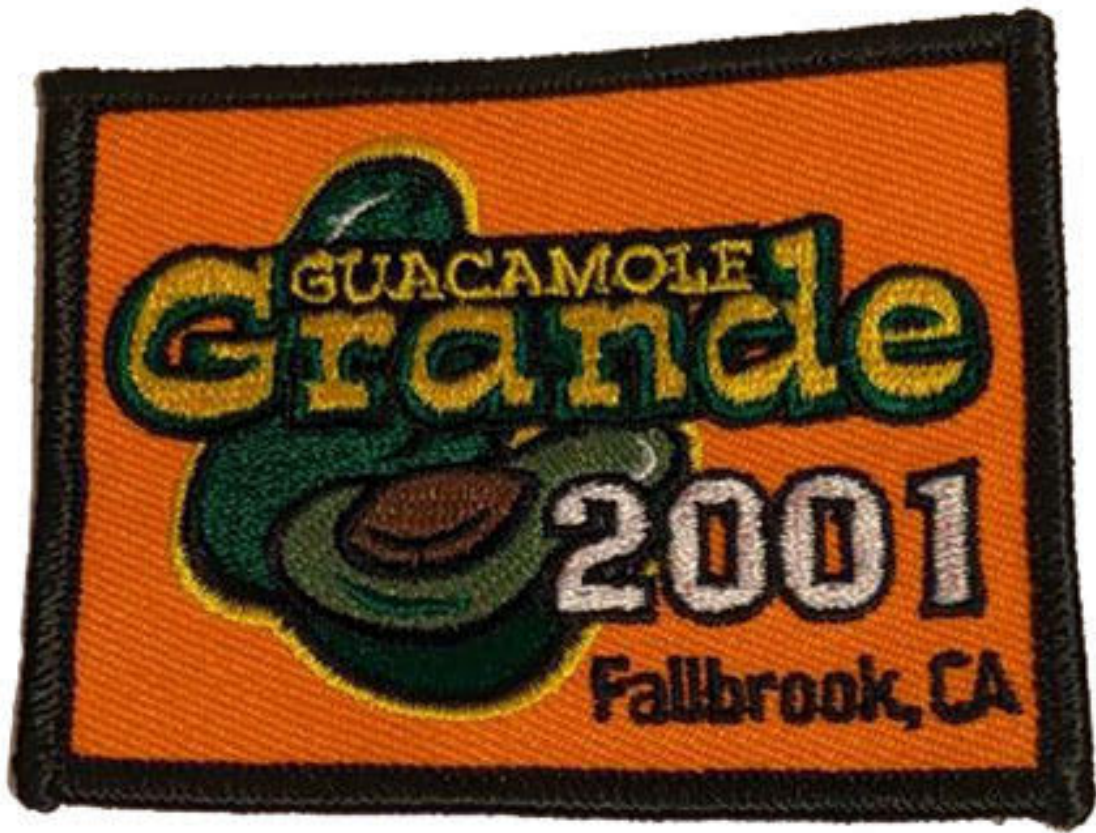
Eclipse: A few members traveled to see the eclipse on Monday. **Kit Gray** was the only one to send me a photo. It was overcast where he originally planned to watch the eclipse in Texas, but at the last minute they drove to a clear location. He said it was spectacular. Unfortunately, the iphone camera apparently does not do justice to the event without special filters. So this is what he got at the moment of totality..



The little dot to the lower right of the sun is Venus. There is another eclipse in two years visible in Iceland. Kit says he might try that one.

This Sunday: On Sunday we will be riding the "Tri-County Safari" which starts in West Covina. Only the long hits three counties, but the medium is similar to the long except that it shortcuts the long route after lunch and skips the third county. The short starts out with the other two routes, but cuts them even shorter. I can't believe it but they are talking about rain again this Sunday. It might not happen. I hope to ride and if I do I hope to do the medium because I have never done that route.

Patches of the Week: This week's patches are from the "Guacamole Grande" which was a ride out of Fallbrook. It was a Randy Ice ride, for those who know who he is, and I suspect he put it together because he lived in Fallbrook. It is no longer held, and the story goes that Fallbrook wouldn't allow it any longer after there were two bad accidents in one year. Anyway, the first patch below is from **Jackie Burneson** and the second is from **Will Carey**.

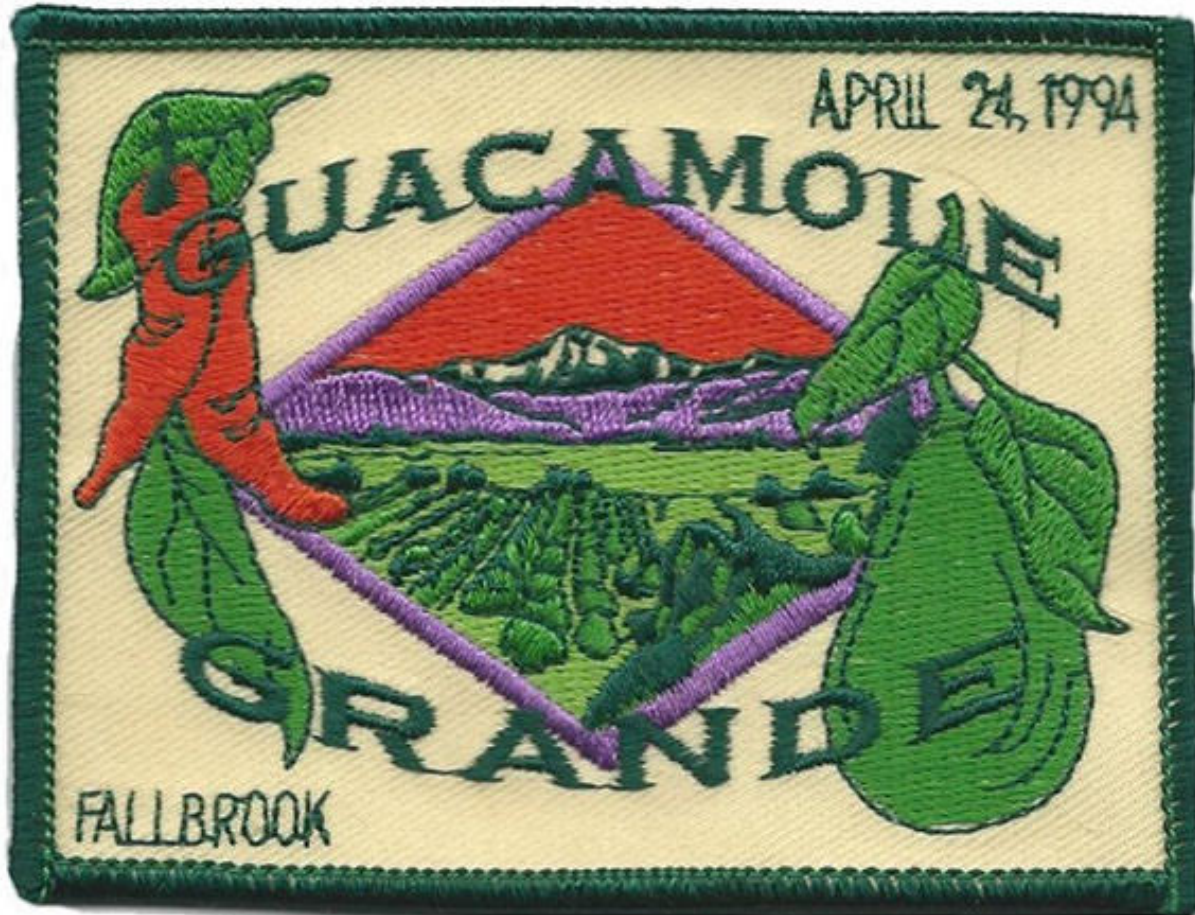


GUACAMOLE

Grande

2001

Fallbrook, CA



Parting Shot: I took this shot of a sign at the Manhattan Beach Pier.



PIER RAILINGS REPLACEMENT PROJECT

THE HISTORIC MANHATTAN BEACH PIER'S ICONIC "SEA FOAM" RAILINGS ARE GETTING A FACELIFT!

The Manhattan Beach Pier, originally built in 1920 and structurally reconstructed in 1991, is a significant historical landmark and the oldest concrete pier on the West Coast. The project involves replacing the Pier's perimeter handrails and reconstructing the staircases at the base to meet current building codes, address corrosion, and enhance durability. The Pier will remain open during construction.

PIER STAIRCASE RECONSTRUCTION

JANUARY 2024 - MARCH 2024

PIER RAILINGS REPLACEMENT CONSTRUCTION

BEGINS SPRING 2024

PIER ACCESSIBILITY

REMAINS OPEN

I have a few comments. First they have NOT finished the staircase reconstruction by March 2024. Second, I think the description of "iconic 'sea foam' railings" is a little grandiose. If you ask me, they are just pipe railings painted light blue.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP